



The Villager

The Newsletter for the Village of Pinckney
220 S. Howell Street, Pinckney, MI 48169

From the desk of Rebecca Foster, Village President

Greetings from Village Hall! While 2008 was a tough year, the Village of Pinckney had many positive – or at least, interesting – accomplishments throughout the year.

The eyesore that was the former Patterson Lake Products complex is gone, gone, gone. We kept a pole building and shed at the Patterson Lake Products property for a new DPW location. After some required upgrades to the building, we will be able to house the workshop and store vehicles, equipment and supplies.

I get asked often about the “Boardwalk to Nowhere” near the Rite Aid. The state Department of Natural Resources came up with the boardwalk requirement, and yes, there is supposed to be sidewalk connected to it. Next time you’re in Rite Aid, tell them you sure are looking forward to that sidewalk!

A huge thanks to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Decorating Committee for the awesome holiday lights and banners! Contributions from the DDA, the PLHH Chamber of Commerce and Putnam Township made it all possible.

Thank You! From DPW

DPW would like to thank all the Village residents for all of their efforts to reduce sodium and chloride at the Village’s wastewater plant. We are now within the parameters as set forth in our discharge permit.

We sincerely appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation.

Despite the gloomy economy, events in Pinckney have continued to grow and add a positive atmosphere to our community. Our three parades each year – St Patrick’s Day, Memorial Day and Homecoming – draw large crowds and are great fun! The village square (or township square, depending on your point of view!) is a beautiful focal point for our community, and is popular for events both small and large. From weddings and birthday parties to Art in the Park, something good is always going on.

Check out our Trustee profiles in this issue – these are the people who serve the community and keep Pinckney on the right track year after year. You see them all around town and at events...have a chat and thank them for their service (it’s not always fun!).

Here’s hoping everyone has a positive 2009!

Meet the Trustees

Rob MacDonald has been a Trustee in the Village for just over 2 year. This is not Rob’s first foray into Village service. Prior to becoming a Trustee, Rob served as Zoning Administrator for a year and a half. Additionally, he has served on the Planning Commission for over 3 years.

Rob currently sits on the Planning Committee as the representative from the Village Council. He serves as the Secretary on this committee.

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Winter 2009

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Special points of interest:

- *Village of Pinckney Office Hours Monday-Thursday 8AM-4PM*
- *Office will be closed on Monday, May 25 in recognition of the Memorial Day holiday.*
- *Check the Village website frequently for updates on activities, recycling schedules, tax information and more.*
www.villageofpinckney.org

Snow Removal Safety

Recently we encountered evidence that residence have been placing snow in the roadway while removing it from their private property. This is dangerous and a violation of State Law.

The law is simple. The Michigan Motor Vehicle Code makes it illegal for you to deposit snow, ice or slush onto any roadway or highway or portion thereof. Furthermore, you many not pile it adjacent to the roadway in such a fashion that it becomes a vision obstruction.

We understand the annoyances and frustrations of snow removal. Safe snow removal practices are everyone’s responsibility.

Meet the Trustees

When asked his favorite part of serving as a Trustee, MacDonald responded, “I get to see just what is required to make a Village run smoothly.” “I enjoy meeting residence so that I can get a clear idea of what their main concerns are and can incorporate them into our plan for the future of the village.”

MacDonald continues, “I would love to see our downtown business district thrive. Our economy isn’t helping this as of now, but we can still hold out hope. Also, I would like to see the Lakeland Trail paved for recreational purposes.”

MacDonald is retired from the Air Force and Ford Motor Company.

Linda Lavey has been a Trustee since October 2005. She currently sits on the sewer and water Committee and serves as Pro Tem for the Council.

Kurt Mohrmann joined the Council as a Trustee in March 2005. Kurt has served on the budget committee as Chair for several years.

Kurt loves living in the Village. He enjoys the small town feel and friendliness.

As a member of the Council, Kurt wants to maintain the high-quality of life we experience in Pinckney.

Welcome to our New Village Clerk

Amy Salowitz, the newest Village Clerk, joined us in late October 2008.

Amy has been a Putnam Township resident for over 5 years .

She brings with her an extensive marketing background with many transferable organizational skills.

Amy and her family are active members of St. Mary Parish and School.

She is available in our offices, Monday-Thursdays, 8AM-4PM.

Convenience to You...Expense to the Community

Baby wipes, face cleansing clothes, polishing wipes, antiseptic wipes.....Wipes of all kinds are available today for your convenience. Convenience to you... expensive to the community.

When residents flush wipes of any sort down the toilets they do not break down before hitting the pumps at the lift stations. Even so-called biodegradable wipes do not have the opportunity to break down. Major repairs have been made over the past several months because wipes destroyed a pump in the Village.

Please be conscientious of your disposal of wipes.

Holiday Cheer



Thank you to the DDA, Chamber of Commerce and Putnam Township for the great holiday decorations this year on Main Street and in the Square. We know that the residence enjoy them every year.

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Meet the

Kurt is married with 3 children and 3 grand children. He has a son at Pinckney High School and a daughter at Livingston Christian school.

Tom Pais has been a Trustee for 2 years. He currently serves on the Personnel and Street and Sidewalk Committees.

Bob Stone has served the Village of Pinckney for more than 5 years as a Trustee. Prior to becoming a Trustee, he served on the Planning Commission for more than 9 years.

Bob is very proud of the positive changes that have taken place during his tenure. His goal for the village is that he would like to get more people involved in local government and community affairs

Bob is an active member of the Lions Club, American Legion Post 429 and enjoys volunteering for

Village Brush Pick-Up

The Village of Pinckney offers bi-monthly brush pick up. Brush removal is the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Please place brush and branches at the curb, cut ends facing the street. Trees and branches can be no larger than 10" in diameter and no longer than 8 feet. No stumps

both the Putnam Senior Center and the VIABIL.

Barry White has been a Trustee with the Village of Pinckney for 6 years. He currently sits on the budget committee but has also served on the Police committee.

Barry enjoys all he learns about our community by serving on the Council. His goals for the council include the development of the Lakeland Trail, maintaining the high level of professionalism provided by our Police department and the efficiency and quality service of our DPW.

Barry is a Battalion Chief with the City of Southfield Fire Department.

He is married with 2 children.

Replacing incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) saves energy, money and protects the environment. An extremely small amount of mercury essential for fluorescent light operations is sealed in the CFL glass tubing. Ironically, in Michigan, a regular incandescent light bulb actually releases much more mercury into the environment than a CFL.

A CFL uses up to 75% less energy than an incandescent light bulb and lasts up to 10 times longer.

CFLs also reduce green house gas emissions such as carbon dioxide (CO₂). If every household in Michigan replaced on 75 watt incandescent light with a CFL, it would prevent 624 million pounds of CO₂ from being discharged into the air and save nearly \$40 million dollars every year!

CFL's can be recycled for free at your local Home Depot store Return Desk or through the county's hazardous waste program.

Think your assessment is out of whack? Putnam Township Board of Review convenes in March. You must call for an appointment after you get your assessment, 734-878-3131.



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Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.VILLAGEOFPINCKNEY.ORG

Utility Billing Update

In 2008, the Village conducted a water survey to determine if our rates were in line with our costs. Unfortunately, the research indicated that a large increase in rates was needed to cover the costs.

Instead of doing one large rate increase, the increase has been phased in.

The next increase will take place with the March utility billing which is expected to be in-home the week of April 6.

Please plan for a minimum 3% increase to water rate and water base.

Poverty Exemption from Property Taxes

The general idea of the poverty exemption is to give tax relief to an individual based on their personal circumstance. Factors include meeting federal poverty guidelines and extenuating circumstances such as high medical costs. Applications for exemptions are available at Putnam Township Hall, 3280 West M-36. For more information, contact Amy Pashby at Putnam Township Hall, 734-878-3131.

Snow and the Right-of-Way

One of the major problems each year in winter is damage to rural mailboxes. Most mailbox damage occurs when heavy, wet snow is thrown against a weakened post or box. The Pinckney DPW cannot assume responsibility for such damage. If the mailbox or post is damaged by snow thrown by the snow removal vehicles, it is the homeowners responsibility to replace the box and post.

Additionally, private installations within the public right of way, such as sod, shrubs, sprinkler systems, rocks, etc. maybe damaged in the process of snow removal or seasonal maintenance work. Damage that may occur is not intentional and in many cases unavoidable.

Because it is the statutory responsibility of the DPW to maintain the roadways and right-a-way property, the agency is not held liable or responsible for damage caused to private installations within the right of way.