

# 2019 WHO'S WHO

Community Yearbook  
and Business Reference



A SUPPLEMENT TO THE  
NISQUALLY  
VALLEY NEWS

Who's Who  
Person of the Year – Tenino Mayor Wayne Fournier

PAGE 3

# Table of Contents

Allstate - Ronelle Funk Insurance	4	Lotus Integrated Health	10
Budget Blinds	4	NVN - Brad Brewer	11
Bliss Experience	5	Prairie Lanes	11
Blue Waters Acupuncture Center	5	Yelm Area Chamber of Commerce	11
Premier Collision CARSTAR Yelm	6	Walt's Point S Tires	12
Funtime Toys & Gifts	6	Yelm Family Medicine	12
DC's Treasures	7	Yelm Dental	13
Hometown Property Management	7	Yelm Gymnastics Center	13
J&I Power Equipment	8	Yelm Farm & Pet	14
John's Finish Line	8	Yelm Storage	14
Terry Kaminski	9	Yelm Prairie Dental	15
Leavitt Orthodontics	9	Wellspring	
Jerry's Color Center	10	Integrative Wellness Center	16

*Best of*  
**NISQUALLY**

2019

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VALLEY NEWS

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Here!*

Categories will be  
Announced on September 5, 2019  
in the Nisqually Valley News &

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Nominations:

September 5 - 18

Voting:

September 25 - October 19

Winners will be Revealed on November 14

NISQUALLYVALLEY.COM/BESTOFNISQUALLY

# 2019 Person of the Year — Wayne Fournier

Tenino Mayor Wayne Fournier estimates he works up to 50 hours a week at his job as a firefighter in Aberdeen.

So how much time does he spend conducting mayoral business?

“All the rest of it,” he replied with a laugh. “It’s not something you can turn off.”

Fournier’s dedication to his duties as the chief executive of this town of about 2,000 people has helped lead to a municipal renaissance of sorts, the rebuilding of an image once tarnished by infighting and a controversial mayor known for making headlines for all the wrong reasons.

Elected mayor in 2015 following the topsy turvy tenure of Eric Strawn, who resigned under a cloud of contention, and a short stint by Strawn’s replacement, Bret Brodersen, Fournier has helped guide the city to a more peaceful and prosperous time.

He’s quick to note he’s not responsible for all the progress, just one cog in a larger machine. But there’s no debating many facets of the current era of advancement wouldn’t be in the works without the 39-year-old mayor at the helm.

For that reason, the Nisqually Valley News has chosen Fournier as its 2019 Person of the Year.

## A Remarkable Year

As a matter of practice, local governments must lobby the state Legislature for funding for local projects. Most of the time, some receive funding and others are placed on the backburner.

Not so in Tenino.

In fact, the city’s full legislative agenda was funded by lawmakers this year.

That includes \$550,000 for the renovation of Tenino City Hall and \$1.5 million for capital and construction costs linked to the planned Southwest Washington Regional Agricultural Business and Innovation Park.

Along with that, the Legislature also fully funded a \$3 million grant to Puget Sound Energy for a solar micro-grid project in Tenino.

The Tenino Innovation and Education through Renewables project received national recognition this year in the form of the Visionary of the Year Award presented by the Smart Electric Power Alliance.

Lawmakers also funded a \$3 million grant request by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife toward the purchase of the Alpacas of America Farm.

“These are all things that are tied together in a harmonious way,” Fournier said in April. “These are all projects designed to set Tenino up for the next 50 or 60 years.”

These projects are being pursued alongside others also funded by sources other than the city’s own limited coffers.

A Community Development Block Grant of \$350,000 will go toward renovating the historic Tenino Quarry House, which was originally the quarry office and headquarters of Tenino Sandstone Company and has been in the city for over 100 years. It is now used as a community center in Tenino City Park.

“A commercial quality kitchen, introduction of broadband internet and restoration of the original wood and stoneworks are the primary focus of this project,” Fournier said at the time. “Tenino has



Jared Wenzelburger / For Nisqually Valley News

Tenino Mayor Wayne Fournier stands on the steps of city hall.

been extremely fortunate this past year, and we intend to maximize these grant dollars in order to provide our citizens with facilities they can enjoy for many years to come.”

Meanwhile, a \$215,000 grant from the county will lead to improvements at the town’s beloved Quarry Pool.

Last November, the city celebrated the completion of a new county-funded Veterans Memorial Wall in Tenino City Park. More recently, a bicycle plaza has been installed in the park.

“It took a while to learn how to make the budget work for the city and not be afraid of it,” said Fournier, noting the importance of pursuing grants as well as state and county funds when pursuing local projects.

Tenino recently spearheaded a feasibility study to determine whether local governments could work to extend the Yelm-Tenino Trail.

On the residential front, there’s a 30-house development set to be constructed in Tenino this year.

“That’s more development

than Tenino has seen in my lifetime,” Fournier said.

The list of improvements and projects goes on and on.

“This stuff we have on the table, it took four years,” Fournier said. “Now it’s about solidifying the work that’s been done ... Cementing the legacy will be the goal moving forward.”

## Tumultuous Beginnings

Fournier, a Tenino native, was first elected to the city council in November 2011. His political rise came at the same time as the town’s new mayor, Eric Strawn.

To understand the tenure of Strawn one must only look at a list of newspaper headlines that marked his time in city hall:

- “Controversial ‘Mayorjuana’ T-Shirt Keeps Eyes on Tenino”
- “Tenino Mayor Accused of Sexual Activity in City Vehicle”
- “Tenino Resident Reports Trespassing, Theft Allegedly Committed by Mayor”

Continued on PAGE 15

## ALLSTATE

### Ronelle Funk Insurance

Wouldn't it be great to have your very own personal insurance agent to make sure you are protected?

You can at Ronelle Funk's Allstate Insurance office. Ronelle and her agents answer the phone during business hours and you never have to listen to a another phone tree again.

Her office wants to know you and your family to make sure your insurance meets your needs and protects you from financial loss. Ronelle is the past-president of the Yelm Chamber and would love to help you if you have a small business. Ronelle's Allstate office offers home, auto, motorcycle/boat, renters, landlord, business, life insurance and retirement services.

Ronelle's office is located in Prairie Plaza on Creek Street next to the Yelm Post Office.

Come by today for a free, friendly comparison quote and see how much her office can save you on your insurance!



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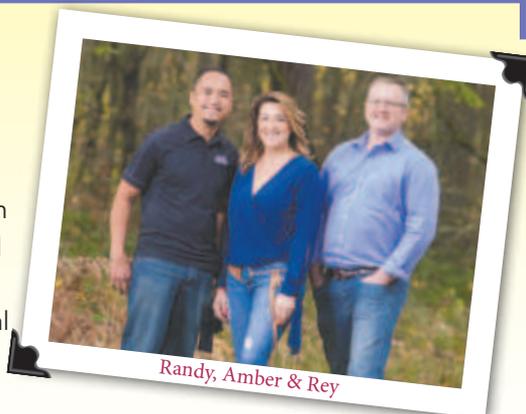
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## BUDGET BLINDS

Service doesn't get any more customer-oriented than with Budget Blinds in Yelm. Owner Amber Snaza and her team Randy Utting (sales consultant) and Rey Pinlac (installer) bring the showroom to their customers, guiding them through the process of selecting from fine window coverings, including draperies, blinds, window film and shutters all at excellent prices. In addition to the large selection of brands and styles, customers receive in-home estimates professional measuring and installation. Amber said we likes to take time with our customers to ensure they get the right covering for each window. "Function and fashion should always go together."



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## BLISS EXPERIENCE

Bliss Experience was created in April 2012 and opened their doors in their current location in Roy in June 2012.

Bliss Experience Salon and Spa was created to be a beautiful experience that one can go and be pampered, enjoy self care and let the world's worries slip away. Our goal is to serve our community in a way that no salon ever has before. I personally have been in the industry now for 20 years and have worked in 3 other salons. One thing I noticed is that we take care of so much of the community and they take care of us by supporting us and, in turn, helping us grow. I want to give back to the community, be involved and keep that community circle thriving. Bliss Experience just celebrated our seventh year of being open and I couldn't be more proud of our team. Our current staff of 12 women strive to continue in education, utilizing classes from Aveda and many other industry resources. Education is very important to continue to evolve with our industry's ever changing trends.

Our promise to the community is to create exceptional services and experiences, a place to relax and get away for just a little bit.

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## BLUE WATERS ACUPUNCTURE CENTER

Dr. Mike and his wife Edith have been operating in Yelm since May 2010. We are honored to effectively help a growing number of people in our community and surrounding areas using a medicine that has been successful for thousands of years.

Dr. Mike is Nationally Board Certified by the NCCAOM in both Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine. He has an extensive Chinese Herbal Dispensary and can effectively help a variety of health concerns.

Having had an educational background as an MD in internal medicine, Dr. Mike is uniquely qualified to assess the potential strengths and weaknesses of both medical disciplines to determine if our treatment is a good fit or not. (He is licensed only as an Acupuncturist in WA State)



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## PREMIER COLLISION CARSTAR YELM

Premier Collision Carstar is a locally owned and operated business with expertise in auto body repair. It has been a part of the community since opening in 2017.

"We are proud to be members of the Yelm community," owners Sadie and Matt Earsley said in response to questions from the Nisqually Valley News.

The business employs a family-oriented crew of seven employees.

Premier Collision CARSTAR Yelm offers free estimates for a full menu of collision repairs including painless dent repair, storm damage repair with anytime accident and towing assistance. They work with most insurance companies, offer financing options and rental car assistance.

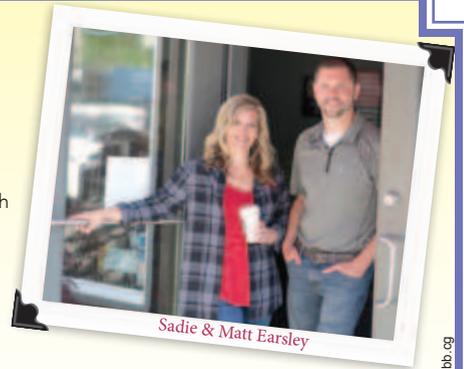
Matt Earsley knew while he was still a teenager in Lacey that he wanted to be in the auto body business.

When he was 21 years old, he approached the owner of Gorder's Auto Repair in Yelm looking to buy it, but the shop wasn't for sale. The couple started their family and moved to Yelm. Earsley, meanwhile, built his skill set at various shops in Olympia and Tacoma and it wasn't long before he bought his first CARSTAR franchise in Tacoma in 2007. He and wife, Sadie, "kicked, scratched and clawed" their way into that first shop, he told the NVN in 2017. They bought their partner out five years ago and Sadie assumed the duties of payroll, human resources and bookkeeping for the

Tacoma store.

The opportunity to buy the Yelm shop arose in 2016 and the Earsleys jumped on it to open their second CARSTAR franchise store, the 25th in Washington.

103 1st St. N., Yelm • Office: 360.458.2599 Fax: 360.458.3814 • [carstarofyelm@carstarusa.com](mailto:carstarofyelm@carstarusa.com)



Sadie & Matt Earsley



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## FUNTIME TOYS & GIFTS

Heather Ekland has been in the online toy business for 13 years with Freedom DaySales. This year, she expanded her company to include a store named Funtime Toys and Gifts.

Ekland said she's a toy seller because she has always loved kids. She has homeschooled all of her children and loves to see how kids learn and grow.

"I love kids, and I've always loved kids," Ekland said. "They are uninhibited ... Kids see something in us that we can't give expression to anymore, because we've lost it.

Kids just see the 'wow' everywhere, and I just really love that about them."

She plans to open the store up regularly for parent-child craft days, times when the parent and child can spend quality time together doing something creative.

"When you make something, you do something together — you make memories," Ekland said. "Memories are really important, especially when a child is grown. They will remember mom spent a half hour with me and we made this together. The memory is in them, and that is what's really important."

In addition, the store intends to be a destination for gift-givers. It offers free do-it-yourself gift wrapping, and Ekland will wrap presents herself for a fee.

The whole idea for the company came about when Ekland was taking some business classes and decided to launch a website to sell toys.

"I started with just selling things online," Ekland said. "I started with eBay, then picked up Amazon and then had my own website."

Against the odds, that website, [freedomdaysales.com](http://freedomdaysales.com), took off, and Freedom Day Sales became an established company.

Lately though, Ekland said that Amazon has become more difficult to work with, so she was looking for other options. That's when the opportunity to lease the space on First Street presented itself.

Ekland said that her inventory is set, and she has plenty of toys waiting in the wings from her storehouse used by the online portion of the company.

Funtime Toys and Gifts' regular hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, unless otherwise posted.

Ultimately, Ekland said that she's an entrepreneur because if she weren't so busy, she wouldn't feel like herself.

"I like challenges," she said. "I can't just be. I have to be doing something. I would be bored if I wasn't constantly doing something. If I don't have 10 balls in the air, I feel like I'm missing something."

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[www.funtimetoy sandgifts.com](http://www.funtimetoy sandgifts.com)

\*One Per Customer & Restrictions Apply

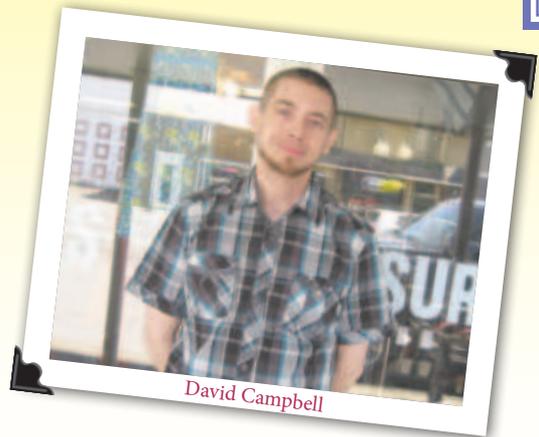
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## DC's TREASURES

DC's Treasures in Yelm isn't your typical thrift store. Instead, you'll find a treasure trove of new and used items in great condition. Owners James and Melynda Campbell decided they would take their talent in purchasing storage lockers and holding yard sales and transform it into a business. They've been open for more than eight years and going strong. DC's is located on Yelm's main street, near the intersection of Yelm Avenue and First Street.

New stock, great prices and lots of inventory!

Whether you're looking for tools, kitchen items, clothes, crafts, linens, home decor, games or books, you'll find what you need at DC's Treasures.



David Campbell

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106 Yelm Ave. E. • Yelm • 360-400-4184

## HOMETOWN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Hometown Property Management, Inc. is the region's leader in professional property management, providing professional services to residential property owners and home renters in Thurston County for over 20 years.

### HISTORY

In 1998, Hometown Property Management started out with a portfolio of approximately 40 properties. Today, they manage over 1,200.

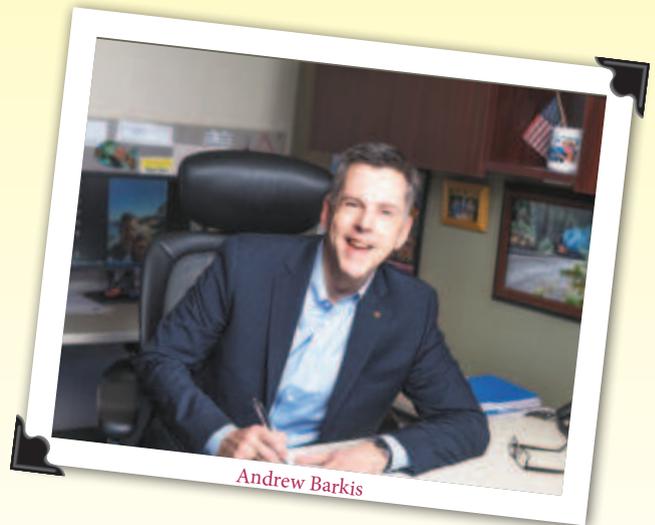
"One of our keys to success is that we are integrated into the community and very active participants in community service and giving back," said Andrew Barkis, who co-owns Hometown along with Rob Rothwell.

In fact, in March 2016, Barkis was appointed Washington State Representative for the 2nd Legislative District (Yelm) and in November 2016 was re-elected by popular vote.

### REGIONAL LEADER – BENEFITING BOTH OWNER AND RENTER – NOW IN YELM

Hometown also credits their success to their commitment to customer service for both property owner and tenant. "We've created an amazing program of Property Management/Customer Service that's unmatched in this area – probably in this region, focusing on single-family property management. And, we continue to grow," says Barkis.

In 2016, Hometown opened an office in Yelm!



Andrew Barkis

"The Yelm rental market is exploding," said Lori Delong, Hometown's Yelm Office Manager. "We're seeing a high demand for rental homes, and we need more inventory. It's a great opportunity for people who are considering an investment property or wanting to move into a bigger home."



CH600339bb.cg

204 E Yelm Ave. • Yelm • 360-955-5993 • [www.hometownpm.com](http://www.hometownpm.com)

## J&I POWER EQUIPMENT

J&I Power Equipment has been serving Thurston County since 1974. Their Yelm location recently relocated to 16510 106th Ave SE, The old Brown's Car Care building. They are proud to be celebrating their 13th year in Yelm.



J&I is family owned and operated.

You can meet the owners on any given day working in either location. Randy Longnecker and his daughter, Angela, manage their Yelm location while Lori Longnecker and her son, Greg, manage their Olympia location.

J&I's friendly staff pride themselves on selling quality equipment and providing excellent customer service. They only carry top-of-line products like Kubota, LandPride, STIHL, & Honda. J&I has a large stock of replacement parts and also services everything they sell.

Whether your needs are big or small, visit J&I Power Equipment today.

# J&I

*POWER EQUIPMENT INC.*

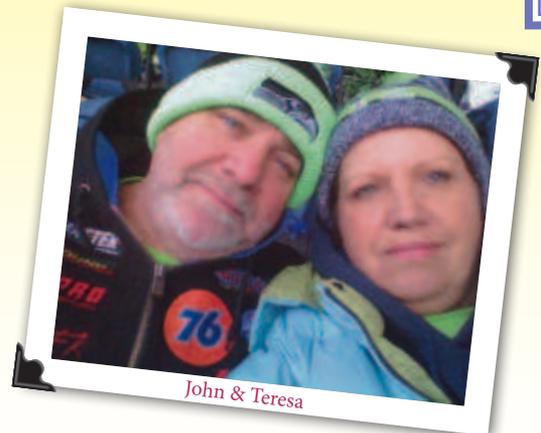
**16510 106th Ave S.E. • Yelm • 360-400-6000 • [www.jnipe.com](http://www.jnipe.com)**

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## JOHN'S FINISH LINE

Check out our "A+" rating with the Better Business Bureau where you will see there is no lack of experience/customer loyalty when it comes to John Mendes, owner of John's Finish Line... John has worked in the auto repair business for more than 40 years. He started in California in the early 70's, soon gaining expertise in custom exhaust for any make/model of any vehicle. John brought his expertise to Bucky's Auto Centers in 1994, where he worked as a single store manager, rapidly advancing to position of District Manager. He opened more than 12 stores throughout the Puget Sound Area for Bucky's.

In December 2005, John bought Bucky Austin's store in Yelm and the rest is history. John and his qualified technicians offer honest, dependable and affordable services, focusing on the customer's total satisfaction. John's Finish Line offers custom services on mufflers, brakes, radiators and suspension as well as complete auto repair-from start to finish. Get to know them and love them by stopping in for their always affordable oil/filter changes!



**109 93rd Ave. S.E. #A • Yelm • 360-458-3828**

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## TERRY KAMINSKI

Terry Kaminski has been a successful full time Realtor for 32 years. Currently the Managing Broker at Windermere Yelm, she continues to serve buyers and sellers in commercial and residential sales. A veteran of the industry, Terry says "Every transaction has a million moving parts, but navigating and facilitating this process to completion is exhilarating."

She still marvels at the synergy of putting people and properties together. After having lived most her life in a big city, Terry says working in a small town makes doing business extra friendly, very personal and extremely rewarding. Completely committed to community service, Terry serves on the Board of Directors for both The Yelm Area Chamber of Commerce, Bounty for Families and was elected last year to Yelm's City Council.

"I am proud to live and work in Yelm and contribute all I can to our beautiful city!"



*Terry Kaminski*

  
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## LEAVITT ORTHODONTICS

Leavitt Orthodontics has a fun and friendly atmosphere; Dr. Leavitt and his team work hard to make sure that every patient feels comfortable and welcome at every visit. The office is beautifully decorated, warm and inviting. Take the first step toward that beautiful smile you have always wanted and call today for your free consultation.

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## JERRY'S COLOR CENTER

For more than a decade, Jerry's Color Center has been Your Hometown Paint Store.

Owner Jack Besaw opened his Yelm paint store in 2006. Pittsburgh Paints is the main paint line. Other features include PPG Proluxe (Sikkens), pressure washer and airless spray rentals, paint brushes, tape, paper, wallpaper borders, wallpaper books and "just about any imaginable item you would need to paint with," Besaw said.

Besaw is a fourth-generation painter who has worked in the industry for 39 years. He was an outside sales representative for a few years but knew it would be fun to own his own store.

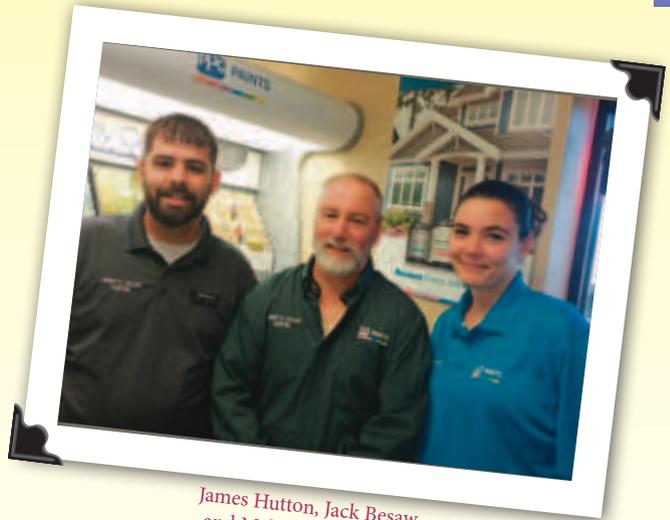
"In 1999, I had that chance when Jerry Scherer from Jerry's Color Center in Centralia asked me if I would like to buy his store," Besaw said. "I've been going strong ever since."

Jack and his team try to be an extension of their customer's family and friends.

"The great thing about being in Yelm is the small-town feel and we strive to talk openly and honestly about paint," Besaw said. "Personal relationships are what our business is all about. We won't try to sell you what you don't need or what won't work."

Jerry's Color Center is competitive in price with big-box stores. Besaw works with his suppliers to get the lowest possible prices while maintaining quality products; he passes that savings on. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

**401 Creek St. SE • Yelm • 360.400.3067 • [www.jerryscolorcenter.com](http://www.jerryscolorcenter.com)**



*James Hutton, Jack Besaw  
and Makenzye Ganwich*

CH600326bb.nk

## LOTUS INTEGRATED HEALTH

Offering alternative health care via acupuncture and Chinese medicine, massage and hyperbaric oxygen therapy, Lotus Integrated Health is a fully integrated clinic to help one achieve their health goals.

Owner Emma Ferguson opened the business July 1, 2016. Lotus is open by appointment Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and closed Sunday. Walk-ins are welcome. Ferguson originally went to college to be a naturopath. She studied both disciplines and fell in love with acupuncture and Chinese medicine.

"At Lotus Integrated Health our staff aim to provide you with the ultimate healing experience. From the front desk to our practitioners, we are committed to providing the latest professional treatments available," according to the company's mission statement. "Our team recognizes that every person's health needs are unique. You will enjoy our friendly staff and the relaxing atmosphere will maximize your healing experience. We believe that the power that made the body can also heal the body. Given the right treatment and lifestyle advice, you can achieve 'Radiant Health' — health that is beyond the threat of disease." Owning a business is rewarding. "The way to the future is overcome (challenges) one at a time," Ferguson said. She advises entrepreneurs to treat others the way you want to be treated and love your staff.



*Emma Ferguson*



Lotus Integrated Health

**Well Spring Plaza • 9144 Burnett Rd. S.E., Suite B-1 • Yelm • 360.400.5800**  
**[www.lotusintegratedhealth.com](http://www.lotusintegratedhealth.com)**

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## NISQUALLY VALLEY NEWS

### BRAD BREWER

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advertising needs!

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## PRAIRIE LANES

Founded in 1967, there are simply no other entertainment venues that offer everything provided by Prairie Lanes.

From bowling and parties to fundraisers and group events, Prairie Lanes has a lot to offer the community.

"Yelm Prairie Lanes offers our community and surrounding communities with a comfortable, affordable, exciting environment," the business told the NVN.

"Everything from open bowl, sanctioned league, fundraisers, reunions and parties for any occasion. We have a diverse menu and a full service bar. Come in and let us be your first choice for family outings, date night and just good old fashioned fun!"

There's so much happening at Prairie Lanes, it's important to keep an eye on their Facebook page for offers ranging from \$14 unlimited bowling and Military Night to the Super Sunday Special and \$2 Tuesday.

The business also offers sensory friendly bowling, bumper bowling and more.

As the business declares online, Prairie Lanes is a "place to eat, drink, party, bowl, meet and have fun in an environment with music, lights and bowling. Prairie Lanes employs nine local residents.

**202 E Yelm Ave. • Yelm • 360-458-2695**



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## YELM AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The 2019-2020 Yelm Chamber Board of Directors invites the business community to grow with us! We host networking events every Friday, and on the fourth Thursday of the month. Join us on the second Tuesday of each month for our Chamber Forum & Luncheon.

Active in the community, we host the Nisqually Valley Home & Garden Show in April, the Nisqually Valley BBQ Rally in July, and the Best of Nisqually Gala in November. See us downtown Yelm for the Prairie Days Parade and Christmas Parade.

Your Yelm Chamber of Commerce is led by President Angie Evans, Prairie Hotel; President-Elect Dan Nicholson, D'Zines Creative Solutions & Graphics; Treasurer Jane Walker, Olympia Federal Savings; and Past President Denise Hibbeln, Prairie Park. Board Members include Ben Ontiveros, Easthaven Villa; Brian Wharton, Yelm Community Schools; Joseph Richardson, Yelm Prairie Christian Center; Matthew McLellan, Edward Jones Financial; Steele Clayton, State Farm; Terry Kaminski, Windermere Real Estate, Tracey Wood, Mr. Dougs Restaurant; Tracie Choate, Re/Max Northwest. Line Critchfield is the Executive Director.

**608 East Yelm Ave. • Yelm • 360.458.6608 • [www.yelmchamber.com](http://www.yelmchamber.com)**



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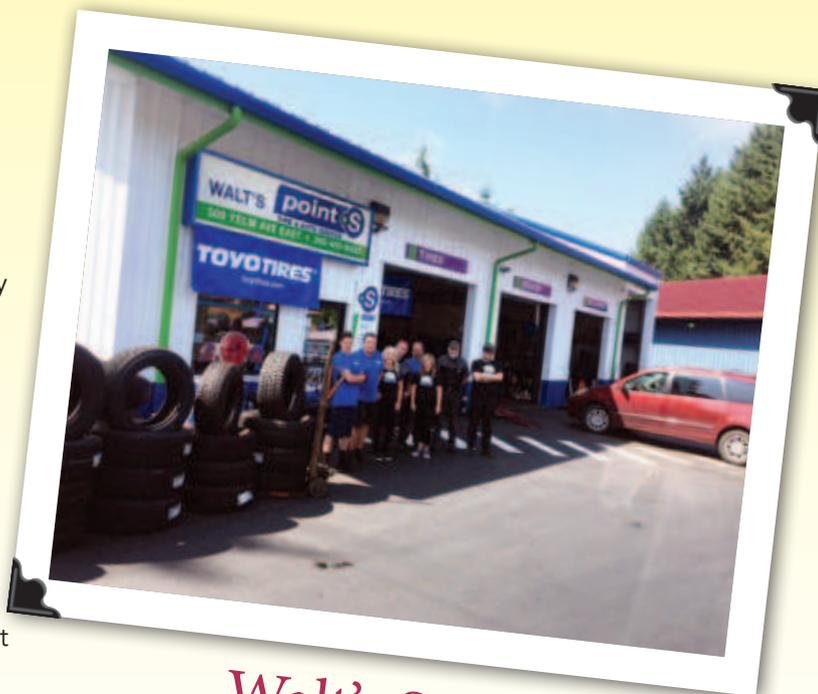
## WALT'S POINT S

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Proud to be a Christian run business.



*Walt's Staff*



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Yelm, WA  
60-400-WALT (9258)

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## YELM FAMILY MEDICINE

Yelm Family Medicine, PLLC opened in 1979 as Nisqually Clinic serving as the Yelm community's primary health care provider for thirty seven years. Yelm Family Medicine continues to provide a full spectrum of primary and urgent care for children and adults, specialty referrals and referral to other medical services. Evening and weekend hours help with the mission to provide the highest quality of medical care to the Yelm community for years to come.



YELM FAMILY MEDICINE, PLLC

201 Tahoma Blvd. S.E. Suite 102 • Yelm • 360-458-7761 • [www.yelffamilymedicine.com](http://www.yelffamilymedicine.com)

CH600335bb.tk

## YELM DENTAL

We would like to introduce our new doctor, Mackenzie Wood. Here's a little bio about her:

"I grew up in Olympia, WA and absolutely love the beauty of the PNW. When I am not treating patients you will find me spending time with my husband, Paul and all of our family. I enjoy outdoor activities such as running, hiking and skiing. I've completed several half marathons and am looking forward to my next challenge. I look forward to meeting all the wonderful patients at Yelm Dental."

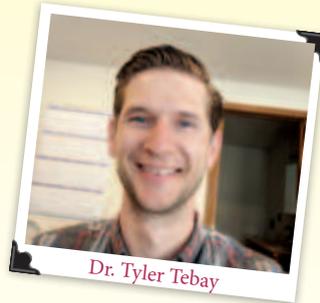
### MEET OUR WORK FAMILY



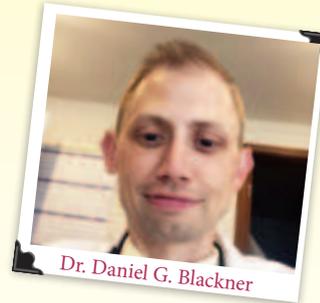
Dr. Mackenzie Wood



Dr. Stephen E. Smith



Dr. Tyler Tebay



Dr. Daniel G. Blackner

### CAN YOU TELL WHO'S WHO 20 YEARS FROM NOW?



360.458.5606 • [www.yelmdental.com](http://www.yelmdental.com)  
718 Yelm Ave. W., Suite 3



CH60033bb.cg

## YELM GYMNASTICS CENTER

The Yelm Gymnastics Center has been a community staple since the early 1990s, with the current owners at the helm for the last six years.

One of the owners, a local school teacher, wanted to own and operate Yelm Gymnastics Center as a way of giving back to her community while providing proper training as a gymnast.

To understand the contributions of the business, you have to think beyond gymnastics.

The Yelm Gymnastics Center offers toddler and preschool classes, cheer class, Street Movz class, an after school program, day camps, open gyms, adult fitness classes, accelerated gymnast programs, academic preschool and much more.

In all, the center employs about 40 people, with the majority of the coaches attending or recently graduated from area high schools.

The focus is to provide good examples to the children of Yelm and beyond.

"We believe at Yelm Gymnastics Center that our staff can be positive role models to the children of our community," the owners wrote to the Nisqually Valley News. "We like to keep each course full of fun-filled exercise while educating the children with the fundamentals of gymnastics. Our philosophy is that every child can gain physical, mental and emotional strength through our gymnastic classes."

The Yelm Gymnastics Center encourages readers to bring this advertisement in for a free open gym.

307 Creek St. E. Suite C • Yelm • 360.400.1988



CH600341bb.cg

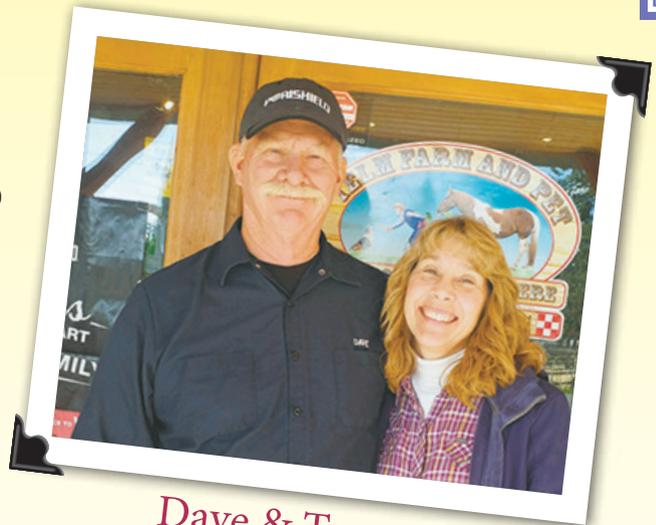
## YELM FARM & PET

Did you know that Yelm Farm & Pet is still a family owned "mom & pop" that's been voted multiple years, including the last seven, for Best Feed Store in Yelm?

Our knowledgeable staff strives everyday to provide friendly customer service aimed at meeting your needs, with more than 50 years combined experience. If we can't answer your question, we will try to find the answer. If we don't stock your product, we will special order it. We also carry a full line of holistic and grain-free pet foods and treats, as well as non-GMO and organic feeds.

Yelm Farm & Pet is not just a feed store. The employees are involved in their community and the store actively gives back through donations to a number of local fundraising events. Plus ... Yelm Veterinary Clinic holds a low-cost vaccination and microchipping clinic (call the store for dates and times).

Watch our Facebook page and website for additional activities and sales at Yelm Farm & Pet. If you haven't stopped by lately, come in on Saturday morning and enjoy a donut on us. We thank you and appreciate your continued business and support.



Dave & Tammy

## VALLEY WATER SOLUTIONS

Well supplies, well pumps, pressure tanks, gauges, water filters, water softener systems, pvc fittings, irrigation supplies and more! Water testing on Thursdays and Fridays between 9-4.

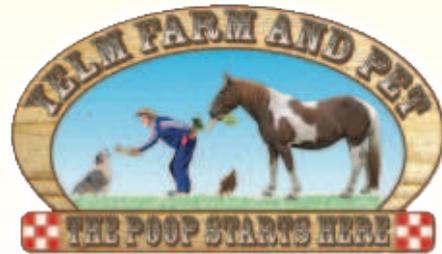
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**Valley Water Solutions**

**209 Yelm Ave. W**

**360.915.8360**

**360.359.1016**



**11242 Bald Hill Rd.**

**Yelm, WA**

**360-400-4141**

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## YELM STORAGE

### Haul It – Or Store It!

Yelm Storage and U-Haul is close to town, located one mile from Safeway between five Corners and four Corners on Bald Hill Road. Larry and his cat Zaboo offer customer-friendly service and convenience seven days a week.

We "go the extra mile for our customers" by catering to the individual's needs. Call us for boxes and packaging materials, rental trucks, trailers and auto-transport. Secure facilities provided by locked gates, electronic surveillance and resident managers.

Yelm Storage offers ...

Boxes & Packing Materials • Authorized U-Haul Dealer  
Boat – RV – Vehicle Storage • Covered & Uncovered  
6'x8' – 12'x28' UNITS • Heated Storage Available  
Boxes of all sizes and a variety of packing materials

**11321 Bald Hill Road S.E. • Yelm • 360-458-2111**



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# YELM PRAIRIE DENTAL

Yelm Prairie Dental provides a real home feel for a dentist.

That's partly because of the location, a 1920s house that provides a warm and welcoming ambiance for customers.

Dr. Matthew Lesh purchased Yelm Prairie Dental in November 2017.

"We are so happy to be part of your community and are pleased to be able to offer our expertise when it comes to your health and wellbeing," Lesh said.

The business employs a dentist, two dental assistants, a hygienist, a patient coordinator and an office manager.

Lesh and his wife Kris had been looking for a practice in a small town when they found Yelm Prairie Dental, the told the NVN last year. "We wanted something that was more of a small town feel," Lesh said. "We looked at the area and fell in love with it."

While Dr. Lesh is the sole practitioner, Kris handles the business side of the dental clinic, particularly the advertisements. She designed the sign in front of the business.

Prior to the move to Yelm they lived in Adna, just west of Chehalis. Lesh went to school in Portland at Oregon Health and Science University School of Dentistry. After living in the city for several years he knew that life was not for him.



202 1st St S. • Yelm • 360-458-7645 • [www.yelmprairiedental.com](http://www.yelmprairiedental.com)

CH0034bb.nk

Continued from PAGE 3

- "Tenino Mayor's Latest Comedy Performance Doesn't Amuse Councilors"
- "Tenino Mayor Silent on Alleged Theft of Prank Sign"
- "Tenino Councilor Claims Mayor Became Violent"
- "Tenino City Council Accepts Ethics Task Force Findings, Looks to Charge Mayor Strawn"
- "Tenino Citizen Task Force Requests Official Investigation Into Mayor's Incident"

Fournier emerged as one of the most vocal critics of

Strawn's behavior at the time. Strawn eventually resigned in 2013 and was replaced by Brodersen. Fournier challenged Brodersen in 2015 and won.

So what does he think about all the drama that preceded his tenure?

"I think it was part of a process to get us where we are today," Fournier said.

Fournier recalls that, prior to the Strawn era, there was a tendency to avoid the media when it came to city matters.

As mayor, he's conducted himself in the opposite fashion, reaching out to reporters to

announce projects, promoting the city on social media and acting as the face of local government.

"You have to put positive news out there or someone else will fill the void," Fournier said.

Fournier, who is running unopposed for a new term, points to other newsworthy happenings in the Stone City as examples. He recently provided a key to the city to Adam Craig, who has raised \$100,000 for local causes through the Four Square Mile Music Festival. In 2017, he and other divers took a plunge in the Quarry

Pool, swimming to the bottom in scuba gear as part of a television news feature. When a local family was victimized by hateful graffiti, he was among those offering a swift helping hand to erase the damage.

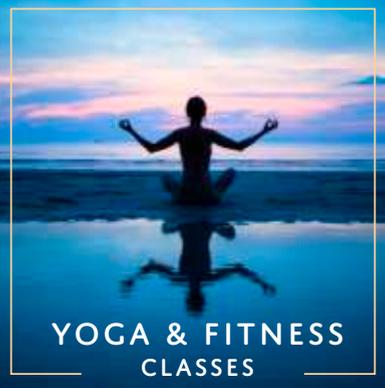
Despite all the projects, the community efforts and the municipal advancements, Fournier notes that he's not universally beloved in Tenino. Popularity isn't what drives him, though. It's the progress.

"There's dissent still," Fournier admits. "It's not La La Land, but we've done really well in the last four years."

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