



January 8, 2018

Dear Residents:

As we welcome in 2018, it is good to look back on the many positive things that happened within the Village in 2017. There is not enough room to acknowledge them all, but here are just a few...

Events: It was once again a great year for local events in 2017. The 13th Annual Westphalia Cruise-In car show in June was a big success and again ranks as one of the biggest and best in the entire state. July brought the annual St. Mary Parish festival with all its family fun and camaraderie. The Cemetery Walk in September taught us more about many of our most memorable ancestors. December brought the Christmas Light Parade and the lighting of the Christmas tree which was a great family event for all to enjoy. Much thanks to all the organizations and individuals who make these gatherings possible. Special acknowledgement goes out to the Westphalia Historical Society, as they played a major role in many of these wonderful community events.

Accomplishes: 2017 also proved to be a very good year for local accomplishments. As always, our DPW did an outstanding job of being proactive in maintaining and improving the Village infrastructure. The Village was selected to receive a state grant which pays 90% of the cost of cleaning, mapping and evaluating the condition/capacity of our water and sewer systems. Our excellent school systems continue to receive many accolades in recognition of their academic and athletic accomplishments. PW was named the 20th best high school in Michigan by the U.S. News and World Report and the football team won their second consecutive state championship. Our young people are certainly a great source of pride for our community and they continue to be a wonderful reflection of our values. Thank you to St. Mary's, St. Joseph's and PW Community Schools for continuing to provide such a great environment for our young people to learn and grow.

Improvements: The new headquarters for Pung Foundation was completed at the former Westphalia Auto Salvage property and it looks fantastic. The in-ground fuel tanks located near that same property were also removed in an environmentally safe manner. Renovations to the apartment building located behind the recently removed Crystal Flash building look great, as does the new paint on AHC building. Improvements to both the interior and exterior of the Ark turned out awesome. Last but certainly not least, the opening of Fabiano's Pizzeria. The preservation of the building's historical detail, coupled with the addition of yet another fantastic food/banquet option, make this one of the most exciting new businesses to open in our area in quite some time. All of these improvements help to make our already beautiful Village look even better.

Many thanks to the DPW, Village Council, Village Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation Board, St. Mary's Parish & School, PW Schools, Historical Society, local businesses and the many other local organizations and individuals that do so much to make our Village so special. And of course, a special thanks to all of our residents who continue to make Westphalia the unique place we get to call "home".

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President
Village of Westphalia