

NISQUALLY VALLEY
2019

HOME & GARDEN SHOW

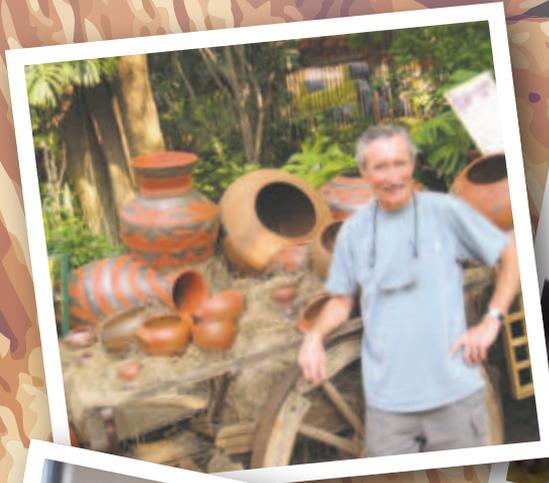
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Yelm • Rainier • Roy • McKenna
Chamber of Commerce



A supplement to the
NISQUALLY VALLEY NEWS

APRIL 27 - 28 • YELM HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS

Get Ready for Another Great Home Show

BY LINE CRITCHFIELD

*Yelm Area Chamber of Commerce
Executive Director*

With familiar favorites and a slew of brand-new vendors, the 2019 Nisqually Valley Home and Garden Show is this spring's can't miss event.



This two-day event brings about 100 vendors to one place, for a genuine one-stop shopping experience for attendees. Here, show-goers can cross everything off their list: mortgage solutions, home decor, roofing help and honey!

Making their Nisqually Valley Home & Garden Show premiere this year will be

Konnex WA. They will be on hand both Saturday and Sunday, offering a hands on painting demonstration and even giving attendees the opportunity to create home decor for themselves! Sign up online at Our Home Show Facebook page! Home Depot will also add to the excitement for kids with a "Do It Yourself" project on Saturday.

Prairie Street Rod Association will be revving up the excitement on Saturday with a Show-N-Shine Car Show. Take a look at popular cars, from 1950s classics to the modern day sports cars. Stay for the awards ceremony at 1 p.m. and see if your favorites will be taking home a trophy, or the especially-coveted Mayor's Choice and Chamber of Commerce Choice awards!

All that shopping is bound to leave

a stomach grumbling, which is why we encourage our participants to grab lunch while they're at the show. The Rotary Club of Yelm will be back in the concession stand serving show favorites including nachos, chili dogs, and cookies and candy bars if you're nursing a sweet tooth. Steele Barrel BBQ will be outside slinging barbecue for lunch. If you're in the mood for Mexican food, swing over to Tacos Gaby's taco truck for one of their signature burritos.

But the show's icing on the cake will be Sunday at noon when we hear "ooh, la, la!" echo down the halls from our celebrity guest Ciscoe Morris, a perennial favorite. We are excited to have him back for the second consecutive year. He'll be sharing gardening tips and tricks, stories, and will be answering questions from the

audience.

I want to express a special thank you to the sponsors of this year's show. We couldn't put on a show of this magnitude without their generous support and partnership. I especially want to thank our partners at the Nisqually Valley News. Other sponsors deserving of our thanks include our Platinum sponsor America's Credit Union, and silver sponsors Consolidated Communication. Our gratitude also goes out to Yelm Community Schools, Costco of Lacey, KAYO Radio and the City of Yelm.

As always, there is no admission charge to get into the show, and parking is free. With lots of giveaways from the vendors, the Nisqually Valley Home and Garden Show is a great way to spend your weekend.

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Rod Association to Show Cars at Home Show

BY DANIEL WARN

dwarn@yelmonline.com

Classics, favorites and hot rods will trundle their way to this year's Nisqually Valley Home and Garden Show for a car show put on by the Prairie Street Rod Association.

The car show will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, in the parking lot directly in front of Yelm High School.

All proceeds will go to the support of Yelm Area Chamber of Commerce.

"The neat thing about this particular show is all the public that comes to the Home and Garden Show," said Marcia Horler, secretary with Prairie Street Rod Association. "A lot of them like to go through the cars that are parked and talk to the owners. That makes it really fun."

This kind of car show, with people coming and going from the rest of the Home Show's offerings, is a great way for Prairie Street Rod Association to get its name out there, and it gives the association's members an excuse to interact with other car people, not to mention the public.

But this specific car show doesn't come without its drawbacks, being so early in the season.

"It's really dependent on how good the weather is," Horler said. "Last year, we had really bad weather and we didn't get many cars."

However, she said that even with last year's show only drawing about 15 cars, people were abuzz with compliments, saying the car show at the Home Show was a favorite of theirs. One reason for this is because the Home Show has so many other activities, that when participants get bored of sitting next to their cars, they can peruse the rest of the offerings.

In addition, Prairie Street Rod As-

sociation welcomes all people with a car they'd like to show off, within reason.

"There's a lot of local people who have cars not necessarily in Prairie Street, but have cars and that's what they like to do — to take them out and let people see them."

It's these types of people that Horler and company are trying to attract, not just some guy in an SUV.

At the beginning of the day, Prairie Street Rod Association will register all vehicles for \$20 and by the end of the day, it will have all contestants judged and

ready for trophies. Popular awards include best in show, the mayor's choice, participant's choice and best car of each decade.

"The neat thing is they don't all look alike," Horler said. "In today's day you go out in a parking lot and they're all the same.

Different brands, but they all look alike. These cars are all different. Back in the day, that was what the manufacturer did — make different cars to compete with others. As a result, you've got a wide variety of looks, of color. That's what makes the car shows."

Horler said there can be a dozen Ford trucks from the 50s and they will all look different.

She also said that, in general, the amount of brands to see can be surprising. Oftentimes, brands that don't even exist anymore will roll on in for a show, she said.

"Like, I love a Packard," Horler said. "My parents had one when I was a little, little child. And every time I see one, it brings back those kinds of memories. For those that are old enough, that's what happens, but for younger generations, it gives them an idea of what we used to drive — of how sporty it was, or how neat it was versus the SUVs and the sedans that are out there now."

Ultimately, Horler said that this car



A closeup look on show participant Mary Johnson's 1929 Ford Pickup's engine.



Daniel Warn/Nisqually Valley News

Nancy Barth shows off her 1967 VW Double Coffin at the Prairie Street Rod Association Show-N-Shine car show last year.

show is an event where anyone can find something to enjoy.

"You don't have to be a car enthusiast to appreciate what you see," she said. "It's not like you see them anywhere else. You

don't see them on the streets every day. They're something different and people seem to enjoy just looking at them. So if you've got a car that's a little different, then, yeah, bring it."

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Home Show to Offer Paint and Sip Both Days

BY DANIEL WARN

dwarn@yelmonine.com

Konnex WA will be at Nisqually Valley Home and Garden Show to teach two different paint and sip sessions.

While there may not be wine or beer available, the art classes will still be in full swing. Paint and sip is essentially an art class where an artist, like Konnex owner Rikki Bommersbach, demonstrates each step of a painting or art project to a group of people while they mimic her movements.

“Basically, if you’re nervous about trying paint and sip, just give it one shot,” she said. “Most people actually love it and tap into a creative side of themselves that either has been pushed down, forgotten about or gets dusty as we get older. It’s a really fun way to belong to a group... Come and join us. Create with us.”

The first class will feature do-it-yourself home decor sign making at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, April 27, while the second event will cover the creation of a custom chalkboard featuring a “country bouquet” at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 28. No experience is required for either event.

“Both of those projects are geared for people that are coming to the Home Show to be able to leave with something they can actually use at home,” Bommersbach said. “They are not just your typical canvas art that you will be hanging up. It will be a little bit more usable.”

Visit discoverkonnex.com to purchase tickets for \$35 a class. A portion of every ticket sale will go toward the Yelm Chamber Foundation.

Arriving at the Home Show is directly in Konnex WA’s wheelhouse.

“Konnex is your typical paint and sip studio, besides the fact that we are completely mobile,” Bommersbach said. “So



Photos by Daniel Warn/Nisqually Valley News

Jillian Cummings follows directions on how to paint a flower in Konnex WA’s paint and sip class that was held in Tumwater.

we don’t actually have a studio, which allows us a huge range of clients that we can work with. We go all over the Puget Sound... We go to peoples’ houses, we partner with different venues in local areas and we do events there that are open to the public. We do kid’s events. We do fundraisers. Basically, if it has to do with painting, creating, having fun, we’re there.”

Bommersbach originally started paint sip classes in Minnesota before she moved out here, but out there the industry wasn’t as established. She had to spend much of her time explaining what the activity even was to people, let alone teaching them to paint.

Yet painting wasn’t always in Bommersbach’s repertoire.

“I’ve always been crafty,” she said. “But I didn’t start painting until I was

about 20. I was actually really nervous to start painting. I did everything else but painting, and I was terrified of it. Well, someone gave me a canvas and I was like: ‘Well, I’ll try it.’ I liked it and I never stopped. Now I paint every day.”

Bommersbach said she loves to participate in the arts, that paint and sip activities give her an outlet, not just as a participant of the arts, but as a guide.

She said she loves sparking the inspiration of others, and hearing that they went home after a class and tried painting on their own.

“It is a super, fun way to be involved in the arts and to share my art with people in a different way,”

Bommersbach said. “It’s not just me saying, ‘here’s what I painted,’ it’s showing them something they can paint with my help.”



A participant of Rikki Bommersbach’s paint and sip class follows directions to paint a flower.

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Yelm CTE Bring Spring Festivities to Nisqually Home and Garden Show

BY ERIC ROSANE

erosane@yelmonline.com

Clubs and programs from Yelm High School will be bringing some fun activities and inquisitive shop-made products for attendees of all ages at this year's Nisqually Valley Home and Garden show. Regardless of your budget, Yelm's CTE programs will offer a fun activity for you.

Dozens of students from multiple clubs will be on the show floor engaging the community and showing skills they've learned within their programs. Those involved include students from the high school's Future Business Leaders of America, DECA, sports medicine, Stem Club, FFA, publication and theatre programs.

Teri Pablo, director of Yelm's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, said these activities are provided by student volunteers within these programs looking to give a little back to their community, while at the same time learning skills that can help them advance their education.

"They're learning a lot of those work-ready skills," Pablo said. "I think, one, is that you want to have students interacting with people they don't normally get to in the community."

While most of these CTE activities will be free, some will cost money and those funds will go back into these programs. Pablo said the funds raised from the CTE store will replenish material costs and FBLA will receive a small profit from the sales.



Students from Yelm High School's CTE programs create wire hangers around plants.

Yelm's FBLA club will host a CTE storefront center where students will sell floral arrangements and student-constructed fishing rods.

Students from the high school's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs will offer visitors personalized name-engraved keychains, while supplies last. This activity at the

Home and Garden show will be free of charge.

Pablo said these examples of activities are reflective of the interesting technical skills students are learning in their classrooms. By having them present at the Home and Garden, students gain that personal aspect of business.

And having the students interact with the other students and the community is the key part.

"Not everything has to be sold," Pablo said.

Yelm's FFA program (Future Farmers of America) will offer a fun activity for kids of all ages. The club will offer an ice-cream cone seed planting station. You'll walk away with an ice cream cone made of dirt — Careful! It's not for licking — and with a little water and TLC, students will have their very own green sprout fueled from the sugars

Tornado Joes will also make a comeback, hosted by Yelm's DECA program. Coffee, water and snacks can be bought by attendees of the Nisqually Home and Garden show.

"Sometimes even the adults in our community don't realize what our students are learning," she said. "It's engaging kids in various activities — some-



Photo courtesy of Yelm Community Schools

Activities are provided by the Yelm High School student volunteers within the programs looking to give a little back to their community, while at the same time learning skills that can help them advance their education.

thing they wouldn't normally see around school."

The Sports Medicine program will host a blood drive in collaboration with

Bloodworks Northwest. Activities hosted by CTE's publications and theatre programs were not available by deadline and were yet to be determined.



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Working With Mama Nature: *Ciscoe Morris Returns to Nisqually Valley for 2nd Year in a Row*

BY ERIC ROSANE
erosane@yelmonline.com

This year's winter onslaught which brought on "Snowmageddon" did not treat gardeners well. As spring develops, and as winter weather sees itself out, growers will revisit their gardens frustrated, exacerbated and bitter at what has happened to their dearly beloveds.

But not Ciscoe Morris.

Continued on PAGE 7



Photo Courtesy of Ciscoe Morris

Gardening expert Ciscoe Morris is an avid traveler and has spoken at garden and trade shows all around the Pacific Northwest. "I learn so much answering garden questions," he says. "I learn from people as much from them as they do from me. It's always a give and take situation."



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Continued from PAGE 6

Just when the worst seems to approach his garden, the Seattle-based garden guru takes a lighter approach. Some patches of grevilleas and schefflera were the notable deaths he tallied in his own garden that bit the winter bullet. He said losing plants can sometimes be a blessing in disguise because it gives the caretaker a chance to reimagine the potential in and around their garden.

And that's just part of what Ciscoe will offer attendees during his Sunday, April 28 talk at noon during the Nisqually Valley Home and Garden Show — ideas and inspiration.

This year marks the Wisconsin native's second consecutive year at the Nisqually Valley show (in year's past, Ciscoe has graced the humble show every other year). And, boy, is it an important year to have him back.

"This is a good year for me to come back because momma nature beat the living tweedle out of our gardens this year," Morris said.

The topic of Ciscoe's talk this year is "Fun Ideas For Your Garden." Along with his talk, Ciscoe also plans to take some time out to give away plants, Gardening with Ciscoe shirts and talk with local gardeners about what achievements and challenges they're encountering here in the southern Puget Sound.

"I learn so much answering garden questions," he said. "I learn from people as much from them as they do from me. It's always a give and take situation."

In order to take home one of these pieces of Ciscoe memorabilia, the audience will need to answer a questions that, well, Morris says tends to really trip people up.

"These throw people into fits of nervous anxiety," he said.

Ciscoe said he also doesn't plan on just talking about fun gardening ideas. This year, he said he's planning on bringing some very practical tips on gardening and getting prepped for the spring transition into summer.

Attendees will learn how to prune their hydrangeas, roses and learn when to trim those pesky, yet beautiful rhododendron — which Ciscoe recommends holding out until spring, when the flowers begin their full bloom — in order to get the maximum amount of beauty out of their gardens and plants.



Photo Courtesy of Ciscoe Morris

Oohs, aahs and orchids! Don't miss Ciscoe Morris's talk at noon Sunday, April 28 at the Nisqually Valley Home, Garden and Trade Show.

"We just wack em back down to the ground... so I'm going to give tips like that to make their hydrangeas elegant and beautiful," he said. There will also be brief talk on how to replace those plants that might not have been so lucky this year.

Ciscoe also said he plans on talking with Home Show attendees about planting and cultivating blueberries and tomatoes, which he said right now is the perfect time to start planting. The last few weeks, Ciscoe said he's been "planting like crazy" in his garden. Some of those plants include raspberries and blueberries, and he encourages people to get to hands-on with their trowel as soon as possible.

"If you've got anywhere you can put a pot, you can grow blueberries," he said.

Oh, and don't forget the bird netting. "Otherwise you're going to have chubby bird and not many berries," Ciscoe said with a jubilant chuckle. Blueberries, he said, are a great way for a beginning gardener to get into the business of things.

When I asked Ciscoe about what tips he has for the new gardener or the person who's thinking about taking the leap into the vast world of horticulture, he said it's important to practice patience and take failures as they come. "I believe the person who has murdered the most plants is the true garden expert... If you look at it as a learning experience rather than a failure, then you're going to start loving it more and more."

He said he's seen many people get too

invested into their gardens just to have most of them dead by next year. It's important to roll with the punches and enjoy the little things that gardening has to offer. And what better place to do it — Ciscoe, an avid world traveler, said some of the best gardening is done right here in the Pacific Northwest.

By making gardening more of a joyful experience, and by the careful practice of patience, caretakers will learn that what they put into the soil and roots of their greenery will give back just as much to themselves as they gave to it.

"If you find gardening to be fun, it's not going to be complicated," Ciscoe said. "I think the key is to work with momma nature."

SHOW MAP

EXHIBIT HOURS

SATURDAY, APRIL 27
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



SUNDAY, APRIL 28
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

OFFICIAL SHOW SPONSORS:



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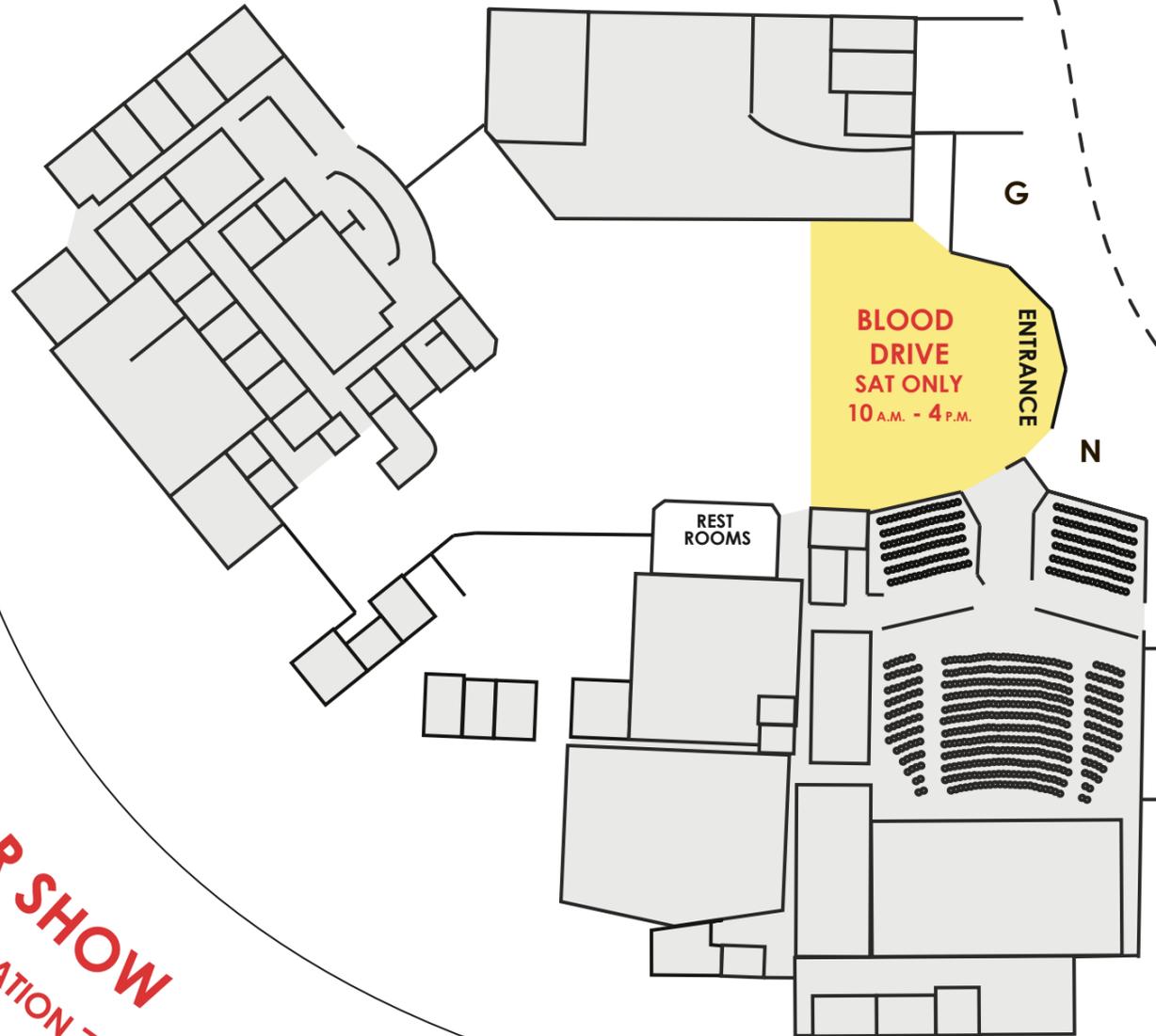
GUEST PARKING

MAIN ENTRANCE

SAT. APRIL 27 • REGISTRATION 7:30-10:30 A.M.
JUDGING 11 A.M. • PRIZES AWARDED 1 P.M.

CAR SHOW

VENDOR PARKING



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ENTRANCE FROM CAR SHOW

F														
E														
D	Booth A	Booth B	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74		
	29	30	31	32	33	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64
	38	39	40	41	42	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
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H	Booth C													
I														
J														
K	REST ROOMS													
SUN: CISCOE NOON														
Main Stage Sponsored by:										MAIN STAGE				
KONNEX WA PAINT DEMO														

*Vendor Key on Pages 10 & 11

VENDOR PARKING

HOME & GARDEN SHOW EXHIBITOR LIST

COMMONS ~

Blood Drive 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Saturday Only

OUTDOORS ~

Rotary Club of Yelm
Veterans Lending Group
Drain-Pro Inc
Steele Clayton State Farm
J&A Italian Furniture
Yelm Comm. Schools-CTE
Kimballs Ranch
Steele Barrel
South Hill RV Sales
Tacos Gaby
Home Depot Kids Workshop

GYM ~

Consolidated Communications
Nisqually Valley News
Rotary Club of Yelm
Ronelle Funk, Allstate Ins.

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1		

HOME & GARDEN SHOW EXHIBITOR LIST

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**Some vendors registered after press deadline*

Search For Natural Remedies Prompts Start of Business

BY MEGAN HANSEN

mhansen@yelmonline.com

For Neisha Wittstruck, the creation of her business Buttons Soap Co. was derived from need and passion.

The need to find natural remedies for personal skin issues and the passion to find answers and help people.

“I do this because I just really enjoy it,” Wittstruck said. “You’re constantly learning something new. I like to do the research. I really like making things that are purposeful, not just pretty, but purposeful.”

For Wittstruck, her journey into skin products was out of necessity. Having suffered from Type 2 Rosacea for years, she found herself without the prescription she’d been using for years.

So rather than fighting with insurance and providers, she started researching essential oils and other natural elements

that could help her.

The solution, she said, was tea tree oil. From there her curiosity grew and she began looking at making other natural products for herself and her family.

And thus the start of Buttons Soap Co. Through her business, Wittstruck offers all-natural products that just about anyone can use. From soaps to shampoos and conditioners, to conditioning bars and all in one body wash, Wittstruck has just about any product you can think of.

“It’s still always a learning process,” she said. “It’s the mixing, making sure you have the right ratios.”

Her bath bombs are made of epsom salt and the children’s bombs are made of cream of tartar so they’re not too harsh on fair skin.

“Everything you see, I can use,” Wittstruck said. “I have sensitive skin, so just about anyone can use these products.”

In many cases, the products she cre-



Photo by Megan Hansen/Nisqually Valley News

Neisha Wittstruck stands with a display of products she makes through her business, Buttons Soap Co. This will be her first year at the Home Show.

ates are just the delivery system for the elements.

You’ll find her bath bombs filled with whole ingredients like lavender and rosemary.

“I’m anxiously waiting for dandelions to start popping up,” Wittstruck said. “I like to add as many natural elements as I can.”

And she always uses food or cosmetic grade ingredients.

Wittstruck also doesn’t mind sharing her knowledge. She’s done parties where

she’ll teach everyone how to make their own bath bombs.

“Soap is one of those things, it’s personal,” she said. “It’s a time when you can pamper yourself.”

She said she tries to use environmentally sound and sustainable ingredients and processes, which make products last longer.

“I use a lot of raw, local honey.”

Check out Wittstruck’s booth, appearing for the first time at the Home Show.



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CH88-474R-N

J&A Makes Furniture From Wine Barrels

BY DANIEL WARN
dwarn@yelmonline.com

For those wondering what happens to wine barrels when they're emptied, all they have to do is visit J&A Italian Furniture's booth at The Nisqually Valley Home Show for an answer.

Joseph Dallas spent 30 years in the Army, and while he was stationed with his wife in Italy, he purchased some fine wooden furniture from a man named Armando, who was known to make much of his items with the wood from wine barrels.

"I asked Armando if he would teach me, and, reluctantly, he said yes," Dallas said. "He got me interested because he's a lifetime craftsman, from generations of craftsmen. He's a true master. They don't use nails. Everything is put together without nails. I do use nails. I use nails and screws — I'm not at Armando's level. He's like the Yoda of woodworking."

So Dallas learned how to make furniture with used wine barrels, but instead of importing them from Italy, he uses barrels from right here in Washington state.

"I buy retired wine barrels, which are called 'retired' when wineries no longer use them" Dallas said. "I buy them from Yakima wineries and make furniture from them."

A good example of how he makes his furniture, is he cuts into a wine barrel and uses each portion for a different piece.

"For a coffee table and the wine bar, I cut a wine barrel in half, and then I add and cut to make the furniture."

No scrap goes unused.

In fact, Dallas's wife, Angie Dallas, uses all scraps for other projects, like making pens or wine stoppers.

She's also a talented wood turner, using a lathe to hollow out bowls at a speed of 1,100 RPMs.

She got into wood turning as a retire-



Photo by Daniel Warn/Nisqually Valley News

Joseph and Angie Dallas show off the furniture that they make for their company, J&A Italian Furniture.

ment hobby, and the craft sort of took over a good portion of her free time.

"So when we moved to Washington, I looked up a class and got into it," Angie Dallas said. "I've just been crazy obsessed with it ever since."

At the home show, one of her wood-turned pieces will be available for raffle to benefit Yelm United Methodist church's quest to replace its flooring.

"One of the things that we are doing at the Home Show is I have made a special tray that is going to be part of a raffle at \$10 a ticket, which is a small fee, compared to what the platter is valued at," Angie Dallas said. "I mean it's a rare find, a special piece of wood. If you think about it, a \$10 raffle ticket for a platter that is

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worth a minimal of \$250 is well worth it. It's spalted cherry, so it's a really special find. We're really excited about it."

In addition, Joseph Dallas was a wood-worker in his own right before beginning his tutelage under Armando, working with the medium for about 20 years on his own. When he and his wife finally retired to the Yelm area, they began J&A Italian Furniture from a workshop in their garage, where the business is still operating from.

He makes pub tables, wine bars, coffee tables, and more, while she makes bowls, lamps, vases and other wood-tuned products.

Typical pricing is \$320 for a coffee table and \$280 for a wine bar.

"What we try to do is make beautiful, quality furniture that will last a long time at a reasonable price," Joseph Dallas said.

"We want them to have a little bit of Italy in their home." Angie Dallas added.

For those interested in custom furniture, visit J&A Italian Furniture on Facebook and place an order, or attend the Nisqually Valley Home & Garden Show on from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 27-28 at Yelm High School.



A pub table that Joseph and Angie Dallas make for their company, J&A Italian Furniture.



Photos by Daniel Warr/Nisqually Valley News

Angie Dallas displays the coffee table that her husband, Joseph Dallas, made for their company, J&A Italian Furniture.



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Finger-Licking Good Food to Satisfy the Appetite

Checking out all of the vendors at this years Nisqually Valley Home and Garden Show is sure to fuel your appetite, lucky for you several vendors will be available.

Steele Barrel BBQ Company

New this year, Yelm insurance agent Steele Clayton will be bringing his newest enterprise a BBQ catering company to the home show. Clayton, who's known for his BBQ chicken at other community events, will bring several tasty BBQ options including that famous chicken along with some other side options. Stop by his outdoor location to see what he's cooking up



Coffee and muffins will also be served in the morning for those who show up early.

Similar to last year, the Rotary Club will sell raffle tickets for \$5 with a variety of prizes. Prizes include a set of Adirondack chairs, a 32" flat-screen TV and a garden package. The drawing will be Sunday and winners need not be present to win. All proceeds will benefit their various community projects and programs.

Tacos Gaby

Yelm Mexican restaurant Tacos Gaby will be on hand with their usual taco truck fare. Their menu is filled with unique Mexican flavors; favorites include tortas, tamales and quesadillas.

High School are only a few of the many service projects that the Rotary Club of Yelm can be found doing. During the show, Yelm rotarians will be found selling food and raffle tickets at their booth.

They will offer two meal deals: a hot dog, chips, two cookies and a drink for \$5 or the same combo with a chili dog for \$6. Everything will also be served individually, as well as nachos, popcorn and candy. Prices range from \$1 to \$3.50.

Yelm Rotary

Student of the Month, 12 Weeks of Summer and the snack program at Yelm

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*Class is based these models: Polaris Ranger XP 900, John Deere XUV835M & Kawasaki Mule PRO-FXR. The handling comparison was performed on the FSAME SKIDPAD course in gravel conditions. ©Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2019.

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