



A newsletter from the . . . . .

# TOWN OF CORTLANDVILLE

Volume I • Issue 1

Summer 1998

## A NOTE FROM SUPERVISOR RAY THORPE

This is the first attempt at a Town newsletter in many years, or perhaps ever. We plan to publish it every now and then, with the intent of keeping our residents informed of events that do not always appear in the press. Please feel free to critique this modest effort, or offer suggestions, comments, or topics for future issues. My office phone number is 756-6091.

### WHY A NEWSLETTER?

To keep the people who live in our Town informed! It became evident after several discussions at Town Board meetings that there were a lot of Cortlandville residents who did not realize what was new, what was being improved, and what was being planned. Councilmen Testa and O'Donnell suggested putting together a newsletter—such as the successful and informative Village of McGraw newsletter which is published quarterly. As Supervisor Thorpe stated above, this is our first attempt. We are open for suggestions, so please pass along any comments/ideas you may have.

## BUSY TIMES FOR OUR FIRE DISTRICT AND FIRE DEPARTMENT

Excitement and work continue thanks to voter approval to construct a new Main Fire Station. Final floor plans are near completion and many new improvements will be evident:

- *improved energy efficiency,*
- *a larger community room with kitchen,*
- *easier access to all areas of the building, and*
- *increased space for training.*

Groundbreaking is scheduled for August, with enclosure of the building before cold weather, thus allowing work inside throughout the winter. Planned completion is for next spring.

The Fire Department will be conducting fundraisers to furnish the new building, so look for us throughout the summer.

Applications for membership are always welcomed. If anyone is interested in helping make Cortlandville a safer place in which to live and work, stop by the station on NYS Route 281, or on US Route 11 in Polkville to pick up an application.

## COURT NEWS

Because of the Cortlandville Court's caseload and activity, it has been chosen by the NYS Department of Audit & Control to participate in its electronic transfer program which allows our Court to send its monthly activity report to the State electronically, by modem. This lengthy report, mandated by the Department, was previously hand typed and mailed to the State each month with a check for the total amount of monies collected by the Court. Quarterly, after audit by the comptroller's office, any money allocated to Cortlandville would then be returned to the Town for deposit into its General Fund.

Under the new system, once our report is received by the State electronically, they will then "bill" the Town for its share of the funds collected, and the Town will then forward a check to the comptroller. No longer will the Town have to wait three months at a time to receive its share; rather, these funds will remain in the Town's account, earning interest. In addition, the Town will be entitled to keep any interest earned on the State's portion of the funds which will be held in our bank account for several days each month. Considering the Court collected \$504,720 last year, this could mean significant interest income for the Town which can be directly applied against taxes!

We are busy with computer technicians and programmers, so please be patient with us during the conversion process.

The Court Office is open daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from September 1 to May 31, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from June 1 to August 31. Regular Court sessions are on Tuesdays, starting at 1 p.m.



## A SWIMMING POOL REMINDER . . .

With the summer heat, please remember that a swimming pool with a depth greater than two feet requires a Building Permit. Regulations for enclosures of pools, and exemptions, are available at Town Hall. For information, call 756-7490.



## FROM THE PARKS DEPARTMENT

Have you noticed the new *Blodgett Mills Ball Park*? The new rest room facilities have been completed, and there will be a new basketball court and a sand volleyball court this year!

And the *Citizens Park* (behind the Cortlandville Fire Station on Route 281) has been improved with re-furnished volleyball court posts and the placement of a new infield mix on the large baseball field.

Please call either 756-9637 or 756-8241 to make a reservation for any special use of the parks—picnics, parties, games, etc.

There are functions scheduled for children at each park during the summer. Scheduled events for August are listed below. For further information, call the Town at 756-9637, or the Cortland Youth Bureau at 753-3021.

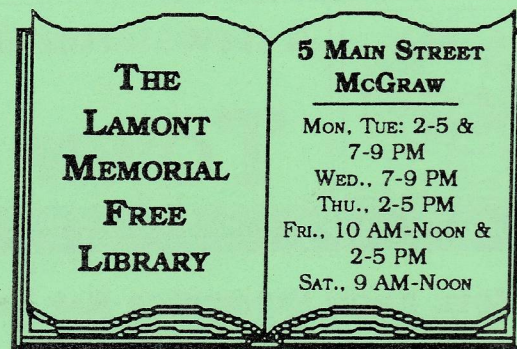
☺ Have a Safe & Happy Summer!! ☺



### Community Parks Calendar

• August - 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM •

Date	Blodgett Mills Ball Park (New)	Lamont Circle Park
Mon., 8/3:	Nature	----
Tue., 8/4:	Archery	Drama
Wed., 8/5:	Drama	Arts & Crafts
Thu., 8/6:	----	Nature
Fri., 8/7:	Playground	Nature
Mon., 8/10:	----	Archery
Tue., 8/11:	Arts & Crafts	Drama
Wed., 8/12:	Nature	Playground
Thu., 8/13:	Drama	----
Fri., 8/14:	Playground	Nature
Mon., 8/17:	Archery	Drama
Tue., 8/18:	----	Archery
Wed., 8/19:	Nature	Arts & Crafts
Thu., 8/20:	Drama	Playground
Fri., 8/21:	----	Nature



The Lamont Memorial Free Library staff is busy with their summer reading program, "Solve It at the Library," open to all children through the 8th grade. The reading program runs until August 14, with special events advertised in the Cortland Standard. Children who register and keep a log of the books they have read will be eligible for a weekly drawing and participation in the Grand Finale Party where prizes will be awarded to all participants. Come, join in the fun, and "Solve It at the Lamont Library!"

As a member of the Finger Lakes Library System, the Lamont library offers free access to the resources of all libraries in the system, in addition to its own selection of popular current fiction and non-fiction (for adults and children), magazines, books on tape, videos, encyclopedias (in print and on CD), mail-it program, copy and fax service, free Internet access for research, Pre-School Story/Craft Time (Fri., 10 a.m., Sept.-June), and special programs and storytimes throughout the year.



### THE TOWN HISTORIAN

The Town Historian has the monumental, time-consuming task of preserving, recording, and storing important materials and data relating to the history of the Town of Cortlandville and its residents.

Cortlandville, the largest Town in Cortland County, completely surrounds the City of Cortland and the Village of McGraw, thereby generating an average of five or more items of information (news articles, historical data discovered, etc.) daily. The Historian has an office in the Town Highway Garage in Polkville containing four large files and a computer with special software to assist in recording information for posterity. Materials which are on old or disintegrating paper are copied.

Individuals who come across materials pertaining to the Town and its residents generously contribute to the preservation of its history. Slide shows or talks concerning Cortlandville are given by the Town Historian, Alice Blatchley, upon request. If you have any questions, or would like to meet with her, she can be reached at 756-8707.



## WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT

The Town has two new concrete water storage tanks with a capacity of one million gallons each which gives the Department time for repairs if a pump should fail. The tanks are located on Blue Creek Road and NYS Route 215. In addition, we have two booster stations to supply water to those gravity systems which are at higher elevations—one for the Walden Oaks area, and one for the Cosmos Hill/DaVinci Drive area. These booster systems are run by electricity; therefore, if the power fails there could be an interruption in the water supply to those areas. Back-up generators are in place, just in case.

If you have any questions/problems with your water or sewer systems, please call 756-9637.

### A WARM WINTER FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Yes, we had a warm winter; however, there was more icing of the roads, so the quantity of salt and sand used remained about the same.

The Town has five plow routes, with each taking approximately 3.5 hours to complete under normal conditions. Peak traffic hours or a real heavy snowfall can add another one-half to one hour to a route. This means that if it's snowing at the rate of one inch per hour, there can be four inches of snow on the roads before the plow returns for the next pass.

Everyone would like to have their street/road plowed and sanded at a time that's most convenient for them, but hills where school buses travel receive priority. The Department asks for patience during a heavy snowfall ... **we will be there!!**

From the  
District 12  
Legislator



The Cortland County Highway Department is from four to six weeks behind schedule due to the rainy weather. However, the Bennett Street bridge replacement project off NYS Route 41 (just before McGraw) is underway, with completion expected before winter sets in. If anyone has any questions or problems in this District, please contact Legislator David Plew at 836-6868 (days) or 836-6311 (evenings).

## SCHOOL TAX RELIEF PROGRAM

☆☆

The Town Assessor's Office would like to remind every residential property owner to file their STAR exemption application. The exemption is a reduction in school taxes and applies to a property owner's primary residence. Applications are available at the Assessor's Office in Town Hall. Cortlandville property owners have until March 1, 1999 to file their applications.

### HOW MAY WE BE OF SERVICE??

At the Town Hall, we have many local, dedicated employees whose job is to serve the public in a courteous, professional manner. Some improvements have recently taken place to make your visit to our offices more convenient:

- A directory has been placed in the entryway listing the names of elected officials, the Town Attorney, and department heads, along with corresponding office number to assist you in finding your destination.
- Also in the entryway are bulletin boards showing agendas of the Town Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals, plus other information on meetings/activities within the Town.
- A drop box has been placed outside the front door to facilitate the payment of water & sewer bills, taxes, etc. after office hours.

### BY THE WAY, HOW ARE WE DOING?

- ☒ When you enter Town Hall, are you given a friendly greeting?
- ☒ Is business being conducted in a professional manner?
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- ☒ Are your questions being answered? (We know you don't always get the answers you want to hear, but are we courteous even so?)
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Please pass along any suggestions you may have that would help us to serve everyone in a friendly, professional manner. We care.



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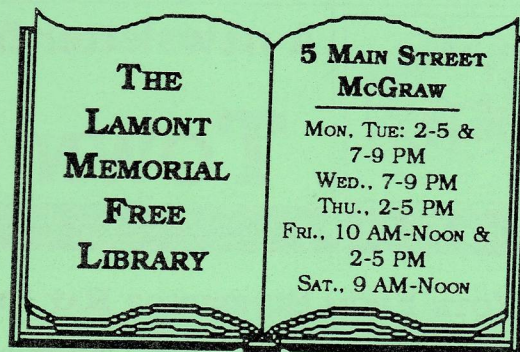
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### THE LAMONT MEMORIAL FREE LIBRARY

5 MAIN STREET  
MCGRAW

MON, TUE: 2-5 &  
7-9 PM  
WED., 7-9 PM  
THU., 2-5 PM  
FRI., 10 AM-NOON &  
2-5 PM  
SAT., 9 AM-NOON

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