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Siuslaw News




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Winter walks, talks continue today at Cape Perpetua

YACHATS — The Cape Perpetua Visitor Center will feature free programs and guest speakers on Saturdays in February as part of its ongoing Winter Series of events.

Today, at 2 p.m., Joy Primrose will present "All in Our Backyard: Oregon Cetaceans," an introduction to the whales, dolphins and porpoises found in Oregon's cold temperate waters, including species likely to be seen from shore.

Primrose is the founder and president of the American Cetacean Society Oregon Chapter and is a certified marine naturalist.

On Feb. 14, Fawn Custer of CoastWatch will lead a rocky shores hike to explore the impacts of Sea Star Wasting Syndrome. Participants will meet at the Visitor Center at 4:30 p.m. and walk down to the

tidepools located in the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve.

After the walk, snacks will be served in Visitor Center followed by the 6:30 p.m. presentation, "Estuaries Rising? Climate change and salmon in the Oregon Coast Range" by Dr. Rebecca Flitcroft.

This presentation will discuss climate change predictions for the Oregon Coast and how these may affect aquatic species, including salmon.

Flitcroft is a Research Fish Biologist with the USDA Forest Service at the Pacific Northwest Research Station, Oregon. Her research focuses on aquatic systems from headwaters to the ocean, and her

February program dates:

- Feb. 7
Oregon Cetaceans
2 p.m.
- Feb. 14
Hike to the Sea Stars
4:30 p.m.
- Feb. 21
Archaeological sites
11 a.m.

work involves collaboration with federal, state, private, and nonprofit organizations.

On Feb. 21 at 1 p.m., Forest Service archaeologist Kevin Bruce will give a presentation on shell midden sites at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center

and lead a guided tour afterwards.

Evidence of thousands of years of human use can be observed in multiple archaeological sites located in the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area. These sites contain important information about the Alsean people who created them.

Kevin Bruce has been the Forest Archaeologist for the Siuslaw National Forest since 2011, and has more than 15 years of experience as an archaeologist, including serving as a district archaeologist on National Forests in Mississippi and as chief archaeologist for the Mississippi Department of Transportation.

"This Winter Series is a great way to get connected to issues important to the Oregon Coast," says Forest Service volunteer Robin Grace. "They are informative, entertaining, and a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon."

For visitors unable to catch one of these special programs, there are plenty of ways to keep busy on the Cape this winter.

The visitor center provides regular film screenings, exhibits, and Junior Ranger activities, and serves as a base to explore the area's trails and tidepools.

In winter, the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center is open Friday through Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is closed Wednesdays and Thursdays. The Visitor Center is three miles south of Yachats on Highway 101.

For more information, call 541-547-3289.

View

from 1B

at the hands of the New York Giants.

To make matters worse, Williams had emergency root canal the day before the game. Still woozy from painkillers, he was told that the position of running back would be played by Timmy Smith.

Smith, a rookie out of Texas Tech, had touched the ball only 29 times that entire season. Williams barely knew who he was, but he made sure — damn sure — that Smith knew who he was. He had been waiting for this game his entire life, and he imparted on the rookie that he'd better bring it the next day.

For his part, Smith wasn't even told he'd be starting — the Washington brass was too afraid he would have game-day jitters. They had every reason

to be wary, and Elway didn't disappoint; the Broncos jumped out to a 10-0 lead in the first six minutes.

All across America you could hear the refrain: "No way a team loses two Super Bowls in a row!" as if the Minnesota Vikings had never existed. (It should be pointed out that the Buffalo Bills had yet to start their early '90s run of nothingness.)

But like a shot, Washington sprang to life. Suddenly, Smith was unstoppable and Williams was otherworldly.

The second quarter began, and Washington exploded for five scores for 35 points, 356 total yards, including 228 passing by Williams (9 of 11), 122 yards on five carries by Smith, and 168 yards on five receptions by Ricky Sanders.

The five touchdowns came

in 18 plays covering less than six minutes. Washington would go on to crush Denver 42-10; Williams would go home with the MVP award.

Smith would finish the day with 204 yards (an NFL record) and two touchdowns, and

dreams of a big-time career. It was not to be. A bust in every sense of the word, Smith would last just 15 more games in the NFL, scoring only three touchdowns, barely doubling his workload from the Super Bowl in yards from scrimmage, turn-

ing in 476 yards before being cut by the Cowboys in 1990 after a single carry.

In 2006 he was sentenced to prison for 2 1/2 years.

A cautionary tale?

Not really, but an interesting one by any measure.

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