

Council eyes funding options for center expansion

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"We haven't come up with a formula," he added. "We have to look at all the options. But everything we do comes with a price tag."

Within 10 years the city could realize a 50 percent increase in economic development and event days, Vandenberg added. That would generate another \$20 million to the \$44 million annual economic impact the city already experiences from the convention center.

The expansion would allow the convention center to bring groups of 500 to 600 to town. It currently is limited to conventions of 200 or fewer people. Within a 300-mile radius of Seaside there are "hundreds" of larger groups that have been unable to use the center, Vandenberg said.

When asked in a survey if they would come to Seaside, the "overwhelming response was yes," he said. "There's a very strong indication that



A rendering shows the proposed expansion on the west side of the existing Seaside Civic and Convention Center. The expansion would eliminate about 42 parking spaces.

groups would come to Seaside."

To accommodate the visitors, Seaside already has 600 "convention quality" rooms within walking distance, according to Vandenberg. Some hotels would have to undergo some upgrades if they wanted to compete, he added.

Questions to Vandenberg focused on what would prevent people from finding less costly lodging elsewhere or going to another town to shop if the sales tax was adopted.

"I think you might be shooting the goose that's laying the golden egg," one person told Vandenberg.

If the City Council approves the expansion and funding, the architectural designs would be finalized in 2016 and construction could begin in 2017, Vandenberg said.

The expansion calls for doubling the size of the convention center to bring it to 80,000 square feet. Of that,



DON FRANK PHOTO

A \$25 million expansion of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center could be paid for by a local sales tax and an increase

40,000 square feet would be usable, public space. Vandenberg said the additional space would allow large groups to use the exhibit hall and still have enough room to dine. The current space is too small to provide dining in the smaller Necanicum Room for everyone using the larger, 12,000-square-foot Pacific Room.

In 2014, the convention center hosted 51 conventions, as well as 37 civic events and some fundraisers and other sessions. The C.H. Johnson Consulting study

estimates the expanded center would hold 109 events by 2017 and 149 by 2021.

Attendance could increase from the 36,672 experienced in 2014 to 82,620 in 2026, according to the study.

However, the convention center would continue to run a deficit, as it always has done, the study noted. The current deficit of \$350,000 would increase to \$461,000 in 2017 and eventually decrease to \$317,000 in 2026, if the figures for the center's use and attendance are realized, the study said.

Obituaries

Jeanne I. Daae

April 1, 1918 — Jan. 23, 2015

Jeanne I. Daae was the daughter of Herbert Welcome and Marjorie Ingham. She was born in Minneapolis, Minn., and moved to Portland in 1920 when she was 2.

She graduated from Commerce High School in 1937. During the Depression she moved to San Francisco to find employment, and worked for Lederle Lab for two years. She then came back to Oregon and worked for the state.

She met her husband at a dance when she was 19, and they were married in 1941. They moved back to San Francisco and had their first child, Konrad Jr., in 1942. In 1943 they moved back to Portland, and Margie was born in 1946.

Jeanne worked many different jobs during her life. She worked in the shipyards as an electrician. She was a secretary for White Stage, Overhead Doors, Power Brake, Fred Meyer and retired from Dale Webber after 20 years.

Jeanne was involved in the American Legion Auxiliary for 61 years. She served as president, vice



JEANNE DAAE

president and La Petite. She volunteered at the Veterans Hospital and Scholarship Program and was a Girl Scout leader for many years.

Jeanne and her husband traveled to Europe and Asia. They also traveled in their trailer around the United States and Canada. Her last trip was to Europe with her son when she was 85.

Jeanne lived in her beloved home in Seaside for nine years. Before that she lived in Tolovana Park for 16 years.

Jeanne was preceded in her death by her husband Konrad in 2000, and her son Konrad Jr. in 2012.

She is survived by her daughter, Margie Hacking, of Cannon Beach. Her grandchildren are Paul and Jennifer, Mark and Angela, Lori and Chris, and Kristine and Greg. She has five great-grandchildren.

Her greatest joys were having family gatherings and developing friendships with so many people over the years. She was definitely a people person who loved to laugh and have a good time. Jeanne's celebration of her life was at her 90th birthday party when she could laugh, eat and enjoy her family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Lower Columbia Hospice, 2111 Exchange St. Astoria, OR 97103; the Clatsop County Animal Shelter; or a charity of choice.

A graveside service was held at Willamette National Cemetery on Friday, Jan. 30.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of arrangements. Visit www.hughes-ransom.com to leave your condolences and sign the guest book.

Arthur Grant Girt

Nov. 25, 1923 — Jan. 15, 2015

Arthur Grant Girt, 91, died Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015 in Hammond.

He was born Nov. 25, 1923 in Rainier, Ore., to Clifford Arthur Girt and Pearl Marie (Mason) Girt.

In 1940, he moved to Seaside with his family and finished his school there. In 1944, the family moved to Gearhart, and Arthur lived there until 1997. He then did some traveling and again lived in Seaside until 2007, when he moved to Hammond.

Arthur was preceded



ARTHUR GRANT GIRT

in death by brothers Robert Stanley Burnham, Earl

Herbert Burnham, and George Alfred Girt; and one sister, Marjorie Marie (Girt) Hogg.

He is survived by sisters Patricia Ann (Girt) Coon and Doris Jean (Girt) Thompson; and several nephews and nieces.

Memorial contributions may be given to a charity of choice.

Caldwell's-Luce-Layton Mortuary is in charge of arrangements. Please sign the online guest book at www.caldwellsmortuary.com

Jean Ann (Mognett) Weston

Feb. 20, 1925 — Jan. 24, 2015

Jean Ann Weston, 89, passed away peacefully Jan. 24, 2015, at her home in Gearhart, Ore. Jean was born in Glendale, Ariz., Feb. 20, 1925, to Elmer and Delta Mognett.

Her family moved to Tigard, Ore., in 1928, where Jean became a childhood vaudeville star. Jean spent most of her childhood years performing in the Portland area and was able to earn money necessary to help her family survive the years of the Great Depression.

Jean graduated from Tigard High School and was attending the University of Oregon up until World War II broke out, when she volunteered to leave school, move to San Francisco and work in the shipyards building ships for the war effort.

After the war, Jean



JEAN ANN WESTON

moved back to the Portland area, where she met and married Raymond E. Weston Jr. The newlyweds lived six years in Portland before moving to Spokane, Wash., where their two children, Craig and Kyle, were born. In 1959, Jean's family moved to Gearhart, Ore., where she became involved with local clubs and

organizations, and her husband, Raymond, became the pro at the Gearhart Golf Course.

Jean is survived by her two sons, Craig Weston (wife, Dana) and Kyle Weston; grandson, Tyler Weston (wife, Fellicia); and great-grandson, Cooper Raymond Weston. Jean was predeceased by her husband, Raymond, in 1980.

A celebration of Jean's life will be held at the Astoria Golf & Country Club on Sunday, Feb. 15, 2015, at 2 p.m. A private graveside service for the family will be held at Finley's Sunset Mortuary in Portland.

Contributions in Jean's memory can be made to Clatsop County United Way, Seaside Kids Inc. or the Calvary Episcopal Church of Seaside.

'Listening' series looks at area through Indian eyes

To the indigenous people of Oregon's north coast, geography and culture are inseparable: Tribal beliefs and lifeways all begin with the land.

Join Richard and Roberta Basch, members of the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes, as they speak and share stories about the spirit of the land and the public's responsibility to care for it in "Our North Coast Through Indian Eyes," the second of this year's Listening to the Land programs.

The program will begin at 6 p.m. Feb. 18, in the Seaside Public Library. Admission is free; refreshments will be served.

A member and vice-chairman of Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes, Rich-

ard Basch, of Seaside, has worked in Indian and tribal education for 35 years and serves as tribal liaison for Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. His wife, Roberta Basch, is also a long-time educator and past president of the Washington Indian Education Association. She is a member of the Puyallup and Coeur d'Alene tribes and has been adopted into the Clatsop tribe.

Listening to the Land is a monthly winter speaker series presented by the North Coast Land Conservancy and the Necanicum Watershed Council in partnership with the Seaside Public Library and with generous support from the Seaside Chamber of Commerce. This year's Listening to the



RICHARD BASCH

Land series is focused on the natural and cultural heritage of the Oregon Coast.

More details are available at www.NCLCtrust.org.

News in Brief

Police prepare for big seatbelt, cellphone blitz

Oregon law enforcement agencies are teaming up across the state Feb. 9 through 22 to put extra police officers on the road to look for specific traffic violations.

Patrol officers will be looking for seatbelt and child-restraint violations, drivers using cellphones without a hands-free device and speed violators.

In the 100-car surveys conducted in 2014, Seaside officers found 99 percent of drivers are buckling up. The goal remains to have 100 percent of all occupants buckling up.

Statewide, among those killed or injured were 938 child passengers under the age of 8, and a third of those were riding unrestrained or in the wrong type of safety restraint for their size.

Child seats reduce the likelihood of infants under 1 being killed in a crash by 71 percent. The fatal risk for toddlers ages 1 to 4 is reduced by 54 percent and by 58 percent for infants and toddlers in SUVs, pickups and vans.

Oregon law requires children weighing less than 40 pounds be restrained in a child seat. Children under the age of 1 or weighing less than 20 pounds must be restrained in a rear-facing child seat. A child over 40 pounds must be restrained in either a child seat or a booster seat appropriate for their size until they reach age 8 or are 4 feet, 9 inches tall and the adult restraint system fits them correctly.

The restraint must go across the child's waist and not the abdominal area. In the event of a crash, the restraint must hold the child in the seat and not cut into internal organs. The restraint must go across the child's shoulder and not on the neck. The child should be elevated in the booster to the level of being able to see out the side window; this indicates the child is in a proper booster for its size.

Social Security workshop set for Seaside March 3

A workshop to help potential retirees learn about Social Security and maximize retirement income is set for March 3.

The workshop will begin at 6 p.m. in the South County center of Clatsop Community College, 1455 N. Roosevelt Drive, Seaside.

It will cover several topics, including: when to apply for benefits, how to estimate benefits, how to minimize taxes on Social Security benefits and how to coordinate Social Security with other sources of retirement income.

Reservations ready for giant indoor yard sale

The Rotary Club of Seaside is sponsoring its fifth annual Community Indoor Yard Sale Feb. 14 and 15.

Shoppers can search for treasures from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 14 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 15 in the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

Reservations are being taken for those wanting to sell items. Booths are \$30 each; electrical power is an additional \$20, if needed. Each booth includes an 8-foot-long table and two chairs.

Booths can be reserved by calling 503-440-9357. Reservations will be confirmed following payment to Seaside Rotary at PO Box 413, Seaside, OR 97138. Confirmation, along with booth number or numbers, will be made by email or phone.

Vendors can set up Friday, Feb. 13, or between 7 and 9 a.m. Feb. 14.

For further information or questions, contact Alan Evans at 503-440-9357 or email at: a.evans@helpinghandsreentry.org

Documentary to examine Astoria's robust history

A half-hour documentary that examines the history of Astoria airs at 9 p.m. Feb. 9 on Oregon Public Broadcasting's Oregon Experience program.

Astoria is the oldest U.S. settlement west of the Rockies and has one of the longest histories in the Pacific Northwest. It is a city that has survived booms and busts and has endured several notable fires — one of them catastrophic. Despite it all, Astorians have demonstrated their resilience over the years.

Along with historical film and photos, "Astoria" features interviews with:

- Peter Stark, author of Astoria
 - Samuel Johnson, executive director, Columbia River Maritime Museum
 - McAndrew Burns, executive director, and Liisa Penner, archivist for the Clatsop County Historical Society
 - John Goodenberger, historic building consultant
 - Richard Basch, vice chairman of the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes
 - Irene Martin, author and salmon industry historian
 - David Lum, retired Astoria auto dealer and son of Chinese immigrants
- "Astoria" was written and produced by Eric Cain and edited by Lisa Suinn Kalle. For more information, visit <http://opb.is/orexastoria>.