

Village Of Swansea

1444 BOUL AVENUE
SWANSEA, IL 62226

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

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THE SWANSEA REPORT

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 5

July 2024

Meet the members of the Swansea Park Board on Sat., Sept 14, 2024 from 10am – noon at the Clinton Hill Park Pavilion. Get a chance to share your ideas to improve the parks. Please fill out this survey whether or not you can attend in person. Thanks!

Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7MYJSFG>

The survey will close on Sept 1.



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.



Reminder to check out our website at swanseail.org for information on:

1. When the office is closed
2. Dates for board and committee meetings
3. Building applications
4. Occupancy applications
5. Sewer billing information



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



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.



health markets.

Health | Medicare | Small Group | Life | Supplemental



618-530-0088
Al Saponar
Licensed Insurance Agent

HealthMarkets Insurance Agency is the d/b/a, or assumed name, of Inspire Insurance Solutions, Inc. which is licensed as an insurance agency in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Not all agents are licensed to sell all products. Service and product availability varies by state.

Police and Fire Celebrates 10 Years of Youth Academy

This year's academy was held June 3rd – June 5th. For a decade now the Swansea Police and Fire Departments have been collaborating to host the annual Youth Academy. This year we had 32 attendees. Our teams consisted of 8 cadets on 4 teams, orange, blue, red and green. Our cadets started each day with the Pledge of Allegiance and some physical training in the fire department bay to get their blood pumping. The cadets learned about simunitions, Arch helicopter, vehicle extrications, SWAT team, traffic stop safety, Illinois State Police K9 demonstration, fire department demonstrations and truck tours, and much more. In addition to the events we had in the past, the planning committee made some changes to this year's agenda. Some of the changes made included:

- Grief Awareness
- Chestnut Mental Health Presentation about Vaping/Drugs
- Illinois State Police Crime Scene Processing and fingerprinting

The cadets also got the opportunity to compete in several categories for "best of." This year we gave out 4 awards to the fastest cadet on each team for the Fire Department Obstacle Course, one award for the "Top Shot" for marksmanship, and one award for the best essay. Our cadets bring in canned goods in order to give back to the community as part of an entry to the program, but the academy is free of charge to the cadets. This program is so successful because of the dedication of SRO Marquis Jones, our wonderful presenters, volunteers and families for helping us make this week an unforgettable week for the cadets. We would like to extend a very special thank you to our thoughtful sponsors for their philanthropic donations to the program:

Swansea Schnucks	Classic Towing	Peace By Piece
Rotary Club of Swansea	Country Companies-Corey Stelling	
SFD Ladies Auxillary	SFD Civic Association	FCB Bank
The Sweet Side	Swansea Trustee-Jeff Parker	

Yours in Service,
Fire Chief Christopher Tell
Police Chief Matthew Blomberg

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News Briefs

Govt. Center Closed Thursday, July 4th & September 2nd and Refuse Delayed

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

Important Information

We will also be closed Monday, September 2nd in observance of the Labor Day holiday. Republic Services observes Labor Day as well. **The collection of refuse, recyclables and yard waste will be delayed one day all week.** Monday will be picked up on Tuesday, Tuesday on Wednesday, etc.

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. Copyright by the Village of Swansea, Illinois. Reproduction, or the use, in any manner and without permission, of the content of this publication is prohibited. Mailed free to all addresses within Swansea. 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 — 48 hour notice.

Plumbing inspections require 48 hour notice.

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



July and August Calendars 2024

July

- 1st Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Board Meeting 7 p.m. Government Center
- 4th Happy 4th of July- Government Center Closed
- 9th Planning and Zoning Meeting 6 p.m.
- 11th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Civic Center
- 13th Swansea Park Board Meeting 7 a.m. Norman Lehr Swansea Patriots Meeting 8 a.m. Norman Lehr
- 15th Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Board Meeting 7 p.m. Government Center
- 18th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Center
- 25th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Center



August

- 8th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Civic Center
- 5th Committee Meetings 6 p.m. and Board Meeting 7 p.m. Government Center
- 10th 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. Government Center
- 15th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Center
- 19th Committee Meeting 6 p.m. and Board Meeting 7 p.m. Government Center
- 22nd Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Center
- 29th Swansea Rotary Club 7:30 a.m. Thompson Center



Two Swansea Locations! Come Visit Us!



FulfordHomes
Making Our Homes Yours.



Get detailed information at www.fulfordhomes.com

Contact Us Today...

To preserve this prime ad space... every month if you want.

234-0044

Or email swanadm@swanseail.org

News Briefs

Swansea Police Department to Assist with Metro Security

On May, 27th, the Swansea Police Department began a partnership with the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office to provide dedicated police services to the Swansea Metro Link Station through funding by the St. Clair County Transit District. Officers will provide coverage to the platform and parking lot during the evening and night hours. The agreement with the Transit District is for one year with automatic renewal unless either party wishes to separate from the partnership.



Deputy Chief Keith Howard earns Master's Degree, accepted to FBI National Academy Session 292

Congratulations to Deputy Chief Howard for completing his Master's Degree in Criminal Justice through Lindenwood University.

Deputy Chief Howard was also recently selected to attend Session 292 of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA. The National Academy is a 10-week program for law enforcement executives designed to foster relationships between federal, state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement partners while also providing excellent leadership, management, and wellness instruction through FBI Instructors and adjunct professors with the University of Virginia. Outstanding work DC and we wish you well with your training in Virginia this Fall.



The Village of Swansea declared Juneteenth a holiday on April 4, 2022 and the Government Office was closed Wednesday, June 19th in observance of Juneteenth.

Commemorating Juneteenth: A Day of Reflection and Celebration

Good Morning, Good Afternoon, Good Evening,

I am unsure when you are reading this article but I would like for you to pause and reflect that as I write and you read we both have the freedom to do so. The Village began celebrating this holiday since the election of the First African-American elected official to the Village Board in 2021.

Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, is an annual holiday celebrated in the United States on June 19th to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. The holiday holds significant historical and cultural importance, as it marks the day when the last remaining enslaved individuals in Texas learned of their freedom, two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. Juneteenth is a time for reflection, education, and celebration of African American freedom and achievement.

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring all enslaved individuals in Confederate states to be free. However, the news of this proclamation did not reach all parts of the country immediately, particularly in the remote areas of Texas. It was not until June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas, that the enslaved African Americans in that region were informed of their freedom. This event marked the official end of slavery in the United States and became known as Juneteenth. Significance: Juneteenth serves as a reminder of the struggles and sacrifices made by enslaved African Americans in their pursuit of freedom and equality. It is a day to honor the resilience, strength, and contributions of African Americans to the fabric of American society. The holiday symbolizes the triumph of freedom over oppression and the ongoing quest for justice and equality for all. Celebrations: Juneteenth celebrations often include family gatherings, parades, picnics, music, dancing, and community events that highlight African American culture and heritage. It is a time for storytelling, art, and education about the history of slavery and the journey to emancipation. Many communities also use this day to address social justice issues and advocate for racial equality and equity. Observing Juneteenth serves as an opportunity for all individuals to reflect on the past, acknowledge the continued struggle for racial justice, and commit to creating a more inclusive and equitable society for future generations. Conclusion: Juneteenth is a day to celebrate freedom, honor the legacy of African Americans, and reflect on the challenges and triumphs of the past. By acknowledging and commemorating Juneteenth, we can strive to create a more just and equitable society for all individuals. Let us use this day to learn from history, celebrate the richness of African American culture, and work towards a future where freedom and equality are truly universal. Who knows, if my ancestors from said region did not know of said freedom and previous slave masters and plantation owners were not forced to abide by the law, would I be writing this?

Who knows, if I would be honored to serve as a Trustee in our great Village of Swansea? What we do know for a fact is that The Village of Swansea is heading towards the proper goal post of acknowledging the importance of said holiday and the freedom, equality and equity under the law that it represents.

Village Trustee Cary Lewis V

21st Annual "Service Above Self" 5K Run/Walk



The [Rotary Club of Swansea](#) hosted their 21st Annual "Service Above Self" 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, June 1, 2024, which began and ended at Wolf Branch Elementary School. Despite the light rain, more than 120 participants helped to support the Chad Wood Memorial Scholarship Fund which benefits college scholarship programs for qualifying graduates of area high schools.



"This event is important to our club members because it honors Chad's memory, who was an amazing young man taken from our community too soon," said event organizer and Swansea Rotarian Charlie Pitts. "I appreciate all of our volunteers and participants who came out and helped us make this event a success."

The news of Chad Wood's sudden and unexpected death on Monday morning, May 9, 2005, took the breath away from all of our members. Ray Wood was the Charter President when the Rotary Club of Swansea was formed in 2002. He and his wife, Penny, had been a wonderful friend and supporter of the club. Chad was a fine student, a superb athlete who starred on the Belleville East Lancers football and baseball teams and, most important, was a devoted and loving son to his parents and a wonderful brother to his three siblings: Jennifer, Gretchen and Robert.

At its meeting on May 12, 2005, the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Swansea unanimously voted to donate \$1,000 to the Belleville East High School Athletic Department in Chad's memory and approved a motion to designate our scholarship program, funded by the 5K Run each June, as the Chad Wood Memorial Scholarship Fund. The 2024 recipients of the Chad Wood Memorial Scholarship include three Belleville East High School students: Hannah Webb (no photo available), Madelyn Koch, and Ashley Tyler.

"We are proud to support outstanding students in Swansea, including those who are pursuing college through this scholarship, as well as CAVE students who are pursuing the trade industry through our annual CAVE raffle in the fall," said Club President Ed Henrichs. "Thank you to all of our wonderful event sponsors, as featured on the back of our 5K shirts, for supporting this important program."

Donations can be made to the [Chad Wood Memorial Scholarship Fund](#) by mailing a check to PO Box 23746, Belleville, Illinois 62223, or visiting www.swansearotary.org for online options. Please note "Chad Wood Memorial Scholarship Donation" on the payment.



The "Service Above Self" 5K Run/Walk is held each year on the first Saturday of June, so mark your calendars now for next year's event on Saturday, June 7, 2025!



Construction Projects Planned



Construction projects planned in Swansea this year are summarized below. As you can see, the Village uses a variety of funding sources to maintain and build our infrastructure. Grants help secure additional funds to make our local tax dollars go further.



Project	Description	Schedule	Funding
Clinton Hill Convs Park Loop Trail	10' wide shared use path around park (fully ADA compliant - meaning we flattened slopes to stay within ADA guidelines)	Just finishing!	DCEO
Clinton Hills Convs Park Pickleball Courts	Two (2) Pickleball Courts (located on the northeast side of Fletcher's property)	Just finishing!	ARPA
Sullivan Farm Streets	Patch and overlay	Starts June 2024	MFT
Boul Avenue Trail Phase II	Shared Use Path to IL 159 and Sidewalk south to mobile home park drive	Starts Summer 2024	TAP & TIF
IL 159 Pedestrian Accommodations	Build sidewalk from Boul to IL 161	Either late Fall 2024 or Spring 2025 construction	TIF

Family Retreat In Your Own Backyard

- Jacuzzi hot tubs
- Pacific in-ground pools
- Viking fiberglass pools
- Above-ground pools
- Chemicals and supplies
- Service for pools/hot tubs

Jacuzzi

Munie Leisure Center

4200 N. Illinois • Swansea • 234-8004
2 miles south of St. Clair Mall
munieleisure.com

CORNER STONE DENTAL
General Dentistry For All Ages

Randall E. Wilson, DDS
Lauren B. Wilson, DMD

618-236-0501
4121 Old Collinsville Rd. • Swansea, IL 62226
www.cornerstonedentistry.net

Safety Tips for the 4th of July

- Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water/hose nearby in case of accidents.**
- Designate a safety perimeter.** If you have ground-based fireworks like a fountain, spectating from at least 35 feet away is best. For aerial fireworks, you'll want everyone to move back to a distance of around 150 feet.
- Ditch faulty fireworks.** Sometimes fireworks don't go off, but duds always pose a risk. The important thing to know is that you should never try to relight or approach a failed firework. Let the duds sit for 5 -10 minutes before you put them in a bucket of water. This can prevent injury from a delayed explosion and disarm the firework permanently so you can safely dispose of it.
- Supervise children when they are handling sparklers.** Sparklers burn at about 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit—hot enough to melt some metals. Sparklers can quickly ignite clothing, and children have received severe burns from dropping sparklers on their feet or touching body parts.
- Don't forget about your pets!** Fireworks can be extremely stressful for pets, but there are ways to help reduce their fear and anxiety. Keep your pets indoors.
- Soak both used and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding.**
- Never place a part of your body directly over a firework or hold a firework in your hand when lighting.** To safely light fireworks, make sure they are secured on the ground away from people and animals, and use a stem lighter such as a grill lighter.
- Only light one firework at a time.** Lighting multiple fireworks at the same time increases the risk of accidents occurring from the fuse burning faster than designed.
- Avoid alcohol consumption when handling or using fireworks.** This should be pretty self-explanatory.
- Consider safe alternatives to fireworks such as party poppers, bubbles, silly string, or glow sticks.**

In addition to these tips, follow all manufacturer's consumer safety guidelines and consult your state and local laws, as private firework usage may be restricted in your area.

Have a safe and wonderful 4th of July!



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

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

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

BELLEVEGAS BINGO
517 South Illinois
Belleville, IL 62220
(618)234-0388/ bellevegasbin-go.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 First Responders!**



Dilapidated Homes

We want Swansea to look nice. If you see a dilapidated home, please call the Government Office 618-234-0044 or email swanadmn@swanseail.org to report the address so we can send code enforcement out. It does take time get the issue resolved, but reporting it is the first step to making Swansea look nice.

Memorial Day Celebration

The 36th annual Village of Swansea Parks Memorial Day Ceremony was a resounding success, held on a beautiful day that saw a wonderful turnout from our community. Veterans from various branches of the armed forces were in attendance, proudly representing their service and honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

The highlight of the event was a moving speech by our guest speaker, retired Air Force Colonel Scot Heathman. His words resonated deeply with all present, reminding us of the profound significance of Memorial Day. After the ceremony, attendees stayed around to enjoy each other's company, socializing over hot dogs, chips, and cookies. The event was a touching tribute to our fallen heroes, and the presence of so many community members and veterans made it truly special. A heartfelt thank you to all who attended and made the day memorable.

Mr. Jeremiah "Scot" Heathman is a retired Air Force Colonel with over 25 years of junior and senior leadership, management, staff, and command experience. Scot is a highly decorated, seasoned combat officer, and a former instructor pilot in the KC-135 and C-17. He is also a well-respected and inspiring leader, best known for his servant-leader style. Scot most recently served as the Deputy Commander, 18th Air Force and Commander, 375th Air Mobility Wing at Scott AFB where he was responsible for the entire installation. Scot's served and commanded at various other levels to include: the Joint Staff at the Pentagon, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, and numerous wings and squadrons throughout the Air Force. Scot lives in Shiloh, Illinois with his wife and son where he enjoys spending time with them as well as traveling, movies, sports, and all things Star Wars.

Special Thanks To The Following:

- Mayor Mike Leopold
- Thanks to the Cub Scouts for putting out the flags
- Steve Pulley, POW/MIA USAF Retired
- Mike Koeneman, Chairman
- Village of Swansea Park Board
- Swansea Administrative Office Staff
- Swansea Fire Department
- Swansea Police Department
- Swansea Public Works Department
- John Lowe, Chaplain



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

PICKLEBALL COURT RULES

- Please limit singles to 1 hour and 1.5 hours for doubles.
- Courts are open during regular park hours:
- 6:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M. from April 1st through October 31st and 7:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. from November 1st through March 31st.
- Children under the age of 12 must be supervised by an adult.
- Do not abuse nets or equipment. Misuse is fineable.



NOT ALLOWED ON COURT

- Smoking/Vaping
- Intoxicating Beverages
- Glass Bottles
- Pets
- Bicycles, Skateboards, Scooters, Rollerblades
- Hard or Black sole shoes

Report issues to: swanadmn@swanseail.org or 618-234-0044
 Swansea Police Non-Emergency 618-233-8114

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



Swansea Rotary Donates \$15,700 to the St. Clair County Child Advocacy Center

Donations were raised during the paddle raise at the Club's Rotary Round Up event

Swansea, Illinois, April 10, 2024 - During a recent meeting, the [Rotary Club of Swansea](#) donated \$15,700 to the [St. Clair County Child Advocacy Center](#) (CAC), a nonprofit organization that provides a safe, child-friendly environment for conducting forensic interviews, support for the children and their families and counseling. The donation was made possible thanks to the generosity of those who contributed during the paddle raise of the Rotary Club's annual dinner fundraiser, [Rotary Round Up](#).

"On behalf of our Rotarians, I would like to thank everyone who supported our annual fundraiser, Rotary Round Up, which enabled us to make such a generous donation," said Swansea Rotary Club President Ed Henrichs. "This donation will serve our community's most vulnerable population, our at-risk youth, by helping to provide each of them comfort on their challenging journey."

The CAC assists with investigations of sexual and serious physical abuse of children, as well as with interviews of children who have witnessed violent crimes. They work to reduce the number times a child has to repeat details of the incident, thus minimizing the trauma a child experiences through re-telling their story. One of their special volunteers, a black Labrador named Homer, is also an honorary Swansea Rotarian and attends Club meetings with his father, Swansea Rotarian Jeff Parker. Homer accompanies children in their interviews and sometimes, even their court proceedings.

"We are extremely grateful to the Swansea Rotary for choosing the CAC to receive the proceeds from the paddle raise. I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the Rotary Round Up attendees," said Carolyn Hubler, CAC Executive Director. "While our funding allows us to provide core services for our families, other needs are often unable to be met. This funding will allow us to help children maintain normal activities and provide for emergency needs thereby relieving some of the pressures on caregivers during this difficult time. Sometimes normal activities which provide structure and routine for children are stopped due to lack of funding in times of trauma. This funding will allow us to provide for these needs."

Members of Swansea Rotary meet weekly at the Thompson center in Mel Price Park and guests are always welcome to attend to learn more about the Rotary mission to provide service to others, promote integrity and advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through our fellowship of business, professional and community leaders. For additional information please visit the Swansea Rotary Club website at www.swansearotary.org or email info@swansearotary.org



About Rotary

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.4 million members of more than 46,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work improves lives at both the local and international levels, from helping those in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. For more information, visit Rotary.org. To find a club near you visit <https://my.rotary.org/en/club-search>.



Swansea Rotary

Media Contact:
Natalie Jablonski



Swansea Rotary Presents Four CAVE Educational Awards A total of \$4,000 was awarded to help further the students trade careers and training.

The Rotary Club of Swansea presented financial educational awards to four Center for Academic & Vocational Excellence (CAVE) District 201 graduating seniors on May 23. A total of \$4,000 was awarded to help further the students in their future trade careers and continued training. Funds were raised by the Club through a [ticket raffle held in Fall 2023](#).

Here's the names of everyone in that photo, left to right:

Jacob Strausbaugh, BTHS District 201 CAVE
Jeff Taylor, Rotary District 6510 Assistant Governor
Chris Lyons, Rotary District 6510 District Governor
Alex Prost, CAVE Student Award Recipient
Aric Black, CAVE Student Award Recipient
Konor Nussbaum, CAVE Student Award Recipient
Hannah Dorris, CAVE Student Award Recipient
Ed Henrichs, Swansea Rotary Club President
Mike Leopold, Mayor of Swansea
Matt Blomberg, Swansea Chief of Police



The School District 201 Center for Academic & Vocational Excellence (CAVE) Program offers vocational programs in welding, carpentry, culinary arts, automotive and machining. The program is also designed to address the physical, emotional, social and intellectual needs of at-risk students in order to successfully transition back to Belleville East or West High School, on to college or a career. Indoor athletic and band areas are included in the facility. Future programs include early childhood education, advanced technology training, healthcare and certified nursing assistants. The 10,000 square foot building was formerly known as Kings Point and located at 7645 Magna Drive in Belleville.

"The Rotary Club of Swansea extends our congratulations to all the students and wish them success in their future careers," said Swansea Rotary Club President Ed Henrichs. "In addition, the Club would like to thank all of the friends, family, and Swansea residents who purchased raffle tickets which funded this award program. We look forward to your continued support this fall for our 3rd Annual Swansea Rotary Raffle benefiting CAVE Education Awards."

For more information on how you can become involved in Rotary visit www.swansearotary.org and be sure to follow facebook.com/SwanseaRotary to learn more about the exciting things happening in our community!

About Rotary

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.4 million members of more than 46,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work improves lives at both the local and international levels, from helping those in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. For more information, visit Rotary.org. To find a club near you visit <https://my.rotary.org/en/club-search>.

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