



The Bridge

Making community connections

Fire District Builds Training Facility

The Bridge

Volume 18, Issue 2

August 2015

The Fire District has purchased two 40-foot shipping containers that will be used to create a training building that can withstand live fire as well as be configured to simulate actual residential interior building configurations to be used by firefighters for practice.

With the acquisition of the property located on Little Fall Creek Road for the development of the Fall Creek Station, the previous Fall Creek Station building will be utilized for training and badly needed storage for the District. The placement of the shipping containers and the eventual construction of training props inside will be a significant asset to the District and will allow for enhanced training of District personnel.

Plans for the training facility include a roof prop, wood stove and flue prop, live fire prop, stairway and room configurations that will allow practicing of all forms of fire attack techniques. The project should be fully completed this winter and once completed, the facility will be available for use by our neighboring fire districts as well.



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School supplies lists are on the District's website and at most retail stores. If you'd like to contribute, drop off your donations to Lundy Elementary at 45 S. Moss Street. Thank you!

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

Lowell's 2015 Summer Science Camp a Success!

This summer, due to a generous grant from the Chintimini Fund through the Oregon Community Foundation, the Lowell School District was able to offer a summer science camp that served 18 students in grades four through twelve. This first time summer science camp focused on microbiology and molecular engineering. In addition to funding through the Oregon Community Foundation, Oregon State University supplied the teachers (Ms. Toni Taylor and Ms. Kay Graham) with technical assistance and specialized equipment that could not be purchased through the grant.

The science camp demonstrated how important bacteria and fungi are to our personal health and the health of the environment as well as focusing on how certain microbes can cause havoc to our population. The students learned about bacteria and how to enhance and control bacterial growth, food microbes and preservatives, water quality related to microbiology, medical microbiology and DNA extraction. Additionally the students used the gel electrophoresis process to analyze "DNA fingerprints" and were able to successfully complete a genetic transformation lab.

The week ended with students presenting a Microbiology "Slam" where students worked in groups to present something they learned during the camp or some new research they studied.

Special thanks to Glenda Green who wrote the grant and Mr. and Mrs. Weathers who let Lowell Students "invade" their water front so the students could collect Dexter Lake water samples. Lowell Jr./Sr. High School student teacher, Ramiro Quero, also stopped by one day to help with the electrophoresis lab. One of the great things about this grant is that the equipment used for the summer camp can be used during the year by Ms. Taylor for her general biology class and can be reused for other summer science camps in the future.



Clothing Bank Open Every Tuesday in August

Get a jump on preparing for back-to-school by stopping in at the Clothing Bank at 4 East Lakeview Street (just behind the football field) every Tuesday in August from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Info: call Brandy at 541-530-0123.

Volleyball Kids Camp to Begin

The Lowell High School Volleyball team is holding a kids camp for 2nd through 5th graders from August 11th-13th, 4:00-5:30 and for 6th through 8th graders from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The cost is \$25 each and includes a camp teeshirt. Boys and girls are welcome. Please arrive a little early on the first day to get signed up.



Football Camp Scheduled

Youth football camp will be held August 10-13 from 5-7 p.m. High school football camp will be held August 12-14 from 6-8 p.m. Cost is \$10 and includes a camp tee-shirt.



All Class Reunion Back On!

Pat and Harry Roach will be coordinating a reunion picnic on August 29th from Noon until 5:00 p.m. at the picnic area of Staffordshire on Highway 58. The address for your GPS is 34621 Devonshire Drive.

What to bring: chair, main dish & salad or dessert
Bring your own drinks (but no alcohol please) and table service.

No invitations will be sent this year so please notify anyone that would want to know. If you have Facebook, please repost this notice.

For more information, please call Pat at 541-746-8022 or Harry at 503-828-6684.

Lowell Community Preschool's Fall Registration is Coming!

Join us at Lundy Elementary School in the preschool classroom on Tuesday, August 11th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. or Wednesday, August 12th from 8:00 a.m. until noon to get your preschooler registered for the 2015-16 school year. We hope to see you there!

First day of preschool is September 15th.

Time To Begin Thinking About 2015-2016 School RegistrationAlready!

The Lowell School District Registration is happening during the second week of August. Registration will be from 5:00 – 8:00 pm on Tuesday, August 11th, and 8:00 – 12:00 pm on Wednesday, August 12th. All families are asked to participate in registering students for the 2015-2016 school year. All students must have new paperwork filled out every year.

If you are unable to make those dates and times, please contact Lundy Elementary School if your student is in grades K-6 (541-937-2105) and Lowell Jr./Sr. High School (541-932-2124) if your student is in grades 7-12. The school offices will be re-opening for the new school year beginning August 4th.

Take advantage of our continued progress to upgrade facilities and programs by enrolling your children in the Lowell School District. We are on the *move*...



Summer Food Program Going Great

The Lowell Summer Food Service Program has served 1,324 meals in June and 1,738 so far in July! Breakfast, Lunch and Supper are still being served in Lowell until September 4th. Thank you to all the kids for showing up and the parents who are allowing them to do so.

New Teaching Staff Hired at Lundy and Lowell Jr./Sr. High School:

When students come back this fall they will see some new faces at both Lowell Jr./Sr. High and Lundy Elementary School. At Lundy, the school district hired new 4th and 6th grade teachers. This coming school year our new fourth grade teacher is Krystal Rodriguez-Light and our new 6th grade teacher is Greg Erickson. At Lowell, the new social science teacher is Heidi Sawitzke. All of these teachers went through a rigorous interview process and even taught a lesson in front of students with the interview team observing. We extend a warm welcome to our new Lowell teaching staff. Stay tuned....the new teachers will be highlighted in next month's Bridge.

City Beat

City Administrator Search Update

The City Council has narrowed their search to six finalists who will be interviewed on August 5th and 6th. Selection of the preferred candidate and contract negotiations are expected to take place in mid-August

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 July 7th regular meeting:

- Approved Resolution 631—A Resolution Amending Resolutions 388, 389, 390, 454, 482, 500 and 522 to Update Systems Development Charges (SDC) for Fiscal Year 2014-15.
- Approved Resolution 632—A Resolution to Authorize a Change in Signatories for the City of Lowell General Account, Trust and Agency Account; All with Banner Bank.

From the July 21st regular meeting:

- Approved Resolution 633—A Resolution Amending the City of Lowell's Personnel Policies & Procedures Employee Manual Relating to performance Management Review and Compensation.

All motions were approved unanimously by: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson, and Rennert.

More Blackberry Fun!



The always popular Pie Eating and Baking contests brought out some great competition. The adult pie eating contest winner was Kris Arens of Creswell (at left) and the junior winner was Ryan Miller of Lowell (at right). Team Stratis won the pie baking contest.



Derby Results

Thanks to a generous donation by Cabela's, all of the young kids at the derby won new fishing poles and reels! Thanks also to Weyerhaeuser for a cash donation for more prizes. Having secured new legislation to allow the trash fish caught during the derby to be sold as crab bait, 1,257 pounds of pikeminnow (about 2,200 fish) were removed from the lake, helping improve the fishery and raising funds for the Lowell wrestling program.

Champion Boat was Team Reaper (Ed Windheim, Mike Renfro and Eric Neal) with 392 pounds. Runner up was Team Butler. Champion Shore Team was Uncle Hillbilly (165 pounds), runner-up was Hillbilly I. Longest fish caught in the adult category was a 22" fish caught by Mike Renfro. In the junior category, six-year-old Carmen caught a 19" fish.

Blackberry Jam holds successful 21st festival!

The weather was perfect and the crowds were enjoying themselves at the 21st annual Blackberry Jam. This festival supports many good local causes, crafters, entertainers and gives families a wholesome event with something for everyone. Many thanks to the Blackberry Jam Committee, chaired by George Wild, who work year round to bring this event to Lowell. If you would like to join this effort, the Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except August so they can rest up) at 7:00 p.m. in the Lowell Fire Station training room. Next year's festival dates are July 29-31.

The Car Show had another great turnout this year, in spite of a chance of sprinkles in the weather forecast. Grand Champion went to Bill & Sue Wilson from Springfield with their 1939 Chevy Business Coupe (shown at right). Mayor's choice went to Jim & Rainy Bowman, 1932 Ford 5-Window Coupe; Judges' Choice was Don Burgess with his 1962 Chevy Chevelle SS in Chevelle Cream; and the Peoples' Choice award went to Larry Hill and his 1968 Chevy Chevelle SS in red with black racing stripes.



Saul and Paul Clark and great grandpa Jerry Dilley — Grand Champion Wood Boat. At right are Jack Olson (Grand Champion) and Tony Demuth (One of a Kind) with their tractors.



The 1st Annual Devil's Dam Dash 5K had heated competition with Sid Crenweldge of Eugene edging out 15 year old Melissa Berry (at left) of Eugene by just 12 seconds for first place! Sid finished in 19:23 and Melissa in 19:35. Junior runners were paced by first place finisher Paul Clark (above, left) and Callum Plahn in second. The Greased Pole Climb also had some excellent competitors. With three local Lowell boys competing in the finals, there was lots of cheering going on. From left to right above, first place finisher was 10 year old Aric Coleman, second place finisher 9 year old Matai Williamson and 10 year old Derrick Scharf.

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

Library Summer Reading Program Kids Visit Fire Station

Children from the Lowell Library Summer Reading Program visited the fire station and had the opportunity to talk with Firefighters, look and explore fire equipment and even had a chance to squirt some water on a make believe fire.

It's sometimes hard to tell who is having more fun, the little kids or the big kids.



Fire Danger Is High

As we progress into the later summer months, please remember that the grasses and vegetation around your home and around the general area is becoming more susceptible to fire. Here is a safety check list of things you can do to help make your property wildfire safe:

- Is your address clearly visible from the road? If you need an address marker, the district can provide one. Contact the district office.
- 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 you roof and gutters free of debris, leaves, needles, small branches and moss.
- Keep woodpiles, firewood and other combustibles at least 30 feet from you 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 an 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 on any of the above items, contact the District office or check out the District web page at www.lowellfiredistrict.org or call the District office at 541-937-3393.

Fire District Board Welcomes New Member

June Walker was sworn in as the newest member of the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors. Ms. Walker bested Mike Galvin in the May election. Mr. Galvin had been a member of the Board for 11 years.

Other members that were sworn in included Ron Ballenger and Michael Ballenger. Both were re-elected to their seats on the board in the May election. The other members of the Board include Jason Prenevost and Robert Burr.

Election of Officers was conducted at the July Board meeting and the Board President is Jason Prenevost, Vice-President is Michael Ballenger and Secretary/Treasurer is Robert Burr.



In and Around Our Community

Fall Creek Park Annual Potluck August 15th

Enjoy good food and fun in the sun with your friends and neighbors. Fall Creek Park Potluck picnic is Saturday, August 15th from noon until ??

Bring your favorite dish, table service and chair. Raffle will be at 4:00 p.m. If you have anything you would like to donate to the raffle, contact Pam at 541-937-1978, Glenn at 541-937-2536 or Maggie at 541-937-3759. See you there!

To get to Fall Creek Park, go west on Jasper-Lowell Road past Unity Bridge to milepost 7-1/2. If you've never visited the park, this would be a great time to stop by!

Grange Events in August

Breakfast on August 2nd
Texas Hold 'em Poker on August 7th and 22nd
Bingo! on August 19th

Your support of these events help restore the historic Grange Hall Building. You may have seen the new roof on the building. This is what your support has allowed to happen. Thank you very much!

Backpack Give Away

East Valley Church is having their annual backpack give away on Saturday, August 22nd from 1:00-3:00 p.m. They have 25 backpacks with supplies to give away. If you are in need or know a child in need, please call East Valley Church at 541-937-3329 to reserve your backpack today.

Vacation Bible School Coming in August

Where: 72 E. 2nd Street, Lowell
Date: August 3rd—7th
Time: 9:00 a.m.—Noon
Ages: 5-12

Please come join us for our Annual Vacation Bible School. There will be singing, dancing, games, crafts and *no cost*, just lots of fun. Kids who bring a first time friend (not part of their family) will receive a "Free" blizzard coupon from Dairy Queen for them and their friend. **Parents** we would love to have your help, we usually have 75-85 kids participate at this event. If you would like to come and be a part of making a difference in their lives, please call the church at 541-937-3329.

Mystery Dinner Play Planned by Lowell Grange

The Grange will be serving a chicken dinner with desert while you enjoy the Mystery Dinner Play, "Café Murderer".

The Grange will be having two showings:
September 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Lowell Grange and
September 27th at 4:00 p.m. at the Lowell Grange

To buy tickets for \$15 dollars each, contact Gerry at 541-937-2190.
Tickets will not be available at the door.



The Blackberry Jam parade grand marshals are selected from Dexter, Fall Creek and Lowell on a rotating basis. This year's honorees are Ken and Darlene Gee of Dexter.

Thank you Lowell Fire Department!

The BBJ Committee would like to thank the Lowell Fire Department for their support before and during the Jam. They assisted in many ways: cleaning the sidewalks and covered bridge walkway, directing traffic during the parade and providing a fun activity for children at the festival. We are very lucky to have such great volunteers and staff in the Lowell Fire District — thank you very much!!



Raffle Quilt winner Julie Redner of Lowell.

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

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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: August 2015

- 2—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area
- 4—City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 6—Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
- 7—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 9—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area
- 11—Blackberry Jam Committee — cancelled
- 12—Economic Development Committee, 7:00 pm, Lowell Fire Hall
- 15—Fall Creek Park Potluck, Noon
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 15-16—Drag Boat Races, Dexter Lake
- 16—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area
- 18—City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 19—BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
- 23—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area
- 25—Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall
- 30—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-3 pm., Dexter Rec. Area

**You are invited to our
Back-to-School Night**

Tuesday, Sept. 8th, 5:30 p.m.
Lowell High School, 65 S. Pioneer
Look for more details in the September newsletter or call 541-937-2124.



**Exceptional people
creating an extraordinary
educational environment**