



The

# Swansea Report

Volume 30, Number 1

Website: [Swanseail.org](http://Swanseail.org)

January 2015

## Municipal Directory

Web Site: [www.swanseail.org](http://www.swanseail.org)

Admin E-mail:

[swanadmn@swanseail.org](mailto:swanadmn@swanseail.org)

Police Department

Non-Emergency - 233-8114

Email: [swanseap@swanseail.org](mailto:swanseap@swanseail.org)

Fire Department

Non-Emergency - 233-0456

Engine House: 234-3291

Building & Zoning: 355-0280

E-mail: [swanbnz@swanseail.org](mailto: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.

Wastewater Plant, 209 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.



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## Well Deserved Retirement

After 35 years of employment with the Village of Swansea Judith L. Hagen has retired. Judy started as a part-time employee of the Swansea Police Department in July of 1979. She worked her way into a full time position as the police department's records clerk. In 1986, Judy assumed the Lead Telecommunicator (dispatcher) position after the police department opened a dispatch center for the police and fire departments. Judy remained in this position for the rest of her career. Throughout her career Judy has always gone the extra mile to assist her co-workers and the residents of Swansea.

Although Judy will be missed, we wish her a long and happy retirement.

**Thank you Judy.**

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

**Thursday, January 1st, 2015**  
in observance of New Year's Day

and

**Monday, January 19th, 2015**  
in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2015**

## In Your Corner

*A word from your Trustee*

*Matt Lanter*

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[carl.fuhrhop@countryfinancial.com](mailto:carl.fuhrhop@countryfinancial.com)



042012-00368AC

Availability may vary by state. Policies issued by COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company\*, COUNTRY Preferred Insurance Company\* and COUNTRY Casualty Insurance Company\*, Bloomington, IL.



## COSMIC BINGO

**Saturday, January 10, 2015**

Bingo at 7:30 p.m., doors open at 6:00 p.m.

**To benefit  
Swansea Fire Department  
Civic Association**



**Held at Swansea Improvement Hall  
216 Service St., Swansea, IL**



\$20 per person,  
includes 6 cards & cosmic party pack

This is not your Grandma's Bingo -  
This is bingo under black light with  
a DJ - Silent Auction - Drinks - Drawings  
Limited Seating Available, call early to reserve!!

**For reservations call  
Brett Korves 618-604-7125  
or Jason Whitaker 618-979-8795**



## Recycle Update

**Important Update:**

Please Do Not Crush Aluminum Cans



Every can dreams of becoming a new recycled can. Don't crush that can's dream. A flat can could slip through the cracks of the recycling system. Thank you for making the difference.



*Happy Holidays*

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

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Doris Rebenstorff and Gene Kish

## 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 **78** Swansea families (**284** individuals) who applied for assistance before Christmas.

Contributions were extremely 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 Rebenstorff and Gene Kish for the many hours they donated to the Christmas Program.

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# TIME FOR A LOAN?

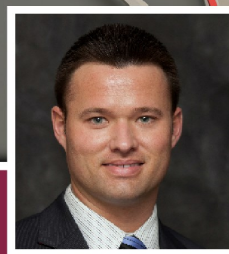
**Consumer • Business**  
**Residential • Construction**

Contact  
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Swansea Area  
Loan Team:

**Swansea Center**  
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Retail Lending

  
**Kelli Latinette**  
Mortgage Lending

  
**Justin Chapman**  
Commercial Lending

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## A Thank You from High Mount School

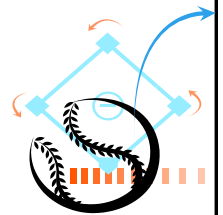
Swansea Rotarian preparing for second phrase of community outreach to High Mount School families during the Christmas Season. The first phrase was the support of families that needed extra support during the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Swansea Rotarians provided our needy families with much needed items which were then delivered by Principal Darin Loepker. It is just outstanding to know that the community is greatly involved in ensuring our children basic needs are met. High Mount School is so grateful and honored for all the support. The smiles on the children faces were priceless.

It our mission to empower our students to achieve their best, thanks for your support in ensuring we accomplish our mission. We are so grateful for all the support within the community. A special thank you to the Swansea Rotary.

## Mel Price Park

### Ball Diamond Reservations

Application forms for baseball field assignments for the 2015 baseball season may be picked up from and returned to the Swansea Government Center by March 3, 2015. **(The form may also be downloaded from our web site at [www.swanseail.org](http://www.swanseail.org).)**



**Applications received after this date will only be considered if an opening is available.** Field assignments will be made upon receipt of applications. There is a usage fee for the lights on the large diamond. Please call the Village of Swansea at 234-0044 for more information.

**JOIN THE ROTARY CLUB OF SWANSEA FOR A**



## MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATER



Randy Manning and Jest Mysteries Presents

### A FISTFUL OF HOLLERS



**SATURDAY**  
the **28**<sup>th</sup>  
of  
**FEBRUARY**

Doors open at 4:30 pm at the CKL of I in Swansea  
Buffet Dinner at 5pm with Silent, Oral Auction  
Items, & Raffles All Evening. Act 1 Starts at 6:30pm

TABLES OF EIGHT AVAILABLE \$40 PER PERSON  
Proceeds go toward Swansea Food Pantry, High Mount / Wolf Branch Student of the  
Month, selected local charities, Belize Children's Program and Polio Eradication

Come Dressed in Your Favorite Western Wear



For ticket information or questions contact:  
Stephanie 618.420.5924 [swalter@memhosp.com](mailto:swalter@memhosp.com)





## Baseball, Softball, and Rookie Ball

Umpires needed!

Register online at [www.bellevillekhoury.org](http://www.bellevillekhoury.org)

bklinfo@khouryleague.org Open House Registration Dates:  
(618) 277-5576 Saturday, January 31st, 9AM-1PM  
411 West Monroe Wednesday, February 11th, 6PM-9PM  
Belleville, IL Wednesday, February 25th, 6PM-9PM

windows, doors & more



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618-236-7766

**windooronline.com**

## Leaf Burning and Yard Waste Pick Up Has Ended



Leaf burning ended on  
**Saturday, Dec. 30th**

Yard Waste pick up ended on  
**Wednesday, Dec. 30th**

*(Pick up will resume on Wednesday, April 1st,  
2015 for customers that have signed up.)*

### BELLEVILLE EAST MARCHING LANCERS



Dec 11 - *Holiday Concert*, Belleville East PAC,  
7:00 p.m.

Dec 13 - *Madrigal Dinner*, featuring the Belleville  
East Treble and Concert Choirs and the Wind  
Ensemble

Dec 27 - Jan 2 - *Outback Bowl*, Tampa Bay, Florida

*Still accepting donations for uniforms.*

## Come See Santa in Swansea!



## Results

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### Swansea Improvement Association

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**277-6331**

**216 Service Street  
Swansea, Illinois**

## Swansea Fire Department

Monthly Fire Responses  
November 2014

For the month of November, the Swansea Fire Department responded to 33 calls. Below is a list of the type & amount of calls the Swansea Fire Department responded to.

Structure Fire(s) - 6  
False Alarms - 5  
Carbon Monoxide Alarms - 3  
Other Incidents - 19 total  
Responses - 33

Child Safety Seats Installed  
November - 6



## Late Fee Assessed RENTAL PROPERTY ORDINANCE

**Landlord registrations not received before January 31, 2015 will be charged a \$25.00 late fee.** All landlords are required to register their rental properties. The registration form is available at the Government Center, 1400 N. Illinois St., or for download on the Village's website, [www.swanseail.org](http://www.swanseail.org).

If you have any questions, contact the Village Building Department office at 234-0044.

## Swansea Police Department



During the month of November 2014, the Swansea Police Department responded to 965 calls for service.

- 167 Traffic stops yielded
- 111 Verbal warnings
- 125 Traffic citation issued.
- 53 Traffic accidents
- 12 Misdemeanor arrests
- 10 Felony arrests
- 14 Warrant arrests
- 2 D.U.I. Arrest
- 0 Ordinance Violation

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**Al Saponar**

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## Village of Swansea Officials

### President:

**Ken Mueller**  
mayor@swanseail.org

### Clerk:

**Lauren O'Neill**  
loneill@swanseail.org

### Trustees:

**Matt Lanter**  
mlanter@swanseail.org  
**Susan O'Malley**  
somalley@swanseail.org  
**Katherine Ruocco**  
kruocco@swanseail.org  
**Susan Schultz**  
sschultz@swanseail.org  
**Ronald Sutterfield**  
rsutterfield@swanseail.org  
**Brian Wells**  
bwells@swanseail.org

### Treasurer:

**Michael W. Leopold**  
mleopold@swanseail.org

### Group Email Address:

swanseaoofficials@  
swanseail.org

## January Calendar

### 1 - New Year's Day Observed

*Village Offices Closed*

### 5 Municipal Committee Meetings

*Government Center - 7:00 p.m.*

### **Board of Trustees Meeting**

*Government Center - 7:00 p.m.*

*or upon conclusion of the committee meetings.*

### 7 Chamber of Commerce

*Board of Director's Meeting*

*Fairview Hts. VFW - 11:00 a.m.*

### 8 Fire Dept. Auxiliary Meeting

*Fire Station - 7:00 p.m.*

### 10 Park Board Meeting

*Norman Lehr Community Center - 7:00 a.m.*

### 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed

*Village Non-Emergency Offices Closed*

### 20 Tuesday - Municipal Committee Meetings

*Government Center - 6:00 p.m.*

### **Board of Trustees Meeting**

*Government Center - 7:00 p.m.*

*or upon conclusion of the committee meetings.*

**Planning and Zoning Board Meeting:** As needed, second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m., at the Government Center. Please contact Building and Zoning to verify if a meeting is to be held.  
**Swansea Patriots:** Second Saturday, approximately 8:00 a.m. at the Norman Lehr Community Center, after the Park Board meeting.

**Rotary Club:** Each Thursday, 7:00 a.m. at Clinton Hill Restaurant.

**Lion's Club:** Second and Fourth Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at Crehan's, N. Belt West, call Jim Beimfohr at 234-7145 for more information.

**Youth Government Council:** First Monday of every month at 4:00 p.m.



The Swansea Report is published monthly by the Village of Swansea, 1400 N. Illinois Street, Swansea, Illinois, as a community service to our residents and businesses. The school information contained within this publication is published as a community service, and does not reflect the opinions of the Village of Swansea. Copyright by the Village of Swansea, Illinois. Reproduction, or the use, in any manner and without permission, of the text or graphical content of this publication is prohibited. Mailed free to all addresses within Swansea. For information on advertising or news stories, call 234-0044 Monday - Friday, 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.



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## *Greetings from the Mayor's Desk*

**January 2015**

Hello,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and that your New Year will be everything you hope for.

I want to take this time to recognize two of the volunteers who make a contribution to the Swansea Community. Doris Rebenstorff and Gene Kish devoted many hours working on the Swansea Christmas Program. They spent many hours taking applications and sorting gifts to match the requested needs. After all of the applications were completed, they were back here to distribute the items. Doris and Gene have dedicated their time to this program for five or six years and embody the spirit of community service. I have listened to them speak to the applicants and have been so impressed with the care that they take with each person. Again, thank you Doris and Gene for your service.

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Village employees for their dedication to our community. It is through their service and excellent work ethic that we are able to provide the many services to the residents of Swansea.

All the best to you,

*Ken Mueller*

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## **VILLAGE ELECTIONS**

On April 7, 2015, the Consolidated Election will occur. There are three (3) Village of Swansea positions to be elected. The title for each of these positions is: "Village Trustee - four-year term." The Trustee office holders with expiring terms are Trustee Susan O'Malley, Ronald Sutterfield, and Susan Schultz. The salaries of the Trustee positions are presently \$7,200.00 per year.

Candidate documents must be filed with the Village Clerk at the Government Center at 1400 N. Illinois Street in order to be placed on the ballot. The dates and times for filing are as follows: December 15 – 19, 2014 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and on Monday, December 22 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.. In the case of simultaneous filings, a public lottery will be held on Monday, January 5, 2015 at 5:45 p.m. at the Swansea Government Center to determine ballot position.

The "State of Illinois Candidates Guide 2015" (Guide) has instructions and forms and may be read under "Top Documents" at: <http://www.elections.illinois.gov>. There will be one hard copy of the Guide available for review at the Swansea Government Center during normal hours. Some highlights include:

Preface: recommends all prospective candidates consult with competent legal counsel when preparing their nomination papers.

Page iii: Petitions for the April 7, 2015 Consolidated Election may NOT be circulated prior to September 23, 2014, for the filing period December 15 – 22, 2014.

Pages 10-20: lists the requirements for filing Nominating Papers including but not limited to the following: Statement of Candidacy (SBE P-1B independent or SBE P-1D new party); Receipt from St. Clair County for the filing of a Statement of Economic Interests (see page 19); Loyalty Oath (OPTIONAL, SBE P-1C); Petitions (SBE P-3 independent or SBE P-8 new party)

Page 23-27: lists qualifications, residency, petition signature requirements and form number information. Note: The independent candidate minimum number (94) and maximum number (149) of petition signatures is calculated using the 1862 Swansea votes in the 2013 Consolidated Election. See the St. Clair Abstract from the link below:

[http://www.countyclerk.co.st-clair.il.us/elections/electionResults/Documents/St Clair 2013-04-09 abstracts.pdf](http://www.countyclerk.co.st-clair.il.us/elections/electionResults/Documents/St%20Clair%202013-04-09%20abstracts.pdf)

Page 56: Frequently Asked Questions

Page 59: Full index of forms



Brad Bechel, owner of The Bar, LLC, was joined by Swansea Mayor Ken Mueller, staff, Chamber Members, clients, family and friends at their recent Grand Opening in Swansea

## The BAR Gym & Training Now Open

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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 25th. 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 29, 2014, through Friday, January 9, 2015, 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.



## Is Your Dog Missing ???

Contact the Swansea Police Dept. to see if the police have found your dog.

**Non-emergency number  
233-8114**

## Zumba Gold



Start Zumba Gold at the Norman Lehr Center, 1500 Caseyville Avenue.

The St. Clair County Office on Aging is co-sponsoring Zumba classes starting on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. It will continue each Tuesday, same time, as long as there is an interest.

Instructor Sheri O'Donnell will lead you in this fun exercise. A suggested donation of \$4.00 to the St. Clair County Office of Aging will help off-set some of their cost.

For more information you can call

**Mary at 234-4410 ext. 7034**



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## High Mount School District # 116

**January 2015**

Dear Parents:

I hope that all of you had a happy holiday season and spent as much time with your family as possible. It truly is the most wonderful time of the year. Always remember to appreciate what you have and to share with others.

The New Year brings new opportunities and resolutions. Let's all promise to continue to work hard and keep our children as the focal part of our life. Meet problems head on and with an open mind.

Mr. Darin Loepker, Principal



## Testing 1-2-3

Even if your youngster is a good reader and writer, he/she may still have trouble when it comes to taking tests. Preparing for tests, reviewing tests go hand in hand. Follow tips below, and your child will be on his way to test success.

**Before the Test** - Ask if your youngster's school offers study guides or sample tests. They are a great way to practice for both standardized and regular classroom tests. Sample tests help children become familiar with directions and what the test will look like.

**During the Test** - Your child should always read the materials carefully before he/she begins. Directions are important. If your child doesn't understand what to do, encourage him/her to ask the teacher for further explanation.

**After the Test** - Review the test results with your youngster. Discuss what went right and wrong. For example, did he run out of time? Next time, he might try answering the easier one first, such as multiple choice questions.

**Note:** If you're concerned about your child's test results, talk with the teacher. He/She may suggest additional ways to help your youngster prepare for tests.

Mr. Darin Loepker, Principal (ext. 504)

[dloepker@highmountschool.com](mailto:dloepker@highmountschool.com)

1721 Boul Avenue

Swansea, IL 62226

618-233-1054

**Attendance Line: 233-1054 extension # 300**

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Swansea Rotary Club Student of the Month Award for the month of September goes to:

*Angelo Castro, 7th grade, from High Mount School  
&  
Dayrien Holmon Jr., 7th grade, from Wolf Branch School*

These Swansea students were recognized for their excellence in academics, civic and extracurricular activities.  
Congratulations!



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