



September 1, 2015

Dear Residents,

We have fielded several complaints about the speed of traffic entering and leaving the Village and I have witnessed the problem personally. Vehicles traveling at speeds of 40, 50 or even 60 miles per hour as they pass by the village limit signs is not uncommon. This creates a potentially dangerous situation, especially with the new school year starting and children crossing the streets more often.

I actually clocked how long it takes to get from the Village limit signs to the stop light downtown when driving 25 miles per hour. It literally takes only about **one minute** to cover that distance when driving the posted speed limit. Please take an extra few seconds and abide by the speed limit for the sake of everyone's safety.

To assist in this effort, I requested the Clinton County Sheriff's Office place a radar speed sign on the outskirts of town to make drivers more aware of their speed as they come into the Village. Hopefully the sign will serve as an effective tool to remind people to slow down. If the problem persists, we will be forced to ask the Sheriff's Office to monitor the situation more closely and issue citations if necessary. Please share this information with others as we strive to ensure the safety of all, especially our school children.

The Westphalia Historical Society is having a Cemetery Walk on September 13th (rain date is September 20<sup>th</sup>) starting at 2:00 p.m. at the St. Mary's Cemetery. At the gravesites of some of our most memorable ancestors, local citizens in vintage clothing will portray and give a short talk about that person. Admission is free (donations will gladly be accepted) and light refreshments will be served. This promises to be an interesting, informative and fun event just as it was last year.

The Historical Society and Knights of Columbus have teamed up and will be hosting an Oktoberfest Celebration to be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is awesome to see these two great organizations working together on an event that brings members of our community and outside visitors together to celebrate our wonderful German heritage. Much thanks to the Historical Society and Knights of Columbus for adding so much to the "fabric" of our community. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Westphalia is on one of the routes for the DALMAC bicycling tour from East Lansing to Northern Michigan. Cyclist will be passing through the Village on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and will likely be stopping at local businesses for refreshments and Droste Park for rest and relaxation. This is yet another great way to showcase our wonderful Village and support our local businesses. We welcome the DALMAC riders and wish them a safe journey.

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President  
Village of Westphalia