



The Bridge

Making community connections

Ivan Oakes Campground

Ivan Oakes Campground, managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Lookout Point Lake, is now reservable online.

Reservations can be made up to 6 months in advance at www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777. A reservation will be required to camp and can be made the same day if sites are available. Sites are \$16/night. The campground is scheduled to open on May 27, 2022.



The Bridge

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November 2021

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Thursday
November 11th

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

Dear Lowell / Fall Creek Families,

Today as I type this letter, I want to express to you the gratitude that I have for two very important people on our staff. These people often are overlooked and forgotten in our school system. These people work tireless hours to ensure our schools run smoothly and I could not do my job to the best of my ability if it were not for them. The people I am referring to are the building principals. Without them our schools would not be where they are today. They are the faces of their respective buildings, and I couldn't be happier that they are on my staff.



Jessica Edgerton has been in the district for 13 years. She has always had wonderful leadership qualities that allow her to blossom as the elementary principal. She is a wonderful listener and an exceptional problem solver. Her attention to detail has been a mainstay since she has been in her roles as both a teacher and principal. She is compassionate and a wonderful team player.



Scott Yakovich is in his second year here as our Jr/Sr High building principal. Think about this for a second: You start a new job, you don't know anyone and you have to develop positive relationships with kids, however you start right when COVID-19 sweeps through the nation. The amount of time and effort he has had to put in over the course of these couple years has been immense. To begin a job that focuses on student achievement, yet not see these students for the first seven months is no easy task. However, he has done his job amazingly since he joined us last year. He is often here from sunup to sundown ensuring our students receive the best education they can. He is a wonderful collaborator and willing to help whenever called upon. And we also need to acknowledge his role as Athletic Director. He has stepped up and taken on a task that is forever evolving and becomes more challenging each year and yet he is conquering it!

These two individuals are a constant light during these unprecedented times. Knowing that they are the leaders of our respective schools makes me beam with pride. I am forever grateful for the impact they have had on our students and staff throughout our district. If you see your child's principal, please reach out and say thank you. They work thankless jobs, and they need to be recognized. They have so much passion for what they do, and they are often the forgotten people within our schools.

To both of you, I say thanks. Thank you for your work. Thank you for your time. Thank you for your leadership. Thank you for your patience. And, most importantly, thank you for being you! A truly amazing principal is hard to find. I am humbled to have these two wonderful leaders on our team. Sincerely, Johnie Matthews

Students of the Month



Andrew Bardis (at left) is a senior at Lowell and the son of Anna and Tim Stratis of Lowell. Andrew loves to play basketball and football and loves to support his team in any sport. His favorite subject is science and his favorite food is burritos. Andrew is a role model for all students at Lowell Jr/Sr High School, serving as the student body president. He plans to go to Linn-Benton Community College to become a Radiologic Technologist.

band, choir, and PE and his favorite sport is wrestling. David is a motivated student athlete who works hard to be successful in the classroom and on the field.



David Finch is an 8th grader and the son of Dawn and Kevin Finch. David's favorite interests are riding dirt bikes and doing sports such as football, wrestling, and track. His favorite subjects are

Congratulations Andrew and David on being selected Students of the Month!

Fall Sports Update!

Lowell Varsity Football has had a solid season when it comes to effort and attitude. Now it's time to pull an upset. We had solid wins over Gervais, Oakridge, and Central Linn. We weren't successful against Toledo on the road October 22nd but hope to get an upset at Santiam Christian on Friday, October 29th. Now is the time for our hard work and effort to pay off...

Thank you to all the coaches, parents, and fans for your support of Lowell Football.

Junior High Football has one game left of a very successful season. Make the road trip on Wednesday, November 3rd to Fern Ridge and help root them on.

Junior High Volleyball had a fun season in spite of Covid restrictions and quarantines and had many new players who learned a lot alongside returning players.

Varsity Volleyball — On to State!!

Lowell beat Oakridge 25-15, 25-19, 19-25, and 25-17, then lost to Monroe in overtime 17-25, 25-21, 23-25, 25-16, and 16-18. Nine straight sets is no joke, but our girls pushed hard to secure 2nd in league and 8th seed in state.

Lowell will play Bonanza in the first round of playoffs. The game will be at Bonanza on Saturday, October 30th at 3:00 p.m.



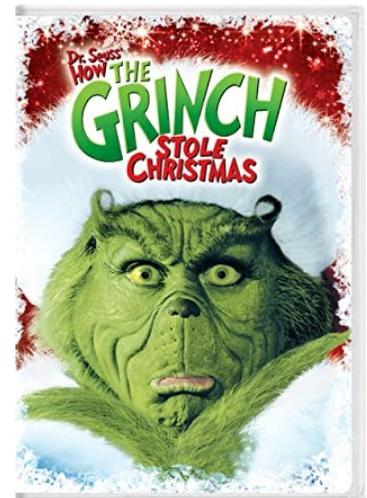
Movie Night at the Library

In November and December, we will have a "Movie Night at the Library."

The first movie night is November 19 at 6:30 pm where we will watch Disney's "Jungle Cruise."

The second movie night is December 10 at 6:30 pm where we will watch "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

This is a family event. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Disney's "Jungle Cruise"

Date: Friday, November 19

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: 70 N. Pioneer St.,
Maggie Osgood Library

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas"

Date: Friday, December 10

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: 70 N. Pioneer St.,
Maggie Osgood Library

City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

In September, the City mailed household surveys asking for your preference on a design option for the proposed new City Hall and library located at 70 N. Pioneer St. Option A uses the existing building with minimal modifications at an estimated cost of \$393,417. Option B modifies the existing building to build a larger library and a permanent City Hall at an estimated cost of \$1.8 million. Out of 490 surveys that we mailed, we received 74 responses. Of those responses, 33 preferred Option A, 32 preferred Option B, and 9 said “something else.” The City also held a public outreach meeting on September 27 to gain additional input from the community.

City Council has voted to select Option A, with a few modifications. One modification is to slightly expand and reconfigure the conference room, sharing its use between City Hall and library functions. The second is to reconfigure the library staff work room, placing it in the northeast corner of the building. The picture below shows the design plan that City Council has selected.

The next step is to create the construction documents with our architectural and engineering team, as well as to obtain funding for construction. If everything goes as planned, the project schedule shows us bidding out the project in early 2022, with construction occurring sometime in the summer of next year.



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

Why Option A? The 2019 snow disaster caused major structural damage to City Hall that compelled closing the Library and Council chambers. The City chose not to spend \$538,000 to repair the snow-damaged building with its many underlying defects. The 70 Pioneer building was purchased, and residents were asked to determine how to best utilize the building to meet the needs of the community.

The “Library and City Hall Facilities Study” was completed in January 2020. It called for a short-term plan to renovate the building by creating a shared space for a Library and City Hall (Option A) and a long-term plan, for a separate Library and City Hall.

Responses from the 490 surveys mailed out to Lowell residences showed an almost even split between Option A and B. Thirty-three for A. Thirty-two for B. Cost was a common theme for both groups. This Council, and the Community Facility Study both recognized that Option A is a temporary remedy. The Council wasn’t prepared to opt for the \$1.8 million Option B without greater community dialogue and support. When the time comes to build a new City Hall, the City will reach out to residents to help decide the size, cost, and means of payment.

The Maggie Osgood Library had its beginnings over a decade ago when Maggie asked to have a library in City Hall, being told there wasn’t any money, but being offered a small unused backroom. Books were collected, shelves were built, and used computers donated. Over time, the library grew into more rooms, had reading programs funded, and new computers were purchased. It became a learning center and media area for the larger community. Her vision that started in a small backroom will be fulfilled with Option A. I believe Maggie would be pleased and agree with our decision.

City Council and other committee/commission actions:

A public outreach meeting was held on September 27 for the City’s architect and City Council to discuss the library/City Hall renovation project with citizens.

At its October 5, 2021 regular meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Voted to select Option 1B for the library/City Hall renovation project.
- Voted to direct the City Administrator to obtain financing for the library/City Hall project, including preparing vacant City properties for sale to offset construction costs.
- Appointed William D. Priser to the Planning Commission.
- Approved an “option agreement” with Lane County for the purchase of county right-of-way.
- Approved an “Animal Services Enforcement Services” contract with Lane County.
- Authorized newly appointed City Councilor Maureen Weathers to be added as a signatory on the City’s bank account for check-writing purposes.

At its October 18, 2021 regular meeting, the Parks Committee met but did not have a quorum to conduct official business.

At its October 19, 2021 regular meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Voted to amend the selection of a library/City Hall design option to reflect the option described above.
- Approved a “Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Community Parking Lot” with the Lowell School District.
- Reviewed a loan application process with Business Oregon for the library/City Hall construction project.

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

Burn to Learn Scheduled for November 6th

On Saturday, November 6, 2021 the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District along with neighboring districts will be conducting a live fire training burn at 205 E. Main Street. This location is near the High School.

There will be fire equipment in the area during the training period starting around 7:00 a.m. This equipment will remain in the area through a majority of the day for the training event and then continue to be on the location until the area is deemed safe. Traffic impacts should be kept to a minimum but motorists should be aware and vigilant in passing through the area. Traffic will be detoured around the training area. E Main Street near the structure and S Pioneer Street will be closed during the training exercise.

Along with fire district apparatus, there will be smoke in the area. Every effort to minimize smoke will be made. Residents should expect to smell and see smoke in different volumes throughout the day in and around the training location. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact the fire station at 541-937-3393.

We appreciate your understanding as we gain knowledge and continue to improve our skills. Our goal as always is to provide the best possible service to Lowell and our surrounding communities. Thank you again for your understanding!

See map below.



Imagery ©2021 Maxar Technologies, State of Oregon, Map data ©2021 100 ft

XXXX - Road Closure 11/6/21 - 7:00 am to 1900

--- - Detour Route

Burn to learn

November Community News & Events



The Craft Show is Back!!

Enjoy some cider and cookies while browsing the local artisans' hard work.

Avoid "supply chain issues" and get a head start on your holiday shopping while supporting local residents.

Bring all your friends and family as well.

For more information, please call Carol at 541-912-4787.

Breakfast at the Grange

Breakfasts are still on hold but we are hoping to restart them on January 2nd.

Hope to see you then!

Tree of Joy

This year we are excited to start a Tree of Joy to serve the children of the Lowell/Fall Creek Communities. The tree, which will provide gifts to children 12 years and under, will be located at Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop. Beginning Saturday, November 20, tags will be available to select from the tree.

If you would like your child(ren) to be included in the "Tree of Joy" program and you did not receive a form in the mail, you can pick one up at Stomping Grounds Coffee. Forms must be received on or before November 15, 2021. Please return forms to P O Box 535, Lowell OR 97452. An envelope is enclosed with the forms at Stomping Grounds Coffee. Email Michelle at lowelltreeofjoy21@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Please return wrapped gifts back to Stomping Grounds Coffee by Dec 15, 2021, with the original tree tags attached.



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

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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: November 2021

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| 2—Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
City Council Work Session, 7:00 pm | 20—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m. |
| 3—JH Football @ Fern Ridge, 4:30 p.m. | 22—JH Girls Basketball v. Junction City, 4:30 p.m.
School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., PDC at Lundy Elem. |
| 5—No School! Teacher Grading Day
Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m. | 23-24—Virtual School Conferences |
| 6—Burn to Learn, 205 E. Main Street 7:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m. | 25-26—Thanksgiving Holiday — No School; City Hall closed |
| 7—Daylight Savings Time ends | 29—JH Girls Basketball v. City First, 4:30 p.m. |
| 8—JH Girls Basketball @ Oakridge, 4:30 p.m. | In December:
1—JH Girls Basketball v. Eugene Christian, 4:30 p.m. |
| 10—JH Girls Basketball @ Fern Ridge, 4:30 p.m.
Lowell Fire District Board meeting; 7:00 p.m., Main Station | |
| 11—Veterans Day — No School, City Hall closed | |
| 13—Lowell Grange Craft Fair, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., 51 East 2nd St. | |
| 15—JH Girls Basketball v. Central Linn, 4:30 p.m. | |
| 16—Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m. | |
| 17—JH Girls Basketball v. Cottage Grove, 4:30 p.m. | |
| 19—Movie Night at the Library, 6:30 p.m., 70 N. Pioneer Street | |



Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour
the night of Saturday, November 6th