

Local business heads to Loveland

Advertising firm will move into new building at I-25 and Highway 34

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Burns Marketing and Communications announced Thursday it will relocate from Fort Collins to the growing Loveland corridor at Interstate 25 and U.S. Highway 34 in December 2006.

Bank of Colorado and the insurance offices of Linden, Bartels & Noe Agency LLC also likely will join the advertising firm in a new, 40,000 square-foot building.

Construction will begin in early 2006. Each business is planning to use one floor of the four-story building being built by Everitt MacMillan Development. The third floor is still available.

Everitt Commercial Partners acquired the 2.35 acres of vacant land for more than \$1.6 million, in a sale announced Thursday.

The aptly named development at the southwest corner of Interstate 25 and U.S. Highway 34 is a 542-acre master planned community. Nick Christensen, managing principal of Chrisland, Inc., is developing the project, which will include retail, office, industrial, and high-end residential housing.

The Burns advertising firm will leave its 6,500 square-foot office in the Drake Office Center on 363 W. Drake Road. Burns' new offices will take up 9,000 square feet of the building that is just one of many planned at the 25/34 site.

"Our new location will accommodate our growth, enhance our capabilities and give us a great vantage point to view the future of our region," said Mike Burns, president of Burns Marketing and Communications.

With more than 200 active clients, Burns Marketing recently increased its number of employees by 25 percent for a total of 25 people. Several more will be hired during the next couple of years, Burns said.

The advertising agency's expansion is good for its client base, said Fred Jacobs, director of marketing at First National Bank and a Burns client.

"We've heard a lot of good feedback about our new ads that Burns Marketing did for us," Jacobs said.

"It's great to be able to meet with them in person when you want to go over something, like everyone did in the old days before the Internet."

Burns started out in 1972 in Loveland, moving to the current Fort Collins location in 1978. Revenues are now in the \$6 million range annually, Burns said.

The company plans to sell its Drake space as office condos, Burns said.

After scouting Northern Colorado for a new spot, Burns said he chose it because he needs to move quickly into a custom office space in a signature building. His firm is overcrowded.

Bank of Colorado has three offices in Colorado Springs and eight locations in Northern Colorado, none of which is in Loveland/Johnstown.

Linden, Bartels & Noe Agency likely will consolidate its offices into the third floor of the brand new building.