



# TOWN OF CORTLAND

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

**THIRD LARGEST TOWN IN ILLINOIS**



Volume 27 No. 6

November/December 2013

**Administration**  
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**(815)756-4583**

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**(815)756-3030**

**Police (Non Emergency)**  
**(815)756-2558**

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

Hello, Friends and Neighbors,

Summer has passed quickly, and we are well into fall. Hopefully, the snowflakes we have seen recently are no indication of the winter ahead.

We were fortunate to have a beautiful day for our 32nd Annual Parade and Fall Festival held at Cortland Community Park. This was the first parade in over 20 years in which I did not have to actively participate in. I experienced first hand why so many people regularly attend, enjoy, and compliment the Town on its parade. I thank all that participated in the parade and festival and those volunteers that work so hard to make it a source of pride for our community.

As I write this letter, construction projects initiated by the Town are winding down. Curbs and roads in Richland Trails have been completed, and I anticipate the Town will be taking charge of the maintenance of those roadways in time for them to be plowed and salted by our Streets and Maintenance Department. Loves Road and Airport Road have been repaired. Curbs and some sidewalks in the Dogwood Street area are being replaced through funding provided by Cortland's share of Motor Fuel Taxes. Our Streets and Maintenance Department replaced about 400 running feet of sidewalks throughout the Town this summer, but there are still many sidewalks that are in need of repair or replacement.

The Town of Cortland has an aging infrastructure, and we need to be more proactive in not only road and sidewalk repairs but the maintenance of our highly visible water storage tanks. I am embarrassed by the condition of the Spruce Street tank. This did not occur overnight! While the Town's budget has been very tight, we need to make the maintenance and repair of our community assets one of our top priorities.

Our Town Engineers have identified a means to mitigate the problem of flooding on Elm Street caused by storm water. We are currently working to repair this problem.

Shelters are scheduled to be constructed in Hetchler Park, and Suppeland Park during the first week of November. The concrete floor in the Suppeland Park shelter will not be poured until spring of 2014. I am disappointed that this could not have been constructed sooner so they could have been enjoyed by many of you this fall.

We continue to remove trees that have been afflicted with Emerald Ash Borer Disease. As I write this letter, trees are being planted by our Streets and Maintenance Department in Cortland Community Park, Hetchler Park and Suppeland Park. More diseased trees will be removed and replaced next year.

I have already initiated discussions with Department Heads to identify priorities and goals in the preparation of the FY15 Budget.

I appreciate the on-going efforts of our Town Board, Department Heads, and Staff as we work together to bring about needed improvements to our neighborhoods.

As always, I thank you for the opportunity to serve our community.

Russ Stokes  
Mayor

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### **November**

- 3 Daylight Savings  
(Turn clocks back)
- 11 Veteran's Day  
(Town Hall closed)
- 12 Town Board meeting (Tuesday)
- 25 Town Board meeting
- 28 Thanksgiving  
(Town Hall closed)
- 29 Town Hall Closed

#### **December**

- 9 Town Board meeting
- 23 Town Board meeting
- 24 Christmas Eve  
(Town Hall closed)
- 25 Christmas Day  
(Town Hall closed)

#### **January 2014**

- 1 New Year's 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)757-5815  
 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.

### **NEW TREE PLANTINGS AROUND TOWN**



As Ash trees in public parks are being cut down, the Streets and Maintenance Department has replaced several trees in Hetchler Park and Cortland Community Park. Cortland Community Park has 3 new Autumn Blaze Maple Trees, 2 Hackberry Trees, and 1 Greenspire Linden Tree. Hetchler Park has 3 new Greenspire Linden Trees. First-time tree plantings in Suppeland Park include 3 Swamp White Oak Trees and 4 Autumn Blaze Maple Trees.

### **SANTA CLAUSE IS COMING TO TOWN**

Cortland Lions Club is hosting a breakfast with Santa on December 14, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm at Cortland Lions Den, 70 S. Llanos Street. Cost is \$10.00 per family. Please bring a non-perishable food item for donation.



### **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION?**

**The Town is actively seeking residents that would be interested in volunteering their time to serve on the Town of Cortland Planning Commission. An application is available online at [www.cortlandil.org](http://www.cortlandil.org) or the Town Hall.**

### **SEWER/WATER BILL DUE DATES**

Tuesday, December 31, 2013  
 Monday, March 31, 2014  
 Monday, June 30, 2014  
 Monday, September 30, 2014  
 Wednesday, December 31, 2014



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO SETH PINNE**

Mayor Stokes recognized Seth Pinne of Cortland at the Town Board meeting on October 15, 2013, for his promotion to the rank of Eagle Scout.



## CORTLAND ELEMENTARY PTA NEWS

Congratulations to the Cortland PTA & all who participated in the annual Cortland Fall Parade & Festival. Our float took 1<sup>st</sup> Place for the second year in a row!

We have our monthly Food Night Tue. Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> & again Tue. Dec 10<sup>th</sup> at the DeKalb McDonald's on East Lincoln Highway (across from the Post Office) from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

We are collecting Box Tops & Campbell Soup labels. Please send them in with your children. They have boxes in their pods where they can be dropped off.

The Pumpkin Patch Bash (formerly known as the Fall Festival) will be held on Friday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Iliana Perez is our NEW Chairperson for this event. Please contact her if you would like to help out at [Lanny329lz@hotmail.com](mailto:Lanny329lz@hotmail.com) or (815) 508-4331. There are going to be several new & multicultural games & food at this event! We are so EXCITED!

Our next PTA meeting is on Monday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. We are pleased to announce that the Harambee Percussion Ensemble will be performing prior to the meeting. Snack will be provided. We are having the following PTA meeting on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. This meeting coincides with the Brochure Sale pick up which will be held from 3:30-6:30 p.m.

Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> is our 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Winter Sing...details will be sent home in November.

Email us at: [Cortland\\_PTA@yahoo.com](mailto:Cortland_PTA@yahoo.com)

## Cortland Community Library

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

Cortland Library welcomes "Winter Reading" for families. Come in for sign-up and details!

New on [www.cortlandlibrary.com](http://www.cortlandlibrary.com) a link to ... Mango languages! Download language lessons. 54 languages available! Great practice for Middle School & High School language students! It's free with your Cortland Library card!

Looking for an item? Go to [www.cortlandlibrary.com](http://www.cortlandlibrary.com) to search the card catalog using the PrairieCat link. Check out our OMNI link and download free audiobooks or E-books. We have increased our Zinio magazine downloads. More titles, more for guys. Check them out! Zinio downloads stay on your device until you chose to delete them.

### Library programs continue through the winter. Sign-up is required for some activities.

Monday @ 4:30p.m.	Writers Group* (grades 3 & up)
Tuesday @ 7 p.m.	Story Time with Miss Terri
Wednesday @ 10 a.m.	Preschool Story Time
Wednesday @ 7 p.m.	Crochet Class* (all ages)
Thursday @ 10 a.m.	Preschool Story Time (repeat of Wednesday program)
Thursday @ 4 p.m.	School Age Story & Craft* (Elementary school aged)

\*registration required

## CONGRATULATIONS TO WATER/WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

### JOEL SUMMERHILL AND JEFF LEMKE

Congratulations to Joel Summerhill, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, on being nominated for Illinois Operator of the Year by the Illinois Potable Water Supply Operators Association and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency which recognize outstanding professionals who produce and supply drinking water for Illinois residents. You consistently demonstrate your dedication to the residents of the Town of Cortland to ensure they receive quality water and quality service, and we are thrilled that the hard work and dedication you bring to your job every day has been recognized.

Congratulations to Jeff Lemke, on September 27, 2013, Water/Wastewater employee Jeff Lemke obtained the Class 4 Wastewater Certificate of Competency (wastewater license) from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Jeff completed the required one year of wastewater operating experience and various wastewater training courses, and successfully completed the IEPA examination. An operator certified as competent by the Illinois EPA must be able to perform duties without endangering the public health or the environment. In order to determine competency, the Illinois EPA must evaluate whether applicants for certification possess the necessary skills, knowledge, ability, and judgment to properly operate and maintain the facilities entrusted to their care. Therefore, applicants for certification must meet specific experience, education, and examination requirement in order to qualify for certification.

**32ND ANNUAL PARADE & FESTIVAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

On October 13, 2013, the Town hosted its 32nd Annual Parade followed by a Festival in Cortland Community Park. The theme for this year's parade was Sci Fi.

The weather could not have been more perfect. The one and a half mile parade route was lined with thousands of Cortland residents, friends and families waiting for the opportunity to see their child, grandchild or other relative march by in a school band or ride by on a float from one of our local businesses and organizations. The parade consisted of 70 entries, 6 floats, 700 participants including many local fire and police departments, several local school marching bands, drill teams, pompoms, and other youth organizations who entertained the onlookers with familiar songs, demonstrations, and baton twirling.

The parade ended at Cortland Community Park where each parade participant received a free hot dog, chips, drink, and cookie made possible through the generosity of the Cortland Lions Club, Cortland Parade and Festival Committee, and local businesses.

Trustee Stone thanked the Festival and Parade Committee members - Judy Butler, Alvina Stover, Samantha Lanning, Fred Hornbuckle, Rich O'Donnell, Chuck Lanning, and their families for all their hard work throughout the year. These events would not be possible without the help of the dedicated staff and personnel of the Town of Cortland.

The Festival and Parade Committee would like to thank everyone who attended and those who support these events put on for your enjoyment throughout the year and we look forward to 2014.

Brad Stone  
Cortland Festival & Parade Committee Liaison



Town of Cortland  
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P.O. Box 519  
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Cortland, IL 60112**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE MAYOR, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND TOWN STAFF!**