



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mountain View High School senior Mary Askham recognized as 51st Miss Loveland Valentine

LOVELAND, Colo. - Nov. 11, 2011 – Today, the Loveland Chamber of Commerce, along with its panel of five judges, selected Mary Askham, a Mountain View High School (MVHS) senior, as the 2012 Miss Loveland Valentine. Askham is the 51st Miss Loveland Valentine.

Askham was one of nine Loveland-area high school female students up for the prestigious title. Askham earned the win through a thoughtful essay, engaging interview and heartfelt “Loveland My Community” speech to attendees of Thursday’s luncheon hosted by Thompson Valley Rotary. 2011 Miss Loveland Valentine Jamie Felton and 19-year Miss Valentine chaperone Norma Jean Goodheart were on hand to present Askham with her official sash and a bouquet of flowers courtesy of Rowe’s Flowers in Loveland.



As a high school senior, Askham is a stellar student who, in addition to her aggressive schedule at MVHS, is currently enrolled in a calculus for physical scientist III course at Colorado State University and plans to take a calculus-based physics with lab course at Front Range Community College in the spring. As an aspiring chemist, Askham is also a violinist, is active in the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), currently serves as treasurer and volunteer coordinator of Big Thompson Interact Youth Rotary, serves as a commissioner with the Loveland Youth Advisory Commission, is liaison to the Colorado Financial Advisory Commission and is a member of National Honor Society. She has or currently volunteers with Friends of the Loveland Library, Alternatives to Violence, the Suicide Resource Center and the Larimer County Food Bank.

Miss Valentine is Loveland’s spokesperson, as she makes many presentations throughout the community including television, newspaper and radio interviews. Over the years, the title of Miss Loveland Valentine has been held with honor and pride as this young woman spends the next year representing our community. As the selected candidate, Askham will receive scholarship funds toward her college education awarded from Ted and Mabel Thompson’s Trust.

For 50 years Miss Valentine has met the governor presenting him with a special gift from Loveland and an Official Loveland Valentine card. She has made a formal presentation to the Senate for the past 48 years. On occasion, she has also met with the Lieutenant Governor and the treasurer. Today, she is introduced, and the representative for District 51 talks about the Loveland Valentine program. Askham will be accompanied to all of her engagements by the official Miss Valentine chaperones, Norma Jean and Chet Goodheart.

MORE....

Additional details about Miss Valentine’s upcoming engagements and the 2012 Valentine Re-mailing Program can be found at



<http://www.loveland.org/ValentineProgram>. A special thank you to the 2011-2012 Valentine Program sponsor McKee Medical Center, Thompson Valley Rotary for hosting the luncheon and providing each candidate with a special mini Loveland heart, Rowe's Flowers for donating the boutonnieres', corsages' and bouquets for the event and judges Dawn Paepke, events coordinator with McKee Medical Center; Scott James, morning show host for Big Country 97.9; House 51 Rep. Brian Delgrosso; Joan Shaffer, Loveland city councilor and John Metcalf, Perfect Square.

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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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