



Pine Brook Press

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

WINTER 2010



DON'T MISS THE JANUARY HOA MEETING!

“Backcountry and Hut Skiing in Colorado”

WHEN? Wednesday, January 27, at 6:00 P.M.

WHERE? The Community Center/Firehouse

WHAT TO BRING? Après-ski food such as fondue, pasta, chili, or whatever (Drinks provided)

OUR FEATURED SPEAKER:

Pine Brook resident Brad Schildt has been “earning his turns” skiing to and around the huts for the last 20 years (that’s Brad on the right). He will show slides and talk about backcountry skiing in Colorado and the 10th Mountain Division Hut Association. This multi-media presentation will include “feats of strength,” fire-breathing, Big Air and more! (Adult beverages may be required to fully appreciate the experience.)



NEIGHBORLY ACTS

On Saturday, December 5, 2009, approximately 150-200 neighbors and friends showed up at the Community Center for a pancake breakfast benefit for six year old Klaus Dragon Heiman. Klaus (yes, Dragon is his middle name, bestowed by older brother Calvin) is a lifelong resident of PBH and lives with his brother and parents, Tim and Tracy, in the house where he was born.



Calvin, Tim, Klaus and Tracy Heiman at the Breakfast.

Three years ago a small lump in his mouth led to a complicated ongoing medical odyssey and a diagnosis of Plexiform Fibrohistiocytic Tumor (PFHT). PFHT is a rare sarcoma, a soft tissue malignant tumor with less than 150 cases reported in the literature. Klaus’ condition turned his family’s life upside down as they aggressively searched for the best course of action. After three surgeries in Colorado, a fourth surgery lasting twelve and a half hours was performed at New York’s Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in May 2009 to remove all vestiges of the tumor. The Heimans had ended up at MSKCC because it specialized in sarcomas and pediatrics.

Prior to the surgery, they and the hospital had received verbal authorization, including an authoriza-

tion number, from their insurance company. However, as the bills started rolling in (approximately 200 to date), their claims were denied. The issue remains unresolved.

Neighbors Tom and Andrea Mann heard about Klaus last spring and what the Heimans were facing. Their daughter, Valerie, had been a babysitter for Calvin and Klaus, and the couples had become friends. Andrea suggested a pancake benefit. Of course they had never done this before. The Heimans agreed and Tom and



Breakfast Organizer and Pancake Flipper Tom Mann.

Andrea started planning the event. They had to guess the attendance and start rounding up help. Whole Foods and King Soopers were remarkably generous, supplying most of the food. Volunteers rushed in to help. The following are some of the people who willingly gave their time to plan and host the event: Tom, Andrea (Organizers), Valerie and Cody Mann, Chuck and Angela Swilpa, Shaun Minne, Sue Rafii, Cate and Sarah Buck, Gary Gomulinski, Cindy Jones, Lisa Logel, Christine Kelly and Sarah Gratz, Susie and Samantha Wyman, Heather and Katherine Bush, Jane Theodore, Helen Anderson-Caraballo and (last but not least) Calvin and Klaus Heiman. Diane Jones, Helen Caraballo, Jeannie Matlin, Cynthia Anderson and Julie Victor lent griddles. To publicize the breakfast, HOA President Mark Menagh sent out an email, signs were posted, some put it on their Facebook pages and it was posted on the Caringbridge website.

On December 5, volunteers showed up at 6:30 a.m. All through the morning a steady stream of people showed up. Tracy was struck by how those who came did not just eat and leave but stayed to talk and learn more about Klaus and what he had been going through. That morning about \$4,500 was raised from a \$10 per person suggested contribution. After the

event, they received calls of support and more donations from those who could not attend.

2009 was a rough year for Klaus, Calvin, Tim and Tracy. They were due for some good news and before Christmas they got some: initial pathology results showed no reoccurrence of the tumor. The hope is that Klaus is out of the woods. You can follow his progress at www.caringbridge.org/visit/klausdragonheiman. He has lived up to his name and been a real dragon in fighting this long and arduous battle. The whole family has had to make sacrifices and the future, though hopeful, remains uncertain. Tracy had to give up her job as a product developer of sports clothes, nine year old Calvin's life has been disrupted as the family has travelled to seek the best for Klaus (on page 14 you can read Calvin's Guide to New York, written while there for the surgery at MSKCC). However, in this family one thing is very clear: family comes before everything.

Commenting on events since the "small lump" was found in Klaus' mouth, Tracy remarked that there are times when all of us need support and in the end it comes down to the old cliché: people helping people.



BRIGHTEN YOUR FEBRUARY!

Come to a **PBH MARDI GRAS PARTY** on Saturday, February 20, 7 P.M. at Pam Creswell and Marshal Swanton's home. Join your Pine Brook friends and neighbors for a mid-winter celebration. Dressy cocktail attire please. Drinks, feather masks and beads will be provided but please bring an appetizer to share. Hope to see you there! Pam Creswell
12 Boulder View Lane,
pamelasuzzane@gmail.com.



HOA President Bill Alexander: Ready for Mardi Gras!

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

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Bill Alexander, 544-1333

VICE PRESIDENT

Dave Davies, 938-0522

SECRETARY

Tom Mann, 449-0730

TREASURER

Pam Creswell, 720-406-9783

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Mark Menagh, 247-0827

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Neil Patel, 444-4886

NEWCOMER WELCOME

Jo Wiedemann, 447-2569

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FIRE CHIEF

John Benson, 440-0235

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Eric Ramberg, 443-8084

FIRE AUXILIARY

Anita Griffin, 786-8476

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, January 27, Potluck at 6 P.M., followed by "Backcountry and Hut Skiing in Colorado," a talk by Brad Schildt. Business meeting follows.

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

FIRE BOARD - Meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 7 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 4 P.M. Call 786-8476 for confirmation. See page 6.

MARDI GRAS! - Saturday, February 20, 7 P.M. at Pam Creswell and Marshall Stanton's home, 12 Boulder View Lane. pamelasuzzane@gmail.com. See Page 2.

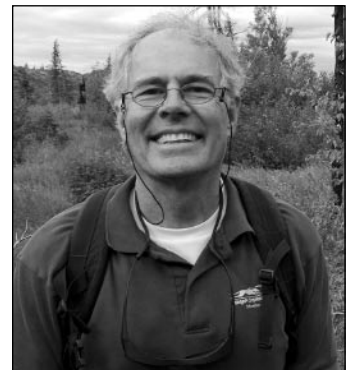
WATER BOARD - Meets first or second Thursday of every month at 4:30 P.M. Call Water Office at 443-5394 for dates.

PRESIDENT'S PATTERN

By Bill Alexander, HOA President

Our HOA general meeting is on January 27, 2010 and will have the theme of *Après-ski*. Potluck dinner will start at 6 P.M., followed by our guest presenter and business meeting, starting around 7 P.M.

Pine Brook Resident Brad Schildt will show slides and talk about backcountry skiing in Colorado and the 10th Mountain Division Hut Association. If you don't know what backcountry skiing is, basically it consists of hiking uphill on your telemark or alpine-touring skis, and then skiing downhill in remote non-lift-service areas, or simply: hiking on skis! Brad will provide tips on how to reserve the popular huts, when to go, what to bring, and how to make your trip a great experience.



The important business meeting that follows will include:

Introduction of the new HOA Board members and new neighbors, reports from committees, updated information about the revised Covenants, voting on the yearly HOA budget, and voting on the revised By-Laws.

Please come and help us modify the HOA By-Laws - for a more responsive HOA Board. Your vote counts!

The Covenants input/discussion sessions in November not only helped with ideas to add to the revised Covenants but also provided suggestions about

modifying the PBH HOA By-Laws. So what is the difference between the Covenants and the By-Laws? The PBH Covenants are similar to the U.S. Constitution - an overall framework under which the PBH HOA and all PBH lot owners operate. It takes ratification by signature from a majority of lot owners to change them. The PBH By-Laws are more like rules of operation for dealing with the HOA Board. They can be adopted by a two-thirds vote of active members present and voting at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Association.

The purpose of the proposed By-Laws changes is to make the PBH HOA Board more responsive to the general membership. Here is a summary of the proposed changes:

- Active Member = dues paying lot owner vs. Associate Member = all others
- Active Member may vote by proxy
- Active Members can petition to remove HOA Board members
- Active Members can petition to change By-Laws
- Active Members can vote for HOA yearly budget and major changes to it

For the detailed language in the proposed By-Laws, go to the PBH web site <http://www.pinebrookhills.org/>, click on "HOA", then "Covenants". You will see latest proposed HOA Covenants followed by the proposed By-Laws (amongst the list of other documents). So, all of you, please come to the Wednesday, January 27, 2010 HOA general meeting for an informative and fun evening!

As I am writing this several days after Thanksgiving, I am reflecting on all the people who need to be given thanks for their volunteer help in maintaining and improving our PBH community. This includes those who have so ably served on the HOA Board during the last two years: Mark Menagh, President; Dave Davies, Treasurer; Marla Saville, Secretary; Tim Triggs, Member-at-Large. We owe them all a debt of gratitude for two years of time, effort, and intellect shared to help us manage our Pine Brook Hills community HOA. Of course some of them are obviously gluttons for punishment! Coming back for the new year are Mark Menagh as Member-at-Large, Dave Davies as Vice President, and myself, Bill Alexander, as President. We are welcoming Tom Mann who joins us as Secretary, plus the return of former HOA President Pam Creswell

as Treasurer. We hope that all of us on the new HOA Board can do as good a job as our prior HOA Board members.

As you know, our community doesn't run on the volunteer efforts of the HOA Board alone, but rather on the efforts of countless other volunteers involved with:

- Fire Mitigation Projects
- BeetleBuster Activities
- Tree Spraying Program
- Architectural Review Committee
- Covenants Advisory Committee
- Pine Brook Hills Directory
- Pine Brook Press
- Newcomer Welcome
- Community Social Events
- PBH HOA Quarterly Meetings
- PBH Forum on Yahoo Groups
- PBH Website
- PBH Safety and Security Neighborhood Watch Program

And don't forget to add to this list all the volunteers involved with our Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District, its auxiliaries and the Pine Brook Water District. Next time you see one of these giving people, offer them your personal thanks for all the unsung work they do to maintain and improve our community.



WHERE DID THE MONEY GO IN 2009

By Dave Davies

As we close the year we have a change of Treasurer at the Pine Brook Hills Home Owners Association. After three years the bylaws (and my own desires) dictate a change and Pam Creswell will be taking over for 2010. Please help Pam as you have helped me and make it easy for her!

As I leave office I'd like to summarize what happened financially in 2009, how much was raised and how much we spent.

Thanks to the generosity of 80% of the homeowners and renters in Pine Brook Hills we averaged just over \$100 per household with 301 donations. Once again many people gave well over the \$75 requested minimum, and we had several donations in the \$500-\$750 range. Overall we raised \$33,447; \$30,539 from dues and the rest from ARC fees, PB Press ads etc. This was a record despite the dreadful economy - thanks again.

We were fiscally prudent this year and under-spent the budget.

Overall we spent \$21,666 leaving us a modest surplus for the year.

Spending was as follows; this is in order of expense item.....

\$8,118 on fire mitigation, less than planned but we are moving the leftover cash to 2010 with a planned budget of \$15,000. Once again this was matched by the State so we got double the value.

\$4,108 on the Pine Brook Press, as planned, but don't forget that about half that is covered by the advertising revenue.

\$2910 was spent on the Beetle Busters program; this was less than budgeted (\$4500) but once again we are carrying over the surplus to 2010. Many of the Beetle Busters subsidized the effort with their own supplies, etc.

\$2031 went to insurance, mailings, printing and minor misc. costs (\$205).

\$1636 was spent on the program to change the covenants. Almost all of this was on the surveys and outreach efforts.

\$1000 was used to upgrade the Community Center (our part of a joint effort with the fire and water departments).

\$911 went to cover the cost of the Square Dance pot-lucks & other social events, a bit over budget (which was \$500) but well worth it.

\$393 covered the first stage of getting the 2010 Directory prepared; it will be completed in early 2010.

\$334 was the cost of the web hosting and three years of domain registration.

\$195 was spent on legal advice, well below the budget of \$4000.

So we ended up with \$11,781 surplus that gives us (finally!) a decent reserve (\$38,500) but our plans for 2010 will eat into that as we will see when Pam Creswell puts out the 2010 Budget in the dues mailing in mid January.

Meanwhile if you wish to get a start you can send your 2010 dues (we are keeping the suggested annual minimum at \$75) to Pam Creswell at the PBH collection boxes or mail to the PBH box at 1907 Linden Ave Boulder Co 80304. Checks made out to PBH please.

Email me at davedavies.sbr@gmail.com if you have a question on 2009 and look for Pam's 2010 dues mailing with the 2010 full detailed budget in your mail box soon.

Dave Davies & Pam Creswell
December 2009



ON THE WATER FRONT

By Bob de Haas

FREEZING TEMPERATURES

Winter has set in and hopefully everyone is taking the normal precautions for the cold weather. That just doesn't mean just dressing yourself right, it also means thinking about what do you need to do to prevent your household water pipes from freezing. Most of you have lived in your home long enough to know whether you have some pipes that might freeze. What can you do to prevent freezing pipes?

1. Run just the smallest trickle of water, like the size of a pencil lead, out of a tap. Yes it might cost you a little extra on your water bill but it will still be substantially cheaper than having a frozen pipe!
2. Open cabinet doors under sinks to allow the warmer room air in.
3. Some homes have to have heat tape on certain sections of their pipes.
4. If you have hot water heat, don't turn down the heat during these cold spells because the time it takes for the house to cool down can be the time it takes for the pipes to freeze, since the hot water heat pipes are typically run along outside walls, where it gets the coldest.

Has anyone been in your meter pit? Either you or a plumber? Did they close it properly? It is very frustrating to get called out for a call of "I don't have any water" only to find someone has been in the meter pit and didn't close the lid right so the meter froze. Not only is it frustrating but it usually means the meter has been damaged and has to be repaired. That means we have to first defrost the piping in the pit and the meter, then we have to fix the meter, which means we are probably getting wet, and if you think it's cold in your house try it outside, at night, when it's freezing, and the problem could have been avoided!

SNOW SNOW EVERYWHERE

When you clear your driveway try not to bury the meter pit or the transmitter next to it (that's the tan box by the meter pit). Not only can it interfere

with our ability to read the meters but if you do have a burst pipe and the water needs to be turned off at the meter pit it can turn into quite the "hunt" to find the meter pit. The faster we can get to the meter pit the sooner we can stop the flow of the water in your home and the less damage there will be! So it's not only for our benefit but for yours too.

PRESSURE REGULATORS: THEY NEED CHECKING TOO

When was the last time you replaced your pressure regulator? If you're like most of us you really can't remember. Pressure regulators do not last forever; typically they will last about 7 to 10 years. If you live where the pressure is really high then it is even more important to stay on top of this to prevent damage to your home. Almost every home in the Water District is supposed to have a pressure regulator, and in areas where the pressure is at 200 psi or more the Water District recommends two pressure regulators to step down the pressure. This also prolongs the life of the pressure regulator. The ideal/best setup is to have a pressure gauge on the water line as it comes into the house, and another after each pressure regulator so that you can see whether or not they are still working properly. It is not recommended to use "cheap" pressure regulators as they will only typically last 6 months to a year (these regulators typically cost only about \$65.00)

In general the following areas have water pressure entering their homes of 200 psi or more

1. homes on Arrowleaf Court
2. homes on Beaver Way
3. homes on Bow Mountain Road
4. homes on Fir Lane
5. homes in the 1000 to 1500 block of Linden Drive
6. homes in the 1700 to 2100 block of Linden Drive
7. homes from 2990 to 3132 of Linden Drive
8. homes from 60 to 62 of N. Cedar Brook Road
9. homes in the 800 to 1300 block of N. Cedar Brook Road
10. homes from 210 to 925 of Pine Brook Road
11. homes from 25 to 414 S. Cedar Brook Road
12. homes on Wagner Circle
13. homes from 132,138, & 151 Wildcat Lane

MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS 2009

By Marysue Huckabee

Thanks to everyone who participated in Mountain Expressions 2009 - the volunteer workers, the providers of baked goods, the artists and the shoppers. In spite of the snowy Sunday, it was another successful event. We welcomed some new artists, which always adds to the fun.



Proceeds from Mountain Expressions support our fire department. A few weeks ago, the firefighters gathered to have a fun send-off for Tom and Karen Akins, who are moving to Florida. Tom and Karen have been the ultimate volunteers in all aspects of the department and will be sorely missed. At that gathering, I was amazed to look

around the room and see the quality of the men and women that our fire department is blessed with. The time and effort that these firefighters put in are beyond compare and we can proudly say that we are served by a very professional group of volunteers.

So as we celebrate another successful fundraising effort by the hard working Auxiliary, let's celebrate that these efforts are for an awesome group of women and men who volunteer their time to train hard to be ready to protect us and our neighborhood. Three cheers for the Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District and for the Auxiliary that proudly supports them! Thanks again for all you do.



THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY NEEDS YOU!

By Susan Maxwell

It has been awhile since the BMFPD Auxiliary introduced itself in the Pine Brook Press. We are the "second arm" of the fire department and have been in existence for over 35 years!

Yes, we have been putting on our two fundraisers, the Garage Sale and Mountain Expressions (the art, crafts and baked goods sale), annually, for a very long time. The only thing that ever stopped us, and that was just Mountain Expressions for just one year, was the construction of the dam.

We are proud of the purchases that our fundraising

has supported, including: wildfire helmets, defibrillators, auto accident extraction tools, comfy chairs and a projector for fire department training sessions at Station 1. We also provide breakfast for truck maintenance sessions, stock the firehouse fridge and pay for both the annual department holiday party and the summer barbecue. We basically strive to keep our wonderful firefighters and first responders equipped, fed and happy.

We would love to have PBH newcomers - or oldtimers - come join us for a meeting. We have a lot of fun making our events happen. Our meetings usually fall on the first Sunday of the month at 4 pm at Station 1, but please check ahead with one of the officers to confirm. They are:

Anita Griffin, President 303.786.8476
anita.griffin@colorado.edu

Babette Markey, Treasurer 303.440.6132
abmarkey@comcast.net

Susan Maxwell, Secretary 303.444.9851
scmbonniestudio@comcast.net

YOW! GET READY FOR THE GARAGE SALE!

By Babette and Art Markey,
 aka Aunt Tique and Uncle Junk

Hey PineBrookers!!!! If you have lived here for less than a year (or have lived here longer than that but in a cave or under a rock), you may not have heard about the stupendously wonderful spring event called The Garage Sale!

What is it? Well, glad you asked..... the garage sale is the big annual fundraiser for the Fire Dept Auxiliary and will be held this year on May 21, 22, and 23 (the weekend before Memorial Day weekend) at the Pine Brook Firehouse and Community Center.

Why are we bringing it up now? Two reasons:

1. So you can start (if you haven't already begun) to sort out all those terrific items that still have lots of useful life in them but you just don't seem to need any more. Put them aside to donate to the sale.
2. So you can set aside some time in May (shifts of your choosing on the two weekends before the sale, during the entire week leading up to the sale, plus during the sale itself, i.e. May 8, 9, and 15 thru 23) and mark it on your calendar NOW to volunteer to

help prepare for and/or work at the sale.

Making this huge event a success takes lots of help from lots of people so please plan on being part of this great community event. Of course you should also plan to come shop at the sale!



The SECOND Covenants Survey - For a more unified, effective HOA

By Bill Alexander

The FIRST survey last September verified that lot owners and residents who responded strongly supported a single set of Covenants across all the Pine Brook Hills community with more enforcement powers to defend them. Following this verification, we mailed a summary of the first survey results plus a first draft of the revised Covenants to all the PBH lot owners. Then we held a series of input/discussion meetings during November to better understand the PBH general membership views on ideas that should be incorporated into the revised Covenants.

We now hope this SECOND survey will indicate that a majority of residents will ratify the specific ideas incorporated in the current draft of the revised Covenants. We want this positive confirmation from lot owners before spending HOA money for lawyers to finalize the language in the document. All lot owners were mailed a copy of this second survey which included a summary of the ideas/changes that are proposed for the revised Covenants. This second survey was also broadcast through the Yahoo Group PBH Forum. There are two options for completing the survey:

1. Take this survey online using this link:
<http://pinebrookcovenants.questionpro.com>
2. Fill out the printed version of the survey. When you have completed the survey, you may either drop it in the HOA mailbox located at the PBH Community Center or mail it back to:

Attn: Covenants Survey
 Pine Brook Hills HOA
 1907 Linden Drive
 Boulder, CO 80304

If you have questions about the survey or the procedures, please contact Rich Fozzard at 303-579-5615 or by email at fozzard@fozzard.com

For a better understanding for why new covenants are needed, go to the PBH web site www.pinebrookhills.org/, click on "HOA", then

“Covenants”. You will see “Rationale and timeline for Consolidating Covenants” and the latest proposed HOA Covenants and By-Laws amongst the list of other documents.

Feel free to read “In Pine Brook Hills, United We Ought to Stand,” an article in the Pine Brook Press, Summer 2009 edition, also available on the PBH HOA website.

SO PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY. With only four questions, it should take you less than a minute. Your opinion really matters!



PBH Lot Owners To Pay Huge \$\$ for Repaving our Roads ?

HELP! - Volunteer Needed to Investigate.

Boulder County’s 1978 Comprehensive Plan did not include provisions to raise funds for road repaving in unincorporated Boulder County subdivisions including Pine Brook Hills. Many of these roads are now in serious need of repair. The County believes that PBH and other subdivisions should take on this massive cost themselves, or else a combination of significantly higher taxes and other actions should be considered.

We need a volunteer to:

- investigate this situation thoroughly
- maintain contact with the county
- report back to our association

Here are several sources for more information about this:

- Editorial Letter from December 15th’s Boulder Daily Camera - http://www.dailycamera.com/archivesearch/ci_13995647?iADID=Search-
www.dailycamera.com
- Boulder County Transportation web site - BoulderCounty.org/Transportation/SubdivisionPaving.htm
- Boulder County’s Transportation Director - George Gerstle 303-441-3900

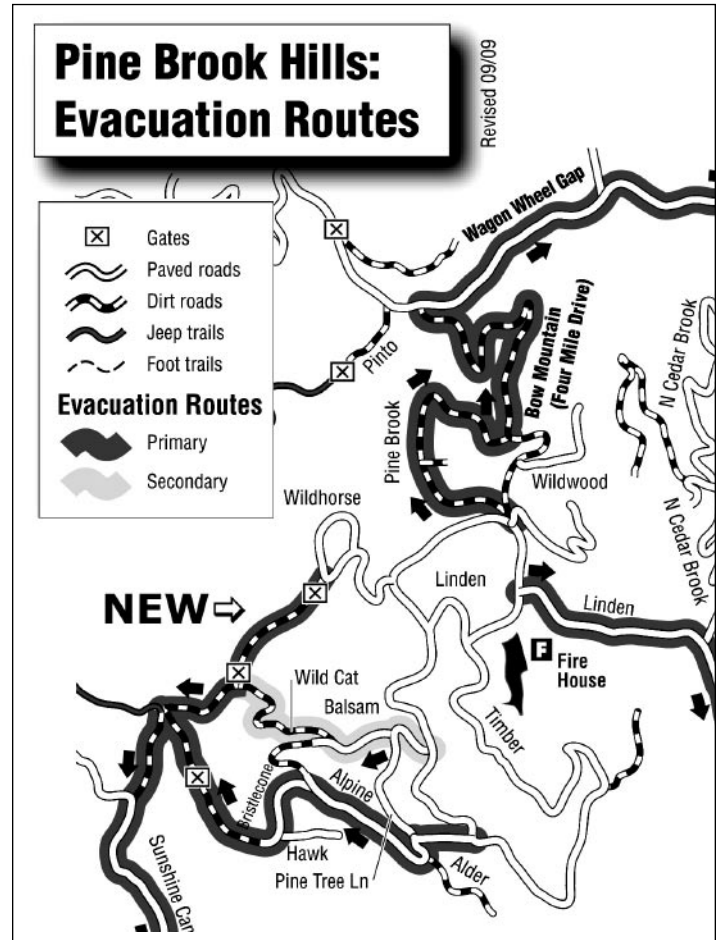
A BIG THANKS to John Seward for bringing this editorial to our attention.

Please call me if you would be willing to take on this important task to our community.

Bill Alexander, President, PBH HOA Board of Directors
303-544-1333

NEW WILD HORSE EVACUATION ROUTE

By Gail Loveman



Check out the new evacuation route shown on the map above. The route starts on Wild Horse Circle and exits near StarHouse to Sunshine Canyon at the same place as the Bristlecone evacuation route. Both of these lanes are on private property. The owners have kindly agreed to let the fire department and the community use their land in emergency situations. There are gates across each of the lanes, normally locked to block prohibited motor traffic, but will be opened in the event of an emergency.

The landowners allow neighbors and friends to walk and bike on their lanes. In return for extending this privilege to walkers and bikers, the owners ask that you respect their land and privacy by (for example) controlling and cleaning up after pets, not intruding on events at StarHouse, and not wandering off of the lanes. With that in mind, you can take a stroll and explore the evacuation routes. If you are interested in a “guided” tour, please send an email to gloveman@ameritech.net.

It is always good to know where your exits are.

AMAZING ANIMAL STORIES:

FOXY TRADER

By Param Singh

This story is true.

For several years, Anne and I have been going to India during part of the winter and leaving our home in the capable hands of our friend and house sitter, Susan W.

In 2005 we came back in the evening on the last day of March. I spent the next day working on the imminent issue of the Pine Brook Press. (The editor is very adamant about meeting publication deadlines!) That evening, jet lagged and woozy, I was puttering around in the kitchen when I became aware of something on the other side of the glass door that leads to the deck. There, standing with its nose almost pressed to the glass was one of our PBH foxes. As we made eye contact, Mr. (or Ms.) Fox took a few steps backwards, closed its eyes and waited. I then recalled that Susan had mentioned feeding kosher turkey hot dogs to a fox that came by every evening. I looked in the refrigerator and there were the hot dogs.

But Anne and I are PC when it comes to wildlife. We do not feed anything - yup, not even hummingbirds or cute little fawns with big imploring eyes.

I just looked at the fox. After a while it opened its eyes, looked at me and cocked its head. Where was the hot dog? The standoff continued for a few more minutes. Then the fox shook its head and trotted off.

The same scenario was repeated the next day with the same result - no hot dog. On the third and fourth day the fox did not make an appearance. It looked like it had figured out that the kind dispenser of hot dogs had been replaced by a flinty, heartless soul.

On the fifth day, at about the same time in the evening, the fox reappeared. But something was different: in its mouth was a plump mouse with its tail dangling to one side. The fox stood patiently until we made eye contact. Then it carefully lowered the mouse to the deck, took two steps backwards, cocked its head and looked at me. The message was as clear as if it had spoken: would I be willing to trade?

But I stuck to my principles - no turkey hot dogs. Besides, I do not have any really good mouse recipes. Finally it gave me a reproachful look, grabbed the mouse and disappeared.

For the next several days the fox did not make an

appearance. It looked like it had given up.

Then, one evening, there was, again, movement by the door. I looked: the fox was back. This time it had two mice in its mouth. Its mouth was stretched wide open and two tails dangled on each side like a Fu Manchu moustache. After making eye contact, it carefully lowered the mice to the floor and then stepped to the far side of the deck. It already knew I drove a hard bargain, but perhaps I was also afraid (or shy) and it obligingly got out of the way. Looking at the two mice just a few feet across the door and thinking of the hot dogs still in the refrigerator, I felt a little twinge. But PC Param was made of sterner stuff - no trade. Finally the fox came forward, looked at me with what looked like resignation, stuffed the two mice in its mouth (with some difficulty) and trotted off.

In the almost five years since these incidents we have had bears, mountain lions and turkeys on our deck. But no foxes. Among *Vulpes vulpes* the word has spread.



WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

By Jo Wiedemann



Barbara Merrell and Rick Waters are building a new house at 1472 Timber Lane. They moved to Boulder in May and are currently living off of Linden on Cholla Court, having moved from Connecticut where they lived for thirty years, raising their two children: Trey, who lives in Chicago, and Cindy, who lives in San Francisco. Barbara and Rick both commuted into New York City, where they worked in the financial services industry before heading west. Looking for big sky, lots of sun, mountain living, active lifestyle and a vibrant community, they chose Boulder. Pine Brook Hills offered a good combination of foothills living, sense of community and proximity to town. Work has started at their lot, and they hope to be moved in by next Thanksgiving.



hower
architects

Ecological Designed Home

Kalmia Avenue, Boulder

711 walnut street carriage house
boulder co 80302
303.447.9465 fax: 447.9923
howerarchitects.com
roland@howerarchitects.com



BLUE RIVER
FORESTRY & TREE CARE

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720.256.9056

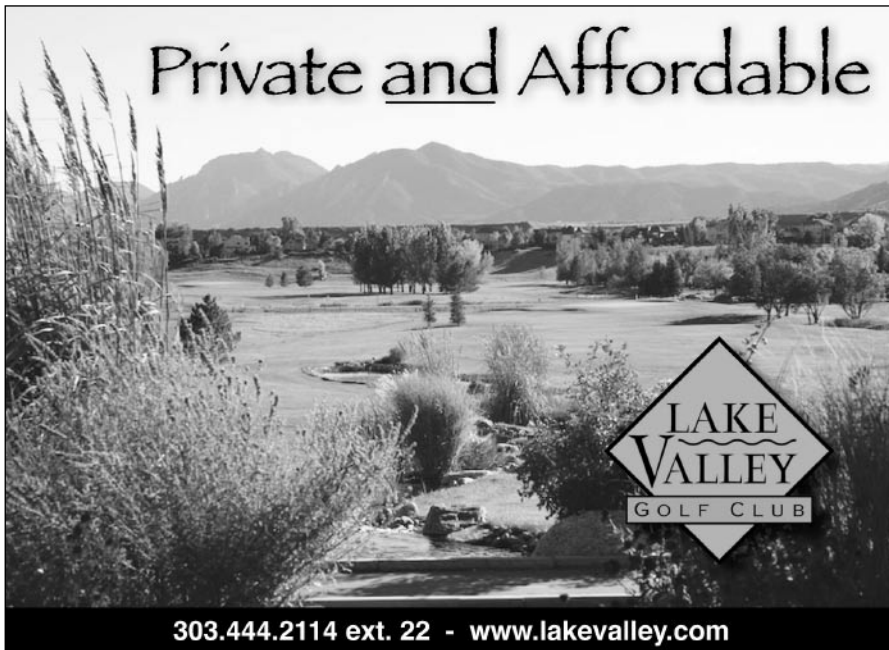
blueriverforestry@comcast.net

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APPLAUSE FOR ARUGULA!

One year ago, the Press congratulated Pine Brookers Paul and Christine Schuler and their son Alec, who is the chef of the then-new restaurant Arugula on Iris in Boulder. Since that time many Pine Brookers have enjoyed excellent meals at what feels like “our” restaurant. And the word is out in the wider world, as the October 2009 issue of Denver’s magazine 5280 gave rave reviews to Arugula, praising Alec’s “diverse, extensive, and highly creative modern Italian menu.” The reviewer notes that “you can eat exceedingly well from a health standpoint,” calling Alec “the master of spinning vegetables into gorgeous, tasty, and healthy dishes.” The shopping center location, which “you’ll forget about once inside,” was the reviewer’s only reason to reduce by a half star 5280’s top rating, “Outstanding. One of the very best of its kind.” Agreed!



A BEETLE UPDATE

During the past year the volunteer BeetleBusters completed approximately 190 property inspections and caused 412 beetle-infested trees to be cut and treated. Because each infested tree can infest 3-10 others during the next beetle flight, the removal of 412 “brood” trees can mean that between 1236 and 4120 healthy trees may have been saved this year.

A recent symposium of beetle experts in Aspen confirmed that the BeetleBuster program has been right on course: thin the trees for forest health, spray “pet” trees, and remove trees that are currently infested with beetles, eggs or larvae. And NOW is the time to identify and remove those sick trees. Write to beetlebusters@gmail.com for your 2010 inspection!

A TOUR GUIDE ON NEW YORK

By Calvin Heiman, Age 9

For many people New York may be a fun and exciting place. I agree with them partially. The awesome parts of New York are F.A.O Schwartz, Central Park, the Yankees and the food. But there are some parts of New York that are displeasing to me. Here is my review of New York.

The world’s most amazing toy store is in New York. F.A.O

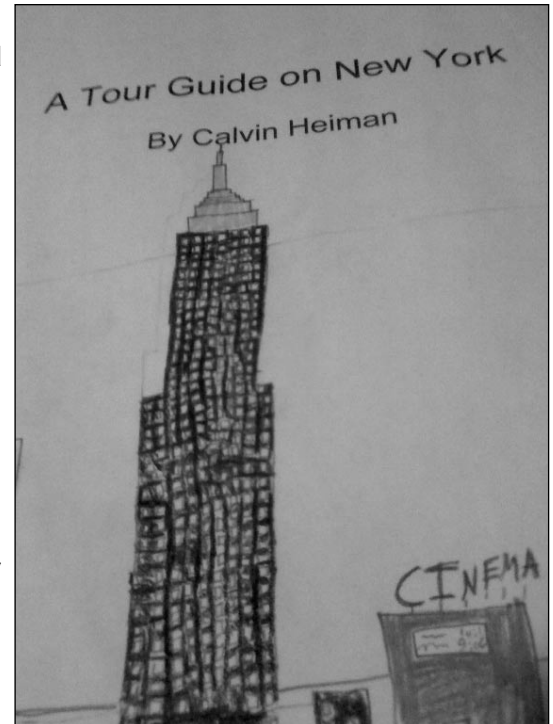
Schwartz has every toy you could imagine, collectables, stuffed animals, remote controlled cars, boats and planes, games and much more. It’s fun for all kids.

Central Park is my favorite part of New York. It’s got shows, food, parks, and views. The statues and fountains are amazingly artistic. If you go to New York this is a must do.

A summertime visit to New York is not complete without seeing a ballgame. The Yankees are an exciting thing to watch with the smell of hotdogs, peanuts, and fresh cut grass. If you have the time, go see a game

Last but not least, New York’s amazing food. It’s got a variety of authentic meals. Like subs, pizza, pasta, Mexican, sushi, spicy Chinese, and smooth soups. The only problem is you probably won’t get to try it all.

The most displeasing parts of New York to me are all the city aspects. They are the Subways, the noise and long walks. The Subways are not the best way to travel. They’re stuffy, loud, and can’t concentrate. The long walks are tiring and boring. These are some things you should avoid if you don’t like busy cities. Some people like hustling and bustling in the Big Apple, but I prefer a quiet Colorado lifestyle.





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OOOH, BABIES!

Congratulations to some new Pine Brook Grandparents! Donna and Gordon Matsuda have acquired TWO little grandsons in recent months. Aidan Matsuda was born in Hawaii on July 28, to be joined two months later by Hendrix Matsuda Hiltbrand, born here in Colorado on September 24. Both grandparents have been very active babysitters - we haven't seen them here on the hill much this fall.



Aidan Matsuda (left) and Hendrix Matsuda Hiltbrand

Donna and Greg Johnson have also had a momentous autumn. Their daughter Ruthie and her husband Jonah Werner are the new parents of a boy, Hawk Gregory, born on November 20. The baby's interesting name means "Watchful Warrior." Adding to a full fall calendar, the Johnson's younger daughter Julie married Robert Golter on September 20. After a honeymoon in Hawaii (common thread here) Julie and Robert are at home in California.



Hawk Gregory

These are very orderly



Julie's Wedding

grandparents - two dates in the 20s for the Matsudas, two on the 20th for the Johnsons.

So what have the rest of you been doing? Send news to press@pinebrookhills.org. Thanks!

AND FOR THE MOMS ~ The PEEKABOOBY!

Katy Pollock loves to sew. When her sister had a new baby and was looking for a practical nursing cover-up that would allow her to see and hold



her baby comfortably, Katy obliged, not only with the garment but with the wonderfully descriptive name. Other new mothers requested Peekaboobies, which, unlike rival

nursing covers, have pockets for a pacifier and cell phone. The Peekabooby demand led to a website (www.peekaboobyfashion.com) and hopes for a new business, launched last summer at the Farmers' Market. Contact Katy at (303) 447-2270.

Katy's creativity is not restricted to humans. She and her husband Jason have a short haired dog (Sierra) who gets cold in Colorado's winters. Solution? The "Snuggierra!"



MOUNTAIN EXPRESSIONS GOODIES



The Hirshland family at the Bakery Table. For more on Mountain Expressions, see page 6.

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Rays of Sunshine Strike a Wintery Pine Brook Reservoir *Photo By Holly Colangelo*