

# VILLAGE OF FONTANA-ON-GENEVA LAKE

Summer Issue 2011

## Market Revaluation Underway in Village

All Village of Fontana property value change notices for the 2011 assessment year are scheduled to be mailed out by Wednesday, August 24, 2011 following a complete market revaluation of the Village by Accurate Appraisal, LLC.

The field work commenced in June and will continue through August. The last market revaluation of the entire village was completed in 2008, when the Village's total assessment ratio was increased from 74 percent of fair market value up to about 96 percent. Village Assessor James Danielson reported at the March 2011 Finance Committee meeting that after two years with no market revaluation, the village's assessment ratio was up to 103 percent of the state's total equalized valuation for the village, and it has to be brought back down to 100 percent.

Danielson reported to the committee that in reviewing the preliminary sales figures from 2010, there were 77 properties sold at a mean assessment ratio of 111 percent, so there is definitely a downward trend and properties are selling for less than the assessed value. Danielson stated that there are different factions in the village though and he had not yet broken down all the sales, so some areas in the village such as the lakefront may not be experiencing the same downward trend as properties that are not located on the lake. Danielson reported that the goal of the market revaluation is to get the village's assessment ratio at 100 percent, but there is always a little variance between his determination and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's equalized valuation methodology. Danielson stated that the market revaluation will not require inspections of the properties; however, there will be some annual maintenance inspections conducted as part of the process.

The 2011 Open Book sessions are scheduled for September 7, 8, and 10, 2011 at the Fontana Village Hall. Assessors will be at the open book sessions on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; on Thursday, September 8,

2011 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm; and on Saturday, September 10, 2011 from 9:00 am to Noon. The 2011 Board of Review hearings are scheduled for Thursday, September 29, 2011 beginning at 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Rick VandenBoogart, from Accurate Appraisal, will be at the Fontana Village Hall for office hours on Fridays, July 15 and August 12, 2011, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

To schedule an appointment for one of the Open Book or Village Hall office hours sessions, contact Accurate Appraisal at 800-770-3927. Property owners may contact Accurate Appraisal throughout the year to discuss their property assessment via the toll-free telephone number or via e-mail at [info@accurateassessor.com](mailto:info@accurateassessor.com).

## State Extends Deadline for Piers

The deadline for property owners to register grandfather-eligible piers with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and to secure exempt status for registration of the grandfathered piers and wharves has been extended to April 1, 2012.

State legislation adopted in 2008 concerning the placement of piers on Wisconsin waterways updated the Department of Natural Resources regulations by establishing size requirements for piers to be eligible for exemption from DNR permitting. The legislation expanded the configuration options for piers to be exempt, provided greater flexibility in the number of boat slips allowed for commercial and multifamily lots, and created a registration system to grandfather piers placed before February 6, 2004 that no longer meet today's standards.

A grandfathered pier may be up to 8-feet-wide and may have a loading platform that meets certain other size and configuration requirements.

For more information, visit: <http://www.wra.org> and <http://dnr.wi.gov/waterways/recreation/piers.html>.



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## Landscaping Contract Amendment Pays Off

**By Craig Workman**

Director of Public Works

When the Village first set out to extend its contract with Blackstone Landscaping, Inc., we did so with one goal in mind -- to save taxpayer money. However, upon completion of the first couple months of the new contract, it has become apparent that we've received more than just a cost savings, as the Village has never looked better. Turf is mowed on a consistent basis, landscape beds are edged, weeded and mulched, and the parks, beaches and bathrooms have never been cleaner.

Following is a breakdown of services included in the amended Blackstone contract:

- \* Mowing and trimming of approximately 40 acres of turf.

- \* Weeding, edging and mulching of approximately 50,000 square feet of perennial beds.

- \* Cleaning of the Beach House, Reid Park Pavilion, and Duck Pond Pavilion on a daily basis.

- \* Collecting refuse and picking up litter pickup in all public parks and the beach.

- \* Cleaning the seawall.

Historically, the Village has hired three part-time employees and supplemented with regular full-time labor to accomplish these tasks, which accounted for a budget impact of approximately \$30,000 per year.

Additionally, in 2010, the Village spent \$1,600 in fuel and \$6,800 in equipment maintenance to perform the same set of tasks. With a price tag of \$33,000, the Blackstone contract is estimated to save the Village about \$6,000 in 2011.

## New Law Addresses Electronic Recycling

Wisconsin became the 20th state to pass electronic waste (e-waste) recycling legislation on October 26, 2009. The law, called the E-Cycle Wisconsin Program, took effect January 1, 2010 and established a statewide collection and recycling system for certain consumer electronic devices.

Only electronics sold to Wisconsin households, K-12 public schools and Milwaukee Parental Choice Program schools are part of the E-Cycle Wisconsin Program.

The new legislation is based on a "Product

Stewardship" approach which requires manufacturers of certain consumer electronics to assume financial responsibility for the collection and recycling of e-waste items.

Wisconsin law had already required businesses, government offices, private schools, colleges and universities to recycle their electronics or manage them as hazardous waste.

The electronic items listed below were banned from disposal in Wisconsin landfills or incinerators on September 1, 2010. The bans apply to household residents, businesses, institutions, municipal governments, etc.

- Consumer computers
- Computer peripherals
- Televisions and other video display devices
- Fax machines
- DVD, VCR and other video players
- Consumer printers
- Phones with video displays (cell phones)

Walworth County is no longer sponsoring its annual Computer Round-Up Program since the new legislation shifts the e-waste recycling burden from local units of government to manufacturers. The only requirement for local units of government is to provide their residents information about e-waste collection events or opportunities, and the reasons this material should be recycled.

The Geneva Lake Environmental Agency provided the following list of Walworth County locations where residents can take their electronic waste.

- Cartridge World, 1741 E. Geneva Street, Delavan; (262) 728-8570; [www.cartridgeworld.com](http://www.cartridgeworld.com) or [www.gazlo.com/ink](http://www.gazlo.com/ink).

- Goodwill, 1402 E. Geneva Street, Delavan; (262) 728-5668; [www.amazinggoodwill.com](http://www.amazinggoodwill.com).

- Staples, 2141 E. Geneva Street, Delavan; (262) 728-2629; [www.staples.com](http://www.staples.com).

- DP Electronic Recycling, 540 E. Centralia Street, Elkhorn; (262) 723-2550; [www.dpecycle.com](http://www.dpecycle.com).

- Southern Lakes Recycle, 220 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn; (262) 723-5022.

- Best Buy, 700 N. Edwards Boulevard, Lake Geneva; 888-237-8289; [www.bestbuy.com](http://www.bestbuy.com).

- Electronic Recycling, W9390 Highway 59, Whitewater; (262) 472-0446.

## Annual Pig Roast Sept. 3

The third annual Village of Fontana Park Commission "Pig in the Park" fund-raising pig roast and children's event will be held in Reid Park on Saturday, September 3, 2011 from 3:00 to 10:00 pm.

"The Blackstone contract is estimated to save the Village about \$6,000 in 2011."

Walworth County is no longer sponsoring its annual Computer Round-Up Program.

## The Cop Shop . . .

### Pay to Park Replaces Meters



#### By Chief Steve Olson

Summer is here and we can expect the usual increase in pedestrian traffic and bicyclists, so please be extra careful while driving.

The parking stalls in the municipal parking lots and on parts of 3rd Avenue and Reid Street are now all Pay to Park stalls. Drivers should enter their parking stall number into one of the pay stations and indicate how many hours they want to park.

It is free parking if you have a village resident sticker clearly displayed in the driver's side lower windshield area of the automobile.

We ask all of our citizens to be vigilant with regard to unlicensed door-to-door sales people selling items or services. If someone comes to your home and wants to sell you something or perform a service (blacktopping, roof repair, etc.) ask to see their Village permit. Don't let them claim they have a state permit or left the village permit somewhere else. Tell them to leave and call us immediately.

We ask that you also watch out for any elderly neighbors who may fall victim to these con artists.

To contact the police department office, call (262) 275-2275; for non-emergency dispatch, call (262) 275-2135; or call 911 for emergencies.

After extensive testing, Chris Brunning has been appointed as our newest part-time officer by the Village Board after approval from the Police and Fire Commission. He has a degree in criminal justice, is a police academy graduate and is soon to be married.

Our summer community service officer is Hannah Hooper, who attends Gateway Technical College, where she is studying for a degree in criminal justice.

As always if you see or suspect something suspicious please contact us promptly. Your information can be kept confidential.

There have been 884 calls for service handled by the police department this year as of June 16, 2011.

The average is 17 miles per hour over the speed limit for citations issued by the police department.

Be sure to visit our website at [www.fontanawipolice.com](http://www.fontanawipolice.com) or find us on Facebook for all the latest in police related information regarding Fontana and important links.

## Notes from Nancy . . .

#### By Nancy Krei, Library Director

Summer is here and it is a great time to visit the Fontana Public Library. The Summer Reading Program has begun with the theme, "One World, Many Stories."

The popular Summer Storywagon series kicked off on Tuesday, June 28, 2011 in the Village Hall meeting room. For 26 years, the Lakeshores Library System has been sponsoring this entertainment for the area libraries. Mark your calendars for 10:00 am on Tuesdays, July 12 and 19, 2011. On July 12, Storyteller/actor Chris Fascione will bring contemporary and traditional children's literature to life through a combination of storytelling and mime. Fascione will put on a lively and energetic performance that includes audience participation. On July 19, the folk duo of Fox and Branch will be providing a musical performance that is sure to please an audience of all ages.

Back by popular demand, the library will again be offering the "Make and Take Crafts" sessions beginning at 10:00 am on Wednesday, July 6; Monday, July 18; Tuesday, July 26; Tuesday, August 2; and Wednesday, August 10.

A new series this year is "See Europe through Art." At 10:00 am on Fridays from July 1 through August 12, children of all ages will have the opportunity to create their own replications of European masterpieces.

On Wednesday, July 27 at 10:30 am, "Make Your Own Zoo Pal" will be offered by Kit Haley from Noah's Ark Animal Workshop. Pre-registration and a fee will be required for this workshop.

Summer at the library is not just for children. Did you know that as a member of the SHARE Library Consortium, you have access to the collections of more than 45 libraries in 5 counties? Your library card is, in a sense, a passport to all those resources. The Fontana Library, through the Lakeshores Library System, is also a member of the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium. Your library card provides access to a wide variety of digital materials that can be downloaded to your computer, or portable devices.

Through the generosity of an endowment begun by Ella Capponi, the Fontana Library was able to purchase some much-needed shelving for DVDs, music CDs, and new materials, as well as new computer desks. This past year, the library established the "Giving Tree" to recognize those individuals, businesses, and organizations that have made monetary contributions to the library. There are various levels of recognition, from a

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"The Summer Reading Program has begun with the theme, 'One World, Many Stories.'"



The 2011 Open Book sessions will be held September 7, 8 and 10, 2011.

The last Saturday morning Village Hall will be open for customer service during the summer season is September 3, 2011.

## VOF Calendar

**July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2011** - Art Drawing Program at Public Library at 10:00 am  
**July 2, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**July 4, 2011** - Village Fireworks Display at Dusk  
**July 6, 2011** - Make and Take Crafts Program at Library at 10:00 am  
**July 6, 2011** - Village Board meets at 5:30 pm  
**July 6, 2011** - CDA Board meets at 6:30 pm  
**July 9, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**July 9, 2011** - Movie at Municipal Beach at Dusk  
**July 12, 2011** - Summer Storywagon Program at Village Hall at 10:00 am  
**July 12, 2011** - Fontana-Walworth WPCC Board meets at 7:30 pm  
**July 13, 2011** - GLLEA Board meets at 10:00 am  
**July 13, 2011** - Plan Commission staff meets at 1:00 pm  
**July 14, 2011** - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm  
**July 15, 2011** - Village Assessor office hours at Fontana Village Hall from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
**July 16, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**July 18, 2011** - Make and Take Crafts Program at Library at 10:00 am  
**July 18, 2011** - Protection Committee meets at 5:45 pm  
**July 19, 2011** - Summer Storywagon Program at Village Hall at 10:00 am  
**July 20, 2011** - Library Board meets at 10:00 am  
**July 20, 2011** - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm  
**July 21, 2011** - Evening Book Club at Fontana Library at 5:30 pm  
**July 23, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**July 23, 2011** - Movie at Municipal Beach at Dusk  
**July 25, 2011** - Plan Commission meets at 5:30 pm  
**July 26, 2011** - Make and Take Crafts Program at Library at 10:00 am  
**July 26, 2011** - Human Resources Committee meets at 6:00 pm  
**July 27, 2011** - Noah's Ark Workshop at Fontana Library at 10:30 am  
**July 27, 2011** - Lakefront and Harbor Committee meets at 4:30 pm  
**July 28, 2011** - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm  
**July 30, 2011** - Public Works Committee meets at 8:00 am  
**July 30, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**Aug. 1, 2011** - Village Board meets at 6:00 pm  
**Aug. 2, 2011** - Human Resources Committee meets at 6:00 pm  
**Aug. 3, 2011** - CDA Board meets at 6:00 pm  
**Aug. 6, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**Aug. 6, 2011** - Movie at Municipal Beach at Dusk  
**Aug. 9, 2011** - Fontana-Walworth WPCC Board

meets at 7:30 pm  
**Aug. 10, 2011** - GLLEA Board meets at 10:00 am  
**Aug. 11, 2011** - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm  
**Aug. 12, 2011** - Village Assessor office hours at Fontana Village Hall from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
**Aug. 13, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**Aug. 15, 2011** - Protection Committee meets at 5:45 pm  
**Aug. 17, 2011** - Library Board meets at 10:00 am  
**Aug. 17, 2011** - Plan Commission staff meets at 1:00 pm  
**Aug. 17, 2011** - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm  
**Aug. 20, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**Aug. 20, 2011** - Movie at Municipal Beach at Dusk  
**Aug. 25, 2011** - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm  
**Aug. 27, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**Aug. 29, 2011** - Plan Commission meeting at 5:30 pm  
**Sept. 3, 2011** - Village Hall open for Saturday customer service from 9:00 am to Noon  
**Sept. 3, 2011** - Fourth annual Pig in the Park Fund-raiser in Reid Park from 4:30 to 10:00 pm  
**Sept. 5, 2011** - Village Hall & Library Closed  
**Sept. 7, 2011** - Open Book from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
**Sept. 7, 2011** - CDA meets at 6:00 pm  
**Sept. 8, 2011** - Open Book from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
**Sept. 8, 2011** - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm  
**Sept. 10, 2011** - Open Book from 9:00 am to Noon  
**Sept. 13, 2011** - Fontana-Walworth WPCC Board meets at 7:30 pm  
**Sept. 14, 2011** - GLLEA Board meets at 10:00 am  
**Sept. 14, 2011** - Plan Commission staff meeting at 1:00 pm  
**Sept. 19, 2011** - Protection Committee meets at 5:45 pm  
**Sept. 21, 2011** - Library Board meets at 10:00 am  
**Sept. 21, 2011** - Park Commission meets at 6:00 pm  
**Sept. 22, 2011** - Fontana Municipal Court Date at 5:00 pm  
**Sept. 24 & 25, 2011** - ACBS International Boat Show at Abbey Harbor  
**Sept. 26, 2011** - Plan Commission meets at 5:30 pm  
**Sept. 29, 2011** - 2011 Board of Review Hearings at 2:00 pm

## Library Notes

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copper leaf to a rock. Information about the "Giving Tree" is available at the library.

The Fontana Public Library will soon have a Facebook page. In the meantime, watch for library announcements on the Village of Fontana website, or contact us at (262) 275-5107. The Fontana Public Library is here for you. Stop in and "check us out!"