

# Trade Winds



2019 Vol. 2

**"Where business lives"**



## WESTIN AMPHITHEATER AN IMMEDIATE HIT

June 5, the Port dedicated its new amphitheater to Milford Westin. Milford S. Westin was the Port's longest acting commissioner (1977-2005) and a committed community activist. Not only did he bring amenities to local parks, but his strategic long-term planning enhanced Port presence in the global economic landscape.

Thanks to Westin's vision and acumen, the Port is home to 30 industries and employs over 1200 people. Worth noting, the Port had a grain elevator, two lumber companies and two employees when he started. Westin's family, Port commissioners and staff were in attendance as the commemorative plaque was installed at the facility.

A long-term project, the amphitheater is part of the Port's mission to provide recreational assets to the community. The dedication opened up its first season of entertainment with McMenamins kicking off a series of summer concerts.

Follow on Facebook and check the calendar on

<https://portofkalama.com/recreation/marine-and-louis-rasmussen-park-calendar/>

## Cowlitz Container and Diecutting Inc. Expands to Spencer Creek Business Park



**COWLITZ**  
Container &  
Die Cutting

From a temporary space at the Port in 2014, Cowlitz Container and Diecutting expanded into a 10,000 sq. ft. space in 2018. On

the move again, Cowlitz Container's booming business continues to push them into larger spaces. Their new home will be a 20,000 sq. ft. building when completed at the new Spencer Creek Business Park.

"We've been very happy here," says Ralph Clark, owner of Cowlitz Container. "The Port has extended themselves and help us grow—they brought relationship to the table."

Cowlitz Container and Diecutting manufactures varying sizes and shapes of boxes and containers specializing in short runs of 500 units or less. Shrink wrapped and bundled, boxes are stored for local and regional accounts to distribute.





**"Where business lives"**

PORT COMMISSION  
(Elected for 6-year terms)



**Alan Basso**  
*President*



**Troy Stariha**  
*Vice President*



**Randy Sweet**  
*Secretary*



**Mark Wilson**  
*Executive Director*

Port meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Room at the Port's Administrative Office.

## Message from the President

Teddy Roosevelt visited Kalama in 1903. Among this outdoorsman, Roughrider, and President's legacies is the idea of "multiple use."

In a nutshell, multiple use can be described as using resources in order to benefit the greatest number of people, and not to give priority to any one group.

Teddy's journey through Kalama was via train. The tracks are used for both passenger and freight traffic. Next to the train tracks is the Columbia River. Our "mighty river of the west" is also used for freight and passenger traffic. Fishermen and pleasure boaters share the River as well.

While at the Westin Amphitheatre recently, I was enjoying music while observing people strolling by on the walking trails and kids making use of the playground equipment.

Earlier this summer, I attended the Kalama Community Fair, which was held at Haydu Park. Kudos to the volunteers who put this event together! Fair season gives way to youth sports season, and Haydu Park sees duty as a place for youth soccer and football.

Thanks to all of you that entrust us to manage the Port of Kalama in the interest of multiple use.

## THE SPENCER CREEK BUSINESS PARK PROJECT UPDATE

Progress continues on the Spencer Creek Business Park Project, which includes improvements to .75 miles of Kalama River Road and .25 miles of Old Pacific Highway. The closeout of the road project will signify the opening of the Spencer Creek Business Park.

"We appreciate the community's patience during construction," says Eric Yakovich, POK Economic Development Manager. "Adding a third lane, plus other road upgrades will accommodate the increased traffic stimulated by the Spencer Creek Business Park and improve everyone's driving experience."

The roundabout is being modified to accommodate the passage of large 125-ft-long and 14-ft.-wide trucks and heavy equipment.

The Port, haulers, and timber companies are working together on this adjustment.





## Annual maintenance dredging project started up September 1

The Port of Kalama began its annual maintenance dredging at the TEMCO LLC grain elevator berth early September and successfully completed the process in October. The Port's award-winning maintenance dredging program ensures the draft necessary to keep cargo ships sailing smoothly at the terminal. This is the only time of year in-water operations are legally permitted at the Port.

The dredging procedure included the removal of sand in front of the TEMCO terminal and its delivery as clean

materials to continue beach nourishment on the Port's riverfront for recreational use.

All general Port business activities continued as scheduled during the dredging. The river frontage at Marine Park, McMenamins Kalama Harbor Lodge and the Port's administration offices were closed while the sand was placed. All parks remained open during the process, but the beach at Louis Rasmussen Park was slightly impeded by the pipe. The Port provided a safe cross over spot for the public during this time.

Your patience during this project and all projects that keep our Port running smoothly has been greatly appreciated.

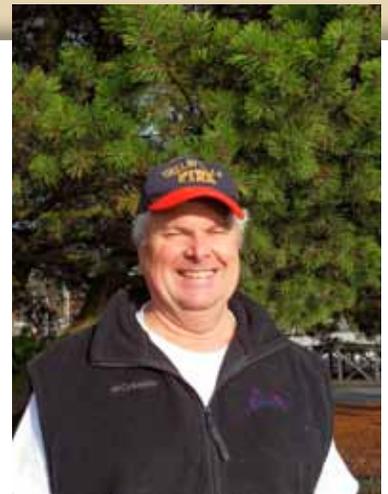
## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: RUSSELL WATTS Wastewater Treatment Magician

Colorful is an understatement when referring to Russ Watts, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. In his 45 years of being in the wastewater treatment operations business, he's seen it all—some good, some not so good. The business itself is not glamorous, but vitally important and surprisingly technical. The bottom line for Russ is, he loves the work and is happy in his job.

At age 20, he began his career at US Filter, a wastewater treatment plant in Vancouver. He earned a Level 3 certification—the equivalent of a Wastewater Treatment Operations Masters, and after a long career, moved to the Port. Russ now runs the Port wastewater treatment plant. Between he and operator-in-training Ryan Goodwin, they work 365-days-a-year ensuring the plant meets state compliance requirements—which Russ is quick to add, they always do.

Russ has been married for 45 years. "My wife chased me through high school, so we're really working on 49 years," says Russ. "We have two kids and three grandchildren." Time off doesn't look like time off for Russ. He works plenty of overtime, but when he can, he squeezes in travel with his wife.

As an expert in his field, he's dedicated to running operations like a Swiss clock at the Port.



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**Methanol Manufacturing Facility Update**

The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) for the proposed construction and operation of the Kalama Manufacturing and Marine Export Facility was released by the co-lead agencies, Port of Kalama and Cowlitz County on August 30, 2019. Following the release of the FSEIS, Cowlitz County officials affirmed their prior decision to approve permits for the project in a letter to the Washington Department of Ecology. On October 9, Ecology responded with a request for additional information.

The FSEIS includes robust scientific analysis and consideration of mitigation for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions attributable to the project and identifies any changes to the project design that might affect conclusions in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

The project’s groundbreaking mitigation plan voluntarily offsets all in-state GHG emissions from the facility. The plan also creates partnerships with stakeholders and experts in GHG mitigation and

climate impacts to implement the program. The mitigation plan, along with displaced emissions from alternative methanol technologies, would significantly reduce global GHG emissions.

The FSEIS also contains responses to substantive comments received during the comment period.

The FSEIS is available for viewing and downloading at: [kalamamfgfacilitysepa.com](http://kalamamfgfacilitysepa.com).

Visit our website for the latest developments on this project.

