



The Bridge

Making community connections



Lowell, Fall Creek Ed Foundation Awards Mini-Grants

From first aid/CPR instruction equipment to robotics/coding kits and more, in November the Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation awarded just over \$6,300 in mini-grants to ten different teachers. Each year the Foundation encourages teachers to apply for these grants to enhance learning in their classrooms.

The mission of the Foundation includes the goal of providing supplementary support to the programs and services provided to students in all schools in the Lowell School District.

The success of the 2016 Hall of Fame launched the Mini-Grant for Teachers program. Over \$25,000 has been awarded since then from this event and other donations to benefit students in classrooms throughout the District. Thank you to alumni and other community members who have supported the Foundation to make these mini-grants happen.

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Jill Chapman from Mt. View Academy will use the grant to provide instruction and certification in first aid and CPR.



Roxanne Hetzer, Lundy 4th grade teacher, will purchase popular novel sets to be used this year and for many years to come.



Sean Bedell, Lundy 6th grade teacher, will purchase kits for robotics/coding instruction and unbreakable science wares for experiments.



James DeCrane, LHS teacher, will purchase camera and lighting equipment for use in his Journalism, Media & Yearbook instruction.

Other awardees include: Erin Claflin (Lundy K-6th), Literacy Center Initiative; Meredith Mandal (Lundy K), classroom library; Kimberly Anderson (Lundy 1st), reading and math games; Stephanie Wilson (Lundy 2nd), coding and robotics learning; Ashley Clinard (Lundy 2nd), differentiated seating; and Kriston Maloy (Lundy 5th), science field trips.



RED DEVIL REPORT

Lowell Athletics Update



HIGH SCHOOL FALL SPORT WRAP-UP

High school football (4-2 league, 6-4 overall) made it to the first round of the state playoffs after a 3rd place league finish led by seniors and team captains Paul Clark, Harley Hardison, Ryan Pelroy, and JaMar Thurman. To top off a great season, several of our athletes were recognized with All-League honors;

- Alex Sotomayor** (jr) — Honorable Mention Defensive End
- Carter Harris** (jr) — 1st Team Defensive Back, 2nd Team Quarterback
- David Finch** (jr) — 1st Team Center, 2nd Team Defensive Tackle
- Harley Hardison** (sr) — 2nd Team Linebacker
- JaMar Thurman** (sr) — Offensive Co-MVP, 1st Team Running Back
- Jax Norcutt** (so) — 1st Team Kicker
- Paul Clark** (sr) — 2nd Team Defensive Tackle
- Tyler Harris** (so) — 1st Team Defensive-End, 2nd Team Offensive-Line
- Zak Hermansen** (so) — Honorable Mention Kick/Punt Returner

High school volleyball (6-4 league, 15-9 overall) capped off their season finishing 2nd in league and top-16 in state led by team captains Aly Curry and Hazel Garner. Additionally, many of our athletes were recognized with All-League honors;

- Aly Curry** (sr) — 2nd Team All-League
- Hazel Garner** (sr) — 1st Team All-League
- Madison Thurman** (jr) — 1st Team All-League
- McKenna McComas** (so) — Honorable Mention All-League

High school cross country had a small team this year with just five athletes, but those five athletes brought a combined total of 14 years experience. The season finished strong with 3 runners competing in the district meet, finishing with two personal records and one season best.

JUNIOR HIGH WINTER SPORTS



Our **junior high wrestling** team is led by Varney Doreen and assisted by Britt Coiner. Athletes (tournament competitors pictured left) include 8th graders Zophia Fassbender, Corven Floyd, and Landen Omlin; 7th graders Will Coiner, Jason Crawford, Bryson Dobson, Banyan Jalof, Ben Johnson, Jayden Murray, Olivia Pelroy, Elise Skordahl, Bryson Smith, and Joseph Webb; and 6th graders Ben Johnson, Elijah Johnston, Blitz Maher, and Lillian Wiley; and 5th grader Cash Kenworthy.

Our **junior high girls' basketball** team is led by Jared Neet and assisted by John Dickinson and Rob Neet. Athletes (pictured right) include 8th graders Tatum Clark, Tayler Griffin, Summer Howes-Smith, Zayah Isley, Kailei Marcus, Zuzana Murray, and Alexis Owsley; 7th graders Madison Anders, Ashlyn Baszler, Kinsley Bazzani, Peyton Courtney, Olivia Pelroy, and Alauna Young; and 6th graders Jayden Dickinson, Haylee Fulton, Annabel Heisler, Kya Naylor, Camden Neet, and Sutton Ortiz.



Dates to Remember

Dec 6 Six Week Celebration—Staycation
Dec 19 Winter Concert in the High School Cafetorium, Call time 6:30, Performance Begins at 7:00
Dec 23 Start Winter Break—No School
Jan 6 Return to School—Happy New Year 2025

Have a safe and fun vacation; see you next year.



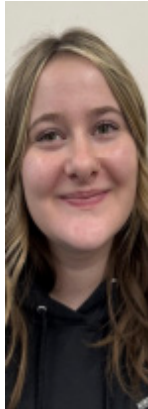
Students of the Month

[A formatting error prevented October's Lowell High Student of the Month Cora Green from appearing last month. Congratulations and apologies, Cora. — Ed.]

Lowell High Student of October

Cora Green

Favorite Food: BLTs
Favorite Song: "Gypsy" — Fleetwood Mac
Favorite Subject: Science
Future Profession: I want to work with mentally challenged people, to help them be more successful in life.
Reason For Nomination: Cora was nominated by Mr. Decrane for showing great improvement this year as the student Editor-In-Chief in Journalism and Yearbook. She has taken the role very seriously in getting the new class started in a positive way. She also has stepped up as a leader participating with the Every Fifteen Minutes program.



MVA Student of the Month

Marvious Neet

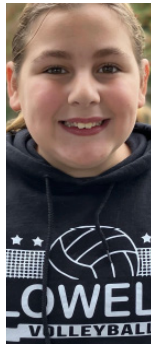
Favorite Food: Pepperoni Pizza
Favorite Song: "Flamingo" by Kero Kero Bonito
Favorite Subject: PE, for the exercise and learning games
Future Profession: A firefighter
Nominated By Miss Nikki: Marvious is an incredibly hard worker. He is thoughtful of his classmates and teachers and is the first to offer to help to someone in need. MVA is so proud of you.



Lundy Student of the Month

Addi Owsley

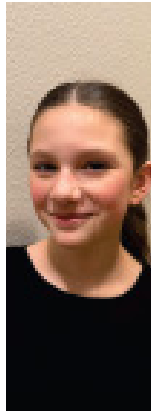
Favorite Food: Steak
Favorite Song: "Fishing in the Dark" by N.G.D.B.
Favorite Subject: Math
Future Profession: Doctor
Reason For Nomination: Addi is the definition of a model student. She is motivated, hard-working, responsible, and helpful. She takes school seriously while still managing to bring laughter to her peers and her teachers. Addi makes school a blast.



Lowell JR High Student of the Month

Angelina Anderson

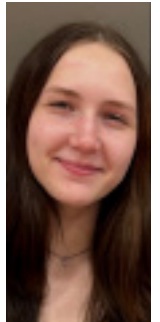
Favorite Food: Chicken Fettuccine
Favorite Song: "Party In The USA" by Miley Cyrus
Favorite Subject: History
Future Profession: Social Psychologist
Reason For Nomination: She is an excellent student who is not only focused and on-task in class, but she is incredibly kind and frequently goes out of her way to help others in class. She has a bright future ahead of her and certainly exemplifies excellence at Lowell Jr/Sr High. Angie will do great things in life because she has a drive that cannot be taught.



BCA Student of the Month

Caroline Deiner

Favorite Food: Chicken and Rice
Favorite Song: "The Diner" by Billie Eilish
Favorite Subject: Language Arts
Future Profession: Hair Stylist
Reason For Nomination: Caroline was nominated for demonstrating outstanding teamwork this month. Great job, Caroline.



Lowell High Student of the Month

Henley Gardner

Favorite Food: Tacos
Favorite Song: "No One Like You" by The Scorpions
Favorite Subject: Math
Future Profession: Rocket Scientist
Reason For Nomination: Henley is one of my best students across all of my classes. His ability to avoid distractions and excel at the task at hand is phenomenal and rarely seen in someone his age.



2nd Annual
**City of Lowell
Christmas Parade &
Tree Lighting**
Parade @ 4pm - December 7 @ 5pm



ROLLING ROCK PARK
Music, Cookies, Hot Chocolate,
Santa and Mrs. Claus
Community, and More!

Contact the City for further information.



Santa is coming to town!
**Stomping Grounds
Coffee Shop**

113 E Main St in downtown Lowell.

December 14th & 15th

Noon to 3:00 pm

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

Cost: \$10 for individual

\$15 for two

\$20 for three or more!

Pets are welcome too.

Price includes a candy cane and a small gift from Santa

All proceeds will go to Lowell Girls Basketball

Thank you for your donation!

OSU Forestry & Nat. Resources Ext. offers Ties to the Land webinar series

The Forestry and Natural Resources Extension program at OSU will be holding a Ties to the Land Lunch & Learn Webinar Series, from November 19, 2024, to January 7, 2025.

Ties to the Land is an educational program for rural landowners who are considering how to pass on their land or associated business to future owners. The program materials help participants think through the social, financial and legal aspects of succession planning. Done properly, a succession plan will consider your goals, your family members' needs, and the legal process for transferring your land or business while considering taxes.

The Ties to the Land Lunch & Learn Webinar Series includes four sessions from 12–1 pm on Tuesdays, and participants can register for as many of the sessions as they like. Dates and topics are as follows:

- Nov 19: Options for succession of land
- Dec 10: Family meetings
- Dec 17: Unexpected partner loss
- Jan 7: Professionals viewpoint on ownership options

The fee is \$15 per class, or \$50 for the whole series (a \$10 discount). Pre-registration is required. To register or learn more, visit <https://beav.es/ties> or contact Carrie Mack at 541-237-6808 or carrie.mack@oregonstate.edu.

Nutcracker Ballet

*The performance is Saturday
December 14th at 6 PM in the
Lowell Grange.*

*Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children between 4-14. Under
4 are free.*

*Come experience Christmas magic, while
watching the classic
Nutcracker Ballet from the Delight in
Dance students!*



*We are looking for volunteers that enjoy
working with children/setting up and taking
down events. If you're interested please
contact Meg at 458-205-1212.*

Fun Facts

The greeting 'Merry Christmas' is an *oxymoron*, as a mass (from the Old English *Christemasse* or *Christ's mass*) is not 'cheerful and lively.'

The word 'oxymoron' is *autological* (expressing a property that it also possesses), coming from the Greek *oksus* for 'sharp' and *moros* for 'dull' — combined as 'sharp-dullness.'

After J.R.R. Tolkien, whose *Letters from Father Christmas* has been suggested influenced his own *Lord of the Rings*, interpreted his surname as a German equivalent of the Greek *oxymoron* (Low German *dull-keen*, High German *kühn*).

Active Fall for LHS Musicians, Winter Concerts Coming Soon

Lowell Music was well-represented in this year's OMEA District 10 Honor Choir, with 17 total singers participating in the special all-star event on November 14th. This included: seniors Sophie Anderson, Jada Cantrell, Paul Clark, Emma Cobiskey, Cora Green, and Cheyanne McNamee; juniors Ciaran Burch, Liam Burch, Mila Dahl, Alex Sotomayor, and Josh Walker; freshmen Kylie Greer, Ceilidh McNichols, Eric Sotomayor, and Nate Waters; and junior highers Paxton Fassbender and Gemma Parris.

See these amazing singers and more at LHS's upcoming winter concerts. **The show for all Jr/Sr High School Band & Choir students (grades 7-12th) will take place on Tuesday, December 17th, at 7pm in the LHS Cafetorium.** Lundy K-5 and all Beginning-Band students will perform two nights later on Thursday, December 19th (also 7pm in the LHS Cafetorium). We hope to see you there.



LHS Musicians sing their hearts out in the D10 Senior Honor Choir



“City Beat” by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

To my fellow Lowellians:

At the November 5, 2024 City Council meeting, I turned in my resignation. The reason for my departure is that the City of Dayton, Oregon has selected me to be their next City Manager. My last day with Lowell will be December 5, 2024.

On Christmas Eve of 2020, I arrived in Oregon. Two days earlier, I had started the nearly 1,200-mile drive from Colorado’s Western Slope, where I was living at the time. When I arrived, Oregon was at the height of the COVID-19 restrictions. Social gatherings were limited to six people. Restaurants provided take-out only. The city staff and I kept our six feet of distancing, and we wore masks. City Hall was closed to the public. It’s amazing how much has changed since then and how quickly the time has passed. When I joined Lowell as your City Administrator, the Crestview Estates subdivision was still vacant land. Now it, along with the Sunset Hills subdivision, have been completely built out. We built a new, modern City Hall and library, and we hired our first ever professional Library Director. We invested in our infrastructure, and we implemented a new development code to align with the “Downtown Master Plan” that was adopted prior to my arrival. The list goes on. Lowell is in a strong position, and the future is bright.

Our success is due to the hard-working team members who serve this community every day with diligence: our staff, volunteers, committee members, and City Council. In my 13 years’ experience in local government, this is the best team I’ve ever had the privilege of serving.

Until the City Council finds a permanent replacement, Public Works Director Max Baker will be serving as Interim City Administrator. The city will be in good hands under his expe-

rienced, capable leadership. Max and I have been working together since my announcement to ensure a seamless transition.

Thank you for your trust and support. Serving the Lowell community has been a meaningful experience, and I’m proud of all we have accomplished together.

Call For Applications to Serve on City Committees

The City has vacancies or expiring terms on the following committees. Committee service is an excellent way to give back to the City and to ensure your voice is being heard. For information, please contact City Hall at 541-937-2157, in person, or by email to sdragt@ci.lowell.or.us.

- Library Committee – 2 positions
- Budget Committee – 4 positions
- Blackberry Jam Festival Comm. – 2 positions
- Parks and Recreation Comm. – 2 positions
- Planning Commission – 3 positions

To apply, complete a volunteer application, which you can obtain at City Hall or online at the following link:

ci.lowell.or.us/administration/page/volunteer-boards-commission-application

Submit completed applications by email to sdragt@ci.lowell.or.us, in person at City Hall, or by mail to PO Box 490, Lowell, OR 97452. The deadline for full consideration is December 16 at 4:00 pm.

Important Information Regarding Lead and Copper Testing

The City conducts routine lead and copper testing of residents’ drinking water in compliance with the EPA’s “Lead and Copper Rule” (LCR). Every three years, we test water from 10

high-risk homes, identified based on plumbing age and materials, to monitor for lead and copper levels. In the city's latest testing, lead levels exceeded the EPA's "action level," meaning we must take steps to reduce potential lead exposure.

The City's surface water, sourced from Dexter Reservoir, does not contain detectable levels of lead. Instead, the primary source of lead exposure in drinking water comes from the plumbing within homes and businesses. Lead can leach into water from lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures, especially in older buildings.

The City is sending more information in November's utility bills, including steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water. You can also find more information online at the following link:

ci.lowell.or.us/publicworks/page/important-information-regarding-lead-and-copper-testing

Upcoming meetings

Meeting details available here:

December 3 – City Council @ 7:00 pm

December 5 – Parks Committee @ 7:00 pm

December 17 – Blackberry Jam Festival Committee @ 7:00 pm

December 17 – City Council @ 7:00 pm

<https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/calendar/month/2024-12>

The meeting dates above are tentative. Some meetings may be cancelled or rescheduled due to the upcoming holiday season. Check the city website to confirm meeting dates.

Meetings will take place at the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District station unless otherwise noted.

Maggie Osgood Library Hours

Tue 9:30 am - 3:00 pm (10:30 am Lap Sit Story Hour, 1:00 pm Adult Crafting Time)

Wed 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Thu 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Sat 10:00 am - 1:00 pm (10:30 am Crafts and Stories)

Closed Mondays, Fridays & Sundays

The library will be closed Wed. Dec 25, 2024, and Wed. Jan 1, 2025.

The Holidays Are Coming

On Sat Dec. 7th the library will change its hours to 1-4pm to support the annual tree lighting. There will be crafts for all ages. You can leave your cars at the Library parking lot to walk over to the activities at Rolling Rock Park.

Don't forget the Library Wish List:

thingstogetme.com/1074861a09b6f

Bricks and Honor

Many members of this community donated to building the Maggie Osgood Library. Those who donated \$100 or more were eligible to have a brick made. We have begun installing the bricks in front of the library. If you see Tony Moreci, thank him for his hard work on this project.

New Tutoring Service

Beginning in January 2025 we will be offering a free tutoring service. Ann Wopat, a professionally trained tutor, will be setting up a schedule. Details will appear in the January Bridge as well as on the library's web page.

Winter Wednesday Talk Series

We will once again have speakers every Wednesday from 1:30-2:30pm at the library. I have begun to collect ideas of topics and speakers. Please send me your suggestions.

Library Contacts:

pokane@ci.lowell.or.us

ci.lowell.or.us/library

The Bridge — Making Community Connections

Lowell School District #71

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Lowell, OR 97452

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www.lowell.k12.or.us



POSTAL CUSTOMER
LOWELL/FALL CREEK



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

M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
2	3 7pm City Council at Fire Hall	4	5 7pm Parks Committee at Fire Hall	6 6pm Texas Holdem Poker at Grange	7 4pm Christmas Parade at Rolling Rock	8
9	10 2pm Food Pantry/Clothing Bank at 4 Lakeview St.	11	12	13	14 6pm Nutcracker Ballet at Grange	15
16	17 7pm City Council at Fire Hall 7pm Blackberry Jam Committee at Library	18	19	20	21 6pm Texas Holdem Poker at Grange	22
23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29 8am Breakfast at Grange
30	31 New Years Eve	1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5

December '24

Complete and up-to-date sports schedules, Varsity and JV, can be found online:

lowell.k12.or.us/athletics/