

QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2024

JANUARY 2024

GREENWICH HOSPITAL WELCOMED THE FIRST BABY OF 2024 LESS THAN AN HOUR INTO THE START OF THE NEW YEAR. THE BABY GIRL WAS BORN AT 12:57 AM TO CAITLIN AND DANIEL BRISTOW OF WILTON. (MORNING NEWS CENTER)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF SELECTMAN HAS TAKEN OVER CONTROL OF THE TOWN'S NOISE ORDINANCE AFTER THE BOARD OF HEALTH RELINQUISHED CONTROL. SELECTWOMAN LAUREN RABIN COMMENTED (INTERVIEW JAN 2 0820-0830)

MICHAEL SKAKEL, WHO WAS CONVICTED OF KILLING MARTHA MOXLEY IN 1975, BUT HAD HIS CONVICTION OVERTURNED, IS SUING THE TOWN OF GREENWICH, CLAIMING POLICE USED IMPROPER PROCEDURES IN THEIR INVESTIGATION. (MORNING NEWS CENTER, JAN. 3)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS APPROVED A BUDGET. IT INCREASES SPENDING BY 4.4 PERCENT, ABOVE THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION'S GUIDELINES. SCHOOL BOARD INTERIM CHAIR KAREN HIRSCH (MORNING NEWS CENTER JAN 5 0730-0740)

STAMFORD MAYOR CAROLINE SIMMONS HAS NAMED REX MORRIS, A 50-YEAR VETERAN FIRE FIGHTER, FIRE CHIEF. (MORNING NEWS CENTER JAN. 8)

MORE DEMOCRATS THAN REPUBLICANS VOTED IN REPUBLICAN HARRY FISHER AS NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION (MORNING NEWS CENTER JAN. 10)

AFTER THE SCHOOL BOARD DEADLOCKED ON A NEW CHAIR, THE REPUBLICAN-CONTROLLED BOARD OF SELECTMEN ELECTED KAREN KOWALSKI NEW CHAIR. (BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING COVERAGE JAN. 11)

THE GREENWICH REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING -- AFTER FIVE HOURS OF DEBATE -- APPROVED A NOISE ORDINANCE THAT RESTRICTS THE USE OF GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. (RTM COVERAGE JAN. 16)

THE GREENWICH REAL ESTATE MARKET DID NOT SHOW MUCH CHANGE IN DECEMBER OF 2023 COMPARED TO DECEMBER OF 22 (REAL ESTATE REPORT JAN. 18 0820-830)

GREENWICH FIRST SELECTMAN FRED CAMILLO IS TOUTING THE RESULTS OF THE CITIZEN'S SATISFACTION SURVEY, WHICH SHOWS MOST RESIDENTS ARE HAPPY WITH TOWN GOVERNMENT (ASK THE FIRST SELECTMAN SHOW JAN. 19 0900-0930)

GREENWICH FIRST SELECTMAN FRED CAMILLO DELIVERED HIS BUDGET TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION, AND SCHOOLS SUPERINTEDENT DR. TONI JONES AND SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR KAREN KOWALSKI DID THE SAME FOR THE EDUCATION BUDGET (COVERAGE JAN. 23)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE HECTOR ARZENO OF GREENWICH SAYS HE'S DISAPOINTED A SPECIAL SESSION ON THE BANNING OF GAS POWERED VEHICLES WAS CANCELLED. (MORNING NEWS CENTER JAN. 25 0750-0800)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF SELECTMAN HAS APPROVED A SCHEDULE OF 14 FLAG RAISINGS THIS YEAR (BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING JAN. 25)

THE GREENWICH SENIOR CENTER IS NOW THE WALLACE SENIOR CENTER, NAMED FOR MARY LOUISE WALLACE, WHO BEQUEATHED 2.5 MILLION DOLLARS TO THE SENIOR CENTER (ASK THE FIRST SELECTMAN SHOW JAN 26 0900-0930)

FEBRURARY 2024

STICKER SHOCK FOR THE CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE, AS A NEW COST ESTIMATE PEGS THE PRICE OF THE PROJECT AT 120-MILLION DOLLARS, 8 MILLION ABOVE THE BUDGETED AMOUNT OF 112 MILLION. THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS SAY THEY'LL TRY TO FIND AREAS TO CUT, RATHER THAN GO TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION FOR MORE MONEY (MORNING NEWS CENTER FEB. 1)

AQUARION WATER COMPANY IS HOLDING AN ON-LINE COMMUNITY MEETING TONIGHT TO TALK ABOUT THEIR BIG WATER MAIN PROJECT ON GREENWICH AVENUE (MORNING NEWS CENTER FEB 5)

STAMFORD POLICE OFFICER ZACHARY LOCKWOOD HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH MISCONDUCT WITH A MOTOR VEHICLE FOR STRIKING AND KILLING PASTOR TOMMIE JACKSON WHILE RESPONDING TO A CALL (MORNING NEWS CENTER FEB 6)

GOVERNOR NED LAMONT DELIVERED HIS STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS TO KICK OFF THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION. (COVERAGE FEB 7)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE STEPHEN MESKERS OF GREENWICH SAYS THE GOVERNOR SET THE RIGHT TONE FOR THE SESSION BY STRESSING THE FISCAL GUARD RAILS. (INTERVIEW FEB 8 0750-0800)

THE GREENWICH PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION IS CONSIDERING A CONTROVERSIAL PROPOSAL FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON PEMBERWICK ROAD. ABOUT 150 PEOPLE SIGNED A PETITION OPPOSING THE PLAN BECAUSE OF TRAFFIC AND BLASTING CONCERNS. DIRECTOR OF P AND Z PAT LA ROW (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW FEB. 8 0730-0740)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION IS TAKING A DEEP DIVE INTO SPECIAL EDUCATION. SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR KAREN KOWALSKI (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW FEB. 10 0830-0840)

4TH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN JIM HIMES OF GREENWICH SAYS HE'S DISAPPOINTED THAT THE U-S ARMY HAS DROPPED

A PROGRAM WITH FAIRFIELD COUNTY SIKORSKY AIRCRAFT TO DEVELOP AN ARMED SCOUT HELICOPTER. (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW FEB 10 0720-0730)

THE GREENWICH REAL ESTATE MARKET HELD STEADY IN JANUARY COMPARED TO THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR (REAL ESTATE REPORT FEB 15 0820-0830)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED TO MOVE MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT STATUS FOR THE NEW DOROTHY HAMILL SKATING RINK TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION. (MEETING COVERAGE FEB. 20)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF SELECTMEN APPROVED AN OUTDOOR DINING FROM APRIL 1 TO NOVEMBER. (MEETING COVERAGE FEB. 20)

GREENWICH DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING PAT LA ROW TOLD WGCH NEWS HE AGREES WITH THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S DECISION TO SHORTEN THE OUTDOOR DINING SEASON TO END BEFORE THANKSGIVING (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW FEB 25 0730-0740)

THE NEW PARKING GARAGE AT THE STAMFORD TRANSPORTATION CENTER OPENED ON FEB. 26 4TH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN JIM HIMES OF GREENWICH ATTENDED THE OPENING (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW FEB 26 0720-0730)

GREENWICH SCHOOLS' CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER BLAIZE LEVITAN IS LEAVING THE DISTRICT AT THE END OF APRIL TO BECOME C-O-O OF THE BRANFORD SCHOOL SYSTEM, CLOSER TO HIS HOME. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS DR. TONI JONES COMMENTED (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW FEB. 29 0830-0900)

GREENWICH POLICE CHIEF JAMES HEAVEY PRESENTED A PLAN FOR TRAFFIC CAMERAS NEAR SCHOOLS IN THE TOWN. HE SAYS IT'S NOT A MONEY GRAB, AS THE STATE GETS ANY TICKET MONEY, BUT AN ATTEMPT TO DETER SPEEDING NEAR SCHOOLS (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW FEB. 29 0900-0930)

MARCH 2024

OLD GREENWICH ATTORNEY JOHN REGAN HAS BEEN NONINATED BY GOVERNOR LAMONT TO BE A CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE. (MORNING NEWS CENTER MAR. 4)

GREENWICH'S GRAND LIST HAS GROWN TO NEARLY 35 BILLION DOLLARS, BY FAR THE HIGHEST IN THE STATE. BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION CHAIRMAN HARRY FISHER COMMENTED (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW MAR. 5 0730-0740)

YWCA GREENWICH PRESIDENT AND CEO MARY LEE KIERNAN AND THE YW'S DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR EQUITY AND JUSTICE SIMONE QUARTEY TRAVELED TO CIVIL RIGHTS LANDMARKS IN THE SOUTH AS PART OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH. QUARTEY COMMENTED (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW MARCH 6 0820-0830)

SO-CALLED 'OLD GUARD' REPUBLICANS ARE DECLARING VICTORY IN THE REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE PRIMARIES. FIRST SELECTMAN FRED CAMILLO SAYS CANDIDATES HE ENDORSED WON MOST OF THE SEATS ON THE R-T-C. (MORNING NEWS CENTER MARCH 6)

GREENWICH FIRST SELECTMAN FRED CAMILLO ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF A 14-MEMBER 'GREENWICH ANTISEMITISM AND ANTI-HATE TASK FORCE. (MORNING NEWS CENTER MARCH 11)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS VOTED TO KEEP SCHOOLS OPEN ON APRIL 2ND, THE DATE OF CONNECTICUT'S PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY, EVEN THOUGH SOME SCHOOLS ARE USED AS POLLING PLACES. SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR KAREN KOWALSKI (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW MARCH 11 0830-0840)

THE GREENWICH REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING HAS APPROVED THE CREATION OF A FAIR RENT COMMISSION, THE FINAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE STATE TO DO SO, AFTER THE STATE MANDATED IT LAST YEAR (RTM COVERAGE MAR 12)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED TO APPROVE A REQUEST FOR THE RAISING OF THE ISRAELI FLAG IN MAY FOR ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY (BOARD OF SELECTMAN MEETING COVERAGE MARCH 15)

GREENWICH SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER LAURA KOSTIN SAYS THEY REVIEWED AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE IN THE SCHOOLS, AND SAYS THEY NEED ABOUT 34 MILLION DOLLARS TO BRING SCHOOLS UP TO COMPLIANCE (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW, MARCH 22 0830-0840)

THE POLICE RESPONSE TO A FORMER STUDENT AT WESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL ENTERING THE SCHOOL WAS WIDELY PRAISED, BUT POLICE CHIEF JAMES HEAVEY SAYS THEY STILL REVIEW THE SITUATION TO FIND OUT WHERE THEY CAN MAKE IMPROVEMENTS (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW MARCH 25 0900-0930)

A PATIENT WHO SPENT 146 DAYS AT GREENWICH HOSPITAL BEING TREATED FOR COVID 19 HAS DIED OF COMPLICATIONS OF COVID. 67 YEAR OLD GEORGE KELAKOS WAS IN TREATMENT FROM NOVEMBER 2020 TO APRIL 2021, SPENDING THE LONGEST TIME AT THE HOSPITAL AND SURVIVING (MORNING NEWS CENTER MAR 27)

THE TOWN HELD THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS ON PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC SAFETY IN RIVERSIDE. GREENWICH POLICE CHIEF JAMES HEAVEY WAS THERE AND COMMENTED (MARCH 27)

THE GREENWICH BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION'S 'BUDGET DECISION' DAY WAS EXTENDED TO A SECOND DAY FOLLOWING LONG DISCUSSION ON CAPITAL ITEMS (MORNING NEWS CENTER MARCH 28)

FORMER U-S SENATOR AND CONNECTICUT ATTORNEY GENERAL JOE LIEBERMAN DIED AFTER A FALL AT HIS HOME IN NEW YORK AT THE AGE OF 82. CURRENT U-S SENATOR AND FORMER A-G RICHARD BLUMENTHAL COMMENTED (MORNING NEWS CENTER INTERVIEW MAR. 28 0820-0830)