As you are reading this article today, our first block watch has taken place. I have received positive comments about our plan, and have had citizens from other quadrants of the village volunteering to be team leaders when it is their turn to organize. I really appreciate the interest in this program and will keep this at the forefront of future articles.

The administrator of the Village of Swanton recently sent a list of non-operating street lights to Toledo Edison for repair. I would like everyone to know that you can report outages of street lights directly to Toledo Edison via their website, www.firstenergycorp.com, and click on the link for "Report Streetlight Problems". There is a form to complete. Toledo Edison will call you back via a computerized recording to advise you of the repair. Also, residents may call the customer service line at 800.447.3333. Please utilize either of these options for the quickest response.

I often receive requests from Swanton area organizations asking for community project ideas for our local youth. If you are a youth group leader at your church, or represent one of the many service clubs and would like to participate in a planning session for youth oriented service projects, please contact me at 419.826.0335. I will be sending letters next week to all of those whom I have worked with over the past year and see if we can develop a unified effort so that we are addressing all of the possibilities for service and to ensure that we are not all repeating the same projects.

I would also like to kindly ask that when residents wish to address village council on meeting nights, if at all possible, call the village administrator at 419.826.9515 and request to be included on the agenda. Please expect to be asked the subject matter to be discussed. This helps us organize our meeting and better prepare for our session. We would appreciate your request by the Thursday before each Monday evening council meeting, as the agenda is prepared on Friday. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Thank you to all who have shared such kind words and positive comments throughout this first year of my term as your mayor. I appreciate it very much.