KAYENTA TODAY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY

JUNE 2007

VISIT US ON THE WEB KAYENTATOWNSHIP.COM

What's Inside

Page 2

Town Managers Report

Page 3

The Red Bull Air Race

Page 5

The Navajo Hopi Motorcycle Run

Page 7

The Kayenta Recreation Park

Town Managers Report

Summer is here and it is time for the outdoors; gardening, cleaning garages, sight seeing and many other outdoors activities.

Here on the Navajo Nation, outdoor is a way of life, whether around the house or out shopping, it's always outdoors and wherever you go, the great outdoor is staring at you. If you did not take a camera, you are missing some great shots! We who live in the country, we don't realize that outdoor living is a luxury that is beyond those who live in the city or in an urban environment.

In the old days, 40, 50, 70 or 100 years ago, Navajo spent most of their lives outdoors, herding sheep, hunting, tending to one's cornfield, it was always the outdoors. When the air was pure and clean, when there was no pollution, when the springs, wells and streams were crystal clear and clean, it was a real healthy life, a healthy environment and the only health problem was an occasional cold or flu.

The wide open country is fast disappearing as result of urban growth and uncontrolled development in rural areas. Where people go, there's pollution, trash and destruction of the scenic areas and contamination of the eco-system.

The Navajoland is still mostly rural and open country, however pollution, trash and contamination is rampant. While every Navajo family protects their land use area, there are very little efforts in taking care of the land. Erosion is widespread; soil erosion is out of control because of overgrazing and using vehicles on the open range. It's unfortunate; it's irresponsible and in many respects its self-destruction. If the land is destroyed, its irreplaceable and barren land cannot support life. The results are the same if you contaminate the land because uncontrolled pollution of the land leads to health problems for humans and animals. This is what is happening throughout the Navajoland, from East and West, from South to North. We are destroying our land, our environment and ultimately ourselves. There are a few who stop and pick up trash and a few who use horses to herd sheep but a few won't save the land or the rest of us.

In Kayenta, many people have started to take their trash to the local transfer station where the waste products are crushed and compacted and transferred to the nearest landfill, which is near Blanding, Utah, some 80 plus miles away. The $2.00 per pick-up truck load charged to the local residents is not enough to pay the cost of hauling waste to a distant landfill. There is no landfill on the Navajo Nation and no one has offered their land for a landfill which has to be at least 50 acres. The cost to Kayenta Township hauling these waste products to the landfill is $4,000.00 per month which does not include the driver's wage.

Many people still don't use the transfer station saying they can't afford the $2.00 fee. If an organization or a community group sponsors a community clean up day, the fee is waived. This spring Dennehotso Chapter sponsored such a day and tons of trash was delivered to the transfer station and the fee was waived. Other groups in the community have done similar things, including the Kayenta Chapter on Earth Day. Kayenta Township Transfer Station also picks up trash in Oljato, Navajo National Monument, Chilchinbeto, and Shonto Chapter all at cost. People from surrounding communities always ask what we are doing for them since they shop and pay tax in Kayenta. We provide these and other services for them and our service will continue to expand to surrounding communities such as Dennehotso and Red Mesa Hospital. The Navajo Nation has waste management truck but the Township has picked up some of their service areas because of Township's lower cost and fees.

There are 110 Chapter Governments in the three state areas of the Four Corners and if they set aside a land for a landfill or a transfer station, then the trash problem might disappear in the next 20 years and if that happens we may very well save our land and our environment. But we must act now and not later.

Dogs and cat problem is also uncontrolled. If you visit a place like Las Vegas, Phoenix, Albuquerque, Denver or Salt Lake City, someone will mention the dog problem on the Navajo Nation. Kayenta Township is working closely with Plateauland Veterinary in Flagstaff through scheduled clinics in Kayenta and other communities in the surrounding areas. Spaying and neutering are the keys to animal control. Kayenta and other communities are the dumping areas for unwanted animals so our efforts have to be continuous in order to stay on top of the problem.

Kayenta with a population of 3,000 residents has similar problems as any other populated area on the Navajo Nation as well as other communities throughout America and beyond. These are problems include: vandalism, break-ins, gang activities, lawlessness. State governments, city governments, and county governments deal with these social ills of our society. It cost precious resources to address these problems.

Recreational activities are very limited on the Navajo Nation and I'm sure on other Indian communities, thus crimes become a big problem. These kinds of social problems are barriers to economic development and is one of the key factors that businesses go elsewhere.
In major cities, commercial enterprises are continuingly looking for new opportunities and the 12 or 13 states in the west, including New Mexico, Arizona and Utah are among where population growth is exploding.

Commercial companies that wish to make some money are moving to these areas. Naturally the Navajo Reservation is in the middle of this area of rapid growth. When they look at the Navajo Reservation, they realize it's made up of a Federal Trust Land. To get more information they usually call their congressman in Washington, D.C. The Congressman or Senator usually refers them to a Congressman whose district includes the Navajo Nation. In New Mexico portion of the Reservation, Congressman Tom Udall or Heather Wilson gets the call. In Arizona, it's Congressman Rick Renzi or Senators John McCain or Jon Kyl. Sometimes, the Governor of the State is called and his or her office staff usually refers the call to the Indian Commission under the State government. Usually, the Congressional office will either answer some of their inquiries but most of the time; the Congressional staff refers them to the BIA in Washington or the Tribal Chairman or President of the Reservation on which a tribe is located. After so many referrals, the businessman or woman is getting discouraged. They go to border communities and the reservation is by passed.

As a state Legislator for 10 years, as a staff person for a congressman in Washington for one year, as a staff assistant to the Navajo Nation Chairman for 12 years, I heard some of their comments: "I get a lot of run around, my questions are not being answered, its more like a third world country than America, maybe it's better I go somewhere else." That is one of the reasons that there is very little economic or commercial development on most Indian reservations including Navajo. With very little development, most of the dollars generated on Indian Reservations immediately leave the reservation and are spent in border town communities. To keep these dollars, we have to develop our land for greater commercial activities.

To keep the young people busy and thereby keeping them off the streets at nights, Kayenta Township has recreational activities and programs. In 2006, Kayenta Township established the first skate park on the Navajo Nation. In 2007, Kayenta Township made an agreement with Kayenta Chapter whereby Kayenta Township rented the former Boys & Girls Club facilities for year round recreational activities for youths, adults and elderly. The facility required a lot of repairs, including plumbing to meet Indian Health Service Environmental Health Standards. Kayenta Township hired a full time recreational director with several part-time staff. Recreational activities include:
1.Summer Baseball League:
June 4-July 14 with T-balls, age 5-7. Minor league, age 8-10. Major league, ages 12
2.Open Basketball:
Ages 12 & up. Team activities & competitions are scheduled daily, weekly.
3.Open Volleyball:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 5 pm -7 pm, all ages.
4.Kung Fu:
Under direction of a Kung Fu instructor, Monday, 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm.
5.Summer Swimming & Lessons
Kayenta Unified School District swimming pool, June 4 - August 3.
6.Adult Lap Swim:
Kayenta Unified School District, Monday-Thursday, 6 am - 8 am.

For more information call Joann Begay, Recreational Leader at 928-697-8487 or Jarvis Williams, 697-8451.

Recreational activities promote good health and develop skills that can lead to a healthy lifestyle throughout one's life.

Kayenta Township staff attends conferences in their specialized area of work. One of the staff attends emergency preparedness workshop in border communities. Three staff members attend housing development seminars in Phoenix every other month. The Economic Planner serves on the Northern Arizona Council of Governments and attends their monthly meetings. The Finance staff attended workshops in Flagstaff, Farmington or Financial computer training in Spanish Fork, Utah at lease twice a year. The Director of Transfer Station attends Waste Management Seminar in Phoenix, Flagstaff or Albuquerque. The Public Relations person publishes Kayenta Today monthly and participates and directs movies on drugs and alcohol abuses, using local talents. Town Commissioners are elected to four year staggered terms and membership consists of five members including one businessman, one mine worker, one utility manager, one grassroot representative and one construction owner.

Kayenta Township government has local authority in business leasing, development of local ordinances and coordinates their activities with the local chapter government, the local school district, the local Indian Health Clinic, NTUA, Community School, Arizona Department of Transportation, Navajo County, Peabody Coal Company, Navajo Nation government, State of Arizona and the various federal and state agencies.

A lot of Township staff activities involve plannings, meetings with Tribal, County, State and Federal agencies on ongoing basis. Every project requires feasibility study, engineering survey, cost estimates, and designs and all of these take time. The Township is advertising for an in house Civil Engineer to speed up some of these projects. The Township is also seeking an in-house Staff Attorney, also to expedite legal documents, policy development and ordinances.

Township Staff confers with other municipal governmental staff in border communities to address many of these local government issues common to all local governments. These kind of consultations offer short-cuts to a workable solution and avoids re-inventing the wheel for each problem.

The public is invited to visit the Kayenta Township, next to the U.S. Post Office in Kayenta or call the Township Administration at (928) 697-8451.

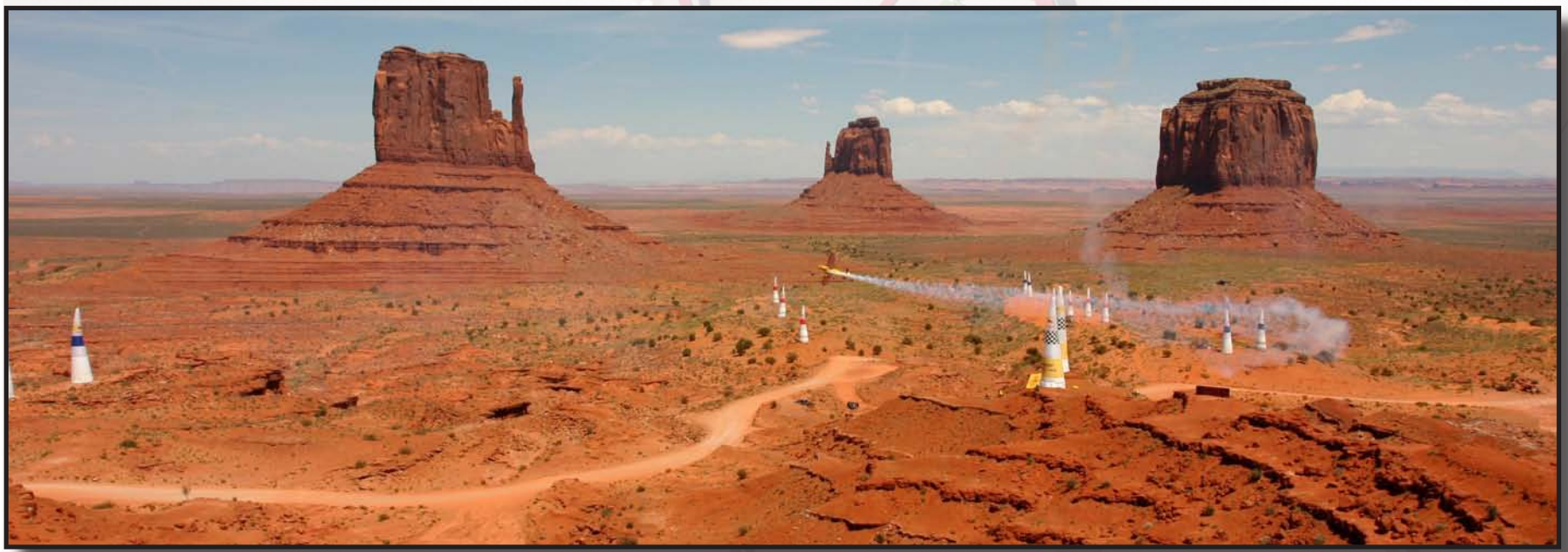
Ha′goo′nee!

Daniel Peaches, Town Manager

Red Bull AIR RACE WORLD SERIES

"This is the coolest thing to happen in Monument Valley since Metallica did their music video here."

- Spectator



The Aircraft Pilots

Klaus Schrodt

Alejandro Maclean

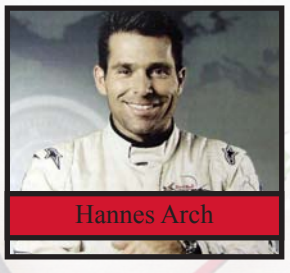
Nicolas Vanoff

Sergey Rakhmanin

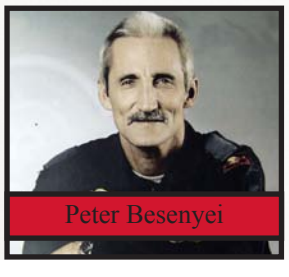
Michael Goulian

Steve Jones

Paul Bonhomme


Hannes Arch

Mike Mangold


Peter Besenyei

Kirby Chambliss

Nigel Lamb

Frank Versteegh

MONUMENT VALLEY, THE NAVAJO NATION - On May 11th and 12th , 2007 the Red Bull Air Race flew into Monument Valley. This huge event brought in thousands of people from all over the world to experience the thrill of professional air racing at its best.

The idea for the Red Bull Air Race was concieved in 2001. The purpose of the race was to develop an air race that wasn't only about speed, but precision and skill had to be key factors in the race as well. In 2003 Red Bull kicked off their air race in Zeltweg, Austria. Six pilots competed in the event in front of thousands of spectators. The race was such a huge success that Red Bull staged another air race that year, this was the catalyst of what is now know as the Red Bull Air Race.

The Monument Valley was the first U.S. stop for the Red Bull Air Race World Series. "We are Pleased to welcome our guests and eager to see the world's most talented pilots competing against the backdrop of Monument Valley's towering sandstone spires and brilliant blue skies." said Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley

Red Bull

RACE TRACK MONUMENT VALLEY

Monument Valley Agriculture Education Program gets recognized as Innovative Program of the Year

The Monument Valley Agriculture Education Program in Kayenta was recognized by the Association of Career and Technical Education Arizona (ACTEAz) as Arizona's Innovative Program of the year. We were notified this past March and were told that our application would be forwarded to Region V to be evaluated against 16 other western states including Alaska. Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota , Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming and 6 providences. On May 4, 2007, we attended the Region V Conference in Prescott where we were honored as the Region's Innovative Program of the Year.

Our application is now being evaluated against the other four Regional winners and we will know in December if we will have the National Award. Being a State winner was a very big honor for me. The Region V award was something I have never even dreamed of and now just being considered as a National winner makes me speechless. We are the first Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program on the Navajo Reservation to receive such honor.

The Veterinary Science part of Agriculture Education program at MVHS is very unique and is also the only Agriculture program in the state that trains students to prepare them for a career in veterinary medicine. I saw the need of these skills in our community and started focusing our program in that direction. In the past 3 years my students have vaccinated thousands of animals and treated hundreds of injured animals. It is awesome to watch students work on an injured animal and watch them grow with confidence as that animal gets better because of their care. This program would not have been successful if it wasn't for all the support we have received from the school, community and the N.A.T.I.V.E. District. From the School Board to the Administrators to the teachers to the students, we are part of a big team. I would also like to thank Second Chance Centers for Animals in Flagstaff for joining our team this year and assisting in the training of our students. They are giving students experience in surgery that they have never had before. This year we had 7 graduates leaving for college to major in Veterinary Medicine. They see the demand here in Kayenta and would like to return home and improve the health of animals here in our community.

KUSD VTE Director Frankie Gilmore (right) and Voc. Ag. Teacher Clyde McBride (left).

Kayenta 4th of July Rodeo

4 Time N.N.R.C.A. Rodeo of the Year

KAYENTA ARIZONA 4TH OF JULY RODEO

Four Night Performances

Wednesday July 4th, 2007	8:00 pm
Thursday July 5th, 2007	7:30 pm
Friday July 6th, 2007	7:30 pm
Friday Morning - Slack	8:00 am
Saturday July 7th, 2007	7:30 pm
(Short Go) Final Performance	

NNRCA REGIONAL RODEO

Events	Limit	Entry Fee	Added Money	Long & Short Go
Bareback	30	$115.00	$1000.00	Top Ten
Saddle Bronc	30	$115.00	$1000.00	Top Ten
Bullriding	60	$115.00	$1000.00	Top Ten
Calf Roping	No Limit	$115.00	$1000.00	Top Ten
Steer Wrestling	No Limit	$115.00	$1000.00	Top Ten
Team Roping	No Limit(2x)	$230.00	$2000.00	Top Ten
Barrel Racing	No Limit	$115.00	$1000.00	Top Ten
Break Away	No Limit	$115.00	$1000.00	Top Ten

Rodeo Stock fee included in entry fee.
Bareback & Saddle Bronc event: If less than 15 entries, a TWO (2) GO ROUND FORMAT will be implemented.
If necessary slack on Friday July 6, 2007 Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Break away, Calf Roping and Barrel Racing.
Saddles will be awarded to event champions

All Around Award - 3 Horse Slant Trailer

Sponsored by Kayenta Burger King / Kayenta Hampton Inn

Trophy Saddles for each event champion
Rough Stock Call In June 25, 2007 : 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Timed Event Call In: June 26, 2007 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Call Backs: June 27, 2007 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Stock Contractor: Casper Baca Rodeo Company - Rough Stock
Willie's Cattle Company - Timed Event
CES Rodeo Secretary: Brenda Harvey (970) 565-2553

Walk In Entry: Sunday, July 01, 2007 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Kayenta Holiday Inn Lobby)

I.J.R.A. RODEO

July 4th 2007 • 8:00 A.M. Sharp
Kayenta Rodeo Grounds

CES: Alfreda Bates & Jackson Craig
(505) 466-1439
Walk In
July 3, 2007 From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Money must be in by July 3, 2007 6:00 p.m.
Saddles To High Point Winner to Cowboy & Cowgirl

JUST MOVE IT

July 4th, 2007 • 6:00 p.m. • Bashas Parking Lot

FREE B-B-QUE

July 5th, 2007 • 5:00 p.m.
Kayenta Rodeo Grounds
Info: Johnny Hollister (928) 697-2234

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Kayenta Rodeo Grounds
July 4th 2007 • 10:00 p.m.
Proudly Sponsored By: Kayenta Township & Kayenta Chapter
July 7th, 2007 • 10:00 p.m.
Proudly Sponsored By: Kayenta Rodeo Task Force Inc.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

17th Tohdenasshai Shelter Home Golf Tournament
Page, Arizona (928) 645-2023

PARADE

July 4th, 2007 • 10:00 a.m. • Starting from Kayenta Fire Dept.

COUNTRY DANCES

Kayenta Field House
9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.
Wednesday July 4th, - STONE COUNTRY
Thursday July 5th, STONE COUNTRY
Friday July 6th - 90/10 Dirt Road Band
Saturday July 7th - Stone Country

POW-WOW

July 6 & 7, 2007 • 8:00 a.m. • SAC Gym

Holiday Inn

HOTEL RATES FOR CONTESTANTS $89.00+Tax
Contestant Will Need To Show Proof for Rates
Kayenta Holiday Inn Official Rodeo Headquarter
For Reservations Call: (928) 697-3221
For More Information:
Call JJ Young at (928) 697-2130 (W) (928) 697-4856 (H)

KAYENTARODEO.COM

DESIGNED BY: MARIO DOMINGUEZ

Rodeo Sponsors Will Not Be Held Liable For any Damages, Accidents, or Theft That Occur Before, During and after the Rodeo.

2007 Navajo - Hopi Honor Run

"RIDING FOR OUR FALLEN WARRIORS - FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

The Navajo Hopi Honor Run was started by Larry Nobel and Bobby Martin to honor the memory of Lori Piestewa. The Run has grown into a huge annual event where the Navajo Hopi honor riders meet up with Operation Carry the Flame riders on their cross country trip to Washington D.C.

This year the Navajo Hopi riders once again came through Kayenta where they were greeted and supported by locals and town leaders. In honor of the riders and their cause, the Kayenta Township and the Kayenta Veterans group held a dinner at the Kayenta Recreation Center for the riders. Ceremonies were also held at the Kayenta Veterans park for those that had fallen. This years Honor Run theme was "Riding for our Fallen Warriors. Freedom is not Free."

2007 NAVAJO – HOPI HONOR RUN

"RIDING FOR OUR FALLEN WARRIORS"

U.S. Army SPC Clint Lamebear – November 16, 2002
U.S. Army SPC Lori Piestewa – April 7, 2003
U.S. Army PFC Sheldon Hawk Eagle – November 15, 2003
U.S. Army SGT Lee Duane Todacheene – April, 6, 2004
U.S. Army PFC Harry N. Shondee, Jr. – August 3, 2004
USMC LCPL Quinn A. Keith – September 6, 2004
USMC CPL Bernice Kaylee Yazzie – November 28, 2004
USMC LCPL Jonathan W. Grant – May 11, 2005
USMC LCPL Kevin B. Joyce – June 25, 2005
U.S. Army CPL Lyle J. Cambridge – July 5, 2005
U.S. Army SGT Marshall A. Westbrook – October 1, 2005
USMC CPL Brett Lee Lundstrom – January 7, 2006
U.S. Army SGT Clifton J. Yazzie – January 20, 2006
USMC Haitak Yerby, Seminole,Choctaw & Muskogee – May 14, 2006
Sgt Christopher Neil Gonzales – May 14, 2007

"FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

21ST CENTURY NAVAJO-ISM

By Ken Whitehair

Opinions herein do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Kayenta Township, it's employees and Commissioners.

What is a responsibility of our elected leaders, those people whom we call Nataanii?

One responsibility is to find danger among our people and begin the hard work to change that danger. And one danger among our people is the use of poison. And that poison is things like drugs, like alcoholic beverages, like marijuana, like meth, and other drugs called whatever. All those are poisons. Those things, are brought onto our land, are not food, not medicine, not taken for any constructive reason, but is given almost freely in order to destroy our society. And our Nataanii bears a tremendous responsibility to point out the danger of these poisons to our people. To do less is irresponsible: To do nothing is criminal.

The poison our people use by drinking is done because of suffering under a delusion--To use drugs is to delude oneself. This delusion, or wrong thinking if it can be called that, brings about a type of spirit that lacks courage, lacks clear thinking, shows a behavior or way of acting that is against our way of living. If living is a religion then using poison is against religion, against living. Because the use of poison is against our way of living, its danger is apparent because it leads to self-destruction, or death. And that death is of the Navajo person, and if continued to more and more Navajo persons, eventually Navajo society stands at risk. And because all our people stand in danger, the Nataanii must speak of this danger, and begin the work to erase delusion.

Our people are encouraged to use poison as a way to deal with living in this world. The picture of fun is shown especially with drinking alcoholic beverages—its fun to be drunk after drinking poison, and that poison is not medicine. Those people who drink poison give no thought of the continued practice of this type of behavior. Those people who drink poison show what is called self-destructive behavior, and self-destructive behavior is not a value of present Navajo society and was never condoned by ancient Navajo society. Navajo males who drink poison place themselves in the chance of having their bodies change; there is a chance the male body will grow female characteristics, like breasts and having female-like fat distribution over the body. The usual aggressive attitude of the male becomes pacified as it were, and becomes apathetic, passive. One could say its ultimate expression is hebetude. A mental disease called psychosis is also an outcome. So, the once real Navajo male who drinks poison is on his way to become 'girlie-man'! The weak male is in process of manufacture. What is temporary fun, in reality is behavior that is self-destructive, with ultimate end of death. Other consequences can be numbered among the family members, by estrangement, poverty, theft, inciting trouble, beginnings of criminal records, school drop-out, hard core unemployed, abuse of spouse, children, and property, et cetera. Because the practice of self-destructive behavior is deadly, the right name must be used when talking about the use of drugs, and that right name is the use of poison.

To my knowledge, no one has lived long, using poison. No one has built a home with proper care for a family while using poison. Only clear-headed, properly motivated, sober, Navajo persons accomplish goals. The use of poison is not really the blame of those Navajo people who still drink poison. The real blame is on those many off-Rez interests who make the poison in the first place: the method they use is mass production in order to sell a product as cheaply and as many, as possible. That answers the question 'Who are the poisoners'? Those companies--made up of people--do not see the end of the products they produce and sell or give to Navajo—or do they?

My contention is it's deliberate to mass produce alcoholic beverages and make those poisons almost freely available to Navajo people. One reason surely is because a drunk Navajo is a poor decision maker. It's easy to rob a drunk Navajo of all their wealth. And it's easy to physically assault a drunk Navajo and come away with no scars. Clearly there are interests against Navajo, against Navajo society. And those interests mean to grab what is left of our lands, our resources, our way of life, to the point where the unique ethnic identification of a solid Dine becomes so invisible that there will be no distinguishable difference between the foreigner and what was, a Navajo person.

Meaning, under the drunk and mentally clouded atmosphere, immoral behavior occurs, and the foreigner uses Navajo as a personal whorehouse. One witness, the Navajo man, stands by and says nothing—with exceptions. The virtue of resilience our people have is under direct attack by non-Navajo interests, who are bent on exploiting Navajo by writing appropriate legislation, setting prices, smuggling, and finding legal loop holes to make sure poison is almost freely available on and near what's left of our land. The political economic environment has a politically acceptable message that it's ok for Navajo to drink poison and be a good, drunk, 'indian'. What appears to have taken shape is like a conspiracy against our people.

Matters of interstate commerce, financing of goods and services, designated zones for manufacturing processes of poison, marketing, eventual retail sales, smuggling, all these elements are under jurisdiction of some government. We can assume the selling of poison is BIG business: meaning, that revenue gained exceeds cost of operation to a large extent that those private companies have stock value that is attractive, and are able to stay in business. Remarkably silent and seemingly anonymous is governments, at whose behest and connivance profit is made. All the while—one marketing area--Navajo society has a high birth rate, a large minor population (age less than 18 years), median age less than 24 years, and overall, a rapidly growing population. Strangely, enough per capita income to entice retail outlets and smugglers to cater to the delusion of some Navajo people irrespective of age, and literally encourage their drinking of poison. On the wild Navajo Indian Reservation there is a 'junkie/pusher' complex, and part of this complex is governments: Navajo Nation government and administration; state government of Arizona; and the federal government especially the Department of Interior housing the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). A true appraisal of their roles within and about the 'junkie/pusher' complex of the industry of selling poison to Navajo is quite beyond the scope of this brief opinion, and I can only bring certain points to the attention of the literate Navajo.

Navajo society joins other ethnic groups, distinct countries the world over, who, upon their 'discovery', also suffered under the imported presence of drugs, covertly done to bring subterfuge against the order of their societies, eventually to rob their wealth. The curious Navajo can find the China experience as bearing on the Navajo experience. Clearly Navajo has its own homeland security issues. The use of poison to undermine Navajo society and Navajo methods to counter such threat to its existence is, I guess, the next 'go round', and will be for me of much interest. I am entirely confident Navajo will prevail!

Then—in the middle of this writing--Navajo Nation Council Delegate Hope LoneTree MacDonald arrived in Kayenta, to attend the dedication of Law Enforcement Memorial, a granite structure placed in Kayenta Veterans' park, holding the names of Navajo Law Enforcement officers who lost their lives in the performance of duty. The Public Safety Committee ChairLady said that funds for the complete construction of the 'supermax' at Kayenta was proceeding, meaning no definitive movement of funds has occurred for the completion of the 'supermax'.

Continued on page 8

KAYENTA RECREATION PARK ONLY GETTING BETTER

"This is the best skate park in Arizona compared to others throughout the state. I would move here just to ride if I could find a job!" stated Kevin McEwen, a visitor from Yuma, Arizona about the recently created Skate Park provided to the young citizens of Kayenta. This is one of the many compliments that encourages the Kayenta Township's continual progression in developing and expanding a recreational area by the Recreation Center (Field house).

The first phase of this recreational "oasis" as shared by Anthony Peterman, the Project Manager at the Kayenta Township Office, is to add the junior skating ramps to the main skate park, which will then provide an area for the newly purchased picnic tables and Super Park/ Standard Grill's that will ideally provide an area for the Kayenta residents a family atmosphere. In addition to the expansion of the Skate Park there will be the creation of the Mega Tower Playground, a $150,000 investment that will occupy the attention of those twelve and up with its three storied, multi-purposed; slides, monkey bars, jungle gym, etc., attraction that is to be completed by July 4th and obtain its formal recognition in mid August.

Among several of the previously mentioned projects of the first phase an addition to the stages is the second phase, which is the creation of the basketball/volleyball court and the baseball field that will be completed to accent the already existing walking trail that exists around the futuristic recreational area. The walking trail provides an area for citizens to maintain and obtain their health with miniature exercise stations to increase strength and energy through jump-up, sit-up, balance beam, body curl, chin-up, horizontal ladder, step-up, vertical climb, parallel bars, leg lift stations, etc. This will provide an environment that will hopefully enhance the decrease of Diabetes effecting majority of the Navajo people on the reservation.

However this will only collaborate with what the Kayenta Township hopes will be the creation of the newly proposed Special Diabetes Wellness Center, (a replica of the pre-existing Window Rock Wellness Center) that will provide those ranging from the age of fourteen on up an environment primarily devoted to the enhancement of their health. The Special Diabetes Wellness Center will consist of exercise equipment ranging from treadmills to bikes, spinning to dance classes (varying on the talents of local community members) at a cost that will be realistic to Kayenta community members.

Lastly, as previously referred to as the third phase, this "oasis" will provide a welcoming environment through its landscaping of drinking fountains, stage, and trees. With the various projects of the Kayenta Township, it's unique to witness the admiration they have in investing in the younger generation.

New Bus Driver Training July 2 - 12, 2007

New bus driver training is for two weeks starting on July 2 through to July 12, 2007. The training is geared towards school bus drivers and their requirements or if you are in the process becoming a new bus driver, or if you are a veteran driver needing to update your current certificate or just want more training. The training will be as follows;

Monday, July 2, 2007 – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm:
Overview of the Commercial Driver's License;
Types of class, endorsements and restrictions
types of test you will need
Process of MVD
Review of Arizona Commercial Driver's License Manuel

Tuesday, July 3, 2007 – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Continue CDL overview
CDL Test (tentative until confirmed)

Wednesday, July 4th – NO CLASS

Thursday & Friday, July 5 & 6, 2007 - 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
DPS School Bus Driver Certification process
Arizona Minimum Standards – a requirement for school bus certifications.

Monday, July 9, 2007 – 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Conducting a proper Pre-trip Inspection
Hands on inspections on school buses

Tuesday, July 10, 2007 – 8:00 am to 5 pm
School Bus Evacuations for all types of school buses
Agility Testing – a requirement for school bus certifications

Wednesday, July 11, 2007 – 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Transporting Special Needs
Duties for Bus Monitors

Thursday, July 12, 2007 – 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
School Bus driver testing
Basic Skills practice for CDL temp. permit holders
recap of class/Q's & A's
Evaluation

The fee is $50.00 a person; whether you are attending a class for one day or for the entire two weeks. A payment for training is accepted in form of cash, money orders and or Purchase Orders. Due to the overwhelming response, the deadline to pay for the class is June 15, 2007. Thereafter, all individuals on the waiting will have the opportunity to attend.

If you have further questions, call the Kayenta Transportation Department at (928) 697-2121.

Continued from page 6

It was necessary to discuss the role of the BIA and their relationship to structures like jails, and their attitude regarding financing of activities on Navajo. Since Navajo Nation undertook the construction of jails, it was now the considered opinion of BIA to behave as though Navajo Nation had also assumed all expenses incurred with construction and management of law enforcement property (also called operational costs). The BIA, very incorrectly, assumes those expense items associated with real property on Navajo, such as jails, was outside their purview and thus have not provided funds for construction completion or future operational costs.

Another finding related to me was during a recent review by Navajo Nation government and administration about the finance of BIA 638 contract regarding law enforcement, that the amount of carry-over fund (the fund gained from the prior year which was not spent and is placed in the current fiscal year) available to Navajo Nation in 2007 exceeded the amount granted under the contract. The carry-over amount was greater than 20 million dollars and this resulted from several previous years! Certainly this might represent mismanagement--financial mismanagement to be exact--on the part of managers, who are the tribal bureaucrats of Navajo Nation government and administration.

What are the consequences? Any argument presented to BIA will fall on deaf ears because BIA's position will be Navajo Nation has adequate funds from which to meet obligations during management of Law Enforcement department, assuming costs do not experience a significant increase. This places Navajo Nation's Public Safety committee in a difficult position. One reluctant conclusion is BIA will not support additional funds to Navajo Nation for construction of needed jails. The same applies to increased operational costs for those enlarged jails. The resolution of these problems does not appear likely in the near horizon.

Other items were discussed, such as the likelihood of a lawsuit. About three years ago a lawsuit was attempted, but then Attorney General, L. Denetsosie accomplished no action. Now, a lawsuit was ruled as unlikely as some councilmen fear disrupting the McCain presidential bid. But the possibility exists.

The regulatory roles of Indian Health Service (HIS) and BIA have conflicted with the present Navajo Nation law enforcement institutions, and this needs clarification, to get at new jails. Obviously role clarification is needed.

Another odd fact told me was that there were about 44,000 arrests for—I assume--last year, and exactly 10 beds met this! Lets assume that exactly 10 arrests required a stay of at least 24 hours, which, I like to think, requires a bed, so what proportion of those arrested got a bed? Ok, 10/44000 is roughly .02%. I realize the individual person arrested may have been arrested more than once, but this gives some indication of poor quality of care given at the friendly local jail. The chance is pretty good the arrest population will be sleeping on concrete, I guess. Another ten beds were added resulting in a grand total of 20 beds, available to those arrested on Navajo. One has to wonder, do the Navajo arrest population think 'will there be a bed for me in jail?'

Another answer to a question was it's true that a Navajo individual, or a local government like Township or Chapter, cannot sue Navajo Nation government and administration, yet it may be possible! (Imagine: can't sue! No accountability! Above the law!)

Council Delegate Hope LoneTree MacDonald said Kayenta Township's work on the new law enforcement complex was well in advance of other projects. The overall cost of construction will be about three million dollars with floor space exceeding two thousand square feet. The future operational costs, if undertaken by Township, may be untenable. The Navajo Nation 638 contract with BIA has the likelihood to include future operational costs and to hold BIA accountable.

One implication from the Council Delegate interview of the reluctance of BIA to invest in jail construction, also means to not invest in infrastructure, which results in keeping Navajo impoverished. So, the perception that says the Department of Interior's business is poverty is not incorrect.

Lastly, the Council Delegate Hope Lonetree MacDonald unplanned interview also revealed that she was related to many families throughout southern Utah, and the nearby canyons. Council Delegate Hope Lonetree MacDonald is of the Blackwater family.

As can be seen from this odd digression from a brief interview with the Council Delegate, the behavior of drinking poison does have real, financial, implications. The Navajo men and women who use poison, appear without care for themselves, and seem to expect others to care for them: In other words, dependent Navajo men and women. And, money spent on their habits could easily be spent on other necessary, useful items, such as job creation.

The role of Township is multi-disciplinary in this area. One is construction of a better facility. Another is appropriate municipal ordnances, appropriate to the needs of the population, and their enforcement, adjudication, remedies, authority of law enforcement officers, etc. Another area is health care, which is extensive and quite beyond the scope of this small opinion. Township has arrived at a position where finding solutions to problems is not just an idea, but has real consequences. In fact, how ineffective the current method of addressing alcoholism can be asked, and solutions attempted, which means experimentation by a health department quite outside of Navajo Nation Division of Health and IHS. This attitude is reasonable and fits well with Township initiatives.

NEW AD RATES!!

The "Kayenta Today" has reduced its rates for affordable ad placement. Our monthly publication is widely distributed across Navajo land and read by thousands of people!

OUR RATES

Color Full: $300.00	B&W Full: $200.00
Color Half: $150.00	B&W Half: $100.00
Quarter: $75.00	Quarter: $50.00

All ads must be 225 dpi, CMYK, JPG, TIFF, or PDF.
Ad design available at an additional cost.

FULL PAGE 13.5" X 11.5"

FULL PAGE VETRTICAL 13.5" X 5.75"

HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL 11.5" X 6.75"

QUARTER PAGE 6.75" X 5.75"

To place your ad or for more information:

THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP
P.O. BOX 1490
KAYENTA, AZ 86033
(928) 697-8451
E-mail
sdelarosa@kayentatownship.com

The Monument Valley Film Festival becomes part of Kayentas 4th of July Celebration

The first week of July will be quite busy for Kayenta, not only will the community have the Annual 4th of July Rodeo, but the community will also be treated to the Monument Valley Film Festival. The film festival will feature films written, directed, and produced by Native Americans. This will be the first film festival of its kind to be held in Kayenta and the only one on the Navajo Nation.

The festival is sponsored by Sheephead Films of Kayenta and is free to the public. The purpose of the film festival is to show people the variety of Native films out there and the talent of Native film makers Nationwide.

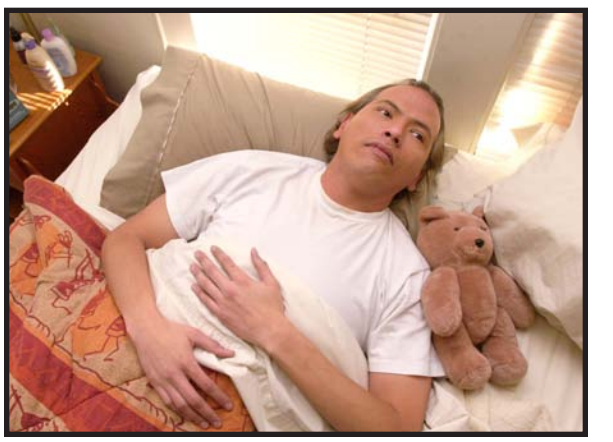
The film festival will be feature a number of full feature films such as "5th World" by Larry Blackhorse Lowe, "Imprint" by Michael Linn, "Sleepdancer" by Rod Pocowatchit and "Mile Post 398" from Sheephead Films. Many youth films will also be featured and a good number of documentary films.

Among some of the submissions to film festival are some amazing shorts such as "Conversion" by Nonaba Becker, "Share the Wealth" by Bennie Klain, "Gesture Down" by Cedar Sherbert and many more.

Many of the films featured at the film festivals are award winning films from festivals such as the Sundance Film Festival and the American Indian Film Festival. Some films are from first time film makers that want to show their work for the first time. Much of these films have never had the opportunity be screened on the Navajo Nation until now.

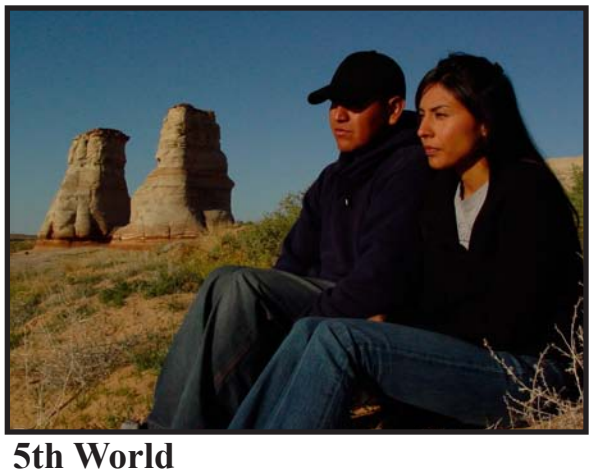
The Monument Valley Film Festival will run from July 6th to the 8th and will begin at 9:00AM and end at 11:00PM each day at the Monument Valley High School Student Activity Center. All screenings are free to the public. For more information please call (928) 697-3033 or (928) 606-7248. You may also visit the official web site also and view the complete film schedule at www.monumentvalleyfilmfest.com

Imprint
Directed by Michael Linn



Sleepdancer
Directed by Rod Pocowatchit

Mile Post 398
From Sheephead Films



5th World
Directed by Larry Blackhorse Lowe

Kayentas Airport Filled to Capacity

During the Red Bull Air Race in May, the Kayenta Airport had an overflow of aircraft from around the country. The Employees of Eagle Air Med volunteered their time to coordinate the parking of the aircraft during the race.

As aircraft landed Eagle Air Med personnel were on hand to guide the pilots in the parking of their aircraft. The coordinated efforts of the employees of Eagle Air Med made the airport safe and secure and no mishaps were reported. It was estimated that there were over eighty-five aircraft parked at the Kayenta Airport.

An Ariel view of the Kayenta Airport during the Red Bull Air Race. Photo: Dan Mills, Eagle Air Med

Project Pride Tackles Trash Problem in Kayenta

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- On a Sunday morning, April 22 the student-based group, Project Pride, took to the streets of Kayenta to tackle one of the biggest problems on the reservation, trash. As many of us already know, trash is a continuous issue for many of the reservation communities. Driving through places like Kayenta, Chinle or Shiprock can be unappealing to the eye with all the trash that is littered throughout the town and if no one takes the initiative to pick-up the trash the community can gain a negative perception from visitors or other residents.

"It just looks bad when visitors tell us that when they drive through the reservation it is one of the dirtiest areas, so that's when I decided to bring back the community clean-up", recalled Jarvis Williams, Project Pride Director and Community Involvement Coordinator for the Kayenta Township, when asked why he started Project Pride. "Community clean-ups were conducted when I was a kid, the schools would bus everyone to areas around town and the kids would pick up trash for a few hours, that really stuck in my mind. So, when I returned to Kayenta and saw the trash, I decided to create a group that would address the issue and that's when Project Pride was created."

For the last four years the Project Pride group has decided to take the challenge and begin to clean-up the community. Kim Crank, a senior and returning project coordinator, has been one of the most loyal volunteers contributing her time, ideas, and the use of her family's truck. "She's attended all the meetings and found time in her busy senior schedule to contribute to her community, I don't know how she does it but she manages to be here," said Jarvis Williams.

This year the members of Project Pride decided to increase the amount of activities for everyone to be involved in. In one of the planning meetings the students decided to set goals for this year's activity, one of them was to increase participation. One idea that was initiated was an art contest at the local school to help design this year's Project Pride t-shirt, which was given to the students of Kayenta Intermediate School.

The winner of the contest would have their drawing placed on the t-shirt for the event. Using the theme "Let's Get Together and Help Each Other Clean-Up the Community", a young 5th grader named Clay Young submitted his colorful drawing and was selected as the winner. He was given a shirt and a skateboard for his efforts towards the design of the t-shirt.

In another activity, the Kayenta Township Transfer Station decided to waive the fees for Thursday and Friday if they picked up trash within the community. Cecelia Nez, Kayenta Chapter Community Services Coordinator, suggested the idea in hopes of creating more participation. She also added that we needed to identify funds for events like this and to write grants to assist in the cost of bins.

Bill Cly, Public Works Director for the Kayenta Township, enthusiastically responded to the idea, "Let's go ahead, let's help them out!"

When all was said and done, the volunteers had picked nearly enough trash to fill a 40-cubic yard bin, according to Virgil Dalton, Kayenta Township Maintenance Supervisor, "With all the loads that were brought in by our trash truck and the flat bed, there were probably enough trash bags to fill one of our big bins."

In the future, the group plans to expand to include the surrounding communities, such as Shonto, Oljato, Dennehotso, etc and provide more educational information about solid waste. This year's volunteers were very motivated and enthusiastic about cleaning up their community.

We appreciate their involvement and hope that they continue to care about what kind of community they live in. The Project Pride group would also like to thank the following groups for their participation:

Kayenta Chiropractic Clinic
United Mine Workers Association(UMWA)
Kayenta Burger King
Kayenta Hampton Inn
Wells Fargo
Holiday Inn
Kayenta Trading Post
Tohdennshai Trading Co.
Mario Dominguez
Navajo Westerners True Value
Office of Environmental Health
Kayenta Chapter
Mine Safety Health Administration(MSHA)
Kayenta Township
Video Plus
Kayenta Work Force Development
Kayenta Volunteer Fire Department
National Honor Society
Cancer Center of Flagstaff

Project Pride is in its fourth year and is always striving to become better each year.

The Hampton Inn of Kayenta

Shop the Kayenta Trading Company

Dine in the Reuben Heflin Restaurant

Call (928) 697-3170 for Reservations and Information

Kayenta Burger King, The Largest Navajo Code Talkers Exhibit in the USA

BURGER KING™

It Just Tastes Better!

Four Locations to Serve You

Kayenta - Chinle - Shiprock - Burnside Juction

Monument Valley *Film* Festival

July 6 -8 2007

Monument Valley High School SAC
Kayenta. AZ
9:00am - 11:00 pm Daily - Free Admission

www.monumentvalleyfilmfest.com