

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

September 3, 2026

PROGRESS YOU CAN SEE. A FUTURE WE CAN BUILD TOGETHER.

Pinckney is moving forward - and all across our Village, that progress is becoming visible.

New buildings are taking shape. Long-vacant and underused properties are finding new purpose. Businesses are investing, homes are coming, infrastructure is improving, and new resources are being secured to help our residents. None of this happens by accident. It happens because people believe in Pinckney and are willing to invest their time, energy, and resources in our future.

A Village Growing with Purpose

Mugg & Bopps is moving forward, and the project is looking very good. This development represents another major private investment in Pinckney and will improve an important entrance into our community.

Both new marijuana businesses are advancing toward completion, with anticipated opening timelines in early fall. These projects are bringing vacant or underused properties back into productive use and expanding Pinckney's commercial base.

Exalt Fitness is moving quickly on its new Main Street building. The redesigned front already looks impressive and adds fresh energy to downtown. **Pinckney Fitness has also opened and updated the former Snap Fitness location**, bringing new life to an existing commercial space. Together, these investments are expanding local fitness opportunities and showing real confidence in Pinckney's future.

A new tattoo business has opened in the Marco's Pizza building. Every new storefront adds activity, creates opportunity, and gives residents and visitors another reason to spend time in the Village.

The Village property at 1600 Patterson Lake Road has been sold, and we expect three new homes to be built there over the next year. That means new neighbors, new investment, and responsible growth that strengthens the Village tax base.

Each project is different, but together they send one powerful message: people see opportunity in Pinckney.

More Reasons to Shop, Dine and Gather Here

After losing Rite Aid, it was important for Pinckney to once again have a pharmacy of its own. **Heritage Pharmacy**, located in downtown Pinckney, has filled that need with the personal service only a true small-town pharmacy can provide. It is a business that can grow alongside our community, and I encourage residents to support it whenever possible.

Pinckney Chrysler is preparing to begin improvements this fall, including remodeling its parking lot and showroom. This is another significant private investment that will improve the appearance of the property and strengthen a longtime Village business.

Pinckney's dining choices continue to grow. **Bliss & Fish** is bringing Mediterranean and seafood offerings to downtown, while **Taqueria Los Dos Potrillos** is serving authentic Mexican food on Main Street. **Hazy Shores Coffee Co.** has also opened on Main Street, adding locally owned coffee, breakfast choices, and another welcoming downtown gathering place. These businesses bring new energy to the heart of the Village.

We should also continue supporting the businesses that have served Pinckney year after year. **Pinckney Diner** remains a hometown favorite and an important part of our community. And when you are looking for dinner and a show, **The Dio - Dining & Entertainment** offers professional live theater and a full meal right here in downtown Pinckney - an experience few small communities can claim as their own.

The businesses named in this report are only part of Pinckney's story. Our shops, restaurants, offices, service providers, manufacturers, tradespeople, and family-owned businesses all help make this Village a great place to live, work, shop, and visit. I offer a special thank-you to the business leaders who serve on the Downtown Development Authority. They share their experience and volunteer their time to make downtown Pinckney better. Their leadership, together with the entire DDA Board, helps create a stronger business environment and a welcoming downtown for everyone.

From prescriptions and everyday services to shopping, dining, and live entertainment, Pinckney's businesses make our community stronger, more complete, and uniquely our own.

Helping Residents Invest in Their Homes

The Village has been approved for funding through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority's Community Development Block Grant program. We still need to complete the remaining paperwork and hire an independent third-party administrator. Once those steps are complete, we can begin qualifying eligible homeowners for grants of up to **\$24,999 in home repairs**.

This program could help qualifying residents address important needs such as roofs, furnaces, electrical or plumbing work, accessibility improvements, and other eligible repairs. More information will be provided once the program requirements, application process, and timeline are finalized.

This is more than a grant. It is an opportunity to help people remain safely in the homes they love while strengthening entire neighborhoods.

Investing in Connection and Community

The **Pinckney 'Gateway to Play' Visitor Infrastructure and Destination Connectivity Project** received a \$5,000 Community Tourism Action Plan award from the Explore Brighton Howell Area Destination Development Task Force. This work is designed to better connect our downtown, parks, trails, businesses, and recreational destinations - helping residents enjoy their community and giving visitors more reasons to discover Pinckney.

Surf Internet's fiber installation is another important investment in our future. While a project of this size can bring temporary disruption, modern high-speed internet will help residents, schools, home-based workers, and businesses stay connected and competitive.

Our DDA continues its work on downtown beautification, bike racks, tree grates, streetlights, the community garden, the Depot project, the Master Plan, and Redevelopment Ready Communities initiatives. These efforts may look like separate projects, but they share one goal: creating a downtown that is welcoming, active, attractive, and ready for the future.

A Community That Shows Up

The Farmers Market, Hootin' in the Park, Food Truck Friday, movie nights, and other community events continue bringing people together. They support local businesses and vendors, create memories for families, and remind us that the heart of Pinckney is not a building or a boundary line - it is our people.

I want to thank our DDA members, Planning Commission members, Village Council, employees, volunteers, event organizers, business owners, residents, and community partners. Your service matters. Much of the work that moves Pinckney forward happens quietly, after hours, and without recognition. Please know that it is seen, it is valued, and it is making a difference.

What This Progress Means

For a small Village, these accomplishments are significant. We are welcoming new businesses, supporting existing ones, preparing for new housing, improving connectivity, bringing investment to Main Street, securing outside funding, and creating opportunities to help residents care for their homes.

We still have challenges ahead, and we will continue facing them honestly. But our challenges do not define us. What defines Pinckney is our willingness to keep working, to keep believing, and to keep building something better together.

I have lived in this community for more than 30 years, and I have always known that Pinckney is special. What gives me hope today is seeing others recognize that same promise - business owners putting their futures here, volunteers giving their time, families choosing to call Pinckney home, and neighbors supporting one another.

The progress we are seeing is not the work of one person, one board, or one organization. It belongs to all of us. Every project completed, every storefront improved, every home repaired, and every new family welcomed becomes part of the legacy we are building together.

There is a renewed sense of possibility in Pinckney. You can see it on Main Street. You can see it in new construction. You can feel it at our community events and in the people who continue stepping forward to help.

I believe the best days of the Village of Pinckney are still ahead of us. If we remain responsible, work together, and continue believing in what this community can become, we will leave behind a stronger, more welcoming, and more vibrant Village for the generations that follow us.

I am proud of what is happening. I am grateful to everyone helping make it possible. And I am honored to serve this Village as we move Pinckney forward - together.

Jeff Buerman
Village President
president@villageofpinckney.org