

Seismic safety work very expensive on old masonry buildings

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story, unreinforced masonry structure.

The plan would also provide \$3,145,000 for the present high school, where upgrading the heating and venti-

lating system would require the largest chunk of money, \$410,000. It does not include improvements to the athletic fields, tennis courts or grandstand, which the group felt wouldn't be necessary if the facility becomes a middle

school.

Only \$155,000 would be spent at LGS under the proposal, which assumes the Lincoln property will be sold as soon as possible because it would be extremely expensive to bring up to current standards and would still provide only four classrooms in the main building.

The proposal provides no improvements to the District Office building, but includes \$16,000 to improve heating and ventilation in the main-

tenance building.

Other things included are two modular structures with two classrooms each, electrical upgrades including those needed for computers and other technological equipment; a permanent covered play area at WGS and a small wooden, roofed play area at LGS; sprinkler systems in the classrooms at VHS and WGS; more parking at WGS and LGS; replacing the roof, gutters and downspouts at WGS and VHS;

equipment and furnishings for new classrooms.

The preliminary figures also include estimated costs for bond issue expenses, interest, inflation, permits and all other miscellaneous expenses.

The next meeting of the Facilities Study committee will be November 28 at the WGS library at 7:00 p.m. This is the time to ask questions and provide input on the future of educational facilities in Vernonia.

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Associated Oregon Loggers has announced a new program to promote professional growth through education that will recognize professional loggers in Oregon. The Oregon Professional Logger Program was unveiled at the Northwest Regional Logging Safety Conference, held November 18th in Bend, at the Inn of the Seventh Moun-

tain.

The Pro-Logger program seeks to recognize timber harvesting professionalism and continuing education in forest practices which promote sustainable forests, as well as logging business practices and safety. The goal of the program is to perpetuate logger knowledge to advance forest stewardship in timber harvesting activities.

Companies meeting program standards will be recognized as "Oregon Pro-Loggers".

The idea of forest stewardship is not new to Oregon loggers, as loggers and foresters have been regarded stewards of our forests for generations. Today, public perception is different, but the logger is still a key player with respect to tending Oregon's forests. It is the intent of this educational program to reinforce the stewardship ethic and, at the same time, encourage the professional growth of logging contractors.

The Safety Conference keynote address, "Loggers Are Professionals - Sustainable Forestry Initiative", was presented by Jim James, general manager of Western Timber and Logging for Willamette Industries, Inc. James spoke about improving industry-wide commitment to excellence in logging and forestry stewardship in Oregon. Over 150 loggers from across the six-state Northwest region met in Bend for the conference, which is held annually to address logging safety issues in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, California, and Montana.

Associated Oregon Loggers President Bob Luoto emphasized that, "The Pro-Logger program demonstrates loggers continued commitment to sound forestry standards."

Jim Gahlsdorf, of Gahlsdorf Logging, Inc. in Salem, who played a lead role in developing the program, added, "Professional loggers improve the stature of logging. We're building trust in what we do and how we do it." Program input also came from Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon State University Forestry Extension, and others.

Associated Oregon Loggers represents nearly 800 family owned logging companies. In 1994, 4.17 billion board feet of timber, enough wood to build 278,000 homes, was harvested by Oregon loggers.

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