

Curtain rises on Rialto Theater Center

The newly expanded Rialto Theater Center is open and operating, with official grand opening activities ahead next month. The project was a joint venture between the City of Loveland, the Rialto Bridge, LLC and the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado.

The addition provides expanded storage, workshop and dressing room space for the theater plus a rentable community room, reception area and meeting room. The private sector of the addition includes third floor office space and a new restaurant, *Next Door food & drink*. The restaurant is



scheduled to open this month and is a tapas-style restaurant that will offer lunch and dinner with an extensive menu.

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More about the Rialto Grand Opening inside

Flood safety—being prepared can help residents be safe

It's not uncommon for spring and summer thunderstorms to cause flooding—sometimes severe and dangerous flooding. Being prepared for a flood event before the rain starts is the best way to stay safe. The work of Loveland's Stormwater Engineering division has achieved a high rating by FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, resulting in a discount for residents purchasing flood insurance. Providing information about flood safety and flood warning is part of that effort. The City of Loveland wants citizens to be prepared for the possibility of a flood, because everyone is their own best emergency responder.

Tips for staying safe in a flood on the roads:

- Do not drive through flooded areas – a car can float in as little as 12



Tucson Citizen photo by P.K. Weis

inches of moving water, which can quickly wash a car and its driver downstream.

- Do not drive around road barriers

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Residential snowplowing has a tradeoff



Everything has to be somewhere. Last winter, the City of Loveland expanded its snowplowing service by plowing residential streets after significant snowfalls. About a dozen City garbage trucks were equipped with snowplows to clear the center third of residential streets.

In the past, residential streets were rarely plowed, being the lowest priority behind the City's highways, arterials and collector streets. Typically, during and after a major storm, equipment and staff were fully occupied with the higher priorities. With moderate storms, by the time the plows and crews were available, residential motorists made the smaller roadways passable.

The Loveland community often voiced a desire for improved residential service. Now, when the snowfall reaches about six inches or more, the garbage truck crews delay their normal

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Better sound



For the benefit of the city councilors, the in-person audience and those watching at home on cable TV channel 16, the audio system used during meetings at the Loveland City Council Chambers has been upgraded. Technicians replaced wiring and equipment, some of which was non-digital and more than 20 years old.

ADVENTURE BOUND DAY CAMP

AGES 6-12

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- Crafts
- Library
- Science
- Swimming
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- 1 : 10 Staff Ratio
- Licensed for 56 kids
- Weekly Field Trips
- Before/After Care

Monday-Friday
7:30am-5:30pm
May - August
970-962-2711

Curtain rises on Rialto Theater Center (continued from page 1)

A Center once more

When the Rialto Theater reopened as a performing arts facility in 1996, it was dubbed the Rialto Theater Center. The City of Loveland took responsibility for the theater in 1998 and the name was shortened to Rialto Theater, to better reflect what was offered in the building. With the building's expansion, the Rialto Theater Center name returns.

The historic landmark is truly a center now...located in the heart of downtown and a hub of events and opportunities for the Loveland community. On April 19, 2011 Loveland's City Council approved this joint project. The building addition broke ground on June 1, 2011 and construction proceeded at a rapid rate to its conclusion last month.

A special thank you goes out to the organizations and individuals who helped make the Rialto Theater Center dream a reality.

- Community Foundation of Northern Colorado – Loveland Community Fund
 - Boettcher Foundation
 - Bruce and Muriel Hach
 - Home State Bank
 - Kroh Charitable Trust
 - McWhinney Foundation
 - Lis and Earl Sethre
- The Rialto Theater Guild
- Rialto Bridge, LLC/ Troy Peterson

Public Art

The public artwork project in the Rialto Theater Center was administered by the Visual Arts Commission and features the work of Colorado artist David Griggs. The artwork is integrated into five features of the building, including the terrazzo floor, stair walls and railings, wall-divider art glass, and luminous LED chandeliers.

These functional art elements embody the theatricality of the events taking place on and off the Rialto's stage. The art encourages interactivity, urging its audience to participate in the drama of this new public place.

Community Use

The Rialto Theater Center will continue to present films, theater, music and dance troupes in the theater space. The City of Loveland produces a performing arts season that features nationally touring performers during the traditional theater season as well as summer programming for youth.

The majority of the events that take place in the theater are produced by community groups and individuals who rent the theater to present their performances. The community room/reception area can host business meetings, wedding receptions, banquets and other special events. The new spaces will be available for reservations beginning in April. To book an event in the theater or the community area, please contact Jan Sawyer at 970-962-2421.



OCSD engaging 'creatives'—promoting economic growth

A year ago the City of Loveland opened the Office of Creative Sector Development (OCSD) to promote Loveland as a center for arts and innovation in Colorado and beyond. Several innovative ventures have developed as a result, including connecting with current creative sector businesses and businesses that support them, a new web presence, a new smart phone tag, plus additional plans for the coming year.

In January the office launched a brand new website; www.lovelandarts.org. The site was created to be a central point of contact and information for Loveland's creative sector—a one-stop-shop for information on an array of topics related to what Marcie Erion, head of the OCSD, calls 'the creatives.'

Creatives include fine artists such as sculptors, graphic artists and website designers, as well as publishers, craft beer brewers, architects, robotics engineers and other high-tech innovators. The office also actively engages and communicates with businesses that support these creative

pursuits, including foundries, printers, manufacturers, the hospitality industry and the list goes on.

"Our mission is to provide resources to creatives in the northern Colorado community as well as promote our creative sector to people, business and industry beyond Loveland. Loveland is already well-known for its sculpture. We want to be just as famous for all of the other creative industries we have and are developing," said Erion.

To help get the word out, the OCSD now has a smart tag for smart phones. The tag instantly connects users to an abundance of information on what Loveland has to offer. There are five links through the tag; *Explore, Win, Create, Stay and Work*.

Hitting the Explore button takes users to a drop down menu and slide show on Loveland's bike trails, golf courses, mountain views and more. Each of the links is chock-full of information on that particular topic. The tag is intended for both locals and out-of-towners to learn about all things Loveland.

"It gives users quick and comprehensive information on what to do, where to go, what we have to offer, public art maps and a listing of hotels. People can even register for a drawing for a two-night free stay in Loveland through the tag," Erion said.

The tag can also be used by local businesses and companies to broaden their own marketing efforts on company websites and other promotional materials. The tag is free to businesses that want to use it. Interested businesses can email Erion, erionm@ci.loveland.co.us, to get the tag.

The OCSD has also been busy sharing its unique vision for growing the creative sector with other interested municipalities including Grand Junction, Loan Tree and Gunnison.

The OCSD's plan for the coming year includes;

- Taking a lead role in recruitment of new innovation jobs and companies at the new Rocky Mountain Center for Innovation and Technology (formerly the HP/Agilent site).

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Let the celebration begin

A showcase event for northern Colorado, the Rialto Theater Center Grand Opening Celebration will take place April 11-14. The celebration events are designed to honor the Rialto Theater's heritage as a silent movie theater, to introduce the community to the new building spaces and to showcase an iconic touring musical performer.

**Wednesday,
April 11**

**Ribbon Cutting
Ceremony and Public
Art Dedication, 5 p.m.**

Join project partners City of Loveland, Rialto Bridge, LLC, Community Foundation of Northern Colorado and

Greatly expanded

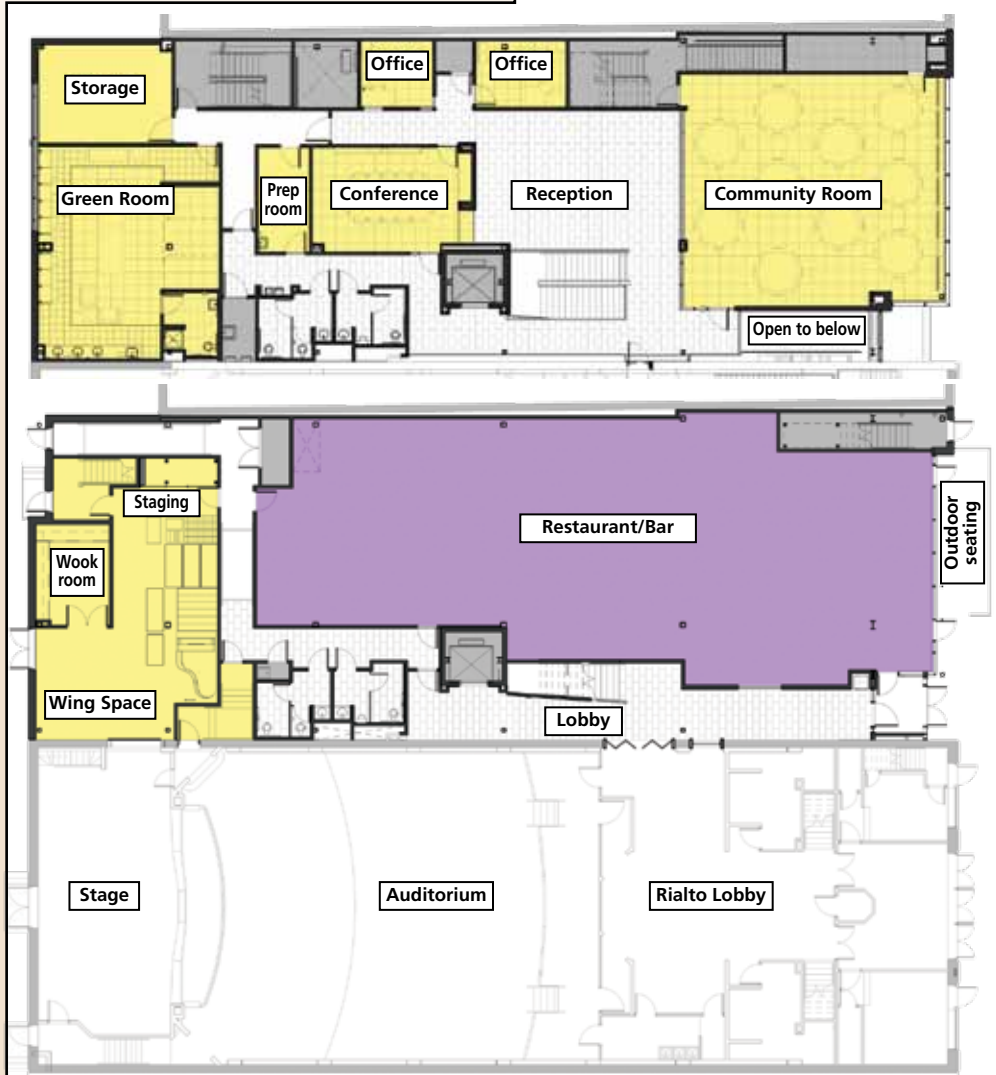
The Rialto Theater again becomes the Rialto Theater Center with the addition of a 20,000 sq. ft. two-story connecting building, replacing the longtime shoe store located next door. Created through a public/private partnership, the expansion adds much-needed theater facilities, community meeting and reception areas and a full-service restaurant.

Rialto Theater Guild for the kick-off event of the celebration weekend. Free

Four Funny Films, 7 p.m.

Comedic silent films featuring Buster Keaton, Harold Lloyd,

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Schedules and Tickets

For information about upcoming theater performances, please see the theater's website at www.cityofloveland.org/rialto. The Rialto Theater Center is located at 228 E. 4th Street in Loveland. Tickets can be purchased by calling 970-962-2120, online at www.cityofloveland.org/rialto or at the box office. Box office hours are 12:30 - 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Development permit now available online

Instead of a phone call, a visit to City offices, or a visit to the construction site, construction contractors, property owners, real estate professionals and the general public can now get a wide variety of information regarding a City-issued building permit online from a link on the City's website, www.cityofloveland.org.

The online information includes the following permits for building, signs, fire alarm permits and fire sprinkler permits and includes the following for each:

- permit status
- contractors involved
- important dates
- plumbing, heating, electrical, etc. details
- project square footage
- completed review comments
- associated fees
- inspection schedules and results and much more

For more information, call 962-2505.

Celebrate Kids at Annual Children's Day

Families can enjoy a day of fun and activities at the annual City of Loveland Children's Day. This year, the event has moved from its traditional first Wednesday in March and will now be held Wed., April 25. The event will also be longer and runs from 1-5 p.m. at designated City facilities in downtown Loveland.



Activities include:

- 'Touch-a-truck'- police cars, fire engines, trash trucks, road graders and more at Fire Station #1 (410 E. 5th St.).
- Cartoons will be shown in the Rialto Theater Center Community Room (228 E. 4th St.).
- Loveland Fire Exhibit tours at Museum Sequel building (541 N. Lincoln).
- Free arts and crafts at the Chilson Recreation Center (700 E. 4th St.).

- Kids can swim, run and shoot hoops all day for free with their paying adult (one child free per paying adult) at the Chilson Recreation Center (700 E. 4th St.).
- Story time, R2J puppet show and other activities at the Loveland Public Library (300 N. Adams).
- Vendor and Sponsor booths and activities at Fire Station #1 and Foote Lagoon.
- Visit the interactive Water and Power booth at the Foote Lagoon.
- Win prizes by collecting stamps on a Children's Day passport.

The City of Loveland, with the help of the Thompson School District, has been celebrating Colorado Children's Day since 2002. Children's Day is the result of the long-time dream of Loveland resident Annie Hall. Through her efforts, the day is now celebrated in other cities throughout Colorado. Hall is working to make Children's Day a nationally recognized holiday. For more information on the Loveland event, please call 962-2410 or visit www.cityofloveland.org.

Let the celebration begin

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Roscoe Arbuckle and more. Live accompaniment by Louisville, Colo. based Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra. Tickets: \$10

Friday, April 13

Grand Night for Community, 6-9 p.m.

A special night for northern Colorado residents to tour the new spaces in the Rialto Theater Center building and enjoy showcases performed by Loveland's vibrant community performance groups. Free

Saturday, April 14

Aaron Neville, 7 p.m.

New Orleans music icon Aaron Neville performs. *Sold out.*

OCSD engaging 'creatives'

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- Hosting the National Sculpture Society Gala, May 17-20, for approximately 200 sculptors from around the country. The three-day event will include a Loveland studio tour, a trade show for local artists and sculptors, and a bar-b-cue dinner at a tourist ranch.
- Hosting a first-of-its-kind, five-day Loveland destination event, Oct. 10-14, including a film-festival, live music, educational programs such as a screenwriting class, a lecture by a famous Hollywood screenwriter, and a Loveland art studio tour.

For more information on the OCSD, go to www.lovelandarts.org, call 646-1072, or email erionm@ci.loveland.co.us.

Help remove litter from waterways

In celebration of Earth Day April 21, the City's Stormwater Division is again sponsoring its Annual Spring Waterway Clean-up event. Citizens can participate in actively improving the water quality of area waterways, beautifying natural areas and being good stewards of our environment.

Last year 381 volunteers removed 11.6 tons of trash and debris from designated waterways.

Volunteers will meet at designated locations at 9 a.m. rain or shine.

To sign-up, visit www.cityofloveland.org/index.aspx?page=917 or call 962-2772.

Residential snowplowing has a tradeoff (continued from page 1)

trash cart pickups and plow their residential routes. Not only does this open up the streets for the safety and convenience of local residents, it helps prevent long-term ice buildup caused by snow-packed ruts from vehicles driving down unplowed streets.

The tradeoff, of course, is that plowing creates a ridge of snow—a windrow—at the plow's edge. The windrow blocks in driveways and cars parked along the curb, making some shoveling

necessary.

Even without the residential plowing, some shoveling is often necessary to open a driveway or free a parked car. After the plowing, residents who have already done some shoveling may be faced with shoveling again to clear a path through the windrow.

That's the reality; the plowed snow has to go somewhere. Clearing the streets to rapidly improve safety and

convenience plus preventing longer-term ice buildup are the benefits. The windrow and possible extra shoveling are the drawbacks.

A few feet of shoveling opens a path to an entire plowed street network. In the spirit of community, neighbors are encouraged to assist each other, especially offering help to a neighbor for whom opening a windrow pathway is a challenge.

Flood safety—being prepared can help residents be safe (continued from page 1)

– they have been placed there for a reason and could be preventing drivers from trying to drive over a washed-out bridge or other dangerous obstacle.

Tips for staying safe in a flood at work and at home:

- Be alert for gas leaks. If your home or business gets flooded, do not smoke or use candles, lanterns or open flames until the gas has been turned off and the building has been completely ventilated.
- Turn off the electricity – appliances hold electrical charges even after they're unplugged.
- Do not use appliances or motors that have gotten wet until they've been taken apart, cleaned and totally dried.

To stay safe everywhere at all times in a flood:

- Do not walk through moving water – even six inches of fast-moving water can knock adults off their feet.
- Stay away from downed power lines and electrical wires – electrical

current can travel through water causing threat of electrocution.

Immediately report downed power lines to Loveland Water & Power, 962-3000.

Weather service terms to be aware of:

- Flash-flood watch: this indicates that heavy rain may result in flash flooding in a specified area. If a flash-flood watch is issued, residents should be alert and prepared for the possibility of a flood emergency, requiring immediate action.
- Flash-flood warning: this indicates that a flash flood is imminent or occurring in a specified area. In the event of a flash-flood warning, residents should take immediate action including moving to higher/safer ground.

When flooding occurs, residents should only call 911 if they have a

true emergency. 911 should never be used as an informational line. If need be, the public could be notified of an emergency through an automated telephone dialing system (Reverse 911), which dials phone numbers within a user's specified geographical area and plays a recorded message. This system is designed to maximize evacuation lead time but can also be used for other urgent messages.

For more information on flood safety, call 962-2771.

Stay safe by staying informed

Being aware that severe flooding could occur is just as important as being prepared. When severe weather occurs, the City releases information to keep residents informed and safe in emergencies. Information outlets include AM Radio 1610, Cable TV Channel 16, the City's website, www.cityofloveland.org, and the Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority (LETA). The City also uses Facebook and Twitter to communicate information to followers. Residents can also get reliable weather updates from the National Weather Service; www.crh.noaa.gov/den.

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 News Desk page at www.cityofloveland.org. Your comments are encouraged and welcomed at 962-2302, hillea@ci.loveland.co.us.