



August 5, 2019

Dear Residents:

As I meet new people and tell them that I am from Westphalia, it is amazing how many positive comments I receive about our village. People often comment about how our village is so neat and clean. They also tend to mention the quality of our local schools and the success of the P-W athletic teams. Then they often ask... *How do you guys do it?* Although I know there are many factors that make our village and local schools so special, I generally try to briefly explain my point-of-view as follows.

Regarding the “neat and clean” appearance of our village, I explain that although we do have local ordinances to ensure properties are kept up properly, very seldom do we need to enforce them. Our residents voluntarily keep their properties in great shape which makes the whole village look so good. When it comes to the village infrastructure, our DPW does an outstanding job of keeping streets swept and everything else looking good. I also mention that although we have more diverse population today, we still pull from our German heritage and take pride when it comes to maintaining our properties.

When I speak to the quality and successes of our local schools, there are so many factors involved it is not easy to condense them into a few sentences. Things such as the high quality of teachers, administrators, coaches, etc., are all very important. However, I also think the quality and success of our local schools has a lot to do with the intelligence, work ethic and dedication of the students themselves. In addition, parental involvement and support of the education process in our area is exemplary. This “hands-on” approach and the fact that we have such close-knit communities makes a huge difference in the success of our local students. We all have a lot to be very proud of when it comes to our local village and schools. Thank you to all that make this possible.

The latest Water Quality Report has been released. Although some of the terminology used in the report is a bit foreign to most of us, what it does point out is that we have exceptionally high-quality water here in the Village. If you have not received a copy, you can review one at the Municipal Office.

The *Clinton County Free for Fall Event* is scheduled for September 14 from 8:00-1:00 at the Granger facility at 16980 Wood Road in Lansing. This event is offered to Clinton County residents to safely dispose of household hazardous waste and electronics. They also accept recyclables. For more information contact Clinton County Waste Management at 989-224-5186, online at www-clinton-county.org or email them at recycle@clinton-county.org.

Summer is winding down, so be sure to get out and enjoy the warm weather before the beautiful fall season arrives.

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President
Village of Westphalia