

# Niles JOURNAL

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## More Homes Tapping Into Water System Irks Residents

*Residents in an unincorporated area near Niles are concerned about their aging, self-contained water system's ability to handle more homes, as well as a developer seeking to build a strip-mall there.*

By CHAD VERBAIS

Several homeowners in an unincorporated section of Maine Township, which is surrounded by the Village of Niles, are fighting a variety of battles to keep their community's water supply accessible to their homes.

The area in turmoil, located south of Golf Road, west of Greenwood Avenue, east of Western Avenue and north of a section of Emerson Street, has attracted a developer who has contacted 14 of the homeowners. He wants to demolish the homes to make way for a strip shopping mall along the south side of Golf Road. Several other homeowners in the neighborhood are subdividing their lots and trying to add more houses to the aging water system. The Village of Niles will not annex the area to help cover the cost of any water system improvements or repairs that may need to be made.

Recently, elected President of the Homeowners Association,

Bud Phillips, said the water system in question has served the area's homes since 1939 and might not be able to handle additional units drawing water from it.

"We are concerned about the system's ability to support more homes in its aging and fragile condition," said Phillips. "In addition, if the strip mall were to be built it would make access to the system for repairs much more difficult."

Homeowners in the area are exclusively part of a self-contained water and sewer system and are all members of the Glenview Utility, a non-for-profit utility organization owned by the Village of Glenview.

The lots, each approximately 20,000 sq. ft., in size are all tapped into the water system. However, several owners are subdividing their lots to allow new homes to be built.

"The conflict we are having is if a new home attaches to the system, what type of problems will it cause and what type of fee should be imposed," said Phillips.

Current association by-laws state that homes may attach to the system for a fee of \$1,000 each.



### Improving irrigation

Workers from Halloran & Yauch of Glenview install a 20-ft., 8 inch irrigation pipe at the 9th hole of Tam O'Shanter Golf Course in Niles last Friday. When finished, the workers will have installed nearly 2,000 ft. of pipe around the entire course. The pipe will allow the course to be irrigated by computer when finished. (Journal Photo by Allen Kaleta)

"It's a complicated

Open House Launches New Public