

November 5, 2012

Dear Residents:

By the time you read this, the elections will have come and gone. I will not miss the bombardment of political advertising directed at voters leading up to an election. However, having the right to vote is a privilege, honor, and civic responsibility. I hope that you all exercised your right to vote.

I would like to thank those who voted for me for Village President, and unless there was a large write-in vote, I am most likely here for another two years. It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve in this capacity. The knowledge, dedication, and hard work of the Council, Commissions, DPW, and support staff, make the challenges of this position very manageable.

You may have noticed that several trees at Droste Park appear to be dying. Unfortunately, this is true. The emerald ash borer found its way to the park. The diseased ash trees will be removed which will change the look of the park somewhat. However, I am pleased to acknowledge the Parks & Recreation Commission for their proactive approach to this problem. Special thanks go out to Chairperson Roy Miller for personally planting many new trees in the park over the last several years in anticipation of a potential infestation of the emerald ash borer. These new trees have been well cared for and are primed to replace the ones we have lost, keeping our park beautiful for years to come.

You may have also noticed the improvements at the car wash. Owner Mike Wood replaced the concrete around the building and it looks great! It was done in coordination with the Village's resurfacing project on Church Street. This is another good example of the Village and a local business communicating and working together for the betterment of both parties. On behalf of the Village, I would like to thank Mike for making the investment in our community.

Lastly, with the Thanksgiving holiday coming up, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. I hope that you have much to be thankful for, and ask that you keep those that may be going through challenging times, in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President
Village of Westphalia