



TOWN OF CORTLAND

59 S. Somonauk Rd., P.O. Box 519
Cortland, IL 60112

THIRD LARGEST TOWN IN ILLINOIS

Volume 23 No. 2

Incorporated 1865

March/April 2009

Administration
(815)756-9041

Fax Number
(815) 756-4583

Office of the Clerk
(815)756-3030

Police (Non Emergency)
(815)756-2558

Website
www.cortlandil.org



2008 DELAINE MULLIS OUTSTANDING CITIZENSHIP AWARD ANNOUNCED

Cortland Mayor Bob Seyller announced at the February 9, 2009, Town Board meeting that Mrs. Barb Coward is the recipient of the 2008 DeLaine Mullis Outstanding Citizenship Award and presented her with a plaque to honor her dedication to the community while serving 25 with the Cortland Library, her participation in the Cortland Business Association, Cortland PTA, and Cortland Cub Scouts. Mrs. Coward had many friends, family and Library Board members in the audience to celebrate this night with her.



2009 Annual "Garage Sales, Etc." Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2

We had tremendous turnout last year with over 90 sales. This is a big weekend for Cortland. Ideas, suggestions? We are anticipating more garage sales & sellers due to the economy. For organizations, Great fundraiser (i.e., bake sale, food booth, kids activities). Call for ideas. For in-home businesses, great way to open up your home/garage for offering sales, or giving out business cards to possible future customer right within home town (i.e. Tupperware, Avon, Pampered Chef, cleaning/repair services, woodworking, etc). If you are from out of town, a place will be set-aside for anyone interested. Contact **Donna, (815) 756-4851**, if you are interested in having a sale so that you can be added to the map. Do not wait until last minute to sign up. Designing, organizing, & printing maps takes a lot of time. Even "maybe's" need to sign up. This tends to be a very big job putting all of this together. Past 8 years' cost has been \$5 to have sale & to be on map. Due to rising cost of supplies & advertising, cost will increase slightly to \$7. Thanks to all businesses & individuals who helped out last year. We are looking forward to working with you again. Thanks for everyone's cooperation in advance. Suggestions are highly recommended!

DONATE PLANTS TO LIBRARY FOR GARAGE SALES WEEKEND

Dividing perennials early this spring? Please consider donating extra plants to the Friends of the Cortland Library for their Garage Sale Weekend Bake Sale. Friends will be selling baked goods, Friends of the Cortland Library Cookbook (\$10) and plants on May 1 & 2, in front of the library.

Donated plants may be brought to the library beginning Monday, April 27.

CORTLAND TOWN OFFICIALS

Mayor

Robert K. Seyller

Office 756-9041

Home 758-0649

Mayor@cortlandil.org

Clerk

Cheryl Aldis

Office 756-3030

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Trustees

Chuck Lanning 739-1673

Brad Stone 756-1025

Michael Siewierski 745-5815

Dan Milroy 756-4205

Ben Suppeland 751-2183

Shawn McAllister 748-4300

You may reach any Trustee by email by using their first initial and last name @cortlandil.org. For information regarding articles for this newsletter you may email the Deputy Clerk at deperk@cortlandil.org.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March

- 2 Planning Commission
- 8 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 9 Town Board meeting
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 Spring begins
- 23 Town Board meeting



April

- 7 Election Day
- 10 Good Friday
- 12 Easter
- 13 Town Board meeting
- 27 Town Board meeting



Did you know March is National Noodle Month and April is National Frog Month?



CORTLAND ELEMENTARY PTA NEWS

Help support the fight against Ovarian Cancer

On April 25 the Cortland School PTA will host a 3K/5K walk with all proceeds to benefit The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance. The cost is \$35 per family (immediate) and includes 2 adult t-shirts or \$20 per individual which includes 1 t-shirt. Additional t-shirts are \$12 each. You may pick up a registration form at the Cortland Library, Cortland School or by contacting Jessica Lucas at 815-754-0033 or lucas4to1@yahoo.com.

Forms are due by April 1st.

11th Annual Family Fun Fair

Following the walk, the Cortland School PTA will be hosting it's annual Family Fun Fair at the school from 12:30-3:30. Come out for food, games, prizes, drawings, a silent auction and tons of fun! Everyone is welcome!

PTA Dates to Remember

- 2/4 Scrip orders due
- 2/4 Market Day Pick-up 5 p.m.-6 p.m.
- 2/19 Family Fun Night 6:30 p.m.
- 3/4 Market Day Pick-up 5 p.m.-6 p.m.
- 3/4 Scrip orders due
- 3/16-3/19 Book Fair 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 3/20 Book Fair 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
- 4/1 Market Day Pick-up 5 a.m.-6 p.m.
- 4/2 Science Night
- 4/25 Karen Mack Memorial Walk for Cancer 11 a.m.-12 pm.
- 4/25 11th Annual Family Fun Fair 12 p.m.-3 p.m.
- 4/30 Scrip Orders are due



APRIL 7, 2009

SPRING CLEAN



The Town of Cortland, with the assistance of its Police Department and Operations & Maintenance Department, is providing large waste containers for a week of spring clean-up activities. We would like to encourage Cortland residents to take advantage of this opportunity to dispose of household trash and accumulated "junk"! These containers will be placed at the Town of Cortland Maintenance Garage located at 54 Mary Aldis Lane (east side of bldg.) and at the Cortland Fire Station located at 30 West North Avenue and will be available from **Monday, May 4, until Sunday, May 10.**

These dumpsters may NOT be used for the disposal of yard waste, large appliances, or tires, paint or other hazardous materials. Residents may contact Environmental Field Services* (800-480-4337) for removal of large appliances. *a fee will be charged by this company.

Check our website at cortlandil.org for information on used oil collections and electronics collection.



The Fox Valley Model T Club will travel through Cortland on May 15.

(Details will be in our May/June Newsletter, and on our website as the date gets closer.)

CORTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY

“A person’s a person, no matter how small,” so join us March 7 for Dr. Seuss’s birthday celebration and cake from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. at the library. Everyone is welcome.

“Vista” comes to Cortland Library. Five new public computers have arrived. They have the Vista operating system. Our three older machines still operate on XP. All eight computers are for public use. Thanks to Representative Robert Pritchard, these five new computers were funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Economic Opportunity.

The Friends of the Cortland Library have compiled a community cookbook. Copies will be \$10 and available during the Town Garage Sales weekend (May 1 and 2). Proceeds will benefit the library.

SAVE THE DATE: July 3 will be Cortland Library’s 25th anniversary! Everyone will be invited to join in the celebration at Cortland Community Park.



THE WATER DEPARTMENT WILL BE FLUSHING HYDRANTS ON APRIL 14, 15 AND 16

From the Desk of the Department of Building Safety

Spring is around the corner. Your thoughts may turn to doing a new project around the house—or even finishing off that project started last year.

When considering your project, take into account whether you have the time and expertise to complete the project, or whether you need the help of a qualified contractor.

If you opt to hire a contractor, the standard recommendation is to get at least three (3) quotes...and be sure each is based on the same materials, project scope, and includes the permit/plan review fee. Optional work should be given as separate items. This will let you do a proper comparison of the quotes.

Be sure to find out the contractor’s qualification—and, get and check references. You want to know the contractor is experienced at the kind of project you are doing. Also verify the contractors have the necessary insurance (liability and workers’ compensation) to protect you should the contractor’s staff be injured while working on your project or in the unlikely event your property is damaged during the construction project.

If you are replacing cabinets, retiling, installing new flooring, wallpapering, repairing drywall, or other “cosmetic” projects, you will not need a permit. However, if your project is *for example*:

- Remodeling, such as adding a bathroom, a basement bedroom, or family room;
- Changing or adding to the electrical, mechanical, or plumbing systems in the home;
- Installing a pool, deck, shed, or lawn irrigation system . A fence needs zoning approval;
- Installing a new roof or new windows/doors;

a permit is required.

If you will be doing your own project, then you will be obtaining the building permit. Along with the completed permit application, you will need to provide:

Two complete set of plans. These plans should include the structural drawings, and any electrical, mechanical (heating/air conditioning), or plumbing changes to be done. One set will be returned as approved and one will be kept for the Town’s records.

A *copy* of your plat of survey showing the exact location of any new exterior construction. This needs to be drawn to scale, and be sure to show the distances from any lot line or other structures on your property to the new structure. (A plat is not needed for interior work.) This plat will be kept by the Department of Building Safety.

Remember, it is the permit holder’s responsibility to insure the work is compliant with the Town’s building and zoning codes. It is also the permit holder’s responsibility to call for all inspections. If there’s a problem with the work completed, the items will need to be corrected, then a re-inspection requested. (*This is why, if you hire a contractor, you should have the contractor take out the permit!*)

If you have any questions, perhaps about what work needs a permit, or if you want clarification on what inspections are required, please call the Department of Building Safety at 630-551-ICCI (4224)...if someone is unavailable to personally answer your call, please leave a message and a staff member will return your call.

Town Board Meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Meetings start at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. Agendas for all meetings are typically available on the Friday before. To view agendas go to www.cortlandil.org.

Hello,

You should have all received your copy of the Special Edition newsletter, "News and Views." If you have not received one, or would like another copy you can go to the Town's web site at www.cortlandil.org to view it or print more copies. We also have a few copies left at the Town Hall.

As you can see from the Special Edition newsletter and in our normal lives, we are facing a lot of uncertainty. But I want to assure you we are doing everything within our power to keep Town services functioning and at a reasonable cost. I have developed relationships with our state and federal legislators to keep Cortland in the discussions about financial assistance that may become available. We are beginning to gather information are following very closely the stimulus packages being considered by Congress, and how Cortland can best benefit from any of those funds, as well as finishing the FY10 federal appropriations request through Congressman Foster's office that may bring new funding in the near future.

Hard work and difficult decisions lie ahead for the Town and all of us. Our efforts are made all the more challenging—and frustrating—by the constantly shifting playing field beneath us. Changing for the sake of change is not a plan or an effective strategy. Resilience, resourcefulness and adaptability, and being able to adapt quickly to the every changing landscape, are going to be the characteristics that define all successful organizations from here on out. I believe our Town government is Resilient—bending but not breaking in the face of adversity; Resourceful—being creative in problem solving and searching out opportunities to improve aspects of Cortland; and Adaptable—modifying our approaches and relationships with developers, builders, landowners, vendors, school districts, and other units of government to obtain the highest and best return for the Cortland residents.

I will close this last newsletter of my current term by saying it has been a privilege and honor to serve this community as your Mayor. All of you who have expressed your support for me and what we as a Town have accomplished in the past four years, I thank you. Remember, every vote matters, and please vote on April 7th.

Think Spring and Happy Easter.

Bob Seyller
Mayor

Please check our website www.cortlandil.org (in the near future) for information regarding the 1% sales tax increase question that will be on the April 7 ballot. We will also have information at Town Hall when it becomes available.



**Town of Cortland
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**Resident of
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