



April 9, 2018

Dear Residents:

We continue to work with the USPS on various issues and concerns regarding our local Post Office. The USPS has decided to conduct a full examination of our Post Office operations. The examination will include a thorough analysis of the current practices, while looking for potential options to address our concerns. It will also involve an analysis of carrier routes and costs. A full examination takes a fair amount of effort and time, so as always, your patience is greatly appreciated. Also, to ensure that only the most accurate information is communicated, we will wait for official responses from USPS authorities before disseminating decisive information.

There are a couple of items I can address at this time... 1) We have not been able to identify an era when there was a general mail delivery service to individual residences within the Village. 2) Village Ordinance 140 of 1999 prohibits the placement of personal property within the Village street right-of-way. The ordinance is **not** the reason we do not have residential mail delivery in town. The only "mailboxes" affected by the ordinance were for newspaper deliveries. 3) Our new permanent Postmaster is here! Mr. Michael Riley comes to us from the Webberville Post Office and I ask you to join me in giving Michael a warm welcome to our community. 4) Please be reminded that it is **very important** to get your PO Box number on all your mail and packages.

The PW Girls basketball team came within one game of making their second consecutive appearance in the state finals. The team suffered their only loss of the season to eventual state champion Detroit Edison. Congratulations to the girls and coach Steve Eklund on a tremendous season. If you get the chance, check out the March 20, 2018 article in the Ionia Sentinel Standard written by Jeannie Gregory entitled "*It's why you play the game.*" In the article Ms. Gregory talks about the life lessons that can be learned through sports. She talks about winning graciously, losing with class, learning to be part of a team, not quitting when the going gets tough, working hard to accomplish a common goal and dealing with disappointment. She tells how athletes learn discipline, how to follow instructions and how to respect a leader, coach, teammate and opponent. In the last half of the article, Ms. Gregory describes how the PW girls basketball team exemplified all these wonderful attributes. It was great to see what we already know acknowledged by the media. Thank you to the girls and coaches for making us all proud in so many ways.

We were all deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Tonya and Jim Platte as the result of an auto accident. As we come together to support the family and friends of Tonya and Jim, we ask for your special thoughts and prayers for their children Halie, Hayden, and Reece. It seems as though we have had more than our share of unexpected loss of loved ones in our area lately, but we can be thankful for the blessing of having a community that truly unites in times of need. Thank you to all who make this blessing a reality by their actions.

April showers bring May flowers... think Spring!

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President
Village of Westphalia