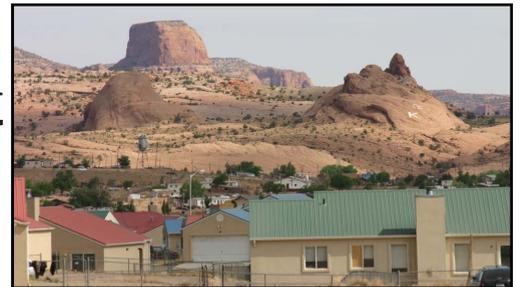




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THE KAYENTA TODAY

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



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Winter 2010

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Kayenta Family Healing Alliance Looks To The Future

By **Malcolm Benally**

KAYENTA, AZ - The Kayenta Family Healing Alliance (KFHA) and the Process Serving Taskforce held a meeting at the Hampton Inn Conference Room on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 from 10 am to 1 pm. The group holds its monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month, usually at the Kayenta Baptist Church behind Amigos Café, unless it is announced and noted otherwise.

The KFHA met with its core group which consists mainly of service providers within the local Kayenta Service Unit, such as the Tohdennashai Shelter Home, Public Safety, Social Services, the Health Nursing Program, and the Ama Doo Alchini Bighan, Inc. (ADABI) program from Chinle, AZ. Rebecca Joe, TSH Victim Advocate, facilitated the meeting.

After going through the opening formalities for the meeting, Ms. Joe highlighted some of the achievements of the Tohdennashai Shelter Home in the past three months. She said, "The month of October was very busy for everyone and we have achieved a lot during this month in raising awareness about domestic violence. We hosted a vigil, a play "This House of My Pain" (by Navajo comedian Ernest David Tsosie III), several marches, and a community luncheon." The most successful of all, she said, was the October 10, 2009 NPBR Bullriding Event in Kayenta where professional bull fighters lead by Brandon Lincoln, and the bull riders wore pink and
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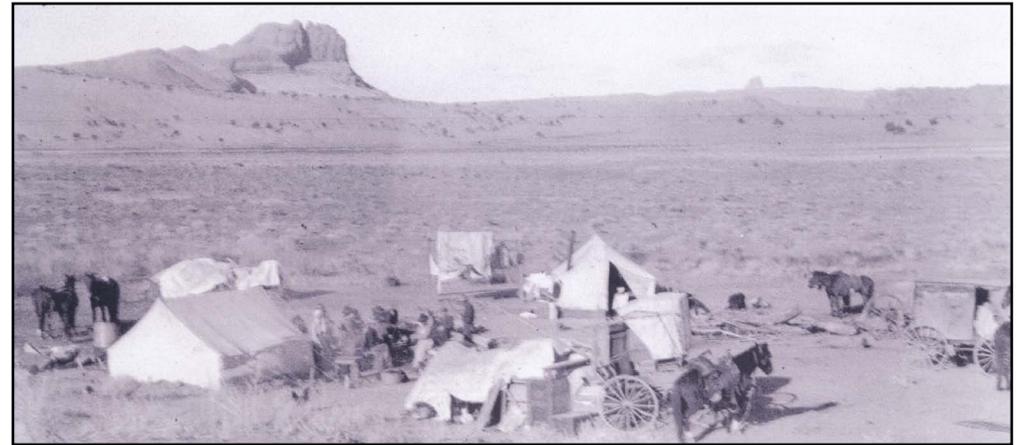
Kayenta To Tell It's Centennial History In "Images of America" Book Series

By **Malcom Benally**

KAYENTA, AZ - The Kayenta Township is beginning planning and organizing stages for the 100th Centennial of Kayenta, Arizona 2010, most of the events and activities will be held in conjunction with the coming 4th of July festivities. Book authors, Harvey Leake and Carolyn Davis, will be working with Arcadia publishing's (www.arcadiapublishing.com) "Images of America" book series to publish a book about the community of Kayenta.

A significant portion of the book will cover the years 1910 to 1940 when John and Louisa Wetherill made their home (in Monument Valley and Kayenta), opened up the Kayenta Trading Post, and thus began the development of the town of Kayenta, AZ and its surrounding areas. In the later years, from the 1950s to present, the book proposes to cover the transition that the town of Kayenta has made through time.

Through suggestions from Harvey Leake, the Kayenta book project would like to collect photos from the community showing Navajo lifestyles, people of interest who visited



the area through time, and early new building scenes. In fact, already on file is sepia a tone black and white photo of President Theodore Roosevelt, who visited Kayenta in 1913 with his sons before going on a horseback expedition guided by the Wetherills to Navajo Mountain and Rainbow Bridge.

Arcadia Publishing, the publishing house that is best known for its popular "Images of America" series, has chronicled the history of communities from Bangor, Maine to Manhattan Beach, California. Arcadia will be the press that will publish the as-yet-untitled book on Kayenta. With more than two hundred vintage black-and-white photographs, each title celebrates a town or region, bringing to life the people,

places, and events that define the community. Harvey Leake, the lead author of the book is the great grandson of John and Louisa Wetherill.

"We are lacking coverage of the period following the early 1940s, and are interested in locating sources of images from that era in Kayenta's history," he writes in an email. "We would also welcome suggestions regarding topics to include [regarding the growth of Kayenta]

" Examples, from the more recent period, would require the involvement of Kayenta residents, community leaders, people in the military, construction projects, and community events, such as the annual 4th of July rodeo and festivities.

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Kayenta Township Introduces Five New Business Site Leasing Committee Members

By **Malcom Benally**

KAYENTA, AZ - The Kayenta Township Business Site Leasing Committee recently held its first meeting to choose Committee officers and set up its first meeting dates on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 2:00 pm. Economic Development Director Ed Whitewater briefed the new committee on at least

30 potential businesses that are currently interested and have inquired about a business site in Kayenta, AZ.

In an effort to provide detailed reports monthly to the Kayenta Township Commission, the Business Site Leasing Committee decided they will hold their monthly meeting on

the first Tuesday of each month. This way, their report can be ready when the Kayenta Township Commission holds its monthly Town Hall on the second Monday each month.

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From The Desk of Commissioner Richard Mike

Geronimo, Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, Manuelito put their lives on the line fighting the U.S. Calvary in the face of modern weapons like the Gatlin Gun, Canons, repeating rifles, Winchesters, and they faced certain death using mainly bows and arrows at first. To me, the reason these warriors fought and put their lives on the line against improbable odds - is because every man wants to be free. Back then, no one wanted to be cloistered on an Indian Reservation. These warriors wanted to master their own destiny. They wanted to be masters of their own lands.

Today, most jobs on the reservation are government jobs. You can work for NTUA, the public school system, reservation community schools, NHA, at the dialysis center, the Navajo Police Department or for the Indian Health Services. All these jobs are provided by the U.S. government. If these offices shut down, the clients, the administration, and the employees; they would all suffer and it would affect daily Navajo life. I can guarantee that this scenario wouldn't even make a single dent in Arizona's economy. Life would go on.

Whether you are a hard working employee or not the government makes Indians in all sectors of the Reservation economy dependent on Federal dollars. Yet, it seems the simple rule here in America is that freedom comes to you only from private land ownership. The hard truth is, the Navajo reservation breeds dependency because the Indians don't own the land they live on.

Indian Law says that a "trusteeship" basically means that Indians do not own the land.

The Kayenta Township concept gives us a shot at freedom. And freedom is not cheap. Freedom means that you have to pay your own way. You have to make really hard decisions that affect your home, your children, the Tribe, panhandlers at the grocery store, paying for your own education, health, and well-being.



If we can get a 99-year lease from the Navajo Nation Council, then we can get some of our freedom back. I ran for Commissioner because I want to fight for this shot at freedom that we were given.

I've been fortunate to have deep learning experiences when I travel abroad. Britain obtained a 99-year lease from the Chinese government over a hundred years ago. With that 99-year lease, Hong Kong and its surrounding areas has become a multi-billion dollar commerce. In Banff, Canada the Canadian National Park Service owns all the land. The City of Banff has home site leases and business site leases like we do on the Navajo reservation. The town is about half the size of Flagstaff, AZ, and it has a multi-billion dollar commerce. The City of Banff leases the land from the Canadian National Park Service.

In about five more years, I can see the Kayenta Township start assigning a Possessory Interest Tax (PIT) giving value to Navajo home site leases similar to the small Canadian town of Banff. Right now, a home site in Kayenta is worth one dollar a year for 65-years. And as it is right now, when there is a school bond election, the Navajo people always vote "yes" because Peabody Coal Company will have to pay for it. With a home site possessory interest tax, the people of Kayenta will have to pay for the school bond. Now, the people of Kayenta will have to think long and hard before every school bond election because they will have to pay for it.

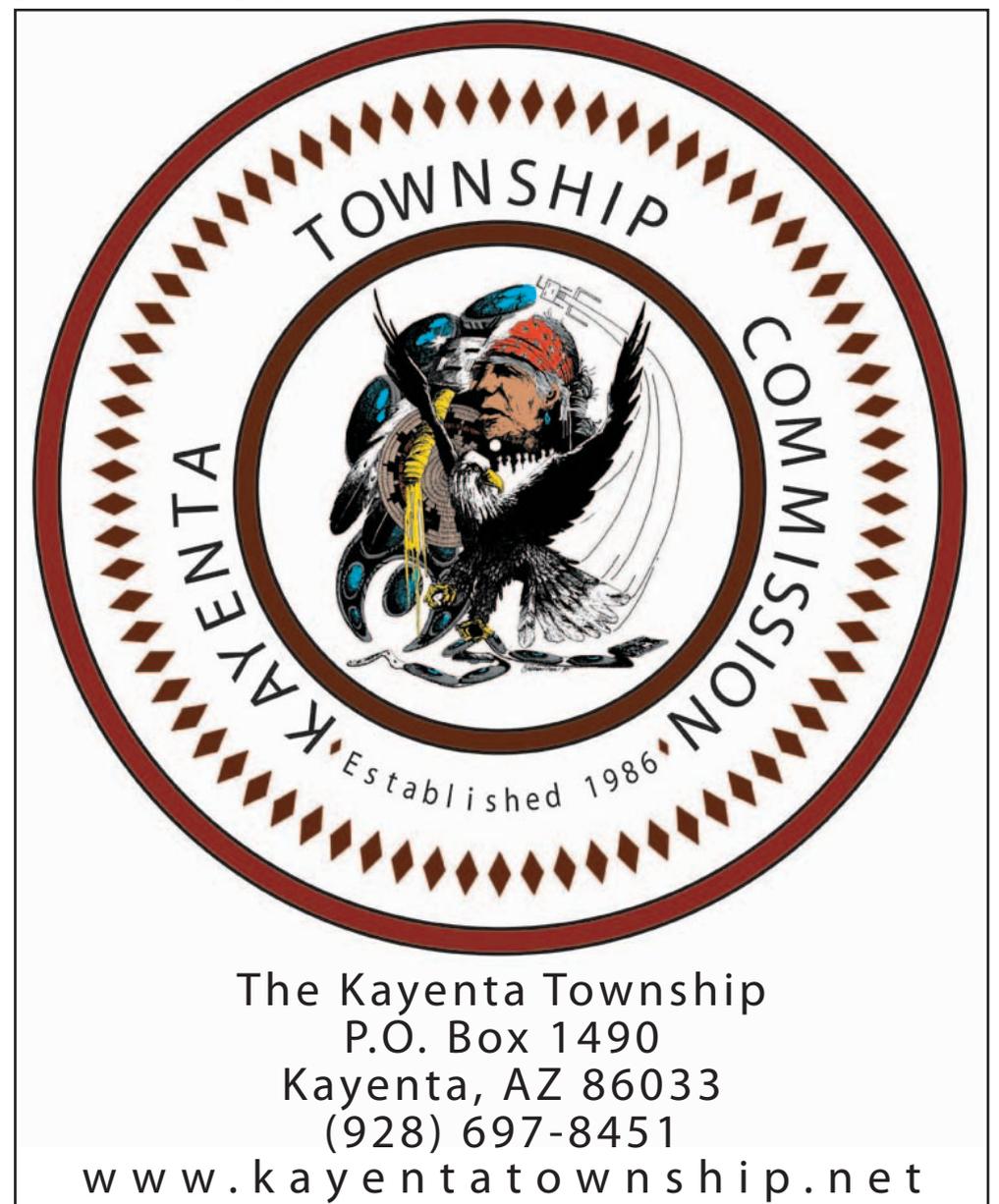
Life is actually different when the average citizen of Kayenta is responsible for waste management in Kayenta, crime in Kayenta, pan-handlers bothering the tourists, the direction of their children's education, and they will have access to many more choices like in other prosperous town in a free society.

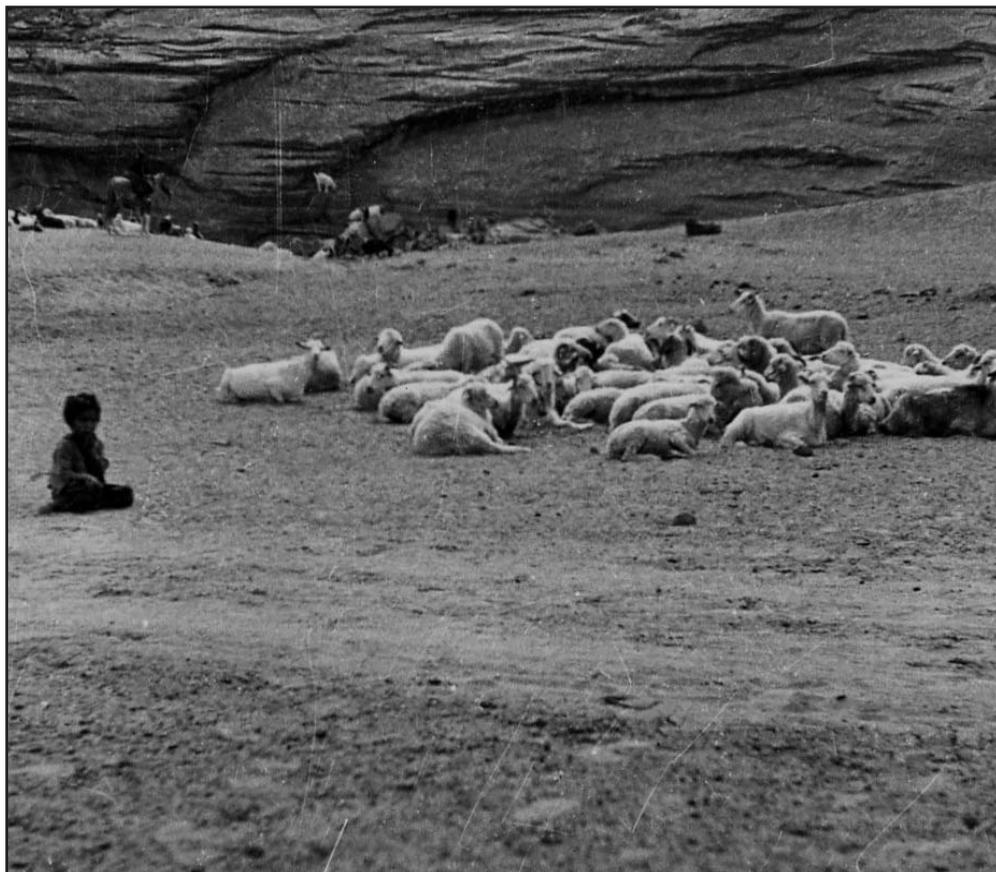
The government cannot make real economic development because real development happens in the minds of ordinary people. It happens by them and with them. Governments on the other hand, have to set the social structures, institutions, incentives systems which are able to produce developmental attitudes, which when supplemented with aptitudes, such as literacy, technical skills, knowledge and training; this can produce true economic development.

Being unemployed is hard on people. Studies show that problems like suicides, teen pregnancy, alcoholism, child abuse, drugs, is tied to unemployment. Unemployment

on the reservation is not a big concern of the Navajo Nation Council. Getting more federal funds is. We don't have to live off of government hand outs. That's why the people of Kayenta need their own local government. The Navajo Nation Council is not going to lead the people of Kayenta to self-sufficiency.

The Kayenta Township and its citizens, we need the freedom to make our own rules within the city limits of Kayenta. I think once we're given the freedom to control our own town and our local resources, mainly with the ability to give 99-year business site leases. I believe that we can start tackling city problems before they emerge. Furthermore, I think Kayenta will have the largest and best Vocational Education School in the State of Arizona. We'll have a huge Adult and Juvenile Detention Center, and perhaps we can even rent out land in the middle of nowhere for a Federal Prison. Our Kayenta Courts will be the first ever on an Indian reservation to enforce property laws.





A Navajo child taking care of flock at sheep dipping event near Diversion Dam, circa 1935-1940s

Continued from page 1

Examples, from the more recent period, would require the involvement of Kayenta residents, community leaders, people in the military, construction projects, and community events, such as the annual 4th of July rodeo and festivities.

For more than three hundred years, the Navajo people have been known as a pastoral people who also had cornfields. Then with the introduction of the horse, the Navajo became a known military force that was able to hold back the Mexicans, Spanish, and even the U.S. Cavalry in pre-colonial times. Throughout time, the Navajo have been fortunate to hold on to their language and maintain a significant portion of their cultural ties despite the process of assimilation that has taken its course.

In *Reclaiming Diné History*, Dr. Jennifer Denetdale, a Navajo historian reflects, "The Navajo Nation shares the concerns of other indigenous nations about the loss of language and the erosion of tribal traditions even as we look to our own traditions for answers to issues and problems. ... In many sectors of our society, Navajo parents, teachers, scholars, counselors, Navajo Nation employees, and others are committed to conveying our traditions to the next generation."

These cultural issues are critical in how the community of Kayenta now has an opportunity- and can come together- to discuss its history, which includes: economic growth in Kayenta, the legacy of the Monument Valley Mustangs (high school sports), the coming/going of Peabody Western Coal Company, the town as the Gateway to Monument Valley, and even the concept of the Kayenta Township today. What does the community see as important in telling the history of Kayenta?

Kayenta, by and large, has come a long way. The Kayenta book project offers an opportunity to tell the story of the community and the Navajo past on Navajo terms. Through the months of November, December and onto the coming year, the Kayenta Township would like to form a small group of local leaders, storytellers, teachers, parents, elders, scholars, counselors, and even students to take part in retelling the history of Kayenta.

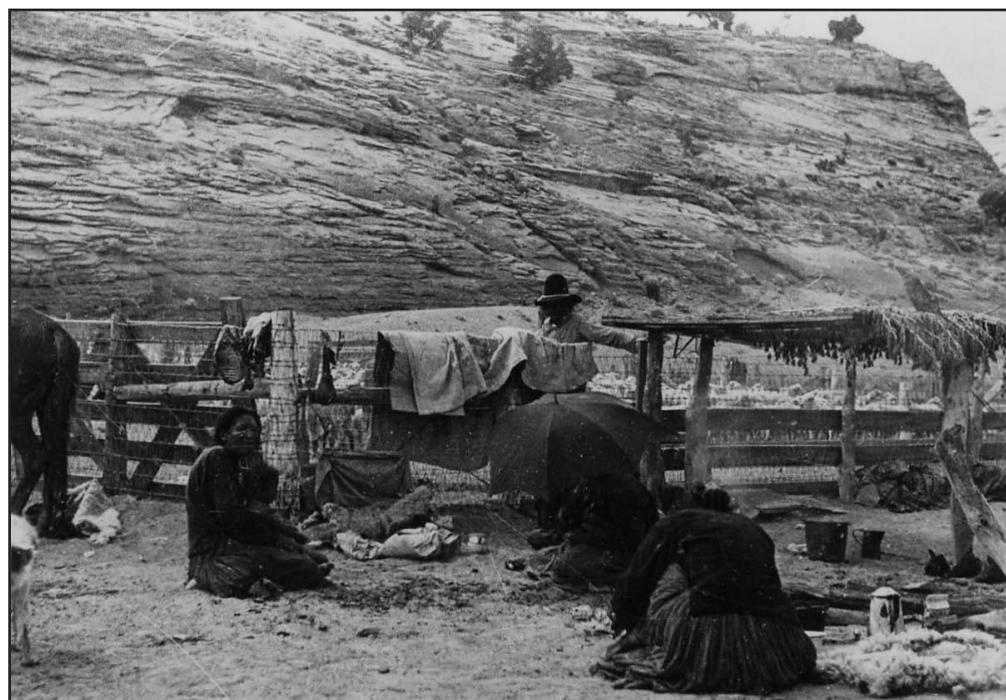
For more information, please contact mbenally@kayentatownship.net. We are asking for historical photographs, stories, documentation of past notable events, and historical materials that can be used to convey an accurate history of Kayenta, Arizona.



Two Navajo women and children Pinon Picking near Black Mesa, circa 1935-1940s



Two Navajo women and child cooking outside in summer shade, circa 1935-1940s



Navajo family butchers a sheep and gets ready to eat lunch at a sheep dipping event near Diversion Dam, circa 1935-1940s

Continued from page 1

The BSL Committee agreed that their work from this point on creates a new window of opportunity for the Kayenta community. "This is a chance for us as a community to help provide some direction. Our interest here is the same as the Navajo Nation's interest," said Committee Chair Ken Whitehair, "when it comes to collecting taxes and increasing our tax base, we are directly involved in developing the Navajo Nation economy. So, this is a win-win situation," he said. "We should be very thankful to the Economic Development Committee for giving us this delegation of authority."

When the Economic Development Committee first voted to approve business site leasing authority, then Town Manager, Jarvis Williams asked specifically what the "delegation of authority" meant for the Township. What courts are available in case a lawsuit or dispute might arise? Can the Township secure 638 contracting for its own law enforcement? From here, the Kayenta community can discuss what sectors of the economy the Township should add to. In the end, the Economic Development Committee said that defining "delegation of authority" rested on the direction on the first and future Business Site Leasing Committee members. It should also be stated that the Master Lease the Township had originally advocated for was to secure the foundations for a 99-year lease.

The Commission elected its first officers for the Kayenta Township Business Site Leasing Committee: Ken Whitehair, President; Frank M. Donald, Jr., Vice-President, Malcolm Benally, Secretary (Township Community Involvement Coordinator), and Gabriel Yazzie, BSL Member (Township Community Development Director). The Interim Town Manager and Finance Director, Sylvia Yazzie was present at the meeting.

The Kayenta Township Commission, by resolution KTCM-09-08, approved the formation of a Business Site Leasing Committee that will include three Township administra-

tors consisting of the Town Manager, Finance Director, and Community Development Director along with two community members. The five member BSL committee will review and vote on approving business site leases.

"There are already four businesses that are pushing to start establishing their Business Site Leases," said Ed Whitewater, Director of Economic Development. It will be Mr. Whitewater's department that packages the Business Site Lease applications for review. Of those businesses he's currently working with, the L & L NAPA Auto Parts is already in operation and is negotiating its Business Site Lease to include the addition of two-bay garages so that the NAPA Auto Parts store will include a Tire Shop.

The second group of interested people who are actively negotiating their business site lease is Blue Sage, Inc., which is planning to open an ALCO store just directly east of 7-2-11 off U.S. Highway 160. ALCO is currently getting ready to bring in a survey crew to look at the scope of work for a 30,000 square feet store and a parking lot on 3 acres, he explained.

DCM Developers from Tucson, AZ are doing a study to open a Dollar Store or a General Store. A Good Sam's RV Park and an Office Complex have all established communication with the Township Economic Development Department. These developments among others will be a part of the new Business Site Leasing Committee's report when they go before the Navajo Nation Economic Development Committee in Window Rock, AZ on January 06, 2010. The Kayenta Township is required to provide a progress report within six months as of the date of approval of these plans, and then the Business Site Leasing Committee will provide an annual report to the Economic Development Committee of the Navajo Nation thereafter.

BONE THUGS N HARMONY SCHEDULED TO PERFORM IN KAYENTA



KAYENTA, AZ - Bone Thugs N Harmony, an American Hip-Hop group will be performing at the Kayenta Recreation Center on February 27, 2010. The rap group began as a core group of four members Krayzie Bone, Bizzie Bone, Wish Bone, and Layzie Bone in the early 1990s, and then added Flesh N Bone before signing with the late Eazy-E of NWA as producer at Ruthless Records.

As the group found its sound, fast paced lyrics and harmonizing vocals for which they became instantly recognized in the rap industry, their beats and sounds were at first supplied by DJ Yella, Kenny McCloud, Rhythm D, and DJ Uneek. Their first Ruthless records album Creepin On Ah Come Up went platinum twice. The release of E 1999 Eternal a fan favorite they doubled their success.

Dr. Dre and Akon are rumored to be producing their next release. The group has since had its share of success and hit the mainstream in the late 1990s

winning various honors at the Grammys, the MTV Music Awards, and the American Music Awards.

In 1997 the rap group won a 4 Grammys for their rap songs: "The Crossroads," "1st of the Month", "Ridin" and Best Rap Album for their 1996 release E. 1999 Eternal. The group is also very well known for its collaborative works with the late Eazy-E, Tupac Shakur, Notorious BIG, and mainstream artists like Mariah Carey.

The group's publicist acknowledged by phone that they have a big following on the Navajo Reservation and they wanted to take the opportunity to get to know their Navajo fans by giving them a show in their own communities. Their independent record label BTNH Worldwide will release their new album The World's Enemy.

Tickets are scheduled to go on sale at the Kayenta Township February 05, 2010. Other outlets to buy your ticket will be announced at that time.



Continued from page 1

The month of activities and being on the frontlines of providing education and outreach, the Victim Advocate and her colleagues came to the conclusion that the KFHA name, the Kayenta Family Healing Alliance needs to be changed to a name that is more open, fluid, and descriptive of the group's future goals and objectives.

To begin with, the group's mission statement reads: "To establish collaborative partnership to reduce the occurrence of emotional, physical, verbal and sexual abuse; utilizing education, counseling, healthcare services and intervention programs."

After deliberating on about 20 different names offered by the meeting

participants, the group decided to communicate by email to come to a consensus. But, the source of optimism the group is looking for was provided best by Sergeant Byron Coolie, who said, "We just all need to continue working together. We need to provide the best education that is necessary to the public we work with and address the problems or issues as they arise the best way we can."

After some email correspondence, and another monthly meeting on December 17, 2009 at the First Baptist Church, the group decided to name the organization Kayenta Community Collaboration Team (KCCT).

The group also enjoyed a pot-luck lunch of Cheese Enchiladas, Salad, and Spanish Rice.

Kayenta's Poetry and Essay Contest

KAYENTA, AZ - The Kayenta Recreation Center hosted a Hip Hop Dance to begin programs for Youth Activities and build on the Teen Center on November 13, 2009. That evening, DJ Sixkiller, the MC of the evening announced an Essay and Poetry Contest for the upcoming Kayenta Centennial Celebration during the 2010 4th of July Festivities.

The Poetry and Essay Contest is open to writers and poets up to 18 years of age. The winning essay and poem will be published in a future issue of the Kayenta Today.

ESSAY CONTEST:

The Theme for the Essay Contest will be "Looking At Kayenta After 100 Years." The deadline for the essay will be due at 5:00 pm January 18th, 2010 at the Kayenta Township Main Office. The 500-word essay should be typed and double spaced for clarity. The age requirements will be open to anyone up to 18-years of age

The essay can look at the history of Kayenta that is interesting to the author. Or, the author can profile a community leader, or write about their family. There are many facets to the community of Kayenta that can be explored in this essay, such as the future of the future of tourism, public safety,

the arts, Mustang sports, the Navajo language, community and economic development, etc. The winning essay will get a check for \$250. Two honorable mentions will each get a check for \$50.

POETRY CONTEST:

The Theme for the Poetry Contest will be "The K-TOWN Get Down." The deadline for the Poem will be due at 5:00 pm January 18th, 2010 at the Kayenta Township Main Office. The poem should have 21-lines, typed and double spaced for clarity. The age requirements will be open to any budding poets up to 18-years of age.

"The K-Town Get Down" poem should be done in good spirit with the intention of highlighting what the community has achieved throughout time. The Winning Poet will receive a check for \$150. Two honorable mentions will receive \$25.

Both the winning essay and poem will be published on the Kayenta Today in a future issue, and to be read to an audience during the 2010 4th of July Festivities.

If your essay or poem is done before the deadline of January 18, 2010, it can be mailed attention to Malcolm Benally, Community Involvement Coordinator, PO Box 1490, Kayenta, AZ 86033. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email mhenally@kayentatownship.net.

Business Site Leasing Committee Makes First Report to the Economic Development Committee

By Malcolm Benally

ST. MICHAELS, AZ—Economic Development committee of Navajo Nation government heard the first six-month report from Kayenta Township's Business Site Leasing committee. The presentation centered on the use of the recently delegated authority allowing Township to lease with businesses within its boundary.

The Business Site Leasing committee was presented by the following: Ken Whitehair, Chair; Frank Donald Jr, Vice Chair; Malcolm Benally, Secretary; and Gabriel Yazzie, Community Development Director. Community Development Director and new BSL member commented, "I believe with this new "delegation of authority" from the EDC, businesses are going to be able to come into our community a lot quicker than other communities on the reservation. With me being a member of this committee, I bring strength in the areas of dealing with municipalities and capital improvement projects which helps me out as a member of this committee."

Also in attendance was Ed Whitewater, Economic Development Director, who provided technical expertise. Mr. Whitewater is not a member of the Business Site Leasing committee. The director's responsibility is to work with potential businesses in packaging their business site lease applications, and then

the business site lease application is brought before the Business Site Leasing Committee for approval.

The first use of the leasing authority by Business Site Leasing committee was the approval of L&L Auto Parts at Kayenta. L&L Auto Parts is currently operational and the lease covers an expansion, which is intended to hold a 2-bay garage and tire shop, plus amenities. The expansion will soon be completed.

Other companies submitting applications to acquire Township leases include ALCO store, Eagle Air Med, and Sam's RV Park.

The first report was well received by Economic Development committee. Support for Kayenta Township was openly expressed by EDC members. Township's efforts to create a business friendly environment came with compliments from EDC member Honorable Mel R Begay. Begay added that the making of ordinances within a municipal form of local government has positive attributes that may safeguard the interests of Navajo Nation.

The EDC recommended that Kayenta Township work with Navajo Nation Department of Justice in developing local ordinances. One example was establishing the eligibility to do PL 93-638 contracting, also called Indian Self-Determination, and to use such contracting methods to develop the enforcement of local ordinances. Township was encouraged to bring topic matters to EDC, and to show the continued development of a municipality.



An Epidemic and A Pandemic Flu In The Navajo Past

By Richard Mike

People off the reservation are paranoid these days and many Navajos still aren't aware of the changes brought about by the swine flu (H1N1). Oh yes, the fear is there, everywhere in the border towns, the cry of big stores like Home Depot, COSTCO, and Sam's Club have hand sanitizers waiting for you at the front door. Off-the reservation schools have scuttled away "perfect attendance" award programs, co-workers are snitching on each other if a co-worker shows up at work with flu symptoms.

On October 23, 2009, renowned Hopi artist Michael Kabotie died at the Flagstaff Medical Center from H1N1. He was 67 years old. He died off the reservation. The reservation is unaware of his passing. The Navajo Nation is so disconnected from other happenings in the rest of the world.

The Navajo reservation has "National Health Care" that began in 1955 through Indian Health Services (IHS). Now Congress is in negotiations to unveil legislation to provide insurance to 36 million Americans who otherwise won't have it. Naturally, this creates a long-term effect on federal deficits. The problem for the Navajo is that the IHS is funded entirely by the U.S. government. In the last decade, attempts have been made to collect from Navajos with personal insurance. In any case, the federal government literally passes the buck. Navajos who work for the IHS, BIA, NTUA, and Public Schools get medical services then the IHS simply charges another branch of government.

Medicine has learned quite a bit about the flu, as millions of people have died from it the world over since 1918. The Kayenta Health Service Unit recently handed out pamphlets about the "human flu", the "bird flu", and the "pandemic flu." Now we're extra cautious of a new strain called the "swine flu." An average 18,000 people country-wide fall into a high risk category for death or serious complications from swine flu. The priority group to receive the H1N1 Swine Flu vaccine are Pregnant women, children 6 months to 4 years old, children between ages 5 to 18 with underlying health conditions such as neuromuscular disease diabetes, underlying heart or lung conditions, or a suppressed immune system. Anyone who lives with or cares for children less than 6 months, healthcare workers with direct patient contact are also at risk.

Because Navajo people would rather listen to KTNN radio, they are basically uninformed about this new strain of the swine flu. Public Schools and Boarding Schools are left with the task of immunizing their students. The Indian Health Service (IHS) is left with the task of getting enough H1N1 vaccine for Indian students which is in very short supply. Off the reservation, parents are responsible for the immunization of their children. Seasonal flu vaccinations for children aged 18 and under costs about \$15.00. No one is denied service for inability to pay. In fact, people should bring their insurance cards. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the H1N1 (swine) flu vaccine. It's the IHS that administers the H1N1 (swine) flu intranasal mist vaccine for healthy children age 2 to 4 years old while supplies last.



H1N1 Flu Vaccinations: its demands and shortages was the big news all year long in 2009.



Cheryl Alcott poses with vintage Arbuttle Ground Coffee Boxes

Navajo people who don't know their history don't realize how calamitous certain strains of the flu can be. The flu is a seasonal flu. The Navajo people were rocked and devastated once already by a deadly strain of flu almost 90 years ago. One does not hear any stories of this horrific deadly disease that visited the Navajo people in 1918. No tales know the exact numbers. It is likely two diseases in combination killed thousands of Navajo people: smallpox in 1917 followed immediately by the pandemic flu of 1918.

I decided to bring up some voices from the past, more specifically, voices from 1917 and voices from the winter of 1918 who can describe the pandemics that devastated the Navajo people ninety-six years ago.

The Dictionary defines "Pandemic" as: "Of a disease prevalent throughout an entire country, continent, or the whole world; epidemic over a large area". The Smallpox epidemic of 1917 I believe was confined either to the southwest or at least to several states, but a smallpox vaccine was available at that time. I'm not certain the smallpox epidemic of 1917 qualifies as a pandemic. It was an epidemic. The second one, the flu pandemic of 1918 was worldwide. Over one hundred million people died. The Navajo Tribe, we'll never know the number of Navajo people who died from this devastating flu pandemic.

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The Smallpox Epidemic of 1917

The first account is from the book, *Bread Upon The Sands*, by Billie Williams Yost. Ms. Yost was the youngest daughter of William and Gertrude Williams, Indian traders of the Red Lake Trading Post at Tona-lea, AZ from 1914 to 1929. During the fifteen years of Ms. Yost's stay, the road to civilization was across the Little Colorado River at Benta Mesa and on to Winslow. The road to Tuba City in those days went through Blue Canyon, which eventually turned into Coal Mine Canyon. A flood wiped out the original Red Lake Trading Post in October 1929 near the bottom of a hill in Coal Mine Canyon. It was inundated by a flood and wiped out. Since then, the new Red Lake Trading Post was constructed near the top of a red sandy hillside ridge where it sits now along U.S. Highway 160 road from Tuba City to Kayenta, AZ. She writes:

"In December (1917) a dreadful plague of smallpox spread with lighting-like rapidity over all the reservation. The chance of keeping such an epidemic under control, with living conditions as they were, was impossible. A family of eight or more would eat, sleep, and breed in one room no larger than twelve by fifteen feet. The ground was hard and cold. No ventilation relieved the smoky atmosphere, and germs ran rampant amid this perfect setting. ...Every day, two or three Navajos would arrive at the post and beg Father to come help them in their misery. Father wanted desperately to aid them, but he knew it was hopeless. One man can't fight a raging epidemic alone. ...When his friend, Little Gambler, came and pleaded for assistance, he could not refuse. He went to the plague-infested Hogan of Lame Back. She was dead and so was White One's little daughter who lay by her side. In the next Hogan, Big Ears, his squaw, and two sons were dead. Only Little Gambler and Tall Girl had survived (Pg 194)...As the only lumber available was two pine Arbuckle coffee boxes, (Father) used these. Mother lined the finished burial case with pale blue calico". (Pg. 214). The Indian

Trader, Mr. Williams and his two sons eventually got smallpox and fortunately, they all survived.

Another voice from the past is that of Hilda Faunce (Wetherill), her book is entitled *Desert Wife*. In her book, she recalls both the smallpox epidemic of 1917 and the flu pandemic of 1918. Ms. Faunce and her husband, whom she refers to as Ken in the book, is actually – Winslow Wetherill, the youngest of the five Wetherill brothers, she writes:

"Ken purchased a decrepit two-room shack, an abandoned trading post near Black Mountain in 1914. Black Mountain Trading Post has been abandoned for years now, but was located twenty miles west of Chinle and fifteen miles northeast of the Salina Springs Trading Post. Mr. and Mrs. Ken Faunce re-establish the Trading Post in 1914 and three years later were hit with the smallpox epidemic."

"I never should have supposed I could be calm in a smallpox epidemic. It came upon us suddenly and almost immediately dozens of our friends and customers were dead. The Indians came to the post with their bodies covered with sores; they lay down on the floor besides the stove, sick as could be, unable to climb on their ponies again and go home."

"...After our floor, the camp Hogan was the next resting place. From there some relative would help the sick person into a wagon or onto his pony and get him home to die. It was not the least use for Ken and me to be careful; the disease was everywhere. Of course when a medicine man treated anyone, a crowd came to the ceremony and the disease was spread more effectually. Such things were of daily occurrence. Vaccination had been explained to the Indians years ago by government agents and the outbreaks of smallpox among the Mexicans had spread to the reservation before. Many of the Navajos hurried to the agencies to be vaccinated, but the sickness spread so quickly that hundreds did not have time to get there before they or their families were down"



(Pgs 242 – 243). ...Ken sent word to the Utcity (Etcitty) "Hogan's, urging them to bring every one, in wagons if necessary, for vaccination, and in a few days they came in wagons, in buggy and on horseback. My apparatus and technique for vaccination consisted of soap and water to wash a clean spot on the arm, then the scraping of a small area and the rubbing in of a small drop of vaccine." (pg 245).

"Gradually the plague passed and we heard of no more deaths or new cases. It was like waking from a nightmare to find that the worst of it had really happened. Ken was tired and more than ever silent; he stayed at the post more and rode less. We were grateful for the work that kept us too busy to think always of those who no longer came to the store". (pg 250).

Back in the years 1917 and 1918, the Navajo reservation was completely different than it is today. The Trading Post was the hub of all community activity, news, announcements, and the US mail. Basically there were no clusters of homes or houses like today. There was only a Trading Post and a visitor's Hogan for customers who planned to stay overnight. The Navajos lived miles away from the Trading Post and miles away from each other. Just as the Navajos were very important to the Trader as customers, so too, was the Trader important to the Navajos.

The Navajos fully expected white people (Traders and missionaries) to bury their dead.

The Traders also left other influences. Ms. Mildred Heflin for example, introduced me to books and told me stories and happenings as she saw them many years before I was even born. Although she was only five years old during the great flu pandemic of 1918, she remembered the stories her father (Stokes Carson) and mother (Jessie Carson) told her of burying bodies and seeing so much death at Huerfano, New Mexico. Presently we have Navajo children "trick or treating" at various stores and home clusters; the Missionaries introduced Christmas presents; and, Navajo children are hunting easter eggs laid by Easter Bunnies on Easter morning. Navajo people and white people now pay an under-taker to bury their loved-ones in a cemetery; from a simple pine box to a luxury copper or tin casket depending upon how much love or money you have.

Since the Indian Traders were called upon to bury some of the Indian dead, they did not want to get involved in having to make coffins. There were simply too many dead. For an adult burial, two large Arbuckle Coffee boxes were fastened together. One box could be used to bury a child. When whole families were found dead in their Hogan's, it was simpler to burn down the entire Hogan with the bodies left inside.

Kayenta Recreation Center Looks At The Future

By **Malcolm Benally**

KAYENTA, AZ – The Kayenta Township administrative staff is currently updating all of its department policies and procedures, and after an administrative review of the Kayenta Recreation Center Parks and Recreation facilities, the Township decided to revisit its rental facility use agreements

After a request by the Finance Department to review the rental fees for facility use, the department found that the Kayenta Recreation Center was losing a significant amount of monies while maintaining the facility. One of the main reasons the recreation center was losing money is because the center was waiving too many fees for organizations that hold meetings, host public events, health fairs, and provide workshops.

Due in part to the recession, the Kayenta Township has had to look at future cost projections for all of its departments. The administrative

staff found that in the winter months, the Kayenta Recreation Center was spending at least \$1,600 a month for propane for its heating costs alone. During this time, the cost to operate the Kayenta Recreation Center far exceeds the revenue that comes in for facility use. In addition to a staff of three (Recreation Leader, Recreation Assistant, and Recreation Custodian), the center has had to invest heavily in security cameras, which has increased utility costs significantly.

Thus, the need to bring in more revenue to the Township coffers vs supporting community development activities will become an issue of debate. At some point in the equation, event promoters have to be able to afford the facility use fees. To find an adequate solution to have some control over costs, the Finance Department took an average of facility use rental costs in neighboring towns like Window Rock, Chinle, Tuba City, and Shiprock, NM.

Interim Town Manager, Sylvia Yazzie, who facilitated the administrative review says, “After a review of some of the costs other towns charge, there is no reason to be losing money at the Kayenta Recreation Center. If we did a simple break even analysis, we can measure how much the recreation center brings in as revenue for facility rental, just enough to cover its operating costs. If we can meet this, that would be great,” she said.

The new costs and protocol to be implemented for the Fiscal Year 2010 Facility Use Rental at the Kayenta Recreation Center will be:

Facility Rental and Facility Use Procedures

1. Have the Customer fill out a facility use agreement application.
2. The Customer must show proof of Liability Insurance for the date of the event.
3. The Customer must pay a non-refundable facility use fee of \$800.00 to schedule an event, at least two weeks prior to the event. The balance for facility use must be paid

in full at the Kayenta Township Finance Department before the event takes place.

4. Facility use rental agreements are given out on a “first come, first serve” basis.
5. The facility must be cleaned after the event, and will be inspected by the Recreation Leader the following Monday after the event.
6. Fees will no longer be waived. Payments will be made in full prior to the event.
7. The Event Flyers must include: “Not Responsible for Theft, Personal Injury, or Damage To Property” in print.
8. All fee payments for facility use rental must be PAID IN FULL at the Finance Department at the Kayenta Township main office.



Kayenta Recreation Center Facility Use Fees 2010

Country and Western Dance	\$800
Song and Dance	\$800
Pow-Wow	\$800
Special Events:	
Christmas Eve Events	\$1,175 per event
Christmas Day Events	\$1,175 per event
New Years Eve Events	\$1,175 per event
New Years Day Events	\$1,175 per event
Valentine's Day Events	\$1,175 per event
Fourth of July Events	\$1,175 per event
Memorial Day Events	\$1,175 per event
Others:	
Hip Hop Dances	\$250 per event
Health Fair	\$500 per event
Birthday parties/Graduations	\$100 per event
Town Hall Small Conference Room	\$150 per meeting
Town Hall Large Conference Room	No Rental

* Rental fees shall be paid in full with a \$50 cleaning deposit. The \$50 cleaning deposit will be refunded after the clean-up of facilities by sponsors.

* Fees will not be waived and partial payments will not be accepted.

The Kayenta Recreation Center will only provide assistance in scheduling a date, filling out Facility Use Agreement applications, and having the Certificates of Liability for each event on file. All other questions about fees and payments should be directed to the Kayenta Township Finance Department, (928) 697-8451.

Robberies and Shootings in Kayenta: Township Gets The Story from Criminal Investigations

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ - The Kayenta Township staff Malcolm Benally, Community Involvement Coordinator and Shonie Delarosa, IT/Media met with Roger Yazzie, Criminal Investigator late Thursday morning concerning the recent incidents that were first reported around about 6 pm January 14, 2010.

To begin with, the CI Unit Investigator Yazzie said, "No one has been hurt since the incident was first reported." Although IT/Media has received several inquiries from around the state of Arizona and beyond about the incident, a lot of the rumours that have surfaced since the Tuesday evening incident can now be laid to rest. First and most important, no one has been shot or killed.

The CI Unit said also that the incident is still under investigation.

As of late Thursday morning, the Unit was waiting for the Federal Bureau of Investigations to come on board to continue following its leads. The fact is only that there is a "person of interest." The Unit said it will wait for further developments before they release anymore information or details.

The suspect was described as possibly a black male, approximately 5'11" to 6' tall, wearing all black clothing. He was possibly carrying a black colored handgun.

Law enforcement officials are seeking the public's assistance in locating the suspect or any information relating to this case. If you have any questions, please contact Sergeant Benally of the Kayenta police Department at (928) 697-5600 or Rodger Yazzie of the Kayenta Criminal Investigation at (928) 697-5511.

Tuba City Couple Indicted for Assault and Child Abuse

By Sandy Raynor

PHOENIX - A federal grand jury in Phoenix returned a 14-count indictment yesterday against Royce Paul Paddock, 35, of Tuba City, Ariz., for eight counts of Assault Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury and six counts of Intentional or Knowing Child Abuse. His wife, Anna Laura Paddock, 36, also of Tuba City, was charged with six counts of Intentional or Knowing Child Abuse. Royce Paddock is currently in federal custody. The couple will be arraigned at a later date on the charges.

The indictment alleges that the defendants, who were guardians of the 5-year-old victim, failed to get medical treatment for the victim after Royce Paddock physically assaulted her over the past year, resulting in serious bodily injury to the child. The victim had surgery to repair a broken leg and a fractured elbow and suffered two pelvic fractures as well as a rib fracture. Her hair had been pulled out by the roots, resulting in scarring. Her front teeth had been pulled out. She had been beaten so severely that upon her admission to the hospital she was severely anemic and required a blood transfusion. The tip of her nose was missing and infected. Her ear was trauma

tized by repeated trauma. Doctors indicated all of these injuries were serious, extremely painful and untreated.

A conviction for Assault Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury carries a maximum penalty of 10 years to life, a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Intentional or Knowing Child Abuse carries a maximum penalty of 22 years in federal prison. In determining an actual sentence, the judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted the Navajo Department of Criminal Investigations and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution is being handled by Dyanne C. Greer and Sharon Sexton, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

Speaker Morgan Announces Winter Session Agenda

By Joshua Lavar Butler

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. -- The Honorable Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan has announced the agenda for the 2010 winter session of the 21st Navajo Nation Council. The one-week session will begin Jan. 25 at the Navajo Nation Council chamber.

The session will begin with oral reports from Council Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan; the state of the Navajo Nation address from President Joe Shirley Jr.; a report on the special prosecutor investigation of OnSat, BCDS and the Council's discretionary assistance program from Navajo Attorney General Louis Denetsosie; a report from Dr. Robert Shelton regarding efforts to assist the Navajo Nation at the University of Arizona; a report from Aneva J. Yazzie, chief executive officer for Navajo Housing Authority, on NHA's recent accomplishments and activities; and a report from Walter W. Haase, general manager for Navajo Tribal Utility Authority on NTUA's 2009 accomplishments, its 2010 budget and its 2010 goals.

Written reports will also be submitted to the Council by the various standing committees of the Council, boards and commissions, the regional director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the area director for the Indian Health Service.

In old business, Legislation No. 0523-09, sponsored by Tom Lapahe (Tachee/Blue Gap/Whippoorwill) seeks approval and acceptance of a grant proposal from the Hoosh Dooh Dii To' Development Inc. to the Navajo Nation Council for Undesignated Unreserved Funds in the amount of \$200,975. This legislation was tabled Oct. 20 due to lack of funds.

Legislation No. 0418-08, sponsored by George Arthur (T'iistoh Sikaad/San Juan/Nenanezad), seeks the repeal of a resolution adopted July 8, 1930, by the Navajo Tribal Council authorizing the President of the United States to establish the Canyon De Chelly National Monument to be administered by the National Park Service and adopting as the official position of the Navajo Nation

the transfer of the administration, oversight and funding of the Canyon De Chelly National Monument from the National Park Service to the Navajo Nation. This item was tabled Oct. 22 to allow Council to discuss the matter further in a work session.

In new business, there are 18 items up for discussion and consideration by the Council.

Some highlights include Legislation No. 0598-09, sponsored by Willie Tracey (Ganado/Kinlichee) to make the position of the Navajo Attorney General an elected position.

Legislation No. 0746-09, sponsored by LoRenzo C. Bates (Upper Fruitland), seeks approval of terms and conditions of a Senior Unsecured General Obligation Tax-exempt Term Loan from Key Bank in the Maximum Principal amount of \$60 million to primarily use as funds to construct public safety facilities and judicial complexes across the Navajo Nation in determined areas.

Legislation No. 0010-10, sponsored by Katherine Benally (Dennehotso), Andy R. Ayze (Chinle) and George Arthur, seeks the enactment of the Office of Legislative Counsel Amendments Act of 2010. The purpose of this resolution is to enhance the ability of the Office of Legislative Counsel to provide legal services to the Navajo Nation Council, its standing committees, the boards and commissions, office and entities of the Legislative Branch of the Navajo Nation government.

Legislation No. 0775-09, sponsored by Johnny Naize (Tselani/Cottonwood/Nazlini) and Sampson Begay (Jeddito/Steamboat/Low Mountain), seeks confirmation and appointment of Tom Platero as the division director for the Navajo Division of Transportation.

Legislation No. 0758-09, sponsored by Hope MacDonald Lone Tree (Coalmine Canyon/Toh Nanees Dizi), seeks the enactment of the Navajo Nation Internet Sex Offenses Act of 2009.

A complete copy of the Winter Session agenda is available online at www.navajonationcouncil.org.

Continued from page 1

and purple ribbons to raise awareness about Domestic Violence Victims and programs to fight Breast Cancer. KFHA reported an up to date balance of \$551 towards program activities.

The month of activities and being on the frontlines of providing education and outreach, the Victim Advocate and her colleagues came to the conclusion that the KFHA name, the Kayenta Family Healing Alliance needs to be changed to a name that is more open, fluid, and descriptive of the group's future goals and objectives.

To begin with, the group's mission statement reads: "To establish collaborative partnership to reduce the occurrence of emotional, physical, verbal and sexual abuse; utilizing education, counseling, healthcare services and intervention programs." After deliberating on about 20 different names offered by the meeting participants, the group decided to communicate by email to come to a consensus. But, the source of optimism the group is looking for was provided best by Sergeant Byron Coolie, who said, "We just all need to continue working together. We need to provide the best education that is necessary to the public we work with and address the problems or issues as they arise the best way we can."

After some email correspondence, and another monthly meeting on December 17, 2009 at the First Baptist Church, the group decided to name the organization Kayenta Community Collaboration Team (KCCT). The group also enjoyed a pot-luck lunch of Cheese Enchiladas, Salad, and Spanish Rice.



The Community Marches To Raise Awareness Down Main Street In Kayenta, Photo Malcolm Benally

Rebecca Joe also announced the award of two grants, both extended to an end date of September 2010 that was awarded to the Navajo Office of the Chief Prosecutor as the lead agency. According a department press release, the grant in the amount of \$398,000 is itemized to go to programs to "Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Projection Order Programs." The project will consist of tribal departmental entities including the Navajo Nation Office of the Prosecutor (OCP), Social Services, Public Safety, and the Battered Families Program. These monies are expected to trickle down to providing services to regional areas including Kayenta, AZ.

The second grant titled the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) Tribal Grant in the amount of \$500,000 is to enhance the service of protection orders. A portion of this money has gone to pay for overtime hours for police officers who serve protection orders. The grant is also looking to hire Private Process Servers. The OVW Tribal Grant seeks three goals for the funding: 1) Establish a specialized enforcement unit dedicated to developing, assessing and training on Navajo Nation domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual assault protocol; 2) Enhance process serving by improving intervention policies, streamline process serving; and 3) Development, implementing and training of protocols for process serving.

For more information about becoming a Private Process Server, please call Gwen at (928) - 871-6622 or email her at gsknncp@yahoo.com.

Health, Social Services Committee hear status report on audit of Navajo Area Agency on Aging

By Joshua Lavar Butler

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. - The Health and Social Services Committee of the 21st Navajo Nation Council met with the Navajo Division of Health regarding a report prepared by Division Director Anslem Roanhorse.

One of the main issues in the report was the status of the Navajo Area Agency on Aging (NAAA) Audit Report from the Navajo Nation's Auditor General. The NAAA is a subdivision within the Navajo Division of Health.

The Auditor General's report revealed that the Navajo Division of Health did not implement 7 out of 10 "outstanding corrective measures" in the NAAA. The corrective measures consist mostly of having an educated and sound workforce within the NAAA subdivision. The lack of these corrective measures has dramatically affected the Navajo Division of Health's effort to provide services to the elderly population on the Navajo Nation.

The committee expressed their concerns after hearing that the Navajo Division of Health is considering the shut down or merging of senior centers that have small elder populations. At Sheep Springs, New Mex., for example, the supervisor had retired and the issue there is whether or not to merge Sheep Springs and

Naschitti Senior Centers. This recommendation had the committee concerned because the elderly population is simply forgotten, particularly the rural citizens of these communities.

Council Delegate Evelyn Acothley (Bodaway-Gap/Cameron/Coppermine) stated that the elderly cannot be eliminated services and questioned why the NAAA and its seven corrective measures were not yet implemented? The issue with NAAA not implementing the corrective measures goes back to 2005 and it still remains in the same state today.

Acothley added, "The elderly are a prime state of knowledge and should not be delayed any services."

In addition to the seven measures not being implemented, the job vacancies of 48 positions are an issue of concern. Council Delegate Alice Benally (Crownpoint/Nahodishgish) shared Acothley's concerns.

"The job vacancies will continually affect the delivery of services to the elderly populations," Benally said. "As for retired positions, I don't want to see any disruptions in services. We want services to be continued -- not ended."

The committee approved the report with a vote of 6-0.



Kayenta's Community Christmas Dinner

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – The Community Christmas Dinner this year stretched to two days for the small community, young and old alike received gifts provided by the Kayenta Chapter, businesses, and local service providers.

For the first time in three years, the Kayenta Township, local churches, the Kayenta Chapter, Senior Center, Kayenta schools, Kayenta Trailer Court, Kevin & Yolanda McAuliffe, Kayenta Family Chiropractic, Navajo Nation Shopping Center, Bashas', True Value, 7-2-11, Flintco, Inc., and Cellular One all came together to make the Kayenta Community Christmas Dinner a complete success. Together, the community served over 450 people.

Due to the prominence of Elders attending the event, the day's agenda was replete with the Navajo language. The Welcome Address was provided by Kayenta Chapter President, Stanley Clitso. In a rare moment that was charged with quiet emotion, he introduced Mimi Salt, a Navajo woman and now Elder as a World War II Veteran. To entertain the crowd, Miss Western Navajo Agency sang the Mountain Song in Navajo.

"I was eleven years old when we moved to Kayenta and I saw the people of Kayenta for the first time."

So, began the Keynote Address from Samuel Holiday, Navajo Code Talker, 4th Marine Division, 25th Regiment, originally from Oljato, Utah. His odyssey began as a young boy, a Navajo Shepherd who was raised by his Grandma. He injured his knee herding sheep as a young boy that took him first to Ganado hospital, and onto primary school at Tuba City Boarding School where he saw White people at age 12 for the first time. "I was afraid of them as a young boy," he said to scuffled laughter from the audience.

Later, as a vocational education student in Provo, Utah, he received a letter telling him to report to Phoenix, AZ in 1943. He was shipped to Camp Pendleton in Oceanside, CA where he trained as a Navajo Code Talker. As a Marine, he fought on the Island of Saipan, Kwajalien, and while on the battlefield, he was captured twice by the U.S. Marines as he was mistaken for a Japanese soldier. "The Japanese were just young guys and they looked like Navajos," he said.

Upon his return to Navajo land, he has been a Navajo Police Officer, worked for Peabody Coal Company, and for the Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park. He married Lupita Mae Isaac in 1954. They have eight children, thirty-five grandchildren, and twenty-four great grandchildren.



Otie and Garfield greet young and old as they receive their Christmas Gifts.



Kayenta Chapter Veteran's Association Commander Rick Grey gives a present to Marie Reed as Jane Atene patiently looks on.



Jasper Lake, Hugh Interpreter, Otie, Anderson Black, Garfield, Rick Grey, Wesley Simpson.



Miss Western Navajo Agency Petra Tsoie treated the audience to the traditional "Mountain Song" in Navajo and thanked them for their travels to the Community Christmas Dinner. Some locals came from as far away as Phoenix, AZ and Salt Lake City, UT for the holidays.



Happy New Year!

From The Kayenta Township

