



The Bridge

Making community connections

LOWELL MUSIC DOES IT AGAIN

The Lowell High School Band has shined once again this year, recently posting OSAA State-qualifying scores at two regional festivals. At the OMEA District 12 Festival on March 16th, the group earned their first high marks, besting all other Lane County schools in the process. They followed this on March 23rd with another set of qualifying scores at the Willamette Valley Concert Band Invitational, taking high score for all Divisions (and regions) for the fifth time in as many tries. This also marks the twelfth year in a row that an LHS music ensemble has met the benchmark for OSAA State Finals!

The Band has one remaining qualifier -- the OMEA District 10 Festival -- on April 12th at North Douglas High School. The Lowell HS Choir will also commence their State Qualifiers in April, on the 5th at the South Coast Choir Invitational (Marshfield HS) and on the 11th at the OMEA District 4 Festival (West Salem HS). Good luck to all of our amazing musicians!



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April 22nd

Dear Lowell and Fall Creek community,

There is one constant at Lowell School District and that is change. We are constantly committed to changing, growing and “being on the move!” We are currently working on growing our leadership as well. The Lowell School District has partnered with BreakThrough Consulting and Dr. Rob Hess to help us recruit the next superintendent of our district. The current timeline for this process is:

March 24th: Position Posted and Recruitment Begins	April 24th: Candidates screened (Board)
April 21st: Applications Close	May 24th: Final Interview & Visitation Day (Community)
May 6th: First Round of Interviews (Board)	July 1: Begin Position
June 5th: New superintendent announced	

One portion of this process is feedback from our staff, community, and stakeholders. We have a community survey open to receive feedback on what is most important as we move forward in hiring a new superintendent. Please take a moment to follow the QR code to take the brief survey. The link is also posted to our website. We look forward to hearing from you as we look toward the future of leadership at Lowell School District.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNITY SURVEY IS OPEN!

If you would like to provide information to the school board regarding the qualities and characteristics you are looking for in the next superintendent, you can point your phone’s camera at the QR Code at the right, answer a few questions and get involved. You can also sign up to receive updates on the process and be invited to the Finalists Visitation Day in May! The survey will be open from March 21 to April 21. For more information, please contact: rob@breakthrough-consulting.com



Alumni Spotlight: Jessica (Chittim) and Austin McNichols are our featured alumni. Austin graduated from Lowell High School in 2014 and Jessica in 2015. Austin and Jessica were both top student athletes in the state — Jessica in volleyball and Austin in football, wrestling and track. Jessica and Austin were married in September 2021. They bought their first home shortly after. They have been together since high school in 2013, making it one decade. Their family includes two chocolate labradors and two cats.

Austin attended college at the University of Portland where he received a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He participated in the Army ROTC program. Currently Austin is a Packaging Engineer at a logistics and crating company. He is also a field artillery officer in the Oregon Army National Guard. Jessica attended Oregon Health & Science University at the Monmouth campus where she graduated with a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing. She is a Registered Nurse on a Mother/Baby Unit that cares for postpartum mothers and their newborns, and high risk obstetric patients.

Austin and Jessica live life to the fullest and continue to excel in their endeavors! Austin is a 1st Lieutenant in the Oregon National Guard. He has completed airborne and air assault school. He has had army training in Oklahoma, Kentucky, and Georgia. Last year he went to Morocco for two weeks for Exercise African Lion. He enjoys hunting, especially duck hunting, and barefoot water skiing. He has recently started training their one year old chocolate lab for the AKC retriever hunt test. In college, Jess was inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society during Nursing school for having one of the top GPAs in her class and was the recipient of the Monmouth Student Vision Award upon graduation. During her Junior year of nursing school she was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma and was treated with chemotherapy for several months into her Senior year. She was cancer free before starting her final practicum and remains cancer free today. She is passionate about living a healthy and balanced lifestyle. She practices yoga almost every day and recently became a certified yoga teacher.

When they do have free time, they enjoy hiking, snow skiing, camping, and fishing. They also enjoy movies, binge watching TV shows, and spending time with friends and family.



Our community is very proud of you two, Austin and Jessica, for all you’ve accomplished and overcome!



RED DEVIL REPORT

Lowell Athletics Update



WINTER SPORTS WRAP-UP

Junior High Boys Basketball (10-0 league, 11-1 overall) finished the season as the undefeated league champions led by A-team captains Zak Hermansen, Jax Norcutt, and Carson Ewan, and B-team captains Tyler Harris and Gage Greco. Coach Jacob McCart said, "I'm proud of this group of young men and the season we had. At the beginning of the season, our motto was 'dress for success.' That's exactly what we did. Thank you to the community for your support." He also added a favorite quote by Larry Bird, "A winner is someone who recognizes his God-given talents, works his tail off to develop them into skills, and uses these skills to accomplish his goals." Well done, Red Devils!

HIGH SCHOOL SPRING SPORTS



Our **high school softball** team is led by Mark Gonzales and assisted by Patrick Aldinger. Athletes (pictured left) include seniors Esperanza Guzman-Fields and Lydia Plahn; juniors Amerika Baszler, Brooke Davis, Elizabeth Able, Kaili Kirkhart, Kassidy Matthews, and Kenadee Hermansen; sophomores Aly Curry, Alyssa Rasmussen, Cheyanne McNamee, Jada Cantrell, and Gracie Aldinger; and freshmen Madeline Peterson, Madison Thurman, Marley Plahn, and McKenna Fassbender.

Our **high school baseball** team is led by Boone Casarez and assisted by Dan Casarez. Athletes (pictured right) include seniors Brent Whitney, Jaxon Alexander, Jesse Neet, and Hayden Vaughn; juniors Brody Thurman, Justin Brooks, Justus Thurman, Luis Estrada, and Sawyer Kordon; sophomores Camden Alexander, Harley Hardison, Jamar Thurman, and Paul Clark; and freshmen Alex Sotomayor, Barrett Straight, Carter Harris, and Liam Burch.



Our **high school track & field** team is led by Jill Chapman and assisted by Carter Wendt. Athletes (pictured left) include juniors Aurora Bell, Justin Hern, and Rowan Files; sophomores Bryson Hoffman, Colten Wendt, Elizabeth Stewart, Isabella Peterson, Levi Stewart, and Ryan Pelroy; and freshmen Ayden Medart, Callum Plahn, David Finch, and Skylar Kordon.

City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

From Library Director Peggy O’Kane. The Maggie Osgood Library enjoyed a splendid grand opening. Although we didn’t keep an official count, we estimate that 100 people came through our doors on February 25.

We have begun regular programming:

- Story Hour. Every Saturday. 11:00 – noon. All ages. Guest readers are welcome. An activity will follow the story.
- Craft and chat. Every Tuesday. 1-2 pm. Drop in with your current project. Ask or offer help.
- Book Club. Last Wednesday. 6-7 pm adults. More details to come.
- Hands-On, sponsored by 4H. First Saturday. 9:30-10:30 am. Activities to stimulate your head, heart, health, and hands. Sponsored by OSU Extension.
- Using our words. First Wednesday. 6-7 pm. Teens through adults. Exercise your writing skills. Share your work.

We are also exploring other ideas for programs including a local history club, cards such as bunco, or other gaming groups. If you have an area of interest or expertise and want to coordinate a group or present a program, contact Peggy at the Library, 541-937-2157. Every idea is welcome.

Inter Library Loan Services will begin April 24. If we do not own a book, we may be able to borrow a copy of it from another library. More details will be available soon.

Our regular hours are:

Monday 11:00 am–4:00 pm

Tuesday 11:00 am–4:00 pm

Wednesday 1:00 pm–7:00 pm

Saturday 9:00am-1:00 pm



Parks clean-up day. The Parks Committee will hold a parks clean-up day on May 6. Volunteers usually meet for two hours to pick weeds, spread mulch, and plant new flowers. If you’re interested in volunteering to help clean up the parks, contact City Hall for more details.

Notice to abate noxious vegetation. Pursuant to Lowell Revised Code (LRC) Section 5.122, notice is hereby given that no owner or person in charge of property may allow noxious vegetation to be on their property or on the public right-of-way abutting their property. It shall be the duty of an owner or person in charge of property to cut down or to destroy noxious vegetation. For parcels one acre or larger in size, noxious vegetation need only be controlled 20 feet from an adjoining property where development has occurred and is not required to be controlled adjoining undeveloped property unless specifically requested by the owner of the undeveloped property. The City intends to abate noxious vegetation within not less than ten days of a final notice to abate such vegetation sent to the property owner and that all costs of doing so will be charged to the owner of the property being abated. A citation may be issued in lieu of or in addition to abatement action.

Notice of Budget Committee vacancies. The City is still looking for volunteers to serve on the Budget Committee. The time commitment is 1 to 2 hours per meeting. The Budget Committee usually meets only once per year to review and approve the recommended budget.

To apply: Send a completed and signed “Volunteer Boards & Commission Application” in person, by mail, or by email to City Administrator Jeremy Caudle. Our mailing address is: PO Box 490, Lowell, OR 97452. Our email address is: admin@ci.lowell.or.us. The application is available at City Hall or on the city website at the following link (scroll down to the bottom): <https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/forms>.

Notice of first and second readings for Ordinance 311. The Lowell City Council will hold first readings, second readings, and public hearings for ordinance 311 in April and May. The dates, times, and locations of these meetings are as follows:

First reading and public hearing: Date and time – April 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Location – Lowell Fire Department, 389 N. Pioneer St., Lowell, OR 97452.

Second reading and vote on approval: Date and time – May 2, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Location – Lowell Fire Department, 389 N. Pioneer St., Lowell, OR 97452.

Ordinance 311, if approved, will adopt an exclusive franchise agreement with Sanipac, Inc. for solid waste management services. The franchise agreement under the proposed ordinance is for a 10-year term, which may be renewed for additional 10-year terms at its expiration date. The franchise agreement will establish a standardized rate schedule among all services and customer classes. This means that customers paying less than the proposed standard rate will see an increase in their monthly bill, and customers paying more than the proposed standard rate will see a decrease in their monthly bill. Copies of Ordinance 311 are available for public inspection at Lowell City Hall, 70 N. Pioneer St., Lowell, OR 97452 during business hours.

Actions by City Council and other committees/commissions

At its March 1 meeting, the Planning Commission voted to grant an extension to applicant H&H Lowell LLC regarding land use applications 2022-01, -04, and -06—continued until March 15.

At its March 2 meeting, the Parks Committee discussed the following items: progress on tree program, community clean-up day, and project checklist.

At its March 7 meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Held public hearings and first readings of Ordinance 309, “An ordinance adopting text amendments to Lowell’s development code and amendments to Lowell’s comprehensive plan codifying the Lowell Downtown Master Plan,” and Ordinance 310, “An ordinance approving the rezoning of properties contained within the boundaries of the regulating plan, adopting a new zoning and comprehensive plan map, and a revised regulating plan map.”
- Held a follow up discussion on a solid waste franchise ordinance with Sanipac, Inc.
- Approved the budget calendar for FY 2023/2024.
- Accepted resignation from Hall O’Regan from the Parks Committee.
- Received a recommendation letter from Planning Commissioner Lon Dragt on the need to update the comprehensive plan.

The Blackberry Jam Committee met on March 14. The discussion focused on assigning tasks to volunteers.

The Planning Commission’s March 15 meeting continued from March 1, was canceled because the applicant withdrew their application.

At its March 21 meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Public hearing, second reading, and vote to approve Ordinances 309 and 310.
- Voted to accept the City Administrator’s request to renegotiate the employment contract.
- Voted to start reviewing and updating the City Administrator’s performance evaluation form.
- Appointed Tony Moreci to the Blackberry Jam Festival Committee.
- Under other business, discussed the Grange’s Easter egg hunt.

Upcoming Meetings details available here: <https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/calendar/month/2023-04>

April 4 @ 7:00 pm. City Council.

April 6 @ 7:00 pm. Parks Committee.

April 11 @ 6:00 pm. Blackberry Jam Festival Committee.

April 18 @ 7:00 pm. City Council.

Meetings will take place at the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District station.

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

Service Awards Presented

At the annual awards banquet on March 18th, the following people were recognized for their service with the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District:

One year of service: Paul Bowlsby, Madelyn Chappell, William Croxen, Tommy Larracas, Chris LaVoie, Sam Lierman, Caleb Morris, Mike Reinhart, Priscilla Thurman, and Mathew Wright Rendon

Five years of Service: William Priser and Brandon Stevens

Thirty years of Service: Nathan Brown

Promotions: Ashton Nash sworn in as a Firefighter, Brandon Stevens sworn in as an Engineer, and Jorge Garcia sworn in as an Engineer

Congratulations to all of these dedicated individuals. Thank you for your service to our community!

Form OR-LB-NBC

Notice of Budget Committee Meeting

Oregon Department of Revenue

A Use this notice if public comment will be taken at this meeting.

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Lowell RFPD, Lane, State of Oregon, to
(District name) (County)

discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 20 to June 30, 20 , will be held at 389 N Pioneer Street
(Location)

Lowell, Oregon. The meeting will take place on April 12, 2023 at 7:00 a.m. p.m.
(Address) (Date)

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget.
 This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee.

A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after April 1, 2023 at 389 N Pioneer Street,
(Date) (Location)

between the hours of 9:00 a.m. p.m. and 4:00 a.m. p.m.

Fourth Tuesday of Every Month
2PM to 3:30 PM
Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop

Business Topics

- STARTING YOUR LLC
- SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING
- DEFINING YOUR CUSTOMER
- DEFINING YOUR MARKET
- QUESTIONS ABOUT FUNDING
- REFERRALS TO PROFESSIONALS
- AND MANY MORE! ASK AWAY!



RAIN

Melissa Prestinario
 408-386-1516
melissa@oregonrain.org

In and Around the Community



Please join us to celebrate the life of John H. Boyle

Sunday, April 16th at 1:30pm
Campbell Community Center Great Room
155 High Street, Eugene

Easter Egg Hunt April 8th, 1:00 p.m!

Join us for a fun Easter Egg Hunt and meet the Easter Bunny! Sponsored by the Lowell Grange, the hunt will be held at Rolling Rock Park on North Shore Drive starting at 1:00 p.m.

Bring a sack or basket to put the eggs in and meet at the stage so children can be placed into age groups from toddlers to 9-year-olds.



Regattas in April

The 2023 Covered Bridge Regatta will span two weekends again this year. First up is the Collegiate Regatta on Saturday, April 8th. Then the following weekend will be the Masters/Youth Regatta on Saturday and Sunday, April 15-16.

In addition to some spectacular racing, there will be food and coffee booths and more! Please go to their website at oarowers.wordpress.com for more information. Or, just stop by on a race day, you'll be glad you did.

Also, mark your calendar for the PAC-12 Rowing Championships coming to Dexter Lake on May 14th!

Spring Craft Fair — April 29 & 30 Lowell Grange — 9am to 5pm

Come visit the Lowell Grange at 51 East 2nd Street to see products from over a dozen vendors. There are sure to be plenty of Mother's and Father's Day gift ideas. Also, the Sharpener Guy will be here for all knives and tools that needs to be sharpened.



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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Permit #1

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: April 2023

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|--|--|
| 1—Varsity Baseball v. Gold Beach, 2:00 p.m. | 15—Varsity Softball @ Oakridge, 4:30 p.m.
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m. |
| 2—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 am, 51 E. 2nd Street | 17—Varsity Softball & Baseball DH v. Riddle, 2:00 & 4:30 p.m. |
| 3—Varsity Softball/Baseball v. Lost River, 4:00 p.m. | 18— City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview |
| 4— City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview | 19—JH Track @ Central Linn, 3:45 p.m.
Varsity Softball & Baseball v. N. Douglas, 4:30 p.m. |
| 6—Varsity Softball and Baseball v. Camas Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity Track @ Buckaroo Round-Up, St. Paul, 3:30 p.m.
Lowell Parks Committee, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer Street | 20—Varsity Track @ Coastal Classic, Reedsport, 4:00 p.m. |
| 7—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m. | 21—Varsity Softball v. Yoncalla, 4:30 p.m. |
| 8—Covered Bridge Collegiate Regatta, Dexter Lake
Easter Egg Hunt, Rolling Rock Park, 1:00 p.m.
Varsity Softball/Baseball @ Umpqua Valley, 4:30/6:30 p.m. | 22—Varsity Track @ Meet of Champions, Sweet Home, 11:30 a.m.
Varsity Baseball DH @ Pleasant Hill JV, 2:00 & 4:30 p.m. |
| 10—Varsity Softball @ Glendale, 4:30 p.m. | 24—Varsity Softball & Baseball v. Oakland, 4:30 p.m.
School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., PDC, 45 S. Moss Street |
| 11—Blackberry Jam Committee, 6 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer | 25—Varsity Track @ Bandon Meet, TBD |
| 12—JH Track @ Oakridge, 3:45 p.m.
Lowell Fire District Budget Committee/Board Meeting,
7:00 p.m., Main Station, 389 N. Pioneer Street | 26—Varsity Softball & Baseball DH v. Days Creek, 2:00/4:30 p.m. |
| 13—Varsity Softball v. Elkton, 4:30 p.m.
Jr. Varsity Baseball @ Oakridge, 2:00 p.m.
Varsity Baseball @ Oakridge, 4:30 p.m. | 27—JH Track @ Elmira, 3:45 p.m. |
| 14— No School — Grading Day
Varsity Track @ Twilight Meet, Harrisburg, 3:00 p.m. | 28—Senior Potluck, Luncheon, Noon, Fall Creek Christian Church
Jr. Varsity Baseball @ Umpqua Valley Christian, 6:30 p.m. |
| 15/16—Covered Bridge Regatta, Masters & Youth, Dexter Lake | 29—Varsity Track @ Small School Invitational, Glide, 11:00 a.m. |
| | 29-30—Spring Craft Fair, Lowell Grange, 9 am until 5 pm |
| | Coming in May:
1—Varsity Softball & Baseball @ Camas Valley, 4:30 p.m. |