

HÉEN AGUNATÁANI HÍT

WHITECAPS ON THE WATER HOUSE



PHOTO AND RAVENSTAIL
WEAVING PIECE
BY ANNEMARIE HASKAMP

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Mark Your Calendars:

April

20: Spring Clean Sweep - 8 AM bag pickup at the AB Hall

24: Welcome to Shgagwéi Cultural Host Training—STC Hall

May

TBD: ENVI Department DIY Flower Bomb Class

June

15: Enrollment Meeting—application <https://www.skagwaytraditional.org/new-page-4>

STC would like to wish Reuben & Sarah Cash safe travels on there moving journey to Washington at the end of this month. We are so thankful for all the work that they have done for the tribe and glad we get to continue working with such talented and smart people!

ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE & ART

Gunalchéesh Annemarie Hasskamp for hosting another Gathering of Artists at the STC hall. Local community members & tribal members had the opportunity to work alongside each other every Tuesday and Saturday during the month of March. Tiffany Metz created claymation figures while Sheryl Dennis worked on her weaving piece. We hope to continue gathering and that you will join us next time!



PRESS RELEASE FROM CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT & HAIDA

Judean Gordon Promoted to Customer Care Manager

JUNEAU, AK (April 1, 2024) – The Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) proudly announces the promotion of Judean Gordon to Customer Care Manager. The formation of a Customer Care Department is part of Tlingit & Haida’s ongoing efforts to enhance service delivery and strengthen connections with our communities. The new department will streamline customer service operations and ensure efficient handling, resolution, and tracking of customer-related inquiries and concerns.

“In every area of service within Tlingit & Haida, our tribal citizens deserve to feel valued and welcomed,” shared President Peterson. “The establishment of a Customer Care Department reflects this and our commitment to meeting our tribal citizen’s needs promptly and serving our community with warmth and respect.”



Prior to her current role, Gordon served as the Rescue Funds Program Coordinator for Tlingit & Haida's Community-Directed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) program. She brings a wealth of experience and a deep understanding of tribal dynamics. Her extensive experience in customer service and dedication to tribal welfare also make her an ideal candidate for leading the Customer Care Department. In addition to her new role, she teaches a certified Customer Service class through Generations Southeast Community Learning Center.

Gordon is Yéil (Raven) of the L'uknax.ádi (Coho) clan from the Xixch' hit (Frog House). She was born in Juneau, Alaska and raised in Skagway, Alaska. She raised her family in Connecticut after relocating in 1991 and officially moved back to Skagway in 2014.

Judean shared she is passionate about collaborating with her team to address the needs tribal citizens and is committed to finding swift resolutions. “I am committed to upholding our mission and values and our tribal citizens through exceptional service and support,” said Gordon.

Congratulations Judean, from everyone at STC!

ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT



Stormwater Mapping

To update our previous map as it is several years old, we walked the town and mapped all the storm drains for a new view. We took down location, what directions they fed off to, condition both in and out of the drop, standing water and silt; as well as measuring and mapping their outfalls in a follow up mapping session.



Community Air Quality Network Update

In partnership with the National Park Service, STC will be launching our new community air quality monitoring array in late April! This network, modeled after a system in Volcano National Park, will leverage multiple sensor-based instruments coupled with federal equivalency method nodes to provide Skagway with a comprehensive look at the five air quality parameters that make up an air quality index. All data collected will be gathered into a single public-facing online dashboard where users can select stations and parameters of interest for graph generation, data summaries, and more. The equipment is currently in transit to Skagway from Fort Collins, CO and will be installed in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for a public outreach event to introduce the program!

Salmon Release

The Salmon are out! <https://youtu.be/g5P3eyd0kic>
Check out the video highlighting the release here! Over the season, on a week-by-week basis, we went through each stage of the salmon life cycle (egg, alevin, fry, smolt, adult, spawner) and learned about their habitats and needs with the K-5 classes using the tank of salmon we harvested here in Pullen Creek. By checking out our YouTube channel you can also watch how we harvested the eggs and milt and seeded the tank, as well as when the alevin swam up and took their first breaths to become fry.



Water Quality Sampling

Pullen Creek has been listed for concern of heavy metals entering the waterway via contaminated dust from the historical transport of ore in open railway cars from Canada to Skagway Harbor. In partnership with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, we tested 5 sites across town to sample for water contaminants as a follow up to two previous assessments: beneath Pullen Pond where the bridge crosses the creek, above Pullen Pond just below the AP&T hydro-power tailrace, just below where the fish hatchery once was, a tributary of Pullen Creek along the emergency building, and at the White Pass Railroad Yard on State Street. We used 9 bottles to test for conventional (settleable solids, total solids, and sulfide), minerals (alkalinity, chloride, sulfate), polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), nutrients (ammonia, total nitrate-nitrite, phosphorus), hardness (Ca, Mg, Na), dissolved metals (arsenic, barium, copper, cadmium, chromium, lead, zinc), and dissolved organic content; with duplicate samples for PAHs and dissolved metals. In addition to the water samples taken, we also probed for immediate pH, dissolved oxygen, specific conductivity, turbidity, and temperature readings. Department staff will follow up this sampling event in the fall with bacteria testing and source tracking, and a report will be available in early 2025.

FARM UPDATE

From farm manager, Brooke Jasky-Zuber

Like every Spring, this one has been full of planning, preparing and planting. Our seed starts are happy and, as always, overflowing in our start room at the STC garage. We are so excited about all the flowers we get to deliver to you in May! Plus, it's pretty magical being surrounded by plants and the rich smell of soil in March. For days I have been surrounded by beautiful green leaves, feeling almost dreamy as I look out into a snowy winter wonderland... or slush land through the window. We started hundreds, maybe thousands of baby plants in preparation for opening the nursery and starting our first round of crops. In fact we started last fall, as I'm sure some of you did as well. We planted around 300 tulips and 40 Peonies. With any luck we'll have some really colorful tulip bouquets to offer in May and some much requested Peony plants for sale, alongside our other bedding plants, hanging baskets, potted arrangements, shrubs and berry bushes. We plan to open the nursery no later than May 10th. Sooner if the weather permits.

Stay tuned by following us on Facebook, or email Brooke at brooke@skagwaytraditional.org to receive farm updates. And remember, as an STC tribal citizen you get 15% off all produce and nursery plants. This discount is for private use, please do not use your discount for purchasing commercial operations. Please let the cashier know when checking out.



The CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) bags are back! We are offering this program again, at a sponsored rate of \$15 per bag for tribal citizens. There is no extra discount, as the bags are already a reduced price and we have 20 spots reserved for tribal citizens. The farm will also have the usual bi-weekly program starting in June through September, with potential to receive some early produce in May. The May bags will be weather dependent and limited to 10 recipients. For both these bags there is a google sign up form that will be emailed to all tribal citizens along with the details about the programs. Please email Brooke if you have not received the form and would like to sign up (and maybe check your spam folder). Deadline to sign up is the end of April.

New! Bouquet Prescriptions Subscriptions! We will be offering a small number of Bouquet Prescriptions Subscriptions. Yes, prescription: for upliftment and well being. This is a pilot run and we will only be offering a few, possibly more into summer as flower crops allow. It will include a large bouquet weekly or biweekly, with the option of borrowing a vase and drop off/ pick up (of old bouquet). More details coming in May. Please email Brooke if you want to be informed when more details are available (I will be posting on FB and bulletin boards around town).

At the Alaska Farmer and Food Summit in Anchorage this last winter I met a lot of food advocates. Some of those are folks from the Alaska Farmers Market Association who are running a program called the LFPA or Local Food Purchasing Assistance. The program helps farmers by buying crops at the end of the market to be given to a local organization that fights food insecurity. I was lucky enough to meet with their organizer Claire and get funding to provide our local food bank with fresh produce all season while supporting our farm.

We are super lucky to have most of our farm hand crew returning year after year. It makes every aspect of our multifaceted operation run that much smoother. New to the crew this season is Marissa Hernandez from California. Marissa worked with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians in Santa Ynez, CA. She assisted in operating a variety of their environmental programs, including the tribal nursery in which they grow culturally significant California native plants for the Chumash community to enjoy. We are very excited to have Marissa join us!

All in all, I am very excited for yet another growing season and opportunity to enrich Skagway through fresh locally grown veggies and vibrant flowers.





SKAGWAY TRADITIONAL COUNCIL
2024 ELECTION

REGISTER TO VOTE

Please register, as it is now a requirement to vote.
Have an impact on our tribal community. Be a registered voter!

It's easy, use the QR code!
Register by: October 1, 2024
Election date: November 5, 2024







APPLY FOR THE HOME REPAIR PROGRAM IN SKAGWAY

**FINANCIAL CAPACITY
BUILDING CLASSES
AVAILABLE**

Visit www.thrha.org for
class schedule



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

-  Skagway Residency Required
-  Enrolled Tribal Member
-  Income not to exceed 80% MFI—see chart
-  Meet various program eligibility requirements

Applications are processed by the date of completed application.

SKAGWAY INCOME LIMITS

2023 Median Family Income
80% MFI

Persons in Family

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
\$54,850	\$62,650	\$70,500	\$78,300	\$84,600	\$90,850	\$97,100	\$103,400

For more information
contact us!



5446 Jenkins Drive
Juneau, AK 99801



repairs@thrha.org
regionalthousingauthority.org



(907) 780-6868
Call toll-free (888) 241-6868

STC GENERAL ASSISTANCE

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Skagway Traditional Council has general assistance programs for eligible individuals.

Use the QR code to learn about available programs.



Have more questions?

Call STC at (907) 983-4068
or visit our website.

www.skagwaytraditional.org/assistance

Asking for help is a sign of strength



TAIYA COUNSELING SERVICES, LLC.

JOHN HISCHER, LCSW

Taiya Counseling Services, LLC is 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 2024. 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.

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



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



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.”



Gunalchéesh

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

P.O. Box 1157

Skagway, AK 99840

Phone (907) 983-4068 Fax (907) 983-3068

Email: info@skagwaytraditional.org