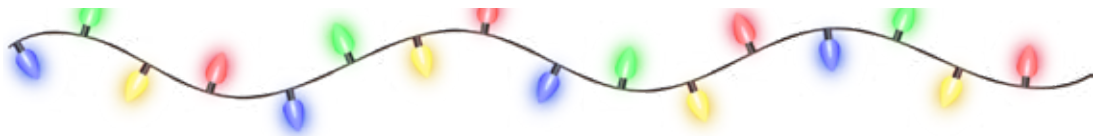




**2025
COLUMBIA
GORGE NEWS**

GoRge GiFt GuiDe

OUR HOLIDAY CATALOG FOR SHOPPING LOCAL



Gorge Gift Guide

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Gift of **Books**

Aziza Cooper-Hovland
Columbia Gorge News

The titles on pages 4-5 are just some of the options listed in the Best of the Independent Northwest 2025 gift guide — for children, tweens, teens and adults, fiction and nonfiction. If you don't find quite the perfect match you were hoping for, head down to one of our Gorge-area local bookstores and ask one for a recommendation. Booksellers are a wealth of knowledge and rarely are they reticent to talk about books! If you're still having trouble deciding, gift certificates are available and equally welcome.

Children:

Salmon Run by Annie Chen. Ages 5-8; \$19.99. Follow a Pacific coho salmon's incredible journey from egg to ocean and back in this beautifully illustrated, accessible introduction to a vital North Pacific species.

Catching Kindness by Kara M. Mitchell. Ages 4-8; \$18.99. Everyone in the grocery store seems grumpy, but one boy's simple act of kindness grows and grows until his gesture touches everyone — including himself.

Hansel & Gretel by Stephen King, illustrated by Maurice Sendak. Ages 6+; \$26.99. Legendary writer Stephen King brings to life beautiful opera sets and costume designs by Maurice Sendak in a thrilling, must-have reimagining of the Brothers Grimm's immortal fairy tale.

A Snow Day for Amos McGee by Philip C. Stead, illustrated by Erin E. Stead. Ages 3-6; \$19.99. Spend a snow day with friendly zookeeper Amos McGee and a lovable squad of animals in this cozy tale of winter hope and joy.

Fiction:

The Girls of Good Fortune by Kristina McMorris. \$17.99. Portland's hidden past comes alive in this spellbinding novel about a young half-Chinese mother's determination to forge a future for her daughter in a world that shuns outsiders.

Brigands & Breadknives by Travis Baldree. \$28.99. Return to the cozy fantasy world of the No. 1 NYT bestselling *Legends & Lattes* series with a new adventure featuring fan-favorite, foul-mouthed bookseller Fern.

Books of Cats and Searoad (\$16.95): *Chronicles of Klatsand* (\$17.95) by Ursula K. Le Guin. Rediscover the magic of Ursula K. Le Guin in two gift-worthy new editions with a gorgeous keepsake collection of poems, meditations, and drawings that captures the literary legend's lifelong fascination with cats, and a new reissue of her classic 1991 book of interconnected stories set in a small vacation town on the Oregon coast.

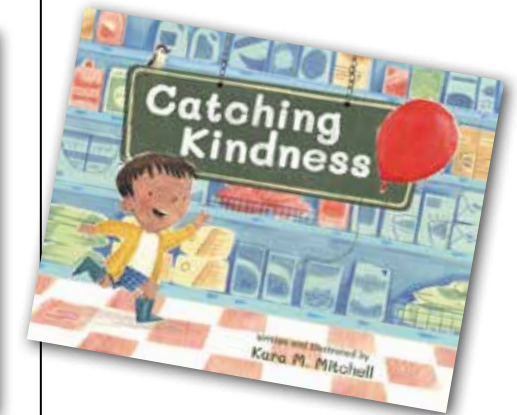
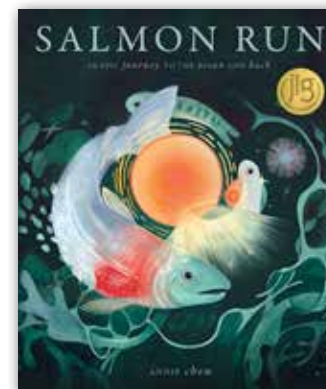
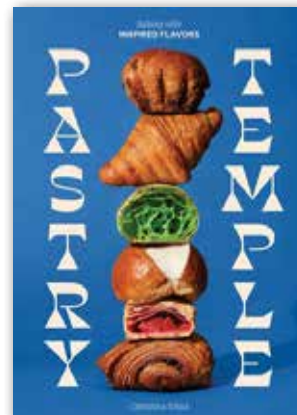
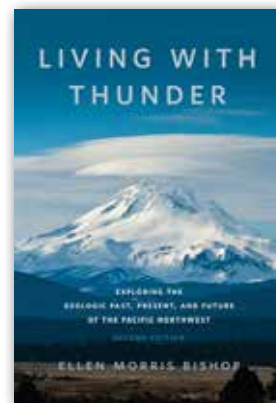
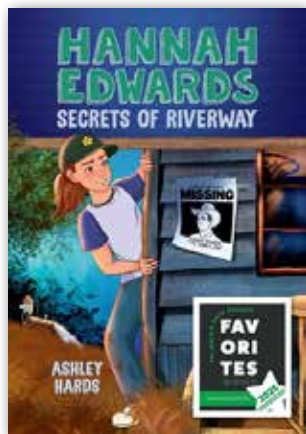
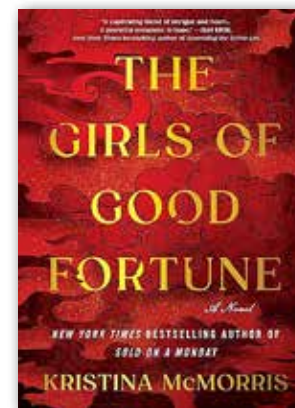
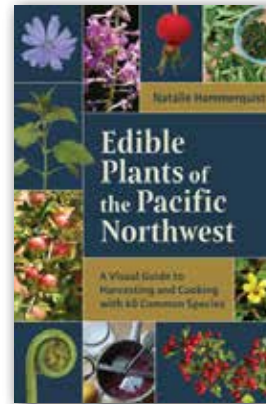
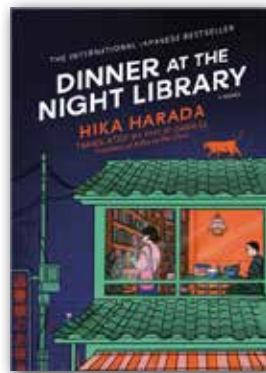
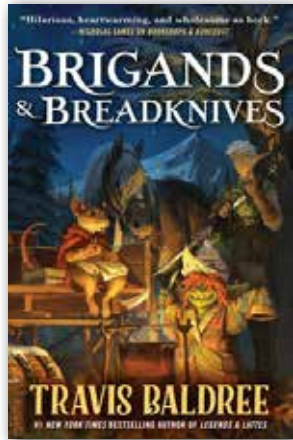
Dinner at the Night Library by Hika Harada. \$21.99. A charming and whimsical novel about a mysterious library in Tokyo that only opens after dark, following the employees who bond each night over special meals inspired by the books on the shelves.

Nonfiction

Pastry Temple: Baking with Inspired Flavors by Christina Wood. \$24.95. Bakers of all levels can master the three pillars of pastry — brioche, puff pastry, and croissant — with this stunning cookbook from Seattle's Temple Pastries.

Edible Plants of the Pacific Northwest by Natalie Hammerquist. \$24.95. A comprehensive and ethical resource for beginner and experienced foragers alike! Includes a seasonal harvest calendar and recipes like rose-petal jam and nettle frittata.

Living with Thunder: Exploring the Geologic Past, Present, and Future of the Pacific Northwest by Ellen Morris Bishop. \$34.95. Combining engaging science



writing with stunning photographs, this new edition provides a robust introduction to the region's dynamic geological history.

Only in the Pacific Northwest: Weird and Wonderful Facts About the Pacific Northwest by Nancy Dickmann, illustrated by Joseph Moffat-Peña. Ages 6+; \$21.99. Make this book your family's go-to guide to our enchanting region. Wildlife, culture, trailblazers, and the quirrier side of the Northwest are all explored on its colorful pages. Just like the region itself, this book has it all!

Teen/Tween

The Village Beyond the Mist by Sachiko Kashiwaba, illustrated by Miho Satake. Ages 8-13; \$18.00. The enchanting Japanese fantasy novel that inspired Hayao Miyazaki's beloved film, *Spirited Away* — now available in English for the first time.

Hannah Edwards Secrets of Riverway by Ashley Hards. Ages 10-13; \$9.99. To save her small town, middle school perfectionist Hannah teams up with friends, a ghost, and a whole lot of frogs in this award-winning mystery.

Pippa Park Raises Her Game by Erin Yun. Ages 9-12; \$9.99. Pippa Park juggles friendships, basketball, crushes, and family while trying to stay true to herself in this charming chapter book. Plus fans can now watch @PippaParkOfficial on YouTube!

Hekate: The Witch by Nikita Gill. Ages 14+; \$19.99. In a stunning reimagining of Greek myth, Gill showcases the underworld and its deities, weaving a young goddess' gripping coming of age story.



Gifts for Gardeners

By Martin Gibson
Columbia Gorge News

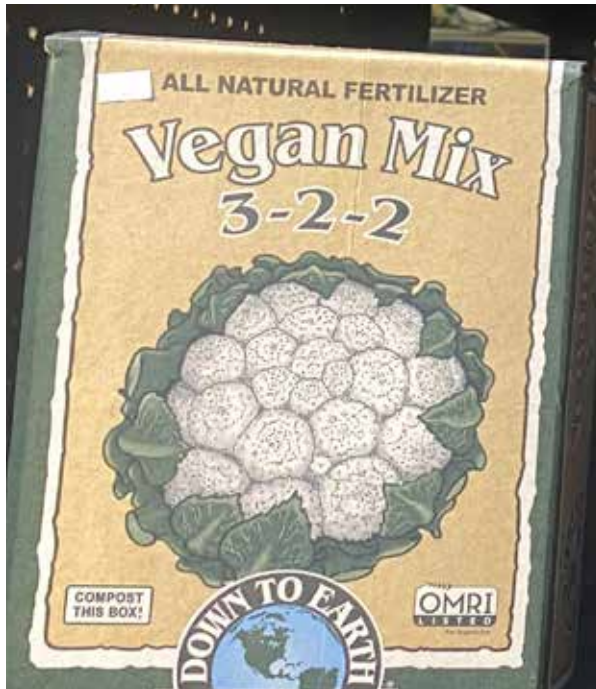
How do you cheer up a gardener whose greenery just went into its winter sleep? In leafless, cold winter, plants make great presents if you know someone who likes having them inside: A coffee plant or an African violet or one of those melodramatic tropical purple things or a ginseng with melodramatic roots. The Dalles' only locally-owned plant store is Gorge Garden Center. The staff can also explain and sell the special grow lights you need to shine on indoor plants to substitute for sunlight — even more appreciated than a plant, since they enable a whole indoor garden!

Good News Gardening in Hood River and Vanguard Nursery in White Salmon play a similar role. Also in The Dalles, Artisan Market is open on weekends and sells houseplants, stones, art and many decorative crystals. If you know someone who believes in the power of crystals, the owners will help you pick the right rock to decorate your friends' new garden-fragment.

Gardeners make very personal choices about what plants they want. Some only plant natives, some only grow organic, etc. These people might appreciate a fresh seed catalog and a pledge toward their spring seed-order. A true native plant fanatic will really appreciate a sponsored trip to Humble Roots Nursery in Mosier,

Or maybe you could sneakily inquire about your friends' indoor gardening desires and then get them a few handmade pots from a local potter, soil from someplace like





Cascade Farm & Outdoor in Hood River, and a splash of fancy organic fertilizer and a light from Gorge Garden Center in The Dalles, and set them up with a nice oxygen-producing table-full of winter greenery.



And don't forget that our local florists are also a great resource for greenery. Visit Sigman's Flowers in The Dalles, and Heights Floral (including these two photos on the right) and Lucy's Informal Flowers in Hood River.



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Charitable Gifts

By Trisha Walker
Columbia Gorge News

Columbia Gorge News is bringing back its Gorge Giving guide at the end of December, just in time for end of the year giving.

But prior to the end of the year, we have the holidays, which is a perfect time to make a donation in someone's name. And for some gift recipients, it's a preferred option. Look, some of us are trying to downsize, and though we appreciate that you're thinking of us (so much!), we would rather that thought translate into supporting the vulnerable, marginalized, and/or underserved living right here in our community.

There are organizations throughout the Gorge working to ensure everyone is safe, warm, and cared for. If you have a favorite, start there. If you don't — or are looking to expand your giving horizons before Gorge Giving comes out — here are some established organizations to consider.

Most donations may be made online.

Columbia Gorge CASA, 1308 12th St., Hood River; 541-386-3468 / columbiagorgecasa.org

Columbia Gorge CASA volunteers advocate for abused and neglected children in Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman counties, and donations help ensure every child in foster care has a dedicated CASA to speak up for their best interests.

Columbia Gorge Cat Rescue, P.O. Box 231, Hood River; 541-386-6461 / www.petfinder.com (search Columbia River Gorge)

Columbia Gorge Cat Rescue's primary purposes are to serve as an animal rescue organization that shelters and fosters homeless cats and kittens until good homes are found; reduce the feral and homeless cat populations through spay and neuter programs; and to bring more public awareness to the plight of homeless cats through education and outreach.

Columbia Gorge Food Bank, PO Box 2313, The Dalles, OR 97058; 541-370-2333 / oregonfoodbank.org (search by zip code)

Columbia Gorge Food Bank supports and collaborates with healthcare providers and community organizations, including those led by the Latine and Native American communities, to provide free, nutritious food and end hunger in Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties.

Columbia Gorge Humane Society, 200 River Road, The Dalles; 541-296-5189 / columbiagorgehs.org

Columbia Gorge Humane Society provides safe, loving and humane care for homeless or unwanted dogs and cats while working to find permanent homes for each. We believe every dog or cat deserves a second chance.

Comunidades, 541-399-3668, info@comunidades.org / comunidades.org

The mission of Comunidades is to amplify Latino voices for environmental and social justice. It is dedicated to changing the infrastructure of power and inequity that affect Gorge communities, as well as empowering people through civic engagement in Latino and immigrant communities whose voices would be otherwise limited or disenfranchised.

FISH Food Bank, 1130 Tucker Road, Hood River; 541-386-3474 / fishfoodbankhr@gmail.com

The FISH Food Bank mission is to help alleviate hunger by distributing food regularly and on an emergency basis, regardless of gender, race, religion, or sexual orientation and in a friendly, instant, sympathetic, helpful, nonjudgmental and confidential manner. In addition to its Hood River location, FISH also has food banks in Parkdale, Odell and Cascade Locks.

Helping Hands Against Violence, Inc., P.O. Box 441 Hood River; 541-386-6603 / helpinghandsoregon.org

Helping Hands has two facilities — an emergency shelter for survivors and children escaping abusive situations, and transitional housing who would otherwise be houseless. There is also a 24-hour hotline, help with restraining orders and court appearances, support groups, and more.

Hood River Adopt A Dog, 541-354-1083 / hoodriveraadoptadog@gmail.com

Hood River Adopt A Dog (HRAAD) is a non-profit charitable organization providing care, love, exercise, socialization and training to dogs so they are ready to be adopted into forever homes. HRAAD relies on donations to help keep adoptable dogs current on

vaccinations and micro-chipped, and provide necessary medical attention.

Mt. Adams Resource Stewards, P.O. Box 152 Glenwood; 509-364-4110 / mtadamsstewards.org

Mt. Adams Resource Stewards (MARS) was founded in 2004 in response to a group of Glenwood citizens' concerns about the future of their community and surrounding forests. Over the years, its work has branched into a number of programs and activities associated with supporting local forests, businesses, schools, and communities across four counties.

The Next Door, Inc., P.O. Box 661 Hood River, OR 97031; 541-386-6665 / nextdoorinc.org

The Next Door Inc. was founded in 1971 to address the unmet need of support services for youth. Today, TNDI has more than 100 employees who facilitate more than 35 programs that strive to fulfill our mission of opening doors to new possibilities by strengthening children and families and improving communities in Oregon and Washington.

Washington Gorge Action Programs (WAGAP), 115 W. Steuben St., Bingen; 509-493-2662 / wagap.org

WAGAP is a one-stop-shop for helping those in need, supporting victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, providing emergency housing, working to uplift youth mental health, running several food banks, and more. WAGAP also accepts non-perishable goods, specifically canned meat, fruit and vegetables, for its food banks, along with things like shampoo, dish soap, and toothpaste.

United Way of the Columbia Gorge, P.O. Box 2 Hood River; 541-490-3435 / unitedwaycolumbiagorge.org

United Way is a nonprofit that supports nonprofit human service programs in Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Klickitat and Skamania counties by combining resources to provide a safety net — and promote change. A listing of 2025 award winners can be found online.

Youth Empowerment Shelter (YES), P.O. Box 107, The Dalles; 541-705-4777 / yeshelter.org

YES is a local organization that helps youth and young people ages 10-24 who are experiencing crisis or homelessness. YES provides a safe and stable environment for youth to regroup, heal, and reconnect with caring adults through two main programs — the YES House and the Transition House.



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Saturday, December 6th from 1pm-3pm.
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Gifts for Kids

The Gorge is a great place for people of all ages, and people looking for a Christmas gift for a little one will have no trouble finding something. Skookums outfitters and Emma's Boutique in The Dalles, and Hood River Hobbies, and G Willikers Toy Shoppe in Hood River are just a few of the many wonderful places to find presents for the small humans in your lives. (Who can resist those tiny baby shoes!)

Skookum Outfitters

Patagonia baby fleece, \$69
Huckleberry Binoculars, \$32.50
Kid's Rainboots, \$49.99

Emma's Boutique

Stanley Jr. Toy drill, \$25.99
Squishy journal book, \$21.99

Hood River Hobbies

Kids craft kits, \$24.99, \$34.99
Wooden flower puzzle, \$12.99
Kids science kit, \$2.99, \$24.99

G Willikers Toy Shoppe

Dress up clothes, \$54.99
Puzzle cubes, \$29.99
Calico Critters, \$29.99
National Geographic science kits, \$16.99

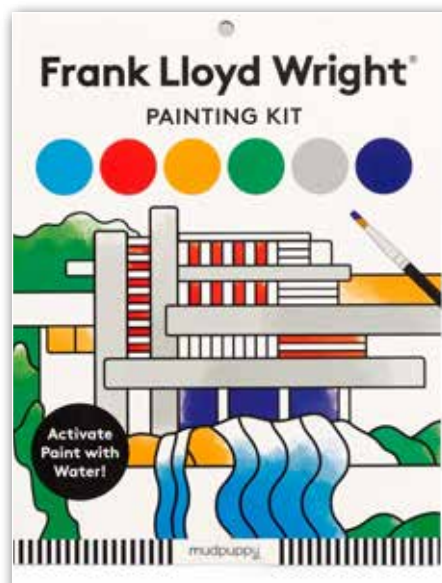
Lucky Littles boutique

Warming stuffie, \$30
Holiday dresses, \$44

Lucky Littles also has a secondhand section downstairs that has clothes and other items for kids who need them.




Klindt's Book Sellers & Stationers
Dragon Rescue Kit, \$9.95






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Tech, Media & Entertainment **Gifts**

By Sean Avery
Columbia Gorge News

Gifts in technology, media and entertainment have become a mainstay of holiday shopping madness. Frenzied buyers flock to Best Buy, Target and other electronics superstores to score the latest iPhone, video game console or VR headset, etc. But local businesses here in the Columbia River Gorge still have skin in the game, offering cheap, vintage alternatives to the unending cycle of digital development. This year, instead of dumping your holiday budget on yet another spendy tech upgrade, bless your loved ones with retro electronics and physical media — gifts with personality and longevity that will outlast any of the latest trends.

ADHD Music, 210 Oak St., Hood River

Tucked into a downtown mezzanine, ADHD Music is your go-to physical media hotspot in Hood River, brimming with an ever-expanding collection of manageably priced vinyl records, CDs, cassettes and vintage VHS tapes. Owner Shea Wooten is on a perpetual hunt to broaden the store's selection and help diversify locals' palettes with music from around the world. While not

without newer, mainstream prints, ADHD specializes in its nostalgic crop of classics and deep cuts — all genres included. If you have someone in your life eager to bolster their collection, it's time to start browsing.

Precious Drab Records, 402 Oak St., Hood River

Another physical media haven in Hood River, Precious Drab Records is located at the back of Ice Cream for Crow Vintage. This small, but mighty selection of vinyls, CDs, cassettes and VHS tapes offers an excellent selection of tunes for music lovers. If you own or know someone with a record player, you know that physical media is delicate. Precious Drab Records can cover your recipient's maintenance needs, offering a wooden record holder (\$40), a record display frame (\$14), 80oz record cleaning fluid (\$14) and a record care kit (\$38).

Yesterday and Today Records, 414 E. Second St., The Dalles

Surprise — another record store. Folks in The Dalles likely know about Yesterday and Today Records, which has supplied music lovers with quality prints since 1989. Aside from its vast and varied collection of records, from The Beatles and Bowie to Saprina Carpenter and

Taylor Swift — and everything in between — Yesterday and Today houses a massive catalogue of Blu-Ray and DVDs. If you're looking to kickstart a loved one's new passion, you can also check out its assortment of turntables and cassette decks, including the Andover Audio SpinDeck 2, currently on sale for \$250, and the Panasonic RS-S275 for \$150.

Brick City & Games, 318 E. Second St., The Dalles

The Dalles' Brick City & Games is more than just a LEGO store or a hobby shop. This nerd paradise offers an all-encompassing selection of retro tech, games and geekdom. Its gargantuan video game wall features titles for modern consoles like the PlayStation 5 and Nintendo Switch, but also boasts an incredible supply of Wii, Xbox, Xbox 360 and PlayStation 1-4 options — with no shortage of classics. Turn back the clock with a PlayStation 1 (\$55), Nintendo GameCube Platinum (\$110), Magnavox Odyssey (\$99) or Super Nintendo Entertainment System (\$159). Your niece and nephew already have the latest console; show them what folks were kicking with back in the day.

Stationary

As a print newspaper, we are all about physical media. If you were to pool our collective notebook collections, you'd be shocked! Recently, I've also loved writing letters to my friends who live far away, and including stickers, collages, and drawings is a wonderful way to fill out a letter with more than just my words. The Gorge is the perfect place for me to procure all of my stationary needs. Try Tokki Art Supply, Hood River Stationers, and Waucoma Bookstore, all in Hood River, and Klindt's Book Sellers & Stationers and Urban Paper in The Dalles. — Aziza Cooper-Hovland

To buy: Bright wrapping paper starting at \$12, boxed holiday cards starting at \$15.99 from Klindt's Booksellers; red notebook from Waucoma Bookstore, prices vary; cards and prints by Laurie Stephens, \$6-\$60, Columbia Center for the Arts; micro-line pens, \$16.99, Klindt's booksellers.






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Gifts Around the Gorge

Gifts \$1-\$1000

By Zach Thummel
Columbia Gorge News

Honey Stinger Energy Waffle — \$1, Shortt Supply, Hood River

A sweet little stocking stuffer for the adventurer on your list. These energy waffles taste like dessert but pack the fuel to power any hike, ride, or ski day. Toss a few in every stocking for instant on-the-go energy.

Columbia Gorge News Weekly Paper — \$2

Give the gift of staying local! A *Columbia Gorge News* weekly subscription keeps readers in the loop on everything from sports to community happenings. It's thoughtful, affordable, and lasts all year long.

Retro Movie Signs — \$15, Margie's Outdoor Store, Bingen

Add a little old-school Hollywood charm with these retro movie signs. They're fun, nostalgic, and perfect for home theaters or cozy dens. A unique gift that's equal parts quirky and cool.

Doppio House Blend Coffee — \$18, Doppio Coffee, Hood River

Start the morning right with a bag of Doppio's signature house blend. Smooth, rich, and roasted right here in Hood River — it's local flavor in every cup. A great grab for coffee lovers who appreciate quality beans.

Padawan Training Lightsaber — \$50, Margie's Outdoor Store, Bingen

The Force will definitely be with whoever unwraps his Padawan training lightsaber, which lights up, hums, and sparks some serious imagination. A guaranteed hit for kids (and adults who still duel in the living room).

Nat Geo Explorer Series Rock Tumbler — \$75, G. Willikers Toy Shoppe, Hood River

Science meets sparkle with this fun, hands-on rock tumbler set. It's the perfect gift for curious kids or collectors who love to make things shine. Hours of entertainment, and a cool way to bring a little geology home.

Fjällräven Kånken Backpack — \$90, Doug's Sports, Hood River

This iconic Swedish backpack is as stylish as it is functional. Lightweight, durable, and available in tons of colors — it's made for everyday adventures. A go-to gift for students, travelers, or anyone on the move.



Rumpl Blanket — \$99, Skookum Outfitters, The Dalles or Shortt Supply, Hood River.

Warm, packable, and adventure-ready, the Rumpl blanket is perfect for camping trips, concerts, or cozy nights in. It's lightweight but seriously toasty, made with the same material as premium sleeping bags. A gift that says, "Let's stay warm and go places."

Corner Desk — \$120, Bi-Mart, The Dalles

Help someone level up their home office with this space-saving corner desk. It's sturdy, modern, and fits perfectly in any nook or small apartment. Ideal for remote workers, students, or anyone looking to stay organized in style.

Philips 50-inch 4K/Roku TV — \$280, Bi-Mart, The Dalles

Movie nights just got an upgrade. This 50-inch 4K TV with Roku built-in delivers crisp visuals, easy streaming, and endless entertainment. A great family gift that brings everyone together.

Fire Pit and Grill — \$400, Shortt Supply, Hood River

Cook, gather, and relax with this two-in-one fire pit and grill. It's perfect for backyard hangs, camping trips, or any night under the stars. A show-stopping gift for anyone who loves the great outdoors.





Mariposa Electric Guitar — \$470, Hood River Music, Hood River

Turn up the holiday volume with this sleek Mariposa electric guitar. With its bold Dorado Green finish and quality craftsmanship, it's built to inspire jam sessions and new songs. Perfect for both beginners and seasoned players ready to rock.

Garmin Fenix 5 Plus Smartwatch — \$750, Shortt Supply, Hood River

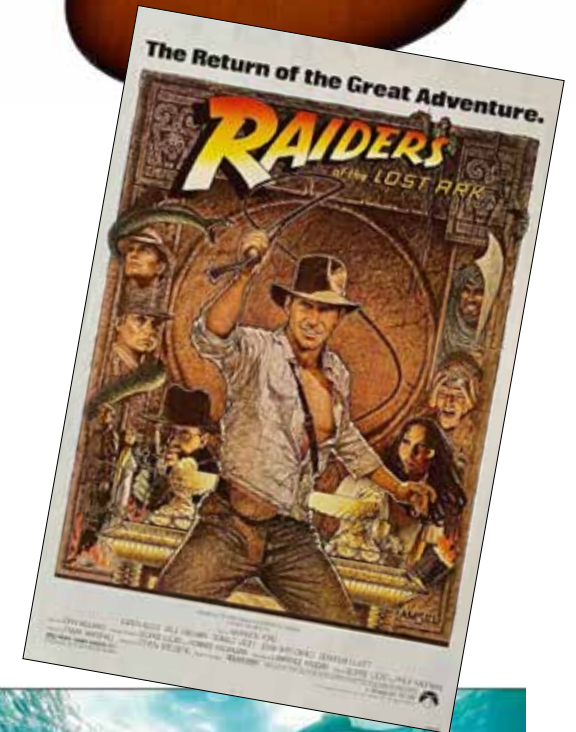
For the athlete or adventurer who wants it all, this smartwatch does it all — GPS, fitness tracking, heart

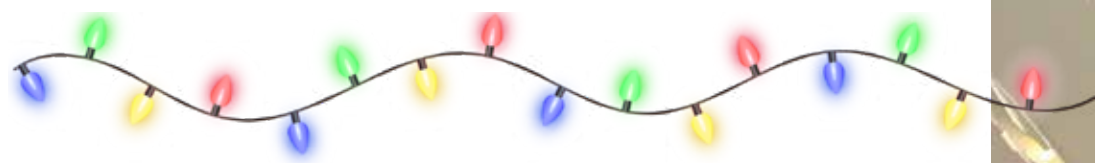


rate, music, and more. Rugged enough for the trails but sharp enough for the office. It's a high-tech gift that blends style with serious function.

Trek Mountain Bike — \$1,000, Mountain View Cycles, Hood River

Nothing beats the gift of freedom on two wheels. This Trek mountain bike is made for smooth climbs, thrilling descents, and everything in between. The ultimate present for anyone who'd rather be out riding than inside wrapping gifts.





Holiday Happenings

Tree lightings, craft bazaars, photos with Santa, concerts and more — there is plenty to do in the Gorge over the holidays, with events for all ages.

Nov. 15 — American Legion Post 137 Arts & Crafts Bazaar, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, Carson.

Nov. 16 — Christmas Craft Fair Fundraiser, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Goldendale Adventist Christian School, 210 S. Columbus Ave. Local craft vendors for handcrafted gifts, stocking stuffers, and more.

Tuesdays, Nov. 18 thru Dec. 30 — Hot Cocoa & Winter Fun, 3-4 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library teen room, 722 Court St., The Dalles. For teens; winter crafts and activities. Free.

Nov. 20 to Dec. 20 — Holiday Artisan Market at The Dalles Art Center, 220 E. Fourth St., The Dalles. Fine art and wall hangings, jewelry and wearable art, pottery, ceramics, glassware, fiber arts, textiles and quilts.

Nov. 21 — Fun Friday: Turkeys, 3-4 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles. For ages 5-10 (elementary school).

Nov. 21-22 — St. Peter's Altar Society 46th Annual Holiday Bazaar, noon to

6 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at St. Peter's Parish Center, 1111 Cherry Heights Road, The Dalles. Hand-crafted gifts, baked goods, raffles, home décor and more. Cafeteria open both days and admission is free.

Nov. 22 — Mid-Columbia Senior Center Holiday Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the center, 1112 W. Ninth, The Dalles.

Nov. 25 — Ceramic Ornaments with Lise Larsen Session 1, 3-7 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles. For school aged, teens and adults.

Nov. 25 — Family Craft Night: Autumn Cookie Decorating, 6-7 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles. For all ages (preschool thru adult).

Nov. 26 — Village Fair, 4-7 p.m. at Skamania Lodge, 1131 SW Skamania Lodge Way, Stevenson. Local merchants and artisans, live music; coffee, cider and cocoa. Christmas Tree lighting at 5:30 p.m.

Nov. 27 — Turkey Trot 5K Benefit Run and Walk, 8-11 a.m. at Lewis & Clark Festival Park, The Dalles. Presented by Columbia Gorge Toyota and Honda, this year's beneficiary is Columbia Gorge Food Bank, which serves Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties. Register at runsignup.com/Race/Register?raceId=189523.



Nov. 27 — Stevenson Turkey Trot 5K, 8 a.m. to noon beginning at the Skamania Fairground Exhibit Hall, 710 SW Rock Creek Drive, Stevenson. Free, but donations of non-perishable food or cash accepted for food bank. More race info at columbiagorgerunningclub.com.

Nov. 27 — Twin Tunnels Turkey Trot, 9:30 a.m. to noon starting at the Hood River end of the Historic Columbia River Highway; runners will turn left onto Rock Creek Road and then left onto First Street, where the race will end at Mosier Community School (distance 8.2K). Pre-registration is \$15/person or \$20/person the day of the race. Kids 15 and under are free. All proceeds benefit the Mosier Community School. More at mosierschools.schoolwires.net/Page/95.

Nov. 28 — Black Friday Market, 3-6 p.m. at Trout Lake Hall, 15 Guler Road, Trout Lake. Featuring local makers and small businesses.

Nov. 28 — 36th Annual Starlight Parade, starting on W. Sixth Street & Webber at 6 p.m. and ending in front of The Dalles Chamber. Tree lighting to follow.

Nov. 29 — Retro Claus Workshop, 10 a.m. to noon at the National Neon Sign Museum, 200 E Third St., The Dalles. Celebrate the grand opening of the new Argon Education Center with holiday crafts, seasonal snacks, and sleigh rides



with Santa. Free for members; \$5 general admission at the door.

Dec. 1-23 — Holiday Market in the Museum, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Columbia Gorge Museum, 990 SW Rock Creek Drive, Stevenson. Special 10% discount; \$25% for museum members. Local art, museum merchandise, and more.

Dec. 2 — Get Me Through the Holidays, 6-7:30 p.m. online via Zoom. Hosted by Providence Hospice Bereavement Program. For more information, contact the Bereavement Team at 503-215-4622 or bereavement@providence.org.

Dec. 5 — Fun Friday for Teens: Scandinavian Stars, 3:30-4:30 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library teen room, 722 Court St. For teens (11 and older). Craft requires very little sewing, but we will be using an iron to flatten the fabric pieces.

Dec. 5 — Hood River Tree Lighting & Festival, 5-7 p.m. in downtown Hood River. Tree lighting between 5:45-6:15 p.m. Festival along Oak Street. Streets closed 4-8 p.m. to vehicles.

Dec. 5 — Tree Lighting and Parade, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse Lawn, Stevenson. Includes caroling, free cookies, cocoa and cider. Starlight Parade begins at 7 p.m.; route runs thru downtown on Highway 14 beginning at Columbia Street and ending at Rock Creek Drive.



Dec. 5-6 — The Ruins Winter Market, 5-10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at The Ruins, 13 Railroad St., Hood River. Featuring Gorge-area producers, makers and artists.

Dec. 5-6 — Festival of Trees Gala and Community Open House at The Dalles Civic Auditorium, 323 E. Fourth St. Gala Friday, 6-8 p.m., 21 and over event; tickets \$20 per person, online at www.adventisthealthcolumbiagorge.org/festivaloftrees. Open house Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon, free; view trees and enjoy children's activities. Supports Celilo Cancer Center Patient Assistant Fund.

Dec. 5-8 & Dec. 9-14 — Junie B in Jingle Bells at Columbia Center for the Arts, 215 Cascade Ave., Hood River. A play based on the books by Barbara Park. Directed by Jen Harty. Approx. 85 minutes with brief intermission. Recommended for approximately grades 2-5. Tickets, \$15, and times (10 a.m. and/or 7 p.m., varies) at www.columbiaarts.org.

Dec. 6 — St. Mark's Holiday Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, corner of 11th and Eugene streets, Hood River. Handcrafted items, wearables and jewelry, specialty yarns, goodies, more.

Dec. 6 — Innovations Academy Holiday Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wahtonka campus, 3601 W 10th St., The Dalles. Unique gifts, crafts, holiday treats.



Dec. 6 — Photos with Santa, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Hood River Hotel. Proceeds go to Mid-Columbia Community Action Council. Photos by Jennifer Josephson and Stole the Show Photo Co.; \$20 per family, includes cookies, cocoa and photos with Santa.

Dec. 6 — Columbia Gorge Habitat for Humanity Pie & Soup Luncheon, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the UCC Church basement, corner of Fifth and Court streets, The Dalles. Free admission; pie and soup \$10. Local artisans, homemade crafts, bake sale, children's activities, raffle basket, door prizes; proceeds help provide affordable housing to local families.

Dec. 6 — Christmas in the Gorge Holiday Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Skamania County Fairgrounds, 710 SW Rock Creek Drive, Stevenson. All handmade creations.

Dec. 6 — Christmas at the Museum, 1-3 p.m. at the Columbia Gorge Museum, 990 SW Rock Creek Drive, Stevenson. Visit with Santa, fun holiday crafts, cookies and more.

Dec. 6 — Christmas in Carson, 6 p.m. at Gator Creek Gardens. Tree lighting, photos with Santa, free cookies and cocoa.

Dec. 7 — Rock the Holidays with Aaron Meyer, 1 p.m. children's show and 4 p.m. adult concert at The Gorge Room, Best



Western Plus Hood River Inn. Children's show: Tickets \$10/kids and \$12/adults. Adult concert: Preferred seating, \$85, includes glass of wine/beer and appetizers at a pre-concert party with Aaron at 3:15 p.m.; general admission \$30, kids under 12, \$15. Tickets available at Waucoma Bookstore, Hood River, at the door, or email to unitedwayofthecolumbiagorge@gmail.com. All proceeds benefit United Way of the Columbia Gorge.

Dec. 13 — Photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St. All ages.

Dec. 13 — History Museum Holiday Open House, 2-4 p.m. at The History Museum of Hood River County. Music and refreshments.

Dec. 13 — Santa Con and Toy Drive, 5 p.m. at the Hood River Elks Lodge 1507, 304 Cascade Ave., Hood River. Suit up in your finest Santa digs and help spread holiday cheer. Must be 21 and over. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for the Hood River Elks Kids Christmas Party.

Dec. 13-14 — Last Chance Holiday Craft Show, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and to 3 p.m. Sunday at the Hood River County Fairgrounds, 3020 Wy'east Road. Featuring a variety of goods from local artisans.

Dec. 15 — Hanukkah Party, 4-5:30 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St. All



ages. Celebrate the Festival of Lights with treats, crafts, activities, and a storytime.

Dec. 16 — Ceramic Ornaments with Lise Larsen Session 2, 3-7 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St. For school aged, teens and adults.

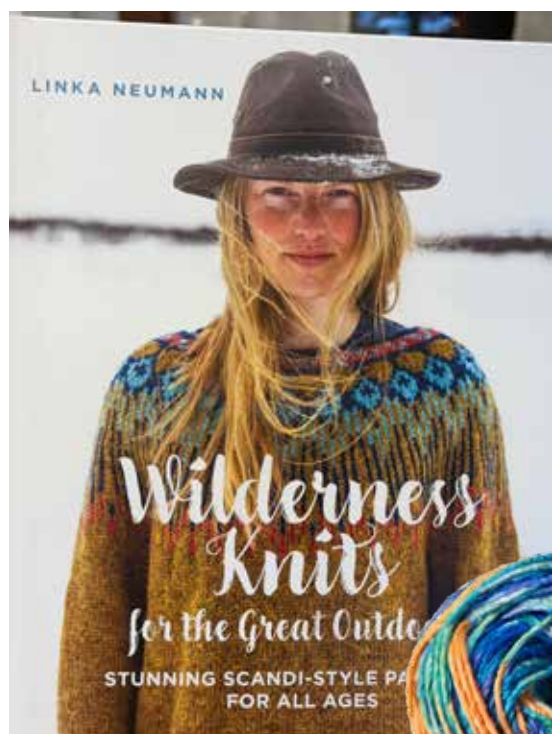
Dec. 16 — Sugarplum: A Nutcracker-inspired Holiday Showcase, 6:30 p.m. at Columbia Center for the Arts, 215 Cascade Ave., Hood River. Featuring local dancers, performers and live music. Tickets go on sale Nov. 15 at 10 a.m. at columbiaarts.org.

Dec. 18 — Colonel Wright: Troubador Caroling, 10:15-11 a.m. at The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles. All ages. Colonel Wright's Troubador's, made up of students in grades 4-5 will once again entertain with Christmas carols.

Dec. 31 — Glue & Glitter: Fireworks Craft, 4:30-5:30 p.m. at The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles. All ages. Cover a large sheet of paper with your very own dazzling, glittery fireworks display in honor of the coming New Year!

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See columbiagorgenews.com for events submitted after publication deadline. Updated holiday events will be featured each week in What's Happening and Entertainment Update.



Sean Avery photos

Hobbies

By Sean Avery
Columbia Gorge News

Everybody needs hobbies. They're a necessary distraction from routine monotony and the perfect way to wind down when we're not working or sleeping. Hobbies give us character and allow like-minded individuals into our lives. If you know someone healthily entrenched in an interest, or someone desperately in need of one, consider visiting one of the Gorge's many hobby shops to cover your gift-giving worries.

Hood River Hobbies, 110 Fourth St., Hood River

If we're talking broad strokes, Hood River Hobbies is a good place to start, offering a little slice of everything a hobbyist might pursue. In the arts and crafts section, you'll find 3D puzzles, DIY paper model kits, paint-by-numbers and a hefty stock of any necessary art supplies. Board games, card games, party games, strate-

gy games and role-playing games galore line the shelves, including staff picks like Wingspan, Camel Up and Poetry for Neanderthals. For RC enthusiasts, the store boasts plenty of vehicle variety. Whether shopping for a collector, science lover, crafter, dungeon master or racer, Hood River Hobbies is your go-to stop.

House of A La Mode, 215 Court St., The Dalles

The Dalles' House of A La Mode offers an abundance of intentionally dyed, slowly layered, small batch yarns for knitters, crocheters, weavers and embroiderers to enjoy. You can also sift through a collection of instruction booklets, which feature various patterns for accessories, decorations, blankets and winter wear. One option, "Knitting the U.S.A.," contains 50 easy-to-follow designs for beautiful beanies inspired by each state in America.

The Workshop, 116 E Second St., The Dalles

The Workshop is the DIY capital of the Gorge, housing the "DIY Bar," where customers can craft and paint their own wooden ornaments, signs and other fun designs. Its woody, DIY garland kits are perfect for

someone looking to handmade their holiday decor. The Workshop also offers an assortment of puzzles, art supplies and miscellaneous products, including cocktail recipe cards and Elizabeth Gray's adult coloring book "Good Things Grow Here."

Brick City & Games, 318 E Second St., The Dalles

The aptly titled Brick City & Games boasts plenty of LEGO sets for builders young and old. It's also a top destination for collectors, sporting a strong stock of Funko Pop! Vinyl Figures and Pokémon trading cards.

G. Williker's Toy Shoppe, 202 Oak St., Hood River

It turns out, kids have hobbies too. If you're shopping for little ones this holiday season, G. Williker's Toy Shoppe has all your family-friendly needs. For our young scientists, browse through several National Geographic products, including gemstone, geode and fossil kits. For the artists, try Hey Clay's character sculpting sets. Board games, toy trucks, figurines, block sets and sporting equipment round out its impressive inventory — just in case your recipient moves on from their current obsession rather quickly.

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Recreation ... Get Outdoors

By Zach Thummel
Columbia Gorge News

Lifetime Kayak — \$250, Bi-Mart, 3300 W Sixth St., The Dalles

Give the gift of adventure with a Lifetime kayak that's perfect for paddling around local lakes or river coves. It's lightweight, durable, and easy to load up for a spontaneous day on the water. An affordable way to make next summer a splash.

Sleeping Bag — \$200, Shortt Supply, 116 Oak St., Hood River

Cold nights don't stand a chance against this cozy, lightweight sleeping bag from Shortt Supply. It packs down small but keeps you warm whether you're camping in the Gorge or road-tripping cross-country. A must-have for anyone who loves sleeping under the stars.

Brooke Shoes — \$155, Shortt Supply

Comfort meets style with these fan-favorite Brookes, built for anyone who's always on the move. Whether it's morning runs or long days on your feet, these shoes feel like walking on clouds. A gift that's practical, sporty, and sure to get plenty of miles.

The North Face Base Camp Gear Box — \$150, Doug's Sports, 101 Oak St, Hood River

Keep all your gear organized and road-trip ready with this rugged North Face storage box. It's tough enough for the back of a truck and sleek enough for the trunk of your car. Perfect for campers, climbers, and anyone who packs a lot into every weekend.

Electric Skillet with Lid — \$45, Bi-Mart

From campsite breakfasts to quick weeknight dinners, this electric skillet makes cooking simple anywhere there's an outlet. Easy cleanup, even heating, and a lid to keep everything warm — what's not to love? A great gift for anyone who likes to keep it hot and homemade.

Hard Shell Wallet — \$25, Margie's Outdoor Store, 405B E Steuben St., Bingen

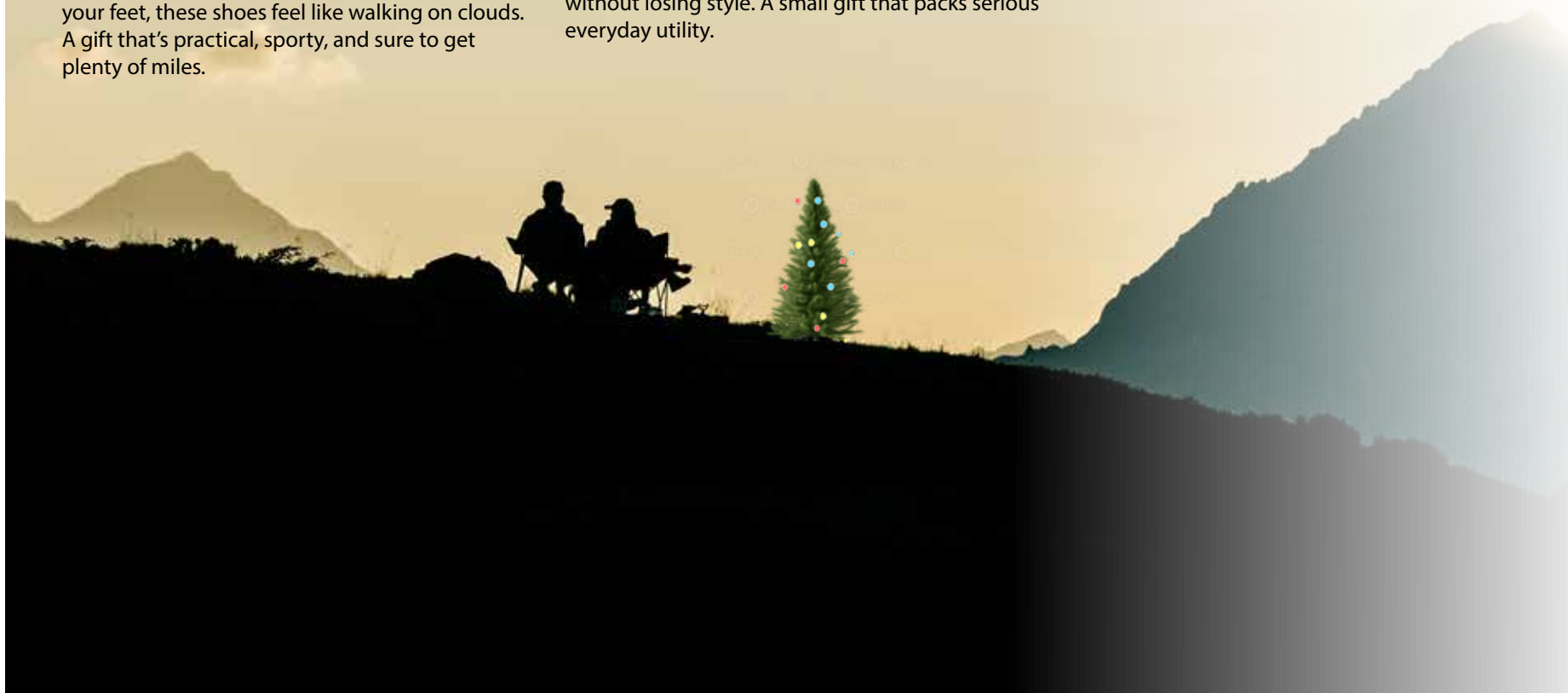
Sleek, compact, and built for durability, this hard shell wallet keeps your cards and cash protected from the elements. It's ideal for hikers, travelers, or anyone who wants to downsize without losing style. A small gift that packs serious everyday utility.

Beanie — \$18, parts + labour, 311 Oak St., Hood River

Stay cozy and stylish with this striped rib beanie that goes with everything from ski jackets to coffee shop flannels. It's soft, snug, and comes from one of downtown Hood River's coolest boutiques. Perfect for stocking stuffers or secret Santas.

Charcoal Chimney Starter — \$10, Bi-Mart

Fire up the grill faster (and without lighter fluid!) with this handy charcoal chimney. It's a backyard BBQ essential that even the casual griller will appreciate. Affordable, practical, and guaranteed to heat up any cookout.





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Antiques & **Vintage**

Nate Wilson

Columbia Gorge News

The more and more I look around, the more I believe that modern is synonymous with boring. Where's the inventiveness, the creativity, the care? Some things you should only buy new, of course, but underwear and mattresses aside, wouldn't you rather find your family and friends a gift that has character — that comes with a story — while saving some money over the holidays?

Apart from Goodwill and St. Vincent de Paul, there are plenty of locally-owned antique and second-hand stores scattered throughout the Gorge. Each of the following businesses boasts an expansive collection, one that a few paragraphs can't capture, but the owners picked out a few of their favorites, or at least tried to.

Red Wagon Antiques, 212 E. Second St., The Dalles

Sue and Gary Miller, along with Cathy Montgomery, co-own Red Wagon Antiques and have for the past 20 years. Relying almost exclusively on estate sales to populate their shelves, Sue joked that they have far too many storage units. Despite turning 81 this past June, both still have energy to meticulously fret over how the

store is arranged.

Sue highlighted Red Wagon's large collection of books specific to the Gorge, along with someone's personal sewing collection, pictured above. Additionally, Red Wagon has incredible glassware, a coin collection, furniture ranging from side tables to dressers and a surprisingly deep assortment of model tractors.

Cajun & Clover, 112b Oak St., Hood River

Cajun & Clover is arguably the most interesting basement in downtown Hood River, and it's a family affair, owned by Stephanie, Jim and Riley Koughan. Open for just over a year, the store serves as a showcase for Riley, who's a maximalist interior designer, but he "caught the designer bug from us," Jim said.

He emphasized that Cajun & Clover has trinkets that are hundreds of years old, or just a few decades; items from Japan and occupied Japan, along with ceramics from Germany and England; true mid-century oil paintings, but also basic renditions he called "motel art." Glowing under ultraviolet light, the uranium glass display is certainly a spectacle, and there's a children's corner with vintage board games and dolls, too.

Antiques & Oddities, 212 W Steuben St., Bingen

Across the river in Bingen, Antiques & Oddities takes the cake in terms of sheer quantity: the business spans several storefronts, two floors and features over 50 dealers. After selling his windsurfing fin manufacturing company, owner Steve Wolford opened the store in 1991 with around \$1,000 — most of which went toward the iconic sign — and the inventory he'd accumulated from going to auctions in Portland. He gradually learned the intricacies of importing and now has items from England, China, Belgium, India and other places.

Wolford said that his antique Chinese furniture is some of the finest you'll find, and highlighted his collection of baskets woven by local Indigenous peoples, including the Yakama and Klickitat tribes. Antiques & Oddities has everything from glassware to weaponry to clothing, though. There's a particularly large assortment of jewelry, especially for turquoise-lovers, and African masks.



Photos Far Left to Right:

An imperial, robin-colored glassware set for sale at Red Wagon.

Antiques & Oddities has a large collection of jewelry, especially for fans of turquoise.

One of Red Wagon's several model tractors on display.

Typical for Cajun & Clover, something is hanging on every available inch of wall space.

Old board games like Quizmo and vintage dolls complete the children's corner at Cajun & Clover.

A collection of thimbles, that was donated to Red Wagon Antiques.

Vintage fruit boxes from Pacific Northwest Packing companies in the basement of Antiques & Oddities.

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Gifts for **Cooks**

By Martin Gibson
Columbia Gorge News

So, what do you give a guy with a kitchen so well-stocked, he already has three nutmeg graters?

I know what I'd like: a fascinating new recipe printed on a nice shiny recipe card (probably at Bohn's Printing), the special ingredients it requires (from Farm Stand in The Dalles or Hood River — or even better, Hood River's winter Farmer's Market) and a shiny new tool I might need for it, like a lemon zester or one of those conical things you filter home-made applesauce with.

There's not really a one-size-fits-all storefront in The Dalles where you can find whatever recipe-related oddity you need. Check Sigman's Flowers for some neat platters, The Dalles Art Center for handmade cups and bowls and sturdy, colorful handwoven hand-towels, and a market or farm-stand like Sandoz Farm for fresh fruit, jams, pickles and jellies.

In Hood River, Arome sells gourmet foods and kitchen wares. If you need Black Truffle Sea Salt or other special spice, go have a look around; they have everything.

Don't forget the multitude of Hood River art galleries and their handmade pottery. They also sell everything bagel spice for \$5. Sprinkle it on avocado toast, eggs or roasted veggies for an instant flavor upgrade. It's a tasty, no-fuss gift that's perfect for the foodie in your life.

If you're not sure what your friend would like (might they hate nutmeg? Does cumin taste like soap to them?), Apple Valley Country Store sells gift certificates in any quantity, plus jams and fruit sauces.

To save your cash if needed, US Chef Store in The Dalles sells many excellent bulk ingredients. For example, would an almond cookie enthusiast like a massive bag of organic almond flour to go with their new recipe card and fancy cookie cutter?

Of course, the best gift for a best friend might just be your presence in the kitchen. If you know someone who truly loves cooking, or even someone who hates cooking but feeds you anyway for the other 364 days of the year, maybe throw them a party in appreciation of their work. Thanking the cook is one of the oldest and warmest gifts people give each other.



Clockwise from top left: Ceramic bowl, Made in The Gorge, \$125; Tag Linens, Sigman's Flowers, start \$34; rectangle bakers start \$49 and salad tongs \$14.95 at Sigman's Flowers; spices, Arome, Hood River; Santa salt and pepper shakers start \$24.99 at Waucoma Books; wooden bowls starting at \$45, microwave popcorn maker, \$20, rolling pen \$20 and alcohol-free mixer, \$37, all from Arome, Hood River.



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Gifts of Experience

Nate Wilson

Columbia Gorge News

Do you have to figure out a gift for somebody who already has everything? What about a particularly picky loved one? Or maybe you just can't stand to hand out more in shipping fees? Even though it's cold and oftentimes grey, the Gorge is chock full of experiences during the winter months that can serve in place of a physical present. Aren't memories more precious than objects anyway? Plus, they can be just for the recipient or a larger group.

The Society Hotel, 210 Cedar St., Bingen

On Cedar Street just outside of downtown Bingen, the Society Hotel offers a beautiful spa to relax and unwind, which many of us need over the holidays. Boasting an indoor saltwater soaking pool, outdoor hot pool, cold plunge pool and cedar sauna, you can either book an hour-long spa session for about \$32, or better yet, spend a few nights. On the low end, a single-person bunk costs \$36 a night while the Society's double-queen cabin runs \$220 a night, and there are several options in between. The spa also offers facials, Hungarian herbal back treatments and several waxings. Visit thesocietyhotel.com/bingen/ or call 509-774-4437 to book.

Tokki Art Supply, 409 Oak St., Hood River

Whether hoping to learn a new form or continuing to hone another, Tokki's Art Supply at 409 Oak St. in Hood River regularly hosts art classes, from the basics of acrylics to abstract watercolors, block printing, figure drawing and many more. Longtime artists teach each class, and in most cases, all the materials are provided, so there's no prior experience or resources required. Most range from \$50-60 in cost and last several hours — the perfect outlet for creative expression on a dreary

Sunday. Visit tokkiartsupply.com/classes to view the entire collection of classes and register.

Museum memberships

There are a variety of museums sprinkled throughout the Gorge. However, it's difficult to appreciate everything in just one visit, so get you friend or family member a membership and help support the keeping of history. Here's a list of options:

- Cascade Locks Historical Museum, Cascade Locks
- Columbia Gorge Discovery Center and Museum, The Dalles
- Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center Museum, Stevenson
- History Museum of Hood River County, Hood River
- Maryhill Museum of Art, Goldendale
- Western Antique Aeroplane and Automobile Museum, Hood River
- Gorge Heritage Museum, Bingen
- Fort Dalles Museum, The Dalles

Tierra de Lobos Winery, 2201 Osprey Lane W, The Dalles

While it's not the same as visiting over the summer, Tierra de Lobos Winery in The Dalles is open Thursday through Sunday all winter long. Nestled along the Columbia River, their tasting room at 201 Osprey Lane has fire pits, an expansive view of The Dalles Dam and Manny's Lonchera, a delicious Mexican food truck, on site. With rosés, two cabernet varieties, a sparkling Riesling and many others to choose from, you can treat someone to a tasteful afternoon or buy them a gift card. Check out tierradelobos.com/ for information and their hours, which vary by day, or call 541-769-0277.

Chemistry Jewelry, 310 Oak St. Unit 103, Hood River

Whether it's with a partner or friend, cement your relationship by getting custom Endless Bracelets together this holiday season at Chemistry Jewelry, 310 Oak St.

Unit 103. The permanent bracelets are measured, cut and welded around wrists in store, and Chemistry has a rotating selection of chain styles in 14k gold and sterling silver to choose from. Prices range from \$45-\$700, depending on style and material. Everyone deserves a little extravagance in their life, and Chemistry offers a great opportunity to make it an activity. Go to chemistryjewelry.com/ or call 541-386-7069 for more details.

A day on the slopes

For those who live in the Gorge, especially the adrenaline junkies, but don't have the gear, sponsoring a day on the slopes at one of several local ski resorts is a great option. Mt. Hood Skibowl, Timberline Lodge and Mt. Hood Meadows all offer rentals along with day passes. What better way to feel the holiday spirit than playing in the snow?

Mt. Hood Railroad, 110 Railroad St., Hood River

On select days from late November to early January, Mt. Hood Railroad runs its Polar Express Train where children can enjoy an interactive storytelling of the classic tale and truly feel the Christmas spirit. They'll also get a special visit from Santa and his elves, along with hot cocoa and a cookie during the 90-minute excursion. Tickets range in price from \$49-109 depending on age, train car and the date of your adventure. Mt. Hood Railroad also offers train ride during every other season, in addition to a fruit valley trolley and rail bikes, all of which you can explore at mthoodrr.com.

Photos above L to R:
Inside the Society Hotel's spa in Bingen.
(Courtesy of the Society Hotel)

Looking from the east outside of Goldendale, the Maryhill Museum of Art. (File photo)

Welding on one of Chemistry Jewelry's custom, permanent Endless Bracelets.
(Courtesy of Chemistry Jewelry)



Above: Encourage creativity over the holidays by sponsoring a class, like one for watercolor greeting cards shown above, for a friend or loved one at Tokki Art Supply.

At right: A day on the slopes.



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Jewelry Accessories



Twiggs offers a beautiful selection of jewelry for holiday gifts, with stunning options available at a variety of price points. Price range in this image \$48-\$164



Earrings starting at \$21
Dream Street, Hood River



Zen Lotus Design,
Made In The Gorge



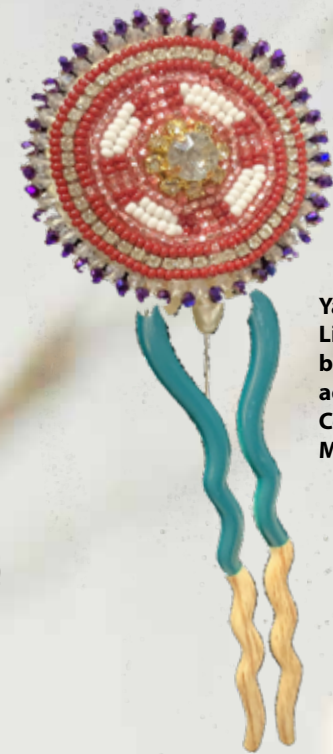
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Holiday HOME



Left: Twiggs has your favorite holiday scents to celebrate the season. Price range \$15-\$60; La-Z-Boy recliner sale \$949 Downey Furniture, The Dalles; Squirrel nutcracker, \$17 Arome, Hood River; Polar Bear original photo on metal \$125, Made in The Gorge, Antler style lamp, \$199, Downey Furniture, The Dalles; Ceramics Mugs, Made in The Gorge; Ceramic stoneware \$30-\$100, Columbia Center for The Arts; Holiday Pillow \$33, Dream Street. Below: Hood River; Standing Owl welcome in metal \$200 and Tree Cabinet \$525, Made in The Gorge, Hood River.



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