



September 3, 2019

Dear Residents:

I have talked in the past about how fortunate we are to have an active Historical Society here in Westphalia. Both the historical information they provide and recreational events they sponsor – such as the Cemetery Walk and the Holiday Light Parade – really enhance the fabric of our community. All members of the Westphalia Historical Society (WHS) deserve credit. However, one person has really stepped forward to help make this organization so successful and that person is Leo Pohl. In addition to spearheading WHS events, Leo writes articles for the newsletter and opens the museum for special visits and serves as President of the organization. Many thanks to Leo and the WHS members for all you do to make Westphalia such a special place. If you have not seen the current wedding exhibit, do yourself a favor and check it out - it is outstanding! The exhibit closes on November 6<sup>th</sup> so don't delay. Please consider joining this fun and informative organization – they are always looking to add new members.

Speaking of the Cemetery Walk – mark your calendars! The 5<sup>th</sup> Cemetery Walk will be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the St. Mary's Cemetery. Local citizens, most often a relative of the person they are representing, will present fascinating historical information on some of our most memorable ancestors. Highlighted this year will be Louis Bertram, Leo Gross, Johann Pohl, Isidore Schmitt and Caroline Wirth. Admission is free (donations are accepted) and refreshments will be served. As always, this promises to be an interesting, informative and fun event. See the WHS Web site for more information <https://westphaliahistory.weebly.com/>. Thanks again to the WHS for continuing to educate us on our rich heritage.

The annual Marian Procession took place on August 21<sup>st</sup>. This event focuses on giving thanks for the many blessings granted to us here in Westphalia and asks that we continue to be blessed. Many thanks to Father Eric for leading the procession through town. It was a very inspirational evening and we thank all who continue to pray for the success and welfare of our wonderful Village.

The Village has replaced its 1975 dump truck with 2008 model that will serve the requirements needed much more effectively and efficiently than the old truck. Thank you to the DPW for their exhaustive search to find a truck that would fulfill the Village needs at a very reasonable price.

With Labor Day behind us, summer is drawing to a close. It also means school is back in session and children will be crossing the streets more often. The construction project at St. Mary's School will require drop-off of the children on Westphalia Street. With this in mind, please drive with extra caution, especially during the times and areas where the children are most present.

Sincerely,

Dean Kohagen, President  
Village of Westphalia