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February 2012

Restoration of the Egyptian Theatre

preserving our history for future generations

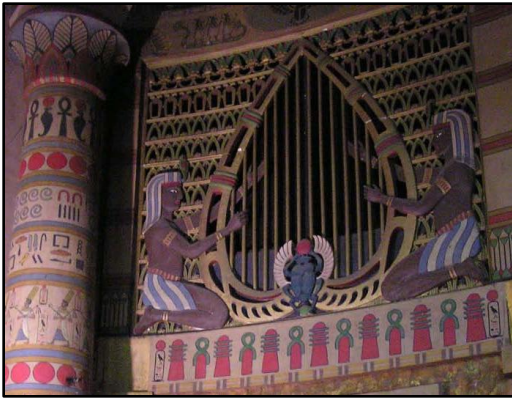
The historic Egyptian Theatre is located in the heart of Coos Bay's downtown business district, and it has been a community entertainment center for over 85 years. The pioneering spirit of Coos Bay is evident in the development of this majestic theatre. The building was originally constructed as an automobile garage in 1922 and converted in 1925 to a "movie palace" in the Egyptian style. Shortly after Coming Attractions Theaters closed the Egyptian in 2005, the City of Coos Bay Urban Renewal Agency purchased the building and the Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association has operated the theater since 2006. The Egyptian Theatre was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 24, 2010 and on Oregon's Most Endangered Places list in May 2011.

The theater was closed March 15, 2011 after an engineering evaluation determined the building had significant structural issues that needed to be addressed before it would be considered safe for occupancy. The Urban Renewal Agency and the Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association have partnered to restore the theater and open the doors once again for public entertainment.

Although not immediately visible, progress is being made on the restoration project. Board training for the Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association was completed in early November, and work sessions to develop a strategic plan were held November 18, 19, and 30, 2011. Final details to complete the strategic plan are being worked on and a business plan is being developed. Grants from the Ford Family Foundation, Coquille Tribal Community Fund, and Historic Preservation League of Oregon have been awarded for a total of \$12,696, and an application to the National Trust for Historic Preservation was submitted January 30th. Historic preservation consultant George Kramer was hired in December; and in January, the Urban Renewal Agency approved contracting with Cascadia Consultants for grant writing services. The contract for a market/feasibility study will be awarded in February, and the study completed by May 31, 2012.

Steps have been taken to strengthen the preservation association through the adoption of revised by-laws, procedures for conducting board meetings, and a policy for handling restricted donations. Four committees, Visioning and Preliminary Planning, Project Funding, Process Improvements, and Community Support were established through the strategic plan. Board members and volunteers are developing action plans for the committees.





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credits, a possible 20% savings, and a non-profit would not have the prevailing wage requirement which could save up to 20%. This strategy is in the exploration stage, and it will require further discussion between the agency and the association.

It is anticipated the project from beginning through fundraising to completion of construction will take four to five years. The next step is the market/feasibility study. Knowing what type of entertainment the community wants and will support in the theater is vital to planning the stage design, capital fundraising plan, grant writing, and theater operation when it re-opens. Once the results of the study have been reviewed, the design team can be formed, an analysis of the structural report can be performed, and a capital campaign developed.



The Wurlitzer Hope-Jones Unit Orchestra organ was originally installed in 1925 by the Rudolph Wurlitzer Company

Mr. Kramer has 30 years of experience in historic preservation including of the preservation of other historic theaters in Oregon and California. Mr. Kramer met with the Egyptian Theatre Restoration Steering Committee and ETPA Board in November and on January 25th. During the recent meeting the discussion centered on the “next steps” for moving forward along with the needs and benefits of a market/feasibility study. The strategy of transferring ownership of the theater to a non-profit organization was also discussed. One advantage of this strategy would be the potential cost savings for the restoration. A non-profit would be eligible for tax



The theater is unique in that the original design work has been preserved over the years. There are five backdrops, and they are considered priceless pieces of hand painted art.

Information on membership, fundraising, donations, volunteering, and upcoming events is available at www.egyptian-theatre.com or by contacting the Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association's office at 541-269-8650. Egyptian Theatre calendars are on sale for \$12, and they are available at Charleytown in Charleston, Fat Cat Antiques in North Bend, Cone 9 at Pony Village Mall, Oregon Wine Cellars and Antiques and Collectables in Coos Bay. Calendars may be also be ordered by using an order form available on the ETPA's website. The calendars feature a collection of historic facts and pictures of the theater's interior and exterior.

Article photos by Alison Wasson

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(541) 269-8911

Fire Department
(541) 269-1191

Library
(541) 269-1101

**Public Works &
Development
Department**
(541) 269-8918

**Economic
Development**
(541) 269-8924

Finance Department
(541) 269-8915

**City Manager's
Office**
(541) 269-8912

The Coos Bay Library Offers More Than Just Books!

No matter where you go or what you are doing, you can still keep using the library. The Coos Bay Public Library has expanded its services with audiobooks, eBooks, and videos available to download from the library's website. Library card holders can check out and download digital media anytime, anywhere by visiting <http://www.cooslibraries.org/> and clicking on the Library2Go link on the right hand side of the page.

Users may browse the website, check out with a valid library card, and download to PC, Mac, and many mobile devices, but users will need to install free software. To use audiobooks and videos, you must download OverDrive Media Console. To read eBooks, users will need Adobe Digital Editions. Titles can be enjoyed immediately or transferred to a variety of devices including iPod, Sony Reader, Kindle, and many others. Some audio titles can also be burned to CD. Titles will automatically expire at the end of the lending period, so there are no late fees! This service is free for patrons with a current Coastline card.

For more information contact the Coos Bay Public Library at 541-269-1101 ext. 238.



Hours

Library:

Monday – Thursday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Friday – Saturday 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Sunday – Closed

Book Store:

Wednesday 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Thursday 10:00 am – 5:30 pm

Friday 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Saturday 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm



Coos Bay's Water Collection & Treatment Systems

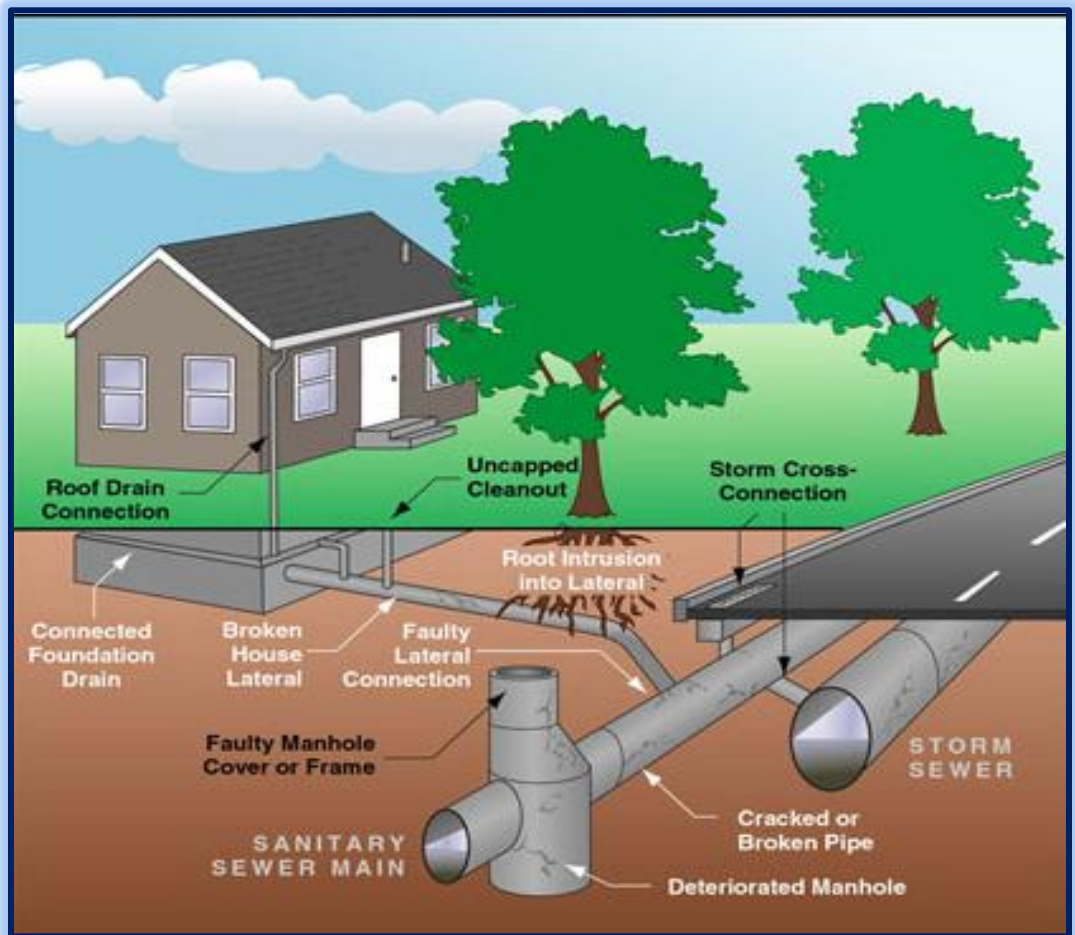
The City of Coos Bay's collection system is comprised of two independent piping systems: (1) the storm water system collects runoff rain water and discharges it directly into the bay; and (2) the sanitary sewer collection system discharges into one of the two wastewater treatment plants for process.

The storm water collection system is comprised of fifty miles of underground pipes which connect to three different pump stations and somewhere around 2,000 storm drainage manholes / catch basins. The wastewater collection and treatment system includes ninety miles of underground pipes, nineteen major and four minor pump stations, more than seventeen hundred manhole covers, and two wastewater treatment plants.



On an average, sewer pipes are designed to last about 20-50 years, depending on what type of material is used. Often sanitary sewer system pipes along with the lateral pipes attached to households and businesses have gone much longer without inspection or repair and are likely to be cracked or damaged. In the City of Coos Bay, maintenance and repair of the lateral pipe that is attached to a home or business to the main sewer line is the responsibility of the home/business owner. City staff estimates that more than 80% of the main sewer lines are more than 60 years old. Currently, the City of Coos Bay has some sanitary sewer lines that were installed in 1905, and they are still in service.

The City of Coos Bay has been conducting an ongoing program to address excessive infiltration and inflow into the City's wastewater system. Infiltration is groundwater that enters sanitary sewers through leaks in pipes. Inflow is storm water that is directed to the sanitary sewers through connections such as roof downspouts, driveway drains, and groundwater sump pumps. During wet weather, infiltration and inflow can increase the flow to sanitary sewers to the point of overload. When this occurs, the excess water can cause sewers to overflow and release pollutants into our waterways and damage private property by creating backups into basements. In addition these increased flows increase treatment costs which affect sewer rates.



The City has recently completed an Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) study throughout the community and identified sources of I&I from public and private property. The City has mapped out a plan to remedy I&I problems in its system. The work to repair identified problems is underway, and it will take several years to complete. The City is also sending out notification to private property owners where sources of I&I were identified by the study. Private property owners will be asked to correct the problems identified on their property which may include repairing their cracked/broken sewer lateral pipes, disconnecting roof downspouts, sump pumps, foundation drains, yard drains, or other improper connections from the sanitary sewer system.

Cell phone use and texting while driving



For most drivers, it is already against the law to use a hand-held cell phone while driving in Oregon. The original law, however, allowed cell phone use "in the scope of the person's employment if operation of the motor vehicle is necessary for the person's job." That exemption was removed with House Bill 3186 effective Jan. 1, 2012. So now, the only drivers allowed to use a hand-held mobile communications devices are persons over 18 years of age who are (1) operating a roadside assistance or tow vehicle, or; (2) operating a utility vehicle for the purpose of servicing a utility.

In addition, the bill outlaws texting for all drivers. In essence as of January 1, 2012, it is illegal for nearly everyone to use a cell phone and/or text while driving unless it is a hands-free device (no exemptions for drivers under age 18). Violation of the law Operating a Vehicle While Using a Cell Phone is a Class D violation with a new base rate of \$110.

Crime Prevent Tip - Dodging Doggie Doors

Escaping from a cold winter day or seeking refuge from a rainy day...giving our pets, specifically our canine friends, a way to get out of the weather is important to their health, wellbeing, and safety. The more common "escape" method is to install a "doggie door" or pet access door that allows them to seek refuge in the house or garage.



While these can be the ultimate access point for our beloved pets, it can also be a potential vulnerability to home security. When purchasing your pet access door, there are important prevention tips to keep in mind. First, buy only what you need. A Chihuahua doesn't need the same size door as a Great Dane; and obviously, the larger the door the more access a creative (crawling) person may have to enter your home. Be sure the door has an interior guard that prevents a person from reaching in, then up to a doorknob or deadbolt where they can unlock and enter. The guard is a deflector shield that sits on the top inside of the door and makes it difficult to reach around.

Some doors have gone high tech and include electronic access (activated by a remote located on the dog's collar). This is ideal, and it prevents anyone (or any other animal) from entering unless they have the dog's collar.

When installing the door, consider the location....ideally in a wall as opposed to inside a door. That way if someone were to attempt to reach in, there would not be a doorknob or lock to open the human door! When leaving for a trip or when the dog won't need access, be sure to close and lock the latch on the inside.

Doggie doors can be very helpful, when the right ones are installed in the right location!

The above article is an excerpt from the February 2012 Coos Bay Crime Prevention Connection. The monthly Crime Prevention Newsletter is a free monthly newsletter which provides crime prevention, education, and tips. It lets you know about crime in our community and alerts you to upcoming Police Department events. Sign-up to receive your own monthly issue of the CPC NEWSLETTER at <http://coosbay.org/police/index.html>