Mark Your Calendar For The Following Community Events

Movie Night - Friday July 15  (Little Fockers) Movie will start at dusk.
Cortland Fest - Friday, August 12 & Saturday, August 13 with Back Country Road (band) playing on Friday night. Parade & Festival - Sunday, October 16 - Parade at 1:00 p.m. Festival to follow 1:30-5:30
The theme this year will be "Harvest".

We would like to thank the Garage Sale Planners for donating $282 to the Parade & Festival.

ATTENTION ALL RUNNERS!
SAVE THE DATE
THE 2ND ANNUAL LIONS CLUB TURKEY TROT WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2011

go to: www.signmeup.com to register

Dollar General Opening Soon
Dollar General expects to open the Cortland store for business on July 15. We eagerly await the opening of the new store and the shopping conveniences it will bring for Cortland residents.

Workers scurry to complete Cortland’s new Dollar General Store for its expected July 15 opening.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
THE 30TH ANNUAL TOWN PARADE IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1TH
**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**July**
- 4 Independence Day
  (Town Hall closed)
- 6 Planning Commission meeting
- 11 Town Board meeting
- 15 Movie Night
- 25 Town Board meeting

**August**
- 1 Planning Commission meeting
- 8 Town Board meeting
- 12 Cortland Fest
- 13 Cortland Fest
- 22 Town Board meeting

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**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**
- Sandra Barzso (847)224-4351  
- Chuck Lanning (815)739-1673
- Doug Corson (630)452-6775  
- Mike Siewierski (815)754-5815
- Susan Dockus (815)758-4306  
- 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

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**SESQUICENTENNIAL**

The Town’s sesquicentennial will be in 2015, only 4 years from now. The Town is interested in gathering “moments in time” that make up the history of Cortland. We are looking for pictures and stories and/or authenticated historical data that can be used in the celebration of the Incorporation of the Town. We are looking for several volunteers to help coordinate, gather, scan and return treasures. Please call the Town Clerk’s Office at 815-756-3030 if you are interested in helping with this event

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**CURFEW REMINDER**

The Curfew Ordinance for the Town is the same as that of the State of Illinois.

Minor children under 17 years of age are in violation of the ordinance if they are in a public place or on the premises of an establishment without a parent or guardian present between 12:01 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Saturday; between 12:01 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Sunday; and between 11:00 p.m. on Sunday through Thursday, inclusive, and 6:00 a.m. on the following day.

A parent or guardian of a minor commits an offense if they knowingly permit, or by insufficient control, allows the minor to remain in any public place or on the premises of any establishment within the Town during curfew hours.

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**DID YOU KNOW OUR TOWN CODE IS ON-LINE? CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.CORTLANDIL.ORG**

Remember, you may need a building permit if you are remodeling or installing a new roof or new windows/doors, pool, deck, shed or fence. Call the Town Hall at 815-756-4124 to see if your project requires a building permit. Don’t forget to call J.U.L.I.E. at 811 before you dig!
CORTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

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

Children’s Programs in July & August at the Cortland Community Library

Preschool Storytime, Wednesday & Thursdays at 10 am
Movies for children shown every Friday at 1 pm
First Grade & Up Story & Craft, Thursdays at 1 pm. Pre-registration is required to ensure enough materials for everyone.

Tuesday evening family entertainment at 7 pm
July 5th: Rob Erdmann
July 12th: Stevens Puppets presents "Rumpelstiltskin"
July 19th: Medieval Alchemy by Discovery Center/Rockford
July 26th: Chris Fascione, story performer

These programs are held at the Lion's Den at Cortland Community Park.

A Midsummer Knight’s Read

It is not too late to register for our summer reading program!

Children can bring their reading logs into the library to claim one prize per week until Friday, August 26th.

Adults can get it on the fun as well! Read and check in with us at the library and on our Facebook page for chances to win prizes each week.

eBook Access
Go online to www.cortlandlibrary.com to the OMNI link and download free ebooks or audiobooks to your MP3, Nook, Kobo or IPOD. Use your Cortland Library card barcode for access. OMNI has "Help" sections to help you with e process.

Cortland Police Officers Recognized

Cortland Police Officer Josh Duehning and Officer Kimberly Everhart were recognized by the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM) for their exceptional DUI enforcement efforts. The AAIM award recognizes the top DUI officers among over 700 Illinois police agencies. Congratulations, Officer Duehning and Officer Everhart! Thank you, for your efforts.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CORTLAND GRADUATES.

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

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.

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.
FROM THE MAYOR’S DESK

I hope you all are enjoying your summer, finally, and belated happy Fourth of July greetings!

The celebration of our nation’s independence causes one to pause and consider the responsibilities that come with our freedom. Among those responsibilities are personal responsibility and to be a good citizen and contribute to the greater good. Little acts make a big difference. You will find in this newsletter several items where we are asking for your help in order to help solve some problems we are experiencing, or to prevent a problem from happening. You will also find articles about upcoming community events in which I encourage you to participate in with your neighbors and help build a stronger community bond.

Other responsibility associated with our freedom is participation in the political process. By now you may have read or heard local media accounts of the DeKalb County Board’s decision to adopt a new County Board representative redistricting map that divides Cortland among three different representative districts, effectively diluting Cortland’s political influence and rendering our citizens to a minority in each of the three districts. I and others in the community objected strongly to the proposal and attended meetings with County Board members to plead for a fairer more reasonable approach to gerrymandering the new district boundaries. In the end, the outcome did not go our way. But it was very encouraging to see many new faces become involved in the political process and I am proud of the Cortland citizens who spoke up for fairer representation on the County Board. Thank you.

Another trait of a good citizen is to always remember the sacrifice men and women in our community have made and are making to defend our freedom. Participate in veteran events, thank a vet, and thank a member of the armed services that is currently serving our country.

I hope you have an enjoyable summer, remember to be safe and have fun.

Bob
TOWN OF CORTLAND

Important Message About Tornado Warning Sirens

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.”

The Town’s tornado warning sirens have been put to a lot of use already this season. 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.

Detention Basins Are Not For Swimming

With the regularity of rain events this season, many of the stormwater detention basins in town have been full of water on several occasions. We’ve had experiences this season with people of all ages swimming in the basins and in one instance boating in a stormwater basin. While the basins look harmless and inviting when they are full of water they present a clear danger. Despite the calm appearance of the standing water in the basins, water is moving beneath the surface to inlets at the bottom of the basins and the force can be strong enough to pull a child or an adult under the surface. Also remember that the water in the basins is the runoff from streets and backyards and you do not want to be exposed to the chemicals and other stuff that may wash into the detention basins. If you see anyone swimming in a detention basin, please call the Cortland Police non-emergency number, 815.756.2558, immediately.

Full detention basins look inviting but residents are reminded that they can enjoy the view but they are not designed or intended for swimming or boating. So, keep out!
That Farm Field Is Not a Dumping Ground

Residents are reminded that the farm fields adjacent your neighborhood or the unfinished lots in town are not dumping grounds. If you cannot or do not want to mulch your yard waste, you must make arrangements with your scavenger service or another waste hauler to properly dispose of yard waste. Solid waste items, such as appliances, tires, household garbage need proper disposal. There are links to recyclers of a wide assortment of household items on the Town website and the County website.

Dumping is illegal. It creates an unwanted appearance and generally signals disrespect for the property owner and the property owners in the vicinity. It poses environmental problems. Something seemingly harmless like grass clippings can be transported into drainage swales or detention basins in a heavy rain and clog the swale or drainage basin inlet or outlet pipe and create flooding problems. It becomes an obstruction to mowing operations and interferes with farming operations. Dumping can be a health hazard if it involves household garbage.

If you see anyone dumping anything on any property, please call the Cortland Police non-emergency number, 815.756.2558, immediately. Persons caught and convicted of unwanted dumping will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Mystery of the Missing Sewer Covers

With the rapidly escalating price of metals these days, Cortland, like other communities, is experiencing theft of manhole and curb inlet grates. Aside from the expense, the removal of the manhole covers and storm sewer grates poses a safety problem for unwary pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. Without the covers or grates, unwanted debris and other objects can enter the sanitary or storm sewer system and create maintenance and operational challenges. Cortland, along with many other municipalities in the County, has the cooperation of the metal recyclers in the region to refuse to accept these items for recycling purposes.

Recent Sewer Back-Ups

The Memorial Day weekend storms wreaked havoc on the Town’s sanitary sewer system which, in turn, did the same on some residents’ basements. This is noteworthy because Cortland has a modern sanitary sewer and storm sewer system that separates the two functions. Pumping records indicate that the Town’s sanitary sewer system pumped 1.9 million gallons in 70 hours during that storm. To put that in perspective, the Town’s wastewater plant is designed to handle 1.5 million gallons per day at build-out or full capacity.

Since the sanitary sewers and storm sewers are separated, the cause for this excessive volume is attributed to illegal gutter downspout and sump pump connections into the sanitary sewer system. The
newer neighborhoods in Cortland have a separate sump pump discharge system to prevent such connections. If you have any kind of connection inside your home that directs the discharge from your sump pump to a utility sink in the basement, a floor drain in the basement, or is directly connected to a sewer connection in the house, it is not permitted and needs to be removed.

The Town’s sewer system is designed for one thing: transporting whatever you flush or put down the sink from your home to the treatment plant. The sewer pipes are sized accordingly and when too much flow is forced into a pipe diameter that was not designed for the added flow, it will back up to the nearest opening, which may be your basement floor drain, a basement shower drain, or other open drain connected to the sewer system.

The purpose of a sump pump is to remove subsurface water from around the footing of a building’s foundation. In Cortland the subsurface water table is relatively shallow and often a basement excavation exposes this water. Placing drainage pipes around the foundation connected to a sump pit allows the sump pump to collect this water in a central location and pump it out when the level gets too high. The subsurface water table generally is not affected by rain fall but your sump pump’s activity will increase if you have surface water seeping into the drainage system around the house foundation.

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 (every 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.
**Somonauck Road Path Completed**

Just in time for the planting season, the Town completed construction of the pedestrian path along Somonauck Road connecting NeuCort Lakes with the downtown area. It is our hope that the path will eliminate the need for pedestrians, including moms pushing strollers, to be walking on the Somonauck Road pavement. Thanks to the NeuCort Lakes Homeowners Association and Mr. Orville Olson for permitting us to construct the path on their respective properties and to Wagner Excavating for donating the materials, and to our maintenance crew, John K., John F., and Travys for a job well done!

[Picture]

**Summer Road Project Slated**

Construction will begin by the end of July (weather permitting) on repairing and resurfacing Juniper Street, Smith Avenue and Keene Avenue in the Woodland Acres neighborhood. Handicap ramps and curb repairs have already begun. The $88,100 project will be performed by Peter Baker & Sons and is being funded solely by Cortland’s share of motor fuel tax (MFT) funds. The Town’s website will provide current updates on the project and we will try to advise residents of project work schedules and any changes in the construction schedule due to weather or other circumstances.

This project is the latest phase in a multi-year process to resurface streets in the neighborhood and was selected using engineering and construction criteria.

New Somonauck Road pedestrian path open and ready for use.