



The Swansea Report

Volume 31, Number 1

Website: Swanseail.org

January 2016

Municipal Directory

Web Site: www.swanseail.org

Admin E-mail:

swanadmn@swanseail.org

Police Department

Non-Emergency - 233-8114

Email: swanseap@swanseail.org

Fire Department

Non-Emergency - 233-8114

Engine House: 234-3291

Building & Zoning: 355-0280

Email: swanbnz@swanseail.org

All Other Departments

General Access Number

234-0044

Mayor's Office, Village Clerk,
Administration, Utility Billing,
& Public Works

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday - Friday

BUILDING LOCATIONS

Police Department,
Government Center
& Building and Zoning

1400 N. Illinois Street

Fire House #1, 1350 N. Illinois St.

Fire House #2, 144 Huntwood Rd.

Street Garage, 215 Service St.

Trash Service Delays

There will be no trash service on New Year's Day. Your regularly scheduled trash pick up, following the holiday, will be delayed one day in observance of the holiday. MLK, Jr. Day is not an observed holiday. There will be no delay in your service.

Swansea Police Department is starting a brand new Law Enforcement Explorer Post!

WHEN: Intro meeting - January 28th, 2016 at 6:30 PM

WHERE: Swansea Police Department- 1400 North Illinois Street

WHAT: Come find out how cool it is to be part of a great organization and learn how to help you achieve your dreams.

HOW: Let us know you are coming...call 233-8114 and ask for Michele!

LAW ENFORCEMENT CAREER EXPLORING

Law Enforcement Exploring is the preeminent career orientation and experience program for young people contemplating a career in law enforcement or a related field in the criminal justice system. Its mission is to offer young adults, ages 14 who have completed the eighth grade and not yet 21 years old, a personal awareness of the criminal justice system through training, practical experiences, competition, and other activities. Additionally, the program promotes personal growth through character development, respect for the rules of law, physical fitness, good citizenship and patriotism. Law Enforcement Exploring



- Ride along in a Police car
- Wearing a uniform
- Practice traffic stops, handcuffing, arrests and crime scene processing
- Learn communication skills
- National conferences in Washington DC, Florida, Arizona, etc.
- Prepare for your future.
- Get to know some cool cops.

Continued on page 2

Village of Swansea Officials

President: Ken Mueller mayor@swanseail.org

Clerk: Lauren O'Neill loneill@swanseail.org

Trustees: Matt Lanter mlanter@swanseail.org

Brian McGuire bmcguire@swanseail.org

Marilyn Neumeyer mneumeyer@swanseail.org

Stephen Pulley spulley@swanseail.org

Katherine Ruocco kruocco@swanseail.org

Brian Wells bwells@swanseail.org

Treasurer: Michael W. Leopold mleopold@swanseail.org

has been in existence since 1959 and is a well established and highly respected program that has served as a platform from which countless young adults have launched a successful career with local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Swansea Police Chief Steve Johnson started as a Law Enforcement Explorer at the age of 14.

All Exploring programs are based on the following five areas of emphasis: Career Opportunities, Life Skills, Citizenship, Character Education, and Leadership Experience. Law Enforcement Exploring fulfills all of these areas of emphasis in its mission to offer Explorers interested in a career in law enforcement the opportunity to:

1. Gain information about various criminal justice careers and have positive interaction with law enforcement professionals.
2. Obtain "hands-on" experience and awareness of the criminal justice system, thereby helping Explorers to make an informed decision on a career in law enforcement or a related field.
3. Receive comprehensive career focused training that in many cases qualifies for academic credit (i.e.

career education credit).

4. Benefit from interpersonal growth through self-discipline, teamwork, challenging experiences, and high standards of performance and personal conduct.

5. Enhance character development and improve physical and mental fitness.

6. Learn responsibility to self and others through leadership.

7. Serve their community by assisting their sponsoring agency in a supplementary law enforcement and liaison capacity.

Nationally, over 33,000 Explorers and 8,425 adult volunteers participate in Law Enforcement Exploring.



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618-416-7820
robert.stelling@
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062015-05522AC

Swansea Fire Department Monthly Fire Responses November 2015

For the month of November, the Swansea Fire Department responded to 31 calls. Below is a list of the type & amount of calls the Swansea Fire Department responded to:

- Structure Fire(s) - 3
- False Alarms - 3
- Carbon Monoxide Alarms - 0
- Other Incidents - 25
- Total Responses - 31
- Child Safety Seats Installed - 5



Swansea Senior Van

The Village of Swansea offers free van service to all of our Swansea Seniors (55+)! The Senior Van runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays every week from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. The Senior Van is available for doctor's appointments and shopping in Swansea, Belleville, and Fairview, as well as trips to Wal-Mart the first Tuesday of the month. Appointments for the van must be made the day before the scheduled day, and prior to 2:00 p.m. If you would like to schedule a ride or need more information, please contact the Government Center at 234-0044.



Swansea Police Department

During the month of November 2015, the Swansea Police Department responded to 1622 calls for service.



- 265 Traffic stops yielded
- 214 Verbal warnings
- 189 Traffic citations issued
- 29 Traffic accidents
- 49 Misdemeanor arrests
- 6 Felony arrests
- 7 Warrant arrests
- 5 D.U.I. Arrest
- 1 Ordinance Violation

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Swansea Family Christmas Program

Once again, through the generosity of Swansea residents and business owners, the Village of Swansea Family Christmas Program received numerous donations to assist more than 70 Swansea families (254 individuals) who applied for assistance before Christmas. Contributions were very generous this year, and none of the funds were used for program administration. Donations were used to purchase gift cards from Schnucks and Aldi's, and to purchase extra toys to make sure every child received a gift.

In addition to monetary donations, the Christmas program also received donations of gift cards, toys, batteries, smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors from several individuals and organizations. The Board of Trustees and the employees of the Village wish to thank everyone who participated in any way to this special community project. A special thank you to Doris Rebebstorff and Gene Kish for the many hours they volunteered to the Christmas Program.

Thank You from High Mount School

The faculty and staff would like to extend our appreciation to Robert Trentman, Swansea Rotary Club, FCB Bank, Woman of the Moose – Belleville Chapter, West Side Optimist Club of Belleville, Village of Swansea, and the Salvation Army of Belleville. High Mount School greatly appreciates all the support within the community. We are honored that the community recognizes the need for the extra support, especially with all the budget cuts and the cost to fund extra programming.

Robert Trentman has funded our Bully Blocker Program for the past 3 years. He also ensures that High Mount School students have school supplies at the start of school as well as clothing, holiday treats, and other things throughout the school year.

The Swansea Rotarians provides our families in need of extra support with meals, hygiene products, school

supplies, and toys for the holiday. The time and effort they put into this program is greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to FCB Bank and West Side Optimist Club for donating winter coats. It is just outstanding to know that the community is greatly involved in ensuring the basic needs of our children are met.

High Mount School is so grateful, and honored by all the support. The smiles on the children faces were priceless. It is our mission to empower our students to achieve their best. Again, we are so grateful for all the community support to help us accomplish our mission.

Yvette Hicks, MSW
High Mount School Social Worker

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Leaf Burning Has Ended

Leaf burning ended on
Saturday, November 28th.



Burning starts again on April 2nd and will run through June 15th. Burning is allowed on Wednesdays and Saturdays only between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact the Government Center at 234-0044.

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December, 2015

This month's update of What's Happening In Your Local Government:

This month's article will focus on the 2015 (payable in 2016) tax levy that the Board of Trustees recently passed. Let's begin by stating the fact that none of the Trustees are fond of having to raise taxes. We understand that no one is crazy about having to pay more taxes. We are, however, faced with the task of balancing the needs and expectations of citizens along with the flat, or slightly declining, revenue and ever-increasing expenses. The Village's operations continue to be very lean and we are constantly looking for additional ways to cut costs and reduce expenses.

The property taxes collected by Swansea this year will come to roughly \$1,305,000.

The property taxes requested for next year are \$1,667,265. Which is an increase of roughly \$363,000.

Property taxes are broken down into several categories. Below is a quick explanation of what the additional funds will be used for in each category:

1. CORPORATE: 2014: \$160,000 2015 = \$185,000

The additional \$25,000 will be used to help cover increased costs (insurance, employee raises, utility bills, etc).

2. BONDS & INTEREST: 2014: \$238,355 2015: \$238,355

This is the cost of the bond payment for Engine House #2. No change this year.

3. FIREFIGHTER PENSION 2014: \$45,000 2015: \$71,001

This is the Village's contribution to the pension fund. Amount

suggested to be paid into fund is set by actuarials.

4. POLICE PROTECTION: 2014: \$34,000 2015: \$200,000

The additional \$166,000 will be used to help update the police car fleet. The purchase of cars was not kept up over the last 5+ years due to the economic downturn and now we are faced with a depleted and worn out fleet. We will also be using a portion of these funds to hire a School Resource Officer. This cop will spend time at all three schools in Swansea. This is an investment into the safety of our children, and the relationships our children build with Police. Both are critical issues given events occurring regularly in our world today.

5. POLICE PENSION: 2014: \$765,000 2015: \$785,909

This is the Village's contribution to the pension fund. Amount suggested to be paid into fund is set by actuarials. All pension funds have to be 90% funded by 2040. Our pensions are currently about 60% funded so we still have some catching up to do.

6. FIRE PROTECTION: 2014: \$0 2015: \$125,000

These new dollars will be used to fund the purchase of new apparatus for the fire department. The fire department's fleet is quite aged. Only one truck has been purchased in the last 10 years, and most of the fleet is more than 20 years old.

7. AUDIT: 2014: \$12,000 2015: \$12,000

No change. The Audit costs about \$30,000 so money has to be used from other revenue sources to cover the shortage.

8. LIABILITY INSURANCE: 2014: \$50,000 2015: \$50,000

No change. The Liability Insurance costs about \$140,000 so money has to be used from other revenue sources to cover the shortage.

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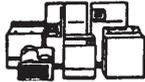
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January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Gov. Ctr. Closed New Year Holiday	2
3	4 Muni. Committee Mtg. Com. Ctr - 6:00 p.m. Brd. of Trustees Mtg. Gov. Ctr - 7:00 p.m.	5	6	7	8 Chamber of Commerce Morning Mingle Fairview Rec. Ctr. 7:45 - 9:00am	9
10	11 Planning & Zoning Board Meeting if Needed. Gov. Ctr. 6:00 p.m.	12	13 Chamber of Commerce Board of Director's Meeting Chamber Office 4:00pm	14 *CHADD Meeting Shiloh Senior Ctr. 7 Park Dr - 5:30-7:30 pm www.chadd.net/379	15	16 Park Bd Mtg. 7:00 am Norman Lehr Ctr.
17	18 Gov. Ctr. Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	19 Muni. Committee Mtg. Gov. Ctr - 6:00 p.m. Brd. of Trustees Mtg. Gov. Ctr - 7:00 p.m.	20 Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours TBD 5:00-7:00pm	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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Christmas Tree Collection

Once again the Village will provide various ways residents can dispose of Christmas trees. Drop-off sites have been set up at *Centennial Park off Highway 161, Mel Price Park on Caseyville Avenue and Schranz Park off of Huntwood Road.*

The sites will be open from December 26th to January 22nd . Residents can bring their clean trees to these sites and drop them in the designated areas.

All trees must be free of decorations and plastic wrap or tree bags.

Residents not wanting to take their tree to one of the drop-off sites may place their clean tree at the curb on their regularly scheduled pick-up day after Christmas. Starting on Monday, December 28, 2015, through Friday, January 8, 2016 Republic Services will pick-up your tree FREE of charge.

To have your tree picked up at your curb for free, please remove all decorations, including lights and tinsel. Please cut into 4-ft. sections and place at the curb on your regularly scheduled trash pick-up day.



**The Village of Swansea
Non-Emergency Services
will be closed on:**

Friday, January 1st, 2016

*in observance of
New Year's Day
and*

Monday, January 18th, 2016

*in observance of
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*



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