

## Gangs exist here

*Gang: A group of three or more individuals with a common interest, bond, or activity, characterized by criminal or delinquent conduct, and who refer to themselves by a group name or designation.*

Colorado Revised Statutes 19-1-103(52)

Loveland, consider this a wakeup call. Gangs are here.

The good news is that their activities and criminal actions are not of the highly violent nature depicted on prime time TV...yet.

But they are here and their numbers are growing. They total not a few dozen but hundreds. The Loveland Police Department (LPD) contains files on about 300 positively-identified gang members. Some are gang members contacted by police while in town



*A Loveland police officer displays binders containing files on local gang members. Almost 300 individuals of a variety of races, ages, genders and neighborhoods have been identified as gang members. Information and photos are available to police in those binders.*

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[More about gangs inside](#)

## Tips for lawn watering season

Get the most with the least this summer by following these watering tips:

- Don't overwater—Bluegrass lawns need an average of 1.5 inches of water per week during June. Remember to subtract rainfall received to determine how much watering is really needed.
- Water infrequently but thoroughly to promote vigorous root growth.
- Water late in the evening or early in the morning to deter evaporation.
- Attend a free landscaping and watering series workshop; Wednesdays, 12:30 to 1:15 p.m.,

April 14 to Sept. 1, at 220 Water Ave., in Berthoud. Topics include xeriscape, home irrigation systems, cost effective water conservation and rain gauge installation. Details at [www.cityofloveland.org/wp/water/Conservation/watercon.htm](http://www.cityofloveland.org/wp/water/Conservation/watercon.htm) or call 962-3000.



## Enjoy a night out with neighbors

The seventh annual Loveland Community Night Out (LCNO) evening of block parties will be held 6-10 p.m. Wed., June 16. Once again neighbors will have the opportunity to get to know each other better, as well as meet Loveland police officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, city council members, city staff and volunteers who work to keep Loveland a healthy and safe place to live.

LCNO is designed to strengthen neighborhoods and create awareness and partnerships between area communities and the public service providers who support them.

To host or attend a block party in your neighborhood or for more information, contact Officer Dave Sloat, Loveland Police department, 962-2229 or visit the police section of [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org) to watch the slide show.



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## CFI project soon to begin

CFI is coming...probably. Although the final decisions and contracts haven't yet occurred, by the time you receive next month's *City Update*, it's likely that the shovels will have hit it the ground for the construction of the Continuous Flow Intersection at Madison and Eisenhower.

If you don't remember what the CFI is all about, visit the City website at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org) and click the "Unusual Intersection Planned" link. Text and videos explain how traffic flow will be improved north, south, east and west.

Here are the remaining steps:

- Finalize land transactions
- Send out construction bids
- Receive bids, review, select contractor
- City Council awards project
- Construction begins in June

During construction, Eisenhower will remain open with only some minor lane closures. A block or two of Madison north and then south will be closed to through traffic but open to residences and businesses.

The north leg of the project is expected to be open in September, with everything completed in November. Details and drawings are available on the web pages.

## Gangs exist here: community awareness needed

here and others are full-time Loveland residents. Without a doubt, there are more local gang members not yet officially recognized, noted or photographed.

Loveland's gang members aren't segregated into specific neighborhoods; the Surenos live here, the Nortenos there, the Juggalos beyond the highway, the Skinheads over yonder. They are integrated into neighborhoods and residential complexes throughout Loveland. Sometimes a single household, sometimes a pocket of several households. Perhaps a block or two from your house, around the corner or just across the street.

Stemming the tide of gang influx into Loveland and growth of membership from within the current population is a major goal of the Loveland Police Department. Community awareness and communication are necessary ingredients for the department's success. The department's success is the community's success.

### Joint effort

Effort by both the police and community is needed to prevent further establishment of gangs and creation of gang strongholds. Making Loveland an unfriendly environment for gangs will encourage them to move elsewhere. The fact is, very strong anti-gang efforts elsewhere in the region have resulted in

some gang growth here.

Criminal activity by these gangs is taking place in Loveland—just ask the local cops. Some are gang-motivated crimes, others are simply crimes by gang members. Relatively little is highly violent, but involves thefts, drugs, break-ins, fights and graffiti.

### LPDs efforts

So what is LPD actually doing about it? Reversing gang growth isn't an easy task. LPD's Gang Unit reports more second-generation members—the children of gang members here growing up to be like mom and dad.

Significant efforts of awareness and identification and education are under way by LPD on the streets, in the schools, with public service organizations, and with the gang members and prospective gang members themselves.

The schools—high schools, middle schools and even elementary schools—have gang members. LPD emphasizes continued awareness by the school administrators and the students.

Creation and enforcement of a school anti-gang policy is critical, according to the LPD anti-gang cops. Efforts for greater awareness by other groups such as service clubs, youth groups and churches are under way.

Contacts by LPD officers on the streets, in the parks and even at the

homes of gang members have been stepped up. As one officer explained, the appearance and gestures of gang members out in public is the equivalent of wearing a sign that says "I'm a member of a criminal organization" and thereby merits contact by an officer.

These contacts enable police to build their files, gain information about gang activities, note their residences, where they gather, their monikers and of course, let the gang members know of constant police interest. The contacts often include taking photos of the members with their specific clothing, piercings and tattoos. Not long ago, a photo of a gang member wearing a customized hat resulted in an arrest for multiple graffiti violations.

### Community efforts

What can citizens do? Be aware and don't hesitate to call the police. If obvious gang members are gathering or loitering, call LPD at 667-2151. An officer will be happy to come by and let the members experience the police presence.

Awareness of the start of gang presence or activities in a resident's neighborhood or especially in their own household is even more important, particularly where youngsters are involved. Watch for signs in a child's style of dress, music, items purchased,

*(continued on next page)*

## New projection system improves accuracy, efficiency

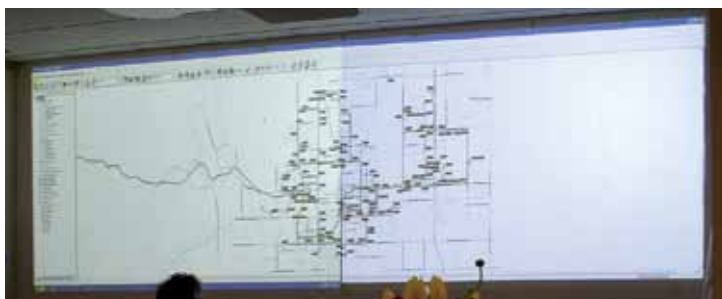
For the last 21 years, the City's Power Division has relied on what is known as a lighted map board—a 9-foot by 20-foot, floor to ceiling-mounted board with small illuminated lights—depicting how power is flowing throughout the city.

While this 'old-school' system worked relatively well, it was incapable of providing more in-depth information that would enable crews to trouble-shoot more efficiently, and dispatchers to pinpoint areas needing attention more quickly.

When it came time to replace the old board, the City opted to take a new approach utilizing a computer-powered projection system. Loveland Water & Power has been using geographical information systems (GIS) to map all of its electric sub stations, transmission circuits, primary and secondary power lines, transformers, switches and customer service lines for more than 15 years.

GIS allows power utilities and numerous other entities that require mapping technology, to project real-time, physically precise images of whole systems with great accuracy. Projecting what Water & Power's GIS software was tracking on a large scale seemed like the best option to most effectively monitor the system.

"This new projection system adds checks and balances that the old light board just couldn't," said Tom Greene, utility information manager with Loveland Water & Power. "Our ability to project a much more accurate image of what's happening in the field increases the system's robustness, saves time and research for the crews, and helps our dispatchers more effectively hone-in on potential problems before they happen."



## "Money Talks"

### Estate Planning

Forty percent of Americans age 50 and over don't have a will. When they die their families often find themselves having to pick up the pieces to deal with their estates—sometimes at great personal expense. Estate planning helps ensure that heirs inherit what was intended for them and can save surviving family members time and money.



Money Talks, presented by Loveland Public Library staff, will explore the elements of estate planning including power of attorney, property ownership, wills, probate, estate taxes and gifts, trusts, and tips on choosing an attorney.

Money Talks is free and presented June 8 at noon and again June 9 at 6:30 p.m. Money Talks is funded by a *Smart Investing @ your library* grant. Snacks and beverages provided. For more information call 962-2402.

## Be part of the gang solution

By being aware and alert to the existence of gangs and gang activity, community members can be of great assistance in reducing the gang presence in Loveland. It is especially important for parents to be alert to early signs of gang association by their children and children's friends.

Gang members aren't shy. They use a variety of methods to identify their gang affiliation, including:

- Tattoos
- Numbers
- Apparel colors
- Hand signs
- Graffiti
- Whistles

Loveland police encourage residents to call the Street Crimes Tip Line at 962-2831 with information about gangs.

**NOTE:** All these photos are local photos from Loveland police records. There are many more, including those too graphic to include here.

Graffiti



Clothing



Tattoos



### Gangs exist here: community awareness needed (continued from page 2)

gatherings. And watch for these signs from his friends, too.

#### Incurring costs

Happily, Loveland isn't yet suffering the fear, heartache and grief caused by intense gang violence. But even lesser gang activity brings economic costs to

families, either directly or indirectly.

A break-in and theft in a car or home costs the victim money and long-term uneasiness. Gang presence can slash property values, drive customers from businesses, require graffiti cleanup and increase government costs.

Loveland police will continue to use its resources to make Loveland an unfriendly place for gangs. An uncomfortable lifestyle for gang members helps maintain the high quality of life here for the rest of the community.

## Fishing Derby set for June 5



The Loveland Fishing Derby will be 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat., June 5 at the Duck Pond at North Lake Park. The event is for kids under the age of fifteen.

This outstanding event is the result of a collaboration by Colorado Youth Outdoors who will teach kids how to clean and cook their fish, the Loveland Fishing Club who will handle event registration, tackle, competition measurement and fishing tips, the Colorado Division of Wildlife who will provide the fish and explain Colorado law and fishing ethics, and the Loveland Kiwanis Clubs who will sell family-priced food (proceeds to benefit Kiwanis youth programs in our community).

For more information call 962-2277 or go to [www.cityofloveland.org/police/policemain.htm](http://www.cityofloveland.org/police/policemain.htm).

## Flashing lights alert drivers to emergency information

Four new road signs with yellow flashing lights have been installed in Loveland. No, they don't mark school zones, sharp turns in the road or upcoming traffic signals. Instead, they encourage drivers to listen to the radio.

Since 1999, the City of Loveland has been operating the low-power informational radio transmitter on 1610 AM. Listeners hear no hip-hop, political discussions, infomercials or Michael Jackson musical biographies.

1610 AM is far less exciting. It provides information about Loveland road construction and detours, information for visitors to town, and information on special situations and emergencies.

That's where the flashing yellow lights come into play. The yellow lights are affixed to signs urging motorists to tune into 1610 AM. The lights are activated and flash only when there's a possible or actual emergency situation.

Information about the situation would be broadcast on 1610 AM.



#### If there's an emergency

Loveland Fire and Rescue Division Chief Merlin Green points out the yellow lights on a sign calling attention to 1610 AM radio. In the event of an emergency, the yellow lights will flash, encouraging motorists to tune into the Loveland information radio station.

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# Summer Side of Loveland – cool things to do when the weather heats up

## Foote Lagoon Concerts, 500 E 3rd St.

7-9 p.m., FREE

Sponsored by Kroh Charitable Trust

June 17 The Jurassicasters (Rock)

June 24 Kizumba (Latin)

July 1 Cool Shooz (a cappella)

July 8 The Elders (Celtic)

July 15 Chris Daniels (Blues/Rock)

July 22 Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem (Americana)

July 29 Brad Fitch and the TropiCowboy Band (Country Western)

August 5 Wendy Woo (Indie)

Foote Lagoon concerts are supported in part by Audiology & Hearing Aid Center, Group Publishing, Regent Communications & Best Western Crossroads Inn.

## 4th of July Celebration - North Lake Park Hammond Amphitheater, 29th & Taft

5:15-7:15 p.m. The Folk Collection (Traditional Folk)

7:15-7:45 p.m. Peter Davison (Children's Performer)

8-9:15 p.m. Loveland Concert Band Fireworks Show

## 11th Annual Battle of the Bands

July 21, 3-9 p.m.

\$25 registration fee for bands. Bands with members ages 20 and under are eligible to register for the competition. Registration is accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. The registration deadline is June 25. Registration forms are available at the Loveland Museum/Gallery.

For more info call 962-2562.

## Cherry Pie Celebration

July 24, 5-8 p.m., FREE

Peters Park, Loveland Museum/Gallery  
Pie, ice cream, historical displays, cherry pie recipe contest, car show, and live music.

5:00 p.m. Book 'em Danno (Hawaiian Swing)

6:40 p.m. Loose Cannon (Bluegrass)  
pie slices, ice cream and drinks available for sale.

Sponsors: Johnson's Corner, Penguin's Ice Cream, Loveland Historical Society, & Davidson Gebhardt

For more info call 962-2410.

## In the Galleries - Loveland Museum/Gallery

April 6-Oct. 3 History of Beekeeping in Colorado

June 12-Aug. 29 Triad: Introspection, Observation & Tradition: Contemporary Art of India

June 12-Aug. 29 Mapping India

July 10-Oct. 10 Selena Karim Prints

For more info call 962-2410.

## Tuesday Theater for Kids - Rialto Theater, 228 E. Fourth St.

June 15 Bug Songs (Creepy, Crawly Fun!)

June 29 Ben Rudnick & Friends (Hip Family Music)

July 6 Willson & McKee (Celtic Music & History)

July 27 A Nose for Space (Manitou Art Theatre)

All shows at 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

For more info, call 962-2410.

## More Summer Fun in the City...

### Loveland Public Library

Friends of the Loveland Public Library's

Spring Book Sale; May 28-30 - McKee 4-H Building at the Ranch. Friday's sale from 4-8 p.m. is for members of the Friends Foundation. Saturday's sale is 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday's Bag Sale is 11 a.m.-3 p.m. For more info call 962-2712 or go to [www.FriendsoftheLovelandLibrary.org](http://www.FriendsoftheLovelandLibrary.org).

The Loveland Public Library's Travelling Storyteller will share stories, songs and activities with children and families in parks throughout Loveland this summer. Six themed programs will be presented each week with a new schedule that includes Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. and Sundays at 4:30 p.m. The programs will be presented June 2-27 and July 14-Aug. 8. Go to [www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org](http://www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org) for more info.

Loveland Public Library's Make a Splash - Read! children's summer reading program kicks off May 26 from 9 a.m.- noon.

### Parks and Recreation

#### Youth Athletics

Register for summer youth athletics via WebTrac, TeleTrac or at the Chilson Center for: 3 v 3 Basketball Leagues, Pre/K Soccer, Lacrosse, T-ball, Baseball, Softball, Tennis Lessons, CARA Tennis Team, CARA Swim Team and Gymnastics.

#### Winona Pool & Swim Beach

Winona opens May 21. Register for swim lessons and CARA Swim Team via WebTrac, TeleTrac or at the Chilson Center. Pool party rentals available. Lake Loveland North Lake Park Swim Beach opens May 29.

#### Batting Cages

Open May 22. Hours are Mon.-Thurs., 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fri., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and weekends 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 962-2458 for more info.

## Flashing lights alert drivers of emergency information (continued from page 3)

It is one of the first places where information would be placed, it can be frequently updated and is accessible to anyone with an AM radio within about a 7-10 mile

radius of North Lake Park where the transmitter is located.

The signs and lights were paid for through a grant from the Department of Homeland Security that was obtained by Loveland's fire department emergency management staff. The signs are placed for motorists entering Loveland

along Wilson, Taft and Hwy 402. Additional signs are planned for Hwy 34 and Hwy 287.

The flashing lights will be activated occasionally for system tests. A test is planned for late May.

But you don't have to wait for the lights. Tune in anytime to 1610 AM.

**ADVENTURE BOUND DAY CAMP**

- ART
- HIKING
- LIBRARY
- SCIENCE
- SWIMMING
- ADDITIONAL ENRICHMENT
- 1 : 10 STAFF RATIO
- LICENSED FOR 56 KIDS
- WEEKLY FIELD TRIPS
- BEFORE/AFTER CARE INCLUDED

**AGES 6-12**

MONDAY-FRIDAY  
7:30AM-5:30PM  
JUN. 1ST-AUG. 13TH

**970-962-2FUN**

**CHILSON RECREATION CENTER**  
700 E. FOURTH ST. - LOVELAND, CO

## May is Historic Preservation Month

Since 2007 the City of Loveland has celebrated Historic Preservation Month by encouraging local businesses and organizations to host events and activities related to Loveland's heritage.

Activities often include historic homes tours, dances in historic ballrooms, cemetery tours, lectures on the people who have shaped Loveland's history and old-fashioned baseball games.

For a full listing of this year's events go to [www.cityofloveland.org/hrplanning/bmainpage.htm](http://www.cityofloveland.org/hrplanning/bmainpage.htm) and click on Historic Preservation.

**Summer @ Chilson**

**3 Months of Unlimited Use!**

Passes On Sale	Youth	\$75
May 3-June 30	Adult	\$135
	Senior	\$80
	*Family	\$195

\*Couples & children < 21

**Aquatics · Recreation · Fitness**  
700 E. 4th Street · Loveland · 962-2FUN

City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive City Update on various dates throughout the month depending on their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients' bill distribution schedule. Your comments are encouraged and welcomed at 962-2302, [hillea@ci.loveland.co.us](mailto:hillea@ci.loveland.co.us). Visit the City's website at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org).