

Columbia Theatre blends old-fashioned glamour, modern comfort

Looking for a pleasurable, yet different, movie-going experience? Look no further than Columbia Theatre in Olde Towne St. Helens. Yes, Columbia Theatre has rocking chair comfort. Yes, they have refreshments. Yes, they have new release movies.

What makes Columbia Theatre different is that all the best up-to-date theatre amenities are located in a beautifully restored 1930s theater building. The first Columbia Theatre was built in 1928 closer to the courthouse. James Svoboda first leased the building from his parents after they purchased it in 1963. Later he inherited the theater and during his 47 years there has put countless hours and almost countless dollars into making the Columbia Theatre a great place to watch a movie.

The theater now boasts rocking chair seats, but only around 400, instead of the original 700, as they are now spread out for extra comfort. The rocker seats came from the executive screening room of Universal Studios. There is also a very nice balcony.

There are two refreshment areas offering the normal popcorn, candy, sodas, plus espresso, pizza, nachos, pretzels, ice cream cones, sundaes and shakes. And, you can get one of the trays that holds food and two drinks, and fits right into the cup holder on the rocking chair seats. No more trying to juggle it all on your lap.

The walls, the light fixtures, the colors – the ambience – is that of the early theater. You can easily imagine Roy Rogers and Trigger on the stage, just as they were when James' brother, John, saw them there when he was young.

Behind the old time elegant feel, though, is decidedly up-to-date technology. Many theaters have Dolby Digital sound, but the Columbia also has the 29-THX approved speakers, plus sub-woofers in the surround system. A recent installation was the new Christie digital projector with the latest 2010 technology (no more broken film reels). The Christie has the newest triple-flash light engine for a brilliant, evenly distributed light.

Ever hear of the silver screen? The Columbia Theatre has one. Yes, they really are silver colored. The reason? Silver screens are four times brighter than non-silver screens. That brightness helps the movie look better. But this is no old silver screen, this is a new ultra-bright, high definition curved silver screen, giving higher resolution than that found on Blue-Ray DVDs.

Right now, you can take advantage of the newest 3-D entertainment, with RealD. Every guest gets a new pair of glasses every time they enjoy one of the 3-D features, such as Shrek Forever After, playing now.

Need more reasons to see your next movie at Columbia Theatre?

- The traffic is lighter on Scappoose/Vernonia than on Hwy 26.

- The movie prices have hardly gone up in the past 10 years. Regular prices are \$6.50 for adults and \$5.00 for kids; 3-D prices are \$8.50 for adults and \$7.00 for the children.

- They have pub night (beer and wine available and only

adults admitted) on many Thursdays; the next one is June 10.

- And one more reason, cut out the Columbia Theatre ad from this issue, then take it with you, and get \$1.00 off the \$10.00 deal on two-45 oz. drinks and the big tub of popcorn, plus one free refill (offer good now through June 30).

Show times for Shrek Forever After are daily at 4:40, 7:00 and 9:10 p.m. with additional show times on Saturday and Sunday at 12:00 and 2:00 p.m.

How about a movie tonight? You'll find Columbia Theatre at 212 S. First St. in Olde Towne St. Helens. Call 503-397-9791 for more information.



Left to right: Dan Floyd, Safeway, Willis Van Dusen, Astoria Mayor, Claude Weaver, Wauna FCU Board Chair, Chuck Middleton, Astoria Safeway Manager, Skip Hauke, Astoria/Warrenton Chamber of Commerce, Mac Erickson, Financial Supermarkets, Inc., Jeff Parker, Wauna FCU Astoria and Astoria Safeway Branch Manager, Robert Blumberg, Wauna FCU President/CEO.

Wauna Federal Credit Union Begins Construction of new Astoria Safeway Branch

Community and business officials joined Wauna Federal Credit Union during its recent groundbreaking ceremony for its new Astoria Safeway Branch.

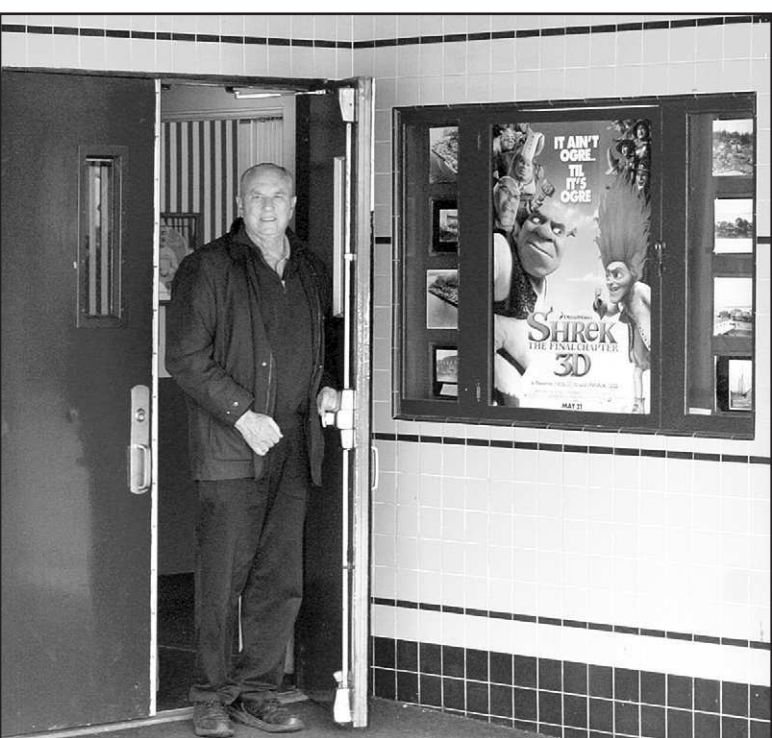
Construction begins in early June and the new Astoria Safeway Branch is scheduled to open in early July.

"We appreciate our board of directors and all of our other guests for attending and helping us launch the start of our new branch," reported Robert Blumberg, Wauna FCU President/CEO. "Our new partnership with Safeway will enable residents of Clatsop or Columbia

Counties to enjoy the convenience of shopping and credit union business at the east side of Astoria."

The Astoria Safeway Branch will offer a full range of financial services with extended hours of service, including 10:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturdays 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. An ATM and Night Drop are also available during Safeway store hours.

A Grand Opening celebration is scheduled for early August to welcome everyone to the new Branch.



James Svoboda in the doorway of his Columbia Theatre.



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