



Photo by Chris Hamilton

Annual Boston Harbor Fireworks Extravaganza

Once again, we are approaching Independence Day, July 4 with our spectacular neighborhood fireworks display as usual on the evening of July 3. This is a happy, joyous occasion spent with family and friends to celebrate. The fireworks display is funded by donations from the local residents and various local commercial sponsors. It was started as an effort to preserve safety and reduce the amount of individual, neighborhood fireworks.

The first burst goes off as soon as it is dark enough after 10pm. This year, we are expecting partly cloudy weather with a slight (20%) chance of rain in the morning. After last year's record breaking heat in the 90s, cooler temperatures are a welcome relief.

The Boston Harbor Association board is finalizing plans for a better-than-ever July 3rd fireworks show this year! Be sure to donate, if you haven't already. There is a donation bucket at the Marina. New fireworks banners are now on display at the Sewer Corner. We are fortunate to have several outstanding local commercial sponsors of this great community event – and with your support we can continue to provide great shows!

Our fireworks display was listed in this morning's Daily Olympia Weekend section. We expect to see a lot of visitors. With that in mind, here are some "Fireworks" reminders:

Safety First – Remember to keep traffic lanes clear to allow room for emergency vehicles to get through. The Thurston County Sheriff's Department will be patrolling throughout the day and into the evening for your safety and protection.



The South Bay Fire Department will also be on hand. Their rig will be parked at the Marina for the children to enjoy and meet members of the local department.

Watch Out For Kids – The Bike Parade sets up at 10:30 am on the 3rd. Participants begin at the corner of 73rd and Commercial and travel east to the 4-way stop. From there, they head north on the Boston Harbor Road to about 75th and return to the beginning. This is a lot of fun for the kids and parents alike., and many enjoy watching from the sidelines, too!

Be considerate of your neighbors and keep noise and traffic to a minimum!



Common Dolphins

Lately, we have been graced by the presence of common dolphins in the waters around Boston Harbor. Common dolphins are not common here, but they do range between 40° and 60° north, usually in shallow, warm coastal waters. Their diet consists of many species of fish and squid. They can dive as deep as 600 feet. Dolphins are beautiful animals to watch in the water. If you see them when you are out boating, be sure to give them plenty of room to roam! Check out Chris Hamilton's photos on Facebook.

New Historic Street Signs

Two sets of Historic Street signs are now in place on local area street corners designating their unique place in Thurston County History. One set is located on 73rd Avenue NE which was Main Street until 1978.; the other is on 81st Avenue NE, formerly known as Esterly Road. Pam Trautman worked with the Thurston County Historic Commission to obtain approval of the signs which pay homage to Boston Harbor and the north peninsula history. The signs were funded by the Boston Harbor Association. Main Street was named as part of the original C.D. Hillman plat in 1907. Main Street was the location of the hotel, marina, small café, and store, and continues to be the busiest street in town. Esterly Road came along later when the County punched through access from Zangle Road to Libby Road in the 1960s. The Esterly family has lived on the Libby Road since the 1920s when photographer R. G. Esterly acquired the property. Esterly took many important historic photos of the Tumwater area and once lived near Tumwater Falls. Today, a portion of the original farm is leased as an organic farm selling vegetables, flowers, and herbs, as well as eggs from free-range chickens. Descendants of R. G. Esterly still live in the area. Take note of the brown signs situated just below the modern green street signs on each corner.



Installation of the new Historic Main Street Sign.



Until Next Time!

Editor: Pam Trautman