

BRIEFLY  
Minion to visit SAGE Center for movie

BOARDMAN — For more minion madness and a chance to meet a minion, head to the SAGE Center for screenings of “Despicable Me 3.”

The showings are Friday, Dec. 8 at 7:15 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 9 at 2:15 p.m. at 101 Olson Road, Boardman. The meet-and-greets are 45 minutes prior to each show and are free with movie admission. In addition, non-perishable food donations will be accepted.

Admission is \$3 per person and includes a bag of popcorn. Other concessions are available for cash purchases.

For more information, call 541-481-7243 or visit [www.visitsage.com](http://www.visitsage.com).

Tunesmith Night showcases original musicians

JOSEPH — A Nashville-raised folk musician is among a trio of original musicians set to take the stage during Tunesmith Night in Wallowa County.

With Nashville roots, Erisy Watt is now based in Portland after honing her craft for six years in Santa Barbara, California. She has toured in several countries over the past few years with guitarist Jeremy Ferrara. Watt’s blend of folk and soul are often compared to Joni Mitchell and Norah Jones. Her music, including her latest EP “Foolish Things,” invites listeners to celebrate the beauty and freedom of wilder places.

Joining Watts in a round-robin format — each musician taking turns playing a song — are Joseph Hein and Bart Budwig. The show is Saturday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Gold Room at the Jennings Hotel, 100 N. Main St., Joseph. The cost is \$10 for the all-ages event. No food or beverage service is available, but people may bring their own.

Hein grew up making music in the Palouse region of eastern Washington. With the small town isolation, the multi-instrumentalist gleaned from a range of influences from punk to electronic pop. His recent album, “Following Fog,” holds the energy and sounds of the places it was recorded, including a barn, church, garage, cabin, closet and the span of Washington state.

Budwig, the resident sound engineer at Enterprise’s OK Theatre, whose talents are wrapped in a warm and giving spirit, fosters collaborations on stage and in the recording arena. Budwig’s spring release, “Paint by Numbers Jesus: Sacrilegious and Spiritual Songs,” is described as a “swamp country” concept record pulling from grooves of Motown and the American deep south from 1960-70.

The Wallowa Valley Music Alliance hosts the monthly Tunesmith Night. For more information, contact [info@wvmusicalliance.org](mailto:info@wvmusicalliance.org) or visit [www.wvmusicalliance.org](http://www.wvmusicalliance.org).

Modest Mouse singer sued over 2016 wreck

PORTLAND (AP) — The lead singer of the alternative rock band Modest Mouse was sued Wednesday in a Portland court for nearly \$1 million over a traffic accident last year.

Isaac Brock was cited after the Aug. 3, 2016, accident for crashing into a city of Portland pick-up truck when he fell asleep at the wheel. He was not charged with a crime.

In the lawsuit filed in Multnomah County Circuit Court, city employee Cassidy Kane claimed the accident caused herniated disks in her spine and did other tissue and muscle damage that continues to cause her pain and numbness in her extremities.

She will need steroid injections and may need surgery, the lawsuit said.

The lawsuit asks for total damages of more than \$865,000.

At the time, police said Brock failed to stop as he approached traffic that was stopped near the Morrison Bridge in downtown Portland.

He hit the back of the city truck, which hit a Subaru, which hit another Subaru, which likely hit a fifth car that left the scene perhaps not knowing it had been tapped.

The singer told police he had fallen asleep at the wheel. He was evaluated for signs of intoxication, which officers could not confirm.

There were no signs Brock was impaired, so police cited him for careless driving and he has since paid a \$435 fine.

Singing praises for Sofia Talvik’s Christmas album

One of the most appealing aspects of Americana music is the specific, often editorialized depiction of life’s events within the lyrics — and the subject matter rivals Norwegian Black Metal for death and murder references.

So perhaps in some way it makes complete sense that a Swedish chanteuse uses that genre to create what may be the darkest Christmas album ever.

Swedish singer/songwriter Sofia Talvik’s “When Winter Comes” has been gestating for the last decade. Every year she has released a Christmas single for various charities as well as a treat for fans.

“This year I’ve re-imagined, re-recorded, re-mixed and remastered these songs to make them come together as an album,” Talvik said. “This album is unique, not just because 13 of the 14 songs are original but because the songs focus on the darker side of Christmas, something you don’t hear that



JOHNNY VINYL  
Ride the Vibe



Contributed photo

After releasing Christmas singles each year for a decade, Swedish folk musician Sofia Talvik re-worked and re-mixed them to create a Christmas album.

often in Christmas music.”

A truer statement has never been made. This collection of songs covers just about everything that makes the holidays severely

depressing for so many.

Not being able to make it home for the holidays, passing of time, regret, war, loss, homelessness, depression and, yes, even murder

WHAT TO DO

Festivals

- Pendleton WinterFest**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
  - Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate
  - [www.sahpendleton.org/foundation/winterfest](http://www.sahpendleton.org/foundation/winterfest)
  - Free. Formerly the Festival of Trees, the holiday extravaganza features tree viewing and holiday activities.
- Winterphest, Bazaar & Light Parade**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 5 p.m. parade
  - Pilot Rock Community Center
  - [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
  - Free. After shopping for homemade goodies and gifts, get ready for the Light Parade, followed by a chili feed (\$) and float awards.
- Hermiston Festival of Trees**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 6 p.m., gala event
  - Sunday, Dec. 3; noon-4 p.m., family day
  - Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395
  - [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
  - \$40/gala event, \$5/suggested Family Day donation. The gala event features a live and silent auction for Christmas trees and other holiday decor and gift baskets. The Family Day features tree viewing and holiday fun.
- Light Festival & Parade**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 5:30 p.m.
  - Downtown Condon
  - [www.condonchamber.org](http://www.condonchamber.org)
  - Free. People are encouraged to come early to shop at local merchants, caroling on Main Street and a 4 p.m. screening of “A Charlie Brown Christmas” at the Liberty Theater. After party at the Elks Lodge includes (\$) food, drinks and pictures with Santa.

Art, Authors, & Museums

- Crow’s Shadow Holiday Open House**
- Sunday, Dec. 3; 1-4 p.m.
  - 48004 St. Andrew’s Road, Mission
  - [www.crowssshadow.org](http://www.crowssshadow.org)
  - Free. Tour the printmaking studio, view works of 2017 artists-in-residence and help bid farewell to longtime master printer Frank Janzen, who is retiring after 16 years, and his wife, Marie, who has volunteered in the studio.
- “Season of Magic”**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 2-4 p.m.
  - Arts Portal Gallery, 508 N. Main St., Milton-Freewater
  - [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
  - Free. Holiday-themed art exhibit opening. Exhibit hours Saturday & Sundays, noon-5 p.m. through Dec. 17.
- The Art of the Gift**
- Tuesday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturdays, noon-4 p.m.
  - Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
  - [www.pendletonarts.org](http://www.pendletonarts.org)
  - Free. Gallery features creative gifts from craftspeople

- from across the nation. Runs through Dec. 30.
- “C-Lager: Stalag Luft IV and the 86-Day Hunger March”**
- Saturday, Dec. 9; 11 a.m.
  - Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave.
  - [www.pendletonlibrary.weebly.com](http://www.pendletonlibrary.weebly.com)
  - Free. Vietnam veteran and clinical therapist David Dorfmeier shares a multi-media presentation about his book that recounts his father’s World War II military service.
- “Drawn Narratives”**
- Monday-Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
  - Betty Feves Memorial Gallery, BMCC, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.
  - Free. Christopher Troutman’s artwork explores differences and similarities of the Midwestern United States and southern Japan. Gallery also open by appointment by calling 541-278-5952. Runs through Dec. 7.
- Great Gifts Show**
- Tuesday-Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
  - Peterson’s Gallery and Chocolatier, 1925 Main St., Baker City
  - [www.petersonsgallery.net](http://www.petersonsgallery.net)
  - Free. Features hand-selected recommendations for Christmas gifts from new productions by local favorite artists. Items include ornaments, vases, photography and unique pieces that can be used as stocking stuffers.
- “Art of Survival - Enduring the Turmoil of Tule Lake”**
- Monday-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
  - Tamastislikt Cultural Institute, near Wildhorse Resort & Casino.
  - [www.tamastislikt.org](http://www.tamastislikt.org)
  - \$10/adults, \$9/senior citizens, \$6/youths, free/5 and under or \$25/family of four. Exhibit probes the complexity of the Japanese-American confinement site in Newell, California, during World War II. Runs through Jan. 7.

Music

- Brass Fire**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 7-10 p.m.
  - Red Lion Inn, 304 S.E. Nye Ave., Pendleton
  - No cover. Local brass band performs an eclectic array of music.
- Dana Osborn Band**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 8 p.m.
  - No cover
  - Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission
- Hymnspiration Christmas**
- Sunday, Dec. 3; 4:30 p.m.
  - Victory Baptist Church, 103 E. Main St., Hermiston
  - Free. An evening of singing old-fashioned Christmas carols, featuring food, fun and fellowship.
- Lincoln Barr**
- Thursday, Dec. 7, 5:30 p.m.
  - The Gathering Place at

- Bellinger’s, 1823 S. Highway 395, Hermiston
- Free. The First Thursday wine event features singer-songwriter for the Seattle-based band Red Jacket Mine. Now residing in Pendleton, Barr’s debut solo album, “Trembling Frames,” has been described as “deeply personal” with a “cafe jazz vibe.”
- Jam Night**
- Thursday, Dec. 7; 6:30-8 p.m.
  - Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
  - [www.pendletonarts.org](http://www.pendletonarts.org)
  - Free. Join Pendleton Music Company and other local musicians for an informal evening of jamming. All levels of experience are welcome.
- Open Mic Thursday**
- Thursday, Dec. 7; 7 p.m.
  - 40 Taps, 337 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton
  - No cover. Show up and share your talents. All performers get a free beverage.
- Cory Wilds Band**
- Friday, Dec. 8; Saturday, Dec. 9; 8 p.m. No cover
  - Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.
- Light of the World**
- Saturday, Dec. 9; 7:30-9:30 p.m.
  - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 850 S.W. 11th St.
  - [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
  - Free. Features the Hermiston Community Choir singing holiday favorites. Features Dalin Puzey and other local talent Refreshments served.
- Holiday Music Festival**
- Sunday, Dec. 10; 3:15 p.m.
  - Vert Auditorium, 480 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton
  - [www.oregoneastsymphony.org](http://www.oregoneastsymphony.org)
  - \$20/adults, \$15/students, seniors, \$45/family. Features the Oregon East Symphony and Chorale, Our Songs Are Alive, the Pendleton Men’s Chorus and the Eastern Oregon Community Big Band.
- Christmas with John Wambeke & students**
- Friday, Dec. 15; 6:30-9:30 p.m.
  - Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo
  - No cover. All ages welcome. Share the holiday season with an evening of Christmas music and budding stars.
- The Spirit of the Season**
- Friday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 16, 4 p.m.
  - Echo Community Center, 20 Bonanza St.
  - Sunday, Dec. 17, 4 p.m.
  - Connell High School, 1100 W. Clark St., Connell, WA
  - [www.inlandnorthwestmusicians.com](http://www.inlandnorthwestmusicians.com)
  - Free, donations accepted. Holiday cone of the Inland Northwest Musicians (due to limited seating, reservations are required for the Echo concerts by calling 541-289-4696).
- Debra Arlyn & the Goodness**
- Friday, Dec.15; Saturday, Dec.16; 8 p.m. No cover
  - Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

- Great Pacific Christmas Extravaganza**
- Sunday, Dec. 17; noon
  - Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton
  - No cover. All ages. Get ready to amp up your holiday spirit with James Dean Kindle & the Eastern Oregon Playboys, Lincoln Barr and a whole host of other local musicians. Holiday cheer starts at noon and continues into the afternoon/evening.
- Night life**
- Santa Express Donation Event**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 5-11 p.m.
  - The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston
  - [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
  - \$10. Features UFC 218 Holloway vs. Aldo 2, raffle items, door prizes, drink/food specials. Dancing with DJ Diego Arriola after the fights. Benefit event for Hermiston Police Christmas Express.
- Karaoke w/DJ David**
- Saturdays; 8 p.m.
  - Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla
- DJ & Trivia**
- Saturdays; 9 p.m.
  - Midway Tavern, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston
- Mac’s Trivia Night**
- Tuesdays; 7 p.m. No cover
  - Mac’s Bar & Grill, 1400 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton
  - 21 and older. Eat. Drink. Think. Teams of 2-8 compete in trivia contest with other teams. Live host and prizes, including \$50 gift card for winning team.
- Christmas Trivia**
- Wednesday, Dec. 20; 8 p.m.
  - 40 Taps, 337 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton
  - No cover. Includes ugly sweater contest and prizes.
- Back to the ‘80s Karaoke**
- Thursday, Dec. 7, 9 p.m.
  - The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston
- Wine tasting**
- Fridays, 4-8 p.m.
  - Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo.
- Karaoke w/DJ David**
- Fridays; 8 p.m.
  - Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla
- DJ and dancing**
- Fridays, 8 p.m.
  - The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston
- Karaoke**
- Fridays; 9 p.m.
  - Midway Tavern, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston
- Cimmi’s Late Night Martini Lounge**
- Fridays; 9 p.m.-midnight
  - Virgil’s at Cimmiyotti’s, 137 S. Main St., Pendleton
  - No cover. Features martinis, mixology and music.
- Holiday Barrel Tasting**
- Friday, Dec. 8, 4-8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9; noon-5 p.m.
  - Echo Ridge Cellars, 551 N. Thielsen St. & Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St.
  - \$5/tasting fee at both ven-

are all equally dealt with on “When Winter Comes.”

And murder is depicted in what is one of the most magical tracks on the album. Simply titled, “Christmas,” it is the darkest among the dark. You’ll never think of “snow covering tracks” the same way again.

All of this doesn’t mean that Talvik is not equipped with a fully functioning sense of humor. The song “When It Rains on Christmas Day” explains personal failure and regret over a minimal piano accompaniment, lulling the listener into a melancholy before it breaks into a church choir of hallelujahs. Audio whiplash, baby!

Sofia Talvik’s “When Winter Comes” has got something that virtually no other Christmas album can claim: It doesn’t sound at all like Christmas and can literally be played any time of the year. That in and of itself places it on a very short list of “Best Christmas Albums Ever!”

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*A retired educator, Johnny Vinyl spends his days with Lucifer, an 8-year-old German shepherd, reading and riding the vibe. His column, Ride the Vibe, focuses on entertainment. Contact him via [imalgesini@eastoregonian.com](mailto:imalgesini@eastoregonian.com)*

Theater, stage, film & lectures

- “The Nutcracker”**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 2 p.m.
  - Bob Clapp Theatre at BMCC, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton
  - \$5/adults, \$3/children under 12. Featuring 30 local dancers presented by Pendleton Ballet Theatre under the direction of Julie SnedenCarlson.
- Journey to Bethlehem**
- Saturday, Dec. 2-Sunday, Dec. 3; 5-9 p.m.
  - Seventh-day Adventist Church, 855 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston
  - [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
  - Free. Features the sights, smells and sounds of a bustling village during Biblical times — sharing the reason behind the season. Outdoor tours followed by refreshments indoors.
- “Steel Magnolias”**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 6:30 p.m.
  - Pendleton High School, 1810 N.W. Carden Ave.
  - \$6/adults, \$4/students with ID. Presented by the PHS drama department.
- “The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde”**
- Saturday, Dec. 2; 6:30 p.m.
  - Irrigon High School, 315 Wyoming Ave.
  - \$5. Are-telling of the classic tale by Robert Louis Stevenson featuring suspense and humor. Ticket price includes dinner.
- “Despicable Me 3”**
- Friday, Dec. 8, 7:15 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9; 2:15 p.m.
  - SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman
  - [www.visitsage.com](http://www.visitsage.com)
  - \$3/includes popcorn. A meet-and-greet with a Despicable Me minion is 45 minutes prior to both screenings (no charge with movie admission). Non-perishable food donations accepted.

Hot tickets

- “Dirty Voltage.”** (AC-DC tribute band) Dec. 31, Pheasant Bar & Grill. Tickets (\$20) via <https://thepheasant.ticketleap.com>
- “Dancing with the Hermiston Stars.”** Jan. 13, Hermiston High School. Tickets (\$10-\$20) via [www.desertartscouncil.com](http://www.desertartscouncil.com)
- “Chicks with Hits** (featuring Pam Tillis, Terri Clark and Suzy Bogguss.) Jan 26 at Wildhorse Resort & Casino. Tickets for the 21-and-older shows (\$49-\$79) available via the Wildhorse Gift Shop or [www.wildhorseresort.com](http://www.wildhorseresort.com)
- Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to [community@eastoregonian.com](mailto:community@eastoregonian.com), or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.*

‘Lady Bird’ named best picture by New York Film Critics

By JAKE COYLE  
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK — The New York Film Critics Circle on Thursday named “Lady Bird” best feature film and its star, Saoirse Ronan, best actress, throwing its full support behind Greta Gerwig’s comic drama about growing up in Sacramento, Calif.

The wins for “Lady Bird,” announced on Twitter, add further steam to the film’s growing Oscar chances. “Lady Bird,” Gerwig’s first feature as a solo director, also has the distinction of setting a new record for perfection: It’s the most widely reviewed movie on Rotten Tomatoes to receive 100-percent

positive reviews.

Earlier in the week, “Lady Bird” also scored honors at the Gotham Awards (for Ronan) and from the National Board of Review (for Gerwig and co-star Laurie Metcalf). Ronan, 23, has now won best actress from the New York critics twice, following her 2015 win for “Brooklyn.”

“The Florida Project” — an A24 release like “Lady Bird” — also fared well with the New York critics, winning best director for Sean Baker and best supporting actor for Willem Dafoe. The film depicts the vibrant but hard lives of those living at a low-budget Florida motel in the shadow of Disney World.

Timothee Chalamet, the young

star of the tender coming-of-age tale “Call Me By Your Name,” took best actor from the New York critics. Chalamet, 21, is the youngest to receive the NYFCC award. It’s his third award of the week, following wins at the Gotham Awards and the National Board of Review.

Another breakout star, Tiffany Haddish, took supporting actress for the summer comedy “Girls Trip.” The win could help propel Haddish — who so far hasn’t been counted among the category’s favorites — into further awards contention this season.

Other winners included Paul Thomas Anderson for his screenplay to “Phantom Thread” and Jordan Peele’s horror hit “Get Out”

for best first film.

“Mudbound” cinematographer Rachel Morrison became the first woman to win the NYFCC’s best cinematography prize. Were her success to continue, Morrison would be the first woman ever nominated for cinematography by the Academy Awards.

Best documentary went to Agnes Varda and JR’s travelogue “Faces Places.” Pixar’s “Coco” landed best animated movie. And the foreign language film winner was Robin Campillo’s “BPM (Beats Per Minute),” a docudrama about an AIDS activist in 1990s Paris.

The New York Film Critics Circle Awards will be handed out January 3.