MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FOR THE 2008 ANNUAL GARAGE SALES MAY 2nd & 3rd

Once again it is time to start planning for Cortland’s annual “Garage Sales, etc.” weekend. As Cortland continues to grow this event will only increase. Please do not wait until the last minute to sign up. Designing, organizing and printing the map takes time. If you are an organization this is a great fundraiser, if you are a home business this is a great way to open your home/garage to new customers, if you are from out-of-town and would like a place to set up we will have space for you. Anyone interested in having a sale or have any ideas or suggestions, please call Donna at (815) 756-4851.

Dates to Remember...

March
3  Planning Commission meeting
8  Special Election
9  Daylight Saving Time
10  Town Board meeting
24  Town Board meeting
17  St. Patrick’s Day
23  Easter Sunday

April
7  Planning Commission meeting
14  Town Board meeting
28  Town Board meeting

LIONS CLUB EASTER EGG HUNT
WHEN:  SATURDAY, March 22
WHERE: CORTLAND COMM. PARK
TIME:  1:00
AGES:  TODDLER - PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN - 4TH

Lions Club Ride for Literacy
Cortland’s Lions Club is sponsoring a motorcycle ride on Sunday, May 4, with all proceeds going to the Cortland Library. This event will take place rain or shine and will start at the Cortland Community Park Shelter House at 9:00 a.m. with the last bike leaving at 10:00 a.m. The cost to participate is $15 with a $5 non-refundable deposit required. You may send your deposit made out to Cortland Lions Club Library Fund to 153 E. Lark Avenue, Cortland, IL  60112. For further information or questions you may send an email to lionjohncortland@verizon.net
REMINDER
Please display your correct address. It is a requirement of the Town Building Code that the correct address is displayed on your building/house. If you need assistance from emergency services and they cannot locate your house, you are putting yourself, your family and your neighbors at risk.

CALL JULIE BEFORE YOU DIG!
With Spring just around the corner, you might be planning an outdoor project like putting up a fence, building a deck or adding a tree or shrubs to your yard. If you are thinking of doing anything that requires digging, you should call JULIE at 1-800-892-0123 or 811

PARKING ON STREETS AFTER 2" SNOWFALL COULD RESULT IN A $25.00 PARKING FINE.

HYDRANT FLUSHING
APRIL 22, 23 & 24

Special Election for the 14th Congressional District
Saturday, March 8, 2008
If you have any questions call 815-895-7147

SPRING CLEAN
The Town of Cortland, with the assistance of its Department of Operations & Maintenance and Police 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 12.
These dumpsters may NOT be used for the disposal of yard waste, large appliances, car parts 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.

Watch for information on used oil collections in June and July. There will be an electronics collection on Saturday, April 26. See our website (cortlandil.org) for details as they become available.

Earth911.org
Here’s a website that’s very helpful: put in your zip code and use the drop-down to choose what you want to get rid of and the site will give you places to take your item (e.g. used motor oil can be taken to Wal-Mart’s Tire & Lube Center, used computers and batteries can be taken to Best Buy): www.Earth911.org.
Notes of Interest from the Department of Building Safety

As you dig out from the repeated snows of 2008 and huddle next to the fire to warm from the bone-chilling cold, are you thinking of the warmer days of spring and summer?

Do these thoughts include changes to the exterior of your home and yard? Are you thinking of expanding your living space with a new outdoor kitchen, new deck or gazebo, a swimming pool/spa, or new landscaping?

Some things to remember for any of these projects:

A building permit is needed when you add any electrical outlets, plumbing, or structural elements, such as would be done for an outdoor kitchen. A permit is also required for a deck/gazebo, or swimming pool or spa (hot tub).

If you are renewing your landscaping with a change to any grading (adding or removing swales, berms, etc.) you need to get the approval of the Town Engineer. In the new subdivisions, each lot was graded to meet the grading plan for your subdivision. Any changes to that accepted grading plan must be reviewed by the Town Engineer to insure you are not impacting your neighbor’s property.

The above building projects, as well as any fence in Cortland, require a Zoning Permit. Zoning Permit applications are available at Town Hall, and the Zoning Administrator will issue the permit and conduct the fence installation inspections.

If you have any questions, please call the Cortland Town Hall at 815-756-4124.

MARCH/APRIL EVENTS AT CORTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Warm-hearted thanks to all the kind people who donated goods to the Friends of Cortland Library “Love in the Winter” benefit bake-off February 3. With your help the Friends were able to raise almost $500.00. Thank you for thinking of the future of Cortland Library.

Dr. Suess’s Birthday Party
Location: Cortland Library
Date: March 1
Time: 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.
Seussical stories and treats, come celebrate & eat.

Regular Preschool Story Times
Monday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.
Thursday 10:30 a.m.
The Friends of the Cortland Library will have a bake sale again this year during the annual garage sales weekend on May 2 & 3. Your donated baked items will bring us success. Check out our new recipe books.

“Get in the Game, Read”
Summer Reading begins June 1. This summer, visit the library weekly for books of your choice and reading rewards.

Heating Assistance
Community Contacts, Inc. will be at the Cortland Library from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on March 17 to assist applicants. Eligibility is based on your household’s combined income. For a household of one, gross income for the last 30 days cannot exceed $1,276, household of two $1,711, household of three $2,146, household of four $2,581 and a household of five $3,016. Reconnection assistance may be available if your household is disconnected from an energy source needed for heating. By appointment only. Call 815-758-3835 or 847-697-4400.
FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

Hello,

As I write this with a heavy heart, my thoughts and prayers go out to the families, friends, classmates and staff of those involved in the recent NIU shooting tragedy.

As elected officials we’ve had to learn the inner workings of creating a disaster plan and implementing the plan in the event of a disaster. You hope you never have to use the training, but it’s nice to see it work well when it’s needed as it was during this devastating event. The ILEAS (Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System) and the MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) systems worked as planned. It’s comforting to know with the leadership and coordination of Chief Stokes and Fire Chief Moser (who were on the scene that day to assist), our Town is part of this awesome network of people doing extraordinary things.

I want to commend everyone involved with quickly and efficiently implementing the plan during this terrible tragedy. The police, EMT’s, firefighters and hospital staff, along with the administration and staff of the University, did an outstanding job handling everything during this difficult time. It is nice to know these brave and highly trained individuals live among us and put their lives on the line to protect others. Thank you!

On a brighter note, CONGRATULATIONS to DeKalb School District 428 on the recent passage of the $110 million bond issue. I am very proud to say the Town of Cortland will be the home of a new elementary school south of Rt. 38 in the Chestnut Grove Subdivision, to be opened in 2010. I think the tough decision made will pay back in many ways in the future.

Think Spring and have a Happy Easter.