



The Bridge

Making community connections

Fire District Open House and Free Family Community Dinner

The Bridge

Volume 19, Issue 6

December 2016

With the coming holiday season, the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District would like to say “Thank You” for all the community support we receive by providing a free holiday dinner to the community.

This year the dinner will be held on Saturday, December 10th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the main fire station in Lowell. A full turkey dinner with all the fix’ns and beverages will be served, along with desserts provided by the Pine Needlers Quilting group.



Stop by for a visit with friends and neighbors and have a nice holiday meal besides. Activities include a tour of the station and demonstrations of the equipment, a coloring contest for the kids and door prizes.

Meet your Volunteer Firefighters and check out the equipment. Enjoy the meal and take home a prize!

**Saturday,
December 10th
4:00-6:00 p.m.
389 N. Pioneer**



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

College: It's not a dream...it's a plan.

Lowell Jr./Sr. High joined the more than 100 high schools and community-based organizations around the state in hosting College Application Week events Nov. 15-18. According to the "40-40-20" goal approved in 2011 by the Oregon State Legislature and Governor Kate Brown's Proclamation, November was designated OREGON GOES TO COLLEGE MONTH.

Students enjoyed a variety of college/career readiness activities, including a special assembly for 7-9th graders where they received 21st Century certificates, GEAR UP gifts, and refreshments. The entire student body focused on college, career learning activities, earning tickets each day for answering questions about scholarships, grants, loans, Lowell graduation credits, and Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); wearing college, Lowell pride, and GEAR UP gear; culminating on Friday with an all-school raffle drawing and college game show, making students eligible for food, gift certificates, and college swag.

On Thursday seniors applied to over ten different colleges and universities, finished preparing Oregon Promise and other Oregon grants and scholarships and were treated to a catered meal.

Principal Kay Graham, Aspire Coordinator Karen Cardwell, and GEAR UP Coordinator Jeanie May agreed that the week achieved its purpose: To assist seniors when they apply to a post-secondary educational option, including certificate programs, two-year degree programs, and four-year programs and to build awareness for all students that many options exist for them after they graduate from Lowell High School.



"Special thanks to Lowell Jr./Sr. High teachers and staff for participating and making the week a success. And we are grateful to Junior Julie Lay, photographer, for documenting the events and the wonderful Lowell businesses Bridge Town Market and Armando's Mexican Restaurant for their generous gift certificates," said May.

Food Tasting Panel a Success! by Food Service Director Billy Reid

We had our first student tasting panel to select some new chicken and pizza items that will be included on the menu. The students all did an amazing job, giving valuable feedback to help us in implementing the development of student-based flavor profiles, which will lead to more student developed menu items. I was really impressed with the students that were selected. Everyone performed very professionally, taking the panel serious and as I said before, providing detailed opinions on what they liked and did not. I must say I was quite pleasantly surprised at the younger students' input. This will be invaluable to us as we strive to make the food service department stronger so we can serve them better.

Lance from Tyson came out and sampled eight food items and two flavors of 100% juice. Each student was given one sample of each item and a juice. As a result of the students' feedback, we now have a new, student selected chicken nugget, a new pizza and new juice for Lundy. We also have a new, student selected pizza, juice and chicken strip for the junior/high school. All the new items will meet or beat current pricing, will meet all state and federal regulations and we can now say are student approved.



Junior High Students of the Month



Andrew Bardis is the son of Anna Colby and Tim Stratis of Lowell. Andrew is an amazing asset to our Junior High Football, Basketball and Track teams. Last year Andrew received first place in three district events in track. On top of that he is also very involved in band and choir. In his free time Andrew enjoys hanging out with his friends Enoch and Aaron. **Ashley Woodhurst** is the daughter of Pat and Heather Woodhurst of Lowell. Ashley is a perfect example of a great scholastic student. She works hard to keep her GPA above average and her attendance near perfect. She is a great addition to our Junior High Band along with our OBOB (Oregon Battle of the Books)



program. In her free time Ashley enjoys drawing, reading, riding horses, riding quads and hanging with her best friend Kaitlyn. One special thing about Ashley is that she thinks her best friend Kaitlyn is AWESOME! She also plans to go to Oregon State to become a veterinarian.

Congratulations Andrew and Ashley for being selected as students of the month for Lowell Jr. High!

Winter Concert Dates Set

Music concerts have been set for **Thursday, December 8th** for Lundy K-5 and Lundy/MVA 6th grade Band and **Tuesday, December 13th** for Lowell/MVA Band & Choir, grades 7-12. Both concerts will be held in the Lowell High School Gym beginning at 7:00 p.m.

A special “shout-out/thank you” for everyone who helped with our Poinsettia & Wreath fundraiser — the funds raised will help keep our program afloat throughout the year!



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<http://earlychildhoodcares.uoregon.edu>
asqoregon.com

Football Season Recap

Although the season ended earlier than hoped for, the Lowell Red Devils had an exciting season. Ninth ranked Lowell beat 8th ranked Camas Valley in Round 1 by 56-22 then beat #1 Powers on Nov. 12th by 54-30. The team made it into the final four to play Dufur at Summit High School in Bend on November 19th but lost 18-76. Dufur went on to win the championship, with Lowell ending up 4th in 1A State.

Congratulations to all the players, coaches, parents and supporters for a great season!

Did you know?

Lundy Elementary was built in 1941
Lowell High School was built in 1930

The Lowell School District applied for and received a \$1.1 million grant to retrofit Lowell High School, which will be completed prior to the start of the 2018/2019 school year.

City Beat

New Lights Installed at Covered Bridge

Over the past few years, staff has struggled to keep up with changing the lights at the Lowell Covered Bridge. The goal was to change the color arrangement once a month and, with ten (10) light fixtures, that meant nearly one hundred twenty (120) bulb changes a year. The job required a ladder, two people, and a hazardous step over the guard rail.

Staff knew there had to be a better solution. After researching options, the Public Works Department identified and purchased ten (10) new smart LED bulbs from a small start-up company named *ilumi*. These replaced all eighty (80) halogen floodlights. Coined as the world's smartest light bulb, each light has a programmable computer chip that is controlled with a smartphone app using Bluetooth wireless mesh technology. The new bulbs are dimmable, color-tunable to almost any color on the spectrum, and produce a variety of lighting effects. They're also energy efficient.



Staff installed the new lights in September. While there was admittedly a brief learning curve and a couple of technical bugs to work through, changing the color arrangement is now much safer and more efficient. In fact, it couldn't get any easier. All that is required is one person, one smartphone, and one walk through the Lowell Covered Bridge.

Open Burning Restrictions

The City of Lowell is conducting research on the topic of open burning and would like to hear from residents. Open burning includes the burning of refuse, garbage, other waste products, yard debris, construction or demolition waste, field, ditch or weed burning. Residents may provide input through one or more of the following methods:

- 1) Completing the online survey available at www.ci.lowell.or.us
- 2) Providing public comments at the next City Council meeting on December 6
- 3) Providing comments in writing to Jared Cobb, City Administrator via email at jcobb@ci.lowell.or.us or by mail to P.O. Box 397, Lowell, OR 97452

Call for Volunteers

The City of Lowell is now accepting applications for all committees, including the Budget Committee, Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Committee, Economic Development Committee, BBJ Festival Committee, and Library Committee. Interested residents and non-residents (as applicable) are encouraged to apply. Applications may be picked up at City Hall or downloaded online at www.ci.lowell.or.us. *Please note that the deadline for applications has been extended through December 29th.*



For more information, please contact Lowell City Hall at 541-937-2157.

Monthly Police Log (October 26 – November 23)

10/26 01:18 PM	Location of Wanted Subject at 100 Block North Cannon Street
10/28 03:51 AM	Incomplete 911 Call at 400 Block D Street
10/29 07:11 PM	Suspicious Conditions at 400 Block D Street
11/01 09:38 AM	Civil Service at 100 Block East Sixth Street
11/01 06:24 PM	Suspicious Subject at West Boundary Road and South Parker Lane
11/01 07:25 PM	Suspicious Vehicle at 100 Block North Pioneer Street
11/04 11:49 AM	Civil Enforcement at 100 Block East Main Street
11/05 07:56 AM	Follow Up at 200 Block Marina Vista Drive
11/05 01:37 PM	Welfare Check at 200 Block Marina Vista Drive
11/07 11:37 PM	Suspicious Subject at 100 Block West Fourth Street
11/09 02:46 PM	Disorderly Subject at 100 Block South Moss Street
11/09 05:36 PM	Suspicious Vehicle at 100 Block North Moss Street
11/10 08:00 AM	Civil Standby at 100 Block North Everly Street
11/11 10:50 AM	Unlawful Use of Vehicle at 500 Block North Moss Street
11/12 08:49 AM	Recover Stolen Vehicle at East Third Street and North Pioneer Street
11/18 12:04 PM	Burglary at 100 Block East Lakeview Avenue
11/21 06:06 PM	Suspicious Conditions at 100 Block North Moss Street
11/21 11:01 PM	Missing Person at 100 Block South Pioneer Street

Please report suspicious activity and tips to the Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) by phone at 541-682-4150 or 541-682-4141. For a crime in progress or other emergency always dial 9-1-1.

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 November 1st regular meeting:

- Approved the purchase of a 1/2 ton pickup truck through the Oregon Cooperative Procurement Program for an amount not to exceed \$20,000 and sell the 1991 Chevrolet Cheyenne 2500 through a surplus auction. In support: Bennett, Osgood, Burford, Harris and Paulson; Opposed: none.
- Approved an intergovernmental agreement with Lane Council of Governments for planning services with a not-to-exceed amount of \$5,000. In support: Bennett, Osgood, Burford, Harris; Opposed: Paulson.

From the November 15th regular meeting:

- Approved the advertisement of a Request for Proposal for Engineering Services. In support: Bennett, Osgood, Harris, Paulson; Absent: Burford.

Lost and Found

The collection of lost and found items at City Hall is becoming rather large! Your lost bikes, scooters and street surfing boards can be claimed at City Hall, 107 East Third Street.

LOST AND FOUND

Jam for Sale!!

Need a gift that is inexpensive yet delicious? For just \$5 you can purchase a yummy jar of blackberry jam (seedless or regular). This jam goes great on toast, waffles, pancakes and is especially good as an ice cream topper! Jars are sold at City Hall and support the free-admission, family-friendly annual Blackberry Jam festival.



Music * Food * Fun
www.blackberryjambfestival.com

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

Fire Board Member Honored

The Oregon Fire District Directors Association (OFDDA), at the November conference in Bend, recognized Fire Board Member Ron Ballenger for his 35 years of service to not only the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District, but as an OFDDA member as well.

Ron was one of the founding fathers of the Fire District in 1973 and has served as a Volunteer Firefighter, Fire Officer, Fire Chief and a long time member of the Board of Directors for the Fire District.

Ron was instrumental in the formation of the District as well as building the first fire station in Lowell and the substation in Fall Creek. Ron continues to be a valuable asset to the District through his experience and contributions as a Director and active community member.



Thank you Ron, and Congratulations!

Let's Talk Candle Fire Safety

Candles may be pretty to look at but they are a cause of home fires — and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

Candles and kids sometimes don't mix. Think about using flameless candles in your home. They look and smell like real candles. Never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle. Keep matches and lighters up high and out of children's reach, in a locked cabinet. "CANDLE WITH CARE" Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep. Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.



IF YOU DO BURN CANDLES, make sure that you... Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily. Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface. Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame. Don't burn a candle all the way down — put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container. Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home. Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

For more information about fire safety go to www.lowellfiredistrict.org or FEMA.gov Have a safe and fun holiday season.

Our Wait List for Home of Your Own is *NOT full!*

If you've wanted a **Home of Your Own**, St. Vincent de Paul may be able to help! You still have an opportunity to see about a home of your own here in Lowell. Check it out at <http://www.svdp.us/what-we-do/affordable-housing/home-of-your-own-program/>. Your minimum estimated annual gross income needed is \$28,000, with the following limits:

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Max. Income	\$31,000	\$35,400	\$39,850	\$44,250	\$47,800	\$51,350	\$54,900	\$58,450



What do you do next? Inquire with **Andy Clay** andy.clay@svdp.us or 541-501-0894.

In and Around Our Community

Your Recycled Cardboard Benefits Students

A trailer has been placed on Lakeview Street, in the parking lot next to the school's rental houses. This is to collect cardboard that will be bundled by school personnel, then picked up by the recycler, who will then send a check to the District.



Free Leaves!

If you would like some free mulch for your garden to keep the weeds down, bring your rake and bags and take home free leaves from Fall Creek Park. For more information please call Pam at 541-937-1978 or Maggie at 541-937-3759. We will bag them for you if you let us know in advance! Fall Creek Park is located at milepost 7.5 on Jasper-Lowell Road.

Free Movie Night with Special Guest!

On Saturday, **December 3rd**, doors at Lowell Grange will open at 6:30 p.m. and the showing of Dr. Seuss' **How the Grinch Stole Christmas** will begin at 7:00 p.m. Stay afterward for a special guest appearance...ho, ho, ho!! Refreshment sales benefit the Lowell Boy Scouts.



Admission is free!

Goody bags will be given to about 50 children. If you would like to donate small toys or candy to fill the bags, or donate money to purchase the items, please contact Heather at 541-937-2843.

Grange Events in December

- Breakfast on December 4th
- Texas Hold 'em Poker on December 2nd and 17th
- Bingo! on December 21st

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

Bridge Lighting and Boat Parade — December 3rd

Join your friends and neighbors at the Lowell Bridge to kick off a celebration of the holiday season in Lowell. Lowell Grange will provide refreshments and "Stand Out" an a cappella group will provide entertainment and lead the group in singing carols. Parking is limited so please park at the high school parking lot and take the free shuttle from 4:30-7:00 p.m., thanks to the Lowell School District.

The bridge lighting ceremony will begin at 5:00 p.m. and will be followed by the lighted boat parade at 6:00 p.m. Decorate your boat and join us for the boat parade, 4:30 pm at the Lowell Marina
Come out and join the fun!

Thanks to Lowell Public Works for decorating the bridge,
and to Pape Material Handling for the use of a lift.



Call Rick at 541-912-8982 for boat parade info.

Our Community Super Heroes

The Lowell Food Pantry would like to give a BIG thumbs up to preschoolers Carter, Millie, Kya and Bryson. These Super Heroes collected 28 pounds of food and donated it to the Food Pantry in November. Thank you all so much for your donations. I am proud to have your help feeding the hungry.

Shawn Brady, pantry manager



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

Upcoming Meetings and Events: December 2016

- 1—Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
- 2—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 2/3—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla, 3:00/4:30 p.m.
- 3—PTO Bottle/Can Drive, HS parking lot, 10am—Noon
Bridge Lighting Ceremony/Boat Parade, 5:00/6:00 p.m.
Free Family Movie Night at the Lowell Grange, 6:30 p.m.
- 4—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- 5—JH Girls Basketball @ Falls City, 4:00 p.m.
- 6—**City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
- 7—JH Girls Basketball v. McKenzie, 4:00 p.m.
JH Wrestling v. Oakridge, 6:00 p.m.
Varsity G/B Basketball @ East Linn Christian, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
- 8—Kids Club, Fall Creek Events Center, 6:00 p.m.
Lundy K-5 & Lundy/MVA 6th Grade Band, 7 pm, HS Gym
- 9/10—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Elkton, 3:00/4:30 p.m.
- 10—Community Dinner, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Lowell Fire Station
Varsity Wrestling @ Springfield Tournay, 9:00 a.m.
- 12—JH Girls Basketball v. Triangle Lake, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Oakridge, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
School Board meeting, Lundy Comm. Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 13—Lowell/MVA Band & Choir, Grades 7-12, 7 pm, HS Gym
Blackberry Jam Committee, no meetings until January
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
- 14—Liisa's Puppet Show, Lowell Library, 3:30-4:15 p.m.
JH Wrestling v. Cottage Grove, 6:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla, 6:00/7:30 p.m.
- 15—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Alsea, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
- 16—Varsity Wrestling @ Oakridge, 5:00 p.m.
- 17—Varsity Wrestling @ Thurston Duals, 9:00 p.m.
- 19—Winter Break Starts — No School until January 3rd
- 20—Varsity G/B Basketball @ New Hope Christian, 4:30/6:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting, cancelled
- 21—BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
- 22—Varsity G/B Basketball v. Country Christian, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
- 23—Senior Potluck Luncheon, Noon, Fall Creek Christian Church
- 24—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 27—Varsity Boys Basketball v. Gilchrist, 6:00 p.m.
Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall
- 28—Ben's Fables, Lowell Library 3:30-4:15 p.m.
- 29—Varsity Boys Basketball v. C.S. Lewis Academy, 6:00 p.m.
- 29/30—Varsity Wrestling @ Albany, NW Duals, TBA

**Tuck an extra package of socks or an extra can of food
in your shopping cart and drop them off
at the corner of Lakeview and Moss Streets.
Food Pantry is open 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 2-5pm
Clothing Bank is open 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 11am-2pm
Thank you for your generosity!**