

# PINE BROOK P E R I O D I C A L

Official Newsletter of Pine Brook Homeowner's Association

December 2009 - Volume 1, Issue 10

## From the Board of Directors

As we approach a new year, all residents should have received their Pine Brook Annual Assessment of \$379 and the Clear Lake City Blvd Assessment of \$80, in the mail in November 2009. These are two separate annual assessments set by the Boards of the respective associations and levied on all homeowners of Pine Brook by Deed Restrictions.

The \$80 Boulevard Assessment is levied on all residents of Pine Brook, North Fork and Bay Pointe by the developers of Clear Lake City. The funds are used to maintain the center median from Highway 3 to Middle Brook Drive and the set backs of Bay Pointe, North Fork and Pine Brook. These assessments are due December 31 and delinquent January 31, 2010.

Residents are reminded that delinquent assessments incur a penalty and interest. Please contact CIA Services as soon as possible if you need assistance with your payments. As a reminder, please do not wait to the last minute to pay the assessments on line by credit card as sometimes postings are delayed and interest and penalties accrue Feb. 1, 2010.

The Board is please to announce our new community manager – Dannielle Chiodi-Jones. Dannielle is new to CIA Services and replaces Margaret Eckhardt who has left us again to join another property management company closer to her home. The Board welcomes Dannielle who has hit the ground running trying get our community services back on track.

## *Dashing Through the Snow...*

There may not be snow, but there will be a horse drawn carriage for Pine Brook's annual Holiday Carriage Ride, Saturday, Dec. 5th! The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. at the park, and will include yummy cookies and hot cocoa, as well as a special visit from Santa Claus.

Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. If you can help, please contact Melinda Kokkinis at [mkokkinis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mkokkinis@sbcglobal.net), or call her at 713-858-8301.

## Scouts Help Restore *Habitat in Pine Brook*



The Pine Brook Wetland Restoration Project has benefited from several scout projects:

Eagle Scout Project by James MacLean, built and installed nest boxes with predator guards, to enhance nesting habitat for woodpeckers, screech

owls, wrens, and chickadees (Troop 957)

- Eagle Scout Project by Scott Bowen, restored the wettest areas by removing debris to increase depth, and planted 350 blooming native aquatic plants. (Troop 848)
- Eagle Scout Project by Eric Macke to remove tallows in native prairie and enhance with the prairie with 450 relocated native grasses. (Troop 389)
- Girl Scout Project (Troop 7140) helped divide, water, grow, and plant native Eastern Gamma grasses.

Thanks for your initiative, time and effort to help restore habitat in our forest, wetland, and prairie areas!

*Photo outline:*

*Eagle Scout leader James MacLean (from left) presented nest boxes to Debra Goode. The boxes were built by Matthew Casso, Raymond MacLean, and (not pictured) Will Slaughter, Garret Johnson, Chris Kweck, Mauricio Munoz, Daniel Massimino, Ryan Zimmerman, Phillip Lopez, Danny Adams (Scout Troop 957).*

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# PINE BROOK PERIODICAL

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Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing [jetov@mac.com](mailto:jetov@mac.com) or by going to:

<http://www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php>.

*All news must be received by the 9th of the month prior to the issue.*

### ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Pine Brook Periodical. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Pine Brook residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com). The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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## Pine Bark Beetle Update

In the last issue, it was reported that as of October 2009, Pine Bark beetles had not been found on our park trees, although many pines have died due to stress related to Hurricane Ike wind damage and a 2-year drought.

Several residents have reported that Pine Bark beetles have been found on their pines and that they had had to remove them.

Watch your trees carefully – the beetles move about frequently and are attracted to live trees under stress. If concerned, consider the advice of a professional tree arborist.

## Addison Road

Christian recording artists Addison Road will be special guests at the 11 a.m. contemporary service at University Baptist Church on December 13.

Originally from Dallas, the band has been growing in popularity, and was recently nominated to receive the Dove Award for “New Artist of the Year.”

Another special worship service begins at 9:30 the same day. UBC’s 100-voice sanctuary choir and full orchestra will present “The Gift”, featuring seasonal music to anticipate the Advent. The church is located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, one block north of Bay Area Blvd. Visit [www.ubc.org](http://www.ubc.org) for more details.

## REMINDER

*Pine Brook Wetlands Forest  
Fringe Restoration Project*

**Please help your neighbors with tallow removal**

*Saturdays, 9-noon, on December 5th, 12th, and 19th*

Come and leave any time. If you can carry a ½ bag of groceries you can do this! No in-water work and no snakes. Wear garden/work gloves. To find us- see sign at the wetlands overlook deck on Park Center by basketball court/pool Park on each work day. Help us re-build a better forest! For more info or to donate see [www.PineBrookWetlands.com](http://www.PineBrookWetlands.com) or call Debra Goode at 281-280-9944.

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## Monarch Butterfly Rescue

By Debra Goode and Lynn Guenther

There may be many unknown “heroes” among us, but to one Monarch Butterfly there are 2 heroes to whom she owes her life!



The Guenthers often spot check the Goode’s Monarch caterpillars, releasing new butterflies as they hatch from chrysalis, in an area protected from the highly in-

vasive Bahaman brown anoles (that unfortunately have gobbled up our native green anoles).

As the Goode’s left for vacation they pointed sadly to a chrysalis in a nearby brick, “The caterpillar may hatch as a crippled butterfly and never fly - as there is no way for it to dry its wings.”

With a 100% chrysalis hatching success rate so far, this seemed only to challenge Wolfgang and Gustav Guenther. The brick was carried into the kitchen and

watched day and night. Then a decision was made to carefully remove the chrysalis from the brick and watch it in a container with a soft bottom. From grocery store to piano lesson, the chrysalis was constantly under watch. In the car the chrysalis began to turn transparent and spilt. Once home, Wolfgang carefully watched it until the butterfly could climb into his hand. He placed it on a limb to dry its wings. This photo is the success story!

The Goodes and Guenthers have safely “hatched” over 80 Monarch butterflies so far this year! Help the Monarchs by planting 5 or more milkweeds in your yard. Now is the time for their multi-generational migration to the mountains and oyamel firs of central Mexico. Each butterfly has only 7-15 days to find a Milkweed and lay eggs before she dies. If she doesn’t find it - her generation will be the last to survive the migration.

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## Christmas Eve Services

University Baptist Church will hold three different Christmas Eve services:

- 5:30 p.m. ....Family and child-friendly worship service
- 7 p.m. .... Contemporary praise and worship service
- 11 p.m. .... Candlelight Lord's Supper Traditional Service

The church is located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, just one block north of Bay Area Blvd. Visit [www.ubc.org](http://www.ubc.org) for more details.



## Parents Please

### *Talk To Your Teens*

Recently teenage boys have been seen within the Pine Brook pool fence. The pool is closed for the season. There are no lifeguards. It is a hazard and against policy to be inside the pool area when the pool is closed. It is hoped that this activity will stop so that police do not need to become involved.

## Christmas Market

The Home and School Association (HSA) is sponsoring its 4th Annual St. Clare Christmas Market on Saturday, Dec. 5, from noon to 4:30 in the social hall. In addition to lots of shopping for great gifts and decorations, shoppers will enjoy the St. Clare Singers, and refreshments, too.

All proceeds benefit the HSA. For more information, contact Janet Reynolds at 281-486-1102 or 832-498-3927.

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## Brookwood Elementary Buzz

**Dec. 1&2**

Potbelly Deli Night: enjoy lunch or dinner at Potbelly's and a portion of your purchase is returned to the school.

**Dec. 7-11**

5th Grade Lunch with Dad: Dads, Grandads, and Special Someone's are invited to lunch with their 5th graders. The PTA is providing dessert.

**Dec. 18**

EARLY RELEASE: students will be released at 12:15 to start the Winter Break.

**Dec. 21-Jan 1**

Winter Break!

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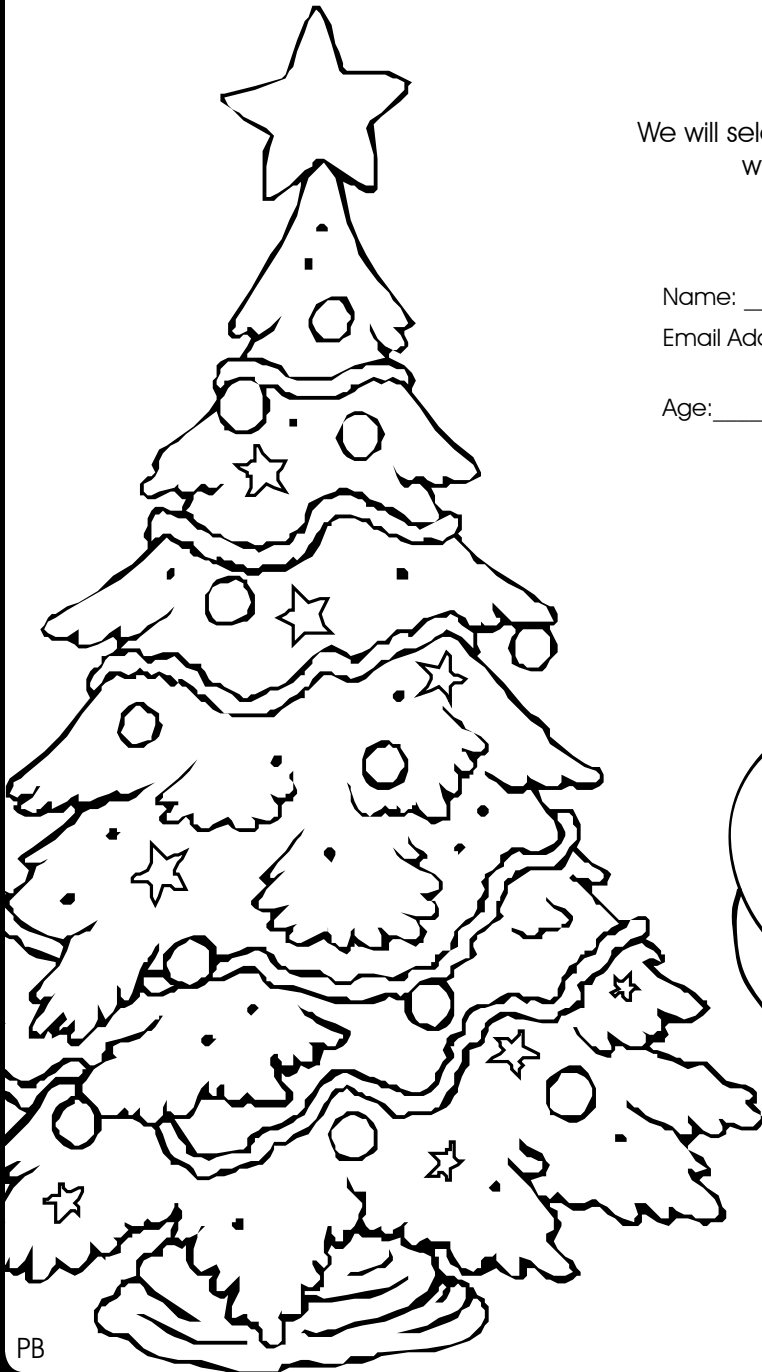
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*"Michele was absolutely incredible to work with! We were relocating from out of town, and she was extremely knowledgeable and helpful regarding the area. She responded to our calls and emails very promptly and always kept communication open and available. Michele went above and beyond to refer us to lenders, utility companies, inspectors, etc. We felt very secure with our purchase and Michele made that possible."*

**Rob & Christine Freeman, July 2009**

*"We highly recommend the Jacobs Realty Group (Alan and Michele Jacobs). They were very responsive and kept us well-informed during our home selling process. When we started the process, Alan met with us to review all the steps and to explain the process in detail, and Michele provided staging and decorating advice to prepare our house for a quick sale. Our house had multiple offers and sold within one week. We were very happy with the Jacobs team!"*

**Gina & Darrell Dorsey, August 2009**

*"Impressed by Alan's superior salesmanship. Always optimistic and can do attitude. It was a pleasure to work with him to sell our home quickly and he was always helpful"*

**Ted & Astrid Thorjussen, August 2009**



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