



NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 10, 2014
Contact: Noah Glaude, Main Library Manger
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Re: Nature Talks @ the Port Angeles Main Library

Attached: Wilderness Act Logo, Photo of Bryce Kendrick, Photo of Royal Basin

This fall, the Port Angeles Main Library of the North Olympic Library System (NOLS) is offering an educational presentation series to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the historic Wilderness Act. *Nature Talks @ the Port Angeles Main Library* will feature three engaging presentations that cover a range of wilderness-related topics, from the birds of the Olympic Peninsula to the fungi that cover our forests. Led by local and international experts, this series will seek to provide information and practical tips for exploring and understanding nearby wilderness areas, and the wonders that inhabit them.

All *Nature Talks* are free and begin at 6:30pm inside the Carver Room at the Port Angeles Main Library.

The series kicks-off Tuesday, **October 21**, with *Corvids in the Fall*, a discussion of how ravens, crows and jays prepare for winter. Ken Wiersema of the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (OPAS) and Dungeness River Audubon Center will offer new insights into these intelligent, crafty, and sometimes pesky birds, while also addressing land stewardship and how to spot the birds in the wild. An active Audubon member since 1968, Wiersema is a past president of OPAS and currently serves on its board. He also serves on the Dungeness River Audubon Center board and regularly teaches birding classes there.

On **October 30**, mycologist Dr. Bryce Kendrick will investigate the mysterious lives of mushrooms and other fungi of the Pacific Northwest in a richly illustrated presentation entitled *Fungi: Now You See Them - Now You Don't*. Based in Sidney, British Columbia, Kendrick is a retired university professor internationally recognized for his scientific work and teaching in the field of mycology. In addition to studying fungi for more than 50 years and authoring more than 300 mycological publications, Kendrick was elected a Centenary Fellow of the British Mycological Society and received the Lawson Medal of Canadian Botanical Association for lifetime contributions.

The series wraps-up **November 4** with a discussion of the Wilderness Act led by Ruth Scott of Olympic National Park. During her presentation, *America's Enduring Legacy of Wilderness*, Scott will summarize how and why the Wilderness Act came about, its legal implications, and the iconic, wild landscapes it protects. Scott will also examine the diversity of wilderness throughout the nation, including the Olympic Wilderness in our backyard. A natural resource specialist at Olympic National Park, Scott began working with the National Park Service in 1972, has worked at six park areas, and spoken about wilderness stewardship at a variety of venues, including the World Wilderness Congress in Bangalore, India, and the European PAN Parks Conference in Bulgaria. Her current responsibilities at Olympic National Park focus on wilderness monitoring, planning, and re-vegetation with the assistance of hundreds of volunteers throughout the country.

Wilderness Inspired Art Show

In a continuing celebration of the Wilderness Act's 50th anniversary, the fall *Art in the Library* exhibit will be on display at the Port Angeles Main Library between October 10 and January 5. NOLS challenged local artists of all ages, abilities, and perspectives to submit original work that contemplates, celebrates, or reimagines this historic piece of legislation and the vast expanses of nature it protects. More than 15 artists responded with a variety of work that includes paintings, photographs, quilts, knit pieces and jewelry.

Additional Information

Want to learn more? Browse the NOLS catalog for hundreds of resources related to topics that will be discussed during *Nature Talks @ the Port Angeles Main Library*. Search for a bird or mushroom field guide, check-out a topographic trail map or read a book about the history of the National Park Service. To get started, visit www.nols.org or ask library staff for assistance.

Nature Talks @ the Port Angele Library and *Art in the Library* are made free to the public with generous support from the Port Angeles Friends of the Library. The Port Angeles Main Library is located at 2210 South Peabody Street in Port Angeles. For more information about this and other upcoming events, visit www.nols.org and click on “Events” and “Port Angeles,” or call 360.417.8500.



Official Wilderness Act 50th Anniversary Logo



Bryce Kendrick



Royal Basin, Olympic National Park – Photo by Ruth Scott

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