



The Bridge

Making community connections

School Bus Safety!

The Bridge

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The Lowell School District wants to remind drivers it is unlawful to pass a school bus when the red lights are flashing. All lanes of traffic must stop in both directions and on both sides of the road as long as a painted median strip or turn lane does not create two separate roads.

School buses have flashing amber and red lights near the top of the bus on the front and rear. They are also equipped with a stop arm that extends from the bus near the driver's window when the red lights begin to flash as well.

Flashing amber lights warn surrounding drivers that the bus is about to stop on the road to load or unload children and alert drivers to prepare to stop. When the red lights flash, drivers must stop before reaching the bus and remain stopped until the bus driver turns off the flashing red lights.

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Help keep our children safe!



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

Lowell-Fall Creek Friends, Family and Community,

Generally this time of year brings us together to share all of the things that we are thankful for. While these last two years have never before seen the magnitude of challenges, hardships and trials we have faced, we still have so much to be grateful for.

I will forever be thankful for the opportunity to help enrich and educate children. I work with talented teachers and dedicated staff who amaze me and humble me in their devotion to our students. Each day, I watch our children grow and learn because of our ability to serve our students.

I am thankful for the students who light up our halls, grace us with their grins, and enchant us with their laughter. When their faces light up upon learning a new fact or discovering the correct answer, the challenges of teaching all fade away. While some students may be sharing their achievements via screens, we continue to appreciate their amazing resiliency during this difficult time.

I am overflowing with gratitude for a community that comes together to support this small school district. Each and every day, you show up. From board members to volunteer coaches, you are here to help our students and staff succeed. The heart and resilience of this community is second to none. There is nowhere I would rather be than Lowell-Fall Creek.

I never thought that I would be thankful for sanitizer, masks, and social distancing, but here I am. While they may not be comfortable or convenient, these three things have allowed us to keep our school community healthy and participating in in-person learning on a daily basis. I would do just about anything to be able to do what we feel is best for our students. If that means wearing a mask and socially distancing, among other precautions, I will gladly do it!

Even the hardships can allow us to be thankful for our health, our homes and our loved ones. I encourage each of you to find something to be grateful for this season, because I am thankful for each and every one of you. Just remember, as the daylight gets shorter and the days seem darker, always try to focus on counting your blessings not your burdens. Sincerely, Johnnie Matthews, Superintendent



Students of the Month



Alexis Curry (at left) is a senior at Lowell and the daughter of Julie and Curtis Curry of Lowell. In her free time Alexis loves playing volleyball. She loves it so much she plays all year long and hopes to play in college. In fact, she helped lead the Lowell volleyball team to the state tournament while earning As in all of her classes for the 1st quarter. She also serves on the Student Council. When she's not playing volleyball, she loves hanging out with her family and friends. Alexis also enjoys fishing, playing with her cats and dogs, and baking. Her favorite thing to bake would probably be chocolate chip cookies — yum!



Amelia Cushman is an 8th grader and the daughter of Melani and Bryan. She likes video games and music a lot. Amelia likes to cook and read and her favorite book series is the Books of the Beginning by John Stephens. Her favorite movie is The NeverEnding Story. Amelia is a very thoughtful and mature student who always tries to do her best. She is a key contributor in both the band and choir.

Congratulations Alexis and Amelia on being selected Students of the Month!

Lowell High School Alumni Highlight: Chelsea & Brandon Chittim

Brandon Chittim graduated in 2013, then Chelsea Chittim (formerly Chelsea Roberts) graduated the year after in 2014.

Job/career details:

After graduating from LHS Brandon attended trade school at the Institute of Technology for HVAC training and began working at the Salem branch of James Heating and Air Conditioning. After completing his program in 2014, he moved back to the area and has since worked at the Eugene branch as a service technician.

After graduating from LHS Chelsea studied elementary education at NCU for four years. She graduated in 2018 with an honors degree and an endorsement in teaching English to non-native speakers. She immediately began working for the Lowell School District and currently teaches 1st grade with 20 wonderful students. She is graduating in January 2022 with a M.Ed. degree, Master of Education in Learning and Technology.



Life details:

They started dating at LHS in the Fall of 2011 and were married in June of 2016. That same year, they bought their first home in Lowell. Since then they've sold their first home and bought their second, still in Lowell. Just recently they announced that they're expecting their first child on June 8, 2022. They are very excited for this next chapter and to raise their family in this amazing community.

Other:

Brandon loves coaching middle and high school Cross Country and track athletes, while Chelsea coaches the girls middle school basketball team. They love spending time playing with their eleven-year-old English Bulldog, having family dinners, going to the movies, and cheering on the Red Devils and the Oregon Ducks.

Santa is on his way!



Santa's workshop will be transported to

Stomping Grounds Coffee
113 E. Main Street

December 11th
After parade to 6:00 pm

December 12th
1:00 to 4:00 pm

Bring your own camera and take as many photos as you want with Santa!

Cost: \$10 for individual; \$15 for two; \$20 for three or more. Pets welcome too!

The price includes **hot chocolate** and **candy canes** served by Santa's Elves, and a **small gift** from Santa!

All proceeds go to LHS Football

City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

Tree Lighting Ceremony — Saturday, December 4th

We will hold a “Covered Bridge Tree Lighting” to kick off the Christmas season on Saturday, December 4. The event starts at 5:00 pm.

A shuttle to the bridge will be available at the Maggie Osgood Library at 70 N. Pioneer St. starting at 4:30 pm. No parking will be available at the Covered Bridge, so please use the shuttle. Masks will be required at the event due to COVID-19, according to current state law.

Hot chocolate, cider and cookies will be provided by the Lowell Grange. Everyone is welcome!



Notice of Committee Vacancies

We have vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Budget Committee. If you're interested in getting involved in the City, consider serving on one of these committees.

The Parks and Recreation Committee will be involved in the upcoming design and renovation of Rolling Rock Park. We have one vacancy on the committee. This is a great opportunity to be involved in shaping the future of the City's parks.

The Budget Committee reviews and approves the annual budget and property taxes. If you're interested in deciding how the City spends its money, consider serving on the Budget Committee.

To apply: Send a completed and signed “Volunteer Boards & Commission Application” in person, by mail, or by email to City Administrator Jeremy Caudle. Our mailing address is: PO Box 490, Lowell, OR 97452. Our email address is: admin@ci.lowell.or.us. The application is available at City Hall or on the city website at the following link (scroll down to the bottom): <https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/forms>.

RAIN Join the Statewide Economic Recovery Planning Forum

This is your chance to make sure your community and business needs are addressed in Oregon's Statewide Economic Recovery Plan. Business Oregon is creating a plan which will emphasize assisting those most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. **They need and want your perspectives and ideas** about how the state could best mitigate the economic impacts and propose new programs to fill the gaps or better meet needs. There are two ways to participate:

1. Attend an Upcoming (Virtual) Regional Economic Recovery Forum. Lane County's forum will be December 2nd from 1:00-1:45 p.m.
2. Take their Survey before December 12th

Contact our area's Regional Development Officer at melissa.murphy@oregon.gov for more information on the forum and survey. Make your voice heard!



End of Year Fundraiser for the Maggie Osgood Library

The City is making an end of year push to raise \$3,000 to support the Maggie Osgood Library project. We are applying for approximately \$170,000 in grant funding to pay for the library project. This end-of-year fundraiser will increase our chances of getting the grant by demonstrating continued support from the community.

Whether its \$1, \$10, or \$100, *every little bit helps.*

Donations are tax deductible. For instructions on how to donate, stop by City Hall or visit our website at: <https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/library/page/library-capital-campaign>. You can also call City Hall to donate over the phone by credit card. Our phone number is: (541) 937-2157.



City Council and other committee/commission actions:

At their November 2 regular meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Held a public hearing on the sale of 205 E. Main St. to Lowell Investment Properties, LLC in the amount of \$375,000.
- Approved a motion to authorize the City Administration to execute a purchase and sale agreement for 205 E. Main St. with Lowell Investment Properties, LLC.
- Approved a library consulting agreement with Hummel Consulting.
- Approved a boundary and partition survey proposal.
- Approved a grant application from the Pine Needler's Quilt Group.
- Authorized the City Administrator to execute a contract for debris removal and clean up for the 205 E. Main St. live burn training.
- Approved a resolution to initiate amendments to the City's floodplain development code.
- Held a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Committee. At the joint meeting, both City Council and the Parks and Recreation Committee agreed: to reserve the current City Hall parking lot for future parking at Paul Fisher Park; to approve a shade tree program for Paul Fisher Park; and to hold a tree lighting ceremony in December.

At their November 16 regular meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Approved a memorandum of understanding with Northwest Code Professionals related to floodplain management.
- Authorized the purchase of 100 new water meters.
- Approved an application with Business Oregon to finance the library and City Hall construction project.
- Discussed the possibility of increasing police services within the City. After the discussion, City Council expressed an interest in learning more about expanding its current law enforcement services contract. Additional discussions on this issue are anticipated in December/January, along with community outreach on this issue soon.

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt



Last month the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District was able to complete a live fire training on Main Street in Lowell. This opportunity gave a lot of the volunteers a chance to see how all the training we put them through comes together. The volunteers in our area go through several weeks of training, between book work and hands-on training. The one area that is harder for them to train on is live fire training. Live fire training either comes from an actual emergency or a training fire. Training fires are either accomplished through an acquired structure (which has several government regulations) or purchasing a training burn structure (which could be a cargo container). Either way we were able to get a lot of good training from this structure.

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 during a power outage.



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

December Community News & Events

2nd Annual Lowell
Christmas Parade

December 11th, 2021
Starts at 3pm

*Santa Claus & Mrs. Claus will merrily make
their way through the parade!*

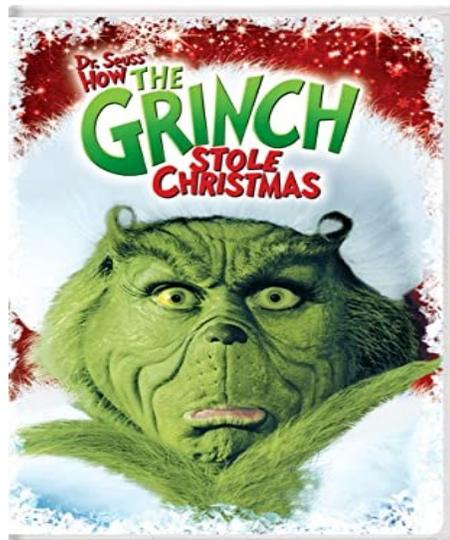
Prize Awarded to Best Decorated Float!!!

If you would like to join in the parade, registration forms are at Stomping
Grounds Coffee Shop, or you can email Shannon Fassbender at
sfass321@gmail



*Normal Parade Route
Starts at Tarmac and goes down N Moss to
4th St to N Hyland to E 3rd to N Pioneer to
E Main St and ends at Stomping Grounds
Coffee Shop.

Movie Night at the Library



“How the Grinch Stole Christmas”

Date: Friday, December 10th

Time: 6:30 pm

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

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

Clothing Bank Open to Serve

The Clothing Bank continues to be open on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays with hours from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Clothing donations are welcome on days that the clothing bank is open, or contact Brandy Stewart at 541-530-0123 or Stewartx6@fastmail.fm to make other arrangements.

The clothing bank provides free items to anyone in need and all sizes are available. It's located in George Hake Center at 4 East Lakeview Street (behind the football field). Thank you to our community for being so generous with their donations, they are appreciated very much!



Lowell Food Pantry is Open to Serve!

The Pantry is open on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 2:00 until 5:00 p.m. On the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, the Pantry is open for Bread Day from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

The Pantry is located in the George Hake Center on Lakeview Street (behind the football field).

Please call Shawn Brady at 541-912-1538 if you have questions or would like to make a donation. Thank you.



Tree of Joy

If you chose to participate in purchasing gifts for the Tree of Joy, please remember to return wrapped gifts back to Stomping Grounds Coffee by December 15th with the original tree tags attached. 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

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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 2021

- 1—JH Wrestling v. Oakridge, 6:00 p.m.
Lowell Planning Commission/Public Hearing, 7:00 p.m.,
70 N. Pioneer Street
 - 2—RAIN Regional Economic Recovery Forum, 1:00-1:45 p.m.
JH Girls Basketball v. Eugene Christian, 4:30 p.m.
JV Boys, Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Mohawk, 4:30/6/7:30
 - 3—JV Boys, Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Riddle, 4:30/6/7:30
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
 - 4—Varsity Wrestling @ Springfield Tournament — Cancelled
Tree Lighting Ceremony, 5:00 p.m., Lowell Bridge
Shuttles from the Library at 70 N. Pioneer begin at 4:30 p.m.
 - 6—JH Girls Basketball v. Oakridge, 4:30 p.m.
 - 7—Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Elkton, 3/4:30/6/7:30 p.m.
Virtual Family Title Night, 6:00 p.m., Lundy Elementary
City Council Meeting/Public Hearing, 7:00 pm, 70 N. Pioneer
 - 8—Curriculum Day—Half day of school, release time 11:50 a.m.
JH Girls Basketball @ Central Linn, 4:30 p.m.
JH Wrestling v. Creswell, 6:00 p.m.
Lowell Fire District Board meeting; 7:00 p.m., Main Station
 - 10—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Coquille, 2/3:30/5/6:30 pm
Movie Night at the Library, 6:30 p.m., 70 N. Pioneer Street
 - 10&11—Varsity Wrestling @ Culver Tournament, TBD
 - 11—Christmas Parade begins at 3:00 p.m.
Then Photos with Santa at Stomping Grounds until 6:00 p.m.
 - 12—Photos with Santa at Stomping Grounds, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
 - 13—JH Girls Basketball v. Fern Ridge, 4:30 p.m.
School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., PDC at Lundy Elem.
 - 15—JH Wrestling v. Thurston, 6:00 p.m.
JV Boys/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. N. Douglas
4:30/6/7:30 p.m.
 - 17—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Elkton, 4:30/7:30 pm
 - 17&18—Varsity Wrestling @ Grants Pass Tournament, TBD
 - 18—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
 - 20—JV/Varsity Boys Basketball @ Sheridan, 4:30/6:00 p.m.
 - 21—Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 70 N. Pioneer St.
 - 28—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. T. Lake, 3/4:30/6/7:30 pm
- Coming in January:
- 4—Students return to school
JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. East Linn, 3/4:30/6/7:30 pm
 - 5—JV/Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Glide, 3/4:30/6/7:30 pm
 - 8—Varsity Wrestling, Lowell Invitational, 9:00 a.m.