



Edward Stratton/The Astorian

Big River Construction built the base of a new viewing platform for the burial canoe honoring the late Chinookan chief Comcomly. Tongue Point Job Corps Center students paved the top, and ironworker Daniel Benoit designed the guardrail.

Canoe: Memorial dedicated to Comcomly in 1961

Continued from Page A1

During the city's 150-year anniversary celebration in 1961, Astoria dedicated the memorial to Comcomly. The Chinookan chief befriended members of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery, the John Jacob Astor expedition six years later and trading ships in the Columbia River in the early years of the 19th century.

The memorial includes a cement replica of a Chinookan burial canoe elevated along the hillside west

of the oval column hillock. Comcomly's skull, the only earthly remnant of the chief, was to be buried beneath the canoe, looking out across the region where he once ruled. His skull was ultimately buried in Ilwaco, Washington. But the memorial to him has long been a secondary draw beneath the 125-foot Column, dedicated in 1926.

Pynes was preparing the Column park for the summer season when he noticed cracking on the sidewalk and saw a hazard.

The Friends eventually

contracted Big River Construction to build a handicap-accessible platform, Tongue Point Job Corps Center to pave it, Daniel Benoit to install railings mimicking those atop the Column and 3D Landscape, Inc. to finish the sod around the canoe. Local artist Roger McKay painted the cement canoe to make it appear wooden.

The \$25,000 project was paid for by the Friends, which maintains the property. Of the \$5 people pay to park at the Column, \$2 goes to maintenance, \$2 for

improvements and \$1 to the city.

Commissioners wondered how the unpermitted project stayed under the radar for several months. City Planner Barbara Fryer, who started in August, said city staff hadn't spent much time at the site.

Pynes, a park host for the past 2 1/2 years, promised to get a permit in the future.

"It was broken, so I fixed it," he said. "I don't know whether to plead ignorance, old age or too many concussions, but I didn't realize the process."

Counsel: Reynolds will continue her private legal practice

Continued from Page A1

Reynolds' announcement comes one year before her contract ends. She said the decision by the county Board of Commissioners to appoint a parliamentarian earlier this year precipitated her to leave early.

Sarah Nebeker, the commission's chairwoman, named Larry Taylor, a longtime Democratic Party activist, as parliamentarian to help advise her on how to run board meetings.

"The hiring of the parliamentarian was clearly a vote of no confidence in some of the abilities of counsel and I felt that ... if that was a concern of theirs then they needed to have someone address those concerns in one position," Reynolds said. "It's difficult to control a meeting when there's two point people on it."

Moving forward, she recommends county commissioners hire an in-house county counsel as opposed to a contract attorney like her.

"What happens is the fires get fought, but the planning to prevent the next fire doesn't get done and we really need someone full time," Reynolds said.

Reynolds said she thinks it is a good time for the transition now that the county has Bohn's leadership.

"He is absolutely fantastic and I knew that with his years of experience that a new counsel coming in would have a lot of support and guidance. And that's a good time to bring someone in if you want them to stay for a while, which we do," she said.

Reynolds will continue her private legal practice, but plans to cut back on her public work and focus on land and business transactions and estate planning. She is looking forward to taking longer vacations with her husband.

"The historical knowledge she has of the county for the past 20-plus years is going to be a significant loss to the county," said Monica Steele, the county's budget director and assistant county manager.

Reynolds moved to Clatsop County in 1981 and

began working at Macdonald, McAllister Snow after graduating from law school at Willamette University.

After a couple of years, she went out on her own. In between her career as an attorney, she spent eight years as a judge in Clatsop and Pacific counties until she found being a judge did not suit her personality.

Reynolds became the county counsel in 1995. The county contracts with private attorneys and legal firms for legal services, but Reynolds has served as the county's steady legal adviser.

"I was always kind of the one that managed the stable of lawyers and opened and shut the barn door, I guess you could say," she said.

"Heather has been a great asset to Clatsop County, her experience and wisdom will be impossible to replace," Blair Henningsgaard, an Astoria attorney, said in an email. "She has a gift for clearly and forcefully advocating a position without being offensive."

Reynolds and Henningsgaard served as co-county counsels for several years.

During her time as county counsel, Reynolds has worked with over a dozen county managers. She said the legal adviser for a county is traditionally — and should be — a position of stability.

She said a lot of what she has done through the years has depended on the strengths and desires of the county manager.

"So in times when there's an interim I tend to be more involved in some of the day-to-day issues. And then when there's a manager with a set program and things are organized, I tend to be more focused on the legal issues of what people are working on," Reynolds said.

"I just tried to do my best for the county and keep it on a steady course and keep it out of trouble," she said.

Reynolds said she has enjoyed the people she has worked with over the years, especially the county staff.

CODA™
health - recovery - community

**New Clinic
Coming to
Seaside Soon!**

Bringing 50 years of service this state of the art outpatient clinic provides medication-assisted treatment for adults with opiate use disorders. We are building a high energy team of professionals dedicated to treating the individual, wiping away stigma and helping to rebuild the health and life of the people they serve. Competitive wages and exceptionally strong benefits package for employees working at least 20 hours per week. Contact us today and you can make a difference in one of the following positions:

Site Medical Director
MD or DO with experience managing medication assisted treatments for substance use disorders and board certification by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

Medical Operations Manager
RN with strong leadership experience and supervision skills

Senior Clinical Manager
Masters Degree from nationally accredited school in human services. Requires licensure and/or CADC, or in process of obtaining either.

Nurse Practitioner
Experience treating patients with substance use disorders. Data Waivered.

We are very excited to bring these excellent opportunities to members of the community.

Contract Recruiter Patrice Cavins PatriceCavins@codainc.org

Sign: Commission pushed for preservation of the original sign

Continued from Page A1

elements, with rot, chipping paint and support posts that don't appear to be solid from soundings. It's uncertain how long the posts will keep holding up the sign, he said.

Rachel Jensen, the executive director of the Lower Columbia Preservation Society, submitted a letter calling on the commission to preserve and repair the existing sign and log supports, replacing them with like-minded materials when necessary. Preserving the existing sign shows respect to the community effort 71 years ago to mark Fort Astoria, she said Tuesday.

Commissioner Katie Rathmell, a historic window restorer, echoed the preservation society's concerns.

"The neglect of our artifacts allows us to at some point say, 'Well, there's no saving it,'" she said. "It's kind of used as an excuse to allow things to continue to deteriorate without working as a community to save these things."

She questioned whether the city had even investigated replacing the sign with like-minded materials.

The city did not, but consulted with Lewis and Clark National Historical Park before concluding a plastic sign would be easier to maintain and not significantly change the character of the site, Dart-McClean said.

Commissioners understood the push for plastic as easier to maintain for a cash-strapped parks department, but also the provenance of wood, and wanted to see more investigation of the sign and posts' condition.

Commission President McAndrew Burns questioned whether the sign was even the original from 1948, having heard it was replaced at some point, and said he was OK with the National Park Service's recommendation of a plastic sign.

The commission ultimately approved the plastic sign with new treated wooden posts 5-1, with Rathmell in opposition and Commissioner Paul Caruana not in attendance. They included a condition to have the National Park Service perform an archaeological study of the site and pushed for the original sign to be preserved.

The condition of the sign came to the forefront after concerns were raised about its dated language, which was not an issue in the Historic Landmarks Commission's decision. Replacing the sign gives him the opportunity to solve multiple issues at once, Dart-McClean said. He worked with John Goodenberger, a historic buildings consultant, on the updated verbiage.

Goodenberger said issues came up over references to Jane Barnes, which the sign proclaims as "the Oregon country's first white woman." His recommended sign language deleted the reference and also corrected the placement of quotation marks. He kept language like "desiring to dominate the areas explored" and "seize the mouth of the Columbia," despite some concerns.

"My feeling is that things like Manifest Destiny should not be cleaned up," Goodenberger said. "That was a part of our history. We did come to dominate."



**Bad weather driving is on the way.
Be prepared.**

Del's OK Tire Factory will get your vehicle ready for the cold, wet and slick weather ahead. *Come see us!*



Klyde Thompson, owner and Mike Barnett, manager of Del's Ok Point S Tire and Auto Service



Del Thompson, former owner of OK Rubber Welders.

Buy a set of Snow Tires

RECEIVE

\$50 OFF

purchase of four Sensors

Valid through 12/31/19

DEL'S O.K. TIRE

point S
TIRE and AUTO SERVICE

(503) 325-2861

35359 Business 101
Astoria, OR 97103

MON - FRI 8:00 PM

SAT 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

tirefactory.com/astoria

**Over 70 years of
the Thompson
family putting
you first!**