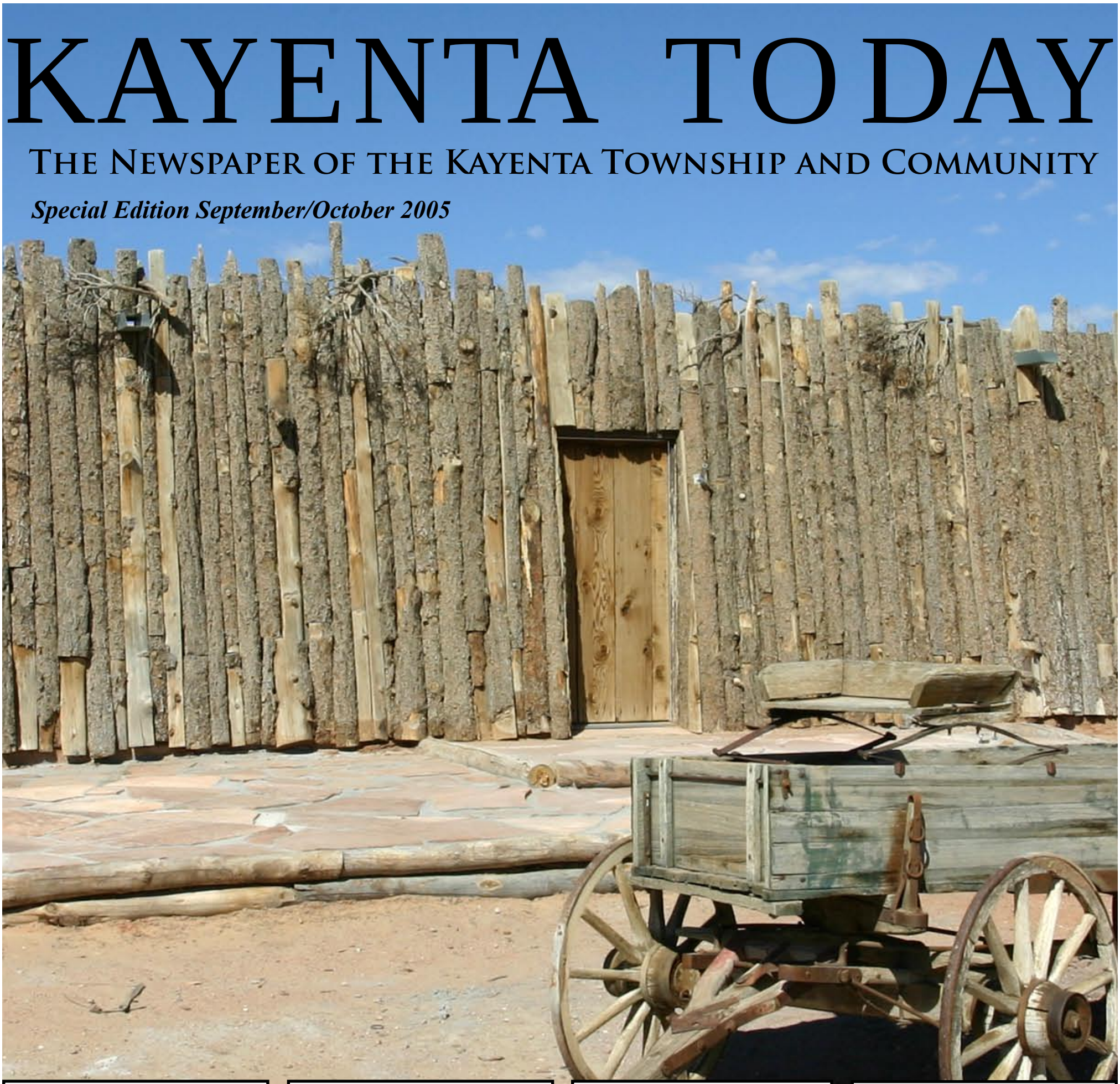
KAYENTA TODAY

The Newspaper of the Kayenta Township and Community

Special Edition September/October 2005



ANIMAL CONTROL ON THE NAVAJO NATION
PAGE 2

RUNWAY CONDITIONS AT THE KAYENTA AIRPORT DETERIORATE
PAGE 3

KAYENTA'S SKATE PARK SOON TO BECOME A REALITY
PAGE 5

KAYENTA'S PROPOSED NEW JAIL AND POLICE DEPARTMENT
PAGE 6

Everyone has an Opinion

By Frank Ramsey

**The following opinion does not reflect the views of the Kayenta Township.*

Part of what makes this country of ours so great is that we are all allowed to express our opinions to try and change things we feel are unjust. Along those lines in August of 2004 I went into the Kayenta Township office to propose a shelter for dogs and cats. Since that time it has evolved into an animal control and humane shelter for animals. Often times, opinions from myself, other people and humane groups get swept under a carpet when trying to work with the powers that be. Is it that they are so set in their ways that they can not fathom change as something good or is it that they are afraid that change will show that their programs are not working? I don't think so.

All across this great nation of ours everyone has rights, and by that I am referring to the red, white and blue of which I served in the military in. The Navajo Nation is not above these rights. In a January meeting KACS and SNAP brought out to a group of funders that we would like to do a catch and release program here on the reservation on which my Navajo family and myself live. I realize to those who do not know what a program like this is might sound crazy. In a nut shell here is what TNR is: you catch an animal that is already running loose, fix it and immunize it to keep it from making more animals. There are alot more points to it, like those animals will not spread disease to owned animals or spread disease to people.

It is true we wished to do this program in Kayenta and with a small group of dogs to see if it could lower the amount of strays that we are currently having, but it was never implemented. There are several reasons for that the first is that it met with considerable opposition in Window Rock. They have stated that it violates direct laws of the nation. This, it does not but it may violate their policies and procedures and that could cause problems so the program went on the back burner and only remains as a irritant to the headways being made. A topic of which to point fingers at and use as an argument point to Kayenta starting its own animal control and shelter. We are following the protocol for getting a law changed to do the programs of animal control on a local level, but TNR will be a case for later. It would be a topic of which would go in front of the Council of delegates and explained hopefully in full by both sides and decided upon in a diplomatic fashion. KACS has saved 375 animals this year, twice the number in which previous roundups were to cover and almost all the animals were strays, not the owned population.

Which brings up the other topic of dispute, KACS in no way damaged relations with funders for spay and neuter services on the reservation? For years these outside groups, of which have donated millions of dollars, only asked for a few things in return. Requested were that Navajo Nation provide numbers and effected changes in population of the animals and another request was not to do a sweep close after spay and neuter services were done in a community. These animals were being picked up still fresh with stitches from surgery and the funder's money was going directly down the toilet.

I ask that in the future before forming an opinion on the efforts of either Navajo Nation or KACS and Township, please contact both agencies and hear both sides of the story. You can view for yourself the progress that KACS has had in the community of Kayenta by looking up kayentaanimalshelter.org.

Ramsey in an interview with film maker Diane Huntinghorse. Huntinghorse is producing a film about animal control problems on the Navajo Nation.

Farewell To S.N.A.P.

Animal control on the Navajo Nation has been a problem for many years. The Navajo Nation Veterinary and Livestock Program has been doing all they possibly can with what funding they are provided with from the Navajo Nation. Other non-profit organizations such as S.N.A.P. have tried to help by providing free spay and neuter clinics to pet owners living on the Navajo Nation.

With all these combined efforts, animal control still poses a major problem on the Navajo Nation and has caused many of these organizations to become frustrated with the impending problem of animal control. Much of this frustration has lead to needless finger pointing at whose to blame.

The bottom line is that animal control on the Navajo Nation needs to be dealt with. The Kayenta Township will continue its efforts in starting an animal control program in Kayenta. The Township feels that providing such a service to the community will help tremendously with the over population of animals, making it a safer place to live for people as well as animals.

The Kayenta Township will work side by side with the Navajo Nation as to abide by all Navajo Nation animal control laws and also have their own animal control ordinances comply with Navajo Nation animal control laws.

Animal control is a problem we all have to deal with in any community on the Navajo Nation. If the problem is not dealt with swiftly and properly, it will only get worse. Educating people of the benefits of spaying and neutering pets is the responsibility of animal control officials, and getting pets spayed or neutered is every pet owner's responsibility.

Many non-profit organizations have stepped in to help and many have left. S.N.A.P. was in Kayenta from September 19th to 23rd and spayed and neutered over 100 animals in that time period. This was the last time for S.N.A.P. to offer its services on the Navajo Nation due to funding cuts. During their time on the Navajo Nation they spayed and neutered well over 1200 animals through out the Navajo Nation. Free services from these non-profit organizations such as S.N.A.P. will be dearly missed by pet owners living on the Navajo Nation.

KAYENTA'S AIRPORT IN DIRE NEED OF ATTENTION

Even with newly painted stripes and airstrip numbers, the Kayenta airport is in dire need of repair. Kayenta Township maintenance workers have been working diligently on the day to day maintenance of the airstrip.

Within the past few months, the Kayenta Township has repaired the beacon lights, runway lighting, and the constant removal of vegetation from the runway. One of the most troublesome problems of concern, are portions of the runway that have collapsed nearly 10 inches into the ground. These collapsed sections of the runway have caused major dips in the runway which make it very unsafe and difficult for aircraft to land and take-off.

Bill Cly points out one of the many dangerous dips in the runway.

Armstong and Associates present the Kayenta Airport Master Plan to the Kayenta Township Commission. - January 24, 2005

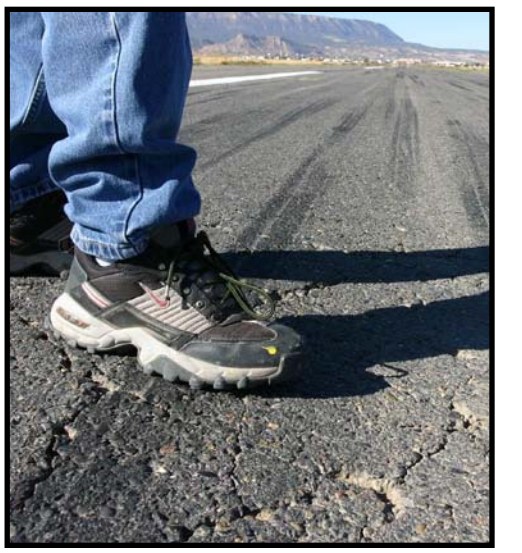
Eagle Air Med provides the community of Kayenta with much needed Medivac services.

Bill Cly and Phil Zahne of the Kayenta Township inspect runway conditions at the Kayenta Airport.

The current airport was built in 1987 and has provided Kayenta with much needed Medivac Services, Air Tour Operation, and Business/Recrational Transportation. Since then, the airport has served the community well, but has suffered major deterioration due to extensive use and past neglect.

For over a year, the Kayenta Township has been working with airport planners Armstrong and Associates from Grand Junction, Colorado. Together, they have submitted final plans to the FFA for approval. Once approved by the FFA, construction of the new airport is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2006 and is estimated to cost 4.5 million dollars.

Bill Cly and Kayenta Township Maintenance survey an area of the runway for repair.



Cracks such as these pictured, litter the existing Kayenta runway.

The Kayenta Township has contacted Armstrong and Associates and the FFA about the current runway conditions to try and remedy the current problems and make it safe. Any repairs on the airstrip would be temporary until construction begins on the new airport.

The new airport will provide a new state of the art runway engineered and constructed to handle larger aircraft and loads, better and more reliable lighting for aircraft, as well as taxiways for aircraft. A land use plan for the new airport area is also being planned for future businesses and amenities much needed by tourist and community members alike.

With the current and future growth of economic development in Kayenta, the addition of a new state of the art airport will provide a much needed beneficial addition to the community of Kayenta.

TOUR de REZ CELEBRATES 15 YEARS

When you think of biking in July, you probably think of the Tour. The one in France, right? The man in yellow? Hosteen litso. You know the rest of the story. But on the Navajo Nation each summer, there is another tour. Bikes, yes. Weeks on tour, yes. Even some guys in yellow. But the Tour de Rez is a different kind of journey. Bringing together riders from Kayenta, Shonto, Chilchinbeto, Gallup, Dennehotso and Chilchinbeto, this year's Tour de Rez paralleled the French version that you're probably quite familiar with.

Each summer since 1991 there have been a group of hearty Navajo Nation cyclists who have completed a journey around the Navajo Nation. The Tour de Rez is a physical challenge, as well as test of the riders' mental toughness. It also gives them a view from the saddle - a unique perspective on the land and history that is Din4 Bik4yah. The ride is one of the many outdoor adventure and enrichment programs offered by Youth Empowerment Services (Y.E.S.), a small nonprofit that has been providing such services for over a decade.

The 15th edition of the Tour this summer began at Canyon de Chelley, heading up onto and across the Defiance Plateau before descending into Window Rock. The group's arrival in the capital coincided with the arrival of the council members arriving by horse and activists dropping in to speak up on the renewal of the N-aquifer water for use by Peabody Coal. The afternoon served as a practical example of democracy in action. In case you're curious, the council voted to approve the use.

From there, the riders headed north toward the Chuskas. The range that is the spine of the rez was to offer the riders a respite from the heat of the lowlands. Through Asayi Lake, Narbana Pass, Roof Butte and north through the Lukachuakis and Mexican Cry Mesa, the riders were back in "civilization" at Immanuel Mission five days after leaving Window Rock! The Chuskas, decked on in brilliant green from this year's above-average moisture, offered challenging riding, dramatic country and some of the finest campsites on the rez.

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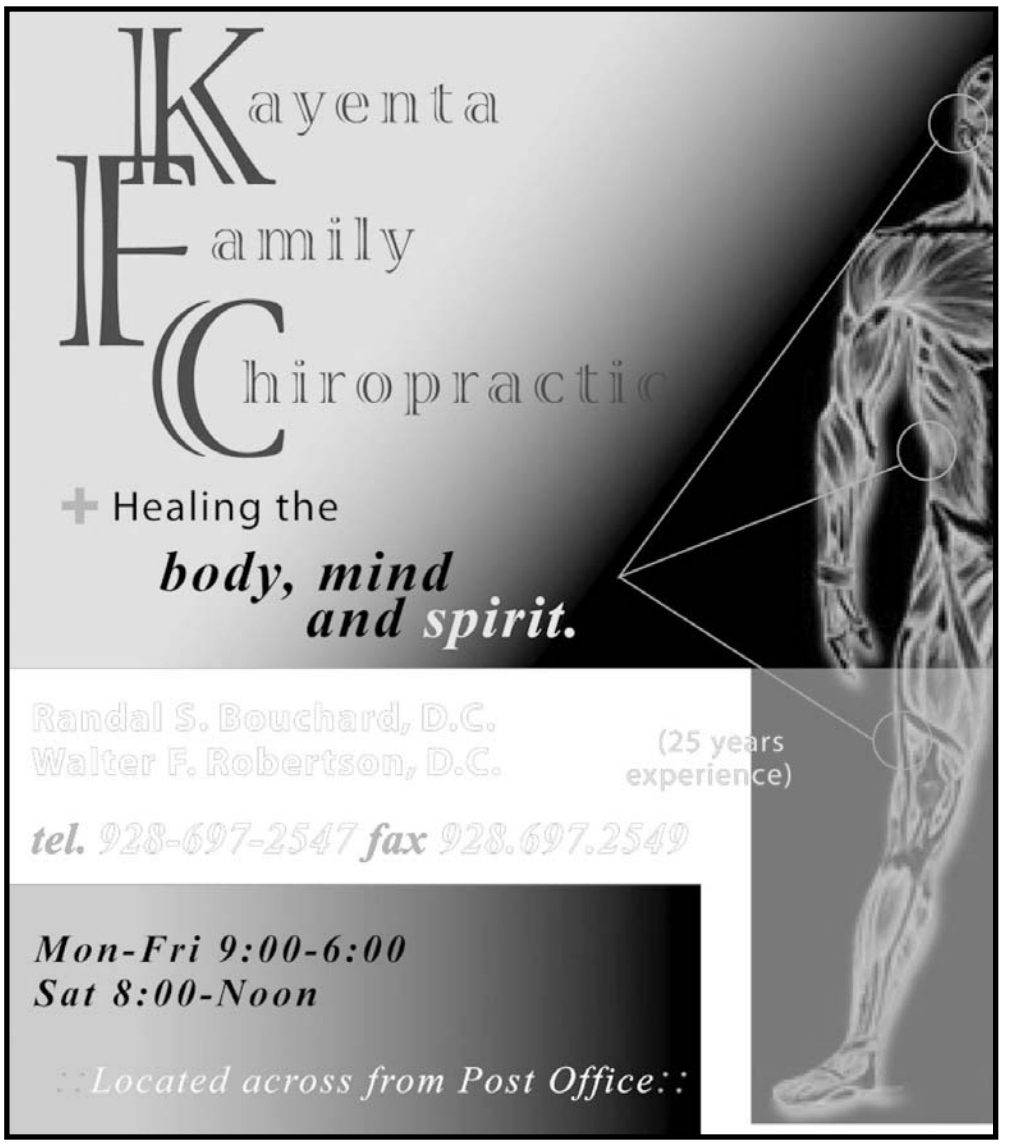


KAYENTA RECREATIONAL PARK

-Skate Park to be constructed first!

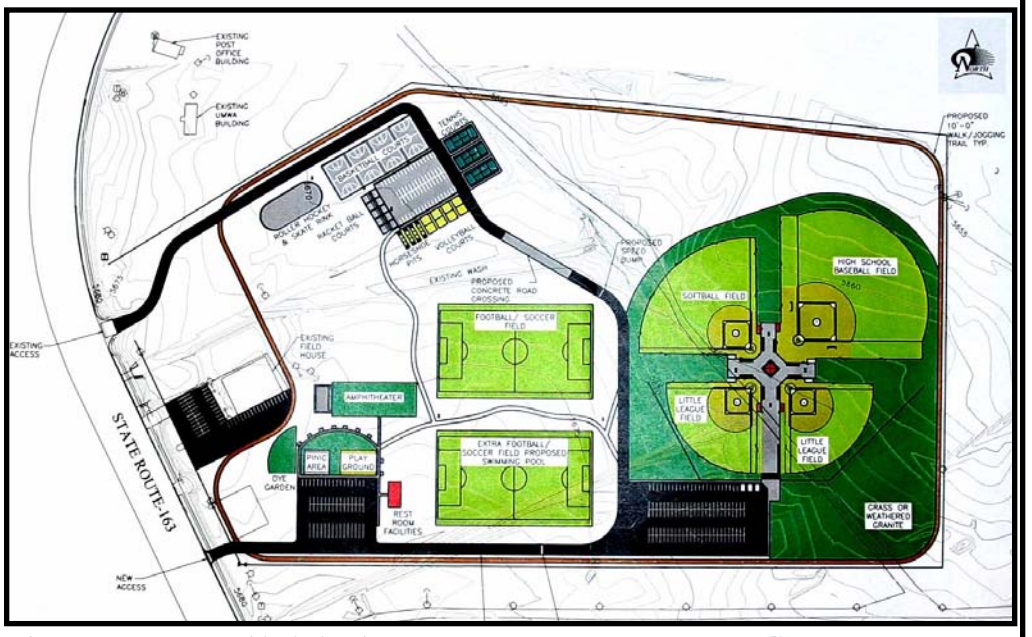
In the past few months, the Kayenta Township has been receiving a number of inquiries from the community about the proposed recreational park. Also, many youth of the community have stated that they would like to have a skate park incorporated with the recreational park.

Originally, Rising Sun Engineering developed a master plan for a recreation park back in 2001, but the plan was never implemented and a skate park was not part of the plan.

The master plan included a site survey, needs assessment, drainage plan, conceptual lay-out plan, utility plan and a preliminary design and cost estimates. The biggest problem for the proposed park is that it lies directly in the path of a major contributing watercourse to Laguna Creek.

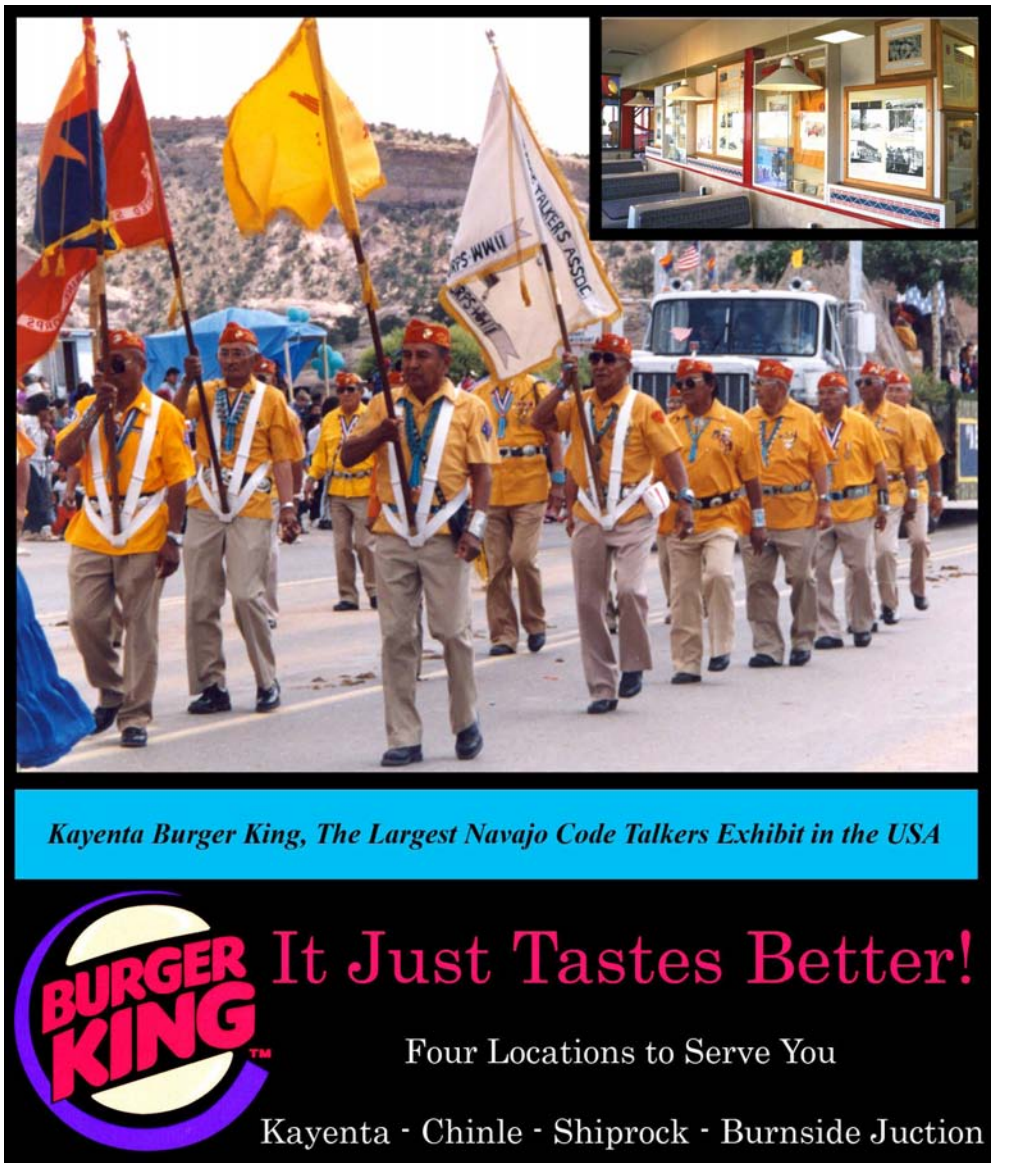
The master plan recommended relocating the existing dike and creating a channel to carry the water through the park site with minimal impact to the park.

The Kayenta Township will be updating the original park plans from 2001 and will include a skate park as part of the project. The park site will need to be cleared of vegetation, and a drainage channel constructed before construction of the park will begin. The construction of the park will be done in phases, with the skate park being constructed first.



The Kayenta Township is in the process of working on developing a Community Recreation Park, where we would like to invite community members that are interested in this development to come by and visit with us and share ideas. We really need to get the whole community involved on this. We need to have ideas from all agencies here and around our community. Businesses, Religious Affiliates, Educational Leaders, etc. We'll have upcoming announcements on this, so watch for it.

Bill Cly - KTC Operations Manager



BLACK MESA MINE TO CLOSE DECEMBER 2005

In a recent letter received by the Kayenta Township from Peabody Western Coal Company, the operations of Peabody Western Coal Company's Black Mesa Mine will be significantly impacted by the anticipated suspension of the Mojave Generating Station as of December 31, 2005.

Peabody Western Coal Company and the stakeholders in the Mojave Generating Station have attempted to resolve issues related to the operation of the Mojave Generating Station through short-term or long-term solutions in order to avoid the closure of the Black Mesa Mine and certain operations that support the Black Mesa Mine.

The owners of the Mojave Generating Station are in ongoing discussions to reopen the Mojave Generating Station as early as January 1,2010, which is expected to restart the Black Mesa Mine on or before that date.

Peabody Western Coal Company anticipates commencing the temporary suspension of the Black Mesa Mine and certain operations that support the Black Mesa Mine as of December 1, 2005.

Ultimately, Peabody Western Coal Company anticipates that all operations at the Black Mesa Mine will be completely suspended resulting in job loss for all employees employed there.

The job losses for non-union represented employees will be permanent. The recall rights of union represented employees are dependent on the terms of the Western Service Agreement and its amendments or extensions.

Kayenta planning for new detention center and police department

The Kayenta Township and Kayenta police department have been meeting regularly with D. Sloan Architects on the design and planning of the Kayenta detention center. The design will also include the addition of a future courthouse, police department, and motor pool.

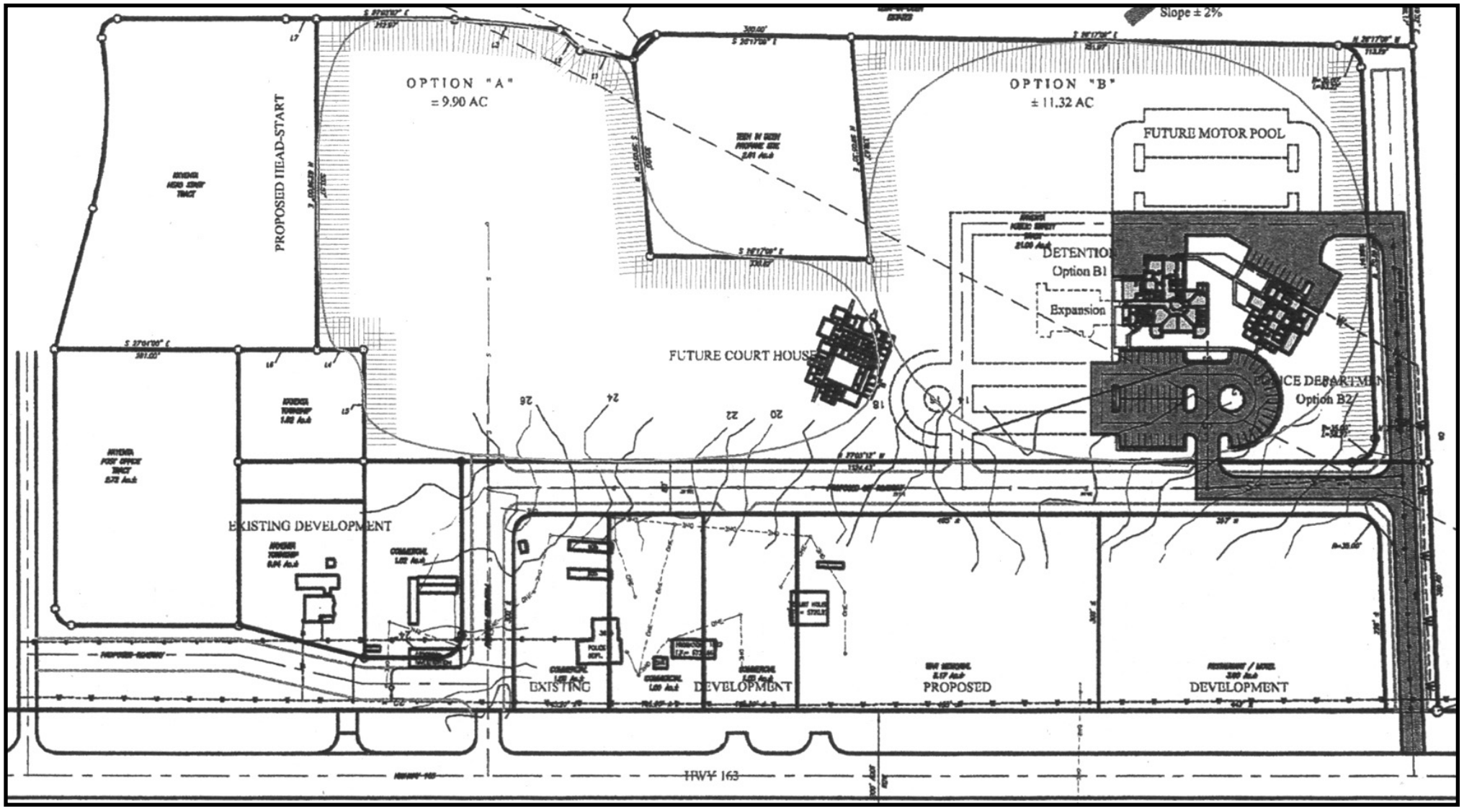
The proposed location of the detention center will be located just north and behind of the existing Kayenta police department on highway 163. This area has been zoned out by the Kayenta Township as the Civic Center area for Kayenta. Near the proposed site is the Teeh Hin Deeh housing community, the Tohdenasshai Shelter Home, the Kayenta Township, Post Office, Kayenta Fire Department, as well as the proposed Kayenta Head Start building.

The detention center will be approximately 9,650 to 10,917 square feet and 20 feet tall, and is designed to house 24 men, 8 women, and 8 juveniles in separate quarters. The building will also have a library, kitchen, visitation area, offices, multi-purpose room, and outdoor recreational areas for detainees.

The proposed police department building will be approximately 7,155 square feet and will house offices for the D.A.R.E. program, sergeants, captain, lieutenant, technology, dispatch, and secretaries. The building will also include rooms for, training, computers, evidence, fire arms, and property. It was also proposed to incorporate the criminal investigation unit into the building plan.

In a recent meeting with D. Sloan Architects, the Kayenta police department expressed their concerns for future expansion of the detention center due to the Navajo Nations

Kayenta's current Police Department will be replaced by a 7,155 square foot building.



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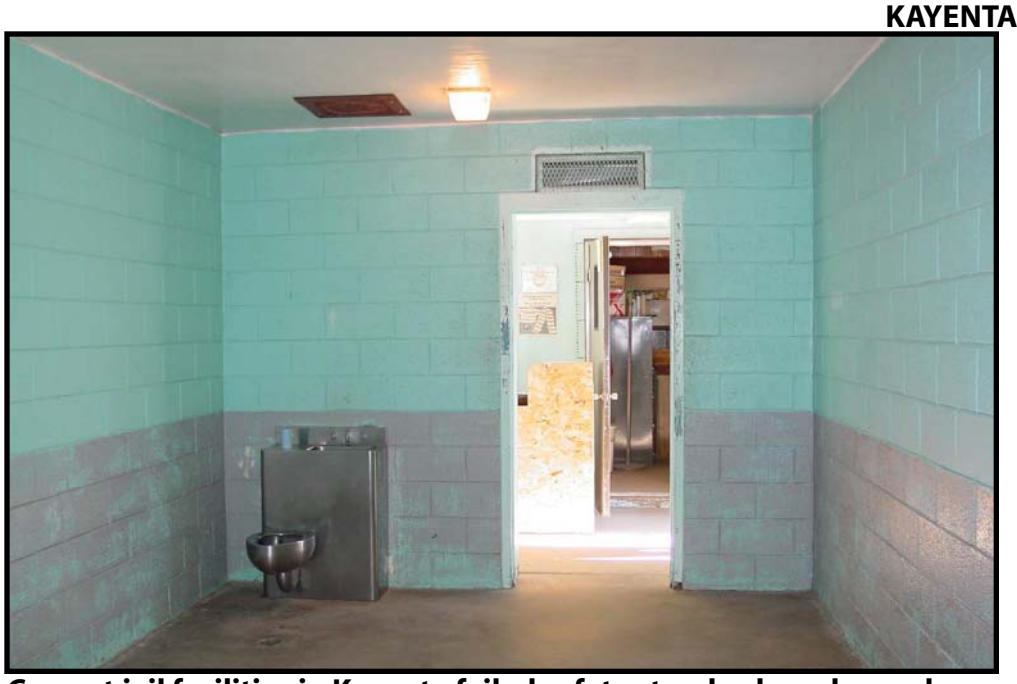


Current jail facilities in Kayenta failed safety standards and posed many violations in fire safety, building structure, and hygiene.

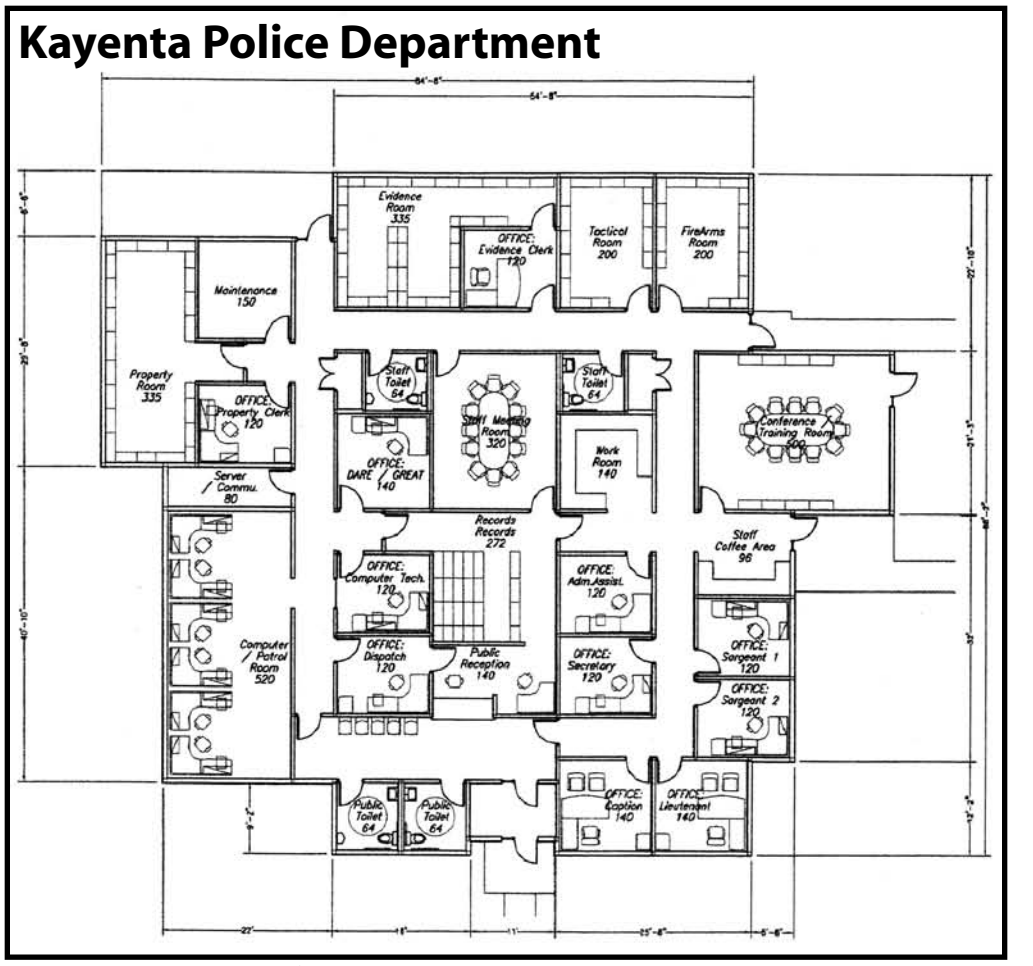
capitol improvement plan. Delores Greyeyes of the Kayenta police department said the expansion of the detention center must accommodate 100 inmates. D. Sloan Architects said they would design the site with the detention centers future expansion in mind.

In December 2005, the Kayenta Today published a story about the current detention facilities in Kayenta and how the Department of Environmental Health inspected detention facilities across the Navajo Nation.

Many of the detention facilities failed safety standards and posed many violations in fire safety, building structure, and hygiene. The Kayenta detention facility was among those that failed inspection. "Even the inmates complain about the conditions." said Kayenta Detention Officer, Sherry Begay.

The current Kayenta detention facility was built back in the early 1970's and has two cells, each cell to hold female and male inmates, each cell can hold a maximum of ten inmates.

Kayenta Police Department



Conceptual layout of the Kayenta police department. The building will be approximately 7,155 square feet.

"Even the inmates complain about the conditions."
said Kayenta Detention Officer, Sherry Begay.

When the cells reach capacity, the Kayenta police department has to transfer inmates to Shiprock or Window Rock. If there is no room to house the inmates at the Shiprock or Window Rock facilities, inmates that have committed a lesser crime are release back into the public to accommodate additional inmates.

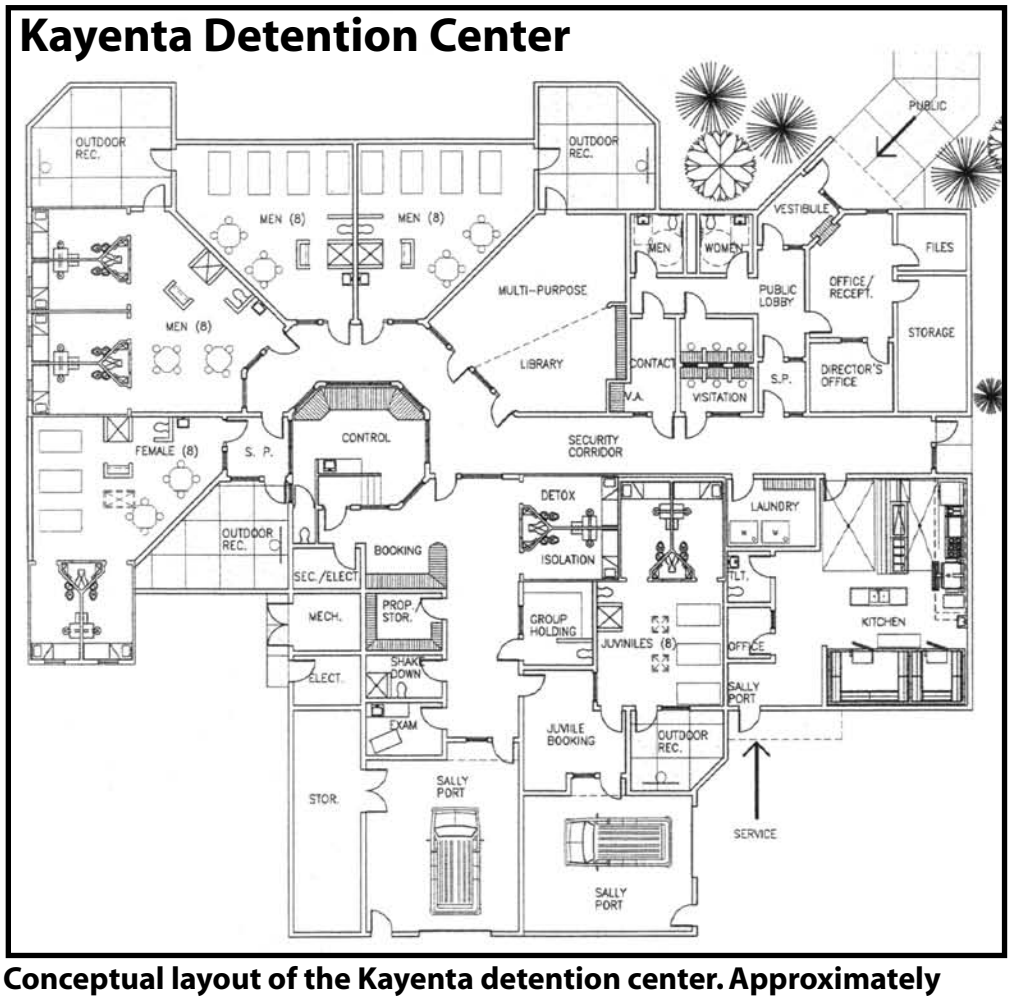
Unfortunately many criminals know this system all too well and continue to commit crimes knowing that they will be set free due the lack of detention space. This leads to many community members becoming upset and believing that the police department and court system have failed them and that there is no justice for victims of crime on the Navajo Nation.

With the combined efforts of the Kayenta Township, Kayenta Chapter, the Navajo Nation, and Kayenta Police Department, the proposed Kayenta Public Safety building will benefit the community of Kayenta tremendously by making Kayenta a safer place to live.

Funding for the detention center comes from $1,250,000.00 from the Kayenta Township and an additional $750,000.00 in funding from the Navajo Nation. Additional funding for road construction, utilities, operation, and building maintenance of the detention center will be sought from the B.I.A. and the Navajo Nation.

A tentative public meeting pertaining to the detention center and future IHS hospital is scheduled be held in Kayenta, October 20, 2005 at the Kayenta Town Hall at 1:00 pm. If scheduled, the public is encouraged to attend to voice their concerns and comments about the proposed projects. For more information, please contact the Kayenta Township at (928) 697-8451.

Kayenta Detention Center



Conceptual layout of the Kayenta detention center. Approximately 9,650 to 10,917 square feet and 20 feet tall, and is designed to house 24 men, 8 women, and 8 juveniles in separate quarters.

But getting out of the Chuskas was no easy task. A sweltering afternoon along a sandy track above Alcove Canyon took the group on the final leg of the journey from the mountains back to the desert. And once the trekkers hit the floor of the canyon (and found the trickling stream), it was break time. Lounging and laying in the cold, flowing water restored energy levels back to the norm and the final 10 miles to the Mission were a comfortable cruise. After coming out to the Mission, the rest of the Tour was on pretty well-traveled routes to Dennehotso, Kane Valley, Kayenta, Navajo National Monument and Shonto.

The Tour riders also had a chance to briefly study the uranium issue with NAU's Mansel Nelson in the Chuskas, met with Navajo Foresty and Fish & Wildlife staff, sat in on the Navajo Nation Council, and visited the Navajo Nation Museum. But some of the greatest lessons were learned from the folks that were encountered, the informal lessons around the camps each night and the experiences the riders shared on the trail each day.

The final leg of the ride concluded in Shonto, with a celebration in Shonto Canyon and cookout with friends and family. Up next for many of

Gazing deep into the heavens from the Tour's final camp was a climax that had been building for four nights. Since Sweetwater, two amateur astronomers from Kayenta had been following the group, waiting for the right time to break out the scopes and share their knowledge of the sky. Well, July 26 at Navajo National Monument was the time, and Esther Peaches and Jim Crittenden were up to the task. The group enjoyed Mars, Venus, Jupiter and the moon in their midsummer glory.

the Tour riders, along some of you perhaps, is the Chuska Challenge mountain bike event in the Chuskas east of Tsaile in October. The two-day, fully-supported ride offers some great riding in the beautiful fall scenery of the Chuskas, combined with live music, great food, an arts fair, bike rodeo and other activities throughout the weekend. For more info about the Tour de Rez or the Chuska, visit the Y.E.S. website at www.youth-empowerment-services.org. See you on the trail!

Community Announcements

ADOT Public Meeting

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) will hold a public meeting on Oct. 12 in Show Low to discuss how the agency addresses winter road conditions. The public and media are encouraged to attend to ask questions and receive important information.

ADOT engineers will discuss de-icing agents, snow-plowing procedures, safety tips for drivers, and highway closures due to weather.

This is an opportunity for members of the public and the media to learn about ADOT's process for handling snow and ice on the highways.

Public Winter Weather Meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 12 at 1 p.m. at the Show Low Holiday Inn 151 W. Deuce of Clubs Show Low AZ

Navajo County

US Highway 163 Pedestrian Bridge - A new pedestrian bridge will be constructed over Laguna Wash on US Highway 163 near Kayenta. Vastco, Inc. will start work on the $1.8 million project in November and will finish in May.

Domestic Violence Awareness

October is the month set aside for Domestic Violence Awareness, and TSH staff would love to have the community get involved in activities throughout the month.

Schedule of Events

October 1, 2005 Purple Ribbon Campaign to be held @ Kayenta Basha's from 9-2 p.m. Buy a ribbon and support saying no to domestic violence.

October 3, 2005 Candlelight Vigil and March. March will begin at Kayenta Basha's and proceed to Kayenta Chapter House. Candlelight Vigil will begin @ 7 p.m. Vigil is held in rememberance of women and children who have lost their lives due to domestic violence.

October 6, 2005 Shonto Horseback Ride Against DV. Horseback ride will begin @ Inscription House, AZ @ 9 a.m. and proceed to Shonto Preparatory School. Everyone is welcome to participate.

October 10, 2005 Deadline for Office Decorating Competition. Theme for decorating contest is "Domestic Violence is Our Business!" Every one in the community needs to be involve to relay is message that any abuse is not okay.

October 11, 2005 Judging of Office Decorating Competition. Winner will get free pizza, and office that wins will be announces @ MVHS Homecoming Game.

October 13, 2005 FREE DV 101 Mini-Training will be held from 8:30-4:30 p.m. Location to be announced. Please register early due to limited amount of seating. Educate your self of the topics of domestic violence such as: Elderly Abuse, Dating Violence, Same sex Domestic Violence, etc. Get involved in your community.

October 14, 2005 Monument Valley High School Homecoming!

October 22, 2005 "Putt for a Purpose" Golf Tournament held in Page, Arizona. Call (928) 697-3635 to register for the tournament. Donation to this tournament is for a good cause...women and children experiencing domestic violence.

October 26, 2005 Monument Valley High School (Utah Cougars) Candlelight Vigil and DV March

The public is invited to attend. If you have any questions about the events, please call Tohdenasshai Shelter Home @ 1(928) 697-8591.

Kayenta Today
P.O. Box 1490
Kayenta, AZ 86033
(928) 697-8451

WELLS FARGO NAMES KRISTINE TSO MANAGER FOR KAYENTA STORE

KAYENTA – Wells Fargo has named Kristine Tso manager for its location in the Teeh In Deeh shopping center on U.S. Highway 160. Veronica Brogni, Community Banking president for Wells Fargo in Northeast Arizona, announced the appointment.

Tso began her financial services career in 1991 as a teller for the North Island Federal Credit Union in San Diego. In 1994, Tso was one of the original team members who opened Norwest Bank's Kayenta store, serving as a personal banker. She later was promoted to service manager. Norwest became Wells Fargo, and today, the company has four Community Banking stores on the Navajo Nation.

"Kristine's leadership skills and her extensive financial services experience in our region make her an outstanding leader for our Kayenta team," Brogni said. "With her Navajo language skills and her commitment to civic involvement and volunteerism, she is a great asset to the community."

In December 2003, Tso completed the Wells Fargo Potential Leaders Program, which helps team members become more effective managers and community supporters. She is a member of the Kayenta Intermediate School Site Council, and for the 2004-2005 school year, she was a leader for Junior Girl Scout Troop 234.

NARCONON™
ARROWHEAD

Drug addiction can leave an individual feeling helpless and out of control, especially if you are the family member or friend of an addict.

NARCONON® Arrowhead can help. Narconon Arrowhead offers free addiction counseling, assessments and referrals to rehabilitation centers nationwide.

Call 1-800-468-6933 or log onto www.stopaddiction.com.

Don't wait until it is too late. Call Narconon now!

KAYENTA TOWNSHIP JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: TOWN MANAGER
CLOSING DATE: Position is open until filled.
REPORTING RELATIONS: Reports directly to the Kayenta Township Commission.
SALARY: Negotiable

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES: Provide professional leadership, management, administration, supervision and planning for the Township. The Town Manager is expected to exercise a high degree of independence, initiative, and professional expertise in the overall administration of the Township, including the implementation and enforcement of all Township policies, ordinances, and land use and capital improvement plans established by the Commission.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Inform and advise the Commission on the affairs, activities and functions of the Township and provide recommendations and alternative solutions for Commission consideration.
2. Coordinate Commission and staff effort toward community partnerships (working with groups, boards, councils and public and private agencies and entities) and intergovernmental relationships to pursue policies, services, and goals in the interests of the Township.
3. Develop policies, strategies and plans to facilitate and implement economic development with emphasis on the private economy to attract business and industry.
4. Direct and assist in the preparation, maintenance, and revision of comprehensive plans, policies, services and goals for the Township.
5. Maintain an efficient and effective human resource function through, among others overall supervisory control of the Township staff
6. Represent the Township in all dealings with other governments, private businesses, and the general public on all Township matters:
7. Oversee the preparation of the annual operating budget and its administration.
8. Prepare and monitor capital improvement plans and budgets.
9. Investigate and resolve citizen and business concerns, issues and complaints concerning Township matters.
10. Assist the Chairperson of the Commission in the preparation of the agenda for Commission meetings.
11. Perform other work as required.

MANDATORY QUALIFICATIONS

1. Must live or relocate within the Township boundary;
2. Graduate from an accredited college or university with a degree in planning and management, economics, political science, business administration, education or a related field;
3. Five years actual responsible experience in municipal or other governmental planning and management;
4. Valid Drivers License;
5. Has not been convicted of any offense (criminal or civil) within the last ten (10) years that in volved any of the following:
   A. Deceit, untruthfulness and dishonesty, including extortion, embezzlement, bribery, perjury, forgery, fraud, misrepresentation, theft, conversion, or misuse of public or private funds or property;
   B. Aggravated assault, aggravated battery or sexual misconduct; or
   C. Use or possession of illegal drugs.

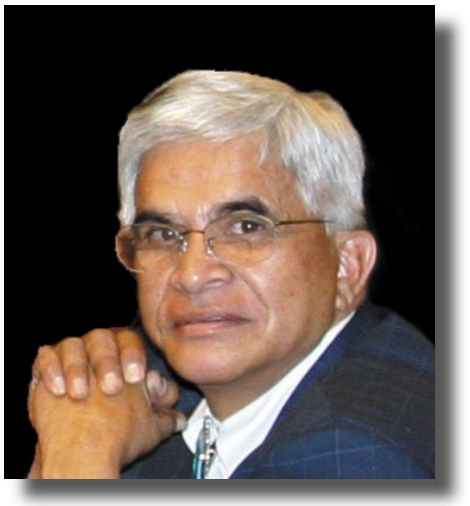
PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

1. Extensive knowledge of the principles, practices, methods and procedures of municipal planning and management and public administration, including the economic, geographic, and demographic factors involved in community development
2. Thorough knowledge of and experience with the general laws and regulations related to community development, including working knowledge of Township, Navajo Nation and federal laws and regulations related to zoning, procurement, personnel, taxation, leasing, bonds and contracting.
3. Ability to direct, supervise and maintain effective working relationship with staff, professionals and technicians of all levels.
4. Ability to effectively mediate and resolve operational and personnel problems.
5. Working knowledge of budget procedures and practices.
6. Ability to develop, negotiate and coordinate Township policies and activities with other governments, public and private agencies and entities, and the general public.
7. Working knowledge of research methodology and statistics with ability to analyze and systematically compile and report technical and statistical information.
8. Ability to research, write and effectively present comprehensive written and oral reports.
9. Ability to make difficult and independent decisions.

Please provide a completed application, resume, four employment references, two personal references, and evidence of certifications, diplomas, etc. Applications and a more detailed job description can be obtained by calling (928) 697-8451. The Kayenta Township reserves the right to reject any and all applications and to re-advertise if necessary.

The Wetherills

Richard Mike
KTC Board Memeber



Beginning from the Kayenta Chapter House and headed due west towards the LDS Church, one will by-pass the Wetherill Gravesite. The gravesite sets on the edge of a wind swept hill-overlooking Kayenta with sandstone buttresses and the "Toes" to the north and a sweeping view of Black Mesa descending into the east.

In 1966, Dr. Harold S. Colton who constructed the Museum of Northern Arizona at Flagstaff, Arizona went to look at the Wetherill graves. Dr. Colton was appalled at the strewn broken glass, bottles, rocks, and weeds surrounding the gravesite. Dr. Colton placed $210.72 in the hands of Mrs. Reuben (Mildred) Heflin to enclose the graves with a fence. Mildred Heflin in turn, added $100.00 to the money and gave the funds to Mr. Jack Wilson, the Kayenta School Superintendent to install the fence. The project was finally completed in September 1969. The gravesite holds these occupants:

A monument and doubly cemented grave cap for:

JOHN WETHERILL
"HOSTEEN JOHN"
1866 – 1944

LOUISA WADE WETHERILL
1877 – 1945

Another doubly cemented cap with two small head stones for:

BEN WETHERILL
Dec 28, 1896 – July 15, 1946

CLYDE COLVILLE
Sept 1881 – Mar 1, 1945

And one singularly cemented cap grave with a metal grave placard for:

FREDERICK F. CORRIGAN
KANSAS
CPL US MARINE CORPS
WORLD WAR I
July 4, 1898 – Aug 9, 1945

I have listed a very brief synopsis of the lives of each of the occupants of the Wetherill gravesite.

Fletcher Corrigan was the son of Ethel Corrigan, who was the sister to Clyde Colville, general business partner to the Wetherills. Fletcher visited his uncle a number of times and at his request, was buried beside his uncle after his death on August 9, 1954.

Clyde Colville died six months after John Wetherill's death leaving $24,000.00 accrued to a mutual trust known as Wetherill and Colville. Mrs. Ethel Corrigan (Clyde Colville's sister) of Hutchison, Kansas claimed to be her brother's sole heir. Clyde Colville however, left a will dated December 27, 1944 (a month after John Wetherill's death) turning over his estate to Louisa Wetherill so the court refused to consider Ethel Corrigan's complaint.

Circa 1942. The Wetherill family. L. to R. Benjamin, Betty Zane, John, Louisa, and Fannie.

Photo, Courtesy of Harvey Leake. Great Grandson of John Wetherill

Clyde Colville never married and lived with both John and Louisa Wetherill joining them at Ojo Alamo in 1902. He accompanied the Wetherills to Oljato in 1906, then Kayenta in 1910.

Clyde Colville was a better trader than John Wetherill as he kept the books and handled the business details. He was the Post Master at the Kayenta Trading Post and did the water coloring for Louisa Wetherill of the intricate sand paintings she collected. He also decorated the Wetherill home with colorful murals using many of these same sand painting motifs. Mr. Colville was also Kayenta's only notary public for many years to come.

After John Wetherill's death, both Louisa Wetherill and Colville being in poor health, decided to sell the trading post and lodge. Before any deal was consummated, Colville died on March 1, 1945, at the age of 63.

Benjamin Wetherill was the only son of John and Louisa Wetherill. Ben lost his right eye at six years of age after being kicked by a horse. His family was en route from Chavis to Pueblo Bonito when they frantically returned to the railroad at Thoreau. Ben's right eye was removed in Albuquerque, New Mexico Territory.

Benjamin tried to enter the military service in WWI but was turned down. He married a Kayenta schoolteacher Myrle Jeanette Davis in 1923 and they had four sons. In 1941, Myrle Davis Wetherill divorced Ben taking the four boys with her. On a job assignment in Alaska, Ben lost one leg and turned to drinking.

Benjamin became quite despondent after the deaths of both of his parents and Clyde Colville within the previous year. At age 50, he died of alcoholism and
Loneliness in a Winslow hospital on July 16, 1946.

Continued on page:

Louisa Wade Wetherill was born Mary Louise Wade on September 2, 1877. At eighteen years of age, she married John Wetherill, age thirty on March 17, 1896. In 1900, she and her husband took over the management of one of Richard Wetherill's Trading Post at Ojo Alamo, located 15 miles north of the Pueblo Bonito ruins.

It was at Ojo Alamo where her son Ben lost his eye and her brother John Wade nearly died from pneumonia. Because of the isolation of the reservation, she vowed to learn the Navajo language, the uses of native herbs and understand the Navajo way of life. The Navajo people called her "Slim Woman" ('Asdzaa ts'osi) and she recorded the legends and folk tales as told to her by Wolfkiller.

Many Navajos were astounded that a white person could understand and speak their language so well. Louisa had two of her own children, Ben and Georgia Ida. Georgia Ida Wetherill was nicknamed "Sister" and Sister died after being hit by a drunk driver at a 4th of July parade in 1935 in Mesa, Arizona.

When her own children left home, John and Louisa "adopted" 3 Indian girls out of the Tuba City Boarding School. The first, Ester had TB and she died from the flu in 1921. The second, was named Frances Virginia and became "Fannie Wetherill". The third child was a sickly child when adopted but soon became a healthy child and became known as "Betty Zane Wetherill".

Both Fannie and Betty received their 8th grade diplomas in Kayenta on May 19, 1933 and went to live with "Sister" and attend Mesa High School. Fanny married Lutey Mahan, a construction manager and they moved from place to place all over the world. Betty went back to Kayenta and met Buck Rodgers. They got married and opened a trading post at Cameron, Arizona. Buck Rodgers passed away in 1975 and Betty lives in Page, Arizona.

Louisa was renown for her study of Navajo ceremonialism (sand paintings) and her collection of legends and herbs.

Louisa was left lonely and rudderless after the deaths of husband John and partner Clyde Colville within 6 months of each other. She sold Kayenta Trading Post and moved to her small ranch in Skull Valley, 25 miles from Prescott, Arizona.

There she sought solace from her son Ben who turned out to be of no help as he was rooted to alcohol. Suffering from uremia and high blood pressure, she was admitted to the Community Hospital in Prescott, Arizona. She died the next day on September 18, 1945, at the age of 68, less than one year after her husband.

Circa 1929.. Fannie and Betty Wetherill. These two girls, although never formally adopted by John and Louisa Wetherill, grew up as members of the Wetherill family.

Photo, Courtesy of Harvey Leake. Great Grandson of John Wetherill

1915, John Wetherill at the newly erected suspension bride to replace the 1909 bridge that was wiped out in a flood at Mexican Hat, Utah. This bridge facilitated not only trade for anglos and Indians but was used for travel for archeological expeditions. The San Juan River had been a long-standing barrier marking the boundary of the Navajo reservation from the Utes and Paiutes. Before the bridge, Indians and anglos alike had to ford the San Juan River at the risk of their property and even their lives.

1909, Charley Spencer, Prospector and Miner crossing a new bridge at Mexican Hat, Utah. The prospector Spencer had a claim along the San Juan River at the mouth of Nakai Canyon. Today, the mouth of the Spencer mine is underneath Lake Powell. In 1910, a flood washed the Mexican Hat Bridge away

Above Photos, Courtesy of Harvey Leake. Great Grandson of John Wetherill.

John Wetherill and his brothers discovered the ancient cities of Mesa Verde. This simply kindled his interest in searching out more ruins. He discovered Betatakin, Inscription House, and Kiet Seel ruins among many other smaller sites. He also discovered Rainbow Bridge although he said that many prospectors had been there first as they left their initials carved into the great arch. In addition, he relayed the fact that most Navajos didn't know about Rainbow Bridge and the guide who took him there was a Paiute Indian by the name of Nasja Begay, later taking an anglo name – Jim Mike.

John Wetherill didn't care much for bargaining in a trading post. He preferred to be out on the trail for a scientific or archeological exploration of ancient sites. He turned over the business details to Clyde Colville and wanted his wife Louisa to manage the Kayenta Lodge.

His health began to fail in 1942 so he went to stay at Long Beach, California for the summer with his brother-in-law, Jim Wade. The next summer, John set out for a lower altitude again, this time he planned to stay with his grand-daughter, Juanita Louise Minkler at her home in Needles, California. He never reached Needles as he died aboard the train at Ash Fork, Arizona on November 30, 1944. John Wetherill was 78 years of age at the time of his death.

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