



The Bridge

Making community connections

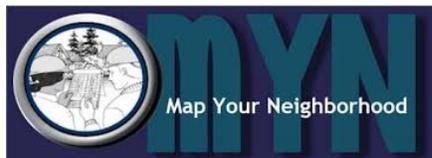
Group Promotes Community Preparedness

The Willamette Cascade Foothills Community Collaborative (WiCaFoCo) is a group of folks from the Goshen, Pleasant Hill, Dexter and Lowell areas that is committed to bring these communities together for a common good. One of the projects this group has taken on is that of community preparedness. The group is working with area Fire Districts to help promote emergency preparedness and provide resources for the public to become more prepared and self-sufficient in case of a local natural or man-made disaster.

Map Your Neighborhood is a program recommended by Lane County Emergency Services to help people organize with their neighbors to make preparations for all kinds of emergencies. WiCaFoCo is sponsoring an orientation meeting in Lowell about the Map Your Neighborhood process with folks ready to sit down and make an emergency plan with their neighbors at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, December 13th at 38 East Main Street. Contact Maggie Osgood 541-937-3759 for details or go to <https://wicafo.wordpress.com/emergency-preparedness/meetings>.

On January 26th, WiCaFoCo will host a presentation by the American Red Cross on disaster preparations, including what you need to have on hand for your 72-hour emergency supply kit. The meeting will be in the Goshen Fire District in the cafeteria at Emerald Peoples Utility District (EPUD) at 33733 Seavey Loop Road (near Mt. Pisgah), starting at 6:30 p.m. The talk, by Red Cross volunteer instructor Ed Lepage, will be from 6:45-7:45, with the meeting over by 8:00.

Everyone is welcome!



The Bridge

Volume 18, Issue 6

December 2015

Inside this issue:

School News

Superintendent Update	p. 2
Landscaping Crew	p. 2
Students of the Month	p. 3
Fundraisers	p. 3
Concert Dates Set	p. 3
Recycle Cardboard	p. 3
Box Top\$ for Students	p. 3

City Beat

New Code Enforcement Process	p. 6
Crime Reporting Tips	p. 6
Water System Kudos	p. 6
Toys for Kidz Korner	p. 6
City Council Actions	p. 6

Fire District

Winter is Here!	p. 4
Open House/Dinner	p. 5
Heating Appliance Risks	p. 5

Other

Scouts Mitten Tree	p. 7
Free Movie Night	p. 7
Christmas Program	p. 7
Grange Events	p. 7
Bridge Lighting/Parade	p. 7
Free Leaves!	p. 7
Clothing Bank	p. 7
Calendar of Events	p. 8

merry
CHRISTMAS
and
happy
newyear!

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

Board Meeting Update from Superintendent Walt Hanline:

At the Lowell School District Board meeting of November 23rd, on behalf of Mountain View Academy Charter, Laurie Cardwell requested a change to the present District policy to allow for weapons to be carried by staff. The Lowell School Board made it very clear that they are not experts and will not make such an important decision without solid research and recommendations from a taskforce of experts. The direction they provided to me to create such a taskforce will, I believe, lead to the best decision.

As I shared with the media, for a teacher to shoot an intruder, which is normally a present student or former student, one would have to be trained and psychologically prepared to do so. Someone who is trained to shoot to kill and capable of doing so is a police officer, not a teacher. Additionally, I have yet to be shown that the likelihood of preventing a shooter is greater than the likelihood that a gun would accidentally kill a student. To apply straight statistics, let's look at 2010, when there were 3 people killed and 2012, when there were 39 people killed, and then ask a profound question.

In 2010 there were 7.8 billion possible student days (approximately 45,000,000 students attending public schools each day x 175 average number school days per year totaling 7.8 billion student school days). In 2010 that would have the probability of 2.65 billion to one that a student would be killed in a school shooting. In 2012, when there were 39 students killed, the probability would be 201 million to one that a student would be killed. There are 98,817 schools in the United States. Assuming there are five guns held by staff members in each given school that would be a total of 494,085 guns in our schools per day. Now the profound question, "What is the likelihood of the 500,000 guns in the 98,000 schools each day, going off accidentally and killing someone, a student using the finger prints off a coffee cup to open a biometric safe holding the gun of the teacher and using it, or an individual forgetting to lock the gun up and a student using it?" For me, the risk of an accidental shooting of a child and the inability of a teacher to kill a former student appears greater than the probability of a child getting shot in a school shooting.

The research is clear that the best approach, with or without guns being in the hands of our staff, is to secure our perimeter and create rooms that students cannot be seen during a lockdown. For Lowell School District that would require replacing 75-year-old doors, renovating the interior of our classrooms so that students can not be seen from the corridor or the outside, and creating secure perimeters that are safe and beautiful entrance areas into our schools. This can and must be done! I also believe that ongoing training of staff and students when to lock down or to flee is a needed element. By way of context, remember the shooter will start the spree and the school will lock down. Those shot on first contact will be shot. This will not change no matter who holds a gun. Upon hearing shots, all others will need to escape or be out of sight. Please note that there has not been one person killed in a classroom that was locked down and the students hidden. Simply stated, the shooter in each case looked for easy targets.

In conclusion, even though I am not a security expert, I believe that the risk analysis process should be a major determiner of what will be the best decision. Emotions and the issues related to the 2nd Amendment are not what this is about. Common sense and solid research needs to drive our thinking.

Planting Crew Spruces Things Up

Signature Landscapes volunteered to bring a crew of employees to the Lowell School District to plant the arborvitae at the football field and also plant the landscaping at the new modular classroom for Mt. View Academy. Thanks for a job well done!





Junior High Students of the Month

Kristalynn Pyles is the daughter of Brett and Aaron Manfrede of Lowell and Lee Pyles of Pearisburg, VA. She is very involved in sports, such as football, basketball and softball. She plays the saxophone in the school band, volunteers with the kid's afterschool program and the Lowell PTO. Kristalynn always strives to do her best and her teachers say that she is a pleasure to teach and have around. This summer Kristalynn also represented our school at the OSU leadership camp. Her attendance and grades reflect her hard work and determination. **Andrew Kintzley** is the son of Mark and Suzanne Kintzley of Lowell. He is very involved in sports, such as football, basketball, wrestling and track. He is a great volunteer when it comes to sports



clean ups, Lowell PTO and is always quick to help when it is needed. Andrew works hard to keep his grades and attendance near perfect and he is very involved with our school band. He shows respect for all of his peers and teachers say he is a pleasure to teach! Congratulations Kristalynn and Andrew on being selected as students of the month for Lowell Jr. High.

6th Annual Give Back to Schools Program

Spring Creek Holly Farm is once again providing a fundraising opportunity that you can take advantage of to get ready for the holidays. When you purchase your Christmas tree from them, 50% of the proceeds will be donated to the school of your choice! All trees are \$5/foot. This is open to everyone and there is no limit. So take the beautiful drive out to 43111 McKenzie Highway in Leaburg and get one of these locally grown Noble firs. Info: 541-896-3483.

Holiday Daycare Day — December 12th

The Lowell Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is sponsoring two sessions of childcare to all parents of school-age children in grades K-6. One session is from Noon to 3 p.m. and the other is 3:00-6:00 p.m. Drop your child off at Lundy Elementary. Cost is \$10 per session for one child, \$5 per additional sibling per session. Let your kids have a day of fun while you are out shopping or running errands. For more information call Aaron at 503-798-7519 or Jennifer at 541-337-3434.

Winter Concert Dates Set

Music concerts have been set for **Thursday, December 10th** for JH/HS students grades 7-12 and **Thursday, December 17th** for Lundy Elementary students grades K-6. Both concerts will be held in the Lowell High School Gym beginning at 7:00 p.m. Jr. High and High School choir members will also be entertaining and leading caroling at the Bridge Lighting event on Saturday, December 5th, 5:00 p.m. at the Lowell Bridge.



Your Recycled Cardboard Benefits Students

A trailer has been placed on Lakeview Street, in the parking lot next to the school's rental houses. This is to collect cardboard that will be bundled by school personnel, then picked up by the recycler, who will then send a check to the District.



Your newspapers and magazines can continue to be recycled at the box across from Lundy Elementary at 45 S. Moss Street, which benefits the Music Program.

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. 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. Thank you very much!



FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

Winter is Here – Be Prepared!

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 now until late spring.

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 freeze and break.

Prepare now in case a winter storm hits and you are home for several days without power and heat.

- Prepare by gathering emergency supplies, making a family plan, and discussing emergency notifications and expectations with your workplace and/or schools.
- Install battery-powered or battery back-up carbon monoxide detectors.
- If you have access to an OUTSIDE generator, have an electric cord long enough to keep the generator at least 20 feet from any door, window, or vent.
- Make specific plans for how you will avoid driving.
- Be alert to changing weather conditions using local alerts, radio, and other news sources for information and instructions.

During a winter storm stay indoors and avoid driving as much as possible.

- If the power goes out, close off unused rooms to consolidate and retain heat.
- Wear layered clothing and use blankets or sleeping bags to stay warm.
- Bring pets inside.
- NEVER use generators, outdoor heating or cooking equipment, such as a grill, camp stove, or a gasoline or propane heater, indoors.
- NEVER heat a home with a stove.
- If driving is absolutely necessary, keep disaster supplies in your vehicle, make sure your vehicle is properly equipped, and use extra precaution on the roads.
- Limit your time outdoors. If you are outside, protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia by wearing several layers of warm, loose-fitting, light-weight clothing.

After the storm is over, driving conditions may still be dangerous; only drive if necessary.

- If the power is out for more than a few days, warming shelters might be established.
- If you do not have adequate supplies to stay warm in your home and you can get there safely, you may want to go to a shelter.
- If you go outside, dress in warm clothing, stay dry, and avoid prolonged exposure to cold and wind to protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia.

For more information on winter storm preparedness go to www.fema.gov or www.lowellfiredistrict.org

Fire Station Open House & Community Dinner

The Fire District will be holding an Open House and Community Holiday Dinner again this year. The event is scheduled for Saturday, December 12th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Family and friends are invited to stop by the fire station for a tour and a family style turkey dinner with all the fix'ns. Come enjoy the Fun, Food and Prizes.



Cooler Temperatures Increase Heating Appliance Risk

As overnight temperatures in many parts of the state dip into the 30s and lower, we all need to have fireplaces, woodstoves, and other heating appliances cleaned and inspected for safety.

With the onset of cooler weather, we want to remind homeowners to have the chimneys and flues on their fireplaces and woodstoves cleaned and inspected before using them. You can keep you and your family safe by following these simple home heating safety tips:

Fireplaces and Woodstoves

- Have chimney and woodstove flues inspected and cleaned each year by a qualified chimney sweep. Ask them to check for creosote deposits, soot build-up, or physical damage to the flue.
- Always use a fireplace screen. Make sure the screen is made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass to prevent sparks from escaping.
- Keep a clutter free environment. Store kindling, fire logs, and wood at least three feet from any heat source.
- Dispose of ashes in a tightly covered metal container and place the container outdoors at least ten feet from the home and any other nearby buildings. Ashes may retain heat for days after they appear out.

Portable Space Heaters

- When using portable heaters make sure they come with an automatic tip-over switch and a high-temperature limit switch. The tip-over switch turns the heater off if it is knocked over. The high-temperature limit switch regulates the heater, preventing overheating.
- Give heaters space. Keep at least three feet of space between the heater and combustibles such as furniture, curtains, papers, and people.
- Check heater electrical cords. If the cord is frayed, cracked or becomes hot have it serviced or replaced.
- Never use an extension cord with a portable electric heater. It can overload the circuit and cause a fire.
- Unplug heaters when not in use or before going to bed.

Propane Appliances

- If using a propane-fueled heater, make sure it is designed for indoor use. Read all of the manufacturer's instructions and make sure it is properly vented.
- Do not use barbecues indoors for heating or cooking.
- Make sure propane-fueled appliances are properly vented and follow all manufacturer instructions.
- If you smell gas, do not operate any switches, appliances, or thermostats. A spark from any one of these could ignite the gas. Get everyone outside and away from the building. Shut off the gas supply. Call your propane supplier from a neighbor's phone.
- Avoid kerosene heaters. They can emit poisonous fumes.

Smoke Alarms and Home Escape Plans

- Working smoke alarms alert you to a fire and more than double your chances of surviving a fire. In a fire, minutes could mean the difference between life and death.
- Install smoke alarms in every home, on every level, outside each sleeping area and in each bedroom.
- Test and vacuum your smoke alarms each month to make sure they are working.
- Smoke alarms 8- to 10-years-old or older should be replaced.
- Make a home escape plan and practice it with your family at least twice a year.

Carbon Monoxide Dangers

- Home heating and cooking equipment that burn fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil and methane are sources of carbon monoxide.
- Carbon monoxide poisoning can be fatal if not detected early.
- If you burn one of these fuels for home heating, make sure your carbon monoxide alarm is working properly.

On the web:
www.lowellfiredistrict.org

City Beat

From City Administrator Jared Cobb

A New Process for Code Enforcement

The primary goal of code enforcement is to maintain the highest quality of life possible for residents by ensuring healthy and safe neighborhoods. That happens through enforcement of the Municipal Code, and specifically addressing issues that have been identified as a public nuisance. The most common public nuisances in Lowell include the following:

- Accumulations of garbage, junk and debris clearly visible from a street or alley
- Vegetation that needs to be cut back so that it doesn't impact the use of sidewalks or streets
- Tall grass and weeds
- Dismantled vehicle parts stored on private property clearly visible from the street
- Unregistered or inoperable vehicles parked within the public right-of-way

With the new year approaching, the City of Lowell plans to implement a more proactive approach to code enforcement. Citywide inspections will be conducted at a minimum once per quarter. The process below will be followed to provide ample notice and insure all property owners and renters are treated in a fair and consistent manner:

1. Citywide inspection conducted with door hangers placed as a courtesy reminder for code violations. The reminder will provide 10 days to correct the violation.
2. First follow-up inspection conducted. Properties in violation will be issued a warning letter with the specific violation and 10 days to correct the violation.
3. Second follow-up inspection conducted. Properties in violation may be issued a citation and notice of abatement action. An additional 10 days will be provided to protest the action and/or correct the violation.
4. Third follow-up inspection conducted. Properties in violation may be abated, with the cost of administration and abatement assessed to the property owner and/or renter.

The vast majority of code enforcement complaints are resolved through public education and awareness. Fines and abatement are only intended to be used as a last resort to ensure compliance. Property owners or renters that may be unable to correct the violations due to physical disability should contact City Hall to discuss special arrangements. If you have any questions or concerns regarding code enforcement, please contact City Hall at 541-937-2157.

Crime Reporting and Tips

Residents can help reduce and deter crime in Lowell by reporting suspicious activity and tips to the Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). The LCSO offers several ways to report information:

- Phone: 541-682-4150 or 541-682-4141
- Online: <https://lanecounty.wufoo.com/forms/lane-county-sheriffs-office-tip-sheet/>
- Mail: Tip forms are required and may be downloaded from <http://www.lanecounty.org/Departments/Sheriff/PoliceServices/Pages/tipsheet.aspx> or picked up at Lowell City Hall and mailed to Lane County Sheriff's Office, Attn: CIS, 125 E. 8th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97401

For a crime in progress or other emergency always dial 9-1-1.

Water System Receives Recognition

Congratulations to the Public Works Department! The water system was recently recognized by the Oregon Health Department as an "Outstanding Performer". Lowell was one of only two municipal water systems to receive the commendation in Lane County. Outstanding performers are systems with no significant deficiencies identified, as well as no unresolved violations. All systems are evaluated during their routine Water System Survey, and those that meet the outstanding performer criteria have their survey frequency (and fee) reduced from every 3 years to every 5 years.

Lowell City Council Actions

From the November 17th regular meeting:

- Approved the evaluation process and facilitator for the CA's April evaluation. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson and Rennert; Opposed: none.

Donations to Kidz Korner

If you need to make room for new toys, the Blackberry Jam's Kidz Korner would love to accept your gently used toys and will thankfully accept your monetary donation to purchase toys during this holiday season. Please bring your toys and donations to Joyce at City Hall or call 541-937-5544. Thank you!

In and Around Our Community



Scout Mitten Tree

The Lowell Girls Scouts decorated a mitten tree at the Food Pantry for anyone that need mittens, hats and scarves. The items will be available for people in December on Pantry Days (1st and 3rd Tuesdays, noon-5 pm) and Bread Days (2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 10-2 pm). If anyone wants to donate clean used or new items for the tree, bring them to a Girl Scouts meeting at the Grange on Mondays after school 3:00-4:30, or bring them to the Food Pantry on the Tuesdays listed above.

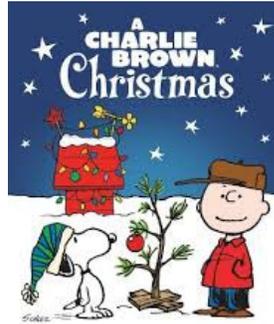
Children's Christmas Program December 20

On Sunday, December 20th at East Valley Church, children from Lowell ages 6-17 are putting on a Christmas program entitled "What does Christmas mean to you?". The program will be performed at 6:00 p.m. at 72 E. 2nd Street. Hot cocoa, coffee, tea and cookies will be available after the program.

Free Movie Night with Special Guest!

On Saturday, **December 5th**, doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the showing of two short **Charlie Brown Christmas movies** will begin at 7:00 p.m. Stay afterward for a special guest appearance...ho, ho, ho!! Refreshment sales benefit the Lowell Cub Scouts.

Admission is free!



Goody bags will be given to about 50 children. If you would like to donate small toys or candy to fill the bags, or donate money to purchase the items, please contact Julie at 541-225-8850 or Tim at 541-228-5664.

Grange Events in December

Breakfast on Sunday, December 6th
Texas Hold 'em Poker on December 4th and 19th
Bingo! on December 16th

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

Bridge Lighting and Boat Parade — December 5th

Join your friends and neighbors at the Lowell Bridge to kick off a celebration of the holiday season in Lowell. Lowell Grange members will provide refreshments and Lowell Jr. High and High School Choir students will provide entertainment and lead the group in singing carols. The bridge lighting ceremony will begin at 5:00 p.m. and will be followed by the lighted boat parade at 6:00 p.m. Come out and join the fun!

Thanks to the Lowell Parks Committee members for decorating the bridge,
to Jim Chapman for directing the choir and
to Pape Material Handling for the use of a lift.



Free Leaves!

If you would like some free mulch for your garden to keep the weeds down, bring your rake and bags and take home free leaves from Fall Creek Park. For more information please call Pam at 541-937-1978 or Glen at 541-937-2536. Fall Creek Park is located at milepost 7.5 on Jasper-Lowell Road.

Clothing Bank Request

The clothing bank is open to serve those in need of all kinds of clothing at 4 East Lakeview Street (behind the football field). Hours are 11am-2pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. They desperately need men's clothing and socks so do some early Spring cleaning and help meet our community's needs. Thank you!

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

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: December 2015

- 1—City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
 - 2—JH Boys Basketball v. Mapleton, 4:00 p.m.
JH Wrestling v. Crow, 6:00 p.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla, 6:00/7:00 p.m.
 - 3—Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall
 - 4—Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
 - 4/5—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Yoncalla , 3:00/4:30 p.m.
 - 5—JH Wrestling @ Harrisburg Tourney, 8:00 a.m.m.
Bridge Lighting/Boat Parade, 5:00/6:00 p.m.
Free Family Movie Night & Santa, Lowell Grange, 6:30 p.m.
 - 6—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
 - 7—JH Boys Basketball v. Siletz, 4:00 p.m.
 - 8—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Oakridge, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
 - 9—JH Boys Basketball @ Mohawk, 4:00 p.m.
JH Wrestling @ Oakridge, 6:00 p.m.
Economic Development Committee, 7:00 pm, Lowell Fire Hall
 - 10—JH/HS Winter Concert (grades 7-12), 7:00 p.m., HS Gym
 - 11—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Yoncalla, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
 - 11/12— Varsity Wrestling Tourney @ Culver
 - 12—JH Wrestling @ Junction City Tourney, 8:00 a.m.
 - 14—JH Boys Basketball v. Crow, 4:00 p.m.
School Board meeting, Professional Dev. Center, 7:00 p.m.
 - 15—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. Mohawk, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
 - 16—Varsity Wrestling, Hwy 58 Classic in Lowell
JH Boys Basketball @ Alsea, 4:00 p.m.
JH Wrestling @ Cottage Grove, 6:00 p.m.
BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.
 - 17—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ McKenzie, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
Elementary Winter Concert (grades K-6), 7:00 p.m., HS Gym
 - 18/19—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ N. Douglas Tourney
 - 19—JH Wrestling @ Philomath Tourney, 8:00 a.m.
Varsity Wrestling Duals @ Thurston
Texas Hold 'em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.
 - 21—Winter Break Begins through January 3rd
 - 22—Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball @ Powers, 1:00/2:30 p.m.
Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall
 - 29/30—Varsity Wrestling NW Duals
- In January:
- 2—JH Wrestling @ Cottage Grove Tourney, 8:00 a.m.
Varsity Girls/Boys Basketball v. New Hope, 3:30/5:00 p.m.