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# On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

By ADAM LAPIERRE Hood River News staff writer



GoPro is a small device for anyone's big adventures – available in The Dalles and Hood River.

### Gifts for your kid at heart

here's at least a little Peter Pan in every man, and what better way to bring out your aging kid-at-heart than a well-intended Christmas gift. Here are a few ideas for gifts to help make your significant other's transition into the middleages a little easier.

### A partridge in a pear tree:

This, or anything resembling it, would not make a very good gift for your aged adolescent. Perhaps a partridge, assuming it's made of chocolate and/or beef jerky, and definitely pears, preferably in the form of locally crafted hard cider of a respectable alcohol percentage, but putting the two together incites a form of anxious nausea that only a grown man surrounded by grandma's knick-knacks can understand.

Now that we have that out of the way, here are a few other ideas.

### GoPro Hero 4:

Men are notorious for returning home with all kinds of wild fish tales about grand adventures. Make him prove it with a cool new GoPro. Available at several sporting goods shops in Hood **River and The Dalles** (better to buy local than online), the latest version of this compact and highly versatile digital video camera is roughly the size of a fudge brownie and can take hours'



Photos by Adam Lapierre

Give him the remote – control helicopter or plane.

worth of high definition video and digital stills up to 12mb in size.

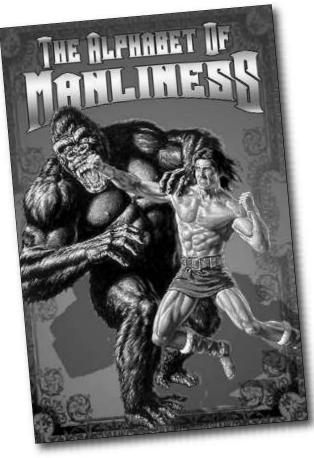
### Portable blue-tooth speaker:

Although his hearing may not be what it once was, your man will still enjoy listening

#### Please see FIRST DAY, page 4



- FIRST DAY -Continued from page 3



Manly humor, from A to Z.

to his favorite tunes on a portable, rechargeable speaker system that wirelessly connects to his smartphone, is small enough to fit in a fanny-pack (which you should not encourage him to wear) and lasts for several hours on a single charge. Several good versions of these speakers are available at shops around the Gorge, but the water resistant, shockproof models come highly recommended.

### Yoga:

Although even the mention of this work makes some men cringe, there's really no denying the rejuvenating benefits of Yoga, especially for the athletic man in your family who is likely to have several years' worth of lingering aches and pains to work through. Most studios, and there are many between Hood River and The Dalles, offer trial classes, dropin scheduling and low-commitment punch cards. As a forewarning, if your man is prone to breaking a sweat merely at the sight of a treadmill, best to keep him away from Bikram yoga, at least initially.

### The Alphabet of Manliness:

This New York Times Best Seller, released in 2006 by Maddox, is quite possibly the funniest piece of literature ever written and an absolute must-have for the subdued middle-aged man who wants to give a good lashing to his vulgar, uncouth inner teenager from time to time. Give this to your man as toilet reading in the morning and he's guaranteed to have a better day.

Check your local book store first, but if they don't have it, order it online.

### A new motorcycle:

Because ... well, why not?

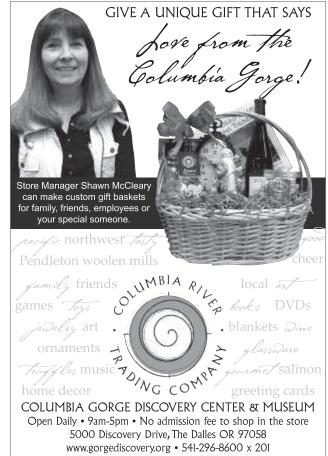
Seriously though, men love motorcycles. If you've got a big budget, check out Mid-Columbia Marine and Motorsports in Hood River or Fun Country Powersports in The Dalles. As a cheaper option, just buy a helmet he can wear while watching AMA Supercross from the living room recliner.

### Remote control helicopter or plane:

If you can't have your own full-sized Nighthawk or F4 Phantom, controlling a miniature version from the safety of terra firma is the next best thing. You'll be amazed at how much childish joy your

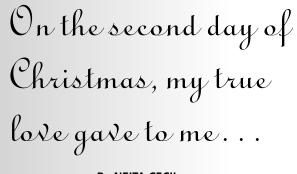


man will get by spending Christmas afternoon chasing the family pets around the yard with his new battery-powered helicopter. Stop in at your local hobby shop and see what they have in stock. Hood River Hobbies is a good place to start.



#### Hood River News & The Dalles Chronicle





By NEITA CECIL The Dalles Chronicle staff writer



n the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me ... a chew toy shaped like a turkey. (It rhymes!) A sensible gift all around. Something to amuse the dog and easy on the pocket book. I

Please see SECOND DAY, page 6



Guinea pig starter kit, 4110, Petco, Mt. Hood St., The Dalles.







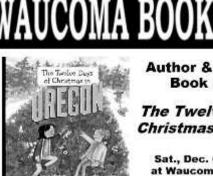
 Christmas Jim Shore
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- SECOND DAY — Continued from page 5

mean, have you priced turtle doves lately? And a pair of them? Sheesh, you'd break the bank!

And for that special someone on your list who isn't satisfied with merely owning an actual breed of dog but also chooses that theme for their home décor, a Vancouver company makes clocks shaped in a variety of breeds, with oscillating tails, bones, tongues or fire hydrants.

If dogs aren't your thing, local pet stores carry a veritable menagerie of animals. What kid wouldn't love to see a furry little guinea pig or rabbit under the Christmas tree?

And, of course, your guinea pig will need a home inside your home, so a second gift



Boston Terrier Clock, \$55, made in Vancouver. Gorge Dog, 412 Oak, St., Hood River.

under the tree should definitely be a guinea pig starter kit, complete with cage and needed supplies.



Tuffy turkey, durable, washable, floats. \$32, Gorge Dog, 412 Oak St., Hood River.



# On the third day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

By KIRBY NEUMNAA-REA Hood River News staff writer



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea Meat department employee Dylan Jones of Rosauers holds a two-pound stuffed Cornish game hen, ready for cooking. Bon appetite!

### Three French hens with a 'bon appetit'

he "Three French hens" line always rolled off the tongue when singing the traditional "12 Days of Christmas" song.

So, instead of three noisy little birds cackling in the yard, how about some tasty culinary variations to also roll off the tongue?

Admittedly, you might have to go to France for actual French hens, but Cornish game hens are accessible and inexpensive, which, *entre nous*, will be helpful considering what we will suggest pairing it with.

> Wait — Cornish? Not French? Yes, barring a couple plane tickets to Paris, the modern version of what to give your true love might be preparing three Cornish game hens, stuffed and ready for cooking.

Game hens are small, versatile entrees available in your butcher department. Grocery stores regularly sell them, and at Rosauers find them stuffed with an onion dressing mix (\$2.99 a pound, each

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one weighs two pounds). Rosauers and Safeway both sell simple frozen hens for \$1.99 to \$2.39 per pound. Mash up some potatoes and add some arugula or other spicy greens, and open the champagne — French, of course — for the gift of a simple delicious meal that you don't have to be French to enjoy.

The champagne, if you want French, might be a \$52 bottle of famous Veuve Clicquot at Safeway, but for \$15-20 you can find a variety of fine domestic sparkling wines. Hey, we say "bon appetit" when we're not eating French food, right? Sparkling wine is still in the, well, spirit of it.

Blogger CM Josh Barrie writes, "It does not take long to spot the similarities between Cornwall, England, and Brittany, France, two Celtic regions with arguably far more in common with one another than their respective countries.

The relationship is emulated particularly within west Cornwall. Both Brittany and England's most westerly tips share a rich seafaring past; the two communities are very much built on the fishing industry."

Well, we are discussing poultry, not *poissons*, but we're interested in a cultural connection between Cornish game hens and our trio of French hens, so there you go.

If you need help with a Cornish game hen recipe, there's a nice one at epicurious.com; the list of ingredients include four 1.5-pound Cornish game hens, giblets removed, one lemon, cut into 4 wedges; 4 large fresh rosemary sprigs; 3 tablespoons olive oil; 24 garlic cloves, peeled; 1/3 cup dry white wine; 1/3 cup canned low-salt chicken broth; and rosemary sprigs (for garnish).



On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

> By RAY RODRIGUEZ The Dalles Chronicle staff writer



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n the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

While the birds fly free in the cool air, we humans are either stuck in traffic, at work or on our iPhones or

Samsung Galaxy phones. Speaking of phones and birds,

there are dozens and dozens of games to play on our phones, such as Clash of Clans, Candy Crush and Angry Birds. While iPhone and Samsung appear to be dominating the cell phone market. there



are plenty of other options available for teens and adults.

With Christmas coming quickly, people have some serious gift choices to make. Besides a long trip to Portland, there are stores like Radio Shack, K-Mart, Wal-Mart and the Verizon and AT&T stores here in The Dalles and Hood River that can take care of your electronic needs.

Some of the items covered in this section include a streaming media player, a home security camera, a wireless Wi-Fi home signal booster kit and waterproof cell phone cases.

Backup chargers are a crucial product to look into, especially if you are on the go and always using your phone as a mobile office. Samsung, HTC, LG and Nokia have SDHC micro cards to





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### – FOURTH DAY — Continued from page 8

store information like contacts, photos, music and video.

If finding a specific location is a challenge for you, a voice-activated GPS system can be a game-changer for travelers.

The iPhone 6 has the Plus and regular options with larger screens and high density resolution.

The Samsung Galaxy 5 has multiple brands to choose from and offer several varieties for today's on-the-go personalities.

Keep an eye out for the Apple Watch and the Samsung Galaxy Gear 2 Smart Watch. They are compatible with your phones and have the same contact capabilities such as texting, hands-free calling, emails, camera options and MP3 playback with less bulkiness.



#### iPhone 6

4.7 inch retina HD display with 1334/750 resolution. Comes in 16 GB to 64GB to 128 GB models. A8 chip with M8 motion. Co-processor and barometer. 8MP camera with focus pixels and true tone flash. 1080 mp at 60 fps HD video, Slo-mo 240 fps. FaceTime HD camera. Touch ID. LTE up to 150 Mbps. Bluetooth 4.0. Talk time up to 14 hours. Browsing time up to 10 hours. \$149.99 verizon, \$149.99 AT&T, \$99.99 Sprint With contract



### Samsung Galaxy 5

**Radio Shack** 

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541-387-2300

541-386-6318

Verizon Wireless

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On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love gare to me...

> **By TRISHA WALKER** Hood River News staff writer



Photo by Trisha Walker Stackable bracelets (Silverado Gallery) come in a wide range of media.

n the fifth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... five golden rings ..." Make that "stackable rings," and you've hit on a Gorge-wide trend suitable for any age.

Chris and Julie Strader of Hood River Jewelers sell many such rings this time of year in a variety of metals rose gold, white gold, vellow gold, platinum and silver. And since the rings also come in an array of colors, shapes and sizes, patterns and designs, stackable rings can be changed out to match a person's outfit — or mood every day.

"Stackable rings are a gift idea where you can add them next to other rings, put them on different fingers, switch them out or stack them up." said Chris. He likens the idea to a charm bracelet — new rings can be added each year, making this a fun gift tradition.

The rings average 2- to 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>milimeters in width, with two or three on each finger.

Stackable rings also make great wedding rings — some brides prefer stackable rings to a traditional engagement ring because they can create something unique that can also be added to each year, Julie said.

A silver ring starts at about \$100, with the average costing between \$600 and \$1000. The stackable trend can

Please see FIFTH DAY, page 13

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### Stackable rings — and bracelets — add flair to the holidays



Stackable rings (Hood River Jewelers) contain unique and personal meanings.

### – FIFTH DAY —

Continued from page 12

also be found in bracelets. Silverado owner Christine Barthmus sells a variety of handmade stackable bracelets in media ranging from leather to sparkles.

Like stackable rings — and she carries those too, starting at \$30 — layering bracelets is very hip right now, she said.

"The idea is to build an eclectic mix that can be interchangeable to suit the occasion," she said. On her own wrist, she sports a mixture of "precious gems, family heirlooms and fun little accent pieces that include wood, leather and gemstones."

Bottom line, layered jewelry is a fun trend anyone can

enjoy. Find these and other gift ideas at the following local businesses:

Apland Jewelry Design, 216 Oak St., Hood River — 541-386-3977

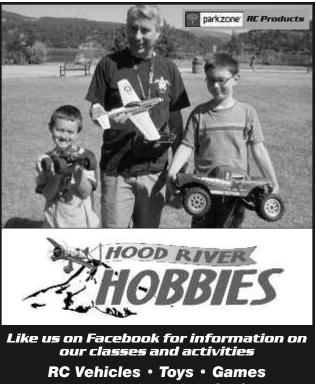
Hood River Jewelers, 415 Oak St., Hood River — 541-386-6440

J.D. Smith Jewelers, 503 E. Second St., The Dalles — 541-397-0253

Kay Jewelers, 318 E. Second St., The Dalles — 541-296-6144

Silverado Jewelry Gallery, 310 Oak St., Hood River — 541-386-7069

Sparkling Creations, 409 Oak St., Hood River — 541-387-4367



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### New book features '9 Sailors surfing' and other '12 Days' updates

By KIRBY NEUMANN-REA Hood River News

orge readers will enjoy a localized rendition of the "12 Days" song in the new book "The Twelve Days of Christmas in Oregon," written by Susan Hackaby and illustrated by Carolyn Conahan, both of Portland.

The Gorge plays a prominent role in the book.

"On the ninth day of Christmas, my cousin gave to me ...

9 sailors surfing ...'

A youngster visits 12 places in Oregon and in his Hood River stop — "the windsurfing capital of the world" he writes: "The sailors are out on the water in their wetsuits, skimming across the Columbia River. They are 100 % awesome ..." and that "when the wind is high, the water is wild."

The Hood River sailors follow 8 broncos bucking, 7 gray wolves howling, and the book visits the desert, coast, and city. While we won't give it all away, another Gorge inclusion is "two waterfalls." The book is a colorful and informative travelog of the entire state.

From Sterling Publishers, it sells for \$12.95.

Susan Huckaby and Carolyn Conahan will be in the Gorge Dec. 6 for two appearances: Waucoma Bookstore in Hood River from noon to 2 p.m. and Klindt's Book Sellers in The Dalles, from 3-5 p.m.

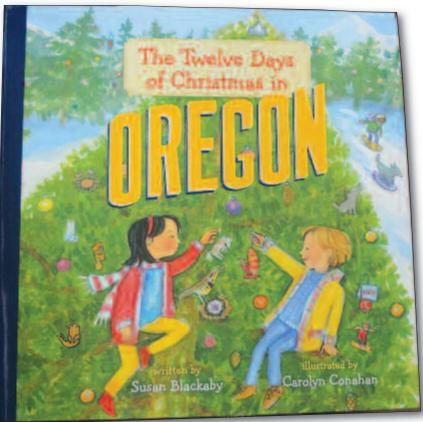


Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea





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### On the sixth

day of Christmas, my true love gave

to me...

By BEN MITCHELL Hood River News staff writer

# Six Geese-a-Laying

eese: those frequenters of business park lawns, those fertilizers of the Event Site, the occasional hissers-at of passersby. Pesky though they may be, geese certainly have their uses, providing both sustenance and comfort during the cold winter months.

If you happen to have goose-enthusiasts (gooziasts?) on your gift list this year, then this gift guide is for you.

### Coats!

Few things insulate as well as fluffy goose down, which can be found in many cold weather garments.

Doug's Hood River in downtown Hood River has Patagonia down jackets for both men and women that will help fend off the cold while you go on your winter adventures around the Gorge. According to Sharis CAPE PIES SEASON'S EASINGS.

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Shari's gift cards make great stocking stuffers!

Please see SIXTH DAY, page 16



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Photo from Doug's Hood River Jacket: Stay warm this winter with the goose down Patagonia jacket from Doug's Hood River.

### — SIXTH DAY — Continued from page 15

the product description on the store's website, the jacket (which Patagonia refers to as a "sweater") features "ethically sourced and traceable 800-fill-power down, stabilized through a quilted construction and protected by a superlight but tough, windproof and water-resistant updated shell fabric (100 percent recycled polyester ripstop) with a DWR (durable water repellent) finish."

Doug's Hood River www.dougshoodriver.com 101 Oak Street. Hood River (541) 386-5787

In case you're wondering, "fill-power" according to REI's website, measures how many cubic inches one ounce of down can fill inside a lab container. The higher the number, the higher the quality, and usually indicative of a lighter clothing item. Fill power typically ranges from 450 to 900.

For those who aren't down with down. try a Simms "Fall Run" jacket from Gorge Fly Shop, also located in downtown Hood River, one block up from Doug's. The jacket is stuffed with a kind of synthetic fiber that Simms touts as "highly compressible and soft — like goose down, yet maintains insulating properties even when wet."

Gorge Fly Shop www.gorgeflyshop.com 201 Oak Street, Hood River 541-386-6977

### **Comforters!**

If you don't want to go outside, but still feel like staying warm, pick up a goose down comforter in Hood River.

thought a goose down comforter wouldn't goslings twice a year, in between March be all that difficult to find in town, but it and July and their website states they also

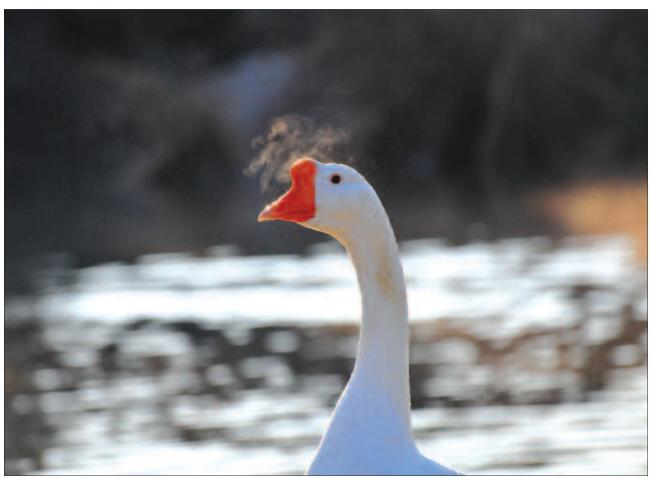


Photo by Adam Lapierre

Goose can be ornery, as seen here by this specimen staring down a Hood River News photographer, waiting to strike. Take revenge this holiday season by purchasing items stuffed with goose down — famous for its heat-trapping properties."

was. We called Murray's Furniture, Bealls, have a variety of other fowl, including ban-Sears, Paddock's, Hood River Mattress, At tams, turkeys, ducks, and many more. Lit-Home on Oak, and yes, even Walmart, none tle Bit also sells local eggs as well as feedof which carry goose down comforters, al- ers, cages, and scratch for your birds. though some indicated they might be able to order one if asked.

For those who are interested in cornering the Hood River goose down comforter market, call reporter Ben Mitchell at Hood River News for a unique business opportunity (kidding).

### Geese! Alive and dead!

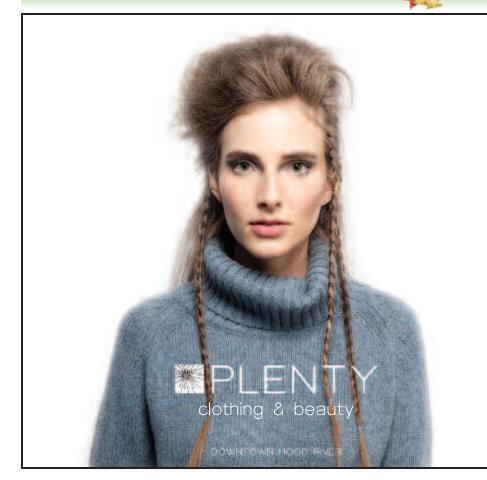
If the person on your list is a fan of ani- able at the market. mal husbandry, take a trip to Little Bit And if you find one, let us know. We Ranch Supply in Hood River. The store gets

Little Bit Ranch Supply www.littlebitranchsupply.net

2727 Cascade Avenue, Hood River 541-386-1299

For those who can't wait that long, or if you just want to go real traditional for the holiday meal, Farm Stand in the Gorge tells us the store is often able to order goose for the holidays and have them avail-

Farm Stand in the Gorge www.farmstandgorge.com 1009 12th Street. Hood River 541-386-4203



### **Cutie Pie Consignment**

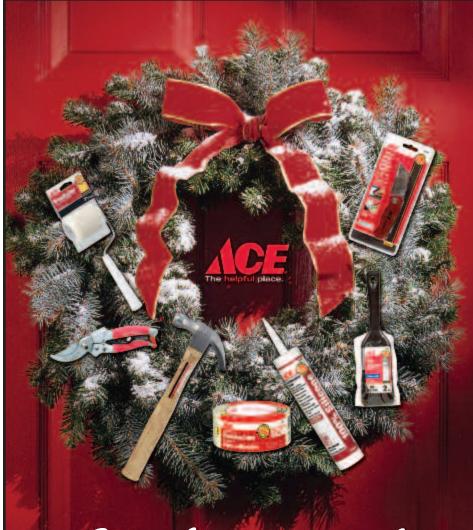
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**Nov. 27** — **Thanksgiving Day Rocket Launch**, 10 a.m.; meet at Hood River Hobbies, 110 Fourth St., Hood River. Rockets built in the Nov. 22 Community Ed rocket building class will be launched. For more info contact info@hoodriverhobbies.com.

**Nov. 27** — **Mosier Twin Tunnels Turkey Trot**, 10 a.m. at the Mosier Twin Tunnels Trailhead (visitor's contact center), with a short (approx. 200 meter) kid's run (free) at 9:50 a.m. The event, a fundraiser for Mosier Community School, features 12K, 5 K and 3K runs. Day-of registration is \$20 adult, \$5 under 18 and \$30 family (fees do not include shirts; any T-shirts available on the day-of will be sold for \$10). For details visit mosier-school.com.

**Nov. 28** — **The annual Starlight Parade** with lighted entries begins at 6 p.m. from Sixth and Webber streets and travels through the downtown blocks. That event is followed by a tree lighting ceremony at The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce office, 404 W. Second Street, The Dalles. Hot cocoa, coffee and cookies will be served free of charge and children can have photos taken with Santa.

**Nov. 28-30** — **Columbia Gorge Thanksgiving Wine Weekend**, 11-5 p.m. at wineries throughout the Gorge. Each winery offers something unique, with new releases, food pairings, holiday discounts, and donation events benefiting local charities. Visit GorgeWine.com for a list of participating wineries, maps, and hours.

**Nov. 29 – Hood River Hotel, Photos with Santa** as a benefit for Adopt-A-Dog Shelter, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on Dec. 6 and 13, and Dec. 5, 7-9 p.m. following Hood River downtown tree lighting. Donations accepted for photos of children or pets.

**Dec. 1** — **The Trail Band** performs at The Dalles Civic Auditorium, 323 E. 4th St., The Dalles. Tickets \$20, available at Klindts and Columbia River Music. General Admission, first come, first served. Doors open at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m. For info, contact: Debbie at: @ civic@saw.net.

**Dec. 2** — **Light up a Life: Tree of Remembrance ceremony**, 6 p.m. The Riverenza, 401 E. 10th St., The Dalles. Attendees will receive a heart-shaped ornament to be placed on the Light up a Life tree. Donations will be collected for Providence Hospice of the Gorge; pick up an envelope at the Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital gift shop, call 541-387-6449, or visit www.providence.org/lightupalife.

**Dec. 5** — **Mid-Columbia Medical Center sponsors the annual Festival of Trees** at the Civic Auditorium, 232 E. Fourth Street, The Dalles. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the auction for trees decorated by area businesses, individuals and service organizations begins at 7 p.m. Proceeds to the Celilo Cancer Center fund and Breast Health for Strong



#### **Thanksgiving Day rocket launch**

Families program.

**Dec. 5** — **Hood River Holidays kick-off celebration,** 5-9 p.m. in downtown Hood River. Old fashioned parade, lighting of the community tree, caroling, cocoa, cookies and Santa. Oak Street from 6th to 2nd streets will be closed during and after the parade.

**Dec. 5, 6** — **The 11th annual Dallesport Christmas Bazaar** will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the log cabin at Columbia Hills RV Park on Highway 197, one mile north of The Dalles bridge.

**Dec. 5-6** — **Pine Grove-Odell United Methodist Church Christmas Bazaar** at the downtown Odell church, 10-6 p.m. Friday and 10-4 p.m. Saturday. Shop for hand-made Christmas crafts, baked goods and other items, and enjoy soup, and homemade pie with ice cream while visiting with friends. Come and enjoy the fellowship.

**Dec. 5-7** — **Drive-Through Nativity,** 6-8 p.m. at the Church of the Nazarene, 2163 Belmont Ave.

**Dec. 6** — **Flagstone Holiday Bazaar**, 3325 Columbia View Dr., The Dalles, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Handmade items including warm winter accessories, foods, and great gifts from the whimsical to the practical! Vendors, spaces are limited. Call Danette Utley to reserve a table, 541-298-5656.

**Dec. 6** — **Breakfast with Santa**, at West Side Fire Department Rockford Station, 8-11 a.m. All-you-can-eat breakfast with ham, eggs and pancakes. Children of all ages may get their picture taken with Santa. All proceeds go towards the Leo Phillips Scholarship fund that honors students each year.

**Dec. 6 – "12 Days of Christmas in Oregon"** book authors Susan Huckaby and Carolyn Counihan visit Wautoma Bookstore in Hood River from noon to 2 p.m. and Klindt's Book Sellers in The Dalles from 3-5 p.m.

Dec. 6 — Hood River Yacht Club lighted boat parade, from the Hood River Ma-

rina past the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn beginning at 6:30 p.m. Best viewing locations are along the breakwater near the mouth of the marina harbor, and at the Riverside Grill deck of the Hood River Inn.

**Dec. 6** — "It's a Wonderful Life" live theater performance, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Columbia Center for the Arts. Take a step back in time and be part of a live radio show audience. Gorge residents perform as a live radio troupe. Play by Philip Grecian based on film by Frank Capra; directed by Gary Young. Cash donations to The Christmas Project, which delivers food and gifts to residents in need, will be taken at each performance.

**Dec. 6 – The annual Holiday Open House** and Community Appreciation Day at Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum offers free admission all day. Live holiday music from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. with complimentary cookies and hot cider. Take a photo with Santa Claus, enjoy store discounts all day, and an optional Mexican food buffet in honor of the traveling Smithsonian exhibit "Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program." The center is located off I-84 exit 82, at 5000 Discovery Drive in The Dalles. For information, call 541-296-8600, ext. 201, or visit www.gorgediscovery.org.

**Dec. 6** — **Piano and Holiday concert** featuring Diane Alan on piano and Donna Router on fiddle at 2 p.m., Old St. Peter's Landmark, West Third and Lincoln, The Dalles.

**Dec. 6** — **The Columbia Gorge Habitat for Humanity** will host its annual Christmas Bazaar in the basement of the United Church of Christ Congregational, Fifth and Court streets, The Dalles, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. A homemade soup lunch will be available, along with local vendors and baked goods for the holidays.

**Dec. 6-7** — Happy Hands Christmas Craft and Bake Sale, 10-3 p.m. at Asbury Our Redeemer Partnership, 1140 Tucker Road. Bake sale, handcrafted items, pillowcases, tea towels, baby items, recycled Christmas items and more.

**Dec, 6-7** — **35th Annual Mosier Country Christmas Fair**, 10 a.m. -4 p.m. at the Mosier Community School, I-84 exit 69. Admission \$2 and one can of food for Christmas Basket Charity Project or Home at Last animal shelter. Pictures with Santa 11-3 p.m.; Mosier 4-H will sell Christmas trees, chili, baked potatoes, hot dogs and pie with drinks in school kitchen. Breakfast 8-11 a.m. at Mosier Grange Hall, 900 4th St.; Wildflower Café pancakes, link sausage and drinks. For more info call Tami Berthold 541-478-3312 or 541-993-2312.

**Dec. 7** — **"It's a Wonderful Life" live theater performance,** 2-4 p.m. at Columbia Center for the Arts. Take a step back in time and be part of a live radio show audience. Gorge residents perform as a live radio troupe. Play by Philip Grecian based on film by Frank Capra; directed by Gary Young. Cash donations to The Christmas Project, which delivers food and gifts to residents in need, will be taken at each performance.

**Dec. 7 – Aaron Meyer and his band,** in the fifth annual Holiday Concert benefitting United Way of the Columbia Gorge, 3:30 p.m. in the Gorge Room, Best Western Plus Hood River Inn; special guest performers Tess Barr and Kristian Upland of Hood River will join Meyer. Tickets are \$20, at Wautoma Bookstore or at the door, or email unitedway@gorge.net

Dec. 7 — Festival of Lights, 4-6 p.m. at Cascade Locks City Hall, 140 S.E. WaNaPa

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**Cascade Singers perform** 

St. Photos with Santa (Santa asks we all arrive by 4:15 p.m.), kid's crafts, face painting, tree lighting, music and caroling. Free event, open to the community.

**Dec. 11** — **Light up a Life: Tree of Remembrance ceremony,** 6 p.m. at Anderson's Tribute Center, 1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River. Attendees will receive a heart-shaped ornament to be placed on the Light up a Life tree. Donations will be collected for Providence Hospice of the Gorge; pick up an envelope at the Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital gift shop, call 541-387-6449, or visit providence.org/lightupalife.

**Dec. 12** — **Author Jan Brett**, 4:30 p.m. at Columbia Arts Center. Hosted by Hood River Library and Waucoma Bookstore. Brett will promote her new book, "The Animal's Santa." For more info call Waucoma at 541-386-5353. This is a ticketed event, \$2 per person.

**Dec. 12-13** — **"It's a Wonderful Life"** live theater performance, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Columbia Center for the Arts. Take a step back in time and be part of a live radio show audience. Gorge residents perform as a live radio troupe. Play by Philip Grecian based on film by Frank Capra; directed by Gary Young. Cash donations to The Christmas Project, which delivers food and gifts to residents in need, will be taken at each performance.

**Dec. 12, 23, 14** — **Cascade Singers** presents small venue holiday concerts beginning at Old St. Paul's Church, 601 Union Street, The Dalles, on Friday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. A second performance will take place at the Wasco County Courthouse, Fifth and Washington streets, on Saturday, Dec. 13, at 3 p.m. The group then entertains at Riverenza Café & Gathering Hall, 401 E. 10th Street on Sunday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. Suggested donation at the door: \$10 adults, \$5 students and seniors and children under 12 are free.

**Dec. 13-14** — **Last Chance Holiday Bazaar**, 10 to 4 p.m. at the Hood River County Fairgrounds Community Building, 2030 Wy'east Rd. Gifts, decorations, gourmet food items, and more offered at over 40 booths. Lunches and beverages also available. Free ad-

mission and parking.

**Dec. 13-14** — **Scenes from the Nutcracker**, performed by Columbia Gorge Dance Academy in three shows in the Hood River Middle School auditorium, 1 and 4 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Admission is by canned food or monetary donation to FISH food bank and Providence Hospice of the Gorge.





**Dec. 14** — **Barley Draught and Friends winter concert** at Old St. Peter's Landmark West Third and Lincoln in The Dalles. Holiday and Irish tunes.

**Dec. 14** — **"It's a Wonderful Life" live theater performance**, 2 to 4 p.m. at Columbia Center for the Arts. Take a step back in time and be part of a live radio show audience. Gorge residents perform as a live radio troupe. Play by Philip Grecian based on film by Frank Capra; directed by Gary Young. Cash donations to The Christmas Project, which delivers food and gifts to residents in need, will be taken at each performance.

**Dec. 14 – The Groove Project holiday concert,** 7 p.m., Columbia Center for the Arts, 213 Cascade, Hood

Grove, 6-9 p.m. Begins with a static display from 6-6:15 p.m. at the Odell Fire Station and makes its way through area roads.

**Dec. 16** — **Annual Fire Departments Lighted Christmas Parade**, Parkdale, 6-9 p.m. Begins with a static display from 6-6:15 p.m. at the Parkdale Fire Station and makes its way through area roads.

**Dec. 17** — **Annual Fire Departments Lighted Christmas Parade,** West Side/Hood River, 6-9 p.m. Begins with a static display from 6-6:15 p.m. at the West Side Fire Station and makes its way through area roads.

**Dec. 19-20** — "It's a Wonderful Life" live theater performance, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Columbia Center for the Arts. Take a step back in time and be part of a live radio show audience. Gorge residents perform as a live radio troupe. Play by Philip Grecian based on film by Frank Capra; directed by Gary Young. Cash donations to The Christmas Project, which delivers food and gifts to residents in need, will be taken at each performance.

**Dec. 20** — **Handel's Messiah Community Concert,** 7 p.m. at St. Peter's Landmark in The Dalles.

**Dec. 20** — **Build a Model or Make an Ornament,** 1 p.m. at Hood River Hobbies, 110 Fourth St., Hood River. Build a model car or plane from a skill level 1 snap together kit and learn about model building. Sign up through Community Ed, www.hoodriver.k12.or.us/coe. For more info contact info@hoodriverhobbies.com.

**Through Dec. 24** — **301 Gallery "Pop Up Shop"**, 301 Oak, Hood River, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Dec. 7, and daily from Dec. 12-24, featuring locally-made art work and handcrafted items.

River. Pianist Tim Mayer is joined by Diana Lysgaard, Char Mayer, Tim Ortlieb, Ryan McAlexander, Ed Dietrich, Mike Stillman, Dave Henehan and others; \$12 adults, \$8 seniors, students and children, at Waucoma Bookstore or online at www.columbiaarts.org Dec. 15 — Santa photo fundraiser for Lila May Schow, 5 to 8-ish p.m. at Double Mountain Brewery. Ray Perkins Photography will be shooting the photos. Hot chocolate, cookies and candy canes provided.

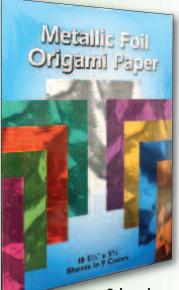
Dec. 15 — Annual Fire Departments Lighted Christmas Parade, Odell/Pine





On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

> By BRAD MOSHER The Dalles Chronicle staff writer



Origami Metallic foil origami packets 18 sheets per pack — \$4.95

hen it comes to seven swans a swimming, a Christmas buyer could save money by creating origami swans this season – and their true love could avoid the high cost of feed.

A paper flotilla of fowls can still make an impact, according to Jill McDonald, the owner of Urban Paper in The Dalles, 415 E. Second Street. Although the folded swans can be made using regular copy paper, McDonald said there also are specialized papers designed specifically for origami use.

The best raw materials for making origami swans are limited only by how colorful and artistic the holiday bird or artist will be, McDonald said.

After the holiday season is over, the folded swans can even be reused. The store owner noted the swans are good for scrapbooking or as décor on Christmas cards. The store already carries some scrapbook paper in a 'Twelve Days of Christmas' design for 80 cents per sheet.

Swans could also be made out of money, making it both a Christmas gift and Christmas cash. "They could make it into a Christmas gift that could be spread around" she said.

"We had a girl do origami birds for a wedding – it was astounding the sheer number of birds she made. If you take one little element and repeat it, it can be great," she said. "I have seen store displays with thousands of origami birds."

They can also identify people attending an event. They can

### Swans are better origami style

make nice holiday favors or place cards.

"There is not really a right way or a wrong way – it just depends on individual taste. You could start with a small budget or customize the project for any holiday or occasion," she said.

Customers who want more colorful origami can find packets of "Fold 'Ems" for \$4. Urban Paper also has colored papers in 24sheet packs for \$4.95 as well as metallic foil packets in an 18sheet size for \$4.95 each. When it comes to origami, the business can special order books for customers.

The family scrapbooker can find sets of flair pins for \$3.99 and Stickles, a liquid glitter and glue compound, in small bottles for \$2.50 each. For those who have the glue, the store also has a dry, chunkier glitter called Spark! for \$3.99.

Origami supplies, including instructional books, are also a popular seller at Hood River Stationers, 213 Oak Street.

"We have a strong art department," said Mary Kay



Brad Mosher photo

Jill McDonald, owner of the Urban Paper store in The Dalles, says she carries a wide assortment of materials for people interested in work with paper products. In addition to origami paper, she also has patterns and paper accessories for scrapbooking and other projects.



Flair Pins, set of 6 — \$3.99

Bielemeier, one of the clerks. "There are new patterns and designs always coming out."

Christmas season is busy, with many shoppers coming in to choose from a variety of office supplies.

"We are the only remaining Hallmark store in the Gorge," Bielemeier said

The store in downtown Hood River offers seasonal home décor, such as Yankee candles in different sizes and scents.

The company doesn't have a webpage. "We want people to come in and see it, smell it and touch it," Bielemeier added. "We like the personal touch with the customers. We want them to experience the store."

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## THANKSGIVING WEEKEND OPEN HOUSE

Each winery offers something unique, with new releases, food pairings, big holidays discounts, and special donation events benefiting local charities.

Check out what wineries are offering and be sure to bring your food, toy, or clothing donations with you as part of our "Gorge Wine Gives Back" charity weekend. Bring your family to meet our family!

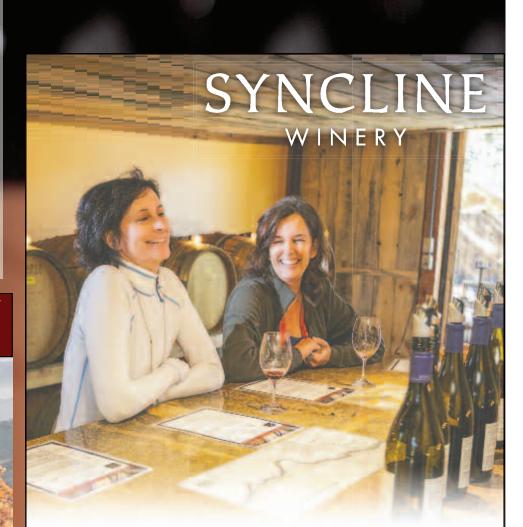
Stay the weekend; spend a day in our Washington wineries (spanning from Underwood to Goldendale), and the next in our Oregon wineries (spanning from Hood River thru The Dalles) and complete the weekend in our Hood River Tasting Rooms. It's a wonderful way to spend the weekend and discover the variety of wines from the Columbia Gorge and Columbia Valley AVA's

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### November 28th-30th, 11-6

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\*Purchase four or more bottles and have them shipped for \$1 to a single address, good Thanksgiving weekend thru December 22nd, 2014

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# NOVEMBER 28-30, 2014

### THANKSGIVING WEEKEND OPEN HOUSE

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Thanksgiving Warehouse Sale No nervous birds, just great prices on wine.



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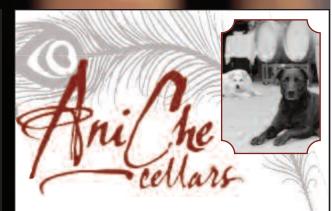
ALL WINES 20 - 60% OFF Friday - Saturday - Sunday November 28th - 30th 11:00am - 5:00pm Thank you for supporting our family winery!



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# THANKSGIVING WINE GUIDE 2014



27







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### General Service Schedule

uto technicians say the key to keeping vehicles running welltoday and down the road-is routine maintenance. Yet many drivers tend to stall when it comes to keeping up with some everyday auto-basics. A recent survey by the Car Care Council found:

■ 38 percent of cars had low or dirty engine oil. ■ 54 percent had low tire pres-

sure. ■ 28 percent had inadequate cooling protection. ■ 19 percent needed new belts. ■ 16 percent had dirty air filters.

■ 10 percent had low or contaminated brake fluid.

For your convenience, the Car Care Council developed a Service Interval Schedule to help you keep track of regular maintenance. Most of the checks and services described here can be done at little or no cost. Best of all, they are quick and easy.



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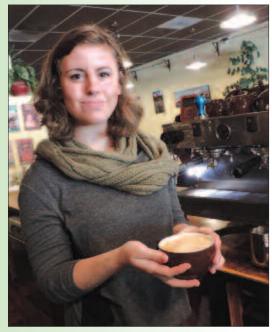
#### **32** The Dalles Chronicle & Hood River News



On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love gave

to me...

By RAELYNN RICARTE The Dalles Chronicles staff writer



Dog River barista Jadyn Holmgren serves up a fresh latte at the Oak Street Café in Hood River.

ou won't find eight maids a milking at Holstein's Coffee in The Dalles but the staff does whip up an excellent latte of coffee with steamed milk, and other drink specialties.

Holstein's is located at 811 E. Third Street and, after 23 years, claims the title of the original coffee stop in the gorge.

"All beans are roasted exclusively for us so nobody has the same roast we do – and all our beans are organic," said Jeanie Batty, who co-owns the business with husband Kraig

The business has a drivethru service window but also comfortable seating inside for people wanting to relax with a cup of java or meet up with a friend.

During the summer months, there is also an outdoor seating area.

> Popular holiday drinks include pumpkin spice and candy cane coffee, along with snowflake mocha and caramel apple cider. And there is always a selection of scones, muffins, cookies (some gluten-free), croissants and breakfast sandwiches to go with the beverage.

In addition to selling gift cards of any denomination, Holstein's features genuine Mara stoneware, including mugs, cat and dog dishes, tea pots and even beer steins.

Please see EIGHTH DAY, page 33





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### - EIGHTH DAY - Continued from page 32

"Each piece is original and they are a huge seller," said Batty.

Holstein's is open from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Down the street a couple of blocks is Grinder's Coffee, which is also 100 percent locally owned and made the top 20 finalist list in a national competition for best coffee shop.

Jessica Struck, manager of the coffee stand, specializes in latte art, which is more than just making patterns in the foam of a drink. She is joined by Shayla Maki, who began working for Jared Sawyer, owner, when she was 15 and is now assistant manager.

Sawyer, who also owns the True Value hardware store next door, said latte art is a visible demonstration that the milk in the beverage has been properly steamed.

He decided to open Grinder's in 2004 because there was ample room in the parking lot. It took several years to get through an expansion and renovation of the hardware store and then the coffee stand was built.

Sawyer decided to go with Stumptown Coffee because it has revolutionized the



Grinders Coffee offers two drive-thru windows and a lobby to serve Stumptown Coffee that is uniquely flavored through a special arrangement with the company and producers.

coffee industry by forming relationships directly with growers from around the world to get uniquely flavored beans.

"They've really turned coffee into more of a culinary experience," said Sawyer. "You can get the same high quality here that you would get at a Stumptown café in Portland.

Gift cards purchased at the hardware store are also good for Grinders, which offers added convenience with two drivethru windows and a small lobby for people stopping by to enjoy coffee, smoothies or baked goods.

Grinders is open from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dog River Coffee at 411 Oak Street in Hood River started off 2014 by being featured as one of America's Top 10 Coffee Shops.

"That was huge publicity for us, people from all over the country came to visit – it was a big deal," said Justin Bahr, an employee.

He said the draw to the decade-old business is not only its flavorful coffees and teas but its friendly environment and relaxed seating areas.

"We treat people more like a family

and there are lot of customers who come in with a laptop and just sort of hang out all day," he said.

A visit to the business is a good time for relaxation, said Bahr, and gift cards are available.

Dog River is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Andrea Beckley, a barista at Holstein's, shows off one of the gift cards that can be purchased for any denomination.



Signature fern frond froth adorns a fresh latte at Dog RIver COffee in Hood River.



Mara mugs sold at Holstein's in The Dalles are handmade stoneware and sell for just under \$20. The dog and cat dishes run in the upper \$20s and tea pots are almost \$57.





514 S. Columbus Ave - Goldendale, WA

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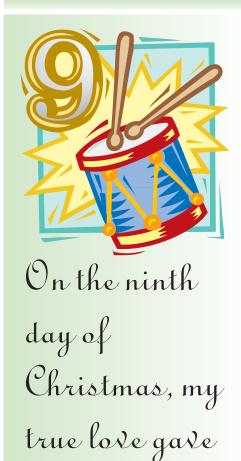
Follow the Golden Charm Trail to find unique gift ideas!

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to me...

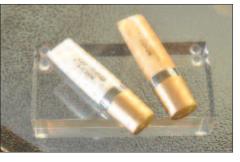
By NEITA CECIL The Dalles Chronicles staff writer



Rock n roll cowgirl fringe lined leather jacket, 92, Belle Star Western Boutique, 224 Terminal Ave., The Dalles.

n the ninth day of Christmas nine ladies decided to whoop it up and hit the dance floor. They knew they wanted to look good, and they knew just where to go to make that happen. At Columbia Laser Skin Center, they all picked up a limited edition Smoke and Mirrors eye kit, with colors from smoky to glittery to achieve the holiday wow-factor. May as well pick up some liquid eye shadow in two glittery colors, too. For curl, shine and hold in your holiday hairdo, head over to Eres Salon in The Dalles for the latest self-rotating curling iron and hair product.

Of course, bling's the thing when it comes to attire, and Belle Star Western Boutique in The Dalles has got you covered, from fringe leather jackets to totes encrusted with Swarovski crystals. Now that they're all glammed up, those nine ladies are ready for a night of fun!



Eye Shere™ liquid eye shadow, \$17.50, in two limited edition sheer, shimmering shades: Opal silk and Gold Silk. Columbia Laser Skin Center, 301 Cherry Heights, The Dalles.



Chi Royal Treatment White truffle and Pearl hair spray and rapid shine, \$15 each, Eres Salon, 512 W. 9th St., The Dalles.



Smoke & Mirrors smoky eye kit, \$50, Columbia Laser Skin Center, 301 Cherry Heights, The Dalles.



Double J handcrafted leather tote, metallic color with strap covered in Swarovski crystal, \$500, Belle Star Western Boutique, 224 Terminal Ave., The Dalles.

Chi ARC (Automatic Rotating Curler), \$199, Eres Salon, 512 W. 9th St., The Dalles

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my true love

gare to me...

**By KIRBY NEUMANN-REA** Hood River News



Runners' Injinji Performance Liner socks provide good support for people with metatarsal needs or bunions, and retail for \$9; the Outdoor sock sells for \$12; Shortt Supply, Second and Oak, Hood River.

# 10 gift ideas inspired by Ten Lords-a-Leaping

ne way to hone in on a variety of gift needs is to look at the beloved "Ten Lords A Leaping" in the song "12 Days of Christmas." We suggest a loose interpretation of the word "leaping," and for the word "lord," for that matter. In the Gorge, leaping comes in many forms.

Here's some ideas for "lords" and "ladies" of all ages.

Make it a leapin'-good evening this February with a "Full Monty" package (details on page 42), after a few other takes on the whole leaping idea:

For another kind of leaping, consider the work of the guys at the tire store — usually 10 or so of them, especially in the busy times of year. How about a gift certificate for tire repair, or wheel covers or other accessories? Has your guy avoided equipping his car with the proper chain set? He'll be more likely to leap out of the car and strap those on if he's correctly equipped.

Speaking of snowy weather:

Lords, and ladies, will be leaping — Mt. Hood Meadows, so get them a day or season pass. A 10time pass runs for \$419, good for any day. Perhaps vour skier or board is already set on passes or tickets: look at a cool pair of goggles or other accessory to help them leap even higher. (www.skihood.com)

Inside where it's warmer, there will be a few lords and a lot more ladies, leaping in "Scenes from the Nutcracker," Dec. 13-14, a benefit for FISH food bank, at Hood River Middle School, an annual celebration in Hood River. For the ballet lover in the family we suggest a selection of books:

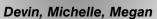
■ Juvenile fiction: "Ballet Academy" by Lorrie Mack (\$5.99, 122 pp., DK Publishers);

• General non-fiction: "Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina, "Michael De-Prince \$15.99, 242 pp., Alfred Knopf Publishers) or treat a loved one to snowboard or ski upgrades

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#### — TENTH DAY — Continued from page 36

or maintenance at Doug's, or Big Winds.

• Child fiction: "Angelina's Big City Ballet" by Catharyn Holabird/illustrations by Helen Craig (\$14.99, Viking)

Speaking of FISH: do your holiday party shopping at Rosauers or Safeway, and at the same time buy a \$10 or \$20 bag of healthy staple food items for FISH: they're pre-packaged, just grab one and FISH volunteers will pick them up in time for holiday delivery to people in need.

Did someone say "Leaping?" As in Lizards? That classic phrase will be heard once again in the 2014 remake of the classic tale "Annie," in theaters in December. Purchase tickets

over the place in the Gorge, if you consider how active people are: runners, basketball players, volleyball players, and even cyclists need proper footwear for whatever form of leaping they do. Shortt Supply in Hood River has a wide range of shoes for just about any leapin' need. For women, the Nike Zoom Kiger is an excellent value (\$125) for a light-weight, high performance trail shoe with a comfortable fit for multiple types of foot.

For men, the Saucony Peregrine (named for a bird known to leap into action) sells for \$110 and is one of the lightest shoe in stock made for speed.

And so we return to "The Full Monty," where 10 men sing, dance, and yes, take off some garments. CAST pres-

ents the comic



Ballet books for people of all ages, available at Waucoma Bookstore on Oak Hood River.

ahead of time or buy a down- when the show runs, by pickloadable gift card at your favorite theater.

Lords and ladies leap all

Plan an evening out in February,

ing up tickets to the show and

Please see TENTH DAY, page 42



Shoes for leaping: Angela Krause holds up Nike Kiger for women, left, and Saucony Peregrine, for men, two examples of a wide selection of footwear at Shortt Supply in Hood River.





#### **GORGE GIFT GUIDE 2014**





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#### **GORGE GIFT GUIDE 2014**

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a gift certificate for a downtown restaurant so vou can make it an evening of fine dining to go with the music and comedy. Put it together with a bottle of Full Monty Red – there's bottles from the 2012 release. at Naked Winery, just around the corner from the theater. (Or, look ahead to Valentine's Day and a "sweet" combined offer from Columbia Center for the Arts and Naked, to celebrate the show and the wine.) "Full Monty" tickets at showtix4U.com: CAST Theater is at Center for the Arts, 213 Cascade Ave.; Naked Winery is at 102 Second St



Full Monty wine is part of the line-up at Naked Winery in Hood River.



Photos by Kirby Neumann-Rea

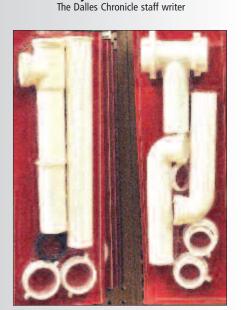
Lords preparing to leap ... into "The Full Monty," at CAST theater. Cast members, from right, are Ari Bloodgood, Nate Ohlson, Jonas Grosserhode, Reuben Betts, William Thayer-Daugherty, Dennis Castanares, David Dye, and director Bruce Ludwig.



#### **GORGE GIFT GUIDE 2014**



On the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...



**By MARK GIBSON** 

#### Fittings

A host of fittings are available, specific to need. Sales representatives are a good source as you look to begin a project.



A sign over the plumbing department at Tum-A-Lum Lumber in Hood River.

n the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me... Eleven pipers? Piping? Sounds like a job for the plumber!

Getting one plumber, let alone 11, is likely to be a real challenge over the holiday, but perhaps the "significant other" is eager to take on any challenge, no task too big. The trick will be getting the right gifts for the right job, no easy task, explains Ellen Miller of Tum-A-Lum Lumber, which has stores in Hood River at 408 Highway 35 and The Dalles at 240 Terminal Ave. "Not a lot of people like to take on plumbing repair,"

Please see ELEVENTH DAY, page 44



#### Flashlights

A plumber is going to need a flashlight, and a huge variety are available, ranging from the simple and inexpensive to elaborate multi-use units.



Plumbers are famous for spending a lot of time bent over, and knee pads are just the thing to make him or her more comfortable. This pair is moderately priced at \$28.99 at Sawyer's True Value in The Dalles and Hood River Supply in Hood River.

#### 

she said, and prior to starting any job a bit of research will be needed. Talking to a salesman at Tum-a-Lum is a good place to start, as they can give you an idea of the possible scope of a project. Some projects, like kitchen sink screens in need of replacement or toilets that never stop running are well within the do-it-yourself realm. Other projects get complicated very quickly.

If plumbing doesn't hold the attention, sounds to complex, or just seems unsuitable for the holidays, the do-ityourself mantra "every project deserves a new tool" can come into play. Tum-a-Lum Lumber and other outlets have a full range of tools available to help the piper get piping.



#### **Propane torch**

A simple torch and propane tank can be used to unfreeze pipes. Torch is \$14.99, the 14.1 ounce propane tank, \$3.49, both at Tum-A-Lum.



#### **Rain Fall shower head**

Enjoy a luxurious spa-like experience. Over 30 showerhead models available at Hood River Supply. Waterpik shown \$32.99.





## Where are all the **COOL** toys this year?

the family can draw beautiful patterns in a multitude of colors that can

later be framed or grace a spot on the refrigerator. Lots of fun and no

limit to the different designs that can be produced.



G Williker's Toy Shoppe in downtown Hood River is a full-range toy store, but this time of year Sheppard's farm supply becomes a toy store, too. G Williker's offers the old to the new, including "Snow Time – Anytme" 6 snowballs and two inflatable shields for indoor snowball fights, \$22, and vou can pick up an extra bucket of snowballs for \$15. With "Snow Time" are these HolzTigers, wooden toys handmade in Romania, all different prices because of different details, \$11 to \$18 (pigs, giraffes, rhinos and many other animals also available). Alice Clarke of Sheppard's displays smaller toys as she sits next to larger ones in the State Street shop window: ; prices range from \$149 to about \$300 for rideable motorized and non-motorized tractors trikes and other toys in the John Deer style. Or, pick up smaller trucks such as the 5420 Alice displays (\$40 and \$9) and "Farm Friend Book" – on the tractor seat — a truck that opens up as a book (\$12.99). Farm-oriented stocking stuffers start as low as \$4.99 for a metal gator or \$7.99 for a hat.



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Great gift ideas for the holidays!

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- FREE Calm Facial with Clarisonic Mia purchase (\$95 value)



## Gift Certificates

- Purchase \$100 gift certificate and receive a \$20 gift card
- Purchase \$200 gift certificate and receive a \$50 gift card



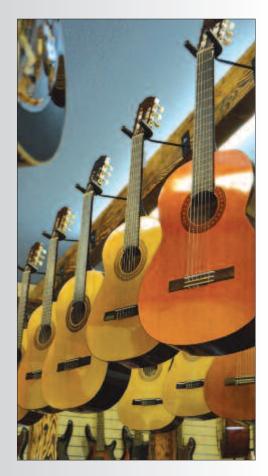
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On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

> By TRISHA WALKER Hood River News staff writer



# Twelve drummers might be drumming but don't forget the rest of the band

ou've made your list and you've checked it twice. You know who's naughty and nice. And if Santa is going to come to town for the musicians on your list, you'll need to make a trip to the big city, right? Wrong. Everything you need, from instru-

ments to accessories, can be found right here at home. Those 12 drummers drumming and the rest of the band — will thank you.

While Columbia River Music in The Dalles does not sell drum kits, they do have a variety of hand drum and hand percussion instruments, said store employee Dan Ross (and drummer), including tambourines, cowbells, guiros, maracas, djembes (a popular African drum) and bongos. For the drummer, they carry drum sticks and practice pads, and "something that's associated with drummers but everyone needs, metronomes," said Ross.

But the store's biggest Christmas item is the ukulele. The store has the best selection of ukuleles anywhere — Ross said you'd have to go as far as Seattle to find a store with more. Columbia River Music carries ukuleles in all sizes and price ranges, from \$45 to over \$1000.

Guitar-related accessories are also in big demand over the holiday season, said Ross, and the store carries everything from electronic guitar tuners and straps — they have a huge selection of Levys, made in Canada to strings, capos, cords, amplifiers and stands.

And for those wanting to learn an instrument, the store carries sheet music and "learn to play" videos, as well as offers lessons; guitar and violin are the most popular.

Zeman's Music in Hood River is primarily guitar-based, but do carry some percussion instruments, such as tambourines and bon-



Photos by Trisha Walker

Outfit the band — Zeman's Music in Hood River has small percussion instruments, like this set of bongo drums, as well as a full selection of electric and acoustic bass guitars, new and used electric guitars, 12-strings, and mini guitars for the younger set.

gos, as well as drum microphone kits and drum sticks.

But guitars is where they really shine. They have electric and acoustic bass guitars, new and used electric guitars, 12-strings, and even mini guitars for the younger set. They have a variety of guitar accessories — straps, strings, cords, amps, gig bags, picks, microphones, sliders and tuners — and also sell sheet music for guitar, piano, ukulele and banjo.

Guitar prices are very competitive, said Steve May (another drummer) — there's almost no guitar listed over \$300.

You might not have 12 drummers drumming this Christmas, but all of the musicians — and aspiring musicians — on your list will be set.

Columbia River Music, 410 E. Second Street, The Dalles; 541-298-4326

Zeman's Music, 1819 Cascade Avenue, Hood River; 541-386-1106

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