

GREATER NILES
Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER CURRENTS

A monthly newsletter from the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce

What is the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce?

The [Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce](#) was created to be an advocate for the business community, to promote and raise the profile of the community, and to drive economic growth in the service area. The Chamber was founded in 1919 by a group of Niles business owners and consists of more than 380-member businesses. The organization serves the communities of the City of Niles, Niles Charter Township, Bertrand Township, Buchanan, Galien, Three Oaks, and Cass County. The Chamber's three primary focus areas are economic development, business advocacy, and member services.



Indeck Breaks Ground on New Energy Plant in Niles

On Wednesday, September 4, the [Indeck Niles Energy Center](#) broke ground on Progressive Drive in the Niles industrial park just off of Terminal Road.

Indeck Niles has been in the works for almost 20 years, with the project having been shelved in the earlier 2000's due to rising natural gas prices. According to Indeck Energy Services, the recent revival of the project was due to shifts within the industry that have created a fervent need for cleaner energy and the lessening of natural gas prices.

The official groundbreaking ceremony took place on Wednesday, September 4, but initial proceedings have already begun to prepare the land for construction. The project will last about three years, with the projected opening of this plant to take place in March, 2022.

This project will bring about approximately 500 temporary, union construction jobs, followed by 21 permanent, full time, highly skilled and high-paying technical career opportunities at the plant, according to Indeck.

The total project cost is \$1 billion. The plant is being developed by Indeck Energy Services, however, two other South Korea-based companies have invested in this project. In addition to Indeck Energy Services' 20 percent, engineering construction and petrochemical company, [Daelim Energy](#), owns approximately 30 percent of Indeck Niles and power plant company, [KOSPO](#), owns 50 percent.

Upon completion, this plant will be a 1,000 megawatt combined-cycle power plant, meaning that Indeck Niles will utilize both natural gas and steam to produce enough power for approximately 700,000 homes and businesses.

The completion of this project will play a major role on the greater Niles community as it will provide about \$150,000 to \$250,000 per year in tax revenue. This annual tax revenue would then increase to between \$1.2 million and \$1.5 million after the first 13 years of production. Furthermore, the deal is estimated to generate approximately \$1 million into a brownfield redevelopment fund.

Indeck Niles will sell the energy produced to the national grid.

Indeck Energy explained that the company chose Niles because of its viable access point to existing natural gas transmission lines and a central distribution location for the Midwest. Furthermore, the use of the industrial park is appealing because it allows for minimal traffic congestion and environmental hazards due to the plant.

The Chamber's Mission

Serving businesses and our members by providing products, programs, and services that drive company and community growth.



State of the Economy Breakfast to be held on October 23

The Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce is proud to present to you the State of the Economy Breakfast, to take place on Wednesday, October 23 from 8:00 until 9:30 a.m. at [The Supper Club by The Morris Estate](#).

This breakfast will be the premier Economic Development event of the season and will provide an opportunity for area leaders to be empowered by current trends in our regional business community. Guests will enjoy breakfast with the Chamber while learning about the latest projects, movements, and innovations that are influencing the greater Niles area.

Space is limited, reserve your seat today!

[Register](#)

The Chamber's Vision

To be a trusted source of information, an effective resource, and an influential advocate for the business community in the greater Niles area.

Young Professionals Summit to be held on October 3

Young Professionals in the Greater Niles area will have an opportunity to participate in the largest full-day professional development conference in the region for young professionals, ages 21-39, with the second annual YP Summit on Thursday, October 3.

Created and implemented by YPs for YPs, this year's conference kicks off with the ever-popular Big Talk, so YPs get to know each other a bit better from the start. In-between, YPs will gather at breakout sessions and hear about cool stuff being done by your peers. This year also features a fantastic keynote by Dr. Karlyn Borysenko, an organizational psychologist and executive/performance coach, speaking on the topic of office politics and work experience.

The day will end with a networking reception featuring music, refreshments, and fun! Greater Niles Chamber young professionals use **promo code NYP19** for additional savings on your registration!

Register



Chamber Chat features On Base Productions

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. Last month, Chamber Chat featured the [On Base Productions](#). Tune in to learn more about this downtown business.

Listen Now!



Business After Hours and Grand Opening with Signal Travel and Tours

October 3 | 5:30-7:00 PM

Signal Travel and Tours
217 N. 4th St.
Niles, MI 49120

Join the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce and [Signal Travel and Tours](#) as we gather for a very special Business After Hours, in which we will be celebrating the move of Signal Travel and Tours to their new location at 2540 S. 11th St. in Niles. This Business After Hours will feature a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the move in addition to the opportunity to gather with fellow business professionals and community leaders.

Register



Bobcat of Michiana Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting

October 4 | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Bobcat of Michiana
2622 S 11th St
Niles, MI 49120

On Friday, October 4, join the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce and [Bobcat of Michiana](#) as we celebrate the grand opening of Bobcat's new Niles facilities at 2622 S 11th St. The celebration will take place from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. with remarks and the ribbon cutting starting at 11:15 a.m. Enjoy refreshments with the Bobcat team and have the opportunity to view their new space right here in Niles.

Welcome our New Members!

Please give a warm welcome to Atomic Bean Coffee, Bobcat of Michiana, Michiana Fun Tours, and Freedom Realty, the Greater Niles Chamber of Commerce's newest members.

[Atomic Bean Coffee](#) is a brand-new, independent coffee shop operating in the heart of downtown Niles. Atomic Bean offers delicious MadCap coffee, pastries, and soon will offer made-to-order paninis

[More Info](#)

[Bobcat of Michiana](#) is one of the oldest Bobcat dealers in the United States, having started their journey about half a century ago. Bobcat of Michiana has a full showroom, opening soon in Niles, Michigan, that will showcase their full line of Bobcat equipment and attachments.

[More Info](#)

[Michiana Fun Tours](#) has built a reputation of excellence as the premier special event transportation service in the area. Michiana Fun Tours ensures dependable, safe, and fun service from pick up to destination, making their services ideal for wine/brew tours, bachelor/bachelorette parties, company outings, and more!

[More Info](#)

[Freedom Realty's](#) very own, Chris Moore, is one of Southwest Michigan's premiere real estate professionals. Servicing both commercial and residential buyers and sellers, Christine doesn't just work 9 to 5, but rather start to finish.

[Email Freedom Realty](#)

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