



THE SWANSEA REPORT

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 4

July 2022

34th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

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This year's 34th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony reminded us of our past memories and created new ones.

Our guest speaker was Matthew T. Fritz who is a Boeing Field Representative. Mr. Fritz has had a 26-year career with 2500 hours in the U.S. Air Force and 10 combat deployments in both pilot, staff and Air Advisor roles. In 2014, he earned the Bronze Star as Chief of Staff for NATO Training Command in Kabul, Afghanistan and Director of Mobility Forces in the Air Force Central Command. A large group of residents and veterans enjoyed his words and wisdom from his many days of service.

Retired Village of Swanssea Trustee Steve Pulley, Colonel U.S. Air Force, retired from the Oklahoma National Guard presented the POW/MIA Ceremony reminding everyone of the many veterans who never came home.

We were honored to have Barb Sweet, a partner with the Quilt of Valor organization present quilts to those who served in the Vietnam War. The quilts were presented to Jim Wolfe, Russell Burnett, Joe Wickline and Phil Thompson.

The Swanssea Rotary Boy Scout Troop 52 helped by setting flags by each of the trees in Mel Price Memorial Park. Mayor Mike Leopold, Mike Koeneman, Chairman of the Village of Swanssea Park Board, Casey Scharven, Director of Administration for Community Bible Church and the Village of Swanssea Fire Department Color Guard added to our day of memories. Our special thanks to the following: Village of Swanssea Board of Trustees, Park Board, Public Works Department, Police Department and the Administrative Offices.



News Briefs

Govt. Center Closed Monday, July 4th & Refuse Delayed

The Swansea Government Center and all non-emergency services of the Village will be closed on Monday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day. **The collection of refuse, recyclables, and yard waste will shift one day for all routes.**

July Farmer's Market

It's July, and the Swansea Farmer's Market is heating up. Unique fresh crops and crafts are in even more abundance and every week they serve up something good to eat. Find them May to October from 10 to 2 p.m., in the parking lot of Rural King, at 2801 N. Illinois Street. We're looking for produce vendors and food vendors. Just come talk to us at the market.



The Swansea Report is published every other month by the Village of Swansea, 1444 Boul Avenue, Swansea, Illinois, as a community service to our residents and businesses.

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For information on advertising or news stories, call 234-0044, Monday - Friday, 8:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M.



Splash Pad Now Open

Hours of operation are 9:30-8. You may rent the splash pad Monday-Friday 11:30-1:30.

The fees are: Resident: \$50 fee with a \$100 deposit and Non-resident: \$75 fee with \$200 deposit.

Any business or organization wishing to reserve the Splash Pad for its exclusive use must do so by applying for a permit.

Advance reservation is mandatory for any business or organization bringing 10 or more individuals to the Splash Pad. This reservation application must be submitted to the Government Center at least 30 days prior to the requested reservation date to allow for review and approval.

There's seating around the splash pad area so parents can enjoy watching their children play.



Building Permits Are Required In The Village Of Swansea!

If you are having work done at your property in Swansea please call the Government Center at (618) 234-0044 to see if the work requires a permit.

If you are having a contractor do work at your home and or property make sure they have a permit before starting the work.

Inspections are also required for any permit that is issued.

Plumbing permit requires a licensed plumber.

Electrical, Mechanical and Building inspections require 24 hour notice.

Plumbing inspections require 48 hour notice.

You can submit the Building Application and plans on our website www.swanseail.org

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Get detailed information at www.fulfordhomes.com

Swansea Senior Van



Swansea Senior Van
Pick up
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday
By reservation only
call 234-0044
Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday
before 2:00 pm
for next day pick up
For pick up after appointment
779-5521
Swansea Residents only

Scheduling:

- Riders must call the day before by 2:00 pm to schedule a ride (Monday for Tuesday etc.).
- Riders must provide the name, address including suite #, and apt time for their destination.
- Riders may only request 3 destinations per day.
- Riders must be reachable by phone from 2 pm till pickup for time adjustments.
- Medical appointments supersede all other requests.
- The van is not equipped for wheelchairs or motorized carts.

Riders:

- Riders are expected to be mobile and able to enter and exit the van without help.
- NO smoking, vaping or eating on the van. No weapons.
- Rider are expected to be ready 15 minutes prior to and at their door for pickup.
- If the van does not arrive 15 minutes AFTER your pickup time call 779-5521 for an update.
- Failure to cancel a scheduled trip or be a no-show will result in loss of service. (2 warnings only)

Drivers:

- Driver cannot go into appointments with riders.
- Drivers are only authorized to pick up and drop off at location on schedule.
- Drivers will use his/her discretion to judge if a person is incapable of being transported safely.

Destinations: Shop Swansea first, Belleville Walmart the first Tuesday of the month, Target located at 159 and Frank Scott, Dollar General off 161 by 17th Street, Dollar Tree— Swansea Only, Medical Appointments in Swansea, O’Fallon, Shiloh, Belleville and Fairview Heights only.

The van doesn’t travel to Scott Air Force Base. Tips are appreciated but not required. Driver’s are volunteers. Pickup and Drop off will be at the same location



If your sewer system backs up, call The Village first.

Sewer back-up happens when wastewater cannot flow away from your home. This can lead to destruction of your valuables and destruction of your house or property. Call the Village first..

Mon - Fri 8:00am-4:30pm call 234-0044, after hours and weekends call 233-8114. When calling 233-8114 a dispatcher will answer, explain that you need Public Works for a sewer backup.



Presbyterian Community Preschool



Now Enrolling for the 2022-2023 School Year

- Classes for 3 and 4 year olds
- Open enrollment
- Call 618.233.4809 to schedule a Meet and Greet and learn more about our Preschool.
- Spaces limited
- Visit us on Facebook:  "Presbyterian Community Preschool"
- Registration Fee \$60
- Tuition \$170/month

Presbyterian Community Preschool – First United Presbyterian Church
1303 Royal Heights Road, Belleville, IL 62223
www.firstunitedpreschool.org

2022 Chad Wood Scholarship Recipients



The Rotary Club of Swansea announces the recipients of the 2022 Chad Wood Memorial Scholarships. The scholarships are made possible through funds raised at the “Annual Service Above Self 5K” The event this year was Saturday, June 4, 2022. This year three \$2000 scholarships were available to deserving graduating high school seniors that reside in the Village of Swansea.

The 2022 recipients are: Allison Zaiz, a graduate of Belleville West High School and the daughter of Dave and Michelle Zaiz; Lillian Mentzer, a graduate of Belleville East High

School and daughter of Paul and Stacy Mentzer; Mia Eschman, a graduate of Belleville East High School, and the daughter of Todd and Michelle Eschman. The Chad Wood Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of Chad Wood, who passed away unexpectedly in May 2005. Chad was a fine student, a superb athlete for the Belleville East Lancers and a devoted and loving son to his parents, Ray and Penny Wood.

Ray Wood was the Charter President when the Rotary Club of Swansea was formed in 2002. Besides perpetuating Chad's memory and commemorating the wonderful gifts he shared with the many lives he touched, the Scholarship looks to support the educational opportunities of the future leaders of the Swansea community. “

The Rotary Club of Swansea congratulates each recipient, and wishes continued success to each applicant”, said President Paul Reiniger.



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Fire Department Urges Fire Safety In Summer

With summer months always come outdoor cookouts and barbecues. The Swansea Fire Department has a few tips to make sure you stay safe while enjoying your time with friends and family.

Barbeque Safety Tips

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors to prevent any carbon monoxide build up in an enclosed area.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- When starting a gas grill, open the tank valve to full to light the grill then back off 1/4 turn once lit.
- Never leave your grill unattended.

Home Fire Safety

- Have a working smoke detector in every bedroom and at least one on every level of the residence.
- If you need assistance with smoke detectors, please contact the Swansea Fire Department for installation of up to three (3) 10 year smoke detectors at no cost.
- Illinois state law requires a working carbon monoxide detector within fifteen (15) feet of every occupied bedroom.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on a monthly basis to make sure that they are working properly.
- Replace carbon monoxide detectors every five (5) years from the date of manufacturer and replace smoke detectors every ten (10) years from date of manufacture.
- Never leave lit candles unattended.
- Summertime Burn Safety

- Wear short sleeves or roll them up when cooking on the grill.
- Use long-handled barbecue tools.
- Keep a 3-foot safe zone around grills, fire pits and campfires.
- Attend public fireworks displays; this leaves the lighting to the professionals.

Campfire Safety Tips

- Always follow the campfire rules for the area where you are camping or living. Some parks and towns prohibit fires, and these rules are there for a reason. Check the local regulations before you build your fire.
- Do not store gasoline, liquid fire starter, or any other type of flammable liquid near the campfire. It's too easy for stray flames to ignite these materials.
- Do not build large campfires, even if they seem impressive. It's much safer to keep fires small so they are easier to control.

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Swansea Resident Maddie Harnar Shines At 2022 Special Olympics USA



Special Olympics Illinois (SOILL) athlete and Swansea resident, Maddie Harnar, can now say she has won gold at the national level. Last month, Maddie and 104 other SOILL athletes, Unified partners, coaches, and staff traveled down to sunny Orlando, Florida for the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games. This team, known as #TeamSOILL, competed in nine different sports against athletes from all around the country.

Maddie was selected to compete on the gymnastics team – her first opportunity to represent Illinois on the national stage. She and her teammates spent months planning for their trip down to Orlando, having attended gymnastics practices every week prior. Maddie says she takes from her older sister, Mallory, who is also a gymnast.

At the USA Games, Maddie achieved impressive scores and walked away with some hardware. She earned a fourth place ribbon in uneven bars, a bronze medal in balance beam, silver medal in floor exercise, and gold medals in vaulting and all around.

That's not all she left USA Games with – over the course of the week, Maddie and her teammates made new friendships, developed self-confidence, and created memories to last a lifetime. When asked what attending USA Games means to her, Maddie said, "It makes me glad, excited, and proud to have been part of Team Illinois! I am most proud of being chosen for gymnastics."

Maddie has been part of Special Olympics Illinois, which is a sports organization that provides year-round programming to persons with intellectual disabilities, for 15 years. Besides gymnastics, her favorite sports include golf, snowshoe, volleyball, basketball, bowling, and swimming.

Outside of sports, Maddie enjoys reading, dancing, singing, being with friends, and working in the office at Beno J. Gundlach flooring company in Belleville. Maddie also attends College For Life classes at Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey.

Congratulations, Maddie, on your hard-earned achievements at USA Games! We are proud of you!

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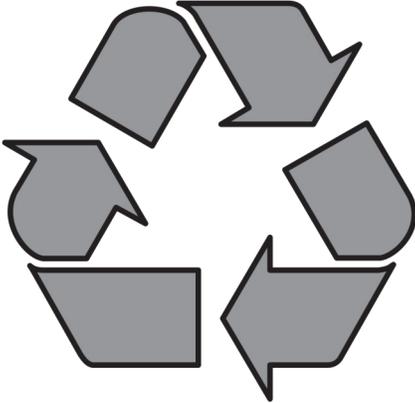


Joel D Pierce
Financial Advisor
201 West Pointe Dr
Ste 5
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618-233-2714

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Scrap Metal & Electronics Monthly Drive



Monthly Recycling Drive In Collinsville

When: 2nd Saturday of every month

Time: 9-12 p.m.

Where: Public Parking Lot 227 W. Main Street

For questions: 618-344-7232

Scrap Metal & Electronics Recycling Drive In Swansea

When: 3rd Saturday of every month

Time: 9-12 p.m.

Where: St. Clair Township 107 Service Street

For questions: 618-344-7232

Items Accepted: Screen 32" and smaller \$20, Screen 32" and larger \$40, Office Equipment, Electronics, Vehicles, Appliances, Machinery, CRT TV/Monitors \$20-\$40 based on size



Items Not Accepted: Paper, Glass, Plastic, Wood, Cardboard, and Tires



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News Briefs

SUMMER IS HERE!

Warm weather is here, school is out, and so are the kids!

The Village of Swansea would like to remind drivers to drive slowly and cautiously, especially in neighborhoods, and to watch for children as they play outdoors this summer.



Tips For Keeping Your Pets Safe This Summer:

- Give them plenty of food and water
- Provide shaded areas when possible
- Bring them inside when you can
- Take them on short walks

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on Wednesday and Support the
Swansea First Responders!



Reminder Grass Clippings

**IMPORTANT
REMINDER**

The Village of Swansea would like to remind all residents to keep grass clippings out of the road ways, as it is a hazard to traffic and can cause injury to motorist. When cutting the grass be sure to cut away from the road.



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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robert.stelling@
countryfinancial.com



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FCB O'Fallon Bank 622-9090

FCB Belleville Bank 235-9090

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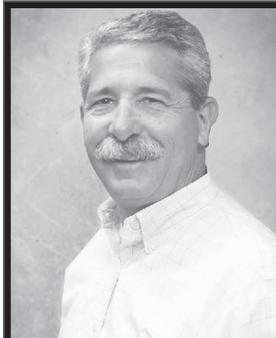
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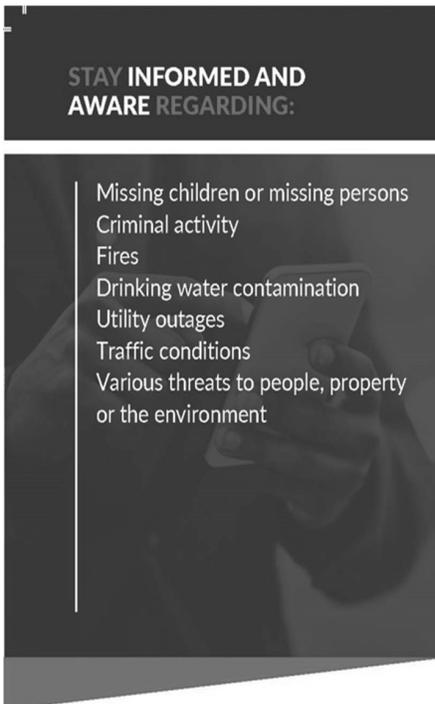
State Farm, Bloomington, IL

News Briefs

CodeRED Text to Enroll

Do you want a critical safety information to help protect your family in the Village of Swansea? Sign up for the CodeRed Text to Enroll.

www.swanseail.org | 618-234-3291



WOLF BRANCH VETERANS PLAZA NOW COMPLETE



When the Veterans for Wolf Branch Committee first approached the Wolf Branch School District administration in November of 2019, they were very confident that a successful fundraising campaign could take place such that, by the end of the school year, a Veterans Plaza could be built next to the newly reconstructed Middle School. Unfortunately, they didn't calculate a pandemic into their schedule. However, copying the perseverance that they were required to demonstrate during their service time in the military, they vowed to carry on.

The architects and building management team created a budget for the Veterans Committee in the amount of \$65,000. The small group of veterans set out soliciting funding for the project by contacting local residents, business owners, and others with ties to Wolf Branch School, the Village of Swansea or the military. Throughout what became a two year campaign, there were plenty of times when it appeared that the fundraising would not be successful. However, in the end, thanks to almost 170 different individuals, families, and businesses, the Veterans Plaza located just east of the Wolf Branch Middle School was formally dedicated on November 10, 2021 in front of a crowd of almost 1000 proud and grateful Americans.

The one remaining piece that was not present at the dedication was the permanent Veterans Plaza donation board recognizing either those individuals or businesses that had funded the project, or veterans designated for recognition by the donors. The Veterans Committee is now excited to announce that the donation board has been completed and permanently displayed just west of the Veterans Plaza near the outdoor concession stand!

The Veterans Committee would once again like to say thank you for all of the pledges that were made and to all who participated in the dedication program on 10 November 2021. Without the efforts of all the students and parents, the project could not have been successful

The Veterans Committee and the Wolf Branch School District invites everyone to visit the Veterans Plaza, including the donor board, anytime during non-school hours. Individuals may also visit during school hours, but should first contact the Wolf Branch School District office at 618-277-2100 to make an appointment.

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: 618-234-0044
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 Tyler Thompson
tthompson@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 Cary Lewis V
clewis@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

Most Fireworks Are Illegal In Illinois: Consider Consequences

If you are new to the area, please note that it is illegal for anyone in the State of Illinois to shoot off fireworks, or to even have them in their possession. Illegal "fireworks" are specifically defined in the laws but generally include any that explode, including firecrackers, bottle rockets, other rockets and Roman candles. Possession is a petty offense if you have less than one pound of illegal fireworks, a class B misdemeanor if you have between 1 and 3 pounds, and a class A misdemeanor if you have more than 3 pounds. As specified in the law, the term "fireworks" does not include snake or glow worm pellets, smoke devices, party poppers, or sparklers. So if you see "fireworks" for sale in local stores, they should be these legal varieties. And while most vendors who set up temporary stands on parking lots will only sell what is legal, it seems as though every year brings a newspaper story about a vendor who tries to sell fireworks banned by the law. Therefore, you can't always assume that because you bought it in Illinois it is legal in Illinois. In our area it is also not unusual for Illinois residents to cross over into Missouri, buy fireworks that are legal there, but then bring them back into Illinois where they are illegal.

But Illinois' laws are not waived or suspended for the 4th of July or any other special day. So if you are thinking of bringing illegal fireworks into Swansea and shooting them off for the holiday, please consider the potential consequences. First, suppose your illegal sky rocket goes off course, through your neighbor's window, and burns their house to the ground. Does your homeowner's policy cover your illegal acts? Or suppose a neighborhood child is seriously injured by a cherry bomb or pack of firecrackers. Are you covered for that injury? Insurance coverage may be more certain if your neighbor's child is hurt by your "legal" sparkler but you may still be financially liable, and a child would still be injured. A sparkler burns at a temperature of 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit. And the scenario doesn't have to be a neighbor's child...it could just as easily be your own child or grandchild who is injured.

A second possibility is that a neighbor complains to the Police Department and a police officer shows up at your home. The consequence could range from having to simply cease your actions and surrender your fireworks, to the potential of being cited. Some residents might be willing to gamble with that - believing that even if a neighbor calls, the police have better things to do than handle "fireworks calls". And they may. Certainly if two calls come in at the same time, one for an auto accident and the other a neighbor complaining about the noise of your fireworks, the police officer will be dispatched first to the auto accident. But that also puts the Village into a tough position of having to prioritize our response to calls when in fact the simple complaint about the noise of fireworks could escalate to that house fire or child being injured. So in reality on the 4th of July as well as the days surrounding the holiday, those who illegally shoot off fireworks

add to the workload of our Police Department, and maybe our Fire Department. They pull resources away from other needs.



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July and August Calendars 2022

July

- 4th** Happy 4th of July- Government Center Closed
- 5th** Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Board Meeting 7 p.m.
Government Center
- 7th** Swansea Rotary Club 5:30 p.m. Moose Lodge
Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10-2 p.m.
- 9th** Swansea Park Board Meeting 7 a.m. Norman Lehr
Swansea Patriots Meeting 8 a.m. Norman Lehr
- 12th** Planning and Zoning Meeting 6 p.m.
- 14th** Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10-2 p.m.
Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 p.m. Thompson Center
- 18th** Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Board Meeting 7 p.m. Government Center
- 21st** Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10-2 p.m.
Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 p.m. Thompson Center
- 28th** Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10-2 p.m.
Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 p.m. Thompson Center
- 28th** High Mount School District Popsicles with the Principal & PTC 6:30-7:30 Mel
Price Park Pavilion 1



August

- 1st** Committee Meetings 6 p.m. and Board Meeting
7 p.m. Government Center
- 4th** Swansea Rotary Club 5:30 p.m. Moose Lodge
Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10-2 p.m.
- 6th** Swansea Park Board Meeting 7 a.m. Norman Lehr
Swansea Patriots Meeting 8 a.m. Norman Lehr
- 9th** Planning and Zoning Meeting 6 p.m. Government Center
- 11th** Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10-2 p.m.
Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 p.m. Thompson Center
- 15th** Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Board Meeting 7 p.m. Government Center
- 18th** Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10-2 p.m.
Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 p.m. Thompson Center
- 25th** Farmers Market Rural King Parking Lot 10-2 p.m.
Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 p.m. Thompson Center



Village Of Swansea

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