



LOVELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITORS CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Loveland's Only Visitor Center Welcomes New Manager and Extended Summer Hours

LOVELAND, Colo. – July 28, 2011 – The Loveland Chamber of Commerce, the organization that manages Loveland's only Visitors Center, has hired Andrea Barry as visitor center manager. One of Barry's first initiatives was to extend the Visitors Center hours to accommodate summer travelers. The Visitors Center is now open Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sat. from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and Sun. from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Loveland Visitors Center is co-located with the Loveland Chamber of Commerce at 5400 Stone Creek Circle, Loveland, Colo.

Barry brings extensive travel, sales, marketing and customer service experience to her role in Loveland. Her diverse industry background with companies such as Vail Resorts, Midway Airlines, Colorado Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau and the USA Cycling Federation add much needed expertise to Loveland's Visitor Center. A former Loveland resident, Barry once again sought out the city in hopes of generating tourism opportunities in addition to adding her management know-how to a volunteer-run organization, reaching out to the community and raising awareness about the Visitors Center's role as an information network in Loveland.

"Having the opportunity to work and help build the Visitors Center is a chance for me to create some new and fresh ideas about Loveland, making it front and center for business and leisure travelers," said Barry. "Loveland's continuing growth as a city coupled with its plentiful amenities makes it a natural draw to tourists. My role as visitor center manager allows me to enhance this specific tool to benefit Loveland's tourism appeal."

Barry's diverse work experience within the travel industry and her attention to customer needs made her stand out in the pool of applicants vying for the managerial position.

"The Loveland Chamber is thankful to have received a grant from the Community Marketing Commission to help add value to Loveland's one and only Visitors Center. This has allowed us to bring on Barry to focus specifically on enhancing the Visitors Center so that it can better contribute to Loveland's efforts in attracting business and leisure tourism," said Brian Willms, Loveland Chamber of Commerce president/CEO. "In addition to managing the marketing and day-to-day operations, Barry will manage the Visitors Center's volunteer team. These dedicated volunteers have committed a tremendous amount of time to helping guests and visitors. Now, they will have the benefits of a more involved day-to-day leader to support them in providing residents and visitors the best information possible."

In addition to expanding the hours, Barry is also looking to add more volunteers to the Visitor Center to help manage summer travelers and travel requests. Barry hopes to soon have a larger demographic of volunteers and wants to train them to be "information specialists" for the public.

Barry can be reached at (970) 744-4797 or at VCManager@loveland.org. For more info about the Visitor Center, visit www.loveland.org.

About the Loveland Chamber of Commerce

Founded in 1902, the Loveland Chamber of Commerce is Northern Colorado's "driving force for business." Comprised of more than 700 local companies, the chamber offers a vast array of educational and networking programs to help its investors, both large and small, gain the skills and resources necessary to thrive and prosper in today's economy. As a founding member of the Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance (NCLA), the chamber also serves as an advocate for business, working on behalf of entrepreneurs to lead and influence local, state and federal policy on issues affecting the unique interests of business in Northern Colorado. For more information on the Loveland Chamber, please call (970) 667-6311 or visit www.loveland.org.

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