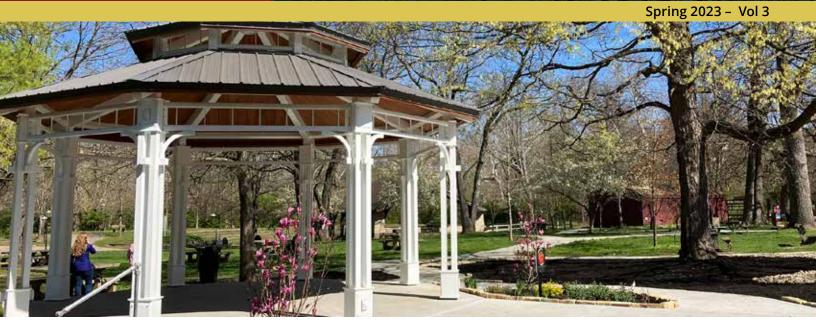


# Straight From The Heart NEVSLETTER





# **BRIDGE STUDY**

City Council approved a new project to determine how to alleviate traffic congestion on the West Loveland Avenue Bridge over the Little Miami River.

Beginning in 2023, studies will evaluate traffic flow and explore potential network enhancements, such as the possibility of a new river crossing. The collected data will be used to develop a feasibility plan.

In 2024, a public engagement survey will occur. This input will be added to the plan and can be carried into project development.

# **Refreshing Nisbet Park**

Updates are coming to Nisbet Park!

In early April, construction wrapped on the park's new 24-foot diameter gazebo that can accommodate small concerts, family parties, and weddings. The gazebo was funded through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' NatureWorks grant program.

Additionally, NatureWorks provided \$28.4k in funding to install an access trail to link the new gazebo to the Little Miami Scenic Trail. This paved walkway is ADA-compliant and improves pedestrian connectivity, while supporting the Nisbet Park Master Plan's vision to install a paved walking path through the entire park.

In early 2021, the city's Recreation Board began drafting the Nisbet Park Master Plan to guide the park's revitalization. Through surveys, the board found the public wants new activity spaces — such as a river overlook, new gazebo, reoriented amphitheater, and improved walking areas.

Nisbet Park is arguably the City of Loveland's most used park. In 2020, according to a study by the Friends of the Little Miami State Park, 125,258 users passed through the area on the Bike Trail alone. That's not to mention the countless other users who regularly visit the park for its amenities; meet for a 5K or exercise group; or attend city events like the Concert in the Park Series or the annual Independence Day Celebration.

Bike Trail bridge closure postponed... Read more on Page 8

# **CITY COUNCIL**



**Kathy Bailey** - Mayor kbailey@LovelandOH.gov

**Ted Phelps** - Vice Mayor tphelps@LovelandOH.gov



Andy Bateman abateman@LovelandOH.gov



Kent Blair kblair@LovelandOH.gov



**John Hart** jhart@LovelandOH.gov





Kip Ping kping@LovelandOH.gov

# **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: Loveland U

Have you ever wondered how the city determines the order of roads to plow? Have you wanted to learn about our fire department or wondered how a Loveland Stage Company production comes together? Have you wanted to meet K9 Officer Cruz? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, come join us at Loveland U (University), Loveland's own citizens' leadership academy.

A few years ago, the mayor of a neighboring community told me about a similar program in his city, and I knew we had to bring it to Loveland. City Council is committed to finding ways to help our residents understand the decisions we make, become more involved, and connect with the community. This program, started in 2019, accomplishes all those goals and so much more. This is your chance to get a behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of the city and organizations like the Loveland Museum Center, Little Miami Conservancy, Loveland City Schools, and many more!

Loveland U is open to anyone 18 years of age or older living or working in the City of Loveland, or a member of a civic organization based in Loveland. There are 10 sessions, held weekly September through November, from 6-9 p.m. Classes are hands on. This program has been wildly successful, and participants have raved about their experiences.

I personally have enjoyed getting to know the participants of Loveland U — many of whom have gone on to take active roles on our committees. I encourage you to apply at *https://lovelandoh.gov/365/Loveland-U*. We would love to meet you and teach you about the workings of this city we all love. Please join us — you'll be glad you did!

— Mayor Kathy Bailey



Apply to Loveland U.

# **BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

# **Shoppers Haven**

513-685 Loveland-Madeira Road

Shoppers Haven along the city's busy Loveland-Madeira Road Corridor is home to the local library, Ohio BMV, Dollar General, Anytime Fitness, and Ace Hardware, among other popular service providers.

Recently, the facility has undergone several interior upgrades, and some tenants relocated.

For instance, Premier Tumbling & Dance celebrated a grand reopening. The studio relocated to a renovated space of more than 22,000 square feet.

Next, owners are planning a second phase of updates to refresh Shoppers Haven's exterior.

Additionally, in the future, per the city's 2022 Comprehensive Master Plan, the portion of the



Loveland-Madeira Road Corridor near Shopper's Haven is slated for improvements including sidewalks, new lighting, benches and landscaping.



### Newly Opened Businesses Winter 2022 - Spring 2023

**Mathnasium** 700 Loveland-Madeira Road

Tara's Pet Boutique 597 Loveland-Madeira Road **Top Dog Grooming Spa** 401 Loveland-Madeira Road

**Self Care Counseling** 422 West Loveand Ave.



# **Spot the Frog**

The Loveland Frog, also referred to as the Loveland Frogman or Loveland Lizard, has been likened to Paul Bunyan. Surprise sightings have made it toad-ly legendary in Ohio folklore since 1955. A ribbit-ing tall tale — or is it?

Recently, the Loveland Frog has been spotted hopping around community events; in fact, its debut appearance was during the city's Hearts Afire Weekend dressed as a Frog Prince! If you spot the frog, jump in for a picture and share using the hashtag #LovelandFrogman.



Can you **fi**nd the Frog?

# REFRESHING THE HEIGHTS

Did you know Loveland is home to one of Hamilton County's first subdivisions?

It's true — the Loveland Heights was one of the area's first planned communities. Construction began in the 1950s. Today, the neighborhood is comprised of approximately 580 single-family homes. The Heights is experiencing an ongoing neighborhood revitalization...



# **Grant Program**

To assist Heights' residents with upkeep of aging homes, the city's Community Improvement Corporation started a grant program in 2021. Homeowners of single-family dwellings can apply for a matching grant of up to \$2,000 to make exterior improvements, such as window, siding, or foundation repairs. To date, approximately 21 homeowners have used this program. If you have an owneroccupied residence in the Heights and you are interested in the grant program, please contact (513) 707-1454.





# Infrastructure

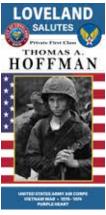
Using grant funds, the city is replacing water valves in phases. A faulty valve prohibits the ability to isolate water main repairs, thus causing many more homes than needed to be without water service and without proper fire protection in the event of a main break. The Heights' area has aging, undersized, and brittle cast iron water mains that are degrading, which makes breaks occur more frequently.

# **Tot Lots**

The Heights is home to two community playgrounds. The city has been awarded a \$75,000 grant to replace the playgrounds, and construction is expected to begin this autumn. Free public Wi-Fi will be added to the playgrounds, helping to enhance these areas as community gathering spots and create outdoor classrooms. This revamp was supported in the city's grant application by Loveland City Schools and NEST Community Learning Center.

# **New Housing**

Adding to the area's revitalization is new housing to be built on Highland and West Main Streets. Developers plan to construct nine attached townhomes.



# **Saluting Heroes**

The city is launching the Hometown Hero Military Banner Program to salute the brave men and women serving or who have served our country. Banners will be mounted to utility poles along State Route 48. Individuals must currently reside or have resided in the City of Loveland corporation limits or within the Loveland City School District.



Learn more and download application.

# **IN OUR PARKS**

### **Matt Haverkamp Foundation Dog Park**

### Kiwanis Park - 236 Wall St.

The city was awarded an \$11,545 grant from Purina PetCare to install a water source. Fido can now enjoy a drink from his very own fountain. Additionally, the city is sectioning off a portion of the park to be used for smaller dogs.

### **McCoy Park**

### 471 Oak St.

Home to pickleball courts, a shelter, playground and other outdoor fun, McCoy is a popular destination within the city's park system. Its restroom facility is being upgraded with interior improvements and a new roof.

### **Phillips Park**

### 11667 Rich Road

The new ADA-compliant playset features four slides, climbing structures, and a tic-tac-toe board.



# Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Did you know the city had a 20.11% recycling rate in 2022? Residents recycled 1,420.24 tons of metal, glass, plastic, and paper. Let's aim for the city achieving a 25% recycling rate in 2023! The city and Rumpke provide each residence with one 65-gallon recycling cart, free of charge. If you need a cart, please call Rumpke at (513) 851-0122, ext. 3633.

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Need a recycling refresher? Read the list of accepted items.



### Tot Lots

### Approx. 310 Cherokee Dr. & 300 Navaho Dr.

New playgrounds are expected to be installed in Fall 2023 at the Heights' Tot Lots. Plus, free public Wi-Fi will be added.



# **Honoring Pat Furterer**

The city dedicated a portion of State Route 48/Second Street as Pat Furterer Way. Furterer is one of the 11 founders of Loveland Stage Company. Furterer has served in many roles since LSC's founding, including President Emeritus since 2013. Most recently, she received the City of Loveland Award from the Clermont County Chamber of Commerce Foundation.



Scan to read more.



# **Going Green**

In late January, the \$1.3 million Public Works facility was completed. The building boasts 2,400 square feet of office space and 3,800 square feet of garage space. A unique feature is its 40 solar panels, making it the city's first property to be solar powered. The panels are estimated to provide 85% of the building's annual electrical needs.

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Watch a behind-the-scenes tour of the build.

# LPD NEWS





Now all LPD officers are equipped with a portable body camera when responding to calls, thanks to grant funding from the Ohio Office of

Criminal Justice Services. "It is important to understand these cameras are just another tool since they can never capture *everything* an officer may see, hear, or experience," explained Chief Michael Gabrielson.

Additionally, Flock Safety Automated License Plate Readers have been placed through the city to capture the "fingerprint" of vehicles. Alerts are sent to officers for cars wanted in connection with crimes, stolen vehicles, wanted persons, and Amber/Silver Alerts for missing persons. These devices are not used for traffic enforcement.

And, lastly, LPD has started to outfit its vehicles with GPS pre-emption, or anticipation, devices. These units allow emergency vehicles to connect with traffic signal control boxes to receive a green light. All 13 of the city's traffic signals utilize pre-emption.



# **Community Opportunities**

**Junior Police Academy** Teens get a glimpse into the life of an officer in this summer daycamp. **Citizens Police Academy** Adults go behind the scenes with LPD through 10 weeks of hands-on learning.

Learn more & how to register by visiting Facebook.com/LPDOhio

# **2023 Construction Projects** Historic Loveland & Vicinity

# 1 Bike Trail Bridge

ODNR is replacing the Little Miami Scenic Trail's pedestrian bridge over O'Bannon Creek. This is the bridge just north of Nisbet Park. Trail users will be directed to park in Loveland and travel southbound.

Start Date: October 2023 Estimated Completion: May 2024

# 2 115 Railroad Ave.

Construction will begin on a new restaurant between Narrow Path Brewery and Hometown Cafe. This will impact the public lots, as several parking spaces will be blocked for work crews.

Start Date: Spring 2023 Estimated Completion: Late 2023/Early 2024

# 3 2nd Street

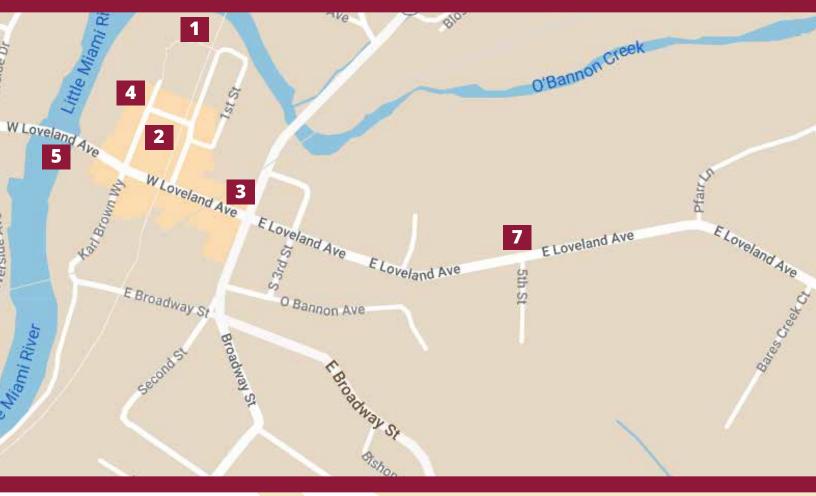
The former Mobil gas station has been demolished to create a right turn lane on SR 48/Second Street for traffic turning onto West Loveland Avenue.

Start Date: February 2023 Estimated Completion: July 2023

# 4 Harrison Avenue

Harrison Avenue will be widened between Karl Brown Way and Railroad Avenue. Harrison between Railroad and First Street will be realigned approximately 70 feet north and through the current gravel lot. Sidewalks will be added. Storm sewer work will occur on Harrison, North Karl Brown Way, and through Nisbet Park.

Start Date: August 2023 Estimated Completion: Spring 2024



This year, multiple construction projects will take place around the city. Some are city managed; others are directed by counties or agencies. Dates are weather-dependent and subject to change.

# 5 West Loveland Bridge

The bridge's north sidewalk, railings, and lighting will be replaced. Abutments and bridge components will be repaired. Expect lane closures.

Start Date: June 2023 Estimated Completion: August 2023

# 6 O'Bannonville Bridge

Clermont County will replace the bridge on O'Bannonville Road near Hutchinson Road. This is just outside of city limits in Goshen Township. The project will require a full closure and detour.

Start Date: July 2023 Estimated Completion: November 2023

# 7 East Loveland Avenue

Multiple projects will occur in phases: (*Phase 1*) From approximately the preserve to Fifth Street, there will be storm sewer, sidewalk, curb, water line, and sanitary sewer work. (*Phase 2*) Following the re-opening of the O'Bannonville Bridge (#6), Clermont County will replace the bridge over Bares Run on East Loveland Avenue. This will require a detour.

Start Date: August 2023 Estimated Completion: Spring 2024

### 8 Loveland-Miamiville Road

*(Inset on Map)* Sidewalks will be installed between SR 48/Oakland Road and Sugar Tree Lane.

Start Date: May 2023 Estimated Completion: August 2023



# LSFD NEWS



# **CPR/AED Training Available**

LSFD offers quarterly CPR/AED training classes.

"Training will help give you confidence if you are in a situation where someone is suffering cardiac arrest. You will have the chance to practice CPR and how to operate an AED," explained Captain Brian Hall, program coordinator.

Each class is taught by a certified instructor, who also serves as a firefighter or paramedic. Classes are \$60. Upon class completion, students receive certification from the American Heart Association Heartsaver/ AED Program.

Find a class at LSFD.org/185/CPR-program





Previous mural desi

# Fresh Paint, Bright Future

Have you seen the new mural along the sidewalk near Village Anniversary Park on West Loveland Avenue?

Louise Vermeil, a Loveland High School senior, created a design featuring Loveland landmarks like the Little Miami River, Little Miami Scenic Bike Trail, and Château Laroche (Loveland Castle).

Vermeil explained she has always wanted to paint a mural: "I wanted something that said 'Loveland' while also being undeniably a 'Louise' design. My work is whimsical with large shapes and primary colors." This marks the third instance since the early 2000s that the mural has been redesigned. Each time, it has been painted by Loveland High School students.

eil's mural in progre

"Ms. Vermeil's initiative to undertake a large beautification project on her own was impressive. We were delighted with her design. This mural is a welcome refresh for pedestrians and drivers along West Loveland Avenue," said David Kennedy, Loveland City Manager.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### **Concert in the Park Series**

Sundays - 6-8 p.m. - Nisbet Park

Don't miss the summer concert series! Have dinner in the park; pack a picnic or order takeout from a local business.

June 11 - Linus Tate

June 25 - Elvis Tribute Show

July 16 - School of Rock

Aug. 13 - Rooster Ridge

Aug. 27 - Bourbon Road Band



**Memorial Day Program** *May 29 - 9 a.m. - Veterans Memorial* 

This annual tradition honors those who have sacrificed for our nation's freedoms. The event begins with a parade from Loveland Elementary School to Veterans Memorial, where a ceremony will be held.

### **Gazebo Ribbon Cutting**

June 10 - 1-3 p.m. - Nisbet Park

Catch the first concert at Nisbet Park's new gazebo! A small ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 2 p.m.



**Movie in the Park Series** Saturdays - Time TBA - Phillips Park Sponsored by BRS Insurance

Enjoy themed pre-show fun and a movie under the stars.

June 10 - The Goonies

Aug. 12 - Encanto



Independence Day July 4 - Time TBA - Historic Downtown

Wear your red, white and blue to enjoy the city's parade, concert, and fireworks.



### **National Night Out**

Aug. 1 - 6-9 p.m. - Location TBA

Loveland and Hamilton Township Police Departments will join together for the 40th National Night Out, a campaign that promotes policecommunity partnerships. Save the date on your calendar and follow LPD on Facebook (*facebook.com/LPDOhio*) for details.

### KidFest

Oct. 7 - 2-4 p.m. - Location TBA

Save the date for the Loveland-Symmes Community Firefighters' Association's annual KidFest! There will be games, giveaways, and fun for kids of all ages.



Christmas Tree Lighting Festival Dec. 2 - 4-8 p.m. - Jackson Street Market

Get in the holiday spirit as you see the city's tree come aglow!

# LOVINVLIFE

LovinLifeLoveland.com



Discover More Events!





120 West Loveland Avenue Loveland, OH 45140 (513) 683-0150 LovelandOH.gov LovinLifeLoveland.com



**Building & Zoning** (513) 707-1447

**City Manager's Office** (513) 707-1437

**Local Income Taxes** (513) 707-1452

Fire/EMS/Police (Non-Emergency) (513) 677-7000

**Public Works** (513) 683-0150

**Utilities Billing** (513) 707-1451

### Want Monthly News?

Receive city news straight to your inbox! Scan or visit LovelandOH.gov to sign up for the City of Loveland's monthly e-newsletter.





PARK HERE. START HERE. STAY HERE.

Historic Loveland is your hub for Bike Trail adventures. Non-Profit Org U.S. Postage PAID Loveland, OH Permit No. 0000

# **COMMUNITY REMINDERS**

### "Do I need a permit?"

Spring is a busy time for outdoor projects, so don't forget your permits! To list a few examples, permits are required for decks, sheds, pools, pergolas, and fences. If you have questions, please contact the Building & Zoning Department at (513) 707-1447.

#### **Upcoming City Services**

Oct. 9: Fall Brush Collection begins (*Curbside*) Oct. 16: Fall Leaf Collection begins (*Curbside*)

Questions about city services? Email AskLoveland@lovelandoh.gov.

### **Get Local Alerts**

To help inform residents about emergencies and severe weather, the city has partnered with Alert Hamilton County (Alert HC), a mass notification and warning system. Alerts can be sent via text message, email, cell phone, home phone, or work phone. Residents in Hamilton County and Clermont County can opt in to Alert HC for free by signing up at *AlertHC.org*.