After almost a decade of study, planning, engineering, design, fundraising and construction, the new addition of the Loveland Public Library is welcoming patrons. The 27,000 sq. ft. two-story addition has opened, completing Phase 1 of the 3 phase, $8 million project. Phases 2 and 3 involve major remodeling of the library building completed in 1987 and are due for completion this fall and winter, respectively. The overall project will result in Loveland proudly enjoying a state-of-the-art public library almost double its former size. Especially in the Phase 1 portion, the library will feature many high-tech amenities for use by patrons of all ages. The overall design will add greater functionality and ease-of-use with an emphasis on artwork and aesthetics reflecting the landscapes and history of Loveland. Construction on Phase 1 began last September, but the project had its beginnings back in 2002 when an independent study of the library identified a need for expansion. The study noted that based on the community’s size and level of programs offered by the library, it needed to grow. In 2006, a site planning study was conducted.

Dispose of unneeded drugs properly

Loveland residents can safely dispose of unneeded drugs—both prescription and over-the-counter—10 a.m.-2 p.m., Oct. 29 at a drive-through drop off at the Loveland Police Department parking lot, 810 E. 10th St. The national Drug Take-Back Day provides an opportunity for the public to surrender expired, unwanted or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications to law enforcement officers for proper disposal. The annual event focuses on removing potentially dangerous controlled substances from the nation's medicine cabinets.

Many Americans are not aware that medicines in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are increasing at alarming rates, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away – both potential safety and health hazards. April’s Drug Take-Back Day was a great success. During a four-hour period, all Colorado locations collected 14,114 pounds of drugs. Locally, the Loveland Police Department collected 181 pounds of drugs.

Insurance for water lines not required

Loveland Water & Power has fielded a number of phone calls from customers who are concerned about letters they’ve received from insurance companies offering coverage for customer-owned water lines. Loveland Water & Power does not require customers to carry this insurance, and it does not endorse or recommend any particular insurance company.

Decisions regarding whether to obtain this insurance, and through which company, are the customer’s responsibility.
Many new features offered in now-open library expansion

Two-stories high, brick exterior, big windows allowing lots of sunlight, stylish interior, especially for young people. Those are some key phrases that help describe the new section of the Loveland Public Library that has just opened. And add high-tech to the list.

The 27,000 sq. ft. Phase 1 addition to the almost 25-year-old 32,000 sq. ft. library adds features and functions spread among several special-purpose areas. One temporary challenge is entering the new areas because the Phase 2 and 3 remodels of the building and new entrance area are still in progress. But navigating the maze-like route to some of the new areas will be well rewarded.

First Floor

• The Children’s Department will boast about double its previous floor space. Serving youngsters from months-old to about age 10, it will offer far more than just more room for books. A variety of computer workstations and pint-sized furniture awaits the kids. The Storytime area, including an enlargement of its very popular wall mural, will include much more room for youngsters to enjoy presentations including projected images.

• The teen room for kids 11-17 is sure to be very popular. The room will offer workstation and side-by-side bench seating for use of more than a dozen computers. A lounge area will feature a soda-fountain-style booth with a whiteboard on the wall. An enclosed group study room will offer a quiet place for doing homework or mentor interaction. What may become the most popular spot in the library may be the dedicated electronic gaming area with a large wide-screen monitor for TV, movies and use of the library’s Wii, PlayStation and Xbox games.

• Two public conference rooms and a café area will also be available when the entire library project is completed in January.

• Less exciting for patrons but sure to be appreciated by library staff is the new Circulation area featuring an automated conveyor-belt style sorting system. When the entire library project is completed, a drive-through book/media drop-off window will be available to patrons.

Local forensic lab honored for excellence

The Northern Colorado Regional Forensic Lab (NCRFL) was awarded the 2011 August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award. The award honors the proactive, innovative use of forensic technologies by law enforcement. Loveland Chief of Police Luke Hecker nominated the lab on behalf of the participating members of the NCRFL.

The NCRFL is comprised of personnel from the Loveland Police Department, Greeley Police Department, Fort Collins Police Services, Weld County Sheriff’s Office and Larimer County Sheriff’s Office as well as staff from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. The technicians interact from four shared locations based upon their forensic discipline. The next goal is to move to one shared facility.

The examiners provide forensic science services in the areas of latent prints, footwear and tire tread, DNA, digital and multimedia evidence, drug chemistry, firearms, toolmarks and trace evidence to the participating agencies. The award will be presented Oct. 23 at the International Association of Chiefs of Police 18th Annual Conference in Chicago. The NCRFL will send a local representative to the conference to accept the award.

TAAP into six sculptures on display in downtown Loveland

As part of the City of Loveland’s Arts in Public Places Program, The Art Advocacy Project (TAAP) was initiated to provide Colorado sculptors with an additional showcase for their work. A citizen panel selected the works for display, including four by local sculptors.

All of the pieces are for sale.

The six pieces on display through May, 2012 are:

• Da Mi Un Baccio by Jane DeDecker
• Shout by Jack Kreutzer and Doug Erion
• Novus Grande by Harold Linke
• Big Horn by Parker McDonald
• Inner Dance by Mark Leichliter
• Rolling Dancing Moon by Reven Swanson

For more information on the TAAP exhibition or to inquire about purchasing a sculpture, call the Loveland Museum/Gallery, 962-2410.
Thank you for Shaving the Peak

The Shave the Peak program has been deemed a success this summer. Each summer during recent years, Water & Power Department staff has watched as Loveland’s peak use of water has approached levels that in a few more years would exceed the water treatment plant’s ability to process water quickly enough to meet the demand. An $8.1 million expansion of the water treatment plant was projected to be needed as soon as 2012.

To help delay the need for this expansion by perhaps three or four years, City Council approved a voluntary watering schedule this summer, designed to help reduce peak water demand during what are generally the hottest six weeks of the summer.

The Shave the Peak program was developed and promoted throughout the community. Residents and businesses were asked to water lawns according to the last number of their street address, from June 15 to July 31. Trees, flowers, gardens, shrubs and sub-irrigation/drip systems were all exempt from the voluntary watering schedule.

“It’s difficult to accurately quantify how much the program helped, because every season is unique and demand for water is influenced by annual conditions,” said Larry Howard, senior civil engineer with W&P. “However, based on the response from the community and our results this summer, we believe the program has made a difference. Customers are encouraged to continue following the voluntary schedule during the hottest portion of each summer over the next few years. Working together in this way will help reduce peak water demands.”

For more information on being water-wise go to the W&P water conservation pages at www.cityofloveland.org or call 962-3000.
Drains lead to local waterways

**If you see a spill, report it**

Keeping waterways free and clear of chemicals, automotive fluids and other pollutants is everyone’s responsibility. The City’s Stormwater Division relies on residents’ help to report illicit discharges that could harm local waterways. An illicit discharge is any discharge to a storm drain that is not comprised of rain water or snow/ice melt. Report illicit discharges by calling the Illicit Discharge Hot Line, 962-2761.

**Proper oil changes protect water sources**

Automotive fluids such as oil are common pollutants to city storm drains. To help improve and protect the quality of stormwater runoff, the Stormwater Division has partnered with a number of local automobile service facilities to encourage proper, spill-free oil changes.

Library’s major expansion

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completed. It determined that expanding the current library rather than building a branch facility elsewhere in town was the way to go. The following year, Loveland City Council approved the expansion with the condition that $2 million be raised from non-public sources. The Friends of the Loveland Public Library and the library’s advisory board went to work. As the fundraising moved forward toward the $2 million target, the architects, engineers, designers, and advisors from the city and library staff created the blueprints. The mayor, city councilors and others wielded shovels for the groundbreaking one year ago.

Many new features offered in now-open library expansion

(continued from page 2)

instructed on virtually any subject. With a separate classroom, no longer will walk-in general computer users have to wait until a class is over for their computer access.

• Perhaps the highest-tech facility is the iCreate room that will open in January. Two state-of-the-art systems will provide complete video production capability. Raw audio and video data can be massaged into productions of near-Hollywood quality.

• The library’s administrative offices will move upstairs along with the meeting room for the Library Advisory Board. Board members will gather around a table custom made from the wood of a tree that was removed to make room for the expanded library building. But wait, there’s more! That’s only what’s offered in the new section of the library. Renovation of the entire older building has begun. Its dramatic new design and new offerings are worth waiting for, just until January.

SAVE $10.00
On your next oil change

Please visit any of the following participating Oil Change facilities and bring this coupon to get $10.00 off your oil change:

Big O Tires - 2480 N. Lincoln Ave.
Brakes Plus - 3190 N. Garfield Ave.
Engle Automotive - 888 N. Denver Ave.
Grasse Monkey - 1100 Eagle Dr.
Grasse Monkey - 2997 N. Garfield Ave.
Jiffy Lube - 164 W. Eisenhower Blvd.
LTS Goodyear - 216 E. 3rd St.

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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.