

SES can get dollars for BoxTops

The Sisters Elementary School Parent-Teacher Community (SPTC) is participating in 2017 National BoxTop week September 24-30.

SPTC collects BoxTops For Education from a variety of products which can then be turned into cash for the elementary school. Each student and their classmates participate in a classroom challenge at the school and are encouraged to bring in BoxTops once a month. BoxTops can be found on a variety of products including General Mills, Ziploc, Scott, and Annie's Organic.

Last school year over \$1,200 was raised in box tops from students and community members. This money was used to purchase new playground toys for all students at SES.

"National BoxTop Week is a great time to simply clip and support our school," said Mylee Card, a teacher at SES and the BoxTop coordinator. "It's easy — and many of them are found on products people already have in their pantry."

Community members can drop box tops off at Sisters Elementary School during school hours, or at the Sisters School District office, Deri's Hair Salon on Cedar, Sisters Park & Recreation District office or Washington Federal.

For a complete list of products that participate in the BoxTops For Education program visit www.BoxTops4Education.com.

BIRDS: First-timers are especially welcome to join count

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the ridge, and at this time of the year no telling what the temperature will be.

If this is your first time birding, don't worry about identifying what you see. There are usually two or three old-time birders among the counters, and they enjoy helping someone get started in birding.

Because of weather conditions there are many different birds migrating south

along Green Ridge and other hawk-watch locations statewide. Counters have reported seeing broad-winged hawks showing up in Oregon. This is an eastern U.S. buteo (soaring hawk) that can be seen by the thousands soaring over Hawk Mountain in Pennsylvania. These hawks migrate all the way as far south as Brazil and back each year.

Birders on the coast reported seeing black vultures in British Columbia, Canada. If these reports are valid (no one sent along a voucher photo with the report) there's a very good chance they may show up

winging their way south to Mexico along Green Ridge. Black vultures soar higher than our local turkey vultures, and do not tip side to side as much.

The count for last Saturday started out slow, but keeper-of-the-records — old-time Green Ridge counter and eagle-watcher Kim Boddie — had this to say about the first day on the 2017 Hawk Watch, and sent along the total birds seen:

"Today, the first Green Ridge Hawk Migration Count started off pretty slow. We had temps of 48 to 52 degrees, winds 0 to 5 mph

from all directions and skies mostly cloudy. We counted (only) nine birds between 10 a.m. and noon. As soon as kestrel researchers Sach and Nancy arrived things picked up and we had a final count of 147 raptors. But hawks and falcons were not the only birds making appearances. I recorded 29 additional species, which included two common loons and five kinds of woodpeckers.

"We ended up with 13 observers at the site with up to 11 at one time... Ten minutes before we left, a juvi (juvenile) northern goshawk put on a close-in show for us."

BUNKHOUSE: Writer is 'taking a knee' on season

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security in America.

And for the best players in the league, the financial security is generational: their great-grandchildren will never have to pine over tuition, or rent, or choose between eating cat food or buying life-saving medicine.

Perhaps a greater protest would be against those players protesting a system that is certainly flawed, but which somehow bestowed upon them unimaginable riches and opportunity — merely for being good at a game.

Perhaps we, as equally conscientious citizens, should protest their full-ride educations, or the universities that provided them, while other students, pursuing meaningful degrees, pile on student loans they will struggle for years to

pay off. Isn't that inequality, too?

At the end of the day, I really don't care about the protests. I don't care about the protests because I increasingly don't care about the game, and I certainly don't care about the transition of spoiled jocks into social justice warriors — any more than I care what Rosie O'Donnell or Sean Hannity think on a topic.

Tonight my team, the Dallas Cowboys — I've been a fan for forty years — are playing the Phoenix Cardinals. I would love to watch, and in years past I wouldn't miss it, but Roger Staubach and Tom Landry aren't there anymore — not even in spirit — and I think for right now, and on into the foreseeable future, I'll just be taking a knee.

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