



The Bridge

Making community connections

Lowell/Fall Creek Education Foundation Gears Up for Great Things

On the heels of the great progress the School District has made both in the classroom and to the buildings, the Lowell/Fall Creek Education Foundation is also on the move. By partnering with the School District and the communities of Fall Creek and Lowell, the Foundation board will provide the leadership to accomplish great things.

Initially the board will focus on connecting with alumni and community members to form an Alumni/Friends Association to spread the word about all the positive accomplishments past and future graduates have achieved. The current board is being expanded and will seek “dream big” ideas and those passionate about them.

At the November 24th meeting of the Lowell School Board the 2014/2015 Foundation Board members were appointed. They are Warren Weathers, Donna McCallum, Nancy Garratt, Diane Stephens, Ron Johnson, and Maureen Weathers.

If your financial plans include any year-end giving, we invite you to make a tax-deductible donation to Lowell/Fall Creek Education Foundation, EIN 93-1167635, 65 S. Pioneer Street, Lowell, OR 97452. Feel free to designate contributions to a specific “dream big” project that would support the great work of the District. Thank you for your support!

The Bridge

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

Winter Concert Dates Set

Lowell JH/HS Winter Concert
Grades 7-12 Band & Choir
Wednesday, December 17th
7:00 p.m., High School Gym

Lundy Elementary Winter Concert
Grades K-6 General Music & Band
Thursday, December 18th
7:00 p.m., High School Gym



Box Tops Translate into Big Bucks for Schools

Many of you will recognize the “Box Tops” logo pictured below. The Box Tops for Education program has been helping schools earn extra cash for schools since 1996. So far this year, contributions of Box Tops has helped Lundy Elementary earn \$1,530. Over 90,000 K-8 schools participate nationwide in the Box Tops program. Each Box Top is worth at least 10 cents. The 10 cents adds up fast! At Lundy we use the Box Top funding for things like gym equipment, student t-shirts, fieldtrips and student yearbooks.

It is easy to participate. When you purchase items at the store, check to see if the item has the “Box Top” coupon. If the item you buy is part of the products that participate in the program, cut the Box Top coupons out and bring them to Lundy Elementary School and we will take it from there. A complete list of participating products in the Box Top program can be found on the web at www.boxtops4education.com. Additionally, Box Tops can be submitted electronically to schools through participating retail outlets.



So remember...don't toss those Box Top coupons! Clip them and send them on to Lundy Elementary. Our students and families thank you for this support.

School Attendance:

A Big Indicator of Student Success

Traditionally the months of December and January take “a hit” in student attendance due to student illness and other reasons. This month we are taking time to remind parents, guardians and students about the importance of school attendance.

Research clearly indicates that students who do not miss school get better grades, behave better in school and at home, and are more likely to attend college or career training leading to satisfying and higher paying jobs as adults. Students who do not attend school on a regular basis do not perform up to their ability and have a higher risk of dropping out of school. If your child has minor complaints about his/her health, you should send him/her to school. If he/she has a fever (or has had a fever in the last 24 hours) or is vomiting, then clearly he/she should stay at home. If a doctor advises staying at home, he/she should do so. Otherwise, students should be at school. Parents can help with attendance by:

- Stressing the importance of attending school every day and working hard while at school
- Making appointments outside of the school day if possible
- Making sure students are well rested on school nights to be mentally alert during school days
- Contacting and working with the school counselor, teachers, and administrators when students need help with academic issues.



If a student does become ill and needs to stay home, please be sure to call the school secretaries to excuse the absence and to determine a way for your student to make up any missing work. If a student is out of class for academic or athletic reasons (like fieldtrips or athletic competitions), please help remind your student to request homework for the time they are out of class prior to leaving the school.

Girls Take 3rd Place in 1A State!!



The Lowell girls volleyball squad had a great season this year, culminating in a 3rd place finish at State. They finished first in the Mountain West League with a 14-0 record and received many honors. Kaysey DeMarce was Co-MVP of the year and Kristen Prenevost was named Coach of the Year! First team honors went to Kaysey DeMarce, Jessica Chittim and Hali Asher; Anna Cardwell was named to 2nd team and Kiera Rooks to 3rd team. Their 4th place ranking going in to State let them skip Round 1 action, then they beat Damascus Christian in Round 2. They defeated Camas Valley in the quarterfinals, lost to Country Christian in the semis, then defeated Crane for the 3rd place finish. Kaysey DeMarce was awarded 1st team all tournament and Hali Asher 2nd team all tournament at State. Congratulations to all the athletes, coaches and parents for a terrific season!

Mountain West League Football All-Stars Honor Many Red Devils

The varsity football team wasn't able to get past Sherman in the quarterfinals but swept their league with a 5-0 finish and many honors. Senior Tanner Harvey took home both Most Outstanding Player on Offense and Defense, and Pat Todd was named Coach of the Year! First team awards went to Grant Chapman (Offensive Line), Alex Norris (Offensive and Defensive End), and Sam Thurman (Defensive Line). Second team included Ryan Sinnett (Quarterback), Kenny Lane (Running Back), Jaron Barckley (Defensive End) and Luke Kinnamon (Kicker), and honorable mention went to Justyn Barton (Defensive Back).

Special thanks go to all the assistant coaches and parents who support the head coaches. And, a huge congratulations to first-year volleyball head coach Kristen Prenevost and football head coach Pat Todd for their Coach of the Year honors!



New Scoreboards at Lowell

You may have noticed that the Lowell Gym Scoreboards last year began to slowly go "kaput" until finally, at the beginning of this year the "bright lights" went out completely. But, with contributions from student fundraising and from District funds, new scoreboards were purchased and will soon be up and running.

Special thanks goes to all of the students at Lowell. The student leadership (ASB) approved student funds going to help pay for the new score boards. Additionally, athletic teams chipped in funding to help purchase the new boards. Special thanks goes to the athletic organizations who used some of their fundraising dollars to help with the purchase of the scoreboards. Those athletic teams included Girls and Boys Basketball, Football, Volleyball and Track. Additionally the athletic department contributed funds with the District approving funds to complete the purchase.

Thanks again to all who made the purchase of the new scoreboards possible.

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

Keep Fire Safety On Your Holiday Menu

As Thanksgiving kicks off gatherings for holiday meals and parties, the Lowell Fire District would like to remind everyone to keep fire safety front and center when cooking and preparing holiday meals. When friends and family gather at this festive time of year, it shouldn't be marred by tragedy. Following simple fire safety steps can keep yourself and loved ones safe this holiday season. From 2009 through 2013, there were more than 3,750 cooking-related fires in Oregon causing five deaths, 222 civilian injuries, and more than \$32 million in property loss.

Cooking safety tips:

- Keep a close eye on your cooking; never leave cooking food unattended. If you leave the kitchen, turn off the stove or set a timer.
- Keep your cooking area clean, including stovetop, burners, oven, and exhaust fan.
- Keep anything that can catch fire - oven mitts, wooden utensils, dishtowels, and food packaging away from your stovetop.
- Wear clothing that will not dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.
- Keep pot and pan handles turned inward on the stove to avoid bumping them and spilling hot foods.
- Heat cooking oil slowly and never leave it unattended.
- Have a "kid-free zone" of at least three feet around the stove and areas where hot foods/drinks are prepared or carried.

If you have a cooking fire:

- Always keep a lid nearby to smother small grease fires. Smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan. Turn off the burner and don't move the pan until it is completely cool.
- Never pour water on a grease fire; it can splatter the grease and spread the fire.
- In the event of a fire in your oven or microwave, turn off the oven and keep the door closed.
- When in doubt, get out! Call 9-1-1 after you leave.

Make sure you have working smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside each sleeping area, and in every bedroom. Test smoke alarms monthly and replace them if they are 10 years old or older.

Turkey fryer safety:

The Lowell Fire District with the National Fire Protection Association discourages the use of outdoor gas-fueled turkey fryers that cook the turkey in hot oil. The use of deep fat turkey fryers can lead to devastating burns, other injuries, and the destruction of property if not handled with caution.

However, we also recognize some families choose this method to prepare their turkey. If you use a fryer, we urge you to use extreme caution. If you're cooking your turkey in a deep fat fryer, always do it outdoors at a safe distance from buildings, deck railings, and any other flammable material, and never leave it unattended. Hot oil is extremely dangerous, so never use turkey fryers on a wooden deck or in your garage. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions in using your hot oil fryer. Place the fryer on a flat, stable, nonflammable surface and don't overfill it with cooking oil. Once the oil is up to temperature, turn off the burner and only insert turkeys that are completely thawed, otherwise hot oil will splatter and may boil over the sides of the fryer. Never use water to cool hot oil or extinguish a cooking oil fire. Keep children away from the fryer, and use thermometers to gauge oil and food temperatures.

More turkey fryer safety tips:

- Lower and raise food slowly to reduce splatter and prevent burns.
- Cover bare skin when adding or removing food from the fryer.
- Make sure to have at least two feet of space between the propane tank and the fryer burner.
- If the oil begins to smoke, immediately turn the fryer gas supply off and leave the pot uncovered to cool.

For more information on cooking safety, visit: <http://www.oregon.gov/osp/SFM/Pages/kitchensafety.aspx>

For more information on general home fire safety, visit: http://www.oregon.gov/osp/SFM/pages/commed_firesafety_program.aspx. Start now by making safety a priority this holiday season.

On the web: www.lowellfiredistrict.org

Fire District Open House Community Dinner

The Lowell Fire District and the Lowell Volunteer Firefighters Association once again, invites members of the Lowell, Unity and Fall Creek communities to an open house and turkey dinner with all the fix'ns, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.,

Saturday December 13th at the District Main Station, 389 N. 4th Street in Lowell.



Enjoy a turkey dinner and take a look at your fire station. Activities are planned for every age group. Tour the station and check out our fire fighting and EMS equipment. Learn how you can prevent fires and prepare for emergencies in your home and community.

The District is always looking for additional sponsors of this event and if you would like to contribute please contact the District office at 541-937-3393. Join the fun on December 13th.



How to Prepare for a Winter Storm

Winter storms can bring freezing rain, ice, snow, high winds, or a combination of these conditions. They can cause power outages that last for days, make roads and walkways very dangerous, and can affect community services. Planning and preparing can help you manage the impact of a winter storm and keep you and your family safe. A sustained power outage can have a significant impact on people who require electricity to power medical equipment, so make sure that you have a plan to take care of yourself and your family during an outage.

Know Your Risk

WHAT: A winter storm occurs when there is significant precipitation and the temperature is low enough that precipitation forms as sleet or snow, or when rain turns to ice. A winter storm can range from freezing rain and ice, to moderate snowfall over a few hours, to a blizzard that lasts for several days, or be a combination of several winter weather conditions. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures.

WHEN: Winter storms can occur from early autumn to late spring depending on the region of the country.

WHERE: Winter storms and colder than normal temperatures can happen in every region of the country.

IMPACT: Extreme winter weather can immobilize an entire region. Ice and heavy snowfall can knock out heat, power, and communications services sometimes for several days. Driving and walking can become extremely hazardous due to icy conditions, snowfall accumulation, low visibility, or extreme cold. People may need to stay at home or work without utilities or other services, until driving is safe. Pipes and water mains can break.

Now is the time to **PREPARE**. Gather emergency supplies, make a family plan, and discuss emergency notifications and expectations with your family and your workplace. Assemble your emergency kits for your home, business and car. Make sure you are fully stocked of all emergency supplies. Be prepared to be self reliant for at least 72 hours. Stay informed, listen to radio weather stations. Sign up for County Emergency Notifications by phone.

What to do to **PROTECT** you and your loved ones. Stay indoors and avoid driving as much as possible. If the power goes out, close off unused rooms and consolidate as much as possible to conserve heat. Never use generators or outdoor heating equipment indoors. Never heat your home with an oven. Drive only when it is absolutely necessary.

RECOVER after the event. Driving may still be a hazardous adventure and should be avoided if you can. Electric power may take many days or even weeks to restore. Be patient and stay informed on projected restoration times. It may be necessary to temporarily relocate for a short time until power is restored.

Some other things to consider include: Have a communications plan to stay in touch with family members and relatives, maintain a good supply of medications that are needed for good health, store food, water and batteries for emergencies. For much more information on preparing for winter emergencies go to www.ready.gov or contact the Fire District Office at 541-937-3393. Help make this winter safe for everyone.

City Beat

Final City Council Election Results

Two candidates were elected to the Lowell City Council at the November 4th General Election. Don Bennett defeated incumbent Melody Knokey for position #1 and Maggie Osgood defeated Stacie Harris for position #4. These newly elected members will join continuing City Council members Steve Paulson, Judith Rennert and Jim Burford.

The City's Charter requires that a Mayor and Council President be selected by the Council from amongst its members at the first meeting of the Council in January. This will occur at the meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 6th.

Covered Bridge Holiday Lighting Ceremony Cancelled

Due to the damaged gate on the Lowell Bridge, we are unable to access the highway side of the bridge to place a tree and light up the peak and arch on that side. The Parks Committee will do as much decorating as possible on the rest of the bridge but there won't be an official "ceremony" to kick off the holiday season.

City Administrator Withdraws Contract Termination

City Administrator Bill Lee has withdrawn his request to terminate his contract as of January 15, 2015. He will continue as City Administrator for the remainder of his contract which runs through July 14th. The City Council will continue to develop a process for the recruitment and selection for the position.

Wanted: Stuffed Animals and Toys

Do you need to make room for NEW Christmas toys? You can donate gently used toys or new toys and stuffed animals to the Blackberry Jam 'Kidz Korner' prize collection. You can drop them off at City Hall during office hours or call 541-520-5406 for pickup.

Also, think about adding 'Kidz Korner' to your Christmas shopping list! It brings so much enjoyment for our local kids.



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 November 3rd regular meeting:

- No actions taken.

From the November 18th regular meeting:

- Regarding the recruitment of a permanent city administrator, a motion to defer a contract with Mr. Kelly for recruitment until February failed. In support: Paulson, Burford; Opposed: Rennert and Reese; Absent: Knokey. Mr. Paulson will proceed with Mr. Kelly to sign a contract for recruitment.
- Regarding the proposed land donation by Mia Nelson, a motion to decline the donation, remove references of the proposed donation from all parks plans and waive application fees for future property line adjustments between the property and adjacent Sunridge lots failed. In support: Paulson, Reese; Opposed: Rennert, Burford; Absent: Knokey. A motion to accept the donation for use as a public park, contingent on receipt of an additional cash donation of \$10,000 from Roy Nelson to be used for mowing and other needed maintenance passed. In support: Paulson, Reese, Rennert; Opposed: Burford; Absent: Knokey.
- Resolution 612—Paid Holiday Benefit to amend the City's employee manual relating to paid holiday benefits was approved unanimously.

Willamette Cascade Foothills Community Collaborations Workshop

On January 31st and February 21st, a two-day workshop will be sponsored by The Nonprofit Association of Oregon. Any member of the community wishing to participate in this workshop should contact info@nonprofitoregon.org or call 503-239-4001. The workshop will be held in Lowell and in Pleasant Hill.

This is a great opportunity to learn about collaborating with others from our surrounding communities in order to make good things happen!



In and Around Our Community

A Gift for Every Child

East Valley Church would like to make sure every child in this town has a gift for Christmas. If you know a family in need, please contact East Valley Church at 541-937-3329 or if you are a family in need, please come by and fill out a request form at 72 East 2nd Street (go to the back door under the stairs).

2014 Christmas Program

This year's annual Christmas program, "Thoughts of the Angels" will be presented on Sunday, December 21st at 6:00 p.m. at East Valley Church, 72 East 2nd.

Girl Scouts Coat/Hat/Mitten Drive

The Lowell Girl Scout Troop has placed boxes at the high school and Lundy Elementary to collect your donations of coats, hats and mittens. If you are in need of these items, they may be picked up each second and fourth Tuesday of the month until December 18th from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. For more information please call Debbie at 541-359-8974.

Special Guest Appearance Scheduled for December 6th Family Movie Night!

The next Free Family Movie Night is this Saturday, December 6th with a special guest appearance after the movie — ho, ho, ho!!



Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the movie **Frozen** will begin at 7:00 p.m.

As always, admission is free!

Sales of refreshments benefit the Lowell Cub Scouts.

Grange Events in December

- Breakfast on December 7th
- Texas Hold 'em Poker on December 5th and 20th
- Bingo! on December 3rd and 17th

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

Fall Creek Park News

Fall Creek Park Association workers are looking for a used gas powered leaf blower that is in good shape and is reasonable. Can you help us out with a leaf blower or \$\$ to buy a new one?

If you need leaves for gardening mulch, bring your rake and bags and take home free leaves from the park. For more information, please call Pam at 541-937-1978, Glen at 541-937-2536 or Maggie at 541-937-3759. Fall Creek Park is located at milepost 7.5 on Jasper-Lowell Road.

Clothing Bank Has Winter Clothing Available

Lots of winter weather clothing is available at the Clothing Bank which is located at 4 East Lakeview Street (behind the football field). They are open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays with hours from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Clothing donations are welcome on those days as well, or call Brandy Stewart at 541-530-0123 to make other arrangements. Her email address is stewartsx6@fastmail.fm.




Bill & Linda Lee
present
Karaoke at the Grange.
December 12, 2014
6-9pm
donations



Lowell Grange



Boy Scouts will have food to purchase

Girl Scouts will have games to play.

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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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: December 2014

- 1—JH Girls Basketball v. Triangle Lake, 4:00 p.m.
- 2—**City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
- 3—JH Girls Basketball @ Mapleton, 4:00 p.m.
Osprey Wrestling @ Crow, 6:00 p.m.
BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
- 4—Varsity Girls Basketball v. Monroe, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity Boys Basketball v. CS Lewis, 6:00 p.m.
Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
- 5—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 5/6—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla Tourney
- 6—Christmas Boat Parade, boats launch at 4:30 p.m., Lowell Marina
Free Family Movie Night at the Lowell Grange, 6:30 p.m.
Osprey Wrestling @ Oakridge, TBA
- 7—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- 8—JH Girls Basketball v. Alsea, 4:00 p.m.
- 9—JV Boys Basketball v. Powers, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Powers, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
Blackberry Jam Committee, no meeting until January 13th
- 10—JV Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla, 4:30 p.m.
Osprey Wrestling v. Oakridge, TBA
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla, 6:00/7:30 p.m.
Mt. View Academy Musical, 7:00 p.m., High School Gym
- 12—Karaoke at the Grange, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Camas, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
- 12/13—Lowell Wrestling @ Culver Tourney
- 13—Fire District Open House & Dinner, 4:00-6:00 pm, Main Station
- 15—JH Girls Basketball v. Falls City, 4:00 p.m.
School Board meeting, Lundy Comm. Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 16—JV Boys Basketball v. Triangle Lake, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Triangle Lake, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 17—Lowell HS Choir & Band Concert, 7:00 p.m., HS Gym
BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
Osprey Wrestling @ Cottage Grove, 6:00 p.m.
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
- 18—Lundy Elementary Winter Concert, 7:00 p.m., HS Gym
Lowell Wrestling @ Oakridge Hwy 58 Classic, 6:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls Basketball @ Cottage Grove, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Boys Basketball @ Mohawk, 7:00 p.m.
- 19—JV Boys Basketball v. Yoncalla, 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Yoncalla, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
- 20—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
Lowell Wrestling @ Thurston Duals
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Camas, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
- 21—East Valley Church Christmas Program, 6:00 p.m., 72 E. 2nd
- 23—Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall
- 27—Lowell Wrestling @ Willamette Tourney
- 29/30—Lowell Wrestling @ Reno Tourney
- 30—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ N. Douglas, 6:00/7:30 p.m.

Christmas Boat Parade, Sat., December 6th
Boats will launch at the Lowell Marina at 4:30 p.m. and make their way to the Lowell Bridge at dusk. All are welcome. Info: Rick 541-912-8982.