



# Pine Brook Press

A Quarterly Journal for, about and by  
Pine Brook Hills Residents

AUTUMN 2002



## FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN

By Param Singh

In the predawn hour gentle winds rolled down the hogback ridge on the eastern edge of Pine Brook Hills (PBH), avalanching wisps of smoke in slow motion towards Boulder, tendrils curling and rising skyward, an austere otherworldly beauty. It was quiet but for the crackling of isolated trees and bushes still enveloped in small flickering flames. No birds were chirping. As dawn arrived on Saturday morning, July 20th, the fury of the fire was largely spent. Homes stood intact along the crest, untouched by flames, still defended by weary firefighters. This battle had been won. The sky was clear, but a blood red sun rising on the horizon signaled an atmosphere heavy with the products of combustion and the fight that had raged during the night.

The night bore Ex Boulder Mountain Fire Authority (BMFA) Chief

Don Whittimore was with friends and members of BMFA down in Boulder. It was his farewell party, but Don, on duty in his new job as Emergency Services Coordinator for the Sheriff's department, limited his imbibing to half a beer. A little after nine he left the party. He heard radio traffic about a Boulder fire and a Boulder Engine saying "flames visible." From North Broadway, he could see the flames - a circle of fire on the slope below the hogback ridge at the northern end of PBH's Meadowlook Lane. Since the fire was on Boulder Open Space land only the city fire department

had been alerted and was responding. Immediately Don called and had Dispatch alarm BMFA, Boulder Rural, Lefthand Canyon and Cherryvale fire departments. At 9:34 p.m. on that Friday night, a good half hour after the fire had started and was visible from many parts of Boulder, our local fire department was alerted. It was a relatively small fire at that time, but the drought stricken vegetation, the steep terrain and low humidity were an ominous combination. This

was a dangerous fire in a dangerous place.

At the Lee Hill Trailhead, the command structure for fighting this fire was taking shape. Don Whittimore became the Operations Chief, responsible for fighting the fire. His major concern was how to get to the fire and prevent it from making a run over or around the hogback and into PBH. The fire was burning in a grassy area with scattered trees. If it



This photograph was taken by Herb Wiedemann from High View Drive, the next foothill west of the Hogback and shows homes on Meadowlook Lane under threat at approximately 1:30 A.M.

crossed the ridge and reached denser woods in the North Cedar Brook area, then it had the potential of becoming a crown fire, jumping from treetop to treetop, threatening the entire BMFA district and beyond.

The fire was exhibiting classical behavior, widening and slowly moving uphill (westward towards PBH) in a V shaped pattern. There was not enough time to get a line around it before it threatened the ridge. Firefighters were sent to scout the fire and two wild-land firefighter divisions, North and South, flanked the

flames. Their task was to set up fire lines and prevent the fire from spreading. Structure protection and holding the ridge line was the critical job on top and the primary task for BMFA, with help from other local departments. They were not on the fire yet but the fire was coming to them.

Assistant BMFA Chief Bob deHaas was one of the first to arrive on Meadowlook. BMFA volunteers, as well as firefighters and equipment from our neighboring districts, were pouring in. He assumed command of the sector for structure defense and sent resources to the homes under greatest threat at that time, the northern reaches of Meadowlook, and to Ridge Road, to prevent the fire from curving westward around the hogback.

Volunteer organizations like BMFA do not know, a priori, who or how many personnel will show up for an incident. The organizational structure develops on the fly, though using well developed principles. Initially there can be some confusion and communication lapses. This fire was no different, but everyone knew that this was a major threat to our community and there was an urgency and sense of purpose as the work of protecting PBH started.

As the mechanics of defending homes unfolded, positioning engines, laying hose lines, connecting to fire hydrants and creating defensible lines, another key ingredient for the defense of PBH was occupying Bob's mind: water. Almost unique among small mountain communities, PBH has hydrants. Bob is also the PBH water district manager. Earlier that very day, he had been doing final checks on the new Fountaintree pump house. The water tank that serves the lower half of PBH normally stores 40 - 50 thousand gallons. To avoid running out, water would have to be sent from upper PBH using gravity and the valves in the new pump house. He put all his troops on the job: his mother and past water manager, Trudy, Shawn Beauprez and even his brother Alle, visiting from Germany. All night and into the next day, they worked the system and kept the hydrants supplied. By the end, 200,000 gallons were used on the fire. The new pump house paid for itself; the old one could not have done the job. The availability of water was perhaps the key ingredient in preventing another Hayman Fire.

As defenses were being set up on the ridge, the fire which had been moving uphill came under the influence of westerly breezes and reversed direction. It went back down the hill spreading both north and south. It blew across the flanking lines, causing firefighters to retreat down to the Wonderland Lake trail. There, backed by city engines, they started backfires along the trail, concerned that the flaming front not hit and breach the trail. It did not; the line held.

About 1 A.M., as predicted by weather forecasts, a front came in from the north. Immediately the north winds galvanized the fire and it took off southward. It split into three fronts: the first roared up the mountain towards PBH homes on Meadowlook and Pine Needle, the second threatened the Spring Valley area, and the third moved towards the Promontory neighborhood. The latter two fronts were fought mainly by city and Boulder Rural firefighters.

The fire reached the ridge moving fast in a southerly direction. The major defenses were on the northern end. Firefighters and engines had barely enough time to get in position along the southern end of Meadowlook before

the fire was on them. A few more minutes and it might have been too late. The fire came within a few feet of some homes in this area before it was turned back, thanks to lucky timing and abundant water. On one deck fire hoses were literally aimed downward at feet; the fire was that close. Along Meadowlook the fire did not cross the ridge line. It did cross over for a short distance above Pine Needle but, by then, fire engines were in position to defend those homes.

After the fire front passed, the worst was over though firefighters had to contend with local flare-ups well into the next day. In the predawn hours, as suddenly as it had raced across the mountain, the fire quieted down. Mopping operations would continue for another day, but the battle was over.

Thirty three BMFA volunteer firefighters were instrumental in defending PBH. While BMFA had lost its chief less than a month before, it remained an effective organization. Luck and hard work by many firefighters prevented any damage to PBH homes and property. This fire was started by human activity, but the perpetuator(s) remain unknown.

#### BMFA VOLUNTEERS ON THE FIRELINE

*Tom Akins, Greg Anderson, Kirk Bach, Barry Binns, Don Binns, Grant Blue, Uriah Bueller, Andrew Churnside, Bob deHaas, Dana Dolan, Thom Dunn, Jim Eyster, Tim Farrell, Brian Fike, Dale Greene, Bruce Hertelendy, Greg Huckabee, Scott Kohla, Marcia McHaffie, Matt McHaffie, Dave Miller, Cort Nagle, Chris O'Brien, Bob Olliver, John Pellouchoud, Lilly Pray, Eric Ramberg, Kathy Ramberg, Param Singh, Elliott Smith, RJ Smith, John Taylor, Stacy Wade*

**PINE BROOK HILLS  
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**PRESIDENT**  
Jim Eyster, 786-7586

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
*Vacant*

**SECRETARY**  
Deborah Springer, 443-7939

**TREASURER**  
Al Whitfield, 546-6318

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE**  
Al Gerrish, 443-7361

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW**  
Ken Larkin, 440-8280

**SOCIAL CHAIR**  
Karen Peperzak, 440-0691

**NEWCOMER WELCOME**  
Joyce Colson & Rob Quinn  
447-3192

**ROAD SAFETY**  
John Landwehr, 443-2482

**WILDLIFE OFFICER**  
Patrica Belanger, 786-8569

**FIRE CHIEF**  
Matt McHaffie, 440-0235

**FIRE BOARD PRESIDENT**  
Alan Saville, 415-1221

**FIRE/MEDICAL AUXILIARY**  
Vickie Schilling, 413-8699

**WATER BOARD**  
Kirk Hendricks, Pres., 442-1308

**WATER DISTRICT**  
Robert deHaas, Mgr., 443-5394

**PINE BROOK PRESS**

**EDITORS**

Anne Singh, 417-0373  
Suzanne Adams, 449-0997

LAYOUT: Param Singh, 417-0373

STAFF: B.K. Adams, 449-0997

Nancy Tamura, 970-267-8830

ADVERTISING: Cheri Cathey, 449-8844

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

*Meetings are at the Community Center/Firehouse unless otherwise noted.*

**HOA MEETING WED., OCT. 30.** Halloween potluck at 6, meeting at 7:30. Children invited, costumes encouraged!

**MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS** An Exhibit and Sale of Fine Art, Crafts & Home-baked Goodies November 2, 10 am - 5 pm November 3, noon - 4 pm PBH Community Center/Firehouse. For info call Susan Maxwell at 444-9851

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**-Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at the firehouse.

**BIBLE STUDY** - Meets weekly. For info, call Greg or Donna Johnson at 449-1692.

**FIRE BOARD** - Meets the 2nd Monday of every other month at 7:00 P.M. at either the Pine Brook or Boulder Heights Firehouse. Call 440-0235 for specifics.

**FITBALL** - Come join the Bouncers on Tuesday mornings, 9 - 10 A.M. Free, but you need your own ball. Please call 449-0997 for encouragement and further details.

**WATER BOARD** - Meets first or second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. Call Water Office at 443-5394 for dates.

**HOW LUCKY CAN YOU GET!**

By Jim Eyster, HOA President

Last issue I discussed the need for a firebreak to protect Pine Brook Hills from contiguous public land - in particular, a firebreak to protect us from the Anne U. White Trail. We were correct in suspecting that our greatest danger might come from outside our borders. On July 19 we were threatened by the Wonderland Lake Fire that started on Boulder City open space and raced up the hill. Fortunately, the burned area may have been the most fire-mitigated land in Pine Brook Hills since it was almost devoid of trees. With a lot of hard work thanks to BMFA firefighters and other departments, the fire never crested the hill. The good news is that no one was injured and no homes were damaged. How lucky can you get!



Some, however, have pondered the horrifying thought of what would have happened if that same fire had started on the Anne U. White

Trail. Without a doubt, the results would have been devastating. It would not have been a grass fire like we had but rather a crown fire, with flames leaping from tree to tree. It's obvious that we made the right decision in cutting the Anne U. White firebreak. As an update, BMFA is making good progress cutting the fuel break and is confident that it will be completed by year end. How lucky can you get!

As for next year, your HOA Board has decided to cut a similar fire break along the Sunshine Canyon side of Pine Brook Hills. Hopefully we will have the financial support from the PBH homeowners and once again, we'll get a government grant to help support our wildland fire defense efforts. How lucky can you get!

As one of the firefighters who helped douse the fire from the ridge, I can attest to how fortunate we are in Pine Brook Hills to have water and fire hydrants. Without this infrastructure, the results would have been far different since we used 200,000 gallons of water just to fight the fire from the ridge. We are very fortunate to have a great support team in BMFA and the water resources to allow them to do their jobs. How lucky can you get!

The response to the fire from Pine Brook residents was extremely heartwarming. Granted, the experience was frightening, but the sense of community was strong as people looked after and helped one another. The response for the firefighters was overwhelming. Approximately 250 people showed up to "Thank the Firefighters" at the Homeowners Ice Cream Social and another 450 people came to the "Firefighter Benefit" co-chaired by Pam Creswell and Susan Washing. In total, contributions from these events raised \$30,000 for BMFA. The money was greatly appreciated by BMFA but the esprit de corps created in the community may be even more important. Think how fortunate we are to have our community intact and our neighbors safe. How lucky can you get!

Karen Peperzak and her social committee have done a great job of providing opportunities for people to meet their neighbors, to create a sense of community. The next opportunity to greet your neighbors will be the Homeowners Meeting on Wednesday, October 30. It will be a great opportunity to have fun and meet some new neighbors. I hope you will attend and share the good fortune of living in a great community. How lucky can you get!

## TREASURER'S REPORT

By Al Whitfield

With my last report as treasurer (term limits), I wish to thank all of our dues paying members for their continuing support of the HOA. 2002 will be a record year for dues totaling \$19,000, coming from over 300 of our homeowners!

We are all fortunate not only to live in an especially beautiful place, but also to be part of a vibrant and friendly community. Your HOA plays a vital role in fostering such an environment, and your support makes it possible.

For those who have yet to pay their dues, it's not too late. Please send \$50 (or more) to Al Whitfield, Treasurer, 137 Alpine Way, Boulder, Co 80304. Thank you.



## HOA TO ELECT OFFICERS ON OCTOBER 30

Officers of the Pine Brook Hills Homeowners Association are elected annually at the fall meeting. According to the By-Laws of the HOA, a Nominating Committee Chair is elected by the Association at the spring meeting; the duty of this Chair is to appoint other Association members to work with him/her to nominate candidates for the Board. The President may be an ex-officio member of any committee except the Nominating Committee.

This year the Board elections are scheduled for October 30 at 7:30, following a pot-luck Halloween supper at 6. Nominations Chair Bob Olliver has notified the Press of the following slate of candidates:

President - Jim Eyster  
 Vice President - Pam Creswell  
 Treasurer - Jim Woodruff  
 Secretary - Joyce Colson  
 Member at Large - Al Whitfield

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the October meeting. Thanks to all who have been willing to volunteer their time and energy to this organization, which has been so vital to the life of our community.

**HOUSE FOR SALE** Stunning waterfall home, 107 Boulder View Lane reveals 360 degree views of the Flatirons, foothills, the city of Boulder and beyond.  
 For more information: Call 303-245-0571 or visit [www.107boulderviewlane.com](http://www.107boulderviewlane.com).

## WHO'S WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

### Pine Brook Scat, or The Straight Poop (OOPS!) Scoop by Anne Singh

#### Weddings:

Heidi Triggs, daughter of Tim and Penny Triggs of Pine Brook Hills and Bill and Nancy Ranney of Boulder Heights, married Eric Bucheit on September 14, 2002 at Wild Basin Meadow outside Allens Park, Colorado. On a gorgeous day, with Mt. Meeker the breath-taking background, the bride arrived in a horse drawn carriage to walk down an 8 sabre bearer "aisle." The wedding was followed by an elegant dinner in Wild Basin Lodge and a wild celebration by the air force crowd. Heidi and Eric, pilots in the US Air Force, will honeymoon in Alaska and will be based in California in January.

#### Births:

A daughter, Sonia Ella, was born on September 23, 2002 to Jonathan and Ali Singh, son and daughter-in-law of Param and Anne Singh. She weighed 6 lbs 10 oz. and was 20 in. in length. Maternal grandparents are Shashi and Kailas Parekh of Mendham, New Jersey and her uncles and aunt are Nikesh and Swati Parekh and Jeremy Singh. All family members are extremely happy and proud, to say the least.

#### Wonderland Lake Fire Stories:

This time Jim and Kathy Eyster almost got it right. Two years ago, when they were evacuated from the Fountaintree fire in the middle of the night, they left their home with their two dogs and a supply of dogfood. Afterwards, they planned more thoroughly for a possible next time and when it came they packed family treasures and photo albums into Kathy's car. Then at the last minute, Jim, who was going to go help with the fire, decided that he needed to drive Kathy's car and she and the dogs should take his. So where did the car full of family treasures end up? At the scene of the fire, of course, where it remained parked all night long until the fire was out.

On the night of the fire Eleanor Patten loaded into her car important files, photos, her yowling cat in its cage and the big black fuzzy dog, Ben, recently acquired from the Humane Society. Being in a state of nerves, she stopped at a store to buy a coke and some cigarettes although she had not smoked in years. She left the engine running while she went in. While she was in the store, Ben managed to lock the

car doors. Eleanor then spent the next hour walking around the car, from window to window, trying to get the dog to undo the lock before the car ran out of gas. Lo, and behold, Ben finally did it and she drove off to a friend's where she spent the night smoking and watching the fire news on TV. Now this story is not over yet because the next morning, when leaving, she found her wallet on the hood of the car! However, in spite of the events of that night, she has not smoked since.

Ann Stanaway was having a wine-tasting party for some 43 people on the night of the fire. The theme was A Midsummer Night's Dream. By 9pm everyone was in a very celebratory mood and there was a lot of noise. Then someone noticed that there were some emergency vehicles in the neighborhood. At first, they thought they had arrived in reponse to complaints about the party noise! After that, one guest left early and saw the glow of the fire. He called Ann's house and told her about it but said he thought it was far off. Finally, Ann realized that the fire was no dream and announced, "You know, I think this party is over," and because they all thought Linden was blocked, they made their way down the mountain the back way.



### SITE SEEING AT [pinebrookhills.org](http://pinebrookhills.org)

By Suzanne Adams

When a website for Pine Brook Hills was first proposed, I was skeptical. I wasn't sure what services a website could provide that the quarterly Pine Brook Press was not meeting, and I was not certain that anyone would use it. I argued for 40 "hits" (visits to the site) a month as evidence that the website was worth the time and money that it would require. Param Singh agreed to develop and maintain [pinebrookhills.org](http://pinebrookhills.org), which in its first three months of operation has been visited 1,950 times, somewhat exceeding my grumpy projections.

What can you see at our site? Click on **PBH News** for the most recent events in the community, including the summer's wildfire, with pictures of the fire and the fundraisers and parties afterward. **The Message Board** is a quick way to contact other Pine Brookers who may share similar interests: gardening, diets, and recommendations for good painters, plumbers, or other service people. The **Weather** page has three

cameras focused on Boulder; you can not only check Pine Brook's weather but also see what people are wearing down on the Mall! The satellite image of Colorado can show you where fires are burning and in what direction the wind is blowing the smoke. On the **Pine Brook Press** page you can call up selected articles and even whole issues of past Presses; just click on the colorful mastheads. The **Newcomers** link is especially valuable as it lists newcomers to our community who arrived after the publication of the most recent Pine Brook Hills Directory. On other links you can find out movie times and what's happening in the world of art and music. The **Calendar** page alerts you to meetings of Pine Brook organizations and social events. Links connect you to our **fire and water departments**, as well as to the **county**. **Maps** provide hiking trails in the area as well as a good Pine Brook map developed by Bob Olliver.

If a story needs to get out in a hurry, the website is the perfect vehicle. It's also a great way to exchange pictures of interest to Pine Brookers; everyone is encouraged to submit stories and pictures, either to [pinebrookpress@aol.com](mailto:pinebrookpress@aol.com), or to "editor" on the website itself.

Many thanks to Param Singh for developing and maintaining this useful community service!



## IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO FLY SOUTH!

By Rosie Hauge

That little hummer is still here! I looked out the kitchen window this morning and there he was, slurping away at the hummingbird feeder. I've kept the feeder up for stragglers, even though the big migration took off shortly after Labor Day. The males left first, followed a little later by the females and the juveniles, and most of the stragglers went on their way about two weeks ago. But this little guy, I call him Gus, is still hanging around and shows no signs of leaving. I became alarmed today, thinking that he liked my flowers and the feeder so much that he thought he'd decided to stay here forever. I called around the neighborhood and found out that there are still a few other little hummers here, too. So, I decided to conduct some research.

Here's what I found out. First off, Gus WILL fly south. His instincts will tell him when he's fattened

up properly and when the length of the day is just right for flight. (The need to take feeders down on Labor Day to encourage hummingbirds to migrate is simply an urban myth.) Secondly, Gus eats up to three fourths of his body weight in sugar every day to maintain his super high metabolism. On human terms that is 165,000 calories! Thirdly, it is not unusual for a few hummers to wait around until late fall before migrating, and they can withstand cold nighttime temperatures.

We have two species of hummingbirds commonly found in Pine Brook, the Rufous and the Broadtail. I'm not sure which species Gus is, since the juveniles all look alike. If he is a Rufus, he'll be bound for Mexico; if he's a Broadtail he'll spend his winter vacation somewhere between Southern Arizona and Guatemala. A long arduous journey any way you look at it for such a little bitty thing.

I'm keeping that feeder filled for him. Gus will be on his way soon, but I know he'll be back next spring. Clearly he likes it here.

### TIPS:

Keep those feeders filled for stragglers.

Don't use red food coloring.

Keep the feeders clean. Wash them in the dishwasher before putting them away for the winter.

If a bird looks sick or injured, call Greenwood Wildlife Rehab Sanctuary at 823-8455.

If you want to know more about hummers, check out the hummingbird books at Wild Birds Unlimited on 30th Street.



## ENJOY SOFT WATER!

### America's Best Water Specialists

Softeners  
Service/Repair  
Free Water Test

Reverse Osmosis  
Taste/ Odor Filters  
Free Estimates

23 Years Experience  
Pine Brook Hills  
References

303-425-7396  
**We're here to solve  
water problems....**

## RACCOON TALES

By Suzanne Adams

Raccoons are right at home in Pine Brook Hills. Vince Cleeves reports that a friend of his has a 12 year old son who likes to watch TV late at night after everyone else has gone to bed. The boy told his parents that each night he was joined by a raccoon who would come in, watch TV for a while and then leave. Skeptical of this story, the parents stayed up with the boy to watch. Sure enough, at just about midnight the sliding door was opened by a tiny hand, the raccoon entered, sat down in front of the TV, watched for about 20 minutes without saying a thing, then silently left. It was not noted which programs the raccoon favored.

David and Janet Hummer have welcomed an even friendlier raccoon, who would not only enter their house via a door left open for it, but would actually climb up into David's lap. The Hummers keep a basin of water outside for their wild visitors. One of the raccoons liked to sit in the middle of the tub to bathe. One evening a skunk came by, wanted the water but not with the raccoon in it, and turned its back to the coon, raising its tail in warning. But the raccoon, unintimidated, simply used a "finger" to poke the skunk in its bottom. Astonished and possibly embarrassed, the skunk fled.

Eve and Walt Berg had a less peaceful visitor. In the middle of the night the couple awoke to hear a terrific commotion in the kitchen. Eve was sure it was an intruder. It was. When Walt, the Hero, ventured out to investigate he found that a raccoon had fallen through a skylight, dropped some ten feet to a kitchen counter and was noisily searching for a means of escape. Walt had some trouble rounding him up and called for help to Eve, who wrapped herself in pillows before venturing beyond the bedroom door. The panicked raccoon tried to exit via a speaker box but was eventually persuaded to depart by door.

When Gail and Harley Lyons were building their home, they decided to spend a night camping on the property, bringing their cat along for company. They spread sleeping bags on the ground (no tent) and as it was a hot night, slept without benefit of pj's. They were awakened in the night by a lapping sound as a thirsty raccoon was enjoying the glass of water Gail had placed beside her sleeping bag. This was a BIG raccoon. Gail grabbed the cat as Harley yelled at

the raccoon, who left briefly but returned. Harley, ever the MAN, jumped out of the sleeping bag, pulled on his boots (and that is all) and took off in



pursuit of the coon, which ran around a ponderosa. Harley followed, brandishing a carpenter's square that he had brought with him. The pair circled the tree several times before the coon took off for parts unknown. The Press deeply regrets that it has no photo image of those moments, but a Pine Brook artist has immortalized the

event with the accompanying sketch.



## CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

### Imagine Pine Brook Hills with No Deer

By Joan Ray

Every morning I sit at the small table by my front window, drinking my cup of tea. I watch as the deer that generally sleep on my property all leave my yard and follow a neighbor to his house. Later in the afternoon I watch as they run to another well-meaning neighbor's house for the next handout.

Until a year or two ago I thought this was cute, even though I knew that it wasn't good for the deer. Now, I cringe. I see pictures in my mind of emaciated, stumbling deer, or imagine state wildlife personnel trapping then killing these gentle creatures who trust us so well.

Why the difference between now and several years ago? A previously little known killer, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), has spread throughout the region and has been found in a number of locations in Boulder County.

### What is Chronic Wasting Disease?

Chronic Wasting Disease is a deadly neurological disease that has infected deer and elk throughout the west, but primarily in portions of northeastern Colorado. CWD is a type of transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, or prion, disease. It attacks the brains of infected deer and elk, causing weight loss and behavioral changes. It is always fatal.

CWD has infected deer throughout Boulder County, from the Rabbit Mountain area near Lyons, to Sugarloaf Mountain west of us, to the Jefferson County line. At this point, no infected deer are known to have been

found in Pine Brook Hills, but because of the migratory nature of deer it is only a matter of time until this happens.

While the method of transmission is not known with certainty, it is widely accepted that the disease is spread through urine, feces, and/or saliva. The most deadly outbreaks of the disease have been found where deer are concentrated, usually in areas where they are fed.

### Why is feeding deer harmful?

Deer typically will browse on trees or graze on grass, then when it is gone, move on. Since the food is gone from that spot, other animals won't graze there immediately. Fed deer or those with salt licks are much more likely to come in contact with urine, feces or saliva from other deer because they are continually fed in the same spot. Also, when deer are fed, an area supports many more deer than naturally would occur. Thus, higher rates of transmission occur in areas where deer are fed.

There is no cure for CWD, and no vaccine or other preventative. While controversial, the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) plans for slowing the spread of the disease involve culling (killing) herds in which an animal is found to have CWD. This reduces the rate of transmission between animals, which may lessen the number of deer that contract the disease. If left unchecked, some computer models forecast that within 50 years all of Colorado's deer will have died from this disease.

### Are there other solutions that don't involve killing deer?

Not right now. A tonsil biopsy test has been developed which is effective in deer, though not in elk. Its usage is very problematic, however, as it involves trapping a herd of deer, performing an invasive test, releasing the deer, then running the tests in a lab. Currently there is a turnaround time of weeks or months before results are available from the tests. Deer that test positive then need to be identified, recaptured, and killed. Some of these deer may have since died (therefore releasing pathogens into the environment) or may not be found for other reasons and will remain at large, spreading the disease.

I love our deer, and can't bear the thought of our deer suffering and then ultimately dying either from CWD or from culling efforts intended to slow the spread of the disease. I understand why well-meaning, kindhearted people feed the deer, and the pleasure they get from watching the deer living on their land.

But if we want to enjoy our deer for years to come, we need to let the deer live naturally without human intervention. As my five-year old son succinctly says, "Feeding is bad for the deer."

### Where can you go for more information?

The Colorado Division of Wildlife has a web site devoted to Chronic Wasting Disease. Information is available at [wildlife.state.co.us/CWD](http://wildlife.state.co.us/CWD). The DOW's Boulder Deer Herd Management Plan is available at [wildlife.state.co.us/hunt/DeerMngmtPlans/boulderDMP.pdf](http://wildlife.state.co.us/hunt/DeerMngmtPlans/boulderDMP.pdf). In addition, the Boulder Daily Camera, the Denver Post, and other area newspapers print frequent articles on the disease.



## THE GRANITE GARDEN

### Facing the challenge of keeping our plants alive in spite of rocky soil, drought, deer and other critters...

By Barbara Hosmer



We take shorter showers with buckets at our feet, keep bowls in the sink to catch rinse water, do laundry in town and implement other creative efforts to save our total water consumption, yet we still long to give our plants and shrubs at least enough water to survive. My living plants have survived many hardships already and I'd rather not start all over with new plants! It's hard to balance our water conservation efforts with the desire to save the landscaping we've worked so hard to grow. So, PBH folks, this is going to be the place where ideas that work and don't work can be shared - ideas and resources to save our plant and water resources!

**Crystals for your dirt.** With no sure way to know how long we will continue to live with less water available, and even when water is more plentiful, it still makes sense to use it wisely. Water-absorbing crystals, available at stores like McGuckins or other gardening shops, work really well. These are non-toxic crystals that you can mix, dry or hydrated, into the soil around your landscaping plants or grassy areas, as well as into the soil for your indoor plants. These crystals hold many times their weight in water and release the water to the plant's roots as needed. Two PBH residents recently tested two different crystal products and found the results worth sharing. Only a single teaspoon of HYDROSOURCE crystals placed in a twelve-



ounce glass of water glass expanded to fill the entire glass, absorbing all twelve ounces of water. The other crystal product, Agrisoke, purchased at Lowes, absorbed only half as much water and took longer to absorb the available water. Pictures of the scientific experiment are below. These crystals last for years in the soil, are neutral in pH, and are reported to release 95% of their stored water back to the plants. Both products tested cost about fifty cents per ounce, so the preference of the kitchen



And the winner is.....

scientists is the **HYDROSOURCE** crystals. When you mix them in the soil around your plants, allow for at least 20% expansion of your soil. PBH residents who have tried the crystals this summer claim great results with soil staying moist between less frequent waterings!

Other effective measures for retaining precious moisture in the ground include the use of **weed barrier landscape fabric**. Be sure to get woven synthetic fabric, not plastic with holes. Placed on top of the soil and underneath a layer of mulch, it lets air, water and nutrients through, stops weed growth (which steal water from your plants) and reduces evaporation to the air. This solution is effective year-round, given our dry climate.

Do you have other simple but clever ideas to share? Send e-mail to [hosmerb@attbi.com](mailto:hosmerb@attbi.com). Efforts are underway to list recipes and resources on the PBH website. In the current spirit of disclosure, the author and contributors have no financial interest in any of the products or businesses mentioned! So keep those buckets in your shower, pray for a rainy, snowy winter and enjoy life in our beautiful neighborhood.

## MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS 2002

An Exhibit and Sale of  
Fine Art, Crafts & Home-baked Goodies  
November 2, 10 am - 5 pm November 3, noon - 4 pm  
PBH Community Center/Firehouse

The Fire Department Auxiliary invites you to Mountain Expressions - a most enjoyable way to accomplish two goals at the same time - support your wonderful volunteer firefighters and begin to get in the holiday frame of mind. Please write Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3 on your calendar and plan to see what your neighborhood artists, crafters and bakers have been up to. These creative people contribute part or all of their earnings to fire protection efforts in Pine Brook Hills and Boulder Heights.

It doesn't matter what holiday you celebrate - Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or just beautiful autumn - there will be lovely handmade gifts, cards and decorations in all price ranges. And there is always a chance you will find the perfect painting, weaving, stained glass or piece of pottery for your home. And don't forget our exceptional local cooks are contributing scrumptious baked goods to freeze or eat right away!

So, stop by for a complimentary cup of punch or hot cider and shop a bit. Credit cards (Visa and MC) welcome - cash or checks, too, of course. However, there is no obligation to buy - just a word of cheer or encouragement would be great!

By the way, if you are a PBH or BH artist, crafter or baker the Auxiliary does not know about, by all means, **call or e-mail Susan Maxwell to participate: (303) 444-9851 SCMBonniesStudio@aol.com**

### MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS BENEFITS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Auxiliary's Arts, Crafts and Bake Sale returns on Nov. 2 and 3

The Fire Department Auxiliary is preparing for its next fundraiser, Mountain Expressions, formerly known as the Arts and Crafts Sale. According to sale chair Susan Maxwell, "What we try to create is something very warm that has a lot of community feel to it. There's old fashioned hospitality and also exquisite things you can't find anywhere else."

Susan has very strong feelings for the event. Some years ago while living in Wonderland Hills she was invited to the show, and she remembers the sights, smells and delightfulness of the experience, thinking, "This must be a really neat community!" After a detour to Buffalo, Susan and her family returned to Colorado and moved to Pine Brook Hills. She joined the Auxiliary. The next year no one was interested in chairing the arts and crafts show. She thought, "This cannot die!" and has chaired the event ever since.

One of her innovations was the name "Mountain Expressions," which covers the range of products offered, from fifteen cent

decorations to work by established artists. The show features the work of many Pine Brook artists and artisans and includes painting, photography, weaving, textiles, jewelry and pottery - everything from corn husk dolls to homemade herbal supplements. "Mountain Expressions," Susan explained, "provides a comfortable venue for artists exhibiting for the first time. Visitors can experience the delight of discovering new talent as well as enjoying the work of professional artists in our community." The homemade bake sale provides another inducement to stop by the Community Center on Nov. 2 and 3.

Among the craft items made by Auxiliary members is an unusual offering - scarves filled with crystals which remain cool. Susan suggests that the scarves, designed for joggers and other warm weather athletes, are an interesting winter choice for women who have decided against hormone replacement therapy!

Mountain Expressions is an excellent place to begin, or end, holiday shopping.

**There will be a Ladies Holiday Tea this year. It will be held on December 4th from 3:30-5:30 at the home of Karen Peperzak.**

Please mark your calendar and watch for the invitation.  
A check for \$13.00 sent to Karen will be your reservation.

**Main Buffet:** Finger Sandwiches, Assortments of bite sized and savory tea sandwiches, Miniature Sandwiches, Fresh Scones served with creme fraiche

**Dessert Table:** Lemon Bars, Paris Brest, Ganache Tartlets, Mini Fruit Tartlets

**Beverage:** Assorted Hot Herbal Teas & Champagne!



Specializing in mountain homes

**If you found a great window washer would you tell your friends?**



Call for references & pricing

**303 494-3784**



Gutters & Power Washing

## HOW MUCH WATER DID YOU WASTE TODAY WAITING FOR HOT WATER?



With the Metlund D'MAND® System you can save up to 40 gallons of water per day. That's 1200 Gallons a month, 14,400 Gallons a year!!!!

**Pine Brook Residents:**

**Start conserving today!**

*"I've lived with the D'MAND System for five years and I love it!"*

*David Johnston, What's Working, PBH Resident*

\* Featured on the  
**Discovery Channel**

\* Approved by the  
**Dept. of Energy**

Available in Boulder  
at Eco Products and  
Sutherlands

For more information call: Desiree  
(303) 589-0644 [www.gothotwater.com](http://www.gothotwater.com)



# 8th Street Salon

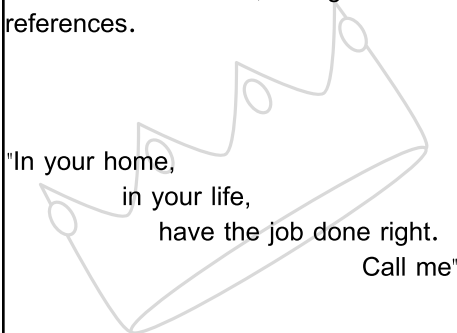
Artistic • Creative • Professional  
A Full Service Salon

303 • 402 • 9475  
1980 8th Street • Boulder, Colorado 80302

**15% off first visit with the mention of this ad**


## MAJESTIC PAINTING

Handling all levels of the highest quality custom repaints, remodels and new construction. Licensed and insured, with great references.



Grey wood restoration for decks, siding and roofs  
Quick, Courteous and Responsible  
Free Estimates  
Interior and Exterior work year round


DREW CATLIN 720 317 7894



## Heather Curtis Photography

Your neighbor in  
Pinebrook Hills

**303.442.6022**



## Piano Lessons

teaching children  
a life-long  
appreciation  
and joy of music

Mary Heath  
450 N. Cedar Brook  
303-444-1556

teaching children  
for over 20 years

### JEREMY FAGAN

Interior/Exterior Painting  
Call 720-334-4710  
References available

### Pine Mountain Contractors, Inc.

**provides these services:**

- Complete fire mitigation consultation & forest management
- small and large tree removals
- mistletoe management,
- hauling, winching, snow plowing, chipping, excavating
- road construction/maintenance
- firewood (\$150 a full cord incl. delivery),
- post hole drilling, etc.

Call Michael Schmitt for a free estimate and a long list of references at 720-352-0099 or email [mountainwork@msn.com](mailto:mountainwork@msn.com).  
Special winter forestry rates are also available!

### HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT - 2535 Linden Drive.

Easy 2.5 miles from Boulder, 4 BR, 2 BA house with privacy and great city views for rent or sale. Hardwood floors, beautiful fireplace, new wrap around deck, large skylights. Newly painted inside and out. Tell all your friends and acquaintances! Short or long term lease for \$1850/MO, or purchase for \$479,000. (303) 444-5011.



**ROCKY RIDGE**  
**CONSTRUCTION, LLC**  
**303-417-1465**

Your Neighbor → Your Builder

**Ken Larkin**

Quality Construction & Dependable Service

Custom Homes & Remodels

SHHHHHHHHHH!

Boulder has a secret!  
A world-class speaker's  
bureau right here in  
our town!

You need a speaker or trainer.  
I can help. I know who to call and how  
to get you the best deal! I can work  
within your budget to make your  
meeting or convention truly successful.



SHHHHHHHHHH!

**Rickie Hall & Associates**  
**303-444-4508**  
**[www.rickiehall.com](http://www.rickiehall.com)**

Rickie Hall & Associates has been providing  
speakers for 25 years to such organizations  
as: National Association of Broadcasters,  
NOAA, US Steel, CBS, and various government  
agencies, as well as international clients.

**STEVE YODER CONSTRUCTION**

Decks • Baths • Kitchens

Windows • Remodeling

**303-443-7513**

Pine Brook Hills References Available



**Kent Hansen, CPCU**  
Financial Advisor

**303 441 5384**  
303 441 5370 fax  
800 367 3052 toll free  
[kent.hansen@ubspainewebber.com](mailto:kent.hansen@ubspainewebber.com)

UBS PaineWebber Inc.  
1330 Walnut Street  
Boulder, CO 80302



### Boulder Real Estate Services, Ltd.

**Gail Lyons, Broker - Owner**

*Specialist in Pine Brook Hills*

Personal, Client-level Services for Seller  
Buyer Representation    Market Value Analysis  
Investment Counseling

2541 Spruce Street  
Boulder, Colorado 80302  
303-442-3335 Office  
800-285-0062 Toll-free  
303-817-0482 Cell  
303-442-3925 Fax



CIPS, CRS, CRB, CCIM, ABR, DRE

Web site: [www.Boulder-RealEstate.com](http://www.Boulder-RealEstate.com)    E-mail: [Gail@BoulderRealEstate.com](mailto:Gail@BoulderRealEstate.com)

## MORTGAGE AMERICA, INC.

■ 1525 Spruce St., Suite 201, Boulder, CO 80302

Whether buying the home of your dreams or refinancing your current home, come to us for:

- *Competitive Rates*
- *Professional, Courteous Service*
- *Timely Attention to Detail*

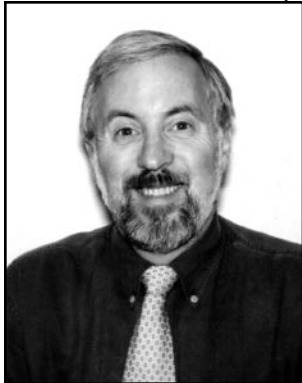
No  
Application  
Fee

Member of Tom Martino's Trouble Shooters Network and the Better Business Bureau



### REFINANCE NOW WHILE RATES ARE LOW!

Your Pine Brook Neighbor **Toby Terrell, PhD.** • 303-440-6900 ext. 106



## Craig Peterson, GRI

Listing and selling real estate in Pine Brook Hills

1844 Folsom Street • Boulder, Colorado 80302 • 303-443-2240 • 800-343-8885  
(Direct) 720-564-6008 • [Craig@PetersonHomes.com](mailto:Craig@PetersonHomes.com) • [www.PetersonHomes.com](http://www.PetersonHomes.com)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Neighbors,

**Mistletoe is a clever killer in our midst.** While the tree it infects may still be green and look healthy, the yellow-green and orange parasite is surely destroying it and spreading its seeds to your nearby trees and your neighbor's.

We have been battling it for over 20 years on the west and southwest facing slopes of Pine Brook and are losing the struggle. In a few years there may not be any ponderosa pines on our side of the mountains. **On my own five acres, with careful cutting and management, I hope to be able to save five trees, where once there was a forest.** It is that devastating.

Please, whenever you see mistletoe, cut it from your trees. If it is only in a few branches, those branches can be cut and perhaps the tree will survive. If it is in the trunk of the tree, it is probably too late to save that tree, and by cutting it down you may be able to keep the mistletoe from spreading. Seek expert advice, share collective experience and act now.

This is a community problem and can best be met with a community effort, whether that community is just you and your immediate neighbors or the whole of Pine Brook. When the drought and fire season ends, I hope that we as a united community can put some energy and money into controlling the relentless and increasingly swift spread of the mistletoe threat.

Sincerely,  
Harriet Edelstein

**NOTE: Fire Mitigation Coordinator Tom Akins observed that virtually ALL of the Ponderosa Pines cut for the Anne U. White Firebreak in PBH were infested with mistletoe. If we do not take action we may see a time when there are no more pines than brooks in Pine Brook Hills. -- Editors**

To the Editor,

We should be concerned as a community with dangers caused by on-the-road parking, especially when a large number of vehicles are parked at one residence. It is nearly impossible to pass when cars are parked on both sides of the road; fire trucks or other emergency vehicles would find it impossible. It is also dangerous for passing traffic at night to suddenly come upon parked unlighted vehicles.

The roads in Pine Brook are, in many places, barely wide enough to meet county requirements. Worse is the nearly total lack of road shoulders; in many places there are ditches instead. Residents should encourage visitors or contractor's employees to carpool, never

park on both sides, and park where adequate off-road parking is available. Very large gatherings should use the Community Center, or set up a shuttle service. For night events, large orange road cones with reflective tape should be made available and checked frequently to insure that they are used properly.

The alternative is to call the sheriff but this is a step which many of us are reluctant to take, and which is often useless as officers simply don't appear.

Thank you all for taking this seriously.  
David Hummer

Dear Editors,

Would it be possible to inform PBH residents that UPHILL drivers have the right-of-way on our mountain roads? I believe that it is still a state law.

Also, could you add that anyone leaving a car along the side of the road (particularly on North Cedar Brook) should do everything possible to leave it along a relatively "long and straight" section? I know that can be difficult, especially trying to back down a slick road. I've worried every winter after snowfalls that someone's car left along our curves, or close to them, will be damaged by other cars trying to navigate the snowy road.

Hopefully, **THIS** winter will be unusually snowy to help break our drought!

Thanks,  
Helen Rhinehart



## HOME TOUR A SUCCESS

By Mary Barakat

The 2002 PBH Home Tour has been hailed a success! 55 Pine Brook volunteers raised approximately \$4000 gross profit. The funds were delivered to the Boulder Mountain Fire Authority in partial payment for their work in creating the Anne U. White Firebreak in Pine Brook Hills.

Many thanks in particular to Suzanne Adams, Susan Brochstein, Joyce Colson, Anne Singh and Jo Wiedemann, whose energy in their roles as house captains was outstanding and greatly appreciated.

Each home and garden on the tour was absolutely delightful! A big thank you to Jake and Cyndy Brooks, David and Janet Hummer, Cynthia Unmani Bastani, Pam Creswell and Marshall Swanton, and the Kendalls for opening their homes for this good cause.

It has been a summer of working together toward sustaining our community and its environment.

**BMFA FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS**

By Pam Creswell

Our Firefighter Benefit was a great success, not only raising over \$17,000 for the Boulder Mountain Fire Authority, but also providing the neighborhood with an opportunity to get together and **REALLY PARTY**. I know that I sure had fun. I want to thank everyone who attended or bought tickets and especially want to express my appreciation to the many co-hosts and other people whose generous contributions of time or funds made this event so successful. I truly feel privileged to be part of such a wonderful community!



**HANDWEAVERS FIBER ART SALE FEATURES PBH ARTISTS**

There's a lot of Fiber Power in Pine Brook Hills. The Handweavers Guild of Boulder's annual show, scheduled for November 8 to 16 at "The Gatehouse" in Lafayette, will include the work of Pine Brookers Linda Toomre, Emmy Spencer, Cindy Fowler, Jeanne Gray, Fumi Scurry, and Rain Olympia Crow.

Many of our Pine Brook weavers began practicing their art when their husbands were in graduate school, some 30 years or so ago. When the collective pasts of Pine Brook weavers is considered, it becomes clear that we have here hundreds of years of weaving experience. Apparently weaving is highly addictive.

The stories of our weavers are themselves interwoven: Emmy taught Linda to weave, Fumi began

making clothing from Emmy's fabrics, and several of the artists first showed their products at the Pine Brook Hills Fire Auxiliary Arts and Crafts Show, now known as Mountain Expressions.

**The Handweavers Fiber Art Sale will run from November 8 to 16 at "The Gatehouse" in Lafayette, on the west side of Highway 287 between Highway 42 and Dillon Road. For further information please call Cindy Fowler at 442-6496.**



The Weavers in '02, all wearing outfits they made: Linda Toomre, seated, Jeanne Gray, Cindy Fowler, Fumi Scurry and Emmy Spencer (L to R)

making clothing from Emmy's fabrics, and several of the artists first showed their products at the Pine Brook Hills Fire Auxiliary Arts and Crafts Show, now known as Mountain Expressions.



**WHILE PINE BROOK SLEPT:** A black bear ripped the siding off the Triggs' garage. The Triggs, good mountain dwellers, never put their garbage out until the morning of collection day. The bear apparently couldn't wait. Penny's son Jake admires the bear's skill in making just the right size hole.

## A LION IN SUMMER



It is a dry summer when Mountain Lions are reduced to acting like little cats and slurping water from the patio! Allen Saville photographed this handsome fellow. Be careful of what's out there!

Pine Brook Hills Homeowners Assoc.  
PINE BROOK PRESS  
1907 Linden Drive  
Boulder, Colorado, 80304

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BOULDER CO  
PERMIT NO. 224