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New Mayor Elected

At the first meeting of each odd numbered year, the council elects a Mayor and Council President from its membership as specified in the City of Lowell charter. These positions are for two-year terms. At their January 7, 2025 meeting, Maureen Weathers was elected to serve as Mayor. Jimmy Murray was elected to serve as Council President.

Plant Pruning Course Offered

Lane County Master Gardeners are offering public pruning classes this winter and spring. Participants will learn of pruning tools and care of tools. The classes include techniques to prune specific types of trees and ornamentals. Master Gardeners are eager to share their knowledge and experience with participants. They want their class experience to be interactive, fun, and educational.

Class details are available online. Pre-registration required:

extension.oregonstate.edu/county/lane/events

Contact the OSU Extension Service – Lane County Office at 541-344-5859. Or visit 996 Jefferson Street, Eugene (enter on 10th at the wheelchair ramp). The Extension Service is online:

extension.oregonstate.edu/lane

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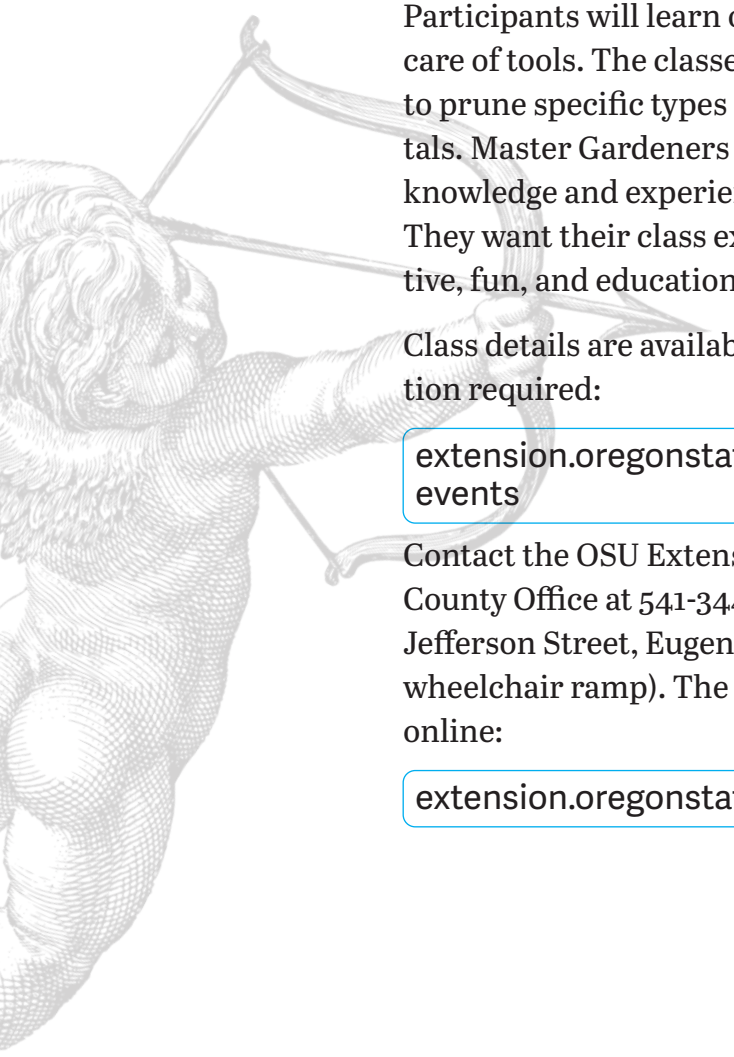
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Fun Facts

The third most spoken language in Oregon is Russian (русский язык).

In Wisconsin, the third most spoken language is HMoob of Southeast Asia.

In HMoob cultures, “jacket” and “placenta” are the same word. The Hmong people believe that the placenta is a spiritual jacket that a baby wears when it enters the world. It is a person’s first and best garment.





FALL ALL-STATE HONORS

We are thrilled to celebrate two exceptional athletes from our football team, junior David Finch and senior JaMar Thurman, who have been named to the All-State team for their outstanding performances during the season. Their hard work, dedication, and talent have earned them well-deserved recognition as two of the best in the state.

David Finch – 2nd Team All-State Offensive Line

JaMar Thurman – 2nd Team All-State Running Back

This recognition is a remarkable achievement for both David and JaMar, and we couldn't be more proud of them. Their success is a direct result of their perseverance, and love for the game of football. Once again, congratulations to David Finch and JaMar Thurman on this incredible accomplishment!

JUNIOR HIGH BOYS BASKETBALL



Our **junior high boys' basketball** team is led by Jacob McCart and assisted by Rob Miles. Athletes (pictured above) include 8th graders Brenten Davies, Landen Omlin, Taylor Sheridan, and Easton Slabaugh; and 7th graders Cooper Aldinger, Bryson Dobson, Holden Garner, Jaxon Garrelts, Jayson Islas, Malachi Kelso, Christopher Sheridan, Bryson Smith, and Marshall Thronburg.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these big events in February:

- February 4** Wrestling Senior Night before 5:00 home duals
- February 7** Basketball Youth Sport Night at halftime of the 5:30/7:00 home games
- February 11** Senior Night before the start of the 7:30 girls basketball game
- February 14-15** HS Girls District Wrestling at Cottage Grove High School
- February 18, 20, 22** HS Basketball League Playoffs, time and location TBD
- February 22** HS Boys District Wrestling at Oakridge High School at 10:00
- February 24** 8th Grade Night between the A and B games beginning at 4:30
- February 27-March 1** HS Wrestling State at Veterans Memorial Coliseum

Students of the Month

MVA Student of the Month

Cooper Aldinger

Favorite Food: Cafe Yumm Bowls

Favorite Song: Country

Favorite Subject: Math

Future Profession: Radiation

oncologist or something else in the medical field

Reason For Nomination: Cooper was nominated by all teachers in our middle school. He is reliable, responsible, and gives his best effort. Cooper is a role model. He is thoughtful and he manages his time well. Congratulations, Cooper.



Lundy Student of the Month

Blake Chesnut

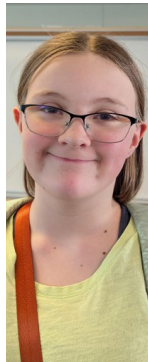
Favorite Food: Noodles and soup

Favorite Song: "Arabian Nights" by Bruce Adler

Favorite Subject: Math

Future Profession: Writer

Reason For Nomination: Blake is a hard worker, positive attitude, responsible and an all around awesome student.



Lowell Musicians Shine Among the Best in Oregon

Each year, the top high school musicians statewide are selected by audition for the Oregon Music Educators Association All-State Band and Choir. Lowell was fortunate to have five such young people chosen for this amazing honor: Liam Burch (junior/trombone), Emma Cobiskey (senior/alto voice), Alex Sotomayor (junior/bass voice), Eric Sotomayor (freshman/clarinet), and Nate Waters (freshman/tenor voice). Liam and Eric were two of only eighteen 2A/1A players selected out of 300 for all divisions. Meanwhile, our three singers were the only students — again, out of 300 overall — selected from a public small school such as ours. For those able to participate in the program, they spent three days living and breathing music together in Eugene, rehearsing for up to 16 hours under some of the

Lowell JR High Student of the Month

Marshall Thronburg

Favorite Food: Watermelon

Favorite Song: "Kickstart My Heart" by Motley Crue

Favorite Subject: History

Future Profession: Historian

Reason For Nomination: Marshall is a model student, always hardworking, kind, and respectful in and out of the classroom. He is an outstanding contributor in classes, and his quiet demeanor and openness to learning set a positive example for peers.



BCA Student of the Month

Ally Henton

Favorite Food: Pasta

Favorite Song: "My Lighthouse" by Rend Collective

Favorite Subject: Science

Future Profession: Veterinarian

Reason For Nomination: Ally was nominated for the character trait of gratitude this month. Great job, Ally.



best music directors in the country. This culminated in two remarkable concerts on January 19th, and memories that will last a lifetime.

Up next for Lowell Music is the District 10 Honor Band event, hosted by Douglas High School on February 5th. The four boys mentioned above will be joined by seniors Paul Clark and Lizzy Green-Jolley, and juniors Ciaran Burch, David Finch, and Josh Walker, as they collaborate with the best musicians in Douglas County for more high-level music making. Junior highers Lukas Burdick, Yareli Delgado, Alexis Owsley, Zuzana Murray, and Gemma Parris will also be attending as part of the Jr. Honor Band. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the free culminating concert that evening at 7:00pm in the Douglas HS Gymnasium.

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February '25

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4:30pm Junior High Boys Basketball at Lowell

4

2pm Food Pantry/Clothing Bank at 4 Lakeview St.

4pm JV & V Boys & Girls Basketball at Lost River

5pm Wrestling at Lowell

7pm City Council at Fire Hall

5

4:30 Junior High Boys Basketball at Central Linn

6

7pm Parks Commi

10

4:30pm Junior High Boys Basketball at Lowell

11

4:30pm JV & V Boys & Girls Basketball at Oakridge

7pm Blackberry Jam Committee at Fire Hall

12

Full Moon

6pm Wrestling at Pleasant Hill

13

4:30 Jr High Boys Basketball at Creswell

17

18

2pm Food Pantry/Clothing Bank at 4 Lakeview St.

7pm City Council at Fire Hall

19

4:30 Jr High Boys Basketball at Monroe

20

24

4:30pm Junior High Boys Basketball at Lowell

25

26

4pm Junior High Boys Basketball at Eugene Christian

27

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

lowell.k12.or.us/athletics/



F	Sa	Su
	1	2 8am Breakfast at Grange
7 Tee at Fire Hall 4pm JV & V Boys & Girls Basketball at Trinity Lutheran 6pm Texas Hold'em Poker at Grange	8 10am Wrestling at LaPine	9
14 Basketball at 4pm JV & V Boys & Girls Basketball at Culver Wrestling at Cottage Grove	15 Wrestling at Cottage Grove	16
21 2pm Wrestling at Oakridge	22 10am Wrestling at Oakridge Varsity Boys & Girls Basketball at Bonanza 6pm Texas Hold'em Poker at Grange	23
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The 2025 OMEA All-State Symphonic Band working hard in rehearsal. Can you spot the Red Devils in the group?

OSU Extension and 4-H To Hold Adulthood 101 Life Skills Series

The Oregon State University Extension Service welcomes the public to *Adulthood 101*. This ten-part workshop series will teach valuable skills to prepare for adulthood. Topics include self-defense, budgeting, career readiness and more. *Adulthood 101* is a 4-H life skills series for youth ages 12-18. These sessions provide a safe environment for young people to learn about adulthood. The group will address stresses and fears surrounding getting older.

Adulthood 101 will take place on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings. Dates are from February 3rd to March 8th. Location is OSU 996 Jefferson Street in Eugene.

The schedule is varied:

Monday, Feb. 3 - Food Preservation 101
Saturday, Feb. 8 - Self Defense 101 @ Willamette RMA
Monday, Feb. 10 - Budgeting 101 with DevNW
Saturday, Feb. 15 - Car Basics 101
Monday, Feb. 17 - Emergency Preparedness 101
Saturday, Feb. 22 - CPR & First Aid Training
Monday, Feb. 24 - Mental Health & Wellbeing 101
Saturday, March 1 - Self Defense 102 @ Willamette RMA
Monday, March 3 - Career Readiness 101
Saturday, March 8 - Kitchen Basics 101

More information about Adulthood 101 is available:

beav.es/G8M

Or call OSU Extension – Lane County Office at 541-344-5859. Or Elizabeth Gangwer at 541-344-4811 or

Elizabeth.Gangwer@oregonstate.edu

Fire Protection Funding Levy Proposed

It has been 22 years since Lowell Fire went out to the community for a request of funds to improve the fire station. Since that time Lowell Fire has not asked for more funding. Over the last few years, we have seen a change in revenues-to-expenses ratio. We know that

you as a community member have also faced this. We have worked hard and with diligence to reduce expenses. We have reduced costs in building maintenance and equipment maintenance, where we can. We have limited purchasing equipment. The last few years we have seen expenses increasing 3% to 12%, with revenue only increasing around 2% to 3%. We have been hopeful that things would level out, but they have not.

We are asking the community for an affirmative vote on a funding ballot measure. The measure to support your fire services would amount to \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. Example: a \$400,000 market value has a \$220,000 assessed value and would be an \$330 tax increase. You can find your values from your annual tax statement.

This proposed tax levy would be a five-year request. Over those years, it would bring in important funds for community safety: 2025/2026 – \$347,052; 2026/2027 – \$353,993; 2027/2028 – \$361,073; 2028/2029 – \$368,294; 2029/2030 – \$375,660 for a total of \$1,806,072 over the term of the levy. The costs for this measure are estimates. They are from the best information available from the county assessor. They may reflect early payment discounts, compression, and the collection rate.

These funds maintain our current levels of fire protection and emergency medical services. They support a maintenance program for property and equipment. We invite you to come to the station with any questions around the current budget and what we are facing. Informational meetings are forthcoming soon. We provide you the necessary information to make an informed decision.

If you have questions, I encourage you to reach out to me, Chief Dragt at 541-937-3393 or at the station 389 N Pioneer Street Lowell between 8am and 4 pm.

Save the Date for Hall of Fame Event October 4th

The 2024/2025 Hall of Fame Celebration and Banquet will be on Saturday, October 4th. Venue will be the Lowell High School Cafeteria. Invitations mailed next summer. You're encouraged to email your address to

aaf@lowell.k12.or.us

or phone 541-954-5765 for addition to the list. Don't miss out on this fun opportunity to connect with old and new friends.

The event organizers are Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation. The foundation builds positive relationships between the Lowell School District and our community. The foundation supports students' academic, athletic, and artistic achievements within the District's boundaries.

The Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Tax deductible donations appreciated year-round. Mail the foundation at 65 S. Pioneer Street Lowell OR 97452. If you have auction items you would like to donate to the cause, please leave a message at 541-954-5765.

Call for Applications to Serve on City Committees

The City has vacancies on the committees listed below. Committee service is an excellent way to give back to your city and to ensure your voice is being heard. For information, please contact City Hall at 541-937-2157, in person, or by email:

sdragt@ci.lowell.or.us

Library Committee – 2 positions

Budget Committee – 3 positions

Blackberry Jam Festival Committee – 2 positions

Planning Commission – 3 positions

To apply, complete a volunteer application. Get an application at City Hall or online:

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, 70 N. Pioneer Street; or by mail to PO Box 490, Lowell, OR 97452.

November Election Certifications

The City of Lowell has issued the Certificates of Election for the results of the General Election held on November 5, 2024:

City Councilor Position 2 – Jimmy Murray – elected to a 4-year term

City Councilor Position 3 – Maureen Weathers – elected to a 4-year term

City Councilor Position 5 – Gail Harris – elected to a 4-year term

Supporting the Library

The Maggie Osgood Library will be two years old this month. To celebrate we are re-opening the Brick Donation Capitol Campaign. Donate \$100 to the library during February 2025 and we will add a brick to our patio. The Bricks can be "In Honor of" someone or something. They can also be "In Memory of" someone or something.

On Saturday March 8 we will hold a community dinner at the Grange to raise money for books. The menu will include roast chicken, a variety of sides, and desserts. Entertainment will include celebrity readers sharing short works of their own choice. We will also have gift baskets and prizes to raffle. If you would like to donate a prize, a dessert or otherwise help out, please contact Tony Moreci or Peggy O'Kane.

The Bridge — Making Community Connections
Lowell School District #71
65 S. Pioneer St.
Lowell, OR 97452
Ph. 541-937-8405 — Fax 541-937-8709
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. Email The Bridge at bridge@lowell.k12.or.us

ENROLLMENT FOR 2025 - 2026 FEBRUARY 1ST - 15TH

- Monday - Thursday school week. week. Hours: 7:50am - 3:05pm
- Monthly field trips (Friday).
- \$250 activity fee covers all school supplies, elective materials, shirts, and field trips.
- Tours available throughout January!**

CONTACT US TO
SCHEDULE A TOUR:
541-735-1709

LHS Drama's 2024-2025 Winter Production of
"The Day the Internet Died"
HAS BEEN CAST

CAST LIST:
(9 actors playing 35 parts, with 0 understudies currently)

Summer Rose -----> Mayor, Shelly, Sandra, & Tori
Bethany Silebi -----> Nina, Jasmine, Harriet, & Alicia
Colette Smith -----> Sheriff, Jenny, Maria, & Crystal
Jaxon Ganieany -----> Herbert, Connor, Cole, & Kurt
Keslee Smith -----> Betty, Mindy, Mr. Timms, & Announcer
Danya Hollenberry -----> Agnes, Stan, Buck, & Isaac
Callie Neet -----> Derek, Clarice, Bill, & Jess
Sammy Gray -----> Joe, Barista, Peter, & Erica
Devi Walklin -----> Carla, Joyce, & Jules

Public performances are March 6-8 at 7pm.
Mark your calendar.

Maggy 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 and Sundays. The library will be closed on Tuesday February 17 for President's Day.

Check out February's book displays. We are participating in Blind Date with a Book and African American History month.

Don't forget the Library Wish List:

thingstogetme.com/1074861a09b6f

Our Wednesday and Saturday tutoring sessions have begun. If you know a child who wants to read with more fluency, please drop by the library. Tutoring sessions are Wednesdays 3-5pm and Saturdays 10:30am-1pm.