



seem that there is light at the end of the tunnel, and we will soon see the fruits of their generosity.

After a visit to St. Stephen Cemetery, Ron and Anne decided that they would like to offer help to remedy some issues they observed at the cemetery. First and foremost, they wanted a United States flag to be erected in the cemetery, with a monument honoring their parents, in whose name this gift was made. They noticed that the placement of the dumpster was unsightly, and it invited people to use it indiscriminately to dump their personal garbage. At their suggestion we have moved the dumpster to the rear of the cemetery and very soon it will be enclosed with a fence to make it look more appealing and to hopefully deter further public dumping. Also, they noted the many stones that had fallen during the years due to the freezing and thawing of the ground, as well as many overgrown trees, saplings, and bushes and some of their gift will be used to start those repairs.

During a meeting with Father Murphy, the suggestion of a prayer garden or a gathering spot to allow families to gather for committal services at the cemetery was made. With the help of architect Bruce Sekanick and landscaper Tom Fricker, initial plans were submitted and on Friday, September 9, the cemetery committee met with Ron and Anne to discuss any additional suggestions they had before proceeding.

Ron and Anne want you to know that their gift was unsolicited...they saw a need and offered to help. They invite anyone else who is able and interested to follow their lead and help us bring St. Stephen Cemetery back to a place of honor and respect for our beloved family members who have gone before us. You can see the improvements we have been trying to make and with your help we can continue to transform our cemetery into a place to be proud of! If you are willing to offer financial assistance, please contact the parish office. If you have extended family and friends who would be able to offer a gift, kindly let them know of our need.

Finally, we can never thank Ron and Anne enough for their overwhelmingly generous gift. They are the products of their good raising, and we are sure their loved ones are smiling down upon them with heartfelt pride for this beautiful and lasting tribute to their memory. May God continue to bless them for their good deeds, and may they be an inspiration to all of us to do good whenever we have the opportunity.