



# The Bridge

Making community connections

## Fire District Welcomes New Employees

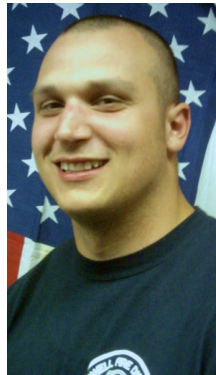
This is the second year the district has been able to hire two part-time employees to help with response during higher call volume periods this summer. Nicholas Fiorante and Craig Petersen have been hired to supplement volunteer response during the summer months and to assist with district projects such as hydrant maintenance, equipment, apparatus and building maintenance, and other special projects planned for this summer.

Nicholas (Nick) is a Resident Volunteer Firefighter/EMT with Goshen Rural Fire District and Craig is a Resident Volunteer Firefighter/EMT with Mohawk Valley Rural Fire District. Both



Craig Petersen

Nick and Craig are working towards a career in the fire service and will be attending Paramedic training this winter. Nick and Craig are scheduled to work for the district through the middle of September when school starts.



Nick Fiorante

In addition to Nick and Craig, the district was able to hire a full-time Firefighter/EMT/Training Coordinator this fiscal year. Grant funds will be utilized to fund the full-time position for the first two years with the district fully funding the position following the end of the grant period.

Mike Cook accepted the position and began work July 20<sup>th</sup>. Mike was previously employed by EWEB as a pump and reservoir technician and is a Volunteer Captain with South Lane County Fire & Rescue. Mike has been a volunteer firefighter with South Lane for over 10 years and has significant training and experience in the fire service and emergency medical services. Mike's job duties include fire and medical response, station and apparatus maintenance, coordination of the district training programs and coordination of public education/information programs for the district.

Welcome aboard!



Mike Cook

The Bridge

Volume 13, Issue 2

August 2010

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School Resumes  
September 7th!

# LOWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## NEW REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS!

New federal regulations are requiring schools to obtain information regarding students' race and ethnicity. To do this, school districts had to revise their enrollment forms to match the new laws. As a result, **we will need to register ALL students this year** to meet the new requirements. Registration will be held in the high school gymnasium.

### REGISTRATION DATES & TIMES:

August 16, 2010 4:00—7:00 p.m.

August 17, 2010 7:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

### KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS & STUDENTS NOT PREVIOUSLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL:

If your kindergartener has not yet registered or your student has not previously attended school (e.g. home school students), please plan to join us for one of the registration times above. Kindergarten students must be at least five years old by September 1st. For both kindergarteners and students who have not previously enrolled in school, you will need to bring the child's birth certificate and immunization records.

**RETURNING STUDENTS:** Students who are current Lowell students will need to complete registration forms and will need to bring any updated immunization records. Returning high school students will need to pay the registration fee.

**NEW STUDENTS:** All new students will also need to bring proof of residency.

**STUDENT ATHLETES:** Students due for a sports physical during the 2010-2011 school year were sent a letter in May alerting families to the need for a sports examination. Please bring your student's completed sports physical paperwork signed by the physician to registration if your student plans on playing in a fall sport. If your student does not plan on playing this fall, but has completed their physical, please bring the completed form. Any student who does not have an up-to-date physical on file will not be allowed to play anytime after their current physical expires until a new one has been conducted and the required form is on file with the district.

**FEES:** Registration and sports fees will also be collected during registration. **Please remember, students who are not current on their sports fees will not be allowed to play or participate in practice sessions.**

## School Board Position Open

Position IV on the school board is open due to the resignation of board member Melissa Asher. The position will be filled at the August 23rd board meeting following interviews at 6:00 p.m. the same day. Qualified candidates can pick up an application at the district office or from the district's website.

To be qualified, you must be a registered voter and have been a resident of the district for one year immediately preceding the appointment. The appointee will serve until the next election in May 2011, then the elected person will serve the remainder of this position's term, which is through June 30, 2013. For more information, call board chair Maureen Weathers at 541-937-3738.

## District Job Opportunity

The Lowell School District will be accepting applications for a full-time Accounting/Business Office Clerk. We are looking for an independent worker responsible for performing a wide variety of highly responsible and complex business office duties. Duties will include payroll and accounts payable, along with other duties as assigned by the superintendent.

A full job description and application form will be posted on the district website and at the district office after August 6th. Applications may be returned to the district office at 65 S. Pioneer Street, Lowell, OR 97452 or to [abrown@lowell.k12.or.us](mailto:abrown@lowell.k12.or.us). For more information, please contact Aaron Brown at 541-937-2124.

## All Class Reunion Set for August 21st

The annual all class reunion will be held on Saturday, August 21st starting at noon. Jerrie Jo and Mike Legault will host this event at their residence, 40203 Little Fall Creek Road. All those who attended or worked at Lowell and Fall Creek schools are invited. Bring a main dish and salad or dessert, table service and drinks. No alcohol please, but bring your hotrod, yearbooks and other photos. RSVP to Jerrie Jo at 541-746-3656.

**New federal regulations require ALL students (new AND returning) to register for school this year.**

All community members are invited to the annual Rockin' Lowell Back to School event on Tuesday, August 31st, beginning at 5:00 p.m. Lots of fun activities are planned including the rope pull competition, sports scrimmages and activities sponsored by the Lowell Fire Department and the National Guard. The Booster Club will be providing a BBQ dinner for \$5.00. Proceeds will be dedicated to a scholarship fund that covers athletic and student body fees for needy students. The PTSA will be coordinating distribution of donated school supplies, and an equipment swap will be held (see more information below).

If you are interested in helping coordinate this fun event, please come to the next Booster Club meeting on August 9th, 5:30 p.m. in the high school library. If you are interested in making donations of school supplies or other items, please contact PTSA chair Marisa Alvarez at 541-937-8869 or Maureen Weathers at 541-937-3738.

### **Equipment Swap Items Needed**

Kids growing like weeds? Lots of stuff hanging around that no longer fits or is used? Bring your used sporting equipment or apparel of shoes, cleats, gloves, pads, helmets, etc. to the Rockin' Lowell event on August 31st and swap it out for something that you can use.

If you have items you'd like to donate ahead of time, please call Suzanne at 541-937-8902 or drop the items off at the high school office, 65 S. Pioneer Street.

### **Lady Devils Volleyball Activities Underway**

Coach Fuller has scheduled a couple of volleyball events for players and volleyball supporters to enjoy.

First is the Little Devil Volleyball Camp scheduled for August 16-19 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$30 per camper, which includes a camp tee-shirt. The camp is open to Girls and Boys from 3rd through 8th grade. For more information, please contact the coach via email [tony.aaron.fuller@gmail.com](mailto:tony.aaron.fuller@gmail.com) or by phone 541-554-6653.

The Alumni Volleyball Tourney has been set for Saturday, August 28th. The tourney is open to any alumni of Lowell High School, even if you didn't play volleyball in school, you are welcome to come play in the tourney. Teams will be selected once everyone has registered that morning. Registration is at 8:00 a.m., play begins at 9:00 a.m.. The winning alum team will face the high school varsity in a scrimmage match that evening at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person, which includes an Alumni teeshirt and team photo. We will also be having a BBQ at the event. Contact the coach for more information or look for the Lowell Volleyball fan page on Facebook.

### **School Supplies Lists & Donations**

Supply lists have been sent to all local area stores including WalMart, Staples, etc. and will be posted on the website and at Lundy Elementary after August 9th. If you would like to donate supplies, please contact Terry White at 541-937-2124 after August 9th.

Donated school supplies will also be distributed at the Rockin' Lowell event on Tuesday, August 31st at the PTSA booth. Thanks to all who provide supplies and cash donations to help those families in need!

### **Blackberry Jam Helps School Groups**

One of the Blackberry Jam Festival Committee's main goals is to provide opportunities for school groups and other non-profit organizations to raise money for their activities. At this year's festival, many groups took advantage. Thanks to the Plahn/McCallum family, money was raised from a waffle cone booth to benefit the Lundy Elementary Library. Volleyball team members earned money by assisting at the car show, Lowell Cub Scouts benefitted by the Kidz Korner booth, Junior High Wrestling profited from the Car Bash and Car Show DJ, the High School Wrestlers turn the pikeminnows caught in the fish derby into cash by selling them as bait for crab fishing, and GWA members run the pie eating contest.

The festival is a fun way for students to earn money for both school essentials and for extra activities and gear. If you are interested in these opportunities, or would like to propose a new one, all you have to do is come to a Blackberry Jam Committee meeting. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Lowell Fire Station at 7:00 p.m. from October through July.

Thanks to all the students and parents who volunteered and to those who supported them!

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# City Beat

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By City Administrator Chuck Spies

## **City Accepting Applications for Part-Time Utility Billing Clerk**

The City of Lowell is accepting applications for a part-time Utility Billing Clerk. Application forms and a full job description are available at City Hall. This will be a 20 hour per week regular part-time position. The primary duties of the Utility Billing Clerk are to complete all tasks necessary for water and sewer billing and collection. Secondary duties may include assisting the Finance Clerk with payroll, financial record keeping, court administration and other administrative duties as assigned. Experience working with computer programs and with customer service is required.

Regular part-time employees are entitled to benefits, including vacation, sick leave and medical and dental insurance as provided for by City policy, but must pay a prorated portion of that cost based on a 40 hour week if they accept the benefit. Starting pay is \$10.14 per hour. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 16, 2010. Resumes may be attached to completed applications.

The City will review all applications and invite three to five finalists for interviews during the last week of August. The successful applicant will begin employment in September.

## **Invitation to Submit Quotes for Permanent Stage Construction at Rolling Rock Park**

The City is inviting qualified, licensed contractors to submit quotes to construct Phase 1 of a permanent stage in Rolling Rock Park. The Phase 1 construction project will construct a 25 foot by 30 foot raised concrete slab stage floor. Work will include all necessary excavation, placement of fill material and construction of concrete foundation and slab floor. Plans, specifications and instructions for completing a lump sum quote are available at City Hall. Quotes for the project must be submitted by Monday, August 16, 2010. The project will be awarded by September 1<sup>st</sup> and work must be completed by October 15<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact City Administrator Chuck Spies at 541-937-2157.

The City hopes to acquire additional funding to complete the Rolling Rock Stage Project at a later date. Until then, the partially completed stage can be used for events in Rolling Rock Park, but will not have an installed, permanent cover.

## **Notice: City Council Election Filing Deadline**

August 24, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. has been established as the deadline to file candidacy for Lowell City Council positions for the November 2, 2010 General Election. Candidates may file by petition or by declaration. City Council positions #1 and #4 will be decided at the November 2<sup>nd</sup> election. Those positions are currently held by Warren Weathers and George Wild, respectively. Candidate packets are available at City Hall for any qualified person considering running for one of these City Council positions. To be a qualified candidate, a person must be a qualified elector (registered to vote) and have resided within the City for the 12 months immediately preceding the election. For more information, please contact Chuck Spies, City Elections Officer, at 541-937-2157.

## **Public Meeting Notice: Imminent Forest Service Complex Disposal**

The City of Lowell has received official notice from the U.S. General Services Administration that the former Forest Service Complex at 60 S. Pioneer Street is being disposed of as excess federal property. The City of Lowell and all other governmental agencies have been offered the opportunity to acquire this excess property for various public uses under various federal programs. The Lowell City Council has not identified any City need for property; however wants to be able to control the redevelopment and reuse of the property to the greatest extent possible to insure any reuse is consistent with the vision for Lowell downtown development. While the City has some control through established land use standards, there are many uses which might comply with those standards which might not be consistent with the City's downtown development vision which is still being formulated. The surest way to control the reuse and redevelopment of this property would be to own it.

The City Council wishes to get public input before making a final decision regarding possible City acquisition of this property. A Public Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at the Lowell Fire Station, 369 N. Pioneer Street, Lowell. This meeting is intended to be an open public discussion regarding options open to the City regarding redevelopment and reuse of the former Forest Service Complex.

## August 15-21 is Proclaimed “Look Me in the Eye Week”

The City Council adopted the following proclamation urging Lowell citizens to recognize and acknowledge persons with developmental disabilities:

### A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING AUGUST 15 - 21, 2010, “LOOK ME IN THE EYE” WEEK IN THE CITY OF LOWELL

**Whereas**, all citizens want and deserve the opportunity to safely and meaningfully participate in all aspects of our community, including recreation, education, work, social and civic activities; and  
**Whereas**, our communities can grow closer through, education, awareness, understanding and *seeing* one another, and benefit from recognizing each other’s abilities, commonalities and differences; and  
**Whereas**, our communities gain value as they are more aware of the capabilities of, and provide opportunities for, individuals with developmental disabilities to be part of their communities; and  
**Whereas**, it is in the public’s interest to offer individuals with developmental disabilities an opportunity to live and work in our communities where they can exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens; and  
**Whereas**, individuals with developmental disabilities and other citizens are unnoticed, ignored and excluded; now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that we the Lowell City Council do hereby proclaim August 15 - 21, 2010, as “Look Me in the Eye” week and encourage all citizens of Lowell to participate in *seeing* one another.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Lowell this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010.

### Lowell City Council Actions

#### From the July 6, 2010 meeting:

- Adopted Resolution 534, authorizing establishment of a Water and Sewer Construction Checking Account to segregate money committed to the water and sewer improvement projects.
- Adopted Resolution 535, changing signatories on City checking accounts.
- Approved an agreement with Seneca Jones Timber Company to pay for excess capacity in the North Shore Drive sewer line extension for unspecified future needs.
- Approved a Public Utility Easement and Temporary Construction Easement and compensation for those easements on property at 105 N. Alder Street.
- Authorized staff to bid the water & sewer systems improvement projects being funded through USDA Rural Development.
- Authorized staff to bid a project to complete Phase 1

- construction for a permanent stage at Rolling Rock Park.
- Approved a new three-year contract with Lane County for animal control services.

#### From the July 20, 2010 meeting:

- Adopted Resolution 536, proclaiming August 15-21 as “Look Me in the Eye Week”
- Adopted Resolution 537, approving a \$15,000 inter-fund loan from the Systems Development Charge Fund to the Sewer Fund for a portion of the North Shore Sewer Line Extension cost.
- Approved a Consent Agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers for the Water Treatment Facility Improvement Project.
- Approved a supplemental easement agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to place an additional pipeline within the Parker Street right-of-way.

### Volunteer Recognition Corner: Blackberry Jam Committee Members and Volunteers

Special thanks go to all those who volunteered to make the 16th annual Blackberry Jam a success! Committee members who meet and work year-round to stage this event include: Tracey Keffer, Pam Baumann, Virginia & Mike Galvin, Maggie Osgood, Paula Chevalier, Jerry & Shirley Dilley, Maureen & Warren Weathers, Donna Buell, Lisa Wilson, Kandy & Ralph Gedies, Ken Hern, Karen & Jim Burford, Lucie Swarm, Mark & Suzanne Kintzley, Ron Johnson, Jeff Cardwell, and Chuck Spies. Many more friends, relatives and neighbors volunteer to set up and take down the festival and to staff various activities. Thanks to all of you who help with the event. It couldn’t be done without you!

# FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

## Wildfire Season Has Arrived

With the hotter weather and drier conditions, it's important to pay attention to reducing the likelihood of wildfire around the area. Beginning July 22<sup>nd</sup>, all outdoor fires are prohibited except in designated campgrounds in approved fire pits. All other recreational burning is now prohibited due to weather conditions. Check with the fire district office or Oregon Department of Forestry for more information about outdoor burning regulations.

Tips on keeping your home and property wildfire safe include:

**Step 1:** Establish primary fuel break around the home and any other structures on the property. A primary fuel break extends 30 feet from a structure or to the property line, whichever is shortest.

**Step 2:** Determine whether a secondary fuel break is necessary. There are two determining factors: a property's fire-risk classification and whether the roofing material on the structure is of flammable or nonflammable material.

**Step 3:** Determine whether it is necessary to create a fuel break around the driveway. If the driveway on the property is shorter than 150 feet, a fuel break does not need to be created. If the driveway is 150 feet long or longer, a fuel break must be established.

**Steps 4 & 5:** Remove any portion of a tree that is within 10 feet of a chimney, and remove all dead vegetative material overhanging the roof.

**Step 6:** Clear flammable material out from beneath decks.

**Step 7:** Move firewood and lumber piles at least 20 feet from structures. This must only be done during the months of fire season.

**Step 8:** Create fuel breaks along roadsides and property lines. This step applies only to properties with a fire-risk classification of High-Density Extreme.

For more information contact the Fire District Office or Oregon Department of Forestry or go to [www.lowellfiredistrict.org](http://www.lowellfiredistrict.org)

Make your summer wildfire safe.



## Water and Boating Safety Tips

- Learn to swim. The best thing anyone can do to stay safe in and around the water is to learn to swim. Always swim with a buddy; never swim alone. The American Red Cross has swimming courses for people of any age and swimming ability. Swim in areas supervised by a life-guard.
- Read and obey all rules and posted signs.
- Children or inexperienced swimmers should take precautions, such as wearing a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD) when around the water.
- Watch out for the dangerous “too’s” – too tired, too cold, too far from safety, too much sun, too much strenuous activity.
- Set water safety rules for the whole family based on swimming abilities (for example, inexperienced swimmers should stay in water less than chest deep).
- Be knowledgeable of the water environment you are in and its potential hazards, such as deep and shallow areas, currents, depth changes, obstructions and where the entry and exit points are located. The more informed you are, the more aware you will be of hazards and safe practices.
- Pay attention to local weather conditions and forecasts. Stop swimming at the first indication of bad weather.
- Use a feet-first entry when entering the water. Enter headfirst only when the area is clearly marked for diving and has no obstructions.
- Do not mix alcohol with swimming, diving or boating. Alcohol impairs your judgment, balance, and coordination, affects your swimming and diving skills, and reduces your body's ability to stay warm. Over 50 percent of drownings result from boating incidents involving alcohol. For the same reasons it is dangerous to operate an automobile while under the influence of alcohol, people should not operate a boat while drinking alcohol.
- Know how to prevent, recognize, and respond to emergencies.
- Look for the label: Use Coast Guard-approved life jackets for yourself and your passengers when boating and fishing.
- Develop a float plan. Anytime you go out in a boat, give a responsible person details about where you will be and how long you will be gone. This is important because if the boat is delayed because of an emergency, becomes lost, or encounters other problems, you want help to be able to reach you.
- Find a boating course in your area (U.S. Power Squadron, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, US Sailing, etc) -- these courses teach about navigation rules, emergency procedures and the effects of wind, water conditions, and weather.
- Watch the weather: Know local weather conditions and prepare for electrical storms. Watch local news programs. Stop boating as soon as you see or hear a storm.

Here are a few snapshots that capture some of the winners at the festival. Next year's festival will be held July 29-31, 2011.



At right, Tina Stratis poses with her trophy for Best Pie in the Blackberry Pie Bake-off. Mayor Weathers won for Most Unique Pie.



Below, Grand Marshal Doug Powell receives recognition from Mike Galvin after the parade.

Mike Ewing of Eugene won Grand Champion with his 1970 AMC Javelin. Brenda Ashley received the Mayor's Choice award, Charles Slyker received the City's award, and Greg Rector received the People's Choice award.



Bodi Wilson, left, grabbed the \$50 Greased Pole Climb prize in the championship against James Erickson. James and Bodi each won \$20 in their first round.



Winners in the Derby included Team Neal, Team Grizz, Domonic Mains, and Doug Bruce.

## Other Important Items

**Annual Fall Creek Community Potluck Picnic will start at noon, August 14th.** Come join your friends and meet new ones. Be sure to bring your favorite dish, chairs, table service and beverage. Silly entertainment at 2:00 p.m.

**Save the Date: September 11th, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.** for an old fashioned Block Party including BBQ and other fun events. Hosted by the East Valley Church, activities will be held on 2nd Street between Moss and Pioneer Streets.

**Changes in the LTD Lowell route bus service schedule** will be in effect as of September 20th. Minor changes to the leave/arrival times will occur. Watch for more detail of these changes in the next issue of The Bridge.

**Middle Fork Ranger District Welcomes New District Ranger: Duane Bishop** has 23 years experience with the USFS, most recently as the Fisheries Biologist and Natural Resource Assistant for the Zigzag Ranger District.

**Stewart Bridge Commemorative Coin to be auctioned on Saturday, August 14th at 1:00 p.m.** during the Oregon Covered Bridge Festival in Cottage Grove. Info: Christy Mosier, 541-682-6913.

# 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](http://www.lowell.k12.or.us)

## Making community connections

*PRSRT STD*

*ECRWSS*

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*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: August 2010

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 3—City Council Mtg/Public Hearing, 7:00 p.m., Fire Station   | 18—Fire Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station  |
| 5—Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm., City Hall  | 21—Lowell All Class Reunion, Noon, Legault Residence  |
| 9—Booster Club Meeting, 5:30 p.m., High School Library   | 23—School Board Meeting, Lundy Community Room, Work Session at 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm    |
| 14—Fall Creek Community Park Potluck, Noon, Fall Creek Park  | 24—City Council Election Filing Deadline, 5:00 p.m.<br>Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 pm., City Hall |
| 15—Look Me in the Eye Week, August 15-21   | 28—Alumni Volleyball Tourney, 9:00 a.m., High School Gym  |
| 16—Lowell Student Registration, 4-7 pm, High School Gym  | 31—Rockin' Lowell Back-to-School Event, 5:00 p.m., Football Field                                       |
| 17—Lowell Student Registration, 7:30 am—Noon, HS Gym<br>City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall |   |

