



# The Bridge

Making community connections

## City Administrator Annual Report

The Bridge

Volume 21, Issue 7

January 2019

The City Council and staff are focused on developing a sustainable organization. This means building a solid foundation through effective financial management, project planning, staff training and development.

In 2018, the City focused on major planning efforts for improvements to our downtown, parks, community facilities, and public safety services. A more detailed list of accomplishments is provided below:

### Community Development

- ◆ Started development of the City’s first Downtown Master Plan.
- ◆ Awarded contract for a Community Facilities Study to plan for future public facilities (i.e., City Hall and Library).
- ◆ Coordinated volunteer beautification projects in Rolling Rock Park and at the Wastewater Plant with the Lowell School District, Bridge Charter Academy, and Mountain View Academy.



Volunteers working hard to make our parks look great!

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

### School Attendance-Every Day Matters!

Traditionally the months of January and February take "a hit" in student attendance due to student illness and other reasons. This month we are taking time to remind parents about the importance of school attendance. If students miss 10% or more of school days (about 17 days in our schools), they are considered to be chronically absent and are at high risk of falling behind. Missed days add up quickly. For example missing two days a week can easily put a child's academic achievement at risk.

Research clearly indicates that students who do not miss school get better grades, behave better in school and at home, and are more likely to attend college or career training leading to higher paying jobs as adults. Students who do not attend school on a regular basis do not perform up to their ability and have a higher risk of dropping out of school. If your child has minor complaints about his/her health, you should send him/her to school. If he/she has a fever (or has had a fever in the last 24 hours) or is vomiting, then clearly he/she should stay at home. If a doctor advises staying at home, he/she should do so. Otherwise, students should be at school. Parents can help with attendance by:

1. Stressing the importance of attending school every day and working hard while at school;
2. Making appointments outside of the school day if possible;
3. Making sure students are well rested on school nights to be mentally alert during school days; and,
4. Contacting the school counselor, teachers, and administrators when your student needs academic help.

If a student does become ill and needs to stay home, please be sure to call the school secretaries to excuse the absence and to work to determine a way for your student to make up any missing work. If a student is out of class for academic or athletic reasons (like fieldtrips or athletic competitions), please help remind your student to request homework for the time they are out of class prior to leaving the school.

As always, we would like to give a big "shout out" to our parents and community for your continued support of our students and school programs. You are an integral part of our team in the education of our youth.

### Senior Projects Almost Complete

In one month (by the end of January) all of Lowell will hear a "collective sigh of relief" coming from the 2019 senior class. Every year the seniors at Lowell complete a senior project that entails a career research paper, internships, job shadows, or product creation, and a 10-15 minute presentation to a panel of three judges and often an audience of 25 or more other students listening to the presentation. No amount of moaning and groaning gets the seniors out of this assignment. The senior project is an assignment that meets several local and state requirements for graduation. This year the seniors are researching and completing a wide variety of career projects including construction, psychology, engineering, medical field, EMT, forestry, veterinary technician, architecture, electrician/lineman, mechanic, dentistry, industrial pipe fitting, athletic trainer, furniture design, gaming, video animation, photography, food service industry, and music arrangement and performance. While seniors may be stressed about this now, by the time they finish (if they are like previous senior classes), they will count this assignment as one of the most worthwhile projects they completed in high school. The senior project is designed to be both rigorous and relevant to the students' futures.

Many members of the community have helped the seniors by either providing opportunity for job shadows or internships. Some community members and teachers have volunteered to serve as mentors to the students. Our thanks goes out to all of those who have helped seniors with their projects. We greatly appreciate your willingness to serve.



### Academic New Year's Resolutions

It's that time of year again...the time that we all sit down and make goals for self-improvement for the coming year...better known as "New Year's Resolutions". This year the students at Lowell in grades 7-12 will be making academic resolutions to try to improve their overall grade performance for Semester One. The resolutions range from "passing all classes" to "getting a 4.0 GPA". All academic resolutions are approved by teachers and student leaders. If you are a relative or neighbor of a Lowell Jr/Sr High student, be sure to ask them how they are doing on their academic resolution and encourage them to keep working hard!





### Junior High Wrestling has big turnout

Team members include 8th graders Aric Coleman, Sienna Hymer, Trapper Roat, Lily Haynes, Danner Debusk and Beauden Asher; 7th graders Taylor Horton, Cayden Erlei, Kelly Scharff, Justus Thurman and Rowan Files; 6th graders Levi Stewart, Harley Hardison, Hayden Savio, Aiden Albright, Jamar Thurman, Dayson DeBusk, Ashton Moncreif, Caleb Montieth, Ryan Pelroy, Paul Clark and Eily Asher; and, 5th graders Saul Clark and David Finch. Head coach Alvin Riggs is assisted by Jason Prenevost.

### Junior High Students of the Month



**Carter Halvorsen** is an 8th grader at Lowell Jr/Sr High School. Carter's parent are Tim and Corrina Halvorsen. Carter is new this year. He works very hard academically and had adapted well to a new school. His interests are exploring, hiking, technology, flying drones and many more exciting interests. He also likes to cook, play video games and watch YouTube videos in his free time.



**Nevaeh Howard** is a 7th grade student. Her parents are Bridgett and Aldot. She has two sisters and a brother. Nevaeh is an awesome student who is always smiling. She works hard at keeping her grades up and volunteers to help with any task that needs to be done. She likes to play volleyball and basketball. Her favorite things to do in her free time are read, write, cook and play games.

Congratulations Carter and Nevaeh for being selected as students of the month for Lowell Jr. High!

### Mountain View Academy Enrollment Opens in February

Mountain View Academy is a charter school in Lowell, Oregon with 16 students per class, a focus on character education, and teaching students through ability-based grouping.

We have a "Back to Basics" approach, encouraging hard work and providing students with a full curriculum. Our program has a four-day school week with monthly field trips and volunteer requirements.

Enrollment opens on February 1st for three-year-old preschool through 8th grade for the 2019-20 school year. Call 541-735-1709 or email [Kelly@mtviewacademy.org](mailto:Kelly@mtviewacademy.org) to schedule a tour in January.



*Sponsored by the Lowell School District, believing in options for parents.*

Continued from Cover page:

### Police

- ◆ Conducted a review and developed a report on available options, costs, and funding to increase public safety services.
- ◆ Developed and posted community outreach materials on the City website.
- ◆ Posted monthly call log reports on the City website.
- ◆ Developed and distributed a public safety survey.

### Information Technology

- ◆ Developed and implemented new City website to provide timely information and engage residents, businesses, and visitors.
- ◆ Facilitated adoption of new social media policy and implemented social media archiving software.

### Code Enforcement

- ◆ Hosted first Lowell Beautification Day, provided two disposal containers, recycling container, curbside collection service, and completed parks improvement projects.
- ◆ Disseminated community outreach materials to educate the public and increase voluntary code compliance.
- ◆ Implemented a Yard of the Month Program to recognize the efforts of residents who take pride in their home and landscape.



Beautification Day crew

### Library

- ◆ Coordinated the Summer Reading Program with the Lowell School District.

### Finance

- ◆ Improved the budget process and document to conform with standards for the Government Finance Officers Association Budget Award.

### Economic Development

- ◆ Partnered with the cities of Oakridge and Veneta to engage Oregon RAIN and provide technical assistance to local entrepreneurs.

### Public Works

- ◆ Started development of a Pavement Preservation and Maintenance Plan.
- ◆ Completed Phase I and started Phase II of the water meter replacement program.
- ◆ Settled roofing and siding lawsuit in the amount of \$330,000.
- ◆ Received a \$100,000 grant from ODOT to renovate Main Street from Pioneer Street to Moss Street.

### Parks

- ◆ Started comprehensive update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- ◆ Started Paul Fisher Park Irrigation Project.
- ◆ Installed security camera systems and lighting at Paul Fisher Park and Rolling Rock Park.

### Acknowledgements

The City Council and staff made large strides in 2018, but we didn't do it alone. I would like to sincerely thank everyone that volunteered for community events and served on our committees. Your support and

engagement are what makes this community great, and I look forward to working with all of you again in 2019!

### Lowell City Council Actions

This report of actions by the City Council is provided to inform citizens of recent decisions made by the council.

#### On December 4th, the following meetings were held:

Executive session:

- Reviewed and evaluated the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer, City Administrator Jared Cobb

Special meeting:

- Approved Resolution 708—Designating Settlement Funds for Public Facilities. The \$330,000 settlement funds will be deposited into the General Fund, to be spent on a Capital Expense.
- Approved a motion to authorize the City Administration to enter into negotiations to acquire 70 N. Pioneer Street owned by Jehovah Witness Lowell Oregon Congregation.
- Approved motions to authorize the City Administrator to negotiate real estate option agreements for two tax lots located at the NE corner of Main and Moss Street owned by Gerald and Shirley Dilley, and one tax lot on Main Street owned by John and Keely Riggs, and to pursue grant funding.

All actions were approved 3-0; In favor Don Bennett, Gail Harris, Patricia Angelini; Maggie Osgood absent.

Work session:

- Topics discussed were the Public Safety Report and the Annual Facility Maintenance Report.

#### At the December 18th regular meeting:

- Approved a Professional Services Contract with The Urban Collaborative.
- Approved Resolution 709—A Resolution Canvassing Results of the November 6th General Election
- Approved a 4% increase in salary and additional one week vacation for the City Administrator
- Approved providing employees with a \$50 gift card

All actions were approved 3-0; In favor Don Bennett, Gail Harris, Patricia Angelini; Maggie Osgood absent.

### Monthly Police Log (November 28 – December 26)

Date	Time	Call Type	Location
11/29/18	9:00 PM	Dispute	600 Block North Moss Street
11/30/18	4:10 AM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
12/01/18	5:39 AM	Location of Wanted Subject	100 Block West 7th Street
12/01/18	7:30 AM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
12/01/18	7:52 AM	Civil Enforcement	100 Block North Everly Street
12/01/18	4:13 PM	Dispute	100 Block Trailblazer Court
12/02/18	10:44 PM	Patrol Check	100 Block South Pioneer Street
12/06/18	6:44 AM	Civil Enforcement	100 Block East 2nd Street
12/08/18	7:03 AM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
12/08/18	2:32 PM	Missing Juvenile	400 Block North Hyland Lane
12/08/18	10:36 PM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
12/08/18	10:38 PM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
12/13/18	7:18 PM	Dispute	100 Block North Cannon Street
12/14/18	5:01 AM	Tree Down	South Pioneer Street and Lakeview Avenue
12/14/18	9:25 AM	Missing Person	100 Block East 2nd Street
12/14/18	10:24 AM	Dispute	100 Block North Cannon Street
12/16/18	10:56 PM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
12/17/18	7:01 AM	Vehicle in Ditch	100 Block East 2nd Street
12/20/18	3:41 PM	Suspicious Conditions	300 Block East Main Street
12/22/18	3:02 AM	Suspicious Subject	400 Block East 1st Street
12/22/18	9:22 AM	Criminal Mischief	300 Block East 1st Street
12/24/18	11:53 PM	Suspicious Conditions	400 Block East 1st 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.

# FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

This year a tremendous gift was given to the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District. A very generous donation was received which allowed us to give back to the community in other ways than just providing medical and emergency services.

We here at Lowell Rural Fire Protection District truly appreciate the support not only from our community members, but from neighboring communities also. Without all of your support we would not be able to provide the service that we do.

This year we received generous cash donations from Oregon Community Credit Union, Lithia Toyota Springfield and Fall Creek Farm & Nursery. Gifts were donated by Bridge Town Market as well as Splash and Eugene Parks & Recreation. Without this support we would have a difficult time providing this dinner. Special thanks go out to Chef Billy with the Lowell School District who was able to provide the food service for the community.

Thank you all again. Because of these generous donations we were able to serve 225 patrons this year. Thank you all who attended — we enjoyed the opportunity to talk with everyone.



Top row: Sam & Chief Dragt, Serving Line of Volunteer Fire Fighters, Patrons eating dinner  
 Bottom row: Prize Table, Crowd Shot and Dessert Table

## You'll need more than the right shoe size to fill these boots!

It takes a special person to fill the boots of a volunteer firefighter. Someone with a desire to do something important for the community. Someone with courage and dedication, who isn't afraid of hard work, and is willing to accept the challenge of a difficult job. It takes a person who considers respect and appreciation award enough, and who is glad to help.

If you're this kind of person, you're needed as a volunteer firefighter. Come down to the firehouse and talk to us. We might be able to fit you with a pair of boots. Lowell Fire District 389 N. Pioneer Street Lowell, Oregon 541-937-3393.



# In and Around Our Community

## COOKIES, COOKIES, COOKIES!

Get your orders in for cookies from the Girl Scouts of Lowell/Fall Creek starting in January. Be watching for girls selling or you can call Debbie at 541-359-8974 and she will take your order.



Choices include all your old favorites including a new gluten free chocolate chip cookie this year. The Lowell/Fall Creek Girl Scouts thank you for your support!

## Grange Events in January

Breakfast on Sunday, January 6th  
Texas Hold 'em Poker on January 4th and 19th  
Bingo! is on hold for awhile.

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

## Newspaper/Magazine Recycling to End?

The decision has been made by the board of Cascade Chorus to stop the paper recycling in Lowell and Pleasant Hill effective February 4th.

If you are interested in keeping this service going, please contact Jim Chapman at 541-937-2992. Thank you for your past support.



## Blackberry Jam 25th Anniversary Planning Underway!

Committee meetings will restart this month on January 8th, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall to begin planning for the 25th annual festival. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and all are welcome.

We have some very important items up for discussion and need to make decisions to move forward. We want your input, and your support to make this 25th Anniversary event a huge success!!

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 541-937-2157. Thank you for your support!



## Wanted: Stuffed Animals and Toys

Do you need to make room for your NEW Christmas toys? You can donate gently used toys or new toys and stuffed animals for the Blackberry Jam 'Kidz Korner' prize tent. You can drop them off at City Hall during office hours or call 541-937-2157 for pickup.

The 'Kidz Korner' brings so much enjoyment for our local kids. Thank you for your support!



## Returnable Can/Bottle Drives Monthly

Help support the High School Senior Class by bringing your returnable bottles and cans to the high school parking lot every 1st Saturday morning of the month from 10-Noon.

Thank you for your support!



# 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: January 2019

- 1—New Year's Day! City Hall closed
  - 2—JH Girls Basketball v. McKenzie, 4:30 p.m.  
JH Wrestling @ Creswell, 6:00 p.m.  
JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Jefferson, 4:00/6:00/7:30pm
  - 3—Varsity Wrestling v. Elmira, 6:00 p.m.
  - 4—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Central Linn, 3:00-7:00 p.m.  
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
  - 5—Cans/Bottle Drive, 10am until noon, HS parking lot
  - 6—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
  - 7—Students return to school  
JH Girls Basketball v. Triangle Lake, 4:30 p.m.
  - 8—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Bxball @ East Linn Christian, 3:30-7:30  
Blackberry Jam Committee Mtg, 7:00 p.m., Lowell City Hall  
**Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station**
  - 9—JH Girls Basketball @ Siletz, 4:30 p.m.  
JH Wrestling v. Hamilton MS, 6:00 p.m.
  - 10—Varsity Wrestling v. Glide/Oakland, 6:00 p.m.  
JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Oakridge, 5:00/6:00/7:30
  - 11—PTO Meeting in the PDC, 5:30 p.m., Everyone is welcome!
  - 11/12—Varsity Wrestling @ Alsea Bay Classic, 9:00 a.m.
  - 12—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Monroe, 4:30/6:00/7:30
  - 14—JH Girls Basketball @ Crow, 4:30 p.m.  
JV Boys Basketball @ Pleasant Hill, 6:00 p.m.
  - 15—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Regis, 3:00/6:00/7:30  
**City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
  - 16—JH Wrestling v. Pleasant Hill, 6:00 p.m.
  - 17—Parks & Recreation Steering Comm., 7:00 p.m., City Hall
  - 18—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Oakland, 3:30/4:30/6/7:30
  - 18/19—Varsity Wrestling @ Redmond Oregon Classic, TBA
  - 19—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
  - 21—**MLK Jr. Day**, No School, City Hall closed
  - 22—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Bxball v. Jefferson, 3:30/4:30/6:00/7:30
  - 23—JH Girls Basketball @ Mapleton, 4:30 p.m.
  - 24—Varsity Wrestling @ Jefferson, 6:00 p.m.
  - 25—Senior Potluck Luncheon, Noon, Fall Creek Christian Church  
JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Central Linn, 4:00/6/7:30
  - 26—Varsity Wrestling @ Monroe Tournament, 8:00 a.m.  
JH Girls Basketball @ McKenzie Tournament
  - 28—JH Boys Basketball v. Oak Hill, 4:30 p.m.  
**School Board Meeting, Lundy PDC, 7:00 p.m.**
  - 29—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. E. Linn, 3:30/4:30/6/7:30
  - 30—JH Boys Basketball @ Mohawk, 4:30 p.m.  
JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Oakridge, 5:00/6:00/7:30
  - 31—Varsity Wrestling @ Oakridge, 6:00 pm.
- In February:
- 1—No School—Grading Day  
JV Boys Basketball @ Pleasant Hill, 6:00 p.m.
  - 2—Varsity Wrestling in Lowell, Dilley Classic, 4:00 p.m.  
JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Monroe, 4:30/6:00 p.m.