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Community Wellness

THE KAYENTA TODAY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY

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New KTC Commissioners

FEBRUARY 2010

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Students Reflect On Their Visit to Kayenta



By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – From Sunday, January 09, 2011 to Saturday, January 15, 2011, students from various disciplines, all part of a student organization college Alternative Spring Break visited the community of Kayenta to do community service work with the staff at the Kayenta Recreation Center. The names of the students who came on the trip are: Lindsey Stirek, Anna Kropornicka, Vivian Chou, Kelsey Anderson, and Lee Replogle.

Recreation Leaders and Kayenta Township Staff, Pete Gilmore and Joann Begay guided five female students and one male student the whole week as they volunteered their time at the Kayenta Community School, Kayenta Intermediate School, the Kayenta Animal Shelter, and the students even attended the Navajo Nation Presidential Inauguration in Window Rock, Arizona on January 11, 2011. A part of their trip was also planned to experience the rugged country by re-exploring Clara Breinheimer Arch located somewhere just northeast of Kayenta, AZ, in hopes of redefining the trail, but due to inclement weather and tough sand dune roads, their first attempt with former Commissioner Richard Mike was marred by getting their V-8 4 X 4 vehicle stuck in the sand. However, **Continued on page 8**

Township Takes Inventory of Its Ongoing Capital Improvement Projects

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – One of the main points to be considered in Navajo communities today, and on the greater Navajo reservation, is to ask the question: how much does the average citizen examine his-or-herself within the broader social make-up of mainstream America? While it is an important question to be asked and answered once one enters the academic field, on the reservation we come across dilapidated signs, stray animal populations, communities littered with trash, and upon further study, the inquiring mind will learn that the public service sector reports about the Navajo Nation is backlogged at least ten to thirty years. As a Nation, we are behind the times.

Recently, a critical essay was circulated on Facebook entitled “An Idea of American Indian Land Justice: Examining Native Land Liberation in the New Progressive Area,” by Richard Faithful. He has been a long-time supporter and the essay on American Indian Land Justice is a close reading and constructive critique of contemporary political philosopher and economist Amartya Sen’s landmark book “The Idea of Justice.” The community of Kayenta, which is known for and has received accolades for becoming one of the first communities on the Navajo Nation to implement a local tax and operate as a municipal government, is a perfect study in the delivery of



Kayenta, one of the first communities on the Navajo Nation to implement a local tax and operate as a municipal government.

the catch-words in Indian law: land restoration, land liberation, and tribal sovereignty.

The article was compelling enough to use some of the arguments in the book to discuss the positioning Kayenta Township Commission has inherited up to this time as the first municipal government on the Navajo Nation. It begs to ask the question: “Are we, as Dine people, willing to judge ourselves, as well as our principles, institutions, and conduct in relation to our ideas of justice?” If you read a general report to Congress from Indian Health Services over time, the Navajo Nation I.H.S. usually

reports that in terms of its service delivery it is twenty to thirty years behind. If you read a report on education, it is about ten to thirty years behind. If you read a report on education, it is about ten to twenty years behind. Then, as far as Public Safety goes, the Navajo Nation communities are so far behind that the towns that actually have jails; most of the bigger towns on the Navajo reservation have been condemned. Yet, the Kayenta community is transcending those numbers in its favor.

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Public Works Sets Up Secondary Oil Containment

By Malcolm Benally

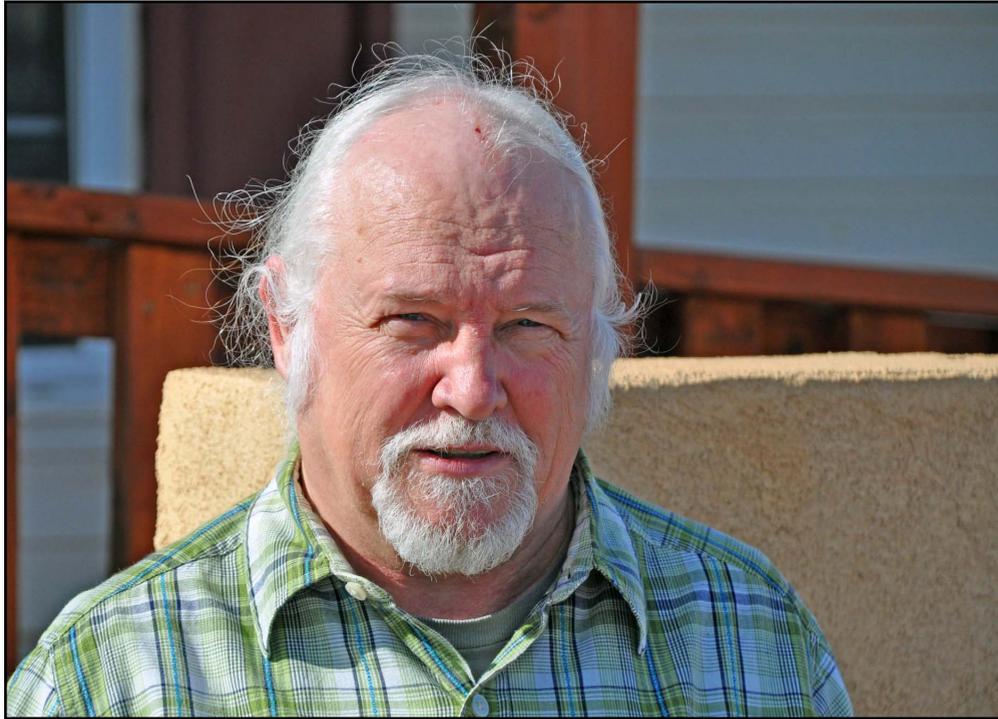
Kayenta, AZ – The Kayenta Township Public Works Department and Transfer Station recently purchased a 5,000 gallon tank to receive used oil for recycling in the community. To comply with Environmental Protection Agency standards, a transfer station is required to build a secondary containment structure to contain 110% of oil being stored. This means also that people who change their oil at home or away from a lube and oil shop can now bring in the oil they extract from their

vehicles and have it stored at the Kayenta Transfer station.

The Kayenta Township Public Works had to partner with local businesses Native Sun Materials who provided concrete and a mixer for the project. Southwest Concrete provided supplies to do the work. The mission of the Kayenta Township to support this project is to protect the public and the environment from exposure to contamination caused by improper treatment, storage, and disposal of used oil.

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Hygi Waetermans - Kayenta Town Manager

Kayenta Township Commission

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



Andre Cordero, Chairperson

Andre Cordero is Ta'neeshah'nii, the Tangled clan born for Nakaii Dine'e, Mexican people. His grandparents are Ashiihi, Salt clan and his maternal grandparents are Anglo. His mother's name is Sarah Louise Rocha and his father is the late Andre Cordero. As a graduate of Monument Valley High School, he obtained a political science degree in Political Science from Arizona State University.



Carol Todecheene, Vice-Chair

Carol Todecheene, a life long resident of Kayenta, AZ, is one of the elected Kayenta Township Commissioners. She was born in Gouldings, Utah. Carol is Dził Natohnii Tachii'nii, Mountain Tobacco Red Streak Running Into Water clan born for Todichii'nii, the Bitter Water clan. Her maternal grandparents are Bit'ahnii, Within His Cover people. Her paternal grandparents are Kinyaa'aanii, Towering House people.



Delores Greyeyes, Secretary/Treasurer

Delores Greyeyes, originally from Black Mesa, AZ, is one of the elected Kayenta Township Commissioners. She is Bitter Water born for Near To Water, her maternal grandparents are Ashiihi, the Salt Clan. The Bit'ahnii, Within His Cover people are her maternal grandparents.



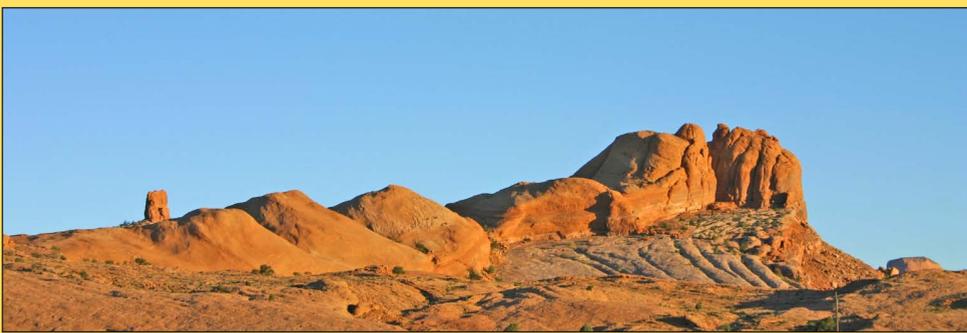
Helen Bonnaha, Commissioner

Helen Bonnaha is Bit'ahnii, Within His Cover people born for Tsénahabii'nii, Sleeping Rock clan. Her maternal grandparents are T'izi Láni, the Many Goats. Kinyaa'aanii, the Towering House people are her paternal grandparents. She has been a life long resident of Kayenta, AZ.



Rodger Grey, Commissioner

Rodger Grey has been a resident of Kayenta, AZ for over 35 years. He was raised within the Dennehotso and Lukachukai area. He is Nakaii Dine'e, Mexican clan born for the Kinyaa'aanii, the Towering House people. His paternal grandparents are Bitah'nii, Within His Cover clan and his maternal grandparents are Anglo.



Town Managers Message

As we have entered into a new calendar year, I would like to congratulate the new Kayenta Township Commissioners, Mr. Andre Cordero and Mr. Rodger Grey, who were sworn into office on Tuesday, January 11, 2011, by Navajo Nation Supreme Court Chief Justice, the Honorable Herb Yazzie, in Window Rock, AZ.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to outgoing commissioners, Mr. Richard P. Mike and Ms. Alyce M. Yazzie, for the many years of service they have provided to the Kayenta Township.

Election of officers of the new commission is slated for Monday, February 14, in conjunction with the next Regular Monthly Commission Meeting. A number of changes can be expected to take place during 2011 and into 2012, as more than two thirds of our current fiscal year is behind us and certain amendments are in order.

At the present time, the township has initiated a hiring freeze to assess our work force in comparison to our work load. We foresee a revision in our pay scale and a potential re-classification of certain positions. The creation of a Human Resources Department has been debated, and budgetary considerations will dictate, in part, how the township will proceed.

In the final analysis, the goal is to improve the efficiency of our operations and to be more responsive to customer concerns. In an effort to make the township a more desirable place for new businesses to relocate, we are mindful of the need to beef up our infrastructure. To that end, we submitted a funding application to the ACA (Arizona Commerce Authority), formerly known as the Arizona Department of Commerce, seeking funding for the installation of a new sewer line along the east side of Highway 163 and south of the Kayenta Mobile Home Park. Yesterday, we received electronic notification that our application was approved in the amount of \$75,000. ACA informed us that they received 75 applications and approved only 21, including the Kayenta Township Commission. While this may seem like an insignificant amount of money, please, keep in mind that much larger municipalities, such as the City of Flagstaff, received only \$80,000. Additional funding applications will be submitted to various grantor agencies in the coming weeks and months.

Other prospective projects include the paving of the 3.4 mile Bus Route and Comb Ridge Road, as we hope to improve road conditions for residential as well as commercial reasons. Realizing that we cannot do everything at once, we have had meetings to prioritize from a list of potential projects.

While the Business Site Leasing Committee is still searching for a new member to fill the vacancy created by the untimely passing of Ken Whitehair, we have been asked to make certain changes regarding the fee structure. These suggestions are being considered in order to develop positive relationships with the business community.

We have also been approached with various funding requests in connection with the annual Fourth of July festivities. No firm commitments have been made, at this point, and we would like to gather input from the township residents stating what you would like to see as part of this annual event. Meetings of the Commission are generally open to the public, and your suggestions are welcome.

In legal news, I would like to report that the long-standing law suit against the Kayenta Township and the Navajo Nation, arising from a fatal car accident in 2006 was dismissed on January 6, 2011, by District Court Judge Jennifer D. Benally, due to lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

Also, in an unrelated legal proceeding, the Navajo Nation Office of Hearings and Appeals' Hearing Office Karen Benally granted the Kayenta Township's motion to dismiss the petition for injunctive relief brought by plaintiffs Sam Sullivan, Jr. et al. vs. Kayenta Township Commission and Show Low Construction. The Order of Dismissal was issued on January 28, 2011, in Window Rock, AZ.

As I am experiencing my first winter season in Kayenta, I realize that this is not the part of Arizona where "snowbirds" seek refuge from the cold. On the other hand, we have been comparatively fortunate not to be subjected to the type of weather extremes seen in other parts of the country. With that in mind: stay warm, stay safe and stay healthy.

Mitakuye owasin
(To all my Relatives)

Hygi Waetermans

Kayenta Veterans Organization Secures Non-Profit Status, Invites U.S. President Barack Obama to Award Medal of Honor for Local U.S. Army Veteran Jasper Lake

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – The Kayenta Veterans Organization Corporation, a new non-profit agency with a 501c3 status, has several goals in place that they feel will fall into place easily if Kayenta Monument Valley High School alumni and U.S. Army Veteran Jasper Lake receives his Medal of Honor from the U.S. Congress in the near future. “Right now, we are lobbying on behalf of Jasper Lake. Our next goal is to find the monies to lobby at the State and Federal levels,” says Rick Gray Wednesday night at the Kayenta Chapter meeting. Jasper Lake’s story is an odyssey, so much so that it is his own Platoon that nominated him for the Medal of Honor while he was in the Middle East.

Jasper Lake, an Army Veteran, who served in Iraq for three years, is a graduate of Monument Valley High School Class of 2001. He is 27 years old. At a Kayenta Community recognition ceremony and dinner held at the Monument Valley High School Student Activity Center Auditorium on December 18, 2010, Specialist Jasper Lake of the U.S. Army 73rd Engineer Company was awarded the Bronze Star (placed on as a badge for Specialist Jasper Lake by Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly), Purple Heart (placed



Jasper Lake, an Army Veteran, who served in Iraq for three years, is a graduate of Monument Valley High School Class of 2001.

on as a badge by Rodger Grey), U.S. Army Commendation Medal (placed by Paulson Bronston), the Fidelity Medal, National Defense Medal (placed by T.C. Tso), a Medal for the Iraqi Campaign (placed by Jonathan Nez), a Medal for Iraqi Freedom (placed by Peter Hewey), and his U.S. Army Mechanic and Driver Badge (placed by Larry Nobel).

Jasper’s niece Gailene Bitsuie, 26, took time from her own schedule to work on securing Specialist Jasper Lake’s award as well as continuing to advocate for his United States Congressional Medal of Honor. With the help and support of the Kayenta Veterans Organization, on January 07, 2011, President Joe Shirley Jr., signed into law by Resolution of the Navajo Nation Council CJA-01-11, which reads: “Relating to Human Services; supporting the recommendation of awarding Specialist Jasper Lake the United States Congressional Medal of Honor for his wartime actions during Operation Enduring Freedom and in defense of his fellow soldiers in the 73rd Engineer Company, 1st Brigade (SBCT), 25th Infantry Division (L) and the United States Army, the United States of America and the Navajo Nation.” The lobbying for the award continues at the state level with U.S. Representative and Democrat Ann Kirkpatrick’s office.

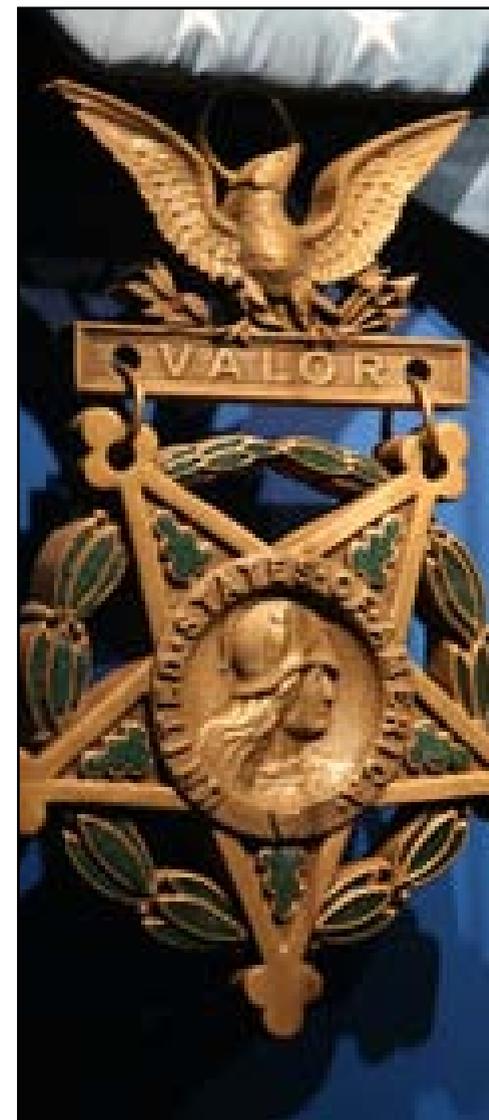
The U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor is usually awarded by the President of the United States. According to the Resolution, and to the Kayenta Veterans Organization, the Kayenta community is extending an open invitation for President Barack Obama to come to Kayenta to present the medal to Specialist Jasper Lake. According to Wikipedia on the Internet, the Congressional Medal of Honor was established by the Joint Resolution of Congress in 1862 under then U.S. President Abraham Lincoln. A Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States.” Since then, there have been 3,454 soldiers in the armed services who have received the Medal of Honor. 85 of them are still living, and 19 soldiers have received the Medal of Honor twice.

Twenty-two (22) Medals of Honor have been awarded to Native Americans, mostly during the American Indian campaigns in the West in the late 1870s and 1880s. In fact in a bit of a shocker, ten of fifteen Medal of Honors were awarded to Apache Scouts who showed “Gallant conduct during campaigns and engagements with the Apache Indians (against their own people!).”

Six medals were awarded to Native Americans during World War II, and three during the Korean War.

Much of the Kayenta Veterans Organization’s work in the year 2010 was working with the Navajo Nation Council and the President’s office making frequent trips to Window Rock. “To begin with, once a Navajo Veteran is honorably discharged from any of the Armed Services, the Navajo Nation should be able to designate at least one (1) acre of land to the Veteran,” continues Veterans Organization Commander Rick Gray. When the organization goes to the Navajo Nation, the State and Federal level, they are lobbying for (in order of priority) : 1) A building for the Kayenta Veterans Organization Corporation; 2) A Public Library; 3) to turn the old Kayenta Clinic into a Veteran’s Hospital with VA doctors, VA Nurses, and VA Counselors once the new Kayenta Alternative Rural Hospital is built; 4) and Veterans’ Housing.

The biggest need at this time, although the Kayenta Veterans Organization is fully operation as a non-profit corporation, is money to travel back and forth to the Arizona State Capital in Phoenix, AZ, to the Federal offices in Washington D.C., and to the Navajo Nation offices in Window Rock.



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In the year 2009, the Kayenta Unified School District #27, Monument Valley High School announced that it had 11 Millennium Gates Scholars, the most on the Navajo reservation, and five Chief Manuelito Scholars. However, within the community, other indicators suggest there is a significant sector of youth still rebelling against the community hierarch by putting up graffiti on public property, juvenile delinquency, alcohol related mischief all points to a population of youngsters still feeling dissatisfied by community norms.

Richard Mike, former Commissioner discussed points made in the article about ideas of justice, and he said, "You have to have money in your hands, to be able to talk about justice. What have Navajos, much less most Native Americans, what have we ever done with the experience of having money?" Nothing, he says. That is why the Kayenta Township has always advocated for a Master 99-year Business Site Leasing, which would give value to the property of business owners and home site lease holders. "Imagine someone who lives on five-acres in Kayenta who can sell one and a half acres of land for \$250,000 so someone can set up a trailer there? A Native American person has never had that kind of an experience, so the idea of freedom and justice is really skewed at this point," Commissioner Mike says. "Now days, it is really sad because we have a student just out of high school working at Burger King. Once the Mustangs are playing the Tuba City Warriors, he's going to abandon his job, take his last check and enjoy a good time for one night. It's just sad the concept our dependence on government handouts has created," he says.

Richard Faithful argues in his essay that when one encumbers upon the practice of law for individuals or communities, American Indian law points to five values which must be addressed: 1) need; 2) happiness; 3) material security; 4) non-exploitation; and 5) non-discrimination. Each value is an equal part of the justice formula," writes Richard Faithful. In the past three years, beginning in 2009, the Kayenta Township Commission has aggressively worked to define its community needs through a five to ten year strategic plan. In that time, the Finance Department, possibly based on these tight focus groups, overcame a huge obstacle by reorganizing its entire accounting system and its audit schedule is now up to date. Now, you can look at the Kayenta Township organization chart and easily recognize how its yearly budget is set up each fiscal period. The Kayenta Township is now in a position to use its strategic planning narratives to apply for Capital Improvement Grants with its best positioning ever.

The essay succinctly lays down the values and goals underlying tribal sovereignty, and attempts to bring in a discussion of ways to improve on community development. Recently, the major players in developing the Kayenta District Multipurpose Justice Center through a grant from the Bureau of Justice – American Recovery Reinvestment Act discussed restorative justice treatment components that will reflect the design and architecture of the new facility. "We are not in the market to build human warehouses," said one of the general contractors. Thus, with the involvement of over 30-people, including the Town Manager, Lieutenant Thinn, Kayenta District Court, Prosecu-



First Lady Martha and Ben Shelly, Navajo President chat with Kayenta Town Manager Hygi Waetermans at the 2011 Inauguration.

tor's Office, Probation, Kayenta Behavioral Health, the contractors, and community leaders, Peacemaker Court, the new Kayenta District Multipurpose Justice Center will feature a culturally sensitive Kayenta District Multipurpose Justice Center that appropriates Navajo culture and traditional values in bringing to the community a sense of justice and/or "restorative justice."

American Indian Law Scholars Amartya Sen and Robert Odai Porter argue that it is precisely a community or a people's "access or opportunity for justice" that makes room for growth and development possible.

Recently on December 10, 2010, after years and perhaps decades of advocacy by human rights activists at all levels of government, President Barack Obama signed and endorsed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. This declaration is valuable to Navajo communities because it recognizes the rights of indigenous, and by extension, the rights of Navajo people who want to preserve their culture, property, and self-determination which means that an effected community that must give up natural resources for the greater good must first give "free, prior, and informed consent" to any outside corporation, government, or special interest.

Furthermore, the release of more than \$210 million to enhance the Kayenta Detention Facility to build the Kayenta Alternative Hospital (scheduled to begin moving dirt in April 2011), and ARRA funding to improve rural roads is more than any sitting United States President has ever done for the town of Kayenta. During a recent press conference, President Barack Obama spoke directly to Native America, "We know that Native Americans die of illness like diabetes, pneumonia, flu - even tuberculosis – at far higher rates than the rest

of the population. Closing these gaps is not just a question of policy, it's also a question of our values," he said.

During the campaign season in 2010, the Navajo Nation seemed fraught with change as Navajo Nation Presidential hopefuls cited the benefits of working with, and making amendments, to Title XVIII of the Navajo Nation Code that deals with natural resources on the Navajo reservation. The Navajo Nation Council had made new Amendments to Title XVIII allowing most Chapter communities to have the ability to sit at the table and have a voice with corporations and special interest groups during the approval, negotiations, and development of natural resources. Then in a major step back, outgoing Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr. vetoed the promising legislation. In a January 11, 2001 press release from the President's office published in the Navajo Hopi Observer states, "The legislation would have given chapters power to disapprove the use and development of resources even if that was in the best interest of the Navajo Nation," he said. "That would impact the government's ability to acquire property and funds for the benefit of the entire Nation," he said.

Time will tell how each Navajo chapter communities will become stakeholders in their own development. Many, like the Shonto Chapter, Ramah Chapter, and Nahat'a Dziil Chapters are looking into forming their own alternative forms of government once they become certified as a Local Government and begin to implement their own plans for development and accounting systems. The Kayenta Township looks forward to working with the President Ben Shelly and Vice President Rex Lee Jim, the honorable Navajo Nation Council Delegate Katherine Benally and the 24-member standing Navajo Nation Council.



KAYENTA HOSPITAL
design development submittal sept 12, 2008

Kayenta Recreation Center Staff Look to a Future Of Community Wellness

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – The month of January, the new year, seemed potent with new opportunities for the Kayenta Recreation Center, as the recreation center hosted six students from the University of Chicago at Urbana-Champaign for one week to do volunteer work, the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Intern Public Outreach Forum on January 18, 2011 went successfully with over 150 participants, and then its two main employees and Recreation Leaders, Joann Begay and Pete Gilmore, went on a retreat under the auspices of the Healthy Native Communities Fellowship at the Franciscan Renewal Center from January 24 to 28th, 2011.

This particular retreat was the first session of the Healthy Native Communities Fellowship, a program of Healthy Native Communities Partnership which was established in collaboration and partnership with Indian Health Service and the National Health Promotion Initiative. At the beginning of the fellowship program, the Co-coordinators Marge Bluehorse-Anderson and Tina Tso, with the Healthy Native Communities-Shiprock Office sent Pete and Joann a formal letter congratulating them for their being chosen as a “team” for the fellowship: Kayenta Recreation Center Outreach Team. “You will experience and practice new skills, gain knowledge and expertise in engaging community members in community transformation towards wellness,” they wrote. “These new learning(s) are applicable to a variety of issues and priorities facing Indian communities – whether it is diabetes prevention, physical activity promotion, or Native language/culture preservation ... you will be encouraged to take “risks” and “stretch” your images and perceptions of yourselves and the communities you partner with.” Both Pete and Joann

say the retreat was “awesome” and that they definitely came away compelled to engage their communities with the ideas they shared with other tribes and Nations who participated.

As an ice-breaker to the actual retreat, the fellowship participants first got to know their new “community” by means of teleconference calls and doing several homework exercises on-line. This part of the learning community is also an ongoing part of the fellowship, which is scheduled to last one year. Two more one week retreats are scheduled in the near future; one to be held in Shiprock, NM from June 18-24, 2011 and another in Washington, D.C. from October 23-28, 2011. Sixteen teams with 42 individuals comprises all the fellowship participants and these teams come from parts of Arizona, Alaska, Illinois, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The participants all come from a cross-section of the professional sector such as public health, schools, clinicians, health care, community development, law enforcement, elected/grassroots leadership and community and social levels.

From its inception in 2003, National Health Promotion Initiative members shared their vision for healthy Native communities in the year 2014. To achieve those goals, they agreed to focus on: 1) building a network of community leaders modeling strengths, resources and abilities; 2) create partnerships that gives each participant community a sense of ownership and feel like they are in charge of their own destiny; 3) increase community participation so that people of all ages are more active – walking, running, biking so that long term the community may see changes in health disparity rates; and 4) build on community capacity so that the children can learn at a young age what “healthy” means to them.



Pete Gilmore, Recreation Leader, talks to a crowd of 42 participants during Healthy Native Communities retreat in Scottsdale, AZ.



Joann Begay, Recreation Leader gives a history of Kayenta Community at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, AZ.

These participants all participate in one way or another in community projects that are already in place. For example, each summer Joann and Pete have been actively helping to organize in the Kayenta Community for the “Honoring Our Elders Elder Fest”, the Just Move It 5K Walk and Fun Run, Walking Together For A Healthier Nation, raising awareness against domestic violence, and various Health Fairs, which are all events that are held at the Kayenta Recreation Center, among other notable events. Some of the events are also Native campaigns which are sponsored by Health Native Communities throughout the country, like the Just Move It series.

On Tuesday evening, Pete and Joann, as the Kayenta Recreation Center Outreach Team were chosen to do the closing of the day’s events. Their closing presentation required them to share something from their Navajo culture and traditions. Their presentation was in front of all 42-members who gathered in a circle. Joann talked about the community of Kayenta and its support of Mustang sports. Joann explained how for most sports, sometimes the whole town basically shuts down so they can travel to state championship tournaments for Volleyball, Basketball, and Football. She talked about how community involvement revolves around the Mustangs, and is even inclusive of other communities like Shonto, Kaibeto, Black Mesa, Forest Lake, Dennehotso, Chilchinbeto, and Rough Rock. One will learn today, that in the early 1950s, these areas which are now communities themselves, was considered as the Kayenta Service Unit by the Indian Health Services. Many from these surrounding communities are proud alumni to the Mustang legacy.

Joann and Pete wore Mustang t-shirts as a display of their community as they explained the community’s history. Afterwards, Pete got up quietly and told everyone that he was going to sing a “Journey Song” in which the Navajo travels to the Four Sacred Moun

tains, and through this powerful poetry and journey song, sings blessings for wellness into “old age and happiness.” Both Joann and Pete said that everyone was very moved by the presentation.

In essence, during this presentation, Pete sang a song for the travels of 16 teams and its 42 individual participants who came from these respective places throughout the United States: Ha:San Team from Sells, AZ, HeSapa Helpers from Rapid City, SD, Mi Hank Mi Vo: ja “Walk In A Good Way” from Peach Springs, AZ, Northern Cheyenne Boys and Girls Club from Lame Deer, MT, Northwest Artic from Kotzebue, Alaska, Princess Warriors from Anchorage, AK, SHARE-Strength, Hope, Awareness, Respect, Education from Polacca, AZ, Team HOPE from Dulce, NM, Three Affiliated Tribes Healthy Communities from New Town, ND, Tohono O’odham Nation from Sells, AZ, Up Town Warriors from Chicago, IL, We Care from Agency Village, SD, WOW-Working on Wellness Team from Tucson, Alaska, and Aberbeen I.H.S Areas, Yavapais Against Substance Abuse Coalition from Fountain Hills, AZ, and Zia Sun from Zia Pueblo, NM.

The Kayenta Recreation Center features a state of the art outside Children’s playground, walking trails, a Skatepark, basketball courts, a gym, a weight room, library, wi-fi internet access, a baseball/softball field, and park style picnic gazebos. During the business week, the center is open from 9:00 am to 9:00 Monday through Thursday. On Friday, the center is open 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. On weekends, the Kayenta Recreation Center is open for rentals to the public for events just by filing out a facility use Agreement, paying a small fee ranging in price from \$150 to \$700 (depending on the event your planning), and you must have your own liability insurance.



Denver Nash surveys excavated area before work begins.

Continued from page 1

The Public Works employees Denver Nash, Scott Benson, Tyson Yazzie, Fred Nelson, Rodger, Zonnie, and Boaz Blair began work on the project and started excavation for the structure on December 01, 2010. Fred Nelson, Heavy Equipment Operator, worked on excavating and preparing the worksite for construction. The slab of concrete, once it was laid out was scheduled to take a week to form. "We are all excited to do the work. I took pictures to document the whole process," said Scott Benson.

However, due to freezing temperatures and inclement weather, the project has had to halt construction until the second week of February. This gave time for the Kayenta Unified School District to provide heavy equipment that can help lay down the 5,000 gallon tank.

"Now that the tank is up, the public can bring their oil change oil extract and dump it here," Scott Benson says. "Once the 5000 gallon tank fills up, it will be taken away to be disposed of properly," Scott said. The Kayenta Township Used Oil Collection Site, will be at the Transfer Station at the North Lot, with a Secured Concrete Containment pad to locate our Large Collection Container which will be set up on the pad, and develop a practice to safe guard this area, and customers can unload their used oil safely.

One of the most positive reasons to have a used oil program are two-fold: 1) used oil can be re-refined as lubricating oil, used a clean fuel, and reprocessed to create many petroleum based products. Recycling it saves this non-renewable resource for future use; and 2) one gallon of used oil can be re-refined into 2.5 quarts of lubricating oil. It takes 42 gallons of crude oil to produce the same amount.

The Kayenta Township and Transfer Station Yard will implement a used oil collection fee for \$0.50 cents a gallon, \$2.50 for 5 gallons, \$10.00 for 20 gallons, etc. Oil will be accepted in containers approve for waste oil. You can unload your waste oil at the used oil collection site beginning in March 2011 when all the safety precautions are in place for public safety.

The time schedule for the used oil site will be as follows, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily. And on Saturday, it will be from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Staff members will have training in handling used oil, and protective equipment will be available for our staff members. Mesa Environmental, a division of Mesa Oil will be the contractor to pick the used oil on a timely scheduled basis.



Cement is laid down December 01, 2010 begin construction



Secondary Containment Structure is Ready with Safety Ballards in Place.



Setting 5,000 gallon tank in Secondary Containment Structure.



Left to Right: Boaz Blair, Pearl Manygoats, Denver Nash, Rodger Zonnie, and Fred Nelson



5,000 gallon tank fits right in place during first attempt.

NAU Student Presents a Spring Break Community Challenge to Clean Up

By Jalen Redhair

Kayenta is a small town that is globally recognized by tourist who flock to this area to visit the majestic Monument Valley, made famous by the numerous John Ford western films. Kayenta also carries deeper meaning to the families and community members who call this place "home". We are very privileged to live in one of the most beautiful areas on earth, being surrounded by gorgeous rock formations, stoic mesas, and breath taking valleys.

Sadly, the current condition of the Kayenta environment does not reflect this beauty nor is there an appreciation of this privilege. Kayenta is our home and should be treated as such, which means we are responsible for keeping our home clean and presentable.

As Native Americans we are truly a part of a struggling race that understands and appreciates the concept of earth. This attitude toward nature is evident in our songs and prayers, our dances and ceremonies, our rich and colorful traditions and culture. Visitors that travel from far and away have a difficult time perceiving this attitude because they perceive scattered trash, neglected dogs, and graffiti. We are better than this, and we need to show it. Our ancestors and past leaders fought and died for our home and endured historical traumas like the "Long Walk" and Kit Carson's Scorched Earth policy. The Navajo are truly blessed to be one of the few tribes to reclaim their sacred homeland within the four sacred mountains.

Growing up we are told to acquire an education through sacrifice, diligence, and determination, in order to graduate from an institution of higher education. Next, we are instructed to return home and use our knowledge and skills towards the benefit of our people. However, it is my personal opinion that our returning students, graduates, and soldiers are shamed at the condition their "home" has become. As a result

they only stay at home for a short period of time and return back to the comforts of city life.

We can change this negative image by volunteering and supporting the "Kayenta Community Clean Up" on March 15, 16, & 17. Meeting times will be held from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Tuesday will focus on the residential areas, such as: mobile home parks, Navajo Housing Authority, Sandstone Estates, Wetherill Heights, Kayenta Community School housing, Kayenta School District housing, Indian Health Service housing, and surrounding homes, including sidewalks. Wednesday we will target the flea market, business areas, such as: gas stations, hotels, Bashas shopping center, Navajo Arts & Crafts, and restaurants. On the last day, Thursday, will be dedicated to the primary, community, intermediate, middle, and high schools, as well as the Indian Health Service clinic, NTUA, and churches.

Sponsors of this project include Navajo Sanitation, Navajo Solid Waste Management, Kayenta Township, Monument Valley High School National Honor Society, and the Northern Arizona student organization "Connecting Higher Education Indigenously." They will be providing volunteers, waste materials, trash bags, gloves, and bottles of water. More sponsors are still being contacted and more materials will be donated since this project will be an important event for the Kayenta community.

Please come out and take an active role in keeping our community clean and beautiful. Let's rise up together and show our friends and family who are off the reservation that their home is clean and welcoming. Make a difference and honor our elders, medicine men, and those who came before us by volunteering our time and energy. The Kayenta Community Clean Up will be a positive and enlightening experience if we stay organized, work together, and support one another.



Join The Fight Against Domestic Violence

By Rebecca Joe

On Wednesday, March 23, 2011 at the Kayenta Recreation Center, Tohdenasshai Shelter Home will be partnering up with the Kayenta Health Education Department and the Kayenta Community Recreation Center to host a Spring Health Fair. The focus of the health fair will be the medical costs, the impacts of domestic violence, AND how departments/agencies respond to victim(s) of domestic violence.

Did you know that: Battery is the #1 cause of injury to women, and the # 1 cause for their homelessness? Did you know that: The annual medical cost of domestic violence is over \$44 million a year? Did you know that: The impacts of domestic violence for victims can be long term, such as in the case of brain injuries, psychological trauma, and/or fatality?

In April 2011, the Tohdenasshai Shelter Home is in the planning stage to host the 1st Annual Sexual Assault Awareness Walk in Kayenta. More details are to be announced at a later date.

The Tohdenasshai Shelter Home is in its 29th year of service as one of two shelters located on the Navajo Reservation which serves a large portion of the northern area. The shelter operates 24 hours a day, year round. Services

include a crisis hotline, intervention-prevention, outreach, talking circles, and community presentations/trainings.

The Tohdenasshai Shelter Home served 76 adults, 117 children and received 229 crisis calls on our 24-hour toll-free hotline from January 2010 through December 2010. During the same time, staff provided educational and outreach services such as information booths, presentations, talking circles, and trainings.

The shelter would like to invite the public to participate in the events planned for the upcoming months. Come show your support to help end domestic violence/sexual assault in our local and surrounding communities. Take the time to acknowledge those who are working directly with individuals and/or families affected by such violence, such as the Police Department, Clinic/ER/Counseling staff, Social Services, District Court, Prosecutor's Office, and many more.

Remember, silence is deadly. No one (children, women, men, elders) deserves to be abused.

For more information, you may contact Tohdenasshai Shelter Home staff at (928) 697-3635 or write to: PO Box 1510, Kayenta, AZ 86033.

Spring HEALTH FAIR

Theme:
Health Cares about Domestic Violence Day

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2011
Location: Kayenta Recreation Center
Time: 9:00am to 2:30pm

Service Providers are encouraged to set up a booth in their area of expertise. Please bring your own tables and chairs.

For more information please call 928-697-3635 or Health Education 928-697-4225/4227

"Healing the Effects of Domestic Violence lies in Honesty, Openness, & Support"
2010 Theme written by: Matthew Hale, MVHS Sophomore

Incentives will be available for participation

Tohdenasshai SHELTER HOME

Continued from page 1

However, perhaps at another Alternative Spring Break, the same undertaking can be explored once again.

For the Kayenta Today, they were asked to write a few words on the last night of their trek to reflect on their experiences. Because they have travelled a long ways to see the people here in the Southwest, the Kayenta Today felt their constructive criticism and insight into area activities were important, perpetual, and that yes, “we all need to work together and communicate.” Thank you again students from the University of Illinois! It was an honor to make a home away from home for you. Their words are printed here, but edited for space:

An international student from China, Vivian wrote her short reply in Chinese characters and then wrote a translation of her words into English: “I’m Vivian from China, this time I attended the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) trip to the Navajo, and I spent an incredibly wonderful week here. First, I was learning a lot of American culture (for me as a Chinese) and, of course, the Native American culture. And I was surprised about what Indian American has done to the world. Second, I’ve been to a lot of amazing places when doing volunteer work. I felt the incredible power that the nature has. Last, what’s the most it’s that the people here really make me feel warm inside. I felt the friendly, generous, honest personalities that Navajo people own. It was definitely an amazing experience in my life that I will never forget! Thank you, Navajo. Thank you, Navajo people.”

- **Vivian Chou**

“The past week in Kayenta has been filled with both volunteerism and incredible learning experiences. What started off as a loosely planned last-minute trip turned into one of the most memorable weeks of my life. The community in Kayenta welcomed our group

as family and took it upon themselves to see that we got the cultural immersion we were so hoping for. The kindness shown by Joann (Begay), Pete (Gilmore), Richard (Mike), and all the other hosts we were lucky to work with this is rare and exceptional.

Our volunteer activities included painting and stocking inventory at the local animal shelter, as well as helping out in elementary school classrooms. We were thoroughly impressed by the hard work and dedication Dr. Begay demonstrated towards improving the community’s animal control, and can only hope that her program is further funded and supported.

Our experiences in the classroom were likewise pleasant; all the children we worked with were receptive and excited to have us around for help. While I feel that our volunteer activities were certainly enjoyable, what we gained the most from this trip was a thorough education about Navajo culture. Our visit to the Navajo Nation Inauguration allowed us to get a glimpse of traditional song, dance, and entertainment, as well as the Nation’s political scene.

We learned a great deal about ancient cultures by visiting the museums and ruins at Monument Valley and Navajo National Monument. Perhaps the most exciting day of our trip involved an off-roading trip in the sand dunes, from which we gained an appreciation for the unique beauty of Kayenta’s landscape.

Throughout our busy schedule, we accomplished and learned a surprising amount, but our greatest accomplishment of all was bonding with all the amazing people we were fortunate enough to meet. We are thankful to these people for such a great week and hope that we will be able to return to Kayenta in the future.”

- **Alexandria Lesicko**



“I really had no idea what to expect when I signed up for this trip to Kayenta. Now, after one week with the people of the community and reservation, I can say that this is one of the best experiences of my life! From the overwhelming kindness and welcome we received on the first night, to the nine of us gathered in the Hampton Inn playing a Navajo card game together, the generosity of spirit and friendliness that has surrounded us is incredible. The reservation, Kayenta, Monument Valley; the land and sights are incredible. I can’t wait to show my family and friends the awesome, breathtaking sites we saw.

I can’t believe how lucky I am to have gotten this opportunity to interact with the Navajo and physical environment in a way that few have. The generosity and large hearts of the people of Kayenta is a rare and unique treasure, especially to the community. Few people are as welcoming and kind as the citizens of Kayenta have been to us.

Over the last week, we have developed a close knit family, one that I do not want to leave and am sad that I have to leave so soon. Joann, Pete, Tommy, Bunno, and Richard have been utterly outstanding in their kindness and open arms they have shown to us. From going to the Inauguration and seeing a Pow-Wow to driving through the sand dunes trying to find Clara’s Arch to driving through Monument Valley ... every single day was a dream.

What made our stay even better was getting the opportunity to help the community. Volunteering at the animal shelter and elementary school was so much fun it really opened my eyes to the need for animal clinics, adoption centers and the inner workings and difficulties of elementary schools.

One more thing that has made this trip amazing is the exposure to the Navajo culture and traditions. As an anthropology student, I found this fascinating and loved learning as much as I could. I had absolutely no idea about the traditions and beliefs of the Navajo! I can’t wait to tell my family and friends about the cool cultural aspects I learned and saw. I thank everyone for this amazing week and experience. I have

had the time of my life and will never forget Kayenta or its people.”

- **Kelsey Anderson**

“First, this was a great experience for everyone who came on this trip and none are likely to forget it. We learned a lot about Navajo culture from our experiences and will be bringing this new knowledge to our own communities.

Second, Joanne and Pete were the best possible hosts for this trip. Despite the general lack of communication between Township and ASB, they were able to pull together new things to do each day. I feel it might have gone even smoother if we had been working directly with the rec. center and thereby skipping the middleman effect.

Third, our volunteering was limited and not what we initially had discussed, yet it was some of the best and most rewarding volunteering we have done. Working with Dr. Begay on painting the animal shelter was both fun and rewarding. We felt that we finished an important and time sensitive project for a place that direly needs extra help. Also, working with the kids at the Intermediate school was great and it brought us closer to what we had planned for our original trip.

Fourth, the cultural experiences we gained were broad and fascinating. Many of us feel that this has only added to our interest. The visits to various landscape sights was beautiful and the trip to Window Rock was something we can never forget. For most of the group it was their first Pow-Wow experience and for me, I felt I was a part of American Indian history-in-the-making as I watched the Inauguration.]

Fifth, although we didn’t get to do much work with RECA, I am in contact with the director of “Return of Navajo Boy” and will be working to bring it to University of Illinois [sic]. It would have been nice to do more with the RECA event, especially since we donated \$200 to the event, but I am glad to have made a new connection between the Navajo reservation and U of I.

Overall, this was an amazing cultural experience for all of us and we will be sure to bring back what we have learned to U of I.”

- **Lindsey Stirek, Site Facilitator, ASB**



“This is the very last night we are spending in Kayenta, AZ and I cannot believe the experience we have had, it reels surreal. Each day I have texted my mom the following: “You are going to be so jealous!” Joanne and Pete have been the BEST tour guides, their hospitality has been overwhelming. Everything we have seen thanks to Joanne and Pete has been phenomenal. I cannot thank them both enough between driving to different areas and seeing ancient Anasazi ruins, nothing could have put a damper on this week. In fact, getting stuck in the sand was actually a lot of fun! This allowed us all to bond and work as a team. Off-roading was amazing!

I wish, however, that we could have volunteered more; and helped out more in the community. I believe that the lack of volunteer work had to do with poor communication between Township and ASB. Having said that, I believe Joanne made the best of a somewhat minute situation and has, again, been the best tour guide we could have asked for.

The area is amazing! Having lived in Illinois the majority of my life, I was shocked and in awe of the canyons, color, sand dunes, and wild horses.

The school was a treat to volunteer at! I worked primarily with ESS and loved my experience. The kids (Mrs. Weiss’ class) were wonderful! I was especially touched by how helpful and kind the kids were. As well as how

eager to help and engaged in learning activities they were. They are truly wonderful children.

Dr. Begay and Frank (Ramsey) from the Animal Shelter are truly inspirational people. Being pre-vet myself, I was so pleased to see their incredible, hard work, and dedication to both the animals and people of the area. We hope the Township continues to support their efforts. We must learn to respect not only each other but all beings. This is also a wonderful lesson to teach in the community!!

The other members of the community were also all nothing less of extraordinary! Tommy Yazzie, Richard Mike, among others were extremely kind and we thank them from the bottom of our hearts for taking time from their schedules to show us the beautiful area. I was floored by the areas rich culture and scenery.

Pat (Billy) was so accommodating and so wonderful for taking 6 of us in even though her hot water was out; we had an amazingly cozy trip. Her suggestion of the Inauguration in Window Rock was wonderful! The Pow-Wow was such an awesome experience! It was my first, but will NOT be my last!

Oh behalf of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ASB, I thank Kayenta, AZ for their accommodations, kind people, and fantastic stories that we can share with our own communities.”

– Anna Kropornicka

“After arriving during a snow storm in Kayenta Arizona after a 20-hour drive, we were uncertain as to what was in store for us during the upcoming week. A knock on the window alerted our attention, and the smiling face of Joan immediately assured us of a wonderful upcoming week. Shortly after Pete arrived and it became clear that they had worked hard to establish places for us to stay. The places we resided in were not affiliated with the Navajo government, and were in residents’ homes. This experience alone paralleled that of many others, and reflected strongly on the generosity and kindness of many Navajo in Kayenta.

During our trip, we journeyed from the depths of Monument Valley to the Presidential Inauguration in Window Rock. This gave us a great glimpse of the intricacies inherent in Navajo culture, as well as the passion and love for the land exhibited by many Navajo. In addition, we experienced the beautiful works of art produced by Navajo artisan hands, as well as the Code Talkers honorable deeds that were so deeply rooted in courage and bravery. We also learned much about the ancient people known as

Anasazi, who spent many years calling the land between the four sacred mountains home.

While we were not learning directly about Navajo culture, we spent many hours working on volunteer projects around Kayenta. We succeeded in painting rooms at the Kayenta veterinary office with anti-microbial paint, helping ensure the health of animals being evaluated and operated upon. We also were able to work with children at local schools, where we met enthusiastic faculty such as Mr. Whiley who were selflessly committed to the highest degree towards the children and their happiness.

Taken together as a whole, the experience acquired in the Navajo Nation will never be forgotten, and I will definitely be returning in the future with my family. Aside from the natural beauty and the kindness of the people, I feel the depth of culture is essential to share with those in my life. I would like to thank again Pete and Joan as well as all the others who made this a truly remarkable experience.”

– Lee Replogle



Rodger Grey: New Township Commissioner

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – In the 2010 election year, we have two new Commissioners who were elected to serve a four year term from January 12, 2011 when they were sworn into office at Navajo Nation Inauguration in Window Rock, Arizona. Since then, they have attended a special work session and their first meeting regular monthly meeting will be held February 14, 2011 at the Kayenta Town Hall.

1. Please give me a little introduction about yourself, your education, profession, and personal interests.

I was born at the VCA Mine in Monument Valley; my childhood upbringing took place within the vicinity of Dennehotso and Lukachukai while I attended about four BIA schools until I graduated from Coconino High School in the early 70’s. I am an Alumnus and member of the first graduating class of Devry University. Before my graduation in December of 1975, I was hired and I am still employed by Peabody Western Coal Company since January 1976. I

specialize in Electronic and Electrical; the same in the Industrial field. My personal interests are rebuilding old cars and trucks; and I am cattle rancher, whenever time permits.

2. What do you think is the most intriguing thing about Kayenta, what makes the town of Kayenta interesting for you?

I have made Kayenta my home now for over thirty-five years. Kayenta is not near a border or railroad town to which one might consider it primitive to the outside world just because Kayenta is located over one hundred miles from these early urbanized reservation towns, like Window Rock or Tuba City. Kayenta is like a young candidate, it is a small developing town with fresh and enthusiastic ideas for growth. I am proud to be a resident of Kayenta, it’s the first community on the Navajo Nation to become a Township and I am passionate to take part in directing it into a Municipal City for the future; it makes me wonder what the Wetherills were thinking as they first settled here, to this I like to think that they envisioned a city here someday.

3. What is one of the most interesting memories you have experienced or are aware of - that has taken place in Kayenta?

I remember the NHA Houses being built; old Warren Trading Post being dismantled; Peabody Western Coal Co. Trailer Park; our first new high school being built; and tourist traveling through our town to Canyon de Chelly, Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Navajo National Monument, etc . I remember Kayenta not having enough accommodations for these travelers.

4. How did you decide to run for Commissioner, and why?

I am aware of KTC meetings where I felt either the commissioners or KTC staff need help from diverse educated and experienced supporter to help make informed and precise decisions; I am a supporter for Kayenta Township to become a prosperous City. I am not in competition nor am I trying to build self-prestige, but to make use of my expertise and my management capabilities to help Kayenta Township grow in the right direction with the best possible expenditure.

5. Now that you are a Commissioner, what are some of the important issues that you would like to work on? What are some of the changes you would like to see happen in the community?

I would like to see plans for the new hospital a success; to work on utilizing the full usage of our Airport; KTC should not be viewed as a full contributor to local clubs/organization without financial documentations to reflect self-sustainability. It is easy to say what types of changes need to happen but changes in our community is a community effort, not everyone in our community see things the same way. I will be attentive to issues as they arise throughout my term and will use my best judgments for each outcome; the bottom line is we need to work as a community.



N.A.T.I.V.E. Central Campus is Slated to Begin Phase One Construction in Late February 2011

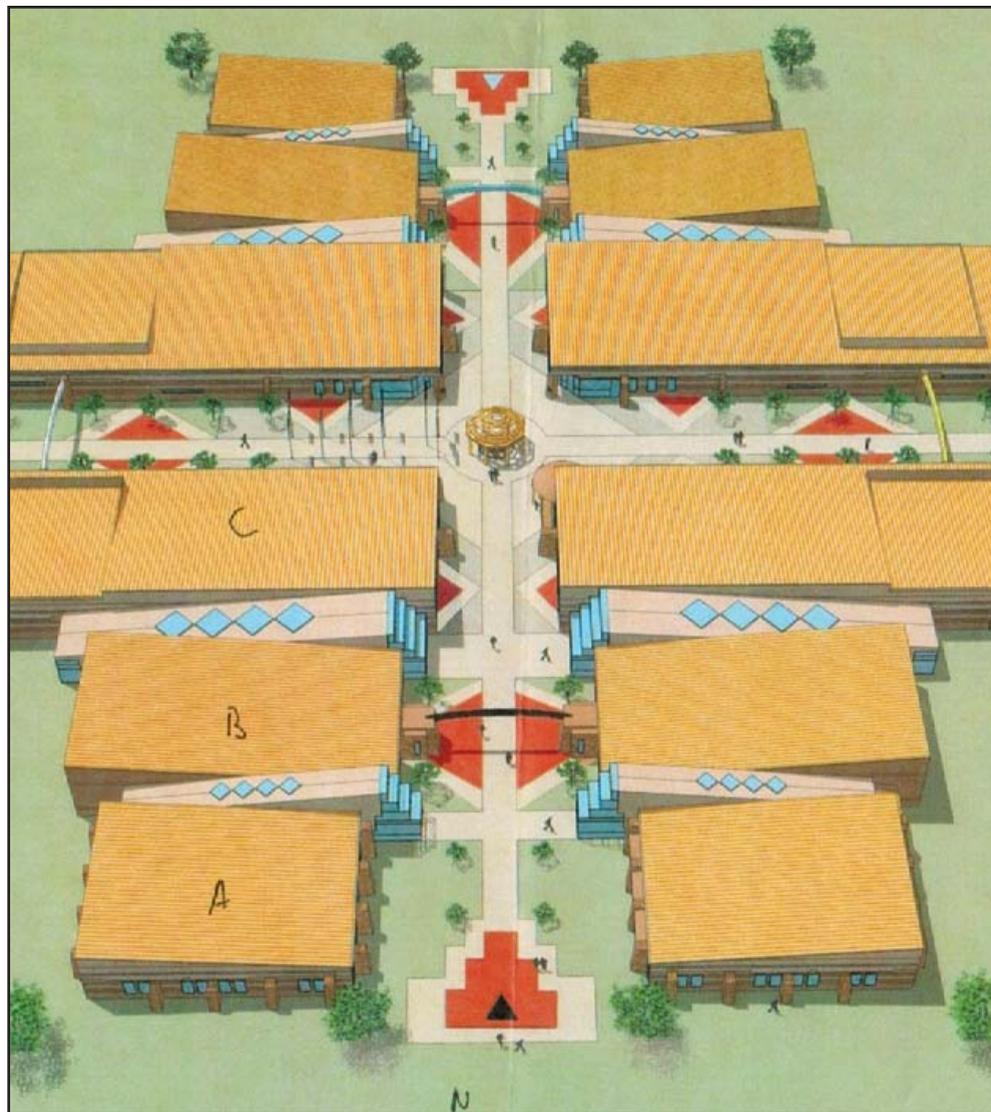
By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – All the words, messages, and themes pointed out in the recent State of the Nation address by President Barack Obama stands out when one considers the recent decision for the town of Kayenta to move forward to begin the first phase of construction of the N.A.T.I.V.E. campus. It is now scheduled begin the fourth week of February 2011. The Northeast Arizona Technical Institute for Vocational Education campus has found the necessary monies to cover the costs to build buildings A,B, and C of the campus, which will complete the northeast corridor of the 12-building(s) school complex.

When addressing the need for higher education for American citizens, Obama stated in his State of the Union address “We measure progress by the success of our people. By the jobs they can find and the quality of life these jobs offer. By the prospects of a small business owner who dreams of turning a good idea into a thriving enterprise. By the opportunities for a better life that we pass on to our children. That’s the project the American people want to work on together,” he said to uncontrollable applause. And here on the Navajo reservation and even here in K-town, the competition for jobs, although scarce, has become a reality that has hit home.

The mission of the N.A.T.I.V.E. campus project is to “provide quality industry-driven career and technical education to empower all Native students with skills and knowledge to access opportunities in local, regional, and global workforce.” The first phase of the project will allow administrative and educational space to begin teaching some of the school’s core programs in buildings A, B, and C, such as culinary arts, media-tv production, medical sciences, power-structural-technical-systems, hospitality, and automotive technology.

Finance Department Director at Kayenta Township, Sylvia Yazzie, says, “It’s true when Obama says we need to invest in the young people as they will be our future leaders. The same is true here in Kayenta, but at the same time, we need to maintain and sustain our cultural values. Through such programs such as N.A.T.I.V.E., we can become more open to the private sector. We must be prepared to have outside interests come onto the Navajo reservation, and have laws in place for them to abide by. The bottom line is that we cannot compromise our sovereignty. People need to respect our government.” At the



A conceptual drawing of the N.A.T.I.V.E. complex.

township, it is reiterated at almost every meeting that the private sector is very important to our economy. “The world is changing daily, and we need to be keeping up with that,” she says.

N.A.T.I.V.E. was formed in November 2002, became operational in July 2003 with “district satellite sites” set up at Chinle High School, Ganado High School, Pinon High School, Monument Valley High School, Red Mesa High School, Tuba City High School, Valley Sanders High School, and Window Rock High School. A board member is appointed to N.A.T.I.V.E. District from each of the eight satellite sites. Its central office is located in Kayenta, Arizona.

While applying for additional funding to various foundations and educational programs, the N.A.T.I.V.E. project highlights two important issues facing the Navajo Nation. One, there is a serious, real lack of career training facilities on the Navajo Nation. And two, those Navajo students who do go away to nearby cities or border towns for career training, many of them return home without having completed their training. According to N.A.T.I.V.E.’s background narrative, and given that the Four

Corners region is heavy with potential to grow as a tourism and hospitality industry, the N.A.T.I.V.E. district leadership cites that the “Four Corners region which includes the Navajo Nation is in a trained workforce shortage crisis.” Currently, given its satellite sites in eight locations, N.A.T.I.V.E. District has no facilities of its own yet. A N.A.T.I.V.E. District Campus and Administrative Offices located in Kayenta, Arizona will be central and accessible to all satellite sites.

The campus has already negotiated a building site lease for 25-years with the Kayenta Township, which is a municipal government with “home rule delegation” and authority within the Kayenta community. The township allocated 14.9 acres of land for the construction of the N.A.T.I.V.E. District Central Campus. At a January 27, 2011 meeting with the Kayenta Township, Frankie Gilmore announced that the N.A.T.I.V.E. board members approved \$3.4 million to begin construction. FCI Contractors, Inc. is the General Contractor and Tim O’Malley, with the O’Malley Group, is the Project Manager. Meetings with contractors and engineers are now held weekly.

According to its master plan in the N.A.T.I.V.E. background narrative, Building 1 (which consists of Phase one’s buildings A,B, and C) will accommodate the following administrative and educational programs: 1)Renewable Energy/PST Classroom; 2) Media TV Production; 3) Medical Services lab, Flex Classrooms; 4) Conference Center/ Meeting rooms; 5) Hospitality Classroom; 6) Hospitality Student Store; 7) IT NOC and closets; 8) Four Administrative offices and Conference Rooms; 9) Restrooms, two males and two women; and 10) Support Services space around the administrative offices.

Once Phase One of the project is complete, funding from outside resource is more likely and access roads to its school will qualify for priority lists a little bit easier, explained Mr. Gilmore. Funding for Phases Two and Three has been requested from Navajo Housing Authority’s NAHASDA funds, and N.A.T.I.V.E. District will continue to receive funding from state taxes to complete its central campus in Kayenta. Once the N.A.T.I.V.E. Central Campus is complete, the project’s sustainability reports that in the beginning of its first three years in operation, it will be able to host and accommodate 150 students. The goal is to accommodate a total of 900 students when its operating at capacity.

When the N.A.T.I.V.E. campus, Phase One begins construction on Monday, it is estimated 25 employees will be working full time to set the foundation and ground work. Afterwards, the construction phases is projected to employ as much as 400 people.



Township Begins Planning For Green Building Program

By Malcolm Benally

On August 9th 2010 during the monthly town meeting, the Township Commission adopted the 2006 International Building Code (IBC). The unanimous vote of 4-0-0 established the first municipal building code on the Navajo Nation. The months that followed adoption of the IBC the Development Services Department contracted R. McCoy Consulting to develop administrative guidelines for a Building & Safety Department. The new department is responsible for enforcing a minimum standard of construction within township boundaries. The Building & Safety Department was fully established on December 8th 2010.

Currently the department is working with the project managers of the new detention and N.A.T.I.V.E facilities to provide certified building inspections and plan reviews. Building permit documents tracking the construction compliance path will also be provided upon issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy. The department is also seeking entities outside township boundaries to provide these services.

The Building and Safety Department has also taken the steps needed to begin a green building program. The adoption of the 2010 International Green Construction Code (IgCC) is on the February 14, 2011 town meeting agenda. The IgCC is still under development along with the Township Zoning Ordinance, so at this time the Township will be adopting this code on a voluntary basis.

Green Building is a concept communities are trying to incorporate into their General Plan as a sustainable measure. The depletion of natural resources and cost to the environment to obtain daily comfort is what drives this initiative. Having our Zoning Ordinance contain green building practices puts us in the category of planned development for long term sustainability. The final action hearings for the IGCC are scheduled for November 2-6, 2011. Our zoning ordinance is scheduled for completion in December 2011.

The green building program is not directed only at construction of buildings, but the placement of those buildings within the community. The reduction in

an individual's carbon footprint by placing necessary and recreational buildings with limited travel reduces energy consumption on many levels. Multiply by the population and the reoccurrences of this activity is an example of reducing a person's carbon footprint or impact on resources consumed to perform a daily task.

The immediate benefit would be Kayenta is in compliance with section 410 of ARRA requirements. By adopting of an energy code above the required criteria and developing a plan to achieve 90 % compliance by 2017. The community does have an ARRA funded project beginning in March 2011 and has accepted grants funded by ARRA. Building green doesn't necessarily mean construction with conceptual material but obtaining those materials within the region, again to reduce consumption of energy due to delivery. Hogans with traditional construction has the thermal mass to retain energy, but it's the moisture and vapor infiltration that weakens the system.

The incentives the department can offer could be reduction in permit cost and some of these projects may also qualify to be subsidized by grants. Most utility companies also offer rebates for efficient construction and appliances. But at this time NTUA has not offered this incentive. They have been advertising for a Renewable Energy Specialist (closes 2/11/2011), so maybe a green program is in the early stages of development.

The Building and Safety Department is directed by Philbert Tso; Building Official. Mr. Tso was hired June 14th 2010. The knowledge he brings to the township is a combination of being an Arizona licensed General (B-1) Contractor, Plumbing (C-37R) Contractor, and certified Commercial/Residential Building Inspector. Before township employment Philbert served as a New Mexico State Building Inspector, covering 18,000 square miles of northwestern New Mexico also Building and Zoning Official for the City of Gallup, NM. Prior to joining the public sector Philbert was employed by code compliant firms as a contract building inspector in Northern California and Southern Arizona.



Arizona Commerce Authority Awards Funds to Rural Organizations

By Kimberly Gale

Arizona Department of Commerce

Kayenta, AZ - The Arizona Commerce Authority announced the awarding of \$2 million dollars to 21 rural organizations throughout Arizona via the Rural Economic Development Grant Program. Estimated to create more than 500 full-time jobs and 80 part-time jobs, applications were received from 75 organizations in just 30 days in response to the request for proposals.

Organizations will use their share of the grant money to initiate projects that will support economic development through job growth and capital investments.

"In our quest for economic growth and job creation, a statewide approach is vital in our efforts to advance Arizona," said Governor Jan Brewer. "By focusing resources and efforts in our rural communities, we can ensure that business formation and growth stems from every region of the state, for a well-rounded and inclusive economic engine."

The grants, made available from funding by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, are designed to give financial assistance to cities, towns, counties, and tribal communities for local economic development efforts. Additionally, the program encourages economic development in rural areas by providing organizations with matching funds to create jobs, manage community resources, and develop community marketing strategies that encourage capital investment and produce statewide benefits. It is estimated that more than

\$12.8 million in matched and leveraged funds will result from the Arizona Commerce Authority's initial funding.

"We are proud to support such deserving communities in rural Arizona. Most have very limited budgets, and grants such as these help provide assistance to attract new business development from other states and provide resources for rural communities to seek, retain, and expand existing businesses," said Don Cardon, President and CEO of the Arizona Commerce Authority. "This is truly what the ACA is about, creating and retaining jobs in Arizona. We are eager to see the success this funding brings to those communities and our state," added Cardon.

Grant recipients were selected based on a competitive application process, with each application comprehensively analyzed by a review committee comprised of members of the Arizona Rural Business Advisory Council.

Among the 21 grant recipients the Kayenta Township received \$75,000 in grant monies to build infrastructure- a sewer line - 1/3 mile north off of Highway 163 between Kayenta Family Chiropractic and Amigos Café. This prime business area will potentially become a business lease area for a medical supply and transportation office, an expanding business out of Tempe, Arizona. The grant was spearheaded by the Economic Development Department Director at the Kayenta Township.



Navajo Song and Dance Steps Up Its Game

This year, the Kayenta Recreation Center is expanding its programs a bit by focusing on bringing in programs focusing on cultural heritage and finding programs that are centered on its recent venture with the Health Native Communities initiative: healthy lifestyles.

The District 8, Navajo Song and Dance committee members Melvin Austin, Harry Brown, Della Nelson, Martha Most, and the Kayenta Township Public Information Officer met recently in late January to discuss the Fourth of July Festivities and its ties to the annual Navajo Song and Dance.

In order to find as many venues other than just traditional advertising, the Song and Dance committee wants to take a pro-active role in promoting the cultural heritage through hosting its social song and dance events throughout the year leading up to the Fourth of July. "Although the song and dance has grown due to the Fourth of July Festivities, these events are held mainly for the children," says Harry Brown, President. "We are not some big money machine. But, the children and their families get a lot of enjoyment and education from these events," he says.

The partnerships that the Kayenta Township, Kayenta Chapter, and Kayenta Recreation Center have established throughout time have begun to consistently grow from year to year. In order to accommodate all the events, the need to put together a Kayenta Recreation planning committee is becoming a time sensitive issue. Right now, a "Kayenta Recreation Planning Committee" is forming to explore grants to address the most important need at this time: a new multi-purpose, multi-use Kayenta Recreation Center. The Kayenta Recreation Center is open Monday through Thursdays from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. Fridays, the center is open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. And unless there are public events scheduled, the center is closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

Leading up to the Fourth of July Festivities, the District 8 Fourth of July Festivities will include:

Navajo Nation Swingers

Sunday, February 27, 2011, Navajo Nation Swingers, 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

Friday, March 18, 2011, Navajo Nation Swingers, 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

Friday, March 25, 2011, Navajo Nation Swingers, 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

Friday, April 22, 2011, Navajo Nation Swingers, 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

Saturday, May 28, 2011, Navajo Nation Swingers, 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

Sunday, June 11, 2011, Navajo Nation Swingers, 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday, July 2nd & 3rd, 2011, Navajo Nation Swingers, 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

March Events 2011:

"Healing the Effects of Domestic Violence Lies in Honesty, Openness, and Support." For the month of March, the Tohdenasshai Shelter Home, the Kayenta Health Education Department, and the Kayenta Recreation Center will be partnering to host a Spring Health Fair Focus on Medical Costs on Wednesday, March 23, 2011, 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. (Bring Your Own Tables And Chairs To This Event). For more information, call Tohdennashai Shelter Home at (928) 697-3635 or Health Education (928) 697-4225.

For more information on other events happening at the Kayenta Recreation Center, please call: Community Involvement Coordinator Malcolm Benally at (928) 697-8451.

