

Former kids' classroom becomes training center for fire department

It started out full of children, this double-wide modular mobile building that served as a temporary classroom at a local school. Next, it was moved and became office space for the Loveland Police Department while the new police building was being constructed.

Then it was put out to pasture—sort of—as a classroom/storage area/shelter at the police department's shooting range in the foothills near the water treatment plant. Now, it's been reborn again.

The mice and spiders have found new homes and the structure once again is serving the community, this time as the Incident Command Training Center for Loveland Fire and Rescue (LFR). It now sits surrounded by intentionally scorched structures at

the fire department's training site near Fairgrounds Park.

It's come a long way, both physically and functionally. It has joined the virtual world.

Classroom again

The building was rehabilitated and once again serves as a classroom, with an emphasis on computers. Computer simulations are used for the fire department's staff to practice leadership strategies and tactics as Loveland's buildings burn—virtually.

Using photos and data of higher risk structures and locales, fire officers take command of incidents as presented by the computer simulations. The top officer—Incident Commander—

(continued on page 2)



Financial sustainability process: Finding a solution actively under way

Efforts to find a solution to Loveland's financial sustainability challenge is now in full swing as City Council, City staff and community members address an expected \$3.5 million budget shortfall in the coming years.

Working groups of employees have been studying a variety of specific revenue and expenditure topics; around 165 employee ideas were

submitted for consideration; a task force of citizens prioritized services and provided feedback on budget balancing strategies; an electronic survey has been submitted to a variety

of groups within the community; and City Council has completed a survey related to priorities. Cost reduction strategies were submitted by departments towards the end of 2010. Ideas about how to close the \$3.5 million shortfall expected annually from 2012 – 2020 have been generated.

(continued on page 4)

PRINCIPLES

- Provide the highest quality of public service, which is sustainable on a long-term basis.
- Set reasonable expectations for delivering quality, customer-centered services in a fair, equitable, efficient and cost-effective manner.
- Advance services and programs that promote safety, quality of life and business growth.
- Balance the services to be delivered with the resources available, both in terms of people and money.
- Promote a fiscally conservative approach to achieve financial sustainability, maintaining flexibility to respond to opportunities and challenges.
- Maintain the City as an employee of choice, able to attract and retain high-quality employees.

INSIDE

Shave the Peak

Page 2

Public Works Day May 10

Page 2

Secure your precious cargo

Page 3

Spring Book Sale April 29

Page 3

LPD volunteers provide help

Page 3

New position filled

Page 3

City's HAND program

Page 4

P&R summer 2011 athletics

Page 4

Fire hydrant flushing begins

Page 4

Yard debris cart service begins April 4



Curbside emptying of yard debris carts for the 2011 growing season begins the week of April 4. Yard debris cart subscribers can set out their carts for weekly

collection on their regular trash collection day from April 4 through the first week of December.

Subscribers should observe the following guidelines for cart materials:

Acceptable Yard Debris:

- Grass clippings, leaves, garden trimmings and small branches (cut to fit into cart)
- Loaded cart must weigh less than 250 pounds
- Cart lid must close

Unacceptable Yard Wastes:

- Sod or soil
- Food wastes
- Pet wastes
- Plastic bags
- Trash, rocks or metal
- Ashes (hot or cold)
- Oversized branches, stumps or lumber

Cost for yard debris service is \$7.50 per month. For more information or to order a cart, call 962-2529.

Strategy being developed to solve financial challenge ahead

(continued from page 1)

determines staff and equipment needed, assigns and oversees team leaders whose crews perform the hands-on tasks of searching for and evacuating people and animals, fighting the fire, preventing fire spread, securing the area and more.

In creating the simulations, LFR targets situations where the hazard risk is high in terms of the site, the structure and life safety. Now, at the Incident Command Training Center, LFR can virtually set ablaze a school, a hospital, a densely-populated apartment complex or a business site containing highly flammable or toxic materials.

The Incident Commander can practice who and what needs to be dispatched to deal with the situation and manage the hazard zone.

One among few

The Loveland facility is one of only about a half dozen similar virtual Incident Command Training Centers in the nation. Two Loveland firefighters serve as instructors for most of the rest of the LFR fire suppression staff.

The two trainers themselves underwent many hours of online training, then spent six days at a national training center near Notre Dame University becoming certified for their training roles. It was a busy six days, with plenty of classroom work and nearly 70 hands-on simulations.

Most of the LFR fire suppression staff will undergo the training at the local center. The training will assure a consistent command approach regardless of which fire officer initially responds to a situation or if another officer assumes command.

To receive their Blue Card Hazard Zone Management Training and Certification, firefighters will spend about 50 hours online with the national training resources, then three days of virtual command leadership at the local facility.

Training at Loveland's center will also be available to other fire department personnel in the region and possibly beyond.

Bottom line

So what did this new training facility cost? Very little. About \$15,000 total.

The building itself was free, the six (soon to be eight) computer workstations were older surplus City machines, the building's interior walls and partitions were constructed by City staff, the tables and chairs were surplus from the City warehouse and the carpeting was leftover from the Museum/Gallery. The building's exterior was painted by the fire chief's wife and grandson.



An old modular structure is now home to high-tech instruction for Loveland's health and safety first responders. This new life for the old building will help maintain the lives and property of people throughout the Loveland area.

New batteries can save a life

Daylight Savings Time has begun and with it Loveland Fire and Rescue (LFR) reminds all residents to replace the batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms.

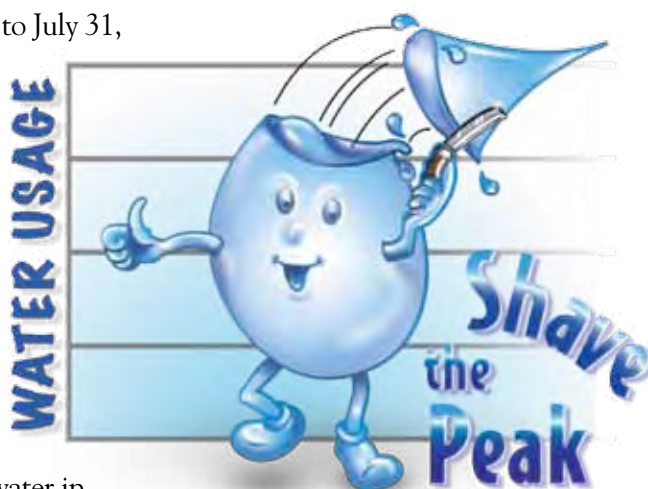
As a reminder, LFR can assist any local residents who may be unable to change batteries on their own. Also, the fire department has a limited supply of free smoke alarms and replacement 9-volt batteries for low-income residents who can't afford to purchase those items. The department's goal is to have working smoke alarms in every home in Loveland.

What's the point? To Shave the Peak

This summer, from June 15 to July 31, Loveland Water & Power (W&P) is encouraging all Loveland water customers—businesses and residents—to follow a voluntary watering schedule designed to help shave peak demand for water during what are generally the hottest six weeks of the summer.

Summer produces the largest demand for treated water in Loveland and that means heavier demand on the City's water treatment plant, which processes at peak times about 28 million gallons per day as compared to only 6 million gallons per day in December.

This peak demand for water is driving the need to expand the water treatment plant. Project costs of about \$8.1 million are needed to expand the plant's capacity. Current customers would likely see rate increases to fund



a portion of the plant expansion. This voluntary watering schedule is intended to help meet peak water demand while delaying expansion of the water treatment plant.

Homes and businesses with addresses ending in odd numbers should water on odd days of the month. Addresses ending in even numbers – including '0' – should water on even numbers of the month. Trees, flowers, gardens, shrubs

(continued on page 4)

Public Works Day is May 10

The City of Loveland's Public Works Department will host its Annual Public Works Day celebration 9 a.m.-1 p.m, Tues., May 10 at Fairgrounds Park. Local elementary and pre-school students are invited to attend.

Students will learn about the role Public Works plays in the Loveland community. They will also get to meet characters such as the Bag Monster, H₂O Jo, Smart T. Fox and Fillup A. Can. This event is made possible by donations from local vendor-sponsors.



Secure your precious young cargo with free car seat installation checks

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death to children ages 2-14. They are also the leading cause of injury-related death to children under the age of 2. Unfortunately, car seats are often improperly installed or sometimes not used at all.

To help ensure that caregivers are able to properly select and install a child passenger seat, Loveland Fire and Rescue is now offering free car seat



inspections and installation training to the community at no charge.

“Installing a child passenger safety seat is not as

simple as some might think,” said Deputy Fire Marshal Scott Pringle. “Caregivers must be sure that the proper size and type of seat is selected, that it’s compatible with the vehicle, that it’s properly installed and in the best location, and that it has not been recalled or involved in a previous crash, which could reduce effectiveness of the device.”

Six members of Loveland Fire and Rescue are now nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians who are trained to detect errors in use and installation of car seats as well as educate caregivers on how to properly install car seats and booster seats.

Free car seat inspections are available on the first and third Saturdays of each month by appointment only (holidays excluded). For more information, or to make an appointment, call Loveland Fire and Rescue, 962-2536.

Spring Book Sale April 29-May 1

The Friends of the Loveland Public Library Foundation’s Spring Book Sale will be held April 29 – May 1 at the McKee 4-H Youth and Community Building at the Ranch. Proceeds from the semi-annual sale will benefit the library expansion as well as the ongoing projects of the Friends.

The sale begins with a Members’ Preview Sale, 4-8 p.m., Friday. Memberships are available at the door. The sale Saturday is open to all and held from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The sale on Sunday from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. is the popular \$4-per-Bag sale.

Persons interested in volunteering at the sale should call Roberta at 669-6570. More information about the sale is available at 962-2712 or www.friendsofthelovelandlibrary.org.

LPD vols provide many hours of help

They are Loveland’s men and women in blue—light blue, often with a bit of gray beneath their hats. They are Loveland’s Senior Police Volunteers who serve the community often and in a variety of ways.

Last year, the two dozen blue-clad volunteers assisted their darker-blue colleagues, local residents and Loveland visitors to the tune of more than 5,000 hours. Their efforts in the office and on the streets free up the department’s other officers for their other duties.

The variety of tasks performed by the Loveland Senior Police Volunteers includes:

- Front desk and other clerical work
- Patrol using vehicles
- Patrol walking downtown and on the recreation trail
- Vacation home checks
- Abandoned vehicle checks
- Handicapped parking checks
- Code enforcement
- Radar checks
- Police building tour guides
- Graffiti checks
- Event assistance: Sculpture show, parades, July 4th, etc.
- Event leadership: Fishing Derby, Santa Cops

For the past 15 years this vibrant group has contributed thousands of hours of volunteer time every year serving the Loveland community. For more information or to become a member, call Sergeant Greg Eisentraut at 962-2250.

New position focuses on enhancing arts and economy in Loveland

A thriving community with a healthy and sustainable balance of arts, education and industry, plus a strong brand that will pull new business in and provide more good jobs for Loveland residents is her overriding goal. And if that isn’t enough, add a bustling downtown, packed with local businesses and restaurants, with more public art and events that draw in residents and visitors alike. This is the vision of Loveland’s new Business Development Specialist, Marcie Erion.



Erion, who began in the position last month, was clear that if all of these goals weren’t achieved it wouldn’t be for lack of effort. “I am honored to be given this opportunity and am going to give it absolutely everything I’ve got,” she said.

In addition to enthusiasm, Erion brings to the position a strong background in business development and arts promotion. For ten years she was the owner/director of the Loveland Academy of Fine Arts. This role firmly connected her to the local arts community and gave her hands-on experience in running a successful business. It also helped her gain an understanding for how business, the arts and the economy can work together to generate activity and revenue.

“While running the academy I saw very clearly that our events not only benefitted our students, but the entire business community. People would come to town and stay at our hotels, eat at our restaurants and shop at our stores. This kind of synergy is exactly what I want to build on in this position—to strengthen what we already have and then leverage it to build our brand and create more jobs,” Erion said.

In addition to her focus on business and job growth, Erion will also be working with local educational institutions such as AIMS Community College to expand their course offerings for future creative sector jobs.

Erion can be reached at erionm@ci.loveland.co.us.



PWP is a free program that helps manage the high demand for electricity during summer months. For more information call 962-3000 or visit www.cityofloveland.org/PWP

City's HAND Program really does lend a hand

The City's utility Help A Neighbor in Distress (HAND) program continued to be an important option for qualified water and electricity customers facing a loss of utility service in 2010.

The program saw a 12 percent increase in the number of families assisted over the previous year, while donations were down 6 percent for the same period. The state of the economy continues to play a part in both donations received from the community and vouchers given out.

Donations are welcome on either a recurring basis through a City utility bill, or on a one-time basis. Anyone interested in donating should call Utility Billing, 962 2111.

Numbers at a glance:

422 families assisted in 2010, total \$36,113
\$7,790 in donations received in 2010
378 families assisted in 2009, total \$32,301
\$8,263 in donations received in 2009

Parks & Recreation Summer 2011 athletics

Registration for the following summer Youth Athletic Programs begins May 2:

- T-ball, ages 4-6
- Baseball, ages 6-10
- Girls Fast-pitch Softball, ages 8-15
- Soccer, instructional and league play, ages 4-6
- Gymnastics, ages 1½-16
- Lacrosse, ages 8-15
- 3-on-3 Basketball, grades 5-8
- Tennis lessons, ages 3-adult
- CARA Tennis Team, ages 8-18

Also, don't miss registration for the following summer Adult Athletic Programs:

- Sand volleyball registration, 5/3-5/17.
- Soccer registration, 4/25-5/10.

For more information, see the Spring Leisure Times Brochure or call 962-2440.



Fire hydrant flushing begins April 18

Hydrant flushing helps keep the interior of water pipes clean, helps maintain excellent water quality and ensures hydrants are operating properly.

Flushing can cause water discoloration. Although it is not recommended to use for laundry due to possible staining of clothes, the water is safe to drink.

Flushing will start on the west side of Loveland and work eastward.



2011 Flushing Schedule:

April 18-22, Northwest Quadrant - north of Hwy. 34 and west of Colorado Ave.

April 25-29, Southwest Quadrant - south of Hwy. 34 and west of Colorado Ave.

May 2-6, Northeast Quadrant - north of Hwy. 34 and east of Colorado Ave.

May 9-13, Southeast Quadrant - south of Hwy. 34 and east of Colorado Ave.

May 16-20, East Quadrant - Denver Ave. east to Centerra

Reminders for areas of town due to undergo flushing will be posted in the Loveland-Reporter Herald. For questions call 962-3720.

Financial sustainability process:

Finding a solution under way (continued from page 1)

All of those ideas will have to be synthesized and tested against a set of principles that the City Council established at a study session February 22, 2011.

The citizen input is a critical element of this phase in the process. The Citizen Finance Advisory Commission has been at the center of helping City staff pull together all of the valuable information.

City Council and staff are thankful for all those who have been willing to give their time to be part of the process. Although there was no roll call at the meetings, the City is appreciative of the involvement of these and all other participants:

Amy Parsons	Evelyn Kins	Jodi Radke	Milly Ford
Angela Canada-Hopkins	Felicia Harmon	Joe Hertwig	Neil Spooner
Arthur Aldrich	Frances Moore	John Case	Pat Kistler
Brad Pierson	Frank McCrea	John Chilson	Phil Farley
Bruce Finger	Gary Thomas	John Seuss	Ralph Trenary
Buddy Meyers	Gene Pielin	John Tindall	Rich Bilancia
Dave Clark	Ian Tinney	Jon Smela	Rich Shannon
Dave Schneider	Jackie Elliott	Juanita Cisneros	Robert Bellamy
David Cook	Janet Bailey	Kathryn Pierson	Ron Harvey
Dawn Miller	Janet Johnson	Larry Roos	Rose Watson
Debbie Healy	Jason Napolitano	Maria Servold	T L Gore
Del Benkendorf	Jennifer Travis	Marigail Jury	Tom Buchanan
Dixie Schmatz	Jerry Westbrook	Maryjo Morgan	Treva Heiser
Don Van Dell	Jim Atkins	Michael Ford	Vern Richardson
	Jimmy Gantenbein	Michael Schoonover	

The solution development phase of addressing continued financial sustainability is now under way. This phase began last month following the data gathering process.

What's the point? To Shave the Peak

(continued from page 2)

and sub-irrigation/drip systems are exempt from this watering schedule. Lawns will not be adversely affected.

Loveland's citizens are already aware of the need and benefits of using water wisely. If successful, the *Shave the Peak* program could delay expansion of the treatment plant for four or five years. Without help from Loveland water customers to Shave the Peak, plant expansion could be needed as soon as one year.

For more information on the water treatment plant, *Shave the Peak* reduction program, go to the W&P water conservation page at www.cityofloveland.org/wp/water/Conservation/watercon.htm or call 962-3000.

City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive *City Update* according to their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients' billing schedule. *City Update* is also available around the first of every month on the News Desk page at www.cityofloveland.org. Your comments are encouraged and welcomed at 962-2302, hillea@ci.loveland.co.us.