



TOWN OF CORTLAND

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

THIRD LARGEST TOWN IN ILLINOIS

Volume 33 No. 1

Spring/Summer 2019

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(815)756-3030

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(815)756-2558

Website
www.cortlandil.org

Hello Neighbors and Friends,

I hope this Newsletter finds everyone well, given the brutal winter we just endured.

I want to thank all of our Town Staff for their dedication to our community. They worked diligently through the bitter cold, winds, and snow events to maintain our roads and public facilities; our water/sewer systems; and ensure public safety; during an extraordinary winter.

Please take note of the various articles in this Newsletter, as they pertain to upcoming community events and projects that will be taking place.

I encourage everyone to make time to enjoy your family and friends. Please be kind and considerate to your neighbors and be watchful of our children.

Russ Stokes
Mayor

PREPARATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Alexander Graham Bell once stated "Before anything else, preparation is the key to success." I am often asked how one keeps their family and themselves safe. Unfortunately there is no true golden answer. But we can develop strategies that we can put in our personal mental toolbox that can help minimize our exposure to dangerous situations as well as help us in responding appropriately if we do become involved in a critical incident. The best thing you can do is practice situational awareness. As police officers, we practice this on a daily basis.

Situational awareness always begins with self-awareness. You must know and understand where and who you are before you can properly assess what is going on around you. Most people have heard the term "keep your head on a swivel." This means you must be constantly aware of your surroundings. If a situation does not look right it is probably because it isn't. Most people walk into a bad situation simply because they were not aware of their surroundings or who they are dealing with.

Safety begins with each of us individually. We must actively make an effort to live safely, prevent crime and report suspicious activity. We must work together.

Preparation is defined as the action or process of making ready or being made ready for use or consideration. Merely recognizing a bad situation is only half the equation. We must also have a plan to succeed and survive any given scenario. If a critical incident occurs in your workplace how will you react? Think about fire drills when you were in school. You had to know where all the exits were and how to get to them safely. This applies in our everyday lives. When you go to a restaurant with your family take a slow look around you. Where are the exits? How fast can you get to one? When in public walk with your head up rather than looking down at your phone. Do not become the victim. The more prepared you are, the more effective and efficient your response will be. Having a plan and being prepared is one of the best strategies you can use in everyday life. Stay safe. Stay vigilant. We thank you for your support.

Lin Dargis
Your Chief of Police

DATES TO REMEMBER

(Check website for information)

(Click on Community Calendar and Date)

April

27 Magic Show

May

3 & 4 Garage Sales

3-12 Spring Clean-up

13-17 Hydrant Flushing

12 Mother's Day

13 Town Board meeting

27 Memorial Day (Town Hall closed)

28 Town Board meeting (Tuesday)

June

10 Town Board meeting

16 Father's Day

22 Lions Club Motorcycle Ride

24 Town Board meeting

July

4 July 4th (Town Hall closed)

8 Town Board meeting

22 Town Board meeting

August

9 & 10 Summer Fest

All Town Board meetings start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Please check our website for cancellations or changes to meeting schedule. Planning Commission Meetings, when scheduled, are held the first Thursday of every month. Check the Town's website for meeting agendas.



**TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALES
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY**

MAY 3 & 4

Contact Information:

Call or text

Robin Hansen (815) 757-0390

STREETS DEPARTMENT NOTICE

Parks

Within the next couple of weeks Public Works will begin its spring spraying of broadleaf herbicide to all park grass areas. While this is being done white flags will be placed at entrance locations to the park. The flags read "Lawn care application stay off grass until dry." When you see these flags, it means the park is closed. As soon as product dries the flags will be removed and the park will reopen.

Proposed MFT Projects

Resurfacing of East North Avenue from Somonauk Road to Prairie Street. We will also be replacing the sidewalks on the last two blocks on the South side.

Resurfacing of West North Avenue from Somonauk to Pine Street.

Resurfacing of Nina from West North Avenue to Pine Street.

Public Works does not pick up tree branches from trees on personal property, please do not pile them in the parkway.

Follow DC Trash instructions for yard waste pickup April through November.

DSATS TRANSIT SURVEY

Enclosed with this newsletter is a transit survey. This survey is produced by and is being conducted by the Town of Cortland in conjunction with the City of DeKalb Transit staff. This is a DSAT (DeKalb Sycamore Area Transportation Study) project and information is being collected to determine if need exists for Cortland.

You are encouraged to complete the survey by May 30, using the surveymonkey link on the Town's website. If you prefer using the paper copy it may be dropped off at the Town Hall or mailed to Town of Cortland, P.O. Box 519, Cortland.

WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT



The Town Of Cortland Water/Wastewater Department has purchased a used Vector combination truck. The addition of this truck will greatly enhance the maintenance program of our water and wastewater infrastructure and will be a valuable asset to the Town for many years.

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is available on the Town's website. It will also be delivered by mail within a week .

Hydrant Flushing Dates: May 13-17 and October 7-11

Water Bills are due May 25, August 25, November 25, and February

NEED INFORMATION?

The Town website at cortlandil.org is updated regularly. Check Community Calendar and click on dates for information. Staff is always available to answer questions. The Cortland Police Department has a Facebook page to keep you up to date on police happenings. You can check it out at Cortland IL Police Department.

If you use a search engine to find the website, please make sure it's the live website and not a point in time.

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED AT TOWN HALL

The Town Board has approved a Merchant Agreement with GovPayNet. This will allow for the acceptance of credit/debit card payments at Town Hall. There is a 2.35% fee for this service and a minimum fee of \$1.00. We cannot guarantee this option will be available for the May billing cycle. Please see the back side of your water bill for payment options. You will still have the option of paying your water bill with a credit card on the Town's website.

The Town will not accept postdated checks for payment of water/sewer accounts. The payment may be returned which could affect timely payment processing.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

The Town of Cortland Public Works 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 Cortland Community Park near the skate park parking area and will be available from **Friday, May 3 until Sunday, May 12**. These dumpsters may NOT be used for the disposal of yard waste, electronics, large appliances, tires, paint or other hazardous materials.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Amazing Tim Adamz Magic Show - Saturday, April 27 at 1:00 p.m. at Cortland Community Park (See Town’s website for details.)

Garage Sales - May 3 and 4 - Registration forms may be found on the Town’s website at www.cortlandil.org or contact Robin Hansen (815) 757-0390.

Spring Clean - Up - May 3 through May 12 (see article for details.)

Hydrant Flushing - Week of May 13 and week of October 12.

Cortland Summer Fest - August 9 and 10 The 2019 Cortland Summer Fest will be held August 9, 6:00 p.m. until midnight, and August 10, 12:00 p.m. until midnight. Local bands, food vendors, and more surprises all weekend!

Parade and Festival - October 13 The 38th Annual Parade and Festival will be held on October 13 at 1:00 p.m. This is a wonderful event that is fun and affordable for the whole family.

BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENTS

Before starting any projects, find out if a permit is required.

Examples of when a permit is needed: new construction of residential or non-residential buildings, additions, enclosed patios or three-season porches, gazebos, pergolas, roofs, decks, garages, sheds, fences, swimming pools (more than 2' deep), replacement windows, basement remodel/renovation, changes or additions to the electrical, mechanical, or plumbing systems.

Examples of projects that do not require a permit: painting, wall tiling, installing new flooring, cabinets, counter tops, wallpapering, repairing drywall, or other cosmetic projects.

Fines and penalties may be assessed for any construction which takes place without permits.

If property is located in a homeowners association check with the association for their specific requirements.

Zoning permits are required for seasonal or temporary home businesses, temporary use of a recreational vehicle as a dwelling, any new businesses, or other changes of use of any property.

It’s the law and it’s a free service....call JULIE before you dig! 811 or 800-892-0123 or visit www.illinois1call.com.

Contact Town Hall at 815-756-9041 to find out if your project requires a permit, for interpretation of applicable ordinances, questions on building code or to be directed to the proper contact.

Permitted Tree Species in the Parkway – only certain trees are allowed to be planted in the parkway. Contact Town Hall to receive a list of permitted species.

SUPPORT SUPERMAN RYKER

Four Seasons Sports
 1745 DeKalb Ave
 Sycamore

Fundraising Event
 Friday, May 17, 2019
 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
 \$15.00

Bowling, Raffles, Silent
 Auction, T-Shirts, Door
 Prizes, Appetizers, Cake
 Raffle, and more.

<https://www.facebook.com/prayforbabyryker/>

POLICE DEPARTMENT REMINDERS

Spring is finally here. It is time to get outside and clean up after a long winter. Springtime brings beautiful flowers, warmer weather and yard work. Spring also brings daytime burglaries, ruse burglaries, car burglaries and scams. A ruse burglary is when an offender deceives a victim to get into their home to steal cash and/or other valuables from the home. The victim is usually approached by two individuals who request to use the phone and ask for a glass of water. Once inside, one offender keeps the victim occupied while the second offender rummages through personal belongings. This also includes scammers who pose as utility workers, cable guys or census takers. Unfortunately it is our senior citizens who are primarily victimized by ruse burglars and scammers. Remember to lock all doors, windows and garages at all times, use peepholes before answering the door, call the police for any suspicious activity, alert your neighbors to solicitors, and most important, never let anyone into your home. This applies to day time burglaries as well. Keep all jewelry and other valuables locked up or in a safety deposit box. Also please remember to lock your cars, do not leave anything in plain sight and keep your driveway well-lit at night. Car burglaries are primarily crimes of opportunity. Don't give someone the opportunity to victimize you.

Speaking of cleaning up and yard work, the Police Department would like to remind everyone that the Town has ordinances that pertain to property maintenance. These include but are not limited to tall grass and weeds, garbage and abandoned or inoperable vehicles on the property. We will be enforcing the ordinances as violations present themselves. Please be aware and be educated. If you have any questions, you can contact the Police Department or go to the Town's website, cortlandil.org, and click on the Town Code section to review the ordinances. Please help keep Cortland safe, clean and green. We thank you for your support. Stay safe. Stay vigilant.

Lin Dargis
Your Chief of Police

Resident of
Cortland, IL 60112

Presorted
Standard U.S.
Postage Paid
Cortland, IL
60112
Permit No.1

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