



Pine Brook Press

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

SUMMER 2005



PINE BROOK HILLS GROUND-BREAKING CELEBRATION

By Toni Erickson

After many years of research, discussion and approval processes, the ground-breaking for the Pine Brook Hills Reservoir took place on the evening of June 14, 2005. At the last HOA meeting several people expressed an interest in marking this special occasion, so Cindy Watson and I volunteered to co-chair a celebration.

As the guests arrived the sun was glowing brilliantly in the west. After we munched on the potluck offerings for a while, Bob DeHaas, our PBH Water District Manager, and Kirk

Hendricks, our PBH Water Board

President, spoke for a few minutes. They thanked those who have helped to make the undertaking a reality. Then Bob led the group of about 65 enthusiastic people up the hill. Questions were answered by Bob and Kirk and more parameters of the project were described. At just the right moment, Bob, Kirk and residents who have worked to bring the dam into fruition, gathered together to dig up the symbolic shovel of dirt. Cheering and applause echoed

through the air. We then hiked back to the Community Center for more food and fun.

The best treat of all was the entertainment provided by our delightful new Pine Brook neighbor, Malcolm Watson. This very talented violinist, who has performed concerts all over the world, plucked and

bowed his 1918 Puglisa Reale violin as he danced and leapt around the deck in his bare feet.

It was a wonderful and inspiring evening and an opportunity to meet both new and old friends. While this was a momentous occasion, the real celebration



Pine Brookers gather around Water Manager Bob de Haas for the ground-breaking celebration of the new Pine Brook Reservoir.

Photo by Bob Olliver

will occur when the reservoir is totally completed. When the rains come and the water is flowing, our reserves will build, and hopefully we will not experience the shortages we have had in the past. Best of all, we will have a reliable water resource in the event of fire. In the meantime, I hope all of us will be responsible for proper mitigation and clearing of our own properties so we can continue to enjoy this most lovely environment.

RESERVOIR UPDATE.....

Tree removal began on June 6. The Water Department's goal is to have the reservoir construction completed by the end of the year. Immediately after that construction will start on the new water treatment plant. The reservoir should be online by next summer. The time to fill the reservoir will depend on the weather gods and could take anywhere from six months to two years. For the latest news and photos go to www.pinebrookwater.com



Water Board Chairman Kirk Hendricks breaks ground for the rez on June 14, watched by, left to right, Mel Beauprez, John Seward, Bob de Haas and Peter Lillydahl.



THE GOOD GUYS



Don Baer (left) and Roger Svendsen, two of the good guys in the fight against Donkey Tail Spurge. (See story on p. 7). No, Don does not have a tree growing out of his head, at least not yet!

GARAGE SALE ...THE STARTING LINE.



AND THE FINISH LINE...Now I know why they were sprinting. This is cool! (See story on p. 5).



HUMMING BEAR!



Photo by Reid Baumgartner

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

PRESIDENT

Pam Creswell, 720-406-9783

VICE PRESIDENT

Tim Triggs, 444-4093

SECRETARY

Eleanor Patten, 444-7814

TREASURER

Alex Baris, 443-3493

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Al Gerrish, 443-7361

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Ken Larkin, 440-8280

NEWCOMER WELCOME

Mary Barakat, 442-4526

Dianne Whitfield, 546-6318

SOCIAL CHAIR

Karen Peperzak, 440-0691

WILDLIFE OFFICER

Patrica Belanger, 786-8569

FIRE CHIEF

John Benson, 440-0235

FIRE BOARD PRESIDENT

Allen Saville, 415-1221

FIRE/MEDICAL AUXILIARY

Kathy Eyster, 786-7586

WATER BOARD

Kirk Hendricks, Pres., 442-1308

WATER DISTRICT

Robert de Haas, Mgr., 443-5394

PINE BROOK PRESS

EDITORS

Suzanne Adams, 449-0997

Anne Singh, 417-0373

LAYOUT: Param Singh, 417-0373

STAFF: B.K. Adams, 449-0997

ADVERTISING: Cheri Cathey, 449-8844

E-MAIL: pinebrookpress@aol.com

WEBSITE: www.pinebrookhills.org

WEBMASTER: Param Singh, 417-0373

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

HOA MEETING JULY 31 AT CHAUTAUQUA! Picnic and meeting at 5:30 p.m., Music Program at 7:30 p.m. Call 303.440.7666 before July 31 for 25% discount (code word "Pine Brook") on tickets. Price range \$ 22-34. See Pam Creswell's article below for more details.

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

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

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

FIRE AUXILIARY - Generally meets the first Sunday of every month at 7 P.M. Call 786-7586 for confirmation.

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

STRAIGHT FROM THE PREZ

By Pam Creswell

What an historic summer this is for Pine Brook Hills. I know that many of us are excited about the progress of our new reservoir and will enjoy watching the evolution of a concept and plan into a reality. Unfortunately, there is a small drawback that I should mention. During the construction of the reservoir, there will be little or no parking space available at the Firehouse-Community Center. Not being able to use the Meeting Room, we have decided that we must cancel the July Square Dance. However, we have an excellent alternative! **Save SUNDAY, JULY 31, for the HOA MEETING AT CHAUTAUQUA.** We'll meet at 5:30 for a picnic supper and brief business meeting (see p. 7 for information about the Fire Scout vote). Before the meeting, hikers could enjoy the Chautauqua trails. Those who wish can stay after the meeting for a special music program, "Dancing on Air" (Rossini, Schubert and Beethoven, with aerial dance). Jack Walker, former Pine Brooker and President of the Colorado Music Festival, offers a special 25% discount to those who call for tickets (303.440.7666) before July 31 and mention the code word "Pine Brook."



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are still looking for people wishing to give back to their community by volunteering for a Board or Committee Chair position

next year. If you might be interested and want more information please contact David Hummer (303-447-1589) regarding Board positions or myself, Pam Creswell (720-406-9783) regarding Committee Chair positions.

I hope to see you all at Chautauqua!



FIRESIDE CHAT

UPDATE ON THE FIRE MITIGATION PROGRAM

By Steve Lynn, BMFPD Mitigation Coordinator

The 2005 Mitigation program started off with a bang this season, thanks to the help of many people including the Beetle Busters, the Fire Board members, and of course the homeowners.

For those who do not know, The Beetle Busters are a group of volunteer homeowners interested in protecting the health of our forest. The group formed earlier this year and received training along with the Mitigation Department in identifying the signs of mountain pine beetle, mistletoe, ips beetle, and several other critters that adversely impact our forests. The Mitigation Department would like to thank the Beetle Busters for referring several homeowners to our services and for helping the entire community by identifying and working to eliminate infestations on several impacted areas.

The Mitigation Department would also like to thank the Fire Board Members for hosting meetings in their individual districts to present the results of the Anchor Point Study. The goal of the presentations was to provide the public with the results of the study and to motivate the community to adopt the recommendations. Not only did we achieve that goal but in addition the Mitigation Department has been hired by several homeowners to complete thinning of trees in the recommended areas along some of the emergency evacuation routes. Several of the meeting participants understand the severity of our fire danger problems and have asked the Fire Department to take the next step and teach them how to find and apply for grants to protect their homes and the entire district. Boulder Mountain Fire is currently formulating a plan to address the needs of these highly motivated individuals.

Along with thanking homeowners for supporting their local fire department by contracting the Mitigation Department to clear trees from their property, I would like to thank Bob de Haas and the Pine Brook

Water District for choosing Boulder Mountain Fire to clear 6.5 acres of trees from the footprint of the new reservoir. This project creates a large fuel break between the Community Center and lower Timber Lane. The new reservoir will also give our fire fighters an effectively unlimited supply of water to fight fires in Pine Brook Hills.

As a final note, please be aware that the wet spring we experienced has given us a bumper crop of long grasses and fine fuels. These fine fuels dry out quickly and should be eliminated from the area surrounding your house now. The fires starting in California and the entire Southwest are an omen of what can happen here if we do not take action to prevent devastation. Simply cutting our grass is a crucial first step. The Colorado State Forest Service recommends that grasses be cut to a height of 6 to 8 inches within your defensible space. On slopes of less than 20% that is 30 feet from your house.

Please call (303) 440-0235 if you have any questions or would like to have a free mitigation analysis of your property.



THE MOOSE DAYS OF SUMMER



A shady tree, a cooling tub...perfect!



Vacation Rentals Available

Town House in Santa Fe
Condo on the Beach in California
Call Ron & Sandy Hensen
Brochures Available
303-442-3446

GARAGE SALE CLEANS UP

By Art and Babette Markey, Garage Sale Organizers

Garage Sale 2005 is now history. Reflecting back on it, it was a great experience, as usual. We had all the key ingredients: hard working volunteers, terrific donations and lots of eager shoppers.

The Fire Department Auxiliary brought in \$11,986 and, with a few items we are selling on Ebay or on consignment, we should easily gross over \$12,100. We were fortunate that a car was again donated this year. That really helps the bottom line! This is our second highest total in Garage Sale history and has provided funds to purchase a heat-sensing camera that Chief Benson wanted to have to aid the department's fire detection ability.

There are always heart-warming stories. This year I want to tell you the story of Eli, a very young Pine Brook resident. Eli had saved his money and had come to shop in our toy department. We had a treasure chest bank at the checkout that was labeled "Donations for BMFPD." He saw that chest and asked what "Donations" meant. After it was explained to him, he went over to the bank and started to put a dollar in it. When we thanked him for donating a dollar, he said "No, I'm donating \$2.00." And he did! I'm sure he donated a significant amount of his shopping money to BMFPD.

We look forward to Garage Sale 2006 (or at least we will after some more time to recover from this year's sale). And remember, if you are replacing furniture or moving or whatever between now and then, we do have some year-round storage space available. So give us a call. And if you will be replacing a car, we'd be delighted to accept a donation of your good used one.



TREASURER'S REPORT

By Alexandra Baris

A few months ago letters were sent to homeowners requesting HOA dues of \$50 per household, a rate that hasn't changed in a long time. Thank you to the many who immediately sent checks, some very generously sending more than the requested amount! Those HOA funds have enabled us to do some very effective community-wide fire mitigation. We've created two mile-long fuel breaks, on the north above the Anne U. White Trail and on the south above Sunshine Canyon, two areas at significant risk for wildfire. The

Forest Health Initiative, which supports the "Beetle Busters," is a cooperative endeavor with the Fire District. We have applied for a matching grant from the State Forest Service and are reserving funds for that project. Money from the annual voluntary dues also pays for the Pine Brook Press and the Pine Brook Directory. A small percentage of the money supports community social events. The proposed HOA purchase of Fire Scouts is discussed on p. 7. We are unusual among mountain communities for the effectiveness of our community projects. But they aren't free.

Currently, 60% of Pine Brook residents have sent 2005 dues. This is somewhat less than the homeowners dues received in prior years as of this date, so I'd like to encourage anyone who hasn't sent dues yet to please take a moment to do so now. Checks can be mailed to PBH HOA, 1907 Linden Drive, Boulder, 80304, or placed in the HOA drop box in the Firehouse parking lot. If you have questions about the Pine Brook Hills HOA, please contact me or any of the other officers and we'd be happy to provide you with information and answer any questions you might have.

To stay informed about community issues and events that impact Pine Brook Hills residents, send your email address to HOA Vice President Tim Triggs, at timtriggs@comcast.net. Your email address is not passed on to anyone else (including Pine Brook residents). This is a very cost effective and time efficient way for us to get information to you.



THOSE INVENTIVE PINE BROOKERS

Despite living in Hawaii, Quentin McKenna had a problem. Birds were eating his flower seeds. When he turned his sprinkler on, the birds were frightened away - for a time. So Quentin imagined a 'snap action' intermittent sprinkler that would work from water pressure and use so little water that it could be left on much of the time, scaring the birds away all of the time. Problem: no such product existed. So he invented the SpritzWiz, which uses permanent magnets, pops open from water pressure, closes automatically and can be run using only 1/8 gallon of water per hour. Now living here in PBH, Quentin found that the sudden movement of the device and its quick squirt of water scares away our Numero Uno garden pest, the mule deer! The SpritzWiz was featured at this year's Colorado Garden & Home Showcase, can be seen at

spritzwiz.com and purchased at Sutherlands.

Al Gerrish has been involved in the design of a new product that would use wood chips to produce heat and electricity. Invention is nothing new to him. In 1967 he patented the original signaling format for Digital Subscriber Loop (DSL) service provided by the local telephone carriers for computer access to the internet. Unfortunately, when he first joined Bell Labs in 1963 he sold all his patent rights for \$1! Al comes from a line of inventors. His father had the patent on the papier mache egg carton design, which is still widely used today.

And we haven't even mentioned Tom Cathey, joint inventor of an optical system that significantly increases depth of field for use with microscopes and cameras, among other things. Other inventions by Pine Brookers include RJ Smith's Fire Scout and Param Singh's work on the artificial heart for ABIOMED. There are probably more. Pine Brook seems to attract engineers and entrepreneurs, as well as artists and generally delightful people.



BEETLE BUSTER BULLETIN

Although the winter snows and spring rains have brought us a particularly beautiful spring and summer, our trees still show some of the effects of the drought. One of those effects is an increased susceptibility to beetle infestation.

A group of Pine Brookers and Boulder Heights volunteers have been inspecting trees for Mountain Pine Beetle, Ips Beetle, and Dwarf Mistletoe. When these pests are found, the property owners are informed so that they can "take arms against a sea of troubles and, by opposing, end them" (sorry, Hamlet broke in there).

We've completed 25 property inspections to date. Although our forest has so far escaped the heavy infestations that we've seen in Boulder Heights, we've seen all three pests in Pine Brook Hills this summer. Here are a few suggestions:

1. LOOK AT YOUR TREES! If you see fading color, pitch tubes, lots of woodpecker activity or witches' brooms (the limb distortion caused by dwarf mistletoe), call a tree expert or, for a free first opinion, the Beetle Busters.
2. If possible, avoid cutting trees or branches from July 15 to September 15, the mountain pine beetle flight season. That said, necessary

fire mitigation trumps beetle concern. It's bad to lose trees but much worse to lose houses.



If there are pine beetles in this tree, Rody Kent will find them!

3. When you cut trees, never stack the logs against live trees. The turpenes in the cut wood are biochemically very similar to the sex pheromones that attract beetles. Going first to your cut wood, they soon move on to party in the juicy live tree nearby.
4. If the cut tree is infested with beetles, it MUST be treated. Cutting it down is not enough. Each infested tree can infest 3 - 10 other trees with each flight season. Chip the branches and strip, remove, or soak the logs with diesel fuel, being careful to put down a clear plastic sheet first so as not to contaminate the ground. Don't use diesel oil-soaked logs for firewood.

While the beetles are flying, the Beetle Busters will be lying low. There's no sense inspecting trees until the flight season ends, around the middle of September. But feel free to make reservations for fall inspections by calling Tim Triggs (444-4093) or Suzanne Adams (449-0997). Thanks to all who have requested our services!

And thanks to the Beetle Busters, who are: Bob Wampler, Larry Viele, Tim Triggs, Roger Svendson, Param Singh, Bill Ranney, Sue Rancis, Mark Menagh, Steve Lynn, Gail Loveman, Peggy Long, Gretchen Leland, Rody Kent, Pam Creswell and Suzanne Adams.

GOOD NEWS ON THE FIRE SCOUT FRONT!

The Fire Scouts, the early fire detection system invented by Pine Brooker RJ Smith, will soon be installed throughout the fire district, thanks to a grant from Homeland Security. As reported in earlier issues of the Press, the fire sensing devices, installed in homes, are connected to dialers that can automatically call eight fire personnel when a fire is spotted, whether or not the homeowner is present. The new version of the fire scout dialer is wireless, which will no doubt frustrate our friends, the pack rats, who seem to like to chew on the wires. The \$36,000 grant will enable the district to buy 60 of the devices, which will be placed in homes where the view of vulnerable areas is best.

Roads can pose a particular hazard for mountain communities like ours. Tossed cigarettes, parking on dry grass and other hazards can lead to fires roaring up the hills to homes. For that reason, RJ has suggested that a perimeter defense be placed OUTSIDE of the district but looking toward the dry, sunbaked slopes of Pine Brook Hills above Sunshine Canyon. At the meeting of the HOA Board on June 17 it was decided to ask the HOA membership to approve an allocation of funds (approximately \$2800) to purchase four Fire Scouts for Sunshine Canyon. This would support and extend the efforts of our Fire Protection District, and would be done in conjunction with them and with the fire districts serving Sunshine Canyon. **A vote will be taken on this proposal at the July HOA meeting at Chautauqua. Those unable to attend the meeting are urged to vote by sending an e-mail response to timtriggs@comcast.net.**

SPURNING THE SPURGE

We all received an interesting letter from Boulder County Land Use this spring, telling us that Donkey Tail Spurge (*Euphorbia myrsinites*) has been spotted in our neighborhood and that the state mandates its eradication as a noxious weed.

That we had Spurge was hardly breaking news. The yellow-green flowers were very much in evidence all over Pine Brook this year. As the county's letter reminded us, Spurge is "an escaped ornamental" that has no natural enemies in this area. Therefore it spreads prolifically, crowding out native flowers and grasses. Deer won't eat the stuff, possibly because they learn about its toxic sap that can raise blisters if touched.

A number of Pine Brookers have become Heroes in the Spurge Struggle. Don Baer spearheaded the campaign. The Palmers called in to report that they had removed all the Spurge on their property and to commend the Yaffes, who had bagged vast quantities of the stuff. Spurge Superman may well be Roger Svendson, whose bags of Spurge, free of dirt, weighed in at over 400 pounds!

What does it mean when the County says that we MUST get rid of a plant? A telephone conversation with Tim D'Amato, Boulder County Weed Coordinator, confirmed that while the County is not taking stringent measures to enforce Spurge removal this year, the state's mandate will ultimately require enforcement. The County Pest Inspector is authorized to inspect any property where Spurge is noted and to order the homeowner to remove the plants. If the homeowner refuses, the County can come in and do the job itself, billing the homeowner up to a maximum of \$5000 per year. The bill can be added to the property tax levy if not paid otherwise.

Because Spurge spreads by seeds, removing the plants by digging them up is best done in the spring when the Spurge is flowering. 2-4D is the only herbicide recommended by the County, but Peter Lillydahl has had success using a strong solution of Roundup. Getting rid of Spurge will be a multi-year project.

OF DOGS AND DEER

We've become fond of the pregnant doe who likes to sleep near our house. So we were distressed when an unleashed dog chased her down the hillside. We doubt that the owners, up on the road, could have seen what their (no doubt) very nice dog was doing. The doe got away this time, but what happens when her newborn fawns are with her? Please help everyone to remember that Pine Brook Hills is not a dog park. The covenants state that dogs cannot run free outside the lot boundaries of their owners' properties, and the County imposes stiff fines on the owners of dogs who chase wildlife.

FOLLOW-UP STORY...REDUX

The trial of the suspect in the dog stabbing incident reported in the Pine Brook Press, Winter 2005 is scheduled to start September 26, 2005 at the Boulder County Justice Center.

THE 1975 PINE BROOK PHONE BOOK

A 1975 Pine Brook Phone Book recently fell into the hands of the Pine Brook Press and was subjected to “demographic” comparison with the 2004-5 edition. The most striking changes involved communications, with telephones initially, and now with e-mail. Family patterns have changed, with a major reduction in children per residence, reflecting a lower birth rate as well as an increase in older adults. Judging by the phone book ads, young Pine Brook is much less likely to seek work for spending money, and older Pine Brook is much more likely to do so. And of the roughly 660 citizens of Pine Brook in 1975 only 58 remain, 48 of them couples. Reading through their names engenders feelings of admiration and respect for those who helped build our community. Perhaps you can detect some other patterns as you read through the stats.

COMPARISON OF PINE BROOK PHONE BOOKS 1975 and 2004-5

| ITEM | 1975 | 2004 |
|--|------|--------------------|
| Pay phone at fire house for those without phones | yes | no |
| E-mail address listed | 0 | 250 |
| Total phone numbers listed | 220 | 390 |
| Addresses in Pine Brook | 237 | 398 (68% increase) |
| Unlisted phones | 1 | 8 |
| Residences with two or more separate phone lines | 0 | 14 |
| Kids living in Pine Brook | 247 | 250 |
| Kids per address | 1.04 | 0.4 (62% decrease) |
| Kids’ classified ads offering services | 112 | 17 |
| % Pine Brook kids offering services | 45% | 7% |
| Adult classified ads offering services | 0 | 48 |
| 1975 residents (any family member) still in Pine Brook | 660 | 52 (92% departed) |

The HOA is looking for a volunteer to compile the 2006-7 Directory. Please call Pam Creswell (720-406-9783).



WHO’S WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

Pine Brook Scat, or the Straight Poop (OOPS!) Scoop

Greg Anderson, a former Chief of the PBH Fire Department and currently a volunteer firefighter, has returned to the private sector after 5 years of creating an information technology organization and infrastructure for the town of Broomfield. His new position is Vice President and Senior Consultant for Farragut Systems, Inc., a leading GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and systems integration firm in Lafayette, CO. Congratulations, Greg!

Kathy and Jim Eyster have become rookie grandparents! Eva Margaret Lacy was born May 29, 2005, in Evanston, Ill. to their daughter, Tricia, and David Lacy. She is named after her great-grandmother and David’s sister, Margaret. David has just received his MBA from Northwestern and they are moving to Connecticut for David’s new job.

This brings us to the story of the 1 toe and then the three toes. Just after Eva’s birth, Jim and Kathy were



Neophyte Grandparents Jim and Kathy Eyster with Eva Margaret. Welcome to the club!

anticipating the trip to see their new granddaughter. However, in the middle of the night, before leaving PBH, Kathy tripped over a sleeping dog and injured a toe. She went to the ER, the doctor x-rayed her foot and saw that a toe was broken. He fixed her up with cast and crutches and, a few days later, off they went to

see Eva, where Kathy spent most of her time sitting and holding the baby. But after returning home she realized the swelling was not going down so she went back to her doctor who discovered in a new x-ray that three toes were broken instead of one! So three more weeks of cast and crutches! However, we all hope that Kathy will be fancy free and footloose by the time they go back to Chicago to help David, Tricia and Eva move to Connecticut to start their new life.

Lyn Lammert, a new PBH resident, owns L Design, which specializes in kitchen, bath and cabinetry design. Noting the importance of completing remodeling tasks in the proper order, she submits this Tale of Two Residents: Once upon a time one resident of PBH installed an 8" round duct pipe through the floor and exterior of the house as a connection to vent a downdraft cooktop. However, the pipe was installed before the appliance connections were put in place at each end. This, Lyn tells us, created "a portal into the space between the floors. Such portal was soon discovered by the local pack rat - once a neighbor, now an uninvited resident. He quickly began his own remodeling project, transporting job materials (leaves, sticks, flowers, etc.) into the space. It was a great discovery for Mr. Rat. He had found prime real estate, a large 'condo' in Pine Brook Hills. No more toughing it out in the cold winter months, he hoped. Moral of the story: ducting is a two way street; plan your portal installations wisely!"

Congratulations to Dale Greene for passing her RN boards. Dale has also recently moved from PBH to Boulder Heights but remains a volunteer with BMFPD.

Kevin Swanton, son of Pam Creswell and Marshal Swanton, graduated from CU in May and is leaving soon to do a real estate internship in California. "One down and one to go" said Pam whose other son, Bryan, will be graduating from CU in December.

Please send letters, stories and future items for Scat to pinebrookpress@aol.com or call the editors. If you want it in the Press, just send the information and we will do the writing! Deadline for the fall issue is September 15. Cheers!



NEWCOMER NEWS

By Dianne Whitfield

Brad Schildt and Mary Lynn McSorley moved into their new home at 252 Pine Tree Lane in May. They were married in October and had been living in South Boulder.

Mary Lynn is an independent real estate agent. Brad

is involved with his new company, Biopay, which uses finger prints to access financial data instantly.

They are enjoying life in PBH, as are their two dogs, Moki and Wolf.

The Newcomer News would like to introduce all newcomers to the community via the Pine Brook Press. We aren't able to reach some people, however, due to busy schedules, unlisted phones, life, etc. If you are a newcomer, haven't been contacted and would like to be, please go to pinebrookhills.org and click on "New to Pine Brook Hills?" or write pinebrookpress@aol.com. Thank you, and welcome all!



TICK TIME

A Bite from a Tick can Make you Sick

Summer time, when the livin' is easy, bites from ticks can make life a lot harder for both people and animals. Outdoor activities from May through August can bring us in contact with the little black insect with the big bad bite.

And that bite may be really bad. Most people know that a tick bite can spread Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and tularemia, but there is increasing evidence that Lyme Disease, once thought to be Connecticut's problem, is present in Colorado and specifically in Pine Brook Hills. Actually, Lyme disease has been reported in every state, although it is far more common on the east and west coasts and in the northern central states. It is the number one tick-borne disease in the U.S.

Lyme Disease has been positively identified in one Pine Brook dog and is very likely the cause of illness in two others. One of our residents has been suffering for several years with symptoms and test results indicating Lyme Disease.

Let's make the livin' a little harder for the ticks. When you're outdoors in areas where ticks might be present, wear long pants tucked into socks. Light colored clothes make the tiny black ticks more visible. Other protections include permethrin on clothes and Deet on yourself, tick and flea collars on pets. Ask your vet about **Frontline Plus** for your dog(s). Most of all, check yourself at home later. If you find a tick, remove it gently with tweezers placed as close to the skin as possible, trying not to squeeze it. Clean the site with disinfectant. Although Lyme Disease is rare here, the joint pain, dermatological and neurological symptoms are something devoutly to be avoided.

Happy vigilant summer!



Fact: There are 158,000 single people age 25 to 64 in Boulder County.

Our experienced matchmaker's objective is to make private introductions to individuals who meet your standards & fit your criteria. This ensures that your dates are fun.

introductions
PERSONALIZED MATCHMAKING

Your confidential critique after each date is analyzed for your next scheduled introduction. Our policy is to meet with each Client, determine who you are & who you are looking for, do a background check, and provide a high level of service not available elsewhere. **Please call 303.440.0692**

WANTED!

We want to purchase a lot or fixer-upper in Pine Brook Hills.

Please call Gary at:

(303) 444-1861 home
(303) 444-1862 office





The Green Girl Recycling

- Pinebrook's recycler since 1998
- Affordable, Complete Recycling
- Pick-ups at your front door -

Call us: (303) 881-7835

www.thegreengirl.com
thegreengirl@yahoo.com *We make recycling easy!*

Panoramic View PBH Home For Sale
www.107boulderviewlane.com (303) 591-1608

L Design, inc.




Award winning kitchens

Featured in Better Homes & Gardens and Colorado Homes & Lifestyles

Concept Showroom in Pine Brook Hills- Full working kitchen showcasing countertops, lighting, spacing, materials.....and more

member: NKBA, Boulder Chamber

Design for..... function, aesthetics, lifestyle



Lyn Lammert, owner / designer

L Design is a full service kitchen & bath company providing complete product, cabinetry & lighting. Services include: design, layout, plans & project management.

Incentives.... for neighbors of Pine Brook Hills:

- ◆ Initial consultation @ no charge
- ◆ Cabinetry discount
- ◆ Inquire @ The Kitchens of Pine Brook Program

(303) 440-0573
www.kitchensanddesign.com
lyn@kitchensanddesign.com



ROCKY RIDGE

CONSTRUCTION, LLC

303-417-1465

Your Neighbor → Your Builder

Ken Larkin

Quality Construction & Dependable Service

Custom Homes & Remodels

CLEAN? I barely have enough
time to breathe!

why not take a breather and let us do the dirty work?

FREE CLEANING! sign up for weekly or bi-weekly service and your fifth cleaning is free!

call now for a FREE and EASY phone estimate!


303•664•5666

www.maidpro.com

MaidPro
"It's about time!"

*\$85 maximum, new customers only.





Nathan Kirkland
- Owner -

DR. GLASS
WINDOW WASHING

**Pinebrook Hills
Summer Special**

Call for references & pricing

\$25 OFF

New Customer Coupon

303 494-3784

Gutters & Power Washing



Tint Your Windows!

Professionally installed custom window tinting

- Cuts glare
- Protects from fading
- Relieves the heat
- Increases comfort

\$50 off
your window tinting order*

*With coupon. Minimum purchase required. Call for details. Offer expires 8/1/05.

impruVu
Custom Window Tinting

303-530-4606
www.impruVu.com



ECOSCAPE
Environmental Design
New Owners of Pine Mtn. Contractors

10% OFF
with mention of this ad

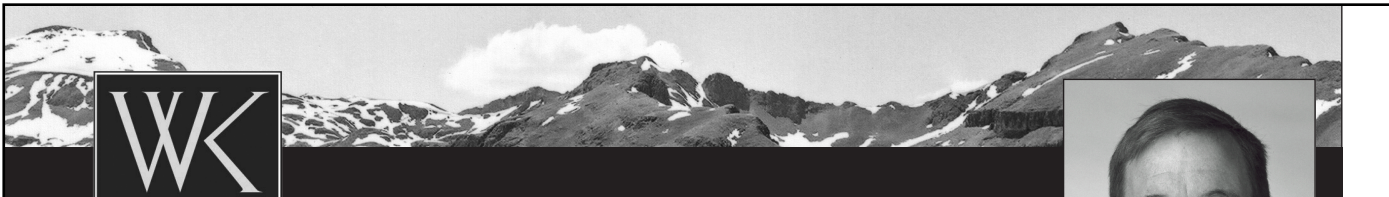
For ALL of Your Land's Needs!
Quality Landscape Design & Installations



- Native Xeriscapes
- Retaining Walls & Patios
- Edible Landscapes!
- Irrigation
- Water Features
- Lighting & More

Landscaping WITH Nature!

Wildfire Mitigation, Wood Chipping, Pest & Disease Management,
Noxious Weed Management, Ecological Rehabilitation, Driveway Grading,
Post Hole Drilling, Seasoned Firewood & Snowplowing!

(303) 447- 2282 www.EcoscapeDesign.com



WRIGHT-KINGDOM

Craig Peterson GRI, e-Pro
Listing and selling real estate in Pine Brook Hills

4875 Pearl East Circle, Suite 100 • Boulder, CO 80301 • 720.564.6008
Craig@PetersonHomes.com • www.PetersonHomes.com

**COLONIAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE
WELCOMES...**

Shanly Weber
Loan Specialist



As a fellow RallySport Member, I am committed to providing you with the best service. I specialize in finding solutions to unique situations. We provide a variety of mortgage options including conventional, ARM, and interest-only loans. Call me today!



**COLONIAL
NATIONAL MORTGAGE**
A DIVISION OF COLONIAL SAVINGS, F.A.
A TRADITION OF SERVICE

303-443-4427
shanlyw@colonialsavings.com
2500 30th Street, Suite 300 • Boulder, CO 80301

MAJESTIC PAINTING

- Interior/Exterior
- Residential
- Commercial
- Insured
- Decks/Siding/Drywall
- Repair/Replace
- References



DREW CATLIN: 720-317-7894
majestic.painting@gmail.com

lizard MOUNTAIN Dichroic Glass
Jewelry

*Spectacular one-of-a-kind fused glass
jewelry set in sterling silver.*

Call us to learn about home parties and corporate shows.
Online ordering available now.

www.lizardmountain.com

- Trash Hauling
- Clearing and Chipping
 - Firewood
 - Snow Plowing

Daniel Barnica 303-459-3277
Since 1979

DEFENSIBLE SPACE SPECIALISTS



- Tree Thinning & Limbing
- Forest Health Restoration
- Brush Removal
- Chipping • Consulting

FREE ESTIMATES!
Please call
303-258-0220

FIRE READY
Specializing in homes and acreages across the West





TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

This spring, in li'l ol' PBH, a series of events led to visions of munificent awards to our fire department but, unfortunately, were followed by intrigue and deception. In the end the riches never materialized and an individual is back in jail, though no crime was committed in our fair hills.

The story begins last year when Mr. Thomas Leroy Robinson, 49, erstwhile of parts unknown, moved into a rental house high on the Dakota Hogback. Last fall Tom Robinson applied to join our volunteer fire department (BMFPD). New volunteers are screened through Boulder County for possible crimes and misdemeanors. Tom passed the screening process, joined the department and started training as a rookie. He did well and the Spring 2005 issue of the Press has a photograph of him along with two other new firefighters.

In early spring he approached BMFPD about making a charitable donation. But this would be no ordinary donation. He suggested an initial donation of \$1.5 million with perhaps millions more to come. Talk of a donation several times the annual budget of BMFPD certainly got everyone's attention. Mr. Robinson spun a convincing tale of high finance and international charities that he controlled. All he asked for in return was that the donation be kept anonymous because he did not wish to be receiving calls from "everyone in the state." There would be no other strings attached to this donation. The BMFPD board considered that a reasonable request and started compiling a wish list of departmental items. However, they also told Tom that, as a public entity, they would undertake due diligence (legalese for checking up) to make sure that the district was not inadvertently participating in anything illegal. To some on the board the amount of money offered did not jibe with his visible lifestyle. Tom said he had no objection and even volunteered to talk with representatives of the due diligence team.

About ten days later the due diligence team filed their report and it was a doozy. The report showed that a Thomas Leroy Robinson was a con artist and convicted felon! In 1994 he had been convicted in Denver of bilking investors out of hundreds of thousands of dollars and then spending the money on women, travel and jewelry. He was sentenced to 30 years in prison; the judge called him "the worst

candidate for rehabilitation this court has seen." Contacted by BMFPD, the Boulder County Sheriff's department and the probation department confirmed that this was indeed the same Thomas Robinson promising large donations to our fire department. He had been released from prison in 2003 into a halfway house and then had been placed under intensive supervised probation, leading to his migration to PBH.

Meanwhile no money had been transferred to BMFPD. The Sheriff's department detective, Don Dillard, determined that no crime had been committed in PBH, since it is not illegal to offer to donate money. But because writing a check would be a parole violation (Tom was forbidden to possess any financial instruments), he suggested that Fire Chief John Benson wait a little longer to see if a check would be produced. However, talking with water department personnel Bob de Haas and Shawn Beauprez, John discovered that Tom had written two checks to pay his water bills. John immediately called Tom's probation officer, Sarah Phelps. When she took the call, Tom was in her office! John sent over copies of the two checks and Tom Robinson was arrested right there!

In June, Tom Robinson's probation was revoked and he is back partaking of the hospitality of the Department of Corrections, presumably until 2019.

BMFPD looked a gift horse in the mouth and found cavities. Tom Robinson never asked the fire department for anything, so the question remains why he did it. To people in the department he seemed a nice enough guy. Some have speculated that he thought being a firefighter would give him more credibility. However, why would he put himself at risk by proposing a donation he knew he could not fulfill? His probation officer would not speculate as to why he did it, but she may have hit on part of the truth when she said that his actions mirrored his previous exploits - pretending to be extremely rich and generous. Perhaps he acted the only way he knew how.

Our fire department is a little wiser. It turned out that the screening of BMFPD applicants by Boulder County never looked at records outside the county. Thus Tom's trail of crimes was not uncovered because none of them took place in our county. Screening will now be done by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and include records from the entire country. We are also left with another incident confirming the veracity of the old saying: If it is too good to be true.....

The Granite Garden

By Barbara Hosmer

I had the pleasure of visiting Boulder Heights resident Chris Blue and seeing her wonderful flower gardens at their lofty elevation of 7800 feet. Looking out over a stunning view, her gardens have a very natural feel with annuals and perennials interspersed in beds and rock gardens that she has nurtured over the last 15 years. There are no fences or barriers to keep the deer away! She plants flowers that she likes, knowing that she has a way to keep the deer from eating it all- and she kindly shared her simple egg and hot sauce mixture for the rest of us to try as well. Chris mixes this right in her 2-gallon watering can and sprinkles it on her plants. It lasts through a couple of light to medium rain showers, and is not as smelly to humans as Repellex and other commercial deer repellents.

While she has sometimes felt like she was growing fancy salad greens for the deer, over time Chris has figured out what plants to be sure to "egg." She sprinkles it on the columbine, soapwort, violas and pansies, petunias (though she tends to keep the petunias on the less accessible deck), campanulas, sweet peas, and generally any "sweet-smelling" flowers. The deer LOVE the sweet peas! She has discovered that the deer will eat the daylily buds, but not the



flowers. They leave the alyssum alone until August, but for some mysterious reason, they try to eat it in August, so the alyssum get "egged" starting then.

The deer in her neighborhood tend to leave the penstemons, catmint, veronicas, and daisies alone.

The squirrels, however, are attracted to the violas and pansies, and the egg treatment is not as good a deterrent for squirrels, so Chris breaks out the Ropel for them on occasion.

The penstemons apparently love the heat from the



rocks nearby, as they looked big and healthy already.



On average, at that altitude, flowers bloom about 3 weeks later than in Boulder. For that reason, Chris doesn't even try late-blooming flowers anymore. One of the nice ways to see and smell the nice mix of flowers in her gardens is to wander along the stone pathways they have incorporated into their planting areas. I would have thought that the steep rock garden would have made some of the plants less accessible to the deer, but Chris reports that the deer use the pathways as well!

On a site that gets a lot of wind, Chris generally sticks to plants that are less than two feet high. She and her husband clock the winds, and only a few nights before I visited, they had recorded winds at 118 miles per hour! Their steep rock wall garden faces West, and the flowers clearly like the protection and heat from the rocks; something for me to think about when planting in my own garden. Over the years they have set up several zones with soaker and upright sprinklers which they manually turn on as needed, including occasionally during dry winter months. In addition to the sprinklers, she gives the gardens a deep watering with miracle-grow every week or two depending on the weather.

Here's the DEER EGG HOT SAUCE recipe: Into a 2 gallon sprinkling can, put one egg and at least a tablespoon of hot sauce, such as Frank's Hot Sauce. Add water to fill the can, and sprinkle on whatever plants you want to deter the deer from eating. Be sure to clean the sprinkler head after each use, as it can get clogged with bits of egg-white. Best to start early in the season so the deer don't develop a taste for your plants. That's it!

THANK YOU, Chris Blue, and happy gardening to all.



Chris Blue's garden in Boulder Heights and the Continental Divide (see Granite Garden story on p. 15.)

PINE BROOK PRESS
1907 Linden Drive
Boulder, Colorado, 80304

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