

BIRDMAN

Summer delights

BY TED A. GLOVER



It may look like there are four different species of birds in these photos but there are really only two—the spotted towhee and the black-headed grosbeak. Can you tell who's related to who? Clockwise from top left: Adult male spotted towhee; adult male black-headed grosbeak; juvenile spotted towhee; and adult female black-headed grosbeak. All photos © Joseph V. Higbee.

With summer upon us, the birds in our area are busy raising their young. The bird boxes have been used by tree swallows, western bluebirds, chickadees and nuthatches. Now the youngsters (or fledglings as they are called) are putting in an appearance and can be quite confusing, and they often look very different from the adult birds.

The juvenile spotted towhee, for example, is very different from his adult parent. He is streaked brown and has a brown iris while the adult has the distinctive black hood, rufous sides and a red iris. Also, the young western bluebird has lots of spots on his chest and not much blue yet in his wings. The black-headed grosbeak can be a challenge too as the fledglings of both sexes look alike and resemble the female with clear, buffy breasts and a striped head.

The young hummingbirds are prevalent all around, especially at the feeders. It's not easy to tell the youngsters apart here either, but the adult male Rufous and Anna's are a pleasure to see and easy to identify.

When the days are long and hot and the price of gasoline makes you feel even hotter, it's time to think about day-tripping. Around this neck of the woods, planning a short one-day trip is easy and can cover some beautiful countryside.

A trip to Squaw Lakes is one such trip. Go up to Applegate Lake, cross over the dam and follow the road about eight miles to the lakes. What I really like about this area is that all camping and boating must be done by walking in. This keeps the number of people to a minimum and increases the pleasure of a nice walk between Squaw Lake and Little Squaw Lake. All the usual mountain birds are present, including jays, juncos, chickadees, robins and flickers. The big pileated woodpecker nests here and ospreys are present at Applegate Lake. The highlight of our walk was finding the elusive MacGillivray's warbler. This little guy hops instead of walking and prefers dense thickets, usually near water. We saw the male with his beautiful gray hood and broken white eye-ring.

Another great day trip is over to Oregon Caves National Monument. We made this a round trip taking Highway 199 to Cave Junction, Highway 46 to the caves and then returning to Williams via Grayback Creek. The caves are spectacular and worth the trip and the bird life is abundant. While having lunch at a picnic table we were bombarded by Steller's jays trying to help themselves to our lunch.

Ted A. Glover • 541-846-0681

JACKSONVILLE VINEYARDS

David M. Palmer
Owner

541.899.6923 FAX 899.6916
wine@jacksonvillevineyards.com
9730 Hwy. 238, Jacksonville, OR 97530

JACKSONVILLE
The **STAGE LODGE**

John & Nancy Van Dyke
PROPRIETORS

541-899-3953
1-800-253-8254
Reservations Only

web: www.stagelodge.com
email: reservations@stagelodge.com

Post Office Box 1316 • 830 North Fifth Street
Jacksonville, Oregon 97530

Ramsay Realty

(541) 899-1184

7604 Hwy 238
Jacksonville, OR 97530
Fax: (541) 899-1772
http://www.ramsayrealty.com

Jayda Wood
Realtor®

Cell: (541) 973-9105
Email: jaydafay@aol.com

Small Ditching and
Excavating Specialist

862-3622
Cell: 660-0896

P & D SMALL EXCAVATING

Phil Niedermeyer
CCB #150965

Lynn's
LIVING DESIGNS, LLC.

- Design
- Consultation
- Landscape
- Irrigation

Cell: 541-659-3173 • Ph: 541-479-2448
Fax: 541-479-5279 • www.lynnlandscapes.com
15680 Williams Hwy., Williams OR 97544 • LCB 7412

Spa is your place for health, beauty & relaxation

massage, facials, pedi/manicures, body wraps, body glows, waxing, sauna, etc.

We are a co op cottage retreat in Jacksonville
Open every day by appointment 899.7893
see full Spa Menu at jacksonvillespa.com



**Applegate River Ranch
Lodge & Restaurant**

Lodge open 7 days a week
Restaurant open 4-11 pm
Wednesday thru Sunday

Check out our music concert lineup at
Liveatthegate.com
Available for Special Events
Restaurant—846-6082
Lodge—846-6690

Eat Local At...

Open
Tues - Sat.
5pm
899-1942

The Garden
Bistro at McCully House

Fine Food, Wine and Spirits from the Best
Farmers and Food Purveyors of Our Region!

www.thegardenatmccully.com

SNYP

Spay
today...

save a life tomorrow

Call 858-3325 or visit www.spayneuter.org for info.