



Dash Point Social and Improvement Club

The Ripples

Spring 2026



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It's Spring at Dash Point!

Enjoy the *Ripples* and learn about your neighbors, friends and community.

Ripples highlights:

- President's Letter. Hear from your New President, Patrick Toohey.
- Join the **Annual Dash Point Dash on June 6**. Walk, run or come for the fun! Free barbecue!
- Our brand-spanking new Browns Point/Dash Point Red Fire Engine will soon patrol our neighborhood.
- The March Annual DPSIC Meeting included almost 50 DPSIC members and speakers. Read the recap.
- Dash Point Park and Pier (dock). Results of the Parks Tacoma special levy. It passed.
- Peek "Over the Back Fence" in Dash Point with Marilyn Beale. She has neighborhood news.
- Membership matters. Join us!
- Like us on Facebook. QR code provided.
- Dash Point Flash Back. There was a "friendly crow" who terrorized Dash Point in 1937!

A Letter from The Dash Point President

Dear Dash Point Community,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as President of the Dash Point Social and Improvement Club. I follow incredible people who served in this role. I realize the importance of the many community members who help make our neighborhood a delightful place to live. It has been a pleasure meeting many of you - whether while delivering invitations for our annual meeting or chatting with neighbors who attended, I am grateful for the support of everyone who has helped me settle into this role.

As we head into warmer weather, I'm excited for more chances to connect with our community, especially at this year's Dash Point Dash on Saturday, June 6. This long-standing neighborhood tradition is a wonderful way to bring people together, cheer each other on, and enjoy a fun morning in Dash Point. All are welcome - runners, walkers, spectators, and anyone who simply wants to socialize with old friends and meet new ones.

This year, we are also seeking support from local businesses to contribute to our community raffle or help sponsor the event. Donations of gift cards, services, products, or financial support go directly toward making the Dash Point Dash a fun, inclusive, and memorable gathering for everyone. Businesses that participate will be acknowledged at the event and in our community communications. If you or someone you know would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you. Contact us at dpsic07@gmail.com

After the run/walk, we'll hold a community raffle and then gather for a free BBQ lunch - hamburgers and hot dogs - served at the Fire Station. Whether you participate in the Dash or not, everyone in the community is invited to join us for lunch and enjoy time together.

I look forward to meeting more of you - whether at the Dash, out on my bike, on the water, or at this year's Brown's Point Salmon Bake. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community.

Warm regards,

Patrick Toohey

President

Dash Point Social Improvement Club

DASH DASH



2026 Dash Point Dash, Saturday, June 6

Start: 9 a.m. - Dash Point Fire Station - 2101 Dogwood St NE

It is our annual, local tradition and spirited competition between community members, friends, and friendly dogs! Come all, young, and old - if not to run then simply walk, or just cheer on participants and socialize with neighbors, have a free lunch and have fun!

Register for the 5K run or 3K walk (or less, your choice) by Monday, June 1, via credit card at our website: <https://dashpoint.org/dash-point-fun-run/>. You may also register the day of the event at the Dash Point Fire Station. The Dash fee is \$10/adult or \$20/family (2 adults and children under 18). You can pay by cash or check on the day of the event.

Walkers start at 9 a.m. and Runners start at 9:30 a.m.

Raffle prizes awarded after the Dash event. Free BBQ lunch (hamburgers/hot dogs) to follow at approximately 11:30 a.m. at the Dash Point Fire Station at 2101 Dogwood St NE.

All attendees are welcome! Events take place rain or shine!

The Dash is sponsored by the Dash Point Social and Improvement Club.



Thank you engine #77!

A Brand Spanking New Fire Engine is on its way to Dash Point and Browns Point!

By Jean Picha-Parker

It has served its time here at the points and now our trusty Browns Point/Dash Point Fire District #13 fire engine #77 is set to retire. Through the last 25 years, it has always been on the front line to save lives, homes, and property. And it has been one of the two trucks delivering Santa Claus to the Dash Point Holiday Tree Lighting, on standby during the Dash Point Dash and Browns Point Salmon Bake and a whole list of other duties too many to enumerate. We are grateful to engine #77. It is time to bid farewell to our trustworthy friend.

BP/DP Fire District #13 Fire Chief Jim Wassall says engine #77 is aged and has served her community well and the new engine is close to being delivered. Wassall is overseeing the new engine's assembly with Rosenbauer America, a firefighting vehicle manufacturing company in South Dakota. "It will not be fancy," says Chief Wassall, "but it will be up to date and fit our needs." It is our own engine for our area. Chief Wassall comments, "The fire truck is what the public sees and not many know what is really in it, but their name is on it. The engine represents the community."

You can expect to see the new engine, "hopefully" in our neighborhood in July. The Chief is going back to South Dakota to inspect it in the coming weeks to make sure it is "exactly what was ordered and needed." When it is delivered, Chief Wassall says, "We are going to parade the engine around like a float."

The new engine's arrival will coincide with the BP/DP District #13 celebration of its 75th Anniversary this summer. Details are still being finalized on the festivities so be sure to watch the DPSIC website, Facebook site, the BP/DP Fire District website, and the Summer Ripples to make sure you are part of the party!

It is going to be a celebratory summer here at Dash Point! Just listen for the siren!



2026 Dash Point Annual Meeting and Outgoing President Lynette Stevenson

Dash Point Comes Together

Highlights from the Dash Point Social and Improvement Club Annual Meeting

Dash Point neighbors gathered at the Historic Dash Point School on March 12 for the Dash Point Social and Improvement Club (DPSIC) annual meeting, an evening that mixed community business with gratitude, local updates, and a look ahead. With almost everyone in attendance, the event reflected neighborhood engagement and a shared interest in Dash Point's future.

Leadership and Service

One theme of the evening was appreciation for service. Outgoing President Lynette Stevenson was recognized for four years on the board, including two years as president, and was honored with flowers and a handcrafted plaque celebrating her leadership in Dash Point. Secretary Jean Picha-Parker and Trustee Sven Gasser were also thanked for their contributions. Continuing board members were recognized, highlighting both long-standing neighborhood ties and newer community involvement. The mix of experience and energy set the tone for the club's next chapter.

Election Results

Voting drew strong participation, with 28 ballots cast after membership verification confirmed a quorum. When the votes were counted, **Pat Toohey was elected president, Allison Sahin was elected secretary, and Karen Cooley, Loreta Hornall, and Diana Morrow were chosen as new trustees.** The transition marked a clear handoff to the club's next team of leaders.

Club Updates

The meeting also highlighted ongoing priorities for DPSIC. Treasurer Bart Parker reported that membership dues are now at zero, a move intended to keep participation accessible while the club continues operating from conservative investments and community support. Attendees also heard updates about the *Ripples* newsletter, the club's Facebook outreach, and the annual scholarship program for local students. Volunteers and community partners were recognized for helping make possible signature events such as the Dash Point Dash and the Holiday Tree Lighting.

Guest Speakers and Community Issues

Guest speakers brought a wide range of neighborhood updates. Terry Jungman of Parks Tacoma shared that the Dash Point Park and Pier (dock) project is nearing a final design stage but remains in a holding pattern while funding is pursued. Residents raised questions about parking, playground placement, and beach access, and Jungman said the department remains open to continued public feedback.

Pierce County Councilmember Bryan Yambe spoke about county budget priorities and acknowledged neighborhood traffic concerns, including visibility at 21st and Eastside Drive and speeding issues on Markham

Avenue and Eastside Drive. Community members used the opportunity to emphasize pedestrian safety, especially during the busier summer months.

Chief Jim Wassall of Browns Point/Dash Point Fire District #13 announced his retirement later this year and shared news about the future delivery of a new fire engine and an upcoming open house. He also noted that the fire district will celebrate its 75th anniversary this year, inviting residents to take part once details are finalized.

Looking Ahead

Several upcoming dates gave residents more to watch for this spring. Scholarship applications were due May 1, and the Dash Point Dash is scheduled for Saturday, June 6. Between leadership changes, neighborhood advocacy, and familiar community traditions, the annual meeting made clear that Dash Point continues to build on a solid foundation of volunteerism and local pride.



Future Funding for The Dash Point Park and Pier

Parks Tacoma \$155 million levy passes

At Dash Point, where the pier (dock) has been closed since 2021, the needs at Tacoma's park can feel unusually visible. The dock is a weathered structure with beach goers and fishermen disappointed with the extended closure. In April, Tacoma voters approved a \$155 million Parks Tacoma bond, launching a six-year effort to fund more than 100 projects across the park system without increasing the existing property tax rate.

Among the higher-profile projects are upgrades at Point Defiance, Ruston Way, and People's Community Center, along with the planned redevelopment of Dash Point Park and Pier (dock). Parks Tacoma says the pier is closed because of structural safety concerns. It is one of the waterfront projects positioned to move early in the bond program, underscoring how the package combines neighborhood amenities with long-delayed infrastructure repairs.



Over the Back Fence

Neighborhood happenings – Spring 2026

By Marilyn Beale
A Dash Point resident for more than 58 years

The unusual “Spring is Here” warmth of this spring 2026 awakened a memory deep in the children’s edition of the Encyclopedia: ““Spring has sprung and the grass has riz, I wonder where the flowers is.” They are all around us and for many of us, mixed into such glorious beauty is a sneezy nose! Spring also brings the universal phenomena, and annual appearance of the birds and the bees.

From my living room window, I can continue to learn about these phenomena. Neighbors on both sides of me are serious stewards of Mother Earth and have beautiful bee-attracting flowers.

Many springs ago, a bird couple made a home/nest in our dried-up Christmas wreath on our front door. To them, it was a perfectly safe place to lay their potential family of three eggs. Well, some human parents in the neighborhood began bringing their children to our front porch to observe nature in action and up-close. This upset my former next-door neighbor who felt these special creatures deserved peace and quiet, thus he cordoned my porch off with yellow, “DO NOT PASS” tape!

Fast forward to Spring 2026 - another young bird couple has built a nest. But this time, it is just under our upper deck, hidden behind the down spout, free from prying eyes. Sorry, no up-close observations about the birds and bees this year.

As a retired educator, one always wonders what happens to former students who do morph into responsible adults. It was so gratifying for this former middle school teacher to see a familiar name when reading the morning Tacoma News Tribune. Kevin Stock, years ago, was one of my sixth graders and has “morphed” into the Interim Deputy Court Executive for the Pierce County Superior Court. I was privileged to see a different side of my sixth grader – Kevin. He was a gifted poet!

On Mother’s Day, all my children checked in and much to my delight, one of them reported this tidbit of information. I was thrilled and proud from head to toe to learn that a little boy from Dash Point, Sam Caviezel, is the associate principal clarinetist for the Philadelphia Orchestra!

Another spring phenomena is happening, especially here on Beach Drive. More “looky-loos” are enjoying a walk BY the beach - not ON the beach. Although it requires that I get up off my comfy couch and chase after people, I enjoy the marvelous opportunity to not only meet “uphill” Dash Pointers, but also outsiders who love and respect our little Dash Point Dock and Park as much as the locals love it. Two people enjoying our park came from war-torn Ukraine. Inna and Vikriia Savinna are still learning English but were able to express their deep appreciation for all the warm smiles that greet them here.



Why Membership Matters in Dash Point

The Dash Point Social & Improvement Club (DPSIC) has long served as a gathering point for neighbors who care about the community. Founded in 1907, the club connects residents through shared traditions, local events, scholarships, and neighborhood communication. Membership is more than a name on a list - it is a way to stay informed, support community programs, and take part in the conversations and activities that help keep Dash Point vibrant and connected.

For Dash Point residents and property owners, voting membership is now free, making it easier than ever to get involved. Associate memberships at \$10 remain available for supporters outside the community, helping broaden participation while sustaining the club's work. Members receive neighborhood updates, can support or volunteer at local events, and help preserve opportunities such as the annual scholarship program. Even with free local membership, donations still play an important role by helping DPSIC continue the traditions, outreach, and community-building efforts that make Dash Point special.

Please check our website for membership details: www.dashpoint.org or email us at dpsic07@gmail.com with any questions. Join us!

Like DPSIC on Facebook.

Get the latest updates on your Dash Point community.



Dash Flash Back, Tacoma Daily Ledger, February 7, 1937

You will be "crowing" with amusement after reading this submission for the Dash Flash Back. Those resident crows dominating the beach at Dash Point have relatives with a history.

Read on about Mickey Maguire, a pet crow that loved to terrorize the neighborhood in 1937.

Associated Press Yarn Making Dash Point Crow Nationally Famous Bird



A CROW'S IDEA OF FUN

Mickey Maguire, pet crow, is amusing to Dash Point, Wash., housewives—when he's not pecking at the fringe of a rug or otherwise disrupting the household.

Mickey Maguire, the Dash Point pet crow with a penchant for mischief, is crashing the front page of many a paper throughout the United States and Canada. His exploits have been recounted in the following Associated Press story, distributed to papers throughout the nation:

TACOMA, Feb. 6—*P*—A friendly, but mischievous crow has the housewives of Dash Point alternately amused and exasperated.

It's rather interesting to see him chase dogs into their kennels and attack sea gulls five times his size, but when he goes after the family washing or lights on the window sill to steal spoons, coins and eyeglasses, it becomes annoying.

The bird, close to a year old, has been a pet in the home of the C. L. Hurlbut family since Mrs. Hurlbut took him from his nest. His name is Mickey Maguire.

Here are some of the charges against Mickey:

He has the next door dog practically a prisoner in his kennel.

He stole a piece of cake from a woman while she was putting up her husband's lunch.

He carried a pipe away from a visitor and dropped it into a pond.

He flies into Dash Point houses whenever a door or window is left open.

He annoys bathers by alighting on their shoulders.

When washing is hung on the line, he pulls off the clothespins.

In his favor Mrs. Hurlbut cites that he's a great home lover and



MASSAGE

Mickey loves it when his owner, Mrs. C. L. Hurlbut, scratches his stomach.

returns faithfully every night, sometimes carrying some loot. He likes to lie flat on his back while his owner scratches his stomach.



We hope you have found the *Ripples* fun and informative.
If you have suggestions for future content, please send your thoughts to our email address at dpsic07@gmail.com.

We are also interested in seeing and using your Dash Point pictures!!!

Thank you for your support of our lovely Dash Point community.

Jean Picha-Parker
Ripples Editor



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