



The Bridge

Making community connections

November is Check Your Smoke Alarm Month

November is the month that everyone should take the time to check their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms for proper operation and to ensure the batteries are good. Newer smoke alarms are required to have 10-year batteries in them, and alarms over 10 years old should be properly disposed of and replaced with the newer models. In addition, smoke alarms should have the “hush” feature so that when a false alarm does occur, the alarm can be temporarily silenced to allow the inadvertent (burnt toast) smoke to clear.

Properly working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms can save lives by alerting you to a fire or to poisonous carbon monoxide in your home. Almost 70% of failures are due to missing, disconnected or dead batteries!



Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms save lives. For more information go to www.lowellfiredistrict.org or contact the District office at 541-937-3393.

The Bridge

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November 2017

Inside this issue:

School News

Register-Guard Article	p. 2
“New” Principal	p. 2
Sports Updates	p. 2
New Teachers	p. 3
Student of the Month	p. 3
Box Tops Wanted	p. 8

City Beat

Water System	p. 4
Call for Volunteers	p. 4
Community Grants	p. 5
Monthly Police Log	p. 5
City Council Actions	p. 5

Fire District

Check Alarms Now	Cover
Busy Summer	p. 6
Holiday Open House	p. 6
Meet Your Firefighters	p. 6

Other

Pictures with Santa	p. 7
Clothing Bank	p. 7
Craft Fair	p. 7
Grange Events	p. 7
Fall Creek Drawdown	p. 7
Home of Your Own	p. 7
Calendar of Events	p. 8



VOTE!



Ballot deadline is Tuesday, Nov. 7th

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

The following article was excerpted from the 10/21/17 edition of the *The Register-Guard*

The \$4 million proposal would be matched by a \$4 million state grant

The Register-Guard

LOWELL — Enrollment at the Lowell School District has been increasing steadily in the past three years. In fact, it's more than doubled since 2014, when 236 students were enrolled.

Enrollment was tallied at 625 students for the 2017-18 school year. While more students usually means more state revenue for their education, the additional students will strain the capacity of the 87-year-old Lowell Middle/High School and the 77-year-old Lundy Elementary School. Both buildings are long overdue for upgrades and structural repairs, district officials said.

So they are asking voters in Lowell to pass a \$4 million bond measure that would enable them to tackle the most pressing projects on the school district's long to-do list.

If voters approve the bond measure, the district would receive an additional \$4 million in grant funds from the state. The Oregon Senate passed a bill in 2015 that directs the state Department of Education to distribute grant funds and technical assistance to support local capital improvement efforts; it rewards communities for passing school improvement bonds with some additional cash. The grants are part of the Oregon School Capital Improvement Matching Program, which aims to enable the many Oregon districts that have long-postponed maintenance projects finally to fix what needs fixing. Passage of the bond would fund repairs and upgrades to both schools, Lowell Superintendent Walt Hanline said.

The improvements would include safety and security upgrades such as cameras and magnetic locking doors in both school buildings; sprinklers and other fire suppression equipment; the replacement of interior and exterior doors; science classroom upgrades; plumbing and electrical updates; removal of asbestos and replacement of deteriorated floors. According to the 2010 census, 35.8 percent of the households in Lowell included children under the age of 18. If the measure is approved, Lowell School District property taxes would increase by \$1.06 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, or \$159 per year for a home assessed at \$150,000. The total district tax rate would increase to about \$6.10 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, or \$910 per year for a \$150,000-assessed home.

“New” Principal Hired for Lowell Junior/Senior High School

The new principal at Lowell Jr/Sr High is none other than...Kay Graham! She has agreed to postpone retirement from Lowell and will serve as secondary principal for the 2018-2019 school year. Over the last four years, Ms. Graham has worked tirelessly to improve secondary curricula and increased rigor and relevance in student learning. Under her leadership, Lowell graduation rates have steadily improved, enrollment has increased from 111 students to 172 students currently, and freshmen “on track for graduation” data has consistently been above the state average. Many new classes have been added to the course offerings and Ms. Graham has been instrumental in bringing in grant funds to benefit students and staff.

Even though Ms. Graham never actually left, please join us in saying “Welcome Back”. We are delighted she will continue to provide leadership stability and continue the upward trajectory and success of our high school students.

Varsity Volleyball and Football Updates

Congratulations to the Varsity Volleyball Team for placing third in League! The team also tied with Mohawk for the League Sportsmanship award. While the team lost in the first round of playoffs, the following league awards were given: Lily Lane, 1st Team All-League and Player of the Year; Alanna Beyer, 2nd Team All-League; Mikayla Curry, 3rd Team All-League; and, Michaela Smith and Monica Guzman-Fields, Honorable Mention. Congratulations to the players and coaches on a fun, exciting season.

Varsity Football finished strong with four straight wins and heads to Dufur this Friday, November 3rd to play in the first round of playoffs. Game starts at 6:00 p.m. Plan a fun road trip to root them on!

New Teachers in the Lowell School District



Born and raised in Eugene, **Aaron Farrier** graduated from North Eugene high school (where Kay Graham was his asst. principal). He graduated from BYU-Idaho with a degree in Mechanical Engineering while working as an instructional assistant at Lane ESD. He discovered he enjoyed his tutoring work and went back to school to earn a Master of Arts degree in teaching from NCU in 2017, doing his student teaching in Lowell last year. Also, in addition to taking AP Spanish in high school, he lived in Mexico for two years, becoming fluent in the language. As a result, Aaron is endorsed in Math, Science and Spanish. He teaches two Spanish classes, two math classes, Physics and Life Science each day. In his spare time he enjoys reading, board and card games, sci-fi movies and music. He appreciates all the support of the staff during his student teaching and feels he has found a great community that he

can be a part of. We think so too, Aaron, welcome to Lowell!



New teachers at Lundy Elementary include 1st grade teacher **Julia Grabhorn** (at left) and 2nd grade teacher **Lauren Ely** (at right). Julia grew up in Scappoose and enjoys small town life. She graduated from Western Oregon University in 2017 and lives with her sister in Fall Creek with her dog, Timber. She enjoys hiking, camping, fishing, rock climbing and running. Julia likes 1st graders as they are young enough to light a fire in them. Lauren was raised in South Carolina and graduated from University of Kentucky in 2014. She taught 3rd grade in Alabama then a 4th/5th grade class in Springfield when her husband came to Eugene to go to U of O for graduate school. Lauren, her husband



Blaine and their dog Molly enjoy hiking, backpacking, camping and fly fishing. Her passion for working with kids started when she worked as a nanny. She is currently in graduate school pursuing a degree in curriculum and teacher education. Welcome Julia & Lauren!

Shannon Fassbender has been hired to work in the front offices at both Lundy and the high school. She was raised in Southern California, then moved to Elmira in 1977 where she graduated from high school. She graduated from the Health Care Administration, Business and Medical Assistant programs at Pioneer Pacific College. Shannon married her husband Ray in 2009 (whom she has known since she was 9 years old). They have four children ages 13, 9, 7 and 6. Their love of small town living led them to move to Lowell from Springfield in 2016 after visiting father-in-law, Tim Fassbender in Fall Creek, who is the bus mechanic for the Lowell School District. Her family enjoys anything outdoors and are big classic movie buffs in the winter. Shannon enjoys all the great people she works with and already feels like a part of the organization. The feeling is mutual Shannon, welcome!



November Student of the Month

Our student of the month is **Ashlee Brooks**. Her parents are Jennifer and William Brooks. She also has two brothers, Justin and Cody. The activities she enjoys the most are volleyball and club softball. Ashlee was the class representative her 8th grade year. In her spare time she likes checking trail cameras, hunting, watching Lowell football games, singing and hanging out with her friends. Ashlee is a joy to have around and is always smiling.



City Beat by City Administrator Jared Cobb

City Water System Scores Top Marks on Statewide Evaluation

The drinking water system in the City of Lowell has received the “Outstanding Performance” designation by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). This is the highest designation awarded by the agency and is based on the results of their water system survey conducted in August.

A water system survey is an on-site review of a system’s sources, treatment, storage facilities, distribution system, operation and maintenance procedures, monitoring, and management, for the purpose of evaluating the system’s capability of providing safe water to the public.

The criteria for outstanding performance are:

1. No Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), Action Level, or Treatment Technique violations in the last 5 years;
2. No more than one Monitoring and Reporting violation in the last 3 years. The one violation must be resolved (results submitted);
3. No significant deficiencies or rule violations identified during the current water system survey; and
4. Has not had a waterborne disease outbreak attributable to the water system in the last 5 years.

As part of their report, the OHA noted that the Lowell water system is “well-operated and maintained by knowledgeable and competent staff”. The city’s water system survey frequency has also been reduced from every three years to every five years.



The City of Lowell maintains two above ground storage tanks with a combined capacity of just over 1,000,000 gallons.

Call for Volunteers! The City is now accepting applications for the following committees and all 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. *The deadline for applications is November 30.* Info: call 541-937-2157.

Budget Committee

Term: 3 years

Membership (10): 5 Lowell City Council members, 5 Lowell residents

Powers/Duties: Review and approve annual budget

Reporting: None

Planning Commission

Term: 3 years

Membership (5): 4 Lowell residents, 1 member may reside with the Lowell Urban Growth Boundary, no more than 2 members from the same occupation, business, trade or profession

Powers/Duties: Review and make recommendations on planning, zoning, and development

Reporting: Annual report due 1/31

Parks and Recreation Committee

Term: 2 years

Membership (5): 4 Lowell residents, 1 member may be less than 18 years of age, 1 member may be a non-resident

Powers/Duties: Advise Council on parks development, maintenance, and recreation programming

Reporting: Annual report due 1/31

Library Committee

Term: 2 years

Membership (5): 3 Lowell residents, 2 members may be non-residents

Powers/Duties: Operate/maintain library; establish policy; advise on the budget, funding, and use

Reporting: Annual report due 1/31

Economic Development Committee

Term: 2 years

Membership (5): 3 Lowell residents, 1 member may represent a local business, 1 member may represent the Lowell School District, 1 member may represent the Lowell Fire District

Powers/Duties: Advise City Council on business creation, retention, expansion and ventures that enhance quality of life

Reporting: Annual report due 1/31

Blackberry Jam Festival Committee

Term: 2 years

Membership (5): 5 members from Lowell, Dexter, Trent, Fall Creek or Unity

Powers/Duties: Organize/operate the annual Festival
Reporting: Annual report due 8/31

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.

At the October 3rd study session, the following topics were addressed:

- Reviewed the Annual Water Report
- Reviewed the City Tax and Fees Comparison Report
- Discussed Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Local Government Grant
- Discussed Public Facility Site Visits

Study sessions are held for the City Council to receive background information on City business and to give Council members an opportunity to ask questions and express their individual views. No decisions are made, and no votes are taken on any agenda item. The public is invited to attend, however, there is generally no public comment period.

From the October 17th regular meeting:

- Authorized the City Administrator to sign the OPRD Local Government Grant Program Agreement
- Approved the use of the Non-Exclusive Towing Agreement

Motions were approved 4-0. In support: Bennett, Angelini, Harris and Osgood; Absent: Burford.

City Council Approves Community Grant Program

The Lowell City Council has approved a new program to stimulate and assist local non-profit organizations and businesses with community projects, economic development activities, and special events. The objective of the Community Grant Program (CGP) is to help organizations and agencies undertake activities that would not be considered without special funding. It is specifically designed to provide “seed” funding and invest in activities, projects, and events that have the potential for growth and self-sufficiency.

Program funds are derived from the Lane County Rural Tourism Marketing Program (RTMP) and the City’s share of transient room taxes. These funds are invested back into the community through designated projects and events that will enhance visitor appeal, increase local business activity, and encourage overnight stays.

- The program will provide non-profit organizations and businesses financial resources for the following activities: Beautification of public property (i.e. benches, bike racks, planters, in right-of-way)
- Tourism promotion and tourism related facilities
- Special events

A total of \$3,000 has been allocated for FY 2017-18, and organizations may request up to \$2,000 per eligible project. The maximum allowable grant award will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Economic Development Committee and may be adjusted, as necessary.

Applications are available at City Hall, online (www.ci.lowell.or.us), and will be accepted on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. Please contact City Hall if you have any questions about this new program.

Monthly Police Log (September 27 – October 27)

Date	Time	Call Type	Location
09/30/17	12:29 PM	Suspicious Vehicle	500 Block D Street
10/01/17	1:01 PM	Assist Fire Department	100 Block South Pioneer Street
10/02/17	7:37 AM	Vehicle Stop	100 Block North Moss Street
10/12/17	12:00 AM	Location Missing Person	100 Block West Main Street
10/13/17	6:39 PM	Impound Vehicle	100 Block North Pioneer Street
10/18/17	4:42 PM	Welfare Check	200 Block East Third Street
10/18/17	5:33 PM	Dispute	100 Block West Fourth Street
10/20/17	10:40 AM	Civil Service	400 Block D Street
10/23/17	8:39 AM	Theft	200 Block East Main Streer
10/24/17	11:06 AM	Unlawful Use of Vehicle	300 Block Marina Vista Drive

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

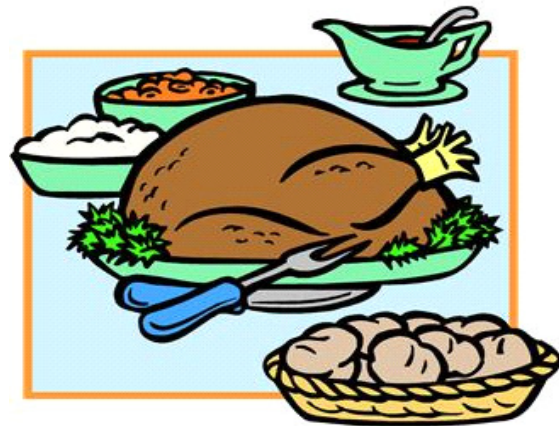
By Chief Lon Dragt

We have had a busy summer with the Jones Fire in our back yard. The community was very supportive of all the outside firefighters that came into our district. I have received many thanks from the management teams regarding this. So, I wanted to make sure that the community heard this. I believe we have earned a lot of respect from many of these firefighters.

If you happened to miss the informational meeting, the area of the fire will be closed for at least the winter. All roads that may intersect with the Jones area have been blockaded to protect the community from dangerous situations like snags. If there are any questions regarding, this please feel free to contact the Fire Chief at Lowell Fire Main Station 541-937-3393.

Please be aware that winter is coming and fire places should be cleaned. Over time there is build up in the flues that could possibly ignite and cause a chimney fire.

Lowell Fire District
Open House &
Holiday Dinner
Saturday December 9th
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Lowell Fire Station
Free Family Dinner-Door Prizes
Activities—Come Join The Fun



Meet Your Firefighters: Shelby Fountain

Shelby Fountain was born 23 years ago in Springfield, OR. A short time later she relocated with her family to Cottage Grove where she still currently resides. In high school she spent her time immersed in horses, competing on the high school's equestrian team. Throughout finishing high school, she always knew her future included a medical profession and horses, but choosing one was the problem. She looked into veterinary medicine but it was not the path for her. Doctoring her own personal horses growing up was more than enough for her. After graduation in 2012, her brother Josh, became a volunteer Firefighter at South Lane Fire and Rescue, peaking her interest in firefighting. As it turns out, firefighting has been sort of a family affair and solidified her interest in the service. She knew it is where she belonged.



Shelby did some research and learned her great uncle started Waltherville's department, and her father and uncle were both firefighters with Goshen and South Lane. Shelby joined a friend on a visit to Lowell's station about a year ago and has been a volunteer ever since. She enjoys the adrenaline, the ability to help the community and even more so loves that there is always more to learn. She spent the last year working on her fire certifications minus a brief hiatus over the summer healing from a broken leg. Now she is back and has begun work on her medical certifications, hoping to head into the EMT program this winter to help better serve Lowell's community. Shelby is frequently in and out of town heading to the station and other town events, feel free to say "Hi!" anytime!

In and Around Our Community

Take Your Picture with Santa!

Lowell Football is bringing Santa in on December 9th and 10th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. More information will be in the next issue of The Bridge.



Craft Fair — November 11th and 12th

A Craft Fair will be held at the Lowell Grange on Saturday, November 11th from 10 a.m.—4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, November 12th, from 11:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m. The Lowell Grange is located at 51 East 2nd Street in Lowell. For more information, please call Carol at 541-912-4787.

Clothing Bank Appreciates Donations

The Clothing Bank continues to be open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays with hours from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Donations of clean clothing are welcome on days that the clothing bank is open. Please do not drop off clothing at the door. Instead, contact Brandy Stewart at 541-530-0123 or Stewartsx6@fastmail.fm to make other arrangements. Thank you.

Grange Events in November

Breakfast on November 5th
Texas Hold ‘em Poker on November 3rd and 18th
Bingo! on November 15th
Your support of these events help restore the historic Grange Hall Building. Thank you very much!

FALL CREEK RESERVOIR DEEP DRAWDOWN

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plans to conduct a deep drawdown of Fall Creek Reservoir to its near-original stream channel, in early November. The Corps has lowered the reservoir down to 685 feet above sea level each fall in the past six years to give juvenile spring Chinook salmon a better chance of finding the dam’s regulating outlets and passing through them safely. Corps monitoring has indicated that juvenile salmon survival rate has been as high as 99% during prior deep drawdowns. Downstream residents may observe increased turbidity during the drawdown, but most of the accumulated sediment and other materials have already passed through the dam.

The reservoir will be closed to all boating - including kayaking, rafting and canoeing - to protect the public from safety hazards around the dam, Nov. 1, 2017 to Feb. 1, 2018. Oregon Parks and Recreation Department boat ramps on the reservoir are routinely closed during the winter months, so impacts to the boating public should be minor.

For more information, contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Park Ranger Office at 541- 942-5631 or Greg Taylor, fish biologist, at 541-937-2131.

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc.

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!



Just four building lots remain — get yours now!

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/>

Inquire with Andy Clay at: andy.clay@svdp.us or call 541-501-0894

Tax Credits Available from the Lowell School District

The Lowell School District will have a special board meeting on November 8, 2017, at 8:30 am to vote on the sale of Energy Incentives Program 2017 Tax Credits for \$12,496 and \$11,196. Bid solicitations must be submitted to the District Business Office by 5 pm on Monday, November 6th. Interested bidders can call 541-937-5090 for more information.



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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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: November 2017

- 1—Economic Development Committee, 1:00 p.m., City Hall
Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 2—Title I STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
Family Night Event, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Lundy Elementary
Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
- 3—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
Varsity Football Playoff at Dufur, 6:00 p.m.
- 4—Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour tonight!
- 5—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- 6—Library Committee, 6:00 p.m., City Hall
- 7—Election Day — ballots due by 8:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall.
- 8—**Special School Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Lundy PDC**
- 9—**No School**, Teacher Grading Day
Varsity Girls Basketball @ Hosanna Christian, 5:00 p.m.
- 10—Veterans Day Holiday
- 11—**Veterans Day**
Craft Fair, 10:00-4:00 p.m., Lowell Grange
- 12—Craft Fair, 11:00-4:00 p.m., Lowell Grange
- 13—JH Boys Basketball v. Mohawk, 4:30 p.m.
- 14—Blackberry Jam Committee Mtg, 7:00 p.m., Lowell City Hall
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
- 15—JH Boys Basketball @ Mapleton, 4:30 p.m.
- 15—BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
- 18—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 21—**City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
- 23-24—Thanksgiving Holiday, No School, City Hall closed
- 24—Senior Potluck Luncheon, cancelled this month only
- 27—JH Boys Basketball v. Oak Hill, 4:30 p.m.
School Board Meeting, Lundy PDC, 7:00 p.m.
- 29—JH Boys Basketball @ Mohawk, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. East Linn, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
- 30—JH Wrestling v. Crow, 6:00 p.m.

In December:

1-2 — Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball Tourney in Lowell

Box Tops Wanted!

Drop your Box Tops off at the
Lundy Elementary office,
45 S. Moss Street. The money
earned is used to enhance school
programs. Thank you
for your support!

