



October 7, 2019

Dear Residents:

The St. Mary's Parish school construction project is nearing completion. It is anticipated that the new cafeteria, expanded kitchen, tutoring rooms and storage area will be ready for use by late November or early December. These needed improvements were made possible by the generosity of many parishioners who contributed to the *Witness to Hope Campaign*.

In collaboration with the new construction, the Village is working to partner with St. Mary's Parish on a project to renovate the section of Elm Street directly north of the school. The street is closed to traffic and used by St. Mary's School as a play area for students during recesses and lunch hours. The street is in need of repair and the hope is to replace the asphalt and add curbing to help alleviate water run-off onto the playground area.

We have also partnered with St. Mary's to improve the grassy areas of the playground. In addition to being a playground during school days, the area is also used for youth programs within our community. The Village donated the screened topsoil from the compost pile to topcoat the area and then new grass was planted. This should provide a softer and safer playing area for our youth.

We truly appreciate the great working relationship we have with St. Mary's Parish. Working cooperatively together we are able to accomplish great things in a very efficient manner. Thank you to St. Mary's Parish for all they add to our community.

The Westphalia Historical Society sponsored their annual cemetery walk on September 22nd. It was once again a great success with approximately 430 people attending. Thank you to the Historical Society for all their work in putting on such a great educational event.

On August 28th, Skylar Lasby, a junior high football player from Saranac, collapsed during practice. Tragically, Skylar later died from a non-sports related heart condition. On September 6th, the P-W varsity football team hosted Saranac. At the game a moment of silence was observed to honor Skylar and to offer a prayer for him and his family. During the first half of the game a collection was taken from the P-W fans to help the Lasby family with expenses related to Skylars' passing. The amount collected, in addition to the contribution from the 50/50 raffle, was over \$2,000. What a great reflection of the generosity we have here in our local communities to help a family in need that is going through such a difficult time. Please keep Skylar and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Halloween trick-or-treat hours are 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. again this year. Please use extra caution during this time.

Be sure to get out and enjoy the beautiful fall colors we are so blessed to witness this time of the year.

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President
Village of Westphalia