



THE SWANSEA REPORT

VOLUME 34, ISSUE 04

APRIL 2019

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Celebrate With Collins & Sons Flooring America And Collins & Sons MaxCare 75th Anniversary



Collins & Sons Flooring America and Collins & Sons MaxCare have been a long time part of the Swansea business community. They are celebrating their 75th Anniversary this year and are planning "75 days of Thankfulness to our Community". The event will begin with a ribbon cutting on April 17th at Noon and end with an after-hours celebration on July 9th. Stop in and share your memories and a cup of coffee with them in the showroom at 2431 N. Illinois St. Swansea, Illinois or stop by General Sherman's food truck from 11 AM to 2 PM. Watch for more events to be announced on their sign during their celebration.

Collins & Sons Flooring America has a goal to increase the beauty in the community. Their tag line, "Your dream for your home begins with a Collins' floor" is their way of encouraging home owners to include their flooring choices as an integral part of their decorating. They find great satisfaction in making their customers' experience simply beautiful, from their first visit to the showroom to the final piece of installation. Collins & Sons MaxCare is a service to help customers maintain the beauty of their floors through carpet cleaning, tile and grout, upholstery, and area rug cleaning. Their loyalty program gives discounts to customers at no additional charge to sign up.

George A. Collins & Sons, Inc. was started in 1944 by George and Edna Collins and has continued through the years with Norman, Bill, Terry, and Roxy. In January of 2015, Tim and Lynn Collins became third generation owners. Tim grew up in the business and Lynn is a veteran of the USAF with a background in Nursing and Theater. Getting more involved in the community as business owners through the Chamber of Commerce, HBA, RASI, BNI and church is a focus of Tim and Lynn.

The showroom staff includes Tim and Lynn Collins, Kevin Colbert, Sean Collins, Ana Van Gundy, Genevieve Collins, IICRC Technician: Joshua Kolbensschlag, and Installer Team: Matt Speichinger, Rick Collins, John Guinn, Tom Vosse, Mike Santoro, plus many more that have been part of the staff that we are thankful for through the years.

News Briefs

Government Center Closed Fri. April 19th

Refuse Collection Not Affected

The Swansea Government Center and all non-emergency services of the Village will be closed on Friday, Apr 19th for the Easter holiday. Republic Services will still make collections on Apr 19th so this Village holiday will not affect refuse or recycling collection.

Trash Sticker Price Increase/Yard Waste Begins

The price of Trash Stickers will increase as of May 1st, 2019. Weekly Trash Stickers will increase in price from \$20.75 per sheet of five stickers to \$21.60. Any stickers purchased at the current price will still be honored if used beyond May 1st.

Yearly Trash Stickers will increase in price from \$228.42 to \$237.56 on May 1st. Thereafter, the cost for the annual sticker is reduced on a pro rata basis by \$4.57 each week, until the stickers expire on April 30, 2020. That way, someone purchasing an annual sticker after May 1 only pays for that portion of the year they

actually have the service. New annual stickers will not be available until right before May 1, 2019.

Republic yard waste services will begin in April. Yard waste prices will increase to \$11.55 from \$11.10 and are billed on a quarterly basis. Yard waste services require a minimum commitment for three months.

Village Seeking Veterans Names For Memorial Day Event

As it does each year, the Village of Swansea will again honor those who have served and sacrificed in service to the United States at the annual Memorial Day Ceremony. The event will begin this year at 10:00am on May 27th, in Melvin Price Memorial Park, 1500 Caseyville Avenue.

Any Swansea resident who is a veteran of the Armed Services, either retired or currently serving, is asked to email mneumeyer@swanseail.org or call 618-363-8694, to have their name added to the Memorial Day Ceremony program booklet.

Don't Forget—2nd Annual Adult Only Easter Egg Hunt —Schranz Park

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.

Registration is \$15 for one carton of eggs. Each additional is \$10. Advance registration not required but encouraged. Credit cards are accepted. Please call (618) 363-8694 to register with a credit card. If paying by check, make payable to Swansea Patriots and mail to 2661 North Illinois Street, P.M. Box 149, Swansea, IL 62226.

Medication Collection on April 27th

The Swansea Police Department will coordinate efforts with the Drug Enforcement Agency to focus on removing potentially dangerous controlled substances from medicine cabinets. A "national take back day" provides a unified opportunity for the public to get rid of unwanted, expired, or otherwise unused pharmaceutically controlled substances and other medications.

The collection site will be at the Swansea Walgreens store at 2532 N. Illinois St., on Sat. April 27th, between the hours of

10:00am and 2:00pm. Residents can drop off both prescription and over-the counter medications, including pills, ointments and creams. Medications may be left in their original container, however participants are encouraged to remove all identifying information from the label. The program is not able to accept liquids, inhalers, intravenous solutions, or syringes/needles.



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Spring Fling & Shred Day! APRIL 18

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Drawing: Entries must be made at a Providence Bank banking center from 4/13/19 to 4/20/19 by 12:00 Noon CT. No account opening is required and will not increase your chances of winning. Employees and immediate family members of Providence Bank are not eligible to win. Entrants must be 18 years of age or older. One entry per person. Need not be present to win. Drawing will be held 4/22/19 at 9 am. Winners will be notified by phone or email on or before 4/25/19. The odds of winning depend on the total number of entries received. Taxes, if applicable, are the responsibility of the winners. Value of the gift card may be reportable on a 1099-MISC or 1099-INT.

News Briefs

Officer Breanna Kemper-Damm Named 2018 Officer of the Year

Officer Breanna Kemper-Damm Named 2018 Police Officer of the Year At the Personnel Committee meeting on March 18th, Police Chief Steve Johnson presented Swansea Officer Breanna Kemper-Damm with the 2018 Officer of the Year Award. Kemper-Damm was among six nominees and selected by a committee of her peers.

Pictured from left to right...Deputy Police Chief Coughlin, Police Officer Kemper-Damm, Mayor Leopold, and Police Chief Johnson.



57th Annual Easter Sunrise Service



Please join us in celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ at the:

Reiss Chapel
Sunday, April 21, 2019 at Sunrise
Lake View Memorial Gardens & Funeral Home
5000 N. Illinois Street, Fairview Heights
Phone: (618)233-7200



Indoor and Outdoor Seating Available

News Briefs

Make Time For Memorial Day Ceremony May 29

As you plan your BBQ or the official opening of the backyard pool, consider taking some time out on the morning of May 27th for Swansea's annual Memorial Day Ceremony.

The Village will once again honor men and women who have served and sacrificed in service to the United States at the ceremony. The event starts at 10:00 am and is held at Melvin Price Memorial Park, 1500 Caseyville Avenue.

The event program includes the submitted names of any Swansea resident who is a veteran of the Armed Services, either retired or currently serving. All veterans as well as all residents and the general public are invited and encouraged to attend.



Trash Sticker Program: How Did It Begin

Did you know that the trash sticker program for Swansea took effect in February of 1990, but the Village planned for it for almost a year prior? The landfills in the late 1980's were almost at capacity, with hardly any prospect of anyone obtaining a permit for a new landfill. The area was notified that solid waste may need to be shipped outside the region in the future, which is a costly process.

Swansea and other local governments debated how it might be able to slow the volume of refuse entering the landfills to preserve some of their capacity for as long as possible. The Village's research discovered that communities in the Chicago area had replied to a similar decrease in landfill space by executing "volume based" programs - where the fee paid for refuse collection and disposal was related to the amount of the refuse put out. With this type of system, those who use more landfill space will pay more than those who use

less. The cost variance results in a built-in incentive to reduce volume.

Fascinated by this "volume based" system some of the Trustees, Swansea Mayor, and office staff traveled to Woodstock and St. Charles, IL to review their programs and discuss their method. Both communities offered insightful advice and the officials came back confident the program would work for the Village. Crucial to the proposed program's success was the free recycling factor. The Village purchased bins for free curbside collection of recyclable items. This gave residents an option. If recycling would reduce the volume of refuse from their home, then the outcome would be paying less for refuse collection and disposal. They could also choose to throw recyclables into the waste stream, as long as they were willing to pay for disposing of them as 'trash'.

Although the Village spent a great amount of time educating residents through the Swansea Report, some still saw the program taking control of their choice and freedom. Still today, some residents questioned the Village's idea. **Continued On Page 5...**

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News Briefs

Continued from page 4... The approach had other rewards as well. For example, it would decrease the number of waste trucks traveling on Village streets each day. This would lower the resulting damage to those streets. Also, it provides low costs because it allows the collection company to be more effective, picking up from every residence as opposed to just a few on a street. Lastly, the program removed the cost of billing customers directly for refuse collection.

Swansea continued to move forward by creating a single license for residential solid waste collection and disposal, by requesting bids to secure the lowest "per-bag" bid price. [For the first 3 years residents bought pre-printed 33 gallon bags, rather than stickers, as evidence of payment.] Bill's Sanitation, a local company, secured the contract for the first three years, bidding \$1.00 per bag as their price for the first year. Those who produced only one bag of trash each week would save drastically over what was previously being paid to private haulers. The volume-based model proved to be the motivation people needed to alter their actions. From the beginning 30% to 35% of

the waste in Swansea had been diverted from landfills. Participation in recycling has been amazing in the Village - with over 90% of residents consistently participating. For young residents who grew up here, curbside recycling became a part of their lives, and Swansea was acknowledged publicly for its innovation and success.

Swansea residents can manage their costs by controlling volume. This is especially beneficial for those who dispose of very little refuse - like senior citizens. Those who put out more than one refuse container a week will naturally pay more. These are the characteristics of the system - you pay for what you use and instead of financing someone else's heavy use of the landfills.

The key is to reduce your volume of trash. Some ideas for doing so include:

- Be familiar with the complete list of items that can be recycled and recycle them all.
- Visit www.recyclingsimplified.com/residential-resources.

- Buy a 33 gallon trash can and use it rather than putting out individual garbage bags.
- Compress the volume of the waste in the can without exceeding the weight limit of 50 pounds to get the most volume for each sticker you use.
- Be more aware of how items are packaged - choosing bulk items rather than items that are individually packaged. Serve in reusable containers.
- Find places to take items that are recyclable but not picked up curbside, like scrap metals.
- Donate gently used clothing, furniture, and other items to charities.
- Compost vegetable matter and other similar refuse with yard waste to create rich compost for your plants and shrubs.
- Mulch your grass clippings or bag and compost rather than pay for separate yard waste collection.

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General Park Regulations (Melvin Price & Schranz)

Park hours:

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.

It is unlawful to allow:

- 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 under control at all times. 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.
- Use of inflatable bounce houses or bounce equipment unless pre-approved for Village Special Events.
- Operation of all moving vehicles anywhere except on streets, driveways, 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.
- Activities held for the sole purpose of advertising any product, goods or services, or for private profit.



Reference Chapter 6 of the Swansea Municipal Code for Specific Rules. Anyone found guilty of violating said Ordinances is subject to a fine of up to \$500.00.

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New Location Opening Soon: 653 Carlyle Ave, Belleville, IL 62221
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19 Ashland Ave.
Fairview Heights, IL 62208
(Behind Krispy Kreme)



Clinton Hills Conservation Park General Park Regulations

Park hours are from 6:00 am until 10:00 pm from April 1st through October 31st

7:00 am until 6:00 pm November 1st through March 1st

Pavilion may be reserved in advance by calling 618-234-0044

Emergency phone number 618-233-8114 or 911

It's unlawful to allow:

Destruction of any plant, animal, or tree on park property.

Littering or depositing of trash unless it has been generated through use of 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 pavilion.

Conduct which is disorderly or disturbs the peace of others.

Animals who are not leashed and under control at all times. Riding of horses. No animal may defecate on park property. Feces must be removed immediately from area.

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

Operations of all moving vehicles anywhere except on streets, parking lots.

Signage of any type to be erected in any manner on park property or roads adjacent to the park.

Firearms, propelling device of any type on park property.

Swimming, skating, boating on park waterways.

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

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

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.

What does it cost to Advertise in the SWANSEA REPORT?

What is it costing you to NOT advertise here?

- ✓ 1/8 page (Business Card) at 2" high x 3.7" wide is \$70.00 per month or 1.1¢ / mailbox
- ✓ 1/4 page vertical at 4.1" high x 3.7" wide is \$120.00 per month or 1.9¢ / mailbox
- ✓ 1/4 page horizontal at 2" high x 7.5" wide is \$120.00 per month or 1.9¢ / mailbox
- ✓ 1/2 page horizontal at 4.1" high x 7.5" wide is \$ 240.00 per month or 3.8¢ / mailbox

News Briefs

Many Thanks To Egyptian Workspace Partners

For over a year and a half the Swansea Police Department has been in the process of being remodeled. Due to financial restraints, the Police Department has been fiscally responsible with taxpayer's money and have tried to minimize costs and all expenditures during the remodel. For many years, the officers have been using furniture that was not ergonomically efficient or comfortable. Imagine wearing all of their equipment including: ballistic vest, duty belt, boots, and all other equipment while sitting at a desk typing for hours. Swansea Police Department belongs to a program where they can receive surplus furniture through Scott Air Force Base (SAFB) but most of it was damaged or not what was needed. They began discussions with Egyptian Workspace Partners in Belleville. Kevin Baltz talked to the Police Department about



creating efficient spaces and making workflow better. Through these discussions, Egyptian has donated a significant amount of top-notch furniture to the Swansea Police Department. The Swansea Police Department would like to thank Kevin and Egyptian team for helping them keep their promise to the taxpayers.

Any Non-Residential Use of Property Requires Registration

Under the requirements of the Swansea

Zoning Code, every business, service occupation and home occupation must register annually with the Village. This regulation is to help ensure that all such uses are properly authorized in the zoning districts within which they operate.

The process also identifies those businesses that are required to pay sales tax, so that the Village has a database of such businesses against which it can verify tax payer information pro-

vided by the state. Since Swansea shares zip codes with other communities, in the past revenue that belongs to Swansea was erroneously paid by the State to neighboring communities—one reason that the Village strongly recommends that businesses clearly list their location as being in the Village of Swansea.

Businesses and organizations who have completed the form before, will be sent a new one in the mail to the address on record. Any new business of which the Village is not aware needs to contact the Swansea Government Center to secure and submit a permit application.

Wolf Branch Color Run

Wolf Branch PTC will be hosting their annual Color Run on Saturday, April 27th at 8:00 AM. The even will be held at the Wolf Branch Middle school parking lot located at 410 Huntwood Drive, Swansea, IL. All are welcome to attend. You can buy tickets at:

<https://wolfbranchptc.schoolauction.net/wbcolorrun2019>

Volunteers should contact: wbptcpresident@gmail.com



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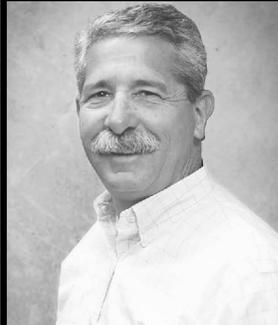
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News Briefs

Yard Sale Season Has Arrived

Yard Sales season is upon us. Don't forget to pick up your yard sale license from the Government Center before holding a yard sale.

Definition: The term "Yard Sale" shall mean any display of merchandise for the purpose of exchanging it for legal tender or barter at a location not otherwise regularly used or specifically designated for the sale or exchange of merchandise. Events commonly know as "garage sales", "tailgate sales", "flea markets", "house sales", "moving sales", etc., shall be defined as yard sales.

Licenses: No person or organization shall operate a yard sale within the Village of Swansea without first obtaining a license therefore. The license must be obtained at least 1 day prior to the date of the yard sale for single family sales and 5 days in advance for multi-family sales (3 or more).

Limitations: No yard sale shall be conducted for period greater than three successive calendar days.

Yard sales shall be conducted only from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the day(s) of the sale.

Yard sales shall be held no more than three times within the same calendar year at the same location.

Yard sales shall be held no sooner than thirty (30) days subsequent to the close of a previous yard sale at the same location.

It shall be unlawful for anyone to conduct a retail selling business pursuant to a yard sale license, or to engage in any sales other than those of junk, second hand, antique or other used or discarded items of property.

No booths or concessions stands shall be placed in the roadway.

Yard sale signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet, shall not be erected more than five (5) days prior to the scheduled sale and shall be removed immediately following the event.

No signs or advertising shall be posted on utility poles or Village owned poles (i.e., stop signs, speed restriction signs, no parking signs,

street signs, etc.), or within any public right-of-way.

Signs must contain the name and address of the license holder along with the license holder's signature.

Penalty: Any one found guilty of violating any of violating any of the provisions of the Yard Sale Ordinance shall be fined not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00.



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News Briefs

Village Aggressively Cracking Down on Code Violations

In an effort to ensure that Swansea remains a clean and vibrant community, the Village is increasing its enforcement of its property maintenance codes, with Code Enforcement staff doing proactive area sweeps each month. If a resident receives a violation notice but has questions, staff are more than willing to explain the details. Village residents are encouraged to report violations. The Village Property Maintenance Code is available on the Village website at: <http://www.swanseail.org/DocumentCenter/View/1454>.

Derelict Vehicles

Village codes prohibit any vehicle from being parked on a surface that is not an "improved surface". The definition of improved surface basically means that vehicles cannot be parked on a grass or dirt area. The code also prohibits the storage or abandonment of inoperable vehicles. Vehicles found in either state will be tagged and towed after 7 days. The Village also has the option to issue citations to the owner of the vehicle being towed.

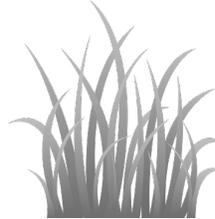


When an inoperable vehicle is on private property it must be fully enclosed within a garage. Placing a tarp or car cover over a vehicle is not an acceptable alternative.

Grass and Weeds

In Swansea, grass and weeds that exceed 8 inches in height are a nuisance by ordinance. So not keeping your lawn adequately maintained can result in a fine as a violation of that ordinance. Let it go too long, and the Village may step in and cut your grass for you.

However, when the Village does so, it charges standard time and material hourly rates for each worker and the equipment used. The Village then files a lien against the property to ensure it can collect payment for having to cut the grass. The Village will now also consider taking violators to court, and / or filing for foreclosure to collect on unresolved liens. That's because the Village has more pressing things to do with its staff than cutting the lawns of some residents. Ideally, every resident will simply take care of their own property and collectively help the community.



Grass Clippings

And while on the topic of cutting grass, note that it is also a violation to deposit or otherwise discharge grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste onto the public right-of-way or into public drainage ditches or storm sewers. Drainage ways need to be kept clear of materials that might cause rain water to backup onto property, or into the street where it could cause an accident to occur. If not mulching or bagging your grass clippings, the discharge

from your mower should be directed into your yard, not onto the street. And do not bag and then dump clippings into drainage ways.

Make Sure Your Address Numbers Are Visible

Swansea's emergency responders would like to offer a reminder: the address of your home, business, or apartment building must, by law, be clearly visible from the street.

Section 150.138 (D) of the Swansea Property Maintenance Code - requires that Building shall have *approved* address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches in height with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inches.

To test the visibility of your address numbers, stand at the street at night. Do so with your porch light on, and then with it off. Then ask yourself: How well will Police, Fire or EMS personnel be able to see them when looking for your home? This is not just a code requirement - treat it as if your life depends on it, because it may.

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



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Swansea Community Calendar - APRIL 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	2	3	4 Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	5	6
7	8	9 Planning and Zoning Board Meeting 6:00pm Govt. Center	10	11 Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	12 Adult Easter Egg Hunt at Schranz Park 7PM	13 Swansea Park Board Meeting 7:00am Norman Lehr Center Swansea Patriots Meeting 8:00am Norman Lehr Center
14	15 Public Hearing 5:45 Govt. Center Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	16	17	18 Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	19 Govt. Center Closed Good Friday	20
21 Easter 	22	23	24	25 Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	26	27
28	29	30				

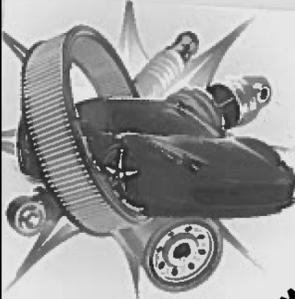
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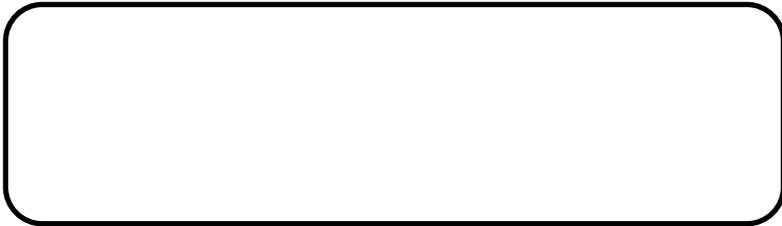
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