

PLAIN TALK

the newsletter of the Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors

July/August 2008

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Ready ... Set ... Playground! Brand New Playspace Coming Soon to Pine Lake

After more than a year of hard work to attract support for a new playspace in Pine Lake, KaBOOM!, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit, and celebrated drink maker Kool-Aid agreed in June to help make the community's vision a reality by sponsoring a community build on August 23. The new playspace will be located adjacent to the Pine Lake beach area and an effort has been launched to recruit more than 200 volunteers to band together and build the playground.

It Takes a Village to Build Something Special

From bake sales to birdhouses and an auction, the Playground Committee rolled out fundraising

events to support the playground, and the community responded every time. The Pine Lake Informal on June 7 raised a whopping \$5,000 and provided a night of entertainment and fun for residents and friends.

In May 2008, Kool-Aid entered into a new partnership with KaBOOM! to build at least 24 playgrounds across the country and provide grants for 20 additional play spaces. Atlanta is the fourth city to be involved in this effort, following Los Angeles, Houston and Cleveland. The Pine Lake playground is one of five in the Atlanta area to be built through this partnership.

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Photo by Kris Casariego

Calendar



August

2nd, Sat. 8:30-10 am, Pancake Breakfast, BeachHouse *see below

10:30 am, Youth Activities/Playground Committee, Beach

11 am-12:30, Town Hall, BeachHouse

5th, Tues. 6:30 pm, National Night Out, BeachHouse: Neighborhood Watch, potluck dinner and walk at dusk (see page 10)

7:30 pm, ARB, ClubHouse

7th, Thurs. 7:30 pm, PLAIN, ClubHouse

11th Mon. 7:30 pm, City Council, City Hall

19th, Tues. 7:30 pm, ARB, ClubHouse

23rd, Sat. All DAY, Community Build: Playground

24th, Sun. 3:30-4:30, Pet Clinic, Clubhouse

26th, Tues. 6:30pm, Tree Board, BeachHouse
7:30pm, City Council, City Hall

September

1st, Mon. Labor Day Concert at the Lake, potluck at 5pm, concert at 6pm

2nd, Tues. 7:30 pm, ARB, ClubHouse

4th, Thurs. 7:30 pm, PLAIN, ClubHouse

6th, Sat. 8:30-10:30 am, Pancake Breakfast, BeachHouse * see below

8th, Mon. 7:30 pm, City Council, City Hall

16th, Tues. 7:30 pm, ARB, ClubHouse

20th, Sat. 6pm, International Dinner, BeachHouse

21st, Sun. 3:30-4:30, Pet Clinic, Clubhouse

30th, Tues. 6:30pm, Tree Board, BeachHouse
7:30pm, City Council, City Hall

* Breakfast

Due to the rising cost of food, we have made a decision to increase the price of the pancake breakfast for adults by \$1. But don't despair! If you go green and bring your own plate, flatware and mug you can save that \$1 and pay the old price (adults only). Join us at the beach house the first Saturday of each month from 8:30-10:30 for a wonderful breakfast with your wonderful neighbors.

All you can eat -- PLAIN members & seniors 60+ \$6, non-members \$7, kids 12 & under \$3. \$1 off for adults bringing their own dishes and

Labor Day Fun!

Pine Lake will celebrate Labor Day with a concert on the beach and community potluck on Monday, September 1. The city will provide drinks and paper goods; folks are asked to bring a dish to share. The featured entertainment will be the popular Vientos del Pueblo, whose Andean-flavored dance music has delighted Pine Lakers for the last couple of years. Bring your best dish (or buy a bucket of chicken!), and wear your dancing shoes! Potluck starts at 5pm at the BeachHouse, music starts at 6pm down by the gazebo.

More about Vientos del Pueblo from their website: "they perform music that represents a fusion of cultures and rhythms combining African, European and American Indigenous roots. Featuring the quena, charango, bombo, guitars and bass, among others, the music of Vientos Del Pueblo is an experience not to be missed."

PLunch Bunch

A group of us gathered for lunch at the beach house in June and shared food and company. It would be nice to have a regular (weekly, bi-monthly, monthly?) lunch group here in Pine Lake. There are a lot of us who are around on weekdays. Being at home all day can get awful lonely, and it would be so nice to get together with friends for lunch in an informal way.

We could gather for brown bag lunches at the beach house, club house, or each other's homes. We can move the day around so people who are here only on certain days can attend some of the lunches.

Are you interested? Please let me know and I will add you to our list of PLunchers. Contact Gwyneth Butera (404.297.4658/gwyneth@butera.org)

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www.plainhelps.org

EMERGENCY NUMBER

If you need emergency assistance, please call 911. Pine Lake's Police Department is committed to serving YOU!

JOIN PLAIN

Join the Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors or renew your current membership. Just fill out the membership form on the back page of this newsletter and submit along with payment of \$25 per household to:

P.O. Box 44
Pine Lake, GA 30072-0044.

Guide to Acronyms:

ARB = Architectural Review Board
DDA = Downtown Development Authority
PLAIN = Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors
PLEAS = Pine Lake Environment, Access and Stewardship
TAB = Tree Authority Board

Big Dreams and Blueprints

On June 17, more than 20 children from around the area participated in the KaBOOM! Design Day, a kickoff event that encouraged the youths to dream up-and then draw-their ideal playspace. KaBOOM! representatives Matt Kaftor and Carrie Ellis-Williams were on hand to lead the opening event, which also included cold refreshments provided by Kool-Aid. Three possible designs then were developed and submitted to the Playground Planning Committee; from these, a favorite was selected and provided to the city for approval.

City Backs New Playground

The City of Pine Lake has also made a major commitment to this effort, leading the preparation of the space for the build. And, in mid-July, City Council approved the proposed plan design for the new play space, which was designed to empower children to build strength, raise self-esteem, and explore. Special thanks go to city administrator, Phil Howland, for overwhelming dedication, time and effort toward the project. The playground is one of the first dramatic improvements to Pine Lake's public spaces in many years and some council members are working for more to come!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED- SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

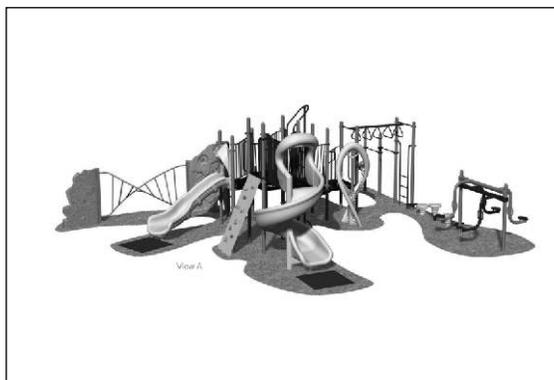
With less than a month to go, there is much to do, and many people are needed to provide support for the big day. It's essential that we have at least 200 volunteers to build the new play space-NO FORMAL CONSTRUCTION SKILLS REQUIRED-as well as others to supervise children, serve food to



A good time was had by all at the InFormal Auction.



The new playground was conceived by a small group of parents and now the whole community is bringing it to life.



Pine Lake's playground will include state-of-the-art, safety rated equipment.



The children helped design their dream playground.

volunteers, coordinate logistics, manage registration, and more. Plans are to have a DJ, a very special guest, and some live music and other entertainment throughout the day! The build will take place from 8 am to mid-afternoon on August 23. (Lakeshore Dr. will be closed for the build between Magnolia and the tennis court that day. Concessions can be made for residents directly affected.)

The following Work Groups are looking for your help:

*** Builders Wanted:** If you would like to play a role in actually building this playspace, you don't need a ton of experience! Round up volunteers from Pine Lake and the community-at-large and get them registered by e-mailing pinelakeplayground@gmail.com or contacting Talani Casariego (talani.casariego@comcast.net / 404-285-6804) or Nicky Rosenbluth (nickyr@ymcaatlanta.org)

*** Youth Involvement:** A variety of exciting activities are being planned for children whose parents are involved in the build. If you have ideas for special children's activities for the day, please contact JJ Carroll at jjcarroll1@yahoo.com.

*** Food Servers:** Cook, serve, and distribute food and water to the crew. Contact Beth Carr at beth.carr@comcast.net, Renee Brooks at reneebrooks@mac.com.

Get more details online at <http://projects.kaboom.org/pinela> ke. See you lakeside on Saturday, August 23, for a fun and meaningful event!

Yard of the Month

July



Yard of the month for July, 2008 is awarded to Faye Ridling who lives on the corner of Laurel and Orchid. Faye's front yard is pretty with an assortment of hosta and winding paths but the true heart and soul is the side and back yards. Virtually everything in Faye's yard has been given to her and are obviously gifts of love. The large hydrangea in her side yard was the last gift from her late husband and Faye has divided it many times and given away the beautiful blue bush to many of her friends and neighbors. Joe gave the hydrangea to Faye the Easter before he died.

There is an old wooden ladder leaning on a tree which Faye acquired

August

The winner for yard of the month for August is awarded to Charlotte Neil who has been working on her garden for many years. Charlotte lives on the bend in the road on Dahlia where the road dead ends. She is one of the few of us who has a beautiful yard of green, green grass in addition to her many flowers. It always looks so neat and tidy with carefully pruned bushes and her meticulously kept lawn.

Her yard is a gorgeous splash of pinks, purples, yellows and blue with crape myrtle and lantana, Moses in the cradle and geraniums. A large bunny

when she was helping to clean Chris Johnson's home after he died. Her daughter, Melissa and her son Tyler live in that house now and Faye has helped Melissa with her yard putting in rose bushes that are gorgeous as you come down Clubhouse Drive.

She has rose bushes from both her mother and mother-in-law. She has a beautiful Japanese maple tree, a gift from a former neighbor. When they bought one for themselves, they also bought one for Faye for always being such a good neighbor. And, for those of us who know Faye (does anyone NOT know Faye!?) we know what a good neighbor she is. As busy as she is with her yard and life, Faye is never too busy to help those in need. She volunteers with the city, church and if you ever need anything Faye is there with a willing heart and spirit.

Congratulations for your beautiful yard Faye and thank-you for all you do to make your yard pretty and Pine Lake a better place for us all.

rabbit watches over the spot next to her garage where the area is kept neat with pine straw. She must have a green thumb as all of her flowers are colorful, healthy and obviously happy to be in her garden.

The next time you see Charlotte congratulate her on her yard!



Pine Lake Plamingo Parade!



You've seen those decorated statues. Athens has bulldogs, Chicago has cows. We'd like to see Pine Lake paraded with beautifully decorated pink flamingos.

To accomplish this (and also raise money for the playground), we would love for every neighbor to buy one flamingo or twenty for \$5 each. Go all out and decorate your flamingos and bring them back for the flamingo sale (dates TBD). If you don't want to decorate a flamingo, donate \$5 and we'll find someone to decorate one for you.

For every decorated flamingo that you donate to the sale, you will get \$5 off the purchase price of a decorated flamingo. See the PLamingo website (<http://www.plainhelps.org/playground/>) or contact Gwyneth Butera 404.297.4658/gwyneth@butera.org) for more information.

Notes from the Tree Board

Tree Canopy Assessment for City of Pine Lake

To help gauge the health and status of Pine Lake's community forest, the Pine Lake Tree Authority Board commissioned a Tree Canopy Assessment, which was completed in May. The tree canopy assessment was conducted by Chris Barneycastle, the Pine Lake City Arborist.

Tree canopy cover is one of the most basic and useful descriptors of an urban forest. Tree canopy is the spread of the live crown of a tree and tree canopy cover is the percentage of land area covered by tree canopies. By periodically measuring canopy cover, communities can assess the effectiveness of ordinances and other management methods aimed at maintaining or increasing tree canopy.

In this assessment, aerial photographs from 1995 and 2007 were used to determine the canopy cover percentages. Surprisingly, the percentage of tree canopy has not changed much during the 12 year study period. The percentage of tree canopy cover is approximately 66 percent, which is what it was in 1995. This can be explained in part by the fact that while there has been some clearing of trees for development, the remaining trees have grown during the 12 year period and their canopies have expanded. In addition, some of the open areas that existed in 1995 appear to have been reforested.

USDA Forest Service studies have shown that the 16 county metro Atlanta region is losing 54 acres of tree canopy every day. Most of the tree canopy loss is a result of development in the metro Atlanta area. The Pine Lake Tree Authority Board is committed to the protection and preservation of Pine Lake's urban forest; therefore, the tree canopy coverage in Pine Lake should be maintained at the current level of 66 percent.

In addition to tree canopy cover, the changes in other land cover type were determined from the aerial photographs. These included impervious surface (22 percent increase), grass or open field (43 percent decrease), and water (basically no change - currently 6.5 percent).

The Tree Canopy Assessment was funded by a grant awarded to the City of Pine Lake by the Georgia Forestry Commission through its Urban and Community Forestry Grant program. Copies of the Tree Canopy Assessment can be obtained by contacting Phil Howland, the Pine Lake Director of Administration.

*By Chris Barneycastle,
Pine Lake City Arborist*

GREENTalk

Our beloved Ann McAllister began this column in April. She wanted to inspire and inform folks on what they can do here in Pine Lake to appreciate our environment and to use resources more wisely and efficiently. The last time she talked to me, she was walking around the lake with the help of her walker. After apologizing for missing the June issue due to her recent health crisis, she talked about an article she wanted to write on bird watching for the next month. It was not many days later, sitting at her bedside, that I promised Ann that this column would go on after she was gone. Please help me continue this column. Write an article about wildlife in Pine Lake, ways you have found to reduce energy consumption, gardening organically, conserving water, how to make a rain barrel, or anything related to our environment. You can also send me your ideas for future articles.

Ann had a great idea and got us started. Let's keep it going!

by Ella Johannaber

Give What You Canit May Be Better Than You Think!

Here it is summer again and the days are flying by. Years ago an old timer in Pine Lake said, "I know it's July, but Christmas will be here before you know it!" That was 15 or more years ago and that many Christmas' as well. It seems that looking backward is no time at all but looking ahead seems like so long, doesn't it?

Well, while some things do come and go, (time for example!) others remain constant. One of these constants is the need for help in our community. Our jewel of a city has come a long way and is so busy improving it can be unrecognizable at times! In spite of the drought the lake remains clear and full, the outer portions of Lakeshore and Spruce are now wetlands that will become water gardens and more and more homes are being well kept with a sense of pride. We are a beautiful, vibrant and alive little

city that takes a lot of care to keep looking good and running well.

With the kids out of school and schedules being made, make time to start coming to monthly PLAIN meetings. Opportunities exist for volunteering from a once in a while effort like helping decorate for a city event to more routine jobs like delivering the newsletter. Kathie DeNobriga has made a volunteer sign-up sheet so pick one up at the pancake breakfast, at city hall, or call Kathie or any PLAIN member and ask what you can do.

Hour-long meetings are held the first Thursday of each month in the clubhouse. The meetings are well run, informative and fun! "Many hands make light work" as the saying goes. It's community building to get to know your neighbors and what better

way than in the neighborhood meetings? "Neighborhood" is what we love about Pine Lake and participation is the key to harmony for us.

You don't have to have a particular skill, just a desire to make Pine Lake a better place. So, put on your calendar "PLAIN meeting tonight 7:30-Clubhouse" and come to a meeting! More of us giving what we can WILL be better than we think!!

by Candy Howland

Congratulations New PLAIN Officers!
Secretary: Linda Organ
Treasurer: Mary Stuckey
VP: Lalah Manly (lalah143@gmail.com)
President: Gwyneth Butera
(gwyneth@butera.org)

Memorial Day

It's not just another three-day weekend holiday. It is in memoriam, for those who gave their lives. Pine Lake Memorial Day 2008 ceremonies began with the lighting of the Flame of Freedom on the small grass triangle in front of the parking lot of The Clubhouse. Underneath the 1969 plaque from the American Legion, a newer inscription reads,

"In loving memory
Francis Manuel Ortega."

Uniformed officers of the Pine Lake Police Department raised Old Glory up the flagpole. The crowd in attendance joined together in singing,

"America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea."

Children decorated themselves and their bicycles, wagons, scooters, mini-

cars, and strollers red, white, and blue with flags, bunting, and balloons, stickers and sparkles, necklaces, and a Dr. Seuss hat. There was a special red-haired clown. There were red and white stripes everywhere.

The stars in the parade were Cameron, Camille, Chance, Charleston, Chloe, Jade, Jovanni, Kylin, Michael, Paul, Pieter, Roxy, Tuesday, Tyler, Yuri, Zelda, and Zoe. Tyler had been afraid he might miss the parade, because he had chores to finish first. He made it just in time, bringing his K9 companions Blue and Rose. If it takes a village, you're in luck. Pine Lake is one.

Pine Lake Police cars escorted the parade down to The Beach House for hamburgers, hot-dogs, chicken-salad, baked beans, chips, watermelon, ice cream, lemonade, ice-tea, and music, prepared, provided, and served by volunteers Annette, Anya, Bitsy,



Brent, Elise, Greg, Janet, Jonny, Karen, Kim, Lisa, Mary, and Mike, under the direction of Kathie.



The celebration officially opened the lake and beach for swimming, sunbathing, and other summer recreation.

(Thanks to Paw Paw Bill for this report. You can read his regular blog commentary at <http://cotton-b.blogspot.com/>)

Home-based Business Reminder

A Note From the City Clerk, Edie Warwick

Most home-based business owners in Pine Lake have already applied for and received their 2008 Business License. If you are operating any type of home-based business you are required to get a Business License each year you have your business in your home. The City charter provides for the collection of an occupational tax as well as an administrative fee to obtain the annual license. The total annual cost is \$125.00 - (\$100 tax and \$25.00 administrative fee). The license is valid from January 1st through December 31st. The fee is prorated on July 1st at one-half the yearly amount, or \$62.50.

If you are currently operating a business from your home, you need a business license issued from Pine Lake. Please come by City Hall and fill out the licensing form, pay the fee, and "get legal" to do business.

Dr. Marty Finkelstein

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Decatur, Ga. 30032

404-292-6786

Dr. Marty Finkelstein was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis 33 years ago and was told nothing could be done other than medicine and surgery. His life changed when a holistic chiropractor explained how this illness not only could improve but also heal. Within 12 months the ulcerative colitis no longer existed. Dr. Marty changed direction from going to medical school to going to chiropractic school. It was because of that process of healing and understanding about health that he has continued to help and serve others to greater wellness and healing.

Chief's Corner

Your Car Should Be Registered Where Your Homestead Exemption Is Filed Or Where You Reside As A Renter!

Did you know it is the law that your cars and other motor vehicles are to be registered in the County in which you reside? If you have homestead exemption and do not have your vehicle registered in DeKalb County you could lose your homestead exemption and you may have late fees associated with non-registration. Current statistics reveal there are 708 residential units in Pine Lake, but only 485 vehicles registered in DeKalb County. So even as a tenant residing in Pine Lake, it is a state law to register your car in DeKalb County. The Code Enforcement officers will begin registration inspections in mid-July.

Below is the information from DeKalb County for vehicle registration. It is important to our City to have your motor vehicles registered because we receive a percentage of the ad valorem tax that you pay to DeKalb County.

Registration

Not receiving a registration bill does not relieve the registrant/taxpayer from the obligation to register and pay taxes during their birthday registration period. Vehicle registration and payment of taxes are the responsibility of the registrant/taxpayer. If an annual registration bill is not received, please call (404) 298-4000 to request a duplicate bill, or you may fax a legible copy of your registration receipt along with your current address to 404-298-4498 and a bill will be mailed to you within 10 days.

Insurance: Georgia law requires that all vehicle owners carry proof of current Georgia liability insurance. Please the State of Georgia website for Insurance information effective January 1, 2004.
Social Security Number: The vehicle

owner(s) social security number or driver(s) license number may be required when registering a vehicle. Social security numbers serve as a means of owner identification and provide cross indexing and grouping of registration records. All social security numbers carried on vehicle registration records are protected by state law as confidential information.

The State requires social security numbers for any resident who receives a handicap veteran, former prisoner of war, medal of honor, national guard, purple heart, military reserve or amateur radio tag.

Birth Date The vehicle owner/lessee date of birth is required when registering a vehicle. Upon initial registration the owner(s) birthday is recorded to establish the next registration renewal period and expiration date of the vehicle license plate. If a vehicle is owned by two or more persons, the birthday of the owner whose name appears first on the certificate of title is required.

Vehicles owned by a business are not required to record a date of birth. The expiration date will be established according to the first letter of the business name. Be sure to check the box on the renewal form that indicates a business registration.

Visa/MasterCard is accepted online for tag renewals at www.dmv.ga.gov

Registration Renewal Period

Registrations expire on the vehicle owner/lessee birthday and must be renewed during the 30 day period preceding and ending on the owner/lessee birthday.

Animal Control

Officer Hubbard and I have talked to Dekalb County Animal Control about the recent mauling deaths of our feline children by unleashed dogs.

We are working out the details of having Animal Control Officers present in Pine Lake between the hours of 12 midnight and 6 a.m.; however we have been warned that if they see any cats on the loose they will impound them also. I was reminded that the leash law applies to dogs and cats. I was also told that if the cats had been in the house where they are legally supposed to be they would be alive today.

Please remember that I own 3 cats and 2 dogs, all of which get out of the house occasionally without a leash. I understand why cats are allowed outside by their owners and the City will do everything possible to capture any vicious marauding dogs. Please try to keep your cats indoors so we don't have any more horrible incidents like this.

by Phil Howland

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Studio 5321



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Dr. Nicole Aponte

6053 Memorial Dr.
Stone Mountain, GA 30045
Phone: 770/469-6111

NOTES FROM CITY HALL

PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF PINE LAKE

www.pinelakega.com

Recent Council Action

May 27, June 9, June 24 and July 14 2008

* Council and Mayor continue to review and discuss in detail the new Zoning Ordinances with Alycen Whidden, members of the ARB and the public. This line-by-line process focused first on the Residential section which covers new construction and renovations/additions (including fences and decks). The first reading of this Zoning is scheduled for August 11, with the second reading and approval scheduled for September 8. Council and Mayor have begun to study the "Uptown" zoning provisions, which cover the business and commercial district. The review of this Zoning, which supplements/replaces our current Mixed Use Ordinance, will continue with a special meeting on August 26, from 5:30-7:30pm, followed by the regular Council Meeting.

* Set the 2008 millage rate, to hold steady at 14.3 cents per thousand dollars of property value.

* Amended the budget in order to pay an outstanding obligation to DeKalb County for past use of oil and gas. This has been an item on our 'payables' for several years, which has now been completely retired, enabling us to negotiate more strongly with the County around several public works issues. Most of the \$19,000 came from anticipated surplus.

* Heard the first reading of an ordinance to add a \$12 fuel surcharge to each violation.

* Heard a report from the 'red light camera' research, which found that violations on Rockbridge Road do not meet current state thresholds for required volume. Consequently, there will be no further consideration of installing a red-light camera system for the foreseeable future.

* Heard citizen concerns about two marauding dogs that may be responsible for killing at least 10 cats in the last two months. Police will work with county Animal Control to address the issue. Residents are encouraged to call 9-1-1 if they see dogs off leash, especially at night.

Coming Up:

* At the July 26th Work Session, Council will review the year-to-date (mid year) budget against actuals, and work on further budget amendments as needed.

* The August 11th Council Meeting will include a request for a variance from Sharon Day to add a half-story to a current one-story house at 4609 Park.

New Zoning

Copies of the new ordinances are available to the public and are being discussed at upcoming council meetings. After months of discussion, dialogue, and research, Alycen Whidden and Associates are finalizing several important documents with the further input of Council and Mayor. Whidden has submitted a draft of the zoning codes for Resident

and Uptown (business) areas, as well as application and administrative procedures for the Architectural Review Board: all are available at City Hall.

Trees, Trees, Trees

City arborist Chris Barneycastle has completed a draft of the city's "Canopy" study, and has helped to draft a new tree permit form (for tree removal), available at City Hall. The Tree Authority has also developed a very simple 'flow chart' that explains the conditions under which citizens may legally remove a tree. Barneycastle will present his completed canopy study at the August Town Hall.

City Hall Hours

Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Ph: (404) 292-4250

Fax: (404)292-4859

Court Clerk

Mon. & Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tues., Wed. & Thurs.

7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Police

Ph: (404) 296-6613

Fax: (404)292-7531

Goose, Goose, Duck

Once the goslings matured, the City arranged another goose removal project in late May. The geese were humanely captured and relocated to another body of water. This periodic action is necessary to minimize the fecal matter in the lake, a prime source of bacteria, which can lead to beach closings. Our few ducks are not subject to removal. The water has been testing well so far: the DeKalb County Health Department tests the lake a couple of times a week during swimming season. Signs are posted, warning folks to stay out of the water, if bacteria levels are above a safe level.

Dates for Arts Festival Confirmed

The annual October LakeFest will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 4-5. A committee led by Kathie deNobriga is at work, recruiting artists to display their work and engaging musicians to perform. Watch the City's website (www.pinelakega.com) for application forms. And speaking of websites, former Council member Deborah Dunbar is reviewing the entire site and will be revising, refreshing and redesigning it over the next few weeks.

Quarterly Town Hall on Saturday, August 2

Pine Lake will hold a regular Town Hall meeting on Saturday following the Pancake Breakfast. Featured speaker will be the city arborist, Chris Barneycastle. As always, there will be time for citizen concerns and questions.

PlayGround -- on the Ground and Running!

Public Works is winding up its extensive wetlands project and turning its attention to the upcoming playground build. The large pile of white sand at the foot of Pine Drive along Lakeshore will be used to create a temporary ramp onto the beach to allow access for grading equipment. The playground area will need to be extensively graded, and part of the beach will be closed to the public, with retaining walls installed, to allow the area to be safely prepared. After the project is complete, the sand will replenish the beach area.

Water in the Wetlands

On Monday morning, July 14, Phil Howland conducted a walking tour of the wetlands for nine Pine Lake residents. Later that morning, the temporarily diverted water was allowed for the first time to flow into the wetlands, and by noon the meandering flow and retention ponds were full. The project is nearly complete, needing some fine-tuning of the flow and additional minor construction. If you have a little time and can lift small rocks, the City could use volunteers to finish the project --- just contact Phil at City Hall. When fully operational, the water from Snapfinger Creek will flow through the wetlands before entering the lake. Natural processes will reduce silting as well as bacteria levels.

What to expect at Council Meetings

Council meets twice a month, and citizens are encouraged to attend either, or both, monthly meetings. The official Council meetings are SECOND MONDAYS at 7:30, and include a report from all departments: Administration, Public Works and Police. The "work sessions" are on the LAST TUESDAYS. During this meeting Council and Mayor hear from all the various City committees and groups: the Neighborhood Watch, PLEAS (Pine Lake Environmental and Stewardship), ARB (Architectural Review Board), the Tree Authority and the Arts Department. BOTH meetings feature three separate opportunities for citizen comment, about items on the agenda OR not. Come, watch your city in action, learn and contribute!

Classified Ads

Classified ads are free to PLAIN members. Members may place two free ads per month. For all other classified ads the fee is \$5 per month. To submit, contact Candy Howland at 404-294-5682 or e-mail her at phowl56954@aol.com

American Electric Contractors - Free Estimates, Commercial and Residential certified and licensed. Byron Brussard **770-328-0340**

"Before you know who you want to become, you have to know who you are." **Career Counseling and Resume Writing Service.** Jessica Long, **404-292-3005**

For Sale, 5 cemetery lots at Melwood Cemetery. Valued at \$1,500 each, will sacrifice for \$650 each. **Call Martha at 404-299-8754.**

Floyd's Heating And Air - Free Estimates for Pine Lakers. Commercial and Residential. Certified and Licensed. Call 404-314-7704 or visit www.floydsheatingandair.com

For Sale: Five shelf, open curio stand, \$20 obo. Stereo turn table, tape deck, amplifier, two speakers with built in glass top/front cabinet, \$50 obo. Various stereo equipment, call for prices. Cat carrier, \$15

obo. Large beige/brown ottoman, \$25 obo. Holly carburetor, double barrel, \$100 obo. White Ceiling Fan \$15 obo. Paul and Sheila Jasionowski **404-292-1580**

Need Some Help Around the House? Inside or outside, I can help. I can also care for your dogs and cats while you are away. Flexible schedule. References available. \$10. per hour. Call Rebecca at **404-372-7669**

Reflexology Sessions available in Pine Lake. Eva Sotus, certified reflexologist and licensed aesthetician offers 90-minute sessions. Reflexology uses acupressure and massage of the feet and hands to reduce stress, encourage lymphatic drainage (detox) and circulation. Feels wonderful. Call **678-357-8658**

Therapeutic Massage For Relaxation and/or Pain Relief by Susan Ahl, nationally certified massage and

energy therapist and integrative kinesiologist. Chakra balancing and kinesiology also available for integrative healing of the emotional body. Two locations: Toco Hills Shopping Center or Pine Lake. Discounts for Pine Lakers. Call **404-386-9141** for appointment

ASTROLOGICAL CHARTS, both natal (all about you) and monthly forecasts (what the month brings for you) available by Susan Ahl. Full professional natal charts and detailed multi-page reports provided. Also compatibility charts/reports available for those interested in their current or prospective relationship. Discounts for Pine Lakers. **404-386-9141**

Yoga at the Clubhouse - Wednesdays 7:15 - 8:30. For information call Ella at 404-277-5747 or write ellalaura@gmail.com.

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 1/2 page size --- \$50. per month
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 Contact: plaintalkeditor@plainhelps.org

----- Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors Membership Form -----

Name _____ Occupation _____
 Address _____ P.O. Box _____
 Day Phone Number _____ Night Phone Number _____
 Best time to call Day _____ Evening _____
 Email Address _____
 How would you prefer to be notified of PLAIN events? _____ Phone _____ Email _____
 Household Members Names
 _____ Adult _____ Teenager _____ Child Age _____
 _____ Adult _____ Teenager _____ Child Age _____
 _____ Adult _____ Teenager _____ Child Age _____
 _____ Adult _____ Teenager _____ Child Age _____

PLAIN

PO Box 44
 Pine Lake, GA
 30072-044

Are you interested in volunteering for family events, seniors, environment, etc.? _____

_____ \$25.00 yearly household PLAIN dues enclosed.

Signature _____ Join Date _____ New _____ Renew _____