



THE SWANSEA REPORT

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 9

September 2020

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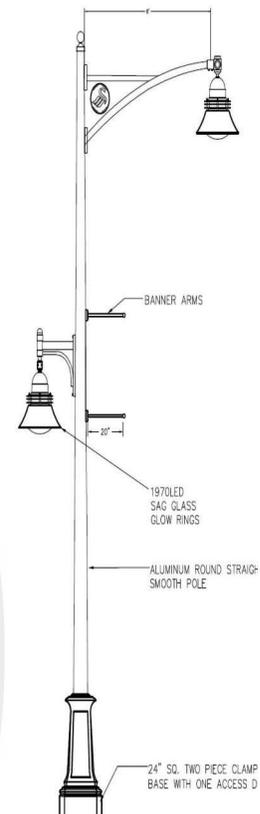
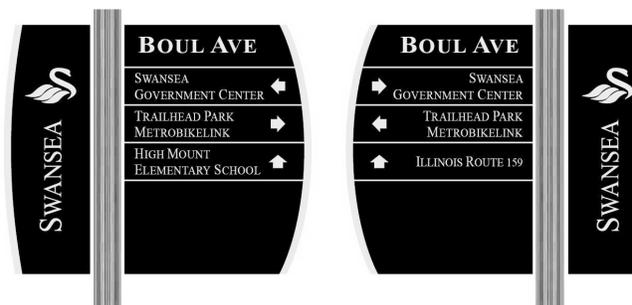
With the construction of the Boul Avenue multi-use trail and trailhead park nearing completion, the Village has approved the purchase of elements outlined in the recently adopted Old Town Swansea Streetscape Masterplan. The multi-use trail will follow Boul Avenue along its northern side, from High Mount School to the property behind Cholula's Mexican Restaurant (the former Dairy Queen building). Recently contractors delivered and installed a precast concrete restroom facility building on the property behind the restaurant which is owned by the Village at the site of a new park that will act as a trailhead for the MetroBikeLink trail. To highlight the new trailhead park and evaluate streetscape elements, wayfinding signage and decorative lighting will be installed at the entrance to the park. Additionally, landscaping, as recommended in the Masterplan, will be placed within the trailhead park.

While this particular project is almost completed, it is only the beginning of a long term plan to make significant improvements to the public realm of the oldest portion of Swansea. Village staff are actively working on grant applications for multiple projects that will include new sidewalks, improved pedestrian road crossing, wayfinding signage, decorative lighting, and landscaping.



Side 1

Side 2



News Briefs

Government Center Closed Monday, September 7th Refuse Collection Also Delayed

The Swansea Government Center and all non-emergency services of the Village will be closed on Monday, September 7th, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. Republic Services observes Labor Day as well. The collection of refuse and recyclables will shift one day for Monday customers. Monday will be picked up on Tuesday, Tuesday on Wednesday, Wednesday on Thursday, Thursday on Friday and Friday on Saturday. Yard waste collection will not be affected.

Farmer's Market Open Until Oct 31st

The Swansea Farmer's Market will conclude its 11th season on Oct. 29th. Residents still have a full month to take advantage of the fresh fruits and vegetables. Fall crops will be in. Look for apples, pumpkins, greens and other fall crops. The Market will be open each Thursday during October, from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm on the parking lot of Rural King, 2801 N. Illinois Street.

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Wanted-Volunteers for Spooktacular

It's time to sign up as a volunteer for the third annual "Spooktacular" set for Saturday October 24th, at Mel Price Park from 4PM to 7PM. They are looking for individuals, families, clubs or businesses who would like to participate in the "Trunk or Treat" and hand out treats to 'little ghosts and goblins'. If interested, call the Government Center for details on how to submit an application. Participants must do so to gain entry.

Deliberate Optimism— A Message From Dr. Horner—High Mount Superintendent



The theme for the 2020-2021 school year at High Mount 116 is "**deliberate optimism.**" Thursday, August 20, marked yet another historical event as we opened the school year remotely. High Mount teachers and staff have been longing to see our students in person. However, we will confront what is presented to us with "**deliberate optimism.**" We have choices. We can choose to worry, "what if" ourselves to

death, and see the upcoming school year as an overly daunting task. Or, we can choose to view this as a major reboot! It is a reboot for our environment, our pace of life, our nonchalance of daily tasks, our relationships, and certainly how we will "do school." Things will indeed be different moving forward. Collectively, High Mount plans to embrace our new reality and dig in to help our students to the best of our ability. We plan to practice "**deliberate optimism.**" That said, together, with our students and parents, we will work through the oddities that arise and the struggles that we will encounter. We will accept the "stretch" we feel as we move out of our comfort zone to a new way of thinking about schools. Truly, we are redefining education and we can choose to view this as exciting! Everyone at HMS is working harder than ever to accept the challenges that we face. Some day, we will return to school in person. But until then we will reframe how we teach and learn, while emphasizing "**deliberate optimism.**" Welcome back!

Dr. Beth A. Horner
Superintendent

2020 Census

Your responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics. These statistics are used to determine each state's representation in Congress and to inform the allocation of more than \$675 billion in federal funding annually. Local leaders may use these statistics to make decisions about programs and services for their community. The deadline has been extended to October 31st. If you have any questions please call the Government Center at (618) 234-0044.

Contact Us Today...

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Apply For Summer Usage Deduction

Swansea residents who do not use a deduct meter may still apply for a sewer bill credit to offset charges for water usage that did not enter the sanitary sewer system. This usage typically occurs during the summer with watering lawns, plants and filling swimming pools.

The credit is based upon the difference between the average water consumed on the first two bi-monthly sewer bills issued after May 1st, and the average water consumption reflected on the four bi-monthly sewer bills immediately preceding that same May 1st.

Fifty percent (50%) of the difference between the average consumption for the 'winter' and 'summer' periods is then subtracted from the user's actual water consumption on the next bill. Sewer charges are then calculated on the resulting balance.

To apply, complete the form to the right and mail or drop the form off at the Government Center, located at 1444 Boul Ave., Swansea, IL 62226. If dropping the form off, place the form in the drop box located in the parking lot in front of the flag pole.

You must reapply each year, the deadline to apply is Oct. 15th, and you must have lived at the property for at least one year. Those who use a deduct meter are allowed to deduct 100% of the readings through that meter.

APPLICATION FOR SUMMER USAGE DEDUCTION

Submit Between September 15, 2020 and October 15, 2020
To 1444 Boul Avenue, Swansea, IL 62226
Or Fax to 618-234-0222

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Sewer Account Number: _____

Day Phone Number: _____

Have you resided at this property for one year? _____

I certify that the above information is true and correct, and I therefore request a Summer Usage Deduction on my sewer bill for the above address.

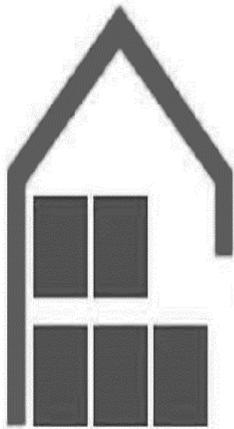
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Date

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Consider Electronic Sewer Payments

Consider Option For Automatic Electronic Sewer Payments

There are multiple ways to pay your sewer bill, but the most convenient way for our customers may be an option to authorize the Sewer Billing Department, via an authorization agreement, to automatically withdraw funds from your checking account for payment of your Swansea sewer bill on the due date.

Those who take advantage of this program still receive a bi-monthly bill, however, it would now indicate that the payment will be paid electronically, and automatically withdrawn on the due date.

This payment option does not incur any additional charge from the Village. If you are interested in this program, please complete this agreement form, attach a voided check, and return to Swansea Government center at 1444 Boul Avenue, Swansea, IL 62226 by dropping in the drop box located in the parking lot in front of the flag pole.



ELECTRONIC SEWER PAYMENT

Village of Swansea - Sewer Billing

1444 Boul Avenue, Swansea, IL 62226

Telephone: 618-234-0044, ext. 1

Fax: 618-234-0222

ELECTRONIC SEWER PAYMENT APPLICATION

I hereby authorize the Village of Swansea to instruct the financial institution indicated below to make my Village of Swansea sewer bill payments from the account listed as they become due. I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of U. S. law. I understand that I am in full control of my ELECTRONIC SEWER payments. Both the Village of Swansea and the financial institution listed reserve the right to terminate this payment plan and/or my participation in it.

Customer Name: _____

Sewer Account Number: _____

Sewer Address Location: _____

Daytime Telephone # : _____

Financial Institution: _____

Bank Account Number _____ o Checking o Savings

Signature

Date

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Swansea Spooktacular—Saturday, October 24th

Swansea Spooktacular Event is Sat. Oct 24th @ Melvin Price Park

The Swansea Park Board and the Swansea Patriots will bring back a tradition from the 1980's, with a Halloween party in Melvin Price Memorial Park. The "Swansea Spooktacular" is scheduled for Sat, Oct 24th from 4:00pm until 7:00pm.

There is a possibility the event could be cancelled due to COVID-19 but at this point that decision cannot be made. If not already, follow Swansea Facebook pages (Community and Economic Development, Swansea Fire Department, and Swansea Police Department) for updates on the event. If the event can take place social distancing and masks for those in attendance will be required.

Among other things, it will feature a pumpkin contest (bring your own decorated pumpkin), games, refreshments and available for purchase.

Residents, businesses and organizations can also participate through "Trunk-or-Treat" - where they will park their automobiles around the perimeter of the roadway through the park with trunks or hatchbacks open and give out candy. Children will trick or treat by visiting each vehicle and showing off their costumes.

If you participate you might want to decorate your vehicle or trunk in some Halloween theme - being cognizant that this is a family friendly event and that any decorations should be appropriate for all ages of children.

The enjoyment and safety of those children is very important. So to help ensure that, the event sponsors are requiring that all who intend to provide treats through this Trunk or Treat component complete and submit a participation form.

While not wanting to seem overly cautious, the sponsors know that other similar events use this tool to inhibit possible participation by anyone who might be of concern to a parent or the

Police Department.

The form will be available early October on the Village's website at www.swanseail.org.

Please print it, complete it, and then submit it to the Swansea Government Center, at 1444 Boul Avenue, Swansea, IL 62226, or email to swanadmn@swanseail.org.

Forms should be received no later than Noon on Wednesday Oct 21st to allow time for processing.

Again, this step is intended to help ensure the safety of all children at the event.



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CHIEF'S CORNER

While participating in the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing in 2014, they asked the question, "Why doesn't law enforcement advertise the successes they have especially in the area of de-escalation when someone is being violent and officers do not have to use deadly force?" Good question. Perhaps because it happens every day at almost every department. Here are two actual examples from the Swansea police files in the last 24 hours:

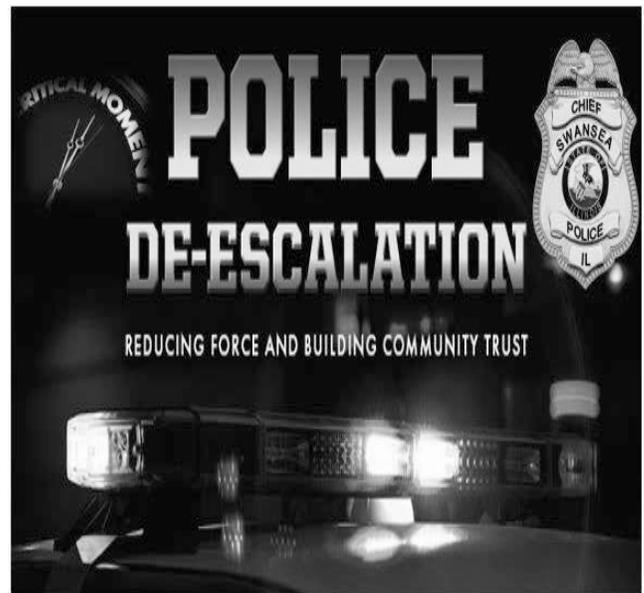
Swansea Officers responded to an emergency call of a subject pointing a gun at another person on Old Park Lane. When they arrived, the suspect was gone. The victim said the suspect was her brother. Her brother pointed a semi-automatic pistol at her and threatened to shoot her over a dispute about a cell phone. Officers interviewed her and witnesses

and processed the scene. Additional officers responded to the Pheasantwood Apartments in Belleville and located the suspect's vehicle. While waiting for more officers to assist with a perimeter control, a black male, who matched the description of the suspect, came out and approached an officer's vehicle.

Officers, thinking of safety of the suspect, themselves and everyone in the apartments, used proper cover and tactics to take the suspect into custody. The suspect was quite upset and somewhat vocal about the incident but officers successfully calmed him. Officers conducted a search of his vehicle and located further evidence of the crime.

He was charged with aggravated assault and later posted bond-pending court. No one was injured and no use of force was necessary because of tactics used.

In another Swansea police file, a 911 call came in of a black male beating a black female on Am-



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CHIEF'S CORNER

brose Terrace. The male had beaten the female to the ground and smashed her cell phone. The 911 caller was a concerned citizen who drove by and witnessed it. Swansea Officers arrived quickly and spoke to the female who claimed her boyfriend broke her cell phone. Officers saw injuries on her from the fight. Officers located the boyfriend in the rear yard and he was extremely irate, uncooperative, and appeared to be under the influence of alcohol. His eyes were dilated and watery but he denied having consumed alcohol or any other drugs. He was asked what occurred and replied, "the weather." He was asked his name and he stated, "my lawyer." He stated he was "not arrested" and was "going to run" while he continuously yelled profanities at officers. He also

yelled at officers to kill him. He stood up and began walking away from the officers. He was advised he was being detained while the domestic battery report was under investigation. He aggressively walked towards officers who immediately controlled his arms to detain him. Two officers were able to bring his arms to his back and handcuff him without causing any injuries even though he resisted. The victim of the domestic battery refused to cooperate with the investigation. The suspect told an officer to take his badge and handgun off and fight. The suspect then began thrashing his body back and forth and advanced towards an officer. The suspect lowered his shoulder and struck the officer with his shoulder. Officers were able to secure both of his arms and escorted him

to the patrol car but he continued resisting officers and thrashing his body from side to side. It took three officers to safely secure him in the patrol car. His case is being presented to the state's attorney's office for domestic battery and aggravated battery to a police officer.

Both of the above are sad, unfortunate events. They could have been much worse but Swansea Officers handled them professionally and used only force that was reasonably necessary. We understand that preservation of life is our top priority but we also must be safe when working violent situations.

Chief Steve Johnson

Swansea Police Department

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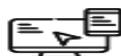
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HeartLands Conservancy Awarded Grants for Outdoor Classroom

HeartLands Conservancy has partnered with the Village to create an outdoor classroom at Clinton Hills Conservation Park.

Over the past several month's Heartlands has been working to raise funds for the project. Their efforts have resulted in two separate grants to implement phase 1 of the development of the outdoor classroom.

During the fall contractors will be converting approximately four acres of turf grass into a pollinator meadow with native grasses and flowers that will attract beneficial pollinator insects such as monarch butterflies.

In addition, volunteers will be installing demonstration rain barrels and a rain garden. The outdoor classroom will bring opportunities for Park visitors to reconnect with the environment and increase their education of biodiversity and pollinator habitat.

The site for the outdoor classroom is nestled between Fletchers Restaurant, the Clinton Hills Conservation Park Pavilion, and cascades down to the lake. The outdoor classroom will be a welcoming gathering space that will not only provide a unique visitor experience but will provide education about conservation.



To support further projects at Clinton Hills Conservation Park, Heartlands is holding their inaugural Fall Native Plant, Rain Barrel, and Composter sale. They have carefully chosen a

quality selection of native plants that will work for any landscape situation.

Due to COVID-19, pre-orders are required. Online sales begin on August 7th and end September 18th, 2020, on the HeartLands Conservancy website.

Orders must be picked up at the Swansea Clinton Hills Conservation Park Pavilion between 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm on Saturday, September 26th, 2020.

As you're picking up your orders, take some time to view the plans for the Outdoor Classroom. While you're ordering plants for your own yard, you'll also have the option to donate plants to the outdoor classroom.

Those wishing to volunteer on this project or make donations can contact Heartlands Conservancy President Mary Vandervord at 618-566-4451.

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.



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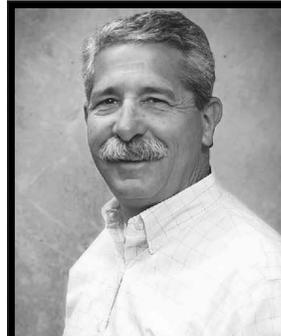
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News Briefs

Trick or Treating Rules

Village ordinances allow children to Trick or Treat on Oct 31st until the hour of 9:00pm. Time is limited for safety reasons. "Children" are considered to be grade school age, not high school. While there is no official 'start time', common courtesy dictates that trick or treating not start too early - generally after 6:00pm - and that children not approach a home where the porch light is not lit. Social distancing and masks may be required.

Please Follow Trick or Treating Safety Tips

The following tips serve as a reminder to parents and children to be safe when trick or treating:

- Children should not trick or treat alone - they should always be accompanied by an adult.
- Be alert and stay on sidewalks where available or on the far edge of the road facing traffic. Walk, don't run, across the street, and do so only at intersections.
- Walk, don't run from house to house.
- Use reflective tape on costumes to help drivers see you.
- Carry a lit flashlight to help you see and for others to see you.
- Consider face makeup in lieu of a mask, which might impair vision.
- Eat only factory-wrapped treats and wait until parents have inspected them. Accept homemade treats only from family or neighbors who you know very well.
- Never accept rides from strangers.
- Pay attention. Be aware of traffic and things going on around you.
- Put away cell phones or other electronic devices.

Find and Like Swansea's Facebook Pages

Check out Swansea's Facebook Pages to stay tuned in regarding events and projects in the Village as well and public safety updates. And don't forget to give them a thumbs up!

Swansea's Facebook Pages:

- **Community and Economic Development**
- **Swansea Fire Department**
- **Swansea Police Department**

Park Building Updates

The TWM at Schranz Park will close for the season beginning November until March. In addition, the bathrooms at Melvin Price Park and Schranz park will be closed as well.

Recycling Information

Recycling more at home does not require much effort if you spend some time to create a comprehensive recycling system. This system starts with having places to store your recycled materials in the house, whether this is a box, bin or bag. Keep the recycling container next to the trash can and it will remind everyone to recycle as much as possible. Clip the flyer to the right to save as a reference on items that can be placed in the recycle bin.



Also, some businesses accept items too. You can drop off plastic bags at Schnucks and CFL light bulbs can be taken to Home Depot.

For more tips and references you can visit: www.recyclingsimplified.com/residential-resources/

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 Jeff Parker
jparker@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.



The Swansea Report is also posted on the website at:
www.swanseail.org

Swansea Community Calendar - September 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 6:00 PM @ the Swansea Moose	4	5
6	7 Govt. Center Closed - Labor Day	8 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	9	10 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	11	12 Swansea Park Board Mtg. 7:00am - Nor- man Lehr Swansea Patriots Mtg. 8:00am— Norman Lehr
13	14	15 Planning and Zoning Board Meeting 6:00pm Govt. Center	16	17 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson	18	19
20	21 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	22	23	24 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	25	26
27	28	29	30			



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Swansea Community Calendar - October 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 6:00 PM @ the Swansea Moose	2	3
4	5 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	6	7	8 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	9	10 Swansea Park Board Mtg. 7:00am - Norman Lehr Swansea Patriots Mtg. 8:00am—Norman Lehr
11	12	13 Planning and Zoning Board Meeting 6:00pm Govt. Center	14	15 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	16	17
18	19 Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	20	21	22 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	23	24 Spooktacular @ Mel Price Park 4PM to 7PM
25	26	27	28	29 Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10AM to 2PM Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson	30	31 

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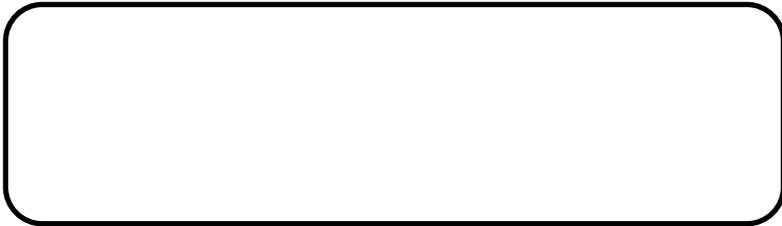
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Village Of Swansea

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SWANSEA, IL 62226

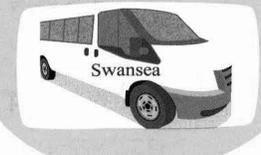
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