



The Bridge

Making community connections

Classic Car Cruise & Quilt Show July 24th

The Bridge

Volume 24, Issue 1

July 2021



Just because we can't have a car show, doesn't mean we can't show off these classic beauties. Coming to a neighborhood near you, the cruise begins on Saturday, July 24th at 11:30 a.m. from Seneca and Moss Streets and ends at Rolling Rock Park. Come out and see cars from an era gone by (see the cruise route on page 7). Each car will have a number so you can vote for your favorite. Watch the parade, pick your favorite, then head down to the park to see the cars again and finalize your ballot!

Afterwards have lunch at Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop, Bridge Town Market or Armando's Mexican Restaurant before heading over to Lundy Elementary to see the Quilt Show in the Lundy Gym (also on Sunday).

Drop your ballot off at the Park and finish your day with POPCORN and SHAVED ICE. See you there!

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

Greetings Lowell/Fall Creek Families,

Two major events to celebrate: The class of 2021 graduated and made us proud of their perseverance and commitment to their education and futures. The second is the start of summer vacation! Both of these joyous events lead us into a season of hope.

On June 18th, Lowell School District graduated 31 Seniors, including four Valedictorians: Katie Chapman, Matthew Peters, Lucy Plahn, and Ashley Woodhurst; and one Salutatorian: Audra Chapman. Erik Fuller was the recipient of the Maier Family Kindness Award. Three seniors received the Kay Graham Scholarship: Gwen Gardner, Nicole Tucker, and Angelina Scharff. Many of our students were honored in academic areas as well: Science-Kaelyn Matthews; Social Studies-Nicole Tucker and Tristan Garcin; Mathematics-Carter Wendt; Language Arts-Katie Chapman; Spanish-Nyah Jalof; Wood/Construction-Nicholas Sotomayor; Leadership-Matthew Peters; Drama-Angelina Scharff; and, Physical Education-Audra Chapman. This year, graduation was held outdoors on our football field in order to honor our seniors while ensuring all of our graduates and their guests were safe. The day dawned lovely and bright and as always, the sun shined down upon Lowell. Congratulations to all of our students for making it through this year. We will forever hold the class of 2021 in a special place in our hearts for all of their triumphs and successes in a year that will go down in history.

Moving into the summer, our graduates will be preparing for their futures, while the rest of our students and staff will be taking time off to rest and reflect on our year. The Summer Recreation Program is returning to give our students some much needed socializing and activity this summer. Our custodial and maintenance staff are geared up to tackle some projects that took second place to bond projects and third place to Covid projects.

As we move into this season of hope — hope for the future for our students, our staff, and for our community — we will continue to send communications on what our future will look like in the Lowell School District. We will strive to make each day just a bit better than the last. We would like to give a big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this year a success. To the class of 2021, and all of our Families, here's to hope for all of our futures.

Sincerely,
Johnie Matthews, Superintendent

Lowell Summer Recreation & Fitness Program

It's baaack!! So that the District can properly plan for activities, purchase materials, and ensure that all children participating are safe and accounted for, we request participants register for the program and indicate which weeks they plan on attending. The program will run from July 5th through August 27th, Monday through Friday from 9:30-12:00. Themes this year include golf, soccer, net games, football, archery, and more. Registration for the program is open to kids ages 7-12.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR FREE



While we highly encourage participants to register in advance of the program, participants may register at any time over the summer, but must do so before your child attends. Please go to the school's website (www.lowell.k12.or.us) and click the link to complete and submit the online form.

Summer Food Service

Food service began its summer schedule on June 21st and will continue to serve daily from 11 a.m.—1 p.m. through August 27th via the drive-up at Lundy Elementary. There will no longer be supper or delivery routes available due to guidelines. Students participating in summer school and the Summer Recreation Program will be able to pick up their meals at the end of the daily activities.

Meet your School Board Members

A get-together will be held on Saturday, July 17th from 9-11 a.m. at Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop to meet the most recent elected and re-elected school board members. All are welcome.

Lowell Music Again Finishes "Tops" in the State (2A/1A)

The amazing musicians of Lowell High School have pulled off yet another impressive feat! Even with COVID-19 providing countless new obstacles, the LHS Band and Choir found ways to play and sing and even "compete" with schools from across Oregon. While traditional in-person State Championships were not possible this year, OSAA was able to administer a "Culminating Event" for bands and choirs who submitted a video of live performance for adjudication. The LHS Band received a rare *Superior* rating -- the highest possible scoring level -- and was one of only 16 schools from around the state to do so (all classifications). Not to be outdone, the LHS Choir was one of only 17 groups in Oregon (all classifications) to also score their own *Superior* rating. Most impressively, Lowell was the only 2A/1A school in Oregon (public or private) to achieve these high marks in both categories!

"I am so proud of these kids," says Music Director Paul Burch. "It's been such a difficult year, and without our usual routines and opportunities, motivation has been a struggle. But, they really stuck with it and showed some never-give-up resolve! Our future is bright, and I can't wait to see what they're capable of next." Although the high schoolers were not able to conduct a normal spring concert this year, please follow the links on the district website to view their award-winning performances!

Meanwhile, our middle school bands were able to have a spring concert, staged in Rolling Rock Park on June 10th. The open-air venue allowed for the Lundy Beginning Band and the Lowell Intermediate Band to conduct Lowell Music's first public performance in over 15 months! The kids from both groups did an amazing job, and have very bright futures in the program, which hopes to "get back to normal" in the fall (fingers crossed!).



The LHS Band received a visitation and clinic from OSU Band Professor Dr. Erik Leung on May 24th. This rare honor was amazingly positive, inspiring, and a great way to finish the year!

Wrestling Wrap-up

Middle School Wrestling had a short season this year with limited schools participating. We focused less this year on technical moves and more on intensity and move execution. We had a good group of young wrestlers with team members: 8th graders Eilyahna Asher, Jammur Thurman, Emma Zylstra, Ryan Pelroy, Levi Stewart, Harley Hardison, and Shelby Plagmann; 7th graders David Finch, Mason Imonen, and Lukas Ivey-Ferry; 6th graders Wyatt Pelroy and Henry Coiner; and, 5th graders Brody Imonen, Tanner Coiner, Ben Thurman, Logan Hall, Lukas Williams, and Eli Pickett. Head coach Alvin Riggs is assisted by Jason Prenevost.



In the middle of the season (May 21-22) the coaches went to Florida and wrestled in the National Beach Wrestling, Freestyle and Greco tournaments (pictured at left). The coaches feel it is important to lead by example and challenge ourselves to continuously get better.

Varsity Wrestling finished their short, but challenging season, with four wrestlers participating in the final competition the weekend of June 24-25. Participating wrestlers, pictured at right, were Justus Thurman (placing 4th), Rowan Files, Tristan Garcin, and Beauden Asher. Head coach Lincoln Casarez was assisted by Noah Casarez and Boone Casarez.



The new facility with full size mats is AMAZING and Lowell Wrestling hopes to step up to the challenge of filling the facility with great events and quality wrestling.

City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

Annual Water Report Now Available

The annual “Water Quality Report” for 2020 is now available on the City website at: www.ci.lowell.or.us. Hard copies are also available at Lowell City Hall at 107 E. 3rd Street. To request a copy via email, please send your email request to jcaudle@ci.lowell.or.us.

City Council and other committee/commission actions:

At its June 1st budget public hearing, work session, and executive session, City Council took the following actions:

- Held public hearings on the 2021-2022 budget.
- Discussed the marketing process for the city’s vacant E. Main Street property.
- Received an update on the library renovation project.
- Reviewed several contracts.

At its June 2nd meeting, the Planning Commission took the following action:

- Approved a variance request for Land Use Application #2021-05.

At its June 8 meeting, the Blackberry Jam Festival Committee agreed on holding a car festival on July 24.

At its June 15 regular meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Approved the budget for 2021-2022.
- Approved an agreement for accounting services.
- Approved an agreement with the City of Oakridge for Law enforcement services.
- Approved a resolution for budgetary transfers.
- Approved an adjustment to the employee pay scale.
- Approved water and sewer master planning projects.
- Approved an asbestos removal project.
- Appointed two new members of the Blackberry Jam Festival Committee.
- Approved an agreement with Lane County for right-of-way permitting.
- Approved a motion affirming that the City Administrator is meeting job expectations.

“From the Mayor’s Desk” by Mayor Don Bennett

About 20-25 years ago, two 200 ft wells were dug at Paul Fisher Park, and a complete sprinkler system was installed but never activated. A few years ago, the system was pressurized and tested. Sprinkler heads popped up and worked like new, but there were large wet areas where lines had been cut. We were told we needed to install a totally new system that would cost \$25,000—money we didn’t have. Graham Landscape and Design has recently repaired the system so it will cover the entire park for much less. The system is on City water and needs to be switched to well water for economic reasons. A well will be tested for flow rate, electrical power added, and a pump motor installed, but this project is moving forward.

Here’s an update on the Maggie Osgood Library and temporary City Hall. The major snow event in 2019 damaged the roof over the old library and limited the use of City Hall. The City purchased the Jehovah’s Witness church and held community workshops to develop a Facilities Plan. A lot of great ideas were included in the Plan. The estimated cost for the library renovations was \$300,000, and a new City Hall would cost \$1,700,000. Again, this is money we don’t have. One option we are considering is to expand the library building to provide more space for a City Hall. This would delay the need to build a new City Hall. Grants, pre-budgeted dollars, and bank loans will be needed to complete the Library and City Hall renovations. Lowell operates on a very lean budget. We will need outside resources, like grants, to complete major projects. Grants normally require some level of matching funds. Matching funds mean we must seek a bank loan for our portion. The plan is to open in the spring/summer of 2022.

FREE MOVIES IN THE PARK SERIES



July 16 – Raya and The Last Dragon (2021)



August 13– Aladdin (2019)



September 17 – Wonder Woman 1984 (2021)

Rolling Rock Park
101 North Shore Drive at 8 PM

Bring your family, chairs, blankets, and enjoy a movie under the stars.

Monthly Police Log (May 21—June 23)

Date	Time	Call Type	Location
6/13/2021	1:56 PM	ALARM	D ST
6/3/2021	8:32 AM	THEFT	N MOSS ST
6/17/2021	11:56 PM	UNLAWFUL VEH ENTRY	W 4TH ST
6/4/2021	4:14 PM	SPEEDING	E 4TH ST
6/14/2021	11:40 AM	THEFT	E 4TH ST
6/13/2021	1:18 PM	UNLAWFUL VEH ENTRY	E 4TH ST
6/12/2021	9:14 PM	WARRANT SERVICE	S DAMON ST
6/17/2021	4:23 AM	SUSPICIOUS CONDITIONS	N MOSS ST
6/11/2021	12:13 PM	THEFT	N MOSS ST
6/8/2021	4:02 PM	DISORDERLY SUBJECT	N CANNON ST
6/4/2021	3:30 PM	DISORDERLY SUBJECT	N CANNON ST
6/9/2021	6:54 AM	INFORMATION	E 1ST ST
6/9/2021	4:54 AM	RECOVER STOLEN VEHICLE	WETLEAU DR
6/4/2021	3:29 PM	SUSPICIOUS CONDITIONS	S ALDER ST
6/14/2021	1:09 PM	ALARM	S MOSS ST
6/14/2021	6:29 AM	ALARM	S MOSS ST
6/7/2021	6:23 AM	ALARM	S MOSS ST
6/4/2021	10:58 AM	ALARM	S MOSS ST
6/3/2021	11:37 AM	ALARM	S MOSS ST
6/18/2021	12:43 PM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/14/2021	10:50 PM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/12/2021	3:49 PM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/12/2021	2:08 PM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/12/2021	11:24 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/12/2021	8:08 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/20/2021	1:44 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/19/2021	2:40 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/17/2021	12:24 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/14/2021	11:03 PM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/13/2021	3:44 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/7/2021	12:25 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/6/2021	3:32 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/6/2021	2:18 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/5/2021	4:33 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST
6/5/2021	12:31 AM	ALARM	S PIONEER ST

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

Back Yard Burning Season Closed

Just a reminder that the back yard burn season closed June 15th. Outdoor burning of tree trimmings and yard debris is now prohibited. Recreational fires are still permitted as long as the fire is no larger than four square feet, with flames no higher than four feet in height. The fire must be built on bare ground (dirt), and away from combustible surroundings. The material being burned must be clean and dry, producing little to no smoke or embers. There must be a person in attendance at all times while the fire is active. For more information contact the Fire District Office at 541-937-3393 or the Oregon Department of Forestry at 541-726-3588.

As the weather gets warmer and drier, all outdoor burning is likely to be prohibited, so stay informed and check the burning regulations often.

Protect Your Home From Wildfire – Use This 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 or around your property. There are some fairly easy things you can do to help make your home and out buildings 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.

- Is your address clearly visible from the road? If you need an address marker, contact the district for one.
- 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 your 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.

Think Water Safety This Summer

In recent weeks the district has participated in a number of water rescue incidents that included overturned rafts in the Middle Fork of the Willamette River, to boating accidents in our local lakes. We would like to remind everyone to be smart in and around water.

Whether at home or enjoying our local waterways, it is always important to keep safety in mind when in or near water. Drowning can happen at any time of year, but be especially cautious during the summer months when drowning incidents can increase by as much as 89% as compared to the rest of the year. When the weather turns warm, as it is now, everyone naturally wants to be in or around the water to help stay cool. Hanging out at the pool or the lake on a hot day is a great way to beat the heat. For people between the ages of 5 and 24, drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death. It doesn't have to be that way, though. Most water-related accidents could be avoided by knowing how to stay safe and following a few simple guidelines. Learning how to swim is essential if you plan on being on or near water. Many organizations provide swim instruction to folks of all ages, check to see what classes are available in our area.

Contact the District office at 541-937-3393 or check our website at www.lowellfiredistrict.org for more information on water safety and boater safety.

July Community Events!

The Pine Needlers Present: Diamonds in the Rough Quilt Show—July 24th and 25th

The show will be presented on Saturday, July 24th from 10 am until 4 pm, and on Sunday, July 25th from 10 am until 3 pm in the Lundy Elementary School Gymnasium, located at 45 S. Moss Street in Lowell. All current Covid protocols will be observed.

The show is free. Raffle tickets for the beautiful quilt are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Tickets for additional themed baskets valued at \$100 or more are also available. The quilt winner will be drawn on Sunday and you don't need to be present to win! All monies earned from the raffle prizes go back to the community of Lowell.

If you'd like to enter a quilt in the show, forms are available at Lowell City Hall, from Teri Harter 541-968-9079, and online at bbjamquiltshow.wordpress.com. Enter as many family quilts as you would like — something you've made or a family heirloom.



Lowell Volleyball Car Wash!

The Volleyball team will be holding a car wash fundraiser on Saturday, July 24th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at 137 E. Main Street (next door to Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop). Come out and support the team!



Community Garage Sale Weekend — July 23rd through July 25th

The weekend of July 23-25 is a perfect weekend for a community garage sale. If people having a garage sale provide their address to Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop, we'll create a master list and map of all the sales. Information can be provided in person or by phone (541-729-4020). This is open to anyone in the Lowell, Fall Creek, Dexter, Jasper, and Pleasant Hill areas.

Car Cruise Route and Display — following the cruise, cars will be displayed at Rolling Rock Park

The cruise route is as follows: Starting at the Industrial Park on Seneca, proceed south/right on Moss Street, east/left on 6th Street, south/right on D Street, east/left on 4th Street, south/right on Hyland, west/right on 2nd Street, south/left on Pioneer Street, east/left on 1st Street, south/right on Sunridge, south/left on Wetleau, west/right on North Shore, south/left on Everly, east/left on West Main Street to Rolling Rock Park.

In addition to the other activities and car cruise detailed above, there will be other activities including:

Lowell Football Team—Blackberry cobbler and ice cream desserts for sale at Stomping Grounds Coffee.

Craft Fair Booths—A few of your favorite local artists will set up shop with their creations. Come browse while you get your car washed and eat some blackberry cobbler.

Clothing Bank Update—Summer Hours

Due to the generosity of our community, the Clothing Bank is stocked to the gills and must take a break from accepting donations for a couple months due to limited space. In the meantime, please stop by the Hake Center at 4 East Lakeview (behind the football field) on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

Summer hours are 1:00—4:00 p.m. for July and August only. Free clothing is available for anyone in need. All sizes are available. Thank you to this amazing community for all 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

Making community connections

NON-PROFIT

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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: July 2021

- 1—City Council Library Workshop, 6:00 p.m.
- 2—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 6—City Council Work Session, 7:00 pm, via Zoom
- 14—Lowell Fire District Board meeting; 7:00 p.m., Main Station
- 16—Free Movie in the Park, 8:00 p.m., Rolling Rock Park
- 17—Meet School Board Members, 9-11, Stomping Grounds Coffee
Chili Cook-Off—Lowell Grange, Noon
Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 20—City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
- 23-25—Community Garage Sale
- 24—Quilt Show, Lundy Elementary Gym, 10 am—4 pm
Volleyball Car Wash, 10am-2pm, 137 E. Main Street
Car Cruise, 11:30 a.m., ends at Rolling Rock Park
- 25—Quilt Show, Lundy Elementary Gym, 10 am– 4 pm
- 26—School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., PDC at Lundy Elem.
- 31—Green Waste Facility — 10:00 a.m. until noon

Lowell Grange Chili Cookoff Saturday, July 17th

Entry deadline is July 10th.

There is no entry fee! For just \$5 our guests can try all the great chili entries, eat cornbread, and vote on who is the best!

Or for just \$3, eat chili and cornbread!

Contestants will set up by Noon—Judging will be from 12-1, Food will be available from 12-2.

For more information contact Ruth George at 541-510-5608; email ruthgeorge513@gmail.com, or pick up registration forms at Bridge Town Market.

Sign up early. Spaces are limited.

Thank you and we hope to see you there!