



www.westphaliahistory.weebly.com

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Building & WHS News

Meetings are Back

Our meetings started back up in March and will continue through to the early winter.

They are the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in our building. Come join us! You need not be a member.

Coming Up in our Building:

July 3 – Sunday - Museum Open 1-4 PM

July 19 – Tuesday – Monthly Meeting

July 20 – Wednesday – Museum Open 5-8 PM

August 7 – Sunday – Museum Open 1-4 PM

August 16 – Tuesday – Monthly Meeting

August 17 – Wednesday–Museum Open 5-8 PM

See our article on the upcoming Cemetery Walk and add that date to your calendar too!



WESTPHALIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Museum News: We're Now Open

This year's display is now up and running. Steve Hanses with the help of his son Kyle, Warren Hengesbach, Bernie and Walt Thelen and others have worked hard to put together this showcase of sports in the area. They did a phenomenal job.

Do not miss the opportunity to see soap box derby cars of yesteryear and memorabilia from baseball, basketball, bowling, football, boxing, track and more. Prepare yourself for a fun day or evening. Not only is the museum loaded with sports items, but the scrapbooks and accompanying stories are highly entertaining as well.

Our hours are the first Sunday of the month 1 to 4pm and the third Wednesday of the month from 5 to 8 pm. *Also, if you have family in town, or just want to get together with friends we'd be happy to set up a private showing for you and your group.*

Want to Know More About Your Family's History?

You may remember reading about Genealogy Saturdays in our winter newsletters (or maybe you were one of many to stop in) well Judy Thelen is offering her help again this summer. What does that mean? We have lots of family trees and other helpful books, BUT how do you know where to start....enter JUDY! Judy has run sessions on genealogy to help interested people get started on their searches. She enjoys connecting the dots to family roots and is happy to help you out on this.

Judy plans on being available on the Sunday afternoons the museum is open. She is also available by appointment to help people find their genealogy roots with our library of Family books. Thank you, Judy!



CEMETERY WALK – September 18

Plans are falling into place for our Cemetery Walk on September 18. We have a rain date of September 25.

This year we will feature the following people:

- Margrethe Huhn, Kloeckner Cook Naumes: Grandmother of Evelyn Weiland. She was married 3 times and was the mother of 24 children, 8 were her own.
- Leonard Thelen was a local baseball player and one of the Thelen brothers.
- Big Jim Pung was a colorful local area farmer.
- Greg and Maybelle Thelen were a local area Musical Duo.
- Rose Willems, the wife of John B. Spitzley, was a WWI Army nurse in France.

What's a Cemetery Walk?

We're so used to doing these that we forget some people may not know how it works.

- We begin at a central point in St. Mary's Cemetery. After a greeting, the large group splits into five smaller groups and is led by a docent to one of the grave sites. Rest assured, if you follow your group, you'll get to hear all the speakers!
- At each grave site, the speaker (often a descendant) reads aloud details and stories from "their" life. They are dressed like the deceased and have artifacts from their life set up at the grave site.
- Once done, the group moves *together* on to the next grave site and listens to the next speaker. This continues until all groups have been to each of the grave sites and has heard each of the speakers.
- Light refreshments and socializing commence afterwards.

WESTPHALIA CRUISE IN & WESTPHALIA AREA GARAGE SALES

The Westphalia Area Garage Sale WHS Bake Sale was again very successful. If you don't know, each year Portland Federal Credit Union's Westphalia branch allows us to set up shop in the lobby. Volunteers bring in cookies, maple syrup, bread, pies and much more for us to sell. Thanks to everyone who supported or bought from our bake sale! In addition to our sales that day, Portland Federal Credit Union presented us with a check for \$250.00. The credit union has always been very supportive of us. A BIG Thank You again, PFCU.

Once again Dave Boswell and crew along with our Village Maintenance Department did a great job putting on the cruise in! The historical society would like to thank all of the workers and businesses for putting together a show that can't be beat. There were 1137 cars estimated to be on display – it was a great trip down memory lane! Plain and simple it was great cars, great food, great weather, good friends a perfectly good time. Thanks to all who contributed their time and talents to help make this fun family event happen for our little historical community.

BUS TRIP TO SHIPSHEWANA – OCTOBER 11

- Round-trip transportation via deluxe motor coach (departs Westphalia 7:30 AM and returns at 8:30 PM)
- Family style lunch at the Blue Gate Restaurant.
- Live performance of the musical *Dear Soldier Boy at Blue Gate Theater*.
- Time to shop in the downtown and E & S Sales (bulk food store).
- All taxes and tips included.
- \$100.00 per person
- Deadline September 14, 2022

Please contact Chris Piggott for more information 989.587.6558

Please mail to PO Box 163, Westphalia MI 48894 or drop off at 420 N. Westphalia St., Westphalia

First and Last Name (please print): _____

Email address or telephone number: _____