

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, LGBTQIA+ Pride Month is celebrated nationwide in the month of June; and

Whereas, this month was chosen to commemorate the riots that took place the morning of June 28, 1969 at the Stonewall Inn in New York, often viewed as the birth of the modern LGBTQIA+ rights movement; and

Whereas, it is important to take time during this month to reflect on the LGBTQIA+ rights movement and the important progress that has been made; and

Whereas, the Town of Cortland recognizes that one of its greatest strengths is the diversity of its people; and

Whereas, the Town of Cortland believes in the dignity of the individual, supporting legal equality and treatment for all people, and ensuring that acts of discrimination and hatred will not be tolerated; and

Whereas, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, plus communities (LGBTQIA+) contribute to our community's success and strengths in a great number of immeasurable ways; and

Whereas, LGBTQIA+ individuals continue to face discrimination simply for being who they are, continue to be a target of violence and harassment and yet continue to thrive through the efforts of the community itself and through the support of LGBTQIA+ affirming spaces, agencies, businesses, and individual allies; and

Whereas, discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity is often compounded with discrimination on the basis of race, immigration status, religion, disability, and age, among others; and

Whereas, the Town of Cortland strives to lead in affirming the lives and values of LGBTQIA+ individuals through its actions, laws, employees, and commissions; and

Whereas, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, plus individuals (LGBTQIA+) invite all members of the Cortland community to join them during the month of June in celebrating the resiliency of the community.

Now, therefore, I, Mark Pietrowski, Mayor of the Town of Cortland, do hereby proclaim June 2023 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month in the Town of Cortland, and I encourage all people in our community to join in celebrating diversity, and promoting inclusion and equity, and I further encourage people to join me in eliminating discriminatory policies and practices toward any culture, race, or group.

Dated this 12th day of June 2023.

Mark Pietrowski