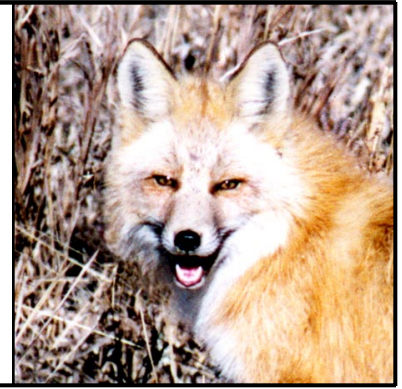




Pine Brook Press

A Newsletter for, about and written by
Pine Brook Hills Residents

WINTER 2002



PBH HOA MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23!

Pot-luck Social at 6 p.m., Meeting with Pine Brook Speakers at 7:30 p.m.

WHAT MAKES A COMMUNITY?

By Jo Noble

The people of the United States are the most generous people in the world. We give time, energy and money to our communities, our country and the world unlike any other people on earth. We do not look only to our government to deal with problems but pour our hearts into what we believe to be worthwhile. We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves. We comfort, organize, promote, touch and tend because it is our way. In 1999 \$190 BILLION was given to non-profit organizations. It is estimated that over 255 BILLION volunteer hours were also given. If you multiply that by \$11.35 an hour (which is what the government allows for "in-kind" service) it comes to a whopping \$2,894,250,000,000 (that's nearly three TRILLION).

Giving is so much a part of our culture, and has

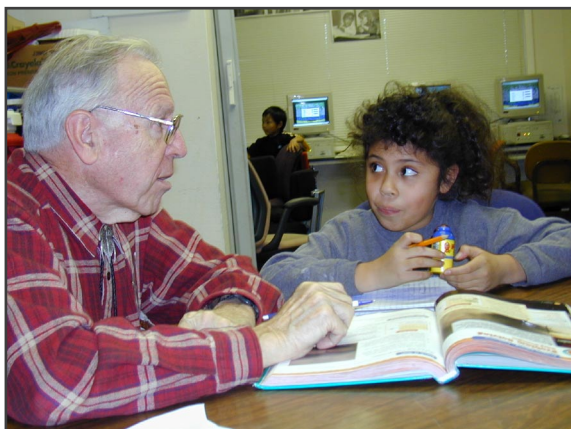
It's not about how much we make or what we own, but how we live and how we give back.

been from the beginning, that ours is the only country in the world that allows a tax deduction for kindness. Other cultures may be less oriented to personal giving. For them, perhaps, generosity is a government way, not an individual way. When the U.S. is cited as last among the G7 nations in foreign aid, it is because the figures on individual giving are not included.

There have been many studies to determine why some people donate and others don't. Ethnicity, economic levels, church affiliation, political affiliation, areas of the country, etc., have all been studied to see if there is a correlation.

The only variable that works is this: if you were raised by parents or were in an extended family that routinely donated money and/or time, you probably will too.

Our community is like an extended family. Our very existence has been and is dependent upon volunteers.



Pete Palmer tutoring a youngster at San Juan Del Centro.



Jo Noble, FINCA spokesperson and fundraiser, visits a FINCA bank in Malawi, Africa.

In the 1960's the Pine Brook community built the roads and created the Firehouse from lumber and stone scavenged from a windstorm in Boulder. In the next decade we organized and worked for three years identifying and removing pine beetle infected trees, saving our forest while hillsides in other nearby areas were ravaged. Our volunteer time and money helped to renovate and expand our Community Center/Firehouse, improving its usefulness in training more volunteers in how to save our lives from fire and medical emergencies. Volunteer time and effort helps three capable professionals to give us some of the best drinking water in the state.

It has been the culture here to know our neighbors, to say hi to each other. And we have held and cried with our neighbors because it is our way, the Pine Brook assumption that we help one another.

Pine Brook is full of people who step up to the plate time and time again to ensure our community's safety, beauty and joy. It is full of people whose hearts flow

out to every corner of the earth, who stand for peace, safety, justice, opportunity and comfort. Most of us volunteer every year, some in large ways and some in smaller ways. It all goes into the pot and creates a wonderful "neighborhood soup."

We are creating a scroll to be presented at the January Homeowners Association meeting with the names of all our PBH volunteers. I wanted to print every name right here in the paper, but the magnitude of our list would look very much like the phone directory (another volunteer project, by the way). Instead, our sincere and heartfelt THANK YOU to all who have helped create the culture of giving in this community. I know that we will miss more than a few names on our list and ask you to PLEASE call me at 444-6747 so that your name may be included.

What makes a community? It's not about how much we make or what we own, but how we live and how we give back.



MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS 2001

By Susan Maxwell for the whole PBH Fire Department Auxiliary

THANK YOU, HELPERS AND CUSTOMERS!

Final numbers are not in, but preliminary estimates indicate that in 2001 Mountain Expressions was more successful than



Young art critic Ryan Hartzell studies a painting by Deborah Springer.

ever before - over \$2200 raised. Fifty (50!) of us worked hard (and had fun) as exhibitors, bakers, telephoners, flyer distributors, firehouse decorators, divider movers, cashiers, host and hostesses, Auxiliary crafters, gingerbread house and banner makers, sign and

balloon placers and collectors, cleaner uppers, etc. But all the hard work would mean very little if no one came to the show, so we very much appreciate all of you who took a few minutes away from the beautiful weather to

stop by the firehouse on November 3 and 4. Mountain Expressions is a successful community event because of our workers and customers. Thank you for helping us effectively raise funds in support of our firefighters.

P.S. Every year Boulder Veterinary Hospital kindly lets us place early signs for the show on their private property - we appreciate their community spirit.



PINE BROOK WHO DUNNIT? (Answer on p. 15).



What PBH computer genius (and his dog) donated endless hours creating the PBH Telephone Directories of 2000 and 2002? Hint: he also cleans the firehouse!

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

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Robert deHaas, Mgr., 443-5394

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

PBH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION - Meeting on Wed., April 24.

Pot-luck social at 6, program on Fire Concerns at 7:30. Please come!

ANNUAL PBH FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY GARAGE SALE

Fri. and Sat, May 17 and 18, 9 A.M. until 4 P.M., and Sun., May 19, from noon until 4 PM.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE-Meets every 2nd Tuesday each month at 7:00 P.M. at the firehouse.

BIBLE STUDY - Meets weekly. For info, call Greg or Donna Johnson at 303/449-1692.

FIRE BOARD - Meets 2nd Monday of every other month at 7:00 P.M. at either the Pine Brook or Boulder Heights Firehouse. Call 440-0235 for specifics.

FITBALL - Come join the Bouncers on Friday mornings, 8:30-9:30 A.M. Free, but you need your own ball. Please call 449-0997 for encouragement and further details.

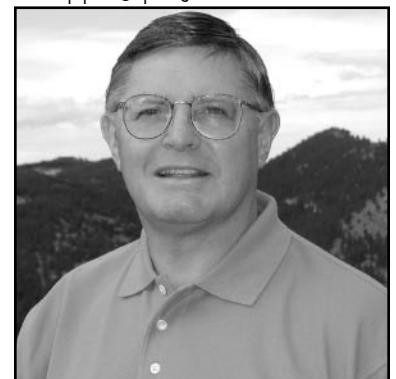
PBH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB - Next meeting on Tuesday, May 28 at 7:00 P.M. Please call Eileen McKenna at 415-1111.

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

DRY WINTER - LOW SNOWPACK: RECIPE FOR WILDLAND FIRE?

By Jim Eyster

The snowpack is only 63% of normal and our winter has been mild. What does this mean in terms of wildland fire danger? For years Pine Brook Hills homeowners have practiced good wildland fire mitigation techniques by clearing slash and utilizing HOA chipping projects to dispose of debris. Starting last year, Boulder Mountain Fire Authority (BMFA) initiated a project to help homeowners create defensible space around their homes on a cost shared basis. Although as a community we continue to address wildland fire mitigation, our greatest fire danger may not be within the boundary of Pine Brook Hills itself. Our greatest danger may be from contiguous Open Space Land where there is public access. Evidence has indicated that the majority of wildland fires in Boulder County are caused by careless people using poor judgment.



The next HOA meeting on April 24 will address the problem of Wildland Fires in Pine Brook Hills. Our guests that night from BMFA, County Open Space, City Open Space and State Forestry will help us understand what might be in store for us this summer and what we can do to mitigate the danger. Additionally, Bob de Haas, Manager of Pine Brook Water District, will be available to discuss water concerns if we have a dry summer. Fire and water are the two greatest concerns we have as residents of Pine Brook Hills. This meeting will give us a chance to learn about the plans and opportunities to reduce fire danger in our area.

For those of you who missed the last HOA meeting in January, it was very heartwarming to learn how area residents volunteer their time to help others. Jo Noble, HOA Vice President, coordinated the meeting and talked about her commitment to FINCA. FINCA provides financial services to the world's poorest women so they can create their own jobs, raise

household incomes and improve their standard of living. Andrea Mann works with young women who give up their babies for adoption. Richard Greene volunteers in the Restorative Justice System. Pam Creswell spoke of the rewards and challenges associated with helping victims of crimes (Victim's Advocacy). Pat Palmer helps abused horses become rehabilitated and placed with loving families. All of the speakers described their work and the personal satisfaction they gained from their involvement. I want to thank each of them personally for their involvement and for sharing their experiences.

Hopefully, the April 24 HOA meeting will be as rewarding as the January meeting. This next meeting is very important as we move into the fire danger season, so we hope to see you there. Why not even come at 6, bring a potluck dish and join a group of your neighbors during our social gathering before the meeting?



ON THE WATER FRONT

By Bob de Haas

On March 6, 2002, it finally snowed again. We were long overdue for some more moisture. The bigger problem is that we are way behind in the amount of snow pack in our water shed. The snow pack is only slightly more than half of normal for this time of year. Yes, March and April normally are the snowiest months of the year, but they will have to be extra heavy to make up for what we have not received so far. Only time will tell.

So what does this mean to you? The common telephone call we get this time of year is, "Will we have water restrictions this year?" It's still too early to know. If we had to answer now, the answer would be yes. However, we could end up with a wet spring and wetter than normal summer, which would mean no restrictions. If temperatures are more moderate than normal, that will have an impact on our supply; the lower the overall daily temperatures the less need for the District to impose restrictions. If we get occasional afternoon thunderstorms all through the late summer months, the less likely the District will be to impose restrictions. If, if, if,..... As you can see there are many variables that can influence our supply. The only thing we can promise you right now is that as the summer progresses we will keep you informed, so

please remember to read all of our notices.

We have been busy constructing two new pump houses to replace two old pump houses that were over 30 years old. While these new pump houses will not increase our supply they will make the system more dependable.

The election for the Pine Brook Water District has been cancelled as we did not receive more nominations than we had positions. So J. Kirk Hendricks, Art Markey, Mel Beauprez, and Brian Hanson will continue to serve on the Board. Many thanks to them for their time and hard work.



THE HOA TREASURER'S REPORT

By Al Whitfield

Response to our solicitation of annual membership dues has been very good, with almost 70% participation to date. If this pace continues, we should exceed last year's 80% and, hopefully, may achieve our goal of having all homeowners as members. These annual dues are the major source of income supporting the Association's many activities.

Thanks to all who have already paid their dues. If you have yet to do so, please join your neighbors and send \$50 (or more, many do!) to Al Whitfield, Treasurer, 137 Alpine Way, Boulder, CO, 80304.

WHO'S WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?**Pine Brook Scat, or The Straight Poop
(OOPS!) Scoop**

by Anne Singh

Congratulations to Pine Brooker Harriet Edelstein, who is a winner of this year's Boulder Valley School District's "Impact on Learning" award. Although anyone associated with the school district (teachers, administrators, support staff, volunteers) can be nominated for the award, Harriet is the first social worker to win the \$1500 award for her school plus a \$500 personal use award. Her innovative work with the students in conflict resolution, anti-bullying tactics and development of social skills led teachers at Crestview Elementary and Centennial Middle Schools to suggest and support Harriet's nomination for the award.

Eleanor Patten and her son traveled to Morocco in December. They toured the major cities, including Fez and Marrakech, and found the people friendly, the food good though unusual, saw beautiful mosaics and were impressed by the ancientness of the place. They spent time in souks and found out where Timbuktu is, in Mali!

Karen Peperzak celebrated her 50th birthday in January, at a birthday bash at the Boulder Theatre, all arranged by her husband, Marc. She said she was in shock by it even though she knew about it. It was a wonderful extravaganza which included a delicious buffet dinner, a band with dancing, much talking and a video produced by Patrica Belanger.

Jo Noble spent three weeks in Mexico recently, two of them in a Spanish language school and one week dancing with Dance Universal. Soon she will leave Pine Brook for a year in Africa, traveling as ambassador for FINCA (Foundation for International Community Assistance) which provides small loans of working capital to the self-employed poor and particularly to women (94%). Good luck, Jo, and we will miss you.

Charlie and Debbie Springer and Tom and Cherilynn Cathey recently returned from a six week adventure in New Zealand. They combined sailing with traveling around in a camper van and also touring in a car while staying nights in interesting inns. In that way, Debbie said they experienced the flavor of life there and they had a wonderful trip.

Five hundred thousand, yes, half a million bikers attended the Daytona Beach Motorcycle Rally recently and Marc Peperzak was one of them! He said it was the ultimate social leveling experience and people-watching opportunity. Doctors mixed with "dirt bags" and everyone looked the same. Bikers spent the days parading up and down the streets, going to the many biker specialty shops, looking at the fancy showbikes and drinking motorcycle lattes even. You could go to motorcycle races at the Speedway. Nobody seemed to be under 50 years of age and it was mostly a male event, although there were some couples and motorcycle "babes", dressed in leather chaps and jackets only. As Marc said, it was a SCENE and he had a blast, driving around on his bike, blowing his air horn bought at one of the shops.

**BIENNIAL HOUSE TOUR - CALL FOR CHAIRPERSON**

The Pine Brook Hills Biennial House Tour is coming up this fall, on September 14th and 15th. It is major fundraiser for the HOA, which raised \$5000 two years ago, and is a very popular event, enjoyed by everyone. Two years ago 60 people in PBH took part, serving as house captains for the 5 houses and as staff in every area of each house. What we need now is a chairperson to mastermind this very worthwhile and wonderful event. Those 60 volunteers will be glad to assist a noble volunteer. If you think you might like to do this, please call Jim Eyster at 303-786-7586.

**DON'T LET GARBAGE BECOME BESTIAL BUFFET!**

The HOA Board of Directors would like to remind everyone not to put garbage out until the morning of collection day. Garbage remaining outdoors overnight is almost inevitably discovered (and distributed) by wild animals. Please wait until morning. It's better for ALL the animals, human and otherwise. Thanks!

LOCAL FLOWERS*(see story on p. 2)***White Flowers**

Easter Daisy (Aster Family)
 Kinnikinnik (Heath Family)
 Milkvetch (Pea Family)
 Miner's Candle (Borage Family)
 Mountain Candytuft (Mustard Family White)
 Mouse-Ear Chickweed (Chickweed Family)
 Poison Ivy (Sumac Family)
 Prickly Poppy (Poppy Family)
 Pussytoes (Aster Family)
 Rock Primrose (Primrose Family)
 Sand Lily (Lily Family)
 Sprawling Daisy (Aster Family)
 Spring Beauty (Purslane Family)
 White Larkspur (Hellebore Family)
 Wild Strawberry (Rose Family)
 Western Chokecherry (Rose Family)
 Yucca (Agave Family)

Yellow Flowers

Butter-and-Eggs (Figwort Family)
 Buttercup (Buttercup Family)
 Common Mullein (Figwort Family)
 Cream Tips (Aster Family)
 False Dandelion (Aster Family)
 Golden Banner (Pea Family)
 Leafy Cinquefoil (Rose Family)
 Mustards (Mustard Family)
 Oregon Grape (Barbery Family)
 Prickly Pear Cactus (Cactus Family)
 Wavyleaf Dandelion (Aster Family)
 Western Wallflower (Mustard Family)
 Whiskbroom Parsley (Celery Family)
 Yellow Salsify (Aster Family)
 Yellow Stonecrop (Stonecrop Family)

Blue/Purple Flowers

Blue Flax (Flax Family)
 Chiming Bells (Borage Family)
 Common Skullcap (Mint Family)
 Cranesbill (Geranium Family)
 Early Larkspur (Hellebore Family)
 Grape Hyacinth (Lily Family)
 Pasque Flower (Buttercup Family)
 Penstemmons (Figwort Family)
 Showy Daisy (Aster Family)

Storksbill (Geranium Family)
 Western Spiderwort (Spiderwort Family)
 Wild Iris (Iris Family)

Red/Pink Flowers

Colorado Loco (Pea Family)
 Mountain Ball Cactus (Cactus Family)
 Rocky Mountain Phlox (Phlox Family)
 Shooting Star (Primrose Family)

**A WEB SITE FOR PINE BROOK HILLS HOMEOWNERS?**

By Al Gerrish

We've been thinking of a web site for the Pine Brook Hills homeowners for some time now. It's an opportunity for better communication to and from Pine Brook Hills homeowners. What could it be used for, you ask? Well, here are some possibilities:

1. A ready reference source for Pine Brook information such as is currently found in the Pine Brook Hills Directory.
2. A location for Pine Brook news and events to augment the quarterly issues of the **Pine Brook Press**.
3. A "Newcomers" Directory to supplement the current hard copy directory issued every two years.
4. Links to other sites of interest to Pine Brook residents such as County sites on fire codes, road maintenance and land use regulations.

Do you have suggestions?

Would you use it?

And, most important, **WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN WORKING ON IT?**

We'd like to get your feedback on a Pine Brook Hills web site. Putting up a site and maintaining it will take some effort, but it would be worth it if the site meets a need. We're currently deciding whether there is enough interest and expected usage to justify the effort and costs. Please respond with your comments and ideas. We'd like to hear from you. Call Al Gerrish at 443-7361 or email AMGERRISH@ATT.NET.

A WORD FROM YOUR WILDLIFE OFFICER

By Patrica Belanger

Last year the HOA decided there was a need to address wildlife issues in Pine Brook Hills and I was asked to be our first Wildlife Officer. The purpose of this column is to provide information to our residents about wildlife issues, problems and solutions. Like many of you, I had encountered injured wildlife and had no idea whom to contact for help. Below is a brief list of organizations and individuals that you can call for assistance and information. The complete list is available at the Community Center.

For Injured Deer, Bears, Mountain Lions, Elk, Cougars:

Call the Division of Wildlife at 303-291-7227. The Division of Wildlife officer for our area is Tina Jungwirth and she can be reached at 303-291-7146.
www.wildlife.state.co.us

For injured fawns or general deer information call:

Laura Deghtald, 303-499-5526.

For injured birds (excluding birds of prey) and small mammals, rabbits, raccoons, squirrels, foxes, water fowl such as geese and ducks:

GREENWOOD WILDLIFE REHABILITATION SANCTUARY
Emergency Number for Injured Wildlife:
303-823-8455
General Information number: 303-545-5849
Website: greenwoodwildlife.org
(Injured raccoons: call Carl Cunningham at
303-442-4030)

If You Find an Injured Animal:

Greenwood suggests that you place the animal in a box with a lid or dog or cat carrier and place a cotton T-shirt or similar bedding in the box. It's best to leave the animal in a dark, warm, quiet place until one of the volunteers from the sanctuary calls you. Do not attempt to give the animal anything to eat or drink.

For injured hawks, owls, eagles, falcons:

BIRDS OF PREY FOUNDATION
Sigrid Ueblacker: 303-460-0674
For big game Raptors, other birds:
Scott Rashid: 970-577-1794 (Home), 970-586-5376 (Work)

For help with Small Mammals, Bats and Skunks:

URBAN WILDLAND RESCUE
This is a non-profit wildlife rehabilitation facility that provides humane and economic solutions to nuisance

wildlife problems.

Call Penny or Jack Murphy 303-340-4911

Website: www.urbanwildliferescue.org

For Reptiles or Amphibians:

Laura Mayfield: 303-455-1512 (Home),
720-371-7808 (work)

Lannie Hagan: 303-425-5318 (home), 303-492-0771 (Work)

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS:

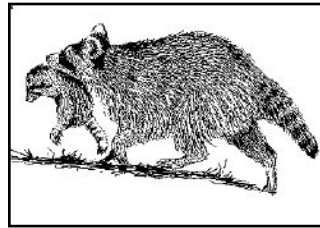
Boulder Humane Society: 303-442-4030

Boulder Sheriff: 303-441-4444 (They will respond if a deer has been hit by a car and needs to be put down)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife: 303-236-7540

Rocky Mountain Animal Defense: 303-449-4422

They work to eliminate the human imposed suffering of animals in the Rocky Mountain area. RMAD furthers its objectives through public education, investigation and research, the legislative process, direct action and appeals to reason and com-



passion.

www.rmad.org

Colorado House Rabbits Society:

This is a wonderful organization that takes in unwanted or abused domestic rabbits. If you have ever considered owning a pet rabbit, please call them first. The House Rabbit Society is a wonderful domestic rabbit education, adoption/boarding facility. The owner even carries 24-hour pager with her to deal with rabbit emergencies.

Contact: Nancy LaRoche

303-469-3240 (Answering Machine/General Information/Boarding)

720-350-6863 (Emergencies between 9:00 - 2:00 p.m.)

303-609-2929 (Emergencies any other time)

I do have additional names of people you can call so please call me if you are unable to reach anyone from the above list. I can be reached at 303-786-8569.

Patrica L. Belanger

Your Wildlife Officer

SEPTIC STORY

By Suzanne Adams

Ooohhh, we got the nicest compliment recently! We had called Acme Septic, Inc., for a routine pumping, and the serviceman said we had "excellent effluent." Now, there's a compliment worth having. If there is a problem with effluent and a system fails, the cost for replacement can range from \$10,000 to \$20,000. How do you know if your system has failed? Chances are, your nose will know. Or your neighbors' noses will. **The Pine Brook Press** had a call recently from a Pine Brooker who had sniffed the whiffs of septic seepage from a nearby property and was seeking a tactful way to inform the neighbors. Because seepage from a failed system can pose a significant public health threat, one technique for the modest would be to notify the County Health Department and let THEM tell the neighbors.

Want to avoid the cost of a ruined septic system? Here's how:

1. Have your tank pumped out every 2-4 years, depending on the size of the system, the number of people in the house and water usage. If tanks are not pumped out regularly, material tactfully referred to as "solids" will build up and eventually flow out of the tank and plug up your septic lines. If you use a garbage disposal you will need to have the tank pumped more frequently. Many people suggest avoiding the use of a garbage disposal altogether in our area.
2. Avoid burdening your tank with inappropriate materials like disposable diapers, etc. Reduce soap curd by wiping greasy dishes with paper before washing them. Minimize the use of chemicals such as drain solvents and bleach. They can injure the helpful bacteria which work on - well, effluent, by - well, eating it.
3. Fix leaky faucets promptly. Tracey at Acme Septic mentioned that many people don't realize that a leaking faucet or a sticky toilet (where you have to jiggle the handle to stop the flow of water) sends water to the system and can flood it. A soggy septic field means Trouble.
4. Don't let anyone drive a heavy vehicle over your septic field. Splat!

Replacing a septic system involves digging up a large area somewhere on your property, creating a new septic field and connecting it to a new tank. While the

tank is being installed it is important not to send any water or whatever down on the installers. One Pine Brooker (who has requested anonymity) was having a new system installed recently. The PBer EVER so carefully got a glass of water without letting a DROP go down the drain but then, a few minutes later, used the facilities and - forgot. Fortunately the guys out back took it, and a compensatory bottle of wine, as a good joke.

Further fascinating tidbits on septic systems and their care are available from your septic company, the PBH Water Department, or **The Pine Brook Press**.



PBH Women's Book Club

By Eileen McKenna

At the January meeting we chose the books we want to read for the remainder of the year. We believe this will make it easier for us to get our readings done between various trips and projects.

July 23, 2002

The Englishman's Daughter, by Ben Macintyre
September 24, 2002

Crime and Punishment, by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
November 26, 2002

Endurance (Shakelton), by Alfred Lansing

NEED FOR NEW ADVERTISING MANAGER

The Editors of the PB Press regret to announce that Jo Noble, the present advertising editor for the Press, will be leaving us for an extended stay in Africa. We need to find someone to replace her as soon as possible. If you think you might be interested in this job, please call or email Anne Singh (303-417-0373; annelsingh@aol.com) or Suzanne Adams (303-499-0997; sblythea@aol.com).

NEWCOMER NEWS

By Joyce Colson and Rob Quinn

Diane and Jason Nutter and son Rhett, 2039 Linden Drive. Diane and Jason moved to Boulder from New York City. Diane's office in NYC was adjacent to the World Trade Center and her subway stop was in the first tower. Because the subways were stopped, she did not get off at the usual stop and she managed to make her way back to their apartment safely. They are glad to be in Boulder! Jason works for a NYC software company and telecommutes to NYC. They both enjoy mountain biking and the outdoor opportunities in Colorado.

Tracy and Tim Heimann, and son Calvin (almost 2) 745 North Cedar Brook. Tim and Lacy migrated from the plains (28th and Jay road) to Pine Brook Hills. Tim works at GE Access. Tracy and Tim are both triathletes (Tim has done 4 and Tracy 1). Tracy is interested in meeting other families with young kids. Like the Nutters, they originally came from NYC.

The Fire Department Auxiliary Needs YOU! By Susan Maxwell

The members of the Auxiliary have a great deal of fun doing their job - supporting the Fire Department. We organize fundraisers (Garage Sale and Mountain Expressions), help with banquets and parties, buy needed equipment and occasionally even provide refreshments during fires. We serve a vital community function, and at the same time, make lasting friendships with our neighbors. If any of this sounds appealing, please come and join us. Call Nancy Tamura (303) 448-0225 for more information.

CHANGES PROPOSED FOR HOA BY-LAWS

At the last HOA board meeting the officers approved some minor changes to the 1993 by-laws. These changes will be voted on at the Association meeting in April. If you would like to review the by-laws before the meeting, copies are available at the Community Center.

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors:

My wife & I saw a severe infestation of mistletoe on a walk down Pine Brook Road and around Pine Brook Loop. On the way back up Linden to our home at 69 Wild Horse, we saw that the mistletoe had crossed the road 100 to 200 yards above the junction of Pine Brook and Linden.

Are people aware of this? I saw one house (on Linden) that has done some branch trimming. Other than that, it looks like no one knows or cares.

Worried,

Steve Mestdagh

Dear Steve,

We're worried too. Mistletoe may currently be a greater threat to our pine forest than pine beetles. But there is hope.

According to Dave Kalyan of Boulder Tree Service, if people will prune branches infested with mistletoe in a timely way, the parasite can be controlled. It isn't easy. It might take several years to free a tree from mistletoe. But every effort helps control damage to neighboring trees. For a homeowner unwilling to prune diseased trees, an alternate technique is to spray, which knocks the fruited structures to the ground where they cannot spread to other trees.

Some say that, after all, mistletoe is natural. So is small-pox.

The death of our pine forest would be a terrible loss. But the problem is not merely aesthetic. Dead trees make excellent fuel for wildfires.

We will have an opportunity to talk to a State Forester at the HOA meeting on April 24. We hope to see you there!

PINE MOUNTAIN CONTRACTORS, INC.**Professional and Effective Forest Management Services include:**

Fire Mitigation, Complete Forest Thinning, Tree Removal of any Kind, Hauling, Winching, Chipping, Grading and Excavating, Post Hole Drilling, and Snow Plowing. Firewood (\$140 for full cord including delivery, \$110 for pick up, etc.)

Call Michael for a free estimate:

720-352-0099 or email to

pmountain@qwest.net

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"the very best housekeeper I have had." S.S.

"he works with a spirit of joyfulness and ease that brings warmth and happiness into my home." E.R.

"the best cleaner I have encountered." P.H.

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WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Compiled By Cindy Brooks

***Bagombo Snuff Box*, by Kurt Vonnegut**

Reviewed by Michael Black

Bagombo Snuff Box was published in 1999 but written in the 1950's. After declaring that his 1998 novel *Timequake* would be his final work, Vonnegut produced what many believe will be his last published work. *Bagombo Snuff Box* is a collection of twenty-four magazine short stories retrieved from archives, with rewritten endings to three of the stories.

If you lived through the 50's or care to learn about post World War II America, you will enjoy this collection. Vonnegut has stated that every story should "start as close to the end as possible" and "every sentence must do one of two things - reveal character or advance the action." In these stories he is true to form. In each story, almost immediately, you understand the characters and their role in the drama that is about to play out. While these stories are not nearly as complex as Vonnegut's novels, they do give

you a view to his developing style. Vonnegut writes with energy, humor and perception, offering fascinating insights into the attitudes and preoccupations of Americans in the fifties. He writes about his experiences in World War II ("Der Arme Dolmetscher"), women's role in the 1950's ("Custom-Made Bride" and "Lovers Anonymous"), how rapid technological advances were changing everyday life ("The Package") and how small town America copes ("The No-Talent Kid" and "Any Reasonable Offer"). One theme continues to show up in many of the stories - pretense does not succeed. Vonnegut has no use for people who put on airs and they always fail ("Magic Lamp") or are exposed ("Bagombo Snuff Box").

This book will not consume you; you will not be compelled to read it in one sitting. But it will provide hours of entertainment over many days of intermittent reading. You will even grow to know and love some of the characters, especially the ingenious Lincoln High School Band Teacher, George M. Helmholtz, who entertains us more than once.

To review a book for this column, please call Cindy Brooks at 546-9628.

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**Halloween at the Community Center:
"I'm supposed to figure this out?"**

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

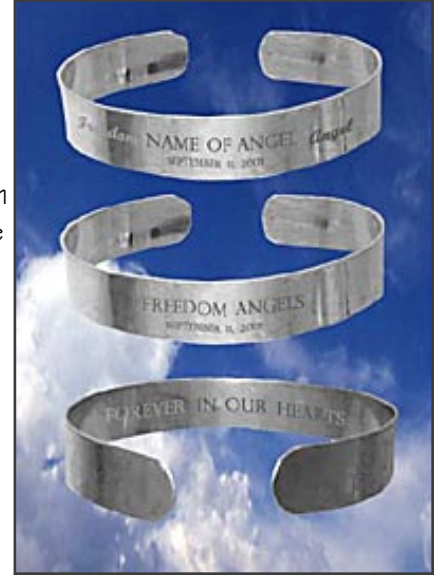
by Eve Berg

As a result of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, I have been struggling with what I could do. Something positive. Something to help us believe that the world can again be a safe place. During this time, I vividly recalled how powerful it was for those of us in the Vietnam era to wear POW bracelets, sending love, comfort and gratitude every day to Americans left in Vietnam. I then knew what I needed to do. Walt and I established a non-profit organization, the Freedom Angels Foundation, to create memorial bracelets to honor and remember the heroes who died for our freedom on September 11, 2001. We call these heroes our Freedom Angels. Each bracelet, representing the circle of life, is inscribed with the name of an angel of freedom. Inscribed inside the bracelet is "Forever In Our Hearts". Wearing them will be a daily reminder of the strength and courage of these heroes, helping to give us strength and courage. Sending love and gratitude to our Freedom Angels will raise the consciousness of our world community, bring a more loving world into being, and help to heal the deep wounds of September 11th.

The memorial Freedom Angels bracelets are made of a lightweight, highly polished stainless steel,

adjustable to all wrist sizes (women, men and children). They are beautiful, powerful, simple, yet elegant. There are three bracelet choices:

- 1) you choose the Freedom Angel name you want inscribed on the bracelet (we have a database on our website)
- 2) you select a general Freedom Angels bracelet honoring them all, or
- 3) you choose a bracelet with a randomly-selected



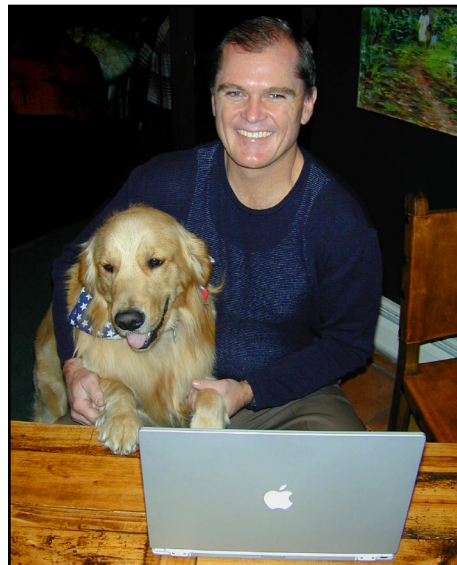
name of a Freedom Angel. The cost of each bracelet is \$9.11 plus shipping and handling. You can order one of these bracelets and get further information at our website, www.FreedomAngels.org, or from our toll-free number: (303)449-0707 in the Boulder/Denver metro area, and worldwide at 1-888-865-0953.

The proceeds from these bracelets will go to the women, men and children impacted by this world-wide tragedy through The Robin Hood Relief Foundation, a charity distributing funds to those affected by the September 11 tragedy.

Together we can help to bring a more loving and peaceful world into being.



ANSWER TO PINE BROOK WHO DUNNIT



Bob Olliver and Astro work on formatting the new PBH Directory. Please address any complaints to Astro.



Pet Rocks: Snow dusts the ridge above Linden Drive

Photo by Eve Berg

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