



## Port Commissioner Passes Away

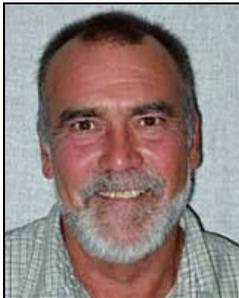
**Bingen, Washington** – Port Commissioner Rodger Ford unexpectedly passed away April 18, 2010, in his home outside Lyle, Wash., at the age of 55. His family will be holding a Celebration of Life potluck at his home at 495 Fisher Hill Road in Lyle on Saturday, April 24, starting at 11:00am.

Ford represented Commissioner District #2 encompassing the communities of Appleton, Dallesport, Klickitat, Lyle, Murdock, and Wahkiacus. He had been involved with the Port since the mid-90s when he served as an advisory committee member. He was elected to the Port Commission in November 2001 and reelected to a second term in November 2007.

### At A Glance...

**Who:**.....Commissioner R. Ford  
**What:**.....Passed away at 55  
**When:**.....April 18, 2010  
**Where:**.....Lyle, Wash.  
**Quick Facts:**.....Port District Commissioner Rodger Ford passed away unexpectedly at the age of 55. He had served on the Port Commission for just over eight years.

“This is a tragic loss for the Port, for our community, and for the County,” said Marc Thornsbury, the Port’s Executive Director. “Rodger was dedicated to the long-term success of the Port, understood its potential to improve the lives of local residents, and had a clear vision of what it should become. On behalf of the Port Commission and its staff, I extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to Rodger’s family and friends. Klickitat County is a better place because of his contributions and he will be greatly missed.”



In addition to serving on the Port Commission, Ford owned and operated R & M Game Birds, provided bird management services to the Columbia Gorge Regional Airport, was involved with the SR-35 Bridge Crossing project, and served seven years as the representative for Washington ports on the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) board. He was a strong supporter of regional economic development and a champion of Klickitat County.

In accordance with state law, the Port Commission will appoint a replacement to serve until a commissioner is selected in the November 2011 election. The elected commissioner will then serve the remaining two years of Ford’s six-year term. Individuals located in Port Commission District #2 who are interested in serving are encouraged to contact the Port at 509-493-1655 or [port@portofklickitat.com](mailto:port@portofklickitat.com).

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### About the Port of Klickitat

Economic development, transportation, and marine-based recreation are key functions of the Port of Klickitat. These are achieved through leasing industrial-zoned property, developing and renting industrial and commercial facilities, developing and maintaining rail spurs and dock facilities, assisting companies with an

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interest in locating in Klickitat County, creating and managing marine-based recreational facilities, and working closely with various partner organizations and agencies.

The Port of Klickitat is located in Klickitat County, Washington and was created in 1944. It is one of several port authorities located in the mid-Columbia region. It owns two industrial parks and several buildings, leases industrial property and space, operates a barge dock, and holds property set aside for a park and marina. Transportation access is provided via rail, river barge, highways 14, 35, and 197, and Interstate 84.

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