



THE SWANSEA REPORT

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2016

The Swansea Report Takes On A New Look

Last year, the Village changed the way the Swansea Report was printed and distributed in an attempt to reduce the gap between \$42,000 expenditures but only \$20,000 in revenue. But the change has not been without its own challenges. The method of mailing without using specific street addresses lowered postage costs but resulted in some residents not getting a copy, while non-residents outside the Village limits did.

With this issue we implemented changes we hope will resolve those challenges. We have returned to a heavier paper using offset printing. Each issue will now be specifically addressed in carrier route and delivery order, which results in low postal rates but hopefully fixes distribution issues.

And the Village will once again write the stories and prepare the layout. We hope you find this layout and format to more effectively get you the information you need to know as a resident of Swansea.

Advertise With Us

We intend to expand to 12 pages with the May issue and need about 12 more advertisers to make that work. With that level of support, we should balance revenue and expenditures. Want to reach 6,100 local businesses and homes for pennies per address? Call 233-0044 now to reserve your ad. Spaces will be limited.

Village To Relocate Government Center To Former Driver's License Facility

The Village of Swansea is purchasing the old Driver's License facility at 1440 Boul Avenue, with plans to relocate the Administrative offices from the existing Government Center to the new location 'just around the corner'. The Village paid \$225,000 for the 4,600 sq. ft. brick building with 54 parking spaces and 1.27 acres.

The action is prompted by the Police Department's need for additional room and floor plan that is less than ideal for current needs. Relocating administrative functions will allow the police to expand into and occupy the entire building at 1400 N. Illinois St., which will be remodeled to some degree to serve only as the Village's police station in the future.

The floor plan at 1440 Boul Avenue will also be revised to better fit the needs of the Village, and the building will thereafter become the new Government Center. When completed, meetings of the Village Board, committees and commissions will occur at the Boul Ave. location.

That building was originally constructed in 1990 to house the Secretary of State Driver's License facility, which had relocated from 17th Street, before eventually moving to downtown Belleville. Most recently portions were occupied by United Way and an Allstate training facility. Both tenants are relocating.

Closing was expected by the end of March. As soon as the building is in the Village's possession, staff will finalize remodeling plans, and address any other modifications, repairs or updates necessary prior to the Village moving staff to the site. The timeline for that move has not yet been established, but will be as the buildout schedule is clarified. Details will be included in a future issue of the Swansea Report.

Plans for how the current building will be adapted to the Police Department are not specific at this time and will be contingent on projected needs and the availability of funds for those modifications.



The 4,600 sq. ft. building on Boul Avenue will become the new Government Center.

News Briefs

Splash Pad Usage By Large Groups

At their meeting on March 7th, the Board of Trustees began the process to require large groups to pre-register, reserve and pay a fee in order to use the splash pad at Schranz Park.

In previous years, day care centers, day camps and similar entities have brought busloads of children to the park specifically to use the splash pad. But large groups like that tend to overwhelm the facility, making it difficult for others to use it.

The Village is developing regulations for a process that will allow exclusive use by large groups, but any such policy is anticipated to include limits on the time to a two hour window between 11:30 and 1:30, and only on weekdays. The policy and process should be in effect before the splash pad opens for the season.

911 Dispatching

Police Chief Steve Johnson made a presentation to the Board at the March 7th meeting to bring them up to date on the state imposed consolidation of 911 dispatching centers. Illinois is forcing the consolidation of 911 centers across the state, including in St. Clair County - where the mandate calls for cutting the number of centers from eight to four. Swansea handles the fewest 911 calls of all centers, but the Village's dispatchers provide many

other services in support of police officers, since the department does not have administrative staff. This includes handling non-emergency calls for service as well as about 3,500 people per year who walk into the department.

Among the options available to the Village include disbanding our own dispatching and contracting with CENCOM or co-locating our dispatchers into a larger off-site center like the City of Belleville to consolidate the two centers into one.

Summer Job Available

The Village is seeking applicants for part-time summer employment working outdoors and performing manual labor. Applicants must be physically able to lift up to 50 pounds. Must have valid drivers license and excellent work ethic. Prefer experience operating commercial mowers. Position filled as early as April 1st, running through October. Weekly schedule of 32 hours per week, with 2 hours on Sat and Sun every other week. \$12 per hour, no benefits. Apply on-line at the Village's website www.swanseail.org or pick up an application at the Government Center, 1400 Illinois Street.

Memorial Day Ceremony

Men and women who have served and sacrificed in service to the United States will once again be honored at the Village's annual Memorial Day Ceremony, scheduled for this year on Monday, May 30, 2016, beginning at

10:00am at Pavilion #2 in Melvin Price Memorial Park. The event will feature a guest speaker, music by the Westview Baptist Church Worship team and refreshments.

Any Swansea resident who is a veteran of the Armed Services - retired or now serving - is asked to email mneumeyer@att.net or call 618-363-8694, to have your name added to the list of Swansea Veterans. Those veterans and all residents are invited and encouraged to attend.

2nd Annual Police & Fire Youth Academy in June

The Village is now accepting applications for its 2nd Annual Swansea Police and Fire Youth Academy. The 3-day event allows youth ages 9-13 to experience law enforcement training, fire department demonstrations, leadership preparation, and much, much more.

This year's dates are June 20th, 21st & 22nd. Participants meet from 8:00am until 4:00pm each day, with graduation at 4:00pm on the 22nd. Donations cover all costs so there is no fee to participants, who also receive a Youth Academy shirt and lunch each day.

Only 50 spots are available with preferential spots for Swansea residents and new recruits. If interested email 911 Supervisor Michelle Russel for an application packet at mrussell@swanseail.org.

Home Equity

Special Introductory Rate!

2.99% APR

4.00% APR
thereafter!

No Closing Costs!

The Right Tools to Get the Job Done!

ProvidenceBank
Member FDIC

618.234.9500 • fh.myprovidencebank.com

Home Equity Loans & Lines of Credit: Subject to credit approval. Offer available on applications submitted by 4/30/16 with a minimum loan amount of \$10,000 or more. Loan-to-value (LTV) rules apply. Contact bank for details. Property insurance required. Home Equity Lines of Credit only: Introductory rate of 2.99% APR will be fixed for 12 months. The current rate that would have applied is 4.00% APR. The APR, after the introductory period may vary and will not exceed 20% APR. APR is based upon the rate published in The Wall Street Journal's Money Rate table. Prime was 3.50% as of 2/15/16.

Police K9 Added to Department

On March 12th the Swansea Police Department added Leo to its force as the department's new K9. Leo is a black German Shepherd specifically bred in the Czech Republic to serve as a police dog.

Police Officer Nick Van Waes has been selected as the new K9 officer and both he and Leo entered training at the end of the month through the 12-week St. Louis City K9 Academy.

Dogs can be a valuable addition to a department and specialize in helping to find missing persons, tracking suspects, identifying the presence of drugs, and protecting other officers in any confrontational situation.

In March the Village also acquired a used patrol vehicle from the Urbana Police Department specifically configured for use as a K9 unit.

Both the vehicle and Leo were purchased with donated funds and thus at no cost to the department's regular budget.



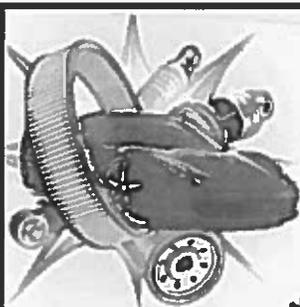
Registration In April For High Mount Kindergarten

High Mount School will hold registration and screening for new Kindergarten students on Tue, Apr 19th and Wed, Apr 20th. Residents living in High Mount's District who have a child entering school next year who will be 5 years old by Sep 1, 2016, should call the school office at 233-1054 to make an appointment. Those appointments begin at 8:30am with the last screening starting at 2:30pm. Please allow 45 minutes. You must bring three proofs of residency (such as a current utility bill, rental agreement, mortgage papers) and a Certified birth certificate for your child.

Yard Waste Options Begin April 1st

Swansea ordinances limit the burning of landscape waste to specific time frames in Spring and Fall. For 2016 the Spring season begins April 1st and ends June 15th. Residents who desire to do so may burn landscape waste between those dates but only on Wednesdays and Saturdays between the hours of 11:00am and 4:00pm. All the conditions of doing so are contained in the ordinance on the Village's website at www.Swanseail.org.

Residents can also sign up for unlimited curbside yard waste pickup from Republic Services by calling (618) 656-6883. A three month commitment is required at signup and Republic bills customers directly for the service, which runs from the first Wed of April until the last Wed of December.



Todd & Marks Auto Repair, Inc.

1219 Caseyville Avenue
Swansea, IL 62226

Phone (618) 233-9923

www.toddandmarksauto.com
toddandmarksauto@att.net





ANGO KERNAN
RENTALS
& SALES

Hours:
M-F 7:30 - 4:30
Sat 7:30 - 2:00

Equipment for Construction or DIY projects - skid loaders, post hole diggers, concrete saws, asphalt roller and much more.
Party Rentals - Popcorn, cotton candy, snow cone machines, champagne and chocolate fountains, fryer and grills, etc.



14 Passenger Limo
Call today to make your reservation!

1704 N. Belt West,
Swansea
618-671-6999

Call today to discuss your security needs!

IL: 618-277-3344
MO: 314-421-4343
IL License # 127-009524

BARCOM

SECURITY

ACCESS CONTROL • FIRE SAFETY • SURVEILLANCE • INTEGRATION

923 North Belt West Swansea, IL 62226

www.barcomsecurity.com

FREE / NO CHARGE

Takeover of any existing security system
(all brands apply)






Residents Question Increased Cost of Trash Stickers - Understand

An article in the March issue of the Swansea Report regarding the pending increase in trash sticker prices, prompted numerous telephone calls, emails and visits to the Government Center as residents sought some understanding into why the increase was as high as it is. Prices are slated to increase on May 1, 2016 from the current \$2.95 per sticker, to a new price of \$3.84 per sticker - a rise of about 30%.

The questions prompted additional details in this issue to try to help ensure that residents understand and have accurate information.

First the background...The Village has a unique volume based pricing system for the disposal of residential solid waste. Since residents are charged for each trash can placed out for collection - but recyclables are collected at no charge - there is a built-in incentive to recycle. It has been very effective. Since the start of the program 26 years ago, Swansea has regularly diverted over 30% of the waste stream from landfills. And recycling has been a natural part of the lives of an entire generation.

The Village issues one license to one company to provide those services and the prices to be charged for trash stickers are part of that process.

Bid prices in 2011 were for a three year contract (through Apr 2014) with the possibility of two one-year extensions (through April 2016). Only two companies submitted bids in response to that request for proposals. The individual sticker prices, as bid are outlined in the table below. It is obvious, that the Waste Management bids were far higher than Allied Waste / Republic Services, and the contract was awarded to them.

In 2014, as the Village considered extending that contract, Republic Services made an offer to the Village. That offer was to not increase the

sticker prices as previously bid in the optional 4th and 5th years, but to hold the year three price of \$2.95 per sticker for those two years as well. In exchange, Republic asked that the contract be extended for 10 years rather than 2, and submitted prices for each of those extra years.

That proposal was discussed in committee and Village Board meetings in March and April of 2014. Multiple perspectives were offered and considered by Trustees, and in the end the majority of the Board members voted to pass a resolution on April 7, 2014 that extended the previous 3-year contract for 10 years, thus establishing the prices for single stickers, annual stickers, and yard waste services through April 2024. Those prices for single stickers are reflected in the table on page 5.

BIDDER	THRU 4/12	THRU 4/13	THRU 4/14	THRU 4/15	THRU 4/16
Waste Management	\$3.80	\$3.90	\$4.00	\$4.10	\$4.20
Allied / Republic Serv	\$2.73	\$2.84	\$2.95	\$3.07	\$3.19
Allied / Republic Serv	Negotiated revision to prices...			2.95	2.95

We have TWO Swansea Locations, waiting for you!
Come Visit Us
Or for More Info, go to www.FulfordHomes.com






Doug Wilks, CFP[®]
Financial Advisor
An Ameriprise Platinum Financial Services[®] practice

Wilks and Associates
A financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
209 West Pointe Dr., Ste. C
Swansea, IL 62226
618.355.7897
douglas.j.wilks@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/douglas.j.wilks



Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC.



Family Retreat In Your Own Backyard

- Jacuzzi hot tubs
- Pacific in-ground pools
- Viking fiberglass pools
- Above-ground pools
- Chemicals and supplies
- Service for pools/hot tubs




4200 N. Illinois • Swansea • 234-8004
2 miles south of St. Clair Mall
munieleisure.com

It's never too early
No matter what stage of life you're in, it's never too early to start planning for retirement. Let us help you balance your need to protect what you have with your desire to build for the future.



Corey Stelling
2310 N Illinois Street
Swansea, IL 62226
618-416-7820
robert.stelling@countryfinancial.com



ing the History May Also Help With Understanding Board Decisions

As you can see, the price of \$2.95 per sticker in year three of the previous contract was in fact held at that same level for the first two years of the new contract extension. Yet in year three - the year that is about to begin on May 1, 2016 - the sticker price jumps to \$3.84 and that change caught the attention of many.

Still, some trustees noted that while the increase is significant and may have alarmed some residents, the May 1, 2016 price from Republic is nearly equal to the price that Waste Management would have charged at the beginning of their contract, if they had won the bid five years ago.

So while no one welcomes such a significant increase, in comparing it to other possibilities residents have been paying lower rates for some time. And while the increase is around 30% for this one year, increase in the years beyond that are already set and closer to 3% or 4%.

Under Swansea's system residents still have some control over costs. For example, any recyclable items currently put in your trash could go into the recycling bin instead, thereby lowering the volume of trash, which might mean you use less stickers.

Our system is especially appreciated by senior citizens, older couples or individuals who do not need to put out trash every week. It therefore costs them less than a typical system where everyone pays the same, regardless of how much trash they generate, and where they pay something towards subsidizing the larger trash generators.

Single use stickers will remain on sale at the current price of \$2.95 through April 30th and will still be honored by Republic Services after May 1st. They can be purchased at the Government Center, Schnucks in Swansea Plaza, Don's Hardware at 1454 Boul Ave, Bank of Edwardsville

at 3685 Sullivan Dr. and Phillip's 66 at 2400 N. Illinois St. Annual stickers purchased now, however, are at a prorated price through April 30th and a new annual sticker would need to be purchased at the new price for service after May 1.

Republic Services
New Pricing
May 1, 2016 - Apr 30, 2017

Single Use Refuse Sticker
\$19.20 / sheet of 5
(\$3.84 each)

Annual Refuse Sticker
\$211.19
(only good after 5/1/16)
Allows collection of
one 33 gal container of refuse
each week for 52 weeks

Yard Waste Collection
\$10.26 per month
(3 month minimum)
Must call Republic Services to arrange

CONTRACTOR	THRU 4/15	THRU 4/16	THRU 4/17	THRU 4/18	THRU 4/19	THRU 4/20	THRU 4/21	THRU 4/22	THRU 4/23	THRU 4/24
Allied / Republic Serv	2.95	2.95	\$3.84	\$3.99	\$4.15	\$4.32	\$4.49	\$4.67	\$4.86	\$5.05

C. K. & L. of I. Country Club

Choice of 3 Rooms to Rent
Ask about "No Hall Rental"

We Specialize in Quality
"In House Catering"

2800 North Illinois Street 618 235-2420
Swansea, Illinois



Edward Jones®

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Steve Voss

Financial Advisor

2695 North Illinois Street
Swansea, IL 62226
618-236-7789

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

FOR ALL YOUR BANKING & FINANCIAL NEEDS:



Marilyn Rossi
Center Manager



Justin Chapman
Commercial Lending



Dave Chumley
Wealth Management



Kelli Lalinette
Mortgage Lending



Swansea Center

3685 Sullivan Drive

618-222-1019

MEMBER FDIC







Employee Recognition

At the March 7th Village Board meeting, Swansea recognized a few of its current and retired employees for their years of service and their continued dedication to our residents and businesses. Those specific employees are pictured below and their recognition noted in the photo captions.



Police Officer Andrew Hewitt, was named Officer of the Year for 2015, the first of that award.



Police Officer Cheryl Venorsky was recognized for 20 years of service to date.



Volunteer Fire Fighter Eric Heinzl was recognized for his 10 years of service to date.



Retired Police Officer Greg Woolery was recognized for his 28 years of service.

Farmer's Market

The Swansea Farmer's Market will begin its 2016 season on May 5th. The Market will be held every Thursday through October on the parking lot of Rural King, 2801 N. Illinois Street, Swansea. Time is 11:00am – 3:00pm, rain or shine. Individuals wishing to be a vendor, should request info by email at: swanseafarmersmarket@yahoo.com. Or call Market Manager Norm Geolat at 618-978-8753. Vendor fees are: Produce/Meats: \$10 weekly/\$200 annual; Baked Goods: \$10 weekly/\$100 annual; Crafts/Flowers: \$3 weekly/\$40 annual; Foods: \$5 weekly/\$50 annual.

Dog Park Membership Discount Until May 31

Residents holding a current license for the use of the dog park area in Mel Price Memorial Park can renew that license at a discounted price if they do so before May 31st. Annual licenses holders will receive \$10 off the first dog and \$5 off each additional dog with a three dog limit. Memberships / licenses available at the Government Center. Call 234-0044 for info.

Swansea Improvement Association

Hall For Rent

Weddings
Anniversaries
Meetings
Accomodate up to 300 people

Fish Fry Every Friday
Chicken Special Every
Saturday 11 am to 8 pm.

277-6331
216 Service Street
Swansea, Illinois
Swansen Fish Stand 222-7171



**Corner Stone
Dental**
General Dentistry For All Ages

Randall E. Wilson, D.D.S.

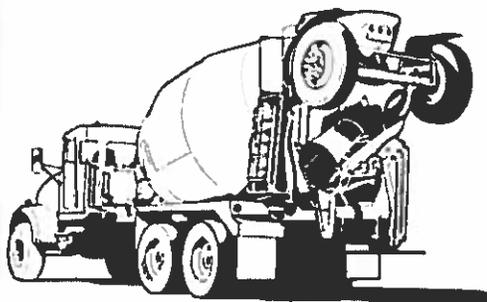
Jeffrey C. Banker, D.D.S., M.S.

- ◀ Accepting New Patients
- ◀ New Extended Hours

618.236.0501

Emergency # 618.632.0501
www.cornerstonedentistry.net

4121 Old Collinsville Road
Swansea, IL 62226



A. AGNE SERVICES, LLC

DEMOLITION - EXCAVATION CONCRETE CONTRACTOR
ROLL-OFF DUMPSTER SERVICES

SWANSEA, IL 618-530-1340

ASK ABOUT SPRING SPECIALS ON CONCRETE REPLACEMENT
AND ROLL-OFFS FOR SPRING CLEANOUTS

Swansea Community Calendar - April 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<p>The Swansea Park Board would like to hear from residents about potentially adding sculptures in our parks. Have some thoughts, comments, interest in participating? Please email to swanadm@swanseail.org prior to the next Park Board meeting on April 9th.</p>			1	2
3	4 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	5	6	7	8 Chamber of Commerce Morning Mingle 7:45am - 9:00am Recreation Center Fairview Heights City Hall, 10025 Bunkum Rd	9 Swansea Park Board Meeting 7:00am Norman Lehr Center
10	11 Swansea Patriots Meeting 5:30pm Norman Lehr Center	12 Planning and Zoning Board Meeting If needed 6:00pm Govt. Center	13 Chamber of Commerce Board of Director's Meeting 4:00pm Chamber Office	14	15	16
17	18 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Swansea Patriots 5K Run "Growing Our Park" 7:00pm Schranz Park	30

FIRST BANK WISDOM:
After four generations in banking, you can't blame us for treating you like family.
Let's get together.



Member FDIC

Personal Banking
Small Business
Wealth Management
Mortgage

CARRIE MACKAY
4887 N. Illinois St.
Swansea, IL 62226
(618) 233-3100

firstbanks.com 

We're Both Under One Roof!



HOME APPLIANCE CENTER and *East Side*

Frigidaire • Gibson
Tappan • White • Westinghouse

SALES • PARTS • SERVICE

Built in Appliance
Washers/Dryers
Ranges/
Dishwashers/Refrigerators/



Authorized Service and Parts for
Frigidaire • Gibson • Kenmore
Tappan • White • Westinghouse
We service all brands

SALES
233-4161
M-F 9-6
Sat 9-2

SERVICE
233-3990

FAMILY OWNED

1900 N. Illinois



Village Of Swansea

1400 N. ILLINOIS STREET
SWANSEA, IL 62226

Phone: (618) 234-0044
www.swanseail.org

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #394
Belleville, IL

**MEMORIAL
MEDICAL
GROUP**

**Now Accepting
New Patients**

Family Medicine

Dr. Steven Whealon

**Joining Drs. David Rawdon,
Salma Mannan-Hilaly, and
Pam VanBevern, PA-C**



Specializing in:

Family Medicine

Preventative Medicine

Women's Care

4600 Memorial Drive, Suite 160
Belleville, IL 62226

For an appointment, call:
(618) 235-0460



Find us on
Facebook

Memorial Medical Group

www.memorialmedicalgroup-llc.com

**health
markets.**

Life | Health | Medicare | Long-Term Care



618-530-0088

Al Saponar

Licensed Insurance Agent

HealthMarkets Insurance Agency is the d/b/a, or assumed name, of Inspire Insurance Solutions, Inc. which is licensed as an insurance agency in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Not all agents are licensed to sell all products. Service and product availability varies by state.

**FCB
BANKS**

FCB SWANSEA BANK 239-9000

FCB O'FALLON BANK 622-9090

DIV.'S OF FIRST COUNTY BANK

SPECIALIZING IN HOME & AUTO LOANS!

The Home of Totally Free Checking



www.fcbbanks.com

FDIC



SPECIAL LIMITED TIME OFFER
\$24.95
See details below

Come Home to Green.

- ✓ Superior Products
- ✓ Guaranteed Results
- ✓ Professional and Courteous Service
- ✓ Commitment to the Environment

Why do it yourself when you could hire a Weed Man professional for less? For about \$1/day, you can benefit from Weed Man's years of expertise. Trust the professionals to care for your lawn. Call us for your FREE quote!

866-265-5999 | stlouis.weedmanusa.com

Weed Man
WE CARE FOR YOUR LAWN