



President's Report: We Need Your Help

"It is not who is right, but what is right, that is of importance."

~Thomas Huxley

We want you to exercise your right to vote. Please go to the polls next Tuesday and vote, particularly on the referendum. It is very important for the future benefit of our Village. Let us try to put this in perspective and answer some questions you may have.

How many projects are going on simultaneously in the Village of Fontana?

Three:

- 1) The Highway 67 Renovation
- 2) The Main Lift Station Relocation
- 3) The Beach House Reconstruction

Why is it important to complete these projects this year?

Highway 67 is being completely



"No place to play?"

redone this year. The Highway 67 Project required a major storm water drainage system from the highway down Fontana Boulevard, across the park and into the lake. The Main Lift Station required almost identical routing. We wanted to save you more headaches, inconvenience and taxpayer money by doing these two projects simultaneously. If we did not fold

these projects together, we would have had to dig up the boulevard two years in a row - a choice that was inconceivable to us considering the devastation and impact on the Village.

Why is it important that you vote?

As you try to drive around the Village and observe the construction, can you imagine what it will be like during the summer when the Lift Station is not completed for Fourth of July, the baseball season, the Rec program, summer swimming lessons and the Lobster Boil, just to name a few. Cancel

the summer? Not an option. You have elected us to do a job, let us do it. There is nothing more important than finishing what has already been approved and started.

Why was the construction stopped for almost 40 days?

See **PRESIDENT** - Page 6

Administrator's Report: Referendum Prompts Questions

By Kelly E. Hayden-Staggs
Village Administrator

Why did Fontana take the Main Lift Station referendum question to the electorate in September of 2004? Why was the community faced with an injunction in January of 2006 which halted the contracted work for the Main Lift Station? Why is the Village asking the electorate to vote again on the project on April 4, 2006 when the voters already endorsed building the new lift station? These are the questions that the administration faces on a daily basis that I wish to address in this article.

In April of 2004 the voters adopt-

ed, by direct legislation, an ordinance which mandated that any municipally financed project exceeding \$1 million in total cost go before the electorate in the form of a binding referendum. The ordinance also included that the municipality shall provide the specific purpose, location and cost of the project.

The first project subject to the new code was the Main Lift Station, which was placed on the Sept. 14, 2004 ballot. The question asked for the authority to spend \$2.6 million to relocate the station from the lakefront to Mill Street, and the question passed with overwhelming support.

Once the Village received

approval from the electorate to move forward with the project, the Village spent additional funds on engineering and attempted to work with the Abbey Resort to obtain the necessary easements. Both steps proved to be detrimental for the Mill Street location. (Please see the Director of Public Works article for further details.)

The Village then selected the Reid Park site which seemed to be a perfect fit with both the engineering and the already approved dollar amount of \$2.6 million. The one hurdle that presented itself was the

See **REFERENDUM** - Page 6



DPW Report: Main Lift Project ... 'Back to the Future'

By Craig Workman, P.E.
Director of Public Works

Some people say that history is the science of "what never happens twice." On the other hand, it's also been said that life is as a circle - constantly repeating itself. Personally, I agree with both schools of thought and I will explain why as I discuss the history of the Main Lift Station Project currently underway in Reid Park, and try to explain the technical issues surrounding the upcoming referendum.

For those of you who don't know, there will be a referendum on the April, 4, 2006 ballot asking voters the following question:

"Shall the Village of Fontana on Geneva Lake be authorized to spend an additional \$700,000 on the Main Lift Station, located within Reid Park, to fund the increase in construction costs primarily due to litigation, time delays, and additional equipment expense?"

Do you see history repeating itself yet? I know, the whole thing gives me déjà vu as well! Please allow me to break down the \$700,000 in layman's terms.

Litigation and Time Delays

As you are undoubtedly aware, the Village Board was served with a stop-work order on the Main Lift Project earlier this year. The order was filed by a local interest group and was eventually settled, but the delay increased the cost of the project. Since my goal is to explain the technical issues surrounding the referendum, suffice it to say that "litigation and time delays" account for \$200,000 of the upcoming referendum.

Additional Equipment

In order to give you the most complete explanation, I'll need to start from the beginning, which takes us back to 2003 when the Village Board voted to begin the process of relocating the Main Lift Station. This decision stemmed from several years of discussion revolving around the problems with the current, antiquated lift station.

There were basically three answers to the question, two of which utilized the existing site across Fontana Boulevard from the beach. The preferred option involved relocating the station to the Highway 67 corridor at an estimated construction cost of \$2.6 million; however, during easement negotiations with the Abbey, it was quickly realized that the

pipe which would connect the old station to the new could not be installed under mutual agreement. Without an easement in place, it would have been nearly impossible for us to construct the new station on the west side of Highway 67. So, the Village Board began to search for an alternate site for the station. It wasn't until about a year ago that we settled on the Reid Park site. The Reid Park site had several benefits, not the least of which was the fact that it would save the Village money, or so we thought ...

Unfortunately, our initial estimates on the project were low. Again, history repeats itself, and it would appear that "the only thing we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history." However, to add some explanation to our insufficient estimate is the fact that that 2005 was the worst year on record for hurricanes and tropical storms. Including tropical storms Epsilon and Zeta, which were named after letters of the Greek Alphabet by forecasters who simply "ran out" of their standard list of letters, there were 27 named storms in 2005. This surpassed the record of 21, which was set in 1933.

The cost of building materials skyrocketed in the days and weeks surrounding the worst storm of them all - Hurricane Katrina. Unfortunately, September 29, 2005, the day on which bids were opened for the Main Lift Station Project, fit right into that period and building costs just reached their climax. With all this in mind, perhaps we were blessed that the low bid of \$2.95 million was only 13 percent higher than our budget.

Unfortunately, the \$2.6 million budget was established by the first referendum, which authorized the Village to move forward with the project. With that in mind, we set out to negotiate the contract within the budget constraints. In

order to do so, several items were eliminated from the project with the anticipation of completing some of them at a later date. Although the equipment that is being reintroduced to the project would not necessarily have to be added under this contract, it will save the Village money in the long run, and make the project complete.

The equipment is as follows:

- \$100,000 - Standby generator: allows the station to continue operation during a power outage. Without a generator the chance of an overflow due to a power outage increases significantly.

- \$100,000 - Variable Speed Pumps: a special type of pump motor control which allows the pumps to change speeds depending on the rate of wastewater entering the station. This type of control increases the life expectancy of the pumps and uses less power than standard on/off pumps.

- \$100,000 - Odor Control Equipment: this is a granular activated carbon system that eliminates unpleasant odors that will otherwise be allowed to emanate from the lift station.

Although \$300,000 may seem like a considerable underestimate on the cost of the project, I think the inclusion of these items in the scope of the project is easily justifiable. Furthermore, the cost to add any of these items after the completion of the project could easily double.

In addition to the \$500,000 which can be attributed to litigation, time delays, and additional equipment, \$200,000 of the referendum will be used to cover any potential construction related contingencies. This brings the total referendum to \$700,000. Although I don't currently foresee any contingencies on the project, we would be foolish to leave them out at this point. After all, those who learn nothing from history, are doomed to repeat it!

Annual Chris Schwenn Golf Open May 19

The second annual Chris Schwenn Cancer Foundation Golf Outing will be held Friday, May 19, 2006, with shotgun starts scheduled at Abbey Springs Golf Club for either 7:30 am or 12:30 pm.

A Fish Fry Buffet and Silent Auction will be held at the Abbey

Resort's West Short Pavilion. The buffet will be served from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, and the winners of the silent auction will be announced at 9 pm.

For further information, visit the Village website or contact The Chris Schwenn Cancer Foundation, N1073 Bonner Drive, Walworth, WI 53184.

Building & Zoning Promotes Health, Safety, Property Maintenance

The Department of Building and Zoning, located at Village Hall, is responsible for all building and zoning issues. This includes reviewing, approving and issuing permits and complaints, and handling code enforcement duties designed to promote health, safety, property maintenance and the general welfare of the Village. But what does this mean to property owners?

Property owners are required to comply with all state and local codes and ordinances of the zoning district that their property is located in. For instance, properties must be maintained in accordance with the Village's "Health, Sanitation and Property Maintenance" ordinance [§18-32]. Residents are not allowed to store junked or discarded items, including vehicles and vehicle parts, appliances, wood, bricks, cement blocks, or any other unsightly debris which would depreciate property values in the neighborhood. All lawns and yards must be kept free from the accumulation of unsightly growth and noxious weeds. Buildings, including garages, carports and garden sheds, must be maintained in good condition. This includes ensuring the exterior is free from holes, rotting boards, broken windows, and that the roof is weather tight. All stairways and porches must be kept in safe condition with every rail and balustrade firmly fastened.

If a property is noted to be in noncompliance of this ordinance, the owner is notified and given a required timeframe in which to bring the property into compliance.

The department also reviews and issues all necessary build-

ing and zoning permits. A review is necessary to ensure that the proposed construction complies with the setbacks, uses, lot coverage, parking, and other requirements of each zoning district. Upon approval, applicants are issued a yellow permit card, which should be placed in a visible location on-site, indicating that the building project has been approved.

Inspections throughout construction projects are mandatory. This ensures that the minimum standards of the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code are adhered to. Fontana's biggest asset is the people who live here - the purpose of building inspections is to insure safety to life and property from all hazards insofar as they are affected by building construction or the occupancy of the buildings, structures or grounds.

A building and zoning permit is required for many construction projects such as a new house, garage or shed, decks, re-roofing, re-siding, additions, renovations, some interior remodeling as well as larger landscaping projects, signage and the removal of trees. It is important to apply for a building permit to ensure your project is in compliance with all state and local codes. Failure to obtain proper permits may result in double fees being assessed, citations, or the ordered removal of the improvement. This can be very frustrating and expensive to homeowners. When in doubt it is best to call the Department of Building and Zoning at 275-9769 to inquire whether or not a permit is required for the project.

Fontana Rescue Squad Provides Public Service Opportunities

Would you like to help your neighbors and see parts of the Village of Fontana that you have never seen? Are you bored and looking for a little action? Why not consider joining our team: The Fontana Rescue Squad?

The Fontana Rescue Squad needs volunteers to help us help our neighbors and visitors. We will provide all of the training and equipment needed. You get to meet your neighbors and feel good about your community service.

The Fontana Rescue Squad recently held a practice session on getting victims out of crashed vehicles. Members practiced placing victims onto boards that stabilize the head and neck, as well as onto long back-boards for transporting a patient to a med-

ical facility. This is just one of the emergency situations that the Rescue Squad responds to on a regular basis.

Rescue Squad Chief Larry Austin stated: "We need some additional members to help us. Why not get a friend and join? We will start you out helping on runs and eventually enroll you in an EMT class. This training is 130 hours and is invaluable in our everyday lives." People who are interested in discussing the Rescue Squad and its activities should call any of the members or contact Austin at 275-2537.

"You will never forget the feeling that you have when you know that you have just helped someone when they needed help the most," Austin stated.

Fontana Fire Department Observing 75th Year of Community Service

This past September 2005 marked that start of the 75th year for the fire department in the Village of Fontana. Many changes have taken place over the years, but the one thing that hasn't changed and still holds strong is the pride our volunteers have in serving our community and being able to provide help in times of need. Speaking of 75 years, the department still has anniversary T-shirts for sale; contact a firefighter or stop by the Village Hall to order one.

Congratulations are in order for the six new members who earned the state certification Firefighter 1. They are Firefighter Robert Allen, Jr., Firefighter Tim Allen, Firefighter Greg Christenson, Firefighter Steve Mandarino, Firefighter Beth Shodeen, and Firefighter Jessie Smith. All six completed the 96 hours of required schooling and passed state written and practical test. They are to be commended for an excellent job.

The Fire Department responded to 139 calls in 2005. There were 75 calls for false fire alarms. We ask that residents please keep their alarm systems in working order as that the largest per-

centage of these false alarms were for malfunctioning detectors. If you haven't updated your alarm registration or even filled one out, please do so as soon as possible. The forms are available at the Fontana Police Department. These are for our records only and have important information for us to use, such as key holder contact names. If you do not have current local key holders, we may have to force entry into your home to determine if there is a problem or not when there is an alarm.

Severe weather season is upon us. The warning sirens are only sounded for tornado/high wind warnings. When the sirens sound, residents should seek shelter and monitor local TV and radio stations for important information. Please do not call dispatch or the safety building, personnel at these locations are very busy directing emergency operations.

Also, there are no all-clear signals sounded. The full information on weather warning procedures can be found on the village website or can be obtained at the Merle Robinson Safety Building, 190 Fontana Blvd.

CDA: Highway 67 Project on Schedule

By Joseph McHugh
CDA Executive Director

According to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's official website, a highway project "...is a complex process that involves time, money, expertise in many areas and citizen involvement." The site goes on to warn interested parties that it can take six years (or longer) for a highway project to move from concept through construction.

With these intimidating tidbits of information, it is hard to imagine any community would still be anxious to tackle such a project. Simply learning the considerable length of time required has surely encouraged many villages to simply drop the idea and move on.

More than four years ago, on January 9, 2002, the newly appointed members of the Community Development Authority assembled for the group's second monthly meeting. The group made a decision at the meeting to make Highway 67 the first "project focus area." The following statement by CDA Chairman Bill Turner was included in the minutes from that meeting: "If the CDA does nothing else, resolving the traffic problems and creating a beautiful entryway into Fontana, would be a worthwhile accomplishment."

As the summer of 2006 begins, it now looks as if that "worthwhile accomplishment," envisioned so many years ago, is finally going to become a reality. The State Highway 67 project is scheduled to begin May 1, 2006.

The STH 67 Project

The reconstruction of State Highway 67 begins at Theater Road in Williams Bay and extends south through the Village of Fontana to its intersection with South Main, just north of Walworth. The project is divided into three individual segments: North, South and Center.

North: The northern section of the STH 67 project runs from Dade Road (the top of the hill as you leave Fontana) all the way north to Theater Road in Williams Bay. This section of the highway will be resurfaced only, and will be completed while "under traffic." The term "under traffic" refers to the fact that local traffic, as well as through-traffic, will be allowed to utilize the roadway for the duration of the resurfacing project. Traffic will simply be restricted to one

lane with signs and/or flagging crews, while the alternate lane is resurfaced.

South: The southern section of the project runs from the intersection of South Main and STH 67 (at the southwest corner of the Fontana Fen), to South Main at its southern most crossing of STH 67 (across from the South Pines Golf Center). This section will also be resurfaced while "under traffic."

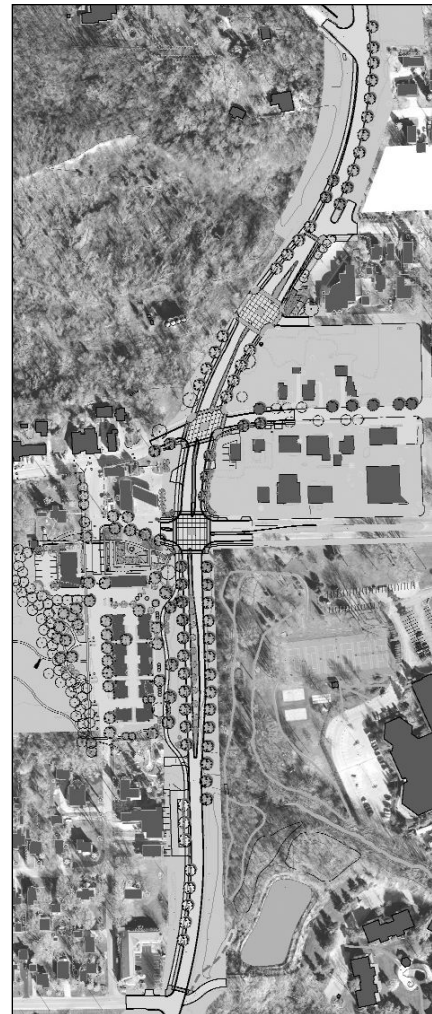
The planned resurfacing of both the North and South sections will be ongoing throughout the project, which is scheduled to run from May 1 to November 3, 2006.

Center: The center segment connects the North to the South and runs directly through the heart of the village. This section of the highway has been the regular subject of committee meetings, public hearings and newsletter articles for the past several years. It is the culmination of a great deal of work, planning and vision.

The section of STH 67 through the middle of Fontana is being completely reconstructed. It will include intersections and crosswalks, constructed with decorative concrete pavers, and landscaped medians and planters. It also will be lined with ornamental street trees and attractive street lights, and from now on, it will be like a neighborhood street that just happens to be located in the middle of Fontana, as opposed to the current State Highway.

And the best part, the DOT was already planning to reconstruct the highway so they are paying the majority of the costs involved. In addition, the Village applied for and received a Statewide Multi-Modal Improvement Grant of more than \$385,000 to apply toward the cost of improving the pedestrian and bicycle paths that will enable the safe crossing of Highway 67 and create passageways to the school, as well as the Duck Pond Recreation Area. The final cost to the Village for the upgrades (concrete pavers, etc.) is being financed with TIF dollars, which allows for the reinvestment of 100 percent of the tax increment revenue generated in the Tax Increment District to be invested within the district. (Normally, only 18 cents of every dollar generated in property tax stays in Fontana).

Now for the bad news: Because the highway is to be completely reconstruct-



THE FOUR-YEAR-OLD process to plan and reconstruct Highway 67 is nearing completion.

ed, not just simply resurfaced, it will have to be closed completely to accommodate the work. Because it is not realistic to shut down the entire highway for the summer, the center segment will be constructed in two stages:

Stage 1: The first stage of the center segment, which extends from the Fontana Boulevard intersection north to Dade Road, will begin on May 1 and is scheduled to be complete by June 30.

Stage 2: The second stage of the center segment, which extends from the Fontana Boulevard intersection south to Main Street, will not begin until August 21, and is scheduled to be completed by the November 3 final project completion date.

For the duration of both Stage 1 and Stage 2, the contractor will be required to

See CDA - Page 5

Village of Fontana Landmark Tree List

Duck Pond

- Chris Schwenn memorial tree - Red Maple

Fontana Beach

- Jane Barr memorial tree - Locust

Fontana Elementary School

- Dan Misner - honorary tree
- Aaron Peters - memorial tree
- Ernest Roeker - memorial tree

Pioneer Park

- Jean Harvey memorial/honorary tree - Maple
- Carl Mullis honorary tree - Maple

Reid Park

- Ruth Black memorial tree - Ginkgo
- Thel Shoberg memorial tree - Locust
- Large Cottonwood tree (the Tree Board will nominate as a Champion Tree)

St. Benedict Catholic Church

- Jane J. Hubertz memorial tree

Triangle Park

- Fontana Weeps - four weeping memorial trees
- Elmer E. Benz memorial trees - two Red Sunset Maples

From the Cop Shop...

By Chief Steven Olson

We can now look back at 2005 and see that the Police Department handled 2,478 calls, which when compared with the 2,235 calls in 2004 we see a 10 percent increase. So far in 2006, we have handled 398 calls, a 16 percent increase over last year at this same time.

In April the Police and Fire Commission and the Board will be reviewing candidate applications submitted to fill a potential full-time vacancy and some part-time positions. Look for their bios on the Police Department's website in the near future.

During the break in the hectic summer season our officers keep up on much of our mandatory and non-mandatory training. Emergency vehicle operations, arrest tactics, legal updates, Taser certification and CPR are just a few of the courses officers have been attending. Officer Beau Douglas is returning to college part-time to pursue a bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

A Walworth County jury recently convicted a Chicago area priest for child molestation, for an incident dating back to the 1970s when he brought young boys to Fontana. This case was investigated by our department and was the lengthiest and most comprehensive investigation our department has ever conducted.

There are some major changes to the state law regarding children in safety seats and seatbelts. Visit our website for all the details or stop at the PD for some literature.

The entire PD staff was very moved by the tremendous display of community support shown recently with all the phone calls, a petition drive and attendance at the November 12, 2005 Town Hall meeting. Truly we are "Partners with our Community" and please accept our heartfelt thank you.

Your police department is available to speak to groups on a wide variety of law enforcement related topics and to answer your questions. Please call if you would like an officer at your next neighborhood meeting or other gathering.

Be sure to visit the Fontana Police Department's website at www.fontanawipolice.com for the latest in all our programs and current community matters.

Park Commission Drafting Tree Lists

"The Indians leaned against this one. It's really a shame," said the arborist. The next sound was the unmistakable whir of a chain saw, soon followed by a loud thud.

These were the final moments of a grand, old Oak tree. It met its end because of the many avoidable insults and injuries it had suffered during a construction project. Now the tree's lifeless remains were a potential hazard and had to be removed. This was a real scenario that was happening all too often in our village, and it inspired the creation of the Natural Resources Conservation Ordinance.

This ordinance supports and encourages the preservation of Fontana trees in a variety of ways. One of them is a special provision to create the designation of "Landmark Tree." It states that "a Landmark Tree shall mean any tree so designated by the Park Commission or the Tree Board for its natural beauty, majestic stature, historical significance, location, memorial designation or other qualities deemed appropriate." These trees will have a measure of extra protection under the new ordinance.

The Park Commission is developing a list of such trees in the Village. It will include Memorial Trees planted in many of the village

parks. Also listed will be the three "Champion Trees" designated by the Wisconsin DNR: a Black Walnut in Buena Vista Club, a Black Walnut located at North Lakeshore Drive and North Lower Gardens Road, and a Copper Beech located at 519 S. Lakeshore Drive.

The commission needs the help of residents in this effort. Maybe you know of a tree that has been inadvertently left off the current list of memorial trees. Maybe you know about a tree that was planted to help remember a specific historic event. Or maybe you have a tree in your backyard that "the Indians leaned against" and would like to have it recognized and protected for future generations to enjoy. If that is the case, you can obtain a Landmark Tree Nomination Form at Village Hall and tell us about your tree.

Trees perform many tangible functions for us - they provide cooling shade, clean our air, stabilize the soil and even increase our property values. Trees also perform a wonderful intangible function by creating a connection between us, those who came before us and those who are yet to come after us. We all need to work together to maintain these important connections here in Fontana.

CDA

(continued from page 4)

maintain a safe and adequate path on which local traffic can drive; however, the roadway may be bumpy, dusty or muddy.

The Village will post updated project information on the Village website

(<http://www.villageoffontana.com>) as the project progresses.

With the completion of the construction project on November 3, 2006, the hard part will be over. The Village will still have to wait until the spring of 2007 to install the majority of the landscaping, but the rest of the project will be com-

plete. The Village will get to enjoy the results of a project which officially began more than four years ago, and which has been a goal of many village residents for a great deal longer. As we look back at the time it took, we can congratulate ourselves as a village that we put that passing time to the best possible use.

Referendum

(continued from page 1)

approved location was Mill Street not Reid Park.

The Village obtained legal advice that encouraged the Village to move forward with the new location without going to a second referendum. To make a long legal brief brief, it stated that direct legislation must deal with financial decisions and not administrative decisions, i.e. location.

The relocation option still appeared to be a perfect fit as the engineering estimates came in at a lower price than the Mill Street option and within the already approved referendum amount; however, along came Hurricane Katrina, the litigation, and other obstacles that could not be avoided.

The project was put out to bid in the fall of 2005, shortly after Katrina blew through the South and drove up steel, fuel and labor prices. The Village received three bids ranging from \$2.95 million to \$4.9 million, all of which exceeded the approved referendum total. The Village

successfully negotiated a change order to the low bidder's contract and removed some of the equipment that the Village Board felt we could add back into the main lift station over time by budgeting for them starting in 2007.

On January 13, 2006 the Village was served with a temporary restraining order, which forced the Village to stop work on the Main Lift Station. The legal argument by the petitioner was that while the location was disclosed on the original question, the Village changed the location (due to engineering conflicts), and did not place the question back out to the electorate for approval on the new location.

The Village and the petitioner reached a settlement agreement which allowed for construction to resume; however, the contractor lost over a month of valuable construction time, which brought us to where we are today - asking for additional funds for the Main Lift Station project. The estimate from the contractor to keep the project on schedule and to make up for the lost days generated a new contract total exceeding the

already approved dollar amount of \$2.6 million.

On April 4, 2006 the Village of Fontana is asking the electorate to once again vote on a referendum question for the Main Lift Station project. The question seeks authorization to spend an additional \$700,000 on the Main Lift Station.

Approximately \$200,000 of the requested \$700,000 is a direct result of the time delays and the litigation cost (\$170,000 funding equipment and man hours and \$30,000 funding legal fees). Approximately \$300,000 will fund the generator, odor control and variable speed pumps originally removed from the contract and the remaining \$200,000 is reserved for contingencies. (See Director of Public Works Craig Workman's article on Page 2 for further details.)

As the administrator I welcome any additional questions this article may have generated and encourage the voters to solicit their answers prior to casting a vote on April 4, 2006. Please call me at 275-6139 or feel free to stop at the Village Hall to talk.

President's Report

(continued from page 1)

The construction was stopped because a political activist group called FROG filed an injunction against the Village to stop work. The argument behind the injunction was based on the fact that we did not accurately state the location of the Lift Station. The Village negotiated a settlement with FROG to continue work on the Beach House and Lift Station, but the process took 40 days, and we were unable to work during a very mild January. The Village agreed to hold referendums on nine other Master Plan issues in exchange for the right to go back to work.

Who are the FROGS?

FROG is an acronym for Fontana Residents for Open Government. The only publicly declared members of this group are Bruce Jensen, Bob Sandy, Bob Stevenson and Joe Bidwill. Three of the four made this declaration at the February political forum. (One small irony here, Bruce Jensen and Bob Stevenson are not Fontana residents.) This organization has never stated what their agenda or objectives are, other than to be for Open Government. The definition of "open government" has never been clearly outlined by the FROG group and this has led

to some confusion because your current elected officials are, and have always been in favor of open government and truly feel that they have been open and transparent.

How were the Village Officials and Board Open and Transparent?

These projects in questions are about three years in planning and execution. The Village has conducted a constant education program through the website, newsletters, newspaper articles and open meetings. Three public hearings, fourteen Community Development Authority meetings, fourteen Plan Commission meetings, seventeen Board meetings, eleven articles in the newsletters, numerous newspaper stories and regular website updates have addressed these projects. There have been plenty of opportunities to learn about all of these, but some personal initiative is required. Here again an old adage applies ... you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. Stated another way, you can place information and facts in front of people but you cannot force them to read, listen or attempt to understand. This takes individual effort and responsibility.

How can you help?

As residents of the Village of

Fontana, we would hope that you would trust your government. Your Village has a very experienced staff in place working for you six days a week, (seven days in emergencies). They are working every day to make the community better. You can help by voting on the referendum.

What is the latest?

The following referendum will be on the ballot:

"Shall the Village of Fontana on Geneva Lake be authorized to spend an additional \$700,000 on the Main Lift Station, located within Reid Park, to fund the increase in construction costs primarily due to litigation, time delays and additional equipment expenses?"

Do we do everything perfectly? Maybe not, but the Village Board constantly focuses on maintaining a high quality, small village atmosphere. We do that by requiring responsible development, maintaining low density, controlling taxes and improving infrastructure while safeguarding the environment. We are a representative government and as such are responsible to you. To keep our mutual goals in focus, we need you to:

Vote next Tuesday,

After all, we all do better when we work together.