

Dear Quogue Residents,

1. Tropical Storm Isaias came and went pretty quickly, but it brought a lot of wind. I am not aware of any tornados in Quogue yesterday, but I received a warning to take shelter while I happened to be in my car, as I am sure many of you did. (I noticed the warning after the timeframe had passed.) There was a lot of debris in the roads, but the Highway Department has been doing its usual great job this morning of cleaning it up. Please do not drag fallen limbs and the like from your yard into the road. They are the homeowner's responsibility, and the Village does not have the space for that material at the highway yard.
2. There are large trees down on Lamb Avenue and at the corner of Beach Lane and Quogue Street where the electric wires have been affected, resulting in losses of power in some locations. The Highway Department has to wait for the PSE&G crew to address those trees. The situations and known outages have been reported, of course, but PSE&G has not been able to give any estimate of the time by which they will be repaired. The company says that it has had 400,000 power outages, which is the most since Hurricane Irene in 2011. It prioritizes repairs on transmission and distribution lines that give it the most bang for the buck, and so these repairs would not necessarily be at the top of its list. The PSE&G outage map does not seem to be working well at the moment, but you can check it out periodically to see if things have improved: <https://mypowermap.psegliny.com/external/default.html>. I will keep checking through my channel as well.
3. The beach seemed to fare pretty well because the storm hit at low tide, was relatively brief and the wind was from the south and then the southwest, which is unusual for a storm. Happily, the osprey nest at the Village Beach entrance was intact this morning despite appearing to be somewhat at risk yesterday afternoon.
4. The previously-postponed Village elections will be held in September. The deadline for filing nominating petitions expired at the end of last month, and the only petitions received by the Village Clerk were for me as Mayor and for Bob Treuhold and Kim Payne for the two (of four) Trustee positions that are up for election this year. Jeanette Obser, who has been a Trustee since 2002 decided to step down and not to run for another two-year term. Jeanette has been an extremely valuable member of the Board, particularly in the areas of construction and maintenance of our physical assets, and I thank her very much for all her contributions. Fortunately, Jeanette has volunteered to continue consulting on the renovation of the Village-owned building at 121 Jessup Avenue, formerly occupied by Quogue Plumbing, which will become the Village Building and Code Enforcement Departments. You may have noticed that work on that building started yesterday.

Enjoy the rest of August. Please continue to wear your mask when in the vicinity of others, keep a social distance from others, wash your hands frequently and tell your kids to do the same. We want schools to open and remain open, and those things are critical.

Peter Sartorius
Mayor