

COHOPE

council of homeowners organization for planned environment

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Upcoming Meetings:

Open Space: May 2, 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: May 15, 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: **May 1 County Regulations June 5 Justin Everett Legislature Review**

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Draft Minutes for April 3 Meeting Attendance: Diane Suchomel / At Large, Ray & Shujin Moore, Al Hintz / Kipling Hills, Cheri Paavola / At Large, Maureen Sielaff / At Large, Joe Peterson / At Large, Bob & Pat Ham / At Large, Ralph & Pat Miller / Columbine Hills Civic Assoc., Amber Beach / Columbine Knolls, Larry Major / Columbine Knolls South Estates, Cindy Coats & Mel Ochs / Columbine West Civic Assoc., Burke & Betty Steinke / Lakehurst West, Jemal Touba / Trappers View, Bette Peterson / Westridge-Lakeview Meadows, Winnie Burdan / Williamsburg II, Gordon Neuenfeldt / Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Ronald Hopp / Foothills Parks and Recreation District .

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m.

Winnie Burdan, President, welcomed everyone.

Special Reports – Gordon Neuenfeldt, Jefferson County Deputy, went over the statistics. There were no crime trends in March. There were car trespasses and burglaries.

They apprehended suspects who were standing over an air conditioner which "just fell on the ground" at 2-3 in the morning. They were probably after the metals.

Human remains were discovered west of C-470 and Bowles. It was on the other side of the hogback, way west. The remains have been there about a year. The victim has been identified and they are investigating.

Are you doing National Night Out? Yes, it is Aug. 6th.

No one from Jefferson County Public Schools was present.

The speaker tonight was **Ron Hopp, Foothills Parks and Recreation District Executive Director.**

The Foothills Parks and Recreation District meeting is the 4th Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at The Peak except in March, November, and December when they meet on the 2nd Tuesday.

Ron Hopp has been here for 5 years. Before that he was in Iowa. His second day here, the mil levy failed to pass. This forced them to re-evaluate the organization. Their goal is to create efficiencies and maximize revenues.

One of their successful programs has been Adopt A Park. Many entities can participate such as HOAs, scouts, or individuals. There have been over 20 Eagle Scout projects which include painting, building small bridges, bat houses, and raptor poles. The scout has to come to them with a defined project.

A community built a play ground at Powderhorn Park. They learned a LOT from the first project. The Latter Day Saints built a park in a day. They showed up with a LOT of people and were well organized. Ron believes that this creates ownership in the park in the community. They hope to do at least two more this year.

Sometimes they go coordinate with an art teacher of a local 2nd grade class. The art teacher has each of them draw a picture of their dream playground. Foothills uses these to help design the playground.

Some of their 2012 projects have involved parks, bat boxes, raptor pole, the dugout at baseball fields, Administration help, and tree planting. They have received Pride in Parks award.

Some of their efficiencies have been solar panels and using the heat generated from the ice rink to heat nearby buildings and pools. And they heated the pools to a higher temperature than before. They refinanced loans at a lower rate. The levy went down a little. Debt was paid. They reclassified employees for Workers Compensation.

What are their water sources? They have a lot of water sources from ditches to Denver Water. They are looking for a company to help redevelop Clement Park. It was built by Jefferson County and leased to Foothills Parks and Recreation District. The lease ended 2/1/13. They estimate \$7M of repairs. The county has contributed money for a study. The Park is 25 years old. They need to look at the opportunities for the next 25 years. They need to determine the costs and ways to fund improvements. They will probably ask for a bond or mil levy in 2014. The government passes laws such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, but do not provide any monies. On budget considerations, they have reduced administrative costs from 17% to 10% in 5 years. Ron gave us a handout with the actual amounts from 2011 and 2012 and the budgeted amounts from 2013 through 2018. He wants to be transparent. If they need more money, he wants us to trust us and give it to them. They will do what they say they are going to do.

Their website is www.foothills.org. Ron can be reached at rhopp@fhprd.org or 303-409-2107.

Are the outdoor pools at risk? Not this year. They analyzed every park and program. They made their cuts based on this information.

What kind of tasks can you do for Adopt a Park? Items include sprucing up, tidying up, trash pickup, and planting flowers.

What are you doing with sprinkler systems? If there is not a catastrophic failure, we leave it alone.

There is a overgrown canal ditch, but we can't find out who owns it. Contact Colin Insley or Ron. The person was told that a Ditch Company was the owner, but they never answer their phone.

The Master Plan was written in 2005. It had a very ambitious Acquisition Plan. They have 6 parcels for sale. There are 2 properties at Sims and Ward. It is under contract. It is projected for 86 single family homes and zoned residential. It should come before the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners in 90 days. 2 properties at Coal Mine and Wadsworth was under contract. The purchaser rezoned the property, changed the ODP for commercial development. Then they terminated the \$1.5M contract. There has been new interest. The 2 properties at Columbine and Wadsworth have had a lot of inquiries but nothing firm.

There is a BMX Bicycle Track proceeding at Schaefer Athletic complex. They are moving the Disc Golf course to a bigger area. The contract is with Mile High BMX. They will build it and maintain it. The builder may be the company that built the BMX Track for the Olympics.

Reports from Officers Roll Call was taken. We had 19 members present and have a quorum.

Winnie Burdan, President, was present. A new development at 11415 W. Belleview for 316 residential units will be discussed at the Board of County Commissioners meeting on April 30 at 8:00 a.m.

Diane Suchomel, Vice President, was present. The speaker next month will be Heather Gutherless from Jefferson County Planning and Zoning. She will talk about chickens and bees (new County regulations). You can get information at <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/sam/backyard-chickens.pdf>.

On Monday, 4/29, at the Columbine Library the HOA Information Office Forum will be from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Cynthia.aguilar@state.co.us. or call 303-894-2166. For more information go to the website for DORA, Real Estate Division.

There is a Pre-Application Hearing for Little Minds at W. Bowles and S. Youngfield Court.

There is a new law going into affect July 1 concerning the disposal of electronics. You can get information at www.colorado.gov/cdphe/ewaste, then select Information for residences.

Our Adopt a Highway Trash Pick-up day will be April 20 at 8:30 a.m. We will meet at West Bowles Community Church. Columbine Knolls wanted to know if anyone is interested in sharing a community dumpster, a common day, or shredder. They are a Voluntary HOA. They charge members \$25 to use the dumpster and they charge non-members \$45. Their dues are \$35. They usually locate the dumpster at Normandy Elementary parking lot.

Justin has agreed to speak in June.

Andy Kerr has a Town Hall at Lakewood Cultural Center on Saturday, April 6th, at 9:30 a.m.

COHOPE Treasury Activity: March 2013

W. R. Moore, Treasurer

Beginning Balance April 3, 2013 \$ 1825.19

Deposits \$ 320.00

Paavola \$20, Sielaff \$20, Columbine Knolls \$40, Westridge \$40 Kipling Hills \$40, Trappers View \$40, Columbine Hills Civic \$40, Hillside at Fairway Vista \$40, Columbine Knolls South Estates \$40, Sunrise Creek \$40

Withdrawals \$ 0.00

Ending Balance May 1, 2013 \$ 2185.19

Info from CDPHE's website on electronic waste ban

"Beginning July 1, 2013 it will be a violation of the solid waste regulations for residents of Colorado to dispose of electronic waste in their trash. While it has been for many years and continues to be violation of the hazardous waste regulations for industry, businesses, and government agencies to dispose of any electronic waste that exhibits one or more characteristics of hazardous waste in municipal solid waste landfills, Senate Bill 12-133 bans landfill disposal

THE BACKYARD

Columbine Hills Civic Association

From Draft Minutes of the March Board Meeting The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Vice President Robert Bruso. There were seven board members and two home-owners in attendance.

Old Business The minutes of the January meeting were approved. Jeffco Animal Control has been patrolling areas for dogs off-leash.

New Business There are four board positions available at the Annual Meeting in April. Four positions are for two (2). One of the board positions is for Treasurer and one position is for Vice President.

Dumpster Day is May 18. Participants must have made a donation to the Columbine Hills Civic Association. A \$10 fee will be charged for a second load. Metal scrap will be allocated to a trailer. Please help any seniors on your street who may have an item or two that needs to go to the Dumpster.

Motion was made and carried for Heather Vignola to complete the term of board member Greg Galczynski who resigned from the board. This term is for one (1) year.

Weather permitting, the May meeting will be held at the picnic shelters at the new playground / park at the corner of So. Kendall Blvd. and W. Canyon Ave.

Motion was made to adjourn at 10:40 a.m.— *Secretary, Randy Montgomery*

Columbine Knolls South II REVIEW

From President's Corner Spring and daylight savings time has arrived. It is so nice to be able to get out in the nice weather and take a walk or dust off the bike for an evening ride. It definitely gets you in the mood to check out new plants and plan what you might want to add to your garden this year! If this time of year motivates you to do some improvements, please remember to submit an Architectural Control Committee (i.e. "ACC") form before you paint the house, build a new fence, replace windows, etc. You can find the form on the website along with process instructions. It's all about keeping our neighborhood looking nice for everyone! Also, in the spirit of Spring cleaning, keep in mind that the CKSII Community Garage Sale, June 7 & 8, is a great way to recycle unwanted treasures and make a little money at the same time! With the arrival of the nice weather also comes to "toys of summer." If you own such an item please be aware of the rules that govern how/when these vehicles can be located in our community. As a homeowner, there are many things you can do if you feel a violation has occurred. Check the website as it will always contain the latest enforcement information. For example, RVs cannot be parked on the sidewalk at any time. If you see this, simply call the Jefferson County Sheriff's non-emergency phone number and they'll make a visit to the resident. Also, there's a limit as to how many days an RV can be parked on the county street or in the driveway. Check the website for guidelines and take action. If you're not sure what to do, call a board member or send an email.

Has anyone noticed the green recycle containers that Waste Management is offering free of charge to CKSII HOA members who also pay for trash removal? If you are a HOA member who has trash service, please contact Waste Management for your free container. It is nice to see our community taking another step in becoming more green!

The CKSII HOA did not have a meeting in March, but the Board members have been busy paying bills, adding new members and reviewing ACC requests as well as answering emails and questions from the community. — *Stephanie Haberkorn, President*

Columbine West Civic Association

Since membership dues increased a few years ago, the association has had the opportunity to bring a few more community events to fruition. In the advertising world this concept is referred to as "value added". What is value added? Value added describes what happens when you take a basic product, e.g. membership, and increase the value of that product (and usually also the price) by adding extras in the process and/or services. So you could pick a raw coffee bean and add value by roasting it and again add value by grinding it, or simply packaging it ready to grind. You could coat some of the roasted beans in chocolate and sell them as confectionery. So, how did CWCA add value to becoming a dues paying member? The most noticeable examples are the re-development of the corner of Zephyr/Ken Caryl Ave. and the Annual Dumpster/ Recycle Day (Big Event). The corner landscaping project is finished, but still requires annual maintenance, such as weed control and periodic watering throughout the hot/dry summer days. The dumpster/recycle event has given homeowners the opportunity to rid their homes of old documents to be shredded, unwanted metal items, unrepairable electronics and many trash related items no longer needed. Along with the large projects, the calendar reflects the Com-

munity Garage Sale, National Night Out, Halloween Decorating Contest and Holiday Lighting Contest. All of these events are funded by the membership fees that are collected from Columbine West residents during the Annual Dues Drive in April. In the past we have even had some new ideas shared on the dues postcard that have helped the Board make decisions on how dues could be allocated during budget reviews. If you are already a dues-paying member, we ask that you renew when your postcard arrives. If you have not paid dues in awhile, we ask that you reconsider. If you are new to the neighborhood, paying dues is a “value added” opportunity. Thank you for paying dues, CWCA counts on the money your membership provides to make events happen throughout the year. Anyone can attend a monthly meeting, held on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Dutch Creek Elementary, or during the summer months at the Pool Pavilion at 6:30 p.m. Drop by, say hello, bring questions to the Board or possibly volunteer to help on a project. All neighbors are welcomed and encouraged to attend and get involved. One of CWCA’s mission statements is – To initiate civic programs that bring the community together and encourage residents to maintain the general appearance of Columbine West.

The Leawood Reporter

From Leawood Civic Association Minutes of March 5, 2013 The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm. In attendance were Mike Shaw, Paul O’Connor, Laurel McFerrin-Ontiveros, Rhonda Eveleth, Richard White, JJ Scott, and Babzanne Barker with her son, Michael Barker, who attended to take notes for a school assignment.

The minutes of the February meeting as published in the March issue of the Reporter were approved and the treasury report was presented. The Leawood Park Board has reimbursed the LCA for their agreed portion of last years’ Spring Cleanup and Picnic. There have been \$885 in total memberships received for the year so far and \$715 total toward the scholarship fund collected since the last scholarship award was distributed. Richard White is going to transfer all but \$100 of the money from PayPal into the LCA checking account.

The membership drive was discussed next. Rhonda Eveleth is going to look into the cost of printing and mailing membership flyers to all Leawood residents. Varying payment options were also discussed including setting up a drop box somewhere in the neighborhood, encouraging electronic payment through payer’s bank account bill pay programs, PayPal, and regular mail.

The Leawood Volunteer Night was discussed at length. This event will be held at Leawood Elementary School on April 9th at 6:00 pm. The LCA will provide pizza, beverages and cookies. In an attempt to get the word out to as many residents as possible, Mike will either order signs for the neighborhood or will send out emails to everyone who has provided their email addresses to the LCA. The purpose of this event is to encourage neighbors to meet the board members, contribute their opinions on improving current events and activities and hopefully suggest new ideas. Neighborhood beautification and volunteer opportunities will also be discussed. If this Volunteer Night is successful, the LCA will consider making it an annual event.

The newest member of the Leawood Civic Association, JJ Scott, introduced some exciting new ideas for Leawood and the LCA. First, she came up with a brief survey for Leawood residents that will be distributed in the Reporter. She also suggested having “Front Yard Parties” once a month starting in May and ending in September. Basically, different homeowners, on the second Friday of each month, volunteer to have the event at their home and the party is held on their front lawn. Snacks and a “party pack” will be provided by the LCA and it is B.Y.O.B. for everyone who attends. This would be a great opportunity for Leawood neighbors to get to know each other and have some fun over the (hopefully) warm months. JJ has volunteered her home for the first event on Friday, May 10th. Mike will send emails out to everyone regarding this event as the date gets closer.

The LCA Volunteer Night Event on Tuesday, April 9th will take place of the normal LCA meeting in April. The event will take place at Leawood Elementary School at 6:30 pm.

From Leawood Recreation and Park District Minutes of March 6, 2013 The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. at Leawood Elementary School by President Kyle Sargent. Members present were: Charlie Campbell, Donna Snyder, Linda Smith, Mibby Luedecke and Parks Manager, Dave Padilla. Three Coventry residents also attended the first part of the meeting

Public Comment– Three members from Coventry subdivision, which is a gated community east of Leawood, had concern about the placement of the dumpster and tree debris in the east part of Raccoon Park off Sheridan. The three houses back up to Raccoon Park’s east side. The concern was about the placement of the 3 cubic yard dumpster we placed there several months ago. We explained the history of no longer being able to place trash in the dumpsters at Columbine High School. Dave needed a disposal place for trash in between contract times with L&M. They remove the trash from the pavilions and trash containers throughout the park from April to October. Dave, Charlie and Kyle had been in contact with the residents and the president of the Coventry HOA after they lodged concerns. Dave and Charlie moved the dumpster site so it could not be seen by the houses. We are currently constructing a pad with a fence and landscaping. This information was relayed to the residents also. One resident had concern with the large pile of tree debris from the trimming of trees in Raccoon Park. Dave assured her we had no intention of leaving it there and the tree company had al-

ready been contacted to dispose of it. It was a matter of timing. All residents seemed satisfied of the conclusions. A resident requested information on the placement of additional trees in Weaver Park. We will discuss our tree plans at the April meeting. He also suggested to Dave a tree trimmer contractor. Dave will keep the info on file.

Treasurer's Report— Donna submitted the Treasurer's Report as well as bills to be paid. Invoices include: United Site Services, Horizon, KS Electric for work at Leawood Pavilion, reimbursement to Linda for laminating services, Denver Water, Dave's invoice, snow removal invoice, and reimbursement to petty cash. Mibby moved the report be approved and bills paid. Linda seconded and the motion passed. The Auditor for our annual audit exception had not finished our audit by the meeting date. Charlie moved for us to receive the audit exemption report electronically provided there are no significant issues. Mibby seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Donna is to file the annual Lottery disbursement report as required.

Parks Manager Report – Dave met with Goodland Construction related to the placement of the concrete pad and fencing for the dumpster in Raccoon Park. He also discussed the exposed aggregate work that was starting in Raccoon Park and new concrete work at Tract T. There will be a bollard added at the entrance of the xeriscape area to keep trucks off the park sidewalk. Dave performed several snow removals from all parks. The ATV went in for repair and 200 hour maintenance. Trash was picked up from containers throughout the parks and placed in the new dumpster.

Old Business – A contract was signed with L&M for grass cutting and other maintenance services for 2013, starting in April. Linda printed a catalog from a company that sent us information related to exercise stations. The Board discussed opportunities and locations for fitness stations. More discussion will be held later. Kyle is checking on GIS mapping opportunities in relation to mapping distances of the walking areas in the park.

Meetings for 2013 Wednesday, May 8, 2013, Leawood Elementary School, Wednesday, June 12, 2013, Place to be determined, Wednesday, July 10, 2013, Place to be determined, Wednesday, August 14, 2013, Place to be determined
The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM. — *Linda T. Smith, Vice President and Secretary*

Woodbourne

From Notes From the Board The March Board meeting was held on March 20, 2013. The Board is planning for the upcoming summer season. It will be here before you know it.

The Community Shredding Event is scheduled for April 20, 2013.

Thank you to James Meyer and John and Marsha Smith for planning and running the Easter Egg Hunt. This is always a favorite event of our neighborhood kids.

The April Board meeting is the Annual Homeowners' Meeting and it will be held on April 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Woodbourne Clubhouse. We will be electing three Board members and discussing general neighborhood information. Please join us as we need to meet a 25% quorum in order to conduct any business. If you are unable to make the meeting, please submit your proxy prior to the meeting. Please contact Kim Herman with Management Specialists at 720-974-4234 with any questions.— *Carrie Kollar, President*

Williamsburg II News

President's Message We find ourselves now officially into Spring by several weeks and Easter is but a distant chocolate bunny memory. Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt was another well attended and popular event, even though Mother Nature didn't want to cooperate. Thanks to all who participated and a special appreciation to the same board members who volunteer their time year in and year out coordinating such events. The end of the school year is getting close and not only kids but adults as well may be catching spring fever and finding it difficult not to daydream about being outdoors in our beautiful Colorado climate. With this time of year comes spring cleaning, so mark those calendars and start prepping for the Community Garage Sale by cleaning out those closets, garages and basements!

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

From HOA Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2013 – Annual Meeting Mike Eppers called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. In attendance were Mike Eppers, Susan Ganz, Bill Ganz, Debra White and Sharon Erickson.

Newsletter/Web page Several errors in the article entitled Animal Shelter Drive on page 3 were pointed out by Deb. First sentence under the list of household items should read "Many animals have been transported from other parts of the country to shelters all over the rest of the country (rather than county), including Colorado....." Final sentence should read "We hope to see you there. No other corrections were noted. The board noted that the articles used in the March newsletter were very timely. The web page has been updated and includes the information on the upcoming Egg Hunt in March.

Treasurer's Report - Susan presented the checkbook register report setting out deposits and checks issued. All bills have been submitted and paid except the Board Insurance in the amount of \$1560. The Xcel bill pay for electrici-

ty at the front entrance has been set up on the Xcel auto pay system.

Dues paid so far for 2013 total \$3815 = 34% of equivalent homeowners.

Historian All information current through December events – Hayride and Holiday Lighting Contest.

Covenant Issues No current issues.

Old Business Easter Egg Hunt Plans were reviewed. Susan and Deb will purchase prize baskets, plastic eggs and candy for the event. Beth Schneider will provide face painting again this year. Event will be held on Saturday, March 23rd at Eagle Meadows Park.

Garage Sale is scheduled for June 7th and June 8th. Board members will follow up with potential sponsors. Mike will contact the movie vendor we used last year and confirm our July 20th Outdoor Movie Night at Eagle Meadows Park. Several movie suggestions were presented – watch later newsletter for final selection.

New Business All board members present agreed to continue on as board members. Susan motioned for approval of the continuation of the existing board; Sharon seconded the motion. Without objection, all existing officers agreed to continue in their current positions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

of certain electronic wastes from households. Under limited conditions, a Board of County Commissioners may vote to temporarily exempt its residents from the ban.

Electronics that are banned from disposal include: computers & computer monitors, televisions, printers, fax machines, DVD & VCR players, Peripherals such as keyboards & mice, radios & stereos, video game consoles, laptops, notebooks Ultrabooks, netbooks & tablets"

Commissioner Rosier responded saying that Rooney Road Recycling does accept electronics. I copied the list of electronics they accept from their website. That place is only open Wed & Sat from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cost for recycling: screen size 5 to 20 inches \$20, 21 - 30 inches \$25, 31 - 40 inches \$30, 41 - 50 inches \$35, console TV in cabinet \$50, huge home entertainment center TV \$75, LCD flat screen TV (any size) \$20.

The items listed below have additional processing costs to get the metals and other hazardous components out; therefore, there will be a charge per component. Please call the appointment line for unit pricing. Computer Monitor and Tower, Keyboard, Laptop , Power Supply, Printer, Fax Machine, Televisions, VCR, Stereo, DVD Player, Wires. "

COHOPE clean up pictures—April 21. Due to snow that was still around on the 20th and more coming for next week, we took advantage of the great weather on Sunday for the trash pick-up along Bowles.



(Cohope minutes continued) **Ray Moore, Treasurer**, was present. The Treasurer's Report includes the 2012 Budget. We have \$1,925.19. We were slightly over budget, mostly because of the rooms we had to rent for meetings due to the elections.

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

Old Business None.

New Business None.

Announcements None.

We adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The meeting was convened at 6:57 p.m.—*Cheri Paavola*

Thwart Cyber Thugs By Sheriff Ted Mink— If there is anything I've learned in the past 40 years of fighting crime, it's that you need to be smarter than the crooks. Lately they've found a new place to prowl-online. In the last several years, online crime, 'cyber crime' has grown exponentially. In fact, last year the FBI Computer Crime Survey estimated annual losses from all types of computer crime at \$67 billion a year. So join me now and let's work together to prevent cyber crime at home, at work and on the road.



Sheriff Ted Mink

Cyber crime is essentially a new spin on old scams. These usually come in the form of spam, and identity theft. Cyber crooks can also infect your computer with malicious stuff like spyware (software designed to watch your every move, to include keys you hit while entering passwords) and adware that buries you with pop-up ads. Then there is phishing where a crook sends emails that scare you into giving them private information, credit card numbers and online passwords, for example. It's time to put a stop to cyber crime. You can help us beat these thugs if you stay alert, become savvy, and shield yourself.

Stay Alert All over the internet you can find free stuff like music, videos, and even smiley faces to download. What you don't see is the real cost, the nasty surprise they fail to mention, adware and spyware.

If you use wireless hotspots or home networks, you may be providing cyber crooks with a whole new way to rip you off. Without the right safe guards Wi-Fi networks let the bad guys capture everything you do online.

Crooks can also hijack servers that direct you from one website to another. Or they can corrupt your web browser to take you to the wrong website. Here is how it works: First, you type in a web address or click on the link in an email. You end up on a fake or spoofed site, although it looks legitimate. At the fake site, you find many opportunities to enter your credit card number. You are rewarded by a cyber crook who steals your credit card number. This is called 'pharming' where the cyber thief 'harvests' your money.

Keep your security up-to-date. Cyber crooks continue to develop their strategies. Security companies constantly research and update their protection, which you need to make sure your computer, and your family, remain safe from cyber crime.

Set up a free web-based email address and provide that address to websites whenever you sign up for anything. That way, a lot of the spam will go to that free account instead of your personal inbox.

Avoid pop-ups like the plague. Above all, never enter personal information in a pop-up window, since it could be a phishing site. Be savvy and don't become another identity theft victim.

Take care when shopping online. Look for indicators that the website is secure, like a small lock icon on your browser's status bar, a trusted seal like those from Verisign or TRUSTe and a website URL that begins with 'https' (that extra 's' stands for secure).

Shield Yourself Call your bank, service provider or institution to verify any emails before you click on any links or fill out any forms. Also remember, the IRS never emails taxpayers, so anything from the IRS is really a phishing scam.

Get a credit report from all three major credit reporting agencies at least once a year. The law says you can get a free annual report, which allows you to review your credit and check to see if someone has opened accounts in your name. If you find anything wrong, contact the credit agencies to report the error.

Review every credit card statement. If a charge looks suspicious, contact your credit provider to have it removed to help avoid future losses.

Lock down your wireless home network. If you don't know how, hire someone to help you or use wireless protection software that makes wireless security easier to manage. Unprotected wireless networks invite cyber crooks to rip you off.

Turn on or buy parental controls for your computer to manage when your kids can go online, and limit them to approved, safe websites. Some parental controls even limit your children's ability to share or download files, helping to ensure they don't load your system with spyware.

There are services that focus on testing websites to see whether they include risky downloads. One of the best known services is McAfeeSiteAdvisor.

Several companies now offer security products that use your fingerprint or other personal features to make sure only you or people you approve can access your computer. You can use these tools to safely store passwords and keep your kids from outsmarting your parental controls.

The JCSO Drug Take-Back Initiative is in one week, on Saturday April 27th from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at two locations: Dakota Ridge High School, 13399 W. Coal Mine Ave., Littleton (West Parking Lot)

Evergreen Fire Rescue, 1802 Bergen Parkway, Evergreen

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal. The program is anonymous. Prescription and over-the-counter solid dosage medication (tablets and capsules) are accepted. Intravenous solutions, injectables, and needles will not be accepted.

Jeffco Public Schools news – April, 2013 CHALLENGING SCHOOLS RANK HIGH The Washington Post ranks the most challenging high schools in The High School Challenge 2012 and five Jeffco schools are on the national and state



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The May 2013 meeting will be on **Wednesday, May 1 at 7:00 pm** at the Jeffco Sheriff's South station— 11139 Bradford Road. Heather Gutherless and Nina Ruiz of Jefferson County are scheduled to speak on new Jefferson County regulations.

rankings. The Colorado state rankings list Evergreen High School as the fourth most challenging school in the state, Lakewood takes the fifth spot, Conifer is placed at sixth, D'Evelyn at eighth and Bear Creek High School (BCHS) lands in the 22nd slot. BCHS Principal Kevin Carroll just announced the ranking to his staff. "This reinforced to them that they are an amazing group of educators," he said. "They pour themselves into their work with our students every day and not for recognition, but because they love what they do. We give our students great pathways to their future and we're not done yet." America's Most Challenging High Schools ranks schools through an index formula that's a simple ratio: the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Advanced International Certificate of Education tests given at a school each year, divided by the number of seniors who graduated that year.

TEACHING SAFETY GOES DIGITAL Jeffco students are learning how to safely cross the new W Rail Line tracks with the help of the City of Lakewood. As part of Lakewood's Safe Routes to School program, the city has created a five-minute safety video with FasTracks Freddy to show students how to look, listen and cross the tracks when they are walking or riding a bicycle to and from school. Lakewood officials delivered the video to Eiber and Molholm elementary schools and Jeffco Open School.

DADS PUT STUDENTS FIRST Over 50 fathers, step-fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers and family friends are supporting Westgate Elementary School's mission of putting students first. The school recently implemented the Watch DOGS program in an effort to bring more positive male role models into the building. The program is a father-involvement initiative of the National Center for Fathering that organizes fathers and father figures to provide male role models to students and enhance school security. The men have taken an oath to make Westgate a safer, more welcoming environment and volunteer in other ways at the school. Westgate's parents, students, staff and community have nothing but positive praise for the program. Several Jeffco elementary schools have the Watch DOGS program in place.

Board approves sixth-grade move to Bell Middle School Last night, the Jefferson County Board of Education approved moving the sixth-grade students at Mitchell Elementary to Bell Middle School to address over-crowding, starting in the fall of 2013. Mitchell is currently at 110 percent of capacity. A Mitchell parent advisory committee recommended that the board move the sixth-grade to Bell Middle School as the best option to address overcrowding.

School finance bill moves to House The school finance bill cleared the Senate this week with some amendments and is now moving to the House for committee debate. The bill would increase funding for kindergarten and preschool as well as at-risk students, English language learners and special education.