



# THE HARDWARE HERALD

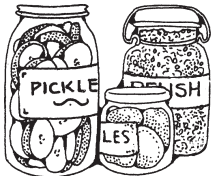
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## COME AND GET THEM WHILE YOU CAN ☺



The veggies and fruits are coming in hot, and canning jars are tough to come by still. We're able to get only a few different sizes — and forget about lids and rings!



Widemouth Quarts: .....12 ea .... \$17.89  
Regular mouth jars — Quarts .....12 ea .... \$16.99  
Decorative 8 oz jars: .....12 ea .... \$12.99  
Wide mouth jars, Amber Quarts (fancy!): ..... 4 ea..... \$12.49

## WHAT NEXT?

Did you ever think that the storm "Uri" in Texas back in February would still be rearing its cold heart? Well, Texas is one of the largest exporters of plastics, the nation's leading petroleum producer. The storm shut down the production of all polychemical products. That being said, have you tried to purchase a bucket, or caulking, or a 10' stick of electrical conduit, or any paint product lately? It's getting tough to source and just when we get it — WOW, holy second mortgage —look at the price!!

On the down side, the exterior paints are down to a limited amount at island Hrdware. Here's hoping it makes a turn before the weather does! Never fear, though, we've got you covered for the interior.

## WE STRIVE TO BE THE WORKING CLASS STORE

I have always felt superstitious about having a toaster that anyone could afford. For years I've felt that a brand new toaster for under ten bucks was a sign of good luck for the store. I know it seems a bit crazy. Well, sometimes, I had to pay more than ten dollars from my supplier and yet quietly offered it to you for less than ten bucks.

Say what you may, but this store and its employees have prospered beyond any of our expectations. Did the \$10 dollar toaster help? Probably not, but we're not taking any chances. Look for the black toasters near the canning products. If you know anyone down on their luck who could use a lucky toaster, come get one from us. If you can't afford one, we'll be happy to give it to you as a gift of luck. Our wholesale cost is currently \$9.32; your cost is \$9.99.



## GOOD GUYS CAN WIN!

Are all multi billion dollar American businesses cut throat operations looking out only for their top stock holders and executives? Not really. I guess my respect and admiration for our major hardware supplier, Orgill, started to grow when I heard about how their CEO Joe worked all day piloting a multi billion dollar wholesale hardware distribution company (4th largest in the world at the time) and in the early evenings delivered "meals on wheels" to alone seniors! Does this sound like a cut throat operation to you?

All distribution businesses like Orgill are constantly on the prowl for new business. The shortages of products caused largely by the effects of the Covid has changed our suppliers' business plan at least until things return to normal. Fortunately for us and, I guess, for you, Orgill has chosen to curtail their search for new business and is focusing on furnishing their limited supplies only to their retailers who have demonstrated their loyalty in the past. Again does this seem like a "**cut throat operation**"?

On your next visit, notice our almost full shelves and thank our supplier Orgill for choosing the moral high ground during these very trying times for all of us. **Oh, by the way:** good guys do win sometimes. Orgill is now the 2nd largest hardware distributor in the world!

*Paul ☺*

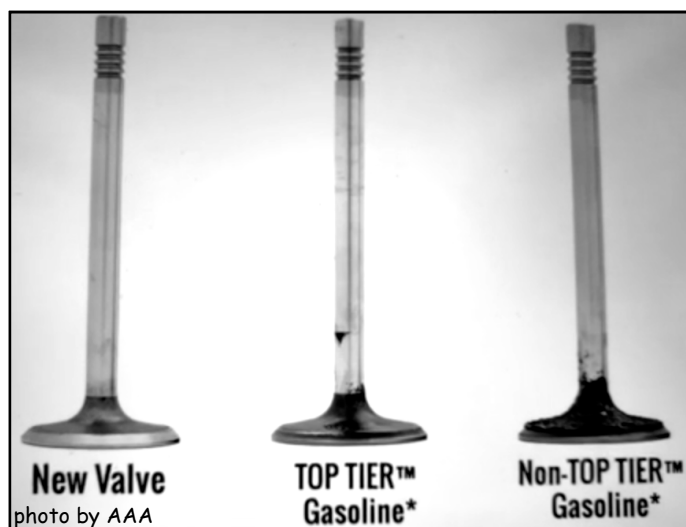
Borrowers become slaves of the lenders.

Confucius might have said this if he was around today: Never buy a European car with 150,000 miles no matter how cheap!

## ORCAS CAR TALK

TOP TIER™ gas can save you money and your **engine**! All gas is essentially what is called a shared commodity stored in the same giant tanks. Each retailer then adds its own “secret potions” to keep your engine running cleaner and smoother.

In 2004, TOP TIER™ fuel was developed to go beyond the minimum standards for detergent additives to better protect present day high compression, close tolerance engines. Audi, BMW, Fiat Chrysler, General Motors, Honda, Mercedes, Toyota, and VW are recommending TOP TIER™ products for their new car owners. In 2016, AAA did a study that found that using TOP TIER™ fuels can keep engine components up to 19 times cleaner than with the minimum required detergent level. That means less emissions which is better for you and the environment.



Here are some of the local top tier retailers: 76, Arco, BP, Cenex, Chevron, Citgo, ConocoPhillips, Costco, Esso, Exxon, Marathon, Valero and, oh yeah, **Island Hardware & Supply's "Passing Gas" brand.**

This has changed my gas-buying habits. No more cheap discount mid-grade for me. From now on, it's TOP TIER™ regular for me!

Go to <https://toptiergas.com> for more info.

### HERE'S A LITTLE PUZZLE TO FIGURE OUT IN YOUR SPARE TIME:

"F" fo yek eht ni peeb snroh rac nacirema tsom.



## LIVING THE DREAM

Boy, this new COVID is hitting Orcas pretty hard. After enduring last year's pandemic and now the threat of yet a new strain of covid looming over our heads can be a sure cause for a bit of despair. If you catch yourself feeling depressed, may I suggest that you take a trip down to the Orcas Hotel Sunday afternoons. Sit out on the patio with the departing tourists. Listen to the tourists who've just experienced their trip of a lifetime. While they wait for the ferry, you'll hear several forms of the same two questions. They're asking themselves and their families, "**What do they need here?**" and "**Could we possibly live here?**"

I'd guess that about 1 in 10,000 island visitors who ask these questions ever succeed in living their dream of becoming an islander. The next time a bit of depression sets in, remember that you may be that 1 in 10,000 truly fortunate ones who **is living the dream.** I was one of those tourists.

(Thank you to the Orcas Hotel for giving permission to use their image to accompany this article.)



**SIX SUV's in a row!** And none of them from the same manufacturer. Is it any wonder that Ford will no longer be making cars... well, except for the EV Mustang?