

Friday Night Insight 2025 Schedule

Southeast Alaska Discovery Center

2025 events will be held in the Elizabeth Peratrovich Theater on Fridays from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Programs are focused on the natural and cultural history of Alaska.



January 10 – One Health Research in Alaska:

Participatory animal health monitoring

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Ketchikan Indian Community are working together to set up a communication network in Ketchikan to better prevent and detect disease in both animals and humans. The SARS-CoV-2 Participatory Surveillance in Alaska (SPASAK) project aims to protect human and animal health and support food sovereignty by ensuring wildlife is healthy for consumption.

January 17 – Ketchikan’s Urban Creeks: the picturesque and the problems

Residents and visitors get up close and personal with Ketchikan Creek along Creek Street and City Park - but Hoadley and Carlanna creek also flow through the city, even though they are mostly out of sight. Come learn what the Ketchikan Indian Community and the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition have been discovering about the health of your urban salmon streams and the adjacent riparian ecosystems -- and how you can help.

January 24 – Connecting via public radio

From “Caribou Clatter” and “Muskeg Messages” to news and music, public radio has connected Alaskans to each other and to the outside for more than 50 years. When public radio came to Alaska it provided a vital link between rural communities and has grown to be part of the fabric of everyday life. Join KBRD to explore the history and importance of public radio.

January 31 – Health & Longevity “Addressing diabetes, personal & community health concerns”

Join presenter and health educator Rob Holston for an exploration of the Diabetes Pandemic. The Diabetes Pandemic encompasses: Peripheral Vascular Disease, Heart Disease, Type II, Cardiovascular Disease, Cancer, Dementia, Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome, Fatty Liver Disease, Osteoarthritis, Retinopathy, Obesity, etc. Learn the challenge and the solutions. *Envision the new you and a healthy future for Ketchikan.*

February 7 – To Be Announced

February 14 – Elizabeth Peratrovich Celebration – Cape Fox Cultural Foundation

Come join the Cape Fox Cultural Foundation to celebrate the life of Alaska civil rights leader Elizabeth Peratrovich. Elizabeth Peratrovich was a Raven of the Tlingit Lukaax.ádi clan, and a major force behind the passage of Alaska’s Anti-Discrimination Bill in 1945.

February 21 – To Be Announced

February 28 – Time Travel on the Tongass: The archaeology of Southeast Alaska's rainforest

Have you ever wondered how long humans have lived in Southeast Alaska? Evidence of past human use and occupation lie all around us, and the study of these remains (archaeology) is integral to the management of all resources throughout the Tongass National Forest. Come join us to learn about the cultural resources of the Forest and ways that you can help steward these resources into the future!

March 7 – Climbing On! Exploration of rock, ice, and alpine of Southeast Alaska and beyond

Ever wondered what it takes to climb? Learn about what mountains and mountaineers are made at this Friday insight. Covering the mountains of Southeast Alaska, history of its alpine exploration, and the many forms climbing has. Hear a few stories and learn how you can learn to seek the high places.

March 14 – Introduction to the Federal Subsistence Dashboard

The Forest Service developed an online tool for the public to consolidate data from hard-to-find locations, transcripts, and technical reports in an accessible, easy-to-use format. People can now access Sockeye Salmon harvest and escapement data, wildlife in-season management actions, regulatory maps, and downloadable game management unit maps from a single site. This presentation will be a tutorial of the new dashboard and provide an opportunity for the subsistence staff to hear feedback.

March 21 – Discovering nature's bounty

Join Val Cancino to explore the fascinating botanical resources of the Tongass - a rich environment of alpine tundra, lowland muskeg, towering trees, and scores of tidewater glaciers. While the forest is dominated by cedar, western hemlock and Sitka spruce, the understory is the source of a rich variety of plants.

March 28 – Ketchikan - Gero Kanayama Exchange

The Ketchikan Gero Kanayama Exchange with Japan is the longest, near continuously running sister city educational exchange in Alaska, if not the United States. Hear from former teachers and students about the exchange's history, future, and the positive effects it's had on hundreds of people over the past 38 years.

April 4 – Forest bathing

Do you want to decrease stress, improve your mood, benefit your mental health, restore your attention and reduce fatigue? Join us to discover *Forest Bathing* - the act of soaking all your senses while walking slowly through the forest. No bubble baths, no water, swimsuits required, just the soothing sounds, sights, smells and calming effect of nature.

April 11 – Sasquatch: Legends & myths meet science

Join Rob Holston for an entertaining 45-minute collision of contradictory yet collaborative evidence surrounding Bigfoot. Featuring publications by Dr. Rob Alley, Dr. Matt Johnson & Dr. Jeff Meldrum. Fascinating IM Index evidence exposed. Bigfoot DNA controversy explained. Plus, locals with Bigfoot encounters will be invited to share and enjoy a Q&A session.

April 18 – The Ties that Bind: a short history of Ketchikan's service clubs

For over 100 years, Ketchikan has been home to service clubs—Rotary, Eagles, Lions, and other organizations—which have enhanced our community in countless ways. First City Rotarian Pat Tully will talk about the history of these clubs in Ketchikan and how they help strengthen community cohesiveness.

April 25 – Living in bear country, bear safety

Join the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the USDA Forest Service for a presentation on bear safety and awareness. Biologists will talk about how to stay safe in bear country while hiking and tips and tricks on how to keep bears out of attractants in town like garbage.

