



The Bridge

Making community connections

Community Benefits From Fire District Training

The Bridge

Volume 18, Issue 5

November 2015

Intern Firefighter Chris Zammarelli successfully completed the State of Oregon Paramedic Licensing exams and is now an Oregon/National Registry Paramedic for the District. Chris has been a member of the organization since October of 2013. Congratulations Chris.

The District has a number of members attending advanced EMT training classes through LCC. Nick Bruckner, Danny Ingalls and Lev Babich are all attending Paramedic classes. Morgan Stevenson is enrolled in the Advanced/Intermediate EMT program, with Kate Bishop attending EMT classes at LCC working towards her paramedic license.

The Paramedic program is a two-year Associate Degree program with the Advanced/Intermediate EMT program being a non-credit one to two term course. The EMT course is part of the first year of the Paramedic program and lasts most of the first academic year for students.

As approximately 86 percent of the District's calls are medically related, EMTs and Paramedics are of great value to the District's patrons and provide an extremely important service.



The District supports the efforts of our members to gain as much medical training as they are willing to pursue.

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

Lowell School District to Participate in State-wide Oregon College Application Week!

For the second year in a row, the Lowell School District will join more than 100 high schools and community based organizations around the state in hosting Oregon College Application Week events on November 16th – 20th.

During College Application Week the students of Lowell will participate in a variety of college awareness activities, including door wars, trivia games, dress up days and college-related learning activities. The goal of the week is to promote a college-going culture as well as assist all seniors as they apply to some type of post-secondary educational option, including certificate programs, two-year degree programs, and four-year degree programs.

For more information, or if you would like to donate a raffle item or volunteer, please contact our counselor, Abbey Rius at 541-937-2105.



Facilities Master Plan Survey Online

Lowell School District would like your input on a strategic planning effort underway to improve the school facilities both inside and out. A survey is on the District website at www.lowell.k12.or.us. Just click "District Master Plan Survey" on the main page. If you don't have web access, surveys are also available at the high school and elementary school offices.

Survey results and next steps will be announced in the Spring. Watch for additional meetings in future editions.

Cardboard Recycling to Begin

Community members will be able to bring their cardboard to the School District's recycling trailer beginning November 9th. The trailer will be located on Lakeview Street, next to the District's three rental houses.

Be an ASPIRE Mentor!

ASPIRE is a mentoring program that matches trained and supportive adult volunteer mentors with middle and high school students to develop a plan to help them meet their education goals beyond high school. Today's students may not have the good fortune to have someone to help them figure out what to do after high school, let alone the myriad of education and training options.



If you have a desire to help students explore college options, admissions, and financial aid, ASPIRE is for you. Become one of our trained and supportive adult volunteer mentors and work one-on-one with students throughout the year. No experience is necessary, just a desire to work with youth and make a difference in your community. Flexible time commitment. Contact Karen Cardwell at 541-937-2124, ext. 319. For more information, visit the Aspire website at www.OregonStudentAid.gov/ASPIRE.

Volleyball Heads to State Playoffs

Lowell Volleyball finished in 2nd place in the Mountain West League then took 1st place in the League Championship Tournament — with the youngest team in the league! In addition to doing so well in regular season games, several of our girls were awarded all-league honors. Anna Cardwell and Chelsea Byrne were named to the 1st Team All-League, Lily Lane made 2nd Team, and Raelynn Trimble, Eden Smith and Madison Miller were all honorable mentions. Anna Cardwell was also voted the Mountain West Player of the Year!

The tournament win secured them the #1 seed in the state tournament. Lowell will play North Douglas this Saturday, October 31st to determine whether they will go on to the State Playoffs in Redmond November 6th and 7th. Good luck girls!

Lowell Football Update

With a 4-2 record in their league, the football team is still in the hunt for post-season play. A playoff game against Siletz Valley at Siletz this Friday will determine who moves on.

GO RED DEVILS!!

Junior High Students of the Month



AJ Devereaux is the son of Jack and Irene Devereaux of Lowell. AJ is very involved in sports such as football and basketball. He is a great volunteer when it comes to sports clean-ups and will help out anytime he is needed. Teachers say that AJ works hard in class and he sets good examples for his peers. AJ has consecutively kept his grades and attendance up to par while juggling such a busy schedule.



Madelynn Levi is the daughter of Mica Harmond and Timothy Brady of Lowell. She is very involved in the Drama department and she has a strong passion for dance and acting. This year she has taken on volleyball as well. Her grades and attendance are a reflection of all of the hard work she puts into being a

great student. Madelynn is creative, motivated and is always willing to help. Congratulations Madelynn and AJ!

Lowell Music Fundraising Thank You

Thank you to all those in the community who have helped us recently in purchasing new instruments for our growing music program! One particular correction: a very generous and anonymous donation of \$500 was misattributed to a local bank — our apologies for the confusion and an extremely hearty thank you again to the generous (and still anonymous) group of friends of our program.

Also, many thanks to everyone in supporting our current poinsettia and wreath sales. These funds help us to repair instruments, purchase new music and compete in festivals in the Spring. If your order wasn't fulfilled last year, please contact Mr. Burch at pburch@lowell.k12.or.us or 541-937-2124.



Students with instruments purchased with community donations.

Hall of Fame Banquet

If you weren't there, you missed a very fun event. Congratulations to Donna Erickson, Jerry Dilley and the Class of 1961's men's basketball team for their induction to the Lowell Hall of Fame. In addition to the entertainment by the 4-C Sons, attendees enjoyed catching up with former classmates, winning raffle prizes and supporting the Lowell, Fall Creek Foundation through the purchase of silent auction items. We raised almost \$5,000 that night and donations are still coming in. Thanks to all who made donations, purchased dinner tickets and supported the raffle and auction!



Donna Erickson



Jerry Dilley



Our emcees: 4-C Sons barbershop quartet

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

Backyard/Outdoor Burn Season Starts

Now that we are getting a bit of rain and the nights are putting down some good moisture, fire season has officially ended on October 26th. That means outdoor/backyard burn season can get under way.

Remember that Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) now regulates the production of smoke in Lane County and before you burn your brush and tree trimmings, you must verify that it is a legal burn day with LRAPA by calling the "Backyard Burn Advisory" line or checking LRAPA's website.

The advisory is made on a daily basis and the authorization to burn is only for the day of the advisory. Call 541-726-3976 option 3 or go to www.lrapa.org for the advisory and more information about open burning regulations in Lane County.

Get Prepared

As the summer months come to a close and the weather starts to let us know that fall is here, it is a good time to start thinking about and preparing for winter storms that can cause some major inconvenience and down right disastrous conditions.

Now is the time to get prepared for local disasters that might occur during the winter months. The first order of business should be to build an emergency kit that can keep you and your family supplied for at least 72 hours. Here is a suggested kit that you can build at home and store in a medium to large size "tote" container for use if disaster should strike.

Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to make it on your own for at least three days, maybe longer. While there are many things that might make you more comfortable, think first about fresh water, food and clean air.

Recommended Supplies to Include in a Basic Kit:

- Water one gallon per person per day, for drinking and sanitation
- Non-perishable food at least a three-day supply
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlights and extra batteries, seal the batteries in containers to reduce moisture and help prevent corrosion
- First Aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help

- Filter mask or cotton t-shirt, to help filter the air
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener if kit contains canned food
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Important family documents
- Items for unique family needs, such as daily prescription medications, infant formula or diapers

Consider two kits. In one, put everything you will need to stay where you are and make it on your own. The other should be a lightweight, smaller version you can take with you if you have to get away.

Make a plan, in advance, for what you will do in an emergency. Be prepared to assess the situation. Use common sense and whatever you have on hand to take care of yourself and your loved ones.

Develop a Family Emergency Plan. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact one another and review what you will do in different situations. Consider a plan where each family member calls, or emails, the same friend or relative in the event of an emergency. It may be easier to make a long distance phone call than to call across town, so an out-of-town contact may be in a better position to communicate among separated family members. Be sure each person knows the phone number and has coins or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact. You may have trouble getting through, or the phone system may be down altogether, but be patient. Depending on your circumstances and the nature of the emergency, the first important decision is whether you stay put or get away. You should understand and plan for both possibilities. Use common sense and the information you are learning here to determine if there is immediate danger. Watch television and listen to the radio for official instructions as they become available.

For more information, visit ready.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY. For more information, visit ready.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY. Preparing Makes Sense. Get Ready Now. Make a PLAN, Make a KIT, Stay INFORMED.



Thank You Pine-Needlers

The District would like to thank the Pine Needlers group for their very generous donation to the District. We received \$750 that will be used to purchase training equipment and some station equipment for the District. In addition to the monetary donation the ladies have donated some decorations for the station. The Fire Chief was advised that the decor in the fire station was lacking just a bit, so the ladies made a number of stitched and quilted fire hydrant framings to hang in the station. I must admit, the fire hydrants do add significantly to the hominess of the station. Again, thank you to the Pine Needlers group for all they have done and continue to do for the Fire District.



Pine Needler Lisa Wilson presents check to Chief Hoehn.

Response Activity Log

Dispatched & cancelled enroute	Jul 3	Aug 1	Sep 2	Total 6 = 8%
Electrical wiring/equipment problem	Jul 0	Aug 1	Sep 0	Total 1 = 1%
Emergency Medical	Jul 21	Aug 22	Sep 16	Total 59=72%
False Alarm	Jul 0	Aug 1	Sep 0	Total 1 = 1%
Good intent call/other	Jul 0	Aug 0	Sep 1	Total 1 = 1%
Wildland/Brush fire	Jul 3	Aug 2	Sep 2	Total 7= 9%
Outside rubbish fire	Jul 0	Aug 1	Sep 0	Total 1 = 1%
Special / Other fire	Jul 1	Aug 0	Sep 0	Total 1 = 1%
Structure Fire	Jul 0	Aug 1	Sep 1	Total 2 = 2%
System/detector malfunction	Jul 1	Aug 1	Sep 0	Total 2 = 2%
Total Incidents	29	30	22	81

Lowell Area Projects Update

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would like to inform the community about three upcoming projects that have been in the works for several years and are being implemented this November:

Lookout Point Boom Installation – Corps contractors will install a floating boom in the reservoir to keep boats out of the restricted area near the dam. This will help keep boats away from the dam’s spillway gates when water is being spilled to benefit fish downstream. A helicopter will install in-water anchors required to keep the boom in place.

Dexter Dam Tree Removal Project - A local contractor will clear trees and brush from several acres on the south end of Dexter Dam near Dexter Park that is interfering with the dam’s drainage system. The vegetation must be removed to help ensure the continued safety of the dam. The Corps will donate larger felled trees to non-profit organizations and government agencies for watershed enhancement projects.

Middle Fork Erosion Repair Project - About 210 cubic yards of large rocks (3-7 tons each) will be delivered and stored on the south side of the river below Dexter Dam. These rocks will help stabilize a portion of the riverbank that was eroded away by high flows in December 2010, causing collapse of a fishing platform. Rock placement has not been scheduled yet, but the work will not interfere with fishing season.

For more information about these projects, please contact the Corps of Engineers’ Willamette Valley Project office at 541-684-4300.



US Army Corps of Engineers

City Beat

Your Help is Needed to Protect the Quality of our Drinking Water

What is backflow?

Backflow is the undesirable reversal of the flow of water from its intended direction in any pipeline or plumbing system. Backflow is dangerous because it can allow drinking water in plumbing systems to become contaminated and unusable.

What is a backflow device?

A backflow device is also known as an RP or DC valve. RP stands for Reduced Pressure, DC stands for Double Check. This device is installed onto your plumbing system to protect your drinking water and the city water supply from contaminants.

RP/DC valves are required when a house or building is equipped with an irrigation system, fire suppression system, or a large boiler (hereinafter referred to as Systems). Contaminants can enter an irrigation system from fertilizer or pesticides that are sprayed onto lawns. In the case of a boiler or fire suppression system, water sits stagnant or trapped in these systems, which leads to a build-up of bacteria and increased mineral content from the piping system.

If there is a water leak in the house, house water service break, city water main break, hydrant flushing, or hydrant use due to a fire, the water pressure in the house or city water mains can drop lower than the water pressure in the Systems. This can cause water from the Systems to back-up into the drinking water supply.

If a drop in city or building water pressure occurs, the RP/DC valve will open up, dumping water out rather than allowing the potentially contaminated water to back-flow into the water supply. For these reasons, Oregon State Law requires the use of an RP/DC as outlined in the OAR 333-061-0070. All city governments must comply with these laws. **The law not only requires the use of an RP/DC device but that the device must be tested once every year.** Only a licensed plumber with a Cross Connection Certification License can test and certify the proper operation of an RP/DC valve. Once the valve is tested, the certification paperwork is forwarded by the plumber to the city. It should also be noted that no building, house or system that currently requires protection by an RP/DC is "grandfathered" from not having the proper device installed.

Is it really important to prevent backflow?

Absolutely. The Oregon Administrative Rule requires all public water systems in the Commonwealth to operate an on-going program to protect the public water supply from contamination from possible cross connections. The most effective method for the water utility to meet this requirement is to require customers to install a backflow pre-

venter on the main supply line to their property or facility, thus protecting the community water system from any cross connections that may be present inside a customer's plumbing system. All water users benefit from an active, on-going cross connection control program that includes the installation of backflow preventers.

Why does the customer have to pay for and install the backflow preventer?

The backflow preventer is installed to protect the public water supply against possible hazards in the customer's plumbing system. The actual or potential cross connection belongs to the property owner and not to regulatory officials or the water utility. Once the water goes beyond the meter, water quality could be altered. The water utility does not want the water back, nor do the water customers want to purchase used water. If a backflow preventer is required to keep the water safe, then the person who created the cross connection (actual or potential) should purchase, install and maintain the backflow preventer.

What are common cross-connection hazards?

Underground sprinkler systems

Chemicals common to landscaped areas and pet waste can flow into sprinkler piping through sprinkler heads or cracked piping. For this reason, all sprinkler systems in the State of Oregon must be equipped with an adequate, correctly installed backflow protection.

Pools and spas

Chemicals used to keep pools and spas sanitary can also be harmful to drinking water. Therefore, a pool or spa with a direct piping connection to the City of Lowell water system must have proper backflow protection.

Heating, cooling and fire sprinkler systems

Many common systems in use today have chemicals that stop algae growth or keep fluids from freezing. These chemicals can be a hazard if allowed to enter the public water system. Therefore, heating, cooling and fire sprinkler systems must have adequate and correctly installed backflow protection when connected to the public water supply.

If you should have any questions, please contact City of Lowell Public Works Department (541) 937-2776.

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 October 6th regular meeting:

- Adopted five, six-month short term goals for the new City Administrator. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson, Rennert; Opposed: none.

From the October 20th regular meeting:

- Approved the City Administrator Evaluation Process. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson, Rennert; Opposed: none.

In and Around Our Community

Scouting for Food in November

The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of Lowell will be participating in the annual Scouting For Food on November 14th. If you have any food you would like to donate please contact Tim Stratis at 541-228-5664 or Pat Woodhurst at 541-937-2643. All food collected goes to the Lowell Food Pantry. Thank you for helping us help!



SCOUTING FOR FOOD
PLEASE HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

Lowell Covered Bridge Quilters Welcome You!

We are a group of local ladies who love to quilt. East Valley Church has allowed us to use a room to quilt in for the last twelve years. We have been giving quilts away to those in our area who are going through hard times. If you would like to know more, please call Angie at 541-937-2036 or Pam at 541-954-5176.

Blackberry Jam Benefits Many Groups

This year's festival was especially beneficial to many local organizations. The Pine Needlers' Quilt Raffle raised funds over \$3,500 that were distributed to the Lowell Food Pantry (\$1,000), Lowell Fire Department (\$750), Grange Building Fund (\$500), School Clothes Closet \$400) and Lowell Library (\$350), as well as providing operating funds for the Jam itself. Thanks to all the Pine Needlers!

Numerous student groups raise needed funds for their activities including Boys Basketball (\$1,968), Wrestling (\$1,012), PTO (\$449), Girls Basketball (\$390) and Girls Volleyball (\$300). Lowell Girls and Boy Scouts each earned \$150 and the Cub Scouts earned \$100.

The Blackberry Jam Organizing Committee thanks all of the sponsors, advertisers, vendors, volunteers and attendees who make this event a fun, successful family tradition. Dates for next year are July 29-31.

November 7th Free Movie Night!

The Lowell Cub Scouts are offering this month's Free Movie Night on **Saturday, November 7th** with the showing of **Inside Out**. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the movie starts at 7:00 p.m., at the Lowell Grange, 51 East 2nd Street. Children of all ages are welcome but



those under age 7 should have an adult present to supervise. And now that it's dark when the movie ends, it's important that no children are walking home alone so parents,

either pick up your child or make sure he/she has an escort if walking home. Admission is free; sales of refreshments support sending Scouts to summer camp. For more information call Tim at 541-228-5664.

Grange Events in May

Breakfast will be on November 8th
Texas Hold 'em Poker on November 6th and 21st
Bingo! on November 18th

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



Food pantry volunteer Sean Brady (at right) accepts the Pine Needlers' donation from quilter Chris Daniels.

Lowell Community Library presents:

"Fables with Mr. Ben" every fourth Wednesday of the month from 3:30 until 4:15 p.m.

After School Puppets Show by Liisa every second Wednesday of the month from 3:30 until 4:15

The Lowell Community Library is located at City Hall, 107 East 3rd Street. Everyone is welcome!



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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ECRWSS

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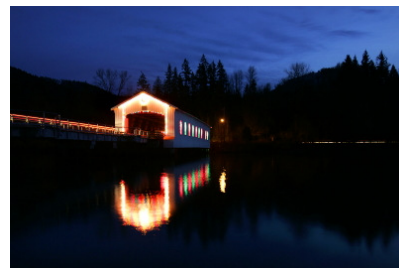
Postal Customer Lowell/Fall Creek

*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 2015

- 1—Daylight Savings Time ends, set your clocks back one hour
- 3—**City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
- 5—Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
- 6—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 7—Free Family Movie Night at the Lowell Grange, 6:30 p.m.
- 8—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- 10—No School! Teacher Grading Day
Blackberry Jam Committee Mtg, 7:00 p.m., Lowell City Hall
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Fire Hall
- 11—Veteran’s Day — No School; City Hall closed
Economic Development Committee, 7:00 pm, Lowell Fire Hall
- 14—Annual Scouting for Food by Cub and Boy Scouts
- 16-20—Scholastic Book Fair at Lundy Elementary
College Application Week events at the high school
- 17—Family Night at Lundy Elementary, 5:30—6:30;
Dinner from 5:30-6:00
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 18—BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
- 21—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 23—**School Board meeting, Lundy Comm. Room, 7:00 p.m.**
- 24—Teacher Conferences after school/evening
Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall

- 25—No School! Teacher Conferences in the morning
- 26-27—Thanksgiving holiday; No School; City Hall closed
- In December:
2—1st Quarter Awards Assembly, 10:15 a.m. at Lundy Gym
5—Bridge Lighting and Christmas Boat Parade, 5:00 p.m.



An important message from the Commanding Officer of the Christmas Regatta and Parade: This is the first year the Boat Parade will be included with the Christmas tree and bridge lighting ceremony at the covered bridge. If you are interested in taking part in the Boat Parade, please email xmasboatparade@gmail.com or call Rick at 541-912-8982. Parade boats will meet at the Lowell Marina on Saturday, December 5th and depart for the bridge at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome!