



THE HARDWARE HERALD

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BAD WEATHER & LESS FOOT TRAFFIC

can give a crew a little down time—*not our crew!* They've been busy improving our product mix for you. Slow movers must make way for what you need most. Here are just a few new Costco items, as always, at our fair prices:

- Kirkland baby wipes pack of 100 for \$3.33; case of 9 pks for \$29.97
- Kirkland generic Aleve 400 pills for only \$17.49
- Kirkland generic Tylenol Extra strength 500 ct (under 1/2 price) \$6.39
(The major brands are made in places like India and Puerto Rico while Kirkland's are proudly made in Allegan, MI, USA!)
- 2 lbs Kirkland Signature decaf fresh coffee beans \$15.99
- 3 lbs Kirkland Guatemalan fresh coffee beans \$20.99
(Attention food providers: Both are premium beans at off-brand cost.)
- Champion brand boxer underwear, 4 pairs only \$15.99
- Panasonic 1.2cf stainless microwave
- Pyrex glass storage bowls (buy them only once)



UPSTAIRS CLOTHING AREA

- Buffalo Plaid Thick Flannels, super comfortable \$29.99
 - Men's Puffer Jackets (the rage for last 6 months)—here at last... \$34.99
 - Premium warm flannel shirts only \$19.99
 - The best warm lined insulated vests \$29.99
- These fine clothes come with our new American Flag & Orcas Island Logo.



SOIL PRODUCTS BY THE TRUCK LOAD

They're here! New brands made fresh in Parker Washington! Great quality, fully guaranteed and way less money than last year. Plan ahead. Pick up ten bags off the pallet and get a 10% discount until the end of February. Oh yeah, you may buy more than 10 bags. On March 1, the sale ends but even at their regular price, they'll still be the best deal around.

SOME OF OUR CRITERIA FOR NEW PRODUCTS

- Is it geared toward islander's needs (not tourist)?
- Is it an everyday renewable staple?
- Can we price it right and still make a small margin?
- Will it save islanders trips to the mainland?
- Can we get it here efficiently & find room for it?

ORCAS VS MANHATTAN

According to the internet, Orcas Island is about 57 square miles with about 4,400 part and full time lucky residents. Manhattan Island in New York appears to be about 23 square miles. In 1910, it somehow held about 2.1 million residents! Today, it's leveled out to about 1.6 million folks making it their home. Based on Manhattan's figures, proportionately, our 57 square miles of ground could hold just under **4 million** residents! God forbid! *I hope not!!*



I'll bet you've been wondering about the wicked shop keepers whose S corporations will be receiving a sizable (I hope) tax cut this year. Well, your little Hardware will be passing on the employees' half when we get it—you can bank on it. Now... Come on the rest of you S Corps: Match or better my pledge. Let's show the island people who help support us that we care. If you do, we'll gladly list you in the Herald as an Island Good Guy if you wish.

Paul

On a shelf in my office is an antique 16mm, hand wind, motion picture camera. It was designed as a combat camera during World War II. It has three lenses: a wide angle, a normal, and a three power telephoto.

Alongside of that shelf, there are two filing cabinets full of six drawers of memorabilia of a lifetime spent skiing and filming. On top of the filing cabinets are half a dozen scrapbooks that were put together by my different secretaries who worked for me during the almost 50 years that I owned my own film company.

There are photographs of my two sisters and me on the beach at Topanga Canyon in 1929, photos of me and my 100 pound surfboard on the beach at San Onofre in 1940, and photos of Ward Baker on Thanksgiving day in 1946 at Alta, Utah, in front of our 8 foot trailer buried in snow in the parking lot. There is also a collection of the fifty different posters advertising the many feature films I was involved with in my five decades of wandering the world with a camera to document the white world above 6,000 feet.

This was during the time when mountains everywhere were awakening to the sound of diesel engines hauling steel cables up the hill with chairs hanging from them with each one holding someone with a long funny thing attached to each foot.

There are early photographs of wet, cold, hemp rope being dragged through the slush along with pictures of pioneers such as Dave McCoy building their rope tows.

Those were the good old days. They were good, old, and cold.

Safety bindings were in the distant future and a few hot racers were just starting to file away the sides of their skis so their edges would be offset. My antique camera started running in 1949 when there were only 15 chairlifts in North America. My skis were skinny, long, and made of very stiff laminated hickory. They cost \$19.95. My job was pretty simple. All I had to do was get in my truck that had a bed, a stove, and WAS a refrigerator, and drive to where there was a chairlift running or a mountain to climb and skiers to make turns for me.

On my many trips to Europe, it would be six long weeks before I got back to my office in Hermosa Beach, California, and could see the pictures I had taken. When I saw them, all I had to do was combine the footage into a cohesive sense of the annual visual history of skiing as it was unfolding, knowing all of the time that any one of a thousand things could have gone wrong during the accumulation of skiing history that is now contained in those filing cabinet drawers.

I started to slow down fifteen years ago when I sold my film company to my son, Kurt, and turned my creative direction to my newfound medium of expression: learning how to run a computer and of late, use an invention called Dragon Speak 10. I now can dictate the stories and watch my computer print them out as I dictate them. It's amazing!

Many people and businesses change forever because of a simple

event. Mine changed on the beach at Topanga Canyon in 1929. It had snowed about an inch the night before and as I walked barefooted in ankle deep warm ocean water, I stepped out onto the snow and a kind of visceral feeling happened that to this day is impossible for me to explain.

Why are all of my friends leaving the Pacific Northwest for Southern California and Arizona warm deserts while I am going to Montana for the winter where today the temperature was 25 below zero?

I often wonder if I had never taken that first ski trip in 1937 with my two dollar pine skis with toe straps what I'd be doing instead of spending every winter on the side of a snow-covered hill. This might be a good time to ask yourself, "What would you be doing if skiing had never been invented?"

My fun job now is to condense the six filing cabinet drawers full of memorabilia into my autobiography. The completion date will be when I get it done. In the meantime, there is almost 5 feet of snow at nearby Mount Baker, Snoqualmie Pass has more snow this early in the year than since Webb Moffett bought the resort for \$832 in the 1940's.

By the time you read this, Laurie and I will have packed up our trailer for a four month ski vacation and driven from our sanctuary here on an island to our sanctuary in Montana.

Treasure every moment of your life. Believe me, it goes by way too fast.

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5 CARDINAL RULES OF LIFE:

1) Make peace with your past so it won't disturb your present.	3) Time heals almost everything. Give it time.
2) What other people think of you is none of your business.	4) No one's in charge of your happiness—except you.
	5) Don't compare your life to others and don't judge them. You have no idea what their journey is all about.

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