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## Swenson News: Swedish-American Newspapers II

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# News from the Swenson Center

## Swedish American Newspapers project

By LISA HUNTSHA, ARCHIVIST/LIBRARIAN OF THE SWENSON SWEDISH IMMIGRATION RESEARCH CENTER

Launched this fall, Swedish American Newspapers is a free, online portal that allows users to explore more than 300,000 pages from 28 different Swedish-American newspaper titles published across the United States. Anyone with internet access can now read how the Swedish-American press covered current events in America and Sweden from 1859-2007. Browse by date of a significant event, by regional area, or use the keyword search.

“The Swedish-American press was a significant part of a vibrant Swedish-American cultural community and is an amazing resource for anyone interested in Swedish-American history,” said Dr. Dag Blanck, director of the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center. “The fact that the newspapers are keyword searchable truly transforms the ways in which the papers can be used,” continued Blanck.

The bilingual web portal also includes

text correction features and annotation tools to help researchers dig deep into the Swedish-language newspapers. Users can add comments and connect with other researchers by using the annotation tool in the portal (indicated by a quotation mark icon). In order to use these features, users must open an account and log in to the website.

Other important features of the portal include the ability to print and copy text. To copy text, select the icon that looks like a clipboard, then draw a box around the text you desire. Please note that there may be errors, and it is best to compare the copied text to the original newspaper image. From here, you can use translation software or save the text in word processing software.

The newspapers portal is a result of a transatlantic project involving libraries, archives, and funding agencies in both

Sweden and the United States and will be of great interest to academic researchers, genealogists, students, or anyone interested in the history of Swedish immigration to North America. The partners in the project include the National Library of Sweden (*Kungliga biblioteket*), Stockholm, Sweden; the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois; the American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, Minnesota; and the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Funding for digitization was provided by the *Riksbankens Jubileumsfond*, the *Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation*, and *Konung Gustaf VI Adolfs fond för svensk kultur*. Funding for online access was provided by the *Marianne and Marcus Wallenberg Foundation*.

[Link on p. 30.](#)

Browsing issues from April 1912 reveals how the Swedish press covered the sinking of the Titanic. From Svenska-Amerikanska Posten, published in Minneapolis, Minnesota.