



December 7, 2015

Dear Residents,

Congratulations to the P-W Pirate football team on an excellent season which saw them advance all the way to the state championship game at Ford Field in Detroit. The Ishpeming team they faced proved to be a formidable opponent and the Pirates fell 22-16 in a hard fought contest. The football teams appearance in the state finals, coupled with the P-W girls track team's state championship earlier this year, shows that we have some very talented student athletes here in our communities.

There were many things to be impressed with regarding the football team's season and their journey to the state finals. One that made me very proud was the sportsmanship and class that the players, coaches and fans demonstrated throughout the season. Another was the number of PW fans that came out to support the team week in and week out. The game in Fenton against Detroit Loyola was played in nothing less than a blizzard and yet the Pirate supporters were there in full force. What a great reflection on our communities that we support our teams with such passion and yet are able to keep things in the proper perspective. As the state championship game came to a close, the entire PW crowd rose to their feet to not only acknowledge the accomplishments of the PW football team, but also to congratulate the Ishpeming team on their hard fought victory. That is real definition of a winner.

The Christmas parade and tree lighting were a great success! What a special evening with friends and neighbors gathering to see all the great floats, listen to the beautiful Christmas music performed by our excellent PW Marching band, sing a few carols, watch the lighting of the beautiful Christmas tree and enjoy each other's company. St. Nicholas even made a special appearance coming in on a horse-drawn carriage! As I've said before, it's events like this that really make our community so special. Thanks again to the Westphalia Historical Society for all their work to bring yet another wonderful event to our community for all to enjoy.

At the November Planning Commission meeting, Gerry Schneider presented his resignation due to new priorities in his work schedule. I would like to personally thank Gerry for his over 15 years of service to the Village as a member of the Planning Commission. Gerry was always willing to state his point of view and offer an alternative perspective on many issues. This helped the Planning Commission to reach many valuable conclusions, the results of which we continue to benefit from today. Gerry also coordinated the parking for the Westphalia Cruise-In which is no small feat. We have often heard from Cruise-In participants that Westphalia's is one of the best organized car shows in the area, especially when it comes to event parking. Thank you Gerry for your great service to the community.

Lastly, I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President
Village of Westphalia