

# Pine Brook Press

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

WINTER 2004



## HOA MEETING JANUARY 28 - WATER STORAGE IN PBH

The Pine Brook Hills Homeowners Association will hear a presentation from the Water District on the revised reservoir and dam proposal. The design and sizing plans have progressed. The original proposal called for a reservoir that would hold 200 acre feet of water and a dam that would extend about 675 feet across the top.

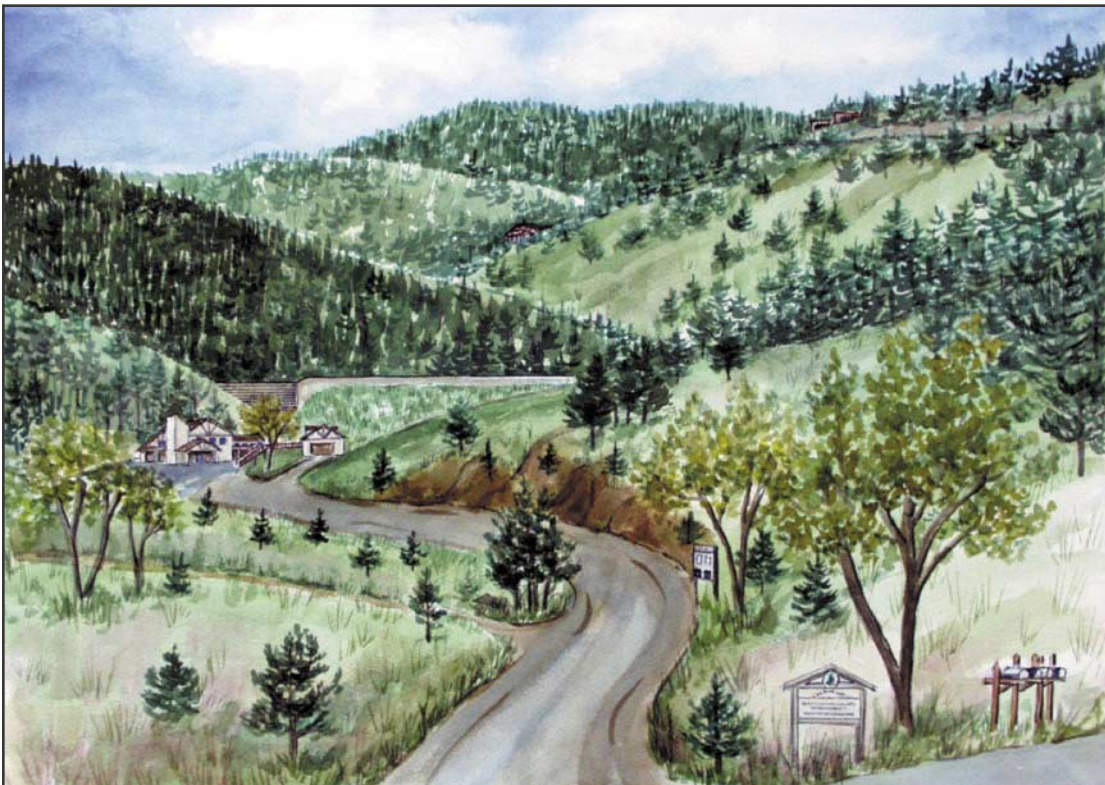
The current proposal calls for a reservoir holding 100 acre feet of water and a dam that has been reduced in height by about 21 feet and reduced in length by about 200 feet, according to Water District

Manager Bob DeHaas. Any portion of the dam beyond the currently proposed 480 feet would be completely buried.

In a decision with aesthetic impact, the State of Colorado has agreed that the Water District can backfill against the front of the dam almost to the top, using native materials and planting grass seed. Under this plan, 270 feet of the dam will be nearly

concealed by a grassy hillside, leaving only the spillway completely exposed.

The proposed reservoir at the reduced size will hold approximately one year's worth of water without replenishment. "With proper management, it will suffice for a multi-year drought," said Bob DeHaas.



Pine Brook artist Debbie Springer created the artist's conception of the dam, berm and extended firehouse/ community center building on this page. Bob Olliver's computer-generated view of the reservoir can be seen on the back

page of this issue.

Other projected images will be available at the January 28 meeting, which will provide an optimal opportunity for open debate on the need for additional water storage and the aesthetic and financial ramifications of the newest proposal.

According to current plans, the community will vote on the reservoir proposal in May.

**“80,000 Acres Ablaze in Beetle-Filled Forests”  
“2,000 Firefighters Battle the Blaze in Dense,  
Beetle-Ravaged Pines”**

*These were the headlines of last summer. Because our own forest is threatened, we've asked Bruce Benninghoff, Forester and Wildfire Mitigation Consultant, to write about forest health and fire risk. -Ed.*

**SICK FORESTS = FOOD FOR FIRES  
(AND THOUGHT!)**

By Bruce Benninghoff

In 2001, bark beetles infested 150,000 acres in Colorado. By 2002, 209,000 acres were infested. The total area impacted since 1998 is estimated to be 600,000 acres. Bark beetles kill trees; dead trees fuel fires. The number of acres predisposed to fire by bark beetles will continue to grow as long as the drought continues.

The bark beetles are here in Pine Brook Hills now! They are quietly munching away on our trees under the bark. They slowly kill most of the trees they attack by eating the inner bark and by introducing blue stain fungus, which reduces the tree's ability to take up water. The trees dry out, turn red or straw colored and are prime fuel for wild fires.

A forest is more than a bunch of trees. A forested ecosystem is a dynamic living entity, influenced by geology, soils, climate and perturbations by ice and snowstorms, droughts, fires, insects, parasites, disease and people. Because our Front Range forest grows slowly, we tend to notice the changes only when a perturbation causes a rapid change.

We can manage a forest in such a way as to make it more or less susceptible to the perturbations above. If we do not chose to manage the forest ourselves, the storms, droughts, fires, insects and diseases will.

If we chose to manage, we must set forth the objectives to be achieved. Sometimes the practices designed to achieve the objectives will conflict. For example, providing privacy screening between homes may conflict with minimizing destructive crown fires. **However, the management practices aimed at minimizing destructive crown**

**fires are compatible with, even complimentary to, the practices that minimize losses to insects and disease. This is important because insects and disease create conditions that make fire behavior more extreme and difficult to control.**

Basic principle - If you provide optimal habitat for any organism, it will flourish.

We initially think of ways to provide optimal habitat for our furry friends and ourselves. We must also consider how our management, or lack thereof, affects the habitat of insects and diseases. We don't want to provide optimal habitat for destructive agents that work against our objectives.

Fires tend to make headlines because they can impact thousands of acres in a short time. However, mortality caused by insects can also impact thousands of acres in a few years. Stubborn fires may resist control efforts for weeks or months but they eventually succumb to winter snows. Mountain pine beetle epidemics lull us into complacency because the mortality is slow, caused by an agent that few people ever see, and rarely making headline news. Worse, the little critter over-winters out of sight, multiplying its forces for the expanded attack on more trees each summer, until natural forces or people interfere with its lifecycle. An example is the Spruce Bark Beetle epidemic in the Flattops region of NW Colorado. A blow-down in 1939 created the ideal habitat for the Spruce Bark Beetle. The beetles killed all the mature spruce on

250,000 acres of the White River National Forest alone, far more acreage and timber than the Hayman Fire.

Grand County was the focal point of a serious epidemic in the 1970's. The beetles are back at work now. If this picture isn't convincing, take a drive over to Grand Lake next June.

Bark beetles (Mountain Pine Beetle and Ips Beetle), and the parasite Dwarf Mistletoe

pose the greatest threats to the forest in Pine Brook Hills. These pests are a direct threat to the trees, and an indirect threat to human safety because they predispose the forest to fire. How can these threats be managed? We'll discuss that in coming issues.



**A SICK FOREST**

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

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Vicki Schilling, 449-6656

**WATER BOARD**

Kirk Hendricks, Pres., 442-1308

**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 WED., JAN 28.** Potluck at 6, Business Meeting at 7, Water Storage Program at 7:30.

**"A Reservoir in Pine Brook Hills"**

A Discussion with the Water Department and Community Members

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

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

**FIRE BOARD** - Meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 7:00 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 449-6656 for confirmation.

**NEWCOMER TEA** - Wednesday, February 4, 5 - 7 P.M. 12 Boulder View Lane. RSVP Pam Creswell 720-406-9783

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

**Straight from the Prez**

By Pam Creswell

Happy New Year to my fellow Pine Brookers.

I was so pleased to see the many new faces at our December Homeowner's Association meeting. Whether new to Pine Brook or just new to meetings, I'd like to welcome you and hope to see you again in January.

The holidays are a time for reflection and gratitude and we in Pine Brook have so many special things to be thankful for: the wildlife, the gorgeous views, the natural beauty of the mountains and not least of all, the unique sense of community that we share. Part and parcel with the special benefits, however, are special concerns: fire safety and water storage. It will be an exciting year as we, the community, will be making decisions in both of these areas that will have significant and long term effects.



Regarding fire, we will be asked this year to approve the official consolidation of the Pine Brook Hills and Boulder Heights Fire Departments into one entity: Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District (BMFPD). It is also my hope that the Homeowner's Organization, working in

coordination with the fire protection district, will start developing its own long range plan for fire mitigation this year.

Regarding water, we expect to be voting this year on whether or not we want a reservoir for water storage. As President of PBH HOA I don't consider it my role to express an opinion. I do feel, however, that education and dissemination of information are roles of the HOA Board. I believe that in the best interest of the community, we need to make sure that neighbors are aware of the water crisis that we could face if we don't develop some new form of water storage. Armed with this basic understanding, I'm confident that our voters can make a good decision as to whether the proposed dam is the best solution. At the Homeowners meeting on January 28 there will be a presentation of the newest information about our potential water storage crisis (which by the way would be during the winter, not the summer months!) and the new, updated and modified dam proposal. This is an extremely important issue and I hope to see you all at the meeting.

I hope you share with me in looking forward to the challenging but exciting year ahead of us. Let's all find ways to listen, share and to hold healthy debate on these important issues without forgetting that while our views may differ, all of our hearts are in the right place: wanting what we believe is best for the community.



### A NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW HOA OFFICERS

Congratulations to the following officers, elected at the fall meeting of the PBH HOA:

**President: Pam Creswell**

**Vice President: Tim Triggs**

**Treasurer: Jim Woodruff**

**Secretary: Eleanor Patten**

**Member at Large: Al Gerrish**

Committee heads, who (we like to think) are elected for life, will continue on as before.

Many thanks to retiring officers Jim Eyster, Joyce Colson and Al Whitfield for their years of service to the community.

### "FROM THE CHIEF"

By John Benson

Greetings and Happy New Year from the staff at BMFA. I hope this letter finds all of you well and ready for 2004. It is hard to believe that I have been here a year already. It has been a great year. I was able to sell my house in Gypsum and move my family down here in June. Everyone is doing well with the change, including Ruger, my 117-pound lab retriever; he seems to enjoy the big back yard and watching the fish in our fishpond.

I want to thank all of you again for your support in making this transition a great one.

As all of you know, the cold weather can bring on special hazards. Below are just a few tips which may help to keep you safe:

→ When using extension cords for lights, engine heaters and other indoor uses, be sure to inspect these cords for frays, nicks, burn spots or any other malfunction. If you find such a problem with a cord or do not feel comfortable with it, discard it and buy one that is UL rated and one that will handle the electrical load it is intended for.

→ Do not overload outlets. This can cause electrical fires.

→ Keep candles away from flammables and on a good surface.

These are just some of the cold weather tips that may help you enjoy this season and prevent a disaster.

- **Mitigation:** I would like to thank all of you who participated in this year's mitigation efforts, both in chipping and mitigation work. Your continuing efforts show your dedication to the safety and success of our community. The planning is well underway for the 2004 season. If you need mitigation services and have not already contacted the fire department, please call 440-0235, so we can get you on board early in the season. If anyone still has slash piles lying around, please call the fire department and we can arrange to have these chipped or removed ASAP.

- **New Projects:** BMFA is working in conjunction with Pine Brook Hills, Boulder County and the Colorado State Forest Service to continue our mitigation efforts. Additional information and projects will be released as information becomes available.

- **BMFA:** BMFA is continually looking for individuals

to join an outstanding organization dedicated to protecting the community in which we live and work.

BMFA offers a semi-annual recruitment class along with department benefits. Please call the station and ask how you can become a member of this dedicated organization. BMFA is a volunteer organization, so if you meet up with any of the firefighters or officers, please take the time to say hi and thanks for the selfless dedication which they contribute to the community.

- **Auxiliary:** I would personally like to thank the Pine Brook Hills Fire Department Auxiliary for their support of the fire department. These individuals spent a great deal of time in 2003 raising funds, which helped BMFA acquire much needed rescue equipment. This year BMFA was able to purchase extrication equipment, which will help us to remove victims of auto accidents along with other types of rescues. These members do so with great enthusiasm and a sense of fun. I learned a lot from them and had a great time doing so. I look forward to the future and working side by side with this organization. Once again, **thank you for your time, efforts and dedication to insure that our department has the best equipment for the job.**

Until next time, enjoy the winter, stay safe, and as always if anyone has questions, concerns or would like to just come in and say hi please feel free to do so. Thank you.



## ON THE WATER FRONT

With Robert DeHaas, Manager

### Water Supply Status and Reservoir Updates

Happily we made it through 2003 without having to impose restrictions as we had to do in 2002. The District took several actions to protect the water supply. First, the wells were not used until mid-August to try to allow the aquifers from which they draw to recover. The wells were then used until mid-November, at which time they were shut down again to try to allow the aquifers to recover some more.

The wells were turned on in August as it appeared that we might lose our surface water source. But while the creek we draw water from got very low, it did not dry up this year.

The District has again leased water for use in the fall and the winter. We began using this leased water as of September 16th and will continue to use it through

most of the winter. **The problem with this arrangement is that the lease is an annual lease and there is no guarantee that we will be able to get it every year.**

As we have stated before, the problem is not just a summer time drought issue; it is also a fall-winter water rights issue. The undependability of the winter water can be seen by the extreme fluctuations in the price we have to pay to lease the water. For instance, in 2001 the cost of the water was \$25 an acre foot. In 2002, the cost was \$500 an acre foot! In 2002 we leased 40 acre feet for \$20,000; this year we leased 80 acre feet for \$1840 - twice the water for less than 1/10 the cost. **Our concern is the possibility that at some point we might not be able to lease water for any price.**

The studies for the reservoir project have been completed and you should have already received, or will receive shortly, notices about the results of those studies. The District will also be hosting several public meetings to discuss the studies and the project. The dates of these meetings will be in the notices.

One of these studies addressed the mosquito potential when the reservoir is built. **It states there is no anticipation of any change in the mosquito population in the area, due to the design of the reservoir.** It notes that the proposed reservoir will not provide the shallow stagnant water favored by mosquitoes.

As the studies have progressed, so have the design and the sizing (see page 1).

The District has worked diligently to address the concerns of the community while finding a long term solution for the water supply issues of the community. The proposed reservoir is a long term solution that is not only viable but will provide a reliable supply of water for the entire community.

The District invites everyone to attend our Board meetings and especially, of course, the public hearings to be held.



## PINE BROOK WATER - KEEPING PINE BROOK HILLS "GREEN"

By Marie Zanowick

The Pine Brook Water District is pleased to announce that we are the **FIRST** water district in Colorado to convert to biodiesel fuel for our trucks. Biodiesel is a fuel manufactured from vegetable oils. The production is a simple and well established process that uses soybeans to produce a replacement

for petroleum.

Biodiesel provides numerous advantages over petroleum fuels. It is a renewable fuel. Unlike fossil fuels, biodiesel is made from vegetable oilseed crops grown in America. The Water District is able to purchase biodiesel from Bartkus Oil Company, 3501 Pearl Street. No new vehicles or engine modifications were needed. Both Bob DeHaas and Shawn Beauprez, our water district professionals, have noticed that our trucks run quieter and smoother with biodiesel, and the "diesel smell" is gone. Recent studies show that biodiesel actually increases engine efficiency through a higher octane rating and extends engine life through added lubricity. Most important, it is biodegradable and less toxic than table salt. Biodiesel is far less damaging to the environment than petroleum diesel, particularly in environmentally sensitive areas or in the event of a spill or leak. "I reduced our CO2 emissions by 20% in one day," said Bob.

Biodiesel benefits American farmers, businesses and the national economy. Job creation, new markets for domestic agricultural products and keeping our energy dollars domestic are just a few of the many economic benefits gained by using biodiesel. With all these good reasons, you may want to switch your diesel vehicle to biodiesel! For more information, see <http://gobluesun.com>.

*Marie Zanowick is a member of the Pine Brook Water District Board of Directors*



## MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS 2003

### A BIG THANK YOU TO THE PBH COMMUNITY

By Susan Maxwell

The 30th anniversary of the Fire Department Auxiliary's annual Art, Crafts and Bake Sale was a great success, thanks to all the exhibitors, auxiliary members, helpers in the community and shoppers. Once again, we raised over \$2,000 to support the Auxiliary, which, in turn, supports our volunteer firefighters.

In honor of the 30-year milestone, a reception, held Saturday evening the weekend of the show, brought former artists, auxiliary members and show coordinators back to the community to celebrate the long run.

We try to thank all helpers in writing, but if we happened to miss you, know that we do appreciate your efforts. The community coming together in support of the show is what makes it a success every year.

## THE GARAGE SALE "OFF-SEASON" ACTION

By Art and Babette Markey

It is time to remember the garage sale during this "off-season." Remember us before you get rid of any item that we accept for the sale. Ideally, we'd like you to be able to store it yourself until we start collecting in early May. If you can't store your future donations we still would like to hear from you (440-6132).

A few years ago a Boulder Heights resident made his shed available to us for year-round storage. As it looks right now, that shed will be pretty full, with room for smaller items only, once everything that is currently earmarked for it is moved there (probably by the time you are reading this).

Although having this shed fill up early is a nice problem to have, it creates a new problem - we need another large storage space here or in Boulder. If anyone has or knows of a space we can use please call us at 303-440-6132



## THE PBH FIRE AUXILIARY

By Anne Singh

The Pine Brook Hills Fire Department Auxiliary came into being when the first garage sale was held in 1969, when there were only 50 homes in these hills. The first art sale, now known as Mountain Expressions, was held in 1974. Later, the Auxiliary began helping out on the fireline by bringing water, coffee and sandwiches, etc. to the men fighting the fire. Also a summer barbecue for the firefighters and their families is held each year.

The Garage Sale and Mountain Expressions raise thousands of dollars every year for the Fire Dept., to which we owe our safety from potentially devastating fires and also for medical and other emergencies. However, the efficacy of the Auxiliary depends on having enough members to keep these fundraisers going. At the present time, our membership has grown alarmingly low, making it more difficult to continue holding the two major events and also the additional services and events.

A high membership makes less work for each person and at the same time more fun for all. Please think seriously about joining the Auxiliary. It is an informal and congenial group. Everyone is welcome. Meetings are held once a month (usually) on Sunday evenings at 7pm and every member is given a reminder call in advance. Please come join us!

## CIVICS 101: OUR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The debate over the reservoir proposed by Pine Brook Water indicates some confusion over the roles and charters of organizations within Pine Brook Hills (PBH).

We have three separate and independent entities: the Home Owners Association (HOA), Boulder Mountain Fire Authority (BMFA) and Pine Brook Water.

The HOA functions with voluntary dues collected from PBH residents. As the HOA by-laws state: "The purpose of this organization shall be to carry out the desires of the members of the Pine Brook Hills Homeowners Association." Its major financial commitment in the last few years has been to reduce wildfire hazards in our community. It also organizes community events like the dine-arounds and square dance this summer, has quarterly meetings, produces the Pine Brook Press, the PBH Directory and runs a community website ([www.pinebrookhills.org](http://www.pinebrookhills.org)). It also has a Welcoming Committee, a Wildlife Chairperson and a Social Chairperson. The HOA has no paid employees - all the work is done by volunteers.

BMFA provides emergency medical services and fire protection to PBH and also to Boulder Heights and Carriage Hills. Its budget comes from real estate taxes on residents of the Pine Brook Hills and Boulder Heights Fire Protection Districts. It may also receive Federal or State grants for specific projects. It has a paid Fire Chief and Mitigation Coordinator - the rest are unpaid volunteers.

Pine Brook Water is responsible for all aspects of providing safe potable water to PBH residents. It is funded by real estate taxes and water usage fees.

**All three organizations are run by independent boards, all unpaid volunteers, elected from the community and each board has sole authority over its organization.**

Thus, for example, on matters like the proposed reservoir, the HOA may hold informational meetings and place information on its website but it has no jurisdictional role in deciding issues, like voting, dealing with the reservoir. That is the sole province of the Water Board. The website and Pine Brook Press present information on water and fire issues much as the Daily Camera presents community issues in the city of Boulder, and like the Daily Camera, they do not run community organizations. Correspondence and com-

ments sent to one organization are not automatically shared with the others.



### A CLOSE CALL

By Param Singh

All of us in PBH recall the Overland fire on October 29 and the threat to our community. Luckily, for us, the strong northerly winds forecast for that evening did not materialize and we were spared another wildland fire here.

What the community doesn't know is that just a few days earlier, on October 10, we had an even closer call. That afternoon a pick-up truck laden with firewood was laboring up Sunshine Canyon when, just below Pine Brook Hills, it caught fire.

Sunshine Canyon road is not in our fire district, but BMFA was alerted first and Scott Kohla from BMFA was first on the scene, followed closely by Dana Dolan, who assumed charge of the incident.

The wood in the truck was engulfed in an orange ball of flames that were reaching towards overhead power lines. Flames shooting towards the trees on the slopes below PBH presented a real risk of a wildland conflagration that would have threatened the entire community and posed a severe test of the newly cut Sunshine Fuel Break.

Wildland fire trucks from BMFA and Boulder Rural reached the burning truck quickly from both sides of Sunshine Canyon and put out the fire. Fire stations in PBH and Boulder Heights remained manned until the forest fire threat was eliminated.

Again we were lucky: there was no wind, the truck stopped in the middle of the road at the point where the shoulder was widest and the response was swift. Incidents like this, invisible to most residents, point out the necessity of being fire conscious and supporting a top notch fire department.

### HOW SMART IS YOUR DOG?

From SBA

David Hummer, whose far-ranging interests include speculation on animal intelligence, was startled by a headline in the Boulder Camera on November 16, 2003:

**GOLDEN LAB HELPS DEVELOP SMARTER SOLAR CELLS.**

*All we can say is, Wow! Bow wow!*

*(The headline referred to the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, CO.)*

## Roofless in Pine Brook

By Barton Adams

Perhaps it is time to table our concerns about wild-land fire briefly and think about, well, wind. Eric Erickson did just that after the Overland Fire when relaxing in his North Cedar Brook home on a windy November 12. There were strange sounds. The wind blew and his roof flew, scattering sections of plywood with shingles still attached into the back yard. It was not fast air that had caught on an overhang, but a strong wind from the north that had literally sucked up a roof section by flowing rapidly above the house, creating a vacuum known as the Bernoulli effect, the same as that which provides lift to an airplane wing. Eric understood this well, having studied aeronautical engineering at CU.

The plywood sheets with their shingles' nails intact had pulled straight out of the tongue and groove roof decking. The problem? After passing through layers of plywood and polystyrene insulation, nails had only been long enough to penetrate one half inch into the decking. Solution? Reattach the roofing with 3 ½ inch screws, their heads supported by washers for a wider grip. We might add that even as this house was originally under construction a wind on an August night scattered a pile of plywood sheets up the hill like confetti. When the builder came to work the next morning he was surprised to find some sheets completely lost, others splintered.

Are such instances rare in Pine Brook? Not really. The Ericksons' next-door neighbors, Patrica Belanger and Frank Tanel, moved in during 1999. In 2000 a 110 mph wind blew a balcony door into the house. In 2002, after losing wood shingles to the wind, they replaced the shingles with metal panels. While sitting in her tub on a windy day that October, Patrica noted roof panels flying by the window, carried by 85 mph winds. Rushing outside in her bathrobe, she saw pieces of roof everywhere. The roofer had installed them incor-

rectly. They were reinstalled by another roofer with bolts and screws. Might other tub-bathing homeowners someday see their own roofs fly by?

Further up North Cedar Brook lives Bobsie Donahue. The house she bought in 1969 had been scalped earlier that spring by a large tree broken into three pieces by 137 mph winds from the south. Where her current roof overhangs the deck there are cutouts, which allow winds to pass up through without catching and lifting off the roof. Bobsie recalls winds in 2001 that deposited a plastic wading pool on her estate. She put it in her barn for a couple of days, and then dragged it back out, thinking to herself "Mother Nature brought it. Let Mother Nature take it away." The pool was never seen again, by Bobsie at least.

Still moving up, we encounter Pat and Pete Palmer, who did a remodel in 1993-4. Later, during a February storm, Pete heard a click-click, saw some downspouts come down, then a 20x20 foot section of roof land in the back yard.

From NCAR, the Palmers learned how some of these powerful wind patterns occur. As winds come east over the Rockies and descend over the Front Range, they can crash onto the plains just beyond the foothills and create powerful turbulence, similar to an ocean swell that rises up and curls over as it approaches a beach. This can generate a retrograde wind underneath, in a reverse, westerly direction. Where gaps in the foothills occur, such as the Linden Drive gap entering Pine Brook, the backflow winds roar through. At Linden, winds are split by the mountain in front, one vector to the left into South Cedar Brook, the other to the right, straight up Linden to impact the south slope of North Cedar Brook. This correlates with numerous incidents of wind damage in the North and South Cedar Brook areas. A similar pattern farther north may involve backflow of wind into the Lee Hill gap, branching off to the left to hit the north slope of North Cedar Brook.

The latter pattern could apply to the home of John and Helen Rhinehart who live at the ridge atop North Cedar Brook. The previous owner had a roof peeled back. Metal brackets were subsequently installed to hold the roof down. The Rhineharts have experienced occasional broken windows, as well as a door that was blown out and never seen again, except for a doorknob. At a house under construction across the street they once saw stacked 4x8 plywood sheets blown about "like playing cards." The worst for them was a wind

### NEW TO PINE BROOK IN THE LAST TWO YEARS?

You are invited to a Newcomers Wine and Cheese on Wednesday, February 4, from 5 to 7 PM. This will be held at Pam Creswell's home, 12 Boulder View Lane. Pam, the incoming president of our Homeowners Association, is looking forward to meeting you all and sharing information about living in our very special mountain community. RSVP: 720-406-9783.



from the north that blew over a large tree, crushing their motor home.

Generally, it seems that roofs can be sucked up, overhangs pushed up from below, or a combination of both. Most of the damaging winds that hit North Cedar Brook come from the south, Linden Drive. The worst winds recalled by Pine Brook residents seem to have occurred in the 1960s and 70s.

And South Cedar Brook? A house at Linden Drive and Arrowleaf Court, right on the major wind path, had a garage roof and deck blown off in the past. During a recent remodel, a very attractive one, the original plans included a large, potentially wind catching wing. The Pine Brook Architectural Review Committee, aware of the house's past history, was able to persuade the architect to substantially reduce the new structure's size and overhang, with no wind problems since completion.

In other accounts, a house on Boulder View Lane had roof plus beams lifted off in 1969. John Seward, who made many calls throughout Pine Brook over the years while serving with the Fire District, recalls one windy night when an older woman sitting in her South Cedar Brook house saw the stars revealed as her roof was lifted off. When the fire crew came to her house the next morning, they asked why she didn't call earlier. She said she had not wanted to bother them at night. That's the old Pine Brook spirit.

John also reports driving to another call along the Linden corridor, and noting a flying object soon to be identified as a trampoline. At some peril, the crew was able to pin it on its back and decouple the canvas, which was then carefully rolled up and piled neatly with its frame alongside the road.

The Press consulted with homebuilder Kirk Hendricks about appropriate construction techniques to hold roofs down. Following major damaging winds in 1973, the building code was changed to require "hurricane clips," which are metal plates perforated for nails. An upper plane is nailed to the roof truss or rafter and the lower, bent at a right angle, to the two 2x4s atop a wall, thus anchoring roof to wall. Other metal straps are attached to the stud and bottom 2x4 at the wall base that is subsequently bolted to the foundation, anchoring wall to ground.

When building his own house on an exposed hillside, Kirk ran 1-1 1/2 inch wide steel bands from roof frame down to concrete foundations. You have seen such bands anchoring loads to railcars. Kirk found his dis-

carded at rail sites. Similarly, there are houses on Meadowlook Lane and Wildcat Lane that have steel cables anchoring the roofs to the houses' concrete foundations.

Can winds blow in good news as well as bad news? The answer, my friends, is blowin' in the mind of John Seward, who remembers helping build the Pine Brook Fire House, using free, legally acquired lumber and cinder blocks from two blown down buildings in Boulder. One was at 9th and Canyon, the other a theater under construction near McGuckins, whose walls blew down before the roof could be added. Two blown down Boulder buildings = one Pine Brook Fire House. Blow winds, blow.

### CHRIS WOODRUFF

1962-2003

Son, Father, Uncle, Cousin

Friends and neighbors were saddened to learn of the death of Chris Woodruff, son of Jim and Sandy Woodruff. Chris lived with his parents on Hawk Lane and enjoyed Pine Brook Hills and its walks. Those who attended last summer's Square Dance will remember Chris as the 6'2" hamburger grillmeister on the firehouse deck. In addition to his love of cooking, Chris was an enthusiastic fisherman, enjoyed playing golf and softball, and was a diehard Green Bay Packer fan. He enjoyed his work as a data analyst with an international investment house. Contributions in Chris's memory can be made to Jim Woodruff for an education and medical fund for Chris's two sons.

### RICHARD GREENE

1931-2003

Pine Brook Hills residents were distressed to lose another one of their own with the death of Richard Greene on December 24, 2003. Since moving here in 1987 he had been deeply involved in a number of environmental groups such as the Sierra Club, the Boulder Open Space program and the CU Environmental Center. He became interested in the "revolving door" aspect of the criminal justice system and, with his wife Dale and other colleagues, opened a "Day Reporting Center" using techniques that fundamentally change criminal behavior. He was a senior facilitator with Longmont Community Justice Partnership and Teaching Peace to give juvenile offenders an opportunity to meet with people they had harmed and make restitution.

Contributions in Richard's memory can be made to Planned Parenthood, 950 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203 (attn. Jen Schwem).

### JAMES BRUBAKER

1941-2003

The community was sorry to hear of the death of James Brubaker on November 29, 2003. He lived in Pine Brook Hills from the late sixties until 1988, when he moved to Denver. He had been active in the community, serving as Fire Chief of the Pine Brook Volunteer Fire Department from 1973 to 1978. Anyone wishing to send a note of sympathy could write to Nelle Brubaker in care of Chris Graves, 5101 W. Fremont Drive, Littleton, CO 80128.



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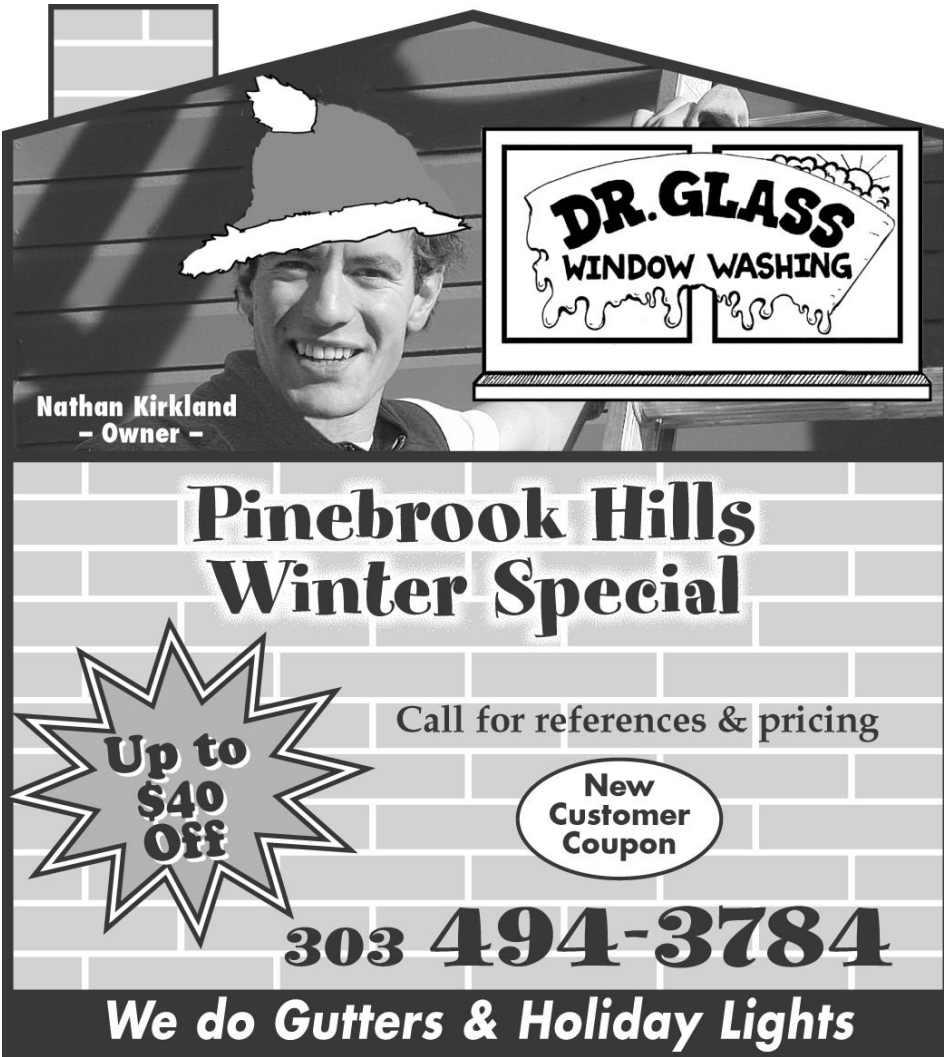


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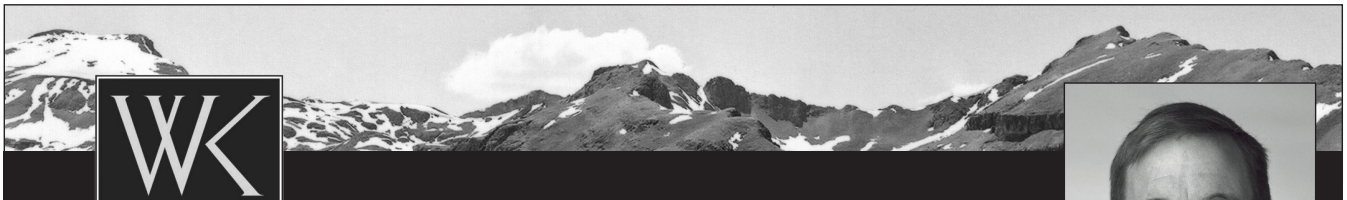
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors,

I am a ten year old girl named Kate Andrus who lives in Pine Brook Hills. I would like to talk to you about families who feed deer. I have had experience with this when I was six. At first I was happy and excited to feed the deer, but when I found that it could hurt them, it scared me. I know some of the families who feed deer and for me to know that they are the ones hurting the deer and they think they are helping them survive is hurtful. I very much wish that the families who feed deer would stop!

You may just be thinking that I am just a girl with an idea. Well, no, I am not. I know that other people, my family and friends, agree with me. I think if all the families would stop or just a few families would stop it would make a big difference in the environment and in food for other animals and things like that.

So please, if you are one of the families who feed deer, stop! Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Kate L. Andrus



Dear Pine Brook Neighbors,

I want you to meet my four daughters: Dorah, Brenda, Elivania and Ja-Frida. They live in an orphanage in Uganda and are very bright, funny and excited about their ability to continue school.

I didn't go looking for my daughters. They came to me via a wonderful woman who is head schoolmistress in the village where I stay. I was visiting this school to see what schools are like in Uganda. The government "pays" for school through third grade. This, however, isn't quite true as the parents or guardians must pay for uniforms and fees. This is very difficult for many families, let alone orphans. For \$600 a year I am able to pay for school fees, uniforms, school books, shoes, socks and a sweater. This is not for one student, but for FOUR. I asked Edith, the headmistress, if she would pick out four girls who have the most potential to become leaders of Uganda.

When I met them, I had prepared a small party. They got to eat meat and rice which was an exceptional treat for them. I had presents of pencils and school exam books and I bought them each a book to read. One of these books was *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Later, Edith asked me why I had given them reading books instead of additional school books. I told her that I believed that if I can help grow the love of reading inside these children, the world will be a much different place for them.

When I got back to Boulder I received an e-mail from Edith. She said she had talked with other schools and they are raising money to ship books from the USA to Uganda if I could round up the books. She said she had thought a lot about what I had said and wants to make reading books available to children under the authority of the schools. This will allow the books to travel to many students and be safeguarded.

Would any of you like to donate children's books to Uganda? I will be happy to store them and work out the arrangements with Edith for shipment and distribution.

I am excited about this project for a couple of reasons: Edith has taken the initiative to raise money for shipment. She is not expecting this to be a "handout." I totally support the idea of people helping themselves and not expecting handouts. The other reason is that I have met children that have not even seen a magazine. The possibility of opening minds to new worlds and wondrous ideas is very exciting to me.

There is also another alternative. My Ugandan friend James Semakadde knows the owners of the two bookstores in Kampala. It may be possible for these bookstores to order the books and I could purchase them a little above wholesale which would be cheaper than sending them.

I will be going back to Uganda in March. Edith and I will be setting up a reading program in some of the schools. The children are required to take English from the earliest levels. We will use the older children to read to the little ones and use these wonderful books to teach listening skills and vocabulary to the children, not to mention lighting their imaginations by giving them a whole new world.

If you would like to help, call me, Jo Noble, at 303-444-6747.



Back row: Dorah, Jo Noble, Edith  
Front row: Brenda, Elavinia, Ja-Frida



## A QUILT KEEPS MEMORIES WARM

By Suzanne Adams

"It weighs a ton, it isn't practical, it's like a carpet!  
It's an ALBATROSS!"



Actually, it's a quilt, beautiful in itself and even more beautiful on knowing the story behind it. Each square is a miniquilt of varied fabrics and colors. You don't at first notice the buttons, or that some of the squares are actually pockets. It *is* heavy; two people are needed to carry the quilt when it is inside the wicker trunk purchased for it.

Penny Triggs, whose self-deprecating quote began this story, made the quilt for the daughter of a friend. Kim McMillen's sudden death from heart failure devastated her only child, Alison, who was eighteen at the time. Kim and Penny had been close friends, neighbors in Crested Butte, bringing up their little children together. After her mother's death Alison, struggling

with grief, asked Penny to help in packing away Kim's beautiful clothes. As they worked together, handling the memories as well as the clothes, Penny offered, "If you'd give me some of those clothes I'd make you a quilt of them." Something warm and comforting, a bit of her mother's life to keep close.

Creating the quilt became Penny's "winter meditation." "It wasn't a planned quilt. The sewing room became my sanctuary all winter. I made a square a day. At night I thought about colors and patterns. It consumed me. I was able to leave little pockets, buttons, secret hiding places. It was hard as an amateur to take scissors to such nice tailored clothing, but I had a wonderful feeling throughout the project. I felt that I was communicating with Kim constantly. I like to think of Alison lying on it and slipping a hand into a pocket or playing with a button."

"Kim McMillen" is a familiar name to many in Boulder because of a book she wrote not long before her death, "When I Loved Myself Enough." The book, handwritten, consists of brief insights into life which are touching, wise and often funny. (Kim was a volunteer chaplain at Boulder Community Hospital, where Penny also worked.) After her mother's death Alison copied and bound the books. They sold at first by word of mouth but eventually were commercially published and made enough money to provide Alison with four years at CU.

Alison calls her quilt "A transformation. I wasn't ready to let go of my mother's clothes but it felt foolish to keep them. The quilt is a way of letting go, and also a way to have memories of my mother through the fabrics."

Penny estimates that creating the quilt extended over six months. Why would anyone devote so much time to sewing small pieces of cloth together? Love, maybe.

## C'MON, WHO REALLY DUN IT?

*I think that I shall never see  
A sign as lovely as a tree.  
In fact, as best I can recall,  
The sign should not be there at all!*

(Sign on a tree at Linden and  
Timber Lane used to be at  
the bottom of Linden)



PROPOSED PBH RESERVOIR (VIEW FROM LINDEN)



A computer generated rendition by Bob Olliver of dam proposed by Water District.

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