



# The Bridge

Making community connections

## HARDISON BRINGS HOME THE HARDWARE

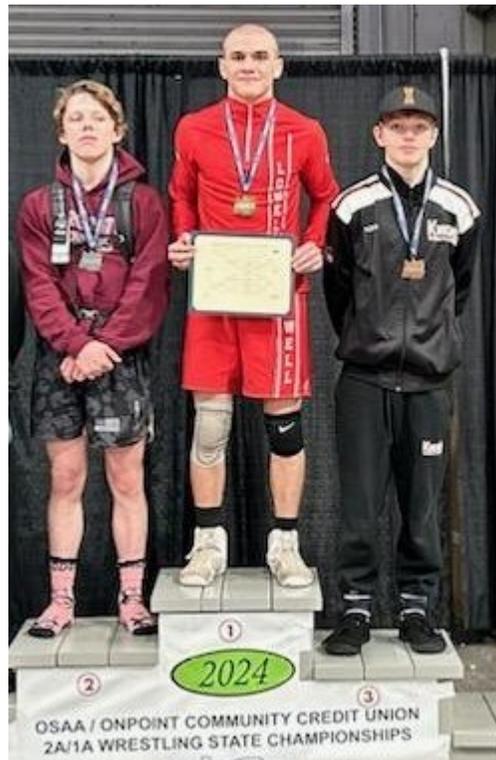
Four Lowell wrestlers earned a spot in the OSAA Wrestling State Championships; junior Levi Stewart (106), junior Harley Hardison (120), junior Paul Clark (175), and sophomore David Finch (285). All four wrestlers earned points and contributed to Lowell's 6th place team finish. Plus, three of our wrestlers brought home medals: Paul with bronze, David with silver, and Harley with gold. (See Page 3 for more wrestling achievements.)

Paul Clark secured 3rd place and his first state medal. After recovering from a tough first-round loss, Paul won four straight matches, including two pins and a 10-6 win in the consolation finals.

David Finch wrestled his first state finals match and came home with 2nd place. He pinned his first two opponents. Then, in his third match, David had an incredible overtime victory over the only opponent who beat him at last year's state tournament.

Harley Hardison won his second back-to-back and Lowell's 123rd state championship. Even though Harley could have had an easy path to the championship at another weight, Harley chose instead to enter the same weight class as another returning state champion because Harley knows you have to beat the best to be the best. And Harley is the best.

Congratulations to the Lowell wrestling team. Thank you for representing our community and continuing the legacy.



The Bridge

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### Inside this issue:

#### School News

Wrestling Legacy	Cover
Lowell Music Honors	p. 2
Honor Society Returns	p. 2
Red Devil Report	p. 3
Teacher Grants Awarded	p. 7

#### City Beat

Goals Update	p. 4
Safe Driving Survey	p. 4
Upcoming Meetings	p. 4
Library News/Schedule	p. 5

#### Fire District

Looking for Volunteers	p. 6
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#### Other

Spring Plant Sale	p. 6
Father/Daughter Dance	p. 7
Easter Egg Hunt	p. 7
Senior Trip Fundraiser	p. 7
Calendar of Events	p. 8



Time to Spring Ahead

March 10th



## Lowell Music Hosts Internationally-Acclaimed Composer & Performer

A normally quiet winter has yielded amazing opportunities for LHS Music this year, including a special visit by a pair of world-class musicians. On their February 1st concert, the Eugene Symphony Orchestra proudly performed the world premiere of the *Dreams of Flight Symphony* by acclaimed American composer Michael Djupstrom. As part of his brief visit to Eugene, the ESO arranged time for Mr. Djupstrom to visit a local school prior to the performance. Out of all worthy applicants in Lane County (and beyond), Lowell High School was chosen for this honor!

During the afternoon of the 1st, Mr. Djupstrom visited LHS to give a one-hour concert and presentation in our very own Choir room. He was joined by ESO Concertmaster (and award-winning musician) Searmi Park on several amazing pieces for violin and piano, much to the delight of the 50+ music students in attendance. They also fielded many questions about their careers and the world of professional classical music, proving to be both inspiring and somehow relatable all at once. To finish the amazing day, those same LHS students were invited as special guests to the Eugene Symphony's evening concert (including the *Dreams of Flight* premiere) at the Hult Center. It was truly a unique and special occasion for a rural school such as ours!



Also of note, just one day prior on January 31st, Lowell Music was represented at the annual District 10 Honor Band Festival, this year hosted by Douglas High School in Winston. Lowell sent four junior-high musicians (all 8th-graders) for this special all-star event: Kylie Greer, Ceilidh McNichols, Eric Sotomayor, and Nathan Waters. Seven high schoolers were also selected to play in the advanced group: sophomores Amelia Cushman, David Finch, and Alex Sotomayor, junior Colten Wendt, and seniors Brooke Davis, Justin Hern, and Annabelle Pickett. The all-day event culminated in a wonderful public performance appreciated by all in attendance. Nice job, Red Devils!

## Lowell High School Honor Society

A longstanding institution in schools all over the country, the National Honor Society is synonymous with excellence in the four pillars of leadership, service, scholarship, and character. The National Honor Society, or NHS, was founded in 1921 and continues to operate in all 50 states and engages and serves more than 1.4 million students. On average, NHS chapters contribute more than 1000 hours of school and community service, \$26,000 in charitable contributions, over 1000 pounds of food donations to local, state, and national causes and 100 pints of blood.

This year, Lowell High School has returned to that longstanding tradition of recognizing students for their achievements and hard work. With the renewal of the charter, the next step was to establish the membership criteria and norms for the group.

Membership is based on the four pillars of the National Honor Society. Students in tenth through twelfth grades are eligible for membership. The student must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better and are invited to complete the Candidate Form. This provides the faculty with information regarding the candidate's leadership and service. The candidate must also complete a 500-word essay explaining how they exemplify the four pillars.

The Faculty Council will evaluate each candidate based on their form and essay. They will also review the student's disciplinary records. They will provide their professional reflections on the candidate's service, character, citizenship, and leadership. After careful consideration of each element of the candidate form, a majority vote of the Faculty Council is necessary for selection. For those selected, an induction ceremony will be held to recognize the new members. Once inducted, members are required to attend meetings and continue to maintain the same levels of performance in the areas that led to their selection.

The first round of Candidate Forms have been handed out and we are expecting an amazing group of inductees this year. The Lowell School District is proud to renew our Charter of the National Honor Society and recognize our students in such a longstanding and excellent tradition.





## RED DEVIL REPORT

### Lowell Athletics Update



#### WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP

**High school wrestling** (*continued from Cover*) found even more success at the district tournaments with a boys' 4th place team finish and 8 wrestlers placing.

Levi Stewart (jr) - 3rd place, 106

Adam Davis (fr) - 6th place, 126

Ryan Pelroy (jr) - 5th place, 157

Paul Clark (jr) - 1st place, 175

Harley Hardison (jr) - 1st place, 120

Henry Coiner (fr) - 4th place, 144

Alex Sotomayor (so) - 5th place, 175

David Finch (so) - 2nd place, 285

**Junior high wrestling** added to the program's success with a 6th place team finish and nine athletes placing at the junior high district tournament including six in the finals and three champions.

Olivia Pelroy (6) - 4th place, 126

Zophia Fassbender (7) - 1st place, 161

Will Coiner (6) - 3rd place, 82

Ben Johnson (6) - 2nd place, 86

Banyan Jalof (6) - 3rd place, 104

Brendan Hourigan (8) - 1st place, 125

Eli Pickett (8) - 2nd place, 165

Ben Thurman (8) - 1st place, 165

Landon Johnson (8) - 2nd place, 187



**High school boys basketball** (12-4 league, 20-8 overall) made it to the State tournament for the first time since Lowell re-entered the 2A division in 2018. Lowell finished the regular season 3rd in our league and in the top 16 in the state. Our athletes also earned several All-league awards;

Jaden Jalof (sr) - 1st Team, Defensive Team

Alex Stratis (sr) - All-League Defensive Team

Wyatt Smith (so) - 2nd Team All-League

Rowan Files (sr) - 2nd Team All-League

Ryder Greco (sr) - Honorable Mention All-League

**High school girls basketball** (6-10 league, 8-16 overall) had a building year with a lot of promising, young talent led and encouraged by our tenacious upperclassmen. Junior Cheyanne McNamee earned 2nd Team All-League honors along the way.

#### JUNIOR HIGH TRACK & FIELD

##### Interested in coaching?

Details and the application are available online at <https://lowell.tedk12.com//hire/Index.aspx>

##### Interested in participating?

Make sure you are registered through ParentVue at [https://or-lowell.edupoint.com/PXP2\\_Login.aspx](https://or-lowell.edupoint.com/PXP2_Login.aspx) and keep an eye out for more information. Practices will begin after Spring Break.

## City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

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Dear Citizens:

As your City Administrator, I wanted to update you on our city's goals and priorities for the coming months. We've been making strides in various projects, and I want to ensure you are informed about our momentum.

Our top priority is guaranteeing access to clean drinking water. We're pursuing an Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant through the US Department of Agriculture to address issues stemming from the Lookout Point dam drawdown. This grant, with a maximum \$1 million award, will pay to retrofit our water treatment plant to handle the excess turbidity. We're also working on completing the water treatment plant programmable logic controller/supervisory control and data acquisition project with a \$306,000 grant.

Another focus area is finalizing the wastewater master plan. This plan ensures the effective management of our wastewater systems and sets the stage for future improvements.

We aim to have the 2024-2025 recommended budget ready for review by the end of March. The Budget Committee still has vacancies. Feel free to reach out to me if you're interested in having a voice on the level of services we provide, tax and utility rates, and so on.

Furthermore, we're pursuing the implementation of an e-permitting program to streamline building and land use application. This is a state requirement, and it will simplify the permit application process.

In the months ahead, we will begin planning for water treatment plant expansion and wastewater treatment plan projects. These initiatives are essential for meeting the growing needs of our community while ensuring the reliability of our infrastructure.

Other projects include managing development responsibly and pursuing cybersecurity grants to protect the city's data and computer network.

While we have a robust agenda, it's important to acknowledge the need for prioritization. We're mindful of our limitations and recognize the importance of pacing ourselves. Certain projects listed in the City Council's priority resolution will be postponed until later in the year. Examples include capital improvements to the city parks, the sale of surplus properties, and so on.

Together, we're building a stronger, more resilient community. As always, your feedback and involvement are invaluable.

Warm regards,

Jeremy B. Caudle  
City Administrator

**Safe Driving Survey.** The City of Lowell and the Safe Lane Coalition want to hear what you have to say about safe driving practices. Our Community Research Survey only takes 3-5 minutes to complete. Please share with anyone interested in making our roads safer. For every completed survey, \$1 will be donated to Free Bikes 4 Kidz.

Take the survey now, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLDr2024>



**Upcoming meetings – Meeting details available here:**

**<https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/calendar/month/2024-03>**

City Council – March 5 @ 7:00 pm  
Parks Committee – March 7 @ 7:00 pm  
Blackberry Jam Festival Committee – March 12 @ 6:00 pm  
City Council – March 19 @ 7:00 pm  
Planning Commission – March 6 @ 6:00 pm

**Meetings will take place at the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District station.**

## Maggie Osgood Library News

What a year it has been! The Maggie Osgood Library officially opened on February 25, 2023! I am astounded at how much we have accomplished and at how well you have supported us. We have close to 7,000 items in our collection; we circulate over 225 titles every month. Nearly 350 people hold library cards.

Everyone who visits for the first-time comments on how bright and welcoming the library is. They comment on the plants, and kites. They respond to the diverse book collection. Weekly we receive donations of books or cash to help us keep growing.

In the coming year we will continue to expand. We have a grant to create a digital archive that will capture the history of Lowell and the surrounding area. We have another grant in the applications stage to add oral history. Our summer 2024 reading program is in the planning stages. Plans are also underway to build the donor brick patio and create a wall of appreciation.

Because of the support we have received so far, we are confident that we can continue to rely on the kindness of the community.

We have created a wish list for books and other items that will allow us to serve the community. If you have ever considered donating a title or item to honor a friend, celebrate a birthday or remember a loved one you can choose an item from our wish list. A link to the list is available on the library website at <https://www.thingstogetme.com/1074861a09b6f>. You can pick up a print out of the list at the library, or send me an email and I will forward it to you.

Although the list is currently housed on Amazon, you can purchase items on it from any retailer. We also welcome your suggestions for books or other things to add to the list. Thank you for your continuing support. We love being here for you. — Peggy O’Kane, Library Director

### Library Hours: 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.

<p><b>Every week:</b>                  Tue. Storytime 10:30, Craft and Chat 1:00, Board games 3:00                  Sat. Story and craft time 9:30 am, Board games all day.</p>	<p><b>Monthly:</b>                  2nd Wed. Local History 3:00 pm                  3rd Wed. American Sign Language 3:30 pm                  Last Wed. Chasing Chapters Book Club 6:00 pm</p>
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### March program Schedule:

3/6/24	All about Blueberries	Emily Guynn, Fall Creek Nurseries
3/13/24	New Hikes near Eugene	Bill Sullivan, Author
3/20/24	Historic Buildings of the Willamette Valley Project	Brittany Spoto, Archaeological Technician, ACE
3/27/24	Astronomy	Annette Beiderwell

# FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

## NEW VOLUNTEERS

We have several new volunteers that are going through fire training. They will be testing to show their knowledge at the end of March then joining the ranks of Firefighter.

They go through over 140 hours of training. We look forward to seeing them moving forward. In this group we have two Cadets from Lowell High School that are being trained.

## WEBSITE

If you haven't seen it, you should check out our website. Please check us out at [www.lowellfiredistrict.org](http://www.lowellfiredistrict.org). We are hoping to be able to bring you a lot of information throughout the year. If you have a suggestion, please contact Chief Dragt at 541-937-3393.

## Looking for Volunteers

Do you know somebody interested in Fire or EMS?

### Q: How do I get started?

A: Come by the station during the week and we would be happy to talk to you about the process. Or you may call us at 541-937-3393.

### Q: What kind of training will I get?

A: We provide the training for Firefighter, Driver, Engineer, Medical and Rescue.

*“Professionalism is an attitude, not a job status”*



## LOWELL IS GROWING

The Lowell Fire District is looking to the future. While we are providing training to volunteers, we also know that there may be needs in the community for specific trainings, like CPR, Fire Extinguishers or Wildfire Prevention. If you have a need, please let us know.

## THANK YOU, LOWELL, FALL CREEK AND UNITY

We thank all of the community members that support us throughout the year. We are happy to be here and assisting the community any way that we can.

**Mark your calendars for the annual Nexus Program's**

**2024 SPRING PLANT SALE**

**Saturday & Sunday  
May 11th & 12th, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Lowell High School Greenhouse on Lakeview Avenue**

Garden starts, Blueberry plants, flowers and ready-made flower baskets too!

East Valley Church  
2nd Annual  
Father Daughter Dance  
Winter  
Wonderland

Music, cupcakes, refreshments, photo booth, crafts, games and a night full of fun and laughter!

March 9th 7:00 pm-9 pm | Tickets are \$20 for Father and Daughter  
Lowell Grange

Tickets must be purchased in advance, to purchase a ticket please contact Jessica McCart 971-413-5112

## The Lowell Grange Easter EGG Hunt

For kids through age 9

<b>March 30, 2024</b> <b>1 PM</b>	<b>Rolling Rock Park. Meeting at the stage.</b>
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> PLEASE BRING YOUR BASKET <

Come meet the Easter Bunny!

### Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation Awards Teacher Mini-Grants

Almost \$4,000 in grants were awarded to teachers to enhance learning in their classrooms. Grants were awarded to Lundy Elementary teachers Kimberly Fisher and Erin Clafin (pictured below), Marina Lacy at Bridge Charter Academy, and Ray Yarbrough and James DeCrane at Lowell High School.

Board member Diane Stephens (in the center) handed out the awards, accompanied by Superintendent Yakovich and Principal Edgerton. The grants were made available from this past Hall of Fame Celebration proceeds. Congratulations to all!



## 2024 Lowell High School Senior Trip Fundraiser

# SPAGHETTI DINNER BINGO & SILENT AUCTION

<i>Sunday,</i> <b>March 10, 2024</b>	Doors open at 4:30 pm Bingo at 5 pm Silent Auction at 6pm	<i>Lowell High School</i> <b>Cafetorium</b> <i>65 Pioneer St.</i>
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Discount tickets available in advance from Senior Trip students & at Stomping Grounds. Regular price tickets available at the door on March 10. Tickets sold by students & at Stomping Grounds require cash or check only.

Checks payable to: Lowell High School memo: Senior Trip

- Admit one \$10 (dinner & two bingo cards) / \$12.50 at the door
- Admit four \$35 (dinner & two bingo cards ea) / \$40 at the door
- Additional individual admit tickets \$5 after purchase of "Admit Four" ticket
- Age 3 and under free

Bingo prizes and silent auction items graciously donated by LHS supporters, local businesses, and community members.

Be ready for a Dessert Dash

# 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*

*ECRWSS*

*U.S. Postage Paid*

*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: March 2024

- 1—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
  - 3—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 am, 51 E. 2nd Street
  - 5—**City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.**  
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
  - 6—Planning Commission, 6:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer Street
  - 7—Parks Committee, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer Street
  - 9—Father/Daughter Dance, Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
  - 10—Spaghetti Dinner, Bingo & Silent Auction Fundraiser for  
LHS Senior Trip, HS Cafetorium, Doors open at 4:30 p.m.  
Daylight Saving Time Starts — Spring forward one hour
  - 12—Varsity Softball & Baseball @ Toledo, 4:30 p.m.  
Blackberry Jam Committee, 6:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer
  - 14—Varsity Track @ Ruppe Field, 4:30 p.m.  
Jr. Varsity Softball v. Pleasant Hill, 4:30 p.m.
  - 13—**Lowell Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Main Station**
  - 16—Varsity Softball & Baseball @ Bonanza, 2:00 p.m.  
Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange
  - 18—Varsity Softball v. Mohawk, 4:30 p.m.  
Varsity Baseball v. Monroe, 4:30 p.m.  
**School Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m., PDC 45 S. Moss Street**
  - 19—**City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.**  
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
  - 20—Varsity Softball & Baseball @ Santiam, 4:30 p.m.
  - 21—Varsity Track @ Riddle, 4:00 p.m.
  - 22—Jr. Varsity Softball v. Umpqua Valley Christian, 4:30 p.m.  
Senior Potluck, Luncheon, Noon, Fall Creek Christian Church
  - 23—Varsity Baseball v. Clatskanie, 1:00 p.m.
  - 25—Varsity Softball & Baseball @ Illinois Valley, DH 1:00 & 3:30
  - 27—Varsity Softball & Baseball @ Central Linn, 4:30 p.m.
  - 29—Varsity Softball & Baseball v. Lost River, 2:00 p.m.
  - 30—Easter Egg Hunt, Rolling Rock Park, 1:00 p.m.
- Coming in April:  
3—Varsity Softball & Baseball v. Umpqua Valley Christian, 4:30 pm



Happy Spring Break

**March 25—29**