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 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

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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

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.

**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 usable 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 be 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.

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**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 agencies 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.

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.

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.