

KAYENTA TODAY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY

A Free Publication from the Kayenta Township

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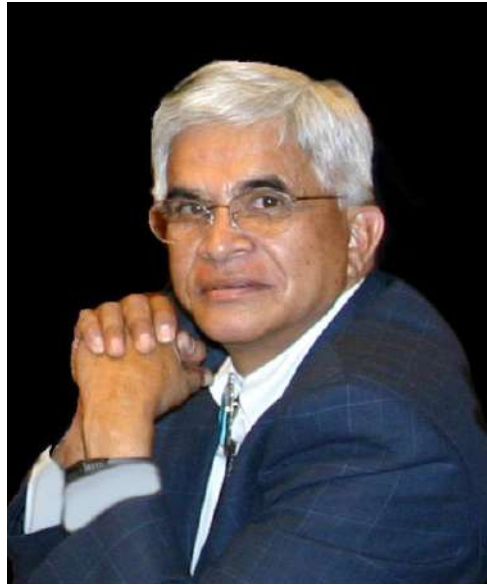
January/February 2006



Barriers to Navajoland Business Development

By Richard Mike

**Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Kayenta Township*



Recently, there have been three magazines with stories on business barriers on the reservation. We decided to ask our own local businessman Richard Mike for his opinion on the barriers to business development. Richard Mike is a member of the Kayenta Township Commission. He is of the Bitterwater clan born for Big Water originally from Monument Valley and the owner of four Burger King restaurants and the Hampton Inn hotel of Kayenta. When he said, “the problems are too big and I might insult some people”, we told him, “Do it anyway”. Then he said, “Business development problems are boring for most, who’d want to read such an article?” We told him, “You’re in business, we always hear from the guys who aren’t in business”. Finally he said, “What if my answers to the barriers for business development are too long?” We said, “We’ll put them into two or even three articles”. He then capitulated. By the way, we also told him to use regular language and try not to impress us. The following is Richard Mike’s personal opinion on the Barriers to Business Development on Navajoland.

Why small businesses are important

First of all, people need to know why businesses are so important. Small businesses pay for most of the taxes in this country. I pay taxes and so does my business partner Nina Heflin. In addition, all my Burger King personnel pay their payroll taxes but all of our payroll taxes combined are small compared to what each Burger

King restaurant pays to the Federal and Navajo Nation governments. Of course, tribal employees pay Federal income taxes but not their employers. NTUA, BIA, IHS, the Navajo Tribe, and the Public Schools for example, these institutions don’t pay taxes. They are the recipients of taxes such as welfare, the war on Iraq, foreign aid, etc. Yet, because of the number of small businesses in Flagstaff, Arizona, they collect more taxes in one single town than all of the taxes collected by the entire Navajo Nation. In Flagstaff, they have a large jail, detention center, airport, groomed cemetery, city parks, a library, and a host of many other services.

Small businesses are also important because they provide a product or service. Flagstaff has hospice, a hospital, a university, Kinko’s, title companies, big box stores and shops. Small businesses also provide most of the jobs in America. A general break-down of jobs in America would be: Small businesses – 90%, Farms – 5%, Large Corporations – 5%.

Our Tribal Council has become the new BIA (Boss Indians Around)

A year from now, we’re all going to hear various tribal politicians running for the Presidency of the Navajo Nation. All of them will be chanting the same old mantra we hear every four years – “It’s time for a change”! But nothing will change unless one of these candidates actually allows for a small-business council and more local government. There are three large blockages to business development on Navajoland. The largest of all these problems is our leadership. Our Navajo Nation government personnel are no different than anyone else here in America and they are probably a lot smarter than the average person. Yet they and we have copied the dictates of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Now, we are the BIA and it’s going to take just as much energy to whittle down the Tribal bureaucracy as it did the BIA. All bureaucracies die hard!



A view of the old Window Rock Lodge and Cafe, the recreation Center can be seen to the right of the Lodge. 15 tribal homes have been constructed. Photo- Navajo Nation Museum 1953

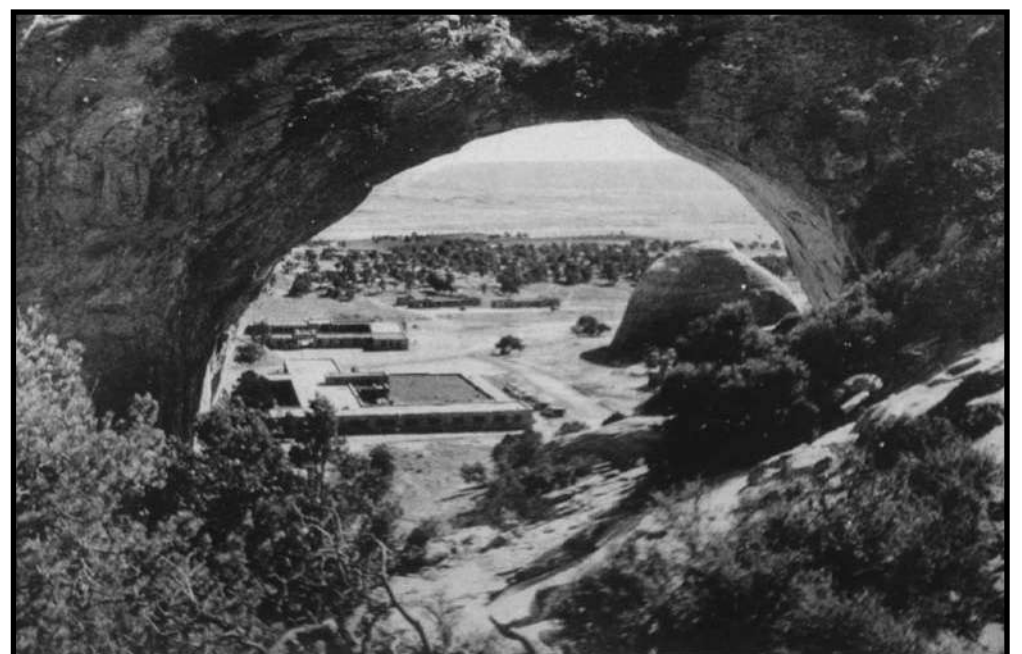
The BIA created the Navajo Nation Council and the BIA has always assumed that economic development could take place solely by allocating money resources for certain projects. This assumption is as wrong as the opposite one, that people should start their development without assistance and promotion by the government. Development cannot be made by the government because real development happens in the minds of people. It happens by them and with them.

An Entrenched Navajo Bureaucracy

Show me a country where only the government created it’s own economic system and I’ll show you Peru, the Philippines, Egypt, Haiti, North Korea, East Germany, and the Navajo Nation. Our Navajo bureaucracy has a class bias and it tends to have a stratification of its own; it’s upper crust (Attorneys, Project Directors, Division Directors, even

NHA and NTUA top management) function as a privileged class with housing and even a tribal vehicle provided. An expensive college education is mandatory in the stiff tests prescribed for entry into its higher echelons. Middle and lower positions attract the less privileged. Over time, this Navajo bureaucracy has come to have distinct vested interests, and is sensitive to all threats to its position and privilege which it guards jealously against encroachment from any quarter. In several ways, it is alienated from the Navajo people it is intended to serve. In the day-to-day tribal administrative functions, the bureaucratic machine enjoys considerable freedom from interference. Thus, there are few hindrances to its exercise of power. It is very paternalistic and the Navajo people for their part, accept the tribal positions and look to the tribal administration for a wide variety of small favors.

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BIA Headquarters, Window Rock, AZ. Photo-Navajo Nation Museum 1940

Unemployment

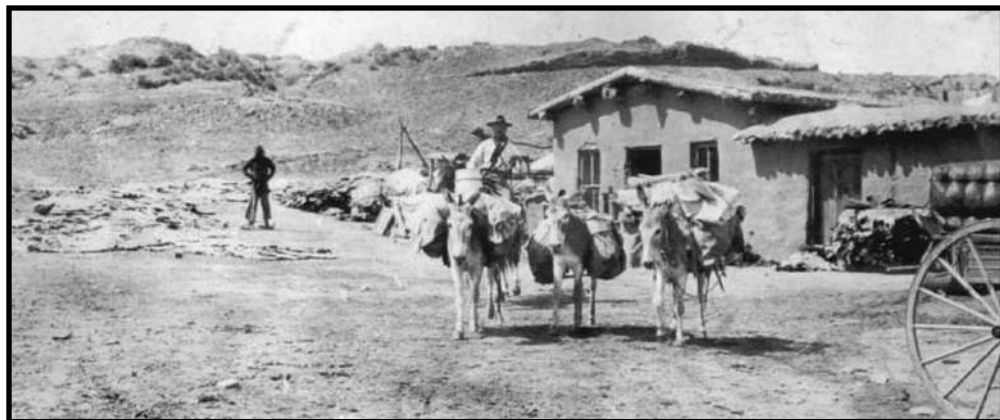
The Gallup Independent cites in a December 16th, article, "Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., expressed serious displeasure to the Deputy Regional Director of the Navajo Region BIA ...to identify funds to make \$1.5 million funding transfer for Navajo social services programs. ...These programs include direct assistance payments to more than 4,000 Navajo households with almost 19,000 Navajo beneficiaries". And how does a bureaucracy solve the unemployment dilemma as opposed to an ordinary human creature? The Economic Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council (EDC) immediately expands their Regional Business Development Offices (RBDO). The EDC also sees the need to write more proposals. To any ordinary human being, being out of work is hard on people. Studies show that problems like suicides, teen pregnancy, alcoholism, child abuse, drugs, is tied to unemployment. Unemployment means that our economy is not functioning, (There is no economy). Putting more people to work increases output and growth for a town, city, state, or nation. In my Burger King restaurants, my turn-over rate is something like 400% per annum. I'm always crying about the high incidence of absenteeism, labor turn-over, damage to equipment, indiscipline, poor performance, and other evidence of a people who have lost their work ethic. My cries can't penetrate the Tribal bureaucracy anymore than your cries can. US Senator John McCain already told the Navajo Nation Council on January 18, 1969 that,

"The inbred tendency of any government bureaucracy, whether it be the BIA, or a tribal copycat (NN Council) of the BIA, is to make arbitrary decisions that suffocate ongoing businesses and block the startup of new ones".

Poverty

No serious thought is given to the fact that it might be possible that both economic circumstance (trust land status) and economic motivation might be fundamentally different in the third world government of Navajoland from such circumstances and motivation of the non-reservation America. In particular, the normal tendency of the typical American could be to expand output and income. And the assurance of the resulting reward would then affect aspiration – incentives. If one has some certainty of getting more, it will be worth trying to get more. In our third world government by contrast, the tendency could be an equilibrium of poverty. An increase in income could set in motion the forces that would eliminate the increase and restore the previous level of deprivation. Motivation is subject to conditioning by culture. If forces, great or overwhelming act to inhibit or exclude economic development, will not people abandon the struggle?

The tendency of Americans is to increase income; the tendency of the Navajo Nation is an equilibrium of poverty. And in each, there is accommodation, in the one case to the fact of improvement, in the other to the hopelessness of the prospect.



Above: 1915-John Wetherill headed for an expedition. Photo is off the original Kayenta Trading Post. Photo Harvey Leake.

Top Right: BIA Boarding School about 1948. Notice the broken bed has no mattress and the wooden bench has been made into a make shift bed. These were the conditions of schools on the Navajo Nation during these times. Photo-Navajo Nation Museum



Difference between bureaucracy and entrepreneurship attitudes

There is a huge difference between bureaucratic and entrepreneurial decision making. For example, on a hypothetical question like – what are the main issues in creating a Navajo economy? The bureaucrat or EDC's answer creates its own obstacles because their questions are fused and imposed by other bureaucrats. Questions like: What do we do with the non-Indian? Will we lose our traditional values? Taxing our own gives us the opportunity to make decisions for ourselves rather than depending on others all the time. Our resources are poor, the people are urbanizing and the political leadership will always foil chances of private companies coming to the reservation. The people are not ready. All tribal program funds should be doubled to meet the needs of the people. All over the reservation you see poverty, ill health, malnutrition, drugs, unemployment, bootleggers, drunkenness, idleness. Window Rock is a central government, they don't give a damn about the rest of us. Assimilation and acculturation of the Navajo people in the US is inevitable.

The concerns for business people or entrepreneurs are however, totally different. Business people are concerned first about their rights to leased property, profits, the rule of law, and competition.

The first of our largest barriers to business development is that our Navajo Nation Council is insulated from the people they serve and has turned into the Bureau of Indian Af

airs. In the meantime, the crime rate will continue to escalate, unemployment will continue to increase, and the Navajo Nation Council will continue to deny its people the means for improvement therefore our talented have a "push" factor to leave the reservation for greater economic opportunities elsewhere. Our talented have already left the reservation. There are approximately 135,000 Navajos living off the reservation and 165,000 on the reservation.

Will our Tribe change?

If there is ever going to be real economic development, then it's going to be you and I who'll finally create it. We'll start real economic development when we're finally fed up with living on our knees or the US government tells our tribal government, "We're tired of feeding you Indians". Really, how long do you think the US government intends to clothe and feed us? 50 more years? 100 years? 200 years? All the EDC talks about is the US governments "trust" responsibilities and our "sovereignty". Is it better to have these two sacred cows – "trust" and "sovereignty" verses no economy? I just as soon have our Council eliminate Sovereignty Day, Columbus Day, and Treaty Day and make them work those days like the rest of us. Still, the bottom line is that we have allowed these councilmen and their tribal attorney's to make more BIA (Boss Indians Around) rules so we are to blame. I want to emphasize that - we are to blame. Several Navajo Presidents in the past have asked me if I would be on their busi

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 ness development committees that they would soon establish after they became president. It's all just been a squirt of hog-wash to get elected or re-elected. A bureaucracy doesn't want a political body that they can't control; so therefore they increase their own – RBDO.

In the not too distance future, the US government will evaluate our efforts towards self-determination, self-sufficiency and increased business activity. The result will be dismal failures on all counts. Over 7,000 tribal employees and the Navajo Nation Council will have the most to lose as they are the main ones benefiting from the Federal funds. Just like the BIA, our Navajo bureaucracy refuses to change and refuses to go away. So, like the BIA, the Navajo people will have to start whittling the Navajo bureaucracy down. US Senator John McCain already told the Navajo Nation Council on January 18, 1969

that "The brightest future lies in a robust free enterprise system on reservation lands, not with government socialism. ... Years of Great Society government programs poured an ocean of money into the reservation only to see it evaporate like water on sunbaked sand." I don't believe that Federal funds will be totally curtailed however, I think that it will be so severally cut that we'll have to create our own local town governments and live off our own local taxes. Would you fund a Tribal government at a minimum of \$400,000,000. (four-hundred million) a year that continues to grow and become more dependent or would you fund the Kayenta Township in matching funds at \$3,500,000. (3.5 million), our current annual budget? The Federal government will share revenues with a local towns tax generated revenues. Why not? It's worked in thousands of hamlets, towns, townships and cities in America for over two hundred and thirty years.



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Heart Disease is a Growing Problem in Our Community

A Message from the Inscription House Healthy Heart Project in Partnership with the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

Did you know that more Native Americans die from heart disease than from any other cause? Heart attacks and strokes kill more than one out of every four people who die in Indian Country.

We used to think that more men than women had heart attacks. But, today we know that heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in Native American communities.

The good news is that heart disease is usually preventable. Prevention must start early in life. We can help ourselves and help others in our family and in our community to prevent heart disease.

The first thing we can do is to learn more about our heart. The heart is an amazing organ!

Our heart is the center of our body. Every minute it pumps 5 quarts of blood through our blood vessels. The heart sends the blood through our lungs to pick up oxygen to take to all the parts of our body. Our heart never stops working. It beats about 100,000 times a day. It takes a strong muscle to do this work. We strengthen our heart through exercise. Physical activity

that makes our heart beat faster actually makes our heart stronger.

Like water flowing through a stream to bring life to our world, the blood must flow freely through our body. Our heart, our lungs, and our blood all work together to sustain our life. We call the diseases of our heart and blood vessels "cardiovascular disease" or CVD. The most common CVD is coronary heart disease, which can cause heart attacks, strokes and the chest pain called "angina."

Heart disease develops over a long time. The blood vessels get clogged with deposits of a waxy substance called cholesterol. When an artery becomes blocked, oxygen and nutrients cannot get to the heart causing a heart attack. Stroke results when a blood clot blocks the blood to the brain, or from bleeding in the brain.

I will be writing a column in Kayenta Today about heart disease and what you can do to prevent it. I hope you will read each column and share the information with others. Also, you can me at 928-672-3119 (Betty McCurtain) if you want more information about heart disease and how you can get involved to strengthen the heartbeat of our community.



A Message to the People of Kayenta

My name is Daniel Peaches. I am of the Bitter Water clan and born for the Manygoat clan. I am also related to the Zuni Edgewater clan on my mother side and of the Reed/Big Water clan on my father side.

I was appointed the position of Kayenta Town Manager on January 9, 2006 and began work on January 10, 2006. I found the Kayenta Township staff to be dedicated and hard working. My approach to management is person to person, hands on type of management. I view each individual as having abilities and potential for growth in their lives and in their work. I want them to share their ideas with me and my aspirations and my ideas with them.

My ideas came from my experience and formal education. I use concepts in getting my message across. Using concepts is better than directives such as "Do this or do that." approach. Concepts can be replicated, or in another words, it can be used in different situations. The concepts of fairness, equality or justice. The concepts of honesty, reliability, and trust. These are the tools of management and understanding. I learned to use concepts from my formal education and from a traditional medicine man. Concepts hardly change from generation to generation.

As a Town Manager, I will be using an integrated approach which means a lateral approach as well as hierarchy. The integrated approach is like a Hogan. A Hogan consists of 100 or 150 posts. If you remove one log, the

whole structure will collapse. The posts are the people, the elders, the parents, the children, and the young people in the community. The posts are the schools, the clinic, the churches, the local governments, the businesses, the land and the people.

I also believe in ownership. All members of the community should have a stake and ownership in the community. To make ownership work, everyone must accept their responsibilities. I believe in shared governance. I attend Chapter meetings, school board meetings, Township meetings, planning meetings, steering committee meetings on a periodic basis.

This community called Kayenta can be a model community if we all take ownerships, like planting a tree, cleaning the roadside of litter, etc. The trees around the Chapter house were planted by my brother Robert and myself in 1961 and these trees give a home feeling looking from the road as you drive by. We must all do some volunteer work for our community to make it look pleasing and give it a home atmosphere to the traveling public and visitors.

The Township uses cost share with the Chapter and other entities to lessen the burdening costs. The Township has technical staff which is available to community members such as cost estimates, surveys, and other technical assistance. The Chapter government is a subdivision of the Navajo Nation government and it is very important that the Chap

ter government and the Township government have a close cooperative relationship to improve our community and make progress possible.

We work closely with Congressman Rick Renzi and his staff. We work closely with the Speakers Office and the offices of the President and Vice President of the Navajo Nation. We work closely with our County Supervisor Percy Deal, our State Representative Albert Tom, and our State Senator Albert Hale. We work closely with Gary Passer, President of Northland Pioneer College, and Ferlin Clark, President of Dine College. We work closely with our three Council Delegates, Willie Begay who is Vice Chairman of Transportation and Community Development Committee, Roy Laughter, and Alice White who serves on the Economic Development Committee. We work closely with NTUA and other Tribal departments. We have daily contacts Walter Begay, Jr. who is the Governmental Liaison for Peabody Western Coal Company. This is the integrated approach.

I will be working closely with the Kayenta Business Committee to hear their concerns and plans. I will use a team approach with my staff. Phil Zahne will be attending the Indian Economic Summit in Las Vegas in February. I will be traveling to visit with our legislators in Phoenix and I will be visiting with the managers of our border communities to learn what they do to address their problems and plans for the future. I do not want to work in a vacuum.



I solicit your ideas, suggestions and your recommendations as to how we can improve our community, how we can better serve our youth, elders, and those who work and live here in Kayenta.

Thank you,
Daniel L. Peaches
Kayenta Town Manager



KAYENTA TODAY

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KAYENTA TOWNSHIP HOSTS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



For 13 years, Florence Cohn of Claremont, California passed through Kayenta and one day decided to arrange for Kayenta to be a site for her Christmas festivities. Upon arriving to the Kayenta area, she and other volunteers worked together to organize a Christmas event no one would forget.

About 150 to 200 children and their parents arrived at Kayenta Township to receive gifts and clothing on December 20, 2005. Gifts included books, toys, games, stuffed animals, puzzles, coloring books, and bikes that were raffled off to children.

Ms. Cohn was eager to have everything given away, placing clothes, and games in the hands of children and their parents. Even Santa Clause mysteriously arrived riding the large Kayenta Volunteer Fire Department's truck.

"Never has an event like this occurred, it was like watching kids being kids and everyone else turning into kids; that is how you know it's Christmas," said the Kayenta Township Community Outreach Coordinator, Phil Zahne.



"Hopefully next year we can have an even larger group to celebrate Christmas," Ms. Cohn said.

Even the Department of Behavioral Health in Kayenta had employees join by providing information on alcohol & drug prevention, and the traditional Navajo aspect of what the winter season means.

The night ended with a traditional Navajo Shoe Game, which was both comical and full of song and wonder. Ms. Cohn and her volunteer group said "they were all impressed playing the Indian Shoe game and was lucky enough to find the ball in the shoe."

Ms. Cohn would like to thank Richard Mike for his generous donation of rooms to Hampton Inn of Kayenta and Virgil Dalton for a tour of our magnificent Monument Valley.

Also, on behalf of the Kayenta Township and the Kayenta community, we would like to thank Ms. Cohn, volunteers Harold Cook, Joe Castro, and Judy Chen, 21 Choices Ice Cream, Custom Carpet, the Toy Factory of L.A., and the citizens from Claremont, California for donating toys to this year's drive.



Elder Appreciation Day

By Dana Lee

The old Boys & Girls Building was usually reserved for children, but on November 23, 2005, it seemed that the grandparents wanted to make use of the building also.

Monument Valley High School National Honor Society, Indigenous Advocacy Inc., Kayenta Senior Center, and the Kayenta Service Unit Elder's Task Force hosted the 6th annual "Honoring Our Elders' Day", an event recognizing the accomplishments of our elders, healthcare, comedy, and the joy of being together.

Donation letters went out to local and outside businesses, churches, schools, teachers, administrators, local governments, Indian Health Services, and various individuals. These organizations really came through for the elders!

Pre-selected members of the Kayenta elder community received 130 donated packages containing food, hygiene products, blankets, and clothes. A total of fifty-one quilts were also miraculously made by the First Ward of LDS Relief Society.

Although some elders were pre-selected to receive the parcels, it did not sway the community to join; there was nothing like free stew being given out on a cold day.

Among the presentations, Kayenta Public Health Nurses provided flu shots, the Senior Citizen Center had a turkey dinner, and the First Nations Development Institute generously made mutton stew, frybread, tortillas, and refreshments.

When committee members spoke with elders afterwards who attended the celebration, they were amazed by the number of people who attended very proud to see how many people are involved. This event also represented a reunion with several elders who had rarely seen each other. In short, the event was a success.

"Honoring Our Elders" committee representatives said, "We are grateful for your kindness and inspiration to honor our elders of Kayenta and we are blessed to have you as a neighbor and partner."

A special thank you to the following: Kayenta Trading Post, Ferrell Gas, First Baptist Church, Northland Pioneer College, National Relief Charity Organization, First Nations Development Institute, Northern Arizona Food Bank, Cortez Milling Company, Ute Mountain Ute Casino, Davita Inc., Kayenta Education Association, Catholic Church, Hampton Inn, Amigo Café, Blue Coffee Pot, Navajo Western True Value, Kayenta Chapter House, Social Services, LDS Church, New Frontier, Kayenta Township, Conoco, Best Western Wetherill Inn, Holiday Inn, Indian Health Service Employees, Kayenta Bashas, 7 to 11 Food Store #25, Wells Fargo Bank, Fina, NTUA, KPS Girls Scouts, 2005 Miss MVHS, KIS Principal-Gillian Vormitagg, KIS Assistant Principal-Laverne Bradley, MVHS Principal-Blane Baker, KMS Assistant Principal-Pam Chihak, Andrew & Betty Bradley, Max & Jackie Benally, Betty Redhair, and Marty Gilmore all contributed to the 6th Annual "Honoring our Elders."



Shampoo, conditioner, lotion and soap provided by National Relief Charities were given to the Elder Health Care Fair Participants.



Gladys Luna-Vice President of the Senior Council acknowledges the donors who made it possible to honor the Elders with food boxes.



Elders enjoy the luncheon provided by the Kayenta Senior Citizen Center and First Nations Development Institute.



Sheila Mathews, I.H.S. Social worker and Monument Valley High School National Honor Society serve lunch to all the elders.

What should be the role of the Navajo Nation Government in Facilitating Greater Economic Development?

By James Henderson Jr.

More than a decade ago, a concept started to take form. We as a Navajo Nation have struggled with this concept, but this community had made it a reality.

The concept is to have more control over our own economic security, through a township government.

As we struggle to grasp a more modern economy, we also struggle to gain control over our local governance.

Since the Navajo Nation sets policies and approves everything that is developed on Navajo Nation – “What should be their role to accomplish and ensure the progress of Greater Economic Development for its people?”

Along with their lead role in support resolutions, our Government must be fully prepared to meet the changing economic environment.

Our government should display an understanding of economic fundamentals new technology to implement strategic planning of new ideas.

Their understanding largely affects the way they make decisions, and the future of Economic Development on the Navajo Nation and of thinking.

We must change to a more modern economy and way of thinking take the responsibility for our people to acquire new skills for people in their forties, fifties, and beyond, and our Government should learn how to make these opportunities available.

One way to bring about this understanding is possibly create a council of economic advisors.

We should grasp a broad and aggressive economic agenda. The council of economic advisors must be committed to growth and improvement and has basic knowledge of Strategic Planning of growth and development.

We need to become a nation of creating opportunities of entrepreneurship, trade investment and increased living standards, and long term financial investment in world wide market and bond investments. Our leaders need to take educated risks.

Our government should streamline the bureaucratic red tape for land acquisition.

The process of bureaucratic starts at the local level with the District Grazing Committee, Resources and Economic Development Committees and the Navajo Nation Department of Justice.

Over time, we have become a nation that strangles itself by depending largely on disarray of services and our own selves. At times, as Navajo People, we are our own worst enemies by land disputes and hindering economic progress.

The Navajo Nation needs to take a more active and aggressive role in recruiting and attracting business.

One way could be our government and responsible departments to streamline the time it takes to attain a business site lease.

Another way is waiver the business site lease. Presently, the Navajo Nation Council is working on this through its oversight committee, the Economic Development Committee and the Navajo Nation Council.

Home site leases should take (6 weeks and yet some people are still trying for over 30 years! Why?)

One thing to remember is that we live on Federal Trust Lands and about 80% of our land is for grazing and land use permits. All these grazing permits and land use permits are regulated through Grazing Regulations. The Resources Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has oversight authority over these regulations



that cover all Natural Resources Issues.

How many business have moved into the Kayenta Township in the last two years? Three years? Are these business supported by population growth plan? What about the future growth in five, ten, and twenty years?

We must continue to move forward and our Nation must do everything possible to achieve economic security and progressive growth.

Risk and change cannot be eliminated. Our government should be acknowledging ownership of small business.

We need to learn how to open new markets and learn special delivery of specialized services. Our products should be labeled “Authentic Navajo Made”. We need proposed plans for Cannery, growing of vegetables, slaughter houses, auction barns, clothing, weaving, photographs, arts, silversmith and rug weaving of which we as Navajo have no equal.

Kayenta is a unique location with the 8th Wonder of the World in your backyard. The beautiful and holy Monument Valley. We must capitalize on this monument as a tourist Mecca.

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As the Township and Chapter work hand in hand, your concept is a tribute to community members and an example of what dedicated leadership and positive vision can accomplish.

There are three governments working together, the Township, Chapter and the Navajo Nation Government. These three must continue to work hand in hand. One cannot look the other way to be successful.

The Navajo Nation has it's Council, and all committees and Speaker's Office. The Township has its Commission, people and business people the tax payer.

Te Navajo Nation Government has to meet us with 100-200% and even 1000%. We all have to do what ever it takes.

We see the people of Kayenta overtaking all obstacles and the pilot project has been successful.

To continue the development process of the Kayenta Township, we must

- exercise the Economic Impact by:
- Vendor spending
- Tax revenue and creation of tax rates.
- Navajo Bond Rating and Improvement.
- New construction and repairs.
- Recreation and Tourism.
- Communication
- Housing and Real Estate Activity.
- Bank and Credit Unions.
- Partnerships with Navajo Nation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Chapters.

You make the requirements for the Navajo Nation Government to follow and take you lead role for the success of the Township.

In closing, I am very proud of you, the people and leaders in taking the initiative and risk in developing the Township. Thank you and continue to prosper and goodwill to all of you as my relatives and comrades.

James Henderson Jr.
August 27, 2005

Kayenta Chapter CBLUPC is A Few Steps Away to Submitting Land Use Plan

By Matthew Austin

KAYENTA, ARIZONA – The Kayenta Chapter Community – Based Land Use Planning Committee (CBLUPC) has been working hard for the last eight month to complete the Kayenta Chapter Land Use Plan. The Committee held six Public Meetings through out the Kayenta Chapter for community participation as mandated in the Navajo Nation Code Title 26, the Local Governance Act. With one more meeting schedule for Chapter members residing on Black Mesa, CBLUPC is in the final stages of completing the Kayenta Chapter Land Use Plan. SOAR Inc. Consultant Dr. Jerry Knowles has been contracted to provide technical assistance on putting the Land Use Document together. After a sixty-day comment/review period, CBLUPC will present the Land Use Plan to the Kayenta Chapter for approval. Once approved, the Plan will be presented to the Navajo Nation Council's Transportation and Community Development Committee for final review.

The first Public Meeting was held at the Kayenta Chapter House on June 26, 2005 with 50 Kayenta Community Members present. On July 23, 2005, Jason Bitsuie hosted the second Public Meeting at his Church Rock residents with 30 Chapter members attending. The third meeting was held at Halls Burn Ridge with 35 Chapter members on September 23, 2005. CBLUPC held the fourth meeting at the Kayenta Chapter House for Kayenta West, Tyenda,

Skeleton Mesa, Tsegi and Long House Valley on January 6, 2006 with over 100 Chapter members in attendance. 90 Chapter members that reside north of Kayenta in Cane Valley and El Capitan areas met on January 20, 2006 at the Kayenta Chapter House. One more Public Meeting is scheduled on February 3, 2006 at the Peabody Western Human Resource Building for Black Mesa residents.

CBLUPC presented the purpose of a Community-Based Land Use Plan for the Chapter and sought public comments and concerns from those attending. The main topics pushed by the Chapter members at the Public Meetings were the extension of electrical and waterlines to the rural areas. In addition, a new Senior Center, more Economic Development and Veterans Assistance were emphasized, as priority community needs. Once all this information is complied, CBLUPC and Dr. Knowles will finalize the Plan for the sixty-day comment period. Than CBLUPC Members will than seek certification of the Plan from the Transportation and Community Development Committee by the summer of 2006.

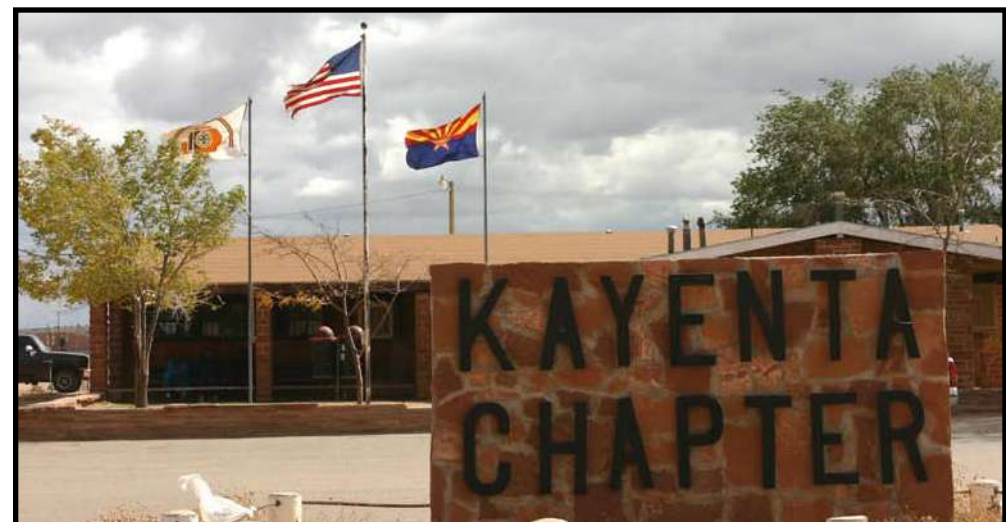
CBLUPC meeting are on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Kayenta Chapter House. Agendas are prepared one day before the meeting, for more information contact Lenora Spencer, CBLUPC Coordinator.

The Hampton Inn of Kayenta

Shop the Kayenta Trading Company

Dine in the Reuben Heflin Restaurant

Call (928) 697-3170 for Reservations and Information



Daniel Peaches Selected as Kayenta's New Town Manager

On January 9, 2006 Mr. Daniel Peaches was officially appointed the position of Kayenta Town Manager by the Kayenta Township Commission. Mr. Peaches comes from an impressive background of leadership in both Tribal and State governments to name a few. The Kayenta Today had the opportunity to sit down with Mr. Peaches to get an insight on his experiences in government, leadership, and his visions for the community of Kayenta.

Mr. Daniel Peaches was born four miles west of Kayenta near Diversion Dam. He is of the Bitter Water clan, and born for the Manygoats/Redhouse clans. He began school at the Kayenta BIA School and then transferred to the Intermountain school in Brigham City, Utah on a five year program.

Mr. Peaches spent four years in Brigham City before he left to Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, Oklahoma; he spent three years in Oklahoma before transferring to the Window Rock Public school in Window Rock, Arizona. After spending one year in Window Rock, Mr. Peaches transferred to Tuba City High School where he graduated in 1962.

After graduating high school, Daniel Peaches enrolled at Northern Arizona University in January 1963 and graduated in 1967. After graduating from NAU he became a graduate student at the University of New Mexico in 1968 and 1969 where he studied Indian Law. Through his college days, Mr. Peaches never looked up to non-Indians, he saw them struggling like everyone else.

In the summer of 1969, Mr. Peaches enrolled at the American University as a congressional intern. While he served as a summer student at the congressional office, he met Paul Rosenblatt who at the time was Chief of Staff in Congressman Sam Steigers office. Mr. Paul Rosenblatt recently made headlines as the judge in the controversial Arizona Snowbowl case who ruled in favor of snowmaking on the San Francisco Peaks which is sacred to many Native Americans in Arizona.

In 1970, Mr. Peaches was employed with the ONEO Central Office in Window Rock, Arizona as the Public Relations Officer when Peter Mac Donald was Executive Director. When Peter Mac Donald won the seat as Chairman for the Navajo Nation by defeating Raymond Nakai,



Daniel Peaches with Congressman Sam Steiger and staff in Washington. Summer 1969. R-L Congressman Sam Steiger, Paul Rosenblatt, and Daniel Peaches.



“The people must be shown that the concept of a city government is within their reach, that local autonomy is the heart of a true democracy, the ideas of liberty and opportunities.”

- Daniel Peaches
Kayenta Town Manager

Mr. Peaches enrolled back in school to earn his Master Degree in Public Administration.

earth type of person; he never acted as if he was higher than others.”

That fall Mr. Peter Mac Donald paid Mr. Peaches an unexpected visit in his Dormitory.

“What are you doing here? We have work to do in Window Rock”, said Mr. Peter Mac Donald. It was at that unannounced meeting in his Dormitory that Mr. Daniel Peaches was hired as the Director of Public Information for the Mac Donald Administration.

1974 was a busy year for Mr. Peaches, Peter Mac Donald won a second term as the Navajo Nation Chairman, and Mr. Peaches was elected to the Arizona State Legislature. It was there in the Arizona State Legislature that Mr. Peaches would spend the next fourteen years of public service to the citizens of Arizona.

Mr. Peaches went on to say, “In 1971, Governor Jack Williams appointed me to serve on the Arizona Commission on Indian Affairs. I thoroughly enjoyed my work as Chairman of the Commission. Governor Jack Williams was a down to

During his time in the Legislature Mr. Peaches noted that he dealt with doctors, lawyers, and business people daily and he never treated them any different than he wanted to be treated.

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“They worry about their families, children, and their livelihood just like the rest of us. A Navajo medicine man was my mentor for well over twenty years. He taught me to be equal to any human being and not to look down on them or feel beholden to them. We all share this world and need each other.” said Mr. Peaches.

Also that year, United States President, Richard Nixon appointed Daniel Peaches to serve on the National Advisory Council on Indian Education where he spent three years as Chairman. “I was able to travel across the country and visited many other Native communities to see how Title IV of Indian Education was being implemented, and I made many new friends in Indian Education.” said Mr. Peaches.

Mr. Peaches went on to say, “Over the years when I visited with many Native communities and their leaders, I noticed with some of them I would sense an attitude and a feeling of being lower than other people, and this really bothered me.”



Posing with Congressman Gerald Ford who was minority leader of the U.S. Congress and future President of the United States when Richard Nixon resigned in August 1974.

In January 1985, Mr. Peaches would move on to work for Leupp School as an Entrepreneurial Coordinator. He began many money making projects with seventh and eighth grade students during his employment with Leupp School.

In June 1988, Mr. Peaches received yet another unexpected calling from Mr. Peter Mac Donald and was appointed to the Board of Regents for then Navajo Community College; he was also hired as Deputy Legislative Director with Senator Henderson as his supervisor.

In one of the darkest years of Navajo government, Navajo Nation Chairman, Mr. Peter Mac Donald was accused of taking bribes and was suspended. He was later removed from office as Navajo Nation Chairman. “It was a very sad day for me.” recalled Mr. Peaches. “I continued to work as Deputy Director in the Ethics Office for two more years and then decided to go back home to Kayenta.”

After returning to his home town of

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Peaches:

I welcome this opportunity to express my personal gratitude for your dedicated service as a member of the National Advisory Council on Indian Education.

Our Nation and this Administration have benefitted greatly from your many contributions which also truly have earned you the deep respect of your colleagues. Your abundant experience and many insights have been of great value to the work of the Council and to the American people.

You may be sure that you take with you my appreciation and very best wishes for every success and happiness in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Mr. Daniel Peaches
Post Office Box 784
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

A letter of appreciation from President Gerald Ford to Daniel Peaches for his efforts while serving on the National Advisory Council to Indian Education.

Kayenta, Mr. Peaches worked on his ranch on Black Mesa for two and a half years before deciding to apply for Chapter Coordinator at Chilchinbeto Chapter in 1994. He continued work at the Chilchinbeto Chapter until 1999 when he was elected to the Navajo Nation Council. “Tribal Leadership was still rudderless.” said Mr. Peaches. “I sponsored several legislations, including the concept of performance based budgeting.”

In 2003, Mr. Peaches would once again return to his ranch on Black Mesa where he would enjoy a lot of his free time reading. While back on his ranch on Black Mesa, he spent the next six months as the Community Liaison for the Black Mesa Review. “For some strange reason I was never put on the tribal payroll for the position.” said Mr. Peaches. “But along came the position for Kayenta Town Manager for the Kayenta Township, I applied for the position and was selected.”

The Kayenta Township had been seeking a qualified individual to fill the position for a number of months

after the dismissal of former Town Manager, Gary Nelson in 2005. The Township received applications from eight people, and on January 9, 2006 the Kayenta Township Commission selected Mr. Daniel Peaches as the new Town Manager.

“I am very happy to have this opportunity to work in my own community and not somewhere else. The Kayenta Township offers a great opportunity for Indian self-government at the local level, which is modeled after city government. It is the next step in Indian self-determination and Indian self-sufficiency. I want to see it succeed.” said Mr. Peaches.

His vision for Kayenta is based on a vision he expressed in a letter to the Navajo Times in 1962. “I still have a copy of that letter, but it’s worn and faded now.” said Mr. Peaches. In the letter, Mr. Peaches wrote, “Kayenta, long known as an isolated and remote community is coming out of its shell and will join the twentieth century society soon, with a new paved highway and a new sense of optimism.”

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“I was excited then, just as I am excited now. I want to empower the people, the staff, the community members, and the leaders of Kayenta. This is my vision.” said Mr. Peaches.

Mr. Peaches went on to state that the most important thing in our community is our people, their aspirations, their hopes, and dreams. “I would like the young people of this community to become successful, such as Dr. Greyeyes who became a medical doctor some years ago, or Dr. Tommy Yazzie, Engineer, Kee Yazzie, or Lt. Colonel LaDaiel Dayzie. Our youth have great potentials.” said Mr. Peaches.

When asked what his first priority is for the Kayenta Township as the new

Town Manager is, he stated that the credibility in the Township needs to be restored, as well as the concept and the potential of the Kayenta Township. “The people must be shown that the concept of a city government is within their reach, that local autonomy is the heart of a true democracy, the ideas of liberty and opportunities.” said Mr. Peaches.

Mr. Peaches stated that to improve the Kayenta Townships working relationships with other forms of government, the BIA, Navajo Tribe, County, and State governments must share our dreams and hopes of becoming a successful community. “We must show the way.” said Mr. Peaches.

Social issues such as drugs and alco



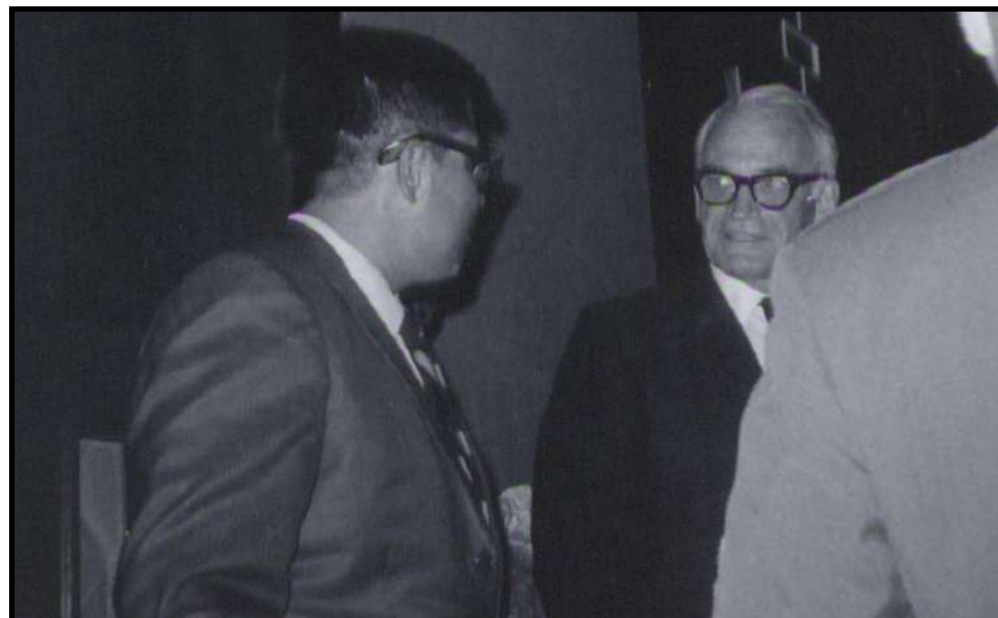
Studying Indian Law at the University of New Mexico School of Law. Photo-1968-69.



**“When in Washington, always have a camera handy.”
-Daniel Peaches**



Senator Goldwater signing autographs on a book about him. Photo was taken at White Mesa near Kaibeto in mArch 1988 on the dedication of Margaret Arch in honor of the late Margaret “Peggy” Goldwater. Also on this occassion, Goldwater and Peter Mac Donald buried their political hatches.



Daniel Peaches with Senator Goldwater in Flagstaff, Arizona.



With Senator Goldwater once again and his receptionist, Yazzie Leonard who was once a Kayenta Township Commissioner. Photo-Summer 1969

hol have always been a concern to the community of Kayenta. Mr. Peaches recently talked with Captain Sombreo of the Criminal Investigation Department in Kayenta about the drug and alcohol problems in our community. “We have to stop the drug trafficking in our community, we also need a rehabilitation facility in our community.” said Mr. Peaches.

Mr. Peaches plans on visiting schools in Kayenta to speak with school officials about the drug and alcohol problem in the community, Mr. Peaches also stated that Social Service personnel need support from the community in order for them to provide much needed services to the community. “With out our support, they burn-out quickly.” said Mr. Peaches.

The lack of economic development in Kayenta has been sparse in recent

years, attracting new business and jobs to Kayenta has always been tough. When asked how he would deal with the problem, Mr. Peaches said, “We must develop a better business climate, and it starts with a fair and equitable leasing policy. We must beautify our community with better care and better images. It is everyone’s responsibility to make the traveling public feel safe and welcomed.”

The Kayenta Master Lease has always been a concern for many local businesses and potential future business entrepreneurs. Mr. Peaches stated that the sooner the Kayenta Master Lease is enacted, the better. “As long as we have good leasing policies, new businesses would not hesitate to come to our community. With support from every sector of our community, Kayenta can be a model town to other communities in five years.” said Mr. Peaches.

Kayenta Toys for Tots

By Dana Lee

“We saw a little boy crying thinking he was scared of the toy we gave him, but he told us he was so happy, he never thought he would have gotten any gifts for Christmas.” said Sarah Jensen.

Sarah Jensen, dispatcher for the Kayenta Police Department had a great responsibility, assisting in the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign. The Navajo Nation Police Department is a member of the Local Community Organizations that join the Marine Corps campaign, assigning their districts to gather information and support from their communities they serve.

October 1, 2005 began the outreach to the eight chapters the Kayenta Police Department serve: Kayenta, Dennehotso, Chilchibeto, Oljato, Navajo Mountain, Inscription House, and Shonto. Mrs. Jensen had requested the Chapters give her a list of three families whom may not have been able to purchase any gifts or their children and how many toys they needed.

Burger King of Kayenta, Chevron, Sonics, Bashas', Kayenta Indian Health Service, Monument Valley High School National Honor Society, and Ferrell Gas were large contributors to the program.



Sarah Jensen

A total of 6,380 toys, books, and stocking stuffers were collected from the Marine Corps and local donations. “We received DVD players, bikes, huge stuffed animals, remote control trucks, digital games. I just couldn't believe all the toys we got, I mean, these were not cheap toys at all...we were all so excited,” Mrs. Jensen commented.

The Navajo Nation Police Dept. Toys for Tots members spent nine days in California visiting each Marine Base near, collecting toys. They brought back an estimated total of 35-37,000 toys that were divided among the 17 police districts and 10 other tribes. Once in Kayenta, the gifts were given to the eight chapters.

In the beginning, it seemed there was more than enough toys, but when we finally divided it all up, we could have used just a bit more. I do wish that awareness about the campaign gets out and more people want to help,” Mrs. Jensen said in reference to fundraising and awareness.

The Kayenta Police district covers 4,620 square miles with an estimated population of 23,300. The Toys for Tots program expresses that “the ultimate success depends on the support of the local community and the generosity of the people who donate toys.”

Construction of a New Senior Citizens and Wellness Center for Kayenta?

By Dana Lee

Local community members, including the Kayenta Elder Task Force is tracking a key piece of legislation before the Arizona State Legislature. House Bill 2458 (HB 2458) has been written to provide support for funds to construct “Navajo Senior Center Facilities.” HB 2458 has proceeded thru the first and second readings of sponsoring committees, and currently sits before the Appropriations Committee.

A proposal was submitted to construct a new senior citizens and wellness center for Kayenta. The proposal requests approximately \$2.5 million to build a facility four times the size of the current facility. Several members of the Kayenta Senior Center Advisory Council, Kayenta Chapter, and the Kayenta Township traveled down to Phoenix to participate in Arizona's Indian Legislative Day and met with key legislatures (Representative Albert Tom, Representative Anne Kirkpatrick, and Senator Albert Hale), to advocate support for HB 2458. Representative Albert Tom has been instrumental in sponsoring this legislation.

The proposed plans include expanding and adding new programs and



services beyond the congregate meal program.

The layout and size of the current facility limits the type and variety of programs which can be advertised. It's getting to expensive to maintain the current 20 year old facility.

The dream of the Kayenta Senior Citizens is within reach but the Arizona State Legislators have to determine the financial feasibility.

The Kayenta Senior Center Advisory Council recommends that all support comments be forwarded to the following legislative representative for HB 2458.

Representative Albert Tom
atom@azleg.gov
(928) 926-5862
Representative Anne Kirkpatrick
akirkpatrick@az.leg.gov
(928) 926-5160
Senator Albert Hale
ahale@azleg.gov
(928) 926-4323

For more information, contact:
Andrew Bradley, President of Kayenta Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
Pearlena Chiquito, Kayenta Senior Center

Town Manager Reception

"I want to empower the people, the staff, the community members, and the leaders of Kayenta. This is my vision."

Daniel Peaches

Kayenta Town Manager



Many community leaders and members attended the Town Manager Reception on January 12, 2006 at the Kayenta Town Hall.



"The Business Association felt that the Township was making progress with the Master Lease, which we were very interested in. We need the Master Lease in order to promote economic growth in our community, our people need employment in our community, not services. The Township needs to focus on the needs of the community, things in Kayenta seem to have been at a stand still lately. Mr. Daniel Peaches is local, he knows what is needed in our community and I hope he picks up where Mr. Gary Nelson left off with the Master Lease."

- Bill Cornford



Mr. Peaches has been a prominent person in this whole region, he's very outspoken and has excellent experience in both State and Tribal government. That is what makes him such a great candidate for the Kayenta Town Manager.

- Dr. Gerald Knoles



"I know he will do an outstanding job, he's from the community and know its needs. I'm very happy to have Mr. Peaches as one of our leaders in our community."

- Alice White



"It's only fitting to have a town manager that is from this community, I look up to Mr. Daniel Peaches."

- Wille Begay

Teeh'in'deeh Woman's Shelter Flooded

By Dana Lee

The winter snow has finally come to Kayenta, a time for celebration and snowballs, but the Teeh'in'deeh Woman's Shelter also had an experience of its own on January 23, 2006.

With temperatures dropping in the Kayenta area, one side of the building did not have a heater. The pipes froze causing a burst in the sprinklers which flooded inside the building. When an employee and volunteer went to investigate, they said that the water in the room was so great that the pressure from outside the closed door caused a gush of water spraying out in the cracks, leaking out into the rest of that side of the building.

Specific information on the building plan cannot be given out due to security measures.

There was approximately 4-6 inches of water which flowed into the hallway and leaked into six or eight rooms damaging pressboard frames, cardboard boxes of mattresses and shelves, drywall, and wall paint.

At 8:15 a.m., Navajo Tribal Utility Authority responded and ordered a service call. NTUA shut off an isolated valve line, but for emergency precautions, the building was outfit

ted with a booster pump that served as a backup source of water powered by a backup generator. The electricity was turned off, water was left on, and finally shut off. This process took time in which water continued to pour out of the sprinklers.

Maintenance workers of the Teeh'in'deeh Shopping Center assisted in maintaining the water. About seven hours later, volunteers and workers removed water from the building with mops, shovels, and squeegees.

Geraldine Laughter, Shelter Director, was disappointed in Navajo Tribal Utility Authority's delay in responding and acting to shut off the water. "Non-profit organizations [like the Teeh'in'deeh Woman's Shelter] depend on the community and it is disappointing to know that in an emergency, there are members of the community that you cannot rely on" Ms. Laughter told Kayenta Today, in response to the dilemma of the water continuing to pour out of the pipes.

The shelter was on the verge of opening its door, and one of the last projects was the installation of phone lines. With the recent water damage, the opening will be delayed.



Natural Gas coming to a Kayenta

By Dana Lee

"To ensure safe and reliable services to our customers that exceed their expectations," mission statement of Navajo Tribal Utility Authority.

Since the closing of Black Mesa mine, Kayenta residents are trying to find alternative sources of energy, stored coal, propane, solar power, wind power, including natural gas.

Currently, a natural gas pipe runs from the San Juan Basin to California crosses right over the Northern part of Arizona and Kayenta, which gives Kayenta an opportunity to run a pipe off a 16" diameter pipe.

The purpose of the project is to attach a 4" polyethylene pipe off the 16" main pipe. The project will be divided in three phases for the Kayenta area.

The first phase will include a zig-zag formation thru NHA Housing, New/Old Trailer Court, 160/163 Junction, and downtown Kayenta. Bidding for construction will begin next month and end in March. Construction will start in May 2006, end in August 2006, and a total length equal to 5.09 miles of pipe will be laid.

The second phase will be around the "Hill" housing to the present I.H.S. clinic and have a distance equal to 3.22 miles of laid pipes. Construction is estimated to begin in 2008 but it is unknown when it will end.

The third and final phase will support the new Kayenta I.H.S. Hospital. Construction is predicted to start in 2008 but the exact date of completion is still unknown.

N.T.U.A. will be responsible to conduct gas leak surveys from the main pipe to meters, checking the pressure (psi) levels, and it is anticipated there will be no charge to the customer for the first meter.

Customers who choose to change to natural gas will be responsible after the meter to entering the establishment or home. The customer, if not outfitted, will pay for any conversion or upgrade of appliances.

For residents of the Peabody Trailer Court, it is the decision of Peabody

to change from propane to natural gas and once that is decided, all residents must convert to natural gas.

The general fee for propane varies with a high cost of \$525.00 and a low of \$475.00 per year with services from N.T.U.A. Electricity usually has a basic cost of \$480.00 per year with no severe fluctuations. Natural gas will be charged \$172.00 per year.

Garret Morris, Gas Engineering Department Supervisor said, "the high price gas rates of January 2003 was \$.73 per therm, December 2004 was \$.90 per therm, and picked up to \$1.50 per therm. \$1.04 per therm. The average fluctuates due to Hurricane Katrina."

Across the Navajo Nation, only fifteen communities have natural gas. Kayenta is among five other communities that are in the process of having natural gas, including Tuba City, Dennehotso, Teec Nos Pos, and Red Mesa.

For the science lovers: Propane vs. Natural Gas

Propane is a substance that is a by-product of natural gas processing and petroleum refining and burns three times hotter than natural gas. Propane is stored and transported in its compressed liquid form, but by releasing the valve from a pressurized container, it is vaporized into a gas for use. Price of propane is influenced by the price of competing fuels, distance the propane has to travel, and volumes used by the consumer.

Natural gas is a gaseous mixture of naturally occurring hydrocarbons: methane, propane, butane, carbon monoxide, and hydrogen. Natural gas costs much less than propane and cleaner. Natural gas displaces the oxygen in the air, making it lighter than air, and is able to escape through porous and semi-porous materials. Price of natural gas depends on the "transmission and distribution costs" (move gas from production site, to company, to customers) and the "commodity cost" (the cost of the gas itself).



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



It Just Tastes Better!

Four Locations to Serve You

Kayenta - Chinle - Shiprock - Burnside Junction