



THE SWANSEA REPORT

VOLUME 37, ISSUE 4

May 2024

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Exploring the Transformation: Construction Updates at Clinton Hills Conservation Park

Exciting changes are afoot at Clinton Hills Conservation Park as construction continues. As we eagerly anticipate the park's transformation, let's explore the enhancements that lie ahead.

Vision and Purpose

At the heart of this endeavor lies a vision for the park, ensuring it remains a vibrant hub for recreation, relaxation, and community engagement for generations to come. The construction project is guided by a commitment to preserving the park's natural beauty while introducing modern amenities and infrastructure to enhance the visitor experience.

Enhanced Amenities

The Loop Trail is currently under construction and expected to be completed Summer 2024. It will be a ten-foot wide multi-use 1½ mile trail around the northern end of the park. Funded through a grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, a grant from the Metro East Park & Recreation District, the trail is a \$750,000+ investment. The trail will be a safe and accessible recreation opportunity for walkers, runners, and cyclists.

This summer will also see the addition of pickleball courts. Located near Fletchers restaurant, these will be the first courts in Swanssea dedicated to one of the fastest growing sports in the nation. The 4 courts are a \$150,000+ investment in Swanssea.

Preservation of Natural Habitat

Great care is being taken to ensure the preservation of the park's natural habitat. The Heartlands Conservancy manages an exploration garden at Clinton Hills. The Raindrop's Journey is a 6-acre garden with wildflower meadows, native plant exhibits, interactive educational exhibits, and rainwater demonstrations. this outdoor classroom is an educational opportunity for school children to learn about the natural habitat of Southern Illinois and more!

Two of the bridges that were falling into disrepair have been demolished, removing a hazard to the public. The construction of the Loop Trail has removed some of the holes of the popular disc golf course. Those holes will be reinstalled as the project is completed, but in different locations. So, if you have played it before, look for a new challenge later this summer. And if you haven't, connect with the St. Louis Disc Golf Club at <https://stldgclub.com/> to learn how to get started with this popular sport.

A Regional Gem

Clinton Hills Conservation Park is already one of the most popular destinations in the region for great recreation and fun. Make your plans to check out the new and improved Clinton Hills this summer.



Important Information

Govt. Center Closed Monday, May 27th

Refuse Collection Also Delayed

The Swansea Government Center, all non-emergency services of the Village and Republic Services will be closed on Monday, May 27th for Memorial Day. **The collection of refuse, recyclables, and yard waste will shift one day for all routes.**

Farmers Market

The Market is back open for the season beginning **May through October, rain or shine, every Thursday from 10-2.** Every week, fresh local produce, baked goods, and unique handmade crafts will be available for sale. It's located in the Rural King Parking Lot, 2801 N. Illinois St. If you would like to be a vendor stop by for more info.



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Splash Pad

The Splash Pad in Schranz Park is a popular attraction and opens for the Summer starting Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Open daily from 9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. You can rent the Splash Pad Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Please call 618-234-0044 for more information.



Memorial Day Celebration and Booklet

The Memorial Day Ceremony will be held Monday, May 27th, 2024 at 10:00 at Mel Price Park, 1500 Caseyville Ave. The Village of Swansea Park board will be honoring all Veterans who have served our nation. Any Swansea resident who has served can submit their information to sproffitt@swanseail.org for the booklet which will be printed for all. Deadline to submit names is May 13th. Please join us to celebrate our veterans!



Leaf Burning Ends Soon!

Leaf burning ends May 15th. Until then you can burn on Wednesdays and Saturdays only from 9 AM to 6 PM. Burning is not allowed on Village streets or within the Village right-of-way. Fires must be attended and kept under control at all times. Should the weather be excessively windy, conditions be wet, or air forecasted to be unhealthy for sensitive groups (101 – 150) or higher as determined by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency dates above, burning on said dates shall not be permitted. In the event of such conditions, the Village will post its determination on the Village's website, and send a Code Red alert to residents registered for such alerts. However, it shall be incumbent on anyone intending to burn yard waste, to first reference the Village website for any such notice. While the Village makes this temporary allowance, all residents should consider the impact burning yard waste might have on their neighbors. Those with asthma or other respiratory issues can be significantly affected by smoke.

Two Swansea Locations! Come Visit Us!



FulfordHomes
Making Our Homes Yours.



Get detailed information at www.fulfordhomes.com

Chief's Corner

Swansea Officer Makes Significant Gun Arrest



On March 16th while on patrol, Officer Matthew Lindley conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for a speed violation. The stop led to the arrest of the driver, who was wearing body armor while armed with a fire-arm. The driver did not possess an Illinois FOID card. A subsequent search of the vehicle resulted in the recovery of 2 additional pistols and 3 rifles as well as a large quantity of various caliber ammunition with multiple high capacity magazines. The driver indicated he liked guns and to go to the shooting range. Detective Sgt. Gary Reuter presented the case to the State's Attorney's Office, which issued a 7-count felony warrant against the

defendant.

A subsequent search warrant of the defendant's residence revealed two additional rifles, which were confiscated. We would like to congratulate and thank Officer Lindley for his outstanding work!



Swansea PD Asking Drivers To Drive Safely



As the weather improves and more people are out enjoying warmer temperatures, the Swansea Police Department is asking everyone to slow down and obey all traffic control signs and devices. We have received a significant increase in traffic complaints, especially in our neighborhoods, where more and more children are out playing. Please obey all speed limits and make complete stops at all stop signs. A complete stop means no movement of the vehicle before proceeding through the intersection. As a reminder, all cell phone usage while driving must be in a hands-free manner. This includes not holding the phone while using the speaker function.



Introducing SeeClickFix

Allow us to introduce you to Swansea's new citizen engagement app, SeeClickFix!

In order to create a stronger relationship with residents, the Village of Swansea is now implementing SeeClickFix to help residents report their concerns. SeeClickFix will help with faster response times and give residents an opportunity to voice their concerns and suggestions.

Residents can report a concern on the Village website, as well as through the SeeClickFix mobile app. We believe that this will allow residents to report issues in a more convenient way. Upon submitting the request, you will receive a notification that it has been received and is being looked into.

With the mobile app and website, Swansea residents will be able to provide the Village with a more accurate description, photos, and videos in a more accessible way. This will provide the staff with all of the necessary tools to solve potential problems in an efficient and timely manner. SeeClickFix will allow Village officials to process the submitted requests and send them to the proper department. This will ensure that the conflict is properly managed from the time that it is received up until it has been resolved. Swansea residents will be informed throughout the entirety of their request. The platform not only allows residents to report problems, but also to view, comment on, and vote to fix problems submitted by their neighbors. In addition, residents can set notifications about any other issues reported in the community. This will allow residents to stay informed on all service requests, and not just the ones they report. If you wish to be anonymous in your request, report the concern as a guest to maintain confidentiality. To download the mobile app, click the link below:

Apple: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/seeclickfix/id322000552>

Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.seeclickfix.ma.android&hl=en_US

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Have questions about withdrawing funds, converting your account or generating income?

Let's work together to find the right strategy to help keep you on track. Contact me today to get started.



Joel D Pierce
Financial Advisor
201 West Pointe Dr
Ste 5
Swansea, IL 62226
618-233-2714

IRT-43951-A AECSPAD 21167062

Reminder- The Annual Price Increase for Solid Waste

Residents will receive a supplement bill for the new annual price, effective May 1st, for service used May 1st to June 30th and going forward. Residents were billed for April 1st- April 30th at old pricing. May 1st to June 30th for new pricing.



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Lauren B. Wilson, DMD
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www.cornerstonedentistry.net

Congratulations, Sgt. Breanna Kemper-Damm



Sgt. Kemper-Damm pictured with Director Nichols

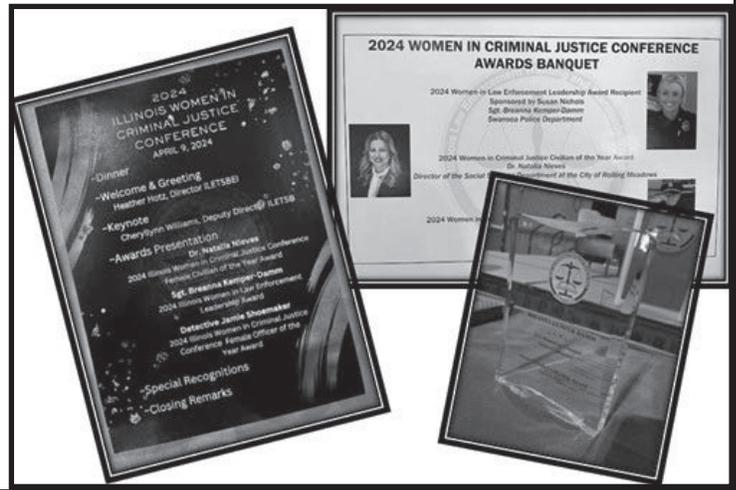
On April 9, 2024, Sgt. Breanna Kemper-Damm received the 2024 Susan Nichols Women in Law Enforcement Leadership Award presented by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Institute. Sgt. Kemper-Damm established our comprehensive employee wellness program in partnership with We Never Walk Alone, a 24/7 crisis helpline dedicated to first responders. Additionally, Sgt. Kemper-Damm spearheaded our collaborative effort with Anew Perspectives to provide our employees with mental health and counseling services for themselves and their families. She also worked diligently to organize our first village-wide employee health fair.

Under Sgt. Kemper-Damm's leadership, the Swansea Police Department developed and implemented our Special Needs Locator Program to offer families with loved

ones with special needs disorders a way to help our department

serve these individuals and locate them should they become lost, disoriented, or unable to communicate.

Congratulations Sgt. Kemper-Damm, we are extremely proud of you!



Your affordable assisted living community...
 fully certified to operate through the
 Illinois Supportive
 Living program



Cambridge House Assisted Living;
 3900 Sullivan Drive; Swansea IL 234-8910



Rotary Club 5K Run/Walk



"Service Above Self"
Rotary Club of



21st Annual "Service Above Self" Rotary Club of Swansea



5K Run Walk



Proceeds will benefit:
The Chad Wood Memorial Scholarship Fund supporting college scholarships for qualifying graduates of area high schools.

Rotary
Club of Swansea



SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2024 START TIME: 8:00 A.M.

Beginning and ending at Wolf Branch Elementary School (125 Huntwood Road, Swansea, IL)
RAIN OR SHINE - NO REFUNDS

Entry Fees: \$25 if postmarked by May 23rd; \$30 on the day of the race.

T-shirt, number pick-up and late registrations on race day between 6:30 - 7:30 a.m.

Shirts guaranteed for participants if registered by May 23rd

Divisions: Age groups for male and female - kids 15 and under, 16-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and over

Awards: Overall top Male & Female winner will receive trophies. The top 3 finishers in each age division will receive medals. Medals to all kids 15 and under.

For additional information contact Charlie Pitts: (618) 910-0911 or Jim Riess: (618) 920-9698

Rotary Club of Swansea 5K Run/Walk Registration Form

Name: _____ Male _____ Female _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Date of Birth: Mo _____ Day _____ Year _____

T-Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL Email Address: _____

Waiver & Release

I hereby release and discharge Rotary Club of Swansea, Illinois, Rotary International, Village of Swansea, Illinois, and County of St. Clair, Illinois, and any of their respective members, agents or employees, from any and all liability for injury or damages sustained by me, my minor child and/or ward in connection with or arising out of our participation in the 5K Run/Walk sponsored by the Rotary Club of Swansea, Illinois. I assume all risks associated with our participation in the event, including the risk of injury caused by the condition of public or private property, streets or walkways. I represent and affirm that we are in good physical condition and able to safely compete in this event. I further grant Rotary Club of Swansea, Illinois, Rotary International, Village of Swansea, Illinois, and County of St. Clair, Illinois the right to photograph, videotape, and/or interview me, my minor child and/or ward and further to display, use and/or otherwise exploit my, my child's and/or ward's name, face, likeness, voice, and appearance forever and throughout the world, in all media, whether now known or hereafter devised (including, without limitation, in online web casts, social media, television, motion pictures, films, newspapers and magazines) and in all forms including, without limitation, digitized images, whether for advertising, publicity, or promotional purposes, without compensation, reservation or limitation.

By checking this box you have acknowledged that you are under 18 years of age and have parental consent to enter this race.

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____ Parent or Guardian (If under 18) _____

Online registration is available on our website at www.swansearotary.org



Sign entry form and waiver - make checks payable to Rotary Club of Swansea and mail to:
Cory Dehler, c/o Swansea Rotary
P.O. Box 23746, Belleville, IL 62223

News Briefs

MUTTLEY & ME PET WASH NOW OPEN!

ALL YOU NEED
IS YOUR DOG
AND A TOWEL!

- OPEN 24 HOURS
- \$15 FOR 20 MINUTES
- MEMBERSHIP OFFER:
 - \$20 A MONTH FOR 4 WASHES

CYCLES INCLUDE:

OATMEAL AND TEARLESS SHAMPOO
FLEA AND TICK TREATMENT
PET DEODORIZER
ULTRA-SHINE CONDITIONER
TUB DISINFECTANT
DRYER AND VACUUM



618-641-8176 • INFO@MUTTLEYME.COM • SCAN TO GET THE APP

May 19-25, 2024 Marks the 64th Annual National Public Works Week Sponsored by The American Public Works Association.

The Village of Swansea would like to send a big THANK YOU to the Public Works Department for all they do for the Village.

This type of position requires physical work to help maintain the roads, streets, parks, buildings, etc. These men work hard each day to make the village look great!

If you happen to see any of the guys out this week let them know how much they are appreciated.



Monthly Recycling Drive In Collinsville

When: 2nd Saturday of every month (except December and January)

Time: 9-11 a.m.

Where: Public Parking Lot 227 W. Main Street

For questions: 618-344-7232

Items accepted: Screen 32" and smaller \$20, Screen 32" and larger \$30, Office Equipment, Electronics, Batteries, Vehicles, Appliances, Machinery, CRT TV/Monitors \$20 - \$40 based on size

Scrap Metal and Electronics Monthly Drive

PRESENTED BY ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP

SCRAP METAL & ELECTRONICS MONTHLY DRIVE



3rd Saturday
Every Month
(Except Dec. & Jan.)

9am - 11am

107 SERVICE ST.
SWANSEA, IL ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP BUILDING

ACCEPTED: ANYTHING METAL OR HAS POWER CORD.

TUBE TV/MONITOR DISPOSAL FEE [\$20-\$40]

NOT ACCEPTED: BATTERIES - FURNITURE - PAPER - GLASS - PLASTIC - CARDBOARD
TIRES - CONCRETE - LIGHT BULBS - HAZARDOUS WASTE

QUESTIONS? 618.344.7232

[Facebook.com/PowerRecyclingCompany](https://www.facebook.com/PowerRecyclingCompany)

www.powerrecycling.com



FCB Swansea Bank 239-9000
FCB O'Fallon Bank 622-9090
FCB Belleville Bank 235-9090

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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

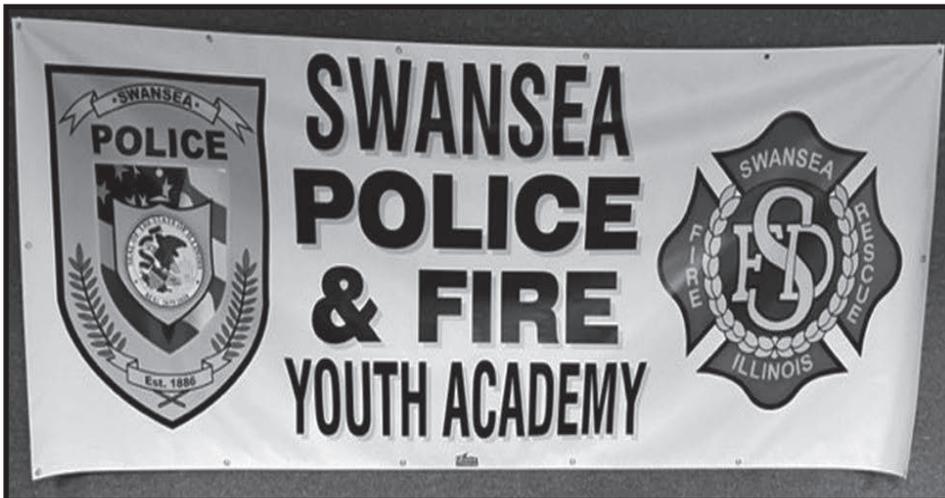


062015-05522AC

Swansea Police and Fire Youth Academy

SAVE THE DATE

2024 Swansea Police and
Fire Youth Academy



When: June 3rd - June 5th, 2024

Time: 8a-4p each day

Where: Fire Department Engine House #2

Who is invited: Children ages 9-13, Swansea residents and first time attendees take precedence

What: We will be learning about Police, Fire and EMS in fun, creative ways

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 Thouvenot
bthouvenot@swanseail.org

Trustee Marilyn Neumeyer
mneumeyer@swanseail.org

Trustee Jeff Parker
jparker@swanseail.org

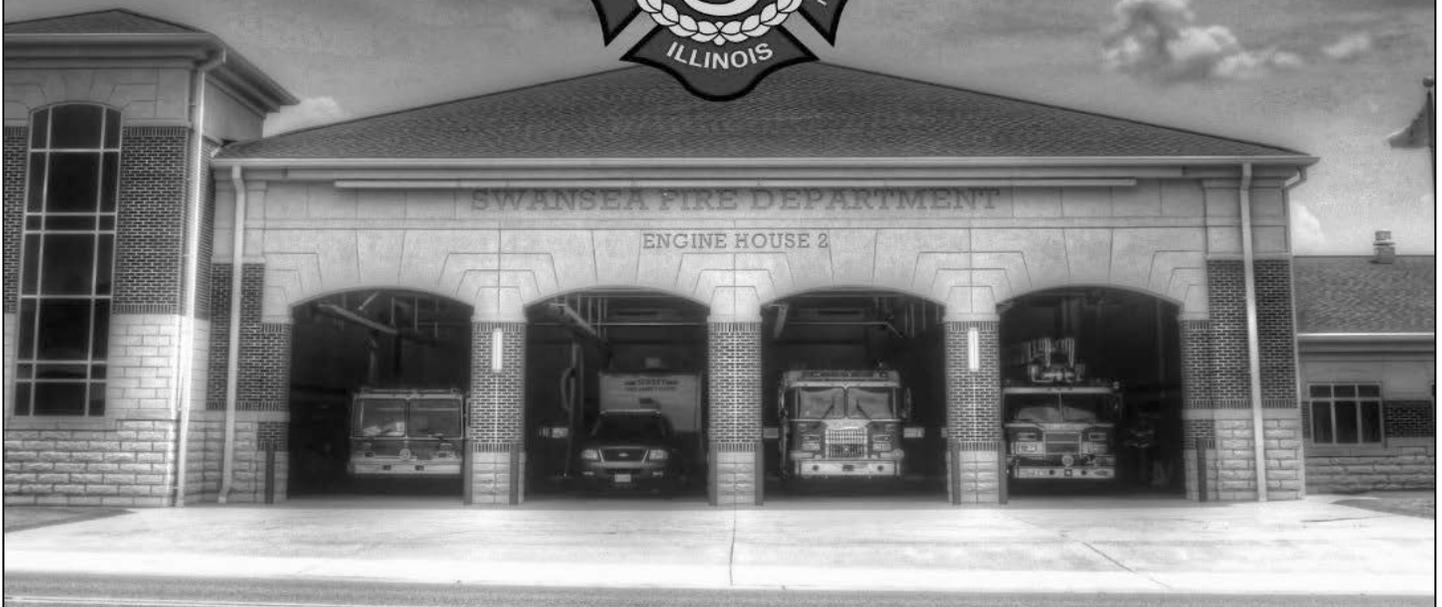
Trustee Cary Lewis V
clewis@swanseail.org

The Swansea Report is
also posted on the web-
site at:

www.swanseail.org

JOIN SWANSEA FIRE DEPARTMENT!

*Where Courage, Compassion,
and Commitment Come Together!*
Volunteer Today!



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

Republic Services Yard Waste

Yard waste is \$14.05/month or
\$42.15/ quarter. Yard waste is
optional for residents but must

have trash service. Yard waste service runs once a
week from April 1– Dec 31. Call Republic Services
for details 618-656-6883.



May and June 2024 Calendars

May



6th Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Village Board Meeting 7 p.m.
Government Center

9th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Civic Center

11th Swansea Park Board Meeting 7 a.m. Norman Lehr and Swansea Patriots Meeting 8 a.m. Norman Lehr

14th Planning and Zoning Board Meeting 6 p.m. Government Center

15th Last day for Spring Burn Season

16th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Civic Center

20th Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Village Board Meeting 7 p.m. Government Center

23rd Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. CAVE 7645 Magna Dr., Belleville

27th Memorial Day- Government Center Closed

30th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Civic Center

31st Last day for St. Clair Township Yard Waste. Questions call: 618-233-3437

Holiday Event: Memorial Day Ceremony- **May 27th at 10** a.m. Mel Price Park

June



3rd Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Village Board Meeting 7 p.m.
Government Center

8th Swansea Park Board Meeting 7 a.m. Norman Lehr

11th Planning and Zoning Board Meeting 6 p.m. Government Center

13th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 Thompson Center

17th Committee Meetings 6 p.m. and Village Board Meeting 7 p.m. Government Center

19th Government Center Closed For Juneteenth

20th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Civic Center

27th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Civic Center

Special Event: 21st Annual Rotary 5K Run/Walk Saturday, June 1, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. (see page 6 for more details)



Village Of Swansea

1444 BOUL AVENUE
SWANSEA, IL 62226

Phone: (618) 234-0044
www.swanseail.org

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Swansea is full of great people doing great things! Have you noticed someone that lives or works in Swansea that is always doing the right thing? (Even when no one is watching?) We would like to start recognizing those individuals in our Swansea Report. If you know someone that is always doing the right thing, helping in the community and lives or works in Swansea we would love to hear from you.



Please email swanadmn@swanseail.org and maybe this person will be featured in one of our up-coming Swansea Reports!

BELLEVEGAS BINGO
517 South Illinois
Belleville, IL 62220
(618)234-0388/
bellevegasbingo.com



NEW WEEKLY BINGO!

Proceeds Benefit

Swansea Fire Department

Every Wednesday

Doors open at 4:30, Bingo Starts at 7:00 p.m.

Using Our Regular Weekly Program

Come and Play Bingo with us Weekly on Wednesday
and Support the

**Swansea Fire
Department!**



Proper Cart Placement Is the Key to Automated Service



- Have the cart at the curb by 6 a.m. on your collection day.
- Place the cart at least 5 feet from any object – like a car, tree, pole, fire hydrant, mailbox, electrical box, or cable box – so the automated arm can reach your cart.
- Please maintain this same distance of 5 feet between recycling and waste carts.
- Don't lean anything against the cart.
- Don't place your cart under a tree.
- Place carts 1 foot from the curb or edge of the street.
- Place the cart with the arrows on the lid pointing toward the street and the handle toward your house.
- Remember to close the lid of the cart.
- Please don't allow children to play in or around the carts. Our trucks use mechanical arms to pick up the recycling and waste carts.



Sustainability in Action

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health
markets.

Health | Medicare | Small Group | Life | Supplemental



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Al Saponar

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FREE- PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

Provided by St Clair Township

Located at: 107 Service Street Swansea, IL
62226

When: May 18th

Time: 9am-11am

Limit 4 bags or boxes per car.

For more information call 618-233-3437.