



# The Bridge

Making community connections

## Lowell Wrestlers at State!

After a great showing at Districts, five Lowell wrestlers participated in the State Tournament on Saturday, February 26th. Four freshmen and one sophomore competed, placing Lowell at 11th in the state. Participants were Harley Hardison (106# FR), Jamar Thurman (138# FR), Shelby Plagmann (145# FR), Paul Clark (170# FR), and Rowan Files (182# SO). Lowell Wrestling has a bright future indeed.

Head coach Lincoln Casarez had these words to say about Harley Hardison:

“It’s hard to put into words, this kid. Many in our community know him and what he is about. Saturday Harley was a champion in so many ways, even though he placed 2nd. He has one of the biggest hearts you will ever meet. He has a level of respect that is unmatched. His work ethic is second to none. As he went onto the mat, it felt like life was being breathed back into our program and community. You may not have felt it, but you will benefit from it in the years to come.

If you see this kid around, shake his hand, tell him he did a good job, and encourage him. His future, along with the Lowell Wrestling Program, is bright!”

More wrestling news inside on page 6.

The Bridge

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Time to Spring Ahead

March 13th

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

Dear Lowell / Fall Creek Community,

Well, I didn't jinx it like I normally do. I was going to write this letter discussing how we have had a mild winter, lots of rain, but reasonably warm temperatures. At least the snow and cold weather have been kept at bay for the most part..... then.... Bam! This morning we have a two-hour delay and it looks like it will drop down to the teens this week. As you know, when it gets into the teens, that is chattering teeth, multiple layers, headache when you walk outside, see your breath at all times during the day, bone aching COLD! That being said, please stay warm and enjoy the weather from the inside view out your front room window with some hot chocolate.

Ironically, it seems every year that when the temperature starts to do this, it happens just in time for the Spring sports. Who doesn't want to run a 100 yd dash in the snow? Who doesn't want to hit a baseball or softball with a metal bat in 20 degree weather? Me, that's who. Bless those kids' hearts for taking their dedication and passion for these Spring sports to a whole new level. Spring in Lowell has a much different definition than Spring in other places. But we do what we need to do and keep on pushing through.

For those of you that do love to brave the elements, we will continue having our field lights on until daylight savings time starts on March 13. We appreciate the participants that utilize the track during this time and feel that it is much needed light during an otherwise dark time.

As you know, there are many houses being built throughout the community which means more families, and to the District, it means more students. We are preparing for that in the coming months. We plan on adding a modular classroom at Lundy Elementary School as well as a couple modular classrooms at the Jr./Sr. High School. We aren't quite at saturation yet so being proactive rather than reactive will definitely benefit us in the long run.

In closing, there will be some hustle and bustle around here in the coming months as we plan for the next wave of families into our wonderful district. As you know, we aren't very complacent around here for long. We love making improvements and striving to make this District the best it can possibly be. We will continually move forward and make improvements to this place so our community members take pride and out of town guests drive by and say "Wow!" We have received several "Wow" compliments in the last year or so and it should be no surprise with the amazing custodial and grounds staff we have. They set the bar extremely high and constantly find ways to continually impress. In the words of the late great Vince Lombardi "**Perfection is not attainable**, but if we chase perfection, we can catch excellence."

Stay warm and stay safe,  
Johnie Matthews



### Students of the Month



**Amadalla Plagmann** (at left) is an 11th grader at Lowell and the daughter of Shelby Plagmann. In her free time Amadalla enjoys farming with her family. She is very interested in agriculture and enjoys learning about animals. Her favorite subjects in school are Anatomy and Physiology. Amadalla plans to become a local livestock veterinarian.



**Alex Sotomayor** is an 8th grader and the son of Julie and Steve Sotomayor. Alex likes to participate in sports and plays football, basketball, and track. His favorite subjects are P.E. and band. He likes to watch TV over the weekends. After high school he hopes to attend the University of Oregon.

**Congratulations Amadalla and Alex on being selected Students of the Month!**

LHS Drama presents...  
**The TENTH ANNUAL**  
**“An Hour of Improv Comedy!”**

Three FREE 7PM shows: Thursday, March 17th; Friday, March 18th; Saturday, March 19th

Now performing VIRTUALLY via Google Meet  
 A video streaming link will be posted on the LHS Homepage ([lowell.k12.or.us](http://lowell.k12.or.us))

Donations will be accepted to support the development of the LHS Drama Program  
 Please contact Mr. Klatt ([mklatt@lowell.k12.or.us](mailto:mklatt@lowell.k12.or.us)) if you would like to support LHS Drama



**Varsity Girls Basketball**

This young team (one senior, one junior) fought hard all season and will carry over the experience they gained to future seasons.

From left to right are: Assistant coach Nellie Arthur, Danielle Evans, Hazel Garner, Priscilla Thurman, Oztyn Straight, Gracie Aldinger, Kiahna Baszler, Lilly Neet, Kameron Baszler, Jada Cantrell, Cheyanne McNamee, Dixie Marchi, Annabelle Pickett, Lydia Plahn, Amerika Baszler, and Head coach Daniele McCallum.

**Varsity Boys Basketball**

The boys also had a tough season but hung in there and finished with a decisive win over Oakridge.

From left to right are: Deacon Almeida-Savio, Coach Mike Neet, Justus Thurman, Tyler Yearous, Trenton Neet, Ryder Greco, Coach Jordan Napier, Jesse Neet, Raymond Fassbender, Head Coach Kory Roberts, Colton Wendt, Brody Thurman, Jaden Jalof, Anthony Smith, and Hayden Vaughn. Not pictured is Cody Prom.



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## City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

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### Notice of City Council Vacancy

The City of Lowell is seeking a civic-minded and engaged citizen to fill a vacancy on the City Council. The new City Councilor's term will last until December 2022. You will have the opportunity to run for election during the November 2022 elections, if you so choose.

As a City Councilor, you will set the vision and direction for the city. You will vote on the budget and city policies. You will work with the Mayor, other City Councilors, and city staff and volunteers to achieve the city's goals.

This is a volunteer position. City Council meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 pm, and attendance is required. If you are interested in giving back to the community, consider applying.

Applications are due Monday, March 28 by 4:00 pm. City Council will review the applications and may interview City Councilor candidates prior to appointing someone to fill the vacancy.

**Qualifications:** Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the City of Lowell for at least 12 months prior to appointment.

**To apply:** Send a completed and signed "Volunteer Boards & Commission Application" to City Administrator Jeremy Caudle in person, by email, or by mail. Our email address is [admin@ci.lowell.or.us](mailto:admin@ci.lowell.or.us), and our mailing address is PO Box 490, Lowell, OR 97452. 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>.

**Questions?** Feel free to reach out with any questions. You can contact us by telephone at (541) 937-2157, by email at [admin@ci.lowell.or.us](mailto:admin@ci.lowell.or.us), or by stopping by City Hall in person at 107 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

### Library and City Hall Construction Project Update

Thank you to all the residents and businesses who contributed to our end of year fundraiser for the library. We set a goal of raising \$3,000. We exceeded that goal and have raised \$11,570 from over 70 individual donors. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to demonstrate continued support from the community in our application for grant funding. We were informed earlier this month that we will be receiving a gift of \$191,466 from The Ford Family Foundation for the library renovation. All our financing sources are now secured, and we are set to bid out the construction for this project during the week of February 28. If everything goes according to plan, we will be moving into the new City Hall and library by the end of the year.

### Take the Library Survey!

Plans are underway to reopen the Maggie Osgood Library in late 2022. In addition to a new location, the library will feature an updated collection of new books and other materials. The City of Lowell is conducting a survey this month to get your thoughts about what you'd like to see in the new library, and when you'd like to use it. Take the survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LowellLibrary>

or on your smartphone with this QR Code.



## Help Update Our Development Code

The City is restarting a code update project which includes incorporating the 2019 Downtown Master Plan into the Lowell Development Code as well as making other broader adjustments to the Code. This includes access standards, lot standards, street standards and longstanding housekeeping items.

The City is looking for committee members who will represent the following groups or interests:

- ◆ Lowell School District
- ◆ Lowell Rural Fire Protection District
- ◆ Youth
- ◆ Non-motorized transportation advocate (such as walking and bicycling)
- ◆ Downtown small business owners or other person familiar with downtown

The Code Committee will serve as the stakeholder group for the Project and provide feedback to a Project Management Team on Project deliverables. The Committees will serve in advisory role, providing important perspectives on draft code concepts.

The Committee will meet 1-2 times and will be expected to carefully review draft materials and respectfully provide representative and productive critiques and insights to the materials. The first meeting is expected to be held in the Spring of 2022.

Interested in getting involved on the Code Committee? Contact us by telephone at (541) 937-2157, by email at [admin@ci.lowell.or.us](mailto:admin@ci.lowell.or.us), or by stopping by City Hall in person at 107 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

### City Council and other committee/commission actions:

Actions from the January 24 Blackberry Jam Festival Committee meeting:

- A motion was approved to hold an event during July 2022.

Actions from the January 26 City Council special meeting:

- Second reading approval of an ordinance relating to the City's building inspection program.
- A motion was approved to correct City Clerk pay adjustment.

Actions from the February 3 Parks Committee meeting:

- Recommended the appointment of Shannon Fassbender to the committee.
- Recommended the establishment of a shade tree program for Paul Fisher Park.

Actions from the February 15 City Council regular meeting:

- City Council agreed to conduct a community survey regarding police services.
- Approved a resolution establishing floodplain development procedures & permitting processes.
- Approved a contract with Lane County for a "Low Income Household Water Assistance Program."
- Approval of an intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation for the downtown plan implementation and code update project.
- Approval of an environmental study for the City's E. Main St. property.
- Approval of an "agreement for improvements" with Bahen Investment Group, LLC.
- Approval to terminate a sale agreement with Campbell Commercial Real Estate for the sale of 8 N. Hyland St.
- Approval of a resolution to accept a real property donation.
- Approval of the Parks Committee's recommended Paul Fisher shade tree program.
- Approval of the Parks Committee's recommendation to appoint Shannon Fassbender.

## MORE from the Lowell School District



### Varsity Wrestling

This young team finished 11th in State, due to the efforts of five State qualifiers, as noted on the cover page. Team members from left to right are: Levi Stewart, Harley Hardison, Emma Zylstra, Zander Rogers, Jamar Thurman, Shelby Plagmann, Cayden Erlei, Lehi Zylstra, Ryan Pelroy, Rowan Files, Paul Clark and Beauden Asher. Head coach Lincoln Casarez is assisted by Boone Casarez.

### Middle School Wrestler Heading to Iowa

David Finch, an 8th grader at Lowell Jr/Sr High School, had an impressive wrestling season this year. On February 20th he wrestled in the Oregon Middle School National Dual Team Qualifier and won his weight class (275 lbs.). David will be traveling to Heartland USA Middle School National Dual Tournament in Council Bluffs, Iowa with the Oregon team in April.



Congratulations David — good luck in Iowa. We'll be rooting for you!



### The Pine Needler Quilt Show is On!

**New show dates:  
July 16th & 17th**

We'd love to have your quilts hanging in this very special show.

Location and Entry Form information will be coming soon!



### Regattas in April

The 2022 Covered Bridge Regatta will span two weekends again this year. First up is the Masters and Juniors Regatta on Saturday April 9th and Sunday morning April 10th. Then the following weekend will be the Collegiate Regatta on Saturday, April 16th.

In addition to some spectacular racing, there will be food and coffee booths and more! Please go to [oarowing.org](http://oarowing.org) or email [regatta@oarowing.org](mailto:regatta@oarowing.org) for more information.

Also, mark your calendar for the PAC-12 Regatta coming to Lowell on May 15th!



## Community News & Events

### Breakfast at the Lowell Grange Resumes, Sunday, April 3rd!

Lowell Grange members are pleased to announce that our monthly breakfasts will resume in April. It's been so long since we've been able to gather together, we have lost some of our breakfast helpers. If you would like to help with prep, cooking, serving, or clean-up, please call Ruth at 541-510-5608. The free breakfast is served from 8-11 a.m. Donations are accepted to help continue maintaining and renovating the 100+ year-old Historic Grange Hall.


### Lowell Community Preschool is Enrolling now for our Pre-K 4 & 5 year-old class!

#### Pre-K Class Information:

This class is for ages 4 and 5 who are independently potty-trained. We focus on preparing children for kindergarten by meeting each individual child here they are! Our curriculum emphasizes developing social and emotional skills along with learning important early literacy concepts, art, math, music, movement, and encouraging imaginative play.

- ◆ Located inside Lundy Elementary School
  - ◆ Class Days will be Tuesday through Thursday, 8-11:30 a.m., September through May
  - ◆ Annual one time non-refundable registration fee of \$50
  - ◆ Monthly fee: \$200
  - ◆ To enroll, fill out the form at [www.lowell.k12.or.us/preschool](http://www.lowell.k12.or.us/preschool) and email it to [pelroyj@yahoo.com](mailto:pelroyj@yahoo.com).
  - ◆ Spots are limited and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis with returning students receiving priority.
- Contact Jessica Pelroy for questions about enrollment and to make payments.

\*Our 3/4-year-old class enrollment is currently on hold. Please contact Jessica if you are interested in enrolling your 3-year-old for the 2022-23 school year.



**Pilates at the Grange — now adding an evening class!**

Pilates classes will continue at the Lowell Grange (51 East 2nd Street) each month. Class are held on Mondays from 6:30-7:15 a.m. and on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:15 a.m. The cost will be \$30 per month or \$10 for drop-ins. Newly added is a class on Mondays from 8:15 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Classes are conducted by a certified pilates instructor. Mats will be provided but feel free to bring your own if you prefer. For more information, please call Joe at 206-920-3256.

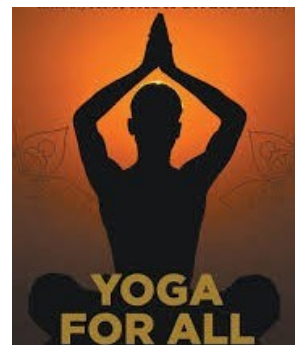
### Yoga at the Grange

Are you ready to find your roots, get strong and flow? If so, come to the Lowell Grange (located at 51 East 2nd Street in Lowell) on Tuesday nights from 7 to 8 p.m. We will move and find stillness to music while cultivating our awareness. This will be a class for people with some yoga experience, but beginners are always welcome and will be supported.

The cost will be \$42 for 6 weeks or a drop-in fee of \$10. We are following the current pandemic guidelines, so at this point, masks are required. Bring your mat, some water, and any other accessories (blocks, straps) that you might want for your practice. I will have some blocks available.

My name is Ava Litton and I am a physical therapist/certified yoga instructor. If you have any questions, please call or text me at 541-261-2176.

\*A one-time schedule change: Tuesday's March 1st session will be moved to Thursday, March 3rd\*



# 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](http://www.lowell.k12.or.us)

## Making community connections

*NON-PROFIT*

*ECRWSS*

*U.S. Postage Paid*

*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: March 2022

- 1—**City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 pm—70 N. Pioneer St.**  
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
  - 2—Read Across America Day at Lundy Elementary  
RAIN Entrepreneur Meetup, Stomping Grounds Coffee, Noon  
Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 70 N. Pioneer
  - 3—Parks and Recreation Committee, 7:00 p.m., 70 N. Pioneer
  - 4—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
  - 8—Blackberry Jam Festival Committee, 7:00 p.m., 70 N. Pioneer St.
  - 9—Half-day of School—Curriculum Day—Release at 11:50 a.m.  
Cindy Patterson Fundraiser at Papa's Pizza, all day  
**Lowell Fire District Board meeting; 7:00 p.m., Main Station**
  - 13—Daylight Savings Time starts!
  - 14—Softball v Jefferson, 4:30 p.m.
  - 15—**City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 70 N. Pioneer St.**  
Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview
  - 16—Baseball @ North Douglas/Yoncalla, 4:30 p.m.
  - 17, 18, 19—An Hour of Improv Comedy, 7:00 p.m.
  - 18—Half-day of School—District Prep Day—Release at 11:50 p.m.  
Baseball Double Header v. Oakland, 2:00 and 4:30 p.m.
  - 19—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
  - 24—Baseball v. Elkton, 1:00 p.m.
  - 25—Softball and Baseball @ Harrisburg, 2:00 p.m.
  - 28—Softball v. Oakridge, 4:30 p.m.  
**School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., PDC at Lundy Elem.**
  - 29—Baseball v. Jefferson, 4:30 p.m.
  - 30—Baseball v. Creswell, 4:30 p.m.  
Softball @ Oakridge, 4:30 p.m.
- Coming in April:  
1—Baseball @ Central Linn, 4:30 p.m.  
2—Softball Doubleheader @ Waldport, Noon and 2:00 p.m.  
3—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange!



**Spring Break is March 21-25**