

# THE LOVELAND CITY UPDATE VOLUME 15 | NUMBER 10 OCTOBER 2019



## NoCo's airport cleared for takeoff



**Northern Colorado Regional** Airport Director Jason Licon stands amid an array of high-resolution, real-time video displays that support the operation of the airport's Remote Tower Project, a first-of-its-kind FAA installation that serves all the functions of a more expensive brick-and-mortar control tower.

\*\*Photo: Timothy Hurst, City of Loveland\*\*

## Remote tower, commercial air service fueling NCRA rebound

Visitors to the modular building that houses the Remote Tower Project at Northern Colorado Regional Airport are impressed, first, by the panoramic view through all the windows.

Thirteen of them, each 27 inches wide and 4 feet high, wrap around the west wall of the room that houses the ultra-sophisticated technology array that makes up the remote tower.

But, wait. Is that really west? And, are those really windows?

Neither. What the visitor sees on a curved bank of high-resolution LCD monitors on the room's north wall are real-time, full-motion, 360-degree video



The Colorado Remote Tower Project is a cooperative venture of the FAA, the Colorado Division of Aeronautics, Northern Colorado Regional Airport and private contractors. Learn more, and view videos of its operation, at codot.gov/programs/remote-tower.

images from 30 cameras mounted on masts at three airport locations.

Digital replication of an air traffic control tower seemed six years ago like a sci-fi pipe dream. Today it is so real that the experience of seeing the brilliant, high-resolution view on a 30-foot-wide display is almost disorienting.

The six-year, \$8.8 million journey to the deployment of the remote tower technology does not mark the end the project. Another two-plus years of FAA testing remains before certification in late 2021.

However, progress toward that goal was sufficient to bring back scheduled air service by Allegiant Air, the Las Vegas-based leisure travel carrier that in 2012 abruptly ended its flights in and out of the airport.

#### Welcome back

Allegiant returns Nov. 21 with its inaugural flight from Las Vegas, and the following day with the first flights from and to Phoenix-Mesa, Ariz., the carrier's second destination offering.

While travelers will enjoy the opportunities for weekend getaways to Phoenix and Las Vegas, Allegiant's reentry means much more to the economic future of the airport, Loveland and the region. Resumption of service unlocks a minimum of \$1 million annually in FAA funding for the airport, an amount tied to the 10,000-plus passenger departures that Allegiant will log each year.

"That allows us to think bigger about the future of the airport," said Loveland City Councilor Leah Johnson, the Council's liaison to the Northern Colorado Regional Airport Commission for the past two years.

"I'm all in favor of taking dollars from outside our community to leverage local investment, and this represents the best opportunity to do that."

#### Proven market

Steadily rising global, national and regional demand for air travel means that success of commercial service at the airport is all but guaranteed. Allegiant had proven that even before it suspended service in 2012, with load factors – measured by the percentage of occupied seats on each flight – higher here than in almost all the carrier's other markets.

"There's huge aviation travel demand now, and it's only going to get bigger," airport Director Jason Licon said. "Every part of our strategy incorporates that."

The strategy is partially laid out in an update of the airport's master plan that addresses economic development and land use issues that spread beyond the 1,000-acre airport property while maintaining a focus on the airport facilities. Options include adding another 1,000 feet to the airport's 8,500-foot runway, and the expansion of passenger terminal, baggage and security facilities that are essentials for present and future commercial air service.

Building community support in Loveland and Fort Collins, the two cities that share ownership of the airport, will be a key to implementing the master plan's ingredients – all of which will raise the airport's profile,



**An Allegiant Air** Airbus A320, shown here on the tarmac at McLaren International Airport in Las Vegas, is part of an Airbus fleet that will serve Loveland beginning in November. The newer planes are far quieter than the MD-80 jets that the company flew in serving the Northern Colorado market earlier.

Allegiant Air, the Las Vegas-based leisure travel company that begins Northern Colorado service in November, offers four flights weekly to and from Las Vegas and two weekly flights serving Phoenix-Mesa, Ariz. Find out more and book flights at AllegiantAir.com.

**NoCo Regional** is one of the most diverse airports in Colorado. It supports corporate aviation, scheduled and charter air service, general aviation, flight training and other uses that include fire-fighting, aerial ambulance services, and fish and game flight services for Colorado Parks & Wildlife. Find out more, including progress on the Master Plan Update, at **FlyNoCo.com**.

secure its economic future and expand opportunities for the traveling public.

#### **Convergence of factors**

On a walk back to his office from the remote tower control room, Licon pointed toward a half-full terminal parking lot, where an airport shuttle bus operated by Groome Transportation was departing for Denver International Airport.

"They accommodate up to 750 passengers a day," Licon said as the bus pulled away. "That's a number that other commercial carriers will take note of."

Members of the airport commission know that the convergence of the remote tower project and the resumption of Allegiant Air service will change the airport's economic climate for the better — with results on a near horizon rather than in the distant future.

Council member and Loveland native Johnson said that among her earliest childhood memories were trips to Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport in the early 1990s, when United Express and Continental Express operated regional jet shuttles that connected Loveland with Denver's Stapleton International Airport.

"I don't think anyone then really understood the value of the asset we have here," she said. "Now, it's becoming more and more clear that the days of having this little, municipal airport are behind us."

## As the weather cools off, activities and celebrations heat up at the library

Join the library, Loveland Heart and Sol, the Loveland Museum and Artspace the first weekend in November for a celebration of *Día de los Muertos* or Day of the Dead. Full of colorful imagery and lively festivities, Día de los Muertos is celebrated in Mexico and elsewhere, to honor the dead while simultaneously celebrating life.



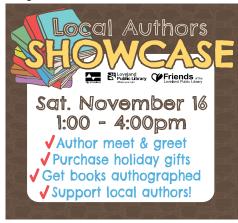
On Saturday Nov. 2, the Museum will be showing the film *Spare Parts* that tells the story of four Hispanic students' efforts to compete in a national robotics contest. Also on Nov. 2, Artspace will be hosting author Kali Fajardo-Anstine as she shares stories from her debut collection, *Sabrina & Corina*. At 8:30 p.m. on Nov. 2, join local musician Achilles, at Desk Chair, 201 E. Fourth St., for live music, dancing and celebration.

Then come back to the library from 1 to 5 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 3 for the Día de los Muertos celebration with Mariachi music, face painting, sugar skull decorating, traditional Mexican dancing, refreshments and crafts.

All Día events are free and open to the public. For a full list of events, go to *heartandsolco.org/dia*.

On Saturday, Nov. 16, the library will host the Fifth Annual

Local Authors Showcase. We will bring together new and established authors from all backgrounds and genres, local writers groups and avid readers. Visit the Library Galleria from 1 to 4 p.m. where 50 local authors will be on hand to meet attendees, sign books and share their stories. Attendees can also purchase some unique holiday gifts for readers of all shapes and sizes.



### Leaf season is upon us - here's how to dispose of them properly

The City of Loveland encourages residents to dispose of leaves by choosing one of the following:

• Take leaves to the Recycling Center; 400 N. Wilson Ave. The center is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday (closed Monday). There is no charge to city residents for leaf drop-off with a current yard debris permit.

• **Get a Yard Debris cart**; sign up for the City's weekly curbside yard debris collection service that runs through the end of November.



The City will deliver a 95-gallon cart. It can be filled with leaves and other yard debris (including old jack-o-lanterns) and wheeled to the curb for collection on the resident's regular trash day.

• Mow leaves into mulch; leaves can be mowed into mulch by going back and forth over them with a lawn mower.

For more info call 962-2529 or go to www.cityofloveland.org/solidwaste.

## As downtown evolves, City and partners elect to hit pause on annual event

The City of Loveland and its downtown partners have jointly decided to not hold the annual Halloween Family Fun Festival that includes the downtown trickor-treating, this fall.

As downtown Loveland grows and evolves, event organizers want to take a step back and evaluate their goals to determine the future direction of the event.

Since this event has been a Halloween tradition for many, organizers wanted to personally thank the participants, sponsors, vendors and volunteers for their interest and involvement.

For more information go to www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org/programs-events/events/

halloween-family-fun-festival.







Friday, November 8 5:00-8:30 pm

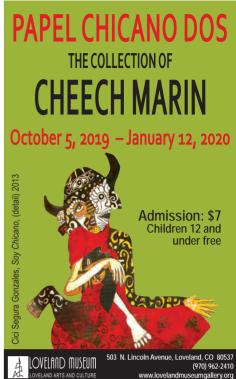
Saturday, November 9 9:00 am-2:00 pm **Closeout Sale 12:00 - 2:00pm** 

#### SELL old Stuff! BUY New Stuff!

Sell gently used equipment Buy new ski & sports gear Get discount lift tickets & season passes!

Chilson Recreation Center | 700 E. Fourth St.

Call 970.962.2446 for more info. cityofloveland.org/skiswap







### **OPEN LANDS NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES**

Register: offero.cityofloveland.org

11/2 Guided Bird Walk

11/17 Astronomy Night

11/21 PEEPs - Preschool Env. Ed. Program

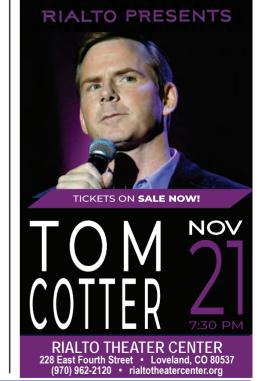
11/22 Art in Nature - Sketch Hike

11/29 #OptOutside Guided Hike

QUESTIONS? 970.962.2643



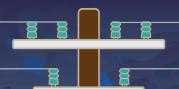




City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive City Update according to their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients' billing schedule. City Update is also available around the first of every month on the City's website at www.cityofloveland.org. 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.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube

#### **UTILITY NEWS**



#### **CAUSES OF POWER OUTAGES**

- 1. Accumulation of snow and ice or lightning strikes
- 2. Trees falling onto power lines
- 3. Electric equipment failure

## SAFETY TIPS NEAR A DOWNED POWER LINE

- Always assume a downed line is energized and dangerous
- Never try to move a downed power line.
  - Call LWP at (970) 663-1043
- 3. Stay safe and stay away



## LEARN MORE ABOUT POWER OUTAGES

- Check out our interactive power outage map. cityofloveland.org/ poweroutages
- Follow us on YouTube at Loveland Water and Power.
- Learn more about power outage safety. cityofloveland.org/LWP

#### STEPS TO REPORT A POWER OUTAGE

- 1. Check your circuit breaker panel or fuse box first.
- 2. Call LWP. Be prepared to give your name, address, phone number, and details about the outage.
  - a. Non-emergency reporting 970-962-3000
  - b. Emergency reporting 970-663-1043
  - c. To report a life threating Emergency dial 911
- 3. Know that LWP crews are working to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

## WAYS TO STAY SAFE INDOORS DURING AN OUTAGE

- Do not open your refrigerator or freezer during a power outage. You can expect that food stored in a freezer will probably stay frozen for 24 hours.
- Turn off appliances that were running before the outage.
- Lower the thermostat to protect the furnace motor during cold weather.





### **ENERGY VAMPIRES**

Did you know that appliances and electronics still use energy when they are not in use? We call this slow leak of power vampire energy, and though it might seem small, it could be responsible for 10-20% of your energy consumption. Stop being haunted by your energy bill and trick-or-treat yourself to some energy savings this month. Start slaying energy vampires with these simple tips:

- **1. UNPLUG** Unplug known energy vampires such as TVs, computers, coffee makers, cellphone chargers, and even treadmills when not in use.
- **2. USE POWER STRIPS** Power strips allow you to turn off groups of electronics at a time and many also protect against electrical surges.
- 3. MAKE SMART UPGRADES When it's time to send inefficient devices to the graveyard, look for ENERGY STAR certified products to replace them with. Also check out cityofloveland.org/SaveEnergy to find out about rebates on energy efficient products from Loveland Water and Power.

#### **UTILITY NEWS**



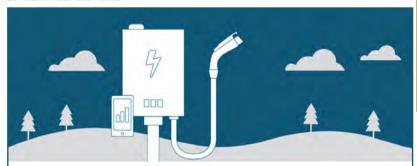
MAIN SWITCHBOARD 970-962-3000 UTILITY BILLING 970-962-2111

visit us online... cityofloveland.org/LWP









## **EV DRIVERS: SAVE UP TO \$350** ON A LEVEL 2 SMART CHARGER



Estes Park • Fort Collins • Longmont • Loveland

**Platte River Power** Authority is conducting an electric vehicle (EV) charging study to understand the charging

patterns of EV drivers in the owner communities of Estes Park, Fort Collins, Longmont and Loveland. Data collected will be used to understand the effect of increased EV adoption on the distribution system and help inform Platte River's resource planning process.

Participants in the study will receive a \$200 rebate on smart level 2 charging stations available on the Efficiency Works Store (efficiencyworksstore.com). A smart charging station enables users to schedule EV charging from a smartphone app or smart home device such as Amazon Alexa or Google Home. The first 100 participants to purchase a JuiceBox Pro 40 wi-fi charging station will receive an additional instant rebate of \$154, reducing the price of a level 2 smart charging station to \$195.

Visit prpa.org/ev-study for detailed participation requirements and to learn more about the study.

## LET'S LOVELAN

Introducing Let's Talk Loveland, Loveland Water and Power's community engagement portal. This website is designed to offer online public input and engagement opportunities on issues related to Loveland utilities.

Come join the discussion at...

#### www.letstalkloveland.org

We look forward to hearing what's on your mind.



**PROTECT YOURSELF!** Scammers may contact you and pretend to be a utility provider. Loveland residents should keep these key facts in mind:

- LWP will notify you via mail if a bill is delinquent
- You will never receive a call from LWP threatening to shut down your service
- You will never receive a call demanding immediate payment of your bill "or else"

If you suspect you have been contacted by a scammer, hang up and contact the Utility Billing office directly at 970-962-2111 or register for an online account to confirm your payment history. Never give out personal or financial information to an unsolicited caller.

For information on Loveland's standard utility payment options, go to: cityofloveland.org/ **PaymentOptions** 

Sign up for fraud alerts, learn about the most common scams or file a report of suspicious activity at stopfraudcolorado.gov

Through being informed and acting with caution, we can thwart these attempts! #StopScams

## A DAY IN THE LIFE: **UTILITY APPLICATION SERVICES**

The Utility Application Services team helps LWP work smarter by collecting and analyzing important utility data. Visit LWP YouTube "Loveland Water and Power" to watch and subscribe to LWP videos.