



THE HARDWARE HERALD

published monthly by

Island Hardware & Supply, Inc.

21 West Beach Road • Eastsound, WA 98245 • 376-4200 • Mon-Sat 9 am -4 pm; Sun 9 am-3 pm

Volume XXII, Issue V: May, 2020

THE COSTCO REPORT

Costco is out of toilet paper most of the time. When a little comes in, each customer is rationed to just a couple of packages. Even after our years of purchasing pallets at a time, they will not sell us more than a few packs a trip. They know that we're trying to provide it for a good portion of the 5000 residents on Orcas without them having to risk individual exposure. The neighborhood stores are unable to bend their new emergency policies just for us at this time. They even chose not to pull our broken pallet orders any longer. You'd think all these restrictions might stop our hardware store dynamo (Marce). Think again!

Marce is now working with the business Costco in Lynwood. They specialize in stocking small businesses. With many small businesses closed at this time, they're actually looking for customers. Unfortunately, they do not carry some of the items that you're accustomed to, such as Kirkland dry dog food and bird seed in a box. We're discounting the same brand of bird seed coming from Orgill in a smaller bag.

Costco Business does have many commercial items not found in neighborhood stores. Do you have occasion to require a box of 5000 plastic forks, NO PROBLEM! How about a full side of beef? Seriously, by the time you get this, we will have brought in one or maybe two Business Costco shipments. They deliver on their trucks to our Marysville receiving yard then our semi brings it to your store on the same day. If we hit it just right, you may see some of your favorite Kirkland TP! It's kind of like shopping for fresh eggs—best call first. Please stay well!

COVID-19—IT'S THE REASON WE CAN'T HAVE NICE THINGS!

Due to mandatory social distancing and minimal occupancy requirements, we've made the hard decision to cancel our 53rd Anniversary Celebration for this year. Could any of us ever have imagined this situation? Since we're not sure what June will bring, we needed to make this decision now for up to 80 of our suppliers, musicians, extra helpers, staff, and the close to 2000 loyal customers who plan their summers and need to know our schedule.



When you see the light at the end of the tunnel, then you're still in the tunnel!

Sign seen in Indian Hills, Colorado:

“Where did the Terminator find the toilet paper?”

“Aisle B, back.”

CAREGIVER & PATIENT PPE MASK PROJECT by Michele Keyes

In mid-March, the Orcas Island Caregiver Preparedness group was formed after The Orcas Island Community Foundation (OICF) made a request to Debra O'Conner, nurse with Hospice of the Northwest, to help create community personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies for family or professional Caregivers and their patients in the event of an island Covid-19 outbreak. We were able to order and receive some of the PPE but not all. We all know that masks and protective gowns have been in short supply. Much effort has focused since then on making both products on the island using local materials and talent. These projects blossomed into two groups that transformed materials found on island into important PPE that has been gathered, organized, and stored in a sanitary and central location ready to be distributed upon demand to our Caregivers. The mask and gown projects would not have been as successful without the generosity of individuals, businesses, and organizations.

The Caregiver Mask Project: I've helped organize materials and logistics for the group of (currently 24) talented sewers who are making 2-layer fabric masks with a pocket that allows for the added protection of a removable and replaceable filter. We are so appreciative of Island Hardware & Supply's

generosity in providing several cases of the 3M filters. In addition to those making masks, several others have volunteered to cut a large supply of filters that fit 3 different styles of masks being made.

The Caregiver Gown Project: Asifa Pasin has led the group in gown-making by transforming a 55-gallon garbage bag into a gown which has sleeves and ties behind the wearer. She created a pattern requiring the bag to be cut and then sewn. Thank you to Orcas Recycling Services/The Exchange for providing materials and several sewing machines for this project!

There are many other individuals and at least one other group making masks for family, friends, neighbors, and essential workers on this island. This has been a wonderful activity for those homebound with a sewing machine.

I'm so proud to be a part of this project intended to help so many in our community. The silver lining for me in this Covid-19 environment is how we are all connecting for the greater good of everyone on this island whether we know each other or not. I've met people (by phone and email) I would not likely have ever connected with and with whom I look forward to spending time in the future.

COSTCO'S BACK! & WE HAVE THE ESSENTIALS!!

Well... Except for toilet paper and paper towels. 😞 But we're working on those!



Sad to say that until the Covid-19 pandemic is over, our hours will stay reduced.

Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm.

Sunday from 9 am to 3 pm.

Thank you for being
the best group of
people ever!