



# Pine Brook Press

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

Summer 2016



## J. Kirk Hendricks, 1940 - 2016, Pine Brook Hills Pioneer

**K**irk Hendricks built his first home in PBH in 1967 and quickly became an integral part of the Pine Brook Hills community. During his 50 year career, he built 53 homes in PBH, often living in each home before he and his family moved on to the next one. He served as a volunteer for both the fire and the water



departments. He joined the Water Board in 1982 and was elected President of the Board in 1988, continuing to serve in that capacity until his death this

past May.

Bob de Haas, Water District Manager, notes that Kirk was instrumental in making Pine Brook Hills a leader in mountain subdivisions. He pushed for improvements that make it easier for today's residents. Kirk always looked for mechanical and design solutions to solve problems...he could grasp the issue and visualize outcomes. Paved roads, natural gas access, cable, fire hydrants, a high quality water system were all improvements that Kirk had a hand in bringing to PBH.

After the drought in 2002, Kirk was determined to find a way to protect PBH from future droughts. He and other members of the Water Board explored drilling additional wells and building more tanks, eventually hatching the idea for the PBH dam and reservoir. The dam has proved its value by providing water during the Four Mile Fire and reducing peak flows during the 2013 flood, in addition to protecting PBH from water shortages.

Kirk was a staunch supporter of improving our water system in PBH to improve water quality. PBH water meets the State of Colorado and EPA water quality

standards. He was active in the Fire and Water Departments when the current system of fire hydrants was developed, eventually providing 52 hydrants in the subdivision. Fire hydrants increased property values and provided much needed support for protection from fire.

Born in Hartford, CT in 1940, Kirk traveled through Colorado with his family during high school beginning a life-long love affair with the spectacular views, weather, climate, and geology of the Rocky Mountains. He returned to attend college at the University of Colorado and received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1963. Kirk returned to Hartford just long enough to earn a Masters in Education from the University of Hartford and to meet Janet Bee Powell, his future wife.

After marrying in 1964 Jan and Kirk moved back to Boulder. Kirk taught Earth Sciences at Southern Hills Junior High School, but soon became intrigued with construction. Kirk enjoyed the challenges of mountain building, combining his passion for geology, earth sciences...and dynamite...to build over 60 homes in several Boulder subdivisions. Kirk eventually left teaching to become a master craftsman and homebuilder in the Boulder community.

Kirk and Jan's children, Elise, Cary, and Meg, all live in the Boulder/Denver area. In lieu of flowers the family has asked that memorial contributions be sent to the Flatirons Habitat for Humanity or the Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District.



Boulder Mountain Firefighters at Kirk's memorial service

**GRASS...**

*I'm all about the grass.  
 It's my compulsion, obsession.  
 Unable to curb my drive to seed it, grow it, clear it, cut it, look at it.  
 A meditation.  
 In actuality, my Brit DNA.  
 We do grass in the UK  
 So it's under my skin, in my crevices.  
 Fate found me migrating to the foothills,  
 To the pine trees even  
 where mess is a constant  
 where duff lays feet thick under the trees  
 and pine cones drop, plop...unrelentingly.  
 No sooner gathered, then another round.  
 Like cleaning the house, doing the laundry.  
 In the spring, the trees begin their weeks of pollinating.  
 Yellow/green sticky dust wafts around the house,  
 covers the paving stones, the plants.  
 And into the house, the nooks and crannies  
 Settling uninvited in spines of books, family pictures,  
 the kitchen counter.  
 Once a wind shows up, pollen pods rain down.  
 All this on my grass.  
 When I first moved up here  
 Tim caught me poking around the property.  
 He sensed that my twitching had something to do with  
 the wild debris.  
 "you want to vacuum the forest, don't you..."  
 was his comment.  
 Close.  
 Since when, I have edged up on something akin to  
 that fantasy...  
 For the past thirty years  
 I have filled large Western dumpsters with enough  
 duff  
 To cover a sizeable acreage.  
 I raked until I found dirt.  
 Now the land could breathe.  
 I cleared rocks, lugged tarp loads of branches, pine  
 needles, old wood  
 from when the house was built.  
 I have watered, seeded, waited, watched through  
 winter.  
 I have coaxed, cleared repeatedly, seasonally.  
 Slowly it comes.  
 In patches, weedy spreads.  
 Some years better, but spells of drought, paltry head-  
 way.  
 Mostly a scruffy look to the place.  
 Never the easy grass of England, with their rain, their  
 coastal damp, their loamy soil.  
 Here, everything on a hill, and soil of decomposing*

*granite.  
 Which reminds me.  
 Truck loads of Planters'Mix soil, from Lee Hill Peat  
 Where still the receipts are scribed on pads from the  
 fifties  
 Hand written slowly, without haste, in a shed of an  
 office  
 And an old guy drives the dirt up here  
 In a huge battered truck, masterfully maneuvering  
 down our narrow driveway  
 Clipping trees as he goes  
 Then dumping with authority in some designated spot  
 Which we then have to haul by the barrow load, push  
 up the hills, spread by shovel  
 One spadeful at a time, carefully, for the seeding to  
 follow.  
 Ahh grass.....  
 Getting closer now to being able to walk barefoot,  
 To reach the hammocks, carrying late afternoon wine,  
 a book.  
 We were supposed to hike today,  
 But weather threatened.  
 I went back to sleep, woke mid morning  
 Read a few chapters in a [currently] favorite book  
 Drank iced coffee, ate two squares of dark chocolate.  
 Felt guilty for canceling the hike.  
 No rain.  
 I sat on the deck looking at the property.  
 Someone around here needed to cut the grass...  
 No easy task, labor intensive, fiddly.  
 Always chucking rogue pine cones, manipulating  
 sprinkler heads, flinging  
 Electric cord from the mower, around trees, stumps.  
 Such a stellar old mower, running rough shod over  
 difficult terrain,  
 Ever willing to keep cutting.  
 No flat land here, all lumpy, hilly, obstacles...  
 The joy of cutting!  
 A crew cut all round people!  
 An internal conversation as I go about the work  
 Mostly filled with pleasure, gratitude, a smiling.  
 Now there are hours of hand clipping ahead.  
 All the bits the mower and I could not quite reach.  
 But again  
 A contemplative practice, a feeling of caring for the  
 land, my grass.  
 It falls under the heading...my life's work now.  
 It pleases me.  
 I am sweaty, worked over, ready for a tall glass of cold  
 water, a shower.  
 Content.  
 Ready to return to that book...  
 - a correspondence sent by Penny Triggs to a PBH  
 neighbor*

## 2016 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**HOA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - TUESDAY, AUGUST 30**

**6 PM Potluck Dinner**

**7 PM Presentation: Wildlife Partners Update (and more TBD)**

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

**HOA Board meetings** are open to all residents. Attendance is welcomed and encouraged. Meetings begins at 7 PM. Upcoming 2016 Meetings: August 16, October 11.

**HOA Membership Meetings** - August 30, November 8.

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE** - Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7 PM.

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

**BMFPD AUXILIARY** - Meets quarterly. Next meeting: October 16, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM. Email [auxpresident@bouldermountainfire.org](mailto:auxpresident@bouldermountainfire.org) for more information.

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

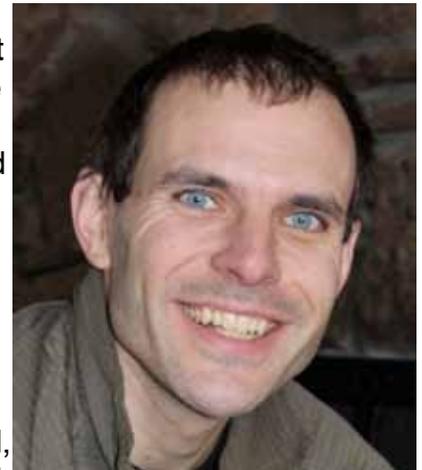
**HOA Ice Cream Social:** Sunday, September 18, 4:00 - 6:00 PM (see ad on the back page and article on page 8 for details.)

### PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

By Brian Wahlert, HOA President

**H**ello Pine Brook residents! I hope you've all had a wonderful summer. I'm sitting on my deck looking out across Sunshine Canyon and marveling, yet again, at the spectacular mountain environment in which we live. It's coming up on five years that my family has lived here, and we feel so fortunate to have found this wonderful place to call home.

I'm listening to the breeze through the pines, a hummingbird right over my deck railing ... and now a Chinook helicopter headed to the Cold Springs Fire. After a few scary days, the firefighters are gaining the upper hand, and it looks like the fire won't approach Pine Brook.



We've had a respite from extreme fire conditions these past couple of years, but with the El Niño ending this year, we could see a return to the extreme conditions that characterize the warmer, dry environment in which we live in these days. Let the Cold Springs Fire be a wakeup call. Recognize that in our environment of extremely dry vegetation and high winds, a fire can get out of control in seconds. What that means:

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President - TBD

**WATER DISTRICT**  
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- **Don't park your car on vegetation.** Engine heat from your car can ignite dry grasses.
- **Smoke only in enclosed spaces.**
- If you have **friends visiting or contractors** doing work at your house, make them aware of where they can park and smoke safely.
- **Only use a gas barbecue** during times of high fire danger. Ash and embers from charcoal- and wood-burning barbecues can start a fire.
- Make sure that you're **registered to receive emergency alerts** like evacuation notices. Go to <http://www.boco911alert.com> to sign up for "reverse 911" notifications via phone, text, or email.
- **Have a "go bag" ready**, containing important documents, medications, and anything else that you would need if you were displaced from your house for days or weeks. You could be awakened in the middle of the night by an evacuation notice, and too groggy to remember all of these things as you get in the car.
- **Protect your home.** Remove all flammable materials from the area around your home. Cut the grass short and rake up pine cones, pine needles, and other fuel. Move wood piles far away and upslope from your home.

(More on fire safety and mitigation in Chief Benson's article on page 5 and Jim Adams article on page 14.)

Switching gears, I want to highlight several pieces of very good news. On June 28 the Boulder County Commissioners approved changes to the County Land Use Code, limiting marijuana growing to six plants per home in Pine Brook and the rest of the unincorporated Boulder County. Prior to this change, residents of Pine Brook could grow upwards of 100 marijuana plants, typically indoors under intense grow lights, which could overload home electrical wiring and start structure fires. (In April, a Pueblo West 49-plant grow operation did one better: It blew a transformer, starting a two-acre grass fire!) And the risk was getting worse by the day, as people moved to unincorporated Boulder County to grow pot at commercial scale, free of licensing requirements. Now Boulder County has matched the city of Boulder's six-plant limit, eliminating this opportunity to set up large-scale grow operations

in Pine Brook. I want to thank the 86 Pine Brook residents who wrote to the County to voice their support, and the 20 or so residents who came to the Planning Commission and County Commissioners hearings that led to approval. Big thanks particularly to Jim Eyster, who led the lengthy effort to get these changes enacted.

The second piece of good news is that the population of the Douglas-fir Tussock Moth (TM) appears to have crashed. Last year, the TM decimated Doug-fir forest in Carriage Hills, just to the north of Pine Brook, leaving behind a tinderbox of dying brown trees (see photos at <http://www.pinebrookhills.org/ForestHealth>). Jim Adams' article on forest health on page 14 gives details about what we think happened. Many thanks to Jim and his committee for their careful monitoring of this threat.

And we're enjoying driving on brand-new asphalt on lower Linden! After failed ballot measures, lawsuits, and years of work on the issue by the PBH Roads Committee, the crumbling road that we all use to get into and out of Pine Brook is finally being rebuilt. Even better, the road is being widened, with more shoulder on the uphill side. This expansion improves safety, allowing more room for motorists to safely pass cyclists. Repaving of upper Linden, including the Linden loop, was awarded in a separate contract and will also happen this summer. Thanks to all the people who have worked on this issue, especially Peter King-Smith, who has stuck with this issue over many years. We continue to work on a repaving solution for the other 6.4 miles of public paved Pine Brook roads, but getting Linden repaved is a major success for the community.

As I close, I'd like to remind you all to pay your HOA dues. Every year, the majority of the HOA budget is spent on community-wide fire mitigation efforts. We contract with Boulder Mountain Fire to build out and maintain our community-wide system of fuel breaks. The fire department stands a much better chance of keeping fire out of Pine Brook (and limiting the spread of a fire within Pine Brook) because of this system of fuel breaks. We also contract with the fire department to cut the grass along the roads each summer, reducing the likelihood of roadside fire. In addition, your dues cover the cost of this publication, the Pine Brook

Directory, quarterly meetings and twice-yearly social events, and more. We ask for only \$75 per household per year, although many households contribute more. You can pay online at <http://www.pinebrookhills.org/dues.html>, or send a check to Treasurer, PBH HOA, 1907 Linden Dr., Boulder, CO 80304. If you're not sure whether you've paid this year, you can check at [http://www.pinebrookhills.org/dues\\_payments.html](http://www.pinebrookhills.org/dues_payments.html).

I hope to see you at our next HOA membership meeting on August 30 and our summer ice cream social on September 18 (see back cover for details). Both will be held at the Community Center. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and stay safe!

**Knock on Wood? NO!**



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**FIRE SIDE CHAT**

By John Benson

**G**reetings from the fire department! Is everyone enjoying the summer heat? We are seeing a lot of it, and it looks like this trend will continue. We could use some rain! Boulder County has once again suffered another wild-land fire that has displaced families on a short term and long term basis in the Nederland area. This scenario is getting all too familiar for Boulder County residents. Thankfully, the fire only destroyed 8 homes...devastating for those eight families but the fire could have been much, much worse.

One of the comments I have heard out of the Cold Springs Fire is that some residents were under-insured. It is time for everyone to pull out their homeowners' insurance policies and review them with your agent to ensure that you have the proper coverage. **DO IT NOW.** After a fire is too late to get your policies changed or your coverage increased. This is a problem we see around the country with homes in Wildland-Urban Interface areas.

BMFPD crews have been busy fighting the Cold Springs Fire since it started on July 9th. We assist because our neighboring fire districts assist us when we have an incident of this nature. We are in for a long, hot, dry summer. Most likely this pattern of dry weather will continue into the fall. I would love to be proved wrong. With the wet summers we have seen in the past few years, this has only compounded our problems with vegetation.

At the end of this month, you will see some major transformations at our Fire Station 1 here on Linden Drive. We will have new concrete aprons replacing the previous ones that had degenerated to the point that rebar showed through. We will be repaving not only the fire station parking lot, but the main parking lot, as well. (No more mud.)

I want to thank the members of the community who have weed whacked around the fire hydrants in your area. Our mitigation crew has been extremely busy with defensible space, fuel break and structure prep work, so we have not had any time to get those weeds down. We

appreciate your help and plan to finish up the rest of the hydrants. On the mitigation side, it does not appear that we are going to slow down anytime soon. We are already booking jobs in October. This is a great problem to have! It tells us residents understand the value of conducting mitigation work and what the implications could be, if work is not done around homes. Keep up the good work and keep calling us for work.

Our department continues to be on high alert. We have modified some of our response plans regarding smoke reports. We are sending multiple engines and staff when we get a smoke report. **We highly encourage anyone who sees smoke to Dial 911.** This will notify BMFPD and get the cavalry on the road. **DO NOT CALL THE STATION.** The stations are not staffed 24/7. **Dial 911.**

We hope this is both a fun and safe summer for everyone. Until next time, please be safe and enjoy the summer weather. Just think winter will be here soon enough.

## ON THE WATERFRONT

By Bob de Haas

**New Board Members:** The Water District recently lost two of its Board members. J. Kirk Hendricks, who passed away, had served on the Board since 1982 and had been president of the Board since 1988. Kirk will be sorely missed as he brought a great deal of experience and history to the Board.

Matt Rheingold just recently resigned from the Board. He had served on the Board since 2008 but has found that other obligations were preventing him from performing his duties to the level he desired. We will miss Matt and thank him for his many years of service.

The good news is that Joyce Colson and Bob Loveman have agreed to serve on the Board. They both bring a great deal of experience and expertise in their own right. The District is very lucky to have them!

**Water Meter Safety:** Anytime you are cutting the weeds and grasses on your property, especially with a weed whacker, please, please, keep an eye out for our tan box transmitters. A wire runs from that box to your meter pit so that we can read the meter each month. Using a weed

whacker close to the wire can result in the wire being cut which then means we have to repair it.

**Linden Pipeline Project:** This project is complete and the road has now been repaved from the City limits to N. Cedar Brook Road. The original contract called only for an overlay on the south lane of Linden in the construction area. Boulder County approached the Pine Brook Water District about entering into an agreement to do the full width of the road to a full depth of paving instead of just an overlay. An agreement was reached and everyone wins! The full width of road has been paved. There were some problems when doing the striping and that will be re-done later this year. BUT it is nice having a smooth road there now!

**Water Treatment Plant Project:** This project is almost complete. The last part involves replacing the membranes in our original filter plant. The project was successful in restoring our capacity to produce water back to our original capacities prior to the 2013 flood.

The one issue from the flood that we are still struggling with is a taste and odor issue. Some residents notice this all year long, others never notice it, and some notice it just during the summer. That's the problem with taste and odor...it varies so much from one person to the next. What we do know is that there are enough residents noticing it that we are continuing to try find alternate methods to treat the water that will also address the taste and odor issue. The 2013 flood impacts just do not seem to want to go away.

**Reliability Supply Pipeline:** This project got off to a slow start, but will probably be complete by the time this issue of the Pine Brook Press comes out. This pipeline will improve water delivery and reliability and allow the District to start addressing other maintenance issues that could not be addressed until this project was completed.

## ENHANCING PBH PROJECT UPDATES

By Mike Von Hatten

**Perseverance Garden:** Many of you have probably noticed that the area planned for our flood memorial was used during the installation of the water line and recent roadwork to stage equipment and materials for construction. The

site was restructured by Boulder County to install a larger culvert under Linden. This work has changed the site and we are “back to the drawing board.” The plaza is being redesigned and those plans will need to go back through Boulder County for approval before work on the plaza can begin. Watch for updates in this publication and on the PBH forum to get involved and help support the effort.

**Station 1/Water Plant Parking:** Thanks to a grant obtained by Bob de Haas, funding from Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District, generous contributions by private residents, and an HOA contribution, the parking areas around Station 1 in PBH are paved! No more mud! As Chief Benson mentioned in his article on page 5, the concrete aprons near the fire engine bays had deteriorated, drainage on the site was lacking, and parking was limited. Using the opportunity presented by the recent work done on the Water Plant and collaboration between all entities involved, the site has been updated with concrete or asphalt paving throughout, improved drainage, particularly around the Station entry to reduce ice build-up, and additional parking. Thanks to all those who had a hand in making this project happen.

### BMFPD MITIGATION UPDATE

By Brent Arbuckle, BMFPD Mitigation

The Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District (BMFPD) has long seen wildfire mitigation as a priority within our community. The BMFPD Mitigation Crew has been providing wildfire mitigation in Pine Brook Hills since 2000. In that time, we have expanded the size and experience of the crew, as well as our overall emergency response capabilities. As a member of the “Mit Crew” (as we like to be called), I can say that we love our jobs and are truly passionate about helping the PBH community and BMFPD residents.

2016 has brought new challenges and new opportunities for the team. This season our crew brings a wide range of experience and backgrounds, including returning past team members and new, motivated individuals looking to make their start in the fire service. As is evident

with the current wildfires popping up all over the state, the fire season is in full swing. Mit Crew members have been in preparation for this type of adversity for many months. We have upped our physical fitness standards by introducing an aggressive physical fitness program, as well as increasing training on all our emergency response capabilities. The crew has also upgraded and improved vehicles and equipment.

Remember, the mitigation schedule fills up very quickly every year. Be sure to call us as early as possible for your wildfire mitigation needs. For more information about services provided check the website: <http://www.bouldermountainfire.org>. We look forward to the opportunity to work alongside the residents of Pine Brook Hills to reduce effects of wildfire and increase community safety. If you see us driving around, be sure to say hi. We love to get to know the residents of Pine Brook Hills!

### BMFPD MITIGATION: HIKE IN REMEMBRANCE

June 30 was the third anniversary of the Granite Mountain tragedy in Arizona where 19 firefighters lost their lives. The mitigation crew hiked up Mt. Sanitas at 7 AM in honor of those who died. They hiked with full equipment, including saws. Each carried 65 pounds. Mike Palamara, Mitigation Crew Chief spoke a few words of remembrance at the summit and the team observed a moment of silence.



From left: Jack Cairney, Roscoe Smith, Andy Boersma, Terry Donovan, Brent Arbuckle, Mike Palamara, Mitch Lamboeuf

## WELCOME TO PBH NEWCOMERS

With Jo Weidemann

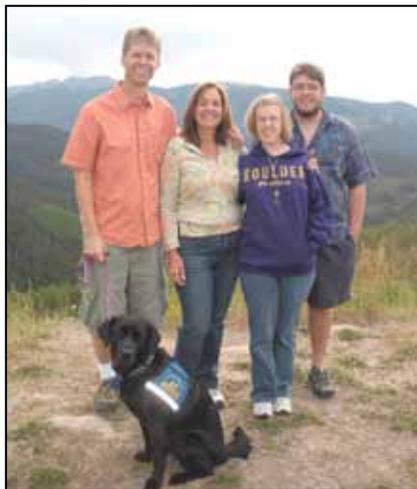
**Lee and Scottie Elkins** moved to Pine Brook Hills in June. They welcomed their first child Holland on July 17.



They're both originally east coasters. Scottie has a long history with Colorado having lived in Telluride for over 15 years. Lee works for an internet start-up and Scottie is in real estate development. They are both avid football fans (UVA and Georgia Southern!), hikers (Lee),

river rafters (Scottie), and are excited about living in the Boulder foothills. They look forward to meeting everyone in PBH!

**Connie and Andy Minden** moved into Pine Brook Hills in June, relocating from north Boulder where they have lived since 2008. Originally from northern California, Connie and Andy moved to Boulder to join solar energy start-up Sundrop Fuels. While they originally considered moving into the mountains above Boulder when they first arrived, it took them a few years to make this dream a reality. Their daughter Kendra lives in Boulder with her service dog Tia, and their son Carl is a computer software entrepreneur living in Silicon Valley, California. In 2013, Connie and Andy founded Boulder Treasures, a nonprofit that provides job training and job placement services to adults with developmental disabilities out of Ramble on Pearl, a boutique clothing store they opened in 2014. Connie and Andy are looking forward to the peace and tranquility of their new mountain retreat for many years to come.



**Matthew and Shari Polis** moved to Pine Brook Hills from New York City with their two children.



Matthew is a sound engineer and Shari is a choreographer. Their two daughters will be going to Foothills Elementary in August. Matthew was raised in Pine Brook Hills. His parents, Bob & Rae Polis still live here.

Shari is from the East Coast so this is a beautiful new change for her. The family enjoys dance, theater, movies, and music. They are so thankful to live in this gorgeous area.



## PBH SOCIAL GATHERINGS

By Veronique Foster, Social Chair

The PBH annual Gala on June 4 was a big success with 45 attendees. As the organizer, I was so pleased to see people mingle and make important connections. It was also particularly gratifying to see many newcomers there. The food was delicious and Art Rancis was a most gracious host. Thank you Art!



**SAVE THE DATE:** Our next event is the ice cream social scheduled for Sunday, September 18 at the Community Center/Fire Station from 4-6 pm. As last year, the FOGGY TOPS BLUEGRASS BAND, with our very own Tim Triggs, will be playing. Parents are encouraged to bring a toy for their child to share since there is no specific activity for children, except eating ice cream and dancing! (See the ad on back cover page.)



## ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE UPDATE...

By Eric Erickson, Chairman

**A**pplications for ARC Review: As of the middle of July and since the beginning of 2016, we have received and approved 31 on-line, Fast Track Review applications with one additional application pending. Average turn-around time for approval has been five days.

By the time this article is published, we will undoubtedly have received more applications. Take a look at the Current Projects Under ARC Review tab on our HOA-ARC webpage and get an up-to-date view of the variety of renovation projects that are going on in PBH.

We have received and approved four Committee Review applications for new homes.

Construction is underway for the new Williamson residence at 819 Timber Lane and construction of the new residences for the Richardsons at 208 Alpine Way; the Hemburys at 795 Pine Brook Loop and the Shapiros at 80 Alder Lane is scheduled to be started within the next three to six months.

The Richardsons, Hemburys and Shapiros will be new residents in PBH when their homes are finished and we look forward to welcoming them personally as our new neighbors.

**Signage in Pine Brook Hills:** Jim Eyster, a long-time member of our ARC, wrote the following words last summer and they are equally relevant today. Please help us to keep the proliferation of signage (i.e. real estate, etc.) under control.

“Our Community Standards require that all signs, regardless of content, need to be on their owners’ respective properties, i.e., not in right-of-ways or

on neighbors’ properties, but in their own yards. Everyone recognizes the need for temporary open house and directional signs, but if everyone would remove signs promptly after the event, it would help to keep sign pollution to a minimum. Signs not in their own yards are removed and placed under the stairs at the Community Center waiting for retrieval. The sign pile is growing so please help spread the word about minimizing sign pollution in PBH.”



## NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY



This spring, Kat Hearty and Brion Koprowski organized a block party on Pine Tree Lane. Many neighbors of all ages attended - fun for all! Thanks Kat and Brion.



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## BMFPD AUXILIARY NEWS

By Ann Blonston, Co-president

### SAVE THE DATES: Boulder Mountain Handmade, Nov 12 & 13

The Auxiliary's perennially popular fall art-craft-bake sale is moving to a new location for 2016. The spacious, well-located Boulder Elks Lodge at 3975 28th Street will host Boulder Mountain Handmade this year, promising easy access and ample parking, as well as a roomy browsing floor for our market-style fundraiser. Information about the sale and how to participate is found at [www.bouldermountainhandmade.com](http://www.bouldermountainhandmade.com). All district residents are invited to participate: as a selling artist, a sale volunteer, a volunteer baker or a volunteer crafter.

We are currently recruiting artists from our fire district and across the Boulder/Denver area to rent booth spaces, the foundation of our sale. Returning District resident artists include nature photographer Susan Barnes, jewelry designer Dana Birke, Milt Marasch selling a variety of items crafted by the late Nancy Marasch, fiber and jewelry artist Amy Munding, organic herb product creators Aria Seidl and Ben Levi, watercolorist Catherine Von Hatten, and watercolorist Jean Watson. If you are interested in renting a booth or know of an artist who might be, contact [bmhart@bouldermountainfire.org](mailto:bmhart@bouldermountainfire.org) to apply or register.

The Auxiliary relies on volunteer bakers and crafters to prepare items sold by the Auxiliary at the event. Craft coordinator Nancy Callis hosts community crafting sessions during the summer and individual crafters host sessions in homes or donate their own projects. Please contact [nlcallis@aol.com](mailto:nlcallis@aol.com) to get involved with crafting.

Later in the fall, bake sale coordinators Karen Branyan and Florentina Cruz will issue their call for bakers. All District residents are invited to create home made goods for the sale... cookies, pies, cakes, jams, breads, snacks...all are eagerly anticipated by BMH customers. Visit [www.bouldermountainhandmade.com](http://www.bouldermountainhandmade.com) for details on volunteering.

With our new location, the Auxiliary is looking for extra help with publicity from marketing or PR professionals. If you are one, please contact

[auxpresident@bouldermountainfire.org](mailto:auxpresident@bouldermountainfire.org) to talk about the possibilities.

Last year Boulder Mountain Handmade raised over \$15,000. In addition to conducting recognition events for volunteer responders, the Auxiliary delivers food and drink provisions to responders on incidents, and conducts community outreach and education events like the Fire Safety Sale. The Auxiliary makes funds available every year to Chief Benson to fund capital items, such as vehicle extrication equipment, digital radios, defibrillators and hose couplings. This year BMH funds will help purchase new respirators for BMFPD firefighters.

### 2016 FIRE SAFETY SALE RESULTS

With support from McGuckin Hardware, the Auxiliary hosts the annual Fire Safety Sale with members of the volunteer Third Arm corps who recycle old fire extinguishers and volunteer firefighters who train residents to put out a live fire. The sale is held one day in Boulder Heights and one day in Pine Brook Hills. The education programs at the PBH event included a presentation by Andrew Borsma, a member of the BMFPD Mitigation crew. He outlined the district's life saving system of community fuel breaks. Chief Benson spoke to newcomers in the fire district in one of our two annual New Resident Orientations. With over 80 new households in the District each year, these orientations help newcomers get up to speed on safe mountain living.

If you missed the sale but need to update your home safety equipment or your reflective address sign, please visit the online Fire Safety Store: [bouldermountainfire.org/FireSafetyStore](http://bouldermountainfire.org/FireSafetyStore).



### *Birds of a feather...*



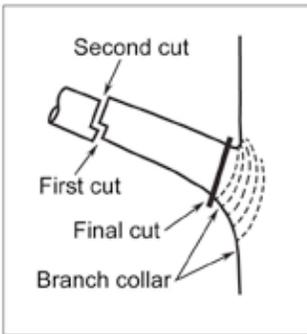
Photo of these lovebirds captured by Jim Adams

**FOREST HEALTH UPDATE**

By Jim Adams

**THIN YOUR FOREST** for health, beauty, and fire safety! An article in the Summer 2015 Pine Brook Press, "Cut Your Grass..." told how removing surface fuel prevents a low-intensity wildland fire from reaching and igniting your house. Of the 168 homes destroyed in the Fourmile Canyon Fire, only 29 were associated with high-intensity tree crown fire. The other 139 homes were ignited by low-intensity surface fire. A few hours of work with a rake and a hoe creates a surface fuel break around your house. A few hours work with a pruning saw can remove "ladder" fuel from your trees. Removing dead or green low branches prevents surface fire from having a path up into a tree's crown. Crown fires are very dangerous, hard to fight, and they generate a blizzard of embers that can fall on your house and ignite it.

If you have not mitigated your forest with our fire department or a contractor, you can reduce some of your fuel easily and safely by removing low limbs with a hand tool. Leave at least two-thirds of a tree's green branches. Stand on the ground and use a pruning saw or a pole saw to cut off branches you can reach. Cut green branches in September or later to prevent damage from



bugs that are attracted to wounded trees, and get rid of the green slash immediately. To minimize injury to a tree do not cut the collar, the curved transition from stem to branch. This diagram shows a three cut pruning method that allows the

wound to heal in a few years.

**TUSSOCK MOTH NEWS:** Investigation during early July indicates that the severe Douglas-fir Tussock Moth outbreak of the past several years may have ended. A state forester found no caterpillars or defoliation in our areas where TM was active last year, stating "the tussock moth population has crashed." Not finding caterpillars is good news, but be alert because some are still around. They hatch in late May and pupate in August. A single TM caterpillar was captured on a deck in northwest Pine Brook Hills in

early July. Doug-firs nearby had old cocoons, but no caterpillars or new defoliation. Later in the Summer we may know if Tussock Moth's endemic Nuclear polyhedrosis virus checked the current outbreak. NPV stops outbreaks after a few years when TM's population density is high. Avoid old cocoons that persist on trees and structures because they are made with irritating caterpillar hairs. If you see this caterpillar, please report its location to foresthealth@pinebrookhills.org and learn more about TM habits and lifecycle at <http://www.pinebrookhills.org/ForestHealth/index.html>



*More birds of a feather...*



Also photographed by Jim Adams

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## WADE THOMAS CATHEY, 1938 - 2016

Tom Cathey originally moved to Pine Brook Hills 1968 when he came to CU to take a teaching position in Electrical Engineering. Over time Tom bought two additional lots in PBH and in 1972 Kirk Hendricks built a house for Tom on one of those lots. Tom did the plumbing, wiring and the staining during the summer when he was not teaching. His former PBH neighbor, Ozzi Lehnert, introduced him to his future wife, Cheri in 1974. Cheri and Tom lived



in that house until 2001, when they built their current house on the remaining lot on Alpine Way. Tom was a member of the fire department in the early days. He remembered fondly the potluck gatherings where community members planned work crews to build roads and infrastructure for Pine Brook Hills. His kids rode their pony all over the neighborhood on the dirt roads. At that time it was not uncommon for the water to stop running, so leaving dishes for later was not a good idea. When Tom and other early PBH residents moved in, the community working together was what made it possible to live here. He believed that the early culture of pitching in and helping neighbors was what made PBH a special place to live. Tom always said he moved to the mountains and now lived in the suburbs!

Tom's family and friends describe him as a kind and gentle man with a keen sense of humor who contributed greatly to the scientific community. He had a unique zest for life and enjoyed everything he did. He loved to ski, hike, sail, camp, play golf and travel. He lived in the moment, rarely complained, and was blessed with a child-like curiosity which made him a success in his business and personal life.

Tom was born in Greer, South Carolina to Wade and Evelyn (Waters) Cathey. He was a member of the 1st graduation class of Chapman High School in Inman, South Carolina where he played football and basketball and drove a school bus at age 15. Tom received his BS and MS in Electrical Engineering from the University of South Carolina. He graduated from Yale

University in 1963 with a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering. His work took him to Anaheim, CA, conducting research in pattern recognition, holography and laser arrays and then to Boulder where he became a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Colorado at both the Boulder and Denver campuses. In 1974 his book, *Optical Information Processing and Holography* was published, becoming what many considered the seminal book in the field.

Tom was awarded an NSF grant in 1987 to start the NSF Engineering Research Center for Optoelectronic Computing Systems (OCS). He directed the Center from its inception in 1987 until 1993. In 1997 he started CDM Optics in Boulder with partners R.C. "Merc" Mercure and Ed Dowski. CDM developed Wavefront Coding technology, a cutting-edge depth of field imaging system. In 2015, Tom and Juan Rodriguez started Ubifocal to look at using extended depth of field for human vision.

In his lifetime, Tom was honored with several awards and fellowships, including the Joseph Fraunhofer Award/Robert M. Burley Prize, for contributions to Computational Optical Imaging and its Commercial Application. He was a Fellow of the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Optical Society of America and a member of several honor societies including Phi Beta Kappa and Tau Beta Pi. Tom was awarded 23 patents.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Cherilynn (Isberg) Cathey, daughters Susan Cathey Union and Cheryl Ann Cathey, grandchildren Erika Union and Cole Thomas Gillespie, and siblings Benjamin Theodore Cathey and Deborah Cathey Moore.

A service will be held for Tom on Saturday, August 13th at 2 pm, First Presbyterian Church of Boulder, 1820 15th St. with a reception following.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Tom's name to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at [www.donate.lls.org](http://www.donate.lls.org) or to the University of Colorado Foundation Tom and Cherilynn Cathey Flatirons Fund.

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Community Center  
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