



Albert Santos, of Portland, captured an 8-year-old ram on the John Day River Nov. 4. Santos, along with brother Joel, floated along the river 50 miles before spotting the ram.

## Santos bags ram on wild trip down John Day River

After an adventure that included rafting 70 miles and having their raft puncture and deflate underneath them, brothers Albert and Joel Santos found what they were looking for - a bighorn sheep for Albert.

Albert, of Portland, bagged an 8-year-old ram on the west side of the John Day River Nov. 4.

Joel took a 7-year-old ram from the Deschutes River canyon last year.

The Santos brothers put their raft in at Clarno and floated about 50 miles north before they even saw any bighorns. On the second day, they had been delayed because the raft punctured going over a rapid on the shallow river just 20 miles into the journey.

"The water was only about a foot deep," Joel Santos said.

He said riding the deflated raft helped because, had it had

air, the rapid would have caused the Santos brothers to flip over.

They stopped to patch the raft, using a propane torch to heat the patching glue.

"By then, we weren't caring about sheep," he said.

The third day was considerably more successful, as, Joel Santos said, they had found bighorns. Most were off-limits because they were either on private land or land east of the river that is not ceded to the Warm Springs tribes, but they found three sheep that were available to them.

They spotted the biggest of the three high above the river. They were on the bottom of a canyon, and the sheep were at the top.

"I ranged it about 500 yards, and I thought it was too far," Joel Santos said.

Albert Santos, using a 7MM Ultramag, took a shot anyway

and hit the ram on the shoulder. Two more shots brought the animal down.

Joel Santos said the brothers had seen 12 rams on their foray.

The Santos brothers rowed to their takeout at Cottonwood, 40 miles from the mouth of the Columbia.

The tag was for a special bighorn sheep hunted allocated to members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Only one tag was issued each for the John Day and Deschutes river sections, which was decided by lottery.

Santos said only three people had applied for the tag on the John Day River, including another brother, their father and a third person.

## Museum hosts holiday events

A free open house, an art fair featuring bead artists, and the opening reception for the Beads to Buckskin exhibit have all been planned for Saturday, Dec. 18, at The Museum at Warm Springs.

The museum opens at 9 a.m. The Museum at Warm Springs

Open House offers free admission to the public to see the award-museum.

The Bead Artists Art Fair features tribal bead artists who have items for sale.

The Beads to Buckskin Exhibit will include artifacts from the museum's permanent collec-

tion, which contains beaded regalia and accessories.

In addition, the museum's gift shop has many holiday gift baskets and other unique items for sale this holiday season.

The Museum at Warm Springs is located at 2189 U.S. Highway 26 in Warm Springs. The museum is now in its winter schedule, open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 553-3331, fax 553-3338, or visit the museum website: [www.warmsprings.com/museum](http://www.warmsprings.com/museum).

### Post office readies for holiday season

The Warm Springs post office is offering parcel pickup two Saturdays this month, December 11 and 18, to help customers sent their holiday mail faster and easier.

Parcel pickup is from 10:30 a.m. to noon both days.

December, of course, is bonus month, and the post office plans to have all checks delivered as soon as possible. Any customers not assigned a post office box can pick up checks with one piece of photo identification.

Remember to legibly write the recipient's full address, including ZIP code, to help the

Postal Service get your mail exactly where you want it, and be sure to give your mailers your post office box number.

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## Program helps lower winter heating bills

Help with winter power bills is available for low-income families, through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The program is federally funded. This is not an entitlement program and instead provides assistance for households affected by costs of home energy excessive to their home.

The program this year is the same as last year, and provides a one-time payment during each heating season. The program helps but does not pay all the home's heating costs.

Any household whose income is at or below 60 percent of the statewide median income for

Oregon is eligible.

Both homeowners and renters are eligible.

Tribal Social Services will process applications for assistance from low-income households.

The amount of assistance a household receives is determined by several factors, including household income, household size, and the climatic region of the state where the household is located.

Tribal Social Services will begin taking applications for assistance no later than Dec. 1.

Call Odessa Jones-Anderson, energy assistance coordinator, at 553-3491 for information.

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