

Kimbell Center News

from Jonathan Dickinson State Park

JULY 2020

Many bird lovers are already aware that Jonathan Dickinson State Park has been recognized as a site on the Great Florida Birding Trail--and for good reason! With over 140 species of birds in the park, visitors are bound to witness some amazing birds.

Killdeer

If you've spent much time around the Kimbell Center, you may be familiar with a bird species that frequents its parking lot--the killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*). Recently, a pair of killdeer built a nest on a rocky patch in the grass in front of the Kimbell Center parking lot.

After a short incubation period, three energetic hatchlings emerged. Keep an eye out next time you're near the education center and you just might catch a glimpse of this new family.



Above: One of the adult birds incubating the nest. Both male and female killdeer take turns with this task.

Left: One of the adults with the newly hatched offspring. This photo was taken the day after the

eggs hatched!



Brownheaded Nuthatches



Photo by Brian Lloyd

We'd like to share with you a fascinating article written by Jim Cox, Director of the Stoddard Bird Lab at Tall Timbers Research Station. This article details some of the new things researchers are learning about brown-headed nuthatch behavior as a result of reintroduction efforts, such as the one that began in Jonathan Dickinson in 2018.

[Click here to read the article.](#)

Roseate Spoonbills

One of the most recognizable, yet uncommon birds you may encounter at Jonathan Dickinson is the roseate spoonbill. These striking birds are listed by the state of Florida as a threatened species because of a decline in their numbers that resulted from hunters seeking their bright and unique plumage. They spend much of their time wading in shallow water looking for small fish and aquatic invertebrates.



Photo by Bonnie Larson



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