



March 2014

Employee Feature

MITTELSDORF WELCOMES NEW CHALLENGES DAILY

Recruiting industries to Morrow County was not Lisa Mittelsdorf's career plan after completing college, but it's a job she's happy to be doing.

As the Port of Morrow's economic development director, Mittelsdorf's job brings on a new challenge every day. She works with site selectors, state economic development groups, land leases, property exchanges, grant writing and legislation just to name some of her duties.

[Read the rest of the story here.](#)

PORT COMMISSIONER WINS BUSINESSMAN OF THE YEAR

Joe Taylor of Double T Farms recognized at banquet

Port commissioner and Boardman farmer, Joe Taylor, was recognized by the Boardman Chamber of Commerce as businessman of the year.

Taylor has been a Port of Morrow commissioner since 2005 and runs Double T Farms with his brother Rod.

Taylor also serves as treasurer at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, is active in Kiwanis and participates in many community projects and events. He chaired the Halloween Trick or Treat last year.

Joe and his wife Cheryl have two teenage daughters. He is also active in his daughters' school activities. Last year he participated in the Ford Foundation Morrow County Leadership Program and is working with the group to build a new pavilion at Marker 40.

Pastor Paul Berthelot presented Taylor's award during the Boardman Chamber's annual banquet Feb. 7 at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center. Taylor recognized his brother, wife and daughters during his acceptance speech at the event.



SAGE CENTER MOVIE NIGHT

Frozen

The SAGE Center's monthly movie night is featuring *Frozen* March 21 at 7:15 p.m. and March 22 at 2:15 p.m. Admission is \$3 for students and seniors and general admission is \$5. Moviegoers also get a free bag of popcorn with admission to the movie. Hope to see you there! [Click here for more information.](#)



PORT COMMISSION NOTEBOOK

Keeping readers up to speed on commission activities

The commission notebook is here to help keep people informed regarding the commission's activities. As a public commission, we want to be open and transparent regarding the commission's activities.

Port of Morrow Commission meetings are held on the second Wednesday each month at 1:30 p.m. at Riverfront Center, 2 Marine Drive, unless scheduled otherwise. The next commission meeting is scheduled for March 18 at 1:30 p.m. at Riverfront Center. [Read this month's notebook here.](#)

MISSION TO WASHINGTON

Port manager, commissioner go to D.C.

General manager Gary Neal, and port commissioner Don Russell are heading to Washington, D.C. this week to meet with Oregon legislators.



The trip is made annually with the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association to update lawmakers on local issues and to seek federal funding for infrastructure projects. Russell and Neal will be in the nation's capitol for five days.

[Click here for information on the mission.](#)

General Manager: Gary Neal

Editor: Anna Aylett

Port Commissioners:

Don Russell - President

Joe Taylor - Vice President

Larry Lindsay - Secretary/Treasurer

Jerry Healy - Commissioner

Marv Padberg - Commissioner

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Employee Feature (cont.)

A Boardman native, Mittelsdorf started with the port in the summers during college answering phones and performing other clerical duties.

“The port called me and asked if I would be willing to start working on some special projects,” Mittelsdorf said. She started out working on projects like the Morrow Re:Port and other work, which has turned into an over 20-year career at the port.

Now she is happy with the choice she made to stay with the port. Her job keeps her on her toes with the goal to bring business to Morrow County.

“The most challenging part is trying to put all of the pieces together on a project,” she said. “And figuring out how to tackle a tough issue.”

Most projects require figuring out the perfect timing, compiling the right information, working with government agencies, and working with a variety of people in general. After all of that leg work, the most rewarding part is seeing a project come to fruition, she said.

Mittelsdorf has and still serves on a variety of advisory boards and committees. She has served on the statewide Public Ports Association board, various review committees, Team Oregon — a group working to recruit food processors, manufacturers, data centers, warehousing, solving logistics problems, and conducting studies.

Port Commission Notebook

During the last regular commission meeting, Feb. 12 at Riverfront Center commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution to assist with short-term financing on a Bonneville Power Administration bond.

Mission to Washington (cont.)

The pair and others with PNWA will meet with lawmakers from Oregon, Washington, and Idaho as well as other federal agencies and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Neal said ports in the Columbia-Snake River System, some coastal ports go to request assistance through dredging, locks and other navigation maintenance. Participants in the delegation ask for help with issues ranging from jetties at the mouth of the Columbia River to help with transportation issues on the Puget Sound.

For the Port of Morrow, Neal said they will focus on talking about infrastructure development and the importance of making federal investments on public infrastructure projects. Those projects also help keep waterways open and facilitate international trade. The Port of Morrow plays a role in international trade as an exporting region, which is by and large supported by agriculture. He said the Port of Morrow delegation will also meet with Oregon congressman Greg Walden, Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley.

Neal has participated in the Mission to Washington for 34 years.