

LPD behind the scenes

COPS, Law & Order, CSI, Cold Case, NCIS, Bones, NYPD, The Closer, Hot Pursuit, The Mentalist.

Not everything the police do is so dramatic that it deserves its own TV show. Happily, that's especially true here in the safe community of Loveland. In great part, that's because

the Loveland Police Department (LPD) is actively involved in many services and activities that don't require red lights and sirens. This month's City Update offers quick glimpses of a number of programs and efforts inside the LPD that don't get the spotlight but are deserving of applause.



[More about Loveland police services inside](#)

Loveland snow perspective differs

There's more than 2 feet of snow on the ground and everyone in Loveland is smiling... Loveland Ski Area, that is. For us flatlanders here at 80537, snow is often considered a four-letter word.

We city folk have personnel, equipment, chemicals and a plan that would bring tears to the eyes of our friends at 11,000 feet. Snowpack and moguls are not welcome here.



Twenty seven vehicles, 160,000 gallons of anti-icer, 1,500 tons of de-icer and crews from nine City divisions are at the ready when Old Man Winter says hello. Actually, City snow preparations and local swimming pool openings begin simultaneously. It's

all part of the City's Snow and Ice Control Plan.

Here are some key points of the plan:

- Anti-icing trucks hit the road 3-5 hours before a storm is expected to hit.
- If snow starts falling, all the City plow trucks are deployed.
- De-icing begins using special chemical pellets, not sand.
- Crews operate 24/7 until streets are safe and downtown is cleaned up.
- Priority one is clearing major arterials; i.e. 34, 287, 402, Taft, Wilson, 29th, etc.
- Priority two is collector streets, bus routes, commercial/industrial routes; i.e. 18th, Van Buren, Colorado, Dotsero, etc.
- Priority three is everything else, but these remaining streets are typically not routinely plowed unless the snow depths and coldest winter months will create a significant mobility problem for two-wheel drive cars.

Bottom line— if you want plenty of snow, go to Loveland. If you want cleared snow, stay in Loveland.

Renewable energy just keeps on giving

Renewable energy is energy that's harvested from naturally occurring processes that constantly regenerate themselves. Common renewable energy sources—renewables—include solar (from the sun), hydro (from water), biomass (fuels derived from wood, waste and other plant matter), geothermal (fuel from deep within the earth) and wind.

All of these renewables can be captured, processed and converted into electricity and/or heat to power and heat homes and businesses throughout the U.S. and the world.

Benefits of using renewable energy are numerous. For one thing it's inexhaustible. No matter how many wind turbines are erected or how many
(continued on page 4)

INSIDE

No red lights or sirens:
LPD behind the scenes

Page 2

Business breakfast, expo
bigger than ever

Page 2

Money Talks

Page 2

More to enjoy
as trail grows

Page 3

Glass drop-off easier

Page 3

2-1-1 the right call
for help

Page 4

Loveland Lights

Ring in the holidays at the annual Loveland Lights celebration, Sat., Dec. 5, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 6, 1-5 p.m. at the Loveland Public Library, 300 N. Adams.

This fun, family event includes story-telling, gingerbread house building, decorated trees throughout the library, a model train and a 'find-the-bells' contest. Adults will enjoy cooking demonstrations, a bake sale, music and more.



Attendees are invited to donate winter mittens to the House of Neighborly Service by hanging them on a mitten tree and decorate another tree to support the library's expansion campaign.

Loveland Lights is sponsored by the Friends of the Loveland Public Library Foundation. For more info call 622-0931.

No red lights or sirens: LPD behind the scenes

eTrace tracks firearms' history

A gun recovered from a Loveland crime may have been purchased by a criminal from St. Louis traveling through Loveland. Or a gun recovered in St. Louis may belong to someone from Loveland.

The Loveland Police Department has become part of the national eTrace Internet tracking system of firearms recovered from crimes. The eTrace system was originated and is maintained by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

With eTrace, a gun's history can be rapidly pinpointed, beginning with the manufacturer, through the distribution chain and finally to the original or subsequent owner. The ability to trace guns can help identify suspects and point to suppliers illegally providing firearms to juveniles, prior offenders or other persons prohibited from firearms possession.



National honor again for LPD

Accredited again. This month, Loveland Police Chief Luke Hecker will again receive a certificate of national accreditation for the department. It will be the 18th year the Loveland Police Department (LPD) has received the award.

Fewer than 700 law enforcement agencies throughout the United States are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The endorsement demonstrates the hard work and dedication required by the entire LPD staff to receive and maintain the reputation of being a leader in both the local community and law enforcement nationally.

Smile for the cop's camera

Loveland Police Department Traffic Unit cars have in-car video cameras that capture the scene. Whenever the police officer activates the emergency lights, the camera begins recording the entire event including audio.

A wireless microphone worn by the officer records his /her voice, the driver's voice and other audible sounds. Once or twice a week, officers upload their camera systems to a server for long-term storage and retrieval. The video is protected from alteration.

Fast entry could be critical

A lockbox isn't just for Realtors. It can save a life.

Access to a key from a lockbox for emergency service personnel can shorten entry time to help someone inside. It can also prevent the need to break into a home and damage the doorjamb.

Persons who have a medical condition, are disabled or are bed ridden and therefore might not be able to open the door in an emergency, can arrange

for a front door lockbox containing a key for emergency use. The lockbox combination for access to the key can be provided 24/7 by the Loveland Police Dispatch Center.

Loveland part of CopLink

The City of Loveland's Police department and 41 other Colorado law enforcement agencies have become part of CopLink.

CopLink is a data search engine that links criminal records from all of the participating agencies. It enables street officers and investigators to analyze information regarding individuals, property, vehicles and incidents from other state and local law enforcement agency records.

In Larimer County, participants include the police departments of Loveland, Fort Collins, Berthoud, Estes Park and the Larimer County Sheriff's Department.

Online service maps local crime

With a few clicks, Loveland residents can learn of actual crimes that have occurred during the past 90 days on their block, in their neighborhood or up to two miles away. The police department believes that



Business breakfast, expo bigger than ever

More than 450 Loveland business owners, managers and other employees were guests for the 7th Annual Business Appreciation Event and Resource Expo, Sept. 30 at the Loveland Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center. The event was a celebration of the art and science community that is unique to Loveland.

Mayor Gene Pielin introduced former senator and university president, Hank Brown who provided the keynote address about Loveland's "wonderful business climate and attitude of innovation."

Loveland artists and businesses provided sculpture and technology as centerpieces to highlight the Art and Science of Loveland theme. The guests also visited about two dozen booths alongside the dining area that provided information on numerous resources associated with support for local businesses.

City Councilors hosted the breakfast event by the major sponsor Home State Bank and corporate sponsors Kennedy & Coe, Embassy Suites and Medical Center of the Rockies.

(Left): Loveland Mayor Gene Pielin speaks at the 7th Annual Business Appreciation Event and Resource Expo. The event celebrated "Loveland: Where Art and Science Meet."

(Far left): Popular place—The event was enjoyed by more than 450 local business people. Former Colorado Senator and university president Hank Brown offered the keynote address.



"Money Talks"

Outsmarting Investment Fraud

Every year, people become victims of investment fraud. One of the most recent and high-profile cases was the Madoff ponzi scheme.

The December 8 Money Talks program, facilitated by Susan Linden of the Loveland Public Library, explores ways to avoid being the victim of investment fraud.

Money Talks is free and presented at noon and 6:30 p.m. in the Gertrude B. Scott room of the Loveland Public Library. Beverages are provided and attendees may bring food. More information, 962-2402.



increased awareness of crimes such as burglary, car thefts and others will help remind residents to lower their garage doors, not leave valuables inside their cars, not leave unlocked cars warming up or cooling off, be alert when walking alone, etc.



LPD has subscribed to the online www.crimemapping.com service. The online service plots crimes on a zoom-in/zoom-out map for Loveland and other communities throughout the nation.

Crisis intervention training provided

Interaction with police often increases stress levels for both the officer and other persons involved. Since 2004, the Loveland Police Department, along with other northern Colorado law enforcement agencies, began providing additional, specialized training to police officers in dealing with individuals who may be suffering from a mental illness and are in crisis.

Crisis intervention training provides the police officer specific intervention strategies that can be used to calm people in crisis situations.

Special events require permit

Parades, athletic events, street fairs, craft shows, carnivals or any other activity that takes place on public property or impacts pedestrian or vehicular traffic require an event permit. The permit process is now faster and easier thanks to an online service administered by the Loveland Police Department.

To start the permit process, go to the Online Services button at www.cityofloveland.org, or call the permit coordinator at 962-2239.

New automated fingerprint system

The Loveland Police Department recently installed a new, more accurate automated finger and palm print scanning system in the booking area. The new system makes it easier for Loveland police officers to obtain useable finger and palm prints for entry into local, state and federal databases.



The scanned images are sent electronically to a database of known fingerprints called Automated Fingerprint Indexing (AFIX). This local record system is shared by northern Colorado law enforcement agencies and connects Loveland police to state and national

fingerprint databases for even broader comparisons.

Partnership key to solutions

The LPD operates within a Problem Oriented Policing philosophy, meaning that when a location or individual presents a recurring problem for the community or the police department, a focus of increased attention is established.

Addressing the problem may include enhanced or more frequent patrols, foot patrols and unmarked vehicles. This can also include neighbors being asked to be more observant and willing to call police, make landscaping improvements or other efforts to deter criminal activity.

The BEAST is a beauty

The BEAST– Barcoded Evidence Analysis Statistics Tracking—is an automated barcode system used in the LPD Property and Evidence Room to assist with inventory management, documentation of chain-of-custody and statistics. All items that are seized as evidence, turned in as found property or logged in for safekeeping get entered into the BEAST.

While the BEAST keeps track of physical evidence, ADAMS, the Authenticated Digital Asset Management System, authenticates, stores, catalogs and secures a chain of custody with digital evidence such as photos, audio interviews, video interviews and the like.

ADAMS streamlines inquiries and ensures that digital evidence can't be altered.

(continued on page 4)

More to enjoy as recreation trail grows

With the installation of a traffic signal, a new 3/4 mile segment of the Loveland Recreation Trail has been opened west of Boyd Lake State Park. The new segment runs east/west between County Road 13 and County Road 11C, where the signal was installed to warn motorists of trail users crossing the road.

This is the first signal installed on the trail, is pedestrian actuated and provides a 20 second flashing yellow

signal warning vehicles to stop and yield for pedestrians in the crosswalk.

With the new segment, the trail's total length is 16.25 miles and encircles most of Loveland. Trail users can enjoy walking, jogging, skating and biking. Motorized vehicles and horses are not permitted.

The trail and signal were built with Conservation Trust funds and Capital Expansion Fees at a cost of approximately \$460,000.



Glass drop-off easier

Loveland residents can now drop off glass bottles and jars for 100 percent recycling at three additional local sites. The additional sites make glass recycling easier and more convenient, now with a total of six sites throughout Loveland thanks to cooperative efforts between the City of Loveland Solid Waste Division and local merchants.

The three new sites are:

- Barnes Park, 405 S. Cleveland Ave., north parking lot.
- Loveland Marketplace, 2979 N. Garfield Ave., parking lot south of Dollar Tree.
- Cattail Creek Golf Course, 2116 W. 29th St., west parking lot.

These sites are in addition to the existing glass drop-offs at the following locations:

- The City of Loveland Recycling Center, 400 N. Wilson Ave.
- Wal-Mart, 1325 N. Denver Ave., NW corner of parking lot.
- Kroh Park, 5200 N. Garfield Ave., lot next to ReStore

2-1-1 the right call for help

Loveland and northern Colorado are very fortunate to have numerous government, faith-based, not-for-profit and other assistance groups ready, willing and able to help local individuals and families. But knowing which and how to contact these agencies can itself be a challenge.

Larimer County residents are even more fortunate because by simply dialing 2-1-1, a trained staffer will answer the phone and help put the caller in touch with the right agency for the caller's needs. United Way 2-1-1 represents more than 400 Larimer County agencies.

United Way's 2-1-1 information and referral specialists are skilled professionals who assess callers' needs,

determine their options and best course of action by directing them to appropriate programs and services. They refer people to aging services, disaster recovery services, donation referrals, food assistance, housing and utility assistance, health and medical needs, legal assistance and more.

In one year's time, nearly 4,000 people in Loveland called United Way 2-1-1 in search of help. With the economic downturn, more people are calling 2-1-1 for the first time than ever before.

Regardless of the nature of the problem, calling United Way 2-1-1 or visiting www.uwaylc.org can be a major step in the right direction for persons in need.

Renewable energy just keeps on giving (continued from page 1)

solar panels are installed, the wind will still blow and the sun will still shine. In addition, renewable energy does not create toxic waste products or harmful exhaust during production as traditional energy sources do.

Some Loveland Water & Power customers already subscribe to renewable energy through Loveland Water & Power's GreenSwitch program. Since 1999, GreenSwitch has provided Loveland power customers with an alternative to traditional fuels, which do produce harmful greenhouse gases. GreenSwitch energy enables subscribers to reduce their carbon footprints by investing in clean energy.

In Loveland, wind energy is currently the primary source of renewable energy. Platte River Power Authority (PRPA), the city's wholesale power generation source, has been getting

wind power from the 8 megawatt (MW) Medicine Bow (Wyo.) Wind Project, since 1998.

Recently, PRPA has begun receiving additional wind power from a new wind power facility in Wyoming.

Wind power from this new facility more than doubles PRPA's wind generation ability. This recent acquisition is part of PRPA's ongoing plan to acquire new renewable energy from sources such as wind, geothermal, biomass, small hydropower and solar. PRPA's long-term planning calls for adding about 75 MW of renewable energy by 2020.

For more information on the City's GreenSwitch program or to sign up, visit the Water & Power webpages at www.cityofloveland.org, and navigate to the Conservation pages, or call Loveland Water & Power, 962-3000.

LPD behind the scenes

(continued from page 3)

Refrain from that \$9,000 beer

In addition to working traffic enforcement—speeding, red lights, stop signs, etc.—the LPD Traffic Unit conducts sobriety checkpoints and DUI saturation patrols in “prime time” to locate and arrest suspected drunk drivers. Loveland officers also have received additional training in determining if a driver is under the influence of illicit or prescribed medications.

The cost to a driver charged with DUI averages more than \$9,000. Of course, a serious injury or fatal collision is far more costly to everyone.

Regional evidence efforts shared

Construction and operation of a crime lab is the ultimate goal of a group of police agencies and two district attorneys from throughout northern Colorado. In the meantime, they have all signed on to assist each other with forensic science services.

Shared services include examination of fingerprints, DNA, chemistry and digital media. The Northern Regional Laboratory Group (NRLG) recognizes that cooperation and coordination reduce costs and promote consistency, quality, timely results, and improved identification, collection and analysis of forensic evidence.

Police academy involves citizens

Citizens can increase their interaction and education about local criminal justice realities by enrolling in the Loveland Police Department Citizens Police Academy. The academy is held annually during a ten-week period.

The program helps get the community involved and enables better understanding of the policing and problem solving efforts of the police department.

Everyone needed to fight drugs

Loveland police officers work to fight the destructive trend of drugs on the community every day. Fighting drugs includes Patrol, Street Crimes Unit, the Northern Colorado Drug Task Force and other LPD personnel.

Citizen involvement is also very important. Reports by residents of high volumes of traffic or other unusual and annoying behaviors in a neighborhood are often indications of criminal activity.

The drugs themselves aren't the only problem. LPD also deals with burglary, theft, forgery or identity crimes associated with drugs.

Lighting with a Twist



A **BRIGHT** Idea for **BIG** Savings!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF REDUCED PRICES YEAR-'ROUND

Loveland Water and Power along with Platte River Power Authority invite you to learn more about compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) at the following retail in-store events

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- October 3** - Orchards Ace Hardware*
- October 10** - Lighting Designs* (11 a.m.-3 p.m.)
- October 17** - Jax Ranch & Home
- October 24** - The Home Depot*
- October 31** - Sam's Club
- November 7** - Albertson's
- November 14** - Bed Bath & Beyond
- November 21** - Lowe's

(varieties and discounts vary from store to store)

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs):

- provide high-quality lighting
- last longer
- reduce energy costs

In fact, a standard CFL can pay for itself in just 3 months!

*These retailers provide free (and safe) recycling for burned out CFLs. CFLs contain trace amounts of mercury.

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. Visit the City's website at www.cityofloveland.org.