



# The Bridge

Making community connections



## Old Lowell High Will Win Over All



The Lowell Red Devils won the State Football Title for the first time in school history! After earning their second straight undefeated league championship, Lowell had only one non-league loss to Weston-McEwen from Week 4. Winning State in a rematch against the TigerScots, who also defeated Lowell in the playoffs last year, only made the 74-42 victory sweeter.

Junior **JaMar Thurman** received a well-deserved Player of the Game award after gaining 618 yards and six touchdowns in the championship game. Additionally, JaMar secured his spot on top of OSA's all-division stat leaderboard with the most rushing yards (2,958) and touchdowns (44) this season. Not surprisingly, JaMar was also named our league's Offensive Player of the Year.

Senior **Rowan Files** was named the league's Defensive Player of the Year and had the most tackles of all 2A players in the state with 117 this season including nine in the championship game. On top of that, Rowan is also a force offensively. He added two touchdowns in the championship game on three receptions for 73 yards.

Senior **Brody Thurman** was the league's Lineman of the Year and had the most sacks at any division in the state with a staggering 20 including two added in the match against Weston-McEwen.

While many athletes earned tremendous accomplishments, the victory can only be described as an incredible team effort. *Off* the field, the team received Academic All-State recognition. On the field, many more of our athletes received All-League honors (see page 3) and worked hard to help bring Lowell the state championship.

Congratulations to all of the athletes, coaches, parents, staff, and volunteers who have played a significant role in this historic achievement. You have made our community proud.

The Bridge

Volume 26, Issue 6

December 2023

### Inside this issue:

#### School News

State Champions!!	Cover
Student Success	p. 2
Winter Music Concerts	p. 2
Red Devil Report	p. 3

#### City Beat

Tree Lighting Event	p. 4
1st Street Update	p. 4
Lookout Point Dam	
Drawdown Update	p. 4
Upcoming Meetings	p. 4
Library News	p. 5
Water Leak Info.	p. 5
RAIN Survey	p. 7

#### Fire District

Winter is Here!	p. 6
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#### Other

Christmas Parade	p. 7
Photos with Santa	p. 7
Bring 4H to Lowell	p. 7
Tree of Joy	p. 7
Calendar of Events	p. 8



## Promoting Student Success

The staff, school board and administration of the Lowell School District are continually working to ensure that students are given the best opportunities to learn and succeed in the classroom. The administration and the school board rely on “State Report Cards” to give feedback on how our schools compare to others. Our principals and teachers often analyze data to ensure that the students are taught the information needed to meet benchmarks and stay on track to graduate. Each and every step that is taken at school can only be successful when we partner with families at home.

There are some proven ways that families, caregivers, and guardians can increase the probability of their students graduating. Parents who attend conferences, back to school nights, and get involved with the school tend to have students who invest in their studies more. If you have a chance, visit the school, connect with the teachers and come to an event. We love to see you!



Other ways to improve your student’s chances of success are by implementing healthy habits as well as making attendance a priority. These two actions go hand in hand when helping your child excel in the classroom. Helping students start the day with a healthy meal is something that Lowell has made a priority. Each student is offered breakfast to keep them energized. But prior to that, children need good sleep each night. Students often require 9-12 hours of sleep each night to fuel their growing bodies. Hygiene, including hand washing and proper coverage of sneezes and coughs, also helps kids to stay healthy. Healthy kids are less likely to miss school due to illness. Supporting your student’s attendance by helping them be on time, not miss class, and taking homework seriously will move them one step closer to success.

And finally, reading. Whether your child is being read to, or reading on their own; whether your student is five or fifteen; reading is one of the most important keys to success. Each of our schools has a library and students have an opportunity to check out books. The Lowell, Fall Creek Foundation also partners with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to get books into the hands of students before they enter school. The Maggie Osgood Library also has so much to offer parents and children of our community.

We look forward to partnering with our families and community. Each of us appreciate the small part we play in educating your children and preparing them for their next steps. Everything that we can do to make the students more successful is worth doing.

## Winter Concerts Just Around the Corner!

The annual Band & Choir winter concert for LHS grades 7-12 is set for Tuesday, December 12th, at 7:00pm in the HS Cafetorium. Come see our award-winning high school ensembles, as well as our hardworking junior high musicians, presenting a variety of holiday tunes for your enjoyment.

The winter show for Lundy Elementary (and MVA Beginning Band students) will take place two days later on Thursday, December 14th, also at 7:00pm in the HS Cafetorium. Call time for K-5 is 6:45, and 6:30 for Band students. We look forward to seeing you there!



LHS singers featured in the OMEA District 10 Honor Choir



## RED DEVIL REPORT

### Lowell Athletics Update



#### HIGH SCHOOL FALL SPORT WRAP-UP *(continued from Cover)*

**High school football** athletes received many well-earned honors from their conference;

Brody Thurman (sr) — Lineman of the Year, 1st Team All-League Tight End, 1st Team All-League D-Line  
 Carter Harris (so) — 2nd Team All-League Quarterback, 2nd Team All-League Defensive Back  
 David Finch (so) — 1st Team All-League Center, 2nd Team All-League D-Line  
 Harley Hardison (jr) — 2nd Team All-League Linebacker  
 Jamar Thurman (jr) — Offensive Player of the Year, 1st Team All-League Running Back, 1st Team All-League D-Back  
 Justus Thurman (sr) — Honorable Mention Wide Receiver, Honorable Mention Kicker  
 Luis Estrada (sr) — Honorable Mention D-Line  
 Paul Clark (jr) — 1st Team All-League Guard, 1st Team All-League D-Line  
 Rowan Files (sr) — Defensive Player of the Year, 1st Team All-League Wide Receiver, 1st Team All-League Linebacker  
 Ryder Greco (sr) — Honorable Mention Linebacker  
 Tyler Harris (fr) — Honorable Mention O-Line

**High school volleyball** added honors from their league and accolades for their performances at the State Tournament;

Aly Curry (jr) — 2nd Team All-League  
 Amerika Baszler (sr) — 1st Team All-League  
 Annabelle Pickett (sr) — 1st Team All-League Libero, 2nd Team All-Tournament  
 Brooke Davis (sr) — 2nd Team All-League  
 Kaili Kirkhart (sr) — 2nd Team All-League  
 Madison Thurman (so) — 2nd Team All-League, 2nd Team All-Tournament  
 Vicki Skordahl (sr) — Honorable Mention All-League

**High school cross country** was made up of two athletes with exceptional dedication to the sport. Sophomore Ayden Medart, a first-time Lowell runner, improved his 5000m time by 1:30 during his first cross country season. Sophomore Callum Plahn also improved shaving 0:46 off of his 5000m personal record.

#### JUNIOR HIGH WINTER SPORTS



Our **junior high wrestling** team is led by Varney Doreen and assisted by Jason Pickett. Athletes (pictured left) include 8th graders Tanner Coiner, Brendan Hourigan, David Islas, Landon Johnson, Wyatt Johnson, Eli Pickett, and Ben Thurman; 7th graders Paxton Fassbender, Zophia Fassbender, Corven Floyd, and Landen Omlin; 6th graders Will Coiner, Jason Crawford, Banyan Jalof, Ben Johnson, Jayden Murray, Olivia Pelroy, and Joseph Webb; and 5th graders Iber Islas and Blitz Maher.

Our **junior high girls' basketball** team is led by Chelsea Chittim and assisted by Sierra Roberts. Athletes (pictured right) include 8th graders Chayden Daniels, Kylie Greer, Taylor McAdams, Ceilidh McNichols, Natalie Trullinger, and River Young; 7th graders Tatum Clark, Tayler Griffin, Summer Howes-Smith, Zayah Isley, Kailei Marcus, Zuzana Murray, and Alexis Owsley; and 6th graders Madison Anders, Ashlyn Baszler, Kinsley Bazzani, Peyton Courtney, Yaraileth Islas, Olivia Pelroy, Elise Skordahl, and Alauna Young.



**Join us celebrating 8th Grade Night with each of our teams. We will celebrate our basketball players on December 4 between the A/B games beginning at 4:30; and, our wrestlers alongside our high school seniors on December 13 during the Oakridge duals beginning at 6:00.**

## City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

### Annual tree lighting event.

In a tradition that marks the beginning of the festive season, the City of Lowell is gearing up for its annual Tree Lighting Event, and this year, there's an exciting change in venue! The event will take place at City Hall, located at 70 N. Pioneer St., departing from the usual setting at the covered bridge. The decision to relocate was made with the community's safety and accessibility in mind. It's our hope that the change in location enhances the sense of togetherness and community spirit.

The celebration kicks off on Saturday, December 2, with a parade starting at 4:00 pm. Following the parade, the activities move to City Hall, where the main event—the Tree Lighting—will commence at 5:00 pm. Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 2, and join us at City Hall for an evening of celebration.



### Update on E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street damages.

The City Council held a public hearing at its meeting on November 21, 2023. The purpose of the public hearing was for the City Council to receive evidence and hear testimony on whether Charter Communications has violated its franchise agreement with the City. After the public hearing, the City Council voted to find that Charter Communications is in default of the franchise agreement. The City Council also adopted findings of fact to support that determination. Among other things, the findings of fact state that: "Charter Communications did not remedy the damage caused by their agent C-2 Contractors, or otherwise offered any steps to cure the noncompliance within the 30 days following its receipt of the Violation Notice and has continued to fail to do so." For more information, see the City Council packet at the following web address, starting on page 194:

[https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/city\\_council/meeting/packets/8924/112123\\_cc\\_packet\\_updated\\_112123.pdf](https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/city_council/meeting/packets/8924/112123_cc_packet_updated_112123.pdf)

### Update on Lookout Point dam drawdown.

In the previous issue of "The Bridge," I referred readers to a link on the City website for a statement on the Lookout Point drawdown. It is our goal to update this statement on the dam drawdown and the impact on water operations once we have new information from our state and federal partners. For now, I want to communicate that our water treatment plant is still able to continue producing water to meet demand and that our lab results are within the state's permitted levels. Also, Public Works staff have implemented a new chemical process at the water treatment plant to do a better job at removing sediment. They are also continuing to treat the water with activated carbon to improve taste and remove as much discoloration as possible.

**Upcoming meeting details:** <https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/calendar/month/2023-11>

City Council Meetings –December 5 and 19 @ 7:00 pm  
Parks and Recreation Committee – December 7 @ 7:00 pm

**Meetings will take place at the Lowell Fire Station, 389 N. Pioneer Street**

## Maggie Osgood Library News

### Library Hours: Closed Monday, December 25; located at 70 N. Pioneer Street

Mondays	11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.	Tuesdays	10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Wednesdays	1:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.	Saturdays	9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

### Programming schedule:

Every week:

Tuesdays—Storytime 10:30, Craft and Chat 1:00, Board games 3:00.

Saturdays—Story and craft time 9:30, Board games all day.

Monthly:

2nd Wednesday—Local History 4:00

Last Wednesday—Chasing Chapters Book Club 6:00

### Holiday Book Sale

The library will hold a book sale from November 27 to December 4, during regular library hours. Most of the books available will not have library labels making them potential gifts. We will also have the brand-new 2024 calendar styled to look like Maggie Osgood's calendars and featuring Blackberry Jam. \$15.00.

The library will open at 4:00 pm on Sat. Dec. 2 for the Christmas tree lighting. Books will be \$5.00 per bag and calendars will be on sale for that evening only.

### A New program Series

**Get Out and Get Informed: a chance to interact with experts on a variety of topics.** Held every Wednesday from January 3 through March 27, 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Maggie Osgood Library. Each week an expert will present for approximately 40 minutes. There will be time for Q&A and discussion. Light snacks will be provided. First session January 3: What your library can do for you! By presenter Peggy O'Kane.

If you are an expert, or know an expert, or have a topic you would like to learn about, let me know. [pokane@ci.lowell.or.us](mailto:pokane@ci.lowell.or.us).

## Who would have thought????

If you have a dripping faucet:

- 10 drips per minute wastes 500 gallons of water per year, which equals 11 full bathtubs of water
- 1 drip per second wastes 3,000 gallons of water per year, which equals 66 full bathtubs of water
- A constant running drip wastes 72,000 gallons of water per year, which equals 1,617 full bathtubs or more than 4 backyard-sized swimming pools of water.



To your wallet:

- A leaky faucet at one drip per second can cost you around \$54 per year. That's 7 visits to Chipotle.
- A burst pipe (or a tap left fully open) can cost you around \$230 per day. That's buying 2 tickets to Disneyworld every day.

To your home:

- A small leak behind your wall from pipes can lead to drywall damage, costing you about \$400 in repairs – money you could be saving to take that trip to Disneyworld.
- Undetected leaks can lead to mold, and mold remediation can cost from hundreds to thousands of dollars.
- 69 percent of water heaters fail due to a slow leak or a sudden rupture, which can cost you about \$4,000 in repairs or replacements. That equates to about one semester at the average public university.

# FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

## Winter is Here – Be Prepared!

Winter storms can bring freezing rain, ice, snow, high winds, or a combination of these conditions. They can cause power outages that last for days, make roads and walkways very dangerous, and can affect community services. Planning and preparing can help you manage the impact of a winter storm and keep you and your family safe.

A sustained power outage can have a significant impact on people who require electricity to power medical equipment, so make sure that you have a plan to take care of yourself and your family during an outage.

### KNOW YOUR RISK

**WHAT:** A winter storm occurs when there is significant precipitation and the temperature is low enough that precipitation forms as sleet or snow, or when rain turns to ice. A winter storm can range from freezing rain and ice, to moderate snowfall over a few hours, to a blizzard that lasts for several days, or be a combination of several winter weather conditions. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures.

**WHEN:** Winter storms can occur from now until late spring.

**WHERE:** Winter storms and colder than normal temperatures can happen in every region of the country.

**IMPACT:** Extreme winter weather can immobilize an entire region. Ice and heavy snowfall can knock out heat, power, and communications services, sometimes for several days. Driving and walking can become extremely hazardous due to icy conditions, snowfall accumulation, low visibility, or extreme cold. People may need to stay at home or work without utilities or other services, until driving is safe. Pipes and water mains can freeze and break.

### Prepare now in case a winter storm hits and you are home for several days without power and heat.

- Prepare by gathering emergency supplies, making a family plan, and discussing emergency notifications and expectations with your workplace and/or schools.
- Install battery-powered or battery back-up carbon monoxide detectors.
- If you have access to an OUTSIDE generator, have an electric cord long enough to keep the generator at least 20 feet from any door, window, or vent.
- Make specific plans for how you will avoid driving.
- Be alert to changing weather conditions using local alerts, radio, and other news sources for information and instructions.

### During a winter storm stay indoors and avoid driving as much as possible.

- If the power goes out, close off unused rooms to consolidate and retain heat.
- Wear layered clothing and use blankets or sleeping bags to stay warm.
- Bring pets inside.
- NEVER use generators, outdoor heating or cooking equipment, such as a grill, camp stove, or a gasoline or propane heater, indoors.
- NEVER heat a home with a stove.
- If driving is absolutely necessary, keep disaster supplies in your vehicle, make sure your vehicle is properly equipped, and use extra precaution on the roads.
- Limit your time outdoors. If you are outside, protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia by wearing several layers of warm, loose-fitting, light-weight clothing.

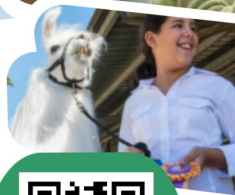
### After the storm is over, driving conditions may still be dangerous; only drive if necessary.

- If the power is out for more than a few days, warming shelters might be established.
- If you do not have adequate supplies to stay warm in your home and you can get there safely, you may want to go to a shelter.
- If you go outside, dress in warm clothing, stay dry, and avoid prolonged exposure to cold and wind to protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia.



**Lowell Food Thanks!**

The Lowell Food Pantry would like to thank everyone who showed up during our water damage clean-up in November. The pantry volunteers, community members Larry and Diane Gregoire, Chester and Cindy Smith, ServePro (Caleb), Max, and Jim Chapman. Thank you all so very much. —Shawn Brady



**LET'S BRING  
4-H  
TO LOWELL!**

**Volunteer with  
4-H today!**

Follow the link for more info:  
<https://beav.es/TWu>



**What does it take?**

- ✓ Enjoy working with youth!
- ✓ Willingness to learn & try new things.
- ✓ Guide & lead youth through mentorship and education while exploring 4-H projects.
- ✓ Clubs meet at least once a month for approx. 2 hours. Youth ages 1st - 12th grade.
- ✓ Something for every child! Possible project areas include photography, horticulture, rabbits, goats, dog, chicken, STEM, baking, and so much more!

More information about Lane County 4-H at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/lane>

*4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lowell*  
**Christmas Parade**  
December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023  
Starts at 4pm

*Santa Claus & Mrs. Claus will merrily make  
their way through the parade!*

If you would like to join in the parade, registration forms are at Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop, or you can email Shannon Fassbender at [sfass321@gmail.com](mailto:sfass321@gmail.com)

**Parade Route:**  
Starts at Tumac and goes down N Moss all the way to E Main St, makes a left and ends at Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop/LHS north parking lot.

Santa is on his way to

**Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop!**

113 E. Main St in downtown Lowell

**Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> &  
Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**NOON to 3 pm**

Bring your own camera and take as many photos as you want with Santa!

**Cost: \$10 for individual  
\$15 for two  
\$20 for three or more**

Price includes a small gift from Santa and a candy cane

From Mrs. Claus

**All proceeds go to LYST  
(Lowell Youth Sports Teams)**

The City of Lowell & RAIN Catalysts need your feedback!

Fill Out Survey

Scan Me

<https://forms.gle/EiGYGoW2w4CY3Y52>

And enter our drawing for a \$150 Visa Gift Card!  
Winner will be announced in January

Answer

CITY OF Lowell & RAIN catalysts  
Supporting Local Business

**Tree of Joy Reminder:** If you chose to participate in purchasing gifts for the Tree of Joy, please remember to return wrapped gifts back to Stomping Grounds Coffee by December 13th with the original tree tags attached. Thank you for your support!



# The Bridge

Lowell School District #71  
65 South Pioneer Street  
Lowell, OR 97452

Phone 541 937-8405 Fax 541 937-8709  
On the web: [www.lowell.k12.or.us](http://www.lowell.k12.or.us)

## Making community connections

NON-PROFIT

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Permit #1

Lowell, OR 97452

## Postal Customer Lowell/Fall Creek

*The Bridge is a cooperative effort of Lowell School District #71,  
City of Lowell and Lowell Rural Fire Protection District.*

### Upcoming Meetings and Events: December 2023

- 1—Varsity Wrestling @ Harrisburg Tournament, 10:00 a.m.  
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 2—Christmas Parade, 4:00 p.m.  
Maggie Osgood Library Book Sale, 4:00 p.m.  
Tree Lighting Ceremony, 5:00 p.m., City Hall 70 N. Pioneer
- 3—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 am 51 E. 2nd Street
- 4—JH Girls Basketball v. Harrisburg, 4:30 p.m., 8th Grade Night  
Family Fun Night, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Lundy Cafeteria  
Library Book Sale wraps up, 11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
- 5—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Mapleton, 5:30/7:00 p.m.  
**City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.**  
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
- 6—JH Wrestling v. Philomath, Thurston P.Hill, 5:00 p.m.  
JH Girls Basketball @ Oaklea, 4:00 p.m.  
Jr. Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla Varsity, 5:30/7:00
- 7—Lowell Parks Committee, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer Street
- 8—HS Wrestling @ Culver Tournament, 2:00 p.m.  
Jr. Varsity Boys Basketball @ Harrisburg MS, 3:00 p.m.  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Harrisburg Tourney, TBD
- 9—Varsity Wrestling @ Culver Tournament, 8:00 a.m.  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Harrisburg Tourney, TBD
- 11—JH Girls Basketball @ Fern Ridge, 5:30 p.m.  
**Lowell School Board Meeting, Cancelled**
- 12—HS Band & Choir Winter Concert, 7:00 p.m., HS Cafetorium
- 13—JH Wrestling v. Oakridge, 6:00 p.m., 8th Grade Night  
Varsity Wrestling v. Oakridge, 6:00 p.m., Senior Night  
Jr. Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Umpqua Valley, 3:00/4:30  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Umpqua Valley, 6:00/7:30 pm  
**Lowell Fire Board Meeting, 5:00 p.m., Main Station**
- 14—Elementary Winter Music Show, 7:00 p.m., HS Cafetorium
- 15—Jr. Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Blanchet, 4:00 p.m.  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Blanchet, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
- 16—Varsity Wrestling Lowell Tournament, 9:00 a.m.  
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 19—Jr. Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Bandon, 1:30 p.m.  
Varsity Boys/Girls Basketball @ Bandon, 3:00/4:30 p.m.  
**City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.**  
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
- 21—Jr. Varsity Girls Basketball v. Marshfield Freshmen, 3:00 p.m.  
Jr. Varsity Boys Basketball v. Gold Beach, 4:30 p.m.  
Varsity Boys/Girls Basketball v. Gold Beach, 6:00/7:30 p.m.
- 28—Jr. Varsity Boys Basketball v. Regis, 2:30 p.m.  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Regis, 4:00/5:30 p.m.
- 29—Senior Potluck Luncheon, Noon, Fall Creek Christian Church  
Varsity Girls Wrestling @ Junction City Tournament, TBD

**Winter Break: December 18—January 2**  
**School resumes January 3**