



The Bridge

Making community connections

Dexter Lake Farmers' Market Features Crafts

Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, held in Rolling Rock Park each Sunday through the end of September, works to bring you an assortment of fruits, vegetables, meats, cheese, and other local foods as the summer season advances. And the market also features crafts!

Gilbert Monroe and Ha Jung Woo from the Oakridge area are woodworkers who do business as *Eugene Walking Wood*. They offer a selection of walking sticks and canes at the market. They are made of local wood and crafted locally.

Walking sticks and canes can extend the range of a hiker. They can also extend the health of individuals for many years. With a walking stick, the range and capability and a hiker is increased with all the accompanying benefits of exercise. Some hikers even use two walking sticks when hiking long hours, at a distance, or in difficult terrain.

Canes can increase and extend the mobility for people who have injuries of the legs, knees and feet, or who have arthritis or other conditions that make walking difficult. Keeping up on the exercise extends our lives and helps keep us strong. The cane or the walking stick can also help with balance.

Come to Dexter Lake Farmers Market and appreciate the fine craftsmanship in Eugene Walking Woods' products. You may decide to try one out!

Sundays from Noon to 4:00 p.m.
in Rolling Rock Park



The Bridge

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August 2018

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School supplies lists are on the District's website and at most retail stores. If you'd like to contribute, drop off your donations to Lundy Elementary at 45 S. Moss Street. Thank you!

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

Dear Community,

I sit here today wanting to tell you all how much it means to me to be the Superintendent of this wonderful school district. I started here ten years ago as a second grade teacher and fell in love with this community. As you know, many changes have taken place throughout the district and will continue to take place for more years to come. We could not have done this without the support from all of you.

We are continuing with the planning phase for the bond facility project and will have solid plans in place in the upcoming months. We have met with staff and local business owners (J&K Electric, Bridgeway Construction, Brothers Plumbing and James Heating & Air Conditioning) to ensure all "i's" are dotted and "t's" are crossed in order to get the most bang for our buck when we go out to bid.

The football field is progressing, although it isn't where we want it to be yet, it is exponentially better and safer than the one we had before.

Again, it is an absolute pleasure to be a leader in this district. We have wonderful people working here that all share a common goal: to provide the best services we can, whether it be education, maintenance, facilities, transportation, technology, business or food services. We are not only on the move, we are well on our way.

Sincerely, Johnie Matthews, Superintendent

Lowell Kids Staying Busy with Summer Camps and Activities

The Lowell School District Summer Science Camp wrapped up its 4th year of science learning on July 12. Lowell science teacher, Toni Beckett, and Lowell principal, Kay Graham (formerly a science teacher) teamed up again this year to provide a camp that focused on the topic of biomimicry and design and engineering. Students used ideas from nature to design inventions. The inventions ranged from boats that were propelled by "fish like" tail movement to flying home surveillance systems. The students were able to take a class at the Hatfield Marine Science Center where they built miniature ROVs (Remotely Operated Underwater Vehicles) and participated in a competition to see which team could pick up the most objects on the "sea floor". The students were also able to visit the South Slough Estuary at Coos Bay and learn about the importance of estuaries in our coastal environment.

Besides the science camp, Lowell Jr./Sr. High wrapped up summer school in mid-July and summer school for elementary students has just started. Drama camp will run through August 3rd. A leadership camp at the U of O, sponsored by GEAR UP, will begin August 7th-August 10th and will involve 21 of our Lowell students in grades 7-11.

Students at the Jr./Sr. High school are also busy reading their school sponsored summer reading book. The books being read by Lowell secondary students this summer are *Okay for Now*, *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie*, and *Boys in the Boat*.

All summer camps, summer school, and summer books are paid for by generous grant funds and donations for which we are very grateful.



Volleyball Camps Coming in August

There will be a parent/player meeting for HS volleyball players on August 5th at 5:00 p.m. in the Lundy Elementary gym, 45 S. Moss. Daily doubles begin on August 13th. Players MUST have a current sports physical done before they can start practicing. Check with the school office if you are not sure if your child needs a more current one.

For 6th-8th graders, Volleyball Kids Camp will be August 14th-16th from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

For 1st-5th graders, Volleyball Kids Camp will be August 20th-22nd from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

The cost is \$25 and includes a teeshirt. The camp is open to boys and girls. Volleyball Camp is always a lot of fun and is a great fundraiser for the high school team. We hope to see your kids there!

Come out and support the Lady Devils at a home tournament on Thursday, August 23rd.

For the most up to date information, check out the Lowell Red Devils Volleyball Facebook page. You can email coach at kristen.prenevost@yahoo.com.



Football Activities to Begin

Lowell Football is putting on a football camp for 8th graders and younger from 5:00-6:00 p.m. August 6th-9th. New JH Coach Lincoln Casarez will then continue for another hour with the kids who plan to play junior high football for Lowell.

High School camp is from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for Lowell students only. Cost is \$10. All participants will receive football shorts.

Daily doubles start August 13th. Football practices will be 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m. Monday-Friday, through August 17th.

Lowell will be hosting a varsity football jamboree on Thursday, August 23rd at 6:00 p.m.

Our first home game of the season is on Friday, September 7th at 7:00 p.m. versus Nestucca.

Summer Leadership Camp

Twenty-five Lowell students, grades 6-9, will be attending the GEAR UP Summer Leadership Camp at the University of Oregon, August 7-10. Usually GEAR UP limits a school to only 12 students, so sending this number of students is unprecedented. Participants submitted an essay dedicated to voicing their leadership qualities and their leadership potential. Thirty-four essays were submitted for scoring.

These students will live on campus with three chaperones: Aaron Farrier, Trudi Glander and Katrina Burkhardt. During their stay, students will be involved with leadership activities during the day and guided "fun" activities in the evening. Each student will receive a meal card for the campus dining hall at Erb Memorial Union (EMU).

Students should turn in their waiver permit to the LHS office or bring it to the bus on August 7th. The waiver form must have a parent or guardian signature or the student cannot attend. For further information, please contact Jeanie May, GEAR UP coordinator at jmay@lowell.k12.or.us or 541-510-1134.

All District Registration on August 2nd & 3rd

The 2018-2019 school registration will be on August 2nd from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm and August 3rd from 8:00 – Noon. Students must re-register every year to update student records. Student fees at the High School and Junior High can be paid during that time and sports medical records can be updated. There are no student fees for Lundy students.



SAVE THE DATE: September 4th Rockin' Lowell Back to School BBQ and Open House

Students, parents and community members are invited to a no-cost BBQ on Tuesday, September 4th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Lundy Elementary, 45 S. Moss Street. After dinner an open house will be held at both schools from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

City Beat by City Administrator Jared Cobb

Planning Projects Underway

We've all heard the famous saying coined by Benjamin Franklin, "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." The City of Lowell recently started work on two major master plans – a Downtown Master Plan and a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

A key goal of any community-wide planning project is to develop an actionable plan that reflects the broad range of voices and values within the community. In that spirit, we are offering numerous opportunities for engagement and encourage all residents and stakeholders to participate. More information on each planning project is provided below.



Downtown Master Plan

The City has contracted with the Lane Council of Governments and The Urban Collaborative to facilitate the development of a plan for downtown. The primary goal of the project is to plan for general improvements in quality of life through a downtown that is better defined, utilizes space better, and realizes its intended (zoned) uses more effectively. It will specifically address streetscape improvements, traffic circulation and public safety, stormwater facilities, and affordable housing in the downtown area. For additional information, please visit the project website at www.ci.lowell.or.us/downtown-master-plan.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The City has contracted with the University of Oregon Institute for Policy Research and Engagement to update the 2007 Parks and Open Space Master Plan. The plan will include a park facility inventory and assessment, evaluation of future park needs, and a capital improvement plan. Concept plans will also be developed for Rolling Rock Park and the existing railroad bed located off Pacific Crest Way. In addition, the concept plan for Paul Fisher Park, developed in 2017, will be integrated into the Plan. For additional information, please visit the project website at www.ci.lowell.or.us/parks-and-recreation-master-plan.

Board and Committee Vacancies

The City is accepting applications for the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee. All interested residents and non-residents (as applicable) are encouraged to apply. Applications may be picked up at City Hall or downloaded online at www.ci.lowell.or.us. *Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled.*

Lowell City Council Actions

At the July 3rd study session, the following topics were discussed:

- Update on Vehicle Replacement Plan, New Water Testing Regulations, Legislative Priority Ballot, Special City Allotment Grant Application, Parks and Downtown Survey, Update of System Development Charges

At the July 17th regular meeting:

- Approved the purchase of a half-ton pickup truck through the Oregon Cooperative Procurement Program for an amount not to exceed \$28,000.
- Approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with Lane Council of Governments for City Attorney Services.
- Approved the League of Oregon cities Legislative Priority Ballot with the top four issues being: Mental Health Investment, 3rd Party Building Inspection, Wastewater Technical Assistance, and, Broadband Infrastructure.
- Approved Resolution 702: A resolution in support of the City of Lowell applying for the Oregon Department of Transportation 2019 Special City Allotment Grant.

All motions were approved 5-0.

Monthly Police Log (June 22 – July 29)

At the time of publication, the Lane County Sheriff's Crime Mapping application did not identify any calls for service. Staff has reached out for clarification and will publish any corrections at: www.ci.lowell.or.us/police/

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

Summer Water Safety Reminder

Whether at home or on vacation, it is always important to keep safety in mind when children are in or near water. Drowning can happen at any time of year but be especially cautious during the summer months when drowning incidents can increase up to 89% as compared to the rest of the year.

When the weather turns warm, everyone wants to be in or around the water. Hanging out at the pool or the lake on a hot day is a great way to beat the heat. For people between the ages of 5 and 24, drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death.

It doesn't have to be that way, though. Most water-related accidents can be avoided by knowing how to stay safe and by following a few simple guidelines. Learning how to swim is essential if you plan on being on or near water. Many organizations provide swim instruction to people of all ages, check to see what classes are available in our area.

Swimming Smarts

“Buddy up!” That’s what swimming instructors say. Always swim with a partner, every time — whether you’re swimming in a backyard pool or in a lake. Even experienced swimmers can become tired or get muscle cramps, which might make it difficult to get out of the water. When people swim together, they can help each other or go for help in case of an emergency.

Get skilled. Speaking of emergencies, it’s good to be prepared. Learning some life-saving skills, such as CPR and rescue techniques, can help you save a life. A number of organizations offer free classes for both beginning and experienced swimmers and boaters.

Know your limits. Swimming can be a lot of fun — and you might want to stay in the water as long as possible. If you’re not a good swimmer or you’re just learning to swim, don’t go in water that’s so deep you can’t touch the bottom and don’t try to keep up with skilled swimmers. That can be hard, especially when your friends are challenging you — but it’s a pretty sure bet they’d rather have you safe and alive. If you are a good swimmer and have had lessons, keep an eye on friends who aren’t as comfortable or as skilled as you are. If it seems like they (or you) are getting tired or a little uneasy, suggest that you take a break from swimming for a while.

Swim in safe areas only. It’s a good idea to swim only in places that are supervised by a lifeguard. No one can anticipate changing ocean currents, rip currents, sudden storms, or other hidden dangers. In the event that something does go wrong, lifeguards are trained in rescue techniques. Swimming in an open body of water (like a river, lake, or ocean) is different from swimming in a pool. You need more energy to handle the currents and other changing conditions in the open water.

If you do find yourself caught in a current, don’t panic and don’t fight the current. Try to swim parallel to the shore until you are able to get out of the current, which is usually a narrow channel of water. Gradually try to make your way back to shore as you do so. If you’re unable to swim away from the current, stay calm and float with the current. The current will usually slow down, you can then swim to shore.

Even a very good swimmer who tries to swim against a strong current will get worn out. If you’re going to be swimming in an open body of water, it’s a great idea to take swimming lessons that provide you with tips on handling unexpected hazards. Some areas with extremely strong currents are off limits when it comes to swimming. Do your research so you know where not to swim and pay attention to any warning signs posted in the area.

Contact the district office at 541-937-3393 or check our website at www.lowellfiredistrict.org for more information on water safety and boater safety.



24th Blackberry Jam Festival Wraps Up!



Grand Marshal, Retired Dexter Fire Chief Guy Harshbarger and wife Cheryl

Thanks to all the volunteers, sponsors, vendors, advertisers, donors and attendees, the festival was a huge success! The festival benefits many good local causes and gives families a wholesome event with something for everyone.

Next year's dates are July 26, 27 & 28.



Grand Champion was awarded to Ken Jones of Walterville with his 1955 Chevrolet Nomad (above). Judge's Choice went to Danny Nielsen of Springfield with his 1973 Plymouth Barracuda; Mayor's Choice was Sandy Cook of Florence with a 1955 Ford Pickup; and, People's Choice went to Tony & Deb DeMuth of Lowell and their 1955 Chevrolet Nomad.



2018 Horseshoe Pitching Champs are Dustin Holmes and Scott Bradfeldt from the Dexter area.



Tim Stratis (at right) came out of retirement to reclaim his title in the pie eating contest. Shane Sifre of Rogue River took first in the 10 and under group for the second year in a row. Samantha Dragt took first place in the pie baking contest (below).

The Pine Needlers raffle quilt was won by Dave Redner of Minnesota.



Top finishers in the Devils Dam Dash 5K were repeat winners from last year, Michael Stearns (age 54) of Eugene in 18:54.3 and Katie Chapman (age 15) of Lowell in 22:13.5.



Springfield Police Department K9 Unit showed off some talented dogs at their exhibition on Saturday. Shown here are Flex and Falco going through their paces.



Kyren Smith (at right) scored \$100 bill by catching the first tagged fish of the Derby!

Most pounds caught by boat award went to the Squaw Commander team with 36#. Most pounds from the shore with 92# was Team Hilbilly. The Longest Fish caught by an adult (20") was won by Tim Osborn and the Longest Fish caught by a youth was won with a 15" by Bryce Boyles.



In and Around Our Community

Farmers' Market Raises Value of Farm Direct Checks

Farm Direct and WIC checks are issued to many local residents. They are individual checks worth \$4 each. They can be used for farm fresh products and other qualifying foods, which are listed on each check. They can be spent only with pre-approved vendors. At Dexter Lake Farmers' Market in Lowell, two of our farmers can accept your checks for a wide range of produce. Sometimes their food may be sold in the consignment booth, so if you are looking for a place to spend your checks, just come and ask.

And you can buy even more with these checks at the market this year. We have received a grant from the Rosemarie Sweet Fund to expand the reach of Farm Direct and WIC checks. For as long as the grant money lasts, we will match the first \$8 of Farm Direct or WIC checks that you spend on any one day with special "market checks", which will be given to you by the vendor who takes your Farm Direct or WIC checks. The market bonus checks are good for any market food, including prepared food that you can eat right there while enjoying the music and the company of friends and neighbors. They must be spent before the end of the 2018 market season. This is a chance to expand your purchasing power and try some new products. Hope to see you at Dexter Lake Farmers' Market this summer. We are open Sundays from noon to 4 PM through September 30.



Fall Creek Community Potluck Picnic

This fun, annual event will be held at Fall Creek Park on Saturday, August 18th from noon until ?? Bring a dish to share, a chair to sit in, table service and beverage. We will have a raffle with the money going to up-keep of the park. Donations are accepted for the raffle.

If you have something to donate to the raffle, please call Pam at 541-937-1978 or Maggie at 541-937-3759.

To get to Fall Creek Park, go west on Jasper-Lowell Road past Unity Bridge to milepost 7.5. If you've never visited the park, this would be a great time to stop by!

Discover Your Watershed: Middle Fork Bike Path Tour Thursday, August 16th * 5:30-7:30PM

The Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council will be hosting a guided bicycle tour on August 16th from 5:30pm-7:30pm to highlight this beautiful trail and the work being done there to protect clean water. MFWWC staff will be joined by partners from the Springfield Utility Board, the City of Springfield, Willamalane Park and Recreation District, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. These partners will share along the way how they are working towards a healthier Middle Fork Willamette watershed.

The tour is open to the public; registration is required. To register for the tour or if you'd like more information, please visit middleforkwillamette.org/events.



Backpack Give Away for Kids

East Valley Church is having their annual backpack give away Saturday, August 18th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. We have 30 backpacks with supplies to give away. If you live in the Lowell area and are in need or know a child in need please call East Valley Church at 541-937-3329. The deadline is Monday, August 13th.



Library Volunteers Wanted

Volunteers are welcome at the Lowell Community Library. Time slots open are mornings, afternoons, or all day — whatever works for you. Come and meet your neighbors and kids of the community and learn how the library runs. Contact Maggie at 541-937-3759.



Returnable Can/Bottle Drive First Saturdays

Please continue to help support local high school groups by bringing your returnable cans and bottles to the high school parking lot every 1st Saturday morning of the month from 10-Noon. Thank you!



Grange Events in August

Breakfast on August 5th
Texas Hold 'em Poker on August 3rd and 18th
Bingo! on August 15th

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

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: August 2018

- 1—Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 2—School registration, 5:00—8:00 p.m., High School breezeway
- 3—School registration, 8:00—Noon, High School breezeway
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 4—Can/Bottle Drive, 10am-Noon, HS Parking lot
- 5—Lowell Grange Breakfast, 8:00-11:00 a.m., 51 East 2nd Street
Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-4 pm, Downtown Lowell
Volleyball Parent Meeting, 5:00 p.m., Lundy Gym
- 6-9—Football Camp, grades 8 and younger, 5:00-6:00 p.m.
High School Football Camp, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- 6—Economic Development Committee, 1:00 p.m., City Hall
- 7—Summer Reading Program, 12:30-2:00 p.m., Lundy Elem.
City Council Work Session, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 8—Lowell School Registration, 8:30-11:30 a.m., at the High School
Senior Moments, 10a.m.—Noon, Lowell Library, 107 E. 3rd
- 12—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-4 pm, Downtown Lowell
- 13—Daily Doubles begin!
- 14-16—Volleyball Kids Camp grades 6-8, 3:30-5:00 p.m.
- 14—Lowell School Registration, 5:00-8:00 p.m., at the High School
Fire Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
Blackberry Jam Committee, no meeting
- 15—Bingo! at the Lowell Grange, 51 E. 2nd Street, 7:00 p.m.
- 16—Middle Fork Bike Path Tour, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Committee, 6:00 p.m., City Hall
Parks & Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee Meeting,
7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 18—Fall Creek Park Potluck Picnic, Noon, Fall Creek Park
Backpack Giveaway, 1:00-3:00 p.m., East Valley Church
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
- 19—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-4 pm, Downtown Lowell
- 20-22—Volleyball Kids Camp, grades 1-5, 4:00-5:00 p.m.
- 21—**City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall**
- 23—Volleyball Tournament, 4:00 p.m., HS & Lundy Gyms
- 26—Dexter Lake Farmers' Market, Noon-4 pm, Downtown Lowell
- 27—**School Board Meeting, Lundy Comm. Room, 7:00 p.m.**
- 31—Senior Potluck Luncheon, Noon, Fall Creek Christian Church

First day of school is Wednesday, September 5th!