



# HOMeward BOUND

*14 years of street life end with lease, keys to apartment*

Eric Paul spent the frigid, blustery afternoon of Feb. 19 in the East Fourth Street apartment of his longtime friend Angelia Nicely. The grocery cart containing nearly all of Paul's belongings was parked outside under a blue tarp in the swirling snow.

He opened a Bible, the one Nicely gave him the last time he got out of jail, and thumbed his way to 2 Timothy 4:7-8.

He pointed a finger upward as he began to read: "I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith."

Then he began doling out credit to those who helped him with the fight, the race, the faith.

He began with Loveland Municipal Court Judge Geri Joneson, who last year had sentenced Paul to four months in jail after summonses for trespassing, public intoxication and other street-life offenses became stacked too high.



**Formerly homeless U.S. Navy veteran Eric Paul**, center, and his friend Angelia Nicely, left, show Loveland Mayor Jacki Marsh around Paul's new apartment in downtown Loveland shortly after Paul had signed the lease on Thursday Feb. 20, 2020.  
*Photo: Timothy Hurst, City of Loveland*

"She's tough. But she's fair," he said. "I told her before she sent me off to jail, 'I'm glad I don't have your job.' I know that I made her job harder."

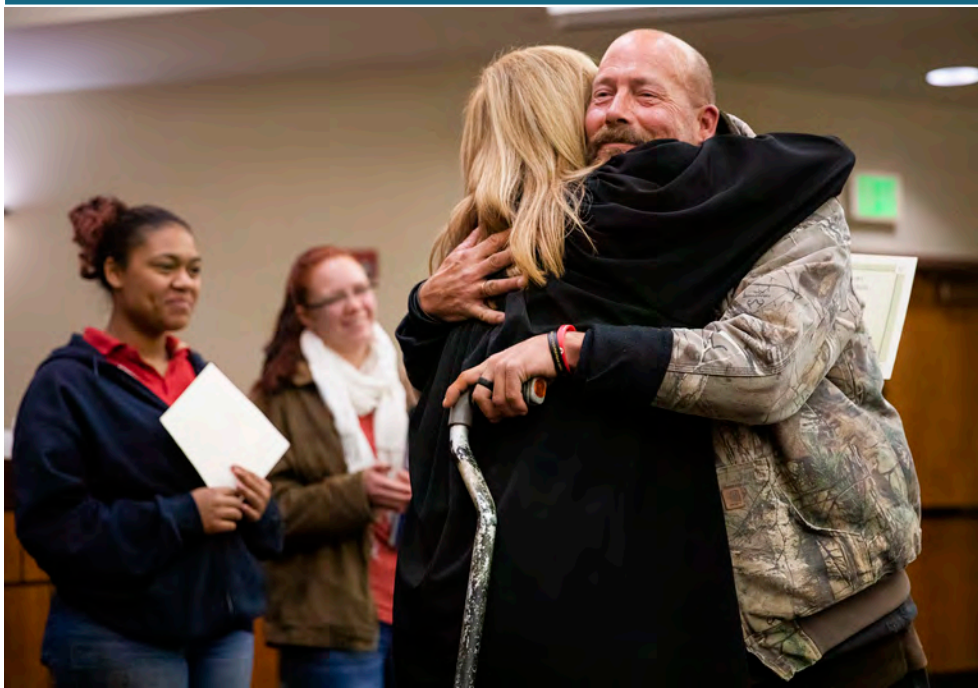
Then, Mayor Jacki Marsh, who steered Paul toward shelter on a frigid midwinter night.

"She found me sleeping under a stairway in that alley behind her store," he said. "At first, I thought it was a cop. I saw these black boots. Then I saw her. She told me it was eight degrees."

The list grew. Valerie Gallegos, case manager and coordinator of the Municipal Court's Jumpstart alternative sentencing program for homeless criminal defendants. "She's an amazing person," he said. "I hope they pay her plenty of money."

He offered tribute to Alison Hade, Manager of the City's Community Partnership Office, a bridge-builder who kept Paul plugged in with service agencies including the Loveland Housing Authority.

On Feb. 20, Paul signed a lease for a tiny one-bedroom apartment on South Jefferson Street near downtown – the first address that Paul could call home since he landed in Loveland in 2006.



**Eric Paul gets a hug** from Municipal Court Judge Geri Joneson before graduating from the Jumpstart alternative sentencing program on Feb. 13. *Photo: Timothy Hurst, City of Loveland*

Paul was in Joneson's courtroom the afternoon of Feb. 13, the Jumpstart program's graduation day. His two-year path through the program had been interrupted by jail stints, including the four months imposed in 2019.

But his turnaround, marked by progress in addiction treatment and other goals he and Gallegos had negotiated, allowed Joneson to present his certificate of completion.

"I understand you're moving into an apartment next week," she said. Paul nodded, and told her about the furnishings – a new box spring, mattress and headboard, and a dining table and chairs – that community members had purchased for him.

"I'll bet that bed is a lot better than the one at the Washington County Detention Center," Joneson said.

"Dang right it is," Paul replied.

## HOME (from page 1)

He had company on move-in day. Mayor Marsh arrived with a carload of household items that she and others had donated. Gallegos was on hand to welcome Paul to his new home. Paul's friend Nicely was there, too, to help with the transition from street life.

"This is all gonna hit me eventually," Paul said as the mayor walked by with an armload that included lamps and shades. "When it does, I'm just gonna pass out here."

A native of the tiny southeast Missouri town of New Madrid, a U.S. Navy veteran, and for the past 14 years one of Loveland's most visible and best-known street residents, Paul is among a growing number of homeless veterans who are now success stories.

His case illustrates progress of the national push to end veteran homelessness that began four years ago under a banner hoisted by former First Lady Michelle Obama. In Northern Colorado, combined efforts of agencies and local governments in Larimer and Weld counties have taken 86 percent of the homeless vet population off the streets and put them into homes.

"All it really takes now is the will to get this done," said Hade, who has spent the past year working with consultants on a more comprehensive plan to ease homelessness.

"We have the resources. We have the partners. We just need the community-wide commitment, the will, to make it happen."



**Eric Paul kicks snow** off his boots before climbing stairs to his new apartment. *Photo: Timothy Hurst, City of Loveland*



# Stand up and be counted in the 2020 Census - it's important, it's easy, it's safe

## EVERYONE Census 2020

Stakes are high for Loveland as the once-a-decade U.S. Census beginning April 1 undertakes its count of every person living in the United States.

Regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, faith, income level or immigration status, every Loveland resident has compelling reasons to stand up and be counted on April 1. The population counts are used to determine allocation of federal dollars to cities such as Loveland, and to the counties and states where they are located.

Monies apportioned through the Census counts directly benefit schools, roads, veterans programs and other human services, parks, hospitals, emergency services, job training centers, transportation, affordable housing, senior programs and many more services. **The Census is easy**

The Census is simple and should take less than 10 minutes per household to complete. In 2020, for the first time ever, residents can take the Census online using a computer, smartphone or tablet. You can also take the Census over the phone

using a toll-free number. Standard paper surveys can also be mailed.

### Here is the process:

In the next several weeks, residents will receive a card in the mail that contains a unique identifying number, enabling them to complete the Census online.

Once you receive your invitation, simply complete the form online. If you don't have a computer, you can fill out the Census at the Loveland Public Library or other locations throughout the community that have been identified as a place residents can go to take the Census.

### Only basic questions

The short questionnaire asks basic questions about your household, such as how many people currently reside in your home, their dates of birth, race and gender. The Census does not ask about anyone's citizenship status.

### The Census is safe

Census information you provide is totally confidential. All data collected is protected under U.S. Code and records are kept confidential for 72 years

by law. The U.S. Census Bureau will never share a respondent's personal information with other government agencies. In fact, all Census Bureau employees swear a lifetime oath to protect respondent information. The penalty for wrongful disclosure is up to 5 years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$250,000.

Everyone working for the Census Bureau carries an official I.D. badge bearing their photo and a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark. A Census worker will never ask you for your social security number, bank account number or a donation. You will not be contacted by email.

### Need help?

Throughout the spring and into the summer, the Census Bureau will set up help sites to assist residents to take the Census. Dates and times will be announced on the City's social media pages and on the City's website at [www.cityofloveland.org/2020Census](http://www.cityofloveland.org/2020Census).

Every one of us counts. Completion of your Census form will benefit you, your family and the entire community.

## Whatever your interests, chances are there's something for you at the LPL

Chase away the winter blues by discovering something new and exciting at the Loveland Public Library.

The library offers virtual reality experiences, craft kits and classes, a variety of special-interest groups, teen hangout activities and the new "tween" space in the Children's department.

Burgeoning gardeners can check out some seeds from the new Seed Library and learn about our natural world from naturalist

Kevin Cook, who will talk about *Close Encounters with Wildlife* on April 1 and 7.

Pick up a new read at the Chapter Two bookstore, check out the Friends of the Library book sale, and take a stroll through the Galleria to see beautiful, original art.

Whatever your interests, you'll find something fun and interesting to do at the library, so come on in.

For more information, visit [www.LovelandPublicLibrary.org](http://www.LovelandPublicLibrary.org) or check out the event calendar at [www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org/events](http://www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org/events).

 **Friends** of the  
Loveland Public Library

**SPRING 2020**

**USED BOOK SALE**

**FRI 4/17: 4-7**

**SAT 4/18: 10-4**

**SUN 4/19: 11-3**

**THE RANCH LARIMER  
COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**



Loveland Open Lands & Trails

# Earth Day Planting Project



April 25  
9:00A - 12:00P  
Medina's Crossing Natural Area

Volunteer at  
[offero.cityofloveland.org](http://offero.cityofloveland.org)



## SUMMER JOB FAIR

MARCH 14

11:00A - 2:00P  
CHILSON RECREATION CENTER  
700 E. FOURTH ST.

APPLY ONSITE!

- SPECIAL EVENTS
- SUMMER CAMPS
- GOLF
- PARKS
- AQUATICS
- OUTDOOR RECREATION
- FACILITIES
- GUEST SERVICES
- ATHLETICS

MORE INFO AT  
[CITYOFLOVELAND.ORG/JOBS](http://CITYOFLOVELAND.ORG/JOBS)



## Centennial CELEBRATION 1920 - 2020

THE RIALTO THEATER IS TURNING 100  
YEARS OLD! JOIN US FOR A MAY 16TH  
CENTENNIAL CONCERT FEATURING:



*Marc Cohn*

With opening act:

*Face Vocal Band*

FREE  
Outside the Rialto  
on 4th Street

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

### CORNHOLE



Family Friendly!

Starts Mid-April  
Register by 4/6

### SUMMER ATHLETICS

Registration starts in April.  
Plan for some fun!

DETAILS <http://bit.ly/loveathletics>

REGISTRATION <http://bit.ly/registerathletics>



- Soccer
- Lacrosse
- Tball
- Softball
- Baseball
- Volleyball
- Track & Field
- Tennis
- Basketball
- Gymnastics

## CHILDREN'S DAY

Monday, April 20  
11:00A - 2:00P  
Fairgrounds Park  
700 S. Railroad Ave.



Games! Demos!  
Interactive Booths!

Celebrating children in  
Loveland since 2002

[cityofloveland.org/childrensday](http://cityofloveland.org/childrensday)



Cathy Sheeler, *Sly*, (detail)

APRIL 25 - MAY 31

## GOVERNOR'S ART SHOW



503 N. Lincoln Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537  
(970) 962-2410

[www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org](http://www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org)

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](http://www.cityofloveland.org). Your comments are welcome. Please call 962-2302, or email [Tom.Hacker@CityofLoveland.org](mailto: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





# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The women of Loveland Water and Power bring dedication, innovation and vision to our industry. The energy industry boasts a growing need for talent and expertise that opens the door for women that are prepared to thrive and lead in the workplace. At LWP, that growing need solidifies our commitment to excellence and passionate, creative employees. As we celebrate Women's History Month, we recognize women who carved out their own turf in the energy business and discovered success in leadership roles, field positions and engineering at LWP for more than 100 years.



**1985 - KARIN LANG**

provides dispatch support

(Distribution System Operator – 38 years with LWP)



**1995 - RUTH HECKER**

teaching a Loveland class about water quality

(Water Quality Lab Supervisor – 30 years with LWP)



**2005 – SANDY MAUER**

in the water quality lab

(Water Quality Scientist II – 24 years with LWP)



**2007 – MELISSA MORIN** atop a LWP Water Tank

(Civil Engineer II – 22 years in the utility industry,

13 years with LWP)



**2019 – CHRISTINE ELMER**

at the excavation site of a new electrical vault

(Electric Distribution Designer – Eight months with LWP)



**2019 – LWP'S CUSTOMER RELATIONS DIVISION**

at Winter Wonderlights

(19 Combined years with LWP)

## GARDEN IN A BOX COLLECTIONS ARE NOW ON SALE!



The professionally designed, water-smart garden kits are tailored to Colorado soil and the simple plant-by-number maps remove all gardening guesswork. Loveland Water and Power water customers are eligible for \$25 OFF these beautiful gardens.

ORDER NOW FOR PICKUP MAY 28.

[www.ResourceCentral/Gardens](http://www.ResourceCentral/Gardens)



## UTILITY NEWS



MAIN SWITCHBOARD  
970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING  
970-962-2111

visit us online...  
[cityofloveland.org/LWP](http://cityofloveland.org/LWP)



## WATER WISE SEMINARS

# Learn how to make your landscape... **THRIVE!**

Join us for our 2020 spring Water-Wise Seminar Series at the Loveland Public Library.

**SEMINARS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 | 5:30-7:30pm

**10 TIPS FOR CREATING A POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY WATER-WISE LANDSCAPE**

Wednesday, April 8, 2020 | 5:30-7:30pm

**WATER-SMART TIPS AND TRICKS FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE**



Reserve your spot and learn more at [resourcecentral.org/water-wise-seminars](http://resourcecentral.org/water-wise-seminars)

Take Control of High Utility Bills with a **FREE HOME EFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT!**



LARIMER COUNTY  
**CONSERVATION CORPS**

Visit [larimerworkforce.org/Energy](http://larimerworkforce.org/Energy) or call 970-498-6081 to sign up.

\*Must be a Loveland Water and Power utility customer to qualify

Sign up for a FREE home efficiency assessment through Larimer County Conservation Corps today! *This limited-time offer is only available January through May.*



## FLUSH AWAY WASTEFUL WATER USE WITH A \$50 TOILET REBATE!

**POTTY TALK: DID YOU KNOW TOILETS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR NEARLY 30% OF INDOOR WATER USE?**

By replacing old, inefficient toilets with WaterSense labeled models an average family can save nearly 13,000 gallons of water a year. That's more than \$110 in water costs! New for 2020, replace your old toilet with a high-efficiency toilet (1.1 gallons per flush or less), and you might be eligible for a \$50 rebate! [www.cityofloveland.org/Rebates](http://www.cityofloveland.org/Rebates)



## 2020 FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULE

Hydrant flushing keeps the interior of pipes clean, maintains excellent water quality and ensures hydrants are operating properly. Flushing can cause brief water discoloration. Although it is not recommended to use for laundry due to possible staining of clothes, LWP water still meets or exceeds all state and federal standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act. **QUESTIONS? 970-962-3720**

Flushing will take place from mid-April to mid-May. Technicians will start on the west side of Loveland and work eastward. Visit [cityofloveland.org/LWP](http://cityofloveland.org/LWP) to see when hydrant flushing will be happening in your area.