

Jeffrey Buerman

From: jandc@chartermi.net
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2025 11:04 AM
To: President at Village of Pinckney
Subject: RE: Re: Cemetery Clean up

Hi,

Thank you. I'm glad that DPW staff will be leading the maintenance and beautification efforts in the future. May I also ask the families be reminded to collect their cherished items in advance.

There is a headstone that has a broken cement plaque resting against it. I opted not to collect it to prevent the family from accusing the Village of throwing out a memorial that they may not know is damaged and unreadable.

Regarding amassing community resources, please add seeking the support of youth groups or high school students to your list. One of the volunteers was a helpful young man whose high school requires a minimum number of volunteer hours.

I had hoped to be able to be at the Town Hall meeting, however I have a schedule conflict. I look forward to learning the outcomes. After reading the cemetery will be a topic for next week's council meeting, I had hoped to attend to offer support for all the other volunteers, however once again I have a schedule conflict.

Have a great day,
Christine

From: "President at Village of Pinckney" <president@villageofpinckney.org>
To: <nbmemorials@aol.com>, <jandc@chartermi.net>
Cc: "Justin Bierman" <j.bierman@villageofpinckney.org>, "Stacy Conquest" <s.conquest@villageofpinckney.org>, "Clerk" <clerk@villageofpinckney.org>, "Robert Coppersmith" <rcoppersmith@villageofpinckney.org>, "Nick Kane" <nkane@villageofpinckney.org>, "Keri Hochertz" <khochertz@villageofpinckney.org>, "Bree Kraut" <krautb33@gmail.com>, "Dustin Moma" <d.moma@villageofpinckney.org>, "Mike Szafranski" <michael.szafranski.yawz@statefarm.com>, <linda@dundee.net>, "Jim Jensen" <jjensen@putnamtwp.us>, <treasure@villageofpinckney.org>
Sent: April 9, 2025 at 12:28 PM MDT
Subject: Re: Cemetery Clean up

Dear Christine,

First and foremost, I want to sincerely thank you for volunteering your time and energy—especially under such unpleasant weather conditions—to help clean up the Pinckney Cemetery. Your dedication, despite having no personal connection to the cemetery, speaks volumes about your character, and I want you to know how deeply I appreciate your efforts.

I also want to personally apologize. You are absolutely right to raise these concerns, and I take full responsibility for the shortcomings in communication, planning, and support for this clean-up effort. This should not have happened the way it did.

Please know that I will be directly addressing this issue at our next Village Council meeting. I will be presenting not only an apology, but also concrete solutions and ideas to make sure this does not happen again. One immediate change will be ensuring that in the event of inclement weather, any postponement is clearly and promptly communicated in advance. We must do better at getting the word out in a timely and consistent way.

Additionally, **going forward, we will ensure that a member of our Department of Public Works is present at every cemetery clean-up or event.** This is a shared responsibility, and our staff should be there to support the volunteers who are giving their time to care for our Village spaces.

I will also be bringing this matter to the upcoming DDA meeting, the Planning Commission, and our Town Hall on April 25th. We need a broader community conversation on how we organize and support volunteer events, especially those tied to meaningful places like the cemetery.

I'm also proposing that we create a master list of local clubs, organizations, and interested individuals, so we can keep everyone in the loop for clean-ups and other events well in advance.

Again, I send my sincere apologies for how this was handled. You gave your time and energy out of goodwill, and it wasn't matched with the support you—and the rest of the volunteers—deserved. I am committed to making these changes happen sooner rather than later.

Thank you again for your honesty, your time, and your service to our community.

Warm regards,

Jeff Buerman
President
Village of Pinckney
president@villageofpinckney.org
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Work 734-878-6206

From: jandc@chartermi.net <jandc@chartermi.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 5, 2025 6:27 PM
To: President at Village of Pinckney <president@villageofpinckney.org>; nbmemorials@aol.com <nbmemorials@aol.com>
Subject: Cemetery Clean up

Hello Village President and Cemetery Sexton,

I was one of seven volunteers for the cemetery clean up.

Last year I was disappointed with the Village. The DPW dropped off several leaf blowers that did not start. Furthermore, there were no DPW employees cleaning up the cemetery.

Again, this year there were no DPW employees cleaning up the village owned cemetery. Nor were there any council members or the Sexton.

The Village's site states that the DPW maintains the grounds at the Pinckney Cemetery. The Cemetery Board of Trustee Bylaws also states that maintenance shall be provided by the DPW or Board designee. Why is the DPW not assigned to this task? The Village can most certainly continue to request that the community help. As far as I know, citizen's aren't asked to clean up Loy Bond Park. Why is there an expectation that people will clean up the village's cemetery on their own?

I do not live or work in the village. I don't have any loved ones buried in the cemetery. I was cleaning up your property in the rain when it was 39 degrees. Where were any you?

Thank you for your time.

Have a great day,
Christine