

2008
ELECTION
EDITION

THE KAYENTA TODAY

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



Fall 2008



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Arizona State Representative

Christopher Deschene – Democrat

Ya'at'ehh (Hello), I am running to serve Northern Arizona, Years ago, my elders taught me to learn all I can about the world so that one day I may return my blessings. Since my days at the United States Naval Academy and throughout my service as a United States Marine Corps officer with hardened infantry and reconnaissance units, I have learned what strength, integrity, and courage means to leadership. Now as an attorney, engineer, and business owner, I have employed my professional skills to assist many communities build their infrastructures, their economies, and their resources. With my family and friends, I have also seen what service and sacrifice can do to change our world. I believe in reasoned and balanced solutions for our rural district. I believe in strengthening our communities through our active service, our diversity, and our commitment to our values. I am a husband, father, and Native son who will work for your issues and concerns. Accordingly, I'm running to bring a strong voice and reasonable leadership to the State Capitol. Your vote and support is critical. I hope you will join me during this journey. Ahe'hee (Thank you).



Tom Chabin – Democrat

I have served as your Representative since September 2007. With your help, we can challenge the republican leadership in the Legislature and make government more responsive to our needs. Education is an industry in Northern Arizona. Northern Arizona University and our k-12 schools employ thousands and is the backbone of our economy throughout District 2. Arizona ranks 49th in per student funding and nearly last in classroom standards. I will work to shift the primary source of education funding from local property taxpayers to the state, because we must make a greater investment in education. I will continue to be a voice for our environment. Our summers are increasingly warm and our forests are at risk of fires that have wiped out entire communities. We need to implement reasoned and attainable environmental standards. I will fight to establish reasonable consumer protection in mortgage lending. The failure to regulate predatory lenders has robbed everyone of the security of their home value. We need to protect our home values through reasonable banking regulations. Since serving in the Legislature, I have worked hard for these changes. Please vote for representative Tom Chabin this November and let's move Arizona forward.

Arizona State Senate



Albert Hale – Democrat

I have served in the Arizona State Senate representing legislative District No. 2 since 2003. It is an honor to serve the residents of the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Nation, the Hualapai Nation, the Havasupai Nation, and the City of Flagstaff. The issues of LD2 are as diverse as its people. However, they are common issues that transcend the differences. Those issues include K-12 to college education for our children, housing issues, water rights, and availability, economic development, preservation of the unique beautiful Arizona lands, relations with Indian nations and other governmental entities and many others. Indian nations and native Americans pay taxes; Indian nations that are into gaming share their gaming profits with the state. Yet, the return on those taxes to Indian nations and Native Americans are limited. I have advocated for common resolutions that are beneficial to all of Arizona and its people. I support and advocate for funding and adequate services for the people of Arizona. I am committed to continue such support and advocacy. Thank you for allowing me to represent you and serve as your Senator from LD2.



Royce Jenkins – Republican

This election Candidates will be asking for your votes such as I am asking. I ask voters across the district to take a good look at the candidates who will best represent you. The past two elections District 2 elected representatives with unacceptable voting, attendance, and financial reporting. My most important priority is to bring integrity, accountability, visibility, and work full time as Senator unlike the current incumbent who only has a personal agenda by letting down District 2 by missing over 200 votes in 2006 and 118 votes in 2007 with 30 unexcused absences. School Districts allow 10 unexcused absences for students and then that student is expelled. Our natural resources must be respected and protected. We must wisely consider the use of alternative renewable energy. I will advocate for our veterans and their families. I will represent all the people in my District. As you may have heard the budget is a critical issue alone and will impact many programs across the state. Through hard work and integrity I will work diligently with my peers, identifying solutions for a balanced budget. Thank you.



Arizona's 2008 Propositions

Arizona Proposition 100

Known by its supporters as the Protect Our Homes Act, will be on the November 4, 2008 ballot as a citizen-initiated constitutional amendment. If enacted, it amends Article IX of the Arizona Constitution.

The sponsor's statement describes the measure this way: "this Initiative prohibits the government from charging any new tax on the sale or transfer of real property in Arizona. Currently, there are no real property sales or transfer taxes in Arizona. However, the government could enact a real property sale or transfer tax at any time. This Initiative would prohibit the enactment of any new real property sales or transfer tax by a constitutional amendment."

Proposition 101

Known by its supporters as Medical Choice for Arizona or the Freedom to Choose Act will be on the November 4, 2008 ballot in Arizona as a citizen-initiated constitutional amendment.

The supporters say their goal is to "prevent socialized medicine or further heavy regulation of medical care and health insurance" in the state. Titled "Arizona - Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" and advanced by Medical Choice for Arizona, the measure aims to prevent "many of the abuses associated with socialized medicine and restricting its form to either residual welfare or a voucher system."

Arizona Proposition 102

Known by its supporters as the Marriage Protection Amendment, will appear on the November 4, 2008 ballot in Arizona as a legislatively-referred constitutional amendment. If enacted, it will amend the Arizona Constitution to define marriage as between one man and one woman.

State law already prohibits same-sex marriage, and Arizona courts have upheld that ban. However, ban supporters contend it also needs to be in the Constitution in order to prevent future court rulings in favor of same-sex marriage.

Arizona is the only state whose voters have rejected a same-sex marriage ban. The 2006 rejection of Proposition 107 was widely attributed to provisions interpreted to prohibit government recognition of domestic partnerships and civil unions.

Arizona Proposition 105

Known by its supporters as the Majority Rules Initiative, would require that a majority of registered voters—not just a majority of voters casting ballots—approve all ballot measures that raise state taxes or fees or otherwise obligate government spending before such a proposal can become law. The requirement proposed by Proposition 105 is sometimes known as a double majority. The measure was certified for the November 2008 ballot in Arizona as a citizen-initiated constitutional amendment.

The official ballot language for the measure reads:

To protect the will of the people of Arizona for fiscal responsibility through true majority rule, any initiative that imposes additional taxes or spending must have support from a majority of qualified electors in Arizona. Currently, initiatives that increase taxes or spending can pass with approval from only a minority of qualified electors. In the past, big money, special interest groups have pushed higher spending and taxes. Arizona now faces one of the largest deficits of any state in the country. We must protect the will of the people and let a true majority of the voters decide.

Arizona Proposition 200

Known as the Payday Loan Reform Act, will appear on the November ballot in Arizona as a citizen-initiated constitutional amendment.

The payday-loan initiative is primarily backed by the payday-loan business in the state, and is less restrictive than the Stop Payday Loans Initiative, sponsored by Rep. Marion McClure, D-30, and Sen. Debbie McCune Davis, D-14. That measure was withdrawn in early June when not enough signatures were being collected to qualify it for the ballot.

The 100-word description filed with the Arizona Secretary of State's office for this initiated state statute reads:

"Arizonans use payday lending services everyday to meet unforeseen expenses and financial emergencies. The payday lending industry is set to be eliminated and the Arizona Legislature refuses to enact reforms to benefit borrowers while preserving this important financial option. This measure will bring dramatic pro-consumer reform to payday lending and preserve consumer choice. It includes a substantial rate cut, eliminates rolling-over principal to extend a loan, creates a repayment plan at no cost to customers that can't meet their obligations, and inhibits a borrower's ability to obtain more than one loan at a time."

Arizona Proposition 201

Known by its supporters as the Homeowners Bill of Rights, will appear on the November ballot in Arizona as a citizen-initiated state statute. The measure, which is sponsored by the Valley Labor Union, aims to establish a minimum 10-year warranty on new homes, mandatory disclosures of financial arrangements and pricing and new rights on fixing home defects and returns of deposits. The initiative's supporters filed about 260,000 signatures on June 30 with the Arizona Secretary of State, versus a requirement of 153,000 signatures.

Specifically, the measure calls for:

- A 10-year warranty on a new home's materials and workmanship;
- Extending the statute of limitations for bringing a court action to 10 years from eight;
- Giving an aggrieved homeowner the right to choose among three contractors with complaint-free records to fix any repairs that might be needed in the home;
- Rewriting the rules on attorney fees; homeowners could sue without worry of being held responsible for builders' attorney costs.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4
Arizona Proposition 202

Known by its supporters as the Arizona Stop Illegal Hiring Act, will appear on the November ballot in Arizona as a citizen-initiated state statute. The measure, which is sponsored by former Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Pacheco, mandates that citizen complaints against businesses be signed and dated instead of being anonymous. The petition would also punish those that use fraudulent or stolen identification, targeting the cash labor market. The group has been associated with Wake Up, Arizona! A business coalition that vowed to redefine the current law.

Supporters of the measure filed signatures on July 1 to qualify it for the November 4, 2008 ballot. On August 7, Deputy Secretary of State Kevin Tyne announced that Proposition 202 had more than enough signatures to qualify for the ballot.

Proposition 202 changes current Arizona law that prohibits employers from intentionally or knowingly employing an alien who is not authorized under federal law to work in the United States. Under Proposition 202, the definition of “knowingly employ an unauthorized alien” would be changed to require actual knowledge by an owner or officer of the employer.

Proposition 202 provides that a state, county or local official, in attempting to verify with the federal government if a person is authorized to work in the United States, is to rely solely upon the processes and procedures set forth in federal law.

Proposition 202 allows any person to file a written and signed complaint with the attorney general or county attorney that an employer in this state was either intentionally or knowingly employing an unauthorized alien in this state. If a person files a false or frivolous complaint, the person would be guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor. If the complaint is found to be valid, the appropriate federal and local officials would be notified by the attorney general or the county attorney. The county attorney would be authorized to bring an action against an employer only for violations that occur beginning January 1, 2009.

Proposition 202 mandates courts to impose certain penalties for the first violation in a three-year period:

- Confirm that the employer has terminated or will terminate the employment of all unauthorized aliens in this state.

- Order the employer to be subject to a three-year probationary period and file quarterly reports with the county attorney of each new employee hired at the location where the unauthorized alien performed work.

- Order the employer to sign an affidavit stating that the employer has terminated the employment of all unauthorized aliens in this state and that the employer will not knowingly or intentionally employ any unauthorized aliens in this state. If the affidavit is not signed, all licenses held by the employer that are necessary for the employer to operate the employer’s business at the business location where the unauthorized alien performed work would be suspended until the affidavit is signed. If there are no licenses held by the employer specific to that business location, the court would be required to order the suspension of all licenses held by the employer at the employer’s primary place of business in this state. The court would be authorized to order that the business licenses of the employer be suspended for no more than ten days if certain factors are present.

Proposition 202 mandates courts to impose certain penalties for the first intentional violation in a five-year period: For a first intentional violation in a five-year period, the court shall:

- Confirm that the employer has terminated or will terminate the employment of all unauthorized aliens in this state.

- Order the employer to be subject to a five-year probationary period and file quarterly reports with the county attorney of each new employee hired at the location where the unauthorized alien performed work.

- Order the employer to sign an affidavit stating that the employer has terminated the employment of all unauthorized aliens in this state and that the employer will not knowingly or intentionally employ any unauthorized aliens in this state. If the affidavit is not signed, all licenses held by the employer that are necessary for the employer to operate the employer’s business at the business location where the unauthorized alien performed work would be suspended until the affidavit is signed. If there are no licenses held by the employer specific to that business location, the court would be required to order the suspension of all licenses held by the employer at the employer’s primary place of business in this state.

- Order the appropriate agencies to suspend all of the employer’s business licenses as described above for a minimum of 10 days. For a second intentional violation during a probationary period, Proposition 202 requires the court to:

- Order the permanent revocation of all licenses held by the employer that are necessary for the employer to operate the employer’s business at the business location where the unauthorized alien performed work.

- If there are no licenses held by the employer specific to that business location, the court would be required to order the permanent revocation of all licenses held by the employer at the employer’s primary place of business in this state. Beginning January 1, 2009, Proposition 202 would require every employer, after hiring an employee, to verify the employment eligibility of the employee through the federal employment electronic verification (E-Verify) program or through other documentation procedures authorized by federal law. Proposition 202 would authorize the attorney general to bring an action against an employer if the employer has more than four employees, pays hourly wages or salary in cash and fails to do any of the following:

- Withhold required taxes from the employee’s compensation.

- Report the hiring of an employee to the state.

- Make the required contributions for unemployment compensation benefits.

- Provide employees coverage for workers compensation. If the employer is found guilty of any of these actions, the court would be required to enter a judgment against the employer for triple the amount of money that the employer failed to pay or \$5,000 per employee for which a violation was committed, whichever is greater. All sums paid by the employer would be remitted to the Arizona department of education and the Arizona department of health services for distribution to school districts and emergency room providers to use to offset the costs of illegal immigration.

Proposition 202 would expand the crime of identity theft to include a person who knowingly takes or uses personal identifying information of another person or entity without the consent of that other person or entity with the intent to obtain or continue employment. The crime of identity theft would also be expanded to include a person who knowingly accepts any personal identifying information of another person from an individual knowing that they are not the identified person and uses the information for work authorization under federal law. Identity theft is a class 4 felony.

Proposition 202 would expand the crime of aggravated identity theft to include the theft of two or more identities or an identity theft that causes at least \$1,000 in economic loss. Aggravated identity theft is a class 3 felony.

Proposition 202 would expand the crime of trafficking in the identity of another person or entity to include a person who sells personal identifying information of another person or entity with the intent of allowing another person to obtain or continue employment. Trafficking is a class 2 felony.

Arizona Proposition 300

Known as the Commission on Salaries for Elective State Officers, will be on the November 4, 2008 ballot in Arizona. The proposition would increase the salary of legislators from \$24,000 to \$30,000 per year.

The proposition is appearing on the ballot courtesy of a commission referral process.

The Governor opposes the proposition, citing the current state budget shortfall and that many Arizonans are not receiving a pay raise.

MVHS 2008 HOME COMING PARADE



Mustangs Post Thrilling 4th Quarter Comeback Against Hornets

By Jarvis Williams



KAYENTA- The Mustangs must have taken a page from the Boston Red Sox as they posted a late-game 4th quarter come back in front of 2,200 football fans. “We’re playing our best football right now,” said Mustang Head Coach Bryan Begay following their thrilling 26-22 come-from-behind victory over the Ganado Hornets on Friday night.

It was a test as the Mustangs came into the game missing two of their starters stemming from altercations late in last week’s game with the Warriors. Despite missing a lineman and a linebacker the Mustangs felt they could gain a victory and stay in the hunt for a third place spot in the Arizona 3A North Region standings.

With Holbrook at 3-5, Chinle at 4-4, and the Mustangs at 4-4, the third place spot will be up for grabs as the Mustangs will face both teams in the next two weeks. The Mustangs will need a victory over both teams to secure the third spot making the final two games the most important of the season.

In addition, it was Homecoming Week for the Mustangs, as well as, the first

game on their newly replaced football field. With all those factors feeding into this game the pressure was on the Mustangs to gain an important victory.

The Mustang defense came out strong to begin the game forcing the Hornets into an early punt situation. It was then that Mustang defender Preston Luna blocked the punt and returned the ball to the Hornet’s 12 yard line. It didn’t take long after that for Mustang QB Jon Delmar to hit LeVaughn Hunt for a 10-yard score. With the Mustangs in the early lead, 7-0, the Hornets fought back and scored off a Cody Miller 12 yard rushing touchdown. With a successful PAT the Hornets were in the lead, 8-7.

The Hornets played tough as they held the Mustangs to a scoreless 2nd quarter. The Hornets broke the stalemate with an interception in the end zone by Stenson Silvers who took the ball an impressive 100 yards for the score. With a missed extra point the Hornets increased their lead, 14-7, to end the half. A frustrated Mustang team went to the locker room while an excited Ganado team left the field with confidence.



The second half started just like the first half ended, with the Hornets playing with confidence. While the Mustangs worked to regain their composure the Hornets moved the ball and scored once again when Hornet stand-out Cody Miller rambled 23 yards for their next score further increasing their lead, 22-7.

It wasn’t until a 4th quarter fumbled snap from the Hornets that the Mustangs felt the momentum shift. The fumble was recovered deep in Hornet territory giving the Mustangs an outside chance of getting back into the game. All the confidence that had been building for the Hornets quickly shifted towards the Mustangs. Delmar quickly converted on a 19-yard TD completion to Luna to close the gap, 14-22. With plenty of time left in the game the Mustangs regained possession from the Hornets and moved the ball down the field where running back Shayne O’Riley scampered 7 yards for the next Mustang score to close the gap, 20-22. With less than 5 minutes left in the game the Hornets could not muster a drive instead handed the ball back to the Mustangs near the 49-yard line with less than 3 minutes left in the game.

The following play Mustang Jon Delmar put the ball in the hands of running back O’Riley who took the ball inside before bouncing outside and beating the Hornet defense to the endzone for the game-winning score, 26-22. The 49-yard score was O’Riley’s second of the ballgame and sealed the win for the Mustangs.

Mustang Shayne O’Riley finished the game with 13 rushes for 112 yards and 2 touchdowns while teammate Kameron Isaac had 11 carries for 48 yards. Quarterback Jon Delmar came in with 11/22 for 151 yards, 2 TD’s and 1 interception. Mustang receiver

LeVaughn Hunt had 5 catches for 71 yards and Preston Luna finished with 2 catches for 29 yards.

Defensively, it was Dakota Kaye who had the high number of tackles with 15 and linebacker Evan Todachine finished with 13 tackles. As a team, the Mustangs held the Hornets to 171 yards of total offense, 1 blocked punt, 2 interceptions, and 3 fumble recoveries.

“We started off slow, the turnovers in the 1st half hurt us as well as the short punts. The turnovers were big because that’s where they got their two scores,” said Mustang Head Coach Bryan Begay.

“I told them to hit, hit, hit but it was their lack of experience that held them back tonight. They did well up to the fumble in the 4th quarter,” said Ganado Head Coach Jim Wright. Wright was also upset with some of the officiating but said that the Mustangs deserved to win. “When you come up with plays like that you deserve to win,” said Coach Wright. Despite the loss, Coach Wright said that he was proud of the kids and that they played hard.

“The momentum shifted when they fumbled the snap near the endzone but it was the heart of the kids that pulled us through, like Shayne (O’Riley) coming in and being the spark plug that we needed,” remarked Coach Begay. O’Riley had not played in the last few weeks due to reprimands from the coach but plans to finish the season with the Mustangs.

When asked about Homecoming he said, “It was a bit of a distraction but the kids played hard and the conditioning payed off but overall I think we’re playing some of our best football right now.”



Kayenta Township Commission

Eugene Badonie

Education:

AA Degree Northland Pioneer College
 Bachelor in Education Northern Arizona University
 Master in Education Leadership Northern Arizona University

Current Job:

Production Supervisor for Peabody Western Coal Company

Hobbies:

Play Guitar, photography, play golf, and reading.

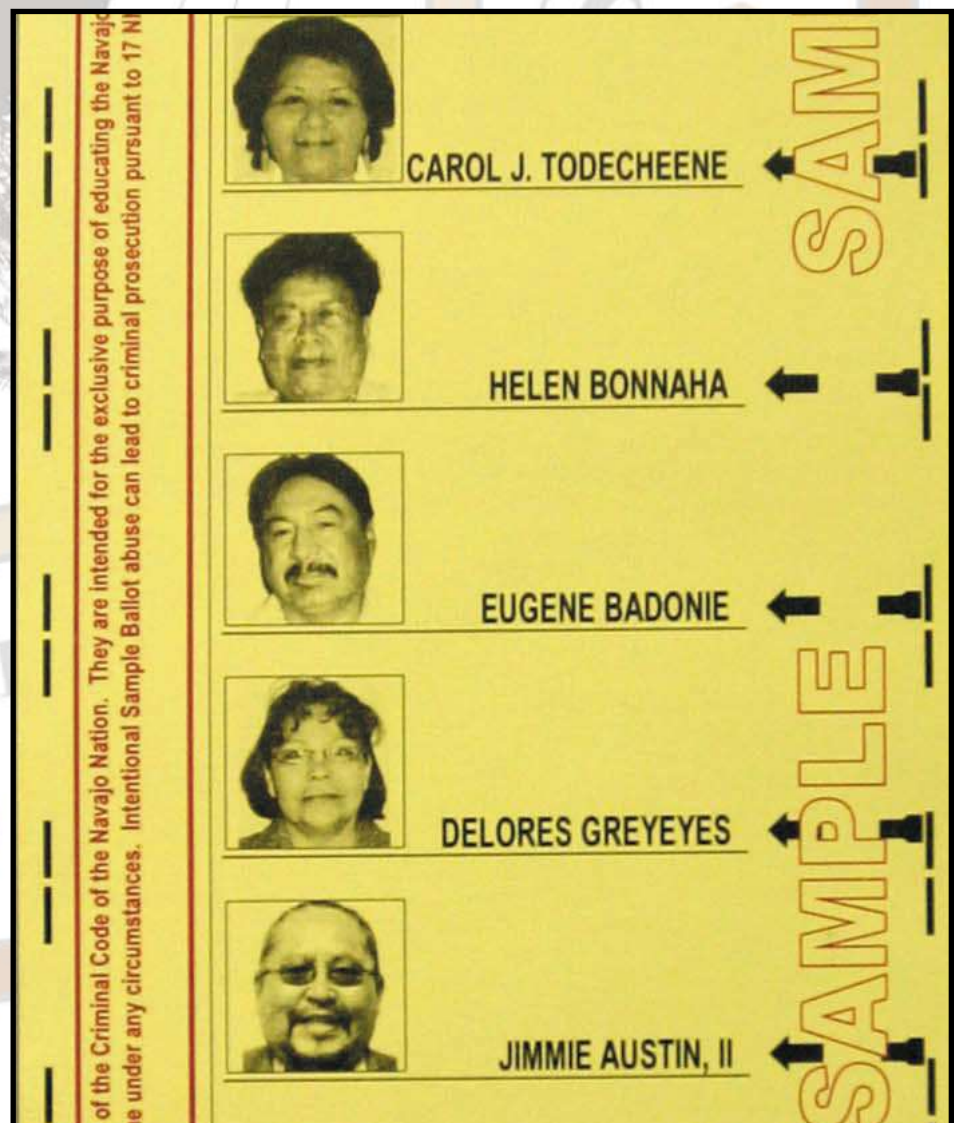
Points:

Challenging to serve on the Kayenta Township Commission for another term mainly to help this community advance further into municipal governance. It has been rough going the last two terms for all of us including the people that oppose the Township. Kayenta Township as I see is going through a change and the change can be rough on everyone. I admit that we are at the stage of adjusting to the growing pains.

I will continue to stay focused on pushing legislation, establishing ordinances, and supporting the vision of the staff and the citizens. I will continue to remain unmoved by outside political pressure and local issues we have. It is my duty to be accountable and sometimes make challenging decisions reflective to the goals and objectives of the Township. But, we have to look down the road some five, ten, or twenty years from now, what can we do today that will be advantageous for our citizens and the community at that time? I do believe that we can make some hard decisions and set some legislation in motion to create some jobs. I learned as I watched the Republican National Convention that the creation of jobs does not rest on the government in Washington. In our case, it certainly does not rest on the Navajo Nation government. However, it is the sole responsibility of a small town local government like the Kayenta Township. I will exert my energy in making this happen.

Fire station is currently in need of some direction since the majority of the board resigned. I want to provide some leadership from my position to ensure Kayenta and its surrounding community has a quality fire station. Implementation of Animal control and the completion of the Public Works Department are areas that need some help. My next four year term will be devoted to completing the development of these unfinished projects. We are also in the process of choosing another Town Manager and I hope to assist the new manager in realizing his vision for our community. There are many more projects that need to be propelled and eventually completing its development. You can expect your vote will be an assurance that Kayenta Township growth will continue to meet its challenges and its setbacks are only temporary defeat, but not an extraordinary occurrence to lose sight of our visions and goals.

Finally, I have the willingness to stand my ground for our next generation because they are watching from their kindergarten classroom. Commissioners had allocated a site for the Head Start school building and dedicated some funds. I hope to assist in their development. Airport is being renovated with over \$6,000,000.00 and both the playground and the recreation centers had been achieved in our last term. Misinformed Navajo Nation officials out of Window Rock had used a false allegation of mismanagement of funds to undertake an audit last year. Township books were highly received and it passed its test. This kind of accountability is something I am proud of. Kayenta will continue to see tangible development and the tax dollars will again be all accounted for in the next four years if I am reelected to my Commission seat. Please vote.



Kayenta Township Commission

Helen Bonnaha

I currently hold several committee positions within the community. I am chairperson of the Kayenta Alternative Rural Hospital Steering Committee. It has been almost 20 years since we requested a larger medical facility. I am proud to say that I have been with the committee since then and have played an important part in the acquisition of design money for the hospital. The hospital will bring much needed jobs and revenue in our area. I am also a member of the KUSD Governing Board. I also hold committee positions with the Kayenta Health Board and the Kayenta Community School. I was a former member of the Kayenta Township Commission. I have always represented the Kayenta community with their best interests in mind.

Firm believer in progress for the community
Continuing the good relationship built with the Chapter government
Need to build line of communication with our Council Delegates

I am running for:
Kayenta Community School Board
KUSD Governing Board
Kayenta Township Commission

I would appreciate your vote. Thank You.

The following Township Commission Candidates did not provide a statement for this issue of the Kayenta Today:

*Carol J. Todecheene
Delores Greyeyes
Jimmy Austin, II*



Integrity, Leadership, Positive Change Elect Cameron D. Peterson Navajo County Sheriff

Experienced and Prepared to Serve

Certified Arizona Police Officer
Associate's Degree, Criminal Justice
Bachelor's Degree, Public Service
Patrol Officer, Detective
School Resource Officer
Terrorism Liason Officer
Law-Related Education
Homicide
Investigation and Prosecution of
Child Sexual Exploitation
Missing and Exploited Children
Basic Supervision
Crime Scene Management and Processing
Kinesic Interviewing and Interrogation
Interview and Interrogation/The Reid Technique
Active Shooter School Response

Crime Scene Evidence Preservation/First Responder
The Bullet Proof Mind
Search and Seizure
Community Based Policing
Violent Offender Analysis
Computer Investigations
Federal Management Institute (FEMA I.S. 100, 700)
Drug Interdiction/Use of Informants
Drug "Knock and Talk" Search and Seizure
DNA Collection, Preservation
Officer Involved Shootings
Economic Crime/White Collar Crime
Harassment in the Work Place
Violence in the Work Place
Background Investigation
Clandestine Laboratory Investigations

Street Survival
Rave & Club Drugs
Tactics for Winning Patrol
Grant Writing
Domestic terrorism
School Safety Program
Interpersonal Violence
Identity Theft
Direct Threat Training
Forensic Interviewing
Arson
Community Policing
Defensive tactics
Blood-Borne Pathogens
Drug Influence and Recognition

Independent, Honest, Unsullied, Compassionate, Moral Character, Respectful, Informed, Trustworthy, Anti-Corruption, Family Man, Good Judgement, Patriotic, Enthusiastic

For my views on Navajo County Government, my platform, and my goals for the Sheriff's Office, please visit: www.cameronpetersonforsheriff.com

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Cameron D. Peterson For Sheriff

Coalition Takes Award for Best Music Video

The Tuba City, AZ based band Coalition music video "Cry" won "Best Music Video by a Group" at the 2008 Cherokee International Film Festival in Tulsa, Oklahoma on October 10, 2008.

The music video "Cry" was created by Sheephead Films as a bonus video included in the award winning film "Mile Post 398" DVD. Several tracks from the album "Cry" were used as part of the sound track of the film.

Andee De La Rosa of Kayenta, AZ, one of the writers and directors of the Mile Post 398 stated, "Their music was a major influence in the creative process of the film, Coalitions music hit right to the heart and soul of what we were creating."

After the release of their critically acclaimed debut album "Cry", Coalition is being heard on some of the biggest radio stations in Native America.

From KTNN and KUYI in Navajo and Hopi country, to KNBA in Anchorage, Alaska Coalition has been featured in spotlight shows such as Native America Calling, Earthsongs, Native Tunes, Seminole Country Today, the Singing Wire Show, Native Nights and Native Vibes.

Band members Duwayne Begay (guitar), Elton Sloan (bass), Alex Begay (drums) and Tony Rosales (guitar, vocals) wrote and recorded their music in Shack's Studio in their hometown of Tuba City, Arizona.

Each member of Coalition brings to the group different musical influences which range from metal to blues and from country to jazz for a sound that is truly unique and authentic. They play with an honesty that reaches into the soul of the listener as if to say this is who we are and where we've been. Their aggressive vocals, insightful lyrics and sizzling guitar riffs create music that is an expressive portrayal of life, love and hard times as experienced by ordinary people in blue collar America.

Coalition will also be opening for Indigenus in Pinion, AZ on December 6, 2008.



Right to left: Duwayne Begay (guitar) and Tony Rosales (guitar and vocals) with their award for "Best Music Video by a Group" from the 2008 International Cherokee Film Festival.



"Please join with me in voting for Cameron Peterson for Navajo County Sheriff."

- Judge Evelyn Bradley

Integrity, Leadership, Positive Change

Elect

**Cameron D. Peterson
Navajo County Sheriff**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Cameron D. Peterson For Sheriff

Discussion of Truancy Sparks Closure of Skatepark

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- The Kayenta Community Skatepark and truancy were central issues of discussion on Wednesday, October 22 at a meeting at the Kayenta Unified School District (KUSD) Administration Building. The meeting was in regards to recent reports of absent students skating in the park during school hours and ditching so they can skate at the park.

Representatives from the Kayenta Police Department, Kayenta Township, Kayenta Fire Department and KUSD were on hand to offer comments regarding the issue of truancy.

According to school officials, an increasing amount of calls were reported that students were in the skatepark during school hours and that some students were not consistently in school. Jurisdictional issues were raised about who is the responsible entity when truant kids are found off the school campus and what is the proper protocol for these entities to act on in that situation.

This triggered underlying concerns about bullying, gang activity, drug dealing, and lack of restrooms on the weekend at the skatepark. Although, arguments were made that the park is for the entire community and should not be closed for the actions of a few students the request from the school district for the skatepark to close during school hours was made.

The request was made with hopes of eliminating the motivation for students to skate during school hours. And to send the message that the community is willing to work together to get the kids back in school.

The Kayenta Police Department was also on hand to offer their perspective on the issue. Sergeant Lemar Harvey mentioned the factors needed for their officers to apprehend truant kids. Factors included endangering the welfare of a minor and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Another meeting was scheduled at which time the effectiveness of the closure of the park will be discussed and if further action is needed. Copies of a September 2001 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention article titled, "Truancy Reduction: Keeping Students in School" were given to the participants as a source of information concerning truancy. In it truancy is defined as an unexcused absence from school.

The authors of the article, Myriam L. Baker is a private consultant specializing in development and evaluation of programs for at-risk youth as well as primary consultants to the Colorado Foundation for Families and Children, while Jane Nady Sigmon Ph.D., is a former Director of Research at American Prosecutors Research Institute (APRI), and M. Elaine Nugent is current Director of Research at APRI.



According to the article, there is no clear definition of truancy therefore the truancy rates can be difficult to maintain. However, what is clear is that many large cities report high rates of chronic absenteeism.

The report says that there are four categories that correlate to truancy: Family Factors, School Factors, Economic Influences, and Student Variables. Each category influences the other and contributes to the attitude and eventual action of a truant kid.

It also states that truancy is an "early warning sign of delinquent activity" and has been linked to vandalism, violence, burglary, etc.

The article offers a response to truancy and what other communities are doing to combat the high number of absent students. The article can be found through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention website.

Some of the actions include holding parents accountable through a mandatory attendance law, a diversion program to address the problem, and sanctions for parents and students for continued truancy or failure to complete the program. These programs have been implemented in cities such as Los Angeles, Glendale, AZ, Tucson, and others.

The effectiveness of holding the parents and students accountable was very high and was considered as a possible avenue to take if the truancy continues. However, more discussion and coordination is needed if that is to be implemented. Overall, the report does indicate that a coordinated response to truancy needs to be embraced by the schools, law enforcement, the prosecutor, and the courts for it to be effective.

The actions mentioned were part of Wednesday's discussion however the closure of the skatepark and better coordination were offered as band-aid solutions until a better plan is devised in the next few weeks.



Sitting there won't change a thing.

WOTE

NOVEMBER 4, 2008