

Sisters Country birds

By Douglas Beall
Correspondent

Gliding across Oregon's central sagebrush, the black-billed magpie is searching for any scrap of food; be it insects, carrion, birds eggs or berries.

Cousins to the jay and crow families, the magpie also uses its sense of smell to find food, which is unusual within the avian kingdom.

They are monogamous, and use the same nest for many years. The nest can take almost 40 days to construct and becomes a huge pile of twigs and is occasionally used by other birds, often owls.

Up to nine greenish-gray eggs are laid, and the

male feeds the female while she incubates for approximately 18 days and the young leave the nest in 3-4 weeks and join other broods to learn how to fend for themselves. Many moons ago, the black-billed magpie would follow Indian buffalo hunts and feed on the leftovers. They also engage in "anting," where they rub ants over their plumage, which may act as a preening oil; this behavior is not fully understood.

A group of magpies is referred to as a "shoal," a "charm," or a "parliament" of magpies.

To view more images of the black-billed magpies, visit abirdsingsbecauseithasasong.com/recent-journeys.



PHOTO BY DOUGLAS BEALL

Black-billed magpie.

SHERIFF: Mayor had criticized record-keeping

Continued from page 1

Council also requested perhaps more citations being issued to hopefully slow the speeders. The sheriff's office has contended in the past that they try to use speed enforcement through the issuance of warnings as an educational tool.

Garrison brought with him accurate numbers for the previous three months to replace the former incomplete data. Ticket and warning statistics for May through July 2018 were: May – 12 warnings, five tickets; June – five warnings, 16 tickets; and July – 21 warnings, 17 tickets. Garrison indicated that currently they are using a layered approach

within the city limits with a speed trailer, the Community Action Target team (officers on bicycles), and this week there should be a patrol car parked around town.

Over Labor Day weekend there will be traffic enforcement efforts for four days.

Ryan indicated he erred on the side of transparency in his quote to *The Nugget*. He explained, "Our looking at a separate police force has nothing to do with these issues. It's something that is going to come out of our visioning process, and I think the Council's going to decide whether we need to study that and whether it's time to look at it and strategize all that, but we are happy."

Sisters will continue to contract with the DCSO for law-enforcement services in the city. Most people agree that as Sisters continues to

grow, adequate and appropriate law enforcement is an important topic that deserves study and planning for future needs.

"I think we owe it to ourselves when we do the strategic plan to look at that ... We're not going to rush into it. We're going to do our homework. It'll be a process. I just want to be sure we're on the record on that. Nobody on this council has ever said to me we need to rush into doing this," Ryan said.

Nelson stated, "It's an absolute honor to provide public safety to the community of Sisters. That's just something that is the sheriff's priority." He concluded, "I support whatever decision you make and whatever direction you go. When we retire patrol cars we will give them to Sisters at a fair price to help you jumpstart a department."

THANK YOU!

Sisters Habitat for Humanity Volunteers, YOU ARE THE BEST!

This year 92 Habitat volunteers received Presidential Volunteer Service Awards, and 2 members joined the 1,000-Hour Club!



BRONZE 100-249 hrs. Thrift Store

- Pam Arsenault
- Cynthia Best
- Lauri Braich
- Lael Cooksley
- Helen Crawford
- Nora Ellison
- Colleen Fenn
- Holly Foott
- Pam Furgason
- Joanna Goertzen
- Linda Hespe
- Linda Huber
- Berni Huggett
- Helen Jack
- Darcy Johannsen
- Ann Nora Kruger
- Jackie Kvanvig
- Joan Lacey
- Tiger McKay
- Kerry Mendoza
- Martha Peterson
- Diana Prichard
- Sue Remmich
- Rose Rock
- Cathy Sewall
- Judy Sims
- Barbara Standerfer
- Rosalie Van Ness
- Hanford
- Ray Young
- ReStore**
- Kristi Amsberry
- Evelyn Bellotti-Busch

- Charlene Benjamin
- Louise Doucette
- Terri Gookin
- Harvey Hall
- Sharon Head
- Kay Hudson
- Joanne Johnson
- Chris Laing
- Patrick Moore
- Maribeth Quinn
- Carleen Robinson
- Amy Shultz
- Kim Tyner
- Gary Veum
- Karen Waddell
- Sterling Williver
- Construction**
- John Adamson
- Dave Clark
- Bob Harris
- Richard MacConnell
- Steve Ratcliffe
- Woodie Woodsum
- Jim Yount
- Other**
- Lauren Beyerinck
- Nora Ellison
- George Myers
- Sharon
- Thorkildson
- Board Member**
- Roger Fairfield
- Jerry Hanford
- Chuck Harper
- Toni Landis

- Bob Lawton
- Jack McDonnell
- Group**
- IBEW
- Heart of Oregon
- Corp. YouthBuild
- Sage Academy,
- Minnesota
- Tualatin Presbyterian
- SILVER 250-499 hrs.**
- Thrift Store**
- Connie Cross
- Colleen Fenn
- Trudy Kalac
- Debra Lajko
- Sherry LaVoe
- Marsha Lewis
- Susan Mackey
- Gayla Nelson
- Judy Osborne
- Paula Surmann
- Connie Young
- ReStore**
- Nancy Anderson
- David Lewis
- Ken Purkey
- Kaye Winona
- Construction**
- Rick Pearson
- Steve Madsen
- Other**
- Eloise Barry
- Board Member**
- Bob Buchholz
- Ellie Hammond

GOLD 500+ hrs.

- Thrift Store**
- Nan Daschel
- ReStore**
- Mary Jo Swaner
- Construction**
- John Milne
- Larry Lennon
- Dennis Mills
- Mike Anglea
- Board Member**
- Lynn Jones

LIFETIME AWARD

- 4,000+ hours
- Nan Daschel
- HABITAT'S**
- 1,000-HOUR CLUB**
- Rick Pearson
- Mary Jo Swaner

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- Sisters Bakery
- Cascade Trail Stop
- Market
- Outlaws Photography

"Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope."

MIND BODY Soul

Dr. George Mecouch, D.O.
Board Certified Psychiatrist
New to Sisters with 36 years experience.

Jungian-Oriented Psychotherapy and Process-Oriented Therapy

I take your needs seriously in a therapy practice that listens to mind, body, and soul.

541-904-4030
220 S. Ash St., Sisters
DrGeorgeMecouch.com

We turned 21 & want you to celebrate with us... Offering Retro Rates!

Special Senior Rates on Mondays and Locals Love on Tuesdays!

Aspen Lakes Local-friendly!

Pro Shop | 541-549-4653 | www.aspenlakes.com