



Muni Court defendants sentenced to life



Graduation Day – Loveland Municipal Court Administrator Patty Parker snaps a photo of Judge Geri Joneson with November graduates of the court's Jumpstart program, from left, Shawn Farquhar, Joe Martinez and Daniel Jimenez.

Jumpstart steers the accused away from fines, jail: 'Do this for you'

On the second Thursdays of each month, Loveland's Municipal Courtroom is all hugs and cupcakes.

On those days, Judge Geri Joneson and criminal defendants appearing before her, most charged with misdemeanor street crimes, engage in a ritual that few people associate with the criminal justice system. They build relationships.

"I found, when I came to this position, that my greatest challenge was sentencing defendants who are homeless or near-homeless," Joneson said in an interview at her court office. "They obviously can't pay fines. Jail sentences make no sense. Community service? Most can't manage that. So, what's left? I require them to do things to help themselves, things that will improve their lives."

Go get a state-issued photo ID, maybe even a driver's license.

Demonstrate an honest effort to find a job.

Make an appointment for

addiction counseling.

"Jumpstart," the program that Joneson has brought to her courtroom, was originally a team product of the Municipal Court and the City's Community Partnership Office. It is an improvisation, tailored to the City's homeless population, that most observers say makes perfect sense.

On Nov. 9 Joneson's second-Thursday docket contained the names of 14 defendants, each originally charged with a misdemeanor crime and each granted entry to the Jumpstart program.

(see **Jumpstart** page 2)



Loveland Municipal Court Judge Geri Joneson, above, stands with two Jumpstart graduates as she awaits the third as court employees look on. **Right**, a friend who accompanied defendant Shawn Farquhar to court reads his certificate as they and others share cupcakes.

One of the first to appear was Rose Stoltz, charged with trespassing, and previously “sentenced” under Jumpstart to fulfilling requirements that Joneson had set – most of them related to substance abuse.

A probing exchange, during which Joneson consulted with Jumpstart Program Coordinator Valerie Gallegos, led to the conclusion that Stoltz still had some work to do.

“OK, here’s the deal,” Joneson said, sounding more like a stern judge than a gentle friend. “You’ll be back here on Dec. 14. If you can show me then that you’ve gone back to work, that you’re staying sober, then you’ll be on your way.”

“But you need to show us those things,” she continued. “And, remember this: You’re not doing these things for me. You are doing these things for yourself. All right? Do this for you.”

Jumpstart’s key player

Joneson and Court Administrator Patty Parker say the success of Jumpstart is mostly due to the work of program coordinator Gallegos. Joneson requires defendants to take advantage of Gallegos’ considerable knowledge of nonprofit agencies and other support sources on the local landscape.

“There’s a very common misconception out there that

the homeless know about all the resources available,” Joneson said. “They don’t. That’s where Valerie comes in.”

Gallegos works as an independent contractor with the court, stretching her allocated 10 hours weekly as far as possible in meeting the demands her caseload presents.

In the quiet courtroom, Gallegos’ connection to her clients is visible. They exchange over-the-shoulder smiles, or steal a hug when one of them approaches the dock in front of Joneson’s bench.

“All of these defendants are treated with dignity, respect and kindness,” Gallegos said. “In return for that, we gain the trust of the community. Our hope is that we will continue to build community through the defendants.”

Gallegos is hard-wired into the network of social service agencies upon whose support her program relies. She knows where the jobs are, where the food is, best ways to get from here to there, or how to find housing once a homeless person musters the resources.

Every new Jumpstart program participant begins with a heart-to-heart interview with Gallegos.

“We talk about what they really want, and how to get that,” she said. “How do we begin with getting an ID? How do we go about getting a job?”



Joneson and Parker said Gallegos’s work has earned “buy-in” from service providers who have faith their assistance to Jumpstart clients will work to move them out of poverty, off the streets, and away from courtrooms.

A warm hand off

“The most important contribution I make is a warm hand-off,” Gallegos said. “I don’t just send them to the Food Bank. I tell them who they will meet there, and when. I show them how to use a bus schedule so they can arrive there successfully. In the end, it’s empowering for them.”

At the conclusion of the Nov. 9 Jumpstart session, three of the defendants “graduated” from the program, having demonstrated their commitment to changes that will help keep them away from cops and courts.

Not included in the group was Robert Gregor, a homeless man charged with trespassing. Still more work ahead, Joneson had said. He nonetheless said in an interview that the program works.

“It’s all about respect,” Gregor said. “That really shows, with the judge, and with everybody else here. This is something that ought to be done everywhere.”

Loveland tops list for highest rate of recycling among Colorado's cities

A just-released report by the Colorado Public Interest Research Group (CoPIRG), a public health and consumer protection agency, and Eco-Cycle, a large, non-profit recycler, told us something we already knew - that Loveland sits squarely at the top of the state-wide list for our rate of recycling, and we've been there for quite some time.

According to Tyler Bandemer, Solid Waste Superintendent for the City of Loveland, this notable distinction can be attributed to a couple things; the foresight of his predecessors, who saw the financial and environmental benefit of diverting recyclables from the landfill, and Loveland residents' adoption of and enthusiasm for recycling.

All Loveland residents pay a Solid Waste management fee. That provides them with instant access to every-other-week, single-stream, curbside recycling. Residents are also rewarded for throwing away less through the City's "pay-as-you-throw" system. The larger the trash cart, the more one pays. That creates another incentive for residents to throw away less and recycle more.

This combination of services and

the City's Recycling Center, have helped catapult Loveland to the top of the recycling mountain.

While Loveland's exceptional recycling rate is big news to many, here at home it's really not news at all.

"The funny thing about this is that a lot of people who have called me about the report had no idea that Loveland has a 61 percent diversion rate, but we've been at 50 percent or higher for 20 years or more, so this isn't big news around here. It's just our normal day-to-day reality," Bandemer said.

In addition to singing Loveland's praises and citing other Front Range communities that are doing a good job of recycling, the report looks at ways for other Colorado communities to join the ranks of these top recyclers to help the state's overall rate of diversion. Currently the whole state only recycles 12 percent of its waste, which is significantly lower than the national average of 34 percent.

Twelve percent is far from optimal because recyclables have value. Precious metals can be harvested from old electronics and the plastic bags that newspapers arrive in can be turned into

composite decking material. Robust recycling programs are also job creation vehicles and diverting trash from the landfill extends the life of the landfill - a huge value because landfills are very expensive to open and maintain.

Bandemer is confident that Loveland will continue to be a recycling leader for the foreseeable future thanks to convenient curbside collection, a state-of-the-art recycling center, incentives to divert materials from the landfill, and the public's obvious interest in recycling. "We've made it so easy for people to recycle here that it's pretty much a no-brainer," he added.

To view the full report go to www.ecocycle.org/zerowastecolorado.

To learn more about Loveland recycling or to sign up for service, go to www.cityofloveland.org/recycling. And check out the Loveland Recycling and Solid Waste app for information on what is recyclable. The app is available on iTunes or the Google Play Store.



Clip and save

2018 RECYCLE COLLECTION CALENDAR

Recyclables are collected on a bi-weekly basis. Residences are designated as a blue collection week or a

green collection week. A red square indicates a City holiday - collection runs one day late for the remainder of the week

after the holiday. For more info call 962-2529, check the WASTE WIZARD app, or go to www.cityofloveland.org/solidwaste.

JANUARY					FEBRUARY					MARCH					APRIL					MAY					JUNE				
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29	30	31			26	27	28			26	27	28	29	30	30					28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29

JULY					AUGUST					SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER					DECEMBER				
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30	31				27	28	29	30	31						29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30	30	31			

Need to Know: Tax Info

A Money Matters Event

Erion Room
Jan. 16, 2018
6:00 – 7:30PM



Christmas tree recycling

Recycle your Christmas tree into beneficial mulch.

Remove tinsel, ornaments, wire, lights, nails, screws and stands.



Drop-off sites:

- **South: Centennial Park***
- **North: Kroh Park***
- **West: Recycling Center**
(Must have current Yard Waste Debris Permit to dispose of tree at no charge.)

* Open Dec. 22-Jan. 31, 2018.

More information: 962-2727.



Winter Athletic Programs

- **Adult Basketball**
- **Adult Volleyball**
- **Gymnastics**
- **Indoor Pre-K Soccer**
- **Youth Basketball**

More information at:
www.Teamsideline.com/Loveland

Enroll today at:
www.CityofLoveland.org/webtrac



Go Where No One Has Gone Before...

REBOOT SERIES

Star Trek – Jan. 12
Star Trek Into Darkness – Jan. 13
Star Trek Beyond – Jan. 13

RIALTO THEATER CENTER
228 East Fourth Street • Loveland, CO 80537 •
(970) 962-2120 • rialtotheatercenter.org

ART CLASSES


at the Loveland Museum

Registration for Winter/Spring 2018 classes begins

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org/classes-workshops/




 **LOVELAND MUSEUM**
LOVELAND ARTS AND CULTURE
503 N. Lincoln Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 962-2410
www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org



HUNG LIU TRANSFORMATION

DECEMBER 8, 2017 – FEBRUARY 18, 2018

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City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive City Update according to their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients' billing schedule. City Update is also available around the first of every month on the City's website at www.cityofloveland.org. Your comments are welcome. Please call 962-2302, or email Tom.Hacker@CityofLoveland.org. The City of Loveland is committed to providing equal opportunity for citizens and does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or gender. The City will make reasonable accommodations for citizens in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 962-3319.

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and
YouTube



DON'T FALL VICTIM TO SCAMS

Scams are an ongoing nuisance that get more sophisticated every day

We want to help protect you by providing these warning signs



PAY-NOW-OR-ELSE SCHEME

You receive a call from someone telling you that your utilities will be cut off that day (sometimes within the hour) if you don't pay now. LWP will never ask customers who have delinquent accounts to pay immediately or else." Customers with delinquent accounts will receive notices in the mail well in advance - never just a single notification one hour before disconnection.

Also be aware that some scammers have the ability to make a LWP number appear on your caller ID. Don't let that fool you.

If you suspect a scammer is on the phone or at your door, reach the City's Utility Billing department directly by calling (970) 962-2111.

For information on the City's standard utility payment options, go to: www.cityofloveland.org/utilitybilling.

PERSONAL INFORMATION REQUESTS

The caller asks for personal information, like a social security number. LWP never calls customers asking for this type of information.

PAY OVER THE PHONE

They ask you to pay with a prepaid debit card or your personal bank card over the phone. LWP will not call a customer asking for a payment over the phone, nor do we ask for prepaid debit cards.

HOUSE VISITS FOR INFORMATION OR PAYMENT

They show up at your doorstep asking for personal information or payment. LWP employees will never come to your house asking for personal information or payment of any kind.



SAVE THE DATE

Zero Net Carbon Community Meeting



JANUARY 10, 2018

5:30PM – 6:30PM

GROUP PUBLISHING

1515 Cascade Ave, Loveland, CO 80538

Platte River Power Authority, owned by Loveland, Fort Collins, Estes Park and Longmont, has hired a consultant who is modeling a 100 percent net carbon-free resource scenario for all four municipalities. Please join us to hear the results and engage in the process on the Zero Net Carbon modeling study presented by Platte River.



Platte River
Power Authority

Estes Park • Fort Collins • Longmont • Loveland



MAIN SWITCHBOARD
970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING
970-962-2111

visit us online...
cityofloveland.org/LWP



SERVICE LINES

Loveland Water and Power is responsible for maintaining and replacing water and wastewater mains throughout its service area, while property owners are responsible for the service lines at their service address.

DAMAGE CAN COST YOU

Water and wastewater damage may or may not be covered separately from a typical homeowner's insurance policy. To verify whether water and wastewater damage is covered in your policy, contact your insurance agent. Loveland Water and Power is not responsible for damage caused by a property's service line or internal plumbing. Decisions regarding whether to obtain insurance, and through which company, are the homeowners responsibility.

PROTECT YOUR SERVICE LINES

Just a small amount of household waste and F.O.G. have the potential to build up, cause costly blockages and backups, and



Fats, oil and grease build-up on the interior of a Loveland sewer line.

sewage overflows to private and public property. Clogged pipes and service lines at residences are the property owner's responsibility.

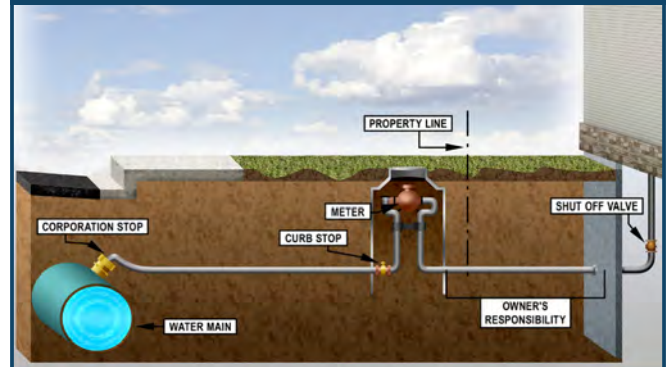
KEEP F.O.G. OUT OF THE DRAIN

F.O.G. stands for fats, oil and grease and are found in common food such as meat, fish, cooking oil, dressings, sauces and food scraps. If poured down your drain, F.O.G. will build up over time, sticking to sewer lines.

HOW TO AVOID F.O.G. BUILDUP

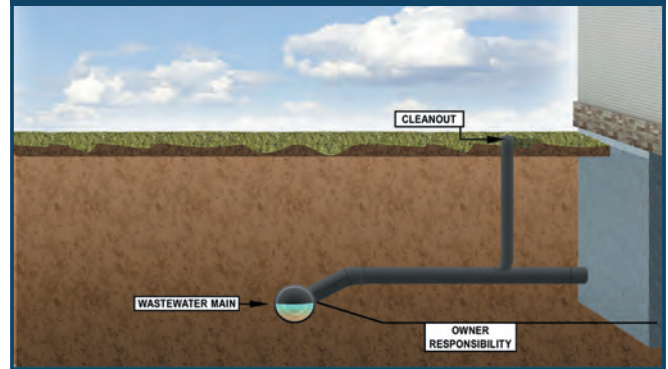
- Scrape all food waste into a lined garbage can.
- Use a paper towel to wipe oil and grease from pots and pans.
- Place waste oil and grease into a suitable container after it has cooled.
- Avoid using the garbage disposal – keep a strainer near the sink to capture solids.
- Take liquid oil and grease (e.g. from turkey fryer) to be disposed of at the City's Recycling Center.

OUTSIDE WATER METER INSTALLATION



The dividing point between LWP-owned mains and service lines that are the responsibility of the property owner is located where the service line exits the meter pit.

WASTEWATER SERVICE CONNECTION



The dividing point between LWP-owned mains and service lines that are the responsibility of the property owner is located where the service line taps into the wastewater main.

KNOW WHAT NOT TO FLUSH

Although a product may say it is flushable, it may not disintegrate as quickly as toilet paper and it should not go into the sewer. Remember to flush only toilet paper and put trash in the trash can.

AVOID CLOGS BY KEEPING THESE COMMON PRODUCTS OUT OF YOUR TOILET

- "Flushable" sani-wipes & baby wipes
- Cotton swabs and Q-tips
- Cleaning wipes & "flushable" cleaning pads
- Feminine products
- Bandages
- Dental floss
- Tissues & paper towels
- Kitty litter & litter waste