THE MONTCLAIR BIRD CLUB YOUR WEEKLY BIRD 10

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The pictures in this issue are by Sandy Sorkin

Turkey Vulture



The turkey vulture is the common vulture we see soaring on V-shaped wings over fields and town. Vultures are raptors, like hawks and eagles; where those birds will attack and kill birds and mammals, vultures prefer to scavenge. Occasionally we see a small group of them gathered around roadkill. Their excellent eyesight and sense of smell allows them to find their carrion meals.

Black Vulture



Black vultures will follow turkey vultures, because they lack the well-developed sense of smell of the turkey vulture. At one time, black vultures were extremely rare in New Jersey, but they have been moving steadily north.

Birding in Florida, you may encounter black vultures with a taste for tires. They will tear rubber trim from cars, pull off windshield wipers, and gnaw on tires. No one knows for certain why they do it. It may be that rubber has the same consistency as dead flesh, or the reason may be something else entirely.

If you would like to see your photographs highlighted here, send one or two pictures with a short paragraph to: Sandy Sorkin & Rick Wright at MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com.



Southwest Wings





