

Roof work planned for Valencia Hall

Members of the Aptos Neighbors Association soon will begin re-roofing historic Valencia Hall, according to president Peter Carr.

Contractor members of the group submitted the low bid of \$8,300 to the county to re-roof the building which dates back to the turn of the century when Valencia was a separate community and the center of an intensive redwood lumbering industry.

Carr said work will begin once the pressure-treated, fire resistant shingles arrive. Copper gutters and downspouts also will be installed, he said.

The association decided to bid on the project, Carr said, in an effort to cut the county's costs for renovating the hall. The money saved may be used by the the county for repairs of other items in the old building, which is a state historical landmark and is owned by the county.

The county has budgeted approximately \$30,000 for work on the building, Carr said. The association bid was about \$500 under the next lowest bid, he said.

The group also has made arrangements with Southern Pacific to repaint the railroad trestle at Soquel Drive and Spreckels Avenue. The association decided at a membership meeting

Nov. 16 at Mar Vista School to ask the Aptos High School art classes to design a mural to be painted on the bridge abutments early next year.

Carr said the association plans to apply an anti-graffiti coating to the murals and the bridge itself to minimize vandalism. Painting will begin after Southern Pacific approves the mural design.

In other business, the group:

- ✓ Decided to sow wildflower seeds along roadsides in Aptos this winter.

- ✓ Invited Assemblyman Sam Farr to speak in March about events in Sacramento.

- ✓ Decided, in general, not to endorse specific candidates for public office. But the group will take positions on issues, such as the county road repair fee and the Aptos fire benefit fee. Proposals will be screened by the association board of directors and then be referred to the membership for action.

The group still plans to hold a Wingspread Beach forum once the county completes its review of the project and the planning commission has scheduled public hearings on the proposals by Hare, Brewer and Kelley, Carr said.