



Pine Brook Press

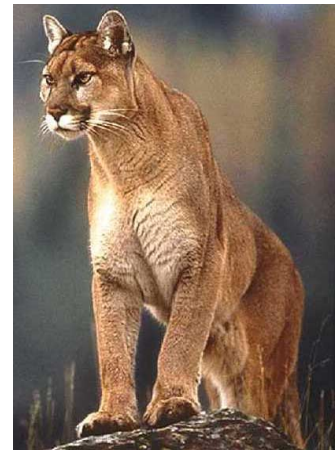
A Quarterly Journal for, about and by
Pine Brook Hills Residents

SUMMER 2010



LIVING WITH WILDLIFE IN PINE BROOK HILLS

By Bill Alexander



HOA MEETING SUNDAY, AUG. 8, 4:30 p.m. Barbecue and program.

PROGRAM: Living with Wildlife in Pine Brook Hills

SPEAKER: Kristin Cannon, North Boulder District Wildlife Manager for the Colorado Division of Wildlife, a position she has held since January of 2009

OTHER ACTIVITIES: Wildflower walk, catch-and-release fishing

WHO SHOULD COME? Everyone, especially including children

WHAT TO BRING? Salads, desserts

WHAT WE'LL PROVIDE: Barbecued meats, drinks

MORE INFO: Please look over Div. of Wildlife web site: www.wildlife.state.co.us. Especially take a moment to learn about bears - www.wildlife.state.co.us/bears. Take Kristin's word for it! Don't wait for a bear in your garage to remind you to learn how to bear-proof your home!

Note: On June 12 my wife Charmaine and I chased a full sized bear away from our house. Fortunately, it hadn't come close enough to consider trying to enter our home. So be careful out there!

GARAGE SALE MAY 2010.....MORE THAN JUST A FUNDRAISER

(It is a beloved community event. See story on page 5.)



Art Markey, "The Boss": Ready, get set.....



And they are OFF! (Is that a past HOA Prez. in red?)
Photo By Jim Adams



Emma bags a buggy



Choices, Choices.....
Photo By Evie Gray

ARBOR DAY, MAY 2010

Pete Lillydahl provided 250 small trees and bushes to plant alongside the reservoir, and Jay Markel offered expert planting advice to the volunteers pictured below. (See Jay Markel's letter, page 9.)



**PINE BROOK HILLS
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Kirk Hendricks, Pres., 442-1308

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

HOA MEETING, August 8, BBQ & drinks at 4:30 p.m. provided by HOA (bring salads, desserts to share), followed by Kristin Cannon, North Boulder District Wildlife Manager for the Colorado Division of Wildlife, speaking on "Living with Wildlife in Pine Brook Hills." See page 1.

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

BEETLE BUSTER TRAINING SESSION, Saturday, October 2, for new Beetlers and Sunday, October 3, for current Beetlers, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

FIRE BOARD - Meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30 P.M. at either the Pine Brook or Boulder Heights Firehouse. Call 440-0235 for specifics.

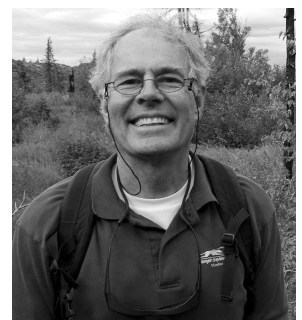
FIRE AUXILIARY - Generally meets the first Sunday of every month at 7 P.M. Call 786-8476 for confirmation.

WATER BOARD - Meets first or second Thursday of every month at 4:30 P.M. Call Water Office at 443-5394 for dates.

PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

By Bill Alexander, HOA President

Our next HOA general meeting will be on Sunday afternoon, August 8, 2010, starting at 4:30 P.M. It will begin with a short HOA business meeting lasting only until about 5 P.M. (we don't want to hear too many grumbling stomachs for too long!). Expect new neighbor introductions plus SHORT reports from committees, especially about county road repaving plans, the beetle epidemic and other topics of interest to us all. Immediately following will be a Barbecue Bash / Potluck from 5 P.M. - 6 P.M. PBH HOA will supply several different kinds of hot shredded barbecued meat plus our normal liquid refreshment (beer, wine, soda, water) and all utensils/plates. As the potluck part, YOU supply bread, salads, and deserts. We'll hear a talk on "Living with Wildlife in PBH" from Kristin Cannon, the District Wildlife Manager for the Colorado Division of Wildlife in the North Boulder District. Her job includes enforcing Colorado wildlife laws, responding to wildlife issues of all sorts, and educating young and old about wildlife. Learn about elegant Cougars, always-hungry Bears, the wily Coyote and others (see article on p. 1). Last - around 6:45 P.M. - a wildflower walk on our new reservoir trail, hopefully with commentary from a local PBH botanist. Catch-and-release fishing is allowed; you'll need your own equipment.



We've set the time/date in hopes that as many people as possible will come - including families with children.

Location - If it is good weather, outside around the Community Center, much like the Square Dance last year; inside if it's inclement weather.

Here is some more information to help you with wild-life in PBH:

In an emergency (such as a wildlife attack), call 911; also consider CO Div. of Wildlife 303-239-4501.

If no emergency (such as wildlife sightings), call CO Div. of Wildlife 303-291-7227 or consider calling Kristin Cannon directly at 303-291-7117.

Remember, this year's late snows have encouraged even more luxuriant plant growth than normal - so it's even more important than usual to make sure you have trimmed down the ground cover, thereby reducing wildfire danger. This is one task I always complete just before the July 4th holiday.

I hope you are all enjoying another wonderful summer in Pine Brook Hills!



ON THE WATER FRONT

By Bob de Haas

Reservoir Status

Everyone should have received the notice that portions of the reservoir are now open to Pine Brook Water District residents. The area has been posted with signs reminding everyone of the rules.

So far we have seen only a few people use the area. A couple of them have even tried fishing. I haven't heard how any of them have done except for Shawn, who works for the Water District. He went up after work on the opening day to see if he could catch anything. Now Shawn is an avid fisherman (see article on page 7) and so had to give it a try. Using an artificial lure with a barbless hook he caught a 24 inch Brown Trout! And according to the rules, "catch & release," he put it back in the reservoir, so this big baby is still out there waiting for other anglers!

There are Small Mouth Bass, Crappie, Blue Gills, Sun Fish, Catfish, a few Trout and Grass Carp in the reservoir, along with a couple of turtles. They all seem to be thriving and growing rapidly.

The reservoir began overflowing on April 23 and has continuously overflowed since then (I'm writing this on the 25th of May). We expect it to continue to

overflow until sometime around early to mid June. It could continue to stay full or overflow if we continue to get regular rains. We have not had to transfer any water over to the reservoir since the first week of February.

Water District gets Solar!

As I write this Lighthouse Solar of Boulder is installing solar panels on the roof of the Pine Brook Water District Filter Plant. These panels will actually be connected to the meter for the Pine Brook Community Center to help offset the electrical usage that occurs in that building. It's a long story as to why it is not being used to power the filter plant but suffice it to say that it simply didn't make financial sense at this time to try use the power for the filter plant.

This project is being done at no cost to the Water District under a Power Purchase Agreement. With a Power Purchase Agreement they install the solar system, at no cost to the District, and then we pay them for the power the panels produce instead of paying Xcel Energy for their power. These panels will not supply all of the power for the Community Center but will supply approximately half of the power needs. The monthly costs then are about the same as they are now, but...as electrical rates increase it will cost less to supply the electrical power as the rate to be paid for the power from the solar panels is "locked" in and will not increase.

The District has the option to purchase the entire system in the future. Why do this type of agreement? The District does not have the money to pay for the system up front, so this agreement allows the District to reduce its carbon footprint without a large capital outlay, a win - win situation.



S A V E		The Fire Department Auxiliary hopes you will put Mountain Expressions 2010 on your calendar: Saturday, Nov. 13, 10-5 and Sunday, Nov. 14, 12-4. The show is a chance to shop right at the firehouse for unique art, crafts and baked goods, and also support our beloved volunteer firefighters. Are you a new PBH artist we need to contact? Would you like to be a new helper or a new baker? Please let Susan Maxwell know: scbonniesstudio@comcast.net 303.444.9851 See you in November!
T H E		
D A T E		

GREEN GRASSES CAN BE DECEPTIVE

By John Benson, Fire Chief

As you look out your windows all you see is nice green grass. Don't be deceived. The grasses may look nice and lush but with the higher temperatures, low humidity, and wind, these grasses can still ignite, causing a small fire to potentially run quickly up the slopes.

Case in point: on June 22, 2010, BMFPD was paged to a small wildland fire in Boulder Heights. Upon our arrival the homeowner had already extinguished the fire. BMFPD crews finished mopping up the fire and searched for additional embers that might have escaped. This fire completely burned two trees, scorched one side of a tree and burned an area of approximately 10 X 10 of lush green grass. We were all surprised to see this, especially at a higher elevation. While conducting interviews, we found out the fire was caused by charcoal briquettes, which were used during a Fathers Day celebration. The spent briquettes were placed in the tall grasses where they smoldered for approximately two and a half days, before igniting. So, with this case in point coupled with the weather pattern we are seeing, here are a few suggestions (highly recommended of course), that you can do to prevent this happening in your community.

- If you are going to use charcoal briquettes for your cooking needs, please make sure that your briquettes are completely cold, with no heat left. Do not place your spent briquettes in a paper or plastic bag. Do not place them in areas of combustibility. It only takes one small piece to smolder enough to cause ignition.
- Keep your grasses mowed around the house. Always remember fire runs up hill ten times faster than down hill.
- When you have company, or workers at your residence, do not park them in areas where the grasses can ignite due to hot mufflers and catalytic converters. Your converters can reach well over 1,000 degrees. This scenario took place on Timber Lane a few years ago. (We were just lucky that the hillside did not decide to fire off.)
- This is the season where a lot of residents are having work done on homes. If you are having any time of welding or hot work done, remind the contractors to have a water source available for immediate use if a fire breaks out due to sparks.

According to long range forecasts, the El Nino weather pattern is not setting up as was predicted in the beginning of spring. This may lead to higher temperatures and lower moisture as we go through the summer months, which means the potential for increased fire activity.

On a different subject, if you are going to have construction work done or large gatherings at your residence, please remember to have your guests park in a manner that will allow full access for emergency vehicle response. We have had cases this summer where it was virtually impossible for our apparatus to snake our way through the traffic maze. We certainly do not want to damage anyone's vehicles, AND we certainly need to have access in the event of an emergency.

Please make sure that your guests are not parking in front of a fire hydrant. If our personnel cannot see it or access it, this will delay getting water on any fire.

I also wanted to thank everyone who helped the fire department by weed whacking around your local fire hydrants. I finished the hydrants this week, so we should be in pretty good shape for the rest of the year.

Until next time, enjoy the summer and be safe.



GARAGE SALE

Hi friends and neighbors.

Garage Sale 2010 is done (well, not really 100% done since we still have a few things out on consignment and a loose end or 3 to tie up).

But it is time for our report. We took in over \$15,100. Even after expenses, we'll net about \$14,000 for the fire department, which is pretty spectacular.

We want to thank everyone who helped to make this happen - donors, shoppers, and volunteers. Without each and every one of you, there wouldn't be a successful garage sale. A special "thanks" from the Auxiliary to the new volunteers ... those folks who had not previously helped with our garage sale. We hope you had a good time and enjoyed being able to help out your volunteer fire department in this way. And that you plan to come back and help out again next year!

A shout out to fire Chief John Benson for being at the sale all the time it was open. A lot of folks really

liked having the chance to meet and talk with the chief. Of course, John, thanks too for the time you put in doing prep work and clean-up. Also, a hearty “thanks” to all the fire fighters and third arm volunteers who helped us with the sale.

Suzanne Adams asked if we could give you, our dear readers, an idea of the total number of hours that are spent on the sale by all of the volunteers. Well, some of us are dedicated or crazy and spend what seems like almost every waking hour on the sale for almost 2 weeks, and this is a number that we really don't like to think about because it is downright scary. But, just because Suzanne asked so nicely, we did some calculations using the volunteer schedule and added some extra hours for those who put in more hours than they originally signed up for (thank you, thank you). We would estimate that more than 1,300 volunteer hours went into this sale. So if you put in some of those hours, reach around and give yourself a pat on the back. If you didn't put in any of those hours but would like to help next year, let us know and we will be sure to call you when we start scheduling for next year's sale.

Art & Babette Markey, Garage Sale Chairs

(P.S. On a personal note, thanks to the Auxiliary members who stepped up to help cover the hours I couldn't put in this year due to my chemo schedule. Babette)

HIS SUMMER VACATION

Tom Spencer, the Grand Old Enfant Terrible of Meadowlook Way, is planning on repeating an experience that almost killed him the last time he tried it.

In 1959, “not knowing any better,” he completed a solo ascent of Mt. Robson, the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies, known for its weird weather and treacherous conditions. 90% of summit attempts on Mt. Robson fail. There is no easy route to the top. Since he didn't know the “standard route,” Tom reached the top by a route of his own devising.

Having survived that experience, Tom decided to try a route no one had ever successfully climbed, the knife-edge “Emperor Ridge,” on the forbidding Northwest side of the mountain. He invited a friend, Ron Perla, to accompany him, and they started out in mid July, 1961. Mt. Robson makes its own notoriously bad weather. In snow and blowing hail the two men

picked their way through the tusk-like ice formations on the final stretch of the ridge, despite poor visibility because of cloud cover. Tom, however, was “almost grateful” for that cloud cap, because when it partially cleared he could see Kinney Lake 8000 feet below him on the right, and more than a mile of air between him and the ground on his left. They made mountain climbing history by reaching that summit. But during the descent, Ron fell, dislodging the ice axe which Tom was using to belay his partner. Ice axe gone, both fell through the frigid air. And suddenly stopped! Ron yelled, “Tom! How did you do that? You saved us!” But he hadn't. By some freak occurrence, the rope between them caught on a little rock, halting the downward flight of the two bodies.

You can easily see why Tom, almost 50 years later, would want to have that experience again. Anybody want to keep him company?

NEWCOMER NEWS

Nick and Ann Carr moved into a home on Bristlecone Way in December. Native New Englanders, they moved to Boulder from Massachusetts, where they had lived for the last 25 years. They have two children: Nora is in graduate school at New York University and Henry is in his sophomore year at Occidental College in Los Angeles. Nick is a writer, who has published three books: “Does IT Matter?” (2004),



“The Big Switch: Rewiring the World, from Edison to Google” (2008) and the forthcoming: “The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains” (2010). Ann has been a stay at home mom and is now exploring new opportunities in the Boulder area. Nick and Ann are joined in Pine Brook Hills by their beagle Zoe.

Shawn Beauprez - The Other Half of the Water District Dynamic Duo

Pine Brookers who venture into the offices of the Water District at the Community Center end up talking with District Manager Bob de Haas. However, if alert, they would have noticed a big man sitting at the far end of the office, quietly engaged in his work. If not there, this man can be seen driving Pine Brook's roads in the Water District pickup, checking on water installations and reading meters. He greets passersby with a cheery wave.



Shawn Beauprez is the other half of the Water District team. A native of Boulder County, he grew up on the family dairy farm in Lafayette where his great grandparents homesteaded after emigrating from Belgium more than 100 years ago. Is it a coincidence that both Shawn and Bob have their roots in the Low Countries of Europe where keeping out water is a matter of survival? Of course, here they are doing the opposite, building a reservoir to keep it in! However, out or in, it is still a matter of survival.

A graduate of Centaurus High School in Lafayette, where he played football, Shawn started college in Durango at Fort Lewis, then transferred and graduated from Colorado State University in 1991 with a degree in Fisheries Biology. He went to work for a Longmont Fishery consulting firm. This work took him to various parts of the country including stints such as studying the effects of gold mines in Nevada on fish habitat. Shawn's uncle Mel is a long term resident of PBH so Shawn was familiar with our little mountain village. When a position opened up with our Water District in 1998, he took it and has been here ever

since.

His routine work involves regular checking of the system and billing. However, there can be unexpected long days and nights, usually involving water line breaks. Shawn says that these average about six major breaks per year. But in the past year there have been about twice that and many in areas where there were none before. This is probably due to ground shifting. The time building the reservoir was quite hectic, but Shawn remembers it fondly. Growing up on a farm, he liked running "equipment" and on the reservoir site he got to operate a bulldozer.

Shawn and his wife, Jill, live in Longmont. She works for a medical records company. They met on a blind date set up by his best friend. He took her, a city girl from Arvada, dancing at a country bar. It must have worked since they got married a couple of years later in 1994.

For a Fisheries biology major who works for a water district, what would be the obvious recreation activity? Yup, Shawn is an avid fisherman. It used to be Bass but now his favorite is Walleye (*sander vitreus*). He has fished in Alaska, Canada, Hawaii and Mexico, as well as many of these United States. Nowadays he heads for Glendo Reservoir in Wyoming whenever he gets a chance. For an experienced Walleye fisherman of 20 years standing, he did have to put up with some razzing by his family since they had caught bigger fish than he had. However, recently he caught an eleven pound Walleye at Glendo, which he measured and put back in the lake. There is still scope for improvement: the biggest Walleye caught in Wyoming weighed over seventeen pounds.

Shawn is a man of few words and it was only near the end of his meeting with the Press that he, somewhat shyly, brought up what is a real passion: building and detailing one sixteenth scale models of Oliver tractors. Shawn grew up with these tractors but they are no longer manufactured. The last one was made in 1976 but there is a community of aficionados involved in restoration and scale models. In his garage, Shawn has installed a lathe, milling machine and other equipment to produce model tractors which sell for \$100-400 at shows. Right after talking with the Press he was headed to Iowa for a show. The big meeting is at the National Farm Toy Show in November at Dyersville, Iowa. It attracts about 15,000 people each year. Shawn will be there.



A model Shawn completed just before heading to Iowa.

His parting words to the Press were that he “doesn’t talk politics” and he “doesn’t talk religion.” A wise philosophy indeed that many of us could try to emulate in these heated times.

For the last twelve years the Water District staff have maintained a happy equilibrium - Shawn, a “man of few words” working with Bob, a “man of many words.” Shawn says, diplomatically, that he doesn’t interact with customers as much because Bob is “more diplomatic.” Hmmm.



WHAT ARE THE NEIGHBORS DOING? (Some of them are making vodka)

By David Hummer

How does one become a commercial vodka producer? If you have been asking yourself this question you could instead ask Matt Baris, son of long-time PBH residents Mitch and Alex Baris. Matt was born and raised here and is now a volunteer with the Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District. In December, 2003, a friend of Matt’s from his college years at NYU came to visit. As they toured the brewpubs in Boulder the friend asked about local producers of various spirits. Matt could think of none. His friend suggested that Matt start a vodka distillery. Matt discussed the proposal with his father, who pointed out that his great-great grandfather in Russia had distilled vodka for family and friends. A family tradition!

This was the origin of their company, “Altitude Spirits,” which they incorporated in August, 2004. Matt built a still from a beer keg shell and some copper pipe, and experimented to get some idea of what was involved. He toured the country talking to distillers and finally found a “distillers’ co-op” in Rigby, Idaho, where he could produce his vodka. The large still there was built in the 1970’s by the U.S. Government to produce ethanol, but after the oil crisis ended, the project was abandoned. It is now used by several distilleries.

Matt and Mitch decided on the name “Vodka 14” because of the many 14,000 foot peaks in Colorado. Using water from the Snake River Aquifer near Rigby and a mixture of 100% certified organic rye and corn as the only ingredients, the vodka is distilled using a four-stage distillation process which removes any unpleasant byproducts of fermentation. The condensed alcohol is then filtered before bottling. Because it is so pure, the “USDA Organic” certified vodka requires no aging. Vodka 14 was introduced at the Aspen Healthy Gourmet Fest in July, 2003, and went on sale the following month.

Success! Vodka 14 has won the Silver Medal at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition in 2006 and 2007 and has received high accolades in the press. Examples include: “Wonderfully clear and pristine” (Spirits Journal), and “A cut above even other boutique vodkas and positively crushes mass market brands” (Vail Daily). The business is run by Matt, Mitch and his wife Alex from their home on Meadowlook Way, here in PBH.

The website of Altitude Spirits, www.vodka14.com, is updated frequently with recipes for a variety of very tempting seasonal organic cocktails. Summer suggestions include “Courtney’s Sour Cherry Fizz” and “Spicy Dog 14.” The website doesn’t limit itself to drinks but also offers “More reasons to love Vodka: you can spray it on wine stains, scrub it with a brush, and then blot it dry to remove the stain. Woohoo vodka!”



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bobcats

Hi.

Glad to read in the new PINE BROOK PRESS bobcats HAVE RETURNED! They are NOT new, but were here during our early years after moving here in early April of 1966. In fact, we had a cat who weighed almost

30 pounds whom my five kids believed was an offspring of a bobcat who lived in the North Cedar Brook area, because the kids who owned the mother cat told them that was fact.

Bobcats were just one of many of the wildlife living up here in those years.

Helen Rhinehart

Plantings at the Reservoir (see page 2)

Hi.

I have a few photos of the planting of the path (by the reservoir). They're not great, just iPhone photos, but something for the PBH press if you'd like them. Everything was planted. The folks did a great job. I offered Dr. Pete a job. Almost all the plants got polymer, a fertilizer pellet, and mulch. Jo Wiley's boys were the watering crew, and people seemed to be having a grand time.

Jay Markel



TREES vs. BEETLES: WHO'S WINNING IN PBH?

We caught a lucky break this year. The cold snap last fall and the moisture this spring have been good for trees and bad for beetles. Trees have two defenses against beetles. The first is the "pitch tubes," formed when the beetles bore in and pierce the tree's resin tubes. The pitch (sap, or resin) flows through the beetles' entrance channel and sometimes pushes the beetle out. We can see them, their little legs in the air, immobilized in pitch on the tree's bark. But even if the beetles penetrate the tree and begin to make a gallery, the tree has one trick left. The sap, more copious during wet springs like this one, can actually drown the beetles in their galleries.

So the infestation rate of the beetles, which can be as high as one infected tree resulting in seven or eight more trees in the next flight season, is very low this year in PBH.

BUT IT'S NOT OVER! A strong wind from the west could bring millions of beetles in to attack our trees. Let's take advantage of our temporary advantage!

What to do at this time of year?

1. Inspect your trees! If you don't know how or would like help, write beetlebusters@gmail.com for a free inspection and advice from neighbors.
2. Remove any infested trees and treat them! During the summer flight time, the best treatment is to take the logs and slash to one of the

free community collection yards for burning in an air-curtain burner. Visit www.bouldercounty.org/foresthhealth/pages/collectionsites.htm for times and places. In the cooler weather of spring, fall and winter, other treatments (such as chipping, stripping the bark, or treatment with solar or diesel) are possible. The Beetlebusters can help you find contractors who can do the work.

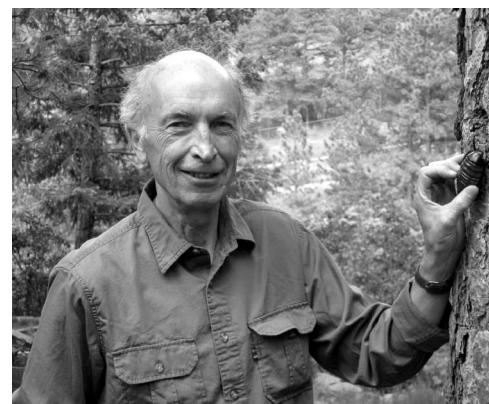
3. Keep an eye out for "faders," trees that are turning straw colored and then rust red. It may be that you can see faders on a neighbor's property that aren't visible to the neighbor. Share this information!

If you have an infested tree, get it out of here fast. Although in general we do not recommend summer cutting, infested trees should be removed as soon as they are discovered, so long as the beetles are still inside. No sense cutting the tree if the beetles have left. A Beetlebuster can tell you who's still at home. Pine Brookers have been wonderfully responsive to the challenge of this epidemic. Last year we eliminated 412 beetle-infested trees. If each brood tree can infest 3 to 10 additional trees, our actions may have saved 1236 to 4120 healthy trees in 2009. Those healthy trees thank you!



Brian Ridley Honored as Beetler of the Quarter

At the most recent BeetleBuster training session in May, Pine Brooker Brian Ridley was chosen



to receive the coveted Beetle Award. This repulsive remote controlled, battery operated insect passes from Beetler to Beetler, rather like the Stanley

Cup, and is presented to the BeetleBuster who has made outstanding contributions to the program. "I am speechless," said Brian upon learning of his selection. Brian's immediate predecessor was Russ Endo, who showed a remarkable alacrity in passing on the award. In the photo above, Brian is seen playing with his trophy, which wiggles nicely when supplied with fresh batteries.

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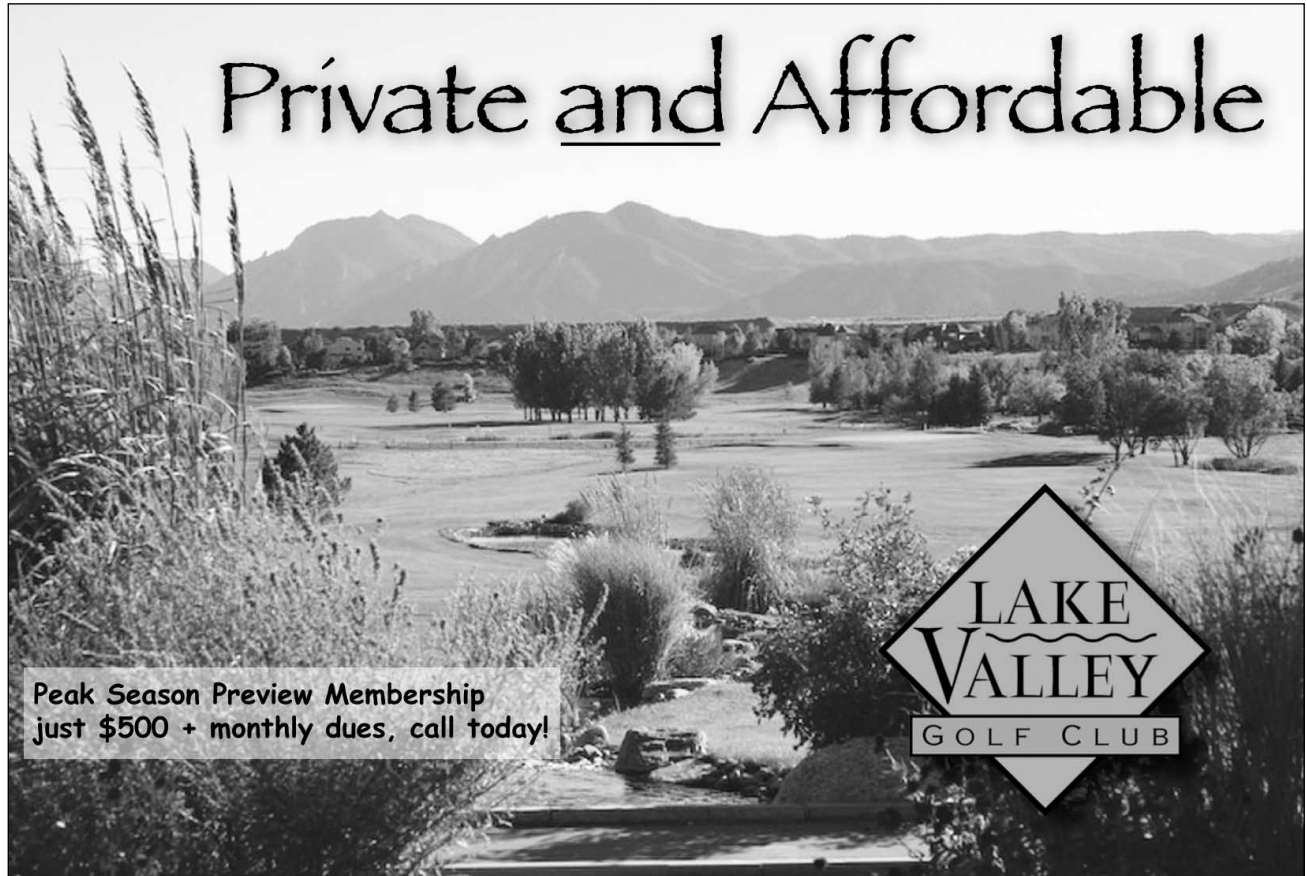


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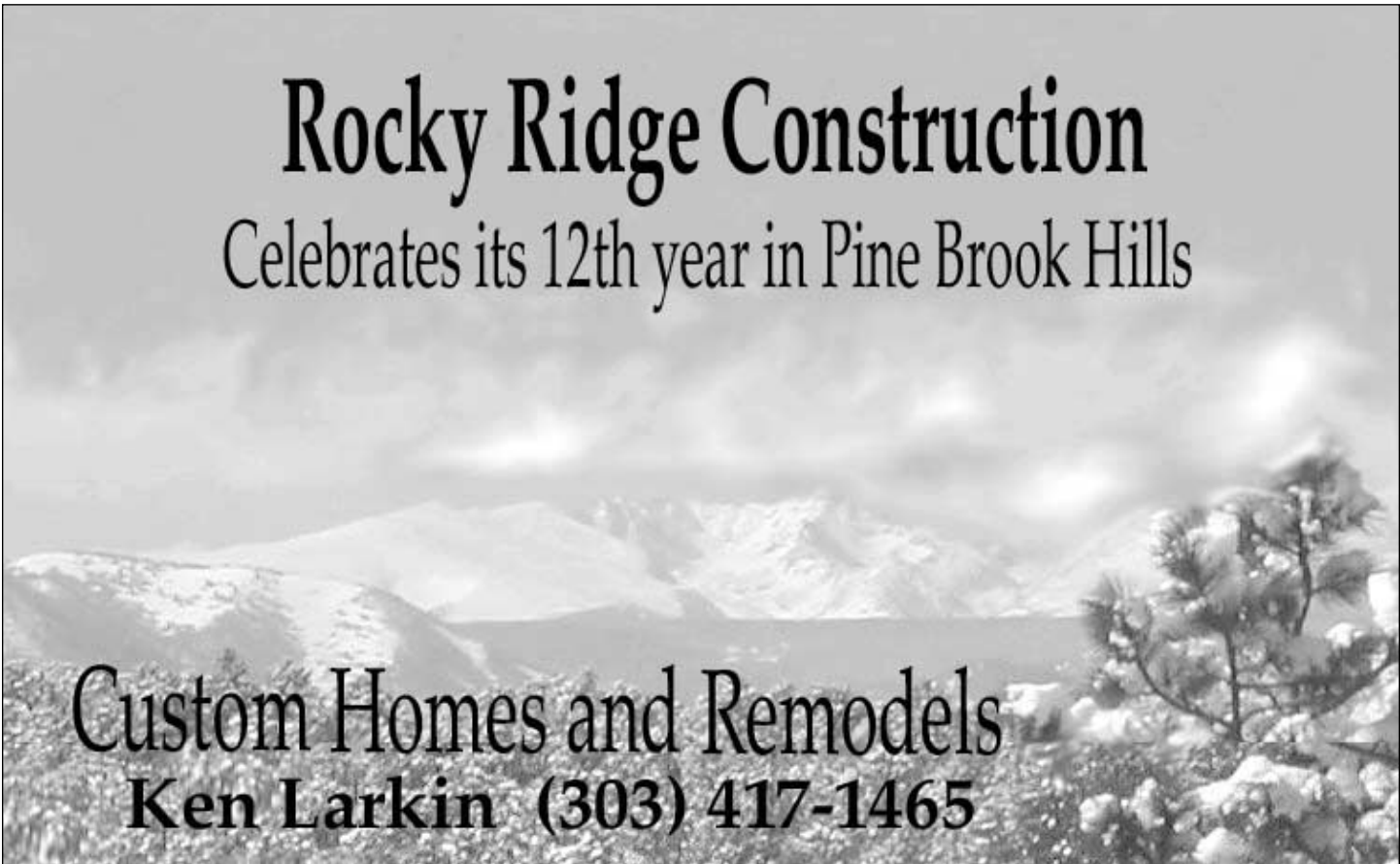


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Rocky Ridge Construction

Celebrates its 12th year in Pine Brook Hills

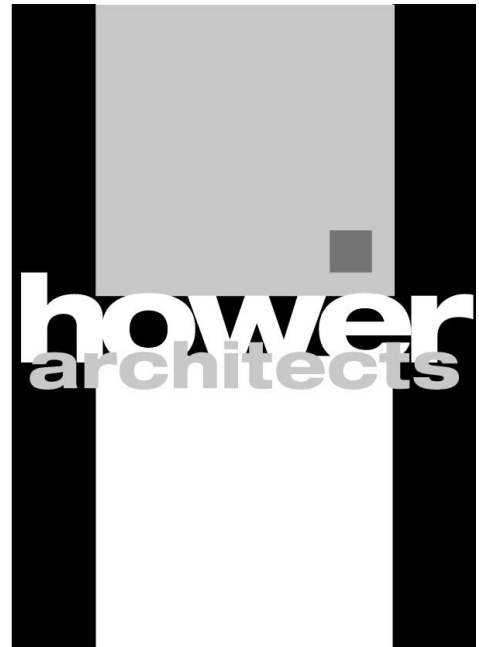
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- Gabby Gourmet Restaurant Guide 2010

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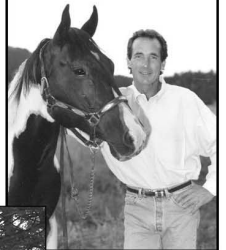
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"FOR SALE" SIGNS MAY BE PLACED ONLY ON PROPERTY THAT IS FOR SALE

From the HOA Board and the Architectural Review Committee

With the changing of the season many of us have noticed a sprouting of FOR SALE signs in our picturesque neighborhood. These signs are acceptable on the actual property listed for sale. However, the policy in Pine Brook Hills for many years has been to prohibit them from elsewhere along our roadways so that the attractive views in our community are maintained. This policy was recently reconfirmed by the Architectural Review Committee and the HOA Board as follows:

"Resolved: that the previous policy of allowing NO realtor signage outside of the property being represented will be enforced. Exceptions are for signs directing potential clients to an open house on the day of the event. These must be removed at the end of the day of the open house. All other signs will be considered a nuisance and may be removed at any time by PBH residents. ." This directive is consistent with article 13 of the Boulder County Land Use Code.

We would like to encourage all PBH residents to act on behalf of the community by notifying either a PBH HOA board member or PBH ARC committee member when they see these signs. Then the PBH HOA will remove them and place them on the porch of the community center. The PBH HOA will make a brief call to the realtors involved respectfully informing them of our policy and explaining where their signs can be retrieved. This should quickly stem the proliferation of them.

ROADS COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Cindy Lindsay and Steve Sheafer

After the presentation of recommendations by the Working Group for Subdivision Roads this spring, the Boulder County Commissioners directed the Transportation Department to develop several different approaches to paying for reconstruction of deteriorating subdivision paved roads in a timely, cost-effective, affordable, efficient and fair manner. The Transportation Department sent a postcard to every owner of property in unincorporated Boulder County subdivisions. Residents were requested to fill out a survey and provide input on how best to proceed. Over 10,000 postcards were mailed and there were over 2,000 responses. The responses indicated that subdivision residents' perception of road quality gen-

erally matches the quality measured by the county. George Gerstle, Director of Transportation for Boulder County, provided this information on some of the survey results:

What work should be done?

58% - start now and fix roads in order of most damaged

36% - fix only 'poor' condition roads

6% - delay any repairs (and expenses)

What are you willing to pay to repair roads in your subdivision?

48% - \$400 for 5 years to make all repairs

35% - \$200 spread over 10 years to repair most damaged areas

17% - \$150 spread over 15 years to repair most damaged areas

How should the amount paid be determined?

56% - equally among all households

44% - based on property value

These responses were very consistent across all of the subdivisions.

What's Next?

The information listed above has been presented to the County Commissioners along with a recommendation that three scenarios be considered:

1. Create a Local Improvement District (LID), ask subdivision residents to pay \$400/year for five years to get subdivision roads back to 'good' condition.
2. Create a Local Improvement District (LID), ask subdivision residents to pay \$200/year for five years, the county matches the funds (full or partial match TBD) to get subdivision roads back to 'good' condition.
3. Create a Local Improvement District (LID), ask subdivision residents to pay \$150/year for 15 years to repair 'poor' roads and chip seal 'fair' roads on a rotational basis.

Each recommendation also includes creating a plan for funding road repair in the future.

The commissioners have these recommendations under advisement and will be sending out another request to vote on the final version of these recommendations along with public meetings to get additional input from subdivision residents during the summer. A decision is projected by the end of the year and work would begin as soon as weather permits in 2011.

You can stay up-to-date by checking the county website: <http://www.bouldercounty.org/transportation/SubdivisionPaving.htm>

MULTIPLE BIRTHS



Four Blue Jay babies in a Pine Brook nest about to fly the coop



Black Bear Quintuplets (Very rare)

Toni Erickson sent us this picture taken by a friend who was thrilled to find the six bears posing as if for a family portrait. He wrote, "When something as magical as this happens between man and animal, Native Americans say, 'We have walked together in the shadow of a rainbow.'"

POPPIES BY DELLA KINGSMITH

Della grows her wonderful poppies from seeds! (The PB Press editor cannot grow poppies from poppies.)
Photos by Peter KingSmith.



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Cloud Island and Ravens at Sunrise in Pine Brook

Photo by Allen Saville