

KAYENTA TODAY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY

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Nahata Dziil Chapter
Moving Forward

Continuing the Legacy of Brilliant Leadership



Through Local Empowerment

21st Century Navajo-ism

THE BILLION DOLLAR CHAPTER

By Ken Whitehair

Opinions herein do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Kayenta Township, it's employees and Commissioners.

That's right folks, we have a Billion Dollar Chapter on the Rez. The Billion Dollar Chapter came into existence based on the following assumption: more than 32 million dollars in 2005 was paid in Kayenta Chapter coal mine royalties to Navajo Nation government and administration and is generously applied to the following calculation. The term of this transaction was 35 years. Do the math:

$$\begin{array}{r} \$32,000,000.00 \\ \times 35 \\ \hline \$1,120,000,000.00 \end{array}$$

It sure looks like 1 Billion dollars to me!

The Billion dollar Chapter is Kayenta Chapter. The source of the capital, i.e. money, is from the coal mine royalties in Kayenta Chapter, usually called 'Peabody'. The Billion Dollar Chapter will go BUST in year 2013, that's the length of the contract there used to be two coal mines.

What has Kayenta Chapter done with its share of the coal mine royalties under this transaction? Well, to start with, there isn't a single structure, building, memorial, sign, scholarship to the nearest school of mines for qualified Navajo students, or other, within Kayenta Chapter that is for public use, and can be claimed to have been financed by coal royalties.

Even at this writing, there is a need for a JAIL, and while plans progress, there has been no movement of funds or commitment of funds from the purse of Navajo Nation government and administration, to finance the building of a new, larger, hazardous substance free, large drunk tank, coded, large antenna for rapid multiplex communication, etc., jail. Other buildings can easily be imagined, such as a casino, senior center, veteran facility, library, municipal court, indoor arena with track field, rodeo, Olympic-size swimming

pool, space for various government offices including much needed law offices, space for colleges and university.

However, none of this will occur, unless its privately financed. The simple fact is, all royalties go to Navajo Nation government and administration, because a policy apparently was made by our considerate friends, the Navajo Nation Council, who voted for such a policy. The result of this policy is basically ZERO dollars goes to Kayenta Chapter. The continuous finance of gyms, sport pavilions, as opposed to solid investments such as the industrial park at Kayenta Township, has fatigued the unemployed Chapter Navajo. The evidence of our senses, such as sight, shows Kayenta Chapter has not done much over the span of the transaction, which caused the Billion dollar Chapter.

REMEMBER OJATO CHAPTER?

Ojato Chapter, during the 1950, 1960s, probably the 1940s, was the scene of mining activities. Uranium and other fissionable materials were extracted—fissionable materials were covered in the university physics lecture, remember? To this day it is unknown how much high energy material was removed from Ojato Chapter. Respecting necessary state secrets, there is no restriction on financial information such as the transactions that occurred with private companies and Navajo Nation government and administration. One conclusion that we can arrive at, based on the evidence of our senses, is Ojato Chapter remains primitive, undeveloped. This means the financial benefits gained from the transaction associated with the extraction of fissionable materials did not reward Ojato Chapter with finance to pursue future prosperity, that could make development on any scale. Once again a policy can be inferred, of the public ownership of the means of production, by Navajo Nation government and administration.

The display of intelligence, daring enterprise, and organization would have produced an electric generating plant, using nuclear materials, and the effect of employment could have been experienced, dependent on nuclear material half life. So too, the prior example of coal also held the chance to construct companies to dig for and remove coal, and use coal in manufacturing processes, such as the manufacture of silicon, given production requirements. But that did not happen, due to a policy made by Navajo Nation government and administration.

WHEN NATURAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TAKES PLACE WITHIN A CHAPTER

Its fair to say, no financial benefits are seen at the Chapter level, such as Kayenta Chapter with its coal mine development. One could say Kayenta Chapter was excluded from the whole process of the means of production. And this now places Kayenta Chapter in a difficult position of trying to develop on various levels to meet the demands of a growing chapter and community population, meeting demands through infrastructure improvements, without serious financial or adequate resources. And in the world of today, that is difficult to accomplish. The disregard of 'private property' of natural resources within a Chapter, when seen in the context of the policy of a Chapter not getting any of the financial benefits of natural resources, places the Chapter in the poor position of being a beggar, and emphatically proves that poverty does not encourage industry and commerce.

Other Chapters on the Navajo Nation who face potential natural resources development, when the Kayenta Chapter experience with Navajo Nation government and administration is known, will place themselves on RED ALERT! The Chapters with undeveloped natural resources of necessity must begin the tedious task of building a legal case on why they should not be excluded from the means of production. The current Chapters with natural resources appear unmindful of this argument. It is to the decided prosperity of all Chapters having natural resources

appear unmindful of this argument. It is to the decided prosperity of all Chapters having natural resources with potential development to unify around the policy of gaining a proportion of the financial benefits associated with natural resources development. That is logical and fair and underscores SELF INTEREST.



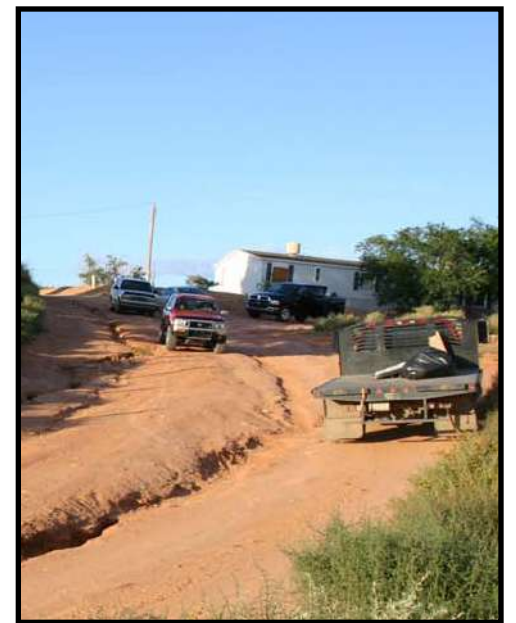
An observable fact of Chapter life is unemployment has caused INDIGENCE and DEPOPULATION. The workforce population is the age range of both sexes from 18 to 66 years of age. Because unemployment exists to a large degree throughout Chapters, emigration has occurred. Therefore depopulation. This is clearly seen from the community survey which makes the age distribution graph. The community survey is usually done in association with the Chapter land use planning group. Indigence is measured by Arizona's Department of Economic Security, or Navajo Nation's Social Services programs, in case there is any interest for quantitation. Central administration, the modus operandi of Navajo Nation government and administration, through the policy of public ownership of the means of production, which is exclusion of Chapters from the financial benefits of natural resources development, has a harsh impact on Chapters, and not on Navajo Nation government and administration.

Continued on page 4

Township Projects Update

ANIMAL SHELTER

The proposed animal shelter is to be located next to White Mesa Materials cement plant on the North side of town. The legal surveys have been completed and the soils report will be complete within the next two months. When the soils report is completed, RME Santa Fe Engineering will complete the engineering work for the building and the Township construction crew will begin construction this summer. The building will be a 1500 square foot pre-engineered steel building, which will house an administrative office and kennels for stray animals.

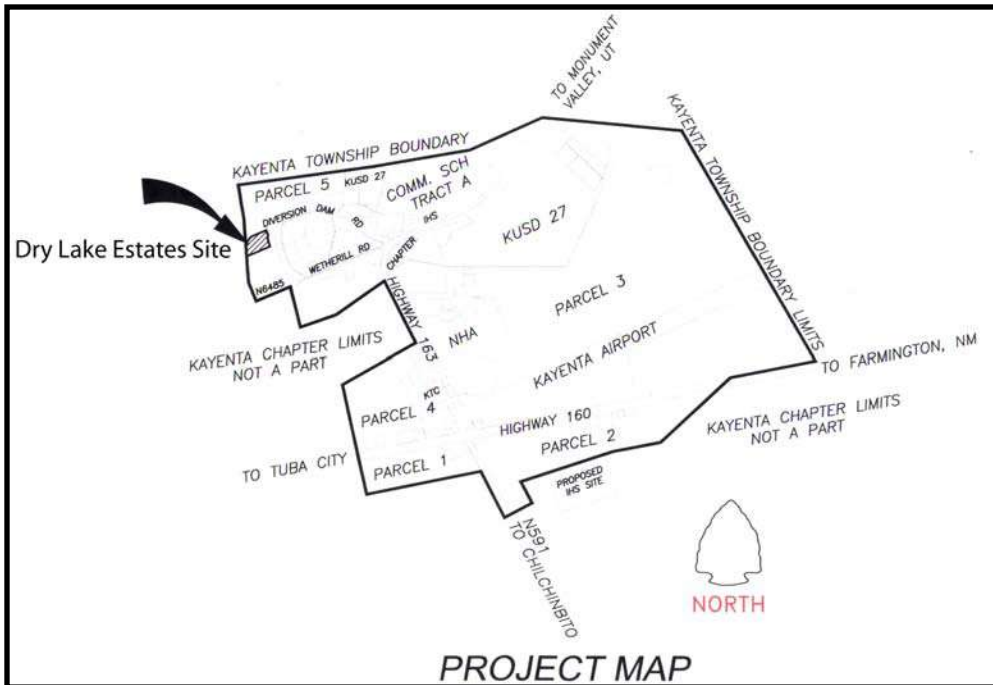


ROADS

The Kayenta Township received funding through the Navajo Nations Fuel Tax to complete two major roads within the Township. One project will complete a paved road from U.S. Highway 160 to the Rodeo Grounds and Flea Market. A second project will complete a Bus Route from U.S. Highway 163 next to the Chapter House and end at the KUSD property where a new school entrance is proposed. A scope of work has been completed for both projects and submitted to NDOT for review and approval. Upon approval by NDOT, RME Santa Fe Engineering will begin the engineering work and construction will begin this summer.

Kayenta's third traffic light is being designed to accommodate the high traffic of our local High School and Community School. This project is being coordinated by ADOT with the help and assistance of KUSD and the Township. KUSD has been working on this project for over 10 years now and the Township has joined the efforts with matching construction funds and a commitment to fund the ongoing maintenance and operation of the lights. Additionally, the Township has submitted and received preliminary approval of and addition \$92,000 in grant funds from the Fuel Tax to make up the short fall the project is currently experiencing.

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Above is a project map illustrating where the Dry Lake Estates will be constructed.

DRY LAKE ESTATES

The Kayenta Township Commission received a grant award from NAHASDA through the Navajo Housing Authority to construct 20 single-family low-income housing units within the Kayenta Township boundaries. These three bedroom homes will be constructed on the West end of Wetherill Heights on a 10 acre tract of land.

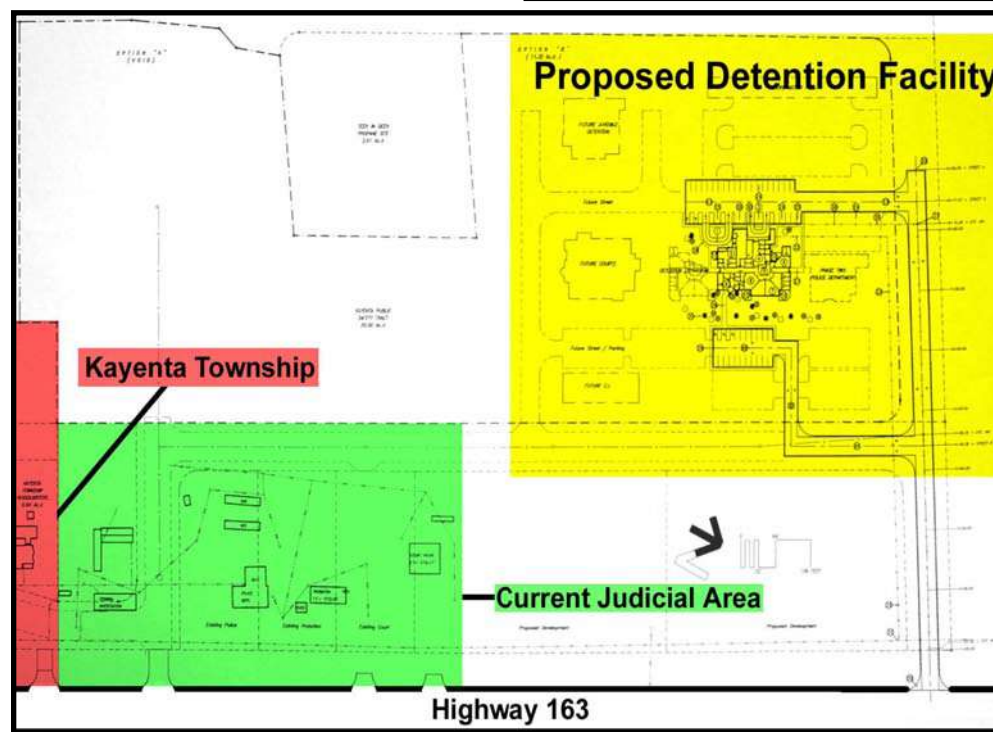
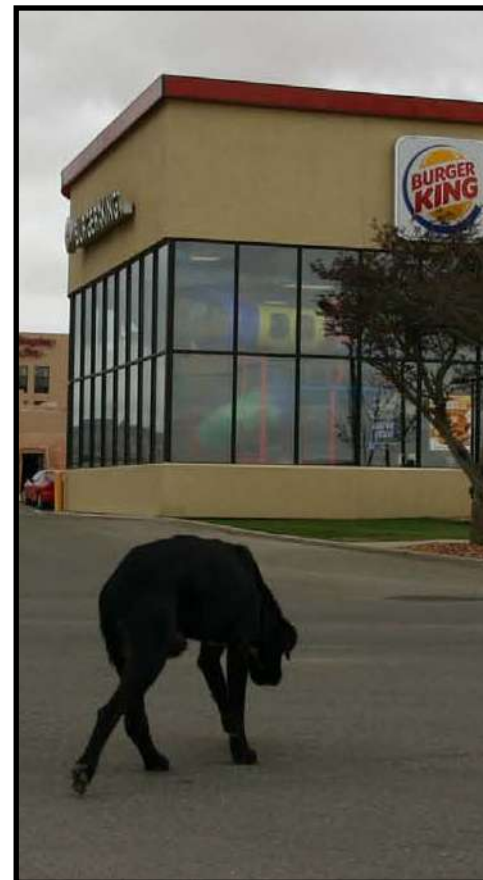
The design and pre-engineering of these units has been advertised and Kayeh Construction L.L.C. was awarded the contract. Kayeh Construction is a 100% Navajo owned company who recently completed the new roads within the Navajo Housing Authority lease. Construction of this sub-division is due to be completed before the end of the year. Currently the Township is working on utility right of ways, engineering and floor plans for these units.

The Kayenta Township has also been accepting applications for these housing units for the past two years and currently has a list of 40 potential homeowners. Qualification for these units requires the applicants to be within 80% of the areas median household income as well as other eligibility criteria.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

The Kayenta public safety building is currently being designed by David Sloan Architects of Albuquerque New Mexico. To date, the drawings are at 60% complete and will soon be review by the BIA offices. The first phase consists of a 32 bed adult detention facility with a 7 bed Juvenile holding cell.

This facility will be located on the Public Safety Track behind the current Police Department buildings. The drawings are estimated to be completed this summer and ready for construction pending financing.



Continued from page 2

The harsh impact on Chapters includes indigence, depopulation, a primitive status, almost eotechnic, unsophistication, unimproved roads being the standard rather than paved roads which implies distant services such as health care, financial services, no telephone service or poor cell phone service, visible depreciation seen in existing public buildings, vacant buildings from former business sites which gives the appearance of a war zone, a population characterized by young ages and elderly being the larger proportions, the workforce population being underrepresented. The management talent of the rural Chapter, through emigration, becomes scant; problems and findings related to administrative techniques remain unresolved and are passed from one executive director to another, till the problems become unavoidable, and literally stop rural Chapter functions. Crisis management becomes the watchword of the day. Clearly the Billion dollar Chapter mentality of central administration has become a poor performer.

AT A RECENT MEETING A NAVAJO NATION POLICY WAS ENUNCIATED

A high level functionary was paraphrased to say 'Navajo Nation Council only recognizes a local government based on the Council's delegated authority'. The delegated authority policy of Navajo Nation Council, while it may be attractive to some, deserves examination. The policy is certainly exclusive: only certain people can issue it, and only certain groups who endeavor to engineer local government can actually claim it if given, to the point where Navajo Nation Council has become a sort of autocrat, authoritarian even. One over-looked item was FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM'S value of Self Interest. Self Interest is a vital topic, especially when the free enterprise system is considered. Self interest means, in the context of economics, that choices made involving scarce resources are made to meet one's wants, one's needs—what is most favorable or desired.

The objective one wants is selected because its best available to meet one's self interest. And, Navajo Nation Council cannot delegate Self interest to each Chapter Navajo. How can Navajo Nation Council delegate the authority of self interest to each Chapter Navajo? It's impossible. Self-interest is best seen in the following adventure. There was a 10 year old Navajo boy with his older sister, selling burritos and other sandwiches—they were burrito vendors. What was the purpose of their running around and selling? They wanted to purchase a computer. They had enlisted the aid of Mom, Auntie, Dad, and whomever else. The burrito vendors had an interest to sell something the public wanted, at a fair price, and was even delivered to you, right in a meeting, for instance. Now that was convenient. This type of self-interest cannot be legislated by Navajo Nation Council. The same type of self interest is seen in all the business operations throughout Dinetah. Self-interest is fundamental to the making of an economy, or, the free enterprise system.

SELF INTEREST CAN BE SEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local government when applied to Navajo society is actually found in the everyday living of HOME RULE. Home rule is the concept that an area holding several families or groups of families, select their decision maker, to work out disagreements, make the peace, provide for the common welfare. So, local government is not some new or strange idea: its very commonplace. Local government, when viewed from Kayenta Chapter, has as its example, Kayenta Township. Kayenta, as almost everyone knows on the Navajo Nation, used to be the most remote site from the railroad, and thus was considered the most isolated.

That quality did not stop the many Nataanii who concluded that the use of modern methods might actually be useful, may actually overcome physical remoteness. The examination of the modern world, which is produced off the Navajo Nation, revealed its local government, called

Kayenta Township, is a municipal government, that can produce an economy, and one of its motivations was self interest. In this case, it's the self-interest of many individuals.

One group, such as the business community, sees the utility and benefit of order, a meaningful court system with enforcement of contracts, various ordinances to accommodate the public weal, and the firm intention to create a relationship between municipal government and the business community that is mutually beneficial. And in this relationship the public also gain, by ever increasing goods and services, hopefully at competitive prices. Municipal government does not confine itself to only one interest, but has to provide for the public, through infrastructure work such as water lines, electricity, roads, easements, and health care, schools, law enforcement, non-profit groups, ie. Developing extensive services. The self interest of individuals that eventually created a municipal government, was done so within a democratic framework. The objective was to access the opportunities of the free enterprise system. The opportunities of the free enterprise system are many. The opportunities made available through the free enterprise system may be profit making, for example. The evolution of government and Navajo society has to account for itself the deliberate avoidance of rigid rule making, and adhere to the real finding of LIMITED GOVERNMENT.

**SUMMARY**

There is much to be said about the interrelationship of government and its economy. Navajo Nation's economy and the mechanism of its economy is not excluded. The evidence seen throughout the Navajo Nation, brought about by the blind adherence to the dogma of central administration cannot be disputed or discounted. Central administration is inefficient, displays degrees of coercion, retaliation, has increasing bureaucracy, and RETARDS THE OVERALL RATE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH.

The performance of central administration is poor, and results rests as a burden on the unemployed Chapter Navajo, the fixed income Navajo, who compose the majority within a Chapter. The effects of policy do not need repetition in the physical world of each Chapter Navajo. Briefly, as most everyone is affected, non-available services place at-risk population at greater risk; wood-hauling permits must be chased at ever-longer distances; and hauling of potable water is simply necessity. These conditions can be overcome, through the use of COMPETITION, of governments, such as Navajo Nation government and administration's central administration method and democratic Kayenta Township.

Township is a product of the modern world, and is a modern organization. The 'newness' of Township even has its 'rules and regs' unwritten in the Navajo Nation Code, as there is no section describing the Municipal Corporation. And much the same applies to audit standards for municipal government, like Kayenta Township. The possibility exists that solutions to Navajo Nation problems may in fact reside off the Navajo Nation. It is then pragmatic to explore off Navajo Nation methods, and Navajo society will attempt local government in a serious way.



NEW FACES OF ENGINEERING

MERWIN YELLOWHAIR

Merwin Yellowhair was among 15 other engineers mentioned in National Engineers Week – New faces of Engineering. Merwin is employed with AmericaBuilt Development and was nominated by the American Society of Civil Engineers.



Merwin Yellowhair

National Engineers Week recognizes the accomplishments of all engineers. The New Faces of Engineering program highlights the interesting and unique work of young engineers and the resulting impact on society. Young engineers two to five years out of school are the focus of this recognition program.

As a newly named chief engineer, Yellowhair currently manages the engineering division and collaborates with AmericaBuilt Construction with each in-house design. As a second-generation college graduate, Yellowhair is the first registered professional engineer of his family and is one of few members of the Diné Nation to achieve this license. Like many professionals, Yellowhair acknowledges the encouragement from his family when considering the reasons for his success, but he also pays tribute to the strength derived from traditional songs and prayers of the Diné Nation.

Merwin Yellowhair's home on the Diné Nation in northern Arizona had few engineer role models, but that fact only steeled his resolve to change the situation for the better. Realizing a scarcity of Diné (Navajo) engineers, Yellowhair worked through an engineering program determined to show civil engineering as a career option for Diné family and community members. Utilizing every available resource, Yellowhair acquired Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering degrees and became principal of a registered engineering firm – all while under the age of 30.

Merwin is a 1996 MVHS graduate. His parents are Thomas and Gladys Yellowhair of Kayenta, Arizona. He is married to 1998 MVHS graduate Monica Yazzie Yellowhair, who is Chemistry doctoral candidate at University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona.

Upon attaining his Professional Engineering license in 2006, Yellowhair registered AmericaBuilt Development as a new and dynamic civil engineering firm within the state of Arizona. The firm, a separate engineering division within the AmericaBuilt Corporation in Tucson, has allowed Yellowhair to create and implement a fully functioning engineering staff.

Merwins Education:
 BS Civil Engineering, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, 2002
 ME Civil Engineering, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, 2005



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Cold Weather Prompts Reaction from Local Leaders

By: Jarvis Williams

The week of January 15-19 was especially cold for this area as the temperatures hovered around the single digit mark during the morning hours and reaching the mid 20's during the afternoon. The significant drop in temperature was felt throughout the entire West as communities bundled up for the wintry weather.

Even the city of Phoenix, normally known for its warm winter weather, experienced freezing temperatures as a few residents awoke to cracked water lines and a pool of unwanted water in their yard or homes. Needless to say, professional plumbers were happy to service the broken lines and restore order to a brief moment of chaos.

As for the town of Kayenta, the drop in temperature pushed residential water lines to the freezing point. In some cases, the water lines also cracked causing a lot of unwanted flooding in the area. No professional plumber here...nope...most likely a "jack of all trades" handyman type would be available for these jobs. For others, however, it wasn't frozen water lines that were the problem it was the lack of wood or coal for warmth.

This was cause for action as the leaders recognized the importance of the situation. In an effort to combat the

cold weather, the Kayenta Chapter, Kayenta Township, and Social Services met in a brief meeting to discuss a course of action to assist those in need of wood or coal.

The decision...to haul some coal from the Kayenta Mine and distribute it to those in need. Armed with a list of names acquired from the Kayenta Social Services and permission from Peabody Coal Co., the Kayenta Township offered two 20 cubic-yard bins and a truck to make the trip to Kayenta Mine to pick up the coal. The Kayenta Chapter would serve as the distributor.

The focus of the distribution was on the elderly since they were considered the most in need by Kayenta Social Service. A list of names were collected and given to the Kayenta Chapter for implementation.

The residents that were served with coal were delighted with the drop-off service, while others came by the transfer station to pick up the coal. Mr. Mailboy, Chapter maintenance worker, assists in the distribution of the coal. However, there are residents that need to be notified of the availability of coal assistance and the Kayenta Chapter will working to assist in the notification. For more information, please contact the Kayenta Chapter at 697-5520.



Council Delegate submits written testimony about much-needed healing for Vietnam Veterans to Human Services Committee

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Council Delegate and Vietnam Combat Veteran Larry Anderson Sr. (Fort Defiance), submitted a written testimony on Feb. 19 about the difficult Vietnam Veterans' experience by saying "no one has found a real cure, a real healing," for each veterans' youth that was sacrificed, and returning to America profoundly wounded at every level.

"Vietnam had taken something from us," said Anderson who served in the Vietnam War during 1968-1969 in the U.S. Marine Corps, and was in Vietnam. "It robbed us of our youth. As a group, we had been lied to, led astray, and then abandoned by the country for which we had sacrificed so much."

Anderson, a Human Services Committee member, explained that, "we had gone to war believing we were patriots, and had returned a year or more later as second-class citizens."

"We were considered mentally unstable, unemployable and socially unacceptable," Anderson said, noting that no one had the time or the inclination to listen or help the Vietnam Veterans adjust to the "normal lifestyle."

"We had become instant outcasts," Anderson explained. "It was no wonder that so many of us had difficulties returning to the ebb and flow of the society had left. We suffered alone. The lucky survived."



Anderson who is originally from Fort Defiance, Ariz. described living with the memory of fighting the Vietnam War as struggling to shove "the nightmares and bad memories to the deepest recesses of our minds, vowing never to resurrect them."

"Other Vietnam Veterans fought battles they could never win, succumbing to alcohol, drugs, crime and suicide," Anderson said. "Many sought outside help."

Wives, clergy, counselors, psychologists, psychoanalysts and psychiatrists all tried, according to Anderson.

"Some even achieve varying degrees of success," he said. "But, in the end, the Vietnam vet was left to shoulder his own burden. The wounds had been patched, bandaged, sutured, and cauterized, but they had not healed."

He said that "some had lain dormant. Others had slowly festered."

"A few erupted, spewing poison on everyone around," Anderson noted. "No one had found a real cure, a real healing."

Anderson is serving his 12th year as a council delegate.

Navajo Nation Public Safety Committee Chair presents testimony for the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

By Sararesa Begay

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Hope MacDonald-Lone Tree, chairperson of the Public Safety Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, provided written testimony outlining the Public Safety Committee’s views on the President’s Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Request for tribal programs for the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Oversight Hearing held last Thursday, Feb. 15.

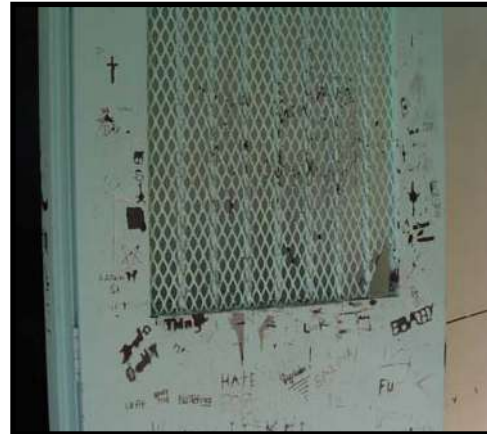
Chairperson MacDonald-Lone Tree informed the committee members that the continued use of a flawed formula and the proposed budget cuts in Indian Programs in the fiscal year 2008 Justice Department budget outweigh a positive trend in BIA law enforcement funding.

“The President’s fiscal year 2008 budget continues a positive trend of adding resources for Indian Country law enforcement in the BIA budget,” MacDonald-Lone Tree said, adding that the increased funding is greatly appreciated by the Navajo Nation. “The President has proposed a 10 percent increase in law enforcement funding in the fiscal year 2008 BIA law enforcement budget from the fiscal year level, while essentially holding public safety construction funding even with 2007.”



However, Chairperson MacDonald-Lone Tree explained that the gains in the BIA budget were outweighed by the Department of Justice budget proposal to eliminate several grant programs vital to Indian tribes, including The Correctional Facilities on Tribal Lands Program.

Chairperson MacDonald-Lone Tree urged the Committee and Congress to maintain the Correctional Facilities on Tribal Lands Program in fiscal year 2008, and to provide \$50 million for this program to meet the dire needs for more detention facilities in Indian Country, especially for the Navajo Nation.



She said the Navajo Nation has two primary concerns that are “while the President’s Budget would provide critically needed funding for detention facility operation and repair, virtually all of that funding is directed at BIA facilities, while the Navajo Nation, which has 34.2 percent of the on-reservation Indian population, gets no funding for its decaying facilities because they are not BIA-owned and operated.”

“There has been a great deal of attention paid in past years to the dangerous state of many Indian Country facilities,” MacDonald-Lone Tree said. “The BIA has moved to address this situation, but only with its own facilities.”

The Navajo facilities are widely known as posing a danger both to staff and inmates, yet the Navajo Nation facilities have not received the benefit of this funding, according to MacDonald-Lone Tree.



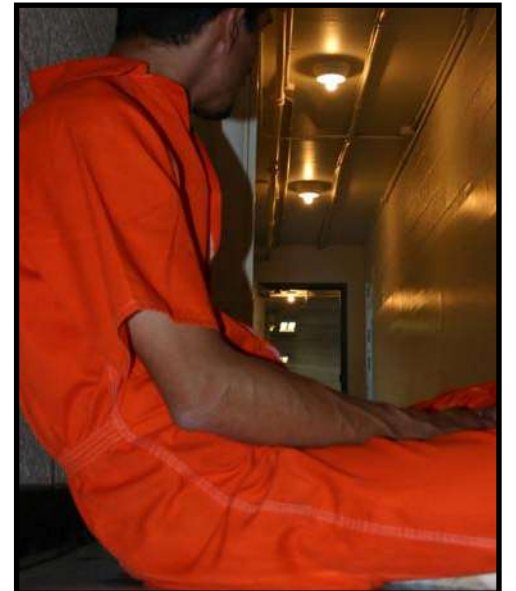
“The Navajo Nation urges the Congress to direct the BIA to apply a fair portion of this funding to addressing the detention facility crisis on the Navajo Nation,” she said. “This has clearly been to the detriment of the Indian population on the Navajo Nation, which is 34.2 percent of the entire on-reservation Indian population in the United States, but the Navajo Nation receives approximately 12 percent of the BIA public safety dollars. The Navajo Nation urges the Congress to direct the BIA to establish a sound, policy-based funding formula for the distribution of these funds.”

She said, “a majority of the increase in the law enforcement budget is due to an extra \$16 million for a Safe Indian Communities Initiative to increase training and staffing of law enforcement and detention facility personnel on tribal lands to combat the spread of methamphetamine.”



“This increase in funding is necessary to help fight the growing problem of methamphetamine in Indian Country and is appreciated by the Navajo Nation,” MacDonald-Lone Tree added. “However, the need for resources for law enforcement in Indian Country is so great that this increase will not adequately resolve the shortfall in police and detention personnel facing Indian public safety agencies.”

She highlighted that the “Fiscal Year 2008 Department Highlights,” documents outlining the Safe Indian Communities Initiative states that the new funding will, “increase the percent of BIA/tribal law enforcement agencies that are on par with recommended national staffing levels from 38 percent in 2007 to 40 percent in 2012.”



MacDonald-Lone Tree said the “increase help, but the need for law enforcement staffing assistance in Indian communities is much greater.

Since returning from Washington, D.C., Chairperson MacDonald-Lone Tree and the Navajo Nation Public Safety Committee members renewed their efforts to raise awareness of the state of Navajo public safety and to work to address the crime fighting ability of Navajo Police Officers and personnel.

“With only .05 police officers for every 1,000 Navajo people, the Navajo Nation must do all it can to increase police officers in our communities,” she said. “We must work to provide these courageous men and women with the equipment and training they need to ensure their safety and the safety of our communities.”

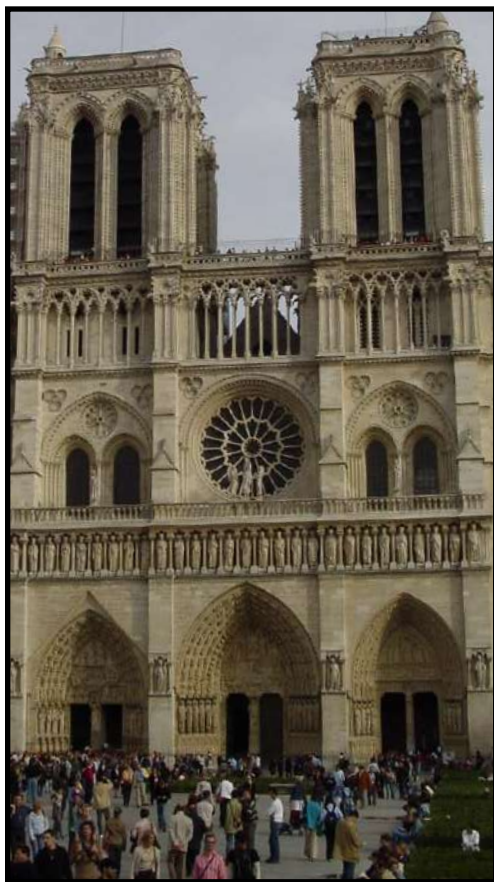
One-stop shopping Passport Service hits Kayenta Post Office

Jarvis Williams

Have you ever thought about traveling abroad? Visiting countries outside the United States and exploring other cultures? Well, in order to do that you will need a passport issued by the Department of State. The history of the passport dates back to the days of the American Revolution. At that time a travel document, i.e. passport, was all that was needed to venture from place to place, however this process became too cumbersome and confusing as the cities, states, and national governments were each distributing their own travel documents. In order to alleviate the confusion, the national government decided to delegate the authority of issuing travel documents to the Department of State.

Well, as I have mentioned earlier, if you want to travel to locations outside of the U.S., you will need a passport even if it is to Mexico or Canada. So if you're planning to hit the Pow Wow trail or going to Rocky Point, Mexico you will most likely need a passport. But don't be troubled because the Kayenta Post Office has now been approved to accept passport applications so that residents can have the convenient option of obtaining a passport for travel outside the U.S. According to Madelon Anderson, acting Kayenta Post Master, the Kayenta Post Office was granted approval in August of 2006 and then made the move to initiate passport application service.

To this day, that authority rests with the Department of State and since the tragic events of 9/11, the Passport, as it is called today, has become an increasingly important aspect of national security. According to Frank E. Moss, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs, the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 will require the Department of Homeland Security to develop and implement a plan by January 1, 2008 that will require U.S. citizens traveling "within the Western Hemisphere to present a passport or other authorized documentation that denotes identity and citizenship when entering the United States." So...what does this have to do with Kayenta?



Since then, the Kayenta Post Office has taken in an estimated 40 passport applications with 50 percent coming from the Chinle area. The only other location that offers passport services is in Window Rock at the Navajo Nation Supreme Court, however, they do not offer the passport photograph. Kayenta currently has the only post office located within the Navajo Nation that provides passport application services.

The passport agents will check to see if you have the correct documents and the proper paperwork filled out. If you're not in a hurry, the process will take about 6 weeks. However if you want to speed up the process, the post office does offer the expedited service for an added cost. The cost for the standard service is \$112, while the expedited cost is approximately \$200.

So, what does it take to obtain a passport? The first step is to fill out the application, then take the application and the required documents to the post office. With the paperwork in hand, you will need a money order or check to cover the application fee, post office processing fee, and passport photo fee, if you don't have one.

Although, right now, you may not need a passport to travel across the border into Canada or Mexico, you may need it sooner than you think. If you would like more information regarding the passport services offered at our Kayenta Post Office, please call the Post Office at 928-697-3075.



Dr. Zah pays a visit to Kayenta

By: Jarvis Williams

On Tuesday, February 20, Dr. Peterson Zah paid a visit to Kayenta. His intent was not to pledge support for a candidate or for a political issue, instead it was directed at something of more importance, education. Since his departure from the Navajo Nation in 1995, Dr. Zah has been the Special Advisor to the ASU President, Michael Crow. As a lifelong advocate for Native American education, Dr. Zah has helped to increase the amount of Native American students attending ASU, nearly doubling the rate from 10 years ago and also increased the student retention rate to approximately 70%, which is one of the highest of any major college or university in the country. During the Town Hall meeting, Dr. Zah stated, "We need to give every opportunity to these children for their education."



Education has been a very important subject area for the former Navajo Nation Tribal Chairman/President. Although, his early education began at home, he also attended Phoenix Indian School and graduated in 1953. Ten years later, he earned his bachelor's degree in education from ASU. Since then, he has helped create programs and services that have benefited the education of Native Americans from all across the U.S. One of his recent accomplishments was his assistance in the creation and advocacy of the Sun Devil Promise, which is a commitment from ASU to recruit, enroll, and educate students from Arizona who have annual incomes under \$25,000.

The informational meetings are a part of a series of stops around the Navajo Nation that began in Tuba City, AZ traveled through Kayenta and will finish in New Mexico. Jaynie Parrish, ASU Coordinator of Special Projects, organized the events and coordinated with local community leaders to bring information about ASU to Navajo communities. This is a tremendous benefit, as many parents may not have the time or resources to visit and gain better insight into ASU and its programs. Traveling with Dr. Zah and event coordinator, Jaynie Parrish, were representatives from ASU's Barrett Summer Scholars Program, which is a gifted youth program for 7th, 8th, and 9th graders.

The meeting provided an opportunity for parents and potential students to pose questions about programs, financial aid, and the recruitment process. Approximately 25 people attended the evening meeting at the Town Hall and collected information regarding the various programs offered by the university. Financial aid, scholarship information, and student

support services were the topics most discussed.

One of the most interesting pieces of information that was delivered on Tuesday night was the retention rate. The retention rate is the percentage of students that return to a school or university, usually used for first-year students. Administrators can use this information to determine what needs to take place in order to keep the students in school. For administrators, the higher the retention rate the better it is for the school. In this case, ASU's retention rate for Native American students hovers around the seventy percent mark, which is among the highest in the nation and serves as a measuring tool for students and parents as they decide their educational future. In addition, Dr. Zah mentioned the high quality of students coming in from the Kayenta area and their success in completing their education at ASU.

For more information about ASU and the programs they offer, please contact Jaynie Parrish at ASU or visit the ASU website at www.asu.

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RECREATION PARK

The second phase of the recreational park has received approval from the Kayenta Township Commission in the amount of \$150,000 for the development of a playground, fitness course and picnic area. A recreation task force is currently being put together consisting of local citizens as well as staff members to plan this next phase to be completed this summer. The Township would like to have this second phase completed in time for our Fourth of July Celebration.



SEWER LINE UPGRADES

The Township is currently working on \$250,000 worth of sewer line upgrades to eliminate bottle necks in the current system. New 8" lines will be designed and constructed behind the Fire Department and the Post Office. This will allow for new development next to the Sonic Drive Inn, allow utilities for the Women's Shelter and Child Care Facility and future Head Start building, as well as provide utilities for the two office buildings the Township completed to meet the demand of our local service providers.



Additional upgrades have been designed and are ready for construction next to the AZ DES building to accommodate potential business to locate along U.S. Highway 163. Upon completion of this sewer line the road to the NHA complex will be paved.



The Kayenta Township is also working with the development of the new Hospital complex to provide for sewer line easements and matching funds to upgrade the proposed sewer line to accommodate future business as well as home site leases.

Nahata Dziil Chapter Is Moving Forward

By: Bess Tsosie

Nahata Dziil Chapter is aggressively pursuing economic activities; the Chapter officials, Council Delegates and Chapter Manager, Nathan Begay, have been meeting with Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr. requesting that a casino building be constructed at Pinta Road. Another economic activity that is being planned is the construction of a shopping center in the community. The Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development is assisting the chapter with this project. The Board of Directors of the Nahata Real Estate Corporation will be put in place by the end of February 2007 to oversee all economic projects.

The Corporation documents will be submitted to the Navajo Nation Business Regulatory office this week. In other local news, the youth organization of Nahata Dziil will hold its first conference in June 2007. The former Navajo Nation President, Peterson Zah, has committed to be the keynote speaker. The conference is expected host a number of informative workshops. For more information, regarding Nahata Dziil Chapter, please contact Bessie Tsosie at 520-688-2150.



The Hampton Inn of Kayenta

Shop the Kayenta Trading Company

Dine in the Reuben Heflin Restaurant

Call (928) 697-3170 for Reservations and Information

MVHS Wrestling Program Has Successful Season

By: Jarvis Williams

Do you know what a chicken wing is? What about a banana split? You know for a sport that penalizes you for being overweight they sure have appetizing names for some of their moves. Maybe, it's a reminder of what not eat...I don't know. But what I do know is that they have some of the toughest workouts in high school sports.

There were times at a wrestling match when I would sit there and think...hmmm...I could do that. Then you look at yourself and realize that they are in far better shape than you and that you have to almost be crazy to be a wrestler. I mean, think about it...wrestlers have to discipline themselves to maintain a certain weight and at the same time keep the strength, speed, and stamina. I've seen their workouts and believe me, it's intense! As a former basketball player/coach I know, personally, that we didn't workout as hard as the wrestlers.

I'm not taking anything away from basketball players but wrestlers are a different type of athlete just because of the workouts. Imagine pushing, pulling, twisting, turning, and driving with all your effort against someone of equal weight for three periods of 3 minutes each. It's like a chess match with muscles because of the knowledge and strategy that is needed to defeat your opponent. It doesn't matter who you are or what sport you play, working that hard for what seems like a short amount of time is very tiring. Well, recently I had the opportunity to follow my son to the 3A North Regional Wrestling tournament and it was my first chance, all season, to sit and watch these guys wrestle for an entire day, match after match. It's an awesome sight to see three different matches taking place at the same time, each with an intensity and endurance that exceeds other sports.

There is so much activity going on that sometimes if you're not watch

ing you'll miss a great move or good match. Craig White, MV's 145 lb. wrestler, provided some brief excitement, literally, he posted the fastest pin of the tournament at 17 seconds! However in the end, when all the matches had come to a close and the tournament crowned their champions, the Mustang Wrestlers had finished as the 3A North Regional Runners-up behind Winslow High School with 11 Mustang Wrestlers qualifying for the State Tournament at the Jobing.com Arena in Glendale, AZ.

A week following the state wrestling tournament, the MVHS Lady Wrestlers also traveled to Glendale to compete at the 7th Annual Arizona State Girls Wrestling Championships where they were crowned as the 1A-5A State Champions for the second year in a row! As a team, the Lady Mustangs scored 87 points and the next closest team was Tuba City with 31 points. This is a tremendous accomplishment as they had to

compete with schools in other divisions. As a result of their outstanding performance these ladies have been invited to join Team Arizona at the USAGW Championships in Michigan next month. Coach McBride would like to thank all who attended last weekend and supported these ladies.

The Mustangs gave it their best at the state wrestling tournament and the results revealed the tremendous improvement of the Mustang wrestling program. Although, Ty Sells was the only Mustang wrestler to place(6th)at the State Wrestling Tournament, there were other Mustang Wrestlers; LeVaughn Hunt, Craig White, Myron Brady, Eric Clitso, and Nielson Nez, who were able to win a few matches before being eliminated by the competition. Please congratulate all of these wrestlers for their accomplishments and efforts. If you would like to make a donation to the Lady Mustangs for their trip to Michigan, please contact Coach McBride at the MVHS, 928-697-2175.



Placement as follows:

Celeste Thomas	138 lbs	STATE CHAMPION
Sandy Speck	152 lbs	STATE CHAMPION
Charmayne Etsitty	165 lbs	STATE CHAMPION
Keri Blackrock	100 lbs	STATE RUNNER- UP
Rachel Chief	122 lbs	STATE RUNNER- UP
Jerleta Etsitty	118 lbs	3rd Place
Audrey Peaches	110 lbs	3rd Place
Wilda Peshlakai	130 lbs	3rd Place
DeBe Brady	144 lbs	4th Place
Tashina Salt	Over 165	DNP

Listed below are the Mustang wrestlers that placed at Regionals:

Feron Littleman	@ 103 lbs	4th place	Freshman
LeVaughn Hunt	@ 112 lbs	3rd place	Sophomore
Trevor Dayzie	@ 119 lbs	4th place	Freshman
Dustin Speck	@ 125lbs	4th place	Sophomore
Lyle Yazzie	@ 135 lbs	4th place	Junior
Ty Sells	@140 lbs	2nd place	Sophomore
Craig White	@ 145 lbs	3rd place	Senior
Myron Brady	@160 lbs	3rd place	Senior
Eric Clitso	@ 171 lbs	4th Place	Senior
Nielson Nez	@ 189 lbs	3rd place	Junior
Michael Williams	@ HWT	3rd Place	Freshman



TO EMPOWER - TO ADVOCATE TOHDENASSHAI SHELTER HOME

Mission Statement

To establish collaborative partnership to reduce the occurrence of emotional, physical, verbal and sexual abuse, utilizing education, counseling, healthcare services and intervention programs.

Tohdenasshai Shelter Home is a non-profit organization which provides 24-hour services to victims of domestic violence. The shelter's purpose and goals are to meet the physical and emotional needs of victims of domestic violence, to offer shelter, and intervention/prevention services to decrease the incidence of violence against women and their children. This year will be the 25th year the shelter has been in operation and with the help, support, and contributions of the community the shelter plans to continue to provide services for many years to come.

Tohdenasshai Shelter Home now provides outreach services for victims. They also provide the Womens Support Group every 2nd and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the First Baptist Church from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Also offered is the Family Healing Alliance Meetings, which are held every 3rd Thursday each month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the First Baptist Church.

Domestic violence can impact every aspect of a persons life. it is important to remember that you are not alone. If you are experiencing threats, emotional or sexual abuse, These are signs of of an unhealthy relationship. The first thing to do is seek help. The Kayenta Womens Shelter offers the services of an Outreach Advocate to help you. Services provide: confidentiality, lay leagal advocacy, court support, problem solving issues, peer counseling, community resources, and referrals.

For more information please call (928) 697-3635 or call the 24 hour toll free crisis hotline at 1-877-697-8591.

Outreach services for victims in the following communities; Oljato, Dennehotso, Black Mesa, Cowsprings, Inscription House, and Shonto.

Tohdenasshai Shelter Home Women's Support Group

Every Women Invited to Attend!!

WHEN: Every 2nd & 3rd Tuesday of each month

TIME: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: First Baptist Church (located behind Amigo's Café)

The support group can be court-ordered, agency-referred, or on a voluntary basis. Referrals submitted by community resources can be addressed to Tohdenasshai Shelter Home, PO Box 1510, Kayenta, AZ 86033.

The Dynamics of Domestic Violence and the Healing Process

Phase I: Essential Beginnings (4 sessions)

February 13, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

February 20, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

March 13, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

March 20, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

Introduction, Defining Abuse/Power & Control Wheel
Emotional & Verbal Abuse
Healthy/Unhealthy Relationship
What Keeps Women in Abusive Relationships

Phase II: Most Hurtful Incident (2 sessions)

April 10, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

April 17, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

Phase III: Abuse Related Issues for Women (4 sessions)

May 08, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

May 15, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

June 12, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

June 19, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

Impact of Abuse on Children
Teen Dating
Elderly Abuse
Myths/Characteristics of Abusers/Victims

Phase IV: Closure to the Group

July 10, 2007 (2 pm - 4 pm)

Lethality Assessment/Safety Plan

Individuals are required to sign in at the beginning of each session. If a community resource has made a referral, and the individual has not attended two sessions, the referral source will be contacted.

A door prize will be awarded at the end of each session as an incentive. A Certificate will be awarded to those that attend all sessions. For more information, contact Elsie Smallecanyon, TSH Social Worker at (928) 697-3635.