

Ping Brook Press

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

SUMMER 2011



HOA MEETINGS TO FOCUS ON ROADS AND FUN

The community will meet on Tuesday, July 26, to address the question of road repair in Pine Brook Hills. Everyone is invited to participate in this important matter. See "President's Patter," p. 3. On Sunday, August 28, the community is invited to relax with a social evening which may involve music, dancing,



ice cream and entertainment that can involve children. For more information watch the deer sign!



PINE BROOK DEER SIGN DONS SUMMER FINERY We've enjoyed watching the seasonal changes of our

PBH deer sign. Our deer was particularly well equipped for the Bolder Boulder, with running shoes on all four little feet. Now, sunglasses and flowers. Oh, what will it wear in autumn?

And who is the mysterious couturier who dresses

our deer? Answer:
Andrea Mann, who
began the practice
as a prank but
soon found she
had created a
beloved new tradition. So we've
enjoyed Christmas
deer, St. Patrick's
Day deer, Valentine
deer, Easter hat



deer, and so on, we hope, forever.

The attention-getting aspects of the dressed-up deer sign recall a suggestion of several years ago, published in the Press, that we employ our live deer to spread the word about HOA meetings. See photo below.



BEETLE HUNTING FROM YOUR DECK?

Want to hunt mountain pine beetles but don't want to or can't hike steep slopes, don't want to get drenched in sweat or covered with sticky pine sap? Then Beetle Hunting from Your Deck may be the answer for you!



Join the new elite team of wine-sipping, patio-chair-lounging beetle hunters. Be one of the dedicated beetlers sitting on patios or decks after dinner, sipping an adult beverage of choice as you scan far hillsides with binoculars, hunting trees that have turned yellow, orange, or red. These dying or dead trees are termed "faders," and this new style of hunting is best done in the cool of the evening when low sunlight accentuates the color difference of fading or dead trees.

These new Patio-chair BeetleBusters simply report the location of the "faders" to our email address



Having spotted a fader, the arm chair beetler takes a photograph and adjusts the colors (or sends the original photo to the BeetleBusters). The color-adjusted photograph highlights the dead or dying tree (red).

<u>beetlebusters@gmail.com</u>. How do you determine the location? It's easy!

Simply give us your address and the direction of the fader from your address. The general direction is OK; a compass bearing is better. We'll take it from there. We'll call the fader's owner to advise them of the problem and offer to inspect their trees. Your name will never be mentioned.

Want to join Patio-chair BeetleBusters? Want a

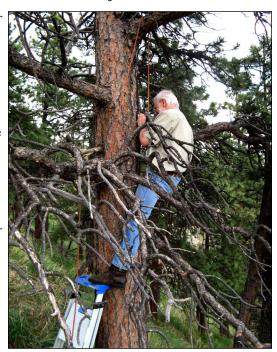
refresher course on using your compass? Want to borrow a compass? Want to learn how to use high-contrast photographs to enhance your beetle-hunting skills? Email us at beetlebusters@gmail.com to sign up, and get your official BeetleBuster hat when you report your



The best thing we can do to defend our forest is to find and remove beetle-infested trees. The worst we can do is nothing. You can do your part by being a traditional forest-roaming BeetleBuster or by joining the new Patio-chair BeetleBusters and scanning the hillsides from the comfort of your deck.

However, for those who think that sitting in an arm chair is not "Boulder," we have another option as demonstrated by intrepid Beetler Jim Adams, At last report, Jim's limbs were all intact.

first "fader."



The BeetleBusters need you!

PINE BROOK HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

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WATER DISTRICT Robert de Haas, Mgr., 443-5394

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

HOA MEETING, July 26. Potluck at 6 P.M. followed by new neighbor introduction. At 7:10 P.M. Business Meeting will start and include discussions of PBH roads and fire mitigation. Social evening Sunday, August 28. Save the Date!

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

FIRE BOARD - Meets the 2nd Monday of every month at $6:30\,\text{P.M.}$ 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.

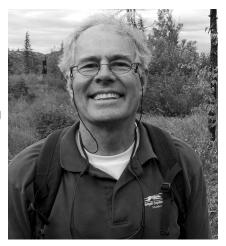
PRESIDENT'S PATTER

By Bill Alexander, HOA President

REPAVING ROADS, MITIGATING FIRES, PLUS A SUMMER SOCIAL!

Our next HOA members meeting will be on Tuesday, July 26, starting at 6:00 p.m.:

- 6:00 P.M. Potluck with HOA supplying the drinks and cutlery/plates while YOU supply the food.
- 7:00 P.M. New Neighbors Introduction.
- 7:10 P.M. Business meeting including major discussions about roads repaving and fire mitigation.
- If you can't make the early potluck, come later to help us discuss our planning for roads repaving and fire mitigation.
- Contribute your thoughts, ideas and suggestions on the various topics during the business meeting.



Please attend, as the Roads Repaving alternatives include all lot owners being billed yearly with your county taxes increasing by up to hundreds of dollars!

Boulder County Roads Department representatives will be attending the meeting. Help us wrestle with what should be done about this.

- Lot owners that are impacted include not only PBH, but also Fountain Tree subdivision as well as lots close to PBH.

 After the meeting a survey will be sent out to all PBH, Fountain Tree, and surrounding lot owners to ensure that everyone can participate in any decision.

Stay tuned for a separate Summer Social Get Together, scheduled for Sunday, Aug 28.

- More information will come later, but we hope this event will include a Barbecue, Ice Cream Social, some live music and perhaps a little dancing!
- It will be held in the afternoon, so everyone can come, including the kids

Change in the existing PBH HOA Board:

Pam Creswell has successfully filled just about every position - from President some years ago to Treasurer now plus (always) Social Committee Super Chairperson! She wished to step down as Treasurer but will continue as Social Chair. Replacing Pam, we are lucky to be able to announce Terry O'Brien as interim Treasurer until the end of this 2011 year's term. As a CPA for many years including dealings with real estate related firms, Terry certainly has the perfect background to help us. Thank you for agreeing to help, Terry!

More information about PBH HOA volunteers:

- PBH HOA Architecture Review Committee Neil Patel is chairman.

 Jim Eyster and Rob Gordon have recently joined plus the possibility of several others.

 They join existing members Dave Davies, Ben Bowen,
 - They join existing members Dave Davies, Ben Bowen, and Tim Triggs.
- PBH HOA Board Nominating Committee David Hummer is our nominating committee. Several new board member candidates have been identified for the 2012 PBH HOA Board, including Terry O'Brien and Neil Patel. They join existing candidates Dave Davies, Bill Alexander, and Tom Mann. If you still wish to serve on the HOA Board, we certainly have a position for you! Call me, Bill Alexander 303-544-1333.
- PBH HOA Roads Committee Cindy Lindsay is chairperson.
 - Cindy's team includes her husband Steve Sheafor plus Tom Foster, Peter King-Smith, Dave Davies, David Bortz, Vanja Dukic, Bill Alexander.

It is so gratifying to see so many people selflessly volunteer to help our PBH neighborhood. As you see these folks around the neighborhood, please thank them for helping us all. If you would like to

help in any capacity, please call me, Bill Alexander 303-544-1333.

I hope to see you all at the July 26 meeting - especially with the important discussion on how to fix our roads!

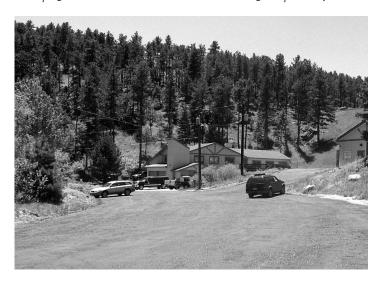


ON THE WATER FRONT

With Bob de Haas

Pine Brook Hills Community Center Parking Lot Improvements!

At the last HOA meeting I announced that we had an opportunity to redo the parking lot using recycled asphalt from a project here in Boulder. What this meant was that we would not have to buy the recycled asphalt, and the truck time to haul it would be greatly reduced. But the Water and Fire Districts could not "just fund it" without the help of donations. The response that night was great, so great that the contractor was told the project could proceed the next morning. A general request was then made to the community at large for donations and again the response was overwhelming. (See Dave Davies article, next page, for details on that overwhelming response.)



So the project proceeded, the parking lot was graded so that all the water would drain properly, and the recycled asphalt was placed and compacted, all before the BMFPD Auxiliary Garage Sale. This turned out to be quite lucky since there was a fair amount of rain during this time and if we hadn't graded the lot and placed the recycled asphalt, there would have been a tremendous amount of mud tracked into the building. Since it was done we did not have that problem and probably saved the carpeting in the building in the

process.

By taking advantage of a project right here in Boulder and by using recycled asphalt straight from that job, there were tremendous cost savings, on the order of at least \$5,000.00 or more and, compared to traditional asphalt, a cost savings of over \$20,000.00.

All of this was possible because the water district's contractor gave us the opportunity to take advantage of a local project, the various associations of the community were willing to commit to making up any shortfall from the fund raising, and because of the tremendous support of individuals in the community!

Water Quality Reports

Everyone should have received a copy of this year's water quality report based on last year's tests. I would remind everyone that should you need this information later in the year and can't find the report we sent out, don't worry. It is available on our website, www.pinebrookwater.com.

Credit Card Payments

Also in that notice we announced that the Pine Brook Water District now accepts credit card payments on line. Again just go to our website and click on "Payments."

In the past the District has not accepted credit cards because of the charges to the District for doing so. The cost was such that the District would have had to adjust its water rates to cover those costs, which we felt that would not be fair to those who did not want to use credit cards.

Now the credit card companies allow us to pass on our costs. To cover our costs, which involve the fees to the credit card companies, handling fees from the bank, and fees for the secure site, there will be a charge added to all credit card transactions. This charge is currently being set at 3.5% of the amount paid. So if you pay by credit card you will be paying for the costs of those services. If you do not pay by credit card you are not being charged for those costs. Again, this fee is to cover our costs, it is not set to generate revenue for our budgets. We have had numerous requests over the years for this service but the issue has always been how to make it "revenue neutral," not costing the District but also not generating revenue, so that only the customers who choose to use this service are bearing the cost of it. Customers can still pay in advance even if using the credit

card option. The District feels that this is only fair to all involved.

Each billing customer will still receive a bill each month just as in the past. The bill then shows how much water you used for the preceding month, how much the charges are, and whether you have a balance due or a credit that is being used.

YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD! Anyone can still pay by check through the mail or drop boxes just as you have been doing. It is your choice. This is only about giving everyone another option on how to pay water bills.

Have a question about pressure regulators, water quality, freezing tips, waters rates, or ????

On our website, <u>pinebrookwater.com</u>, there is a lot of information available about all of these subjects and more, like copies of our audit report, the budget, information on the reservoir, board meeting dates, the rules of the water district, etc.

If you can't find the answer to your question there you can of course call us, 443-5394, as we are always happy to talk to you.



THANK YOU PINE BROOK HILLS AND ALL BMFPD

By Dave Davies, HOA Vice President

Thanks to the overwhelming support of the entire District, we have to date received contributions in excess of \$12,500 for the Station 1 Asphalt Project. The total cost came in at \$12,700 - a bit higher than expected as we needed a sealing coat to complete the job. All donors should have received acknowledgments of their charitable donations from BMFPD (please contact <u>loveman@brfinc.com</u> with any questions). Please accept the grateful thanks from your Homeowner's Association, the Water District and BMFPD. In particular we would like to thank Bill Alexander for his efforts and of course Bob de Haas and Chief Benson for actually conceiving, coordinating and planning the work.

The Asphalt Ad Hoc Committee: Dave Davies, Janet Graaff and Bob Loveman

ANOTHER BMFPD GARAGE SALE TRIUMPH!

The annual Fire District Auxiliary Garage Sale is a major event in the life of the Pine Brook community. Here is a report from "Uncle Junque and Aunt Tique," aka Art and Babette Markey, Garage Sale Organizers Extraordinaire.

Wow, what a month of May!

After the first drop-off weekend, the Auxiliary was a bit concerned because the level of donations seemed down from past years. The number of bigger ticket items like furniture that really help drive the fundraising seemed especially lacking. Additionally, we had fewer pieces in storage from "off-season" donations and fewer pickups scheduled. But not to worry, the donors, as always, came through again.



The Friday sales were relatively low, which again raised some concern about how the sale would do. Fortunately, that was followed by a great Saturday. We ended up with our best results EVER!! The total brought in to date stands at \$18,026.71. Read that amazing

number again ... more than \$18,000. Plus, a few more items are still out on consignment! FANTABULOUS!

The Auxiliary wants to thank everyone who helped to make this happen - donors, shoppers, and volunteers. Without each and every one of you, there wouldn't have been a successful garage sale. A special "thanks" from the Auxiliary to the new volunteers. We hope you had a good time and enjoyed being able to help out your volunteer fire department in this way. Also, in a shameless plug, we hope that you plan to come back and help out again next year! Additionally, a very hearty "thanks" to all the fire fighters and Third Arm volunteers who helped us with the sale. The support from the fire fighters this year was outstanding, and it was a critical part of making this very successful garage sale happen.

A couple of things stick with me this year:

THE RAIN! And the unanswerable question: Did buying the tents we got this year destroy the good karma that has kept the rain away for years? Or would it have rained anyway and thus that good karma was channeled into Costco selling these tents at the right time and Kathy Eyster being in the right place to spot them?

The ATV we sold. Our typical uneventful silent auction of a vehicle ... until Sunday afternoon when three people showed up at the appointed time to buy it and ace auctioneer Jim Eyster got to go live with a spirited auction that really helped the sale's bottom line. Way to go, Jim!

The volunteers meeting new challenges: The outdoor pricing team of Florentina Cruz (new resident and terrific new volunteer!) and Anita Griffin comes to mind. They got chilled to the bone while doing their pricing wearing rain gear! Yet they still managed to come up with a creative way to get those prices to remain attached to the items and visible no matter the weather.

And then the sun finally shining on us for almost the entire sale hours!



It's not over till it's over. And when it's over, it's CLEANUP time! Thanks, BMFPD!

One note for the future: We have just picked up our first furniture donation for next year's sale from a resident who is moving. Remember, we do have some storage for off-season donations. So if the occasion arises, please remember your volunteer fire department's biggest fundraiser and give us a call.

Art & Babette Markey Garage Sale chairs

NEWCOMER NEWS

Compiled by Jo Wiedemann

ee Koranda moved to Meadowlook Way this winter _from Santa Barbara. After viewing numerous Boul-



der properties, she found her perfect fit in Pine Brook Hills. A retiree, Lee moved to Boulder to be closer to her daughters, both CU grads, and their families. She also has a son and three grandchildren living in the Chicago suburbs. Moving to Boulder has been a wonderful experience, especially sleepovers with her family and getting

to know our beautiful area. Lee enjoys traveling, skiing, and cooking. She loves the views and the ample sunshine in PBH. Lee is very much looking forward to meeting her neighbors.

Randy Pauletto and Michelle Murphy along with their children Ally, Ben, and Will, moved to Linden Drive

in summer 2009. Randy and Michelle grew up in the Central Valley of California. Michelle went to UC Berkeley and did her graduate work in history. Randy played football at UOP and studied computer science. Randy works for CASE International Harvester and Michelle is a college history instructor. They enjoy traveling, hiking, reading, and cheering on their chil-



dren in whatever endeavor they happen to be doing. They are enjoying Colorado life--especially life in Pine Brook Hills.

Dave and Lidia Ector moved back to Boulder in February, after living for several years on the East Coast. They are very happy to call North Cedar Brook home. Lidia, originally from Barcelona, Spain, lived in Boulder nine years ago, but then moved to Maryland to work with NASA and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric administration (NOAA). Dave, a native of Canada, has lived in California, Colorado, and most

recently the Washington, D.C., area. Dave is a satellite engineer. Lidia, a scientist, works to improve

weather forecasting at NOAA. Married in 2008, the Ectors love camping, hiking, cycling, motorcycling, and generally having an all-around good time.



NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR BEETLE INSPECTIONS

Courtesy of Peter King-Smith, the BeetleBusters have a new inspection and reporting system. To enter a request for a property inspection, just go to the BeetleBuster website at www.beetlebusters.net and click the link under "Request and Inspection Now!" Or go directly to http://www.king-smith.net/pbh/PBBRequest.htm.

Why online? Submitting the form online automatically records your email address for further communication and records your consent to the BB team being on your property. Also, giving us the data requested on the form - lot size, tree density, topography, etc. - helps us get you a team faster.

Try it, you'll like it!

If all else fails, you can still reach us at beetlebusters@gmail.com or at 303-938-0522.

The Beetles Are Here!



Jim Adams dug this live beetle out of a ponderosa pine on June 10, 2011

This 2011 generation of Mountain Pine Beetles (MPBs) seem not to have gotten the memo as to the usual flight times. MPBs usually fly in late July through early August. Surprise! It is only June and we are already seeing fresh pitch tubes and finding live beetles under the bark. So be aware and keep a close watch for soft gooey pitch tubes. If you spot any, please email us at beetlebusters@qmail.com.

CECILE'S STAIRCASE

Most Pine Brookers know Cecile Duray-Bito. For years she has run the book sale during the annual Fire Department Auxiliary Garage Sale. She takes care of pets when owners are out of town and indignantly refuses compensation. Her characterful accent charms everyone.

So it was a matter of community concern when on April 1, Cecile, coming home from walking a neighbor's dog, fell on the slope outside her home and hit her head on a rock. "There was blood all over," remembered Joe Duray-Bito, reliving the awful moment when he found her. "Red, red, red."

After trying to contact Cecile's doctor, Joe called 911. Within three minutes BMFPD Mitigation Coordinator Steve Lynn was at the house. He was quickly, followed by seven other medical responders from our volunteer fire department. Steve organized the response and Pridemark emergency personnel transported Cecile to the hospital.

It was noted by all present that getting down the rock steps from the Duray-Bitos' house was a tricky proposition.

Cecile spent a month in the hospital, moving from the emergency room to intensive care to rehab. After two weeks an intervention became necessary to address a subdural hematoma. Then back to ICU and on to rehab again. Cecile doesn't remember anything from those first two weeks. Later she was aware of cards and visits from neighbors and our fire chief. During this time Cecile consciously determined each day to recover her memory, which she has done. Hospital staff were impressed by her speed of recovery.

"When can she come home?" Joe wanted to know, toward the end of April. When told it might be Friday or Saturday he argued for Friday, "because it comes before Saturday!" One problem was that the hospital would not release her, nor allow their therapists to visit her at home, until a better staircase was built with safer access to the house.

Enter Jim Eyster. Joe asked Jim to contact builder Ken Larkin about putting in a new staircase. Jim readily agreed to do so. Ken ordered the materials, community members donated funds and Jim and John Nairn, with assistance from Param Singh, Mike Hupka, Art Markey and others, did the work of creating 18 secure steps with sturdy railings. What a Pine Brook

moment!

BUT - what about the neighbor's dog? Ah! In another typical Pine Brook moment, Joe called Jo Wiedemann, whose cat is one of Cecile's "clients." Jo located Jim Eyster, who was out of town, but his son picked up the dog, and Susan Woodcock, Pine Brook's peripatetic house sitter, stayed at the Eysters' home to care for the doa.



Cecile and close friend on new stairway.

Cecile continues to recover in the comfort of her home. She also continues to express her gratitude and sense of indebtedness to those who helped on the day of the accident as well as to those who built the staircase. But as Kathy Eyster told her, "Cecile, you are indebted to no one. People did this because they wanted to. Nobody's keeping score." It's just the way it is in Pine Brook Hills.

Please see Cecile's letter to the community.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR (AND TO THE PEOPLE OF PINE BROOK HILLS)

Dear Editor and Pine Brook Friends,

I could not remember anything that happened to me for about two weeks after I fell and broke my skull, injuring my brain. I have no memory even for the fact that I was alive. I am very grateful to the people who helped to save my life, and who also helped my husband with his tasks.

In my hospital room after I regained my mental capacity I noticed a huge handmade sign wishing me a quick recovery from my miserable condition. This wish came from the Fire Auxiliary. The Homeowner Association members sent me handwritten well wishes, that I can keep forever to remind myself that in return I can help those who need help.

Many thanks go out to the creators, builders and donors for the remarkable new staircase for me to be able to go up and down to my home safely.

Pine Brook is truly a fine community. The HOA, the firefighters, the Third Arm and Auxiliary members are very caring volunteers, giving their time and heart to help their neighbors.

I shall be in debt with all my heart to all humanity. Cecile Duray-Bito



PREPARE FOR FIRE SEASON

Iready in 2011 we have seen three wildfires in Left Hand Canyon, near our district. Give serious attention to preparing your home for possible wildfire. This would include at a minimum cleaning your gutters of pine needles and cutting the tall grass around your house and along the roads. Call BMFPD's Mitigation Program (303.440.0235) for a free consultation as to possible thinning or removal of trees that might conduct the fire to the house. But consider the less obvious areas where fire could threaten your home. According to research by Jack Cohen at the Fire Research Lab in Missoula, MO, many homes are lost because burning embers have found lodging places in small crevices around homes. The areas under unenclosed decks, patio chair cushions, even flammable doormats can offer fuel for a fire to take hold. As you check your home, try to think like a fire. What

vulnerable areas could be mitigated or eliminated? Now's the time!



PINE BROOK HILLS SAFETY AND SECURITY

By Martin Lasher

Despite a recent ripple (not a wave - thank you, Suzanne, for the quip) of incidents, PBH remains a very safe area.

According to the Boulder County Sheriff's Office (BCSO), overnight on May 4, 2011, there were 13 vehicles involved in what are being classified as "Vehicle Trespass" cases. All vehicles were unlocked and accessed without forced entry into either the vehicles themselves or into any garages or homes.

These are crimes of opportunity and the message is obvious: keep your vehicles, garages and homes locked to reduce the opportunity. Do not keep anything important in sight in your vehicles. Know your neighbors and their vehicles and IMMEDIATELY call 911 to report any suspicious people, activity or vehicle.

The BCSO has some viable leads and at this time all that can be disclosed is that the PBH incidents may be related to a Longmont Police Department arrest. The BCSO has also made several arrests recently involving similar crimes in the North and South Boulder areas.

The BCSO detective working on the PBH incidents has said "I can't urge people enough to remove valuables from their vehicles and to lock the doors when parked even at their residences."

- STAY ALERT
- ➤ BE VIGILANT ABOUT LOCKING ALL VEHICLES AND HOMES
- REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO THE SHERIFF (CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY)

PBH Safety and Security tries to send out emails in a timely manner to alert residents about incidents in PBH. The best way to achieve this goal is if our neighbors keep us informed. If anyone has knowledge of incidents worthy of an ALERT message, please notify pbhsafetyandsecurity@hotmail.com. To be included in the PBH Safety and Security email list, please send your email address to pbhsafetyandsecurity@hotmail.com.





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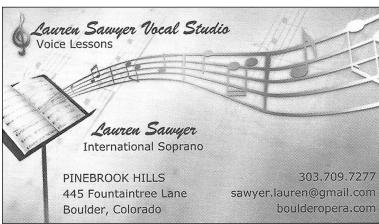
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From the Archives of the Pine Brook Press, Summer 2005 - High Country Gardening

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.



SMART PINE BROOKERS

"A seminal study from the University of Michigan showed that people can learn better after walking in the woods than after walking a busy street." { (from the New York Times, August 16,2010.

AHA! So THAT'S why Pine Brookers are so smart!

A JOYFUL MAY WEDDING

Triends of Anne and Param Singh were so happy that Anne was well enough to travel with Param to New Hampshire for the wedding of their son Jeremy to redhaired Taylor Carroll. Param conducted the ceremony, which was held in a beautiful historic hotel in the White Mountains. Anne enjoyed the festivities, as can be seen in this picture of her dancing with Jeremy at the wedding dinner.



LIGHTNING STRIKE in PINE BROOK

t approximately midnight on Monday, June

****20. a bolt of lightning struck a rock outcropping near a home on Timber Lane, Several large rocks were dislodged, fell to the ground and broke the outer panel of a glass door to the



home. Amazingly, the only electronics damaged by the strike were the telephones, which were replaced by Comcast.

ORPHANED BABY BEAR

string of messages in the Pine Brook Forum demonstrated Pine Brookers' concern for a very small baby bear who seemed to be separated from its mother. When questioned, the Department

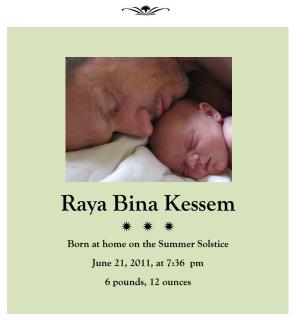


From video taken by Kirk Webb.

of Wildlife asked to be called if the bear appeared distressed. The cub was subsequently seen near Alder Lane. and that night

mountain

lion cries were heard. So it was with great pleasure that Forum followers saw Kirk Webb's video of the baby, eating fallen birdseed and apparently doing quite well. Hurray!



avid Lang Kessem and Jenny Epstein Kessem are excited to announce that "She's here!"

Mama, Papa, and Baby are all happy and healthy. Sometime soon, we'll set up a blog where you can see more photos and stay up to date on her adventures. Stay tuned.

David, Jenny, and Raya (rhymes with Gaia)

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Dawning of a new day in Pine Brook Hills.

Photo by Ian Morris