

# **Columbine West Civic Association**

# Newsletter o





Vol. 33 No. 02 February 2011 Circulation: 1,555

## Free Full-Day Kindergarten At Dutch Creek Elementary

2011-2012 School Year

We are thrilled to announce that Dutch Creek Elementary (303-982-4565) has been approved to maintain its FREE FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN for the 2011-2012 school year! Kindergarten registration is currently taking place at Dutch Creek. Please bring birth certificate, immunization records, and proof of residence with you to registration. If you live outside of the school's attendance area, please also fill out a choice enrollment form. Children must be 5 years old by October 1, 2011. Dutch Creek has an academically rigorous program that focuses on social and academic development. Please contact us if you have additional questions or if you'd like to visit because we expect to quickly fill our sections.



## Sneak Peak At What's Coming

Tax Talk Membership Drive Officer Elections Garage Sale Big Event

## Brenda Scott to Speak at CWCA March Meeting

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending a very informative talk on taxes from CWCA resident and financial professional Brenda Scott. The meeting will be on March 8th, 7 p.m., at Dutch Creek Elementary. Brenda will present on, Credits: Are you getting what you should? Most frequently forgotten deductions? College education and your taxes, as well as other updates. She will take questions and offer a FREE Tax Planning Consultation to any interested homeowners. As a tax expert she will be contributing articles to the newsletter concerning specific income tax law issues. CWCA appreciates her willingness to share her knowledge to help alert and educate the community. Take the time to join others that may need some tax questions answered.

**Next CWCA Meetings** 

7.00 p.m., Dutch Creek Elementary

Feb. 8th, Mar. 8th, Apr. 12th

### Bye, Bye, Birdie Musical at Columbine H.S.

BYE BYE BIRDIE is one of the most captivating musical shows of our time. It tells the story of a rock and roll singer who is about to be inducted into the army. The singer, Conrad Birdie, an Elvis Presley type, has a pompadour and thick sideburns; he wears gaudy gold costumes and speaks in a rugged voice. Albert Peterson, his agent, is a very pleasant mild mannered young man. Albert's faithful secretary Rose Alvarez keeps him and Birdie moving forward in the world. Rosie concocts one final national publicity plan before Conrad's induction. Conrad will bid a typical American teen-age girl goodbye with an all-American kiss. Kim MacAfee in Sweet Apple, Ohio wins the honor. The arrival of Birdie in Sweet Apple causes people of all ages to swoon. BYE BYE BIRDIE is a satire done with the fondest affection. It gives an insight into the everyday life that is very much part of us all. It is the tops in imagination and frivolity; a show that will be enjoyed by the cast as much as the audience.

Columbine High School Music Dept. will be entertaining the community with performances starting on Wed. February 23rd at 7 p.m., followed by Thurs. February 24th, 7 p.m., Fri. February 25th, 7 p.m. and ending with a Sat. February 26th, 2:00 p.m. matinee. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling **303-982-4510**, or at the door the night of the performance. The students that have chosen to be part of the performance are extremely dedicated to rendering a musical production that each audience member will find fascinating and captivating. Plan on showing some "Rebelstrong" pride and catch the show.

### w- |

We need your help!

We need volunteers to deliver the CWCA newsletter to the neighbors who live on and near your street. The time involved is ususally less than a half an hour a month. We receive this newsletter for free each month. In return, our commitment to the publisher of the newsletter, Colorado Lasertype, is that the newsletter will be delivered in a timely manner to all the homes in the neighborhood. Columbine West is a large neighborhood but if each person does one small thing, we can get it done! Please call 303-972-2387 to volunteer. We need you! We need substitute volunteers to help cover routes when people are ill or out of town.

### CWCA Calendar of Events

- Feb. 8th, 7-8:30 p.m., Dutch Creek Elem., CWCA Meeting
- Feb. 23rd, 24th & 25th, 7 p.m. & Feb. 26th, 2 p.m. C.H.S. Musical Performance, Bye, Bye, Birdie
- Mar. 8th, 7-8:30 p.m., Dutch Creek Elem., CWCA Meeting
- Mar. 13th, Daylight Savings Time
- Apr. 1st, Membership Drive Begins
- Apr. 12th, 7-8:30 p.m., Dutch Creek Elem., CWCA Meeting Officer Nominations

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### Tax Update: Part One

In a flurry of activity last year, Congress passed legislation which created new tax provisions, eliminated some items and extended the so-called Bush Tax Cuts. The December article dealt with changes included in the Health Care law. The January and February articles will give highlights from other legislation. Perhaps the most well-known activity was the extension of post 9/11 tax brackets for two more years. These will continue to range from 10% to 35%. Had the extension not passed, the brackets would have increased to a range starting at 15% up to 39.6%. Failure to extend the rates would have had the greatest impact on taxpayers at the lower end of the income spectrum by doubling their liability.

Another popular item extended was the Child Tax Credit, which will continue to be \$1000 per qualifying child instead of reverting to \$500. Also, the favorable capital gains treatment will continue through 2011, so if you are considering selling a capital asset with a large potential gain, this extends your window of opportunity to do so without creating a significant tax burden.

Other credits to be extended through 2011 include the American Opportunity Education Credit, the Tuition and Fees Deduction, educator's expense deduction and the elimination of much of the marriage penalty. An alternative minimum tax (AMT) patch was also approved.

The Making Work Pay Credit, which came about in 2009 as a stimulus initiative, reduced the amount of tax withheld from paychecks and then balanced that difference with a credit ranging from \$400 (one taxpayer) to \$800 (married filing jointly) on the 2009 and 2010 tax returns. This was not extended so even though you will calculate it for your 2010 taxes, make certain you are not depending upon it to decrease your liability next year.

A little known provision that slipped through the Health Care Bill requires landlords and all businesses, including sole proprietors, to issue a 1099-Misc to every person or company they purchase products or services from in excess of \$600 throughout the year. The requirement for businesses does not start until 2012, and Congressional action is underway that may eliminate this due to cost concerns.

The requirement for landlords begins this year, however, and has a huge impact. If you own even one rental property, please watch upcoming articles for hints on how to keep records, protect yourself from the increased risk of identity theft and what information you need to obtain in order to write off legitimate expenses.

Another unique, one-year provision which began January 1, 2011 was called a taxpayers holiday. For this year only, employees will have 4.2% Social Security tax deducted from their pay instead of the traditional 6.2%. Next month's article will deal with how this impacts a sole proprietor and creative ways to use the additional income to solidify your financial situation.

Questions and comments about this article can be forwarded to Brenda at jkblscott@msn.com or 303-726-2718.

### Columbine Montessori Preschool

Columbine Montessori Preschool will begin accepting reservations for the Fall 2011-2012 school year on the 1st of March, 2011. Please call the school at **303-979-7190** to schedule an observation appointment. Columbine Montessori offers an academic preschool program through kindergarten. Visit our website at **columbinemontessori.com**.

### **Columbine West Civic Association**

303-904-8218 • www.columbinewest.org www.neighborhoodlink.com/jeffco/cwc

#### **Officers**

Nora Lund, *President* • 303-904-8218 • CWCAtalk@gmail.com Joyce Hooker, *Vice President*, dnjhooker@msn.com Secretary - OPEN Mary Cole, *Treasurer* 

### **Board Members**

5 Board positions FILLED, 1 OPEN

### **COHOPE Delegate**

Cindy Coats and Floating Board Member

# Newsletter Delivery Coordinators 303-972-2387

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Natasha McCombs, ncmccombs@yahoo.com

### Website Coordinator Amanda O'Bryan

### Newsletter Ad Manager

Colorado Lasertype

### Garden Club Coordinator

Open

### Schools

Dutch Creek Elementary 7304 W. Roxbury Pl. Ken Caryl Middle School 6509 W. Ken Caryl Ave. Columbine High School 6201 S. Pierce St.

Check Facebook for information on Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

The newsletter is published monthly. Deadline for news is the 13th and ads is the 15th of each month for the next month's issue except the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th. All articles must be approved by the editor for publication, or as space permits. To submit an article, please call a board member or e-mail the editor. All "Letters to the Editor" must be signed and include a daytime phone number in case there are any questions. Letters may be printed without the author's name if requested.

For advertising, contact Colorado Lasertype, 303-979-7499 getinfo@ColoradoLasertype.com

Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

### NIC Mission Statement

A group of volunteer homeowners who welcome new residents, educate all Columbine West residents about covenants, zoning and county ordinances, while addressing issues pertaining to our community, and look for opportunities to improve and enhance our neighborhood.

# Jefferson County Numbers

| Information           | 303-279-6511 | Motor Vehicles      | 303-271-8100 |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Animal Control        | 303-271-5070 | Highways &          |              |
| Clerk & Recorder      | 303-271-8168 | Transportation      | 303-271-8495 |
| Colorado State Patrol | 303-239-4500 | Planning & Zoning   | 303-271-8700 |
| County Commissioners  | 303-271-8525 | Sheriff - Emergency | 911          |
| County Administrator  | 303-271-8500 | Traffic Complaints  | 303-271-5677 |
| Extension Service     | 303-271-6620 | Voting Information  | 303-271-8111 |
|                       |              | 3                   |              |

### Congratulations Holiday Lighting Contest Winners

After spending about 2 hours driving all the streets in the neighborhood, the committee narrowed down 4 possible homes to be selected as winners. Taking a second look at them, the top 2 winners were awarded. It was a pleasure to see all the homes that were lit up this year. With the warmer than usual weather that we have experienced, it gave homeowners more time to put lights and decorations up. Congratulations to Marianne and Javier Martinez at 6840 S. Zephyr St., who commented that while they put up less lights this year, they still took 2-3 weeks to get them done. Kudos to Corrine and Corky Crabbs at 7208 W. Fremont Dr., who mentioned they usually start installation in October, but also put up fewer lights this year. Both yards were amazing and both couples were very happy to have been chosen, and very thankful for the \$25 gift cards. There were many others that deserved honorable mention. Thank you to all the homeowners that took the time to decorate, which added festiveness to the neighborhood.

### Garden Committee Members Needed

This year, the garden duties will need to be tended to in a creative manner. The entrances have been completed as planned, so community members are needed to assist in periodic watering, weeding and trimming. Since so much time and energy have already been invested in the entrances it is necessary to ask community members to offer some support. The Columbine West Calendar of Events will post dates that members will be asked to show up and take initiative to keep the gardens looking maintained. Additional dates may also be planned by interested groups looking to help, ie. Girls Scout Troops, Boy Scouts, Shiloh House or others that may want to offer up time to help cover some responsibilities, whether it be a few hours, an afternoon or a day. To have you name added to the volunteer list or have any questions, please leave a message on the voicemail line 303-904-8218 or email CWCAtalk@gmail.com.

### Recycle, Renew

McDonald's starts with a three-pronged approach: reduce, reuse, and recycle; and we are committed to diverting as much waste as possible from the solid waste stream. McDonald's has come up with countless small ways to make a big impact: Switching to unbleached paper napkins made from recycled materials; Examining how their suppliers package raw materials and cleaning supplies; They have even created litter patrols to ensure they are good neighbors in the community; Their customers are also helping make a difference. McDonald's restaurants inside WalMart stores saved an estimated 170 million napkins (equivalent to 497 tons of wood) in just one year through the "One Meal, One Napkin" campaign. Travel through time using their Interactive Timeline! See the birth of McDonald's, the launch of your favorite menu item, McDonald's characters, or advertising jingles! Example: 1962 - McDonald's in Denver becomes the first restaurant with inside seating. You can navigate the timeline by clicking on the various years at the right, or by clicking on the top of each event window. Enjoy the memories! www.aboutmcdonalds.com/mcd/our company/mcd history.html

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### 5 Things You Never Knew Your Cell Phone Could Do

For all the folks with cell phones. (This should be printed and kept in your car, purse, and wallet. Good information to have with you.) There are a few things that can be done in times of grave emergencies. Your mobile phone can actually be a life saver or an emergency tool for survival. Check out the things that you can do with it:

### **1ST (EMERGENCY)**

The Emergency Number worldwide for Mobile is 112. If you find yourself out of the coverage area of your mobile network and there is an Emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing network to establish the emergency number for you, and interestingly, this number 112 can be dialed even if the keypad is locked. Try it out.

### 2ND (LOCKED KEYS IN CAR)

Have you locked your keys in the car? Does your car have remote keyless entry? This may come in handy someday. Good reason to own a cell phone:

If you lock your keys In the car and the spare keys are at home, call someone at home on their cell phone from your cell phone. Hold your cell phone about a foot from your car door and have the person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the mobile phone on their end. Your car will unlock. Saves someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can reach someone who has the other 'remote' for your car, you can unlock the doors (or the trunk)

### 3RD (HIDDEN BATTERY POWER)

Imagine your cell battery is very low. To activate, press the keys \*3370#. Your cell phone will restart with this reserve and the instrument will show a 50% increase in battery. This reserve will get charged when you charge your cell phone next time.

#### 4TH (HOW TO DISABLE A STOLEN MOBILE PHONE?)

To check your mobile phone's serial number, key in the following Digits on your phone: \*#06#.

A 15-digit code will appear on the screen. This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe. If your phone is stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset so even if the thief changes the SIM card, your phone will be totally useless. You probably won't get your phone back, but at least you know that whoever stole it can't use/sell it either. If everybody does this, there would be no point in people stealing mobile phones.

### AND FINALLY... 5TH (FREE DIRECTORY SERVICE FOR CELLS)

Cell phone companies are charging us \$1.00 to \$1.75 or more for 411 information calls when they don't have to. Most of us do not carry a telephone directory in our vehicle, which makes this situation even more of a problem. When you need to use the 411 information option, simply dial: (800) FREE411 or (800) 373-3411. No charges apply. Program this into your cell phone now. This is sponsored by McDonalds.

### City Year... Give a Year, Change the World

City Year unites young people of all backgrounds for a year of full-time service, giving them the skills and opportunities to change the world. As tutors, mentors and role models, these diverse young leaders help children stay in school and on track, and transform schools and communities across the United States, as well as through international affiliates in Johannesburg, South Africa and London, England. Just as important, during their year of service corps members develop civic leadership skills they can use throughout a lifetime of community service. Major corporations and businesses participate in our mission by serving as strategic partners, team sponsors, and national leadership sponsors. Together we're building a citizen service movement that is larger than our organization, our lifetime, and ourselves. City Year was founded in 1988 on the belief that young people can change the world. At City Year's locations across the United States and in South Africa, young people - called "corps members" - serve full time for 10 months. City Year's vision is that one day the most commonly asked question of a young person will be, "Where are you going to do your service year?" Every 26 seconds, a student gives up on school in America. City Year corps members serve as tutors, mentors and role models to help students stay on track – and get back on track – to graduate. By giving corps members the skills and opportunities to serve in schools and neighborhoods across the country, City Year seeks to: Help students and schools succeed, build stronger communities, break down social barriers, develop young leaders and foster active citizenship.

"Never mistake knowledge for wisdom, one gives you work and the other a better life."

— Dave Ramsey

### A Jeweler's Monopoly on Game Bling

Sidney Mobell calls himself a showman. And that's right on the mark, considering that the 84 year old jeweler is the creator of a \$2 million, gold-plated Monopoly game, on display at New York's Museum of American Finance through October 2012. The game, on loan from the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History, weighs 32 pounds and is covered with 165 gemstones. The cards are 23-karat gold-plated, and the tokens and dice are solid 18-karat gold. In 1986, Mobell says, he called the game manufacturer, Parker Brothers, and offered to make a commemorative set for a Monopoly world championship. "Photo-etching the cards was tough", he says. Mobell, who owned a San Francisco jewelry store for more than 30 years, has created other whimsical pieces, including a 14-karat gold and diamond mousetrap. So where does he get ideas? "Who knows?" says the fan of art deco artist-designer Erte'. "I think of something as I go to sleep, and write it down before I go to sleep."

— Frank McCoy (AARP Bulletin)

### Library Lovers' Month

Check out a book (or a video or CD) and celebrate the value of libraries everywhere. Support your local library, whether it's public, private, or school-based.



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### Creative Youth Corner

The newsletter has been asking homeowners to submit articles to help represent the varied talents that comprise our neighborhood. We will be highlighting young writers for the next few months. If you happen to have a written piece you would like to submit, email the editor at nemccombs@yahoo.com. Deadline for each month is the 15th.

### Rates Of Hunger And Food Insecurity In The U.S. Have Increased Significantly

Rates of hunger and food insecurity in the U.S. have increased significantly. Six million Americans age 60 and older – over 11% of all older Americans – suffer some form of food insecurity. Among seniors, people age 60 to 64 face the highest risk of hunger. To make ends meet, they might skip meals or buy processed instead of fresh food. Others may live in a 'food desert' – fast food all around but no grocery stores (see our glossary of hunger-related terms). And some might have mobility limitations that prevent them from shopping for groceries.

Hunger and inadequate nutrition leave older adults vulnerable to poor health and chronic diseases, including depression. At the same time, contributions to food banks and other emergency providers of free and low-cost food have been stretched. By helping get healthy food to a hungry senior, you can help address the problem.

#### **HUNGER IN COLORADO**

40th: State rank for senior risk of hunger 4.15%: Of seniors at risk of hunger 26th: USDA Food Insecurity Ranking

17.1%: Of Colorado residents reported that there had been times in the past 12 months when they did not have enough money to buy food that they or their family needed.

### Coffee With a Cop

A new series of walk-in community meetings called Coffee With a Cop began in spring 2010. These informal events are opportunities for Jeffco residents to speak one-on-one with our agency's command staff, and ask questions about crime and quality-of-life issues in their neighborhoods or on the roadways.

#### 2011 Schedule

**South Jeffco:** All events are 8 – 10 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

February 10: Tullys, in King Soopers,

8126 S. Wadsworth Blvd, (Wads. & Chatfield)

March 10: Einstein Bros. Bagels, 8246 W. Bowles Ave.

(Wadsworth and Parkhill)

April 14: IHOP Restaurant, 12634 W. Indore Place

(Ken Caryl and Shaffer)

### Free Kibble

This is an internet-famous site of a 12 year old girl who created a quiz website that donates dog and cat food to shelters for each click. Organic pet food companies Castor & Pollux and Halo sponsor the site, and all you have to do is answer a fun trivia question and they donate chow. Check out **freekibble.com** and **freekibblekat.com**.

### **Columbine Kiwanis**

During January we have been working with "The Write Stuff" distributing schools supplies. The Write Stuff was established in 1989 as members of a local PTA organization tried to help students and parents obtain the right school supplies. Its goal was to provide a "kit" which includes all the items identified for each grade level's "required materials" list that is provided by the school. The Write Stuff is a service oriented company that works with school parent organizations to provide low priced school supplies, packaged and conveniently offered at registration. Packaging pencils, notebooks, folders, ect. in a way that parents could simply pick them up, all at once while at school for registration, proved to be a popular idea. Additionally, The Write Stuff is a time saving service to parents. School supplies are packaged according to the requirements of each school and each specific grade level. Parents are assured that their child will have all of the required materials when the school year begins. Parents will not have to go to one or multiple retail stores, price check, and purchase these items. The Write Stuff offers pricing below what is available at common retail chains.

The local Kiwanis Clubs are working with Jeffco Action Center to purchase and distribute school supplies. We have two upcoming big projects, our quarterly blood drive on March 21st and working with the Channel 9 Health Fair on April 9th. If you want to help with these or other Kiwanis projects, give me a call. Kiwanis is group of volunteers dedicated primarily to children in our local community. We also have fun at our meetings and at social events. Come check us out. For information call, **Ken Sweet** at **303-973-8253**. Weekly scheduled meetings are on Wednesdays at 6:45 a.m. at Roberts Italian Restaurant, 6745 Ken Caryl Ave. Visit our website at **www.columbinekiwanis.org**.

### **CWCA Secretary Position Needs Volunteer**

Over the last few months, the association has been without an official Secretary. Each of the other Board Members has been filling in on a rotation basis to keep notes. By far the most important duty is the taking of the minutes. The minutes are records of what was done, not what was said. Minutes should not contain discussions, personal opinions, adjectives, or interpretations. The secretary signs the minutes when they are written, and the president signs after they are approved. If you would like to become an involved community member within the association, call the voice mail line at 303-904-8218 and leave a message or plan on attending a monthly meeting at Dutch Creek Elementary. Once a month the CWCA Officers, Board Members, Committee Chairs and any interested homeowners come together to share what has been happening in the neighborhood and what is being scheduled. The CWCA meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

### Peak Community & Wellness Center Turns 10

Foothills Park & Recreation District's Peak Community & Wellness Center celebrates its 10th year of operation. Celebrate with savings as Foothills will offer 10 unique services with a variety of savings. Choose one, some or all of the offers from February 15-25. Beginning, February 14, visit the Foothills website at **www.ifoothills.org** to learn about the amazing anniversary specials.

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### Columbine Montessori Preschool

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### Teen Services

To add your teen's name, please email Colorado Lasertype at getinfo@colorado lasertype.com and leave the following information: the neighborhood you live in, your age, phone number and the categories you would like included. Categories: (B) Baby-sitting; (\*) Red Cross Cert for CPR; (L) Lawn care; (S) Snow removal; (P) Pet & House sitting. No recommendation or endorsement of any of the names on this list is implied or stated by the homeowners association board or Colorado Lasertype.

| -           | -  |          |              |
|-------------|----|----------|--------------|
| Alexis A.   |    | B/P      | 303-972-7404 |
| Rhiannin B. |    | B/P      | 720-981-0278 |
| Julia C.    | 14 | B*       | 303-795-8431 |
| Colton C.   | 14 | P/L/S    | 303-829-8673 |
| Emily C.    | 13 | B*/P     | 303-763-7565 |
| Jordan H.   | 16 | B*/P     | 720-884-6321 |
| Jessica H.  | 12 | B*/P     | 303-932-1184 |
| Allison H.  | 16 | B*/P     | 303-521-1070 |
| Alison H.   | 15 | P        | 303-905-7942 |
| Brandon L.  | 15 | L        | 303-932-6583 |
| Dustin L.   | 14 | L        | 303-932-6583 |
| Megan M.    | 15 | B/P      | 720-587-9267 |
| Jessie O.   | 15 | B*/P/L/S | 303-870-4345 |
| Brittany S. | 14 | В        | 720-922-0881 |
| Angie W.    | 13 | B/S      | 720-276-6311 |
| Nick W.     | 15 | P/L/S    | 303-697-8307 |
|             |    |          |              |

### Social Media Safety

It should come as no surprise to you when I say I'm no computer whiz. I do have a BlackBerry and a laptop, and I fondly remember the days when I didn't have either. I'm not one of the 500 million Facebook users, as I prefer doing my social networking the old-fashioned way. But millions of people are fully engrossed in these engaging and ever-changing online networks—which do involve some risks. And so, with a little help from my staff (okay, a lot of help from my staff), we've put together some tips for using social media safely. Tip #1: Flickr is not a horse.

The Lights are On, But Nobody's Home: One of the fastest-growing trends among social media users is the act of broadcasting their location. In fact, the social networking site Foursquare is built for users to tell others where they are. Touted as a way to "find your friends" and "explore your city," Foursquare involves users "checking in" at an address, and maybe adding a note about what they're doing. ("Having dinner at Caretta Vieja in Conifer – this place is great!") A mapping function will broadcast the exact location of the restaurant.

Of course, you don't have to use Foursquare to post messages about where you are... the same can be accomplished through Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and many other social media sites. The larger and less intimate your friend list is, the more cautious you should be about what you post. If you tell dozens of people in real-time that you're on a beach in Mexico, you may be setting yourself up for a home burglary. Because let's face it – some of your online friends are true friends. The rest are "frenemies," an ex-boyfriend, a deadbeat cousin, this one lady you used to work with, a guy you went to high school with, your kid's friend... and so on. Bottom line: some "friends" you don't know well enough to trust.

Successfully and safely using social media requires some combination of exclusivity and limited commentary. If you have

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### **Social Media Safety,** continued from page 8

a small but trusted network of friends, you can afford to be chatty about being away from home. If you have a large and more random network, you should not share personal information or allow others to track your whereabouts.

**Geotagging:** Another way for others to pinpoint your location is through automatic geotagging. When you take a photo with a smartphone, it is likely geotagged with latitude and longitude metadata that tells the exact location where the photo was taken. This means that if you use your phone to snap a photo of your big-screen TV, and then post it on Facebook or Craigslist, any somewhat-savvy person with access to your photo now knows where to find that big-screen TV.

Geotags on existing photos can be removed with some software programs and free downloads. Now may be a good time to review what photos are "out there" and either remove them or strip their metadata. The easiest solution, going forward, is prevention. To stop automatic geotagging in future photos, you can disable your phone's location function in your settings menu.

Personal Information: No matter what social media site you

prefer, it's critical that you keep your home address, phone number and e-mail address off your profile. Having this information available to the aforementioned crowd (your brother's best friend from elementary school, your husband's bowling buddy's wife...) can lead to crimes like burglary, harassment and fraud. Also, making your profile and photos visible to only the specific individuals that you choose is essential. It can't prevent all dangers, but it's a huge step toward keeping strangers away from your personal information.

Social Media and Children: Children are at great risk when using social media for all of the concerns listed above. They are also in danger of being contacted by predatory pedophiles, or being "cyberbullied." Be sure to keep up with your kids' online and mobile activities, including social networking and gaming. Profiles that appear to represent other children could be false profiles created by someone else. For more on protecting your children online, visit NetSmartz from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, or the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office child sex offender internet investigations unit page.

- Sheriff Ted Mink

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# In Columbine West, Results Count?



Duffy & Associates, LLC **Duane C. Duffy** 

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#### CALL DUANE FOR YOUR FREE MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR HOME!

The statistical information is based on MLS data January 13, 2011.

Not all of the properties were listed and/or sold by Duffy & Associates, LLC.

# Columbine West Statistics for January 2011

### Current Homes FOR SALE in Columbine West

|             | Lowest     | Highest    | How Many? |
|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Ranch Style | \$ 209,950 | \$ 209,950 | 1         |
| 4-Level     | \$ 207,500 | \$ 225,900 | 2         |
| 2-Story     | \$ 185,000 | \$ 229,500 | 4         |
| Tri-Level   | None       | None       | 0         |
| Bi-I evel   | \$ 194,900 | \$ 244,900 | 6         |

### Current Homes UNDER CONTRACT in Columbine West

|             | Lowest     | Highest    | How Many? |
|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Ranch Style | None       | None       | 0         |
| 4-Level     | \$ 269,900 | \$ 269,900 | 1         |
| 2-Story     | None       | None       | 0         |
| Tri-Level   | \$ 206,000 | \$ 206,000 | 1         |
| Bi-Level    | \$ 180,000 | \$ 216,000 | 3         |

### Homes **SOLD** in Columbine West Jan. 1, 2010 to Jan 13, 2011

|             | Lowest     | Highest    | How Many? |
|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Ranch Style | \$ 175,000 | \$ 256,000 | 8         |
| 4-Level     | \$ 188,500 | \$ 259,000 | 14        |
| 2-Story     | \$ 207,000 | \$ 304,000 | 15        |
| Tri-Level   | \$ 180,000 | \$ 234,000 | 6         |
| Bi-Level    | \$ 160,000 | \$ 235,000 | 11        |

### Important Numbers

#### 1) Scrap Metal pick-up, 303-522-8041

Unwanted scrap metals of any kind, freezers, refrigerators, stoves, washers/dryers, microwaves, vacuums, shelving, mowers and car batteries. Metal is found in many household items; please feel free to call before you throw them away. The more we recycle, less piles up in the landfill. Fees are charged where necessary; otherwise this is a FREE service.

### 2) Rooney Road Recycling, 303-710-9120

For appointments call: 303-316-6262

\$20 drop-off charge/cash or check. \$30 home scheduled pick-up

### Columbine West Civic Association Membership Coupon

Please fill out the membership coupon and mail it with your \$25 check to CWCA.

Send to CWCA, P.O. Box 620026, Littleton CO 80162

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #:

Columbine West Civic Association P.O. Box 620026 Littleton CO 80162



\*Includes: 75lbs of the following items: paint thinner, fertilizers, waxes, cleaners, oil based paint, anti-freeze, batteries, aerosol cans. In addition to the 75lbs of the above, you are allowed the following: 25 gallons of oil, 10 gal. of latex paint, 5 auto batteries and 5 florescent light bulbs.

\*Open by appointment only: Wed. & Sat. (8am to 2pm)

| CWCA Covenant Violation Report   |
|--|
| Mail to: Columbine West Civic Association,<br>P.O. Box 620026, Littleton, CO 80162                                       |
| Date:  |
| Description of alleged violation:  |
|  |
| Violator's Address:  |
| n I would be willing to appear in court as a witness.  |
| Name:  |
| Address:   |
| Phone:   |
| All reports will remain confidential and you can send this in anonymously, but we are unable to supply progress reports. |