



Photos by Lissa Brewer

LEFT: A hiker walks down Coxcomb Hill at sunset. MIDDLE: A wooden canoe sits atop Coxcomb Hill in Astoria. RIGHT: Daffodils sit atop a sunset view on the hill near the Astoria column.

Continued from Page 18

Budd wanted to create a large flagpole in place of the tower. If erected, this would be the “crowning monument” for a series of 12 historical markers between Astoria and Minnesota. These markers would recognize settlers’ westward migration.

Soon, the flagpole concept was scrapped. After a conversation with Electus Litchfield, a New York architect, Budd decided to instead build a column featuring historic images of the North Coast. Budd and Litchfield worked with Vincent Astor to fund the project.

Italian artist Attilio Pusterla was hired to create the column’s 525 foot mural. Known for using a technique called sgraffito, he would paint a surface, cover it with another, then scratch the top layer to create an image revealed in the lower layer. Pusterla was the first person to create a mural using this technique.

The artist began work in June 1926, just weeks before the column was supposed to be revealed during a dedication day ceremony. Pusterla eventually finished the column’s artwork more than three months later on October. About 8,000 people came to celebrate the column’s reveal in July, even though Pusterla had yet to complete the mural project.

Since 1926, the site has undergone a



Catch a bird’s eye view of the sunset from Coxcomb Hill.

handful of renovations. At present, the column is cared for by the Friends of the Astoria Column, a volunteer group which began in the 1980s.

Each night after the sun sets, the column is illuminated with colorful lights, thanks to the group. It’s a beautiful place to catch some light, from the rising sun to the twinkling lights after dark.

The Astoria Column is open year-round, weather permitting, except on Thanksgiving and Christmas. Visitors who drive up Coxcomb Hill must purchase a \$5 parking pass, which is valid for the rest of the year.

El Catrin Mexican Restaurant

*Thank You
for voting us
your favorite
Mexican Restaurant!*








19 North Hwy. 101, Warrenton
(In the Premarq Center)
503-861-0369



dylan's

COTTAGE BAKERY

THANKS FOR
YOUR SUPPORT

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Downtown Long Beach
306-642-4441
dylanscottagebakery.com