



TOWN OF CORTLAND

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

THIRD LARGEST TOWN IN ILLINOIS

Volume 24 No. 6

September-October

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(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

29TH ANNUAL CORTLAND FESTIVAL & PARADE OCTOBER 16 & 17

Mark your calendars! Cortland Fest will be held on October 16, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Please join us for live music from local bands, food, and fun!

The 29th annual Cortland Parade & Festival will be on October 17, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. The parade will begin at Loves Road and Cortland Center Road and end at Cortland Community Park. Please join us at the park after the parade for the Town Festival from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Festival will have food vendors, rides, and attractions for all ages.

Please contact Judy Butler at 815-751-6683 if your business or organization is interested in participating in the parade. All participants receive a hot dog, chips and drink after the parade. This is graciously donated by the Cortland Lions Club and Festival & Parade Committee.

Monetary donations are being accepted by the committee to help offset the cost of the parade. Please send donations to the Town of Cortland Festival & Parade, PO Box 519, Cortland, IL 60112-0519.

SENIOR SERVICES NEWS

The Silver Beat

The Silver Beat is a program created by Attorney General Lisa Madigan and was established to give Seniors news about financial scams and healthcare fraud to protect themselves and others. The Silver Beat program will be presented by Lisa Madigan at the DeKalb Senior Center, 330 Grove St., on Thursday, September 16 at 10:00 a.m. Transportation is provided and will leave from the Lions Den at Cortland Community Park at 9:00. Reservations are required for bus transportation and lunch (over 60 suggested donation is \$3.50 others will be charged \$6). Please call 815-758-4718 for reservations.

Pot Luck for Seniors

All seniors are welcome to attend a pot luck supper on Thursday, September 30, followed by a tractor demonstration. The supper will be at the Cortland Lions Den, Cortland Community Park, 70 S. Llanos at 5:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for seniors who have not attended an event to come out and join your fellow seniors. Laurie Thompson from Community Care is providing the main entrée, anyone attending may bring a dish to pass, but if you don't feel like cooking, don't stay away. Thank you to Community Care for their continued support. For more information on these two events you may visit the Town's website at www.cortlandil.org.

DATES TO REMEMBER**September**

- 6 Labor Day
(Town Hall closed)
- 13 Town Board meeting
- 27 Town Board meeting

October

- 4 Planning Commission meeting
- 11 Columbus Day
- 11 Town Board meeting
- 16 Cortland Fest (4 p.m. Cortland Community Park)
- 17 Parade & Festival (Parade starts at 1 p.m.)
- 25 Town Board meeting
- 31 Halloween (Trick or Treat Hours 4-8 p.m.)

CORTLAND TOWN OFFICIALS**Mayor**

Robert K. Seyller
Office (815)756-9041
Home (815)758-0649
Mayor@cortlandil.org

Clerk

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

Town Administrator

Walter Magdziarz
Office 756-9041
Townadministrator@cortlandil.org

TRUSTEES

Chuck Lanning (815)739-1673	Brad Stone (815)756-1025
Doug Corson (630)673-3129	Randy Reiter (815)748-5871
Sandra Barzso (847)224-4351	Mike Siewierski (815)745-5815

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.

CORTLAND ELEMENTARY PTA NEWS

- Sept 1 Market Day Pick-up 4:30-5:30
- Sept 7 PTA Meeting 6:30 question time 7-8 meeting
- Sept 8 Meet and Greet 6:30-7:30
- Sept 18 Bowling Fundraiser
- Sept 29 Market Day Pick-up 4:30-5:30
- Oct 2 Adult Road Rally/Scavenger Hunt 4:00
- Oct 12 PTA Meeting 7-8
- Oct 13 Fall Portraits
- Oct 27 Market Day 4:30-5:30



Help us get off to a great start raising funds for field trips, assemblies, classroom supplies, and numerous things for our school. The PTA will be hosting its first annual bowling fundraiser at Mardi Gras Lanes in DeKalb, Saturday afternoon, September 18th. For every \$20.00 pledge each student gets one ticket for bowling, pizza, pop and a chance to win prizes. If you have questions or would like to volunteer at this event please contact Eric 815-671-7178 or Lisa 815-748-7680.

Want to have an awesome adult night out? Join us for our Adult Road Rally/Scavenger Hunt on October 2nd. Space is limited so get your team together and sign up early! If interested please contact Julene 815-671-7179. The deadline to register is September 24th and registration forms can be picked up at the school or Cortland Library. The cost per person is \$25.00 for the race and dinner or \$15.00 for the race only.

RADIO TIME

TUNE INTO WLBK AM (1360) OR ONLINE (1360WLBK.COM) THE LAST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT APPROXIMATELY 8:40 A.M. TO HEAR THE MAYOR DISCUSSING INFORMATION CONCERNING CORTLAND AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.



CORTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9-9
Friday & Saturday 9-5
website: www.cortlandlibrary.com

September begins the new school year and is a great time to make a weekly visit to the Cortland Library a habit.

Cortland Library offers preschool Story Times with Miss Laura on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. A craft activity follows the stories.

Evening Story Time with Miss Terri begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays. This Story Time is for both preschool and early elementary children.

Moms and infants socialize at our Lapsit program on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Lapsit lasts about 20 minutes and provides cognitive stimulation for infants. The bonus; Moms get to spend time with other adults!

Have you resolved to recycle? Cortland Library patrons "recycled" over 76,000 times last year; checking out books, magazines and DVD movies. Borrowing and returning library materials are the ultimate in recycling.

Find our hours, events, and a link to the on-line card catalog at our website: www.cortlandlibrary.com.

Find out more at our Facebook Fan page (type Cortland Community Library on the Facebook search bar).



**Hydrant Flushing
October 18-22**

CORTLAND FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER

Tickets for NIU vs. North Dakota on Saturday, September 11 (game time TBD) are available. The cost is \$15 for Adults and \$10 for children. A portion of each ticket will go toward the Cortland Festival and Parade. For information call Marsha O'Donnell at 815-739-5974. You may also pick-up an order form at the Town Hall.



**HALLOWEEN TRICK
OR TREAT
HOURS
4 TO 8 P.M.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER, 31**

THANK YOU FROM THE CORTLAND FESTIVAL & PARADE COMMITTEE TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE SUMMER FEST A HUGE SUCCESS!!!

CORTLAND CHURCH COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Get to know your neighbors at our free community meals on September 15 and October 20 at the Cortland Lions Den at Cortland Community Park, 70 S Llanos St. Serving from 5-7 p.m. Meals are donated by Cortland United Methodist Church, Cortland Lions Club, Sam's Family Restaurant, Dough Brother Pizzeria and N.I.U. There will be special games and activities on September 15 to kick off this Sunday School year.

Senior High (9-12 grade) and Junior High (6-8 grade) youth groups will begin in September. For more information please contact Julyne at 815-751-2187 or visit our website at www.cortlandumc.com.

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.

Road Construction Announcements

With the construction season drawing to an end, there will be a flurry of road construction activity in Cortland. The Town will have two major road projects, the Ellen Drive resurfacing and cape sealing selected streets in the original Town, that are funded by motor fuel tax (MFT) money distributed by IDOT. Contracts have been awarded for both projects.

Additionally, there will be two large road surfacing projects by private developers in the next six weeks. All of the streets in the Robinson Farm neighborhood will have the final lift of asphalt added and the remaining street lights installed. All of the streets in the Chestnut Grove neighborhood that have houses on them will have the final lift of asphalt added and the remaining street lights installed.

Residents should expect some minor inconveniences during the construction work and there may be temporary road closures and detours. Residents also are reminded to slow down and exercise caution while driving through these work areas. Work zone speed limits will be enforced. Cell phone use in work zones is prohibited and will also be enforced.

Curb and pavement repairs are currently under way in Chestnut Grove, as well as the installation of the street lights. Road project maps are available on line. Updated construction schedules for each of the projects will be provided on the Town website www.cortlandil.org as the information becomes available.

We understand the inconveniences caused by road construction and thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.



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

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**Resident of
Cortland, IL 60112**

Dear Neighbor,

I decided to depart from the customary format of my letter to address several topics that are receiving a lot of attention.

1. **The Town budget.** It's no secret that municipalities are experiencing financial difficulties and you've probably read articles in the local newspapers about what communities in the county are doing to balance their budgets. Cortland is no different. The Town Board put the current budget together in January 2010. We were given a bleak forecast for the future and we responded accordingly by cutting department budgets. We are one quarter of the way into the budget year and here are some highlights:

- No capital outlays for equipment or new infrastructure
- No new purchases authorized
- Outsource where it is financially feasible
- Unfilled staff positions will remain vacant
- Constantly searching for competitive prices for all goods and services
- Spending freeze on discretionary expenses
- No overtime
- Expenses have been lower than or equal to what was budgeted
- Revenues are flat or slightly declining
- The State of Illinois owes the Town more than \$130,000 in unpaid taxes and other fees.

The Town administration continues to look for ways to reduce expenses without significant reductions in services. I assure you that every employee is constantly looking for ways to further reduce our costs. Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find an explanation of "Where your property taxes go". Please review this information as I believe the Town is providing a lot for a small investment.

2. **Police Department reorganization.** The second topic is closely related to the first. Recently, the Town Board directed staff to cut \$100,000 from the Police Department budget. The Police Chief's proposal was to eliminate one full-time position (his) and reduce the number of hours available for the part-time officers. This along with reconfiguring work schedules allows the Police Department to provide nearly the same coverage we currently enjoy without compromising the safety of the public or our police officers.

Chief Stokes' proposal to step down October 1st was unexpected and an unselfish act in response to the Board's request. Chief Stokes transformed our Police Department from a one-man-shop to what we have today and we are indebted to him for his effort, professionalism and commitment to the residents of Cortland. The Chief will remain with the department in the role of a part-time officer.

3. **The School is safe.** The School District recently completed air quality testing at the Cortland School in response to some claims made at the recent landfill hearing. Several independent experts concluded that the school is safe for children. You can find more information concerning the air quality testing at our website or District 428's website.

4. **Litigation update.** Finally, as you may have learned by now, the Town did not receive a favorable jury verdict in a litigation matter involving Eagle Homes. The Town Board is obviously disappointed with this verdict. We continue to believe that the Town of Cortland has done nothing wrong in this matter. We will be discussing the Town's options, particularly the appeal of this decision, in the near future. In the meantime, because this is on-going litigation, I cannot elaborate or comment further about the case. I am sure you understand that answering your specific questions and concerns might compromise the Town's legal position in the case.

There is a process to follow and we must allow our defense team to complete their tasks without unnecessarily complicating the matter. In due time, I will be able to share more details of this case with you.

While it is easy to be consumed by these matters, please remember I have always and will continue to work for the best interests of the residents of Cortland.

Sincerely,

Mayor Bob Seyller

4TH ANNUAL CORTLAND BUSINESS EXPO



The 4th Annual Cortland Business Expo will be held on September 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Cortland Elementary School. The Business Expo is being held in conjunction with the Fall Meet & Greet for the school. Come join Resource Bank for this excellent opportunity to reach out to the community and let them know about your Business!

Bring a table and information you'd like to hand out. It's a great opportunity to meet the people in your community.

If you are interested in participating please RSVP to Darci@ResouceBank by Friday, September 3, or call her at 815-748-1645.

WHERE DO MY TAX DOLLARS GO?

