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DESTINATION WEDDINGS TAKE CENTER STAGE ON VALENTINE'S DAY 2020

On Valentine's Day, February 14th, the Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder will host wedding ceremonies at Pittsburg's picturesque California Theatre between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. This event is co-sponsored by the City of Pittsburg and the Pittsburg Arts and Community Foundation.

The theatre seats up to 350 guests and the auditorium features a large art-deco chandelier, Beaux-Arts architecture on the ceiling and an ornate pipe organ. There are a limited number of appointments available for this luxurious "Destination Wedding".

"The California Theatre is a fantastic special events venue and we are excited to be able to share it with our couples," Assistant Clerk-Recorder Barbara Dunmore said. "The theatre accommodates more guests than our office ceremony rooms, which means couples can have many guests attend their special day."

"This is the historic gem of downtown Pittsburg. Highlighting the theatre is beneficial to the community," said Janis Glover of the Pittsburg Arts and Community Foundation. The California Theatre, which celebrates its 100th anniversary in May, featured live vaudeville performances and silent films. In 2013, the theatre was completely renovated after water damage forced the theatre to close in 1954.

Ms. Glover adds that the city has nearby venues available for couples who wish to have a reception following their ceremony. Couples can also have music played, display pictures as a backdrop to the ceremony and use the theatre's dressing rooms for the bridal party and groomsmen. These options require planning, so couples should make their appointment early to receive priority, she said.

Couples can also have their Valentine's Day wedding ceremony at the Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder Office, located at 555 Escobar Street in Martinez. The office features two beautifully appointed ceremony rooms, adorned with handcrafted stained glass windows.

As the most romantic day of the year, Valentine's Day is one of the most popular days for civil marriage ceremonies. Couples interested in having their ceremony at the California Theatre or the Martinez office, must make an appointment. Ceremonies can be scheduled online at www.contracostacore.us.

Before the ceremony, couples must obtain a marriage license at the main office in Martinez. The civil marriage ceremony fee is \$60. Couples can obtain a public marriage license for \$86 or a confidential marriage license for \$90.

The Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder Division holds Destination Weddings each season at unique and picturesque locations throughout the county. For more information, contact Joseph Barton, Clerk-Recorder Services Supervisor, at 925-335-7900.

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