



# The Bridge

Making community connections

## LOWELL'S WRESTLING LEGACY CONTINUES

Five Lowell wrestlers braved Portland's historic winter storm to make their own mark on history at the OSAA Wrestling State Championships; junior Kaili Kirkhart (120), sophomore Harley Hardison (120), junior Justus Thurman (145), sophomore Paul Clark (170), and freshman David Finch (285). The team had an outstanding performance with every wrestler earning points for their team and three coming home with medals; Finch with bronze, Kirkhart with silver, and Hardison with gold. (See Page 3 for more wrestling achievements.)

**David Finch**, the only freshman competing in the heavyweight division of the 1A/2A state tournament, secured an impressive 3rd place finish with two pins and a decisive 5-0 win in the consolation finals.

**Kaili Kirkhart** is new to Lowell, the most decorated wrestling program in Oregon history, but she wasted no time in adding to its achievements as Lowell's first ever representative in the girls' division of the state tournament. Kirkhart pinned her way into the finals and into the school record books.

State Champion **Harley Hardison** secured his first individual title and Lowell's 134th with two tech falls and a first-round pin in the finals. On top of being an outstanding wrestler, Hardison is known for being the hardest worker in the room. He wrestles year-round and helps grow the next generation by volunteering with Lowell's youth wrestling club.



Congratulations to the Lowell wrestling team. Thank you for representing our community and continuing the legacy.

The Bridge

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### Inside this issue:

#### School News

Wrestling Legacy	Cover
School Updates	p. 2
LHS Drama Show	p. 2
Red Devil Report	p. 3
LEC Scholarships	p. 7

#### City Beat

Budget Committee	
Vacancies	p. 4
Library Hours	p. 4
Entrepreneur Consulting	p. 4
Notice for Ordinances/ Public Hearings	p. 4
Council Actions and Upcoming Meetings	p. 5

#### Fire District

Outdoor Burning Requirements	p. 6
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#### Other

Sheriff Info. Session	p. 7
Free Storytime	p. 7
Calendar of Events	p. 8



Time to Spring Ahead

March 12th



Dear Lowell/Fall Creek Community,

You may have noticed some changes around the district of late. We have recently welcomed Jessica Edgerton as the Interim Superintendent of Lowell School District. While Ms. Edgerton is new to this position, she is not new to Lowell School District.

Ms. Edgerton began her educational career right here at Lowell School District almost 16 years ago. She was initially hired as a part-time teacher for kindergarten, back when it was a half day program. She went on to be hired full time and taught multiple grades. She was seen as a leader and mentor to many of her peer teachers. In 2017, she was selected to move into leadership and administration as the Learning Director for the District. Shortly after in 2018, she added the role of Lundy Elementary Principal to her resume. She has since led her staff through trying times such as the pandemic, expanded her skills as a principal, and honed her knowledge of Special Education in the District. Previously, Ms. Edgerton stepped in to lead the district for a short time and was highly effective and well received by her peers and cabinet. She will hold the title of Interim Superintendent of Lowell School District through the end of the school year.

Other big changes happening in the district include the hiring of our new Head Varsity Baseball Coach, Boone Casarez. Again, Boone is not new to Lowell School District, but he is new to this position. Mr. Casarez has strong family ties and an esteemed history with the community of Lowell. He is also currently the Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach. This will be Mr. Casarez's first foray into Baseball Coaching with Lowell, but has vast coaching experience through wrestling.

Our Lowell Red Devils have had amazing success under Head Coach Pat Todd. He and his wife Vallie will be deeply missed as he retires from both the Head Football Coaching position and as a teacher with Lowell High School. As Mr. Todd passes the coaching baton, we are excited to name Ray Yarbrough as the new Head Football Coach for the 2023-2024 season. While he will have big shoes to fill, we look forward to Mr. Yarbrough putting his many years of coaching experience to good use at Lowell. His love of the game and enthusiasm for coaching has been apparent since his arrival. Mr. Yarbrough recently joined Lowell as the Career and Technical Education teacher and has made quite a difference with his creative and forward thinking and teaching. We look forward to seeing those skills on the field!

Please help us in welcoming these leaders to their new positions and give them best wishes in their success both personally and for the staff, students, and athletes of Lowell School District!

## Kindergarten Roundup

If you have a child that will be 5-years-old before September 1st, please call Lundy Elementary at 541-937-2105. Enrollment begins March 13th.



### Lowell High School Drama presents...

Event: Appropriate Audience Behavior - a Short Comedy by Ian McWethy

Date: Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 9th, 10th, and 11th, 2023

Time: 7pm Showtime

Location: LHS Cafetorium

Donations will be accepted, to support the development of the LHS Drama Program.

Synopsis: Carol and Ashley are expecting a tale of woe as they take their seats to watch Hamlet, but the real tragedy is that they're sitting next to the world's noisiest weirdos. The audience takes the spotlight as everyone from a cough-drop obsessive to a guy watching the play like a football game steals the show from the unseen Shakespearean masterpiece. An outrageously meta comedy that reminds us where the drama belongs--onstage.





# RED DEVIL REPORT

## Lowell Athletics Update



### WINTER SPORT WRAP-UP

**High school wrestling** (*continued from Cover*) finished the regular season with a 2nd place team finish and 11 wrestlers on the podium at their district tournaments.

Cayden Erlei (jr) - 4th place, 160  
 Kaili Kirkhart (jr) - 2nd place, 120  
 Justus Thurman (jr) - 3rd place, 145  
 Paul Clark (so) - 1st place, 170  
 Harley Hardison (so) - 1st place, 120  
 Ryan Pelroy (so) - 5th place, 160  
 Zander Rogers (so) - 6th place, 138  
 Hayden Savio (so) - 5th place, 113  
 Levi Stewart (so) - 5th place, 106  
 David Finch (fr) - 1st place, 285  
 Alexander Sotomayor (fr) - 6th place, 170



District champions (left to right) Harley, Paul, and David

**Junior high wrestling** added to the program's success with four more athletes placing at the junior high district and state tournaments.

Henry Coiner (8) - 3rd place district  
 Eli Pickett (7) - 4th place district, 2nd place state

Wyatt Johnson (7) - 3rd place district  
 Ben Thurman (7) - 3rd place district

**High school boys basketball** made it past the regular season and to the first round of the Valley Coast Conference playoffs led by team captains Jesse Neet, Jaden Jalof, and Rowan Files. Junior Jaden Jalof was recognized by the league with 2nd Team All League honors.

**High school girls basketball** had their most successful season since Lowell entered the 2A division in 2018. To add to that achievement, senior captain Lydia Plahn received 2nd Team All League honors, and junior Amerika Baszler received an Honorable Mention.

### JUNIOR HIGH (5-8) TRACK & FIELD

Registration is free and easy at [www.familyid.com/organizations/lowell-school-district](http://www.familyid.com/organizations/lowell-school-district).

*Athletes must complete registration and upload their bi-annual physical exam prior to participation.*

Head Coach: Brian Chittim  
 541-729-9818

First Practice: Wednesday, March 15 at 3:15 p.m.  
 Lowell High School track

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## City Beat by City Administrator Jeremy Caudle

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**Notice of Budget Committee vacancies.** The City will be starting its annual budget process in the next few months, and we need to fill four vacancies on the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee reviews and approves the annual budget and property taxes. The budget is the most important means by which the City accomplishes its goals. By serving on the Budget Committee, you will have a voice in shaping the City's future.

The Budget Committee usually meets one to three times in the spring to adopt the budget. The Budget Committee meets during other times of the year, as needed, to vote on changes to the adopted budget. Budget Committee members are required to be residents of the City of Lowell.

To apply: Send a completed and signed "Volunteer Boards & Commission Application" in person, by mail, or by email to City Administrator Jeremy Caudle. Our mailing address is: PO Box 490, Lowell, OR 97452. Our email address is: admin@ci.lowell.or.us. The application is available at City Hall or on the city website at the following link (scroll down to the bottom): <<https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/forms>>.

**Open hours for the Maggie Osgood Library.** As of February 27, the library is open:

Monday – 11:00 am to 4:00 pm	Wednesday 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Tuesday – 11:00 am to 4:00 pm	Saturday – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Closed Sunday, Thursday, and Friday	

**Notice of first and second readings for Ordinances 309 and 310.** The Lowell City Council will hold first readings, second readings, and public hearings for ordinances 309 and 310 in March. The dates, times, and locations of these meetings are as follows:

First reading and public hearing: Date and time – March 7, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Location – Lowell Fire Department, 389 N. Pioneer St., Lowell, OR 97452.

Second reading, public hearing, and vote on approval: Date and time – March 21, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Location – Lowell Fire Department, 389 N. Pioneer St., Lowell, OR 97452.

Ordinance 309, if approved, will adopt text amendments to the City's development code, and it will amend certain sections of the City's comprehensive plan. Ordinance 310, if approved, will rezone properties contained within the boundaries of the downtown regulating plan, adopt a new zoning and comprehensive plan map, and revise the downtown regulating plan map. Copies of both ordinances are available for public inspection at Lowell City Hall, 70 N. Pioneer St., Lowell, OR 97452 during business hours.

**Upcoming meetings – Meeting details available here:**

<https://www.ci.lowell.or.us/calendar/month/2023-03>

Planning Commission – March 1 @ 7:00 pm  
City Council – March 7 @ 7:00 pm  
Blackberry Jam Festival Committee – March 14 @ 7:00 pm  
City Council – March 21 @ 7:00 pm

**Meetings will take place at the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District station.**

## Actions by City Council and other committees/commissions

At its February 1 meeting, the Planning Commission voted to grant an extension to applicant H&H Lowell LLC regarding land use applications 2022-01, -04, and -06—continued until March 1.

At its February 7 meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Received presentation from Sanipac on a proposed 10-year, exclusive franchise agreement.
- Adopted Resolution #797 relating to priorities for 2023.
- Approved a contract for \$18,500 to construct a trench drain.
- Approved a job description for library volunteers.
- Approved an agreement amendment with Lane Council of Governments for IT services.

The Blackberry Jam Festival Committee met on February 13. The discussion focused on the need to sign up enough volunteers to hold the festival this year. The committee also discussed scaling down the festival compared to years past.

The Planning Commission met on February 15 to continue its deliberations on the development code updates. The Planning Commission voted to recommend that City Council approve the development code updates with certain amendments.

At its February 21 meeting, City Council took the following actions:

- Received a presentation on updating SDCs.
- Appointed Suzanne Kintzley and Carmen Trimble to the Planning Commission.
- Approved Resolution 798 to transfer appropriations within the Water Fund.
- Voted to withdraw a grant application for Rolling Rock Park Phase 1 improvements.

**Free consulting for entrepreneurs.** Have you ever wondered how to turn a hobby or passion into a business? Do you have an idea, but you're not sure how to get started? Do you currently have a business, but you're unsure how to grow it?

If you answered "yes," then come to RAIN's open mentor hours and meet with Melissa Prestinario. Melissa is a founder herself, and she knows what it's like to take an idea and turn it into a business. She can answer your questions on everything from starting an LLC, social media marketing, funding for your idea, and more.

Open mentor hours with Melissa Prestinario are the fourth Tuesday of every month from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm at Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop, 113 E. Main Street.



Melissa is the Venture Catalyst with RAIN  
(Regional Accelerator Innovation Network)  
She offers business advice to the Lowell Community free of charge.

Melissa Prestinario  
408-386-1516  
melissa@oregonrain.org

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# FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Lon Dragt

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## OUTDOOR BURNING REQUIREMENTS

Outdoor burning in compliance with the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District Rules and Regulations does not exempt any person from any civil or criminal liability for consequences or damages resulting from such burning, nor does it exempt any person from complying with any other applicable law, ordinance, regulation, rule, permit, order or decree of this or any other governmental entity having jurisdiction.

- 1) General requirements to be met by all outdoor burning conducted in accordance to Lowell Rural Fire Protection District's Rule and Regulations.
  - a) All outdoor burning shall be constantly attended by a responsible person or an expressly authorized agent, until extinguished.
  - b) It shall be the duty of each responsible person to promptly extinguish any burning which is in violation of any of Lowell Rural Fire Protection District Rules and regulations or any permit issued by an appropriate agency.
  - c) No person shall cause, or allow to be initiated or maintained, any outdoor burning which is prohibited by the burning advisory issued by LRAPA.
  - d) No person shall cause. Or allow to be initiated or maintained, any outdoor burning which creates a nuisance or hazard to public safety.
  - e) No person shall cause, or allow to be initiated or maintained, outdoor burning of any material which normally emits dense smoke, noxious odors, or hazardous air contaminants; such materials may include but are not limited to garbage, plastics, wire, insulation, automobile parts, asphalt, petroleum by-products, petroleum-treated materials, rubber products, cardboard, clothing, animal remains and grass clippings.
  - f) To promote efficient burning and prevent excessive emissions of smoke, each responsible person shall assure that all combustible material is dried to the extent practicable and loosely stacked or windrowed to eliminate dirt, rocks and other non-combustible materials; and periodically restacked or feed the burning pile to enhance combustion.
  - g) Burning in barrels is prohibited.
- 2) Residential Outdoor Burning Requirements—October 1 through June 15, with the following restrictions:
  - a) Residential outdoor burning is allowed only on approved burning days by LRAPA. The start and end times for burning vary and are set as part of the daily burning advisory issued by LRAPA.
  - b) Outdoor burn piles must be extinguished by the end time set by LRAPA.
  - c) The total fuel area is no more than four (4) feet in width by four (4) feet in length by four (4) feet in height.
  - d) No open flames on or within twenty-five (25) feet of any structure and/or within fifteen (15) feet from a fence.
  - e) Vegetation will be cleared a minimum of six (6) feet around piles prior to burning.
  - f) A garden hose is connected to a water supply and readily available to extinguish the fire.
- 3) Construction/Demolition Outdoor Burning Requirements—Prohibited
- 4) Commercial Outdoor Burning Requirements—Prohibited
- 5) Industrial Outdoor Burning Requirements—Prohibited
- 6) Forest Slash Burning Requirements
  - a) Forest Slash outdoor burning is regulated by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 477.515
- 7) Other Outdoor Burning (these fires will be regulated by fire season conditions)
  - a) Recreational fire
    - i. Burning a small fire, no larger than three (3) feet in diameter and two (2) feet in height using manufactured fire logs or clean, dry, natural firewood as fuel. This is limited to campfires, fires in chimineas, patio fireplaces, fire pits or other similar devices on private property or in designated areas on public land. No construction, demolition, commercial, yard or trash may be burned.

# In and Around the Community



*Lane County Sheriff's Office*

## PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

### *Proposed Public Safety Levy Renewal*

*When:*  
**Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 6:30 p.m.**

*Where:*  
**Lowell High School, 65 S. Pioneer, Lowell**

**Following a short presentation, the Sheriff will be available to answer questions and speak with community members.**

- Passage of this measure would not increase the tax rate and renews a current local option tax.
- Measure renewal will maintain a minimum of 255 local jail beds for the five-year period, providing the Sheriff with improved ability to hold those arrested for violent felony offenses until their cases are resolved.

The estimated tax rate for this levy is \$0.55 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The median Lane County homeowner is estimated to pay an average of \$118 per year for five years.



**541-682-4150**



**Public Safety Levy@LaneCountyOR.gov**

### **Free Storytime at Stomping Grounds Coffee**

Kids of all ages are welcome for free storytime at Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop. Storytime will be held every Thursday at 1:30 p.m.



Enjoy a quiet moment while we entertain your littles.

### **Lane Electric Offering Scholarships**

Each year, Lane Electric awards more than \$20,000 in scholarships to help people pursue their academic or vocational goals. To apply, you must be a resident, or dependent of a resident, of our service territory.

Deadline: March 23, 2023

For information visit: [laneelectric.com](http://laneelectric.com)



—Continued from Page 6

- b) Religious Ceremonial
  - i. Burning legal materials in a controlled outdoor fire that is integral to a religious ceremony or ritual. If larger than three (3) feet in diameter and two (2) feet in height, a LRAPA letter permit and fire department authorization are required.
- 8) Outdoor Burning Advisory Information
  - a) A responsible party must confirm with LRAPA by calling 541-726-3976 or checking at [www.lrapa.org](http://www.lrapa.org) the day of the burn.
  - b) Further questions may be directed to the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District at 541-937-3393.

# The Bridge

Lowell School District #71  
65 South Pioneer Street  
Lowell, OR 97452

Phone 541 937-8405 Fax 541 937-8709  
On the web: [www.lowell.k12.or.us](http://www.lowell.k12.or.us)

## Making community connections

*NON-PROFIT*

*ECRWSS*

*U.S. Postage Paid*

*Permit #1*

*Lowell, OR 97452*

## Postal Customer Lowell/Fall Creek

*The Bridge is a cooperative effort of Lowell School District #71,  
City of Lowell and Lowell Rural Fire Protection District.*

### Upcoming Meetings and Events: March 2023

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1—Lowell Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.   | 21— <b>City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.</b><br>Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview                   |
| 3—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.  | 22—Varsity Softball v. Oakland, 4:30 p.m.<br>Varsity Baseball v. Oakland, 4:30 p.m.  |
| 5—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 am, 51 E. 2nd Street   | 24—Varsity Softball @ Days Creek, 4:30 p.m.<br>Varsity Baseball @ Days Creek, 4:30 p.m.<br>Senior Potluck, Luncheon, Noon, Fall Creek Christian Church |
| 7—LC Sheriff’s Public Info. Session, Lowell HS, 6:30 p.m.<br><b>City Council Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer St.</b><br>Clothing Bank/Food Pantry; 2-5 pm; Hake Center on Lakeview | 27—Varsity Baseball v. Pleasant Hill JV, 4:30 p.m.<br>Varsity Softball @ Central Linn, 4:30 p.m.   |
| 8— <b>Lowell Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Main Station</b>   | 29—Varsity Softball v. Toledo, 4:30 p.m.<br>Varsity Baseball @ East Linn, 4:00 p.m.  |
| 9—LHS Drama Production, LHS Cafetorium, 7:00 p.m.   | Coming in April:<br>1—Varsity Softball & Baseball v. Gold Beach, 2:00 p.m.   |
| 10—LHS Drama Production, LHS Cafetorium, 7:00 p.m.  |  |
| 11—LHS Drama Production, LHS Cafetorium, 7:00 p.m.  |  |
| 12— Daylight Saving Time Starts — Spring forward one hour   |  |
| 13—Varsity Softball @ Gerais, 4:00 p.m.<br>Varsity Baseball v. Siletz, 4:30 p.m.  |  |
| 14—Blackberry Jam Committee (tentative), 7 p.m., 389 N. Pioneer   |  |
| 15—Varsity Softball v. North Douglas/Elkton, 4:30 p.m.<br>Varsity Baseball v. North Douglas, 4:30 p.m.  |  |
| 17—JV Baseball v. Harrisburg, 2:00 p.m.<br>Varsity Baseball v. Harrisburg, 4:30 p.m.<br>Varsity Softball @ Waldport, 4:00 p.m.  |  |
| 18—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange—moved to the 10th  |  |
| 20—Varsity Baseball v. Toledo, 4:30 p.m.<br>Varsity Softball @ Yoncalla, 4:30 p.m.<br><b>School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., PDC 45 S. Moss Street</b>   |  |

  
Happy Spring Break

**March 27—31**