

Sisters Country birds

By Douglas Beall
Correspondent

A familiar resident of our ponderosa pine forests is the white-headed woodpecker (*Picoides albolarvatus*). Feeding on insects, cone seeds, and larva from the thick bark of ponderosa pines, they also nest in older snags of pines.

After excavating the nest cavity, two to nine white eggs are laid and the parents share brooding duties for approximately 14 days, and then the chicks are fed by both parents for another 26 days in the nest. At least some of the pairs remain together for the

winter. White-headed woodpeckers are one of the most poorly studied birds of the woodpecker family.

American ornithologist John Cassin first described the white-headed woodpecker in 1850. Cassin collected some 43,000 various bird skins which were cured in arsenic, and he died from arsenic poisoning.

A group of woodpeckers are referred to as a “drumming,” “gatling,” or “decent.”

To view more images of the white-headed woodpecker, visit <http://abirdsingsbecauseithasasong.com/recent-journeys>.



PHOTO BY DOUGLAS BEALL

Santa visits Black Butte Ranch

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Santa Claus is extremely busy in this season, but each year he makes time to spend the weekend before Christmas at Black Butte Ranch. He visits with dozens and dozens of children, hearing about their year and their holiday wish list, then shares story and song with the 400 or so people who turn out for the Ranch’s Breakfast with Santa.

Julia Kelleher of Bend has been bringing an extended family of 20 out to Black Butte Ranch each year for the past seven years. The reason is simple:

“He’s the best Santa,” she told *The Nugget*. “Real Santa.”

Over Saturday and Sunday morning, Santa spent hours with the children as thousands of pictures were snapped. Then, presumably, he headed back to the North Pole with a long list of Christmas wishes in his pocket to prepare for one extraordinarily busy night of delivery.

Breakfast with Santa is part of Black Butte Ranch’s set of traditional holiday activities, which also includes tours of the Ranch in a wreath-decked carriage.



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Families crowded The Lodge at Black Butte Ranch so that children could have some time with Santa Claus.

SHE SOARS PSYCHIATRY

A huge thank-you to the Sisters community for all your support. Wishing you peace & joy this holiday season!

Audry Van Houweling
PMHNP-BC
Now Accepting Insurance

541-595-8337 • www.shesoarspsych.com
102 E. Main Ave., Downtown Sisters

Advantage Dental
From DentaQuest

NEW DENTIST IN SISTERS

A smile lasts a life time, your teeth should too.

Call 541.904.7039 to schedule your appointment with Dr. Traynor today.

CHECK OUT THIS WEEK'S NUGGET INSERTS!

Ray's Food Place

Fresh Lemons or Limes

3 for \$1

Organic Bunch Carrots

\$3.49 ea.

Classico Pasta Sauce, 15-24 oz. selected

\$2.49

Bi-Mart

All Christmas Clearance

50% off!

All 2020 Calendars

30% off!

All Women's and Men's Long Sleeve Shirts

30% off!

HOLIDAY CLEAN-UP



Carpet Cleaner



Shop Vac



Storage Boxes

NEED IT, RENT IT!

SISTERS RENTAL

506 N. Pine St.

541-549-9631

Sales • Service
Rentals • Accessories

www.sistersrental.com

MERRY CHRISTMAS

from
SISTERS COMMUNITY CHURCH

The gift of Christmas is the gift of Love.
Thank you for helping to make Sisters a loving community.

- Steve Stratos, Pastor

Sisters Community Church, 1300 W. McKenzie Hwy