

Village Of Swansea

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SWANSEA, IL 62226

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THE SWANSEA REPORT

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2018

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WHAT'S INSIDE THIS MONTH

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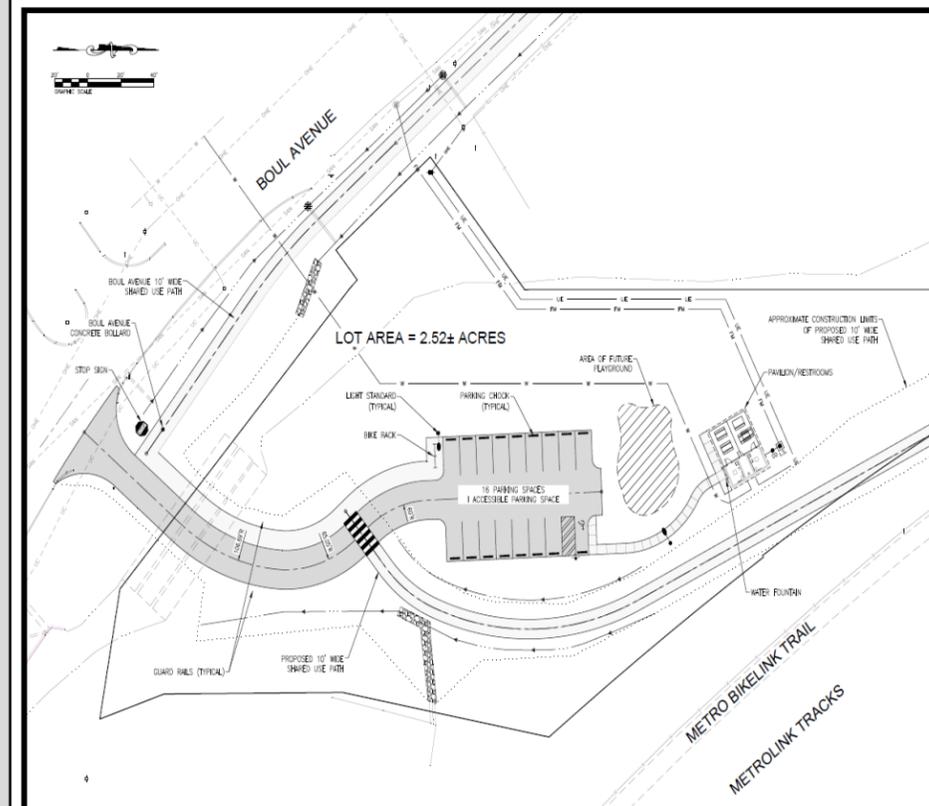
The 2018 Swansea Fire Department Open House which was held on October 7th was a huge success. We had a large turnout of Village residents and neighbors...

Swansea Plans Expand the Region's Bike Trail System

Multiple points of access in the Village make it easy to get onto miles of trails, with more to come.

As you drive north on IL Rte. 159 in Swansea you can't help but notice the MetroBikeLink bridge over the highway, but many residents state they have no idea how to access the trail system. The Village of Swansea is looking to fix this issue with an extension along Boul Avenue that will connect to Melvin Price Park and a planned trail head park on Boul Avenue, right in the heart of Swansea. In addition, Metro East Parks and Recreation is moving forward with an expansion of the trail system along Old Collinsville Road. St. Clair County Transit District Board Chairman Richie Meile recently said "We are thrilled that Southwestern Illinois residents are embracing the MetroBikeLink trail

Continued on page 6...



News Briefs

Government Center Holiday Closings

Trash and Recycling Collection Will Be Delayed For Some

The Swansea Government Center and all non-emergency services of the Village will be closed on Monday, Nov 12th in observance of Veteran's Day, and on Thursday and Friday, Nov 22nd & 23rd for the Thanksgiving holiday. No Village Board or committee meetings will be affected by the closings.

The Thanksgiving holiday will also affect trash and recycling collection for some residents. Those with a normal collection day on Thursdays, will have collection on Friday instead. If normal collection is on Fridays, collection will be on Saturday instead. The Thurs. collection of yard waste will move to Friday.



Shop Local On Small Business Saturday

November 24th - the Saturday after Thanksgiving has become "Small Business Saturday" in the U.S., a day dedicated to supporting small businesses in local communities across the country. The concept originated with American Express in 2010, as an effort to help small businesses compete during the holiday shopping and dining season.



The Village of Swansea encourages residents to look for opportunities to support our locally owned and small businesses. Not only does it help those businesses and the people they employ, some of the sales taxes you pay on purchases made in Swansea come back to the Village. That revenue helps to fund municipal services and offset the need for property taxes. So shop local every day!

Grand Manor Hosts Annual Holiday Expo

Grand Manor, the independent living facility at 58 Frank Scott Parkway East in Swansea, is hosting their 12th Annual Holiday Expo on Saturday, November 10th from 10:30am until

2:30 pm, no admission charge. The facility is just east of the intersection of Frank Scott Parkway and IL Rte. 159.



The holiday shopping expo will feature 40+ unique, specialty vendors. A spaghetti lunch will also be served from 11:00am until 1:00pm, at a cost of \$5 per person. Additional parking may be utilized next door on the Hokkaido Buffet parking lot. Questions regarding this event should be EMAILED to grandmanor@mchsi.com.

Park Updates

The TWM at Schranz Park is closed for the season. The building closes from November through March. In addition, the bathrooms at Melvin Price Park and Schranz park will be closed for the season as well.

HR/Payroll Specialist Position Filled

The Village of Swansea would like to welcome Kristina Essenpreis as the new human resources/payroll specialists. Kristina started on October 22nd and will train with Barb Kimutis the current human resource/payroll specialist until her retirement on December 7th.



Swansea Community Calendar - November 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—		
				4	5	6
					Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	
				7	8	9
					Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	
				10	11	12
						Swansea Park Board Meeting 7:00am Norman Lehr Center
						Swansea Patriots Meeting 8:00am Norman Lehr Center
				11	12	13
					Veterans Day Holiday Observed -Govt. Ctr. Closed	
				14	15	16
					Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—	
				18	19	20
					Committee Meetings 6:00pm Govt. Center Village Board Meeting 7:00pm Govt. Center	
				21	22	23
					Happy Thanksgiving Thanksgiving Holiday	Govt. Center Closed
				24	25	26
						SHOP SMALL Saturday Shop Swansea
				27	28	29
						Swansea Rotary Club 7:30am - 8:30am; Thompson Center—
				30		
					Swansea Fire Dept. Lighted Christmas Parade	

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www.toddandmarksauto.com
toddandmarksauto@att.net

News Briefs

Police Offer Tips On Locking Vehicles

The Swansea Police Department is reminding residents to lock vehicles left outside overnight. Auto burglary is usually a crime of opportunity, so if you can, park your car in a garage, and check to make sure your garage door is down and secured at night before you go to bed.

But if you must park outside, do so in your driveway or in a well-lit area away from places of concealment, such as an alley or behind bushes. Double check that all windows are closed and your doors are locked. Most burglars simply walk along a street and check all cars for an unlocked door. If yours are locked, most burglars move on to easier prey. But also remember to take your wallet, cell phone and other valuables with you when you leave your car. When those items are in sight, a burglary may break a window to get to them in a locked vehicle.

Don't leave a spare key in the car (it happens), and don't hide a key in one of those magnetic key boxes. If it is in an easily reachable spot for you, a burglar could find it as well. It is also a good idea to not attach personal info to your keys in case they are lost or stolen. Car alarms remain an effective deterrent to a burglar so consider getting one if you must always park outside.

It is OK to be a nosy neighbor and call Swansea Police Department the second you see something suspicious happening in your



neighborhood. Call the police! They don't mind. It is their job.

Swansea Fire Dept. Lighted Christmas Parade

Come join the Swansea Fire Department as they start off the Christmas season right with the lighted parade on November 30th. Parade will begin at Wolf Branch Middle School and travel up Old Caseyville, to Baron, to Heatherwood, to Greenhaven, to Big Bend, to Twin Lake and end at the Fire Station #2. Following the parade there will be pictures with Santa, bounce house and refreshments.

If you are interested in participating in the parade, contact Jack Korves @ (618) 410-6378 or jack@tribout.com for more information. Visit the Swansea Fire Department Facebook page for more details.



Wrestling at Fire House #2

SICW ALL*STAR WRESTLING Saturday November 3rd, back at the Swansea Fire House, Wrestler/ Manager, the Legend J.J Dillion, the man who managed "The Four Horsemen" will be in the fire house for the fundraiser for the men and women of the Swansea Fire Department. The event is Saturday November 3rd, 2018 at Firehouse #2 144 Huntwood Rd., Swansea, IL 62226. The doors open at 6pm and



wrestling starts at 7pm. Tickets for adults are \$12.00 and children under 12 are \$6.00. For tickets call (618) 971-5409.

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

Swansea Farmers Market

The Swansea Farmer's Market 10th season has come to a close. The market had many of its vendors from the past and many new ones. We had an average of 20 vendors each Thursday. Every Thursday seemed to offer something new. Thank you to all who supported the market and to those who make it possible each year. We look forward to seeing you next May. For additional information: Norm Geolat President, 618-978-8753, swanseafarmersmarket@yahoo.com, or visit our Facebook page as Swansea Farmers.



Swansea Family Christmas Program Helps Those In Need

Every year, the "Swansea Family Christmas" program provides assistance during the holidays to many local Swansea residents in need, by providing a holiday dinner and / or gifts. The program is completely funded by donations from generous residents, local businesses and civic organizations, and administered by volunteers. The Village provides a point of contact to help those volunteers effectively reach residents in need. Last year, more than 67 Swansea families, representing 218 individuals, applied for and received assistance.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP

If you would like to help with this effort please consider making a donation to the program this year. Donations typically come from individuals, families, neighborhood associations, civic organizations, churches and businesses.

While new toys and new clothing are always accepted, a donation of cash allows volunteers to purchase gift certificates which in turn allows families in need to purchase specific gifts for their children or buy food for a holiday meal.

Checks in any amount can be made payable to the "Swansea Family Christmas Fund" and mailed or delivered to the Swansea Government Center, 1444 Boul Ave. Please do so no later than **Friday, Dec 7th**. Any other donations may be dropped off to the same location.

Please call the Village with any questions at 234-0044.

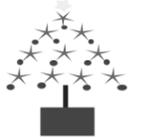
IF YOU NEED HELP

If because of job loss, illness, or some other reason, you may not be able to provide Christmas gifts or a decent meal for your family and could use some assistance, please let the Village know.

There are generous individuals, businesses, and organizations in Swansea who are willing to help individuals and families in these situations. The Village assists that effort by gathering information from residents who need help, and then providing that information to volunteers who distribute gift cards and donations to those families.

In order to be eligible, applicants must be:

- Swansea residents,
- have a genuine need, and
- provide current proof of residency.



Applications will be accepted in person at the Swansea Government Center, 1444 Boul Avenue, in the Meeting Room between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm, on the following dates:

- Tuesday, November 27th & Wednesday, November 28th, Thursday, November 29th, Friday, November 30th, **No late applications will be accepted.**

Applicants should bring both:

- A current, valid driver's license or State I.D. card **AND** a current public aid card, or current power, water, or sewer bill showing the same name and Swansea address as proof of residency.

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Corey Stelling
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618-416-7820
robert.stelling@countryfinancial.com



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CONTACT: Cecil Management Group @ (618) 624-4610

Santa Claus is Coming to Town



Santa Will Arrive In Melvin Price Park on Dec 1st

Santa plans to arrive at his special house in Melvin Price Memorial Park on Saturday, Dec. 1st. While he may be busy at other times rechecking his list, he will be at his Swansea home from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm every Saturday and Sunday and from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm each weekday evening, through December 21st.

The house is near the Lehr Community Center at the south end of the park. The park is in the 1500 block of Caseyville Ave. Photos with Santa will be available for \$5.00, and every child will receive a small gift. The Swansea Santa House is sponsored by the Swansea Park Board.

Santa could always use some extra help. If you might be interested, contact Marilyn Neumeyer at 234-6293 or 363-8694 for details.

Fire Dept. Open House A Success With Children & Adults Alike

The 2018 Swansea Fire Department Open House held on October 7th was a huge success. We had a large turnout of Village residents and neighbors who came to visit and meet our firefighters.

The fire department had demonstrations of a high angle rescue, vehicle extrication and a controlled burn room to show how quickly fires can spread. Visitors were able to tour the fire department and the training facility located behind the fire station.

The Swansea Police Department was on hand to meet with everyone and see a police car up close as well as the police bike patrol. A bounce house and water extinguisher station was set up for kids to enjoy as well as refreshments were provided from generous donors. We would like to thank everyone who was able to come and visit. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!



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News Briefs

PSN Check Processing Update

The Village of Swansea has made a change to the process of online check payments made through our third party provider, Payment Service Network (PSN). As a result of this change, customers paying via online check can expect to see their payments processed at a quicker rate.

Under the old method of processing, it could take several days for payments to reach the Village. With the implementation of the Electronic Bill Pay services, the turnaround time for processing payments will be much quicker. As a result, both the Village and the customer will experience a quicker turnaround time. The Village will now be receiving payments within 3-5 business days, maybe quicker. Customers, on the other hand, will notice their funds being debited from their bank account within the same time frame.

If you are a customer who utilizes the online check feature through your bank, please be aware of this change and ensure that appropriate funds will

be available on the payment date you selected.

Yard Waste Begins November 1st

Burning of yard waste is allowed for the fall season between November 1st and December 15th, on Wednesday's and Saturday's, and only between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, excluding the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the Saturday after Thanksgiving. 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 in (B) (1) 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.

Other options available to residents for the disposal of yard waste include mulching leaves with a lawn mower, composting, curb side collection through Republic Services (618 656-6883), or dropping off yard waste at St. Louis Compost, located at 3521 Centerville Ave., in Belleville.



Thanks to All Who Helped With The 2nd Annual Spooktacular

The 2nd Annual Halloween Spooktacular event was a success. It was sponsored by the Village Of Swansea Park Board and the Swansea Patriots. The Village of Swansea is grateful that they were able to hold the event again this year for the residents and surrounding neighbors. Thank you to all the volunteers' who helped make the event possible and donated their valuable time to the event.



THANKS

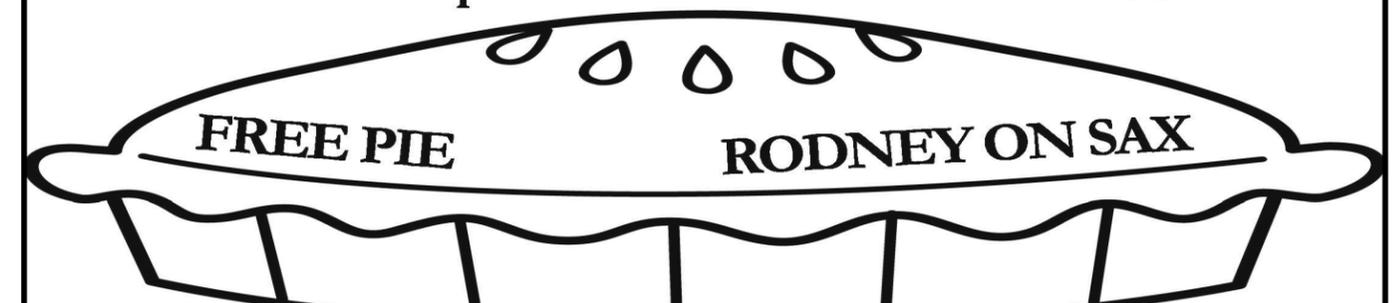
Thank you to Wendy's for the way they landscape and maintain their property.



Annual Pie Tasting Party

Tuesday Nov 20th
7:00—8:00pm

Bring Your Family,
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Swansea Fire Department

Friday, Nov. 30th

@ 7 PM

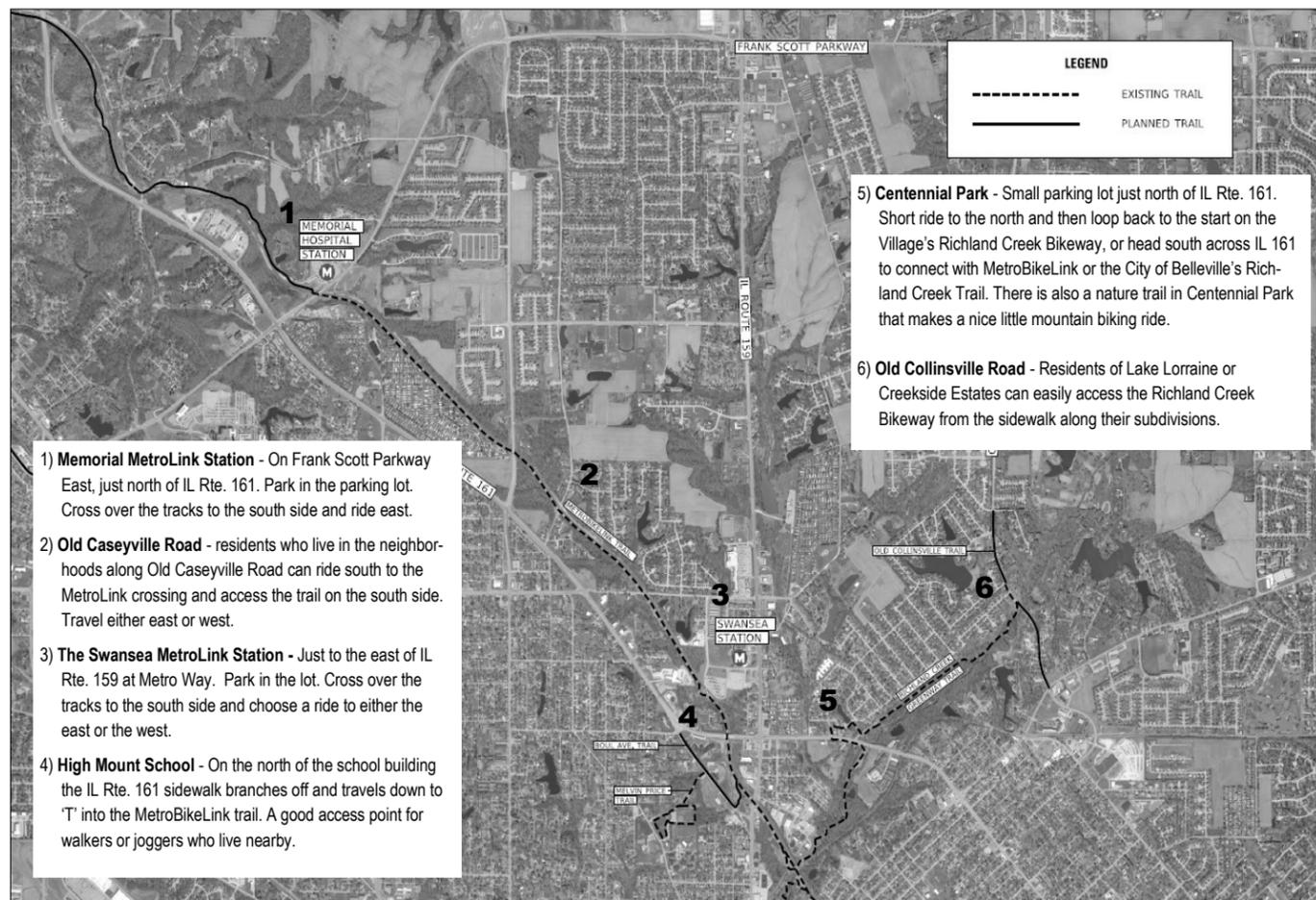


"Lighted Christmas Parade"

Bike Trail System

Continued from front page...as a part of the multi-modal system in St. Clair County. Plans to build on our successful MetroBikeLink trail will only help build access for our residents to our amenities in Southwestern Illinois and further access to transit. As the transit district, we must be able to be responsive to the needs of our community in order to maintain and build transit ridership in IL. Building out the trail system is one of their top priorities and our top priorities."

As the backbone of the St. Clair County trail system, the MetroBikeLink trail basically parallels MetroLink, with other trails extending off of it to connect to parks and neighborhoods. The Metro East Parks & Recreation District's interactive map of the entire trail system in two county regions can be found on their webpage at <http://www.meprd.org/trail-map.html>.



YOUR SWANSEA AREA BANKING TEAM:



Marilyn Rossi Center Manager
Justin Chapman Commercial Lending
Dave Demond Mortgage Lending
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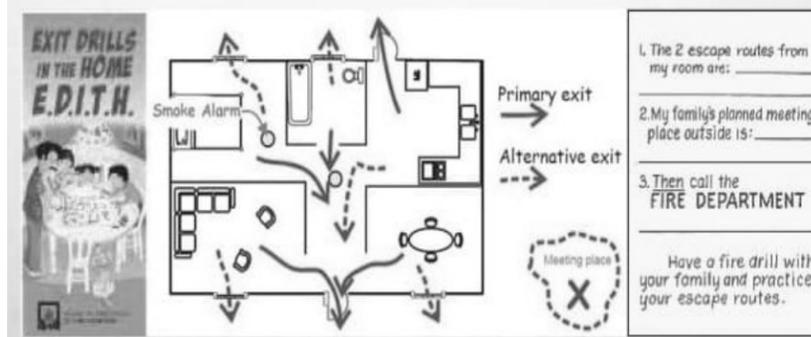
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News Briefs

October 7-13 was Fire Safety Week. Remember E.D.I.T.H.—Exit Drill In The Home. Plan you family's escape route and practice the drill. Check you smoke detectors. Working smoke detectors save lives. Look. Listen. Learn. Check out www.firepreventionweek.org for more fire safety training and tips.

Remember - E. D. I. T. H.



Check out the Swansea Fire Department's Facebook page for fire department news & events, along with fire safety information. Below are pictures of a poll they did regarding if someone slept with the bedroom door open or closed. For the results visit and like the Swansea Fire Department Facebook page.



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
swanadm@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**
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- Trustee Brian McGuire**
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- Trustee Marilyn Neumeyer**
mneumeyer@swanseail.org
- Trustee Stephen Pulley**
spulley@swanseail.org
- Trustee Brian Wells** bwells@swanseail.org

If emailing multiple officials it may be best to also include swanadm@swanseail.org among those email addresses so staff can help coordinate any requested response.

What does it cost to Advertise in the SWANSEA REPORT?

What is it costing you by NOT advertising here?

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