



# The Bridge

Making community connections

## “If you build it, they will come!”

The Arts in Lowell are an active, cherished part of our community and, with the support of our students, staff, and community partners, we can work together to bring Lowell Arts to an even higher level. We’ve accomplished great things over the years, and are excited to grow and take on new challenges, which can be partly achieved through the improving of infrastructure. One essential need is to upgrade our primary performance space – the LHS Cafetorium Stage – by improving visual aesthetics and acoustics (e.g. through the acquisition of proper curtains) and substantially upgrading our theatrical lighting capabilities to basic industry standards. These improvements will not only support our own Music and Drama performances, but also create a more inviting space for other Lowell/Fall Creek community events, and even larger-scale regional events like competitive or collaborative music festivals.

Lowell Music has notably experienced high levels of participation and success over the last 12+ years. At LHS, both the Band and Choir boast impressive elective numbers and a litany of awards over the years (including two State Championships and seven top-3 OSAA finishes since 2017). Our high school musicians are as busy, successful, and well-traveled as those from any school in Oregon, regardless of size. Factoring in the middle-school level as well, the program serves not only Lowell Jr/Sr High School, but kids from Lundy Elementary, Mountain View Academy, and Bridge Charter Academy, too. Likewise, grades K-5 also receive instruction from our resident music teacher, Mr. Burch. All of these kids – over 260 in all – are served by the program and interact with the Arts infrastructure in our district.

Continued on page 2

The Bridge

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### Inside this issue:

#### School News

The Arts in Lowell	Cover
Family Fun Night	p. 2
Senior Class Trip	p. 2
Building Project Almost Complete!	p. 2
Red Devil Report	p. 3

#### City Beat

Responsible Farm Animal and Dog Ownership	p. 4
Dam Drawdown Session	p. 5
Public Hearing Notice	p. 5
Library Series	p. 7
Upcoming Meetings	p. 5

#### Fire District

The Silent Killer	p. 6
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#### Other

Breakfast at the Grange	p. 7
Texas Hold ‘em	p. 7
Ballet Lessons	p. 7
Calendar of Events	p. 8





**“If you build it, they will come!”** — continued from Cover page

Our Drama Program was hit hard by the pandemic, but is rising from the ashes and continues to offer an Improv Comedy Show, as well as two One-Act Plays, each year, as it has for over 10 years, under the direction of Mr. Klatt. Students from all district schools have joined in to pursue and develop a wide array of skills in areas such as acting, set construction, costumes, props, makeup, lighting and sound design, scriptwriting, publicity, and more! Involvement increases confidence, collaboration, leadership skills, and of course presentation skills, which are all invaluable in life, no matter the path the student takes. Our upcoming comedy, “Instructions for Hugs,” by Patrick Greene, will have three performances at LHS, March 14th, 15th and 16th, at 7pm, free as always, on the LHS Cafetorium Stage.

Lowell schools have undergone a transformation over the last decade, thanks mostly to the generosity of the community through the support of the local bond and its subsequent building projects. Massive improvements to structural safety, security, classroom space, and infrastructure for athletics have greatly improved the profile of our district. The Performing Arts are simply another integral part of our schools and we are eager to tackle similar infrastructure challenges with the support of our amazing community! If you’d like to be involved in this initiative, please scan the QR code below to provide your contact information, or contact Mr. Burch directly at [pburch@lowell.k12.or.us](mailto:pburch@lowell.k12.or.us) or Mr. Klatt at [mklatt@lowell.k12.or.us](mailto:mklatt@lowell.k12.or.us).



**In other news from around the district...** Fun and exciting events are happening and here is what you need to know. We have reached the halfway point for the school year. Can you believe we are half-way through?

Lundy Elementary School has been knocking it out of the park with their positive behavior activities. First, a bounce house came for students to enjoy, then students took a trip to Wildlife Safari to hang with the animals and next up will be a trip to Defy Trampoline Park. Staff are seeing a decrease in poor behaviors and are enjoying getting to celebrate these events with the students. Self-manager applications will be going home with our kiddos soon as well.

Lowell Jr/Sr High continues their monthly celebration of students this month, recognizing students with the character trait of “vibrancy.”

This month, on **February 28**, we will be hosting another **Family Fun Night!** Our previous event was held in December and was a huge success. Children and their adults participated in games, had dinner, and won prizes. Watch for more information but mark your calendar now so that you don’t miss out on the fun.

February 20 will be the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. You will see classrooms participating in activities centered around the number 100. But the most fun is seeing staff and students dress up as 100-year-olds!

Did you know the Senior Class of 2024 is planning a class trip? They are working hard to fundraise to end their high school career with an amazing trip to Disneyland and a Major League Baseball game. We will post opportunities to support them through fundraising and other activities on our Facebook page.

February starts the wrap up of winter sports with wrestling districts followed by the state tournament. This year, Lowell School District will have the honor of hosting the district tournament. Basketball playoffs begin in February. Again, Lowell School District will be hosting district playoffs for this as well. See the calendar on page 8 and social media for upcoming dates and locations.

The building project that will bring two more classrooms and a weightroom to the Lowell Campus is just about wrapping up. The plan is to have students in the building, growing their minds and muscles by the end of this month.

There is always something happening around the district and always a reason to celebrate our students!



## RED DEVIL REPORT

### Lowell Athletics Update



#### FALL AWARDS CONTINUE

After outstanding performances in the Fall season, with a 6th place state finish for our volleyball team and a state championship for our football team, our student-athletes continue to be recognized with All-State awards;

**Aly Curry** (jr) - Honorable Mention All-State Volleyball

**Annabelle Pickett** (sr) - 1st Team All-State Libero, 2nd Team All-Tournament

**Brody Thurman** (sr) - 1st Team All-State Tight End, 1st Team All-League D-Line

**Brooke Davis** (sr) - Honorable Mention All-State Volleyball

**David Finch** (so) - 1st Team All-State O-Line

**JaMar Thurman** (jr) - 1st Team All-State Running Back, 1st Team All-State Corner Back,  
State Offensive Player of the Year, State Championship Player of the Game

**Madison Thurman** (so) - Honorable Mention All-State Volleyball, 2nd Team All-Tournament

**Paul Clark** (jr) - 1st Team All-State O-Line, 2nd Team All-State D-Line

**Rowan Files** (sr) - 1st Team All-State Wide Receiver, 1st Team All-State Linebacker,  
State Defensive Player of the Year

#### JUNIOR HIGH BOYS BASKETBALL



Our **junior high boys' basketball** team is led by Jacob McCart and assisted by Mark Gonzales. Athletes (pictured above) include 8th graders Tanner Coiner, Quentin Fuller, Henley Garner, Landon Johnson, Judah Kelso, Sawyer Landreth, Brenden Myers, Ryder Ortiz, Eric Sotomayor, Walker Straight, Ben Thurman, Nate Waters, and Lukas Williams; 7th graders Brayden Biancalana, Brenten Davies, Easton Lauzon, Gage Moncrief, Landen Omlin, Kohen Rhinevault, Easton Slabaugh, Taylor Sheridan, and Logan Smith; and 6th graders Bryson Dobson, Isaac Estrada, Holden Garner, Jayson Islas, Beau Mark, Jayden Murray, Christopher Sheridan, Kai Stapleton, Marshall Thronburg, Isaiah Wagner, Joseph Webb, and Caymbrin Wendt.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Feb 8:** HS Basketball Senior Night prior to the girls 6:00 and boys 7:30 games, respectively
- Feb 9-10:** HS Boys Wrestling Districts at Lowell. Depending on bracket size, the tournament may be 1 or 2 days. A 1-day tournament would be on Feb 10. More information will be shared when available.
- Feb 13-17:** HS Basketball League Playoffs boys and girls, locations and opponents TBD
- Feb 15:** JH Boys Basketball 8th Grade Night at halftime of the 6:00 A-team game
- Feb 16-17:** HS Girls Wrestling Districts at Cottage Grove High School
- Feb 23-24:** HS Wrestling State Tournament boys and girls, at Veterans Memorial Coliseum
- Feb 23:** HS Boys Basketball State 1st Round, location and opponent TBD
- Feb 24:** HS Girls Basketball State 1st Round, location and opponent TBD
- Feb 26:** HS Spring Sports Practices Start - Make sure your athletes are registered on ParentVue.
- Feb 29-Mar 1:** High School Basketball State boys and girls, quarterfinal through championship rounds

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## City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

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Dear Residents:

In this month's newsletter, I'd like to talk about some areas in our development and building codes that are intended to maintain a harmonious environment for all.

**Responsible Farm Animal Ownership.** Lowell's rural charm brings with it the joy of countryside living, including the opportunity to raise certain farm animals. However, it's essential to adhere to our city's standards to ensure the well-being of our community. We've noticed an increase in complaints regarding roosters, loose chickens, and other farm animals. While we embrace our rural setting, we must be mindful of our neighbors.

According to Section 9.722 of our city code, the raising of pigs and roosters within Lowell is not permitted. However, the raising of other farm animals, such as chickens, is allowed under specific conditions, including proper fencing, sanitation, and setback requirements. We encourage all residents engaged in agricultural activities to review these guidelines to ensure compliance and foster a peaceful coexistence with our neighbors.

**Dog Ownership Responsibilities.** Our furry friends bring joy and companionship to our lives, but it's crucial to be responsible pet owners. Every dog owner in Lowell must obtain a license from City Hall for dogs six months of age or older. Additionally, dogs must be kept under control at all times, with no allowance for them to run at large.

**Minimum Building Appearance Standards.** Maintaining the aesthetic appeal of our community is vital in preserving our city's charm. Section 8.004 of our code outlines minimum appearance standards for all structures, emphasizing the importance of roofs, siding, entrances, windows, shutters, and building apertures.

We've observed instances where shipping containers have been placed on residential properties, which is not allowed under our city codes. While enforcement of this section may not be an immediate priority, it's essential to remind residents that adherence to these standards contributes to the overall beauty and cohesion of our neighborhood.

In conclusion, let's continue to uphold the community spirit that defines Lowell. By working together, we can ensure a thriving and harmonious environment for generations to come.

I am happy to answer any questions that you might have about these topics or anything else. You can reach me in person at City Hall, via email at [admin@ci.lowell.or.us](mailto:admin@ci.lowell.or.us) or by telephone at (541) 937-2157.

Warm regards

Jeremy Caudle  
City Administrator



**Public information session on Lookout Point dam drawdown.** The City Council will hold a public information session on Thursday, February 29 at 6:00 pm on the Lookout Point dam drawdown. The session will take place at the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District community meeting room at 389 N. Pioneer Street.

At the session, representatives from the US Army Corps of Engineers and Lowell Public Works will be present to answer questions you may have about the dam drawdown and its impact on the city's drinking water.

More information, including instructions on how to join electronically, is available at the following link:

<https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/citycouncil/page/public-information-session-dam-drawdown-and-lowell-drinking-water>

**Lowell Planning Commission Public Hearing Notice.** The public is invited to attend and testify at a public hearing for a Zone Change proposal at Map and Tax Lot 19-01-11-33-06502. City file #2023-03. The Lowell Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the land use application on February 21, 2024, at 7:00 PM at the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District Fire Station 1 located at 389 N. Pioneer Street, Lowell, OR 97452. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to City Council. A remote hearing option via Zoom will be available.

For instructions on how to attend remotely, visit the meeting page on the City's website, email the City Administrator at [jcaudle@ci.lowell.or.us](mailto:jcaudle@ci.lowell.or.us), or call 541-937-2157. Written comments may be emailed to [jcaudle@ci.lowell.or.us](mailto:jcaudle@ci.lowell.or.us), delivered in person at City Hall located at 70 N. Pioneer St., or mailed to PO Box 490, Lowell, OR 97452. A staff report will be available no later than 4PM on February 14, 2024.

The meeting materials and Zoom information can be located online at <https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/>. For questions or to submit written testimony, please contact the City Administrator using the contact information listed above. (A previous notice listing the file as #2023-02 was incorrect. The file number listed above is the correct one.)

**Upcoming meeting details are available here:**

**<https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/calendar/month/2024-02>**

**Meetings will take place at the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District station, 389 N. Pioneer Street**

- City Council – February 6 @ 7:00 pm
- Parks Committee – February 8 @ 7:00 pm
- Blackberry Jam Festival Committee – February 13 @ 7:00 pm
- City Council – February 20 @ 7:00 pm
- Planning Commission – February 21 @ 7:00 pm

## FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

### Carbon Monoxide — The Silent Killer

The winter months are here. As the mercury dips, some families, struggling to pay their heating bills, will turn on the kitchen stove burners and the oven in an effort to take the chill off of their home. What these families don't realize is how dangerous this practice can be. A gas or propane oven or range top should never be used for heating. A fire could start and/or poisonous carbon monoxide (CO) fumes could fill the home. Any fuel-burning heating equipment (fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, space or portable heaters), generators and chimneys can produce carbon monoxide.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) there is an increased risk of dying in a home fire during the winter season. December, January and February are generally the deadliest months for fire.

Often called a silent killer, CO is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels, such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil and methane, burn incompletely.



CO enters the body through breathing. CO poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms, food poisoning and other illnesses. Some symptoms include shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, light headedness or headaches.

Everyone is at risk for CO poisoning, but infants, pregnant women and people with physical conditions that limit their ability to use oxygen, such as emphysema, asthma or heart disease, can be more severely affected by low concentrations of CO than healthy adults. High levels of CO can be fatal for anyone, causing death within minutes.

The Lowell Rural Fire Protection district would like to remind you that carbon monoxide can be a silent killer and discourages anyone from using the range or oven to heat their home. Install CO alarms inside your home to provide early warning of accumulating CO. Have your heating equipment inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in. Use generators outdoors away from all doors and windows and vents.

- CO alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms. Know the difference between the sound of smoke alarms and CO alarms.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month.
- If your CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window and doors and call for help. Remain at the fresh air location until emergency personnel say it is okay.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries or other trouble indicators.

The Lowell Fire District wants everyone to be warm and safe this winter.

Make sure your home has carbon monoxide alarms.

For more information, contact the District Office at 541-937-3393.



# February Community Events

## Lowell Grange Breakfast— Sunday, February 4

A hearty breakfast awaits you at the Lowell Grange! Come and enjoy home cooked eggs, hashbrowns, waffles, pancakes, fruit, sausage, bacon, and beverages.



Breakfast at the Grange is served regularly on the first Sunday of each month from 8:00-11:00 a.m. Donations are gratefully accepted.

All proceeds go to the Building Restoration Fund used to make building improvements to the Grange Hall.

## Texas Hold ‘em Poker Tournaments

If you’re looking for a fun time, come on down to the Lowell Grange and join your friends and neighbors every first Friday and third Saturday for Texas Hold ‘em poker tourneys. This month the dates are February 2nd and 17th.



Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and the tourney begins at 6:00 p.m. Buy-in is just \$10. 18 years and older only please. Refreshments are available for purchase to benefit the Grange Building Restoration Fund.

## Get Out and Get Informed Series at the Maggie Osgood Library

Our Wednesday series continues in February with:

2/7/24, 1:30 p.m.	Stem & 4H	Melinda Garcia, OSU Extension
2/14/24, 1:30 p.m.	Rowing	Ann Wopat, OAR
2/21/24, 1:30 p.m.	Northwestern Pond Turtles	Kathleen Smith, Wildlife Biologist, ACE
2/28/24, 1:30 p.m.	Fire Risk Prevention	Lauren Grand, OSU Extension

Please note that we have rescheduled the session on Northwestern Pond Turtles to February 21. We have also seen interest from a couple of other potential speakers. We may extend the series into April. If you are interested in presenting, please contact Peggy.

We are starting a new series of classes on American Sign Language. It will start February 21 at 3:30 pm. Please let us know if you plan to attend so we can have enough material ready.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Maggie Osgood Library capital campaign. We will continue to accept donations for bricks until the end of February 2024. Other donations are always welcome.

### Library Hours: Located at 70 N. Pioneer Street

Mondays 11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays 1:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Tuesdays 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
Saturdays 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

## Ballet Lessons through May!

Ballet instruction is available to students ages 4 through 12 at the Lowell Grange, 51 E. 2nd Street in Lowell. Delight in Dance Company is offering ballet lessons to ages 4-7 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m., and ages 8-12 on Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Cost is still \$10 per class. Please contact Meg via email at [meggrecian@gmail.com](mailto:meggrecian@gmail.com) or 541-968-4728 for more information.



# 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

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## 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: February 2024

- 1—JH Boys Basketball @ Oaklea, 4:00 p.m.
- 2—JV Boys Basketball @ Waldport, 4:30 p.m.  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Waldport, 6:00/7:30 p.m.  
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 3—JH Wrestling Districts @ Cottage Grove, 10:00 a.m.  
Varsity Wrestling @ LaPine Tournament, TBD  
JV Boys Basketball v. Oakridge, 4:30 p.m.  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Oakridge, 6:00/7:30 p.m.
- 4—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 am, 51 E. 2nd
- 5—JH Boys Basketball @ Pleasant Hill, 4:30 p.m.
- 6—JV Boys Basketball @ Oakridge, 4:30 p.m.  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Oakridge, 6:00/7:30 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
- 7—STEM & 4H Presentation at the Library, 1:30 p.m.  
JH Boys Basketball v. Fern Ridge, 4:30 p.m.
- 8—JV Girls/Boys Basketball v. Oakland, 3:00/4:30 pm Senior Night  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v Oakland, 6/7:30 pm Senior Night  
Lowell Parks Committee, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer Street
- 9/10—Varsity Wrestling Boys Districts in Lowell, TBD
- 10—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball Tiebreaker TBD
- 12—**School Board Strategic Plan Annual Report, 4:00pm, PDC**  
JH Boys Basketball v. Oaklea, 4:30 p.m.
- 13—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball, League Playoffs, TBD  
Blackberry Jam Committee, 7 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer
- 14—Rowing Presentation at the Library, 1:30 p.m.  
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball, League Playoffs, TBD  
**Lowell Fire District Board Meeting; 7:00 p.m., Main Station**
- 15—JH Boys Basketball v. Creswell, 4:30 p.m., 8th Grade Night
- 16/17—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball, League Playoffs, TBD  
Varsity Wrestling Girls Districts in Cottage Grove, TBD
- 17—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 19—**Presidents' Day — No School, City Hall Closed**
- 20—**City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.**  
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
- 21—Northwestern Pond Turtles Presentation at the Library, 1:30 p.m.  
JH Boys Basketball @ Lincoln, 4:30 p.m.  
Lowell Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.
- 22/23—Varsity Wrestling State Championships, VMC, Portland
- 23—Senior Potluck, Luncheon, Noon, Fall Creek Christian Church
- 23/24—Varsity Boys/Girls Basketball, State 1st Round, TBD
- 26—**School Board Closed Session, 4:00 pm, PDC at Lundy Elem.**  
JH Boys Basketball @ Creswell, 4:30 p.m.
- 28—Fire Risk Prevention Presentation at the Library, 1:30 p.m.  
Family Fun Night, Lundy Elementary, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- 29—Lookout Pt Dam Drawdown session, 6:00pm, Lowell Fire Hall
- 29/1—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball State Championships/Pendleton