

# COHOPE

council of homeowners organization for planned environment

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## Upcoming Meetings:

Open Space: April. 9, 7pm, 700 Jeffco Parkway, Suite 100  
Board of County Commissioners Every Tuesday at 8:00 am  
Foothills: 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6 pm, The Peak.  
Board of Adjustment: 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 9 am, Hearing Room One, 100 Jefferson County Parkway  
DRCOG: Apr. 17, 6:30 pm, 1290 Broadway, first floor conference rm  
Planning Commission: 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wed. 6:15 pm, Hearing Room One, 100 Jefferson County Parkway

Calendar for upcoming meetings: **April 3 Foothills**  
**May 1 June 5 Justin Everett Legislature Review**

**In This Issue: Information and Minutes 1, 2, 5, 6, Backyard 3-5, Budget 5, Sheriff 7, R-1 7,8**

**Draft Minutes for Mar. 6 Meeting Attendance:** Diane Suchomel / At Large, Ray Moore, Al Hintz & Marilyn Howe / Kipling Hills, Cheri Paavola / At Large, Maureen Sielaff / At Large, Joe Peterson / At Large, Bob & Pat Ham / At Large, Alicia Combes, Ralph & Pat Miller / Columbine Hills Civic Assoc., Shirley Jervis / Columbine Knolls, Larry Major / Columbine Knolls South Estates, Cindy Coats / Columbine West Civic Assoc., Burke & Betty Steinke / Lakehurst West, Jemal Touba / Trappers View, Bette Peterson / Westridge-Lakeview Meadows, Gordon Neuenfeldt, Jeff Schrader, Al Simmons / Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Paula Noonan / Jefferson County School Board, Casey Tighe / Jefferson County Commissioner, Kate Newman, Kathryn Heider .

The meeting was convened at 6:57 p.m.

**Diane Suchomel, Vice President,** welcomed everyone.

**Special Reports – Gordon Neuenfeldt, Jefferson County Deputy,** went over the statistics. There was a trend in early Feb. of burglaries.

Code Red is the Emergency Notification System. There was a test phone call that was followed by an email 4 hours later. Go to <http://cne.coderedweb.com> to update your information.

No one from Foothills Parks and Recreation District was present.

No one from Jefferson County Public Schools was present. **Paula Noonan** from **School Board** spoke. They will be re-districting the border for the 5 districts based on the Census. This is required by Statute. They have 2 options posted on the website. Paula will present a third option at the meeting. Her option will be to move KendallVue to Lakewood and Red Rocks to the Mountain district. *(Update—On a 3 to 2 vote the school board voted for the original version of option 2 that was posted on the school system's website prior to their 3/7 meeting. Dahlkemper, Fellman and Johnson were the 3 members who voted in favor of option 2. The proposed amended version that Paula described to us at the COHOPE meeting was not adopted. Shaffer and the Bradford schools will be moved out of our district 5.)*

The speaker tonight was **Casey Tighe, Jefferson County Commissioner.** Casey has been on the job for 2 months.

The Board of County Commissioners provide a lot of services. Revenue is down because property values are down.

They are considering a mil levy and Casey wanted to know are thoughts on this. We answered that it would depend on how they would spend the revenues.

Another issue they have is in keeping current employees.

Transportation - Upcoming road work is on Quincy between Kipling and Wadsworth, on Chatfield between Ken Caryl and Everett, and sidewalks on Garrison St. and Ute Ave.

Road Repair - You can get information on the Weekly Projects at their website, [www.jeffco.us](http://www.jeffco.us).

Human Services - There has been a 20% increase in food assistance. Reports of child abuse are up by 8,000 cases.

There has been a 14% increase in at risk adults. The Workforce Center helps job seekers.

Open Space - This year is the 40th anniversary.

Volunteers - You can apply to server on a Board or Commission at the website. You must be 19 years old to volunteer.

Connect - They have the web page, emails, a blog, and pages on FaceBook, Twitter, etc.  
 What is the status of the Northwest Parkway? The funding has been approved for the entire western beltway between I-25 north to I-25 south. It will be paid for by tolls, sales tax, property taxes, or in small segments as CDOT can afford it. The study for C-470 changes from I-25 to Kipling was funded mostly by Douglas County. The Golden Plan is for 3 lanes each way with over / under passes. But Golden wants to keep the speed limit at 45 mph to Highway 93. Some people are concerned about development in the northwest corner. A lot of it is Open Space, but not all of it.  
 What do the Commissioners think about RTD downsizing bus service to our area? They are disappointed by understand that RTD has budget issues. When the west line is completed, RTD will cancel or turn 116x / 100x into local service. The RTD Board Meeting is on the 26th. Call-N-Ride is an option. The phone number is 303-994-3069. If enough people use it, RTD will restore a line. The cost is \$2.25.

The Applicant Development Plan was posted online at their website starting in Jan. 2013.  
 What about Amendment 64 (Marijuana)? Federal law trumps state law. Casey couldn't speak for the Board of county Commissioners. They have not discussed this issue yet.

Based on the population of the county, how can we get more commissioners? Citizens can petition.  
 What about the parking regulation changes? The new regulations are 28 days in a year. But HOAs can still make their own rules. It was 14 consecutive days in a year. So based on the old rules, people could park RVs for 14 days, move to another area and park for another 14 days, etc. Someone commented that they hope that the number of calls will be enforceable.

Jeff Schrader, Jefferson County Sheriff, spoke. Captain Al Simmons was also present. There is a construction project going on at the Golden Sheriff's Complex. The changes are to the Central plant, remodeling the Admin space, and building the 40,000 sq. ft. crime lab. The Crime Lab will bring in money from other agencies.

Art Peterson was run over 3 1/2 years ago at Santa Fe and Dartmouth. He has returned to work. A Plea Agreement was reached in his case.

Is the jail full? They are within their Jail Use Plan. They have spots for 1,300 with 1,200 currently used. They have about 100 contract (Federal) prisoners.

**Reports from Officers** Roll Call was taken. We had 17 members present and have a quorum.

**Winnie Burdan, President**, was not present.

**Diane Suchomel, Vice President**, said that the speaker at our next meeting will be Ron Hopp, Foothills Parks and Recreation District.

The following are Planning and Zoning items. 2 variances were requested on the Manor House Road. Construction will start at 7301 W. Bowles Ave. for a facility for weddings and special events. An application for 5275 S. Kipling Pkwy for Anthem Memory Care.

There is a Liquor Board meeting tomorrow. 2 businesses have requested tasting permits.

It was passed that residents were allowed to keep chickens and bees. Mixed Use Zoning passed.

Justin has had articles published in Columbine Courier. He has a Town Hall meeting on Apr. 12. He has also agree to speak in June. Andy Kerr was also been asked to speak.

**Ray Moore, Treasurer**, was present. We have \$1,616.34. This year's dues notices are going out this month.

**Cheri Paavola, Secretary**, was present. The Feb. minutes were approved without any changes.

**Old Business** None.

**New Business** None.

**Announcements** The Jeffco Student's Annual Senior Citizens Prom is Saturday, March 9, from 2:00 until 5:00 at Summit Ridge Middle School. It is free. You can call 303-922-1000 for reservations or information. The snow date is Mar. 16.

We adjourned at 8:42 p.m.—*Cheri Paavola*

**COHOPE Treasury Activity: March 2013**

**W. R. Moore, Treasurer**

<b>Beginning Balance Mar. 6, 2013</b>	<b>\$ 1616.34</b>
<b>Deposits</b>	<b>\$ 230.00</b>
Peterson \$20, Suchomel \$20, Riebe \$50, Auburn \$20 Hams \$20	
Johnston \$20, Williamsburg II \$40, Lakehurst West \$40	
<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$ 21.15</b>
April newsletter \$ 8.46	
Dues postage \$12.69	
<b>Ending Balance April 3, 2013</b>	<b>\$ 1825.19</b>



# THE BACKYARD

## Columbine Hills Civic Association

*From Draft Minutes of the February Board Meeting* Meeting was called to order at 9:15 AM. There were five board members and four homeowners in attendance.

Treasurer's Report Bills to Colorado Lasertype, cost of the membership mailing drive (printing, PO mailing, stamps), non-profit status with the state have been paid.

Old Business The minutes of the January meeting could not be approved since all of the board members had not read the newsletter.

New Business There are five board positions available at the Annual Meeting in April. Four positions are for 2 years and one position is for 1 year. Additional board members will help with monitoring emails sent to The Columbine Hills Civic Association. Please provide

your phone number so that you can be contacted and your concerns discussed in a more personal manner.

Dog feces along park trails continues to be a problem. The park is maintained by Foothills Park and Recreation and they are responsible for the watering and grooming of the area. Various sports lease the fields from Foothills and their fees help maintain the park. Jefferson County Animal Control will be contacted about dogs running loose in the park and the CHE school grounds.— *Secretary, Randy Montgomery*

## Columbine Knolls South II REVIEW

*From President's Corner* I am pleased to announce the slate of officers for the 2013 Columbine Knolls South II Board of Directors. Jon Brouillett has accepted the position as Vice President, Debbie Opperman the position of Treasurer and Jane Schaffer the position of Secretary and I will be returning as President. The ACC Committee will be chaired by Tom Tellschow with Bob Pellegrini, Jon Brouillett and John Schutt as committee members. Bob Pellegrini will chair the Landscape Committee. Thanks to all the Board members for their willingness to volunteer, work hard and make this a better place for each of us to live!

This is the time of year that the CKSII Board of Directors interviews and selects the newsletter carrier for our community newsletter, *The Review*, for the upcoming year. Applications were received from Abbie Brouillet, Julian de la Rosa and Matt Helmreich and all proved to be well qualified to do the job! The decision on who to hire was not an easy decision one for the Board. After considerable discussion, the Board decided to hire Matt Helmreich. Congratulations to Matt and we are confident that he will do a great job of delivering *The Review* to your home each month. A special thank you to the other students who applied and to their parents who accompanied them to the meet-ing! I am continually impressed about the great kids we have in this community.

The next CKSII HOA sponsored event will be the Community Garage Sale on June 7-8. This is a great time to clean out your garage and closets and make a little money at the same time!

Hope to see you at the next CKSII HOA meeting on Tuesday, April 9th at 7 p.m. in the library at Coronado Elementary School.— *Stephanie Haberkorn, President*

*From Columbine Knolls South II Homeowners Association Annual Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2013* President Stephanie Haberkorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Board members Jon Brouillet, Debbie Opperman, Tom Tellschow, John Schutt and Bob Pellegrini were in attendance, as well as Roger Borcharding of DARCO Property Management and 5 homeowners.

NEWSLETTER CARRIER INTERVIEWS: The Board received applications from three community members for the job of newsletter carrier for this year. Matt Helmreich, Julian de la Rosa and Abbie Brouillet appeared before the Board, and shared their qualifications and reasons why they were the best person for the job. The Board felt that the presentations were very, very good and were impressed with all of the candidates. Matt Helmreich was selected to be the carrier for the coming year. A copy of the contract was signed and submitted to the Secretary.

Debbie Opperman reported that the HOA currently has 284 members.

ACC REPORT: Tom Tellschow reported that the committee has received two requests for new improvements, both approved, and has no other outstanding requests.

MANAGEMENT REPORT: Roger Borcharding of DARCO Property Management reported that there were two inspections during January. Twelve notices were sent asking for homeowner compliance for various issues. The Federal tax returns have been completed for TY 2012. There are currently three homes for sale, including one foreclosure, in the neighborhood.

TRASH SERVICE: Waste Management has requested that a new contract be signed. The HOA attorney will be consult-

ed to determine the best course of action for the Association.

FACEBOOK: Since the community Facebook page receives such little activity, the Board has decided to remove it.

2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS: The Community Garage Sale will be June 7th and June 8th. The Hay Ride with Santa will be December 1st. The date for the Large Item Pick-Up has not yet been determined.

## The Leawood Reporter

**From Leawood Civic Association Minutes of February 5, 2013** The meeting was called to order at 7:05. Members present were Mike Shaw, Richard White, Rhonda Eveleth and Nancy Bock. Also in attendance were guests Iggy Pacheco and JJ Scott. Iggy, JJ, and their families are new to the Leawood neighborhood and both expressed interest in helping the LCA any way they can. The minutes from the January meeting were approved.

Richard gave the treasurer's report. He stated it was a normal month as far as bills paid and money received.

Elections for the 2013 Board Members took place. Mike moved that the current board members be re-elected and continue to serve in their present positions. The motion was seconded and the vote for approval was unanimous.

Memberships are starting to come in for the current year. This year the Board decided to send a separate mailer out to residents. It will outline the LCA activities and membership benefits. This mailer will be different than the insert that is normally included in the LCA Reporter. A discussion followed and the Board approved postage for mailing the brochure to all Leawood residents.

Volunteer night on April 9th was discussed. The board will provide pizza and refreshments. This is a new event that will hopefully bring in more volunteers. This event is simply to welcome volunteers and doesn't require them to come to every monthly meeting. The LCA Board needs help with certain activities and the Board is hoping this will entice people to help out one or two times a year.

The Jay Court Entry was the last item on the agenda. New lights were purchased to replace the ones not working. It was noted that there are now two missing capstones on the small retaining wall that will need to be replaced.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**From Leawood Recreation and Park District Minutes of Feb. 13, 2013** The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM at Leawood Elementary School by President Kyle Sargent. Members present were: Donna Snyder, Charlie Campbell, Mibby Luedecke, Linda Smith and Parks Manager, Dave Padilla.

Public Comment— Linda stated she received an email from a person who sells Outdoor Fitness zones related to a request from a resident last month. Linda is looking at the website brochure and will possibly contact the company. Information related to the CodeRED emergency notification system from the Sheriff's Department was sent from Vintage Reserve's HOA and forwarded to the District. Testing of the system was on February 6.

Treasurer's Report— The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Donna along with bills to be paid. Invoices include: United Site Services, doggie bags, Waste Management, Alpha Page, Special District Association of Colorado annual dues, Dave's invoice, snow removal invoice, and reimbursement to petty cash. Linda moved the report be approved and bills paid. Mibby seconded and the motion passed. Donna requested permission to contact the auditor for our annual audit exception. Mibby moved to accept this, Charlie seconded and the motion passed.

Parks Manager Report— Dave met with contractors for 2013 season of grass cutting and maintenance. The concrete work is still pending due to better weather. Trash was picked up from containers from all parks and taken to the Waste Management dumpster. Snow removal was done as needed. Leawood flood lights are out and will be replaced. A contractor replaced ballasts on three lights in Weaver Park pavilion.

Old Business – Continued discussion of 2013 contract for grass cutting and maintenance.

New Business – Charlie asked if Jeffco had contacted us related to the Poop Fairy project. It was a successful program and was hoping we could participate again. Linda is to contact Jeffco and report back.

It is time to put up signs relating to coyote warnings. Linda is to get signs laminated and have Dave put up them on doggie bag stand holders.

**Meetings for 2013** Wednesday, April 10, 2013, Leawood Elementary School, Wednesday, May 8, 2013, Leawood Elementary School

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM. — *Linda T. Smith, Vice President and Secretary*

**Spring-time Adopt-a-highway cleanup project** COHOPE's Spring-time clean up of our adopted section of W Bowles Ave between C-470 and S Simms St will be on Saturday April 20 beginning at 8:30 a.m. (If it is snowing or raining hard on the 20th, then our clean up will be the following Saturday instead.) We'll meet in the parking lot of West Bowles Community church. If you want to participate and haven't already signed Jefferson County's required waiver form, then please see Diane at our April 3rd meeting and sign that form .

Thank you for your continued participation in our adopt-a-highway cleanup project..

## Williamsburg II News

**President’s Message** Hello March. Welcome longer days as Daylight Savings Time kicks in. Though we all lose an hour of sleep that weekend, the extra evening daylight seems worth it. Don’t forget to “spring ahead” March 9th.

The Annual Dues Drive continues. Thanks to all who contribute and support the community and the Board’s efforts. The end of the month brings the Easter holiday.

Don’t forget to bring the kids out to Eagle Meadows Park for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Saturday March 23rd beginning at 10 a.m. Should Mother Nature not cooperate that day, an alternate date the following Saturday, March 30th, has been penciled in.

Williamsburg II remains a much desired community in which to live. Thank you to all who contribute, cooperate and work hard to keep it that way.

**HOA Forum presentation** Mr. Gary Kujawski, HOA Information Officer for the HOA Information Office and Resource Center of DORA, Colorado Division of Real Estate, will present a forum providing information on what that office does, their 2012 report which contains statistics on the types of complaints they received in 2012 and other useful information. Date: April 29, 2013 (Monday) Time 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Location Jefferson County Public Library (Columbine branch) 7706 W Bowles Ave, Littleton, CO 80123 Free Event to the Public (Room Capacity - 96)

Please RSVP to; [cynthia.aguilar@state.co.us](mailto:cynthia.aguilar@state.co.us)

I attended his HOA Forum presentation at the Aurora Public library on March 18 and recommend attending his forum to anyone who is not already very familiar with what that office does and who has not spent a lot of time reviewing information available on their website. The audience at the March 18 presentation consisted of a mixture of HOA board members, individual homeowners, property managers, representatives of State Legislators and media representatives. The handouts he provided contain a lot of useful information.

Currently, the State Legislature is considering legislation that would give that office legal authority to get involved in the resolution of complaints it receives about HOAs, management companies and residents living within HOAs.

Their website contains a list of all of their scheduled HOA Forum presentations. (One will be held on April 16 at the Belmar branch of the Jeffco Public Library.) *Diane Suchomel*

Budget Yr	Jan1 Dec 31 2013	Actual 2012	Budgeted 2012	
<b>Income</b>				<b>Budget Discussion</b> —Cohope was negative for the year. However, we had \$140 charges in meeting room rentals that were not anticipated, plus the price of helium used in the Summerset Festival booth (for balloons) was higher than budgeted due to a helium shortage. We also had to start paying for our website, which in previous years had been donated.
Bank Account, yr start	1708.23	1830.04	1830.04	
Est Dues income	620.00	620.00	580.00	
Est other income	30.00	30.00	30.00	
Total for year	2358.23	2480.04	2440.04	
<b>Expenses</b>				Assuming similar costs and income from dues to 2012, we should also have a loss (\$83) in 2013.  <i>WR Moore, Treasurer</i>  2012 Annual Report—DRCOG's newest annual report is now available, chronicling the organization's activities in 2012. Go to <a href="http://www.drcog.org/">http://www.drcog.org/</a> and look for the link.
Newsletter/postage est. \$10 / month	120.00	106.02	120.00	
PO box	54.00	54.00	54.00	
Picnic / Xmas Expenses	250.00	239.86	175.00	
Booth + Shelter	175.00	175.00	175.00	
Website	83.88	46.93	0.00	
Other*	50.00	150.00	150.00	
Total for year	732.88	771.81	674.00	
<b>Est + / - for year</b>	<b>-82.88</b>	<b>-121.81</b>	<b>-64.00</b>	
<b>Est</b>	<b>Jan. 2014 1625.35</b>	<b>1708.23</b>	<b>1766.04</b>	

\* Copies Colorado report fee  
Lilley Gulch room rental

**Shape Jeffco's Future** by Bailey Becker, Jeffco Public Information Office - Jefferson County has several elected officials and dedicated employees, but did you know that it also has lots of volunteers who contribute to the decisions that shape Jeffco? The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) appoints more than 300 volunteers to boards and commissions that oversee things from liquor licensing to preservation of open space.

One of the most critical boards is the Planning Commission. This board is responsible for reviewing a wide variety of land use cases and making recommendations to the BCC.

"The Planning Commission works in conjunction with staff from Planning and Zoning to thoroughly review land use cases before making recommendations or final decisions on applications. These are the folks who drive out to the sites, hear public testimony, which can last for hours, put emotions aside and then make recommendations and decisions that are best for the county," said Planning and Zoning Director John Wolforth.

It also reviews and adopts updates to the county's Comprehensive Master Plan. This plan is very important to Jeffco and provides guidelines to both the county and citizens when it comes to making land use decisions. It is comprised of several smaller sub area plans, such as the South Plains Area Plan, which outlines land use recommendations for a large portion of South Jeffco.

The Planning Commission meets the first, second and fourth Wednesdays of each month and its public hearings begin at 6:15 p.m. at the Administration and Courts Facility, 100 Jefferson County Parkway.

Commission members are compensated \$20 per meeting and \$20 per field trip when visiting the case sites. It is comprised of seven voting members who serve three-year terms and two associate members who serve one-year terms.

So does this sound like what you want you would like to get involved in? If so, go online ([http://jeffco.us/bcc/bcc\\_T25\\_R6.htm](http://jeffco.us/bcc/bcc_T25_R6.htm)) today to apply.

**District Attorney's Office to Host First Citizens Academy**—District Attorney Peter Weir is announcing the inaugural First Judicial District Attorney's Citizens Academy. This Academy is open to residents of Jefferson and Gilpin counties and is designed to help create a better understanding of the criminal justice system.

WHEN: Tuesday evenings 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. April 23 to June 25, 2013

WHERE: District Attorney's Training Room, 500 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden, CO 80401

The Academy is a 10-week program designed to immerse citizens in the judicial process, bringing participants together with law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges.

"For those who work within the criminal justice system, it is easy to assume that everyone in the community understands what we do, but that is not the case," Weir said, regarding the need for the Academy. "With this program we can show people not only the role of the District Attorney's Office but can also open up the process to them, helping to create a more informed and enlightened community."

The Academy will include dialogue with criminal justice leaders, visits to the Court and Detention Center, a review of the various functions of the District Attorneys Office and a "walk through of a criminal case."

Participants must live in Jefferson or Gilpin County and must submit an application by April 5, 2013. Applications are available on the District Attorney's website [www.districtattorney1.com](http://www.districtattorney1.com).

**Jefferson County Takes the AddONE Campaign to National Convention**—Commissioner Donald Rosier and local business leaders presented the AddONE initiative at the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Forum in Washington DC this week. AddONE ([www.AddONE.org](http://www.AddONE.org)) is a collective impact initiative designed to generate jobs in Jefferson County by challenging business to hire one new employee. NAWB invited Commissioner Rosier to speak at the general session because Jefferson County was recognized as one of two pioneers for the national campaign called Just Add One ([JustAddONE.net](http://JustAddONE.net)).

During his presentation to more than 1,000 convention attendees, Commissioner Rosier stated, "While government does not create jobs, we have the ability, tools and resources to assist the business community in doing so. This is not another government program, but a way for our economic development agencies, workforce center and other community agencies to support employers in taking the risk to add to their payrolls."

A simple solution to a complex problem, AddONE contends that if just a portion of the business community hire one employee, the economic multiplier would be significant. In five months, the AddONE campaign in Jefferson County has attracted businesses to "pledge" over 800 jobs. For more information on the AddONE campaign, please contact (303) 271-4800.

**National award recognizes West Rail Line**—**West Rail Line named one of most significant construction projects**—The Regional Transportation District (RTD)'s West Rail Line project has been named one of the most significant construction projects of 2012 by the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC).

The AGC presented its Alliant Build America Merit Awards March 7, 2013 during the association's annual convention in Palm Springs, Calif. The awards are considered by many to be the most prestigious recognition of construction accomplishments in the U.S.

Go to <http://www3.rtd-denver.com/elbert/news/index.cfm?id=3690> to read the article.

**Is Your Car Vulnerable?** By Sheriff Ted Mink— Spring beckons all of us to enjoy the outdoors and the many activities that Colorado has to offer. The thaw also provokes budding criminals to wreak havoc on the fun in the sun.

The Sheriff's Office has noticed a recent spike in the number of cars trespassed. Of the 748 vehicles trespassed in 2012, 80% were unlocked. The best defense is to make things harder on the criminals. Keep in mind that places like hiking trails, parking lots, and movie theaters are easy targets because criminals know you'll be gone for a while.

If you park your vehicle in the Open Space lots and/or Park and Ride areas, be responsible about locking your doors. Keep valuables out of sight, preferably locked in the trunk. Better yet, leave valuable items at home. Criminals looking for after-market stereos, purses, wallets and other items like to target cars in these areas, since the cars may be unattended for hours at a time.

Long hikes and movies aren't the only time when your car is vulnerable. It's also possible to be taken for a ride when you're away from your car for mere minutes. Some parents picking up or dropping off their children at daycare centers have returned to their unlocked cars to find that items have been stolen. Also, car wash bays and gas stations can be a prime spot for thieves if people are walking away from unlocked cars. Even if you are in a hurry, or think you'll be away from the car for just a minute, it's always a good idea to lock up.

**Inside the Mind of a Criminal** Have you ever wondered about the thought process a thief goes through before committing a crime? There is a three-part theory. The theory outlines three factors a criminal considers before committing a crime: risk, effort and reward. Understanding the thought process can help law enforcement, residents and business owners prevent crime before it happens.

**Risk:** What is the risk involved in committing the crime? In other words, will I be caught? Does the neighborhood have an active Neighborhood Watch group? Will suspicious behavior be reported to the authorities right away? Is the area well lit, or is it dark and secluded? Will I even be seen?

**Effort:** How much effort will it take to be successful? If the car doors are left unlocked, then there is hardly any effort involved in taking the laptop that was left on the front seat. If the garage door is left open allowing unforced entry to the house, that opportunity may be too easy to pass up.

**Reward:** What is the payoff? Is there a purse in plain view on the kitchen table? Are there expensive loose items in the car, such as a laptop, MP3 player, checkbook or wallet? Can I make off with the car itself in the blink of an eye?

The Sheriff's Office believes that you can significantly reduce the chances of being victimized by implementing some of the following suggestions: Always close garage doors after use; Don't leave unattended property, such as bicycles, outside your residence; Lock vehicles when not in use - even in your driveway-and take the keys with you; Don't leave vehicles running unoccupied; Don't leave property in plain sight inside your vehicle, no matter where it is parked; Install alarms and or "kill" switches in vehicles; Know who belongs in your area and report suspicious persons immediately; Keep your house well-lit at night to discourage would-be burglars; Keep records of serial numbers for valuables such as stereos, bicycles and sports equipment; Talk to your neighbors and look out for one another; Remember to lock the trunk, hatchback or the tailgate of a station wagon or SUV; Don't leave your motor vehicle registration, insurance policies, credit cards, or other important papers anywhere in your vehicle; Never hide a second set of keys in your vehicle. If possible, avoid parking next to large vehicles that may provide cover for a thief at work on your car,

**Recognizing Suspicious Vehicles**—Vehicles in the following situations MAY be involved in crimes and should be reported to authorities: Slow moving, without lights, following an aimless course near schools, and playgrounds (burglar, drug pusher, or sex offender)

Parked or occupied, containing one or more persons, especially at an unusual hour (lookouts for a burglary or robbery)

Parked by a business or unoccupied residence, being loaded with valuables (burglary or theft)

Abandoned in your neighborhood (stolen car)

Containing weapons (criminal activity)

Someone, especially a female or juvenile, being forced into a vehicle (kidnapping, assault, or attempted rape)

Someone attempting to forcibly enter the vehicle, especially in a parking lot (theft of vehicle or its contents)

Persons detaching mechanical parts or accessories (theft or vandalism)

Objects being thrown from the vehicle (disposing of contraband)

Business transactions taking place in the vehicle, especially around schools or parks (sale of stolen items or drugs)



Sheriff Ted Mink

**Jeffco Public Schools news – April, 2013 STUDENTS BUILDING CHARACTER** Connections Learning Center (CLC) student ambassadors are building character, communication skills and serving as role models to their younger Jeffco peers. CLC's leadership class allows student ambassadors to work with kindergarten and first-grade students at nearby Pleasant View Elementary in Golden. Every Wednesday, CLC students are in the classroom with their elementary peers reading, writing and facilitating various interactive activities. CLC ambassadors are also responsible for creating a welcoming environment for new students arriving to CLC every two weeks and assisting with the Monday Morning Character assemblies.



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Littleton, CO 80128

The April 2013 meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00 pm** at the Jeffco Sheriff's South station— 11139 Bradford Road. Ron Hopp of Foothills is scheduled to be the speaker.

**LOCAL SCHOOL HELPS WITH FAMILY RESOURE** Golden's Pleasant View Elementary recently held their first Job and Resource Fair for students' families and community. The school enlisted the help of local employers and community organizations and resources, all in an effort to help families in need of assistance or a lead to a new career opportunity. The fair was sponsored by Pleasant View's PTSA and was coordinated by their parent liaison and PTSA board. There was a large turnout at the small neighborhood school and they hope to make it an annual event.

**POSITIVITY PAYS OFF** Pomona High School senior Dominic Martinez, was surprised to receive a \$1,000 Positive Choice scholarship from a donor with The Jefferson Foundation. Martinez, is one of eight Jeffco students honored in this year's foundation-sponsored My Student, My Hero celebration. Martinez was nominated by his school counselor and teachers.

**ECONOMICS LESSON TIED TO COMPASSION** Van Arsdale Elementary School teacher DeAnna Nunley introduced students to a lesson in goal setting, compassion and giving. Nunley and her first-grade team colleagues introduced students to Heifer International . The lesson was tied to their economics unit to talk about long and short-term goals and opportunity cost. Students each brought in \$2 to purchase a goat. The class set a goal and made a goal-tracking poster of a goat. Each day, students counted the money and were excited to fill in the goat picture. The class picked the organization because it goes along with the book Beatrice's Goat , a recommended book for the first-grade economics unit.

**Coffee with the Superintendent** Join Superintendent Cindy Stevenson for coffee and conversation on Wed., April 10 from 8-9:30 a.m. at Irwin Preschool, 1505 S. Pierson St., Lakewood. Space is limited, RSVP to 303-982-6808 by Friday, April 5.

**Join the New Conversation - Engage Jeffco Schools** The district is always looking for ways to better connect with the people who have an interest in our schools. We also understand that attending a meeting to make your voice heard is not always possible. We searched for another way to connect with our community and we think we have found it.

We are now offering a new online format, Engage Jeffco Schools.

We hope you will join our online conversation, propose new ideas about how to improve education and vote on your favorite ideas. Use the Engage Jeffco link on the right side of this web page to tune into the conversation. The website is <http://www.engagejeffcoschools.com/>.