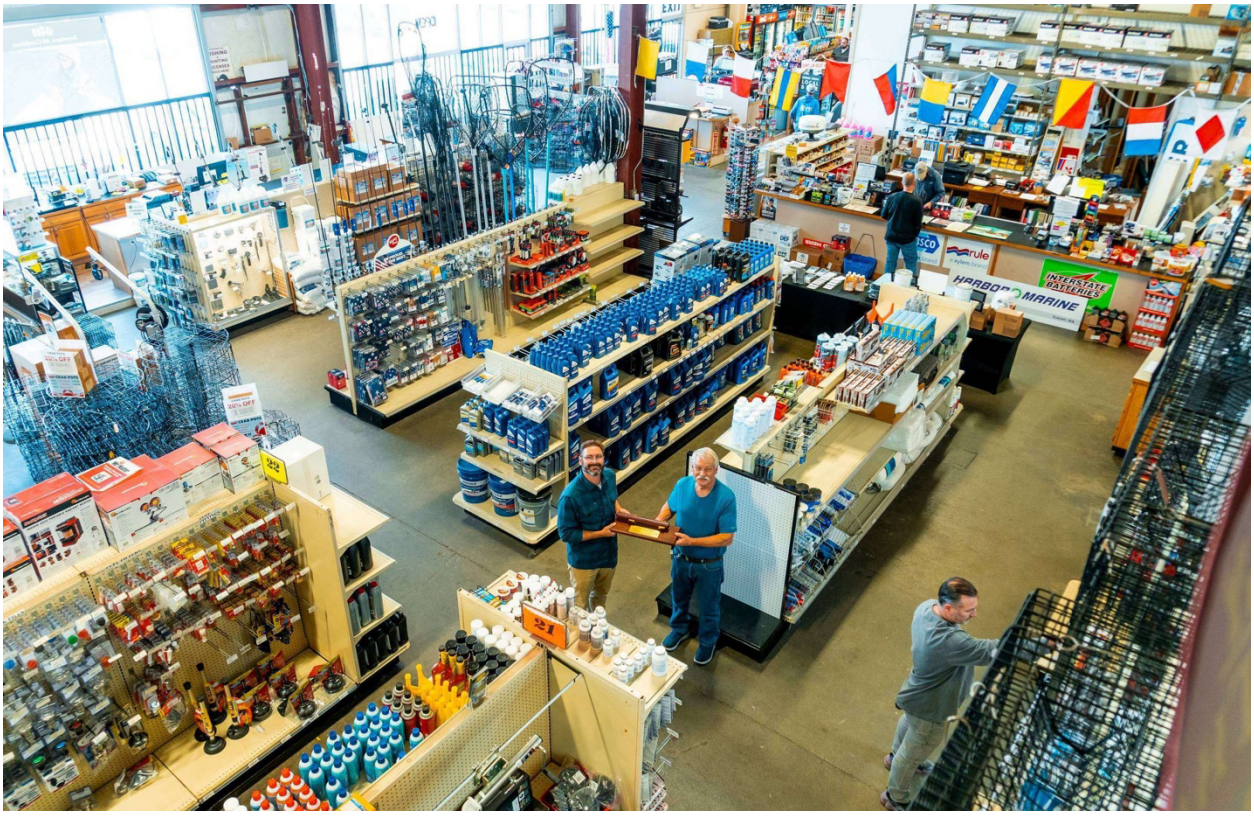
HARBOR MARINE FOUNDER HANDS THE BATON TO NEW OWNER AFTER NEARLY 50 YEARS AT THE PORT OF EVERETT'S WATERFRONT PLACE

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Steve Carver, left, takes the baton from Harbor Marine founder, Lauren Bivins, who will be retiring in three years after opening the marine supply business at the Port of Everett in 1979.

EVERETT, WASH. – After nearly 50 years of serving the boating community at the Port of Everett and beyond, Harbor Marine founder Lauren Bivins is handing the baton to a new owner, Steve Carver, who plans to continue the legacy of the longtime marine supply business.

On Aug. 11, the Port of Everett Commission authorized a new 12-and-a-half-year lease with Northwest Marine Services for approximately 56,000 square feet across two Harbor Marine buildings; the new lease began Sept. 1. Steve Carver is the CEO of Northwest Marine Services and bought Harbor Marine.

Carver said he plans to operate Harbor Marine under the same name, and that the business will continue to offer marine service and repair, maintenance, supplies, and light grocery retail services to the boating community. Bivins will remain involved in the business for the next three years to help ensure a smooth transition before retiring to spend more time with his family.

“Harbor Marine has been a valued tenant at the Port for decades, and we’re glad that it will continue to be part of our waterfront community,” Port of Everett Commission President David Simpson said. “We thank you for the time you’ve invested in building up our community as you’ve built your business, Lauren, and we look forward to the ways it will grow under Steve’s leadership.”

Bivins started what would eventually become Harbor Marine in 1979 when he began servicing boats while working out of his truck at the Port of Everett Marina. The Port had recently built the South Marina basin – becoming the largest public marina on the West Coast – and Bivins decided to take advantage of the new opportunity to grow his business. He bought Northwest Marine Exchange, which was located in a building on 14th Street, and changed the name to Harbor Marine.

Harbor Marine moved to its current spot in the Port’s Craftsman District on 10th Street in 2010. Bivins said being in close proximity to the largest public boat launch in Washington state was the perfect location for his business.
“The foot traffic and the marina size helped my business grow and flourish alongside the Port,” Bivins said. “We feel like we’ve been a cornerstone for the boating community in Everett and beyond, and I am personally very grateful for our patrons support for our business and my family over the years.”



Harbor Marine founder Lauren Bivins, left, holds one of the many transmission parts that can be found at Harbor Marine while standing next to new owner, Steve Carver, right, who said he plans to continue the store's operations while adding new ideas of his own.

While Harbor Marine is a familiar name to local boaters, part of its business reaches far beyond the Everett waterfront. A significant portion of the company's business comes from its marine transmission service, which includes new sales, repairs, and remanufacturing transmissions for customers around the world. The team specializes in Velvet Drive, BorgWarner, ZF Marine, Hurth, Paragon, Walters, Pleasurecraft, Twin Disc, Volvo Penta, Yanmar, and Kanzaki transmissions.

The transmission department at Harbor Marine acts as its own global gateway with pieces coming from all over the United States and as far away as Italy and Germany before they are shipped to places like Finland, Australia, Brazil, Belgium, or right here in Puget Sound.

“Name a country, and we’ve probably helped someone with a transmission there,” Bivins said.



Harbor Marine employees work on transmissions in the shop.

New owner Carver said he plans to continue operations at Harbor Marine while trying some new ideas such as an inventory website geared toward commercial operators and new ways to encourage young people to get on the water. Harbor Marine already supports the events Everett Coho Derby, Salmon for Soldiers, and Wheels on the Waterfront, and started new ones like North Sound Marine Expo, all of which are ways the team has tried to draw people to the waterfront.

“We need to engage the next generation, so they grow a passion for fishing and boating, and they keep the Marina full,” Carver said. “There is a lot of growth happening at the Port, and I want to build on what’s here at Harbor Marine and at the Marina.”

With more than 2,300 slips and 5,000 feet of guest moorage, the Port of Everett Marina presents an opportunity for boating and marine businesses to grow and thrive. Amenities like restaurants, shops, public spaces, and community events in the surrounding area at Waterfront Place also create a draw that further supports businesses like Harbor Marine.

MEDIA CONTACT: For media inquiries, please contact the Port of Everett Public Affairs team at publicaffairs@portofeverett.com.

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About Harbor Marine

Founded in 1979, Harbor Marine Maintenance & Supply is a Pacific Northwest marine parts retailer, wholesale distributor, and full-service repair facility located at the 10th Street entrance to the Port of Everett Marina and boat launch. The company specializes in marine transmission sales, service, and remanufacturing, and its 20,000-square-foot service shop repairs and maintains boats up to 60 feet, with a focus on inboard engines. Harbor Marine's retail store and online shop carry more than 70,000 marine parts and accessories from 183 brands, along with fishing tackle and gear, and its wholesale division supplies repair shops, boatyards, fleets, and mobile marine technicians throughout the region. Each spring, Harbor Marine hosts the North Sound Marine Expo, a free community event featuring top marine brands, educational seminars, and show specials for boaters and anglers. Harbor Marine is open seven days a week. Learn more at www.harbormarine.net.

About Port of Everett's Waterfront Place

The Port of Everett's Waterfront Place is a new 1.5-million square foot mixed-use development located on 65 acres at the waterfront near the downtown core in Everett, Washington. The development boasts spectacular views, waterfront access, recreational amenities, and a world-class marina – the largest public Marina on the West Coast – with 2,300 slips and 5,000 linear feet of guest moorage. At full build-out, the Waterfront Place mixed-use development will include 63,000 square feet (sf) of retail/restaurant space, another 20,000 sf of marine retail, 447,500 sf of office, two waterfront hotels, and up to 660 waterfront housing units. Featured amenities include new trails and regional parks, public gathering spaces, a variety of fine and casual dining, local shops, and marine sales and services. The project's expected $1 billion in public/private investment is estimated to support nearly 2,100 family-wage jobs and generate $8.6 million annually in state and local sales taxes. To date, the Port has facilitated more than $350 million in public/private investment here, with more to come. For more information, visit: www.portofeverett.com/wpc.