



City of Loveland

Straight From The Heart

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2022 – Vol 1



QUICK FACTS

Show Dates & Hours

Aug. 6-21
Monday-Thursday: 4-9 p.m.
Friday-Sunday: 12-9 p.m.

GPS Address

10377 Butterworth Road

Cost

\$20 at gate / \$19 online or via app
Discounts at CincyHomearama.com
Children 12 & under free

Loveland Resident Day

Aug. 12 - \$3 Discount at gate
Proof of residency required

City Preps for HOMEARAMA®

HOMEARAMA® is coming to the city's newest subdivision, ChimneyRidge, Aug. 6-21. This will mark the 59th year for the show, which is hosted by the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati, and the first time since 1989 that the event has been held in the City of Loveland.

Located on the Warren County side of the city, ChimneyRidge is on 26 wooded acres off Butterworth Road. Six homes will be featured in the show. Attendees can expect to see the latest in new home design, technology, energy efficiency, outdoor living spaces, landscaping and decorating.

Not to mention, nearly each day of the show has a unique theme, where attendees can participate in special activities. Through the theme days, show planners work to involve local businesses and nonprofits. A "Loveland Resident Day" will be held on Aug. 12, and city residents will receive discounted admission at the gate.

Since 2021, city staff has been working with HOMEARAMA® event planners to help make the 16-day show run as smoothly as possible. Coordination meetings have been held with the city's police, fire/EMS, and public works departments.

Residents can expect to see signage posted to help direct traffic flow. Additionally, there will be a shuttle location on the east side of town to help eliminate traffic congestion.

Learn More at CincyHomearama.com

CITY COUNCIL



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MEETINGS

The public is invited to attend City Council meetings.

Meeting Details

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 120 W. Loveland Ave.

Agendas & Minutes

City Council Meeting Packets are available online prior to each meeting.

Online Streaming Available

Stream meetings via the city's website, Facebook page, or YouTube Channel.

From the Mayor: Welcome

Welcome to the City of Loveland's new biannual newsletter! Our hope is to keep residents better informed as to the work your City Council and staff are doing, and to make sure you are aware of important and entertaining events.

In 2021, City Council sold the Christman Farm in Warren County, which will be the **HOMEARAMA®** site in August. Council held firm waiting for the right development, and we were rewarded with a quality development of 30 homes on 25 acres, many to be valued at \$1 million or more. The TIF revenues to the city at this site are anticipated to average \$150,000 a year until 2037.

Regarding **commercial improvements** in 2021, additions were added to the Quilter's Studio and the Children's Academy. McCluskey Chevrolet expanded its operations. TAHONA Kitchen + Bar and RODI Italian opened, and the city worked with Mike's Carwash to approve an expansion to ensure Mike's headquarters would remain in Loveland. A total of \$12,476,970 was invested in the city.

The city made a concerted effort in 2021 to tackle important **infrastructure projects** and applied for a total of \$5,243,632 in grant money to complete these projects, as well as to purchase equipment and train emergency personnel. As an example of the city's commitment to fund infrastructure: in 2014, the city spent only \$244,000 toward the Annual Road Program. In 2021, the city allocated more than \$1 million for the first time! We followed that up in 2022 with an allocation of \$1.2 million.

Two very important infrastructure projects that had been deferred for years commenced in 2021: the Main/Chestnut Project and the Miamiview Culvert Replacement. In addition, the Broadway Street Stabilization project was completed last June. These projects were largely funded by grants and 0% interest loans.

In 2021, the city continued its commitment to **upgrade its parks**. Renovations were made at Lever Park. A Nisbet Park Master Plan was completed, which includes a larger gazebo, a new amphitheater facing the Bike Trail, new seating areas, and swings overlooking the river. The full revamp of this park will take a few years, but you will start to see progress later in 2022.

We thank you for the opportunity and honor to serve this wonderful community, and we look forward to seeing you this summer at all the events we have planned — check them out in this newsletter and at LovinLifeLoveland.com!

— Mayor Kathy Bailey

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

MelaMack's Bakery

401 Loveland-Madeira Road
(513) 502-5819

[Facebook.com/melamacks](https://www.facebook.com/melamacks)

Have you tried the new bakery in town? Melissa Henderson, an Air Force veteran and experienced baker of 15 years, tells us about her family owned-and-operated shop that opened this spring.

How did you get into baking?

I started making cakes for my kids' birthdays. I was over the top with tiers, sculpted characters, etc. It was a creative outlet for me. Friends started asking me to make cakes, and it grew into my first baking business.

Tell us about your first business.

I owned The Sweetest Things in Cincy and specialized in wedding and custom cakes. I was top-rated by *The Knot* and *Wedding Wire*. I had a home kitchen license, but with the pandemic, consumables took a hit. People were wary to place orders with at-home bakers even though I was fully licensed and inspected by the health department. In 2021, I started looking at storefronts.

Why did you choose Loveland to open your shop?

As I was looking at storefronts, my family moved from West Chester to Loveland. We really liked the area, and I wanted to be part of the community. The bakery name represents our commitment to family and is a combination of my name and my daughter's. My sister, daughter, and niece work with me.



WINTER 2021-SPRING 2022 Newly Opened Businesses

Children's Academy -
10695 Loveland-Madeira Road

Chili Hut - 390 Loveland-Madeira Road

Fleurish Home - 110 Second Street

Lash & Blade Company - 420 W. Loveland Ave.,
Suite 100

Railway Barbershop - 106 Railroad Ave.



What will customers find at MelaMack's?

Custom novelty cakes to order, daily cakes, cupcakes, cookies, brownies, loaves, cakepops, holiday specials, and fresh coffee. I hope to add donuts, bagels, and rolls in the future.

How are customers reacting?

They're excited I'm here! People tell me there was a bakery across the street by Goodwill years ago. They say they've been waiting. I've had a great welcoming. Even other business owners have stopped by to introduce themselves.

Give us a fun fact!

I was invited to be a contestant on the TV show *Cake Boss*. Unfortunately, it was cancelled because of the pandemic.

What is your business dream?

I want to grow MelaMack's into a brand, and I hope to hire locally in the future. I want our bakery to be community focused and a place where people want to hang out.

GET THE FACTS: PARKING & TRAFFIC



At the W. Loveland Ave. Bike Trail Crossing, a pedestrian-activated flashing crosswalk system was installed. Crossing guards work high-volume events to control traffic flow.

“What is the city doing about traffic and parking?”

Read on for a summary of actions taken in recent years...



Rendering of Proposed Parking Facility

■ Paid Parking

Currently, the city has 535 public parking spaces (not including temporary lots). In May 2021, the city launched a parking meter pilot, testing a mix of 55 paid on-street and lot spaces. The pilot was a chance to explore the feasibility of using paid parking to manage spot turnover. The pilot concluded in late summer 2021. On-street meters have been removed; however, the pilot showed paid parking encourages spot turnover in the lot behind City Hall (i.e. drivers park for 2-3 hours vs. 10 hours), and approximately 40 spaces remain paid spots.

■ Wayfinding Signage

In 2016-2017, the city installed signage to help route drivers to parking and destinations to eliminate some of the circling of vehicles through the roadways.

■ GPS “Smart” Traffic Signals

The city is installing GPS preemption units at signalized intersections to identify emergency vehicles, improving response time and reducing accidents.

1 Temporary Parking Lots

City Council approved the purchase of 1.2 acres along First St. and Railroad Ave. In 2020, this land was developed into two temporary parking lots.

2 Overheight Warning System

In 2021, an Overheight Warning System was installed at both approaches to the Karl Brown Way train trestle to help prevent accidents (and the resulting traffic delays). The solar-powered system utilizes infrared sensors, set at the trestle’s clearance. If the beam is broken by an approaching vehicle over the height limit, flashing beacons and a siren are triggered.

3 Traffic Patterns

A turn lane was added at the intersection of W. Loveland Ave. and Karl Brown Way to improve traffic flow and ease congestion caused by drivers making a lefthand turn toward Nisbet Park. In the future, a left turn arrow will be installed at the intersection of Broadway St. and SR 48 (AKA “Five Points”) to improve the eastbound traffic flow from Broadway St.

4 Lot Improvements

City Council invested in paving and restriping public parking areas like the Linda Cox Lot off Broadway St. and the East Loveland Nature Preserve Lot. Proper striping allows for more efficient use of parking space.

5 Harrison Ave. Widening

The city has submitted for grant funding to widen Harrison Ave. This would alleviate stormwater issues, realign the intersection at Railroad Ave., and improve turning radii from N. Karl Brown Way onto Harrison Ave. New sidewalk included in the proposed project would improve motorist and pedestrian safety.

6 Bike Trail Crossings

Multiple signage and striping improvements have been made to Downtown’s Bike Trail crossings. At Broadway St., thermoplastic road striping was used for its durability and visibility at night. A pedestrian-activated flashing crosswalk system was installed at the W. Loveland Ave. crossing, and crossing guards work high-volume events to control traffic flow. Staff is securing funds for automated signalization at the W. Loveland Ave. crossing.

7 Proposed Parking Facility

In late 2021, the city applied for grant funding to build a parking facility on First Street behind City Hall. The proposed structure would have 270 parking spaces. The facility is still in the “research phase” now, despite the large amount of attention it has received. City Council has yet to vote to finalize any plans or commit to spending any funds.





Matt Haverkamp Foundation Dog Park

Did you know the city is home to nearly 20 parks, trails & memorials? Plan your next outdoor adventure! LovelandOH.gov/174/parks-trails



Explore your city's parks! Several improvements are underway...

Matt Haverkamp Foundation Dog Park

Kiwanis Park - 236 Wall St.

It's a tail-waggin' good time! The city has opened its first dog park at the rear of Kiwanis Park. At approximately two acres, it is entirely fenced. Future plans include creating an area for smaller dogs. The park is dedicated to all K9s and their handlers who serve Greater Cincinnati, thanks to the Matt Haverkamp Foundation, which is a non-profit 501(c)(3) established in remembrance of Golf Manor Police K9 Handler Matt Haverkamp.

Nisbet Park

126 Karl Brown Way

In early 2021, the city's Recreation Board began drafting the Nisbet Park Master Plan. Through surveys, the board found the public wished for new spaces within the park to support community activities. Thus, construction will begin on a 24-foot diameter gazebo, which will be large enough to accommodate small concerts, family parties and weddings. The elevated, two-tiered gazebo will be ADA accessible. This summer, park visitors will see surveying, electrical conduit, and concrete work begin. The gazebo construction likely will begin in mid-autumn.

Phillips Park

11667 Rich Road

This year's budget includes \$60,000 to replace the playground that required removal in 2021. The new playset is designed for ages 5-12 and is ADA compliant. The equipment is currently being manufactured and should be ready for installation in Fall 2022.

Pocket Park

City Hall - 120 W. Loveland Ave.

A patio seating area is being constructed in Downtown Loveland, thanks to a Hamilton County Community Development Block Grant that supports outdoor dining. The area will feature a concrete/brick patio, tables, chairs, and a waste/recycling station.



Rendering of New Playground at Phillips Park



Firefighters Visit Neighborhoods to Install Smoke Detectors

This spring and summer, firefighters will make door-to-door visits in local neighborhoods to check current smoke alarms and install new alarms, if needed.

These house calls are part of the Loveland-Symmes Fire Department's Smoke Detector Blitz Grant Program. Firefighters will be dressed in uniform and visit homes during the evenings and on weekends.

"We want to catch people when they are home. It's our goal to get working smoke detectors that are up to today's building standards in every home," said Deputy Chief Bruce Hawk.

Nowadays, newly constructed homes typically have smoke detectors in every common space and bedroom.

"Research shows fire victims are most vulnerable in bedrooms. When you're sleeping, you're not as alert and not as ready to react," explained Hawk. "This grant program gives us resources to install detectors in as many homes as possible to help protect families."

Residents should look for signs and door hangers in their neighborhoods to announce when visits will begin.

LSFD's Smoke Detector Blitz Grant Program has been made possible through a Fire Prevention & Safety Grant totaling \$58,095.24 through the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA for fiscal year 2020. LSFD will contribute \$2,904.76 for a total approved project budget of \$61,000.



Permit Reminders

If you plan on completing a project this year, please check with the Building & Zoning Department to determine if a permit is required.

Additionally, the department would like to remind residents, contractors and businesses that 24-hour notice is needed to schedule inspections for existing projects under permit.

The city's Building Official is now holding regular office hours at City Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to answer questions you may have about planned or future projects.



Be on the look-out for signs in your neighborhood!

Upcoming Construction Projects

**Curious what construction work is happening around the city this year?
Here is an overview of upcoming infrastructure projects:**

GPS “Smart” Traffic Signals

The 2022 budget includes \$35,000 to continue progress on the city’s plan to outfit traffic signals with GPS preemption technology to improve the response time of emergency vehicles and reduce intersection accidents. Units will be installed at the following intersections: Loveland-Madeira / Highridge, Loveland-Madeira / Valleyview, and Rich / Fallis.

Main & Chestnut Project

Starting in October 2021, the project scope — involving Main, South Wall, and Chestnut Streets — included replacing cast-iron water mains, repairing storm sewer drains, upgrading traffic signals, and resurfacing roads. “This is the largest project of its scope since the city built its new water tower in the early 2000s,” said City Manager David Kennedy. The project will wrap up this spring with installation of new traffic signal poles and roadway paving.

Safety Center

The parking lots at the Safety Center will be expanded. Ten public spaces will be added to the front lot, as well as a second driveway. A 60x70 ft. parking expansion for staff in the rear of the building is also planned.

Water Tower Cleaning

The 2022 budget includes funds to clean the exteriors of three of the city’s elevated water storage towers located at Union Cemetery Road, Commerce Dr., and Lever Park. Cleaning will take place as weather allows since temperatures are required to be over 50 degrees and winds must be low.



Water Tower Located at Lever Park



Sidewalks of W. Loveland Ave. Bridge

Are you fixing the bridge?

The city is aware of the condition of the W. Loveland Ave. Bridge and is actively working with contractors. Private utilities running near the sidewalk area have to be relocated before construction can begin.

The Ohio Public Works Commission has approved a grant to replace the sidewalk on the north side of the bridge, railings/walls, and bridge abutments. The city will provide a local funds match for the additional cost to upgrade to a decorative railing and potentially decorative light poles.

Is my road getting paved?

This year, the city will spend \$1,468,294 on its Annual Road Program, which includes \$1.2 million in the 2022 budget and a \$268,294 carryover from the 2021 program. This is the largest annual allocation for road improvements in city history! Paving work will begin this summer. *See sidebar for street listing.*

*Learn More about Current
Projects & Sign Up for Alerts
[LovelandOH.gov/190/
construction-projects](https://LovelandOH.gov/190/construction-projects)*



Scan Now



Main & Chestnut Project: New, decorative traffic signal poles will be installed at the intersection of W. Loveland Ave. and S. Wall this spring.

2022 ANNUAL ROAD PROGRAM

- Bonnie Heath Circle**
- Brecker Street****
- Broadway Street** Between Five Points Intersection & Hanna Ave.
- Caprice Court**
- Colonial Drive**
- Cottonwood Drive**
- Countydown Lane** Intersection of Brandywine Ln. to Northern Terminus
- Five Points Intersection** (Restriping)
- Hanna Avenue**
- Harper Avenue**
- Hawks Ridge Circle**
- Heartwood Court**
- Highland Avenue***
- Isabella Court**
- Laurel Street**
- Oak Street** Between Hanna Ave. & Cedar Dr.
- Overlook Drive**
- Ramsey Court**
- Rich Road** W. Loveland Ave. to Corp. Limit
- Sentry Hill Drive**
- State Route 48*** O'Bannon Creek Bridge to North Corp. Line
- Thomas Paxton Court**
- Valley Forge Drive** Ramsey Ct. to Founders Dr.
- Victory Street****
- W. Loveland Avenue** Between Anniversary Park & Lebanon Road
- W. Loveland Avenue / Loveland-Madeira Road** (Restriping)
- Wall Street** W. Loveland Ave. to Kiwanis Park
- Wilson Street****
- Wildwood Court**
- Woodcrest Drive**

List subject to change.

*Dependent upon utility work

**May be pushed to 2023 if other roads surpass budget



Officers to be Outfitted with Grant-Funded Body Worn Cameras

The Loveland Police Department received grant funding totaling \$87,896 to purchase 18 body worn cameras. Former chief Sean Rahe secured the funding, which covers 100% of the cost.

Body worn cameras have been proven to be effective tools in law enforcement. The 2022-2023 Ohio State Operating Budget included \$10 million in funding to be distributed to local police agencies through the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services for the purchase of body worn cameras.



Supporting Mental Health

This August, Lovelanders will notice several activities around the city supporting mental health awareness, per the suggestion of resident Tori Morrison. Tori's son Ben, a Loveland High School graduate, took his life in 2021.

For starters, Mayor Kathy Bailey will proclaim August as Mental Health Awareness Month in the city at the July 26 City Council meeting.

"In July, a federal mandate will go into effect for the 9-8-8 Hotline, so August will be the perfect month to help bring awareness to mental health in our community," explained Tori.

9-8-8 is a universal three-digit number for mental health crises and suicide prevention that will be available nationwide, similar to dialing 9-1-1. This was passed into law by Congress in 2020 to help aid law enforcement and to improve crisis response.

Tori is working with RP Diamond Screen Printing & Embroidery to create awareness signs that will feature 9-8-8 information. Signs will be displayed at local businesses during August.

Additionally, Tori has partnered with Loveland City Schools to declare the Aug. 26 Loveland High School 10

Varsity Football match as the team's "Mental Health Awareness" game.

Student Council and HOPE Squad members will help coordinate mental health awareness activities, like passing out silicone wristbands to fans.

Tori and her husband Donnie have established the Ben Morrison Memorial, a scholarship fund, in honor of their son. For the 2022 school year, nine scholarships were awarded.

"Reading the scholarship applications always makes me wonder — why can't we see ourselves the way other people see us? This is why mental health is important and why we're doing what we're doing."

Pre-Order a 9-8-8 sign at RPDiamond.com



Concert in the Park: Harmonics

May 22 - 6-8 p.m. - Nisbet Park

The Harmonics will mix classic and contemporary rock with their unique vocal talent.



Memorial Day Program

May 30 - 9 a.m.

The event begins with a parade from Loveland Elementary School to Loveland Veterans' Memorial, where a ceremony will take place.

Concert in the Park: Jessie Lyn & TNT Band

June 12 - 6-8 p.m. - Nisbet Park

Hear "Ohio's Honky Tonk Angel!" Jessie Lyn Fisher will perform a fun selection of Classic Country and Oldies songs.

Concert in the Park: Vinyl Countdown

June 26 - 6-8 p.m. - Nisbet Park

Relive the glory days of Journey, Pat Benetar, Poison, AC/DC and many more.



Independence Day

July 4 - 4-11 p.m.

Wear your red, white and blue to join the city's annual tradition! A full day of family friendly activities is planned including a parade, concert and fireworks.



Movie in the Park: The Sandlot

July 23 - Time TBA - E. Loveland Nature Preserve

Sponsored by BRS Insurance

It's a homerun for fun! Adults and kids will enjoy themed activities and a movie under the stars.

Save the date for all the 2022 Movie in the Park events:

Sept. 17 - Cats & Dogs:

The Revenge of Kitty Galore

Oct. 8 - Hocus Pocus

Concert in the Park: String Theory

July 31 - 6-8 p.m. - Nisbet Park

Hear hits from the 1940s to present-day in the rock, country, folk and jazz genres.



HOMEARAMA®

Aug. 6-21 - ChimneyRidge

See the latest in custom home designs during this 16-day event. ChimneyRidge will be the scenic site of the 59th annual HOMEARAMA® showcase.



Concert in the Park: My Brother's Keeper

Aug. 28 - 6-8 p.m. - Nisbet Park

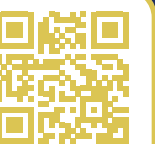
My Brother's Keeper is a progressive bluegrass band. Their energetic live show will appeal to any music lover!

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