

COHOPE REPORT - JAN. 11, 2007

Sheriff's Deputy LeCerte provided the crime statistics summary for Nov. and Dec. Most categories were about average for Nov. but showed a significant drop-off in about all categories for Dec. - must be the Xmas effect. However, Part 1 (serious) Crimes categories Burglary and Motor Vehicle Theft did have increases in Nov. The biggest percentage of burglaries were again open garage doors and theft from construction sites. The largest percentage of vehicle thefts were surprisingly ATV's. A Part 2 Crimes statistic that really jumped up, over 100 percent, was vehicle trespass. This is where the vehicle is not stolen but thieves enter unlocked cars and steal anything of value left in the car. Per Deputy LeCerte this appears to be a new developing/increasing trend. Coupled with that is an upward trend, in the same category, where people dropping off children at day care centers leave their cars unlocked and running. Thieves are mainly looking for purses and other items of value left in the cars which are easy to grab and get away. Deputy LeCerte also passed out the Sheriff's Top 10 Crime Prevention Tips of 2006. There is very good information contained in this list which can be found at the Jeffco Sheriff's website, www.jeffcosheriff.com. Also on this site can be found the links to the Sheriff's "Back to School with Safe2Tell" program for children and a link to "Winter Driving & Safety Tips for Motorists. The guest speakers this month were Marv Rockford and Sean Tonner representing the Lake Ceder Group. This is the group that purposes to build a new HDTV tower on Lookout Mountain. Their efforts have been ongoing for ten years and have meet strong political opposition from a few homeowners in the area, the City of Golden and the County Commissioners. Their presentation was very interesting as they tried to give their justification for the Lookout Mountain location, compromises they have made to attempt to resolve issues and to refute some of the negative issues. Even though the County Commissioners are under court order to resolve this issue fast, it now appears mute by way of a recently passed U. S. Senate bill that almost mandates the Commissioners allow the construction as planned on Lookout Mountain.

Larry Major