Grant: Cougar Dome's roof, walls to be made seismically safe

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tions on the gym could have some cost savings."

Gathering data exactly what underlies the Cougar Dome foundations is a first step toward design and eventual construction.

On Tuesday, March 16, geotechnical engineer Michael Remboldt, of K.A. Engineering out of Coburg, was onsite to take cores on the south, west and north sides of the building. The track-mounted geotechnical drill that Remboldt and his wife, Marvis, used for the work reached bedrock at about 11-12 feet deep in all three holes. The material they found was mostly a gravely substrate, Marvis said, which is a piece of good news for the building's

seismic risk. Their preliminary observations mean that liquefaction — the collapse of the ground that supports the building due to earthquake shaking — is probably not a major issue, Michael Remboldt said.

In November, the district awarded the engineer-



Ellen Morris Bishop/For the Wallowa County Chieftain

Geotechnical driller Michael Remboldt explains some of their methods and findings to Wallowa School Board member Polly DeVore, right, while his wife, Marvis, records sample data on the west side of the school's Cougar Dome on Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

retrofit to ZCS Engineer- based firm has completed and Grant County School ing and Architecture. The seismic retrofit projects for District, as well as larger

ing contract for the seismic Klamath Falls/Oregon City- the Baker School District gym retrofits for schools in

and Toledo, Jones said.

"We awarded the contract to them because of their experience with seismic rehabilitation work. They really understood what needed to happen," she said. "They've done more than any other contractor. And they've done some local seismic retrofits in similar districts, including Baker and Imbler."

'They also have a great record of being on time and on budget," Jones added. "And they have done 118 similar retrofit projects across the state in the past five years."

In addition, ZCS provided some seismic evaluation information for parts of the whole facility plan.

The work will be done using a contract management/general contractor methodology. That means that the general contractors work closely with the engineering firm during the design phase of the project, Jones said.

Some of the work that is likely, Jones said, includes building a new, reinforced wall in the gym weight

Roseburg, Klamath Falls room where the existing wall, built of a wood portion set on concrete blocks and not tied together, is susceptible to failure during earthquake shaking.

"I was with them when they did their first walkthrough," Jones said. "What they showed me is that, for example, in the weight room there's a concrete block that wood beams rest on. There's nothing that ties it all together. So that's a 'hinge point.' And so in an earthquake, that would 'hinge.' What they were thinking about is building another wall that would be reinforced and go all the way down and all the way up and be tied into the existing wall. And they'd insulate the space in between,

The grant may be used for added work.

"Other renovations funded by the seismic grant will likely include the Cougar Dome's ceiling, roof and reinforcement of walls. But they are still in the design phase," Jones said. "They will keep the same shape, and it will be seismically safe when they are done.'

Money: 'We'll just have to see what happens'

"IT'S ALWAYS GOOD NEWS WHEN WE

HEAR WE'RE GETTING MONEY."

Dusty Tippett, Lostine mayor

back on."

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Roberts said the added money will help fill holes in the county budget caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. "That will just about fill

the budget shortfalls from when they shorted us on PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) payments last year," she said.

That shortfall left a hole in the county budget of about \$600,000, she said.

"This'll just backfill that a bit," Roberts said. "Hopefully, we won't have to cut people's jobs or hours."

Lacey McQuead, city administrator for Enterprise, said in an email she was unaware of the specifics of the \$410,000 federal payout.

"We will be discussing this at the next council meeting (Monday, April 12) and I will be asking the council to appoint members to a committee to help provide the remaining council members recommendations on expending the funds," McQuead said. "Once those recommendations are made, we will provide more definite plans during the budget process."

City Administrator Larry Braden, of Joseph, said in an email Friday he was aware of Joseph receiving a share of the COVID-19 aid funds. He still has questions, as the process is still in its early stages.

"The expenditure guidelines have not permanently been set yet nor have the amounts," Braden said. "The projected amount for the city of Joseph is \$229,109."

But he's enthusiastic for what it means for the city.

"In any case, this is very exciting for the city of Joseph and it will be fun to hear what the exact guidelines are so we can start the discussions of what needs we can fill with

the grant monies received," he said

Mayor Gary Hulse, of Wallowa, had not yet heard of the \$170,000 his city is getting when contacted Thurs-

day, March 25, but he antic-

budget," he said. "I'll need

to meet with council and our

budget officer and get their

talk to Wallowa residents to

get their thoughts on spend-

ing the federal aid. He said

once the city is notified by the

feds, the aid will likely be on

the agenda for the following

He said he also wants to

"It would mean a lot to our

ipates it eagerly.

opinions."

lowa City Council next meets Tuesday, April 20.

The mayor said the aid package will help the city, but he's not sure in what areas.

"Right now, we're just

mainly cutting back and hold-

ing on until we figure what

any losses are going to be,"

Hulse said. "We're still hang-

ing in there, but there have

been areas we've had to cut

Lostine, said Friday, March 26, his city hadn't yet been

notified of the federal dis-

bursement and, since it's

going through the state, it

likely will be delayed a bit.

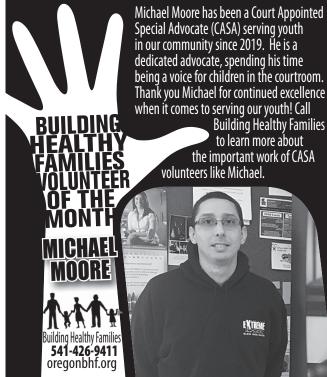
Mayor Dusty Tippett, of

the state will probably take longer," he said. He expects the city can

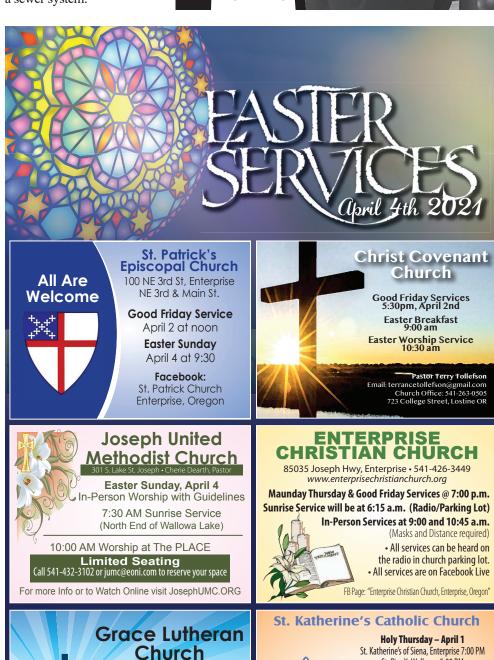
best use it to upgrade its water "It could definitely help the general fund and the water fund, but I'll have to

talk with the council first," he said. "It's always good news when we hear we're getting "We'll just have to see

what happens. We hope to get the water system upgraded. The USDA has been on us to boost the reserve in case we had a water main break. The water system is our biggest expense since we don't have a sewer system."







Good Friday Service

April 2nd at 4:00 pm

Music with Sue Wagner

Enterprise Community Congregational Church

& Gail Swart

John King, Pastor

409 West Main • Enterprise



M-F 8AM-5:30PM • SAT 8AM-5PM • SUN 9AM-3PN

Hurricane Creek Road Enterprise, Oregon 541-426-3116





Flowering the cross, people are invited to put flowers on the cross 10:30 am Easter Sunday Outdoor Hymn Sing/Flowering the Cross 11:00 am Easter Service, Live and Livestream

Hwy 82 Lostine Info: 541-398-0547 Link to livestream on FB is https://www.facebook.com/ Lostine-Presbyterian-Church-100169781626753

St. Pius X, Wallowa, 5:00 PM Good Friday – April 2

Stations of the Cross at 2:30 PM

St. Katherine's of Siena, Enterprise 3:00 PM Easter Vigil – April 3 Katherine's of Siena, Enterprise 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday Holy Mass - April 4 St. Katherine's of Siena, Enterprise 10:30 AM St. Pius X, Wallowa, 8:00 AM

301 E Garfield, Enterprise • 541-426-4008

stkatherineenterprise.ora

He Is Risen!