

The Laurel Hollow Lantern



LATE SUMMER/EARLY FALL 2020

Note from Mayor DeVita

“What a long strange trip it’s been.” That line from a Grateful Dead song seems appropriate to describe this life-changing year. The pandemic kept us sheltered in our homes for months. Many loved ones died or became very ill but funeral services were not allowed and are still limited. Masks have become regular wear, like shirts or socks. We can’t yet gather too many together, and the age-old custom of the handshake may be a thing of the past. Then we were hit with tropical storm Isaias and shown that the thousands we pay PSEG every year seemed wasted amid the sufferings that residents had to endure in chronic heat without power for up to 10 days. But on a brighter note, many are back to work, although are commuting from the bed to the computer at home instead of by the LIRR. Children are returning to school under conditions never thought imaginable. Despite all of the changes wrought by these crises, our community’s spirit is indomitable. Speaking to residents on the phone, in person, and electronically has demonstrated their positive, can-do nature. People have respected social distancing rules, helped their neighbors during the storm outage, and have continued to perform important projects for our Village. Drawing from the uplifting spirit of our friends and neighbors, I know things will improve and only better times are ahead. Stay well.

With warmest regards,

Mayor Dan DeVita

POST-STORM IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- If you or a loved one depend on life-support equipment and cannot afford to suffer a power outage, please sign up for PSEG’s critical care program. PSEG states that customers who sign up will have to submit a medical certificate from a doctor and then “every effort will be made to restore [power] as soon as possible.” For this and other PSEG customer assistance programs, please go to www.psegliny.com and click on Customer Assistance Programs.
- If you have been considering purchasing a non-portable generator for your home, please note that a building permit application is required from our Village as well as approval from the Nassau County Fire Marshall. The Village turn-around time on such an application is 48 hours. However, the Nassau County Fire Marshal can take weeks to approve. We suggest you submit your plans there first and wait for their approval before submitting to the Village.
- Isaias caused substantial tree damage, much of it on our Village right-of-way. Soon after the storm, Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Joseph Saladino opened the Town’s Department of Public Works yard to Villages to deposit storm debris at no charge. Our Village Highway Department crew made several trips with our large truck filled with debris. This saved the Village thousands of dollars. Many thanks to Supervisor Saladino and his staff.
- Thanks also to our state representatives, Senator James Gaughran and Assemblyman Charles Lavine for holding PSEG’s, Altice/Optimum’s, and Verizon’s feet to the fire during legislative hearings following the disastrous response of PSEG, Altice, and Verizon following the storm. Senator Gaughran has sponsored important legislation that would empower the NY State Public Service Commission with oversight authority to investigate and mandate changes at PSEG. Presently, the only oversight of PSEG is conducted by LIPA, which you may remember was in charge of restoring electric power after Superstorm Sandy, when the Village was without power for over 2 weeks.

SHELLFISH COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM

Kudos to the many oyster gardeners who have been tending their cages off our beach during the summer and have experienced terrific growth from oyster seedlings, which were first “planted” in July. Moreover, in

In addition to having added Bayville as part of the community oyster gardening project, the Town of Huntington recently authorized the expansion of the program into West Neck Beach in Lloyd Harbor. Remember that each oyster filters 50 gallons of water per day. We are raising almost 100,000 oysters this year and then this Fall will bed them in the oyster sanctuary off of our beach, which was established in conjunction with the Town of Oyster Bay last year. Many thanks go to Rob Crafa, Coordinator for the Oyster Bay Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee and our Harbormaster and Trustee Jeff Miritello for their tireless efforts. Special thanks also go to Kevin Oxer, Joe Croasdale, Debra Perone, Steve Barker, and so many others for the continued success and growth of the program.



NEW ASSOCIATE VILLAGE JUSTICE

Our longtime resident James J. McCrorie has been appointed by the Mayor as Associate Village Justice. Judge McCrorie is a former Assistant District Attorney and is a successful trial lawyer. We thank him in advance for volunteering his valuable time to our Village. We also thank retiring Associate Village Justice Joseph Lafferty for his many years of service to the Village.



THANK YOU JOE GRACE LANDSCAPING

During a storm this summer (pre-Isaias) with severe winds, our American flag at the Village Hall was torn down and the halliard on the flag pole broke. Repairs would have necessitated hiring a contractor with a bucket truck at great expense. Joe Grace, who has deep roots in our community, answered the call for help and repaired the line with his bucket truck free of charge. Thank you Joe!



VOTING AT THE VILLAGE ELECTION

The annual Village Election is Tuesday, September 15, 2020 from noon to 9 pm. You may vote in person as usual and the court room will be set up with plexiglass, distance markers, individual pens for voting and hand sanitizers. Please make sure to wear a mask. The Governor is allowing voters who have concerns over being exposed to COVID-19 to apply to vote absentee by checking the "illness" box. Below is a link to the absentee ballot application which can be filled out and brought to Village Hall between 9 am and 4 pm no later than Sept. 14, at which time the Village Clerk will provide you with a ballot and return envelope. Your ballot must be returned no later than 9 pm on the day of the election.

<https://www.laurelhollow.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf3321/f/uploads/583.pdf>

WORK UPDATES

The Village anticipates that Cherry Lane, the Hollows, and a small segment of Springwood Path will be paved this Fall.

REMINDERS



- Remember to purchase permits for all cars you intend to use to get to our beach. Fines for parking tickets was increased this summer to \$250 for a first offense.
- Work hours for contractors and landscapers on Saturdays is from 9:00am to 4:00pm. and from 8:00am to 6:00pm Monday through Friday. No work is allowed on Sundays or Holidays.
- Dogs are not permitted on the beach. Dog feces contains coliform bacteria, which pollutes our waters and presents a danger to bathers and the ecological system itself. Always pick up after your pet.

POLICE CALLS

Finally, please remember to **call 911 immediately** in the event of any emergency. Whenever you see a suspicious car or need to report suspicious events, **call 911**. Do not call the Village Hall or the Oyster Bay Cove police booth for an event because the police booths, both in Laurel Hollow and in Oyster Bay Cove, are not staffed 24/7 and it will only delay a response. However, if you want to alert the police, for example, that you will be away for the holidays or vacation, then call the police booth at (516) 922-6363.

Daniel F. DeVita, Mayor

Jeffrey Nemshin, Deputy Mayor
Jeffrey Miritello, Trustee
Martin Novick, Trustee

Richard Nicklas, Trustee
Nicholas Tsafos, Trustee
Kevin Jusko, Trustee

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