



Wednesday, September 10, 2014

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Vultures Are Our Friends!

Days are noticeably shortening and some leaves are falling already. Some of that may be due to the dryness, but there is also an early morning nip in the air, even when afternoon highs reach 80 or more. At migration stations, hawks and other raptors pass overhead and are counted. Songbirds and shorebirds are on the move. Osprey and Turkey Vultures will be leaving our area soon for points south.



One of the first events in September each year is International Vulture Awareness Day. IVAD is celebrated worldwide (check out www.vultureday.org) on the first Saturday of September by zoos, nature centers, and conservation organizations. And in many of those countries, the plight of vultures is severe.

In the Indian subcontinent, 99% of vulture populations have been wiped out by diclofenac, an inexpensive veterinary non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) used in sick cattle and other livestock. When those animals die, vultures are the clean-up crew - but the vultures have then been dying from visceral gout. It took several years and an international effort before the source of the problem was identified. Although the drug has now been banned in India, it is still available and still used, as it is less expensive than the safe alternative NSAID, meloxicam. Unfortunately, diclofenac has recently been approved for use in Spain and other EU countries, leading to fears for its vultures, already in decline due to human development and habitat loss.

>> [more vulture information](#)

Last Member Monday

This coming Monday, September 15th, is CRC's last Member Monday of the year: **Active Bodies, Active Minds**. Physical and mental exercise are crucial components of our Resident Raptor Wellness program. Attend a training and enrichment demonstration and learn more about what it takes to provide an excellent quality of

IVAD at CRC

CRC's vultures received a lot of visitors on Saturday, September 6th, and children were challenged to fill in a vulture coloring page. Many took their efforts home but some were left for us to admire, like this King Vulture from South America - a very colorful guy!



Pints for a Cause

Come join Dmitri, our Eurasian Eagle Owl (and CRC's "party animal") at Ninkasi this coming Monday, September 15th - 272 Van Buren St, Eugene. The big D will be there probably from about 5:00 to 7:00, but a share of all sales from noon to 10 pm will be coming to help support the birds! Bring friends, colleagues, and family! Hope to see you there.

[Want to thank Ninkasi for their support? Click here for their Facebook page.](#)

life for captive birds of prey. The Kids' Activity, from 3 pm - 6 pm, is crafting toys for the birds; Happy Hour from 6 pm - 8 pm will feature Hop Valley beer and wines from King Estate and Willamette Valley Vineyards. Come join us for this members-only event! (Or visit with Dmitri at Ninkasi! See sidebar article for where and when.)



Our sincere thanks for the refreshments provided throughout the summer by Dana's Cheesecake Bakery, Cafe Mam, Crumb Together, Trader Joe's, Walmart, Sweet Life and Noisette Pastry Kitchen, as well as many volunteers. Mm mm good!

Final Family Nature Discovery Day

September is also our last Family Nature Discovery Day of the year! Come celebrate the changing of the seasons by investigating the wonders of Migration



... Families can play Migration Bingo to learn about migrating birds and some of the obstacles they face along their journey. Kids can dress as a raptor and hunt mice in the Mouse Hunt game, and can make and take home raptor silhouettes, which can help prevent birds from striking windows, not only during migration but year-round.

Activities are recommended for children between the ages of 4-12 and children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission to CRC is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and students and \$5 for children 2-12. Cost of Migration Station activities are \$2 for children participating. If you ride your bike or hike the Ridgeline Trail to CRC your \$2 activity fee will be waived!

Our deep thanks for KVAL and Mountain Rose Herbs for making this day possible. Hope to see you here!

>> [Click here to learn more about Mt Rose Herbs.](#)

Walk-a-thon



On Friday, October 3rd, the Village School is holding their annual fund-raising walk-a-thon. A second grade class has selected Cascades Raptor Center as its partnering organization, and we will be receiving some of the results of their hard work. Thank you, Village School!

[You can learn more about the Village School here.](#)

Guaranty Chevrolet

Just as a reminder, through September 30th, Guaranty for Good can help us raise much needed funds at no cost to you! Guaranty Chevrolet in Junction City is offering to donate \$200 of the purchase price of any new Chevy or any used car, if you fill out a form indicating Cascades Raptor Center is your charity of choice! If it's time for a new, or new-to-you, vehicle - please check out Guaranty Chevrolet. The birds thank you.

[For more information or to download a form, click here.](#)



Young Turkey Vulture

As always, you can help us give the excellent care that our native birds deserve. We thank you for your support!

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www.eRaptors.org
Cascades Raptor Center
32275 Fox Hollow Rd
PO Box 5386
Eugene OR 97405 USA

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