

CITY UPDATE

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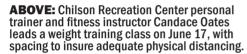
JULY 2020





City of Loveland says 'welcome back'







Popular City facilities operating again following three-month closure caused by pandemic

Closure of the City of Loveland's most popular facilities on March 13 was sudden and, for residents and City employees alike, shocking.

COVID-19 was a term that had just recently come into widespread use, and its effects were only then being measured by closures, cancellations and suspensions that would snowball through the weeks following.

The Chilson Recreation Center, the Loveland Public Library, the Loveland Museum and Rialto Theater all closed on that Friday the 13th, and the schedule of events for all those facilities was suspended. Other City offices also closed, and the vast majority of City employees began working remotely. While parks, open spaces and trails remained open, park facilities such as playgrounds, picnic shelters and skate parks were shuttered.

Slightly more than three months later, on June 15, the Chilson center and the library began welcoming residents in a cautious and incremental



TOP: Loveland residents Margie Rosborough and Riccardo Diertch view the works of sculptor Joel S. Allen at the Loveland Museum on June 20. **ABOVE:** Patrons use the Loveland Public Library's second-floor computer lab classroom on June 17, as Library Aide Danielle Stephens, background, stands by to offer technical support.

way, with the Loveland Museum opening its doors the following day.

"It's really good to be back," museum visitor Margie Rosborough said, as she took in the exhibit of works by Colorado artist Joel Allen in the main gallery on June 20.

The "new normal," as any post-COVID circumstance is described these days, meant that face coverings and

guiding social distance requirements were in evidence as the first visitors appeared in mid-June. And, with the pandemic easing only slightly here and abroad, those measures will be a fact of life through the next several months, at least.

The City of Loveland Facilities Division spent countless hours leading up to the reopenings on signage placement, safety barriers, protocols for cleaning and disinfecting and other public health necessities. Staff members of the Chilson, library and cultural facilities – many of whom had been furloughed during the prolonged closures – did not face a flood of users on opening days. Reservations for use, and phased openings of building space, cut down the visitor flow.

For example, the Loveland Public Library opened only portions of its second floor, and with hours cut to five daily, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., for patrons who had made reservations in advance.

By the time this edition of City Update reaches readers throughout July, those hours likely will have expanded, and other portions of building will have been opened.

For news on current availability of City facilities, visit www.cityofloveland.org and click on the COVID-19 banner atop the homepage for updates. Individual department web pages will offer more detail.

City leaders, community join together to celebrate Loveland Pulse launch

On June 18, Loveland city council, the Loveland Communications Advisory Board (LCAB), City leaders and City staff joined together in a virtual celebration to launch Loveland Pulse residential service.

With branded backgrounds, fiber displays and goodies from local Loveland businesses, the livestreamed celebration honored an important milestone for Loveland Pulse - the start of affordable, reliable, fast residential internet service and voice service that will be available to all of Loveland over

the next three to four years.

In addition to the launch, Loveland Pulse also unveiled a new website, www.LovelandPulse.com, with pricing and package details.

"It seems fitting that we launch Pulse's residential internet service



offering using the very tool that we have all needed to depend on for the past few months. If there was ever a sign that Pulse is an essential service for our community - this is it. As your trusted, local high-speed internet provider, Pulse was built by Loveland, for Loveland and this is a proud moment for the project," said Loveland City Manager Steve Adams.

Explore Loveland Pulse service offerings and stay connected about construction details on the Pulse website.







City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. City Update is also available 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.



HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

At Loveland Water and Power, our hearts beat red, white and blue. We pay tribute to those who fought for our freedom and strive to enhance the freedom of others.

You can enjoy freedom from high utility bills by managing your water and energy use wisely during the dog days of summer. Just a few behavioral changes can put more money in your pocket and allow you to focus on independence day and the rocket's red glare.

★ BECOME A GRILL MASTER

Cooking indoors heats up your home, creating extra work for your cooling system. Show off your grill skills and keep your kitchen cool by cooking outside. If you are not a griller, don't forget about toaster or convection ovens, slow cookers and pressure cookers. These handy appliances use less energy and generate less heat than a standard oven.

★ MAKE YOUR HOME SMARTER

Did you know Loveland Water and Power offers rebates up to \$75 off smart thermostats? Smart thermostats, also known as Wi-Fi thermostats, allow users to control the temperature in their home from their smartphone or laptop. Some smart thermostats allow users to set a schedule for cooling or adjust settings with a voice-activated device like Amazon Echo or Google Home. Setting your thermostat back 7-10 degrees for at least eight hours a day can reduce cooling costs up to 10%. A smart thermostat makes that even easier. Learn more at cityofloveland. org/Rebates

DON'T FORGET ABOUT SUMMER ELECTRIC RATES

From July to October, Loveland Water and Power bills electricity on the summer rate, which is 1.7 cents higher than the nonsummer electric rate. This seasonal increase in electric rates is necessary to meet the demand for electricity when thousands of air conditioning units kick on. As we pull more electricity to cool our homes and offices, the power plant works harder to supply it. Sometimes the power plant cannot produce enough electricity to meet demand and we turn to alternative electricity sources or buy electricity from other companies, making it more expensive to provide electricity in the summer. More information about utility rates is available at cityofloveland.org/UtilityRates

★ CYCLE AND SOAK YOUR LAWN

Cycle and soak is a lawn irrigation method that prevents water waste and actually promotes stronger, deeper roots. When you cycle and soak, you divide each sprinkler zone's watering time into two or three cycles, about 30 minutes apart. Watering more often might seem counterintuitive, but this method ensures the water is absorbed into the soil before more water is applied.

★ GET EXPERT HELP WITH YOUR SPRINKLER SYSTEM FOR FREE!

Once again, Loveland Water and Power partnered with Resource Central to offer free sprinkler consultations through the Slow the Flow program. A short consultation provides each customer with a custom water schedule and expert tips about keeping your lawn healthy and reducing water use. With Slow the Flow, you'll see green grass and save some green too. Sign up at ResourceCentral.org/Sprinklers or call 303-999-3824.

★ UPGRADE YOUR IRRIGATION CONTROLLER WITH A \$50 REBATE

New in 2020, Customers who participated in Slow the Flow in the last two years (2018, 2019 or 2020) are eligible for a \$50 rebate on a smart irrigation controller. These controllers connect to Wi-Fi and adjust your watering schedule based on the weather so that you don't overwater during a rainstorm and don't underwater on hot days. More details at cityofloveland.org/Rebates



UTILITY NEWS



MAIN SWITCHBOARD 970-962-3000 UTILITY BILLING

970-962-2111

visit us online... cityofloveland.org/LWP









ABOUT LOVELAND WATER AND POWER

LWP is a municipally owned utility providing Loveland customers power, water, wastewater and broadband services. Staff is governed by the Loveland Utilities Commission and the Loveland Communications Advisory Board, both serve as advisory boards to the City Council.



- ✓ Sustainable
- ✓ Economical
 - ✓ Reliable
- ✓ Fresh from the Rocky Mountains
 - Tested to ensure the highest safety standards
 - Convenient





- ✓ Expensive
- ✓ Generally not from local resources
- Less quality assurance testing

Learn more about your local water.



Visit us at cityofloveland.org/waterquality for the 2019 Water Quality Report and answers to commonly asked questions.