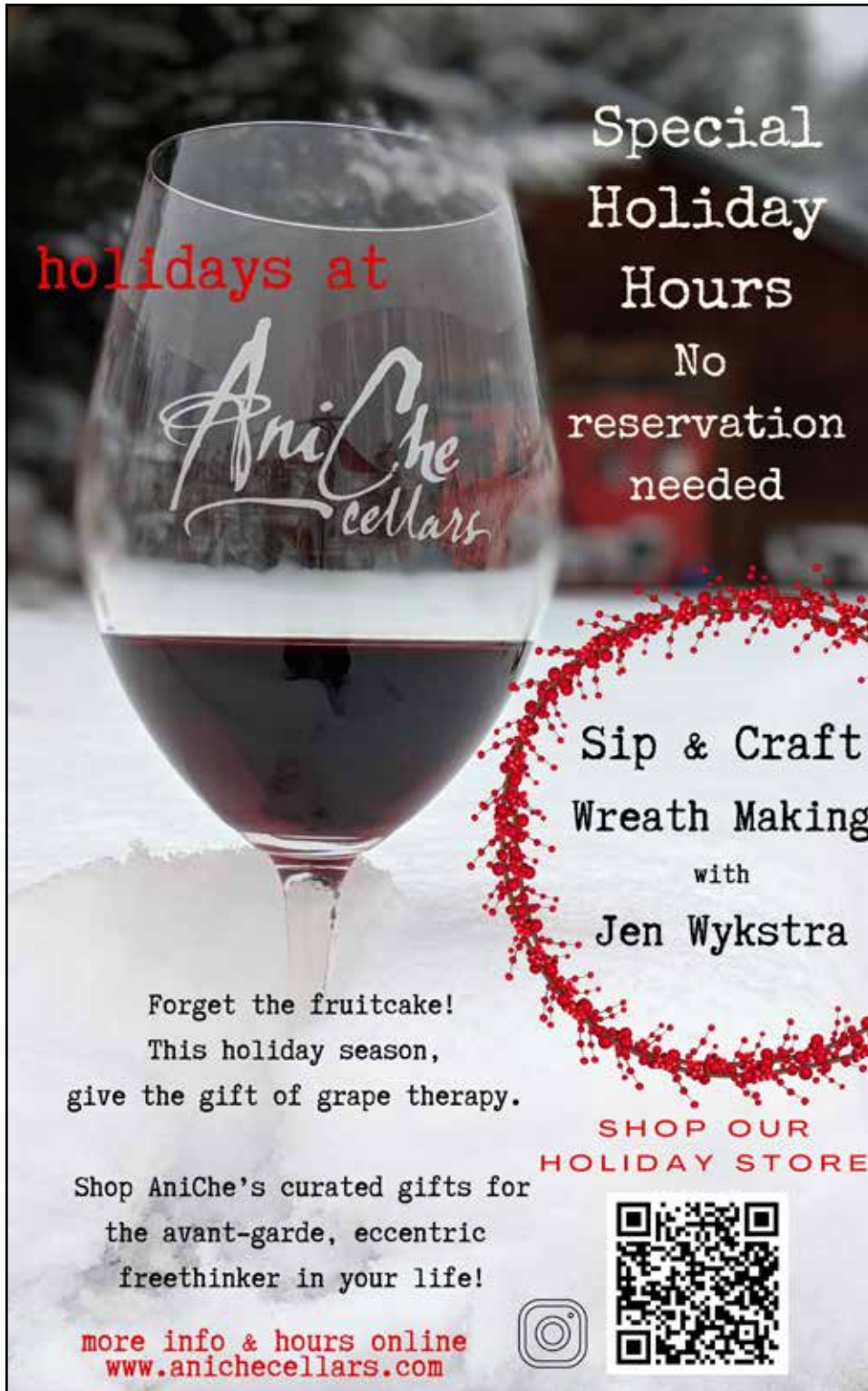




# Gift GUIDE

**2023 COLUMBIA GORGE NEWS**





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Wreath Making  
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Jen Wykstra

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# Table of Contents

OUR BEST FRIENDS	4
A GIFT OF BOOKS	6
HOBBIES & GAMING	9
FOR KIDS	10
FISHING GEAR	12
GIFTS FOR MEN	13
GIFTS FOR BIRDERS	14
HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS	16
JEWELRY	18
GIFTS OF EXPERIENCE	20
WINTER BOOTS	22
ART AROUND THE CORNER	24
STOCKING STUFFERS	26
GIFTS OF THE GORGE	28
WINTER CAR CARE	34

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# Our best friends deserve a special gift.

CHELSEA MARR  
Columbia Gorge News

Those friends who are always willing to obey and please, or at least try, are ready for a gift too. After all, pets are always appreciative of anything we give and they can't return it! If you have an overly friendly Labrador or a lazy cat, something on this gift list is sure to please. Our local animal shelters are also always needing donations



Left to right: Dog Bandana (\$20) and dog bone treat (\$5), at The Workshop in The Dalles. Hot Dogs leather dressed-up dog collars, starting at \$33 at Gorge Dog in Hood River. Swell Dog food topper and Dog Gelato, starting at \$10. Available at both Dog River Pet Supplies and Gorge Dog in Hood River.





Top left: to right: Fabdog Fluffies multiple squeakers and grunTERS in assorted sizes. Starting at \$20, at The Workshop in The Dalles. [www.thedallesworkshop.com](http://www.thedallesworkshop.com)

Woof Wild dog shampoo bar, \$9.50 at Herbal Revival Apothecary in The Dalles. [www.herbalrevivalapothecary.com](http://www.herbalrevivalapothecary.com)

Pendleton pet beds are available in a variety of styles and sizes. They can be found at both Gorge Dog and Dog River Pet Supplies in Hood River, starting at \$110.

Fox and Hound Natural Dog Shampoo (\$20). Herbal Revival Apothecary in The Dalles.

Finn Natural Soft Chews for calm, digestive aid, skin and coat and more (\$30). Herbal Revival Apothecary in The Dalles. [www.herbalrevivalapothecary.com](http://www.herbalrevivalapothecary.com)

RuffWear dog booties to protect those paws on rough terrain in winter conditions, starting at \$50. Gorge Dog in Hood River. [@gorgedoghoodriver.com](https://www.instagram.com/gorgedoghoodriver)

Burrow interactive puzzle dog toy. Starting at \$20. Gorge Dog in Hood River. [@gorgedoghoodriver.com](https://www.instagram.com/gorgedoghoodriver)

Dharma Dog Karma Cat Fish Cave, (\$80). Mouse toy (\$13.50). Doyen wobblers catnip and treat dispenser toy for cats. \$20 at Dog River Pet Supplies, Hood River. [www.dogriverpetsupplies.com](http://www.dogriverpetsupplies.com)







## By LOCAL AUTHORS

birdie & harlow by Taylor Wolfe, White Salmon

The Book of Silver Linings by Nan Fischer, Hood River

Cracked by Steven Hawley, Hood River

Let Them Eat Dirt by Andrea Bemis, Parkdale

Wild Grace by Chelan Harkin, White Salmon

The River We Remember, William Kent Krueger, formerly of Hood River

My Name is LaMoosh, Linda Meanus, Warm Springs Tribal Elder

# A Gift of BOOKS



TRISHA WALKER  
Columbia Gorge News

*I love books.*

*I love looking at cover art, I love the way books smell, I love the sound of pages turning. So it's probably not a shock that I also love finding the perfect books for family and friends on my holiday gift list.*

*The titles listed on pages 6-8 are just some of the Best of the Independent Northwest 2023 gift guide — for children, teens, tweens 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 simply ask for a recommendation (I've never met a bookseller who wasn't excited to offer suggestions). And if you're still having trouble deciding, gift certificates are available and equally welcome.*

*(A chance to wander around a bookstore? Okay!)*

Please keep in mind that area bookstores are still dealing with supply chain issues that include paper shortages and limited press availability — and that's all before any shipping issues inevitably arise. Start your shopping early, and be patient and understanding if the title you want isn't immediately available. Booksellers are working as hard as possible to keep up with demand.

## CHILDREN

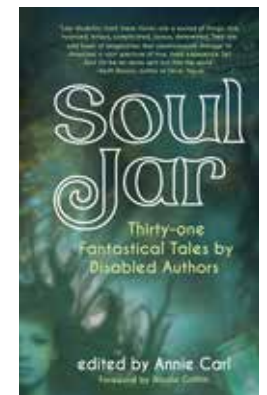
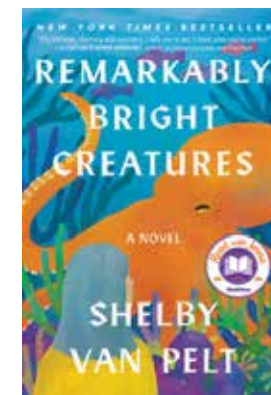
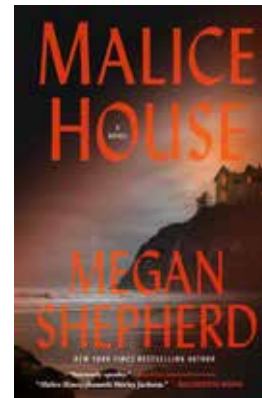
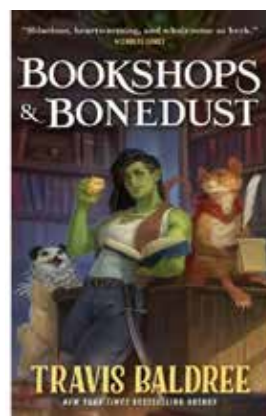
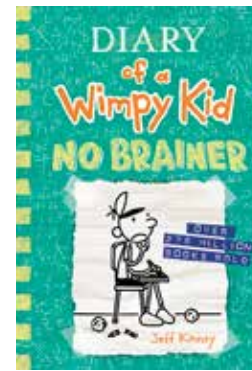
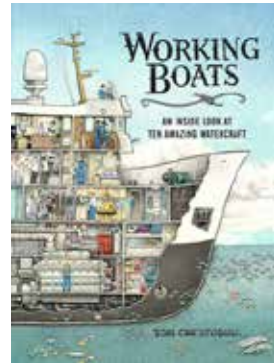
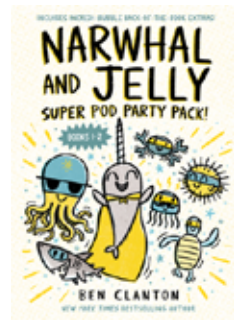
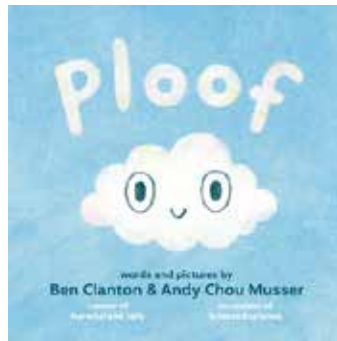
*Ploof* (hardcover) by Ben Clanton & Andy Chou Musser. Ages 2-5; \$18.99. Interactive new picture book series featuring a friendly cloud.

*Narwhal and Jelly: Super Pod Party Pack Books 1-2* (paperback) by Ben Clanton. Ages 6-9; \$9.99. Here's a double helping of Narwhal and Jelly in this two-book graphic novel bind-up of their first two adventures, with extras like drawing guides, a superhero name generator and more.

*Working Boats: An Inside Look at Ten Amazing Watercraft* (hardcover) by Tom Crestodina. Ages 7-10; \$19.99. Filled with full-page spreads of cross-sections of 10 intriguing working boats, this book provides a glimpse into their inner workings, as well as highlights of each boat's unique engineering components that enable it to do the job it was built for.

*No Brainer: Diary of a Wimpy Kid Book 18* (hardcover) by Jeff Kinney. Ages 8-12; \$14.99. Latest in the series; it's up to Greg to save his crumbling school before it's shuttered for good.





## TEENS AND TWEENS

*Alebrijes* (hardcover) by Donna Barba Higuera. Ages 10-14; \$18.99. When Gabi is caught stealing fruit from the Pocatelan elite, Leandro takes the fall. But his exile proves more than he ever could have imagined — his consciousness is placed inside an ancient drone and left to fend on its own. But beyond the walls of Pocatelan lie other alebrijes like Leandro, who seek for a better world, as well as mutant monsters, wasteland pirates, a hidden oasis, and the truth.

*How to Navigate Middle School: Kid Confident Book 4* (hardcover) by Anna Pozzatti, Bonnie Massimino, Bonnie Zucker (editor). Ages 11-14; \$16.99. *How to Navigate Middle School* shows readers how to handle the increasing academic demands of middle school, organizational skills and time management, how to be self-determined, have grit, and a sense of agency.

*Artifice* (hardcover) by Sharon Cameron. Ages 12 and up; \$19.99. A dramatic story of duplicity and resistance, betrayal and loyalty, set against the backdrop of World War II and featuring a gutsy heroine.

*The Spirit Bares Its Teeth* (hardcover) by Andrew Joseph White. Age 14 and up; \$19.99. September/October 2023 Kids Indie Next List. A blood-soaked and nauseating triumph that cuts like a scalpel and reads like your darkest nightmare. New York Times bestselling author Andrew Joseph White returns with the transgressive Gothic horror of our time.

## FICTION

*Bookshops & Bonedust: Legends & Lattes* (paperback) by Travis Baldree. Fiction; \$17.99. When an injury throws a young,

battle-hungry orc off her chosen path, she may find that what we need isn't always what we seek. Set in the world of New York Times bestselling "Legends & Lattes," Baldree's *Bookshops & Bonedust* takes you on a journey of high fantasy, first loves, and secondhand books.

*Malice House* (paperback) by Megan Shepherd. SciFi & fantasy; \$17.99. First book in The Malice Compendium series. Dark magic, family secrets and monsters that won't stay fictional with a contemporary horror tone.

*Remarkably Bright Creatures* (hardcover) by Shelby Van Pelt. Fiction; \$29.99. May 2022 Indie Next List. A luminous novel about a widow's unlikely friendship with a curmudgeonly giant Pacific octopus reluctantly residing at a local aquarium.

*Soul Jar: Thirty-One Fantastical Tales by Disabled Authors* (paperback) by Annie Carl (editor). SciFi & fantasy; \$18. Too often, science fiction and fantasy stories erase — or cure — characters with disabilities. *Soul Jar*, edited by author and bookstore owner Annie Carl, features 31 stories by disabled authors, imagining such wonders as a shapeshifter on a first date, skin that sprouts orchid buds, and a cereal-box demon.

## NONFICTION

*The Lost Supper: Searching for the Future of Food in the Flavors of the Past* (hardcover) by Taras Grescoe. Food writing; \$29.95. In the tradition of Michael Pollan, Anthony Bourdain, and Mark Bittman, "a surprising, flavorsome tour of ancient cuisines" from Neolithic bread to ancient Roman fish sauce, and why reviving the foods of the past is the key to saving the future.

*My Name is LaMoosh* (paperback) by Linda Meanus. Ages

8-12; \$14.95. Warm Springs Tribal Elder Meanus shares her unique and compelling life story of growing up near Celilo Falls before construction of The Dalles Dam.

*100 Bike Rides of a Lifetime: The World's Ultimate Cycling Experiences* (hardcover) by Roff Smith. Sports & recreation; \$35. This illustrated guide from National Geographic reveals the ultimate bucket list destinations for cyclists, from the vineyards of New Zealand to the peaks of Patagonia.

## COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS

*We Are Not Strangers* (hardcover) by Josh Tuininga. Comics & graphic novels, historical fiction; \$24.99. Inspired by a true story, this graphic novel follows a Jewish immigrant's efforts to help his Japanese neighbors while they are incarcerated during World War II.

*The Mysteries* (hardcover) by Bill Watterson and John Kascht (illustrator). Comics & graphic novels, supernatural/fantasy; \$19.99. From Bill Watterson, bestselling creator of the comic strip *Calvin and Hobbes*, and John Kascht, one of America's most renowned caricaturists, comes a mysterious and beautifully illustrated fable about what lies beyond human understanding.

*The Calvin and Hobbes Portable Compendium Set 1* (paperback) by Bill Watterson. Comics & graphic novels, humorous; \$19.99. The first set of books collecting Watterson's *Calvin and Hobbes* comics features nearly 500 comics from the strip's debut in November 1985 through March 1987; this is the first set in a series of seven.

Continued next page



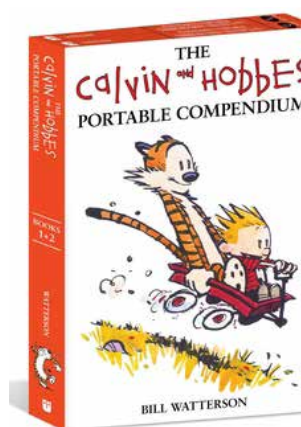
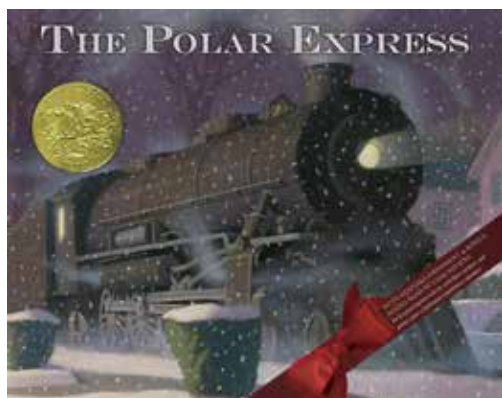
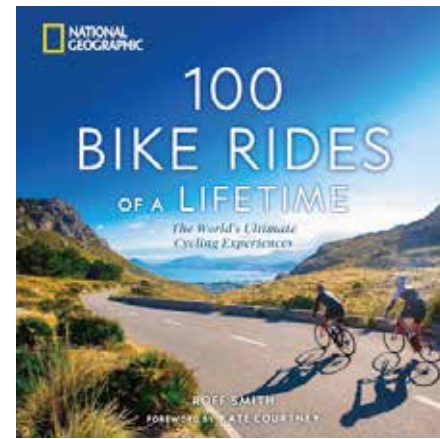
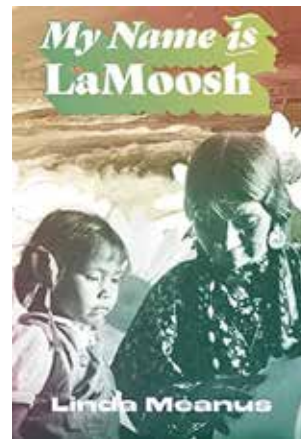
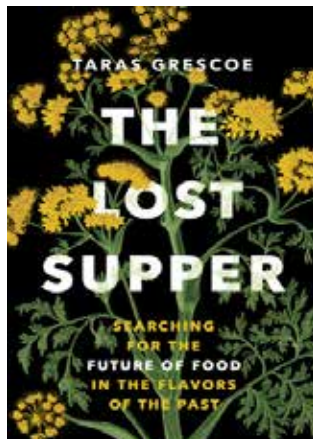
## LOCAL BOOKSELLERS

**Waucoma Bookstore**, 212 Oak St., Hood River, open Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Orders can be placed via telephone at 541-386-5353, email at [books@waucomabookstore.com](mailto:books@waucomabookstore.com), or online at [waucomabookstore.com](http://waucomabookstore.com). Curbside pickup and nationwide shipping are available.

**Artifacts — Good Books & Bad Art**, 202-A Cascade Ave., Hood River (inside Mall 202), open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week selling used books. No phone or email; [artifactsbookstore.com](http://artifactsbookstore.com).

**Klindts Booksellers & Stationers**, 315 E. Second St., The Dalles, open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Orders can be placed by phone at 541-296-3355 or online at [klindtsbooks.com/shop](http://klindtsbooks.com/shop).

**The Book Peddler, Used But Not Abused Books**, 154 E. Jewett, White Salmon, is open 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.-ish. Those looking for a specific used book may call the store at 503-341-7265 or fill out a form at [bookpeddler.net/services](http://bookpeddler.net/services). Because this is a used bookstore, just one or two copies of a book might be available. For more information, email [jbftiz@gorge.net](mailto:jbftiz@gorge.net).



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# Hobbies and Games

**ALANA LACKNER**  
Columbia Gorge News

Growing up, I always looked forward to the slower parts of the holidays. After the presents and between giant meals, those lazy afternoons where you're just enjoying your family's company. My favorite part about those afternoons was breaking out the board games and gathering around the table. A good game can be a great gift. And if your loved ones aren't really the board games type, that's okay! The winter is a perfect time to pick up a new hobby, and we've got ideas for that too.

Starting with board games, Hood River's got you covered with Hood River Hobbies. They have quite the variety of board games, including some of my personal favorites like Codewords and Sherlock Holmes: Consulting Detective. They also have lots of models, from miniature houses to old cars, as well as what I've always called adult coloring books, though these are great for all ages. They're more intricate

than the ones you would usually see for kids, and there's something soothing about just coloring in some nice pictures of birds or flowers.

Those looking for board games in The Dalles should try Brick City Games, though Klindt's has some too. The great thing about Brick City is that their specialty is Lego, and who doesn't love Lego? They have more intricate sets, like race cars or motorcycles, but they also have just bags of Lego you can fill up for as little as \$9. You can also make your own Lego figure or doll for \$5.

Looking for something for that artistic loved one? Look no further than Tokki Art Supply in Hood River. With loads of different art supplies, journals and books about art and crafting, Tokki is an aspiring artist's paradise. Urban Paper in The Dalles is also a great option, with lots of stickers, stamps and stencils. Perfect for scrapbooking, journaling or just creating in general, there's sure to be something for that lucky crafter in your life.

Another option is giving your loved one the gift of music. With streaming being so prevalent, it can be hard to know where to start. Yesterday and Today in The Dalles has a lot of options for physical albums, from vinyl to CDs. They sometimes even get rare or exciting pieces in, so it's always worth a stop by. You never know what you might find!

**Brick City Games: Lego Botanical Collection Succulents, \$70.**

**Yesterday and Today: Yesterday and Today has a large variety of albums from records to CDs.**



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# For Kids

ALANA LACKNER  
Columbia Gorge News

**There's nothing more magical** than the holiday season through the eyes of a child. The work and stress of planning, prepping and purchasing all becomes worth it when you see their eyes light up. This year, give yourself the gift of your little one's joy with the perfect present, purchased right here in the Gorge.

Every child is different, but luckily, the Gorge is full of amazing local businesses with lots of options. If your child is a voracious reader, look no further than Klindt's in The Dalles. Besides being a great location to visit with its history as the oldest bookstore in Oregon, it also has an entire kids' room in the back. The room is brimming with kids' books, but also has many educational wooden toys for the tots who might not be reading yet but still have a natural curiosity and desire to learn.

The Workshop, located in The Dalles, also has many books for children, with a special twist. Many of the books featured at The Workshop have an Oregon focus. For example, *O is for Oregon* or *Let's Count Oregon: Numbers and Colors in the Beaver State*. They also sell a variety of stuffed animals as well as crafts for your artsy kiddo. In particular, I think their DIY ornaments are darling. For \$5, you get a little wooden ornament for your child to color and design, and you can hang it on your tree every year as a reminder of the holiday you shared together.

If you're hoping to get some cute clothes for that special kid in your life, I can't recommend Lucky Littles in Hood River enough. They have tons of cute clothes for babies and toddlers, as well as adorable baby toys. They also have some toy sets for the older kids, including a train set and a veterinarian playset that even comes with two "patients" to treat.

**CHRISTMAS**  
in the  
**GORGE**

Friday - Sunday  
December 1-3  
Downtown Stevenson

Family-Friendly Festivities Including  
Starlight Parade, Tree Lighting,  
Arts & Crafts Bazaar,  
Business Open Houses,  
Nativity Displays, & MORE!

Scan for event details

**HOLIDAY SALE**  
**Saturday, Dec. 2**  
10 am to 5 pm

Stop by  
The Columbia Gorge Museum  
Location: 990 SW Rock Creek Drive,  
Stevenson WA

For unique and local gifts...jewelry, art,  
cutting boards, pottery, and much more!!  
Open 7 days a week 9-5 pm!



The Workshop: Ganz Kids FlapJack Bear,  
\$26.00.





**G. Willikers: Miniland's collection of inclusive dolls aims to help children understand the values of inclusion and community life through play, promoting empathy and acceptance of people of any origin or condition; \$64.99.**

However, if what your kid really wants (as so many do) is capital-T toys, there are two great locations in the Gorge for that. In The Dalles, Emma's Bowtique has a ton of sweet stuffed animals, including the coveted Squishmallows and the equally cute but more affordable Squishables. They also have playsets, including some great kits for the technology-minded kiddos, like the Picasso Tiles solar-robot building kit. In Hood River, there's G. Willikers, which really does have something for every kid. They have Lego, lots of craft sets, board games, collectibles, tons of stuffed animals, educational kits and so much more. It's a must-see stop if you have any kids on your Christmas list — and even if you don't, I know going in there always makes my inner child smile. And really, isn't that what the holiday season is about?



**G. Willikers: Maileg Mouse Family, prices vary, see [gwtoysthoppe.com](http://gwtoysthoppe.com)  
Emma's Bowtique: KidzLabs Hologram Projector, \$16.99  
Emma's Bowtique: Picasso Tiles Solar Robot Science Building Kit, \$24.99  
G. Willikers: Large Kash Sasquatch, \$34.99**

**The Holiday Art & Craft Market**  
*One of a Kind Gifts Made by Local Artisans*  
**November 10 - December 24**



**Thursday - Sunday, 11 am - 5 pm**  
**The Dalles Art Center**

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# Fishing GEAR

**NOAH NOTEBOOM**  
Columbia Gorge News

## Gorge Fly Shop (Hood River)

Echo MPR (Micro Practice Rod, \$39.99) and accessories (Double Haul Kit, \$19.99; Spey Adaptor, \$19.99). Great way to practice casting in your home, office, or with your cat. Designed by Tim Rajeff to precisely imitate the feel and casting mechanics you would get from a full-sized rod. Designed for beginners and proficient casters.

Simms Cardwell Collection (\$199.95-\$249.95). This collection offers warm PrimaLoft Insulation that is rugged and comfortable for everyone on your holiday list. This series is available in a hooded jacket, shacket and vest.

Redington Field Kits (\$389.99-\$529.99). Check out the Redington Field Kits. They come in several variations applicable to fishing in both fresh and saltwater. The field kits come with rod, reel, line, backing, leader, and a Cordura rod/reel tube. Just tie a fly on, and you're fishing! Great gift for those who are looking to get started, but don't know where to start.

Grundens Deck Boss/Deviation Boots (\$109.99-\$139.99). Don't let the wet weather keep you inside. These ankle-high boots offer comfort and superior grip in slippery conditions with their razor sided gum soles. Gorge Fly Shop stocks both men's and women's boots. These make a great gift, but you will want to get yourself a pair at the same time.



## Skookum Outfitters (The Dalles)

Yakoda Gear Transport (\$274.99). The Gear Transport is a rugged, oversized bag built to haul your gear from your home base to the water and back. Stay organized and bring everything you need — hip packs, extra layers, and extra beers fit comfortably alongside your boots and waders. Available online and in-store.

Yakoda Slim Tin (\$24). Lightweight storage for your confidence flies, fits in a shirt pocket. Perfect size for a day trip. Available online and in-store.

Orvis Clearwater Waders (\$249). Value-priced, full feature men's wader. Modern fit to eliminate traditional wader bulk. Opposing side-release buckles allow for waist-high conversion. External storage pocket with stretch panel. Kangaroo-style handwarmer pocket. Available online and in-store.







Fish Jewelry starting at \$10. Flyfishing pin Skookum Outfitters, The Dalles



# Gifts for MEN

## NOAH NOTEBOOM Columbia Gorge News

Skookum Outfitters (The Dalles)

Patagonia Recrafted Wader Wallet (\$29)  
This lightweight, durable wallet has a clean design to carry your cash and cards and keep you organized. Assembled from highly durable, water-resistant, salvaged wader fabrics and built to last. Available Online and in-store

Skookum 16oz Miir 360 Traveler (\$32.95)

Simplify your travel plans and pack the double-wall vacuum insulated Miir 360 Traveler. Available online and in-store.

Sheppard's (Hood River)

Stihl Dirt Boss Easy Start RB 200 Pressure Washer (\$600)

This convenient pressure washer will clean your driveway, sidewalk or deck with no problem at all. The more inexpensive RB 200 model delivers 2,500 psi of water pressure with stainless valves and a 25-foot-long hose.

Stihl Handheld Garden Pruner (\$149)

This tool can be used to tame your garden bushes and shrubs. The 4-inch rotating blade is battery powered and is small enough to fit in your backpack. Battery and charger sold separately (\$109).

Celilo Bowmen's Club (The Dalles)  
Year membership (\$40)

The Dalles' best-kept secret gives anyone interested in archery or hunting the opportunity to see what it's like to shoot a bow and arrow. The 20-acre campus is complete with trails and other obstacles to challenge any level of experience. The club hosts special weekend events occasionally and allows overnight camping. Members receive special benefits that include 24/7 availability, equipment use, camping and much more. Give Todd a call at 541-965-0033 if you have questions. They give free trials to anyone interested.

## ETC .....

Gorge Fly Shop SafeSpace Toy Drive, through Dec. 24: All money and donations received are given directly to SafeSpace, with toys, blankets, gifts and other items collected at the store, placed under a Christmas tree. Monetary donations will be presented to SafeSpace after Christmas. Customers may qualify for a 10% discount by making a monetary donation of at least \$25 and/or donating goods valued at \$25 and over. Visit store for details.

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# Gifts for Birders and naturalists



## FLORA GIBSON Columbia Gorge News

One of the most useful gifts for a birder or nature enthusiast is an up-to-date field guide to their favorite creatures. *The Sibley Guide to Birds* is one of the most popular texts; the smaller incarnation, *Field Guide to the Birds of Western North America*, can be handily carried in a sturdy pocket. Whenever scientists update bird taxonomy, the field guides change; the latest update might be most appreciated. You can find that, a pack of Sibley's handy flashcards, a humorous bird calendar, or a book on bird biology and behavior at Waucoma or Kindt's, for under \$30. Klindt's Booksellers: 315 E. Second St., The Dalles, [www.klindtsbooks.com](http://www.klindtsbooks.com); and Waucoma Bookstore: 221 Oak St., Hood River, [www.waucomabookstore.com](http://www.waucomabookstore.com).

Explore Artifact Books for second-hand birding memoirs and scientific treatises, some of which are fascinating — for instance, *In Search of the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker*, by Jerome A. Jackson, happens to be on the shelf — and which make great presents for a curious naturalist. Artifact Books: 202-A Cascade Ave., Hood River, [www.artifacts-bookstore.com](http://www.artifacts-bookstore.com).

Which brings us to pockets. Pockets for field guides, pockets for handwarmers, pockets for lunch. In winter, that season of cold, wind, rain, and strange visiting sparrows, a birder's most-appreciated present could be a warm coat with lots of pockets, a cozy hat, or fingerless gloves! Beware of something too delicate and fashionable for a person who enjoys romping after magpies, though; that can be a muddy business.

In Hood River, Shortt Supply provides a variety of warm, tough outdoor clothing, and other supplies such as insulated canteens. They've got everything a birder could need in the way of coats, vests, and gloves for the chill wind blowing up the Columbia. There's a thick North Face jacket, and a Super-Strand vest for \$149. Shortt Supply: 116 Oak St., Hood River, [shorttsupply.com](http://shorttsupply.com).

For gloves, hats and scarves, Pistil Designs has got you covered, with their own lines of soft scarves, fingerless gloves (good for focusing binoculars and manipulating camera buttons in the cold), thick crew socks in a range of patterns, and warm beanies. Beanies and gloves range from about \$30 up; socks are \$20. Most are in dull colors and patterns, a good call for nature lovers: Fluttering white and neon colors can scare the wildlife away. Pistil Designs: 316 Oak St., Hood River; [pistildesigns.com](http://pistildesigns.com).

Laurel and Eddie not only carries a selection of artistic and warm hats and coats, they've got this lovely warm marigold Stripe Heart Crew sweater for \$125 for fashionable insulation under all the fluff you'll need to stay warm in a Gorge winter. Laurel and Eddie: 215 Oak St., Hood River, [laurel-eddie.com](http://laurel-eddie.com).

In The Dalles, Skookum Outfitters caters to those who, like anglers or maybe birders, spent their time out in the cold and wet. They've got their own lines of brimmed hats and warm beanies, as well as carrying more well-known brands like Patagonia. Prices from \$30 to about \$50 for a hat or some such. From the coats, you can choose a Clearwater waterproof wading jacket for about \$229, which could protect a birder and their notebooks even in very wet weather, or a warm Patagonia hooded vest for about \$149. Skookum Outfitters: 109 W. Second St., The Dalles, [www.skookumoutfitters.com](http://www.skookumoutfitters.com).

In art, some birders enjoy charming anthropomorphisms, and some prefer their painted birds to be identifiable to subspecies. Whether your friends enjoy photorealistic oil paintings or simple metal quail, local art galleries have something for them. At Art On Oak, you can find Elizabeth See's oil paintings of cranes, ducks, and songbirds. An oil painting of a sandhill crane is going for \$150, although prints — including a lovely depiction of a varied thrush and an Oregon dark-eyed junco — are less. Art On Oak also carries the work of several other artists, who explore the forms of salmon, trees, landscapes, and other subjects in their work. There are many other small galleries to explore in Hood River. Art On Oak: 210 Oak St., [artonoak.com](http://artonoak.com).

The Dalles Art Center carries a changing rotation of fine art and a wide selection of art cards, and there's always some birds on hand. My all-time favorite is a card featuring a delicate pencil sketch of an eagle's skull, perfect in every detail. Cards range from \$4 to \$5.

Other cards, including a thrush at her nest, can be found at Hood River Stationers, Klindt's Booksellers, and many other gift shops. The Dalles Art Center: 220 E. Fourth St., The Dalles, [thedallesartcenter.org](http://thedallesartcenter.org).

And for elegant statuary, stop by Sigman's Flowers and Gifts for a family of metal California quail, adults and chicks. Prices vary a little; one pair was \$19 and \$8 for an adult male and a fledgling. Sigman's Flowers and Gifts: 200 E. Second St., The Dalles, [www.sigmansflorist.com](http://www.sigmansflorist.com).

For small, colorful depictions of various species, try Spruce Gifts & Provisions for a sticker or a mug decorated in field-guide-style illustrations. And for small, detailed metal pins, find a soaring raven or the elegant outline of a heron for under \$10 at The History Museum of Hood River County, which also carries an assortment of wooden and painted pins. Spruce Gifts & Provisions: 204 Oak St., Hood River, [sprucegiftsandprovisions.com](http://sprucegiftsandprovisions.com). The History Museum of Hood River County: 300 E. Port Marina Drive, Hood River, [hoodriverhistorymuseum.org](http://hoodriverhistorymuseum.org).

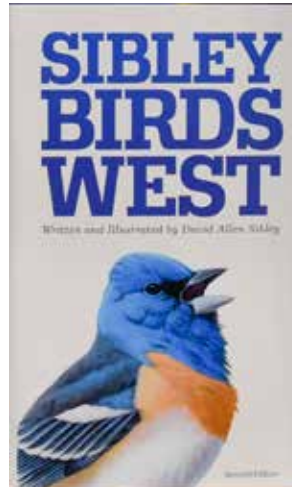
And finally, binoculars. This can be a highly personal choice, with some preferring 8x10 magnification, some very steady-handed people preferring 12x10, preferences for different brands, and so on. There's also a wide range in price and quality, in which this author is not expert.

Walmart carries a selection, including Nikon Aculon 10x42 for under a hundred and Bushnell Legend E Series for \$128. Big 5 Sporting Goods is another option, with Vortex, Barska and Bushnell, some for under a hundred as well others for higher price and quality. Big Five Sporting Goods: 420 Mt. Hood St.; [www.big5sportinggoods.com](http://www.big5sportinggoods.com).





Above: A sandhill crane in oils By Elizabeth See, at Art on Oak (\$150).



Clockwise from top left: Sibley Birds West, by David Allen Sibley, Waucoma Bookstore.



A meadowlark sticker, and a mug patterned with European birds, Spruce Gifts & Provisions.

Weatherproof hats, Skookum Outfitters (~\$49).

A metal bird, with fieldmarks of a California quail, perches at Sigman's Flowers and Gifts. (~\$19).

Flora Gibson photos



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# Holiday Happenings

See [columbiagorgenews.com](http://columbiagorgenews.com) for events submitted after publication deadline. Updated holiday events will also be featured in What's Happening in each weekly edition of *Columbia Gorge News*.

...

■ Now thru Dec. 24 — Holiday Art and Craft Market at The Dalles Art Center. Fine art and artisan craft items by local artists and makers. Open Thursday thru Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 220 E. Fourth St., The Dalles.

■ Nov. 22 — Thanksgiving Rocket Build and Launch with the Gorge Rocket Club, 5:30 p.m. at Hood River Hobbies, 110 Fourth St., Hood River. Cost \$20/kit, includes engine and instruction. Preregister to ensure

kit is ordered and for notification if event is canceled. **Launch Nov. 23** at 10 a.m. at Wy'east Middle School, weather permitting. For info, see [gorgerocketclub.com](http://gorgerocketclub.com).

■ Nov. 23 — Third Annual Turkey Trot Benefit Run, 8-10 a.m. at Lewis and Clark Festival Park. First and Union streets, The Dalles. 5K run/walk and family fun run. Benefits The Next Door Inc. Sponsored by Columbia Gorge Toyota and Honda.

■ Nov. 23 — Twin Tunnels Turkey Trot Fun Run, 9 a.m. to noon at the Mark O. Hatfield West Trailhead, 2300 Old Columbia River Drive, Hood River. 5K, 12K and kids' races. Dress in your best turkey costume. Pies awarded to top finishers in every category. All proceeds support Mosier Community School. Adults \$15 (or 0 day of), kids 2-27 \$5 (or \$10 day of), family special (two adults, all kids in the household) \$35, preregistration only. Kids under 2 are free. Preregistration ends Nov. 22. Preregister at Eventbrite (key words: Twin Tunnels Turkey Trot Fun Run).

■ Nov. 24 — Starlight Parade, 6-8 p.m. beginning at The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce, 404 W. Second St., The Dalles.

■ Nov. 25 — Small Business Saturday. Celebrate and support small,

local businesses and all they do for their communities.

■ Dec. 1 — Winter Wonderland Holiday Festival, 5-7 p.m. on Oak Street between First and Sixth streets, Hood River. Tree lighting ceremony 7 p.m. There's a good chance Santa will make an appearance.

■ Dec. 1-2 — Vintage Bazaar in the Hood River Hotel's Emerald Room. Details to come.

■ Dec. 1-2 — Festival of Trees. Gala and live auction Dec. 1 at 6 p.m.; auction begins at 7 p.m. Cost \$20/person online at [mcmc.net/foundation/events/festival-of-trees/donate-now](http://mcmc.net/foundation/events/festival-of-trees/donate-now). Community day to view trees, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to noon.

■ Dec. 1-3 — Christmas in the Gorge, downtown Stevenson. Community events, business open houses, more. For details, visit [facebook.com/ChristmasInTheGorge](http://facebook.com/ChristmasInTheGorge).

■ Dec. 1-22 — Festival of Lights Art Show at Columbia Center for the Arts, 215 Cascade Ave., Hood River. Features Gorge artists in various media, small pieces affordably priced for gift giving. Show opens Dec. 1. More at [columbiaarts.org](http://columbiaarts.org).

■ Dec. 3 — Maupin Holiday Festival: Merry and Bright, 2-6 p.m. in





Maupin. Holiday crafts at the library. Santa 2:30 p.m. Hot chocolate and mulled wine. Carols, Christmas music, warming stations in the park. Traditional Christmas tree lighting ceremony 5 p.m. For more information contact Maupin City Hall, [cityhall@cityofmaupin.org](mailto:cityhall@cityofmaupin.org).

- Dec. 5 & 7 — Tree of Remembrance, 5 p.m. Tuesday at Anderson's Tribute Center Celilo Chapel, 204 E. Fourth St., The Dalles, and Thursday at Anderson's Tribute Center, 1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River. Service provides space and time to honor loved ones who have passed. Free, open to all.

- Dec. 9 — WAAAM Second Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1600 Air Museum Drive, Hood River.

- Dec. 9-10 — Last Chance Holiday Craft Show, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hood River County Fairgrounds, 3020 Wy'east Road, Odell.

- Dec. 10 — Rock the Holidays 2023 Aaron Meyer Christmas Concerts, 1 p.m. kids and 4 p.m. general admission at the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn Gorge Room. Annual United Way fundraiser. Kids concert: \$10 for kids 12 and under, \$12 for adults; general admission, \$85 preferred

(includes glass of wine/beer and appetizers at a pre-concert party with Aaron at 3:15 p.m.), \$30 general admission, \$15 kids 12 and under. Tickets at Waucoma Bookstore, [unitedwaycolumbiagorge.org](http://unitedwaycolumbiagorge.org), or at the door.

- Dec. 13 — Winter Décor Workshop, 5-7 p.m. at The Workshop Gift Shop & DIY Bar, The Dalles. Sign up at [thedallesworkshop.com](http://thedallesworkshop.com).

- Dec. 15 — Maker's Market, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at The Workshop Gift Shop & DIY Bar, The Dalles. Sign up at [thedallesworkshop.com](http://thedallesworkshop.com).

- Dec. 15 — Downtown The Dalles Sip & Shop, 5-8 p.m. in downtown The Dalles.

- Dec. 16 — Hapa Hillbillies Annual #@%\$ Christmas Concert, 5:30-8 p.m. at The Ruins, 13 Railroad St., Hood River. Tickets \$10.

- Dec. 19 — Holiday Cookie DIY Class with Dani's Kitchen, 3-5 p.m. at The Workshop Gift Shop & DIY Bar, The Dalles. Sign up at [thedallesworkshop.com](http://thedallesworkshop.com).

- Dec. 21 — A Patrick Lamb Charlie Brown Christmas, 6:30 p.m. at Hood River Middle School. General admission is \$25, available at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com). Family-friendly.





# JEWELRY

Jewelry is always the perfect gift. Many stores in The Gorge offer something beautiful, from a simple set of earrings or a bold necklace, to a unique feathered style. Here is a sampling of items that several *Columbia Gorge News* staffers found while shopping the Gorge.



**Zodiac Necklace with chain (\$192).**  
Arrowleaf Workshop, White Salmon;  
@arrowleafworkshop

**Unique pocketknife necklace keychain \$35**  
or on the chain with initial charm \$120  
Arrowleaf Workshop, White Salmon.

**Fairtrade beaded necklace (\$55)**  
at Lines of Designs, The Dalles;  
[www.linesofdesigns.com](http://www.linesofdesigns.com)



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Clockwise from top left: Beaded keychain ring (\$30). The Workshop in The Dalles; [www.thedallesworkshop.com](http://www.thedallesworkshop.com).

Tumbleweed feather studded earrings are \$26. The Workshop in The Dalles; [www.thedallesworkshop.com](http://www.thedallesworkshop.com).

Bracelet, Lilli's Jewels, White Salmon; [www.lillisjewels.com](http://www.lillisjewels.com).

Earrings, Arrowleaf Workshop, White Salmon; . @arrowleafworkshop

Pendant, Lilli's Jewels, White Salmon; [www.lillisjewels.com](http://www.lillisjewels.com).

Triple Stack earrings with Green Kyanite, Angel Eyes Shells and Green Jade, \$55. Made in The Gorge, Hood River; [www.madeinthegorge.com](http://www.madeinthegorge.com).



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# Gifts of Experiences

**TRISHA WALKER**

Columbia Gorge News

We all have those hard-to-buy-for people on our holiday lists — because they already have everything, or don't want anything. In either case, gifts of experiences are fun alternatives to traditional presents. There are options for every taste and budget, and they can be for the recipient alone or include a whole group.

## Christmas train

From Nov. 24 through Dec. 27, you can schedule a one-and-a-half-hour ride on the Mt. Hood Railroad's special Christmas Train. The train departs from the station at 110 Railroad Ave., Hood River. Characters from the book "The Train to Christmas Town" welcome and accompany pajama-clad passengers on the round-trip journey to the North Pole. Enjoy hot chocolate and a cookie while the story is read aloud on the trip up; on the way back, Santa and his elves board the train and present each child with a special gift. The remainder of the journey includes traditional Christmas songs and interaction with the characters. Passengers are inside the train cars for duration of the excursion.

Prices per person vary (packages are available), depending on ages and car preference, starting at \$49. Tickets and more information are available at [mthoodrr.com](http://mthoodrr.com).

## Museum memberships

Our local museums are still recovering from COVID-19 closures. Memberships help keep their doors open, and all have gift shops with unique merchandise you won't find anywhere else. When was the last time you visited? Here's your chance — and a list to get you started:

- 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

## Drive-up movies

Sunshine Mill, 901 E. Second St., The Dalles, shows movies on a big screen located on the side of the old smokestacks — and offers public and private screenings. Private screenings include space for 39 vehicles and three hours of staffing. Staff prepare snacks and drinks for delivery to each car, or guests can purchase them in the tasting room. There's a full appetizer and drink menu, as well as hot dogs, ice cream, soda, candy and, of course, popcorn. There's a flat fee: Sunday through Thursday, \$3.50, and Friday and Saturday, \$5. Or purchase tickets for any of their movie nights, which start when the sun sets. For more info, visit [sunshinemill.com/drive-up-movies](http://sunshinemill.com/drive-up-movies).

## Hot baths

Carson Hot Springs, 372 St. Martin's Springs Road, Carson, has a full-service spa where your recipient can enjoy a massage and recreational amenities including a hot spring, indoor pool and a golf course. There's also the option of an overnight stay in one of their 28 rooms. They offer a variety of specials as well; visit [carsonhotspringswashington.com/specials](http://carsonhotspringswashington.com/specials). For more information, call 509-427-8296 or email [res@carsonresort.com](mailto:res@carsonresort.com).

There's also Tenzen Springs, 932 Berge Road, Stevenson, which features six cabins on a 100-acre property. Each has a wraparound deck, queen size beds, small kitchenette, indoor steam sauna shower and a geothermal spring water soaking tub. Cabin reservations require a 2-day minimum and 7-day maximum. For more information, call 509-540-3260 or email [booking@tenzensprings.com](mailto:booking@tenzensprings.com).

## Ride a bike

Maybe you've got someone on your list who is curious about e-bikes — or maybe just enjoys getting out and about in scenic places. Renting an e-bike is a fun alternative to seeing the sights via car.

Bike the Gorge has two locations in Cascade Locks: 455 WaNaPa St., and 15 Herman Creek Lane. A helmet and lock are included. Bike the Gorge also has its Ride Guide that includes more than 11 miles of car-free paths and trails ([bikethegorge.org/rideguide](http://bikethegorge.org/rideguide)). Gift cards are available on their website at [bikethegorge.org/rentals](http://bikethegorge.org/rentals). Prices vary.

Sol Rides, 13 Oak St. No. A, Hood River, offers e-bike rentals





Photos, page 20

At left, a family dressed for the Christmas Train readies to board at Mt. Hood Railroad depot. Caleb "Sprinkles" Saylor and Maiya "Jingles" Kempton greet the riders.  
CGN file photo

Middle, Maryhill Museum of Art, located in Goldendale.  
Photo courtesy Maryhill Museum

At right, Jodie Gates, Oregon E-Bikes co-owner, gives an e-bike demo.  
CGN file photo

Photos, this page

At left, guests park at the Sunshine Mill Drive-In watch a movie from their cars.  
Photo courtesy Sunshine Mill

Top right, gift cards from coffee shops (or another local business) are a never-fail gift.  
Adobe Stock photo

Bottom right, the soaking spa at Tenzen Springs, Stevenson, with running water from the natural spring that looks out over the Columbia River Gorge.  
Noah Noteboom / file photo

— and wine tours, daily tours (Twin Tunnels & Beyond, Hood River Valley, and Columbia River Gorge), and custom tours. Book a tour or order a gift [www.solrides.com](http://www.solrides.com). Prices vary. For more information, contact 541-399-5215 or [ebiketours@solrides.com](mailto:ebiketours@solrides.com).

Hood River Mountain Bike Adventures also offers tours and rentals — of mountain bikes and e-bikes. There are half-day, full day and custom tours available. Packages vary. Visit [bikehoodriver.com](http://bikehoodriver.com) or contact Greg Galliano at 503-705-3592 or [greg.galliano@gmail.com](mailto:greg.galliano@gmail.com). Rentals are provided by partner Dirty Fingers Bicycle Repair, 1813 Suite A Cascade Ave., Hood River.

You can also rent e-bikes at Oregon E-Bike, 207 Front St., Hood River (call 541-386-6086 or email [info@oregon-ebikes.com](mailto:info@oregon-ebikes.com)).

#### Other ideas

**Professional portraits:** There are many photography studios in the Gorge, as a quick internet search will tell you. Gift a photo package (let the recipient pick the date and time) to grandparents, families young and old, graduating high school or college students, or a pet owner.

**Massages:** I don't know if you've noticed, but it is a stressful world out there. Again, there are many licensed massage therapists in the Gorge — send your recipient to any one of them for a self-care session.

**Coffee cards:** Treat your resident coffee fiend with a gift card from one of the many local cafés in town. Tie it to a bag of locally roasted beans and you are guaranteed a smashing success. (Mom, are you reading this?) Coffee shops also have tea options as well for those who are less coffee-minded.

**Bookstore gift certificates:** When my kids were younger, this gift was always very well received. An outing *and* a book? Thrilling. Also, our local independent bookstores are akin to a treasure chest — you never know what you'll find.

**Concert, theater, movie and art tickets:** There are so many different music, theater, movie and art gallery options in the Gorge. Pick your favorite. Find an upcoming event. Purchase the necessary tickets. Then go have fun.



# Winter Boots and Shoes

**KELSIE COWART**  
Columbia Gorge News

**Looking for the perfect gift to give your loved ones this winter? You can't go wrong with a good pair of boots to keep your friends and family warm (and fashionable) this season. Whether you are looking for something functional, casual, chic or trendy, these local shops have just what your looking for!**

## Willow + Bark

203 E. Second St., The Dalles

Willow + Bark is a boutique specializing in the selling of women's and infant's clothing, accessories, shoes and home décor, along with gifts and bath and body products for women, men and infants. They are open Tuesday through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can reach them at 541-409-3101, on Facebook, or their Instagram page @willowandbarkb. You can also shop their website, willowandbarkboutique.com.

## Terra Cotta Gorge Co. Boutique

111 E. Second St., The Dalles

Terra Cotta specializes in modern boho fashions, accessories, décor, and gifts for women, children and infants. They are open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and

Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can reach them at 541-769-0550, on their Facebook and their Instagram @terracottagorgeco, or shop their website at terracottagorgeco.com.

## Discount Plus

212 E. Second St., The Dalles

Discount plus is retail and wholesale outlet store. Along with grocery, bath, and home products, décor and toys, discount plus also sells a variety of men, women's and children's clothing. They are open daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. for their winter hours. They can be reached at 541-769-1060. For more information you can visit their website at www.discountsplus.com.

## Las 3 Hermanas and El Guerrero Boots

509 E. Second St., The Dalles

Formerly known as Blossomly Boutique, Las 3 Hermanas is a local boutique that sells a variety of trendy and affordable women's formal, casual, and intimate clothing, accessories, and shoes. Located in the same shop, El Guerrero Boots sells a variety men's, women's and children's western wear fashion, accessories and boots. They are open Tuesdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. You can contact El Guerrero Boots at 541-965-8833. Find them both on Facebook, or on their Instagrams @las3hermana.s and @elguerrero boots.

## Lucky Littles Boutique

201 Oak St., Hood River

Lucky Littles is a boutique that sells fashion, accessories, products, and toys for newborns through children size 10/11, as well as essentials for expecting mothers. Open Sunday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. They can be reached at 541-436-3514, by email at luckylittlesllc@gmail.com, on their Instagram @luckylittlesboutique or their Facebook page. You can also shop their website shopluckylittles.com.

## The Ruddy Duck

504 Oak St., Hood River

Ruddy Duck is a store that carries a variety of clothing, shoes, accessories, gifts, textiles and home décor for women, men and kids. They are open Wednesday through Sundays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Tuesdays, 10 p.m. to 5 p.m. You can reach them at 541-386-5050, info@shoptheruddyduck.com, on Instagram @theruddyduck, and their Facebook page. You can also view their website at ruddyduckhoodriver.com.

## Doug's Hood River

101 Oak St., Hood River

Along with being a complete, full-service ski and snowboard shop, Doug's Hood River sells a variety of men and woman's fashion, outdoor apparel, gear, accessories, luggage tools and more. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., they can be reached at 541 386-5787. Find them on Facebook and Instagram @doughoodriver. Shop their website at doughoodriver.com.



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@willow\_bark\_boutique | willowandbarkboutique.com



**HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE**

**lucky littles**  
BOUTIQUE

201 Oak Street  
shopluckylittles.com



**Christmas wreaths & ornaments**  
Ornament Special-buy 2 & get 1 free of equal or lesser value

**Sigman's**  
FLOWERS & GIFTS

(541) 296-2171  
200 E 2nd St, The Dalles, OR 97058  
www.sigmansflorist.com



**Shortt Supply**

116 Oak St., Hood River

Shortt Supply is a locally owned outdoor recreation shop that sells variety of outdoor apparel, shoes, gear, accessories and supplies. They are open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. They can be reached at 541-386-5474. Find them on Facebook and Instagram @shorttsupplyco. You can shop their website at shorttsupply.com.



From top, left to right:

Ochre women's EU size 38 Miz Mooze Carlitos ankle cowboy boots from The Ruddy Duck for \$195

Brown Toas heeled Crave boot in women's EU size 37 from Willow + Bark for \$250

Colorful Jan & Jul stay-put cozy booties for infants 3-12 months from Lucky Littles for \$32

**Dream Street Boutique**

209 Oak St., Hood River

Dream Street Boutique sells a variety of women's fashion, décor and spa accessories. They are open Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. They can be reached at 541-386-1530, or at dreamstreetboutique@gmail.com. Find them on Facebook, or their Instagram @dreamstreetboutique.



Brown heeled women's size 7.5 cowboy boots from Las 3 Hermanas and El Guerrero for \$210

Green and Black mens Kamik Empire Lo boots from Doug's Hood River for \$110

Black and white plaid children's size 6 rain boots from Discount Plus for \$14.99

**Footwise Hood River**

413 Oak St., Hood River

Footwise Hood River sells a variety of men's, women's and children's footwear and accessories including shoes, boots, sandals and clogs from a multitude of brands. They are open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. They can be reached at 541-308-0770. Find them on Facebook or their Instagram @footwisefootwear. Shop their website footwise.com/pages/footwise-hood-river.



Black heeled Toas combat boot in women's EU size 37 from Willow + Bark for \$250

Green faux snakeskin heeled boot from Terra Cotta Gorge Co. for \$120

Black GMG children's size 1 slouch boots from Discount Plus for \$10.99



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109 E 2nd Street The Dalles, OR 97058  
(541) 656-0037  
www.skookumoutfitters.com



# Art around the corner

## LAUREL BROWN

Columbia Gorge News

With galleries in downtown Hood River like 301 Gallery and Made in the Gorge, or spaces like The Dalles Art Center, it's easy to understand that the Gorge is an art destination, and this time of year artisans and admirers alike are preparing for the holidays.

The good news is that you don't have to go very far to find wonderful gifts for your loved ones. Check out unassuming local spaces this holiday season for unique artwork of all sorts: From acrylic and spray paint to woodworking and metalsmiths, so many pieces of art could make the perfect present for your friends or family. Some work is one-of-a-kind while other pieces might have multiple prints, but it's best not to wait — many artists welcome commissioned work or custom pieces too! Support local businesses and artists in a way you didn't realize was possible this holiday season.

## Solera Brewery

541-352-5500; 4945 Baseline Drive, Parkdale

Open Monday and Tuesday from 4-9 p.m., Thursdays from noon to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from noon to 10 p.m. and

noon to 7 p.m. Sunday; closed Wednesday.

With great views of Mount Hood and an ever-changing tap list, Solera Brewery in Parkdale is off the beaten path for many Gorge locals, but they're ready to sell tastings and art all the same. Their current work on display is from Basque-American artist Anna Laxague. She uses primarily reclaimed or salvaged wood as the base of her pieces and paints simple mountain scenes on top of the finished wood. You can even check out Solera's merchandise options while browsing for the perfect piece of art by Laxague.

## Somegirls' Pottery

Hood River; [www.somegirlspottery.com](http://www.somegirlspottery.com) and @somegirlspottery on Instagram

A local favorite, Dyana Fiediga is a ceramic artist and owner of The Clay Commons studio space in Hood River, where her art comes to life. From dinnerware and mugs to wall and shelf décor, Somegirls' Pottery can be found all over the Gorge and PNW: Dog River Coffee, Twiggs, and the Hood River Farmers Market in Hood River and Lady Fern in Parkdale. Her ceramic pieces can be found in sets or one-of-a-kind and they make great gifts for everyone.

## Mugs Coffee

509-281-3100; 221 W. Steuben St., Bingen

Open Monday thru Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed Sunday.

In addition to some of the tastiest lattes around, Mugs Coffee sells artwork by Fire and Pine, 100% American-made art from Ridgeland, South Carolina. The engraved wall décor can be customized however you or your loved ones like. Currently, Mugs has pieces that show detailed maps of the Columbia River Gorge, Washington and Oregon. Drop in for a Bingen Basil Bagel while you knock another gift off your shopping list.

## Buddy's Beer Arcade

503-708-1293; 455 WaNaPa St., Cascade Locks

Open Thursday and Friday from 4-8 p.m., Saturday from noon to 8 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.;

closed Monday thru Wednesday.

At Buddy's, kids and adults alike can find vintage videogames to bond over — but they also sell beer, snacks, and local art.

There is a corner filled with "kid art" from middle schoolers and even professional work from Portland artist Ace Troy.

His pop art features famous characters from cartoons and TV shows and are usually a combination of wood and spray paint with a resin topcoat. Why not multitask this holiday season and grab a beer or a game of Mortal Kombat while finding the perfect pop art gift.



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**Fire and Pine, Map on Wood**  
**Dog River, Hood River, Multimedia**  
**Alex Taylor, Husum, Paddle Wall Decor**  
**Carson Art Garage, Mask**  
**Arrowleaf Workshop, White Salmon, Unique Pocketknife Jewellery**

### 10 Speed Coffee Bar

541-386-3165; 1412 13th St., Hood River

Open Monday thru Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

With locally baked goods and adequate study space, 10 Speed is a great spot for a coffee date or work cram depending on your needs. Not to mention they offer gorgeous modern artwork for sale by Hannah Ladwig. She focuses on reclaimed wood and turns it into functional furniture pieces with mountain-themes, perfect for an outdoorsy yet creative gift. Her art can be found in 10 Speed or through her social media on Instagram @BananaMoonCreative.

### Lilli's Jewels

White Salmon; [www.lillisjewels.com](http://www.lillisjewels.com) and @lillisjewels on Instagram

Though she has no personal storefront, Lilli McCauley is a 16-year-old silversmith from White Salmon. She started with wire wrapping before getting into soldering and stone-cutting to make gorgeous wearable art. Lilli's jewelry can be found around the Gorge at local markets or on her website and social media; she also takes commissions. Check out her jewels at the White Salmon Grange on Dec. 1-2 or find other market information online. Some of her work is available at Moon Mountain Highway in Bingen.

### Alex Taylor

Husum; [alexander.taylor7729@gmail.com](mailto:alexander.taylor7729@gmail.com)

With a passion for hands-on creativity, Alex creates his pieces from mostly soft wood by carving, woodburning, staining, and varnishing. These paddles and pieces of wall décor are perfect holiday gifts, but he is also open to commissions and custom pieces for the extra-special people in your life this winter season. Designs and styles vary based on current pieces in stock.

### Ground Espresso Bar & Café

541-386-4442; 12 Oak St., Hood River

Open everyday from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Breakfast, lunch, coffee, kombucha — Ground Espresso Bar & Café has it all, complete with cozy seating for a nice coffee date. They even feature different artists in their space and sell their work. Currently, 23-year-old film photographer Gary Fishel has his work on display. His meticulous shots speak to the PNW's gorgeous scenery and his work stays true to the nuances of film, capturing both well-planned and fleeting moments. See what coffee blends and mugs Ground has for sale while choosing which piece of Fishel's art would make the best holiday gift for your friends.

### Carson Art Garage

703-624-0892; 962 Wind River Road, Carson

Open Wednesday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Monday and Tuesday.

Opened by artist Steve Kowats, the Carson Art Garage is a cohesive gallery space that's a little out of the way for some, but worth the trip. With 32 artists on display and counting, the garage offers unique pieces from coasters and water color prints to woodcarvings and feltwork. There's bound to be something for everyone here, including some of Kowats' own metalwork. Many artists in this space are open to commissions or custom pieces, too.

### Dog River Coffee

541-386-4502; 411 Oak St. No. 2031, Hood River

Open everyday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The perfect work space to collect your thoughts and review your holiday to-dos, Dog River has a handful of brightly colored paintings available from a PNW artist named Emily Styles. The titles add depth to the pieces and she offers custom paint-based multimedia work. Try out a cold brew while you're browsing art selections as gift possibilities.

### Maryhill Gift & Gallery

360-202-3574; 2 Maryhill Highway, Goldendale

Open Wednesday thru Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Monday and Tuesday.

This cute historic store hosts 10 artists' work as well as other hilarious gift items, snacks, and garden art. The charming log cabin in Maryhill is a great shopping destination with wonderful holiday gift options, including local art from Felicia Gray, owner, and Kathy Baldwin, manager. A trip to Goldendale is worth it to browse their quaint store and pick out the perfect presents for your artsy friends.



# Stocking Stuffers

**FLORA GIBSON**  
Columbia Gorge News

As a child, I found no Christmas gift more satisfying than that of a full stocking. Gigantic crinkly beribboned Christmas presents, of course, are thrilling — but there's something about a stocking-full of tiny delightful objects that enchants a child of any age.

Finding just the right tiny treasures for one specific person can be quite a challenge. Often, the necessary stocking-sized objects hide in widely different stores.

Exploring Hood River, White Salmon, and The Dalles, I found enough small presents to fill a stocking for any loved one, be they children, crafters, tea drinkers, or your local wild-life biologist. Please note, some of the prizes of this treasure hunt, like charms and tiny artist's palettes, are extra small and could pose a choking hazard to young children.

For knitters and crafters, every imaginable color of yarn and a range of useful knitting notions are available at the House of A La Mode. A skein ranges in price from less than \$10 to about \$30. Plenty are small enough to go into a stocking.  
**House of A La Mode:** 215 Court Street, The Dalles; [houseofalamode.com](http://houseofalamode.com).

For tea lovers — or for a refreshing drink to revive you, after all this shopping! — Lines of Designs' Tea Nook has you covered, with everything from oolong teas to Earl Grey. Prices range from about \$4 to \$5 for a small box or bag of tea. Lines of Designs also features jewelry, handbags, delicate scarves, and original lines of women's clothing.

For the farmer in your life, Lines of Designs also carries colorful leather cow and horse key chains, the most expensive being \$20.

**Lines of Designs:** 107 E. Second St., The Dalles; [www.linesof-designs.com](http://www.linesof-designs.com).

Anglers, or biologists, or birders, might appreciate the many species of fish displayed on stickers, patches, and metal jewelry at Skookum Outfitters in The Dalles. Prices range from \$2 or \$3 for a sticker of a trout or salmon, to \$10 for a patch to decorate your gear. Of practical fishing equipment, like a rainproof Patagonia hat or a selection of flies, they've also got a broad selection.

There's even a trout-shaped butter knife, to spread peanut butter on your sandwich while you're out there counting fish, or you can fork over \$9 for a handy Rump! Beer Blanket to keep a drink at just the right temperature.

And for the wildlife tracker, Tokki Art Supply carries a full set of animal-track stamps, accurate depictions of everything from beaver prints to squirrel sign small enough to fit on the end of your thumb.

**Skookum Outfitters:** 109 W. Second St., The Dalles; [www.skookumoutfitters.com](http://www.skookumoutfitters.com).

**Tokki Art Supply:** 409 Oak St., Hood River; [www.tokkiartsupply.com](http://www.tokkiartsupply.com).

No stocking is complete without chocolate! I found a varied collection at Sigman's Flowers and Gifts in The Dalles. They've got treats and bars, and every flavor of truffle from huckleberry to hazel. Prices start at around \$4 per truffle. And while you're at it, throw in a delightfully tiny handmade velvet acorn for \$0.80.

**Sigman's Flowers and Gifts:** 200 E. Second St., The Dalles; [www.sigmansflorist.com](http://www.sigmansflorist.com).

For your favorite cook, The Workshop also carries \$6 packets of handmade spice blends, like Fiesta and Parmesan Herb; perhaps a handy inspiration for Christmas dinner?

**The Workshop:** 116 E. Second Street, The Dalles. [www.thedallesworkshop.com](http://www.thedallesworkshop.com).

Shopping for children? The Workshop is a good place to start, with stickers, wooden ornaments, and pins of all kinds. Children who like art can enjoy a miniature-but-useful selection from Tokki Art Supply. Most of the treasures I found, perhaps because of their negligible size, were between \$1 and \$10. Small enough for stocking-stuffing are packets of chalk, pencils, fancy erasers, multi-colored clay, bracelet kits, stamps and a miniaturized artist's palette so amusingly small, adults and dollies will both adore using it.

And if nothing else strikes a chord, hey — you can't possibly go wrong with sparkly, goo-y Christmas slime, provided you don't mind a wee bit of cleanup. Find it at Hood River Stationers, \$9.95 per container, in all its glittery outrageousness. I recommend purple.

If afraid of the dark, this emporium also carries a merry little light-up Santa in a globe that might be just the thing to clear up Christmas nightmares.

**Tokki Art Supply:** 409 Oak St., Hood River; [www.tokkiartsupply.com](http://www.tokkiartsupply.com).

**The Workshop:** 116 E. Second St., The Dalles; [www.thedallesworkshop.com](http://www.thedallesworkshop.com).

**Hood River Stationers:** 213 Oak St., Hood River; [www.hoodriverstationers.com](http://www.hoodriverstationers.com).

All the bookstores I visited carry an assortment of cards, games, charms, and small art perfect for stockings. Klindt's books provides Pride-themed seed mixes; Waucoma is excellent for someone who loves stickers, as theirs run the gamut from flower-covered skulls to birds and other creatures, for just a few dollars each.







And I favor Artifact Books for their snarky bumper stickers, as well as cool finger puppets for \$2 apiece. I gravitated immediately to the walnut-sized colorful eyeball puppets, but there's also happier-looking wildlife — squirrels, raccoons, horned owls, hedgehogs, unicorns, chicken feet ...

**Klindt's Booksellers:** 315 E. Second St., The Dalles; [www.klindtsbooks.com](http://www.klindtsbooks.com).

**Waucoma Bookstore:** 221 Oak St., Hood River; [www.waucomabookstore.com](http://www.waucomabookstore.com).

**Artifact Books:** 202-A Cascade Ave., Hood River; [www.artifactsbookstore.com](http://www.artifactsbookstore.com).

And for the dandy in your life, how about something sparkly? Try a glittery handkerchief from Laurel and Eddie, or — and this one is really quite remarkable — a set of glittering, multicolored Sixton London stockings with a detachable glimmery broach, found at Arrowleaf Workshop for \$32. Or, why not both.

**Laurel and Eddie:** 215 Oak St., Hood River; [laurel-eddie.com](http://laurel-eddie.com).

**Arrowleaf Workshop:** 150 E. Jewett Blvd., White Salmon; [arrowleafadornments.com](http://arrowleafadornments.com).

If you stock up on all these intriguing items, you might suddenly need extra stockings. Artistic socks make great presents, once the youngsters have emptied 'em out! In The Dalles, try The Workshop for animal socks with rubbery traction paw-prints on the bottom, around \$5. Hood River Stationers carries snarky and colorful Blue Q socks for \$14. Pistil's socks are warm and sturdy, a functional gift in and of themselves, for \$20 a pair. And for elegance, Lines of Designs sells Ozone stockings with bright, swirly flower patterns for about \$17.

Enjoy the treasure hunt!

**Above: Painted heart-shaped bells, Waucoma Bookstore. (Under \$10).**

**Clockwise from bottom left:**

**Divine Dips, The Workshop (\$6).**

**Blue Q socks, Tokki Art Supply (\$14).**

**Sixton London stockings with detachable broach, Arrowleaf Workshop. (\$32).**

**Animal track stamps, Tokki Art Supply. (Under \$10).**

**Oregon-themed stickers, The Workshop. (\$3.50 each, or 3 for \$10).**

**Rumple Beer Blanket, Skookum Outfitters (\$9).**

**Jacob's Ladder toy, The Workshop.**

**Handmade velvet acorns (\$0.80) and Moonstruck chocolate, Sigman's Flowers and Gifts.**







# Gifts of the GORGE

Shop the Gorge! The ask is simple, but the money you spend locally provides a generous portion here in the Gorge.

You've seen the figures, but every dollar counts greatly when spent here in our communities versus online. Buying local goods from our retailers helps the retailer stay in our community and offers huge support for the town, city and neighborhoods in which we live. We hope you will take the time to walk around our towns and see the unique gifts our businesses have planned for you this holiday season. Here are some ideas we think you'll enjoy!



**OutrageousMetalTrees: The Dalles, Steel Triple Tree, \$65. Made in The Gorge, Hood River; [www.madeinthegorge.com](http://www.madeinthegorge.com)**

**Carson Art Garage, sculpture  
Carson Art Garage, vase  
[www.carsonartgarage.com](http://www.carsonartgarage.com)**





Holiday Soaps, \$10ea Made in The Gorge, Hood River.  
[www.madeinthegorge.com](http://www.madeinthegorge.com)

Wooden Bowl, Tom Mains White Oak. \$175.  
[www.Moonmountainhighway.com](http://www.Moonmountainhighway.com)

TrulySarahMug: White Salmon, All mugs are hand thrown and unique. \$68. Made in The Gorge, Hood River. [www.madeinthegorge.com](http://www.madeinthegorge.com)

Petrified Wood Magnets, start \$4. Sun Sun Bingen, Wash.

Hood River; [www.somegirlspottery.com](http://www.somegirlspottery.com) and @somegirlspottery on Instagram: Bowls



Sigman's Flowers, The Dalles, adjustable moose display \$59.95

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Made In The Gorge, Hood River. Steider Studios: White Salmon, 2024 wall calendar, \$20 [www.madeinthegorge.com](http://www.madeinthegorge.com)

Columbia Gorge Museum, Stevenson, Wash. Native Beadwork Designs. Made by local Indigenous Artist Linda Higgins from the Yakama Indian Nation tribe Wenatchapum. These beautiful and unique articles of jewelry are made with natural bone and shells. [www.Columbiagorgemuseum.org](http://www.Columbiagorgemuseum.org)



Columbia Gorge Museum, Stevenson, Wash. Monkeyshines Studios — Sandra Choate creates whimsical mosaic works of art that each tell their own story. The artist uses broken porcelain and tiles to arrange magical Christmas trees. . Each pair is unique and one-of-a-kind. [www.Columbiagorgemuseum.org](http://www.Columbiagorgemuseum.org)



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Summit Embroidery, Bingen, Wash., Christmas sweatshirt \$55, Scarf \$21, candle \$35, gloves \$15. [www.summitembroideryworks.com](http://www.summitembroideryworks.com)

Lines of Designs, The Dalles, Red boots and sweater: Boots \$178, sweater \$56. [www.Linesofdesigns.com](http://www.Linesofdesigns.com)



# FOOTWISE

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www.shorttsupply.com

Willow and Bark, Sol and Selene bag \$70.  
www.willowandbarkboutique.com



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[www.aromekitchen.com](http://www.aromekitchen.com)

Willow and Bark, The Dalles, Candle \$32  
[www.willowandbarkboutique.com](http://www.willowandbarkboutique.com)



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WINTER DRIVING

Roads can be dangerous in the winter, especially in extreme weather. Stay safe by checking the five following things every time you get behind the wheel.

**1. FUEL.** Fill your gas tank as often as possible to prevent condensation from forming. While it's not an issue when the temperature is warm, condensation can freeze and create blockages in the fuel lines in the winter.

**2. WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID.** Sloppy weather conditions may force you to use more washer fluid than usual to keep your windshield clear. To ensure you can always see the road ahead, check fluid levels often and keep an extra bottle in your trunk.

**3. SNOW REMOVAL.** Not removing snow from your car before getting behind the wheel puts you at risk of incurring a driving infraction. Besides, failing to do so is extremely dangerous. Snow can slide down your roof and obstruct your view, and chunks of ice may fly off your car and hit vehicles behind you, potentially causing a serious accident.

**4. WEATHER FORECAST.** While few of us are able to plan our comings and goings around the weather, checking the forecast before leaving will allow you to account for potential delays caused by bad weather. In difficult conditions, leave earlier to ensure you can drive at a safe speed and, if possible, stay home during severe storms.

**5. ROADS AND TRAFFIC.** Stay informed about local road conditions and try to avoid hazardous, icy and poorly plowed areas. Take a longer route if it allows you to avoid a dangerous commute. Finally, if your car is showing signs of deterioration or is performing poorly, be sure to visit a local mechanic as soon as possible.





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