

# Liberty: Theatre hopes to upgrade facilities

Continued from Page 1A

LED lighting, installing insulation in the roof and reworking electrical systems, she said.

"This is more about fully supporting the stage and what we have, and making the patron experience — from the time you buy the ticket to all the way to see the show and leave and buy concessions — a great experience," Crockett said.

The theater has to pay full price for all the acts that come through, but patrons often don't get the entire experience because the theater cannot accommodate the full repertoire of a ballet or opera, Crockett said.

"There are a number of touring productions, we can't get them to come, or we can't do the whole show," Crockett said.

Crockett envisions more staged operas, both traditional and contemporary, along with Broadway productions and more dancing troupes.

The theater indirectly contributed more than \$800,000 last year to the downtown economy separate of ticket sales, and is on pace to surpass \$1 million this year, Crockett said.



Jennifer Crockett leads a tour group through the Liberty Theatre.

Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

# Seaside: Association scales back

Continued from Page 1A

the Great Recession, he said.

"That puts us in a situation now we're relying on sponsorships for future events to cover operational costs, and that's a place we don't want to get to," he said.

The executive director's position has been held by Sarah Dailey since spring of 2016, when she took over from Tita Montero. Dailey had served as the association's administrative assistant and interim director before taking the helm.

The association will not renew its lease at the office at 39 North Holladay Drive and will share space with board member Jeremy Mills of State Farm Insurance in Seaside, Gooch said.

Volunteers will step up to handle scheduled events, Gooch added. Other duties will be split up among board members. Part-time staffer Celeste Kenneally will remain.

The association launched in 1993 to promote interests of the downtown core with beautification and lighting.

Annual events include spring and fall car shows, downtown wine walks, a charity golf dinner and Halloween Happenin's. The association also helps sponsor the Shop Seaside program.

"We can only do and bear so much," Gooch said. "We've grown those events over the years. Every time you add another event, you increase your administrative needs for those events."

The association's best-case scenario would be to keep a number of events, maintain part-time staff and eventually move up to a model with a leadership position, Gooch said.

At the end of summer, the board will hold work sessions to reconsider the events schedule, Gooch told association members.

"But we don't want to make those decisions without input from our membership," he said. "You guys are really the lifeblood of this organization and we want your feedback and input."

# Tribe: Two endangered species of sucker fish in suit

Continued from Page 1A

recovery even more difficult.

The lawsuit names the Bureau of Reclamation and two other federal agencies. The Bureau of Reclamation manages water in the Klamath Basin of Oregon and California. It is responsible for meeting legal requirements for sucker in the lake, protected salmon downstream, as well as farmers who rely on irrigation water.

A spokesperson said the bureau has worked with the tribes to address their concerns, but cannot comment on ongoing litigation. In a news release, Scott White of the Klamath Water Users Association said the Klamath Tribes' lawsuit "could have devastating impacts" on the basin's economy by further reducing the amount of water available for agriculture. White said the association plans to intervene on the lawsuit.

Reclamation manages water, in



Jes Burns/OPB/EarthFix

Endangered sucker fish are raised and released to help rebuild populations in the Klamath Basin.

part, according to a document called a biological opinion. It's designed to ensure that five species of threatened and endangered fish in the Klamath Basin do not go extinct.

But the suit alleges the biological opinion needs to be updated to protect the suckers.

"Those lake levels the bureau is using to determine how much water

it can distribute is not adequately protecting the species and they're having an adverse effect on the species' critical habitat," said senior Klamath Tribes counsel Douglas MacCourt.

The tribes want new water level standards to be implemented immediately while protective measures for suckers in the biological opinion are updated, an ongoing process that is expected to take several years.

Recently, the bureau has been working to satisfy a court order to put more water in the Klamath River for salmon. This has delayed the start of irrigation season in the Klamath Basin, possibly until mid-June.

Farmers were able to get some water last month in a swap with a local utility. But this week the Klamath Water Users Association said the flows have stopped, and blamed the Bureau for "operational decisions" that are preventing basin farmers from getting water.

## Betty Juanita Warner McKennon

died just a few days short of her 95th birthday on April 27, 2018 in the Alzheimer's Unit of the Grays Harbor Health and Rehab Center in Aberdeen, Washington. Preceded in death by her husband Dallas McKennon and her daughter Gayle, she is survived by seven of her eight children: Darlene, Barbara, Jerald, Linda, Steven, Tamara and Wendy; and 21 grandchildren and many great grandchildren. Born in Oregon City, OR. to Harold & Myrtle Warner, Betty and her sister Verlie attended Girls Polytechnic in Portland where Betty learned to play the violin... later playing in the Portland Junior Symphony.

Betty married Dallas McKennon in Portland and together they led an adventurous life, moving their young family from Portland, Oregon where Dallas had worked in radio, to the wilds of Los Angeles where he joined the film industry. She was a busy young mother with a large family and home in the San Fernando Valley throughout the fifties and sixties until 1968 when she and Dallas moved their family to Cannon Beach, Oregon.

Betty was a devoted and supportive wife to Dallas in his acting career, but she led her own creative life; her many interests through the years included church, reading, music, ceramics, creative sewing, crochet and always being an audience of one for Dallas. Betty was a woman who was easily loved. Her laugh and gentle warmth and her care and love for all creatures great and small, were constant throughout her 94+ years including her Alzheimer's years. Her surviving family hold her dear.

Private internment at River View Cemetery in Portland, Oregon.



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