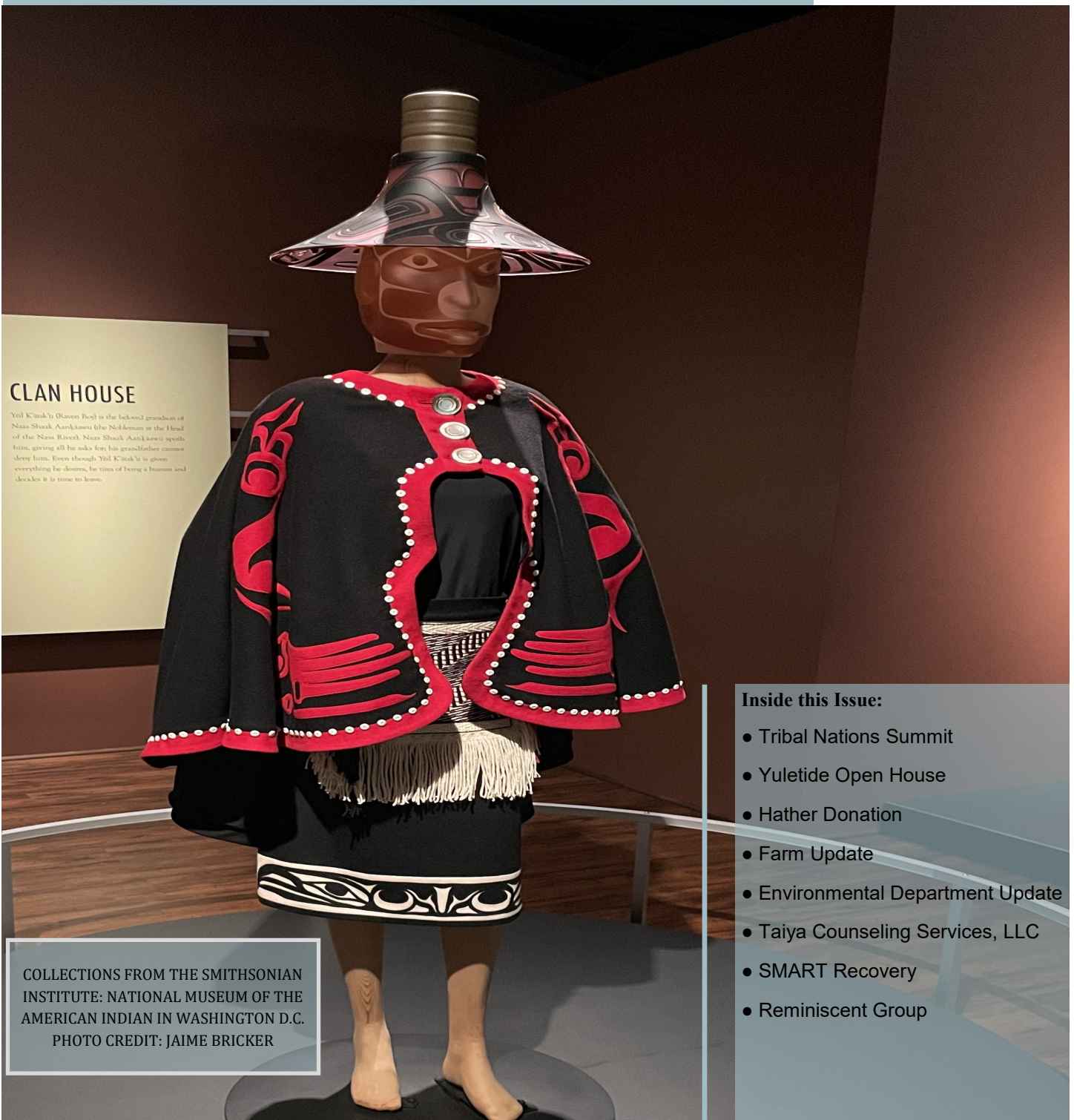


HÉEN AGUNATÁANI HÍT

WHITECAPS ON THE WATER HOUSE



CLAN HOUSE

Yel K'itak'vi (Raven Boy) is the beloved grandson of Nasa Shook Aank'awu (the Noh-man at the Head of the Nasa River). Nasa Shook Aank'awu spoils him, giving all he asks for, but his grandfather cannot deny him. Even though Yel K'itak'vi is given everything he desires, he tires of being a human and decides it is time to leave.

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- Yuletide Open House
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- Environmental Department Update
- Taiya Counseling Services, LLC
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- Reminiscent Group

COLLECTIONS FROM THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE: NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN IN WASHINGTON D.C.
PHOTO CREDIT: JAIME BRICKER



TRIBAL NATIONS SUMMIT

PHOTOS BY JAIME BRICKER

President Biden hosted the second Tribal Nations Summit & first in person in Washington D.C. with Tribal leaders to help foster Nations to Nations relationships. Skagway Traditional Council's President Jaime Bricker was in attendance to represent the tribe. The importance of language was strongly discussed on day one by Secretary Deb Haaland. "There is an urgency to institute language programs before the few speakers that are left are no longer with us." noted Bricker. The following days included discussion on the American Rescue Plan Act & Criminal Justice. Thank you Jaime Bricker, STC appreciates your continued dedication to the tribe & community.

Please enjoy the following article link on Preston Singletary, Native American Glass Artist. His work is on display at the Smithsonian. <https://www.seattletimes.com/entertainment/visual-arts/seattle-artist-preston-singletarys-solo-exhibit-opens-at-smithsonians-national-museum-of-the-american-indian/>



YULETIDE OPEN HOUSE

Skagway Traditional Council was thrilled to host another Yuletide Open House! It was so nice to see community members and STC celebrate together after a few prior years missed. We look forward to hosting more community events and gatherings in the Tribal Hall and hope you will join us.

This year tribal member Beau Dennis designed STC's annual Christmas card. We hope you enjoyed this beautiful keepsake & had a wonderful holiday season. Sigóowu yoo at kooteek!



HATHER DONATION

Photos by Sarah Cash, Cultural Resource Specialist

Recently, the tribe accepted donations from Don and Betty Hather. The Hather Collection consists of approximately 30 items ranging from various Indigenous groups. Currently our Cultural Resource Staff is in the process of cleaning, researching and cataloging the items. We hope to be able to show case these items soon with the tribal citizens and community members in the near future.



FARM UPDATE

Photo by Brooke Jasky-Zuber

While the Farm is currently put to rest for the winter, STC is getting excited to see what year 2 brings! The Farm produced 1071 lbs. of food last season and sold 969lb. We have many new and fun projects to share with our members and community and would love to hear from you. What did you enjoy about our new adventure in farming? Anything you'd hope to see? Skagway Traditional Council is working hard to establish a healthy, sustainable land for everyone to come out and enjoy!

ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

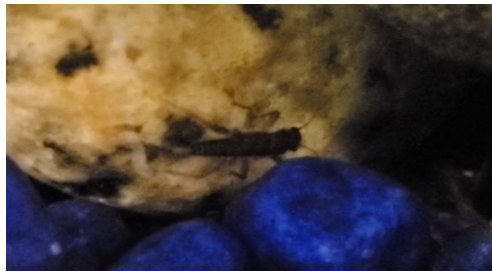
by Reuben Cash



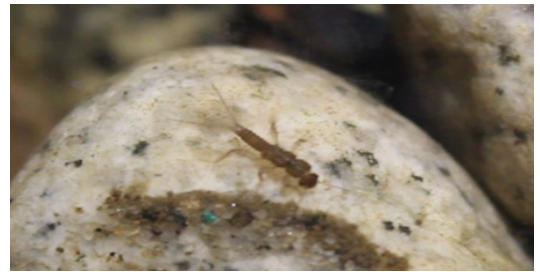
Caddisfly (Trichoptera)



Hydra (Hydra)



Mayfly (Ephemeroptera)



Stonefly (Plecoptera)

Salmon in the Classroom

The Environmental team is gearing up for another round of salmon classes at the Skagway school, which means our aquarium is up and running! This year we've included some of the other organisms important for healthy salmon habitat in the tank, including the macroinvertebrates that provide food for juvenile salmon and keep the water clean by grazing on decaying matter. Caddisflies, mayflies, stoneflies, and hydras not only provide these services for the stream ecosystem, but also help scientists gauge how clean the water is – these charismatic stream bugs are intolerant of pollution and will only be present in a healthy stream (or aquarium!).

Rain Gardens and the BEACH Program

STC was awarded two new competitive grants from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) Alaska Clean Water Actions programs!

Rain Gardens

In response to Skagway School 4th and 5th graders' request for more rain gardens to save our urban salmon streams, STC will be leading an effort to design and install green stormwater infrastructure in locations around Skagway. Students will help to calculate rain garden dimensions, find priority locations for installation, and fill the rain gardens with native plants, as well as improve the existing rain gardens on 11th avenue.

BEACH Program

While recreation on beaches in Skagway doesn't usually include sunbathing or surfing, Skagway residents and visitors come into contact with marine waters through activities such as beach combing, dog walking, kayaking, and stand-up-paddleboarding. Concerns over high bacteria loads in the summertime prompted environmental staff to complete a beach survey for DEC's Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coast Health (BEACH) program to determine whether marine pathogens are posing a risk to recreational beach users. Skagway was selected to participate in a monitoring program during 2023-24 and will be collecting water samples for weekly testing during the summer months. Additionally, data collected will be available to the community, public service announcements will be issued in case of exceedances, and STC will provide outreach for interested beachgoers about healthy nearshore marine ecosystems.



TAIYA COUNSELING SERVICES, LLC.

JOHN HISCHER, LCSW

Taiya Counseling Services, LLC is now open and providing mental health services to Skagway residents Mondays through Wednesday from 8 am to 5pm. Additionally, reminiscent group, SMART recovery group, and other mental health outreach will continue under Taiya Counseling Services made possible by a partnership with the Tribe.

Currently, we accept Blue Cross BlueShield, BCBS FEP, Aetna, AK Medicaid, Medicare. For those without insurance we are able to provide limited sessions at nominal fee price. Please email us at Info@taiyacounseling.com if you would like to learn about it. This offer is provided thanks to funding support from the Skagway Traditional Council through May 2023. We are continuing to work towards being an in-network provider with most of the main insurance providers. You can reach John Hischer at his office phone (907) 983-2459 for more information.

JANUARY OUTREACH EVENTS

PRESENTATED BY TAIYA COUNSELING SERVICES

LOCATION: ALL HELD AT THE SKAGWAY TRADITIONAL COUNCIL HALL AT 11TH AND BROADWAY

SMART RECOVERY GROUP

SMART (Self-Management and Recovery Training) is an evidence-based addiction recovery program that focuses on building skills and motivation to change addictive behaviors. We welcome everyone who is struggling with any addiction.

Skills and Topics of the Week:

01/02: Hierarchy of Values: Learn strategies to exam your values and how they match with addiction.

01/09: Cost Benefit Analysis: Learn to use the strategy to exam the cost and benefits of your addiction.

01/16: Urges: Learn how recognize and cope with urges without relapsing.

01/23: * No SMART Recovery Group

01/30: Beliefs: Learn how irrational beliefs impact addiction and how to reframe those beliefs.

REMINISCENCE GROUP

The reminisce group is a structured activity which seniors share personal stories about their past. Reminisce groups have been shown to improve the wellbeing and reduce depressive symptoms among older adults.

Topics of the Week:

01/02: Memories of air travel

01/09: Memories of gardening

01/16: Musical memories

01/23: * No Reminisce Group

01/30: Memories of childhood toys



MONTHLY MENTAL HEALTH PRESENTATION

1/25th @ 11 AM: Making Lasting Change: During this hour-long presentation we will discuss how to be successful in establishing and maintaining healthy behavior change in our lives. We will explore how to use the stages of change theory and how to cope with the discomfort that change sometimes brings.

Provided to you by funding from the Skagway Traditional Council

SMART RECOVERY

Time: Every Monday at 6PM

Place: Skagway Traditional
Council at 11th and Broadway

**Discover
the Power
of Choice**



For more information please visit www.smartrecovery.org.



Brought to you by
Taiya Counseling Services and
the Skagway Traditional Council



Reminiscent Group

Time: Every Mondays at 3pm

Place: Skagway Traditional Council (11th & Broadway)

To get on the email list for reminders email us at
info@taiyacounseling.com



Brought to you by
Taiya Counseling Services and
the Skagway Traditional Council



Skagway Traditional Council Mission

“Our mission at the Skagway Traditional Council is to nurture and protect our tribal members by persevering cultural heritage, natural resources, improving partnerships and economic sustainability, while upholding tribal sovereignty.”



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This is a free newsletter brought to you by the Skagway Traditional Council.

For more information about tribal history, elections, activities, and upcoming events visit our website: www.skagwaytraditional.org

Skagway Traditional Council

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