



The Bridge

Making community connections

We're on the *Move...* to a Successful 2015-16 Year!

The Bridge

Volume 17, Issue 11

May 2015

Capitalizing on the successes of the recent years of change, Lowell Superintendent Dr. Walt Hanline presented the budget committee with a budget for 2015-16 that will maintain all of the existing programs and add even more resources and programs for students, staff and the community.

Some of the enhancements for 2015-16 are:

- Ensuring that a notebook computer is in the hand of each and every student and used effectively by the student and their teacher
- Expanding summer school programs to elementary students
- Launching the Lowell Alternative Secondary School Program
- Continuing to expand college preparatory and career education course opportunities at Lowell High School
- Renovating the High School Cafeteria to be a center of social interaction at the high school and for the community
- Expanding Food Service by adding a Super Snack Program and Dinner Program to serve our students and the community
- Renovating District athletic facilities including the painting of the LHS Gym, completion of the new football announcer's booth, renovation of the football field and track facilities
- Expanding the impact of the Foundation by launching the Alumni and Friends of Lowell Association, Annual Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame dinner, and expanding the Scholarship Program, to name just a few of the planned projects for the Foundation.

To secure the future of the District, we need to continue to enhance our reputation by providing quality school facilities, a small school environment where every student participates and is supported, and a first-class academic program that will prepare students for a bright future. We look forward to meeting the challenges that our future will bring!

To find out more, please attend the Community Forum on May 18th, from 6-9 p.m. in the PDC at Lundy Elementary!

Inside this issue:

School News

2015-16 Outlook	Cover
Board Member Wanted	p. 2
Super Snack Program	p. 2
Spring Musical	p. 2
Music Reaps Awards	p. 2
Spring Sports	p. 3

City Beat

City Admin. Resigns	p. 6
Budget Committee Mtg.	p. 6
Open House Thank You	p. 6
City Council Actions	p. 6

Fire District

Annual Budget	p. 4
EMT Training Grads	p. 4
May is Wildfire Awareness Month	p. 5

Other

Mothers Day Out	p. 7
Community Yard Sale	p. 7
Preschool Registration	p. 7
Grange Events	p. 7
Hall of Fame	
Nominations Sought	p. 7
Shoreline Mgt Meeting	p. 7
Calendar of Events	p. 8



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

Board Member Position Open

Due to the resignation of Leslie Brandt who moved from the area, Position #2 on the Lowell School Board is open. An application form may be downloaded from the District's website or picked up at the school. Applications are due by Tuesday, May 5th by 4:00 p.m. at the Superintendent's Office, 45 S. Moss Street. Candidates will be interviewed the afternoon of Monday, May 18th. An appointment will be made that day and will be sworn in at the June 22nd board meeting.

Qualified candidates must be a registered voter in the District and must have resided in the District for the period of one year immediately preceding the appointment. The successful appointee will serve until June 30, 2017 when the position will be up for election for a full four-year term.

Lundy Spring Musical

Thursday, May 28th, 7:00 p.m. LHS Gymnasium
 Grades K-5 perform "American Symbols"
 A patriotic salute directed by our own Abbey Rius

Super Snack Program Up and Running

Recently, Lowell High School was approved by the State of Oregon to provide a free "Nutritional Super Snack" program for our students. Each day the menu will include things like string cheese, fresh fruit, milk, and crackers. Just prior to being released to walk home or to the busses, students will have the opportunity to pick up their snacks in individual bags in the cafeteria and also be provided an education enrichment activity. Now snacks are available at both Lundy Elementary and the high school.



Future food program additions include a Summer Food Program for lunch and snacks open to the community. Then beginning next school year, a Supper Program will be added which will also be open to students and community members.

Lowell Music Has Busy Spring — Reaps Awards

Another busy spring schedule has once again proven exciting and fruitful for Lowell Music. The program has featured no less than nine festival performances by four different groups in March and April alone. On March 19th, the Concert Band played admirably at the Willamette Valley Band Festival, outperforming other state-qualifying bands across two divisions. This was followed by an April 7th performance by the Concert Choir at the District 12 Choir Festival, where **they landed the top state-qualifying score for all divisions** for the second time in as many tries.

On April 17th, the high schoolers were joined by the Junior High Band and Choir at our annual Mountain West League Festival, where **all groups once more proved dominant in their respective categories** (including unanimous "Superior" ratings for both choirs). A scant four days later, the Concert Choir reprised an appearance on the stage of the prestigious Hult Center, and proved their place again among the upper echelon of local schools at the Metropolitan Choir Festival.

The culmination of this exhausting schedule, of course, was a four-day trip to the Bay Area of California (April 23-26). The kids spent a day exploring San Francisco (including Fisherman's Wharf, Chinatown, and even Alcatraz!), another day at the Great America theme park, and -- most importantly -- managed **a clean sweep of 1st place trophies at the Music in the Parks band and choir competition!**

Up next will be the OSAA State Choir Finals, May 7th at George Fox University. Come cheer on our Concert Choir as they seek a first-ever state championship! (see osaa.org/choir for info).



Lowell Music Mugging for the Camera on Alcatraz Island

JH Track Has Great Turnout!

Almost 30 kids are participating in this year's track program. Kudos to Brian Chittim and his assistant Jill Chapman — not only for taking on this challenge but for coaching the kids so well.

Team members are 8th graders MacKenzie Smith, Julia Donnell, Symon Thurmond Kasey Erwin, Ian Sotomayor, Anthony Yarbrough, Clay Rooks, Logan

Miles, Andrew Lauzon, Carson Gardner and Mason Wendt; 7th graders AJ Devereaux, Owen Chapman, Dustin Astbury, Taysian Williamson, Nolen Melton, Andy Kintzley and Brian Lemon; 6th graders Priscilla Thurman, Ashley Woodhurst, Mahayla McFadden, Audra Chapman, Katie Chapman, Kelsey Peters, Lucy Plahn, Serena Yarbrough, Aidden Williamson, Nicky Sotomayor, Carter Wendt, Fisher Schescke, Timmy Stratis and James Farrington; and, 5th graders Ashlee Brooks and Kloe Harris.



Varsity Baseball

After a big win over Yoncalla on April 20th, the team is back in the running for a state playoff game. Team members include seniors Alex Norris, Josh Connor and Chase Holstad; juniors Cameron Slaven, Sam Thurmond, Pierce Gossler and Mitchell Riberal; sophomores Hayden Trimble, Scott Karbowski, Zach Kitzley, Colton Riggs, Brayden Long, Justyn Barton and Michael Thorton; and, freshmen Dylan Baimbridge, Justin Marsh, Zach Smith, Cody Brooks and Dillon Dove. Head coach is Kody Eidenschink assisted by Matt Wendt (not pictured).

Varsity Softball

With multiple first year players, the high school softball team has been improving rapidly. Team members are seniors Kiera Beyer, Faith Baimbridge, Jessica Chittim, Kaysey Demarce and Sam Harshbarger; junior Marisa Owsley; sophomores Eden Smith, Anna Cardwell, Chelsea Bryne and Madi Christensen; and freshmen Tessa Ferguson, Julieann Lay and Daisy Schnee. Head coach Jeff Cardwell is assisted by Toni Taylor.



FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

Annual Budget Approved by Budget Committee

The Fire District Budget Committee recommended approval of the proposed budget for fiscal year 2015/2016 at its meeting on April 15th. Fire Chief presented no significant changes in the budget with a total proposed budget of \$645,626. The budget stays within the current tax rate of \$2.697 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

The budget provides for two capital items: funds for the construction of a two-bay engine house at the Fall Creek station, and the replacement of a 2003 staff pickup. The budget also provides for a full-time Firefighter/EMT/Trainer, a permanent part-time Firefighter/EMT, a half-time Fire Chief and a summer temporary part-time Firefighter/EMT. The budget also reflects a contribution to the Reserve Fund for future replacement of high cost equipment and vehicle.

The approved budget is posted on the District website at www.lowellfiredistrict.org. A Public Hearing on the proposed budget will be held at the Lowell Fire Station, 389 N. Pioneer Street, on May 19, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. The District Board Meeting will immediately follow the Budget Hearing. Both are open to the public.

Two Firefighters Complete EMT Training

Congratulations to Firefighters Morgan Stevenson and Regina Bell for completing their State and National Certification tests at the EMT level. Morgan and Regina completed the 160 hours of training and clinical time and then successfully completed the National Registry testing process.

Congratulations Morgan and Regina!

May is Wildfire Awareness Month in Oregon

"Wildfire Knows No Season" is the theme for Oregon Wildfire Awareness Month this May. Wildfire Awareness Month is a public awareness campaign that highlights wildfire prevention education messages, events and opportunities for involvement statewide. This year's month-long education effort calls on citizens to be mindful of the growing potential for wildfires, and to follow basic fire-safety rules and precautions. State, local and federal fire agencies will be spreading the word about wildfire prevention and the steps Oregonians can take to stop most fires before they start.

BACKGROUND: Oregon's first Wildfire Awareness Week was proclaimed in May 2001. A multi-agency effort was led by the Office of State Fire Marshal and included the Oregon Department of Forestry, structural fire agencies (Lowell Fire District), insurance industry representatives and others. In 2008, the Keep Oregon Green (KOG) Association became the caretaker of the annual campaign. May 2015 marks the 14th year of the annual campaign, and the 7th year of Oregon's involvement in a proclamation that includes seven western states working together to address wildfire issues (MT, ID, OR, CA, NV, UT, SD).

Now's the time to make your property and home "Wildfire Safe". Here are some ideas that will help you avoid wildfire damage.

CLEAN The best place to start is with the house and the first 30 feet that extends out from it. The roof is the most vulnerable part of the home. Regularly clear leaves or needles from the roof and gutters, and cut back tree limbs that overhang the roof.

CLEAR Remove any combustible natural or human debris, such as leaves, branches, gas or paint cans, that collect near the home, under stairs, decks, and porches. Also important: Relocate firewood at least 30 feet from the home or store it in an enclosed shed.

LANDSCAPE Landscaping should contain low-growing, fire-resistant plants that are spaced carefully so as not to lead a fire to the home. Rake leaves and debris from the yard, mow grass, prune trees six to ten feet up from the ground, and keep plants well watered to prevent a surface fire from climbing into the crowns and carrying flames

from trees to the house. Properly placed deciduous trees can actually protect a home by blocking a fire's intense heat. Fuel breaks, such as driveways, gravel walkways, and green lawns can stop the advance of a fire by starving it of flammable vegetation. In the zone 100 to 200 feet from the home, trees may need to be thinned, though less intensively than those closer in, so canopies are not touching. Wildfire does not have to consume everything in its path. The more a homeowner can accomplish before fire season, the more it will improve a home's chances of surviving a wildfire.

It will give you some peace of mind knowing that if you leave your home for a stretch of time, it will still be standing when you return, if a wildfire were to happen. More tips on how to create defensible space around your home and protect it from wildfire can be found at: www.firewise.org and www.keeporegongreen.org

Emergency Medical Technicians Complete State Recertification

Every two years Emergency Medical Technicians statewide must complete a specific number and type of continuing education requirements to recertify their license with the Oregon State Health Division, Emergency Medical Services Section. The State requires EMTs to constantly review and update skills and knowledge and demonstrate the minimum standards of competency to maintain their license, whether the EMT is a volunteer or paid person, they all must meet the same national and state standards.

Lowell Fire District currently has three EMRs, five EMTs, one EMT-Advanced, one EMT-Intermediate and four Paramedics for a total of 14 medically trained personnel. In addition, one of our EMTs is currently enrolled in the Paramedic Program through LCC.

As with our neighboring Fire Districts (Dexter, Pleasant Hill and Goshen), Lowell Fire District does not transport patients to the hospital or operate an ambulance. Our fire districts are considered "First Response Agencies". In other words, we respond to provide immediate care and assistance while the transport unit (ambulance) responds from Springfield or Eugene. In fact, our local first response agencies are strictly prohibited by law from transporting patients, as we are not licensed, staffed or supplied to meet the strict state standards for transport.

Ambulance services are quite costly to operate, and it is much more cost effective for small fire districts like ours to provide immediate patient care and stabilization with local personnel and equipment, while transport units respond from centralized locations throughout the county. Supporting a local ambulance in each small district (such as Lowell, Dexter or Pleasant Hill) would be impractical, cost prohibitive and a waste of a valuable resource based on utilization in these areas.

Due to the high operational costs associated with an Ambulance Service, fire districts in the county have developed and provide EMS First Response. All First Response agencies in the county work very closely with the four transport agencies/ambulance services, in Lane County.

So, when you see a large rescue or ambulance-type vehicle responding to a medical emergency in a rural area, remember that it's your local volunteers responding to provide immediate, high quality medical care and that another unit, an "Ambulance", is on its way from the metro area. It's the method that gets qualified medical care to you the quickest and in the most cost effective manner.

Rural Volunteer EMTs like Lowell's EMTs, put in many, many hours of training every month to assure our patrons receive timely, quality emergency medical care while the ambulance travels the 15 to 20 miles from the metro area. Patients will receive quality emergency care until the ambulance arrives, and that is due to the dedication, skill and knowledge of your local volunteers.

Help support your Volunteer Fire District. You don't have to be an EMT or Firefighter to help. Contact the District Office at 541-937-3393 or go to www.lowellfiredistrict.org to see how you might be able to contribute.

City Beat

City Administrator To Resign

On April 22nd City Administrator Bill Lee tendered his resignation. His last official day will be June 30, 2015. The council will be meeting to discuss city administrator recruitment at a work session and special meeting on Wednesday, April 29th.

City Budget Committee to Meet

The first meeting of the City of Lowell Budget Committee has been rescheduled to Wednesday, May 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the Lowell Fire Station, 389 N. Pioneer Street in Lowell. The 2015-16 budget materials will be available on or after May 1st.

THANK YOU

We, at the City of Lowell, would like to thank everyone who came to the Public Works Department Open House.

We enjoyed sharing with you all that we have accomplished in a short time.

Thanks to Lundy Elementary for joining us in the morning.

A special thank you to Lonna Bennett for the delicious cookies she made for the event.

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.

From the April 7th regular meeting:

- Approved amending Ordinance 289 Relating to Animal Control as described and bringing it back for 1st reading and public hearing at the April 21st meeting. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson and Rennert; Opposed: none.
- Adopted Ordinance 291, an ordinance to repeal Ordinance 286 and reinstate Ordinance 242 which Describes the Duties of the City Administrator. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood and Paulson; Opposed: Rennert.
- Approved a funds request from the Economic Development Committee in the amount of \$1,250 for a change in printing cost. In support: Bennett, Paulson and Rennert; Opposed: Burford and Osgood.
- Approved moving forward on Ordinance 292, an ordinance amending Ordinance 230 to grant an extension to Falcon Cable Systems' franchise agreement with 2nd reading and possible adoption at the April 21st meeting. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson and Rennert; Opposed: none.
- Approved \$1,849 to install a light pole at the northwest corner of the City Hall parking lot for safety and for installation of a security camera. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson and Rennert; Opposed: none.

From the April 21st regular meeting:

- Approved moving forward with Ordinance 290, an ordinance amending Lowell Revised Code Section 2.062 and 2.063 relating to Responsibilities/Duties of the City Attorney, to bring Ordinance 290 back for second reading at the April 21st meeting. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson and Rennert; Opposed: none.
- Adopted Ordinance 292, an ordinance amending Ordinance 230 to grant an extension to Falcon Cable Systems' franchise agreement. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson and Rennert; Opposed: none.

In and Around Our Community

Mothers Day Out Event — May 9th!

Sports Mom Apparel will be hosting a Mothers Day Out event at the Lowell Grange on Saturday, May 9th from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be many local vendors to shop from including eyebrow threading, bang trims, nails, Sports Mom Apparel, Mary Kay, Young Living Essential Oils, just to name a few. And, there will be crafts for the kids.

This event is open to the public so come check it out! Spots are still available if you are interested, please email sportsmomapparel@yahoo.com.

Lowell Community Preschool 2015-16 Registration Now Open!

If you have a three to five year old that you would like to make sure is kindergarten ready, please visit www.lowell.k12.or.us/preschool to find out more about our program. We look forward to seeing you next year! If you have any questions, please call Extended Programs Director Johnie Matthews at 541-937-2105 (jmatthews@lowell.k12.or.us) or call Head Teacher Jessica Pelroy at 541-953-9200 (pelroyj@yahoo.com).

Community Yard Sale Planned for July

As you do your Spring cleaning, set aside those unneeded items and plan to turn them in to cash during a Community Yard Sale on Saturday, July 18th at the Lowell High School parking lot. Spaces will be sold for \$5 each, which will go to school programs. For more info., or to sign up, please call Jerry at 541-937-3121.



Lowell Grange Events in May

Breakfast on Sunday, May 3rd
Texas Hold 'em Poker on May 1st and 16th
Bingo! on May 6th and 20th
Bunco on Friday, May 8th

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

Alumni and Friends Association Hall of Fame Nominations Sought

The Hall of Fame Committee will be choosing up to three people to be honored at the first Alumni and Friends of Lowell School District dinner. Nominations from the public would be appreciated and need to be in by June 15th.

Criteria for the awards are as follows: **Athletics** (state championship teams, state individual champions and first team all-state selections); **Lowell Athletes** who went on to play and excel in sports after high school; **Students** who attended Lowell and went on to excel in their chosen profession or contribute significantly to improving their community; **Teachers** who received awards while employed at Lowell, or went beyond their duties to support and mentor students; **Students** who attended Lowell and died serving our country; and **Community Members** who may not have attended Lowell but whose contributions to the school district resulted in a better experience and education for

Lowell's students. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the District website: www.lowell.k12.or.us or picked up at the high school office. Please email nominations to aaf@lowell.k12.or.us or mrsqjp@msn.com; phone Barbara at 541-726-2004 or send via postal mail to 39090 Jasper Lowell Road, Fall Creek, OR 97438.

Corps of Engineers Shoreline Management Plan Revision Meeting Scheduled — May 12th

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will host an information session for Dexter Reservoir shoreline permit holders and other interested parties to discuss the Corps' upcoming Shoreline Management Plan Revision process. The session will be held Tuesday, May 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Lowell High School Gym, 65 Pioneer Street.

Shoreline management plans protect and manage shorelines in a manner that balances the need for public access with natural resource protection. The Corps periodically reviews these plans to ensure they are aligned with authorized project purposes, address public safety concerns, stay within local norms, and minimize environmental impacts.

Questions about the Dexter Shoreline Management Plan Revision process should be directed to Natural Resources Specialist Cameron Bishop at 541-688-8147 or Cameron.L.Bishop@usace.army.mil.

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: May 2015

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| 1—Varsity Softball/Baseball @ Oakridge, 4:30 p.m.
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m. | 13—Lowell Budget Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m., City Hall
Economic Development Committee, 7:00 pm, Lowell Fire Hall |
| 2— Free Family Movie Night at the Lowell Grange, 6:30 p.m. | 14—Varsity Softball/Baseball @ Yoncalla/Elkton, 4:30 p.m. |
| 3—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m. | 16—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m. |
| 5—Varsity Softball/Baseball @ Oakland, 4:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall | 18— Lowell School Board Meeting and Budget Presentation to
the Community, 6-9 pm, PDC, 45 S. Moss (through Gym) |
| 6—Site Council Meeting, PDC, 3:15 p.m.
JH Track @ Pleasant Hill, Will. Valley Youth League, 3:45 p.m.
Varsity Softball/Baseball @ Pleasant Hill JV, 4:30 p.m.
BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m. | 19— City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
Fire District Board Mtg & Budget Hearing, 7 pm, Lowell |
| 7—Varsity Baseball @ Thurston JV, 4:30 p.m.
Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
LHS Drama "Superhero Support Group", 7:00 p.m., Drama Rm | 20—BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m. |
| 8—Varsity Softball @ Mohawk, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity Baseball @ McKenzie, 4:30 p.m.
LHS Drama "Superhero Support Group", 7:00 p.m., Drama Rm | 21—JH Track Meet of Champions @ Corvallis, 10:30 a.m.
6th Grade Transition Night, 6:00 p.m. in Room #12 at Lundy |
| 9—JH District Track @ McKenzie, 11:00 a.m.
LHS Drama "Superhero Support Group", 7:00 p.m., Drama Rm | 25— Memorial Day — No School, City Hall closed |
| 10—LHS Talent Show, 7:00 p.m., High School Gym | 26—Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall |
| 11-13—6th Grade Outdoor School in Oakridge | 26-29—Scholastic Buy-One Get-One Book Fair at Lundy! |
| 12—Varsity Softball/Baseball @ North Douglas, 4:30 p.m.
Blackberry Jam Committee Mtg, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Fire Hall | 28—Lundy Spring Musical, Grades K-5, 7:00 p.m. HS Gym |
| | In June:
2—Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m., HS Gym
11—Last day of school
12—Graduation, 7:00 p.m., HS Gym |