



THE SWANSEA REPORT

VOLUME 34, ISSUE 03

MARCH 2019

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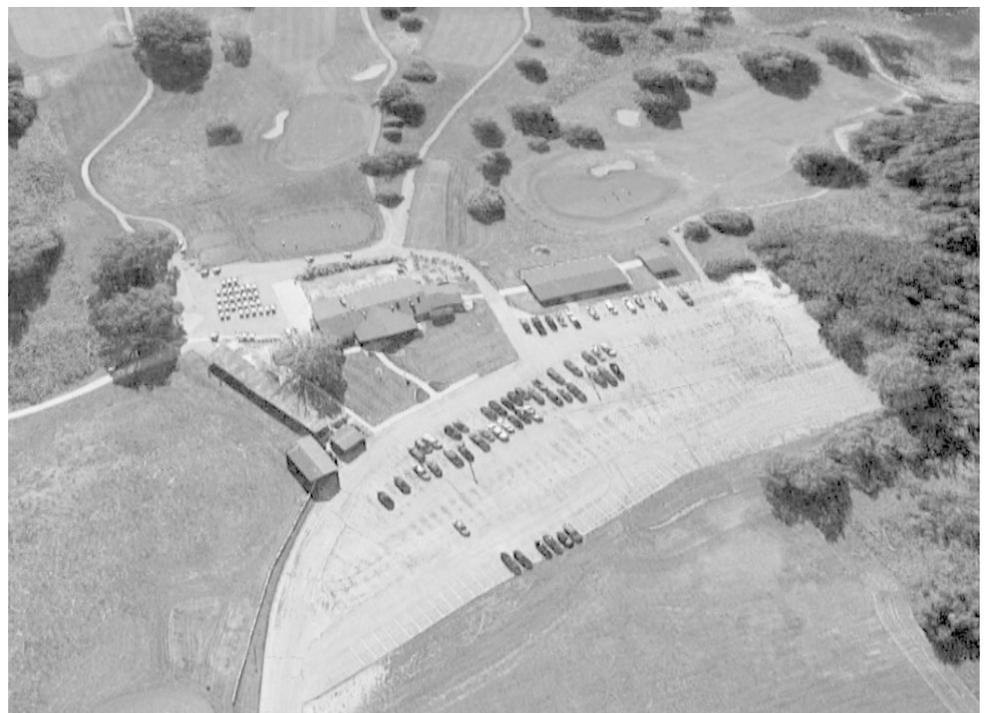
Work Continues To Open New Swansea Clinton Hills Conservation Park

With the full transfer of the former Clinton Hills Golf Course property to the Village at the beginning of 2019, planning is underway to allow for the new park's opening.

In early January, Mayor Mike Leopold appointed 10 members to an Advisory Committee, which consists of residents, business owners, elected officials and village staff. Tasked with creating a road map for rules, regulations, and uses, their first order of business was finding a name.

While all activities and future infrastructure is still to be decided, the committee envisions a park that prioritizes open space, native vegetation, conservation principles, and family-friendly access. As such, they decided on "The Swansea Clinton Hills Conservation Park." By keeping "Clinton Hills" in the name, residents will be able to quickly associate the new park with the geographic area they've been accustomed to for decades.

The committee is currently working on having signage made for rules and regulations, after which new ordinances will be drafted and passed to allow for enforceability. An opening date will be announced here in the Swansea Report, as well as placed on the website, to make sure our residents know when they can begin enjoying our newest community amenity.



News Briefs

2nd Annual Adult Only Easter Egg Hunt

The Swansea Park Board and The Swansea Patriots are holding their 2nd Annual Adult Only Easter Egg Hunt on Friday, April 12, 2019 at Schranz Park. Doors open at 7 PM and the Easter egg hunt will begin at 8:30 PM rain or moonlight.

A television is one of the many super prizes available to win. Participants must be 18 or older to participate. Music will be by Jim Hursey with Sounds Unlimited Entertainment. There will be food and refreshments available as well.

Registration is \$15.00 for one carton of eggs. Each additional is \$10.00. Advance registration not required but is encouraged. Credit cards are accepted for registration. Please call (618) 363-8694 to register with a credit card.

If paying by check, make check payable to Swansea Patriots and mail to 2661 North Illinois Street P.M. Box 149, Swansea, IL 62226.

Don't forget to bring a flashlight so you can spot the eggs!



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Swansea Veterans Names Needed

The Swansea Memorial Day Ceremony will be Monday, May 27, 2019 at Mel Price Park at 10 AM. Veteran Residents of Swansea, please send your information to: mneumeyer@swanseail.org or call (618) 363-8694 to have your name and service added to the Memorial Day Ceremony booklet.

Address Correction For Musick Dermatology

In February we announced Musick Dermatology's new location was open and included their new address; however, we published the incorrect address. The correct address is 4948 Benchmark Centre Drive in Swansea. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Friends of Swansea Parks Looking For Volunteers To Help Clear Brush March 23rd

Exotic plants are a serious problem in our area and bush honeysuckle is perhaps the worst. It is shade tolerant and becomes so prevalent it makes foot travel very difficult; but the worst problem with it is what it does to the future of the forest. It becomes so thick that native trees, flowers, and other plants can't reproduce. Gone will be our

oak, hickory, walnut, cottonwood, maple, and others. With their disappearance we will also lose many animals as these trees are a food source for them.

On March 23, from 9am - noon we will work on removing bush honeysuckle and will also cut invasive vines that are choking out our trees, in Melvin Price Park. We will meet in the front parking lot of the Swansea Government Center, 1444 Boul Avenue. We will start working behind the Government Center. The back of the Government Center connects to the back of Melvin Price Park.

We will have a nice little picnic afterwards for those who want to stick around for a while. Look for more information and pictures on Facebook under "Friends of Swansea Parks, Swansea, Illinois", or email bwells@swanseail.org.

Officer Of The Year- David Schaefer

Congratulations to Captain David Schaefer for Officer Of The Year! Last month's report had David's first name incorrect. Sorry David!



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News Briefs

Swansea Trustee Candidates' Forum

The Chamber of Commerce will host a Candidates' Forum event on Tuesday, March 19th starting at 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Thompson Civic Center (1501 Caseyville Ave, Swansea, IL). The Forum will give residents and local business owners the opportunity to learn more about the candidates' qualifications and what they plan to do to make Swansea a better place to live and work, if elected.



Candidates running for the three open Board of Trustee positions are:

- **John "Skip" Kernan**
- **Marilyn Neumeyer**
- **Brian McGuire**
- **Jeff Parker**
- **Randy Tedesco**

You may choose up to three of these candidates on election day, April 2nd. Bring your questions for the candidates. For more information, contact the Metro-East Regional Chamber of Commerce at (618) 233-3938 - chamber@MetroEastChamber.org.

Where The Village Is At In The Process Of The FY20 Budget



February 20th through March 14th—Continue reviewing the budget and updating projections with actual data.

March 18th—Brief Finance Committee.

March 28th—Tentative budget to Clerk for board packet.

April 1st—Review and discuss the latest draft budget. Announce that the tentative budget will be available for public inspection on Tuesday, April 9th after 8:30am.

April 4th—Notice of Public Hearing published.

April 9th—Post the tentative budget at Village Hall by 8:30am to make available for public inspection.

April 15th—Public Hearing held at 5:45pm. Discuss any proposed changes or modifications to tentative budget with the Board.

April 22nd—Special Board Meeting to review the final budget, pass the ordinance and adopt FY20 Budget.

April 30th—Last date possible for Budget approval by state law. Copies of the Annual Budget are on file in Village Hall and posted on the Village web site. FY20 approved budget distributed to all departments.

May 30th—Last day to file Certified Copy of Budget with the County Clerk (within 30 days of adoption).

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
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Swansea, IL 62226
618-416-7820
robert.stelling@countryfinancial.com



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CONTACT: Cecil Management Group @ (618) 624-4610

News Briefs

Republic Services Holiday Schedule

MEMORIAL DAY - May 27, 2019: Residential - Service will run one day behind throughout the holiday week, beginning with services scheduled for the holiday

INDEPENDENCE DAY - July 04, 2019: Residential - Service will run one day behind throughout the holiday week, beginning with services scheduled for the holiday.

LABOR DAY - September 02, 2019: Residential - Service will run one day behind throughout the holiday week, beginning with services scheduled for the holiday.

THANKSGIVING DAY - November 28, 2019: Residential - Service will run one day behind throughout the holiday week, beginning with services scheduled for the holiday.

CHRISTMAS DAY - December 25, 2019: Residential - Service will run one day behind throughout the holiday week, beginning with services scheduled for the holiday.

If you have questions about your trash recycling, or yard waste pickup schedule please contact Republic at (618) 656-6883 or call the Government Center at (618) 234-0044.

January 2019 Recycling Data

Swansea residents recycling for January 2019 ended with a diversion rate of 32.55% compared to an overall average of 20.47% for the other communities Republic Services serves. Keep up the excellent recycling work!

Swansea Fire Department Dive Team

Did you know that the Swansea Fire Department has a Search & Recovery Dive Team? The team was formed in 2001 and was developed with consideration to the Village having close to 30 lakes/ponds. The fire department had concerns with the chance of any possible drownings that may occur as well as the chance of any vehicle possibly being submerged in the water from an accident.

Funding for equipment was obtained

from the State and the training was paid for by the Village. Members of the Fire Department make up the dive team. The divers are certified search and recovery divers through PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors). The department currently has a total of 9 divers and is adding 6 more members for a total of 15 divers within the next year. The dive team utilizes area lakes for training as well as training of ground support personnel. All of these members are volunteers and dedicate their time for numerous training hours it takes to receive several dive certifications before becoming a dive team member.

The fire department averages 2 calls a year that include recovery of drowning victims and assisting in recovery of vehicles/equipment in water along with requests from law enforcement to locate objects in water. The Dive Team responds to not only calls within the Village, but has been requested from other local agencies and surrounding Illinois Counties, too. This is just another way that the Swansea Fire Department strives to provide the best services possible for the residents of the Village of Swansea.

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News Briefs

Leaf Burning Resumes March 15th

Leaf Burning will resume March 15th through May 15th on Wednesdays and Saturdays only from 9 AM to 6 PM. Burning is not allowed on Village streets or within the Village right-of-way. Fires must be attended and kept under control at all times.

Should the weather be excessively windy, conditions be wet, or air forecasted to be Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (101 – 150) or higher as determined by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency dates in (B) (1) above, burning on said dates shall not be permitted. In the event of such conditions, the Village will post its determination on the Village's website, and send a Code Red alert to residents registered for such alerts. However, it shall be incumbent on anyone intending to burn yard waste, to first reference the Village website for any such notice.

Other options available to residents for the disposal of yard waste include

mulching leaves with a lawn mower, composting, curb side collection through Republic Services (618 656-6883), or dropping off yard waste at St. Louis Compost, located at 3521 Centerville Ave., in Belleville.

Swansea Clinton Hills Conservation Park General Regulations:

April 1st through October 31st - 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

November 1st through March 31st - 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Destruction of any plant, animal, or trees on Park property.

Littering or depositing of trash unless it has been generated through the use of the Park. Proper receptacles provided must be used.

Fires unless built in pits or grills provided for that purpose.

Structure damage, removal, or climbing on any building, shelter or pavilions.

Conduct which is disorderly or disturbs the peace of others.

Animals that are not leashed and/or under control at all times. Riding of horses. No animal may defecate on Park property. Feces must be removed immediately from the area.

Activities such as flying model planes, golf practice, sledding, games, and picnics except in locations designed for those activities.

Operation of all moving vehicles anywhere except on streets or parking lots.

Signage of any kind to be erected in any manner on Park property or roads adjacent to the Park.

Firearms, propelling device of any type on Park property.

Fishing is catch and release only. All fisherpersons are subject to Illinois fishing regulations and conservation laws.

Each of the above regulations have been passed in ordinance form. Anyone found guilty of violating said ordinances is subject to a fine of up to \$500.00

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News Briefs



Chamber Offers \$1,000 Scholarship

The Metro-East Regional Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for the Dr. Bruce Adams annual scholarship. The Chamber will offer a \$1,000.00 scholarship to a graduating student of Belleville East High School, Belleville West High School, Althoff Catholic High School, or Governor French Academy.

To be considered, an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of the Village of Swansea or the City of Fairview Heights, and have been for at least 12 months prior to their application.
- Must be graduating this year from high school and planning to enter an accredited college, university,

junior college or vocational school in the fall.

- Must submit a completed application including a written statement between 300-500 words explaining why they are applying for the scholarship. The statement should include the applicant's goals, the school they have selected to attend, and how they plan to use the money.
- Must provide three letters of recommendation with at least one being from a staff member of the high school they now attend.
- Must include with the completed application a current copy of the applicant's high school transcript.

Applications are available at www.MetroEastChamber.org, at each school's guidance office, or by

emailing the Metro-East Regional Chamber of Commerce office at chamber@MetroEastChamber.org. Applicants may also call 618-233-3938 to request an application or clarification.

Completed applications should be returned or mailed to the Metro-East Regional Chamber, 4387 N. Illinois St, Ste 200, Swansea, IL 62226 on or before **March, 29th, 2019**.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Swansea Rotary Club Chad Wood Scholarship

The Rotary Club of Swansea annually sponsors scholarships in the memory of Chad Wood, who was a

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(Behind Krispy Kreme)



News Briefs

student at Belleville East when he died in a May 9, 2005 automobile accident.

In 2019, the club will award three \$2,500 scholarships, with the competition open to all graduating high school students who reside in the Village of Swansea at the time of the April 1, 2019 application deadline, and/or who have resided in the Village of Swansea for at least three of the past five years immediately prior to the April 1, 2019 application deadline.

Students who expect to graduate from Althoff Catholic High School; Belleville East; Belleville West; Governor French Academy; private or parochial schools in Madison County or St. Clair County, IL; St. Louis City or St. Louis County (MO), and who satisfy the residency requirements as above stated, are eligible, subject to the following qualifications:

- The applicant must be a person of good moral character who has demonstrated a commitment to the concept of community service and volunteerism.
- Each applicant must submit an essay of 350-500 words on a subject related to Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self."
- The applicant must have attained a GPA of at least 3.0+ at the time of application (if school is on a 4.0 basis) or 4.0+ (if on a 5.0 basis).
- The applicant must submit at least one letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, clergy member, or other unrelated adult

who knows the applicant's interests, work habits and capabilities.

- The application, essay and letter of recommendation must be submitted by mail no later than Monday, April 1, 2019. The envelope must bear a post-mark date of April 1, 2019 or earlier.

Please visit the Swansea Rotary website at www.swansearotary.org to download a copy of the application form and to review complete rules and regulations.

The completed application form, essay and recommendation letter(s) must be mailed to:

Ruth Ann Erdmann
2238 Deer Springs Trail
Shiloh, Illinois 62221

Selection of recipients will take place in the first few weeks of April and recipients will be notified by the Rotary Club. The selected scholarship recipients and their parents will be invited to attend the Swansea Rotary Club's 7:30 AM meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2019 and will be presented with their certificates and scholarship checks at that time.



Rotary Club of
Swansea Illinois

Rotary International

VILLAGE OF SWANSEA CONTACT INFO

Swansea Government Center
1444 Boul Avenue
Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm, M-F
www.swanseail.org

**Administration,
Mayor's Office, Village Clerk,
Utility Billing & Public Works**
Phone: 618-234-0044
swanadmn@swanseail.org

Building, Zoning, Permits
Phone: 618-355-0280
swanbnz@swanseail.org

**Swansea Police Department
Emergency: 911**
Non-emergency: 618-233-8114
swanseap@swanseail.org

**Swansea Fire Department
Emergency: 911**
Engine House: 618-234-3291

Village of Swansea Officials

President: Mike Leopold
mayor@swanseail.org

Village Clerk Lauren O'Neill
loneill@swanseail.org

Treasurer John Walter
jwalter@swanseail.org

Trustee Matt Lanter
mlanter@swanseail.org

Trustee Rocky McDonald
rmcdonald@swanseail.org

Trustee Brian McGuire
bmcguire@swanseail.org

Trustee Marilyn Neumeyer
mneumeyer@swanseail.org

Trustee Stephen Pulley
spulley@swanseail.org

Trustee Brian Wells
bwells@swanseail.org

If emailing multiple officials it may be best to also include swanadmn@swanseail.org among those email addresses so staff can help coordinate any requested response.



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News Briefs

Old Town Swansea Streetscape Masterplan

The Village of Swansea has begun soliciting qualifications from architectural firms to prepare the Old Town Swansea Streetscape Masterplan. The masterplan will provide vision for the redevelopment of the southern section of the Village. While redevelopment is currently ongoing, a cohesive plan will ensure that the public realm will provide the residents of Swansea with the needed infrastructure. This will complement private projects. The goal of the streetscape masterplan is to provide a lively community where people meet, eat, shop, and live—a Village that celebrates its history and embraces its position as the transportation hub of St. Clair County. Once completed the Village envisions the atmosphere and ambiance will be unique and memorable. Signs leading into Old-Town will make it easy to find, welcoming residents and visitors. Attractive “gateways” will frame each approach to Old-Town Swansea. A friendly at-

mosphere with charming character will provide guests with everlasting impressions. There will be a distinctive sense of place that provides a pedestrian-friendly environment enhanced by prominent streetscapes. Old-town will consist of tree-lined streets, inviting sidewalks, striking street lighting, colorful landscaping, eye-catching storefronts, appealing street furniture, and convivial green spaces. Visitors will be attracted to Old-Town because of its unparalleled sense of place, aesthetically pleasing environment and connectivity to multi-modal transportation.

The selection process for an architectural firm will be completed in March. The masterplan project is expected to be completed by the end of 2019. During the project the Village will seek input for a broad range of community stakeholders. In addition, public meetings to gather input

and present design concepts will be held.

Funding for the streetscape master plan will come directly from the TIF and Business Districts, and when construction commences the Village intends to seek grant funding from local, state, and Federal Agencies.



ADVERTISE IN THE SWANSEA REPORT!

Specific ad dimensions and prices are as follows:

- 1/8 page “Business Card ” = 2” high x 3.7” wide: \$ 70.00 / month
- 1/4 page vertical = 4.1” high x 3.7” wide: \$ 120.00 / month
- 1/4 page horizontal = 2” high x 7.5” wide: \$ 120.00 / month
- 1/2 page horizontal = 4.1” high x 7.5” wide: \$ 240.00 / month

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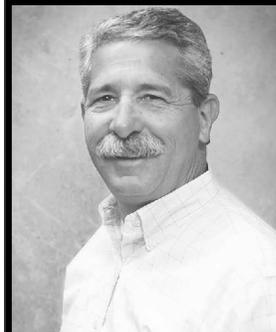
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News Briefs

Pancake Breakfast & Electronics Recycling Event



High Mount School Visionary Club and Westside Optimist Club will hold a pancake, sausage, and egg breakfast on Sat, March 9th from 8 to 10 AM in the school cafeteria at High Mount. Prices are \$8 for adults and \$4 for kids. There will also be an electronics recycling event pickup from 8 AM to 12 PM in the school parking lot.

High Mount School Community Garden

Garden beds are on sale for the 2019 planting season. Beds cost \$25 per (4 x 8ft) box. Please contact Emily Pokojski at:

epokojski@highmountschool.net, (618) 233-1054 ext. 204, or Facebook @HMSCommunityGarden for more information.

4th Annual High Mount School Celebration of Art

High Mount School will have their 4th Annual Celebration of Art on April 5, 2019 from 4:30-7:30. At this event, student art will be on display, there will be games, free art activities, free ice cream, professional artists demonstrating their work, and so much more! All are welcome for this one night extravaganza!



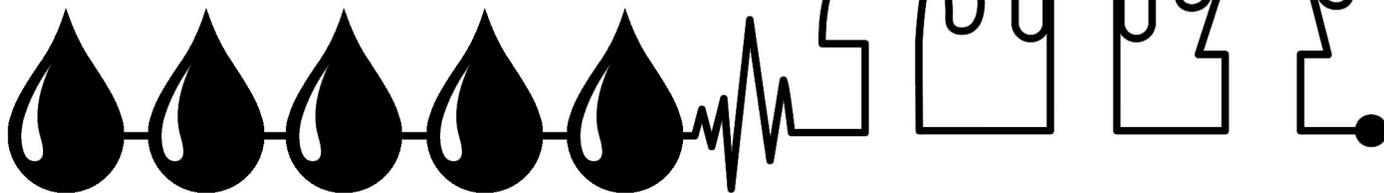
Meet Swansea's Pet Boutique-Muttley & Me



Muttley & Me, a specialty pet boutique, created for pets and their owners, recently opened at 2427 North Illinois Street. Owners of Muttley & Me, Christina and Jason Keck, are residents of Swansea and have been looking for a complementary store to be next to Peace by Piece, their existing women's apparel store. Muttley & Me sells a wide assortment of toys, treats, food, clothing, and much more for pets. The store is pet friendly, so be sure to bring them in to pick out their favorite items. The Keck's are excited to be bringing a second store to their home town.

Did you know?

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Monday, April 1 | Noon - 5:00 p.m.

To register, email **Katie Dobbs**: kdobbs@arsenalcu.com

4384 North Illinois Street
ArsenalCU.com
618.239.6363



News Briefs

Be Cautious Opening Emails from “Village Email Addresses”

From emails and phone calls the Village has received we have become aware that others are sending malicious emails that appear as though they are from Village staff and officials.

This practice, known as ‘spoofing’ has been around for a long time. The sender forges the email header so that the message appears to be from someone you know, or in this case from someone at the Village. Obviously the intent is to increase the chances that you will open a malicious email because you believe that you can trust it, since it seems to be coming from someone trustworthy.

Typically these emails include an attachment, or ask you to “click here”. But clicking or opening the attachment could release a virus or other malware on your computer. So you want to be very cautious not just with emails from the Village, but from anyone where the message or contents just do not seem right.

Things you can do:

First, don’t open any attachment or click on any link in a suspicious email if you have any reason to believe it might not be legitimate.

Second, be generally skeptical. And right now, be specifically skeptical of emails from the Village if there is no reason why we might be sending an email to you. If you want to verify the validity of any email, call us at 618-234

-0044 and we will be happy to do that for you.

One method to check for suspicious activity is to hover your mouse pointer over the email address and any embedded links without clicking. As you can see in the sample to the right, hovering over the “here” link reveals where that link will take you - in this case you see the words **Batik Janting Indonesia** embedded in the link. That is a red flag.

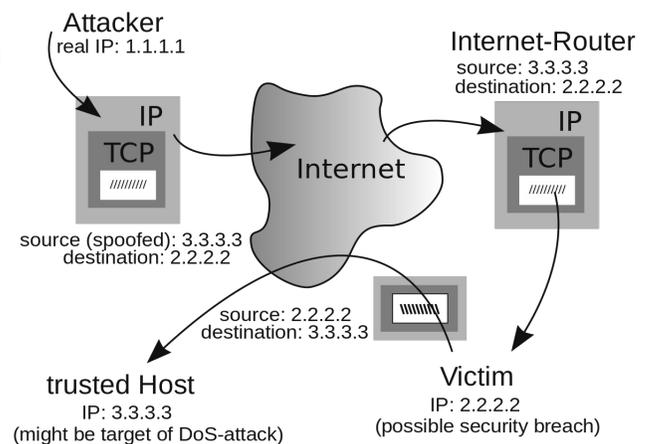
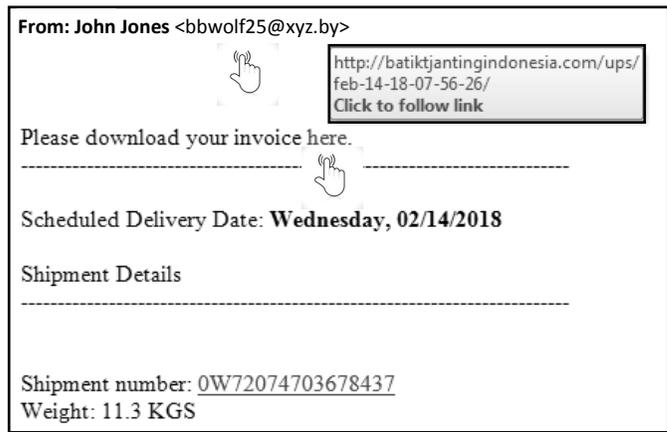
Also note that while the email looks like it is from John Jones, hovering over that address often reveals where it really originated, in this case **bbwolf25@xyx.id**. Note that “.id” is the country code for Indonesia, another hint that the email is not legit.

Finally, consider the subject matter and the way the email is written. Is there some reason for you to be getting an “invoice” from the Village in an email? You obviously did not order anything from the Village that we would be shipping to you.

While we understand the frustration this might cause to some, the Village’s email account has not been hacked. Instead, because we

are required to post email addresses and links on our webpage for easy access to residents, to some degree we will always be a target because spammers know that the email addresses on our webpage are legitimate and therefore more likely to fool people.

The Village is in the process of exploring any other actions that we could take to minimize this possibility, but again, in the meantime be skeptical and cautious.



First Mid BANK & TRUST **OPEN HOUSE!**

Come meet the First Mid business and consumer banking team!

Thursday, March 14 | 4 - 7:00 p.m.

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Swansea Community Calendar - MARCH 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	5	6	7 Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	8	9 Swansea Park Board Meeting 7:00am Norman Lehr Center Swansea Patriots Meeting 8:00am Norman Lehr Center
10 Daylight Saving Time Begins	11	12 Planning and Zoning Board Meeting 6:00pm Govt. Center	13	14 Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	15	16
17	18 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	19 Candidates Forum at Thompson Center @ 7 PM	20	21 Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	29	30

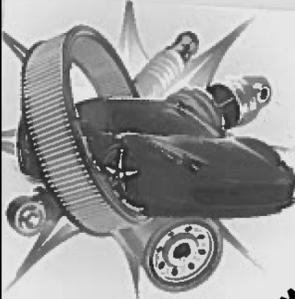
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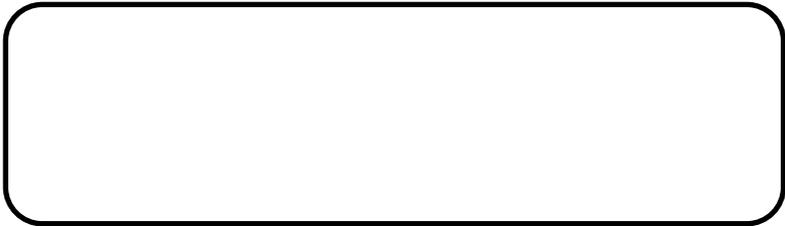


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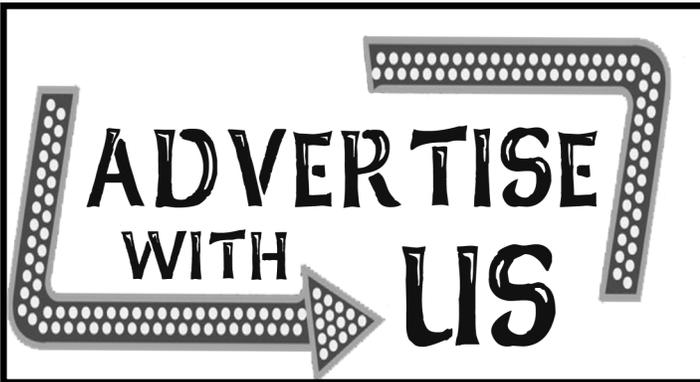
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- Meetings

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CANDIDATES' FORUM

TRUSTEES

MARCH 19th

FROM 7:00 TO 9:00PM

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