



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Wow! What a fantastic turn out we had at the annual meeting in February. It was so nice to see so many people and meet so many members of our community.

As was announced at the annual meeting there will not be a firework show on July 3rd this year. The Boston Harbor Association Board is however working on an alternative block party/barbecue for our Boston Harbor Association members. Stay tuned for more details!

Did you know you can attend the Boston Harbor Association monthly board meetings? Our meetings are open to the public. They are typically held the first Monday of the month at the marina from 6 – 7 pm. If you have a topic you would like to discuss at the board meeting, please fill out our [agenda request form](#).



EARTH DAY WORK PARTY APRIL 19, 10-1, BURFOOT



Check out this monster ivy root John and Kelly wrestled out from the base of a tree.

Show the earth that sustains us some love and care at our annual [Earth Day](#) work party on Saturday, April 19th at Burfoot Park. Arrive at 9:45 to sign in, work 10-12, lunch and celebration 12-1. The 2025 theme is Our Power, Our Planet, a call to support renewable energy. We might not be putting up solar panels, but we will be improving the health of the forest and native plants by removing ivy. We'll also weed, prune, and plant in the Memorial and Butterfly Gardens. Exercising, socializing, giving back – what a great way to spend a Saturday morning!

Join us! It's fun – really!

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Marina*

*Earth Day Work Party
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*Ivy Pulling
5/18, 10-12, Burfoot Park*

Marina Events

Harbor Stories 4/5, 2-4

Trivia 4/12, 5 pm

Wine Tasting 4/19, 5 pm

Trivia 4/26, 5 pm

Connect with the Association and your neighbors on social media. We're on [Facebook](#) and [Next Door](#). If you're not a member yet, [join us!](#) Just \$25 per household supports events and minor administrative costs.



ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Please see the [presentations](#) and [minutes](#) for complete info from speakers and on Association activities, budget, and plans.

We heard lots of news from our elected officials and County staff at the annual meeting on February 19th.

- Both the Sheriff's office and Fire District 8 (Fire and Emergency Medical Services) have increased staff which should reduce response times.
- Commissioner Mejia told us the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) committed to retaining the parcels they own north of Burfoot Park to eventually expand the park, per our Burfoot Park Expansion proposal. Yay! The public needs to let the BoCC know that updating the POST Plan is a priority. More to come on how you can help with this.
- Karen Weiss, new Public Works Director, announced the County would be removing the hazardous tree at the entrance to the Marina. This work has been completed and it looks amazing! Thank you County Public Works!
- Major water and sewer upgrades will begin this month, including step tank sealing to reduce inflow and infiltration, water line replacements, and upgrades to water supply pumps and plumbing. These improvements *might* result in some additional water and sewer hook ups becoming available in a couple years. We'll also see our rates increase by 3.3% (the only bad news, but grateful for our good clean water and a wastewater treatment plant that keeps our ditches free of sewage. It wasn't always this way.)

One of the biggest announcements at the meeting was the cancellation of the July 3rd Fireworks this year. The event has grown too large for the Marina and Association to manage, and the safety risks and costs have become prohibitive. The increase from 200 to over 500 boats alone was enough to overwhelm what was originally intended to be a small community Fireworks show.

But don't despair! An alternative celebration will happen on July 3rd after the bike parade. Stay tuned!

Members also voted on potential new community activities. The top three activities were: block party, weekly walk the loop, and a fun run. If you would like to help organize one of these events, please send an email to bha.wa.board@gmail.com

Two questions came up:

Is the County planning to extend Byron Rd to Boston Harbor Rd? No.

What's the status of the cell tower on Zangle Rd at Boston Harbor Rd? It's permitted, partially erected, and we don't know when it will be operational.

We said goodbye and thanked board member Nina Goodrich and voted in two new board members, Ed Steinweg and Mindy Atkinson. Jackie Ashley was re-elected. Welcome and thank you for volunteering!

Boston Harbor Association Board: Larissa James, President; Kate Gervais, Vice President; Nancy Brown, Treasurer, Web Liaison; Jackie Ashley, Secretary; Kim Kelley, Environment Committee Chair, Newsletter; Nina Goodrich; Scott Provost; John Payne; Ed Steinweg; Mindy Atkinson.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE WITH THURSTON COUNTY FOOD PROJECT

“Building Community | Sharing Food”

You may have noticed bright green shopping bags on neighbors’ porches and signs at the corners. The bags are filled with grocery and sundry contributions heading to the Thurston County Food Bank (TCFB). We’ve got a team of volunteers here in Boston Harbor that picks up the bags right from donors’ porches (easy-peasy!) every other month and delivers them to the TCFB warehouse on Mottman Road.

About 60 households in Boston Harbor participate. Last year they donated \$11,380 in cash and 361 bags of groceries and other necessities. Awesome! Our neighbors are generously making a difference. You can, too! Sign up at [TCFP](#).

Nearly 60 neighborhoods participate, providing over 30,000 meals a year for Thurston County residents.



Boston Harbor TCFB team, from left: Chas Dreyfus, Peggy Dreyfus, Cedar Bouta, Margo Hill, Sharon Thompson, Larry Goldstein

One in seven Americans struggle with hunger. About a third are children. Participating in TCFP is a really easy way to help out.

For more info: www.thurstoncountyfoodproject.org;
tcfoodproject@gmail.com

BACKYARD INVASIVES DAY – GET ‘EM OUT!



Got ivy in your yard? Tansy? Scotch Broom? Not sure? The Environment Committee, with help from the Sewer Sisters, is planning a designated day where we all pull invasive plants from our yards. Now doesn’t that sound like a blast?! We’ll target 5-6 of the most common invasive species and provide pictures and info about how to remove them. Sorry, no, we won’t be removing them for you ☺, but we can visit your yard in advance to help you identify the bad guys if you’d like.

We’re hoping to have a dumpster or assistance from the County in carting the nasties away to a place their roots and vines will smother and die. After a hard day’s work, let’s do beers at the Marina! If you’re interested in this event, shoot us an email at BHAEnvironmentComm@gmail.com.

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HARBOR STORIES MARCH 8, AND NEXT UP APRIL 5

On March 8th, seventy people gathered at the Marina to hear from long-time Boston Harbor families, some who arrived as early as 1904. That was the Drehmel-Townsend family. According to Georgie Townsend, a great-great granddaughter of the Drehmel's, they built homes on land between 75th and 76th Ave (see picture). Georgie was joined by Julie Hayes and Jen Heldreth, granddaughters of the Hayes family who bought property south of the light house in 1934; Lance Campbell and his sister Shelley Mortvedt of the lighthouse property (1956); John Kerr, whose parents bought their house on the water for \$4800 (+ \$10 for the furnishings) in 1946; Mike DeFord, who still lives in his childhood home on Grainger Beach (1959) along 77th; and a surprise guest, Tim Livingston, whose family settled here in 1956. They had 14 kids in a one bathroom (!) house on Zangle Cove.

Join us April 5th, 2-4 pm, to hear from Pat Johanson (nee Munn), Patty Burfoot (of Burfoot Park), Nick Libby (as in Libby Road), Bill Justis (76th), and Jacque Hudlow (nee Eich and Slosson for Woodard Bay Rd clan).

We're still working on posting the videos to the Boston Harbor Association YouTube channel. Soon!



Looking west past unpaved Boston Harbor Road
and Drehmel's picket fence toward Point DeSedro

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