

1490-WGCH QUARTERLY ISSUES
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2014

AS THE BRUTAL WINTER CONTINUES, GREENWICH FIRST SELECTMAN PETER TESEI TALKED ABOUT THE BUDGETARY CHALLENGES OF SNOW REMOVAL BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GREENWICH FIRE CHIEF PETER SIECIENSKI CAME IN AND TALKED ABOUT THE ISSUE OF HOARDING IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE ATTEMPTED-SUICIDE AT A HOME IN OLD GREENWICH. FIREFIGHTERS HAD A DIFFICULT TIME GETTING A WHEELCHAIR-BOUND WOMAN OUT OF THE HOME BECAUSE OF HOARDING.

GREENWICH RTM BUDGET OVERVIEW CHAIRMAN LUCIA JANSEN WAS A GUEST ON VIEWPOINT TO TALK ABOUT THE BUDGET PROCESS. SHE FAVORS HOLDING THE LINE ON SPENDING, CALLING THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION'S 2-PERCENT INCREASE GUIDELINE OUTDATED AND TOO HIGH FOR TAXPAYERS TO ABSORB.

1490-WGCH QUARTERLY ISSUES
APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2014

ONE OF THE TOP ISSUES IN GREENWICH IS THE MANAGEMENT OF ITS HARBORS. AND THE FORMATION OF A 'HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION' (RATHER THAN A COMMITTEE, WHICH IS DIFFERENT) HAS BEEN THE SOURCE OF MAJOR CONTROVERSY, AS THE COMMISSION HAS CLASHED WITH THE HARBORMASTER, WHO IS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND NOT A TOWN EMPLOYEE. ON THE "ASK THE FIRST SELECTMAN SHOW" WE DISCUSSED THE ISSUE AS WELL AS WITH INTERVIEWS WITH THE HARBOR MASTER AND MEMBERS OF THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION.

GREENWICH HAS A POST OFFICE FOR ALMOST EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD IN TOWN, AND WE DID VARIOUS INTERVIEWS ON THE MOVING OF THE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN POST OFFICE ON GREENWICH AVENUE TO A SMALLER OFFICE ON AMEGERONE CROSSWAY. THERE WAS ALSO MUCH DISCUSSION ABOUT THE GLENVILLE POST OFFICE, WOULD IT MOVE, CLOSE OR BE RENOVATED.

COMINGS AND GOINGS THAT WGCH REPORTED ON DURING THE QUARTER WERE TWO KEY POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT. DIANE FOX RETIRED AFTER 30 YEARS AS DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING; REPLACED BY KATIE BLANKLEY DELUCA. AND ALLEN CORRY LEFT AS PARKING SERVICES COMMISSIONER, REPLACED BY RITA AZRELYANT.

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JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2014

WITH A HEAT WAVE HITTING IN JULY -- GREENWICH EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPUTY DIRECTOR ART ROMANO USED THE MONTHLY GEMS SEGMENT TO TALK ABOUT THE DANGERS OF HEAT-RELATED PROBLEMS.
AS WE GET INTO SUMMERTIME, GREENWICH FIRE CHIEF PETER SIECIENSKI USED HIS MONTHLY SEGMENT ON WGCH TO TALK ABOUT GRILLING SAFETY.
THE GREENWICH ASSOCIATION REALTORS (EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT THERESA HATTON) CAME IN TO TALK ABOUT THE REAL ESTATE MARKET IN GREENWICH.
GREENWICH SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMAN BARBARA O'NEILL DISCUSSED THEIR COMPREHENSIVE 3 TO 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN THEY'RE PUTTING TOGETHER FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, CALLING IT "A SINGLE GUIDING DOCUMENT."
FORMER NIXON WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL JOHN DEAN WAS A GUEST ON WGCH TO TALK ABOUT HIS NEW BOOK "THE NIXON DEFENSE: WHAT HE KNEW AND WHEN HE KNEW IT." DEAN WAS PROMOTING HIS BOOK AT AN EVENT AT GREENWICH LIBRARY.
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GREENWICH REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING'S "BUDGET OVERVIEW COMMITTEE" LUCIA JANSEN WAS A GUEST ON "VIEWPOINT" TO TALK ABOUT HOW THEY WANT THE LEGISLATIVE BODY (RTM) INVOLVED EARLIER IN THE BUDGET PROCESS.

1490 WGCH QUARTERLY ISSUES
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2014

WITH EBOLA ON THE MINDS OF EVERYONE -- THE GREENWICH HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS CONTINUING TO FINE-TUNE ITS PLANS FOR DEALING WITH A POSSIBLE EBOA OUTBREAK. HEALTH COMMISSIONER CAROLINE BAISLEY CAME ON TO TALK ABOUT THE DRILLS WITH HEALTH, GREENWICH HOSPITAL, AND GEMS, AS ORDERED BY THE GOVERNOR.

ON THE EDUCATION FRONT, THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION IS DISCUSSING INCORPORATING THE "STEM" PROGRAM -- SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS -- AT HAMILTON AVENUE SCHOOL. SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMAN BARBARA O'NEILL CAME ON TO DISCUSS IT -- AND HER SUPPORT

DECEMBER IS THE TIME OF YEAR WHEN GREENWICH SETS ITS PARKING AND BEACH FEES FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR. THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN APPROVED A RESOLUTION TO NOT INCREASE FEES BY 10-PERCENT, AS THE NEW PARKING SERVICES COMMISSIONER RITA AZRELYANT WANTS TO PHASE THEM IN OVER TIME.