FNL brings many benefits to Loveland and NoCo region

Even though Loveland gets only second billing in the name, the community gets the top benefit from the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport (FNL). All of northern Colorado benefits from the airport, but because it’s within Loveland’s city limits there are several benefits—and expenses—expressly for Loveland.

The benefits include convenience, leisure travel, safety, education, health care, recreation and perhaps most importantly, revenue and jobs. We’re talking hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars of economic impact from the airport.

(continued on page 2)

Ribbon cutting marks I-25/US 34 interchange improvements completion

A ribbon cutting usually celebrates a grand opening. Last June 28, a ribbon cutting celebrated a grand closing—the official end of the I-25/US 34 Interchange Improvement Project.

The event marked the completion of the project, including the landscaping and aesthetic improvements. For several months, motorists have enjoyed the “concrete” benefits of the safety and traffic flow improvements completed this past winter.

Loveland Mayor Cecil Gutierrez was joined by City Public Works officials and officials from the state highway department, Centerra, the construction firms and others at a small field adjacent to the Interstate overlooking the completed roadway and bridge improvements.

Development on US 34 both east (continued on page 4)

2011 Food and Utility Sales Tax Rebate Program applications available

The City of Loveland will accept applications for the 2011 Food and Utility Sales Tax Rebate Program from Aug. 1 through Sept. 30, 2011.

This program issues food and utility sales tax rebates to individuals and families who qualify according to HUD median area income guidelines and requirements set by Loveland City Council. Rebate amounts are based upon an estimate according to family size and income level.

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Keep a toothpick handy—it’s Corn Roast Festival time

Aw shucks! It’s time again for the Old Fashioned Corn Roast Festival, Aug. 26-27 at Fairgrounds Park in downtown Loveland. Shuckers, dancers, food, beer, vendors and lots and lots of fresh, sweet corn will highlight this year’s festivities.

Friday, Aug. 26 kicks off the festival with a corn shucking contest. The evening continues with dancing to live music, a beer garden, food and entertainment, vendor booths, and of course, corn.

Saturday morning starts with a pancake breakfast at Fairgrounds Park and colorful hot air balloon launchings as part of the Sweetheart Balloon Rally. A parade then winds its way from the park through downtown and back.

The event continues with the Loveland’s Got Talent contest, the beer garden, vendor booths, corn-eating contests, a corn recipe contest and more.

The Old Fashioned Corn Roast Festival is a decades-old tradition in Loveland that marks and celebrates the end of summer. For more information, go to www.loveland.org/TheCornRoastFestival.
FNL brings many benefits to Loveland and NoCo region (continued from page 1)

Loveland area residents often see the comings and goings of small, single engine propeller-driven planes at the airport. They may not realize the airport—FNL is its official designation to pilots—is a commercial service facility that supports thousands of flights by corporate jets and even 150-seat airliners. Like I-25, the airport’s runways bring in the most economic impact per square foot of pavement to the area.

Did you know:
- FNL began operations 46 years ago; 1965.
- The main runway is more than a mile-and-a-half long, 8,500 feet.
- There’s a second, much shorter crosswind runway, 2,180 feet in length.
- Airliners such as MD80, Boeing 737, Boeing 727, Airbus 318 often use FNL.
- Last year the airport provided service to 33,671 commercial passengers.
- The airport has the same TSA security personnel that also work at Denver International.
- The runway is not designed for heavier aircraft than what it already supports.
- During the summer, the hot air and runway’s elevation force airliners to leave some seats empty to lighten the load.
- The airport property exceeds 1,000 acres.
- There are 210 hangers on the airport property.
- Local companies frequently using the airport include Otterbox, Budweiser, Bohemian Foundation, HP, Caterpillar, John Deere and Water Valley plus many more.
- Almost every day, air ambulances bring patients from Colorado and nearby states arriving for treatment at local hospitals as well as organs for transplantation services.
- About a dozen aviation-related businesses operate at FNL including flight schools for airplane and helicopter pilots, aircraft maintenance and repair, fuel suppliers and even a café for departing passengers.
- There’s no control tower at FNL, but pilots are in contact with and on the radar of the FAA’s air traffic control system.
- The airport will close for 2 weeks this summer for $7.2 million in runway repaving and related improvements.
- A firefighting air tanker plane is stationed at FNL during peak fire season.
- Whenever a commercial flight takes off or lands, a firefighter crew with special equipment is at the airport in case of an emergency.
- Rock stars and athletes performing at the nearby Budweiser Events Center use FNL. President George W. Bush and Rush Limbaugh have used FNL too.

So whaddayathink Loveland? Shall we launch a campaign to change the name with Loveland first? (Just kidding!)

*from 2008 Economic Impact Study by the Colorado Department of Transportation

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You can still have your bulb and light it too

There has been some confusion lately on the future availability of incandescent light bulbs. Fortunately, incandescent bulb lovers have nothing to worry about. Contrary to some of the information floating around in the media, incandescent bulbs will continue to be available for the foreseeable future—they will just have to be more efficient than their heat-throwing, inefficient predecessors.

Recent legislation has enacted that, starting January 1, 2012, incandescent bulbs will need to be 25 to 30 percent more efficient than they have been. That means that a 100 watt bulb must not use more than 72 watts to create the same light output.

Conventional incandescent waste 90 percent of their energy throwing heat. That energy inefficiency is the primary target of this new legislation.

Many light bulb companies have already beat the Jan. 1 deadline and have introduced new incandescent bulbs that comply with the new law. These new bulbs have a regular light bulb shape, deliver the same amount of light and throw a warm, familiar color like their predecessors. They can also be used on dimmable circuits. They’re just more efficient.

To help Loveland residents get up-to-date, accurate information on how this new legislation impacts incandescent bulbs, Loveland Water & Power (W&P) has available a handy new reference guide to take the confusion out of lighting options.

“For four years we’ve been educating Loveland residents on the benefits of energy efficient lighting through the Lighting with a Twist (LWAT) program,” said Lindsey Bashline, administrative specialist with W&P. “There will be a bit of a learning curve as consumers will have to learn how to shop for a product that has gone unchanged for more than 100 years—until now.”

To help residents get the information they need, W&P offers Illuminating Facts, Federal Light Bulb Legislation—Quick Reference Guide to help people through this transition. The guide lists which bulbs are affected by the legislation, the date they are affected, and the best closest option for replacement among the new bulbs.

In addition to the bulbs themselves being modified for efficiency, another bulb industry change consumers should be aware of is how bulbs will be labeled. In accordance with the new legislation, consumers will now purchase a 1500 lumens light bulb—rather than a 72 watt light bulb. Wattage does not indicate brightness. Lumens are a better indicator of how much light the bulb will produce.

New, front-of-package labels also will include the estimated yearly energy cost for that particular bulb so consumers will know how much bulb they’re getting for their buck. Backs of light bulb packages will have a “Lighting Facts” listing that will (continued on page 4)
Runway rehab, more ahead this month at local airport

This year, thanks to federal funding made possible by commercial airliner service, the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport (FNL) will receive more than $7 million in improvements.

The major project will be $6 million in runway work. The asphalt runway was last repaved in the 1980s and is overdue for new pavement. The airport will close during the last two weeks of August while the repaving and other work takes place. In addition to the repaving, more than 30,000 cu. yds. of dirt will be moved for runway leveling improvements and drainage improvements for the whole airport.

Because FNL hosts commercial airliner service with more than 10,000 enplanements per year, it qualifies for annual federal aviation funds of about $850,000 plus can receive grants for special projects. FNL’s budget pays only 2.5 percent of these improvement costs with the Federal Aviation Administration paying 95 percent and a Colorado aviation fund paying the other 2.5 percent.

This summer’s work will also include a 40,000 sq. ft. concrete jet blast pad at each end of the runway, some security fencing, weather information technology and other improvements.

Single airline brings many dollars

Although the Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport (FNL) only has one commercial airline, it provides big dollars for the airport, and smiles and suntans for thousands of travelers.

With six flights a week to Las Vegas or Phoenix, more than 35,000 passengers a year ride Allegiant Airlines’ MD-80 series jetliners from FNL. The result is jobs and revenue for the airport.

The commercial service brings $850,000 a year in federal airport maintenance money, plus revenue for terminal rental, passenger fees, parking, fuel and more, totaling about $1.2 million. In addition to the jobs of the pilots and other airline employees, the service supports jobs at FNL for TSA, car rentals, café, fuel staff plus fire and police employees.

The airline transports northern Colorado residents to Las Vegas or Phoenix primarily for resort relaxation. However, especially during the desert dwellers’ hot summers, the planes are bringing travelers and their wallets here to northern Colorado for fun under our cooler sun.

On a much less regular basis, other airliners use FNL. About once a month, an airliner gambling junket to Nevada includes passengers from FNL. Especially during football season, charter planes bring CSU players, opponents and fans in and out of FNL. And on rare occasions, Frontier Airlines has used FNL when flights are diverted from Denver International Airport because of weather or other conditions.

Housing funding available for Loveland residents

Both the Larimer Home Improvement Program and the Larimer Home Ownership Program have funds available.

The Home Improvement Program provides low-to-no-interest rate loans to area home owners to make needed health, safety and energy efficient improvements to their homes. Borrowers must earn no more than 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) or $61,350 for a family of four. Income guidelines vary per family size.

The Home Ownership Program offers a two percent interest rate loan for down payment and closing costs for first time home buyers. This program has the same income restrictions. For complete program information, applications and guidelines, call Amy, 635-5931 or visit www.lovelandhsg.org.

These programs are administered by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland and are funded by both the City of Loveland’s CDBG program and the Colorado Division of Housing.

Business center has new look

The Loveland Small Business Development Center (L-SBDC) is in transition.

It has become the Loveland Center for Business Development (LCBD). The LCBD program was established by the City of Loveland in 1993 as a resource for the local business community. In 2008, the program joined the Colorado SBDC network and became an SBDC network affiliate. After a three year pilot program, the SBDC is reverting back to the LCBD to better serve the needs of the local business community.

The immediate focus is the seamless transition of the program and its existing clients. Other than a new name, logo and web site, the location and all other services will remain the same. With a vision to “Foster Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Growth,” the LCBD is excited about the renewed focus on the local Loveland economy.

The mission of the Loveland Center for Business Development is to provide high-quality and cost effective small business assistance, information, and support which fosters the successful growth and development of small businesses and results in a positive long-term economic impact on our communities. This mission is accomplished through:

• One-on-one business counseling – free for Loveland residents, $25 per counseling session for non-Loveland residents.

• Low-cost workshops

• Help in identifying potential financing

• Help in networking with local, state, and federal resources

New businesses can register for the monthly workshop “So You Want to Start a Business.” Cost: $20, free for Loveland residents.

On Facebook at www.facebook.com/lovelandcenterforbiz.
I-25 and US 34 Interchange improvements complete
(continued from page 1)
and west of I-25 has increased substantially during the past decade resulting in increased traffic flow. The addition of the Promenade Shops on the east side, plus the Medical Center of the Rockies and other industrial and retail businesses on the west side had resulted in frequent backups and safety considerations at the former I-25 cloverleaf interchange.

The project addressed safety issues on both I-25 and US 34 by eliminating the sub-standard weaving movements and accommodating traffic in the interchange area at a reasonable level of service for the next 15 years or more. The improvements included the elimination of the northeast and southwest loop ramps and installation of new interstate southbound and northbound concrete off-ramps with signalization at both of the I-25/US 34 ramp intersections.

Funding for Interstate improvements usually originates from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration, however, CDOT money for major improvements at the interchange wasn’t planned for several decades. Instead, the funding for this $11.25 million project was provided by the Centerra Metropolitan District based on a Master Finance Agreement with Loveland that identified the interchange as a significant regional transportation improvement.

2011 Food and Utility Sales Tax Rebate Program
(continued from page 1)

2011 HUD Guidelines—Family Size & Household Income

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Last year’s program resulted in 932 households receiving food and utility rebates totaling $143,424, averaging $154 per household. Food rebates totaled $106,144 and utility rebates totaled $37,280. To get an application go to:
• City of Loveland’s website; www.cityofloveland.org
• Loveland Public Library 300 N. Adams Ave.

• Food Sales Tax Rebate Office Adjacent to Utility Billing—Window #3, 500 E. Third St.

Completed applications should be taken to the Food and Utility Sales Tax Rebate Office adjacent to Utility Billing between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., or mailed to the Food and Utility Sales Tax Rebate Office, 500 E. Third St., Suite 230, Loveland, CO 80537.

For more information call 962-2361.

Summertime Christmas Event
Loveland resident Jan Sawyer expresses her shopping enjoyment at a crafts fair fundraiser for this year’s Santa Cops program. Santa Cops personally deliver Christmas gifts to underprivileged children throughout Larimer County. More information: 498-3553, Board@SantaCopsLarimerCounty.

You can still have your bulb and light it too (continued from page 2)
provide information on brightness, energy cost, life expectancy, light appearance (ie. warm vs. cool light), wattage, and mercury content. For more information on the quick reference guide or for tips on how to save money and reduce energy use with CFLs, call Loveland Water and Power at 962-3000 or visit the Water & Power webpages at www.cityofloveland.org.

Larimer County Food Bank has new location in Loveland
Growing to Feed the Need is the Food Bank for Larimer County’s campaign to expand food assistance and outreach in southern Larimer County. The Food Bank’s Loveland Food Share, a direct service food pantry, currently located at 245 S. Madison Avenue, will relocate this month to the former Ferrero Paint & Collision Repair building, 2600 N. Lincoln Avenue. The Food Bank has almost reached the $2.2 million needed from foundations and other private individual donors. A remaining $126,000 needs to be raised from the general public for the Food Bank to complete the campaign. The Gates Family Foundation has offered a challenge matching grant for every donation designated to the Loveland Food Share campaign until September 1. To donate, go to www.foodbanklarimer.org.