



45 YEARS OF THEATER

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Main photo: Pictured is a stage left view of the Coaster Theatre's interior this year after the remodel. The new theater seats are dark brown and black with gold tones. Gold velvet curtains replaced the red, water-stained stage and side curtains, and carpeting in shades of tan and chocolate has been installed.

Insert: Pictured are seats in the Coaster Theatre in 2016, before the remodel. These 180 seats installed in the theater 45 years ago came from Lincoln Hall at Portland State University.

AUDIENCES AT THE COASTER THEATRE WILL BE TREATED TO A REMODEL AND THE POPULAR AGATHA CHRISTIE MURDER MYSTERY 'THE MOUSETRAP'

By **NANCY MCCARTHY**

When the Coaster Theatre Playhouse begins its season March 3, the audience will see more than the opening of a new play. It will see a newly remodeled space.

With new seats, curtains, carpeting and paint, the Coaster is celebrating its 45th anniversary this year. The theater was a dream realized

by early Cannon Beach builder Maurie Clark, who purchased the Waves Roller Rink and remodeled it in 1972.

The 180 seats installed in the theater 45 years ago came from Lincoln Hall at Portland State University. Although they were refurbished at least once during the past four decades, the seats needed repairs, and parts were no longer available, said Patrick Lathrop, the theater's executive director. The new seats are dark brown and black with gold tones.

Gold velvet curtains replaced the red, water-stained stage and side curtains, and carpeting in shades of tan and chocolate has been installed.

"We tried to take the natural wood in the walls of the theater and bring out its warmth," Lathrop said.

Lathrop also is excited about the mural that will be painted on the theater's back wall. Against a dark green background will be a menagerie of gold animals familiar to the North Coast —

elk, deer, salmon and even a bunny or two romping in leaves.

The theater's 45th anniversary also is being celebrated by bringing back some of the plays that proved popular in previous years. They include "Barefoot in the Park," "Steel Magnolias," "Clue: the Musical," "Blithe Spirit" and, what was the Coaster's tradition for many years, "A Christmas Carol."

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