

GREATER NILES
Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER CURRENTS

A monthly newsletter from the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce

Employers to See Unemployment Tax Bills Drop

In 2020, employers will be pleased to know that the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Obligation Assessment will no longer be seen on employers' unemployment insurance tax bills. This is due to an early payoff of Michigan Finance Authority bonds by the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA). The UIA and its partners sought to pay off the Obligation Assessment in 2019, thus allowing for \$55 million to remain with employers as opposed to going towards the additional tax in 2020.

This is a victory for Michigan businesses because funds that normally would have gone towards the tax may now remain with employers to grow their businesses and give back to their communities. Employers will see an estimated tax savings of \$65-\$217 per employee, according to the UIA. Additionally, paying off these bonds also lends itself to a solvent Unemployment Trust Fund that will protect Michigan communities against the negative impacts of a recession, including the assurance of support for temporarily unemployed workers.

[More Information](#)

Kick start Your New Year! New Opportunities in 2020

Become a leader within your community by joining the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce for the Public Affairs Committee. The Public Affairs Committee is a new program in which individuals from throughout the greater Niles area will come together to represent the legislative interests of our business community. This will include local, state, and federal issues.

This committee will meet once a quarter, with each meeting taking place from 8:00-9:00 a.m. at the Greater Niles Chamber office. The scheduled meeting dates are listed below:

- Tuesday, February 4
- Tuesday, May 5
- Tuesday, August 4
- Tuesday, November 3

To take part in this premier new program, contact a Chamber staff representative and reserve your seat today! Email info@greaternileschamber.com.

You can map Michigan's future.

For the first time ever, the power of drawing fair election districts will be in the hands of an independent commission of citizens and you can be a part of it.

Apply to serve at RedistrictingMichigan.org.

Apply Now to Make Our Elections Fair

Now through June 1, 2020, [you can apply](#) to serve as one of 13 commissioners on the first-ever Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. Last November, Michigan voters decisively supported the "Voters Not Politicians" constitutional amendment that makes a commission of 13 randomly-selected citizens – not elected politicians, consultants or lobbyists – responsible for drawing fair and representative district lines for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives and U.S. Congress. The commission is a historic opportunity for Michigan voters to draw electoral maps and give us more impartial elections.

All eligible Michigan citizens are encouraged to apply to serve on the commission, which does not require any special skills or expertise. The constitution simply requires that each commissioner performs his or her duties impartially and with integrity. The application takes about 15 minutes to complete, and commissioners will be compensated about \$40,000 for their service. Commissioners will be randomly selected from the pool of eligible applicants in the summer of 2020 and will gather input from the public as well as census data to determine electoral district maps which will take effect for the 2022 elections.

[More | Apply](#)



Hunter Ice Festival

DOWNTOWN NILES

JANUARY

17 - 18 - 19

2 0 2 0

Spectacular
Ice Sculpture.
Fire & Ice.
Chili Crawl.
& More.
CHILL OUT
IN NILES
MICHIGAN



CHAMBER CHAT
WNIL 107.5

THIRD WEDNESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH
11:30AM-12:00PM

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Chamber Chat Features Angelic Cleaning

Chamber Chat, brought to you by [Brentwood at Niles](#), airs on the third Wednesday of every month from 11:30 until 12:00 noon on [WNIL 107.5fm](#). Recently, Chamber Chat had the opportunity to feature [Angelic Cleaning Service](#), tune in to learn more.

Listen Now



Member Briefing

January 14 | 8:00-9:00 AM

Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce
333 N 2nd St
Ste 302
Niles, MI 49120

Visit the [Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce](#) for the first installment of the Chamber's Member Briefings.

The Member Briefing will focus on the current happenings within the Chamber, including current projects and opportunities for the greater Niles business community.

Hosted by President and CEO, Jeff Rea, the Member Briefing will be an opportunity to connect with the Chamber to get the inside scoop on what's happening in your regional business community.

[More | Register](#)



January Eye Opener Breakfast

Hosted by Prime Table & Midwest Family Broadcasting

January 15 | 7:30-9:00 AM

[More | Register](#)

February Eye Opener Breakfast

Hosted by the Niles-Buchanan YMCA

February 21 | 7:30-9:00 AM

[More | Register](#)

March Eye Opener Breakfast

Hosted by Leader Publications

March 13 | 7:30-9:00 AM

[More | Register](#)

Welcome our New Members!

Please give a warm welcome to Mark Scott Homes and Sprint by Universal Wireless, the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce's newest members.

Mark Scott Homes specializes in building distinctive homes in Southwest Michigan and Northern Indiana. Their attention to detail, driven by their passion for excellence in all aspects of their business, delivers unparalleled results. Mark Scott Homes' goal is to make the design and construction process as enjoyable as possible.

Sprint by Universal Wireless is a Sprint Authorized Retailer committed to providing Sprint customers a first-class shopping experience. Their passion for connecting the latest wireless technology with the needs and demands of today's consumer is evident in everything they do.

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