



# TOWN OF CORTLAND

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



**THIRD LARGEST TOWN IN ILLINOIS**

Volume 27 No. 4

July-August 2013

**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](http://www.cortlandil.org)

## Cortland Summer Fest 2013

At Cortland Community Park

**Friday, August 9, 2013**

Gates open at 6:00PM

7:00PM-10:00PM Menagerie

10:30-12:00AM 29 Needles

**Saturday, August 10, 2013**

Gates open at 12:00PM

12:30PM-3:00PM The Relics

3:30PM-6:30PM Shooter

7:00PM-11:30PM Back Country Roads

Free kids games and activities hosted by the Cortland Library.

Concessions will be available for purchase courtesy of the Lion's Club.

Cruizin' Wheels Auto Show!

Fireworks Display at dusk!

A tented beverage garden and tasty vendors will be available on both days of the event. The bands will perform on a custom designed stage (materials donated from Lowe's and Line-X). There will be a silent auction, 50/50 Drawing, and more! Join us for this 4<sup>th</sup> annual event.

You won't want to miss it!!

[www.cortlandil.org](http://www.cortlandil.org)

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**July**

- 4 4th of July  
(Town Hall closed)
- 8 Town Board meeting
- 11 Planning Commission meeting  
(Cancelled)



**August**

- 8 Planning Commission meeting
- 12 Town Board meeting
- 26 Town Board meeting

**September**

- 1 Labor Day  
(Town Hall closed)

All meetings start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Please check our website for cancellations or changes to meeting schedule.

**CORTLAND TOWN OFFICIALS**

**Mayor**

Russ Stokes  
Office (815)756-9041  
Mayor@Cortlandil.org

**Clerk**

Cheryl Aldis  
Office (815)756-3030  
Townclerk@cortlandil.org

**TRUSTEES**

Sandra Barzso (847)224-4351  
Susan Dockus (815)758-4306  
Ben Haier (847)344-4527

Chuck Lanning (815)739-1673  
Mike Siewierski (815)754-5815  
Brad Stone (815)756-1025

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 deputyclerk@cortlandil.org.

**BE ALERT FOR VIOLENT WEATHER**

**The Town of Cortland does not have a community shelter.  
Pre-plan with your family where you will go and what you will do  
in the event of a Tornado Warning!**



It seems we have had a constant reminder in the news media and internet of the destructive power of tornadoes all season this year. Sadly, we also learn of people not heeding the warning sirens when they are sounded because “nothing ever happens when they go off.”

Residents are reminded that the use of the tornado warning sirens in Cortland is very deliberate. The sirens are set off by Cortland police officers when a tornado has been sighted or if one has been sighted out of town by law enforcement agencies or the County’s trained weather spotters and is headed our way. When you hear the sirens, take cover.

The warning sirens are tested every month throughout the year at 10:00 am on the first Tuesday of the month. There also is a regular maintenance schedule for the sirens.

**FEMA ASSISTANCE**

If you need assistance repairing your home from the April storms and flooding please check the Town’s website @cortlandil.org or call 800-621-3362.



**HYDRANT FLUSHING**  
**The week of**  
**July 22-26**



**IT IS ILLEGAL  
TO SELL,  
KEEP,  
EXPOSE,  
OFFER FOR SALE, OR SET  
OFF UNAUTHORIZED-  
FIREWORKS WITHIN THE  
LIMITS OF THE TOWN.**

**CORTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS**

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9-9  
Friday & Saturday 9-5  
website: [www.cortlandlibrary.com](http://www.cortlandlibrary.com)

Summer Reading is in full swing at Cortland Library! But it is not too late to join. Inquire at the library, and join our readers for fun and prizes! There is something going on almost every day of the week. Stop by the library to see our calendar and sign up for activities.

Special Tuesday evening free programs will be held at the Lions Den in Cortland Community Park.

July 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. ....Maggie Erdman

July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm....Bill Buczinski

Join the library staff at Summer Fest , August 10<sup>th</sup>, from 1-5 pm for children's activities & crafts.

Congratulations to our Around the World Bake-Off winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place            Kim Mangia
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place           Alex Dziaba
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place           Heather Heinrich
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place           Will & Allyson Sanchez

Check out our website, [www.cortlandlibrary.com](http://www.cortlandlibrary.com), for the link to the new Museum Adventure Pass Program.

**Cortland Elementary PTA  
Info and Events**

We would like to thank everyone for their continued support of the school and PTA. We had a very successful year! We are happy to announce our new board members for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year. Danielle Bryant-President, Jennifer Fioretto -Vice President, Jessica Rugerio-Secretary, and Elda Castillo-Treasurer. Please continue to collect your Box Tops. You are able to drop them off at the Cortland Community Library throughout the entire summer. It's an easy way to raise money for your school! The first day of elementary school will be August 28, 2013. This is a full day of school. Finally, please "LIKE" Cortland PTA on Facebook. It's an easy way to get information about upcoming events at our school.

Have a happy and safe summer!

**DETENTION PONDS**

If you see anyone swimming in a detention pond, please call the Cortland Police non-emergency number, 815.756.2558, immediately.



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL CORTLAND GRADUATES.**

Congratulations Graduate!

**What are some things homeowners can do  
to reduce seepage into the home's foundation drainage and sump pit?**

- Check to make sure the sump pump discharge is located on your property far from the house.
- Check that gutter downspouts are directed well away from the house foundation. In a one-inch rainfall the typical home will have more than 500 gallons of water run off the roof. If the gutter downspout is only a few feet from the foundation, you may be unnecessarily pumping water that was on your roof just a few minutes before.
- Check the grading around your home. Settling over the years may have created unintended depressions or swales that direct surface water towards the home's foundation.
- If you have window wells, check grading to verify that the slope is away from the window well. You may also want to consider investing in a cover to keep rainwater out of the window well.
- If you have outside steps leading to a basement door and there is a floor drain at the bottom of the stairs, you may need to invest in an overhang or other protective covering to keep rainwater from getting to the outside floor drain.
- Add more landscaping. Leafy trees and shrubs collect and hold a tremendous amount of rain (ever walk under a tree after a rainfall when a breeze moves the leaves?). The root systems also retain water in the soil.
- Use rain barrels to collect gutter downspout water for re-use later in your yard.



### Lawn and Garden Waste Disposal

We appreciate everyone’s efforts in maintaining your yards (keep up the good work!) but please do not dump your yard waste on vacant property or farmland. Dumping of any sort is unlawful and makes property maintenance on the vacant property more difficult. It may result in harboring unwanted wildlife and other unintended consequences. In some instances, dumping yard waste on vacant property may lead to violations from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. We had experiences earlier this summer with residents dumping yard waste in detention basins which led to major flooding issues in several areas. If you need to dispose of your yard waste you may bring it to the landfill or call your waste company for a pick-up (there is a fee associated with yard waste disposal).



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**Resident of  
Cortland, IL 60112**

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

As promised, I intend to use this newsletter as an opportunity to inform you of the various issues being addressed by the Town Board, Town Clerk, Department Heads, and me as your Mayor.

First, I would like to commend all the aforementioned for their dedication to our community, and their willingness to work with me in an effort to enhance the delivery of services to you. Our residents.

Since the last newsletter:

The Town Engineers have been authorized to study the surface water flooding problem that has been existing on the west end of Elm Street. They have been asked to provide a number of suggestions to negate this problem that is being caused by storm water run-off from undeveloped private property west of that location. Hopefully a cost effective resolution to this problem can be identified and implemented prior to the eventual development of the property.

An attorney from the law firm that represented the Town of Cortland in the Annexation Agreement and subsequent Annexation Agreement involving the Richland Trails Development met with the Town Board and residents of Richland Trails to apprise everyone as to the stand-off involving the developer, their lender, and the Town of Cortland. As much as I agree that at times a "wait and see" position is appropriate, this stand-off effecting the completion of roads and other improvements in this neighborhood has been going on for almost a year. The attorney representing the Town in this matter was very informative and has been authorized to pursue a resolution to this matter. The Town Board and I can appreciate the frustration being felt by those residents, and we will be pursuing a resolution through our attorney.

The Town has made application for a low interest loan through the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for the relocation and upgrading of the Wastewater Lift Station located at the North Avenue and Prairie Street. All necessary preliminary studies and plans have been submitted for approval. The project will cost approximately \$1.5 million. The current lift station is located on the corner of Prairie St and North Ave. It was constructed over thirty years ago and handles all of the wastewater from the south side of the railroad tracks, and some areas just to the north of the railroad tracks. Currently the North Ave lift station pumps the wastewater to the Pine St lift station which then pumps the wastewater to a lift station on Barber Green Rd where it is pumped one more time to the Water Reclamation and Reuse Treatment Plant on North Ave. The new North Ave lift station will eliminate all the redundant pumping and transport the wastewater through a force main directly to the Water Reclamation and Reuse Treatment Plant, making the wastewater system more efficient and providing better service for the residents. Eliminating the redundant pumping also decreases the work load on the other lift stations, which makes the life span of the equipment longer. The new North Ave lift station will be located about 700 feet east of the current facility and will be equipped to handle the current flow as well as future growth related flow.

The Police Department was able to locate the owner of a large earthmover that was abandoned for nine months near the entrance to Chestnut Grove Neighborhood. This "10 ton lawn ornament" was immediately removed upon being contacted by the Chief of Police. Efforts have been on-going to have sev-

The Police Department was able to locate the owner of a large earthmover that was abandoned for nine months near the entrance to Chestnut Grove Neighborhood. This "10 ton lawn ornament" was immediately removed upon being contacted by the Chief of Police. Efforts have been on-going to have several abandoned construction trailers removed as well. I expect that this nuisance will also soon be abated. I appreciate the concerns of those residents, and they are to be commended for their willingness to get involved, and work to enhance the appearance of their neighborhood. This administration will do everything that is allowed by law to assist them.

The Streets and Maintenance Department has been very busy attempting to maintain grassed public properties, and abate the tall grass and weeds on unkempt private properties. The constant rains have increased the growth rate and has made mowing in some areas difficult.

Trustees Chuck Lanning and Brad Stone, with the assistance of local electrician, Larry Coward of Coward Electric, have presented a plan to extend electric service to Cortland Community Park. The plan is currently being reviewed by ComEd. It is our goal to have that service in place prior to 2013 Cortland Summer Fest. This is a project that has been suggested for several years. This will be for electric receptacles only, and will eliminate the need to rent generators to provide power for public events in the park.

Last but not least, the Cortland Parade & Festival Committee has been working very hard to bring what is sure to be one of the finest Summer Fests to Cortland Community Park. The 2013 Summer Fest will be held on Friday, August 9 and Saturday, August 10. Excellent bands, beer garden, and plenty of food. A great occasion to join neighbors and friends and have a good time. I hope to see you there.

I thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve our community.

Russ Stokes  
Mayor