

The Bulletin

EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY

Monday E-Edition • November 21, 2022

Bend author's 'Halcyon Journey' dives into world of the belted kingfisher

BY DAVID JASPER
The Bulletin

After observing them in the wild since

2008, Bend nature writer Marina Richie knows her way around the solitary, colorful belted kingfisher.

There are 120 species of kingfishers worldwide, but her concern is the belted kingfisher, which is located all over North America, Richie said.

"They are ubiquitous. They're a bird of waterways all across our country. They are found along the coast of Oregon. They're on this river," she said, referring to the Deschutes, a minute's walk from where we sit in the sun outside an Old Mill coffee shop. "They're on lakes and ponds, so many habitats."

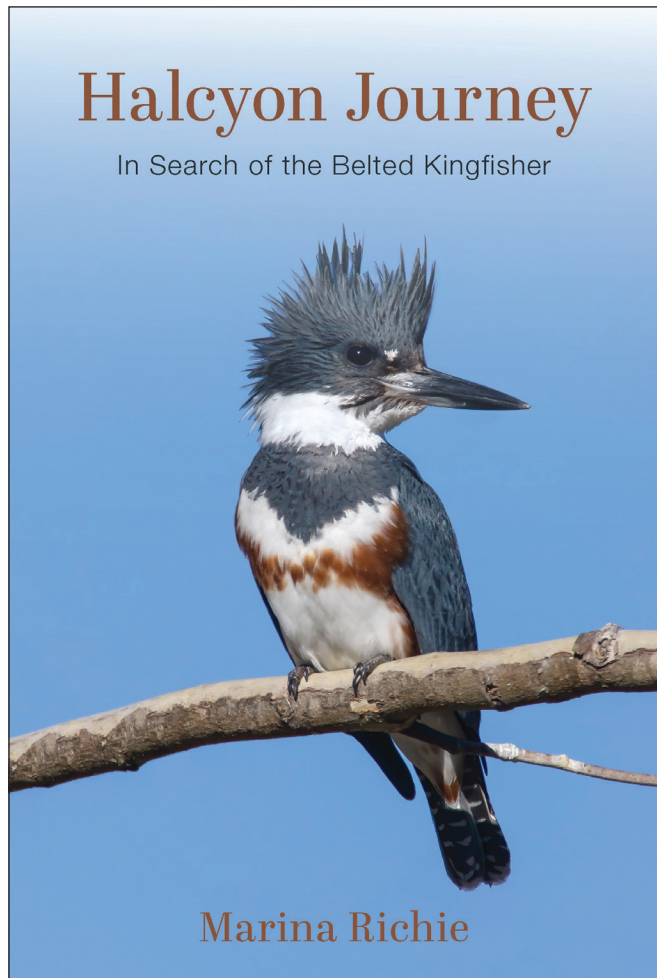
Yet because the birds, which are just a bit bigger than robins, are solitary, "They're often overlooked," she said.

"Kingfishers don't like to be in a crowd (other than) with their mate of the season," Richie said. "Sometimes the young of the year will hang together for a little while, but otherwise ... they're quite territorial."

The belted kingfisher dives in headfirst to spear small fish with its sharp beak.

Comparing their fishing talents to fly fishermen, Richie said the birds "can read the current. They know what fish are where. They're at the good fishing spots."

When not angling for fish, they make their nests in mud banks above rivers, away from vegetation that would make their nests easier to access for snakes or tenacious mammals such as mink. The entrance-



Halcyon Journey

In Search of the Belted Kingfisher

Marina Richie

Oregon State University Press

ways stretch several feet back to their football-sized nests.

And belted kingfishers are among the rare bird species in which the female, which has a small band across its chest, is more colorful than the males of the species.

Those are just a few of the facts she unspooled during a recent interview about her new book from Oregon State University Press, "Halcyon Journey: In Search of the Belted Kingfisher," a book that "threads natural history, memoir, and myth," as it says on its back cover.

Richie will be on hand at Dudley's Bookshop Cafe in Bend Sunday to read from and sign "Halcyon Journey," which she learned on Thursday is the winner of the 2022 National

Outdoor Book Award in the category of Journeys.

When you put in the kind of time that she has studying just one critter, you just might make the kind of discovery she and friends made during hours spent in a blind on Rattlesnake Creek, which runs through Missoula, Montana, where she lived prior to moving to Bend in 2017.

Though it was already known kingfishers dig their nest holes mostly with their tiny feet, Richie and her naturalist friends made a new citizen science discovery. A pair of nesting kingfishers took turns flying at the vertical bank from 12 feet away — ramming the bank to start a hole.

Inspiration for the book



Charles Wheeler

A male belted kingfisher perches on a branch. It's the rare species of bird where females have the more colorful plumage, according to "Halcyon Journey" author Marina Richie.

came about in a few ways, including seeing the word "halcyon" as a dictionary word of the day, and the fact that her father, David Richie, was a national park employee who could identify unseen birds by their calls.

But Richie also wanted the stillness of a daily nature escape. Her thinking: "What if I found a bird — I didn't know which one at first — that would allow me a reason to spend and immerse as much time as possible in nearby nature?"

After our interview about the book over coffee in the Old Mill District, Richie and this reporter walked over to the nearby Deschutes River and upstream toward Farewell Bend Park, the footbridge, then back downstream on the opposite bank. Like the subtitle of her book, we were in search of the belted kingfisher.

Alas, we didn't spot any, though we did see a variety of ducks and geese on the river's cold waters. And now, thanks to Richie, I know what belted kingfishers look and sound like.

"They have these gorgeous crests. They're super-charismatic. They've got this bravado about them — small, cocky, charismatic, bravado," she said. "They have this call that's just a ringing, unforgettable staccato that can really vary. ... They also just like to talk to themselves. It will be on this perch, looking down at the water ... just enjoying life."

"I guess one of the things about them that I love is they bring me to the places I want to be," Richie said. "Who doesn't want to be by a beautiful river, creek or stream. There's so much rich life along the water."

Reporter: 541-383-0349, djasper@bendbulletin.com

Events

What's happening this week around Central Oregon. More at bendbulletin.com/events



Tuesday: Eric Leadbetter will perform at Silver Moon Brewery.

ART

Tuesday 11/22

Eric Leadbetter & Friends: The rock musician will perform; 6-8 p.m.; free; Silver Moon Brewing, 24 NW Greenwood Ave., Bend; silvermoonbrewing.com or 541-388-8331.

NaNoWriMo Evening Write-in: NaNoWriMo helps you track your writing progress, set milestones, connect with other writers in a vast community, and participate in events that are designed to make sure you finish your novel; 5-7 p.m.; free; Roundabout Books, 900 NW Mount Washington Drive Suite 110, Bend; roundaboutbookshop.com or 541-306-6564.

THEATER & DANCE

Monday 11/21

Bend Ecstatic Dance: Join once or weekly for a group dance experience that has no choreographed moves and allows for freedom of movement to the sound of the music; 7:15-9:15 p.m.; \$12-\$22 sliding scale, ages 12+; Tula Movement Arts, 2797 NW Clearwater Drive, Bend; ecstaticbend.com.

Wednesday 11/23

Argentine Tango Class and Práctica: Learn the Argentine Tango in our beginner's class from 6:30-7:30pm and an intermediate lesson from 7:45-8:30 p.m., followed by dancing, no partner needed; 6:30-10 p.m.; \$5-\$10 drop-in, must show proof of vaccination; Sons of Norway Hall, 549 NW Harmon Blvd., Bend; CentralOregonTango.com.

Soul in Motion Conscious Dance: Each dance night event will have some guidance and intention, the rest is up to you; 6-7:15 p.m.; \$20, open to supporting those who would benefit; Terpsichorean Dance Studio, 1601 NW Newport Ave., Bend; soulinmotionbend.com or 541-948-7015.

CONTINUED » A5

Civic Calendar

What's happening in local government this week

This week in Bend and surrounding areas, most local governing bodies are taking the week off due to the Thanksgiving holiday. However, on Monday, the Deschutes County Commission will hold a hearing about psilocybin restrictions for rural parts of Deschutes County, and commissioners could approve zoning changes for land west of Terrebonne.

Deschutes County Monday, Nov. 21: The Deschutes County Commission will meet at 1 p.m. Around 3:15 p.m., commissioners will hold a public hearing to discuss possible restrictions on psilocybin manufacturing and services in rural parts of Deschutes County after a majority of voters in the November general election were in favor of allowing psilocybin-related services.

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, most city and county offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 24, and Friday, Nov. 25.

BUILDING PERMITS



Data Center

Construction, health inspections and property transactions — stay up to date on what is happening in your neighborhood and Deschutes County. For complete listings, updated regularly, visit bendbulletin.com/datacenter

DATE	ADDRESS	OWNER	CONTRACTOR	DESCRIPTION	VALUE
11/16/22	64670 STRICKLER AVE, BEND, OR 97703	JONES, KELLY & SHARI	CARLSON SIGN COMPANY	Remove existing tenant monument sign for ODOT ROW. Replacing when road work is finished in new location.	\$17,000
11/16/22	18475 PINEHURST RD, BEND, OR 97703	HAYNER, DEREK & MARGARET	CASCADE CHIMNEY SERVICE LLC	WOOD STOVE IN AG BUILDING	\$2,303
11/16/22	52318 BARBERRY CIR, LA PINE, OR 97739	RINGSAGE, ROBIN & CECILIA	SCHANTZ CONSTRUCTION LLC	SFD WITH ATTACHED GARAGE	\$301,959
11/16/22	61601 GRIBBLING RD, BEND, OR 97701	BLOODWORTH, CRYSTAL & RYAN	LOTUS ELECTRIC LLC	200A FEEDER AND 1 BC FOR UNPERMITTED BARN	\$0
11/16/22	516 NUTCRACKER DR, REDMOND, OR 97756	LEWELLEN, WILLIAM R & TERRY	CENTRAL OREGON HEATING & COOLING INC	Gas furnace in garage replacement for dwelling	\$0
11/16/22	17820 MOUNTAIN VIEW RD, SISTERS, OR 97759	W HARRISON INVESTMENTS LLC		Install new 320 Amp service. 200 Amp sub panel. Temp plugs for construction power.	\$5,500
11/16/22	2702 NW WILLIAMS LOOP, REDMOND, OR 97756	SCHMIDT, LELAND BRUCE & GERALDINE CAROL	ASPEN RIDGE ELECTRIC INC	install feeders to new house.	\$1,300
11/16/22	55396 BIG RIVER DR, BEND, OR 97707	CALICE, JAMES DANIEL & SHARYL LOUISE	SEE PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION	4 CIRCUITS IN DETACHED SHOP	\$0
11/16/22	15395 DEER AVE, LA PINE, OR 97739	RICK WIRFS REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST	WIRFS ELECTRIC INC	CIRCUIT FOR GENERATOR	\$0
11/16/22	1010 NW ODEM AVE, TERREBONNE, OR 97760	POWELL RVOC LIVING TRUST	EARTHLIGHT TECHNOLOGIES LLC	200 AMP PERMANENT POWER BEING RELOCATED ON DWL	\$0
11/16/22	1010 NW ODEM AVE, TERREBONNE, OR 97760	POWELL RVOC LIVING TRUST		200 AMP SERVICE ON PEDISTAL FOR DETACHED SHOP	\$0
11/16/22	1410 NW 74TH ST, REDMOND, OR 97756	DAHRENS, SUSAN MARY		new humidifier circuit & service outlet	\$0
11/16/22	57708 SPLITROCK LN, SUNRIVER, OR 97707	HARPER, THOMAS W & JODY C	DR HVAC/R LLC	Gas furnace replacement, add Ac for residence	\$10,000
11/16/22	65120 COLLINS RD, BEND, OR 97703	MCLEAN FAMILY TRUST	BEND FIRESIDE INC	Install Wood Fireplace/Venting, into residence.	\$12,700
11/16/22	55410 BIG RIVER DR, BEND, OR 97707	JACOBS, RICKY ALLEN	BEND FIRESIDE INC	Install Pellet Stove/Venting, into residence.	\$6,100
11/16/22	17656 PALADIN DR, BEND, OR 97703	COLLINS STACY & JOHN	BEND FIRESIDE INC	Install LP Freestanding Stove/Venting, into existing gas lines.	\$5,100
11/16/22	64653 BRUCE AVE, BEND, OR 97703	MURPHY BOND LLC	MOUNTAIN VIEW HEATING INC	REPLACE MINI SPLIT	\$0
11/16/22	70776 GOLDENROD, BLACK BUTTE RANCH, OR 97759	BARTH, GARY M & LESLIE DOREEN	CENTRAL OREGON HEATING & COOLING INC	Replace single-head Minisplit. Head is in the living room.	\$7,846
11/16/22	17856 PRO STAFF LN, SUNRIVER, OR 97707	BLUE HEAVEN ENTERPRISES LLC	MOUNTAIN VIEW HEATING INC	REPLACE GAS FURNACE AND AC.	\$0
11/16/22	56148 SOLAR DR, BEND, OR 97707	VAN WAGNER, NICHOLAS C & GARNER, TERESA R	CASCADE HEATING & SPECIALTIES INC	REPLACE ELECTRIC FURNACE	\$3,988
11/16/22	18102 DIXIE MOUNTAIN LN, SUNRIVER, OR 97707	REED, MICHAEL & MICHELLE	DIVERSIFIED HEATING & COOLING INC	Replace gas furnace in home	\$14,698
11/16/22	64604 OLD BEND REDMOND HWY, BEND, OR 97703	NICHOLS, JOSEPH M & MELINDA C	BRYAN YOUNG PLUMBING INC	Propane tank and gas heater installation on our Quonset building on the property	\$500
11/16/22	64643 RIVERVIEW AVE, BEND, OR 97703	HALLIDAY, JAMES J	DIVERSIFIED HEATING & COOLING INC	Replace ductless mini split system in home MAHO	\$7,709
11/16/22	69749 PINE ST, SISTERS, OR 97759	REMO & PATRICIA MELCHIORI TRUST	ROTH ZACHRY HEATING INC	replacing an electric furnace and heat pump	\$17,921
11/16/22	17860 MOUNTAIN VIEW RD, SISTERS, OR 97759	JANSEN FAMILY TRUST	CENTRAL OREGON HEATING & COOLING INC	Run two 50' runs of gas pipe for backup generator — 1 for main house/ 1 for well and detached garage.	\$2,000
11/16/22	15069 BRIDLE, SISTERS, OR 97759	ELIZABETH S JOHNSON TRUST ET AL		REPLACE ELECTRIC FURNACE AND HEAT PUMP IN DWL	\$15,350
11/16/22	57384 LANDRISE LN, SUNRIVER, OR 97707	BRODEUR INVESTMENTS LLC	BEND FIRESIDE INC	Install Interior Gas piping and Log set in residence	\$3,100

MORE FROM THE BULLETIN'S DATA CENTER » A5