



The Bridge

Making community connections

Blackberry Jam Festival

* Music * Food * Fun *

July 24, 25, 26

The Bridge

Volume 18, Issue 1

July 2015

The **21st Annual Blackberry Jam Festival** kicks off on Friday, July 24th, at Rolling Rock Park in downtown Lowell. This all-volunteer community event has something for everyone.

On Friday night come check out the vendors beginning at 5:00 p.m., then grab a plate of delicious food to sit down and enjoy the music. **See the full Entertainment Schedule on page 7.**

In addition to our returning events, a couple new events have been added. On Saturday starting at 10:30 a.m. check out the **Antique Tractor and Wooden Boat Show** at the corner of Moss and Main Streets. Also on Saturday at that same location, enjoy the **Springfield Police K9 Unit Demonstration** at 1:00 p.m.. Also, we welcome back a 5K run with the **Devils Dam Dash** on Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. Other special events include **Lane Blood Bank's** blood drive on Saturday from 11am until 4pm, and free dental screenings and kids' teeth cleanings provided by **Caring Hands Worldwide** all three days (both are located behind the main stage).

On both Saturday and Sunday, the **Fishing Derby** begins at daylight and from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. each day, the Creswell RC Flyers will present their **2nd Annual Float Fly**, a radio controlled aviation event at the Lowell Marina. The **Quilt Show** begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday and runs through Sunday. Don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets to win a beautiful quilt made by the local Pine Needlers group. Set your lawn chairs up around town for the ever popular **Parade** that begins at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday. **Grand Marshals Ken & Darlene McGee** will be recognized on the Main Stage at 12:45 p.m. The **7th Annual Car Jam** classic car show begins Saturday at noon on the high school football field.

Sunday's events in the Park include the 5K run, **Dr. Delusions Illusions** zany magic show for kids of all ages, followed by the **Pie Eating and Pie Baking** contests. For \$1 you can compete for bragging rights, plus eat some tasty pie. In between all these events are many others including the **Kidz Korner, Greased Pole Climb, Coins in the Hay, Crawl Squirt and Drag Contest** and more!

Check out the full schedule at www.blackberryjamfestival.com.

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FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

Keep It Safe This July 4th

The Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM), Oregon fire service, Keep Oregon Green, natural resource agencies, Oregon fireworks wholesalers, and safety experts encourage Oregonians to "Keep it Legal and Keep it Safe" when using fireworks. The 2015 Oregon fireworks sales season opens Monday, June 23 and runs through Sunday, July 5. The OSFM and their partners want everyone to know what fireworks are legal in Oregon, where they are permitted, and the important steps to take for fireworks safety.

"People often forget that legal fireworks can only be purchased from Oregon permitted fireworks retailers and stands," says State Fire Marshal Jim Walker. "And, regulations limit where those fireworks may be used. For example, fireworks are prohibited on all Oregon beaches, in parks, and campgrounds." July 4th holiday forest visitors are advised to leave all fireworks at home. The use of fireworks is prohibited on all national forestland, and most other public lands. "Fireworks compound the threat to already dry forests," states Keep Oregon Green President Kristin Babbs. "Enjoy fireworks where they belong: on the pavement, safely away from houses, vehicles, and flammable vegetation."

Oregon law bans possession, use, or sale of fireworks that fly, explode, or travel more than six feet on the ground or 12 inches into the air. Fireworks commonly called bottle rockets, Roman Candles, and firecrackers are ILLEGAL in Oregon.

There were 165 reported fireworks-related fires in Oregon during 2014, resulting in 33 injuries and more than \$178,000 in property damage. Over the past five years, from 2010 through 2014, there were 839 reported fireworks-related fires in Oregon resulting in one death, 159 civilian injuries, and more than \$3.9 million in property damage. Officials may seize illegal fireworks and fine offenders up to \$1,000 per violation. Those who misuse fireworks or allow fireworks to cause damage are liable and may be required to pay fire suppression costs or other damage. Parents are also liable for fireworks damage caused by their children.

"All Oregonians share the responsibility to use only legal fireworks and use them carefully," adds Walker. "And we encourage you to be aware and considerate of neighbors and their pets, before deciding on when and where you choose to light fireworks."

The OSFM encourages everyone to use the four B's of safe fireworks use:

- * Be Prepared before lighting fireworks: keep water available by using a garden hose or bucket.
- * Be Safe when lighting fireworks: keep children and pets away from fireworks.
- * Be Responsible after lighting fireworks: never relight a dud. Wait 15 to 20 minutes then soak it in a bucket of water before disposal.
- * Be Aware: use only legal fireworks and use them only in legal places.

The four B's of fireworks safety brochure is available here:
http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Licensing_permits/fireworks/4BesFireworks.pdf.

More fireworks information is available at:
http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Licensing_Fireworks_Home.shtml



Residential Burn Season Is Now Closed

The Residential backyard burn season is closed so outdoor burning of yard debris is prohibited until October 2015.

Recreational (campfire) burning is allowed under controlled conditions. The ground must be cleared of all combustible material with a fire ring or shelter no larger than nine square feet surrounding the recreational fire. Flames may not extend greater than 3 feet above fuel. Fuel (wood) must be clean and dry to reduce the production of smoke. The burning of building materials or yard debris for a recreational fire is prohibited. Person(s) must be present at all times during burning and fire must clearly be utilized for recreational purposes only. In regulated use areas, campfires may require a permit through the Oregon Department of Forestry.

When the fire danger reaches the high to extreme range, recreational fires may also be prohibited. For more information contact the District office at 541-937-3393 or the Oregon Department of Forestry at 541-726-3588.

Firefighter Attends National Fire Academy Training Course

Lieutenant Bob Graham recently attended a National Fire Academy Training Course held in Emmitsburg, Maryland on the campus of the National Fire Academy. The course “Challenges for Local Training Officers”, provided cutting edge information and was presented by nationally known instructors.

The National Fire Academy (NFA) is operated by the US Fire Administration under the Federal Emergency Management Agency and is responsible for providing educational resources to America’s fire and emergency services. On-campus lodging is provided at the Academy for the weeklong course. The lodging and transportation are provided by the NFA. The only cost to the District was for meals.



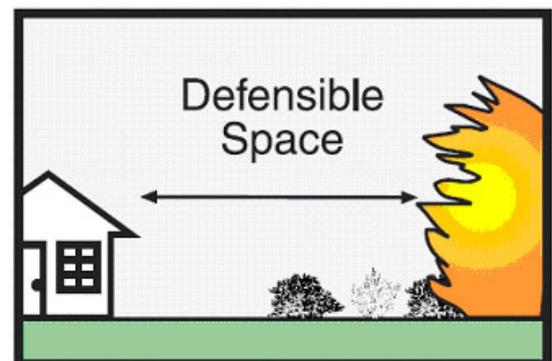
The information and training Lt. Graham received will be utilized to enhance our local fire and EMS training programs and will be an extremely valuable tool for future training program development.

Wildfire Prevention Checklist

It looks like summer is here with temperatures rising quickly, so remember to prepare your home and property for the possibility of wildfire. Here is how you can prevent wildfire on your property. There are some fairly easy things you can do to help make your home and outbuildings safe from wildfire. Review this checklist to help make your home wildfire safe. For more information on wildfire prevention practices, go to the District website or visit our main station in Lowell, 389 North Pioneer Street.

- ◆ Is your address clearly visible from the road? If you need an address marker, the district can provide one. Contact the district office.
- ◆ Is your driveway/roadway clear of obstructions; can a fire engine or other emergency vehicles get to your home? Driveways/roadway surfaces need to be at least 12 feet wide and have at least 13 ½ feet height clearance so the emergency vehicles can get to your home. Curves must be of adequate dimension to allow for emergency vehicle clearance, and there must be room for vehicles to turn around.
- ◆ Remove limbs and branches that overhang your roof. Prune lower limbs to a height of 15 feet and thin trees or remove them from within 30 feet of your home.
- ◆ Keep your roof and gutters free of debris, leaves, needles, small branches and moss.
- ◆ Keep woodpiles, firewood and other combustibles at least 30 feet from you home and out buildings.
- ◆ Block off openings under your home and decks with solid sheeting or fine-mesh wire, 1/8th inch metal screen works best. Screen attic vents and louvers also.
- ◆ Use only fire resistive roofing on all buildings. Class A asphalt shingles, metal to tile.
- ◆ Develop an escape plan and an emergency action plan. If a wildfire occurs near your home, you should have a plan for evacuation that includes important personal items and escape routes. Build an emergency evacuation kit that you can easily take with you if you are asked to evacuate your property in an emergency.

**For more information contact the
District office at 541-937-3393
or go to www.lowellfiredistrict.org.**



LOWELL SCHOOLS: We're on the *Move...*

School Volunteers Honored

On June 10th Lundy Elementary School used their student awards ceremony to honor the many volunteers who helped our students and teachers have a successful school year. This year we had volunteers who taught writing lessons, art lessons, created the Lundy Yearbook and helped with the spring musical. Additionally, many parents volunteered their time in the classroom to help students and teachers and participated as chaperones on school fieldtrips. This year, students in grades K-6 participated in a total of 33 fieldtrips all requiring parental support. Our parent volunteers also helped with a movie-night fundraising event and our newly formed PTO made special graduation gifts for our seniors.

At the high school level, parents and community volunteers helped with chaperoning overnight events, school dances, fieldtrips, and ASPIRE mentors helped students apply for college admission and scholarships. Indeed our parents, grandparents, and Lowell community members are amazing people. Lowell Jr./Sr. High School and Lundy Elementary extend our thanks and gratitude for our wonderful volunteers whose contributions are immeasurable.



Lowell Music Finishes Another Outstanding Year

Thanks to the dedication of our many talented young musicians, Lowell Music achieved another banner year in 2014-2015. The year wrapped up with well-received local concerts on May 26th (Choral) and June 2nd (Band), and this year included Lundy Elementary's first Spring Musical (May 28th), which also met with great acclaim! Overall, when considering the percentage of involvement (grades 6-12), OSAA rankings (for Choir), and head-to-head results in state-qualifying competition (for Band), Lowell Music once more finishes the year as arguably the best 1A/2A public music program in the state of Oregon.

Next year, we expect record numbers to be involved once again, and will be in need of additional wind instruments for our students. Do you have an old trumpet or clarinet or the like sitting in a closet somewhere? Or, could you help the program financially? Consider a tax deductible donation to the school! Any and all help is greatly appreciated, as it really is the community that helps make our program a success. Thank you to all who have already been supporting us along the way, and look for more hard work and great results from Lowell Music in 2015-2016.

Mark your calendars for
Back-to-School Night
Tuesday, September 8th

Watch for more details next month!

2015-16 School Year Registration Dates Set

Registration for Lundy Elementary and Lowell Junior/Senior High School will be Tuesday, August 11th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Wednesday, August 12th from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Registration forms will be available on the Lowell School District website or you can pick them up in the Lundy and Lowell Jr/Sr High School offices starting August 4th. They will also be available at registration.

Volleyball Activities this Summer

Beginning July 7th, Coach Kristen Prenevost invites all Lowell volleyball players to meet in the high school parking lot on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. for fun hikes.

Coach Prenevost will also be having volleyball open gyms at the Willamalane Sports Center on Sunday, July 12 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. for current players (incoming freshmen—incoming seniors); Sunday, July 19th from 3:30-5:30 p.m. for current players and alumni; and Sunday, July 26th from 3:30-5:30 p.m. for current players. If you need a ride, let Kristen or Julie know. A huge thank you to the Trimble family for providing the gym time to the girls.

In August, Sunday open gym times at the high school will resume, which will be open to everyone.

Also for current volleyball players (incoming freshmen through incoming seniors), there is a free, voluntary boot camp with Julie Valencia on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8:30-9:15 a.m. at the Lowell Marina.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

If you live in the Lowell School District boundaries and have a child under the age of 5, you can sign up for this wonderful program that delivers high quality books each month to your home—for FREE! The **Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation** is sponsoring this program designed to begin at a child's one month birthday (or whenever they sign up) and continue until their 5th birthday.

Forms are available at Lowell Community Preschool, Lundy Elementary and Mountain View Charter School. It's simple and quick to sign up. What a great way to build a library for your preschooler! So far we have 15 children enrolled and are looking for more to share this wonderful program with.

The Foundation is also accepting more donations to fund this program as it grows. If you are interested in learning more, please call Maggie at 541-937-3759.



Thank you Jeri Jo & Mike Legault!

For years the Legaults have hosted an annual Lowell School reunion at their home in Fall Creek, but the time has come for them to discontinue hosting this tradition. We want to recognize all their efforts over the years to bring alumni and friends together.

Through the Alumni & Friends Association and this newsletter, we hope to continue to provide opportunities for former Lowell students, staff, parents and friends to get together and continue building support for Lowell Schools and our community.

Lowell Reunions Planned

The **Class of 1965** will celebrate their 50th class reunion on Friday, July 24th at Armando's Restaurant in Lowell at 5:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Warren Weathers at 541-937-3738.

An **All Class Reunion** tent will be set up at the Homecoming football game on Friday, October 16th, the night before the Hall of Fame Celebration Banquet. No advance notice of attendance is required. Come swap stories, reconnect with old friends and experience another fun Lowell homecoming.

If your class has a reunion planned, please contact the school at 541-937-2124 or aaf@lowell.k12.or.us so we can get the word out!

1st Annual Hall of Fame Honorees Selected

The 1st Annual Alumni & Friends Association Hall of Fame Celebration banquet will be honoring the following inductees on Saturday, October 17th. They are:

Donna Erickson—Small Schools Teacher of the Year for the state of Oregon in 1989.

Jerry Dilley—National Wrestling Coach of the Year in 1989, as well as coaching many State Champions and Championship teams.

1961 Boys Basketball Team—First Lowell basketball team to earn a State title. Team members included: Robert Craft, Dave and Terry Bainbridge, Tim and Tom Simdars, Al McDaniel, John Mullen, Lawrence Dixon, Lynn Mohr and Brent Drury; Coach Dick Garrett; and Team Manager Quinton Powell.

Thank you to all who submitted nominees for our first inductees. Other nominees, and new ones, will be considered in future years.

Invitations to this celebration will be mailing soon. Tickets will be sold in advance and not be available at the door. If you are an Alumnus or Friend of Lowell School District, please make sure we have your contact information so you don't miss out on important events like this. You can email aaf@lowell.k12.or.us or phone 541-954-5765.

Veggie and Fruit Purchases Help Lowell School District Students!

Stop by the McKenzie Smart Grow produce stand in front of the Lowell High School Nexus Woodshop (65 S. Pioneer) on Thursdays from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.

Weekly sales began with blueberries and will expand with additional fruits and vegetables as they become available throughout the summer and fall. Check out McKenzieSmartGrow.com.

A portion of veggie and fruit purchases will be donated to the Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation to fund projects benefiting Lowell School District students. Enjoy delicious summer bounty, support local farming, and help our kids too!



City Beat

Key Highlights

- **Dog Ordinance**—Just a reminder that the new Dog Ordinance goes into effect July 1st. Dog licenses are available at City Hall.
- **Recruitment**—The City Council has narrowed the search for the City Administrator position and sent written questionnaires to seven applicants. The council will review their answers during the July 7th council meeting in Executive Session.
- **Interim City Administrator**—Mike Kelly has accepted our offer to perform the duties of Interim City Administrator. Beginning July 1 he will be in City Hall twelve hours per week but will be available by phone for emergencies.
- **2015-16 Budget**—The Council adopted the 2015-2016 Budget on June 23rd.

Thank You Volunteers!

Park Clean Up Day (June 6th) was a success! The weather was beautiful and the volunteers did a great job of cleaning and beautifying our parks and City Hall. The Volunteer Appreciation Picnic following was well attended and staff appreciated all who came. Thank you everyone!



Lowell City Council Actions

This report of actions taken by the Lowell City Council is a regular feature of this newsletter and is provided to inform citizens of recent decisions made by the council.

From the June 2nd regular meeting:

- **Approved Resolution 622**—Changes to Personnel Manual, which changes city hall hours, compensatory time off, on-call and call-out duty. Approved 5:0.
- **Approved Resolution 623**—State Revenue Sharing. Approved 5:0.
- **Approved Resolution 624**—Authorization to Change Public Works Utility Worker Positions. Approved 3:2; Bennett and Rennert opposed.
- **Deferred action on Resolution 625**—Creation of Animal Control/Code Enforcement Position. Approved 5:0.
- **Approved Resolution 627**—Guiding Principles. Approved 5:0.
- **Approved a motion to direct the Budget Committee to make rate increases appropriate in dealing with revenue shortfalls and to assure our ability to service the Capital Reserve Fund.** Approved 5:0.

From the June 10th special meeting:

- **Approved a motion to appoint Mike Kelly as Interim City Administrator effective July 1, 2015 for a total of 12 hours per week at the rate of \$50/hour.** Approved 5:0.
- **Approved Resolution 626**—Resolution Establishing a Parks Reserve Fund. Approved 5:0.

From the June 16th regular meeting:

- **Accepted a proposal from Chuck Spies to update SDC fees and reconcile SDCs for the City at no charge.** Approved 5:0.
- **Approved a motion to move forward with negotiations on the contract with City of Oakridge for police services and bring it back to the council in July.** Approved 5:0.
- **Approved Resolution 628**—Transfer of Funds to take care of the shortfall in the Sewer Fund. Approved 5:0.
- **Approved revised contract with the Interim City Administrator Mike Kelly.** Approved 5:0.

From the June 23rd special meeting:

- **Approved Resolution 629**—Resolution Certifying Services. Approved 5:0.
- **Approved Resolution 630**—Adopting the City's Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and Imposing and Categorizing Tax. Approved 4:1; Rennert opposed.

In and Around Our Community

Vacation Bible School Coming in August

Where: 72 E. 2nd Street, Lowell
Date: August 3rd—7th
Time: 9:00 a.m.—Noon
Ages: 5-12

Please come join us for our Annual Vacation Bible School. There will be singing, dancing, games, crafts and *no cost*, just lots of fun. Kids who bring a first time friend (not part of their family) will receive a “Free” blizzard coupon from Dairy Queen for them and their friend. **Parents** we would love to have your help, we usually have 75-85 kids participate at this event. If you would like to come and be a part of making a difference in their lives, please call the church at 541-937-3329.

Grange Raffle Won by Locals

A beautiful print donated to the Lowell Grange by Jerry & Judy Bjornstad was raffled at the monthly breakfast on June 7th. Lowell residents Marilyn and Ernie Cabrera were the lucky winners. The Grange sponsors activities like these to benefit community members in need. Proceeds from this raffle will help with Ike Osgood’s medical bills. Thanks to Bjornstads and all who supported this effort!

Summer Reading Program

The Lowell Library’s Summer Reading Program will be held every Wednesday in July from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30, in the City Library at 107 E. 3rd Street (City Hall). Come join in the fun!

Music in the Park this Summer

The band “Just Because” will be performing on the stage in Rolling Rock Park on Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. during the months of July and August. The band will play mostly contemporary Christian music. Bring a chair and come enjoy the music. For further information, call Jim at 541-554-8920.



Grange Events in July

Breakfast on July 12th (not the first Sunday)
Texas Hold ‘em Poker on July 3rd and 18th
Bingo! on July 15th

Your support of these events help restore the historic Grange Hall Building. Thank you very much!

Volunteer Opportunities at the Jam!

From Setup to Takedown, and year-round planning efforts, the Blackberry Jam is put on by a committee of volunteers, assisted by many people in our community. If you would like to join this fun team, please contact one of the references below. We appreciate your help!



Setup Fri., Takedown Sun.—George, 541-937-2664
Kidz Korner booths—Joyce, 541-937-2157
Car Jam—Suzanne, 541-915-6009
Email: info@blackberryjamfestival.com
Call the Jam hotline: 1-866-516-5534

Blackberry Jam Festival Entertainment Line-up

Friday, July 24th

6:00-8:00 p.m.—**The Heavy Chevy Band** 8:30-10:00 p.m.—**Jen & The Generators**

Saturday, July 25th

Noon—1:45 p.m.—**One More Time Marching Band**
1:30-2:30 p.m.—**Pleasant Hill Community Theater Dance Performance**
3:30-4:30 p.m.—**GRRRLZ Rock**
6:00-8:00 p.m.—**The Bluesdwellers** 8:30-10:00 p.m.—**The M80’s**

Sunday, July 26th

12:00-12:45 p.m.—**Dr. Delusions Illusions Magic Show**
2:00-4:00 p.m.—**West Side Blues Jam hosted by Zane Heifner**

Please thank our sponsors and advertisers for providing this high quality FREE entertainment!

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

Making community connections

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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: July 2015

- 1—Summer Reading Program, 10:00-11:30 a.m., City Hall Library
- 2—Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
- 3—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 4—Fireworks Display at Dexter Lake, Dexter & Lowell State Parks
- 5—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area
- 6—**School Board meeting, Lundy Comm. Room, 6:00 p.m.**
- 7—**City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
- 8—Summer Reading Program, 10:00-11:30 a.m., City Hall Library
Economic Development Committee, 7:00 pm, Lowell Fire Hall
- 12—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area
- 14—Blackberry Jam Committee Mtg, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Fire Hall
- 15—Summer Reading Program, 10:00-11:30 a.m., City Hall Library
BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
- 17/19—Columbia Drag Boat Races, Dexter Lake/Lowell Marina
- 18—Fall Creek Park Cleanup, 9-11:30 am, RSVP to Maggie at 937-3759 for free lunch following the cleanup
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 19—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area
- 21—**City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
- 22—Summer Reading Program, 10:00-11:30 a.m., City Hall Library
- 24/26—Blackberry Jam Festival, Rolling Rock Park
- 26—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area
- 28—Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall
- 29—Summer Reading Program, 10:00-11:30 a.m., City Hall Library

In August:

- 4—City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall, 107 E. 3rd Street



21st Annual
Blackberry Jam
July 24-26

** Music * Food * Fun **

Something for everyone!