

Seeley Theatre and Opera House restoration project receives support from the Pacific Power Foundation

POMEROY, Wash. – The Pomeroy Community Center received a \$5,000 grant from the Pacific Power Foundation for the restoration and preservation of the Seeley Theatre and Opera House, and will be used to fund a portion of the roof installation.

The Seeley Theatre, located at 67 7th Street, opened to a crowd of 713 people on Nov. 24, 1913, replacing Burlingame Hall, an earlier wood-frame theater located nearby. In 2009, the Pomeroy Community Center purchased the Seeley Theatre, and is currently restoring it with the goal of re-opening it by the theatre's 100th anniversary in November 2013.

“We are proud to be a part of helping restore the Seeley Theatre by its 100th anniversary and bringing back a piece of history that is integral to the Pomeroy community,” said Bill Clemens, Pacific Power regional community manager. “Pacific Power recently celebrated its 100th anniversary, so as a company we truly understand how momentous an achievement it will be to bring the theatre back to life for local residents.”

“Every dollar helps as we pay for the new roof, get the building rewired and plumbed, and get the theatre ready for the Pomeroy community,” said Cody Jones, Seeley Theatre Committee Chairman and Community Center Board Director. “We appreciate all donations that have come in and always welcome any additional help to get the theatre up and running for our community.”

If you are interested in learning more about the Seeley Theatre and Opera House or to donate, visit: <http://seeleytheatre.bbnw.org/donate.php>.

- 30 -

About the Seeley Theatre and Opera House

The Seeley Theatre was designed by Edwin W. Houghton (1856-1927), designer of Seattle's original Opera House, Moore Theatre, and Majestic Theatre, the Spokane Theatre and Clemmer Theatre, and Beck's Theatre in Bellingham. The Seeley was remodeled in the 1950s to accommodate a Cinemascope screen, and the lobby was updated in the 1960s. By the late 1960s, the Seeley had ceased to operate and the building was used to house a refrigeration and repair shop. Private investors purchased the building in 1980, after which it was used sporadically for movies and as an event venue. On Dec. 31, 2009, the non-profit Pomeroy Community Center purchased the Seeley, and full restoration is planned. The theater still retains its original hand-painted advertising screen that was used to curtain the stage and advertise local businesses.

About the Pacific Power Foundation

The Pacific Power Foundation is part of the PacifiCorp Foundation, one of the largest utility-endowed foundations in the United States. The foundation was created in 1988 by PacifiCorp, an electric utility serving 1.7 million customers in six Western states as Pacific Power (Oregon, Washington and California) and Rocky Mountain Power (Utah, Wyoming and Idaho). The foundation's mission, through charitable investments, is to support the growth and vitality of the communities served by Pacific Power and Rocky Mountain Power. For more information, visit www.pacificpower.net/ppfoundation.