



The Bridge

Making community connections

November is Check Your Smoke Alarm Month

The Bridge

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November 2019

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.

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

Lowell Music Students Attend Choral Leadership Workshop

On Saturday, October 5th, six members of the LHS Choir traveled with Mr. Burch to Willamette University's Choral Leadership Workshop. Under the tutelage of Dr. Wallace Long, they spent the day rehearsing and performing with top



singers from Oregon, Washington, and California, and learned valuable lessons about leadership and shaping the culture of our program and school. Seniors Owen Chapman, Ashley Jenks, Taysian Williamson, and Melina Winters, and Juniors Mahayla McFadden and Serena Yarbrough were invited to attend. It was an unforgettable experience!



Students Learn Outside of the Classroom:

One of the wonderful things about being a Lowell student is that our district supports student learning both inside and outside of the classroom. During the last two months students have taken college visits to Western Oregon State University, Oregon State University, and the University of Oregon. Additionally this year's students have been on field trips for music and science. The Agriculture and Natural Resource class, Advanced Biology, and Life Sciences classes had the opportunity to assess the health of Lost Creek through physical, chemical, and biological tests. Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh grade students were recently able to see an evening play at the Cottage Grove Theater. Our students are so fortunate to be able to have so many opportunities for learning. Thank you for your support in these endeavors.



A Follow-Up On The Every Day Matters Campaign:

If you recall, last August we highlighted the "Every Day Matters" Campaign to reduce chronic absenteeism. We wanted to report that we are well on our way to achieving the goal of increasing our "regular attenders" rate! Currently for the year, our average attendance rate is over 95%. During the course of the year we have had several days of near 100% attendance in each grade level at the Jr./Sr. High School. Your help in reminding students that "every day matters" has certainly helped us maintain strong attendance for the year. As you are aware, research shows that after 10 days of absence from school, students begin to fall behind their peers academically. When you chat with your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews and neighborhood students, take time to ask the students in your life how they are doing with their attendance and academics. Your interest in the topic will go a long way to help them understand that "every day matters"!



Fall Sports Update

Varsity Football will play St. Paul in Lowell this Friday, November 1st, at 7:00 p.m. for the Special District 1 championship. Then Lowell will host the first round of State playoffs the next Friday or Saturday, depending on how far their opponent has to travel. All league honors for Offensive are: Offensive Player of the Year, Taysian Williamson; 1st team O Line, Andy Kintzley and Owen Chapman; 1st team Tight end, Brian Lemon; 1st team RB Taysian Williamson; and 2nd team RB, Josiah VonDoloski, Defensive honors are: 1st team DT Carter Wendt; 1st team DE Taysian Williamson; 1st team LB Josiah VonDoloski; 2nd team LB, Desmond Able; and, 1st team DB, Brian Lemon.

Varsity Volleyball finished 3rd in the Central Valley Conference and is seeded 13th for a playoff game v. Portland Christian (at Portland Christian) on Saturday, November 2nd at 4:00 p.m. All league honors are as follows: 1st team, junior Lucy Plahn; 2nd team, senior Alanna Beyer; and Honorable mentions, sophomore Alexis Curry and senior Kaitlyn Sinnett.

The **Lowell Cross Country** team made tremendous progress and each athlete learned they could do so much more than they thought they could. We have some awesome runners with great potential and are excited to see our team continue to grow and see what the future holds.

Congratulations to the players, coaches and parents. Thanks for all the community support — please come out and root them on in the playoffs!!

Lowell Junior High Football

Team members are: 8th graders Justin Brooks, Alex Cloyd, Gabe Dorelien, Rowan Files, Ayden Hadley, Taylor Horton, Jaden Jalof, Sawyer Kordon, Alex Palencia, Brody Thurman and Justus Thurman; 7th graders Paul Clark, Dayson DeBusk, Kaden Fisher, Harley Hardison, Ashton Moncrief, Caleb Moncrief, Ryan Pelroy, Shelby Plagmann, Hayden Savio and Jamar Thurman; 6th graders David Finch, Kevin Silver, Wyatt Smith, Alex Sotomayor and Joshua Walker; and, 5th graders Aayden Dillon and Adrien Islas. Head coach is Lincoln Casarez.



Lowell PTO Wants YOU!

The Lowell PTO is looking for volunteers! You don't have to have a student in school to help out. We'd love to see our retired or empty-nester community members participate in some of our events. Please contact Miranda Plagmann at 541-619-4479 for more information.



Calling All Lowell Alumni and Supporters!

If you aren't already on the Lowell, Fall Creek Education Foundation list, please let us know your mailing address so we can extend invitations to special events. Exciting things are happening in the Lowell School District and we would love to share these successes with the alumni and community members who have participated in the effort to get us where we are today. Please email your address to aaf@lowell.k12.or.us or leave a voicemail at 541-954-5765.

City Beat by City Administrator Jared Cobb



Update on Downtown Improvements

Earlier this year the City wrapped up the Downtown Master Plan. Since completion, staff and the City Council have been working to turn the community's vision (below) into reality by taking the following specific actions.

“A quaint downtown with a central park, multi-story mixed use buildings, a variety of homes, and wide sidewalks connecting to Dexter Lake's recreational opportunities.”

- Received \$100,000 grant to grind and overlay Main Street from Pioneer Street to Moss Street. Engineering for the project has been completed and the project is planned for Spring 2020.
- Purchased JW Kingdom Hall to serve as the permanent Library and temporary City Hall, with future City Hall to be located on the same site. Both buildings will serve as prominent anchors in downtown.
- Completed conceptual plans for Library improvements at the former JW Kingdom Hall and future City Hall at the corner of Pioneer Street and North Shore Drive.
- Purchased three lots on Main Street to expand and reconfigure Rolling Rock Park from a linear to a square-shaped, central park to better support downtown activities and events.
- Partnered with the Lowell Fire District to conduct a Burn to Learn exercise on the former house located at 53 East Main Street.
- Awarded a landscape architecture contract on October 15 to develop construction plans for the first phase of Rolling Rock Park improvements, including irrigation, regrading, tree and turf installation.
- Awarded a landscape architecture contract on October 15 to develop a conceptual design for the extension of Cannon Street (Main Street to North Shore Drive) to serve as a minor through street and festival area for events.
- Partnered with Lane County and the Lowell School District to receive a Safe Route to Schools Grant to develop the County's first rural pedestrian and bike safety program.

Board and Committee Vacancies

The City is accepting applications for the Budget Committee, Planning Commission, Economic Development Committee, Parks and Recreation Committee, Library Committee, and Blackberry Jam Festival Committee. All interested residents are encouraged to apply. Applications may be picked up at City Hall or downloaded online at www.ci.lowell.or.us.
Applications accepted until all positions are filled .



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 September 17th regular meeting session, the following actions were taken:

- The Parks and Recreation Committee awarded Rodney Neff of 470 D Street September Yard of the Month.

Lowell City Council Actions—continued

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower Replacement—An increase in the quote for a replacement resulted in the Council to authorize a not-to-exceed amount of \$8,500 (up from \$7,500) for the purchase, installation, and testing of a new blower for the wastewater treatment plant.
- Approved Resolution 727—A Resolution Proclaiming the Week of September 1 through 7 Be Known as Home Inventory Week.
- Approved \$2,000 for sponsorship of the 2019 Lowell School District Summer Recreation Program.
- Authorized the City Administrator to sign the intergovernmental agreement in support of a Community Development Block Grant from the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program administered by the Oregon Business Development Department, Infrastructure Finance Authority.
- Appointed Lon Dragt for Position 3 to the Blackberry Jam Festival Committee.

Motions were approved 5-0.

At the October 1st work session, the following topics were discussed:

- Advanced Metering Infrastructure—an overview of the existing system, financial justification, advantages and disadvantages for new systems, and benefits for the city were presented.
- Resolution 728—Employee Compensation Adjustments—information was presented on the new employee six-month review, local area wage compensation comparison and request for wage adjustment.
- Informal Solicitation-Tree Removal and Disposal Service was discussed as well as an update on the work with FEMA.
- Informal Solicitation-Landscape Architecture Services — Two proposals received for the Rolling Rock Park and Cannon Street landscape architecture services were discussed.
- FY 2019-20 Capital Improvement Plan was reviewed.

At the October 15th regular meeting session, the following actions were taken:

- The Parks and Recreation Committee awarded Raymond & Phyllis Cross of 165 N. Pioneer Street Yard of the Month for October.
- Approved Resolution 728: A Resolution Making Employee Compensation Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2019-20.
- Awarded landscape architecture projects, phase 1 and 2, to Dougherty Landscape Architects in an amount not to exceed \$23,730.

Motions were approved 3-0, Angelini and Dragt absent.

- Authorized the purchase of a sewer line inspection camera for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.
- Approved the 2019-20 agreement for law enforcement services with the City of Oakridge.

Motions were approved 4-0, Dragt absent.

Monthly Police Log (September 27 - October 25)

Date	Time	Call Type	Location
10/07/19	5:01 PM	Menacing	200 Block North Damon Street
10/07/19	6:09 PM	Person Stop	100 Block North Moss Street
10/09/19	11:46 AM	Harassment	100 Block North Pioneer Street
10/09/19	4:53 PM	Welfare Check	500 Block North Moss Street
10/11/19	9:32 AM	Repossessed Vehicle	100 Block North Moss Street
10/12/19	6:48 AM	Child Neglect	100 Block West Fourth Street
10/12/19	1:58 PM	Blocked Sidewalk	500 Block Sunridge Lane
10/13/19	5:33 PM	Welfare Check	100 Block Loftus Avenue
10/14/19	11:26 AM	Criminal Trespass	100 Block East Main Street
10/14/19	7:51 PM	Suspicious Conditions	100 Block North Moss Street
10/16/19	10:44 AM	Coercion	100 Block East Fourth Street
10/16/19	10:38 PM	Animal at Large	West Second Street and Damon Street
10/18/19	3:34 PM	Criminal Trespass	100 Block North Cannon Street
10/19/19	8:44 AM	Burglary	100 Block West Lakeview Avenue
10/20/19	12:14 PM	Abandoned Vehicle	North Shore Drive and Marina Vista Drive
10/21/19	7:53 PM	Suspicious Conditions	100 Block North Cannon Street
10/21/19	10:01 PM	Screaming	East First Street and North Hyland Lane

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

Annual Community Dinner Scheduled for December 8th

With the coming holiday season, the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District would like to say "Thank You" for all the community support we receive by providing a holiday dinner to the community.

This year the dinner will be held from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the main fire station in Lowell. A full Turkey dinner with all the fix'ns will be served along with station activities for everyone, young and old alike. Stop by for a visit with friends and neighbors and have a nice holiday meal besides. Activities include a tour of the station and district equipment, coloring contest for the kids, and door prizes.



New Fire Engine!

Lowell Fire District has ordered the District's first custom-built HRE Structural Engine. This apparatus is being built specifically to the needs of our community. Delivery is expected in July/August 2020. Thanks to the community for your support of the Lowell Fire District.

Is Your Chimney Clean and Ready for Winter?

More than one-third of Americans use fireplaces, wood stoves and other fuel-fired appliances as primary heat sources in their homes. Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the fire risks when heating with wood and solid fuels. Nationally heating fires account for 36% of all residential home fires in rural areas every year. Often these fires are due to creosote buildup in chimneys and stovepipes. All home heating systems require regular maintenance to function safely and efficiently. The Lowell Rural Fire Protection District encourages everyone to practice the following fire safety steps to keep those home fires safely burning.

Keep Fireplaces and Wood Stoves Clean

- Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials.
- Leave glass doors open while burning a fire. Leaving the doors open ensures that the fire receives enough air to ensure complete combustion and keeps creosote from building up in the chimney.
- Close glass doors when the fire is out to keep air from the chimney opening from getting into the room. Most glass fireplace doors have a metal mesh screen which should be closed when the glass doors are open. This mesh screen helps keep embers from getting out of the fireplace area.
- Always use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces that do not have a glass fireplace door.
- Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures.
- Keep air inlets on wood stoves open, and never restrict air supply to fireplaces to prevent creosote buildup.
- Use fire-resistant materials on walls around wood stoves.
- Never use flammable liquids to start a fire.
- Use only seasoned hardwood. Soft, moist wood accelerates creosote buildup. Never burn trash or debris.
- Build small fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.
- When building a fire, place logs at the rear of the fireplace on an adequate supporting grate.
- Never leave a fire in the fireplace unattended. Extinguish the fire before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Soak hot ashes in water and place them in a metal container outside your home when cleaning the firebox.

Each year fire claims the lives of 3,500 Americans, injures 18,300, and causes billions of dollars worth of damage. People living in rural areas are more than twice as likely to die in a fire than those living in mid-sized cities or suburban areas. The neglect and misuse of wood stoves, portable space heaters and kerosene heaters are especially common risks in rural areas. Play it fire safe and have your heating appliances regularly maintained and serviced. For more information contact the District office. On the web: www.lowellfiredistrict.org.

In and Around Our Community

Coats are Available for Winter

Thanks to the generosity of our community, there are plenty of coats and other winter clothes available at the Clothes Bank, located in the George Hake Center (4 East Lakeview Street) on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. Hours are from 2:00-5:00 p.m.



The clothing bank provides free items to anyone in need and all sizes are available. Clothing donations are welcome on days that the clothing bank is open, or call Brandy Stewart at 541-530-0123 or email her at Stewartsx6@fastmail.fm to make other arrangements.

Take Your Picture with Santa!

Lowell Football will be bringing Santa back in December so watch for details in the next edition of The Bridge. Thank you for your support of Lowell Football.



Bridge Lighting Date Set

Mark your calendars for the annual Bridge Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 7th. Details to come in the next newsletter edition.



IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!!

Lowell Grange Annual Holiday Craft Fair

*November 9th, 10 am to 4 pm
November 10th, 11 am to 4 pm*

**LOWELLGRANGE
51 E. 2ND STREET, LOWELL**

Line Dancing at the Grange!

Line Dance lessons will take a break over the holidays and continue in January each Wednesday from January 8th through the 29th at the Grange from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The cost is \$2 per person (ages 16 and up) to cover the rental fee.

Each week you will learn one new dance and then practice the dances you have already learned. Questions? Call Gary at 541-650-2917.



The Bridge

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: November 2019

- 1—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
Varsity Football v. St. Paul, 7:00 p.m.
 - 2—Can/Bottle Drive, 10am-Noon, HS Parking lot
Varsity Volleyball Playoff @ Portland Christian, 4:00 p.m.
 - *Set Your Clocks Back One Hour* Daylight Savings Time Ends**
 - 3—Lowell Grange Breakfast, 8:00-11:00 a.m., 51 East 2nd Street
 - 4—JH Girls Basketball @ Harrisburg, 4:30 p.m.
Economic Development Committee, 7:00 p.m., Osgood Library
 - 5—**City Council Work Session, 7:00 p.m., M. Osgood Library**
 - 6—JH Girls Basketball v. Oakridge, 4:30 p.m.
Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m., M. Osgood Library
 - 7—Parks & Recreation Committee, 7:00 p.m., M. Osgood Library
 - 8—**No School!** Teacher Grading Day
 - 9—Craft Show at the Lowell Grange, 10am-4pm
 - 10—Craft Show at the Lowell Grange, 11am-4pm
 - 11—**Veterans Day, No school, City Hall closed**
 - 12—Blackberry Jam Festival Committee, 7:00 pm, Osgood Library
 - 13—JH Girls Basketball v. Central Linn, 4:30 p.m.
Fire Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
 - 16—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
 - 18—JH Girls Basketball @ Fern Ridge, 4:30 p.m.
 - 19—**City Council Work Session/Meeting, 6:00:00 p.m.,
Maggie Osgood Library**
 - 20—JH Girls Basketball @ Eugene Christian, 4:30 p.m.
 - 23—JH Wrestling Tourney at Lowell, 6:00 a.m.
 - 25—JH Girls Basketball v. Monroe, 4:30 p.m.
School Board Meeting, PDC at Lundy Elem., 7:00 p.m.
 - 27—Parent/Teacher Conferences in the morning, no school
 - 28/29—Thanksgiving Holiday, no school, City Hall closed
 - 29—Senior Potluck Luncheon, cancelled for November
- In December:
- 4—JH Girls Basketball v. Junction City, 4:30 p.m.
JH Wrestling v. Harrisburg, 6:00 p.m.