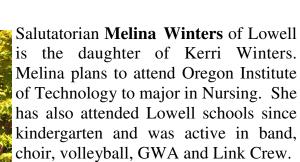


Class of 2020 Graduation June 12th

Graduation ceremonies will be held on Friday, June 12th at 7:00 p.m. on the football field at Lowell High School. All social distancing protocols for this ceremony will be followed by the participants, which will include family and invited guests only. The ceremony will be live-streamed so that extended family members and friends can watch from the comfort of their own homes. Please see the link on the District website: lowell.k12.or.us to watch the ceremony.

Prior to the ceremony, starting at approximately 6:30 p.m., a parade will wind through the streets of Lowell, basically following a similar route as the Blackberry Jam parade. Residents are asked to support the seniors from their front lawns or various locations along the route where they can respect social distancing (see parade route on page 2).

Valedictorian is **Ashley Jenks**, the daughter of Tonia and Gary Jenks of Fall Creek. Ashley will graduate with a 4.0 GPA and enroll at the University of Oregon this Fall. She has attended Lowell schools since kindergarten and has been active in robotics, drama and choir — her favorite activity during high school.



Congratulations to these students and the entire Class of 2020!

The Bridge

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June 2020

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2020 SENIOR CLASS



LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL



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

Dear Lowell / Fall Creek Families,

I hope this finds you all safe and well. Another month gone and June is almost here. To say this was an odd year would be an insult to the word odd. As we continue to try to get used to the new normal, it seems like it has been years since we had kids playing on the playground, solving equations, giving speeches, reading aloud, and of course not allowed, running through our halls. To say the least, it has been so quiet around the Dstrict it just doesn't feel right.

I would like to take a minute to celebrate the seniors who have had to make some major adjustments this year and express to them a sincere apology that they were robbed of the last few precious months of their senior years. Although this group in particular is very resilient, I can't help but feel horrible for them. That being said, I know they will find a way to power through and overcome this obstacle just like so many other challenges they have faced and will face throughout their lives. It's just another test along the winding road that is this existence.

As you may or may not be aware, this group of seniors has a very special place in my heart. This group was my first class (as second graders) when I started my career in the Lowell School District twelve wonderful years ago. It was a learning year for all of us. After that first year I moved up to sixth grade as we discovered I wasn't as equipped to tie shoes and wipe runny noses as I hoped I would be. However, after having two children of my own, I can honestly say I have mastered both now. As I was trudging along in sixth grade, the recession hit and I was asked to teach both fifth and sixth grades. Lo and behold, that following year those same little second graders with their untied shoes and runny noses were growing up and we were going to spend another year together. Finally, after their fifth grade year ended, I was asked to just teach sixth grade as we started to recover from the financial crisis, so there we were about to spend another glorious year together.

All in all this group was with me for just under 25% of their school careers, at three different grade levels. We grew up together, we matured together, and although they were the students, that group taught me more about life than I thought possible. I learned patience. I learned humor. I learned that we all make mistakes (even teachers.) Most importantly, I learned that this group would handle any situations thrown at them and thrive as human beings throughout their lives. I hope they will tell you they learned a little something from me along the way as well.

As we ended each day, we played a song and had a minor dance party as the minutes ticked down to 3:00. We all stood there rocking out on our air guitars, air drums and actual vocals celebrating another successful day together. The song that was bumping on the stereo.... "Don't Stop Believing" by Journey. And, as their time in the District comes to an end and a new chapter opens up for them, I know they will dominate it just like I taught them. Ironically, this song rings true to their ears now more so than I'm sure it ever has before.

Be well, Johnie Matthews, Superintendent

Class of 2020 Graduates:

Desmond Able, Dustin Astbury, Alanna Beyer, Lily Bonomo, Kyle Byrne, Joshua Cantwell, Owen Chapman, Corrina Clay, Angelee Cobiskey, Izaac Crotwell, Rebecca Dean, Augustine Devereaux, Kourtney Dulley, Paige Griffith, Monica Guzman-Fields, Tykara Hepner, Ashley Jenks, Andrew Kintzley, Mathew Knotts, Brooklynn Laduke, Brian Lemon, Victoria Lynchard, Stephanie McCoy, Keara Miller, Alexa Parker, Areanna Perez, Shyann Pocholec, Kaitlyn Sinnett, Hannah Thornton, Hannah Van Winkle, Taysian Williamson and Melina Winters.

To honor these graduates, feel free to root them on along the parade route. It begins at Tumac in the industrial park then heads south on Moss to 4th Street, east on 4th to Hyland Lane, south on Hyland to 3rd Street, west on 3rd to Moss Street, south on Moss to 2nd Street, east on 2nd to Pioneer Street, south on Pioneer to Main Street, west on Main to Moss Street, south on Moss then east on Lakeview to enter the football field for the ceremony.

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Winters Grabs the Ford Foundation Scholarship by Jeanie May, GEAR UP coordinator

When Melina Winters received the congratulations letter from The Ford Foundation Scholarship telling her that she was a scholarship recipient, her response was one of shock. She became one of 125 Oregon high school seniors and college students to join this elite group. After other scholarships and money devoted to her college education is factored in, the Ford Foundation Scholarship will pay "90% of the recipient's unmet financial need with a limit of \$40,000 per year."

Melina plans to be an RN, focusing on pediatric nursing. She has been accepted to Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) and she has also received the OIT Presidential Scholarship, the Kaiser Scholarship, and the Lowell District School Publicist Scholarship. Cassie Day, teacher and counselor, said that Melina takes the initiative to get things done, a quality that many teachers admire. Melina admits that she is an "outgoing individual" which plays into her strengthens. Day also said, "Melina faces obstacles and plows right through them." Her strong voice shows up in her character and her writing, "A defining moment in my life was when I had to decide if I was strong enough to stand up for my heritage. Growing up in a small town in Oregon, being a person of color definitely puts you as a minority. I haven't had a lot of African American representation in my life, but in this moment I felt I had to make a difference," she wrote after a racial slur was uttered loud enough for her to hear but quiet enough for the teacher not to hear.

GEAR UP and Aspire have been important to Melina. She said that her college visits narrowed down her college prospects and that GEAR UP created a college-going climate which made her less scared to move away. Karen Cardwell, Aspire coordinator, and her team also received high marks from Melina as did her science teacher Toni Beckett, and her counselor Day. All these individuals helped her in various ways: from FAFSA and meeting deadlines, to science work and editing her essays. Once she receives her nursing degree from OIT, Melina plans to return to the Lowell area and contribute to the Lowell community.

Mountain View Academy Plans Graduation Ceremony — Saturday, June 13th

On Saturday, June 13th, Mountain View Academy will be celebrating their 8th grade graduates and Kindergarten promotion. The students will walk in their caps and gowns and the families will watch from their cars. Eighth graders will each be partnered with a Kinder student to provide appropriate physical distancing.

At noon, Lakeview, Moss and Main Streets will be closed to through traffic. Parents and families will be directed to park along those streets from 12:15 - 12:50 p.m. The graduation parade will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the High School woodshop parking lot. Graduates will walk west on Lakeview, north on Moss, then east on Main, ending in the main high school parking lot.

Gabby Roper, pictured at right, will be wearing the MVA Honor Cord — recognizing her outstanding achievement of being on the Director's List (4.0 GPA) every quarter throughout middle school. Congratulations MVA graduates!



Timberwolves Academy—MVA Preschool Openings

The Mountain View Academy PreKindergarten (4 year olds) class is currently full for the 2020-21 school year. We are still accepting wait list applications.

There are spots available in the Preschool (3 year olds) class for 2020-21. The Timberwolves Academy is located at East Valley Church, 72 E. 2nd Street in Lowell. PreKindergarten will operate 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday and Preschool will have a morning and afternoon session Tuesday and Thursday.

How to enroll: Contact us at 541-735-1709 or email Kelly@mtviewacademy.org to request an application. The cost for Preschool and PreK is \$150/month, September through May.

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City Beat by City Administrator Jared Cobb

Notice of Budget Committee Meeting and State Revenue Sharing Public Hearing

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the City of Lowell, Lane County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, will be held at 70 North Pioneer Street, Lowell, OR 97452. The meeting will take place on June 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. 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 May 26 by calling Lowell City Hall at 541-937-2157 or on the City's website at www.ci.lowell.or.us.

At this meeting, the Budget Committee will also conduct a public hearing regarding the use of State Revenue Sharing Funds. Citizens are invited to recommend uses for State Revenue Sharing Funds distributed by the State of Oregon to the City of Lowell for fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Due to COVID-19, this meeting will be held electronically through Zoom Meetings. Limited seating is available at the Library. Members of the public are encouraged to listen and participate by phone, tablet, or PC. Details for joining are available on the City's website at www.ci.lowell.or.us by clicking on the calendar item entitled "Budget Committee Meeting".

Local State of Emergency Extended as City Prepares to Reopen Facilities

The Lowell City Council formally declared a local state of emergency for the City of Lowell on March 17. On Tuesday, April 21 the City Council extended the local state of emergency through May 19. The emergency was extended again on May 19 and is in effect through June 16.

Staff is working on several changes to operations prior to reopening. This includes installing a physical barrier at the City Hall front counter, providing hand sanitizer at all facilities, and additional cleaning procedures for the public restrooms at Paul Fisher Park and Rolling Rock Park.

As a reminder, all City parks remain open for leisure and recreation. The playground at Paul Fisher Park, however, remains closed in accordance with the governor's executive order.

For local updates and cancellations please visit the City website at www.ci.lowell.or.us or follow us on Face-book @CityofLowellOregon or Instagram @cityoflowelloregon.

For COVID-19 resources please see the following:

- <u>Lane County Health Department</u> <u>www.lanecountyor.gov/coronavirus</u>
- Oregon Health Authority for statewide updates www.oregon.giv/oha
- <u>Center for Disease Control for U.S. updates</u> <u>www.cdc.gov</u>

Lane County non-emergency call center 541-682-1380

Board and Committee Vacancies

The City is accepting applications for the Budget Committee, Parks and Recreation Committee, Planning Commission, Blackberry Jam Festival Committee, and the Economic Development 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.

There will be a Quilt Show this year!

Although the Blackberry Jam Festival has been cancelled for this year, the Pine Needlers have announced that they would like to do something special for this wonderful community. So, save the date for July 25th and watch for more information to come in next month's newsletter.

Page 5 The Bridge

Lowell City Council Actions

This report of actions by the City Council is provided to inform citizens of recent decisions made by the council.

At the May 14th special meeting, the following action was taken:

Approved \$5,000 for the Oregon COVID-19 Emergency Business Assistance Program, (passed 4-0).

At the May 19th work session, the following topics were discussed:

- Utility Payment Assistance Program
- Utility Payment In Lieu of Franchise Fee
- Fiscal Year 2020/21 Utility Rates
- Main Street and Lakeview Avenue Financing
- Building Inspection Fund
- Fireworks Display
- Special Event Permit Request

At the May 19th regular meeting, the following actions were taken:

- Approved Resolution 741—Local State of Emergency Declaration extended through June 16, 2020
- Request for Special Event Permit by Mountain View Academy Both actions were approved 4-0.

Monthly Police Log (March 28—April 27)

Date	Time	Call Type	Location
04/28/20	3:56 PM	Reckless Endangering	100 Block Trailblazer Court
05/01/20	11:27 PM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
05/02/20	11:46 PM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
05/03/20	10:08 PM	Suspicious Conditions	400 Block East First Street
05/07/20	2:00 AM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
05/07/20	10:45 PM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
05/07/20	11:06 PM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
05/09/20	7:02 PM	Traffic Hazard	West Boundary Road and North Pioneer Street
05/09/20	9:41 PM	Suspicious Conditions	300 Block East Main Street
05/10/20	7:49 PM	Indecent Exposure	400 Block East First Street
05/12/20	4:16 PM	Assault	100 Block West Fourth Street
05/12/20	8:57 PM	Suspicious Conditions	100 Block North Cannon Street
05/14/20	12:45 PM	Assist Outside Agency	100 Block North Moss Street
05/16/20	8:39 PM	Dispute	100 Block North Everly Street
05/17/20	6:44 PM	Criminal Trespass	100 Block North Moss Street
05/18/20	1:30 AM	Alarm	100 Block South Pioneer Street
05/18/20	3:08 PM	Vehicle Stop	100 Block North Moss Street
05/22/20	1:06 PM	Assist Outside Agency	100 Block North Cannon Street

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.

Funds are available to repair homes in Lowell

St. Vincent de Paul, Society of Lane County currently has around \$155,000 to rehab Lowell homes. A typical \$25,000 loan enables qualified homeowners to improve the livability, health, and safety of their homes. The current available funds could rehab up to six projects. We are looking for new applications now to identify eligible households. "It's Not Too Good to Be True!" There are no payments added to the monthly budget. The loans are due and payable upon the sale or transfer of the property. Homes accepted into the program are assessed and repairs made under the supervision of St. Vincent de Paul, utilizing licensed and bonded contractors of the homeowner's choice. Call Christina today at 541-687-5820, extension 165 to find out more about this program.

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FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

Board meetings will be held remotely via Zoom for the foreseeable future. You can join on your computer and/or call in. If you would like to join via computer, please download the <u>Zoom Client for Meetings</u> in advance. Join via computer at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85789587415

If you are unable to join via computer, or do not have speakers or a microphone on your computer, you can dial in for audio. Call (669) 900-6833 or (646) 558-8656 and enter ID 857 8958 7415.

Note that the public will be muted by default. If you would like to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting, you have the following options:

Online - raise your hand, or use the Q&A or Chat panel to submit your comments.

Phone - press *9 to raise your hand, *6 to send a request to be unmuted to submit comments.

Public engagement is important to us, and meeting remotely is a new process. We appreciate everyone's understanding as we figure this out together.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

A public meeting of the Lowell Rural Fire Protection will be held on June 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at 389 N. Pioneer Street, Lowell, Oregon. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 as approved by the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at 389 N. Pioneer Street between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or online at lowellfiredistrict.org. This budget is for an annual period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is the same as the preceding year.

Contact Lon Dragt	Telephone)937-	3303	E-mail	ı t2300@gmail.co	nm
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	INANCIAL	SUMMA	ARY—RESOURCES Actual Amounts		Adopted Budget	Approved Budget
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS			20 20 -20 21		s Year: 20 20 –20 21	
Beginning Fund Balance/Net Working Capital			200,000).00	200,000.0	0
2. Fees, Licenses, Permits, Fines, Assessments & Othe	r Service Ch	arges				
3. Federal, State & all Other Grants, Gifts, Allocations	& Donations					
Revenue from Bonds & Other Debt						
Interfund Transfers/Internal Service Reimbursement	s					
All Other Resources Except Current Year Property T	axes		19,500		19,500.0	
Current Year Property Taxes Estimated to be Received			455,082		455,082.0	0
8. Total Resources—add lines 1 through 7			674,582		674,582.0	0
			ENTS BY OBJECT			
9. Personnel Services		- H	306,000		306,000.0	
Materials and Services			212,451	_	212,451.0	
Capital Outlay		- H	15,000		15,000.0	
2. Debt Service			65,57		65,571.0	
Interfund Transfers			25,000		25,000.0	
4. Contingencies			50,560		50,560.0	-
5. Special Payments				0.00	0.0	
Unappropriated Ending Balance and Reserved for Fu				0.00	0.0	
Total Requirements—add lines 9 through 16			674,582		674,582.0	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY-REQUIREMENTS AND FU		QUIVAL	ENT EMPLOYEES	(FTE) BY	ORGANIZATIONA	L UNIT OR PROGRAM
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Volume 22, Issue 12

In and Around Our Community

Lowell Community Preschool Has Openings for Fall 2020!

This program has been operating for over 12 years with longtime teachers Miss Jessica and Miss Rachel and is conveniently located inside Lundy Elementary School. We are accepting independently potty trained 3-5 year olds (child must be 3 years old on or before 9/1/20). As a Community Preschool, we welcome families from all local areas (and do not discriminate): Lowell, Fall Creek, Dexter, Oakridge, Pleasant Hill, Eugene and Springfield. Teachers are experienced and trained in First Aid, CPR, social-emotional education and early literacy. All



health and safety guidelines are understood and followed. Monthly field trips are planned to enhance classroom learning.

Morning Pre-K runs from 8:15 a.m. until 11:45 a.m.; Afternoon Preschool runs from 12:30 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. Classes will reopen Tuesday, September 15th. For fees and to register your child, contact Jessica today at 541-953-9200 or find us on Facebook! *Spots are limited and filled on a first come, first served basis.

Armando's Thanks You!

For the last eight years, Angelica Guitron has been the owner and operator of Armando's Mexican Restaurant in Lowell. Angelica has always appreciated the love and open arms she has received from you, the residents of Lowell/Fall Creek. With COVID-19, Oregon restaurants were restricted to takeout food only. Luckily, with your help, Armando's has been able to survive the past 2.5 months, all the while providing free meals. They teamed up with Lon and the Lowell Fire Department, Bridgeway Contracting, Darin Sakamoto, Jeff DeHart, Jared Cobb and Dave Rommel to serve free taco dinners to the community for the past three months. Angelica's love for her community made the long hours of preparing each month's 300 free taco meals seem easy as families show up with appreciation and hungry bellies.



Beginning June 1st, Armando's will be open for sit down dining again, while adhering to the new guidelines. In addition, Armando's will continue the \$5.00 Taco Tuesday dinner special. Be sure to stop by this summer for the new Saturday Margarita Specials! From the bottom of Angelica's heart, thank you Lowell/Fall Creek for your continued love and support. Call us at 541-937-2300. Hope to see you soon!

Lowell/Dexter Lake Farmers Market Opens for 2020 on June 7th

The management and staff of Lowell/Dexter Lake Farmers Market is happy to announce the 2020 summer season opening on Sunday, June 7th. The market runs from noon until 4 pm and is held at Rolling Rock Park, 101 North Shore Drive in Lowell, Oregon.

SNAP purchases at the market, up to \$10 in value, will be matched with coupons for fruits, vegetables, and edible food starts. We will feature our consignment booth this summer. Two local farmers will bring fruits and vegetables. Blackberry, raspberry and strawberry jam will continue to be sold as a fundraiser for Lowell Schools.

We want to add produce from local gardeners. If you want to set up your own booth, or sell in consignment, contact the market at <u>toepkemclean@gmail.com</u>, or call 541-937-3034, or come to the market between 10:30 and 11:30 am on Sunday morning. Ask for Marion.

Plan to purchase your membership. It costs \$15 per person at the market, or you can mail payment to Dexter Lake Farmers Market, PO Box 561, Lowell, Oregon, 97452. We usually sell memberships at our face-to-face meetings before the market starts, which was not possible this year. We missed a major part of our usual start-up funds. Help the market and buy your membership now. Make your check payable to Dexter Lake Farmers Market. To set up your own booth you are required to be a member.

We are taking the opening of the market this year very seriously. We are opening the farmers market under guidelines given for Phase 1 opening and will follow all local and state regulations. Call or email if you have questions or want to discuss our plans.

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

NON-PROFIT

ECRWSS

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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: June 2020

- 2—City Budget Committee Mtg, 6:30 p.m., Maggie Osgood Library and online City Council Work Session/Special Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Maggie Osgood Library and online
- 5—Texas Hold 'em Poker cancelled
- 6—Cans/Bottle Drive cancelled
- 7—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange cancelled Farmers Market, Noon-4:00 p.m., Rolling Rock Park
- 10—Fire District Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Lowell Station
- 14—Farmers Market, Noon-4:00 p.m., Rolling Rock Park
- 16—City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Maggie Osgood Library
- 20-Texas Hold 'em Poker-cancelled
- 21—Father's Day! Farmers Market, Noon-4:00 p.m., Rolling Rock Park
- 22—School Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 26—Senior Potluck Luncheon cancelled
- 27—Green Waste Facility 10:00 a.m. until noon
- 28—Farmers Market, Noon-4:00 p.m., Rolling Rock Park

Coming in July: Still anyone's guess...

Business Directory Coming Soon!

The Lowell Grange has a Welcome to Lowell program where members visit new residents to the community and give them information about local services, organizations and businesses. Given the hit a lot of our businesses have taken during the pandemic, we would like to update this list of local businesses and distribute it with a future edition of the newsletter to the entire community.

If you have a business you would like included, please email bridge@lowell.k12.or.us or phone your information to Maureen at 541-954-5765.

In the meantime, please do what you can to support local businesses, non-profit organizations and especially, your neighbors. We are definitely all in this together! Thank you for your support.