

GREATER NILES  
Chamber of Commerce

# CHAMBER CURRENTS

A monthly newsletter from the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce



## The Michigan Primary Election is Tomorrow!

Michigan's state primary election will take place on Tuesday, August 4.

Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson, assures Michigan voters they can vote safely in the state primary election on August 4 and the presidential election on November 3.

Here is the information you need to know to be ready to vote in 2020:

### Know your rights

Registration: Michiganders can register to vote up to and on Election Day until 8 p.m. They can do so online or by mail until two weeks before the election. Within two weeks of Election Day, they must register in person at their city or township clerk's office.

Vote from Home: Voting from home is a right all Michigan voters have as a result of the constitutional amendment passed by voters in November 2018 that no longer requires a reason to cast an "absent voter" ballot. Voting from home is a safe way to vote and protect your health, and the process is secure.

### Make a plan to vote

1. Check your voter registration. Visit [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://Michigan.gov/Vote) to verify your voter information or register to vote.
2. Vote from home. Also known as voting by mail or "no-reason absentee voting," Michiganders can vote early and from the comfort of their own home by requesting and returning an absentee ballot.
3. Apply to vote from home.
  - Voters with a Michigan driver's license or ID may apply online for an absent voter ballot at [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://Michigan.gov/Vote). They may also obtain an application online or from their clerk.
  - Accessible absent voter ballot applications are available at [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://Michigan.gov/Vote). Voters with qualifying disabilities may apply for an accessible electronic ballot that can be marked remotely, printed and returned to the clerk.
  - Within two weeks of Election Day, due to possible U.S. Postal Service delays, voters are encouraged to apply in person at their local clerk's office.
4. Fill out your absent voter ballot at home
  - Fill out your ballot with a blue or black pen, marking all your choices by completely darkening the box next to them.
  - Place your completed ballot into the secrecy sleeve, and then place the closed secrecy sleeve into the return envelope. SIGN THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE. Your vote will not be counted unless your signature is on the back of the envelope.
5. Return your ballot

- You have until 8 p.m. on Election Day to complete the ballot and return it to the clerk's office. Within two weeks of Election Day, due to possible U.S. Postal Service delays, instead of mailing their ballot, if possible, voters should deliver it to their clerk's office or a ballot drop box.
6. Vote in person

- Vote early, beginning 40 days prior to Election Day, by visiting your clerk's office. There you can fill out an absent-voter ballot application, receive your ballot, fill it out and return it all in one visit. Social distancing and hygiene protocols will be in place to ensure the safety of election workers and voters.
- On Election Day, you can vote in-person at your polling place. Social distancing and hygiene protocols will be in place to ensure the safety of election workers and voters. Wearing a mask is strongly encouraged. Find your polling place at [Michigan.gov/Vote](http://Michigan.gov/Vote).

More Information

## refi or buy United is here for you

When it comes to your home, we mean business. We've got expert advisors ready to listen— and help.

Give Nichole or Candy a call and let's talk about what you need.



Nichole Kabara  
Mortgage Advisor  
NMLS #897480  
(269) 932-7282  
NKabara@UnitedFCU.com



Candy Kulich  
Mortgage Advisor  
NMLS #132856  
(269) 932-7291  
CKulich@UnitedFCU.com



Insured by NCUA. Equal Opportunity Lender. Equal Housing Lender. NMLS # 471962



### Chamber Summer Swing is Just Two Weeks Away!

The [Greater Niles Chamber Summer Swing](#) is just two weeks away, taking place on Monday, August 17.

Join the [Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce](#) for this new and improved event featuring a day out on the beautiful [Orchard Hills Country Club](#) golf course, with delicious food and drink, and a unique opportunity to connect with fellow business professionals and community leaders from across the greater Niles area.

Golf will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a shotgun start, and registration will open at 9:00 a.m.

In response to COVID-19, the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce is working diligently to provide you this event while prioritizing the health and safety of all attendees and following the precautionary guidelines and recommendations from the state of Michigan and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Additionally, we will be keeping a close eye on these guidelines and recommendations as they continue to evolve over the next month.

Visit [www.GreaterNilesChamber.com/Golf](http://www.GreaterNilesChamber.com/Golf) for more information or to register today!

More | Register



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## Leader Publications Announces 2020 Best of the Best Award Winners

The winners of Leader Publications' 2020 Best of the Best Contest have been announced. Visit the link below to view a full list of award winners, including the winners of awards such as "Best Restaurant in All of Michiana", "Best Medical Facility", "Best Hair Salon", and many more.

[More Information](#)

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## Social District Proposed for Downtown Niles

On Monday, July 27, the Niles City Council hosted a virtual Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss the [Niles Main Street/Downtown Development Authority's](#) proposal for the addition of a social district to the Niles downtown.

If approved, the social district would allow bars and restaurants within the defined district the ability to sell an alcoholic beverage in a single-use, marked cup to consume within the designated area and within a specific time period.

The social district proposal may find its way onto the next Niles City Council meeting, scheduled for Monday, August 10.

[More Information](#)

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## Buchanan DDA Officially Dissolved

On Monday, July 27, the Buchanan City Commission officially dissolved the Buchanan Downtown Development Authority. The dissolution has been a topic of conversation for city officials since late May. Economic development program alternatives have been discussed, such as an economic development committee open to community involvement, but at present, no announcements have been made regarding such.

[Learn More](#)

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## Welcome our New Members!

*Please give a warm welcome to the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce's newest members.*

[Dairy Queen – Oak Street](#) is under new management! The father-son duo, Dominick and Bill Russo

reopened the community favorite earlier this summer to the community. Be sure to stop by show your support to our new business neighbors! [Learn more.](#)

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## COVID-19 Quick Links

[Business Guidance on the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(GNCOG\)](#)

[Berrien Reopens](#)

[Southwest Michigan Safe](#)

[SBA Disaster Assistance in Response to the Coronavirus \(SBA\)](#)

[Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers \(CDC\)](#)

[Berrien County Health Department](#)

[State of Michigan](#)

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[Email Jeff](#)

[Email Eileen](#)

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