

Spring seems to be the busiest time of year, from yard cleanup and landscaping to remodeling projects. Our schools are having awards programs and special activities to bring completion to another year. A new soccer season has begun, along with all the summer recreational activities, and hopefully, you have a plan for a summer vacation!

I will be attending the academic awards program this evening at the Swanton Middle School. I have never attended this particular program yet, so I know I will meet additional students and parents tonight and I value the opportunities to participate in our school's programs. Last Wednesday, I served as a community teacher for "JA in a Day". This is an all day course for 7<sup>th</sup> graders centered on discovering your skills, interests, and values and how determining these qualities in yourself can guide you in your choices of education and a career field. There were seven local business people teaching budgeting, taxes, credit, and insurance as part of this curriculum. The kids were receptive and cooperative the whole day. It was a valuable day and I look forward to teaching again next year.

On Saturday, the local Swanton Fire Dept. and Police Dept. hosted their second annual Public Safety Day at the Swanton Fire Station. There were many demonstrations regarding fire safety, an active fire for the kids to hose down, a special fire trailer demonstrating fire evacuations and guidelines, and hot dogs and popcorn for everyone. Also on display was the piece of iron beam from the World Trade Center that will soon be kept in a memorial at the Fulton County Fairgrounds. Our Police Dept. did child fingerprinting and had much information available regarding block watch, identity theft, and credit theft. I hope everyone enjoyed their visit.

The annual village wide trash clean up was also on Saturday. Two large dumpsters were filled. In the past several years, the village has had two of these Saturdays, one in spring, one in fall. However, there has been discussion to hold a third one this summer, as it appears that we could use another chance between the two. We typically publish the dates in the classified section of the Enterprise and on water bills. We will attempt to make the announcement further ahead next time, and it will be posted on the village sign board on Chestnut St. as well.

Memorial Day Festivities will begin at the VFW Hall on S. Main St. with a breakfast at 8:30. The parade will begin at 10:30, with the line up at Crestwood School starting at 10:00. The American Legion folks tell me it will be a larger parade than in the past as they will have their ladies auxiliary marching for the first time since the 1980's. Everyone who is in town should come uptown and pay tribute to our veterans and their families by attending the parade and the ceremonies held at the doughboy statue in Memorial Park. It will be your opportunity to honor and remember those whom have sacrificed so much for our freedoms. After the ceremonies in Memorial Park, we will go to the American Legion for a lunch. It promises to be a special day. Please join us.