PINE BROOK NEWS

THE PINE BROOK CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Hidden Park Tanbark Party

Please mark your calendars for April 15th and join your neighbors for an evening of Spring Cleaning and partying at Hidden Park. We will spread another layer of tanbark around the playground equipment in addition to doing other maintenance items. The action begins at 5 pm. Bring some gloves, a shovel and the willingness to have fun while meeting your neighbors. The entrance to Hidden Park is off Fireside Drive. Just follow the signs.

This year we are holding this event on Friday evening and making it part party. Adults and kids are welcome!! The PBCA will provide some snacks and you can BYOB. Come out for the work – stay for the party. (Rain date is Saturday 4/16 at 9 am)

Pine Brook Improvements

The PBCA Board is seeking suggestions for projects or improvements needed in our neighborhood or to our parks. A few of the projects that have been submitted and are being evaluated is a flagpole for the front entrance, much needed work to the sidewalks at Front Park and Pavilion Park, grass maintenance to the parks and the addition of a stop sign on Lamp Post Lane to manage traffic a little better.

If you have ever said to yourself, "Why doesn't the board do" then here is your chance to have your voice heard. Please contact any board member with your idea.

Calendar

April 15th, Friday, 5 – 8 pm. Part work – part PARTY! Bring your shovel and BYOB!!! Help spread tanbark at Hidden Park. Go to Fireside Dr. and look for the signs.

April 18th , Monday, 7:00 pm PBCA Board meeting @ 211 Lamp Post Ln.

Friday, April 29th and Saturday, April 30th, Pine Brook Neighborhood Yard Sale. Begin selling and stop whenever you'd like.

President's Corner:

Hi everybody.

I don't know about you all, but I sure was surprised to wake up that March morning recently to yet another dose of "shovel-able" snow. I, for one, am really ready for warmer, sunny weather. I am anxious to work in my yard, and for us to begin a new landscaping project at the Front Entrance. We are hoping to plant a new (healthier) pine tree to decorate for the holidays, and are also hoping to add a lighted flag pole. Watch for the changes!!

More news! The Board has been contacted by a young man in the neighborhood, Jonah Harmon. Jonah is a Life Scout about to begin an Eagle Service project to improve his community and he has asked to do his project in Pine Brook. Jonah plans to do work at the Pavilion refurbishing picnic tables and building child-sized tables for the little ones at Hidden Park. Jonah has other improvements in mind as well. Look for his work to begin in the Fall. Thanks, Jonah!!! We are thrilled that you have asked us to participate of your project.

As the warmer weather arrives, I look forward to seeing you all outside as I work in my yard and walk in our neighborhood. We have several new neighbors in Pine Brook. I hope you will get to meet them, invite them to join our e-mail group, and tell them about all of our neighborhood activities.

As always, I again want to ask you to PLEASE watch out for our Pine Brook children as you drive on our streets. Please go SLOWLY. An accident just takes seconds, but can cause a lifetime of sadness.

HAPPY SPRING, NEIGHBORS!!!

Jacquie Kirby Hensel President, PBCA 737-2425 March 2011

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Neighborhood Yard Sale (Friday, April 29 & Saturday April 30)

It will soon be time once again for the annual extravaganza that is the Pinebrook Neighborhood Yard Sale. Here is your chance to sell your 'treasures' before you donate them to charity.

This sale always attracts hundreds of buyers....both professional dealers and the average "browsers" looking for bargains. More buyers mean more sales. More sales equals more money. Don't you want to be involved in this? All you have to do is set up a table and SELL, SELL, SELL. The Pinebrook Civic Association will take care of the advertising. You do not need to have a permit to hold a yard sale.



SUBMIT YOUR NEWS-BITS

Do you have news or birth announcements to make in the neighborhood? Or do you have a unique service you would like other neighbors to know about? To be included in the Pine Brook News, submit to:

Dave Fish, 405 Lamp Post Lane, Camp Hill, PA 17011

E-mail: PBCAmail@yahoo.com

Or join the Pine Brook discussion group on the web site: http://www.pinebrookcivicassociation.org

Upcoming PBCA Events

Here is list of some important neighborhood dates that may be of interest to you.

April 1 – Deadline for neighborhood annual dues April 15 – Mulch Day at Hidden Park (5-8pm) Part work – part party. BYOB April 29, April 30 –Neighborhood Yard sale September 17 – Neighborhood Picnic October 3 – PBCA Annual Meeting October 14, 15 – Fall Neighborhood yard sale October 22 – Pumpkin Patch at Pavilion Park Dec 24 – Neighborhood luminaries (5 – 9pm)

Starting in May, every Tuesday night at Pavilion Park is going to be "Dinner at the Park" again this Spring and Summer. Show up with your family, food and favorite beverages starting at 6 pm. The kids will run and play together while the adults get to relax and socialize. Very informal and lots of fun.

Spiral Path Farms

Once again, our family will be a Spiral Path Farm Organic Produce volunteer host.

Spiral Path Farm is an organic farm in Perry County. Through Spiral Path, you can take part in their Community Supported Agriculture program whereby, for a membership fee, you will receive a box of fresh, locally grown organic produce once a week from mid May through mid November.

There are two different membership programs. Boxes of produce can be picked up every Wednesday at our house at 3807 Candlelight Drive.

We receive no money from Spiral Path Farm; we are simply a volunteer drop-off/pick-up site for the produce.

If you'd like to learn more, you can visit Spiral Path Farm at http://www.spiralpathfarm.com/

Membership fees are here

http://www.spiralpathfarm.com/index.php?pID=17

If you have any questions about the produce or pickup procedures, I'd be glad to answer them.

jozet@earthlink.net

ALSO: I have limited the number of participants picking up at our house to 50. We had about 45 people picking-up produce at our house last year and I do expect to reach our limit this year.

Josette Plank 3807 Candlelight Drive

BITS AND PIECES

Please don't dump refuse in the creek

Some Pine Brook residents have noticed that yard waste and other refuse is being dumped in the creek. This results in an unsightly mess as well as possibly creating a habitat for pests to live in. Please deposit yard waste either through normal trash removal or taking it to the township waste facility.

Don't forget that mulch and dirt are available for free at the Township facility. All you need is your Hamden Township ID and preferably someone else to do the shoveling.

Pet Peeves

Some residents would like to remind everyone that the Township does have "pooper-scooper" laws and you must clean up after your pets. This includes the common areas of the neighborhood such as Hidden Park and Pavilion Park.

Not picking up after your pets is a violation of Township laws and the penalty for not picking up after your dog is a fine of no more than \$600 and/or jail time of no more than 30 days.

Pine Brook Entertainment Committee

The Association is in desperate need of volunteers for the Entertainment Committee which is in charge of organizing and running the various events such as the Summer Picnic, Pumpkin Carving, etc. Please contact Dave Fish at 737-6635 to help - even if it is for only one event.



Thompson Wood Real Estate 3815 Market Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011 Bus 717 761-8353 Fax 717 761-2563

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Ads in the newsletter cost \$25 per business card size. This money is used to cover the costs of printing the newsletter.

Membership application for 2011 (Due by April 1, 2011) Name as you'd like it to appear in the PBCA directory Address: Phone: E-mail: (Just for PBCA use....no spam and we would never give your address out) Check if can volunteer to help with: _ Block Captain _ Summer picnic The Newsletter Maintaining the Common areas Are you interested in advertising in the Pine Brook News? Business Baby-sitting services _____ Lawn care services Submit this form and \$50 membership fee to: Pine Brook Civic Association C/O: David Fish 405 Lamp Post Lane, Camp Hill, PA 17011 Make checks payable to: Pine Brook Civic Association



Look for the M&H ad in the Pine Brook Directory!!

PBCA Email Listserv

This year the Pine Brook Civic Association tried a new method for sending out the annual dues statements to the residents – the Pine Brook email listserv. Residents who were members of the Pine Brook website or had previously signed up for the neighborhood listserv were sent an email with the dues notice included in the text of the message. Residents simply had to print the information form, attach their \$50 annual dues and return the packet to the association.

This year 140 of you took part in this experiment and the association was able to save some money by printing and mailing fewer letters this year.

PBCA webmaster Wayne Kessler said the process went fairly smoothly and it was a learning experience. Ideally, Wayne would like to create a process by which the dues notice go out automatically each year – but we are not quite there yet.

Several residents expressed their wish to pay the dues online. The PBCA has looked into this and the costs associated with creating an account for colleting the money electronically and the transaction fees we would have to pay are still too high for the number of residents that would take advantage of it. As technology evolves and as more residents get comfortable with the process, the association will certainly address this issue again.

The Pine Brook email listserv remains a wonderful source of exchanging neighborhood information. You can post a message of importance to the neighborhood or ask about someone's recommendations for contractors. If you are not currently enrolled in the listserv, or your email has changed, please visit the Pine Brook website: http://www.pinebrookcivicassociation.com.

PBCA Garden Exchange

If you are one of the many Pine Brook gardeners who end up with more veggies than your family can eat, why not take part in a Pine Brook Garden Exchange? Starting this summer, bring your surplus veggies to Pavilion Park every Tuesday evening beginning at 6 pm and share or exchange with your neighbors. It's a great way to connect with others in Pine Brook.

Emergency Preparedness

Recent events have shown the necessity for having an emergency preparedness plan for your family. Here are a few suggestions to help you get started:

Prepare an Evacuation Checklist and Organize:

- Critical medications.
- Important personal papers, photos, insurance docs, etc.
- Essential valuables.
- A small amount of water and non-perishable food.
- Pet and livestock transport, limited amount of pet food.
- Change of clothing, toiletries, etc.
- Cell phone and charger.
- An Evacuation Route Map with at least two routes.
- Arraign a location in another town where family members can meet if they get separated and phone service is down.

Keep your vehicle gas tank full and have some cash money.Drive your planned route of escape before an actual emergency.

Last Chance for Girl Scout Cookies

Girl Scout Troop 11355 is based in Pine Brook and still has many cases of Thin Mints left to sell. If you are interested in helping out a local troop and getting some more of the world famous Girl Scout Thin Mints, please call either Betty Fish at 737-6635 or Elizabeth Frantz at 975-2768.

Local Businesses

Just a reminder that things are still pretty tough for the local economy right now. If there is a local business that you enjoy and wish to see remain in operation, go visit them today or they may not be there tomorrow.

The PBCA website has a list of small businesses run by your neighbors:www.pinebrookcivicassociation.com/businesses

(Here is one of them!)

