



City of Loveland

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# THE LOVELAND City Update

July  
2007

Volume 3  
Number 7

## Loveland has an international reputation

As Loveland has grown from a town to a city, its reputation as an arts community has also grown and spread to include international recognition. Loveland is a community that's known as "A Work of Art."

"Loveland is a community rich with artists, galleries and public art displays," explained Loveland Cultural Services

Director Susan Ison. "Loveland's 'art town' reputation is much more than just a label. It's a major source of community pride and identity that contributes to the fine quality of life here," said Ison.

The City's Cultural Services Department does

much to provide opportunities for all residents of Loveland—and visitors, too—to enjoy artistic and cultural experiences.

Turn the page to learn more about Loveland's Museum/Gallery, Rialto Theater, Art in Public Places, programs for youngsters and even the financial benefits Loveland's emphasis on the arts brings to the community.



## Building commissioning ensures it was done...and done right

A newly constructed building should work the way it's supposed to work. Even a newly purchased building is expected to operate as efficiently as possible.

Good indoor air quality, comfort and safety for everyone in the building is required, and any installed equipment must work properly. Surprisingly, usually even a newly constructed building does not run to its maximum efficiency.

This can be corrected with a process called building commissioning. Building commissioning takes a systematic approach to ensuring that new buildings and facilities systems perform the way their designers and owners intended, saving energy, water and operational costs.

Similarly retro-commissioning, the process of testing, troubleshooting and adjusting systems in an existing building, can save money for existing tenants on their utility bill.

Many occupants of commissioned buildings find that these savings, in addition to the improvement in comfort, outweigh the cost of the commissioning process. In fact, experts say the cost of commissioning is ultimately less than the cost of not commissioning.

The nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of

high performance green buildings, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), requires that buildings be commissioned to receive certification.

The recently completed Medical Center of the Rockies (MCR) at Centerra was constructed with specific performance goals in mind and was commissioned to ensure these goals were met. "Commissioning MCR was the best way to not only improve system performance, but also to validate the project's commitment to sustainability," said Russ Sedmak, Vice President of HEERY – HLM Design and the lead architect on the project. MCR was designed and built to meet a LEED Gold Certification, as rated by the US Green Building Council.

"There is a common theory that commissioning adds cost to construction projects and initially, there are additional professional services required. But the payback is not only in the form of energy savings over time, it is also immediate in its support of better building design and an informed, team approach," added Sedmak.

For information about building commissioning and cash incentives for energy efficiency in new commercial buildings, contact Loveland Water and Power at 962-3566.

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## Quick action by City employee may have saved a life

Every so often we find ourselves yanked out of our normal routines and propelled into extraordinary, perhaps even life threatening circumstances. On May 29, Ryan Hornung, equipment operator with the City's solid waste division, found himself in just such a position.

Hornung was traveling his route when he heard something from the neighbor's driveway. What he saw was alarming. A man who had been



working under his car had been pinned by it when the vehicle shifted and fell off its ramp.

Hornung immediately dialed 911 and then ran to the house to get help. He and the man who answered the door quickly got a jack and raised the car off the trapped man and pulled him out from underneath it before the paramedics arrived.

"What Ryan did was nothing short of heroic," said Bruce Philbrick, superintendent for the solid waste

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## History and art at Museum/Gallery

Local history and international art can all be viewed and enjoyed with a single visit downtown to the Loveland Museum/Gallery.

Loveland's cultural headquarters, the facility hosts exhibits, art classes, workshops, poetry readings, demonstrations and more under its roof. Outside the building, visitors can enjoy festivals, concerts, performances and other art-related gatherings.

The museum began under private ownership in a converted garage in 1938. With City ownership and operation in 1946, it has since evolved into both a museum and art gallery, now 28,000 sq. ft. in size. Plans for expansion are under way.

The museum displays are established for long-term residency while a changing variety of art gallery exhibits are offered

throughout the year. Below is a list of some of the major exhibits provided during the past year:

### Museum:

*Life on Main Street*  
*Loveland's Great Western Sugar Factory*  
*Sweetheart Town, USA*  
*Fireside Gallery*  
*Big Thompson Water Project 3-D Map*

### Galleries:

*Works by Oscar Leonardus Ulwang*  
*Zimbabwe Stone Sculptures*  
*Sharon Anhorn: Unlimited*  
*George Mendoza: Vision of the Soul*  
*Thompson School District Art Show*  
*Annual Governor's Art Show*  
*Hook, Hammer and Hang*  
*Bottle Trees* and currently:  
*Infinite Dimensions: Glass Art*  
by Ray Howlett

## Public art from foresight, generosity

Sometimes we take for granted the beauty that surrounds us. We're accustomed to seeing a range of mountains just to our west, blue skies and bright sunshine almost daily, and all the art displayed throughout our town.

It's no accident that art adorns our streets, parks, public spaces and public buildings. In 1985, Loveland became the first town in Colorado to adopt an Art in Public Places program.

Every major City construction project of \$50,000 or more includes one percent of the funding for the purchase of art for that project. Much of Loveland's public art comes from the generosity of organizations and individuals, especially the internationally known sculpture sale weekend every August. Proceeds from the weekend by the two local organizations that host the events are used for purchase of public artwork in Loveland and for art programs for Loveland's school district.

Today, the City's art collection includes 269 individual pieces, valued at more than \$6 million, of which more than

80 percent of the value has been donated. Bronze sculpture is the main emphasis of the City's art collection due to its easy accessibility outdoors, the great number of sculptors and the world-class foundries located in Loveland.

And there's much more art in Loveland available to see, enjoy and purchase from many commercial galleries and artists' showrooms throughout town.

The City's art collection is under the direction of a volunteer citizens' group, the Visual Arts Commission. This active, seven-member committee oversees the City's art acquisitions, donations and site selection.

## Beneficial to eyes, ears and wallet

Loveland's public and nonprofit art and cultural endeavors are beneficial not only to the eyes and ears of the community but also to its annual economy, almost \$10 million worth.

The Cultural Services Department participated in a nationwide study to determine the economic impact of nonprofit arts and culture organizations and their audiences. The study, conducted by Americans for the Arts, determined that the U.S. economic total was \$166.2 billion—yes, that's billion with a B.

Here in Loveland, visitors to the Museum/Gallery and Rialto Theater were asked to provide spending information in conjunction with that visit. That data, along with data from the City budget and other nonprofit cultural groups, resulted in a snapshot of the culture-related economic impact in Loveland totaling \$9,817,726 during 2005.

The total included salaries for 284 full-time-equivalent jobs throughout Loveland, revenue to local and state government, event-related spending and other spending. It was especially interesting to note that more than half of Loveland arts and culture event attendees—58 percent—were from out of town, therefore bringing additional revenue into Loveland.

And remember, this study only dealt with nonprofit organizations. Loveland is home to many very profitable galleries, showrooms, art supply houses, foundries and the artists themselves.



## City adds smaller buses to fleet

Two new buses are now in service for seniors and disabled passengers who use the paratransit service in Loveland.

The new buses are gasoline powered and can carry up to eight seated passengers plus two wheelchair passengers and will replace larger buses that have exceeded their lifecycles. These buses are the first additions to the fleet since 2003 when three buses were added with a Federal Transit Administration grant.

The City of Loveland Transit (COLT) system has provided the Loveland community accessible public transportation at an affordable price for nearly 30 years. Currently, the City provides two fixed



routes called Green and Blue, one commuter route to Fort Collins called Fox Trot and paratransit service throughout town six days per week.

The buses were purchased utilizing federal grants and City of Loveland Fleet Fund monies, a fund designed to build capital

reserves for the replacement of aging City equipment. The total cost of the two buses is \$87,440 with \$52,246 provided locally.

COLT Transit Manager Marcy Abreo said, "The addition of these two smaller buses will allow for more efficient service to our paratransit customers and will also be more cost effective by savings in fuel and maintenance costs."

Public Works Director Keith Reester noted that, "These buses are a strategic operational change that allows us to continue to grow our services for the disabled and seniors while more

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## Rialto Theater once again is the heart of downtown

No brag, just fact: The Rialto Theater has regained its place as the heart and soul of downtown Loveland.

When it opened in 1920 with its wooden seats, an orchestra pit and vaudeville stage, it was hailed as “The finest theater north of Denver.” In its own special way, that description holds true today.



The Rialto hosts a wide variety of live performances – from nationally touring acts to local theater productions and choral groups. Independent and art house films are shown along with classic

movies and even silent movies with a live orchestra.

Many regional non-profit organizations hold their fund-raising benefits at the Rialto. And the theater also hosts graduations, business meetings and events, community events, and even weddings.

The Rialto has developed a strong partnership with the Thompson R2J school district. Students attend special performances, the Rialto sends visiting artists into the schools for residency activities and the theater also provides a thriving program of theater arts classes for students in grades K-12.

It has re-energized the area, bringing people downtown and spurring new businesses where theater-goers dine and shop. The Rialto is part of downtown’s character of culture, with publicly displayed sculpture, art galleries and studios, outdoor art fairs and, of course,

the Museum/Gallery just a block away.

The stiff wooden seats are long gone. Renovated and reopened in 1996, the Rialto is busier than ever. Today, more than 300 events take place each year at the 450-seat theater, with more than 43,000 people filling those seats last year.



If you’ve been to the Rialto, you’ve enjoyed yourself. If you haven’t, you have something to look forward to.

And it’s still getting better. The Rialto will soon have brand new seats...again.

## Youngsters offered art interaction

Diversity, mentoring and community connection all describe the City’s cultural programs aimed specifically at youngsters.

“Our programs provide youth a springboard into involvement with the arts,” explained Youth Activities Coordinator Jenni Dobson of the Loveland Cultural Services Department. “We provide opportunities aimed at understanding and appreciating the arts rather than focusing on training toward a career in art. This enables us to offer a broader range of programs to a broader range of kids.”

The concept of diversity applies to both artistic media and ages served. The youth programs offer involvement with everything from drawing, painting, pastels and pottery to filmmaking, foreign cultures and rock and roll. The age groups involved range from tots to teens.

The mentoring and community connection go hand-in-hand since most of the adults involved who provide



instruction, education and support are professionals from Loveland’s wide-ranging arts communities. Young participants gain a unique perspective and great respect for these local artists and educators who share their skills and experience with the children.

With the addition of the youth activities coordinator position in 2001, the programming for and participation by Loveland youngsters in the arts has increased dramatically—as much as ten fold. Programs include:

- Art After Hours— After school art education classes for 1st-9th graders.
- Tot Art— Preschool art education classes for ages 3-5 with an adult.
- School-break Workshops— Out-of-school time classes offered during spring break, winter break and summer break.
- Special Events for Teens and Families— Teen Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Family Fun Festival, Community Holiday Tree Lighting.
- Battle of the Bands— local competition for teen and young adult bands with prizes.
- Silver Spoon Film Festival— competition for young, budding filmmakers.

Loveland enjoys an international reputation as an arts community. The City’s emphasis on youngsters and the arts will help continue Loveland’s artistic character for generations to come.

## Compact Fluorescent Bulbs—a better way to see the light

The word ‘fluorescent’ often brings to mind those long tubular fluorescent lights from our school days. Their buzzing, flickering and ghostly glare were as common a classroom fixture as chalkboards and erasers. But thanks to technology, the fluorescent bulbs of today barely resemble their aged forebears. Modern compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) are quiet, cast a warm sunny glow, and most importantly, provide indoor and outdoor lighting in an energy and cost-efficient way.

Lighting accounts for about 11 percent of an average home’s monthly electricity bill in this area. Standard incandescent light

bulbs typically convert about 90 percent of the energy they produce into heat, i.e. wasted energy. So incandescent bulbs are not only a more expensive way to provide lighting, but due to the heat they produce, are also very energy inefficient (especially in the summer when heat produced by bulbs has to be counteracted with more air-conditioning).



If every home in America replaced just one incandescent light bulb with a CFL, it would save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of more than 800,000 cars annually (energystar.gov).

Plus, CFLs use only a quarter of the energy compared to standard bulbs and last up to ten times longer. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes including globes, reflectors and candles.

CFLs do contain a small amount of mercury. Mercury is an element which is hazardous to humans as well as a potential

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## Fifth annual spring waterway clean up a resounding success

This year's annual waterway clean up was bigger and better than ever – more volunteers, more refuse gathered and hauled away, and more area waterways returned to their pristine, natural beauty. According to Joe Chaplin, stormwater quality specialist, this event has grown every year since it began five years ago. "This is a community that really values its natural areas and waterways. We are very fortunate that there are citizens who volunteer their time to remove unwanted materials from these areas which benefits the entire community."



Last year 66 volunteers picked up about five tons of trash. This year 170 volunteers cleaned up 10 tons of trash. "This event grows in popularity every year," Chaplin said. "I get calls from volunteers months in advance asking

when the clean up is and what sites we'll be working on.

"It's great to live in a community where people really care about our natural areas and water quality. This event would not be the success it is without the volunteers and my heartfelt thanks goes out to each and every one of them," added Chaplin.



Among the debris removed from within and along each side of the waterways this year was furniture, auto parts, old tires, bike parts, construction materials, shopping carts, cans, bottles, plastic bags, scrap paper and old newspaper. According to Chaplin, while keeping our waterways clean is aesthetically beneficial, it's also important because it actually improves water quality by removing materials which can potentially contaminate water.

For more information on the annual clean up or to volunteer call 962-2772.

### Quick action by City employee may have saved a life

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division. "His prompt actions may very well have saved this man's life. It is one of the additional benefits our employees offer the community while en route – an extra set of ears and eyes and assistance when needed."

According to Philbrick, over the years

solid waste division employees have fixed flat tires, returned lost dogs to their homes, pushed cars out of snow banks and numerous other good deeds. "We are very proud of Ryan and our whole team for not only being great employees but exemplary citizens," Philbrick added.

### City adds smaller buses to fleet

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effectively delivering passengers and controlling costs."

The COLT system was named Small Transit System of the Year last fall by the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies.

Interested community members can find more information on the COLT system at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org) or by calling the COLT office at 962-2700.

### Compact Fluorescent Bulbs—a better way to see the light

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contaminant to groundwater and the atmosphere. This means that proper disposal of CFLs is essential. When a CFL bulb finally gives out (remember, they last 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs on average) they should be disposed of, free-of-charge, at the Larimer County Landfill and Recycling Center along with

other recyclable household items such as old batteries, thermometers, pesticides, gasoline and paint.

For more information on the benefits and proper disposal of CFLs go to [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) or call Loveland Water and Power, 962-3000.



### Fireworks Plant

Many folks have asked about the "firework" plant in front of the Loveland Service Center (pictured here). And although, it will be a full year to see it again, plant it soon to bloom next year.

The Allium Schubertii, an ornamental onion bulb, must be planted in the fall to reap its unique bloom in the late spring or early summer. It likes full to partial shade.

The Allium is also a drought-tolerant bulb, according to Xeriscape Colorado, the Complete Guide. After blooming, they're dormant during the summer and require no special watering.

These plants are rabbit, squirrel, and deer resistant.

## What you need to know about estate planning

Lynn Hammond, long-time Loveland resident and attorney will discuss estate planning on August 14 at noon in the Gertrude B. Scott room at the Loveland Public Library. This free lunchtime program is part of the library's monthly "Money Talks" series.

Hammond will give an overview of the process of estate planning and explain what happens in probate court. He will discuss specific estate planning tools including wills, living wills, durable power of attorney, and living trusts. He will also cover tax problems that can occur when an estate is administered.

For more information call 962-2402.



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