



Town of Cortland
59 South Somonauk Road
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PROC 2026-05

A Proclamation Recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in DeKalb County

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious public health and community issue that affects individuals and families of every background; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence can take many forms, including physical, emotional, sexual, financial, and technological abuse, and its impact extends beyond individual survivors to children, families, workplaces, schools, and the broader community; and

WHEREAS, survivors of domestic violence demonstrate tremendous courage and strength in seeking safety, healing, and a life free from abuse, and every survivor deserves to be treated with dignity, respect, compassion, and without judgment; and

WHEREAS, Safe Passage, DeKalb County's domestic violence and sexual assault crisis center, has provided safety, support, advocacy, and hope to survivors and their families for 45 years through comprehensive, confidential, and trauma-informed services; and

WHEREAS, preventing domestic violence requires the commitment of the entire community, including supporting survivors, promoting healthy relationships, challenging harmful attitudes and behaviors, and recognizing that domestic violence is not a private matter but a community concern; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County is committed to supporting survivors, promoting safety and equality, strengthening community partnerships, and working toward a future free from domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an opportunity to honor survivors, recognize the advocates and organizations working to end violence, and encourage every member of our community to take action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that **October 2026 is hereby recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the Town of Cortland**, and that the Town encourages all residents, businesses, schools, community organizations, and public agencies to stand with survivors, support efforts to prevent domestic violence, and work together to create a safer and more compassionate community for all.

Proclaimed this 28th day of September 2026.

Mayor Mark Pietrowski