

Pine Brook Press

A quarterly journal for, about and by Pine Brook Hills residents | SPRING 2018

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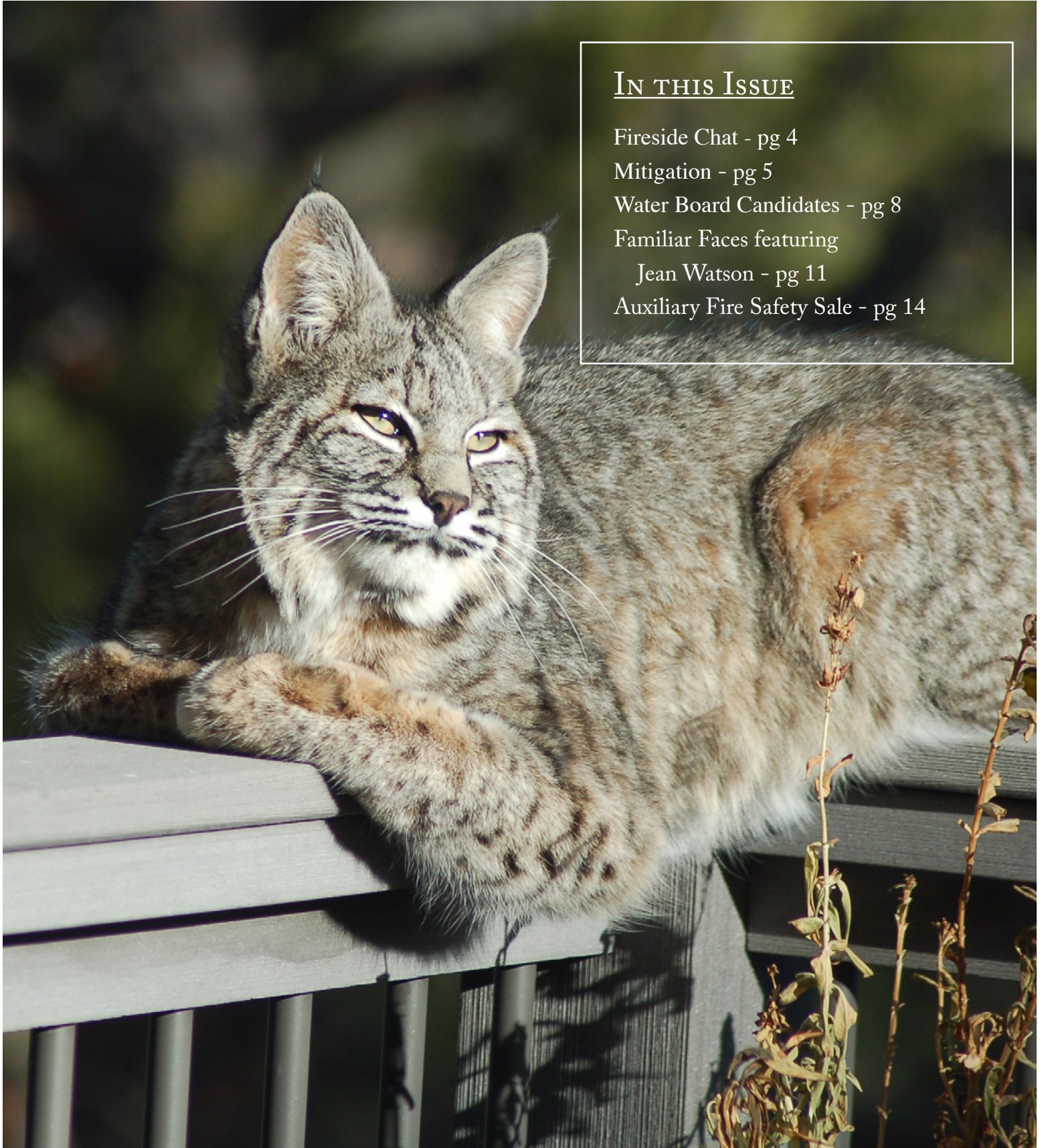
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2018 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**PINE BROOK HILLS
HOA
BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

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VICE PRESIDENT

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FIRE BOARD PRESIDENT

Bob Loveman, 303-926-0204

THIRD ARM

Bob Loveman, 303-926-0204

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WATER BOARD

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WATER DISTRICT

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HOA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - APRIL 24

6:00 PM - Come and enjoy the POTLUCK DINNER

7:00 PM - Program

Featuring an opportunity to meet the candidates for Water Board and hear about this year's mitigation efforts

MEETINGS ARE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER/FIREHOUSE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

HOA Membership Meetings - Potluck dinner at 6:00 PM and meetings at 7:00 PM. Mark your calendar now and plan to join your neighbors for the 2018 meetings: July 31 and October 30.

HOA Board Meetings - Meeting begins at 7:00 PM.
2018 meetings: April 17, July 24, and October 23.

BMFPD AUXILIARY - Meets quarterly on Sundays. Next meeting April 22, 2:00 – 5:00 PM. Email auxpresident@bouldermountainfire.org for more information.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE - Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM.

BMFPD BOARD - Meets the second Monday of every month at 4:00 PM at Station 1 in PBH. Call 303-440-0235 for specifics.

WATER BOARD - Meets third Thursday of every month at 4:30 PM. Call the Water Office at 303-443-5394 for specific dates.

BMFPD Auxiliary Fire Safety Sale - May 5 & 6 in PBH and Boulder Heights – your chance to update your home fire safety equipment and learn more about staying safe in the Wildland Interface.

HOA ICE CREAM SOCIAL - Mark your calendar now and plan to join your neighbors on Sunday, August 26 for this fun-filled event.

Share your photos!

Email your high resolution PBH images to press@pinebrookhills.org.
Thanks to Param Singh for capturing this deep sunset.





PRESIDENT'S PATTTER By Rob Quinn

By the time you read this, the Vernal Equinox will have occurred and we all will be looking for the first signs of Spring. Will there be tree buds and bugs, or just another round of snow coming? Help celebrate the coming of Spring by joining us at the next PBH HOA meeting on April 24, 2018. We start with a potluck supper at 6:00 PM and our general meeting begins at 7:00 PM. Among other things, we plan to have a presentation by Mike Palamara on current progress and plans for the essential fire mitigation work of BMFPD, and tips on mitigating your own property. With Spring coming, fire danger may be on the rise. I hope to see you there.

SPEED IS DANGEROUS IN PBH. In mid-February a mom and her children were nearly hit crossing Linden in front of a flashing school bus when a driver came around the corner too fast. This is just one of the many risks that drivers take when they travel too fast in PBH. That decision could have dramatically changed the lives of the kids, the mom, and the driver. That is not the only risk for drivers who speed on PBH roads. At least a couple of times every month, an incident occurs on the roads that requires BMFPD to close all or a part of a PBH road for emergency purposes. When you see Firefighters or Third Arm personnel with stop/slow signs, immediately slow down and prepare to stop quickly. If you are driving too fast, especially on corners, you will not have the time to do this properly. You will endanger our volunteers and yourself. Once you do stop, always stay in your lane, even if you are in a hurry. Trying to go around in the opposite lane without express instructions from emergency personnel is asking for a disaster. Finally, please be polite to emergency personnel. They are volunteers trying to protect everyone's safety.

LET'S UPDATE THE HOA EMAIL LIST. At the HOA we try to keep an up-to-date email list of every current resident. This allows us to keep you informed of upcoming events in the neighborhood. More importantly, it allows us to notify you quickly of warnings, updates, etc. about incidents that happen in PBH. In January, there was a water main break on Wild Horse Circle in nasty weather. With an up-to-date email list, we were able to quickly notify residents of progress getting their water back on. If we don't have a good email address, you won't get warnings or updates from the HOA. I have been getting several "undeliverable" replies to recent HOA emails. If you haven't gotten any emails from me in 2018, please send me your current email address.

I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Please contact me at any time at president@pinebrookhills.org. We have rewarding volunteer opportunities I would like to tell you about.

Hello Neighbor!

"I live and volunteer here, do real estate in PBH and have a lot of passion for letting others know that we live in a secret gem. I'm extremely dedicated, guided by honesty and promise that you will be happy collaborating with me."

**Keep an eye out for your next fancy PBH Market & Lifestyle Report*

life here is in the details.



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FIRESIDE CHAT By John Benson

HELLO FROM BOULDER MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT. JUST THINK, SPRING AND SUMMER ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER. WE REALLY HAVEN'T HAD A HARD WINTER TO SPEAK OF, BUT LET'S HOPE THAT WE GET SOME GOOD SNOWS BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF SPRING.

DO WE HAVE A BREAK IN THE WILDFIRE SEASON? We are monitoring long-term weather forecasts and talking with Fire Behavior Analysts and meteorologists about what they may be seeing in the longer-range forecasts for our areas. Everyone that we have talked with says there is the potential for warmer temperatures and below normal precipitation. As we all know, this can change in a heartbeat. We are looking ahead and preparing for the worst of conditions.

Some may think that because we have had several snows we are in good shape. That is not quite true. The way the weather has been going so far, we get snow on the ground, and then it is gone due to winds and increased temperatures. It does not take very long for the one-hour fuels, such as grasses, to dry out rapidly. Last year we started off our fire season at the end of February with the Wagon Wheel Gap Fire, which burned 4.7 acres. This trend continued for us in Boulder County for quite a while. So, the answer is no. We really do not get a break in our wildfire season anymore.

We need everyone's support to ensure that we reduce the likelihood of a fire in our neighborhoods. We need residents to

stay vigilant during these periods. Our crews and equipment continue to be at the ready in the event of a wildfire. Our members will be attending several wildfire refresher classes coming up this spring. BMFPD's Public Information Officers will distribute essential information as our conditions change throughout the season.

NEW ROOKIE CLASS. I am pleased to announce that BMFPD has 17 new members going through our Rookie training which started at the end of February. We are very lucky to have such a great group of new members. While a lot of the country is in desperate need of volunteers, we continue to be very well supported in this district with willing and able residents who become emergency responders. This says a lot for our community. We continue to build for our future here at BMFPD.

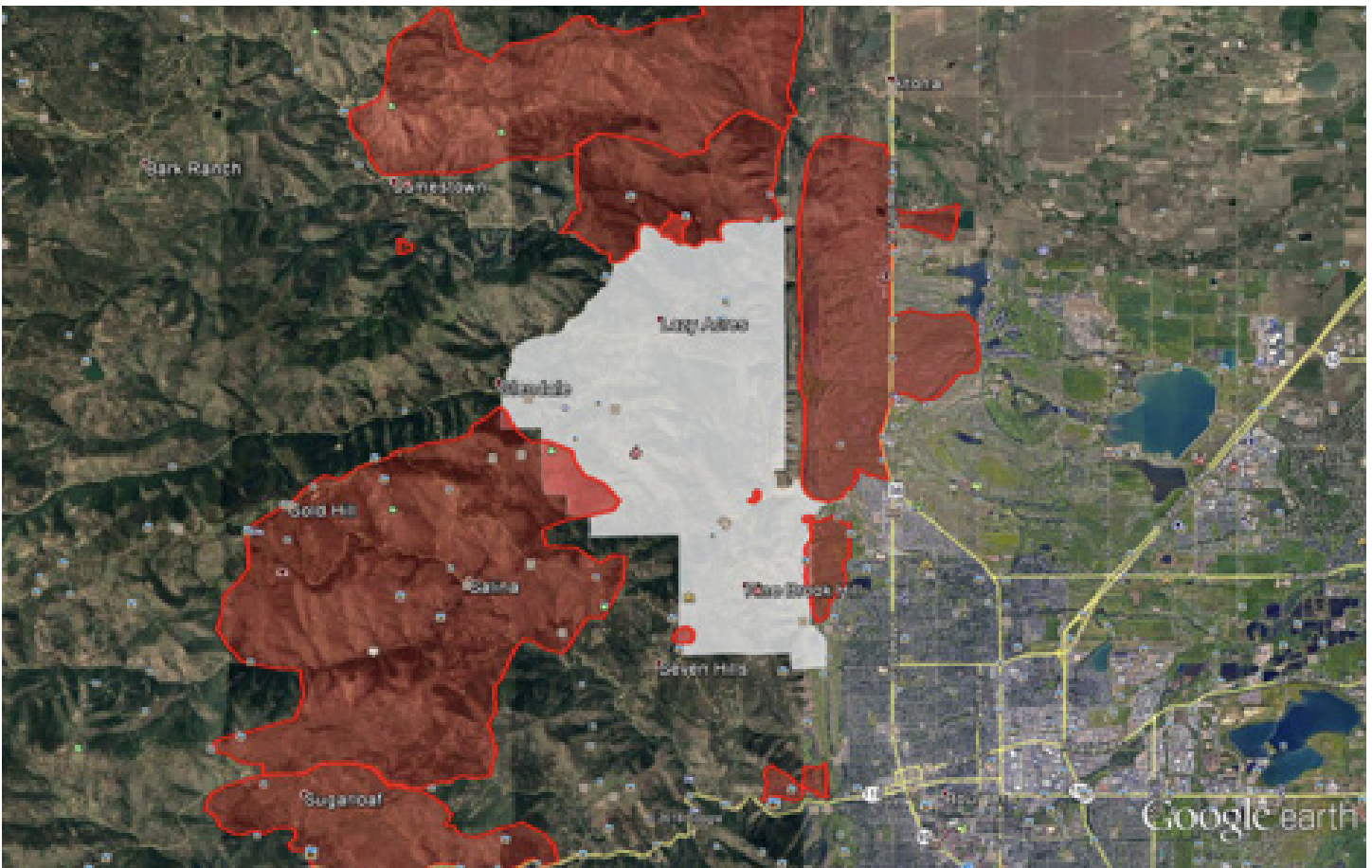
Once again, I want to thank all of you who support BMFPD in our mission. Your support comes in many ways. I, along with the staff, are grateful. Let's stay vigilant and let's hope for a quiet season. Until next time, give us a wave when you drive by us, or say howdy, and most of all, "let's be fire safe."



Extrication training



Rookie training



MITIGATION By Mike Palamara

2018 is shaping up to be another busy year in wildfire mitigation due to ongoing homeowner and community projects and a recent influx of grant funds into the fire district. This work has led to our largest crew since the program's inception in 1999. In addition to our four year-round employees, we are happy to have eight returning seasonal crew members from 2017. We have added three new staff who bring a combined 10 years of wildfire experience from around the nation.

Our larger wildfire mitigation crew will provide a higher quality of response to 911 emergencies within our fire district. Our 15 crew members are obviously wildfire certified, but also include seven members with medical response capabilities and five with structure fire qualifications.

The Wildfire Mitigation Program (WMP) is hoping for a quiet 2018 season, but recent lack of moisture and wind is a concern. The winters of 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 have been incredibly dry. The three largest 2017 wildfires in Boulder County occurred in January, February and March of last year. Unfortunately, our wildfire "season" has recently proved to be year-round. If it rained all summer, that would be fine with us!

Some of the forest thinning we worked on with the PBH HOA has resulted in the production of slash piles. These piles of vegetation are intended to be burned when there is snow cover. Recent winters have not been very productive for snow cover, so the WMP has been working on alternatives to burning, including adding a very small, portable chipper. We have successfully completed testing. While it is a slow and tedious process, we've been able to mitigate a portion of the slash piles throughout the community.

We recently finished a mapping project of wildfire events in and around our fire district. The map above excludes wildfires of less than 1 acre in size and provides a record of wildfires from 1988 to present. The white area on the map is Boulder Mountain Fire's district and the red areas are past wildfires. As is evident by the map, we have been extremely lucky with wildfires as compared to many of our neighboring fire districts. A portion of this can be attributed to the diligence of our residents to the dangers of wildfires and not providing the ignition opportunities for wildfires to start. Wildfire mitigation is as important as ever. The recent lack of moisture and history of wildfires in our area demonstrate that wildfires will continue to be a concern for the foreseeable future.

THE WMP CREW ARE THANKFUL TO PINE BROOK HILLS RESIDENTS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIPS TO BETTER SITUATE THE COMMUNITY FOR THE NEXT WILDFIRE EVENT.

If there are any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of us at Station 1 (303) 440-0235, Mike Palamara's cell (303) 859-4661, or with email at mitigation@bouldermountainfire.org.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS TO PBH!

With Jo Wiedemann



IAN WILLIAMSON AND BRIE WRIGHT just completed their new home in PBH. Ian has been living in Pine Brook for four years. They have six children blended together in their family. The oldest, McKenna, is a Junior at CU Boulder. Quinn, 17, will graduate from Niwot High this spring to join his sister at CU next fall. Connor, 14, is at Boulder High. Weston, 13, attends Platt Middle. Lyla, 10, goes to Niwot Elementary. Trey, 9, attends Bear Creek Elementary. Ian works in IT for Hitachi and serves as a firefighter with BMFPD. Brie is an elementary art teacher in Boulder. They have a cat, Lena, and a Newfoundland mutt named Greta.



MATTHEW AND MEGAN BOLITHO met in Auckland during Megan's college semester abroad. Megan is originally from New Jersey and Matthew is from the (arguably) more exotic New Zealand. Somehow, the 9000 miles that separated their hometowns did not daunt their relationship and Matthew's decision to attend graduate school in the US trimmed that distance down. Matthew earned his Ph.D. in computer science from Johns Hopkins University and is a Director of Hardware Engineering for NVIDIA. Megan earned her Ph.D. in chemistry from Princeton and recently left her position as Associate Professor at the University of San Francisco.

The Bay Area was a great place for their early married life and careers, but after their son James was born, they decided it was time for a lifestyle change. The more relaxed pace, the beautiful natural landscape, and the warm, engaged community are all aspects of Pine Brook Hills that made it just the right place for them to start this new chapter in their lives. Matthew continues to work for NVIDIA out of their Boulder office. Megan is home with 18-month-old James full-time. All three are so grateful for the generous hospitality already shown to them by their neighbors and look forward to many years of happy mountain living to come.



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HOA DUES UPDATE

GREAT NEWS! WE ARE A QUARTER INTO 2018 AND ALMOST A QUARTER OF THE HOUSEHOLDS IN PBH HAVE PAID THEIR ANNUAL HOA DUES. TO DATE THE HOA HAS RECEIVED \$11,125 IN REVENUE FROM DUES, BRINGING US ONE-THIRD OF THE WAY TOWARDS OUR TOTAL GOAL FOR THE YEAR.

THANKS TO THE MANY HOUSEHOLDS WHO CONTRIBUTE MORE THAN THE OFFICIAL REQUEST OF \$75.

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET PAID YOUR DUES, THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO PAY:

- 1. BY CHECK:** Make the check payable to Pine Brook Hills HOA and mail it to 1907 Linden Drive (or drop in our free mailbox at the entrance to Community Center/Fire Station).
- 2. BY CREDIT CARD:** Go to the HOA website (www.pinebrookhills.org) and use the link to pay through PayPal.

Welcome Spring with Your Neighbors By Brian Wahlert

April 24 HOA Meeting

This quarter's HOA meeting will provide an opportunity for residents to become more informed about two important areas.

WATER BOARD CANDIDATES: This year, for the first time in many years, more residents are running for the Pine Brook Water board than seats available, so an election will be held. The April 24 HOA meeting comes at the perfect time to meet the candidates. All candidates will be invited to share their views on the Pine Brook water system, and what we can do as a community to ensure its sustainability for the long term. Register to vote with your Pine Brook address, if you're not already registered, and come to the meeting to learn about the candidates.

WILDFIRE MITIGATION PROGRAM: Boulder Mountain Fire's mitigation crew is available to help you make your property more defensible. The majority of your HOA dues, supplemented by public grants, fund projects that span across property lines to protect the neighborhood as a whole. These services set us apart from other mountain communities. Mike Palamara, Superintendent of our mitigation crew, will discuss 2018 mitigation plans at the April meeting.

BOTH PRESENTATIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER AT 1907 LINDEN.
BRING A DISH TO SHARE FOR THE POTLUCK DINNER AT 6:00PM. THE PROGRAM STARTS AT 7:00PM.
COME FOR ONE OR BOTH, AS YOUR SCHEDULE ALLOWS.
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

I'm not only your local Realtor,
I'm your Pine Brook Hills neighbor!



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PINE BROOK HILLS WATER DISTRICT ELECTIONS

IN EVEN NUMBERED YEARS COLORADO SPECIAL DISTRICTS, SUCH AS PINE BROOK WATER AND BOULDER MOUNTAIN FIRE HOLD ELECTIONS FOR POSITIONS ON THEIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A NUMBER OF YEARS, THE WATER DISTRICT HAS MORE RESIDENTS RUNNING FOR ELECTION THAN OPEN POSITIONS. IN 2018 WE WILL ELECT THREE DIRECTORS FOR FOUR-YEAR TERMS AND ONE DIRECTOR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM FILLING A TOTAL OF FOUR OPEN SEATS.

ALL CANDIDATES IN THIS YEAR'S ELECTION WERE INVITED TO SUBMIT A SHORT STATEMENT ABOUT THEMSELVES SO RESIDENTS COULD GET TO KNOW THEM AND LEARN ABOUT THEIR PRIORITIES FOR PBWD. THEIR BIOGRAPHIES APPEAR HERE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER. **THE APRIL 24 HOA MEETING IS ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO MEET THE CANDIDATES, LEARN ABOUT THEIR VIEWS ON THE WATER DISTRICT, AND BECOME MORE INFORMED PRIOR TO VOTING.**

MAIL-IN BALLOTS ARE DUE BY MAY 8. IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY REGISTERED TO VOTE, REGISTER NOW AND PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS IMPORTANT ELECTION. WE ARE ALL KEENLY AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF PINE BROOK WATER TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. **HAVING A WATER UTILITY INCREASES OUR PROPERTY VALUES. FIRE HYDRANTS NOT ONLY PROTECT OUR HOMES; THEY DECREASE OUR INSURANCE RATES. THE RESERVOIR PREVENTS US FROM HAVING WATER SHORTAGES AND SUPPORTS FIREFIGHTING THROUGHOUT THE AREA.**

MEL BEAUPREZ

I am the third-generation of my family to call Boulder County home. I grew up on a dairy farm near Lafayette and attended schools in Louisville. After earning Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from the University of Colorado, and certification in School Administration from the University of Northern Colorado, I became a teacher and then an elementary and middle school principal with Boulder Valley Schools for thirty years.

I've lived in Pine Brook since 1970 and have been a member of the Water Board since 1995. With my roots in agriculture, I have always been appreciative and protective of the necessity of water in our arid surroundings. When I moved to Pine Brook, our water source was a few wells to supply water for approximately 100 homes. Since then, both the supply and quality of the water have improved through the installation of a state-of-the-art micro-filtration system and the community-supported construction of our reservoir.

I believe the Water District is on the right track to continue with work to update our water rate structure so that we can be secure in meeting our financial obligations and rebuild funds to plan for future capital repair and maintenance.

SIGNE HAWLEY

As a candidate for the PB Water Board of Directors, I am committed to building on the current work to ensure that the water district is sustainable in all of its practices. I will work to leverage the community's experiences, along with both internal and external experts to create a robust long-term strategic plan.

I will use my background in community engagement, data analytics, and organizational capacity-building, to draw insights and create data visualizations that distill complex information to share with the community. We will utilize this information to make community guided, data-driven decisions about the future of our water district.

Since moving to PBH, I have felt so fortunate to be a part of a community with such incredible members who are involved and vested in our future. I look forward to the opportunity to speak with you all in April and answer any additional questions you may have!

JOYCE COLSON

Water—its quality, quantity, and cost are important to all of us. PBH Water Board has the task of overseeing a unique small mountain water district challenged by geography, floods, and fires. If you want a board member who listens, deliberates thoughtfully, values preserving capital assets, looks for cost effective actions, cares about safety and conservation, and who will make tough decisions to ensure quality water delivery and the viability of this water district, then elect me.

I've practiced business law for 38 years, acted as a mediator in 75 plus disputes, tried over a dozen business lawsuits to judge and jury, and handled thousands of corporate matters. I've volunteered in PBH since 1996. I've served on the Pine Brook Water Board for a year, served on the HOA in the mid 2000s, and volunteered for the past eight years as a Third Arm member on the Boulder Mountain Fire Department. I value this community and my neighbors and feel I should give back.

I believe active participation in volunteer efforts, community meetings and face-to-face discussions are the best way for this community to make thoughtful, informed, careful, and tough decisions. Thanks for your consideration and vote.

VOTE
VOTE
VOTE

more candidates...

MICHAEL J. HUPKA

Jean and I moved to PBH in August of 2008 when I retired from ExxonMobil. We have been very happy with our decision to be part of the PBH community. I joined ExxonMobil in 1974 after obtaining a Master's of International Management degree and spent over 34 years with them, mainly working in various Asian affiliates in a financial and commercial capacity. I was a director of a large Asian utility when I retired.

I have been a director on the Water Board since January 2013. I've been a volunteer firefighter in PBH since early 2009, and I am a qualified engineer on heavy trucks. I am extremely aware of the operations and importance of the water district to this community, as well as how integral PB Water is to fire protection in the district. I have a keen respect for the dedication of the PBW personnel in serving this community. I have enjoyed my experience on the PBW Board and believe I have made and will continue to make a positive contribution to the management and operations of the PBW District.

ROBERT B. LOVEMAN

After 48 years in business and finance with an MBA, CPA, and CFP, I retired with an increased commitment to giving back to the communities where I live. In Boulder I serve on the public boards of Boulder Mountain Fire as the president and the Pine Brook Water District as a director appointed in late 2016 to fill a vacancy. In addition, I am treasurer of the PBH HOA. In Chicago I am a life trustee of the Field Museum of Natural History. I serve on the Board's audit, exhibitions, facilities, and retirement committees. For 26 years I taught auditing and accounting. During the last 25 years, I worked in financial consulting with one of the largest independent registered investment advisory firms, heading the firm nationally for ten years. If reelected to the Water District Board I plan to offer my financial and business-running skills to the fine staff and board colleagues.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!
BALLOTS ARE DUE BY MAY 8, 2018.**

KEVIN SMITH

I look forward to bringing my scientific, engineering and business management skills to support and improve the Pine Brook Water district as a member of the Board of Directors. I have a B.S. in Chemistry from Miami University, a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Illinois, and 40+ hours of master's level electrical engineering coursework from Oregon State University. I worked as Manager of an Analytical Chemistry laboratory, led many teams developing sophisticated Telecommunications Test and Measurement equipment, and led a Business Unit that employed over 60 employees, generating \$30 million in revenues.

My plan is to explore all ideas for cost reduction and implement the ones that show a positive return on investment, ensure that system documentation is sufficient so that the facility can be maintained by skilled water system operators, engage the community to help support the water system (similar to the way Pine Brook residents support the Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District), work on establishing and publishing one, five, and ten year plans so everyone knows the intended direction of Pine Brook Water, and ensure that water employee certification levels are appropriate to support the complicated system we have in place.

SARAH WAHLERT

Pine Brook Water is a great feature of our mountain community, and I'm excited to run for the board to ensure that our water system is sustainable for the future. Pine Brook has many intelligent, generous residents who care deeply about our community, so I will prioritize transparent communication so that residents understand our challenges and we can work together on solutions. A fantastic volunteer spirit powers our fire department and HOA, and our water department could benefit from residents' generosity as well. I'll also work with other water districts, hydrology experts at CU, and independent consultants to get fresh perspectives on reducing costs and improving operations. Finally, I'll make long-term strategic planning a priority, including mitigating risks such as unexpected personnel changes and the contamination threat to our source water, and financial planning for upcoming infrastructure expenses.

My background in software engineering and program management gives me collaborative problem solving, critical thinking, and project management skills that are so important to improving our water district. I plan to raise my family in this wonderful community and live here for many years beyond, so I'm deeply invested in ensuring the sustainability of our water system.

PSA ANNOUNCEMENT

IT'S BLOOMING TRASH!

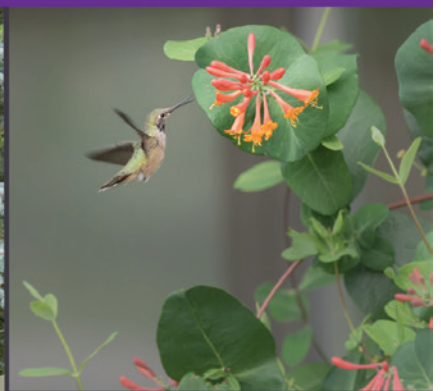
We love our community, and coming out of winter it takes a bit of effort to get our environments up to par. The spring plastic is blooming - in our trees, up the hillsides and in our yards. Throughout our neighborhood there is an overwhelming amount of old newspapers, cans, "gatorade" bottles, packaging, and a myriad of other items.

If we can all take a few minutes to bring a bag, walk our property, and pick up the debris, we will be looking fantastic for the spring flowers (if you can get them to grow). Look to the edges of your property and by the road. The ditches collect trash. If renters reside in your home, please ask them to help! If we all pitch in to clean our areas, PBH will be a much more beautiful place to live for us and the wildlife.

THANKS FOR DOING YOUR PART!



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FAMILIAR FACES: FEATURING JEAN WATSON By Penny Triggs

MANY RESIDENTS CHOOSE TO LIVE IN PBH FOR A LONG TIME. THEY'VE FOUND THAT LIVING HERE BRINGS A QUALITY OF LIFE AND SENSE OF FULFILLMENT THAT THEY WOULDN'T FIND ELSEWHERE. THIS ISSUE'S FAMILIAR FACES COLUMN FEATURES A LONG-TIME RESIDENT WHO RAISED HER FAMILY HERE, STAYED THROUGH MANY OF LIFE'S TRANSITIONS, AND STILL CALLS PBH HOME.

We have a wonderful artist in our midst. Jean Watson, a long-time resident, lives in a cozy home tucked into a hillside. She shared the home with her husband Keith until he died last year. On my visit I was struck by the gentle beauty of her watercolors that hang throughout their home. Jean told me she hadn't started to paint much before she found herself raising four young girls. She would paint "before the kids got up." In the past, Jean has participated in Boulder's Open Studios held annually in the area and plans to do so later this year when the event comes around again. She is a frequent participant in Boulder Mountain Handmade, the local art fair sponsored by Boulder Mountain Fire Auxiliary.

One good-sized piece depicts Lava Falls in the Grand Canyon, an area where Jean and her husband Keith loved to river raft. It is the type of painting that pulls you in with curiosity. The colors are soft hues. All is fluid motion. Lingering, and looking closer, I imagined I spotted a blue raft riding playfully, wildly, through a mass of roiling waters, Keith and Jean having the ride of their lives!

Their house is all about comfort. Snug spaces, treasures throughout...a row of miniature model T cars across a mantel (Keith loved cars from the 50's), a small-sized stained glass kaleidoscope that I just had to pick up and look through.

As Jean and I were sitting talking, her daughter Leigh arrived and joined the conversation. The two of them began to muse about earlier years when the family lived close to the site of the Climax mine on Fremont Pass outside of Leadville. Keith had been hired to work at the High-Altitude Observatory in that location. They lived there for a number of years after Jean and Keith graduated from CU (graduated and married the same day, by the way). They "couldn't believe" their luck at "being paid to live and work in the mountains!" These were two adventurous young people who loved to backpack and river raft.

Jean told me they eventually relocated to Pine Brook Hills, but not before a few years spent living on Olde Stage Road. Their house faced the intersection where Lee Hill makes a sharp downhill turn to the juncture of the roads. It was when Jean saw a car go off the edge (before the current guard rail) and watched the driver leap out before the car rolled down to the creek below that they decided it was time to relocate. Time to have a safer view from their front porch!

Before I left, I asked Leigh to share a meaningful characteristic about her mother. She said, "my mom is the type of person that no matter what life hands you, you just get on with it."



IF YOU HAVE IDEAS FOR THE COLUMN OR PEOPLE YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT, LET PENNY KNOW.
pennytriggs@icloud.com

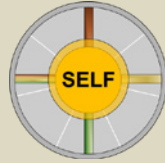


PUMAS, COUGARS AND PANTHERS

Same beautiful animal, different names. The males reach up to 200 lbs and 8' in length. Colorado Parks and Wildlife outfit the mountain lions with GPS tracking collars that transmit coordinates every three hours.

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AUXILIARY UPDATE

FIRE SAFETY SALE IS SATURDAY & SUNDAY MAY 5 - 6
THE AUXILIARY SPRING MEETING FOR NEW MEMBERS IS APRIL 22.

The Auxiliary's Outreach and Education team has scheduled the annual Fire Safety Sale for Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6. Many residents look forward to this opportunity to upgrade their home fire safety equipment or to bring in fire extinguishers to have them checked to ensure they are still in good working order. BMFPD firefighters will be on hand to give residents practice putting out a live fire. Several educational workshops will be scheduled during the weekend, including a New Resident Welcome session with Chief John Benson. This presentation focuses on mountain living and fire safety. Mark your calendar to attend, or better yet contact Ann Blonston (annblonston@gmail.com) or Sue Brundege (suebedowab@gmail.com) to get involved.

One of the main thrusts of the Auxiliary's work is to provide on-scene provisioning during incidents so that emergency responders have food and drinks without having to leave the site. Additionally, the Auxiliary provides support to BMFPD training events, such as the seven recent Rookie Training sessions held in February and March.

The Auxiliary's spring meeting traditionally provides an opportunity for current members to introduce the Auxiliary and its work to new and potential members. The meeting is held at a member's home and includes opportunities to interact with neighbors and learn more about the fire district. Plan to join us on April 22 in the afternoon. For details on the time and location contact Catherine Von Hatten at aux.president@bouldermountainfire.org.

MARKETING PROFESSIONAL NEEDED

If you, someone you know, or an agency or company that you work with would like to get involved supporting the fire department, we have just the job for you.

The Auxiliary's primary fundraiser, Boulder Mountain Handmade, is looking for a marketing professional to help us promote the event and ensure that we have a diverse group of artists and customers.

Over the last few years, BMH has grown to include 70 regional artisans, and countless community members who donate crafts and baked goods to raise funds for BMFPD. We rely on residents to help us reduce costs so our profits can go towards purchasing provisions for emergency responders, equipment the department might otherwise not afford, and recognition for volunteer firefighters.

If you can donate some time to our marketing efforts for 2018, we'd love to talk to you.

Contact Catherine Von Hatten at aux.president@bouldermountainfire.org.

*EQUIPMENT PURCHASED AT THE ANNUAL
FIRE SAFETY SALE IS CREDITED WITH
SAVING FOUR HOMES IN THE FIRE
DISTRICT IN THE PAST FEW YEARS.*

Meet Shane Staats

A Pine Brook Hills resident and local **CryptoCurrency Consultant**.

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Shane is also a **CryptoCurrency Asset Manager**.



ON THE WATERFRONT By Bob de Haas

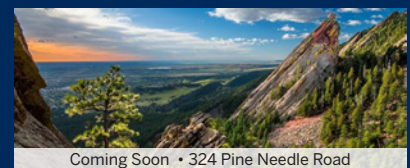
AS MOST RESIDENTS KNOW, THIS IS AN ELECTION YEAR FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THERE ARE FOUR OPEN POSITIONS ON THE BOARD. THREE OF THOSE ARE FOR FOUR-YEAR TERMS AND THE OTHER IS FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM. REGISTERED VOTERS WILL RECEIVE A MAIL-IN BALLOT TO VOTE FOR THE PEOPLE YOU WANT TO REPRESENT YOU ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

BALLOTS ARE DUE BY MAY 8, 2018. THE DISTRICT ENCOURAGES EVERY ELIGIBLE VOTER TO VOTE!



PBH Water Department crew working on the Wild Horse Circle water main break in January.

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Barb Silverman
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HOA SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE By Sarah Wahlert

The social committee is looking for a few helping hands. Volunteering to plan a social event is a great way to get involved, meet some neighbors, and make a positive contribution in the community. If you would like more information or can help out, please email social@pinebrookhills.org.

GALA ORGANIZER – This adults-only evening event needs a new volunteer to spearhead it. Ideally, this event will take place in late spring.

BLOCK PARTIES – We need block party hosts! Block parties are popular social events because they offer the opportunity to meet your closest neighbors. Since most of these parties are outside, late spring through early fall is the best time to hold them. The HOA has a block party kit with supplies and information to make hosting a party easy. New this year, the HOA will reimburse up to \$100 of expenses when you host a block party.

GARDENING GROUP – Do you have a passion for gardening? We are looking for one or two people to organize a gardening group or series of events for residents.

Searching for...

**NEW VOLUNTEERS TO HELP
CONNECT PBH!**

Finally, save the date for this year's **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**, which will be held on Sunday, August 26. Hope to see you there!



Thanks to Shari Polis for teaching a children's hip-hop dance class at the Community Center in early March.



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GOING TO THE MOUNTAINS IS GOING HOME.

JOHN MUIR



Photo by Veronique Foster