



**Protection Bull Fighting**  
Page 7

# THE KAYENTA TODAY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY  
A Free Publication from the Kayenta Township



**Local Road Improvement**  
Pages 4 and 6

Fall 2009

WWW.KAYENTATOWNSHIP.NET



## New GPS Equipment Boosts Survey Work For Kayenta

By Malcolm Benally

After the Kayenta Township Commission approved the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 budget, the Community Development Department invested in and purchased a Topcon brand Global Positioning System in August. The \$50,000 GPS system was purchased from Holmans, a vendors and technical assistance outfit based in Tempe, Arizona. Holmans provided the necessary training for use of the equipment for the Community Development and Engineering Staff.

In early August, Don Jackson, Civil Engineering, Milton Crank, Civil Engineering Assistant, and Antonio Angala, Student Intern went out into the field to begin surveying within the Kayenta Township boundaries. As their first order of business with the new equipment in hand,  
**Continued on page 5**

## Kayenta Breaks Ground for New Hospital

By Malcom Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – The new Kayenta Health Center will be the future, in how hospitals will be built on the Navajo reservation. This was the affirmative message the crowd of just a little over 200 heard from Mr. McSwain, Deputy Director of Indian Health Service Office of Management of Operations at the Groundbreaking ceremony late Wednesday morning on September 02, 2009 at the site of the future Kayenta Health Center.

The new Kayenta Health Center entrance will face the east like the entrance of a traditional Navajo Hogan. The entrance to the hospital and main lobby area will feature a wellness center. The hospital will also have a day surgery, a 10-bed short stay, a drive-in pharmacy, a CAT scan facility, and a birthing unit. To the first loud applause, Helen Bonnaha said, to honor the wishes of the late Joe Billy Clitso, “The new hospital will have an elevator.”

As the crowd awaited the arrival of dignitaries from Window Rock, AZ, Washington D.C., Dallas, TX, and throughout the state of Arizona, Town Manager Jarvis Williams kept the crowd entertained. It was just past 10



**The official groundbreaking for Kayenta’s new hospital.**

a.m. but the registration line for event participants still spilled onto the parking area, as the crowd sat under an 8,000 square feet tent. “Don’t forget to visit the town Market on Wednesdays. It’s a great place to taste local foods,” he said.

When the crowd finally settled, the Kayenta Veteran’s performed the ceremonial Posting of Colors. Traditional flutist Tano Haycock from Monument Valley and Dr. Kristen Burkholder, MD did a rendition of the “Star Spangled Banner” to begin the days pro-

ceedings for the Groundbreaking.

The project planning for the Kayenta Health Center began in 1990 and “by the end of the year 2012 we will be able to serve over 75,000 per year at the new hospital,” said the Executive Director of the Navajo Division of Health Anselm Roanhorse, who while speaking caught himself calling Kayenta by its nickname “K-town” and reminisced a bit about the good old days. In addition to working in the health field, it turns out Mr. Roanhorse spent some of his rodeo days in K-town

**Continued on page 3**

## Recession Takes Its Toll On Community Businesses

By Malcom Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – Although local road improvements have brought some heavy business activity to Kayenta lately, information has come forth that several local businesses are still feeling the pinch of the recession. At the Kayenta Town Hall meeting on Monday, August 13, 2009, the hot  
**Continued on page 4**



# 2 Town Managers Message

By Jarvis Williams

## Is Kayenta Recession-Resistant?

Tough times test the resiliency of an organization and it is those times that reveal the character of the organization and its employees. The Kayenta Township has seen its fair share of tough times over the last few years and has managed to progress despite the challenges it has encountered.

It has been over a year since it was announced that the United States was in a recession. I found that recessions can result from all sorts of reasons. In this case, the recession is linked with the housing market crash. That has resulted in difficult economic times reaching to all corners of the world including Kayenta.

We knew large cities, such as, Phoenix and Las Vegas had been hit the hardest simply because they had developed housing at a much faster pace than the rest of the nation. In fact, both Las Vegas and Phoenix had ranked amongst the top ten fastest growing cities in the nation.

With all this discussion on the recession I wanted to shed some light on how well Kayenta Township is doing during these tough economic times. How would Kayenta be impacted by the recession? When would we see the effects on the businesses, people, schools, and community services?

## So how well is Kayenta Township doing in this recession?

First of all, I knew that Kayenta didn't have any new homes that sold on the market but I do know that there were many construction workers that had come back home to Kayenta that helped in all aspects of the construction industry across the nation.

Initially, the skilled labor force and some professional positions were hit the hardest as housing construction stopped abruptly forcing those workers to seek work elsewhere or return home. As a result of the slowing economy the shortage in funding spread to other positions in education, retail, and eventually government.

It was initially reported that small towns with populations under 50,000 may be more recession-resistant than some of the larger cities. According to an October 14, 2008 article by Prashant Gopal of Business Week, it was mentioned that small towns that had a strong presence of healthcare, education, energy and government (federal) would be in the best position to resist the recession and maintain a healthy economy.

To answer the question about the how Kayenta Township is doing would have to be answered in terms of the last fiscal year and this current one.

## Fiscal Year 08/09

For FY 08/09, the Township's revenue exceeded the projections by nearly 15% which is very good considering the state of the economy. The Sales Tax met revenue projections while construction tax and lease revenue exceeded their projections.

The last six months of the fiscal year (January 09 to May 09) saw several internal changes and additions that will reveal its impact during the first half of the FY 09/10.

Five businesses; Urban Trendz, NAPA Auto Parts, Golden Rice Bowl, K-Town Pizzeria and Subway, opened their doors in the Kayenta community to offer a variety of services from food to hair styling to automotive parts. All of which currently contribute tax revenues to the organization. Radio Shack moved into its own building following the closure of the Trading Post and continued to operate in its new location.

The recreation park saw some improvements with the addition of the grand entry and the sign for the park. Additionally, the design for projects such as Road N591, 3.4 mile bus route, detention center and police department were completed allowing the administration to proceed with either the search for funds or proceed with construction.

The Kayenta Animal Shelter began construction and is slated to finish before the end of the 2009 calendar year.

The \$6.8 million reconstruction of the Kayenta Airport was also completed. In addition to moving forward with the construction projects, the administration and Commission were meeting to strategize on the goals for the next fiscal year.

## Fiscal Year 09/10

Although, there was success with FY 08/09 the FY 09/10 budget projections were conservative given the current economic conditions. We also wanted to retain the flexibility to modify the budget based on our recent completion of the strategic plan if the economic conditions worsen.

Following our strategic plan while maintaining the flexibility will supply the information needed for good decision-making for the organization.

## Strategic Planning

Over the last few months the administration and elected leadership have met to discuss the future of the community and discuss how we can improve the community using strategic planning. The Township recently passed the FY 09/10 Budget with a strong emphasis on Community Development.

The cost is reflected in the FY09/10 Budget with 21% of the general fund budget devoted for community development and 41% of the overall budget for capital projects and outlay.

Completion of the Master Plan, an updated drainage study, design for southern quadrant of Kayenta, community improvement projects, and an upgrade in engineering technology are items that are part of the strategic plan.

In addition to these items, the planned purchase from capital outlay of a motor grader for the town would increase the organization's capability to maintain its own roads.

Strategic planning was used as a guide to determine the priorities for resource allocation. As a result, goals and objectives will be used to ensure progress.

The planning was divided into 5 categories; Commercial Development, Residential Development, Intergovernmental Relations, Community Services, and Administration.

Each category served a specific purpose for the organization. For example, Intergovernmental Relations relates to the communication and dialogue that the Township needs to have in order for the projects or to have the laws clarified.

Community Services deals with those aspects of what the Township can offer to the community. For example, animal control has always been an issue in the community and with strategic planning we would be able to determine how much of a priority that is and that would determine how much effort we would devote to accomplishing that particular item.

Housing continues to be a challenge for a growing community like Kayenta. In Kayenta, the ability to select from a variety of housing is limited and is something that the Commissioners would like to change. In addition, as Kayenta grows the need for homes available for purchase grows as well.

The fact that homeownership provides a sense of investment as well as financial security it is important to the future of Kayenta as the increased development will surely attract business owners that want a return on their investments that include housing.

## Local Economic Woes

However, in the last few weeks we've seen the closure of Radio Shack and the voluntary filing of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy of Bashas, Inc.

These events signal that Kayenta is not recession-resistant. Initially, it seemed that since we did not have any housing that was part of the housing crash that Kayenta was somewhat insulated from the recession. But as it turns out Kayenta is indeed affected as we have seen more people hold on to their pocketbooks and reduce their spending on certain items.

The trend follows what most Americans are doing. For the Township, the impact will be seen in the tax revenues. Although, we collect other forms of revenue the sales tax constitutes 62% of the general funds.

How much impact remains to be seen as Bashas, Inc. has just started the process and has mentioned that they will compensate their creditors so it's just a question of when. Like many other cities Kayenta's local government depends on the tax revenue. Town projects and the operation are paid with these funds for the continued operation of the township.

We have a population of a nearly 5,000 within the town boundaries but Kayenta probably sees more than 9,000 everyday as it has become the economic center of the region. Our annual sales tax revenue averages around \$1.9 million and combined with other sources of revenue that number climbs to \$2.9 million.

It seems that the recession revealed cities that had incurred a lot of debt for city projects were struggling since the funds needed to pay the loan came



from taxes. Fewer taxes meant less revenue to pay the debt. Fortunately, for Kayenta Township our debt is very manageable however any event that threatens the revenue is something we will certainly take interest in.

## What can we do about it?

The first thing we can do is continue to support our local businesses and try to do our best to keep our dollars local simply because by doing that we strengthen our local economy and possibly allow for those businesses to expand. Keep in mind that 76% of new jobs and capital investment will come from existing businesses, according to the Arizona Business Retention and Expansion Council.

One of the most significant findings regarding this recession is the fact that there is still a large stream of revenue that flows off the reservation to the border towns. I'm guilty of it I'll admit it but I still try my best to continue to support the local businesses as much as I can.

The 2005-2006 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy of the Navajo Nation by Trib Choudhary mentioned that \$.70 of every dollar made on the reservation flows off the reservation. Localizing that number would look something like this, a recent survey of 300 people in Kayenta revealed that at least half of them visit the border towns at least twice a month spending \$200 to \$400 per visit. That is a lot of money!

This is important information as it speaks to the buying power of Navajo people. The border towns and their businesses have realized the buying power of Navajo people and taken measures to accommodate the additional revenue.

For example, a couple of Daily Times articles (08/06/09 & 08/09/09) mentioned that the City of Farmington was doing well despite the recession. The oil and gas industry decreased by 14% but the gross receipt taxes saw \$401,000 increase. In addition, the last time the City of Farmington experienced a decrease in gross receipt taxes was in 2004.

The understanding that I have is that we are still spending our money in the border towns but imagine if we spent a little more money on the reservation we would be able to support the local businesses that support our communities and increase the possibilities of improving economic development.

If there is anything that you take away from this bit information is that the town of Kayenta is standing strong in the face of the recession and is working hard to expand the economic options of our own people in order to improve the services that are provided at the local level.

## Continued from page 1

Helen Bonnaha, Kayenta Alternative Rural Health Steering Committee Chair and Kayenta Township Commissioner who received the most accolades for all her work and advocacy at the Groundbreaking ceremony, provided the Welcome Address. “I don’t know if I should scream, yell, or cry. For many years, this was a day I could only visualize was going to happen,” she said. “Through my many years as a health board member and then advocating for this hospital, I learned a lot about what we’re doing and what we’re doing without.” Then she remembered the enthusiasm the community has always shown throughout time, and ended with the words of Joe B. Clitso and John Nix, long time steering committee members, who always reminded people at meetings that: “We don’t want a hospital where people go to die.” The Madame Chair went on to note that the hospital was built upon the wishes and needs of the community as a place to go and get well.

Along with the new features that are planned for the facility, the Kayenta Health Center will also be the first public health facility to become LEED Certified with a Silver certification. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a rating system designed by United States Green Building Council to evaluate the environmental performance of a building and encourage market transformation towards sustainable design. The \$150 million dollar project is scheduled to take 3-years and will include 129 staff housing for non-local professionals.

Linda White, Indian Health Service CEO for the Kayenta Service Unit said that she has been on staff at Kayenta for the past 16 years. “The things we agreed on for this project, we agreed on for this community,” she said. And as a service provider for the Kayenta Service Unit, her main goals are to provide faster service, reduce waiting time, and have better parking for patients. “As we move from paper to dirt to steel, we raise the expectations of the entire community,” she said.



**Front L-R: Lillian Smith, Helen Bonaha, Evelyn Bradley, Alyce Yazzie, Pearlina Sullivan-Austin. Rear L-R: Glenna Manymules, Linda White, Harry Martin, Elwood Saganey, Patricia Watchman, Roy Laughter, Jarvis Williams**



**Helen Bonaha addresses the audience at the groundbreaking ceremony.**

The Kayenta Clinic that is now in operation turned 50 years old in April 2009. Although the clinic has grown throughout the years, it was never really able to provide quality services to meet the needs and demands of the community, said the CEO. “But, now with the promise of this new state of the art facility, the future is bright. And like a lot of people who spoke here today, I would really like to encourage the youth to consider a career in the health care profession,” she said.

As an added gesture to the community, the National Honor Society students from Monument Valley High School dressed in their traditional Navajo garb and served as Ushers for the event.

The speakers in the health industry reminded the hometown crowd that the new hospital promises to boost

the local economy. Along with the new hospital, Kayenta will soon be welcoming a population of health care professionals who will become part of the community. Area Director, John Hubbard said, “The human spirit this community has displayed through time has been tireless, and has made this project a reality,” he said.

Then, Mr. Hubbard said that when he showed up this morning, he asked where the hospital would be. He said he was told he was standing in the emergency room, to much laughter and applause.

Flintco, Inc., the largest Native American owned contractor in the world will be the company that will build the hospital and the 129 staff housing units for non-local professionals.



**The community looks on for the groundbreaking ceremony.**



**Groundbreaking shovels await the ceremony.**

## Recession continued from page 1

topic of conversation was Southwest grocery giant Bashas' filings for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and a re-organization schedule.

The problem for Bashas' is the performance of its grocery store chains in the Phoenix area and in several towns throughout Arizona. With over 130 stores in Arizona, 14 Bashas stores are scheduled to be closed down by October 2009. In an August press release by Chief Operations Officer, Mike Proulx says, "The decisions we're making (as part of our restructuring process) aren't being made lightly. We're a people-centered company, but we have to make smart business decisions. We're here for the long haul, and we will rebound. Moving forward, we'll be concentrating our energies and our capital on improving our more than 130 stores in Arizona."

One of the closer Bashas' Supermarkets, in Page, AZ, closed its doors in July 2009. Another in Winslow, Arizona is also closed down. A Chapter 11 Bankruptcy filing allows a business to receive protection from its creditors by law. Since the filing, the local media such as the Gallup Independent and the Navajo Times has reported that they don't anticipate any Bashas' closures on the Navajo reservation.

Township officials took a recent trip to Phoenix to meet with the grocery store's management team as they sought a schedule to reorganize in lieu of its filing Chapter 11 in the Arizona courts. Town Manager, Jarvis Williams attended the court proceedings with his finance department to take a look at the risks for the Kayenta Bashas' store. "The grocery store here is one of the busiest on the Navajo reservation," he said. "They reassured us that business will continue as usual."



After looking into recent activities in its account receivable files after the Bashas' alert, the Township Finance Department found a significant amount of businesses who are in default and not paying their sales taxes, as they should. The most pressing case was one in default for over 32-months.

This was a part of the new Finance Director's report. If the Township can reduce, or bring closure to, its outstanding account receivables, several crucial projects can be realized in a short time. Other recommendations to increase revenue for Capital Improvement Projects was to go after the Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT tax) and pass a Kayenta Township ordinance to serve and tax wine and spirits in several local restaurant establishments.

Sylvia Yazzie gave a list of ways in which the Township can address the threats of revenue loss in the next quarter. Some of these active monies accounts can go back into our much needed Capital Improvement Projects, she said. Compliance issues, she said, was a major factor in addressing the discrepancies found in the Township's accounts receivables department. She urged her department heads to look at ways to bring in the businesses that are not in compliance with the sales tax and leasing ordinances, and find solutions.

Other ways the Township can take a pro-active approach and realize a steady stream of revenue flow into its capital improvement projects include: 1) No More Fee Waivers - charging facility use fees for all activities and meetings at the Kayenta Recreation Center and the Town Hall meeting room; and 2) increasing the fees at the transfer station. To find a time line in addressing ongoing project budgets, the Township has scheduled several upcoming meetings and work sessions for September.

The monthly Town Hall meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 08, 2009. For more information on the Bashas Chapter 11 Bankruptcy filing, please visit [www.bashas.com](http://www.bashas.com) and visit the Bashas restructuring link on its home page.

## Township Takes The Lead In Several Road Work Projects

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ - The Kayenta Township and the Kayenta Unified School District #27 took an active role in repairing a buckle on the road that was reported about a week and a half ago as a road hazard. The buckle in the road happened on the main entrance and bus route road that winds through the NHA housing on Wetherill Heights.

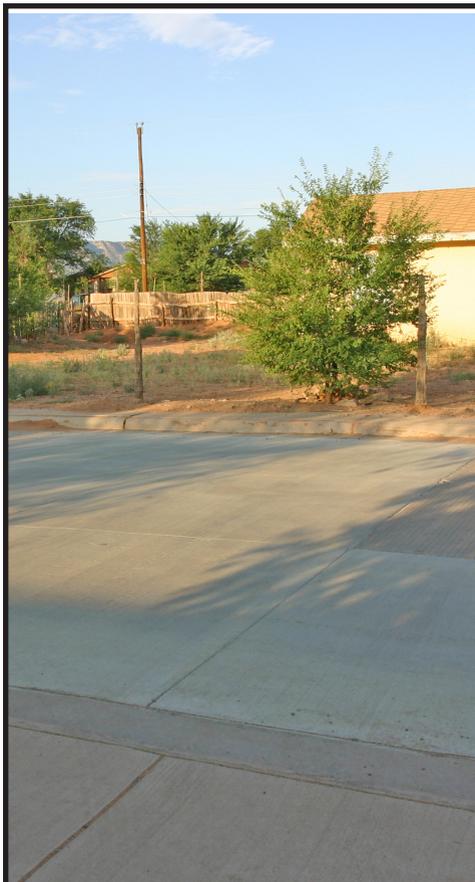
Construction and repair work began on Wednesday, July 29, 2009, and the repairs in the road were completely by Friday, July 31, 2009 just in time for a safe school bus route as school began in early August. The damaged concrete road was removed with a KUSD #27 Haul Truck. The construction crew from the Kayenta Township repaired the road thereafter by laying down a layer of concrete for the road.



**Township workers worked throughout the day removing the damaged section of the road.**



**The major buckle in the road at the NHA Housing area before repairs were done.**



**The completed road repair.**

For weeks, the public and local residents had to detour themselves around the damaged road. Someone used a rusty orange spray paint to write "BUMP" on the slab of concrete from both sides of the road where the concrete was sticking up.

Although there have been reports that the NHA road itself is sliding, and that there were recent after-shocks from seismic activity in the earth, the causes are likely to have been caused by heat and expansion.

Now, the road is back to normal and anyone driving in the area will never know there was once a huge crack on the street at one time and that everyone who drove by Wetherill Heights NHA roads took a look at a major road hazard and detoured. The total costs for repairing the buckle in the road was \$2,300.00.

Continued from page 1

the group began surveying a site for the Indian Health Services to set up and place a water tank for scattered homes in adjacent communities. Then the Township staff staked out another site – an off-site construction area for the new hospital for Flintco, Inc., the construction company that will build the new hospital just south of the Navajo County offices.

For their next project they staked out the Animal Shelter for sewer and utilities. Then the Community Development Department assessed two business sites for the Economic Development Department. The two business site leases that are available are now entering the next stages for infrastructure design.



**The Base of the new Topcon equipment which communicates with GPS satellites that orbit the earth.**



**Don Jackson and Milton Crank out in the field utilizing the new Topcon survey equipment.**



**All data collected from GPS satellites from the field survey are stored in the data collector.**

Don Jackson, Civil Engineer for Kayenta Township says that purchase of the GPS system is a good investment that will eventually pay itself off. For businesses that do not have this equipment, they have to go out and find a contractor to do the survey work which can get costly right away. Don says, “We have to get a lot of data to move forward with the master plan endorsed by the Kayenta Township Commission regarding infrastructure design, survey plats, and our work on the flood plain study for Kayenta.”

## Kayenta Township Has A Summer Student Reporter Intern

*KAYENTA, AZ - From June 08, 2009 to July 31, 2009, the Kayenta Township had an opportunity to have a Student Reporter on staff through a worksite agreement with the Western Agency Navajo Nation Workforce Development Office. Rodgerick Begay, who is currently a student at Dine College, brought with him strong skills in research and people skills which helped him become familiar with the blog world that is prominent in how Americans get their news today.*

*In addition to his student reporting, Rodgerick worked on making a recent market and Kayenta Capital Improvement Projects survey information readable and available to the lay reader. This meant tedious work tallying and making sense of information from surveys that were filled out by the greater community.*

I My name is Rodgerick Begay and I am from Black Mesa, Arizona. My clans are Salt People born for the Water Edge, my maternal grandfather's clan is Bitter Water people, and my paternal grandfather's clan is Tangled Water. For the past two months, I worked as a Student Reporter at the Kayenta Township. While working there I conducted interviews with local authorities, business owners, and community members so that I could write about the issues I was covering. In the beginning, reporting was new but after I wrote a few articles and set up interviews, I was hooked.

I graduated from Monument Valley High School in May of 2006 and continued forwards with school. I am currently in the beginning stages of school. But, my preeminent goal is to graduate with a Bachelors degree in Psychology. When I complete this, I am aiming towards a career as a School Psychologist or a Family Counselor. One might wonder why I chose Student Reporter as a summer job when I could have worked under a psychologist? True, but as a student reporter, it required specific skills needed to complete my job, such as writing and researching. Those techniques would be very essential when in the field of psychology.

I figured spending the summer learning to write proper papers and prominent ways to improve sentence structures, is needed when I return back to school in the fall. So in the end, my experiences as a student reporter is commendable.

My sole purpose for entering the field of psychology is to assist any child or young adult with any predicament he or she faces. As a School Psychologist, I would address the educational, emotional, social, and behavioral challenges that many children, and young adults experience. Also by applying my understanding of human development, psychopathology, the impact of culture, learning theory, the principles of effective instruction, effective schools, the impact of parent and family functioning on children to serve learners and their families. It is of great importance that every child on the Navajo Nation be just as educated as the next.

There is a great quote by Marianne Williamson that reminds us as humans that we are abundant, we are excellent, and we are no different from our brothers and sisters. The quote is called “Our Deepest Fear” and it goes like this:

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.”

This quote is very inspirational and is very true. I feel that it is my job to let every child that I encounter shine just as anyone else. I have had a tremendous time working as a student reporter and will take what I have

## Wetherill Heights Road Work To Continue

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ - The Kayenta Township continued road improvement work in the community starting the week of August 17, 2009 through September 12, 2009. The BIA Route from the Kayenta Chapter House running West to the NHA Subdivision on top of Wetherill Heights is the current site for Road Maintenance.

The Township community development staff is currently patching up holes in the road and will tear out a section of road to repave. The road improvements are scheduled through most of early September. The road patch work has cost about \$17,000 including labor and materials.

While the Community Development Department is still awaiting a notice to proceed, it is waiting to tear out 250 feet of the Wetherill Hills road so that it can be repaired. Once all the work is done, the Township will have spent \$35,800 on road improvements.

The Township will ask that if you know of alternate routes, to please take these routes to minimize traffic during the duration of this project. Kayenta Township intends on doing patch work on this road to possibly fill in the pot holes, to insure the safety of the general public traveling this route. Thank you, and if you have any questions in regards to the road maintenance project, please contact Gabriel Yazzie, Community Development Director, at 928 697-8451 or gyazzie@kayentatownship.



**Township workers repairing the road to Wetherill Heights.**

## Navajo Nation Wide Flu Vaccinations Planned For Early October

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – The flu season is here! Last year, towards the end of the school year, the town of Kayenta was caught by surprise by the Swine flu, also known as the H1N1 flu. Some end of the school year field trips to Phoenix and California were cancelled to keep the school kids from catching the virus. This year public health officials are working diligently to share information about flu treatment and prevention as early as possible.

The Navajo County PHS is working closely with the Indian Health Service, the Navajo Nation, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in preparing for possible cases in our community. Routine updates will be sent to health care partners, schools, and others.

However, the Kayenta Service Unit Indian Health Services has not confirmed any cases of the H1N1 flu. The Navajo Nation area wide flu vaccinations are scheduled to begin on Wednesday, October 07, 2009, which is still weeks away. According to a recent press release, the Navajo County Public Health Services District has been closely monitoring events related to H1N1 2009 Flu cases in Navajo County. To date, there have been 33 confirmed cases in the county and there are likely many more throughout each community.

Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Every year in the United States, on average 5% to 20% of the population gets what health professionals call the regular “seasonal” flu. More than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications, and about 36,000 people died from flu related causes each year. Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications.

H1N1 (originally referred to as “swine flu”) is a new influenza virus

which was first detected in people in the United States in April 2009. Other countries, including Mexico and Canada, have reported people sick with this new virus. The virus is spreading from person-to-person, probably in much the same way that regular seasonal influenza viruses spread. Thus far, the H1N1 strain of influenza still does not appear to be any worse than the regular seasonal flu, but it has been affecting a younger population more than we see in a typical flu season.

The diagnosis for H1N1 requires a special test performed and confirmed by the State Health Department. Although there are students who have already missed school or have been reporting flu-like symptoms, the Kayenta Service Unit Indian Health Services had not confirmed any cases of H1N1 flu.

At the Kayenta Health Center, patients with flu-like symptoms are tested for H1N1 influenza only when they are severely ill and require hospitalization. Patients with a positive influenza test will generally be told they have “the flu” or “Influenza A”, or that it “maybe H1N1 Influenza”, but will not be told that it is H1N1 unless the State of Arizona has confirmed that diagnosis. Because it is not always possible to tell the difference between the common cold and the flu or to distinguish between types of flu, the recommendations for preventing and treating cold and flu-like illnesses are all the same. The 2009 seasonal flu vaccines should arrive very soon and the Navajo Nation area wide flu vaccinations are scheduled to begin on Wednesday, October 07, 2009. This first round of vaccines will arrive later in October and plans are being made for a second series of flu clinics.

The health officials have recommended priority groups first who should receive vaccinations; and they are listed here in order of priority:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel with direct patient care
- Children ages 6 months through 4 years of age
- Children 5 through 18 years of age who have chronic medical conditions.

This year, the Kayenta I.H.S. and Navajo Nation Public Health Nursing staff will be vaccinating students at the schools. Dates will be published when plans are final. Parents are asked to please sign and return the permission slips they will soon receive.

There is a very real potential for widespread transmission of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza. In fact, volunteers will be needed in all communities to assist with education, vaccination, and other activities. If you would like to volunteer, please go to [www.azvolunteer.com](http://www.azvolunteer.com) or call 928-524-4750. Or, to volunteer locally, call Kayenta Health Center at (928) 697-4232.

The latest information for Arizona and the H1N1 outbreak can be found on the Arizona Department of Health Services web site at <http://www.azdhs.gov/flu/h1n1/index.htm>. National information and guidelines about H1N1 Flu can be found at the [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) website. Please remember, we can all work to stop the spread of disease; wash your hands thoroughly, dispose of used tissues, cover your cough, and stay home if you feel sick.



# PROTECTION BULL FIGHTING

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – Protection Bullfighting plays a very important part of a Rodeo event during a bull riding competition. As an extreme sport, in most rodeos the Protection Bullfighters are the two people who get inside the arena every time a person rides a bull during competition. The very few seconds when a bull rider has to dismount, gets bucked off, or falls off of the bull and needs to get away from the bull, what a protection bull fighter does in those few seconds can save a bull rider's life. There are no room for mistakes.

Protection Bull Fighting is making Bull riding even more exciting for the fans and athletes alike. It is the only competition in the world where the competition is based upon saving lives.

In a Protection Bull Fighting promotion ad and synopsis explains the sport: "The Bulls are Hotter and the danger factor of both the Bulls Bucking Ability and his Fighting Tenacity are brought into play. The Bull rider must master the fury from his back

for 8 seconds, as the Bullfighters position themselves to engage the Beast on his terms at Ground Zero to extract the Bull rider to safety once he has dismounted."

As a competitor in this sport, Brandon Lincoln, 25, is making a name for himself in the professional rodeo circuit. A couple weeks ago, he was in Denton, TX for a rodeo and protection bullfighting competition. Brandon is currently busy organizing a Protection Bull Fighting Competition during the October Fest Bull Riding event here in Kayenta scheduled for October 10, 2009. He is seeking bull fighter sponsorships from local businesses.

The show for the October Fest Bull Riding in Kayenta scheduled for Saturday, October 10, 2009 begins at 6:00 pm at the Kayenta Rodeo Grounds. The Rodeo event is bull riding only. The public who is invited to attend are encouraged to wear pink to raise awareness in the fight against breast cancer, or to wear purple to raise awareness against domestic violence.

OCTOBER FEST  
RODEO 2009



Brandon is an alumni of Monument Valley High School. He is of Hopi/Navajo descent. His hometown is in Second Mesa, AZ. He graduated in 2001. His accomplishments as a Native American Bullfighter are part of a long list. In his 9-years fighting bulls, he is the first Native American Bull Fighter on the Professional Bull Fighting Tour who was eventually featured in the Humps N Horns Bull Riding magazine. He started bull fighting back in his high school days, "only as a dare, but now it's my passion," he says. "The rush, the excitement, the ability to step around a 1500 lb. bull without him ever touching you, is not crazy. I do

what I do for the bull riders, who are like brothers, who need to be looked over and protected from harm." He is also down for the entertainment aspect of the sport, and wholly believes that the show must go on. "I believe you get what you pay for," he says. "I'm the type of guy that'll sell back to the crowd, not cheating them of their admission ticket."

**For more information about Protection Bullfighting or for sponsorship opportunities, please contact Brandon Lincoln at [brandonlincoln@yahoo.com](mailto:brandonlincoln@yahoo.com), or on his home phone at (928) 734-0205.**

## Azee' Bee Nahagha Of Dine Nation Hosts Youth Education Convention 2009-2010

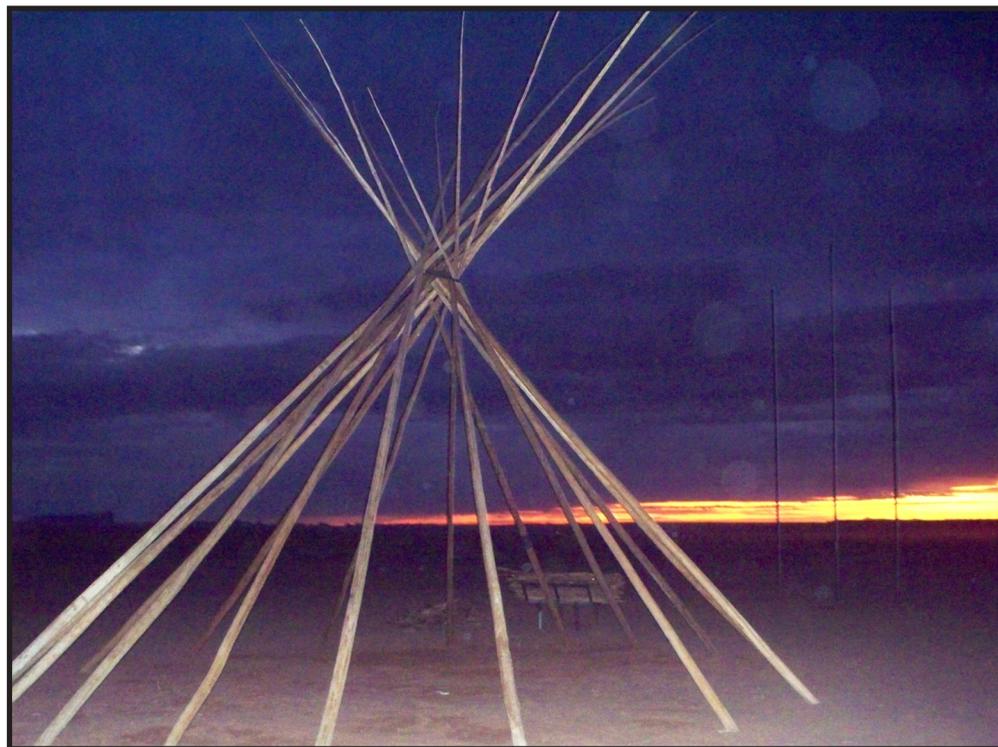
By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – Almost a dozen teepees dotted the valley near the Todecheene residence just a few miles west of Kayenta on Saturday, July 25th this year as they hosted the Azee' Bee Nahagha of Dine Nation Youth (ABNDN) Education Convention. “Naasgo ne niji biniyhe,” a Navajo saying about planning for the future was this year’s theme.



A ceremonial place is drawn.

Marian Todecheene, ABNDN Secretary, said this year she helped event organizers and volunteer’s help feed over 300 people throughout the day. “I was very happy to see the kids really get to talk to one another. Also, the fact that we were able to give them a chance to be a part of something special before they go back to school made me feel good about all the work that went into this,” she said. People from Rough Rock, Phoenix, Dennehotso, Holbrook, Tuba City, AZ, Oljato, UT, and even a family as far away as Casper, WY; got an opportunity to enjoy this year’s convention.



Teepees are set traditionally at dawn.



Early morning Posting of Colors, Youth Education Convention 2009.



Presenters share information inside a teepee.

The Kayenta Veteran’s organization began the day’s event with the Post of Colors with Ernest Poorman Sr. and Francis Nez Jr. shared the Master of Ceremony and facilitated the day’s activities. Throughout the day, the youth participants and their families enjoyed presentations from various organizations, the Kayenta Township, and community leaders. Along with a lot of important information that was made available to the day’s participants, the day’s events were brought home with teachings about “How To Pray.” One presenter highlighted the spiritual elements that are involved with “How To Bring In Water”.

Through out the day, presenters told the students about their work in nine separate teepees that we’re set up for ceremonies as well as teaching. The Kayenta Town Manager, Jarvis Williams, local leaders, Department of Behavioral Health Services, and even representatives from Diné College and more were on hand to give information.

Marian Todecheene said the local ABNDN organization plans to host the event each year before school in. Our main ABNDN headquarters want us to hold two events each year, one for the youth and the other to honor our Veterans, she said.

*Photos Courtesy of: ABNDN*

## New Finance Director For Township Sees Opportunities For Growth

My name is Sylvia Yazzie. My maternal clan is Tachii'nii and my paternal clan is Bitter Water.

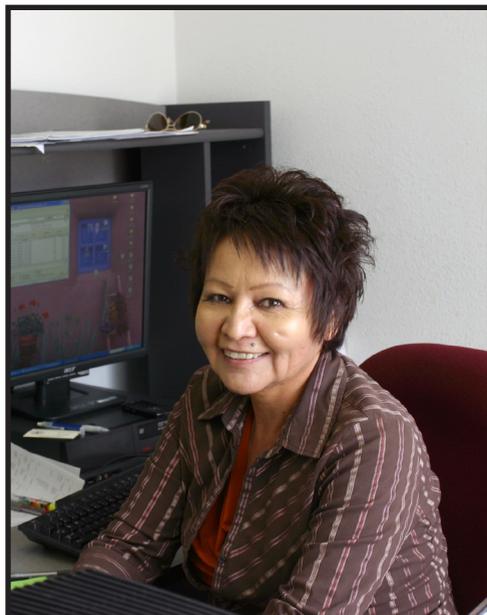
I always wanted to work as a public servant whether at the local, county, or federal level and going to work for the Township has given me that opportunity. My work has been in the private sector in the accounting field for 15 years and I wanted to do something different.

I came to the Township with the mentality of how can I help the organization further its mission. I wanted to help the Township achieve its goals and objectives.

As Finance Director, I would like to see and help the Township be proactive in the planning of economic development, capital improvements, infrastructure, planning and zoning. It will be a challenge but something worthwhile is something to strive for our future generation. I am really impressed with what the Kayenta Township has accomplished in laying down the groundwork for the first municipal government on the Navajo Nation. But, there is still a lot of work that needs to be done.

I believe the foreseeable goals of the Township can happen in the next five years and the administration can seek additional funding for capital and infrastructure projects. The staff can streamline the efficiency of the Township's operation and production to meet our strategic goals. I know that the new hospital will be materializing soon and I hope to see current businesses succeed. I also hope to see new established businesses. We need some market competition here in our community.

In a down economy, people have the tendency not to travel and save their money. Shopping for wants as oppose to needs, and thereby many sit out the recession hoping for the best.



**Kayenta Township's new Finance Director, Sylvia Yazzie.**

The preservation of the Navajo language is very important to me, not only the language, but our culture and the teachings and values that go with it. It is sad and unfortunate that some of our future generation will not be able to grasp the full knowledge of our language and culture as I see it. Being Dine is who I am as an individual. It defines me. It's my core values, and my principles are based on the teachings that were instilled in me as a child.

Other places that interest me besides Kayenta, Arizona is Taos, New Mexico. I believe that place is so authentic and genuinely set in its culture and traditions. It's awesome! My experience as a Finance Director has been challenging at times. I am working with an excellent team and they have been very helpful to me from day one. My boss, Jarvis Williams, the Town Manger, is a cool boss. I'm fortunate to be working for an individual that believes in promoting team work, public relations, and is open to ideas and secure in his own right.

What I think the biggest challenge for the Township is the location of the town. Kayenta is very rural. We need to find a way to capitalize on our location in terms of planning for strong economic growth and expansion of the town into a city, and I believe that cannot happen without the help of the Navajo Nation support.

## NAU Student Interns At Kayenta Township Community Development

I am a college student from Northern Arizona University. My major is civil engineering and I am going to be a sophomore in the 2009-2010 semesters. I was glad to be back home for the summer. One reason was, I needed a break from studying. But, I did not chose to waste my time. Instead, I wanted to do an internship with the Kayenta Township for my summer. Doing an internship seemed convenient for me because I got to know my community, its new land developments that are currently happening, and the ones that are planned. I am so eager to learn and be ready for the completion of my major because in return I want to come back to the Navajo Nation to teach others (youth and etc.) and become a civil engineer that will help the Navajo people. Now I will tell you about my internship experience at Kayenta Township.

I worked with the Engineering Department at Kayenta Township. Here I learned the basics as well as the duties and the everyday life of a civil engineer. Don Jackson (Civil Engineer), Milton Crank (Civil Engineer Tech), and Gabriel Yazzie (Community Development Director) are the Township employees I worked with. When I started work we went surveying. I learned the aspects and the importance of the role surveying has in planning and designing structures and utilities. Going out to survey just about everyday, I learned the names of the equipment along with how to operate them.

One huge difference I encountered was the usage of the basic surveying equipment and then onto a GPS (Global Positioning Station). The GPS uses the satellites to measure a more accurate reading while surveying with it. I was taught the function and the operating aspects of the GPS. I learned how to survey manually with surveying equipment, then onto the up-to-date ways of surveying, with a GPS, which is easier but complicated to understand

In Kayenta we surveyed areas such as the animal shelter and other areas. When the Township received its GPS we re-shot all the points that gave Kayenta its confined area. We were glad the township got a GPS. At the animal shelter,

I learned a lot assisting in this project. I learned how to calculate elevation of the base of a structure, and shooting in the points of a proposed sewer line for the building. Another valuable experience I had was calculating the specific sewer tank and flow rate for the building. This project gave me most of my experience out in the field. Surveying and calculating specs showed me this is what creates structures and its functions such as utilities (sewer and water lines, etc.).

Being a civil engineer is not just about surveying and doing field work, but it also has the administrative office time that you need to get work done. I experienced being in meetings and involved with the community. Office time is where designing, letter writing and phone calls are made for other companies' involvement in constructing a building. While on my internship, I noticed the type of environment it had, especially when other companies are involved. Different people have roles that are relied on for another person to do his or her job, so being on task and being prepared is what makes due dates possible in a job environment.

I enjoyed my experience being a intern at the Kayenta Township. This experience is very relevant to the courses I have taken already and to the ones in the future. Most of the things I did while on my internship, I have not learned yet. So it is good for me to get a heads up on what I will be dealing with in future classes I will be taking. What I would say to the youth who are going on to college and who are ready to go on their summer break, don't waist your summer, get closer to what you want to become to have a heads up on what your job is going to be like, do an internship.

Thank you Kayenta Township and the Community Development Department for giving me the opportunity to do my internship with you - I learned a whole lot.

*Antonio Anagal, Aug. 20, 2009*

# MUSTANG SPORTS PREVIEW

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ- The 2009 Fall Sports season is gearing up as fans eagerly anticipate the new schedule of games for soccer, cross-country, volleyball and football. For the players and coaches the possibilities of a trip to the state tournament linger in the locker room as they work hard to make that a reality.

## VOLLEYBALL

The Mustang volleyball program is well-known for developing players that contribute to the accomplishments of its program. In addition, the Mustangs have the knowledge of its legendary head coach Lucinda Nash to aid in their journey to defend their 3A State title.

The Mustang don't seem to rebuild just reload and with the returning team that statement rings true with the return of some key players from the 2008 3A State Championship team that include; Bradley Nash (Jr), Sabrina Seaton (Sr), McKara Kescoli (Jr) and Chanelle Gilmore (Sr).

Coach Nash always ensures that she has some power hitters with an experienced setter in her arsenal to lead the team. And with a tough summer program, the Mustangs are a team that all 3A programs must go through to get to the state championship in Prescott, AZ.

## FOOTBALL

Head Coach Bryan Begay and Assistant Coach Jason Franklin bring back an experienced squad headed up by 4-year starting tackle Michael Williams and 6'3" All-Area Quarterback Jon Delmar.

The Mustangs should be a contender in the 3A North Region as they return a veteran squad with plenty of varsity experience. Their tough schedule is evidence of the confidence the coaches have in their players to succeed this season. Their schedule includes competition from 2A rival Red Mesa, 4A rival Page Sand Devils and two games from the powerful 3A East Region; Snowflake and Alchesay.



## CROSS-COUNTRY AND SOCCER

Both programs have new coaches this year and look to improve on their accomplishments from the 2008 seasons. New Cross-Country Head Coach Joshua Placke looks to bring back the dominance once held by Monument Valley.

The new soccer programs are struggling with participation but with a renewed energy from Head Coach George Johns the program should enjoy some season successes.

Good Luck to All the Teams this season. Go Mustangs!!!



# Show Your Mustang Pride Contest

Events this season will feature a contest for local businesses, local service providers, and organizations to win

## \$500

To participate in the contest, send 4 color photos of your store or organization displaying your Mustang pride.



For more information please contact Malcolm Benally, Community Involvement Coordinator by email at [mбенally@kayentatownship.net](mailto:mбенally@kayentatownship.net)

# MVHS SPORTS SCHEDULE

## VARSITY FOOTBALL

|              |                         |         |
|--------------|-------------------------|---------|
| August 21    | Greyhills (Scrimmage)   | 7:00 PM |
| August 28    | @ Red Mesa              | 7:00 PM |
| September 3  | Alchey                  | 7:00 PM |
| September 11 | Page                    | 7:00 PM |
| September 18 | @ Holbrook              | 8:00 PM |
| September 25 | @ Ganado                | 7:00 PM |
| October 2    | Tuba City (Home Coming) | 7:00 PM |
| October 9    | Chinle                  | 7:00 PM |
| October 16   | @ Window Rock           | 7:00 PM |
| October 23   | Snowflake               | 7:00 PM |
| October 30   | @ Winslow               | 8:00 PM |

## JV FOOTBALL

|              |             |          |
|--------------|-------------|----------|
| August 27    | Red Mesa    | 6:00 PM  |
| September 5  | Winslow     | 11:30 AM |
| September 10 | @ Hopi      | 7:00 PM  |
| September 19 | Holbrook    | 12:00 PM |
| September 24 | Ganado      | 6:00 PM  |
| October 1    | @ Tuba City | 6:00 PM  |
| October 8    | @ Chinle    | 6:00 PM  |
| October 17   | Window Rock | 12:00 PM |
| October 24   | @ Snowflake | 12:00 PM |

## BOYS SOCCER

|              |                  |         |
|--------------|------------------|---------|
| September 5  | Chino Valley     | 2:30 PM |
| September 12 | Verde Valley     | 2:00 PM |
| September 16 | Camp Verde       | 4:00 PM |
| September 18 | Grand Canyon     | 4:00 PM |
| September 19 | @ Grand Canyon   | 1:00 PM |
| September 26 | @ Camp Verde     | 2:00 PM |
| October 3    | @ Northland Prep | 1:00 PM |
| October 10   | @ Chino Valley   | 2:00 PM |
| October 13   | @ Verde Valley   | 4:00 PM |
| October 17   | @ Camp Verde     | 2:00 PM |
| October 21   | Northland Prep   | 4:00 PM |

## GIRLS SOCCER

|              |                                   |          |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| September 5  | Chino Valley                      | 4:30 PM  |
| September 12 | Verde Valley                      | 12:00 PM |
| September 16 | Camp Verde                        | 2:00 PM  |
| September 25 | @ Desert Christian @ Verde Valley | 1:00 PM  |
| September 26 | @ Camp Verde                      | 12:00 PM |
| October 5    | @ River Valley @ Chino Valley     | 2:00 PM  |
| October 10   | @ Chino Valley                    | 12:00 PM |
| October 13   | @ Verde Valley                    | 2:00 PM  |
| October 17   | Desert Christian @ Chino Valley   | 11:00 AM |

## VOLLEYBALL

|                 |                                 |          |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| August 22       | @ Sedona w/ Parker (Scrimmage)  | 2:00 PM  |
| August 25       | Red Mesa                        | 4:30 PM  |
| August 27       | @ Greyhills                     | 4:00 PM  |
| September 2     | Monument Valley UT              | 5:00 PM  |
| September 5     | Fountain Hills Tournament       | TBA      |
| September 8     | Page                            | 4:30 PM  |
| September 11-12 | Farmington Invitational         | TBA      |
| September 15    | @ Cortez                        | 4:00 PM  |
| September 17    | Chinle                          | 4:30 PM  |
| September 19    | Page Invite Tournament          | TBA      |
| September 22    | @ Ganado                        | 4:30 PM  |
| September 26    | Snowflake                       | 12:00 PM |
| October 3       | @ Holbrook (DH)                 | 12:00 PM |
| October 8       | Tuba City                       | 4:30 PM  |
| October 10      | Winslow (DH)                    | 12:00 PM |
| October 13      | @ Chinle                        | 4:00 PM  |
| October 15      | Ganado                          | 4:30 PM  |
| October 20      | @ Tuba City                     | 4:00 PM  |
| October 24      | Window Rock (DH)                | 4:00 PM  |
| October 31      | Regional Tournament @ Tuba City | TBA      |
| November 6-7    | State Tournament @ Prescott     | TBA      |

## CROSS COUNTRY

|              |                                     |          |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| September 1  | Hopi Invitational                   | 4:00 PM  |
| September 5  | Peak Invitational                   | 9:00 AM  |
| September 12 | Canyon De Chelly Invitational       | 10:00 AM |
| September 15 | Pizza Edge Invitational @ MV        | 3:00 PM  |
| September 19 | Four Corners Invitational           | 9:30 AM  |
| September 26 | Page Invitational                   | 10:00 AM |
| October 7    | San Juan Invitational               | 4:00 PM  |
| October 10   | Coconino Invitational               | 10:00 AM |
| October 16   | Bud Davis Invitational              | 10:00 AM |
| October 23   | Holbrook Invitational               | 2:00 PM  |
| October 31   | 3A North Regional Meet @ Chinle     | TBA      |
| November 7   | 3A State Cross Country @ Cave Creek | TBA      |



**KAYENTA TOWNSHIP  
LAND SITE FOR BUSINESS LEASE  
Kayenta (Navajo Nation), Arizona 86033**

The Kayenta Township has two (2) categorical types of business sites available for leasing. The first immediate available site is a facility (building) lease and the second is the land business site.

**The available facility to lease is a 1,800 square foot building that can be leased for office and retail business as follow.**

| <u>Type of Business</u> | <u>Location</u>                           | <u>Size of Facility</u> | <u>Type of Infrastructure</u>                       |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Commercial           | East side of Highway 163,<br>Next to NTUA | 1,800 sf                | Infrastructure & Utilities<br>immediately available |

**The land sites available for business for leasing are as follow.**

| <u>Type of Business</u> | <u>Location</u>  | <u>Size (acreage)</u> | <u>Type of Infrastructure</u>   |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Commercial           | Southwest side of Highway 163,<br>Next Kayenta Veteran Memorial Site           | 3-1.0 acre lot        | Accessible to all<br>infrastructure & utilities                                     |
| 2. Commercial           | East side of Highway 163, next to<br>Kayenta Family Health Care (Chiropractor) | 2-1.0 acre lot        | Accessible to utilities -<br>infrastructure is good                                 |
| 3. Commercial           | North side of Highway 160,<br>West side of Sonic Fast Food                     | 3-1.0 acre lot        | Infrastructure/utilities is<br>good-may require some<br>development                 |
| 4. Commercial           | South side of Highway 160,<br>East side of 7 to 11 Store                       | 6-1.0 acre lot        | Accessible to utilities -<br>infrastructure is good-may<br>require some development |

If interested in applying for the facility use lease and the business site lease, contact the Township Administration at (928) 697-8451 and ask for the Director of Economic Development or the Town Manager.