



Page 9

4th of July Celebration

THE KAYENTA TODAY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY

A Free Publication from the Kayenta Township



Page 8

New Book: "Bitter Water"

April 2011

WWW.KAYENTATOWNSHIP.NET

Organizations Gather to Reflect on a Green Future



By Malcolm Benally

BLACK MESA, Arizona – The Friday morning early spring chill lingered late into the morning as Big Mountain elders, young activists, Green journalists, non-governmental organizations, and non-profit organizations milled around inside a ceremonial shade April 15, 2011 at Billy Austin's ceremonial camp ground for an educational meeting about the environmental future of the Black Mesa region. On a rather large barrel stove, coffee, mutton stew, and water were boiling away but the heat could not contain the sharp chill that entered the shade every time more people arrived for the meeting.

Long-time activist, Louise Benally of Big Mountain, Arizona began the day's agenda items with a prayer in Navajo as a small burning stick of cedar was passed around in a circle for the invocation. The information meeting was organized by Marie Gladue, of Big Mountain, Black Mesa Water Coalition, Dineh CARE (Citizens Against Ruining Our Environment), and Grand Canyon Trust.

Around 11:00 am, as the room filled, it quieted down as Nicky Nez from Dilcon, Arizona began the day's events by facilitating the forum. "The way this meeting is set up is that we want to educate people about the Navajo Generating Station. The way our fossil fuel dependent economy affects the way we live and the way we pray," she said. As a member of the Black Mesa Water Coalition, she explained that their work advocates for the Navajo Nation, and the people of the Southwest, to make a smooth transition from coal energy dependent economy to one that creates Green jobs, solar power, **Continued on page 7**

Kayenta Public Works Wants to Help Clean Up Kayenta Community

By Malcom Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – On Monday, April 18, 2011, the Public Works and Transfer Station staff met with the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency enforcer, Arnold Maryboy, the Kayenta Police Department, Lieutenant Kee Thinn, and administrator, Vicky Ramsey, from Teeh N Deeh Estates, the local housing complex; to discuss ways to clean up open illegal dumpsites within the Kayenta township boundaries and within the neighboring Kayenta Chapter community. The meeting took place at the Kayenta Townhall meeting room beginning at 10:00 am until noon.

Pearl Manygoats, Administrative Assistant who commutes every morning from her home in Shonto, provided a Powerpoint presentation that brought expository photos of various illegal dumpsites for the community to see. Sights that were highlighted included the KUSD #27 construction dumpsite just northeast of the Kayenta Township boundaries behind Monument Valley High School, illegal dumpsites with biohazards just pass the NHA housing complex, dumpsites towards Dry Lakes farm area and problem of dead dog carcasses. Some of the disturbing photos which documented the problem included a shooting range with thousands of bullet casings near Snake rock, a medical dumpsite with medicine bottles exposing Indian Health Service patient



AstroTurf from the Kayenta Unified School District #27 football field casually disposed of in a ditch just outside of the school campus.

names and dosages, catheters, furniture, and malt liquor 40 bottles. Obviously, illegal dumping was just not a community problem, but also came from industry and the public service sector. It is not just a residential problem.

Pearl Manygoats, who has been working with the Transfer Station and Public Works office for almost a year now, stated that she has become a repository of ideas because of her job. "Everyday someone will come in and ask why the Transfer Station is not doing anything to help clean up the community while raising prices up at the same time?" She decided

to take a proactive stance in her work by organizing public outreach, first by surveying the public with free hotdogs, hamburgers, and sodas in exchange for a completing a survey. After an oil refinery was completed, she decided that a part of a much needed recycling program was ready to be implemented.

In order to make sense of her ideas, she decided to host community forums with her Powerpoint presentation. Her intent is that the information in her presentation will grow with more community input as well as going

Continued on page 3

Kayenta Accused of Massive Dog Slaughter

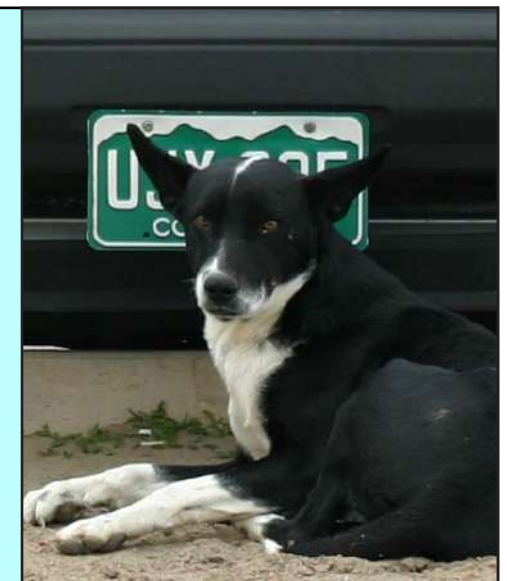
By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – Recently, the Kayenta Township administration and a Northern Arizona University student from Flagstaff, AZ were caught up in a situation where someone in the east, a writer named Susan Stoltz, attacked the character of the Kayenta Animal Care Center, the Kayenta community, and Navajo belief systems in general.

Kayenta Today found that a part of the source of the writer's outrage began when she reacted, quite irrationally, to an article that was written by NAU student

Jalen Redhair published in the February 2011 issue of Kayenta Today entitled "Clean Up Kayenta Community During Spring Break, March 15, 16, and 17th". In a well written article, Jalen asked the community to look at trash issues, the feral dog problem, and even recommended a spay/neuter program in a positive, and constructive way. Not only that, he stuck behind his words, organized a group of 10-15 people and picked trash in Kayenta during his Spring Break.

Continued on page 5



ANNOUNCEMENT TO SERVE AS A BUSINESS SITE LEASING COMMITTEE

POSITION: Business Site Leasing Committee Member

OPENING: For One (1) Committee Member

DUE DATE: Open Until Filled (OUF)

ESTABLISHMENT AND COORDINATION OF COMMITTEE:

The Kayenta Township Commission adopted and approved the Business Site Leasing Committee by Resolution No.: KTCM-09-08 (March 15, 2008) to be an oversight and approving entity that will have the authority to approve Kayenta Township Business Site Leases and Related Documents in accordance with Subchapter 2 of Chapter 9 of Township Lease Ordinance, Regulations, Management and Administrative Plans.

The Business Site Leasing Committee will consist of five (5) members as follow:

- Township Town Manager
- Township Director of Finance Department
- Township Director of Community Development Department
- Kayenta Community Members (2)

❖ The BSL Committee by-laws and rule of orders has been established and approved.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Abide by the established Committee by-laws and rule of orders
- Ensure the compliance of BSL Regulations, Administrative, General Management Plans of the Township and the Navajo Nation
- Ensure compliance of Township rules, regulations, ordinances, policies and procedures
- Ensure all appropriate protocol were complied and adhered
- Ensure that fair, reasonable and equitable lease rate was negotiated
- Will review and discuss the resolution to approve or disapprove the business site leases
- Will approve or disapprove the business site leases

QUALIFICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGEMENT:

- Be a Kayenta Chapter and Township registered voters
- Committee member cannot be a public official; elected or appointed office in any governmental body of the Navajo Nation, including grazing committee members
- Must have knowledge in real estates, business, finance, planning, community relations
- Must have knowledge of management and leasing activities
- Must have knowledge of municipal government law, regulations and ordinances
- Must have knowledge and understanding of a small community economic development

If interest in applying for the BSL Committee Members, contact the Kayenta Township Administration at (928) 697-8451. When applying for the BSL Committee, please submit your letter of interest and resumé. For further and additional information, please contact Mr. Hygi Waetermans, Town Manager or Ed Whitewater, Director of Economic Development Department at the above telephone number.

Kayenta Township Commission

P.O. Box 1490 Kayenta, AZ 86033

Phone (928) 697-8451



Andre Cordero, Chairperson

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



Carol Todecheene, Vice-Chair

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



Delores Greyeyes, Secretary/Treasurer

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



Helen Bonnaha, Commissioner

Helen Bonnaha is Bit'ahnii, Within His Cover people born for Tsénahabinii, Sleeping Rock clan. Her maternal grandparents are Tł'izi Láni, the Many Goats. Kinyaa'aanii, the Towering House people are her paternal grandparents. She has been a life long resident of Kayenta, AZ.



Rodger Grey, Commissioner

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

Town Managers Message

Since we are now into the Spring Season, the end of the township's fiscal year 2011 is approaching, and we are preparing for the upcoming fiscal year 2012, which will begin June 1, 2011.

As stated in the last edition of "Kayenta Today" we have submitted several grant applications and are in the process of submitting additional funding applications to various grantor agencies. To that end, we have entered into a "Retainer Service Agreements" with The Grants Experts from Farmington, N.M. In addition, our Community Development Services Department has prepared and submitted several funding requests for such projects as completion of the 3.4 mile bus route and the Comb Ridge Road. Other priorities include the township's \$573,000 contribution toward completion of the 12-inch sewer line from the new hospital site to the existing lagoon. All remaining essential utility connections will require possibly as much as \$1.25M, depending upon whether future electric lines will be put underground or overhead.

In order to accelerate fitting economic development, the township has approved a proposal from the Buxton Company of Fort Worth, TX, which will greatly assist in locating or relocating appropriate businesses to Kayenta. The Township is also contemplating the replacement of the local Recreation Center which is extremely energy-inefficient and has already been condemned in the past.

At this writing, the township's General Plan is being updated by our consultant, Arrowhead Engineering, and public meetings are forthcoming to seek input from all stakeholders. Simultaneously, the same consultant firm is developing a Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance for the township. These tasks are scheduled to be completed by November 2011.

The local library, temporarily housed in the aging Recreation Center, is finally moving into a new and quieter location just west of the Town Hall and north of the new U.S. Post Office. This has been a joint project of the Kayenta Township, Navajo County and the Navajo Nation, with the Kayenta Township paying for all associated utility costs. We do not view the new location as the final location of the Community Library; however, we consider the relocation as an improvement over the present situation. On March 23, 2011, a meeting between Kayenta Chapter officials and

Kayenta Township officials took place at the Kayenta Chapter House. Also in attendance were Ms. Karis Begaye from the Navajo Nation Attorney General's Office and Ms. Larietta Tso, Senior Compliance Officer, for the Navajo Nation Tax Commission.

Subjects of mutual interest and concern were discussed openly, and follow-up meetings to develop a better understanding and cooperation will take place in the coming weeks and months. Ms. Begaye's presentation on the development of the Kayenta Township since 1985 was particularly informative and educational so as to clarify the relationship between the Township and the Chapter.

Selection of a contractor for building the 750 ft. sewer line south of the Kayenta Mobile Home Park will take place shortly as this project will have to be completed by September 30, 2011.

Groundbreaking for the new Kayenta Multi-Purpose Justice Center occurred on Friday, March 11, 2011, and was attended by a number of dignitaries, including Navajo Nation Vice President, Rex Lee Jim, and Navajo Nation Speaker, Johnny Naize. Current, as well as, former Navajo Nation Council delegates and Kayenta Township Commissioners attended, as did staff of the General Contractor, BITCO-Kitchell, Architect David Sloan and Navajo Nation Department of Corrections consultant, Parsons, Inc.

Navajo Nation Department Of Corrections Administrative Services Officer Stephanie Baldwin was the Master of Ceremonies for the Multi-Purpose Justice Center Groundbreaking Ceremony. The weather cooperated for this outdoor event, and we appreciate all those who took the time to be a part of this historic event. Completion of this new facility is projected during the latter half of 2012.

In the meantime, ground work on the new N.A.T.I.V.E. educational facility began on Monday, February 21, 2011. The new facility which is being built in four phases, anticipates offering classes as early as the Fall Semester 2011. FCI is the General Contractor for this endeavor, and the Township supports this new local opportunity to learn and acquire new skill sets.

As always, my door is open to the general public during regular business hours, and I welcome your questions and suggestions.

Mitakuye owasin (To All My Relatives),
Hygi F. Waeterman

Continued from page 1

out into the field with other partnering organizations to help clean up the sites. Unfortunately, maybe because this was her first opportunity in the community, such organizations like representatives who were extended an invitation from Indian Health Services, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, Kayenta Unified School District, the Kayenta Dialysis Center, Navajo Housing Authority, Kayenta Mobile Home Park, Kayenta Chapter House, and the Kayenta District Court did not attend the forum.

Another presentation is scheduled for the next Township regular meeting on May 09, 2011 beginning at 5:30 pm to which everyone who missed this important presentation are invited to attend.

Pearl's presentation asks and raises several questions. The most important one was: Is there a problem with trash within the Kayenta Community? Yes there is! There are laws in place prohibiting illegal dumping but what is the level of enforcement? The first thing you do when you want to report illegal dumping is to contact the Environmental Protection Agency and fill out a Complaint Record Form with the Window Rock Office. The Senior Environmental Specialist will get in contact with the complainant and take a look at the dumpsite(s). You will be asked to collect evidence if you can, so it can possible be determined who is the responsible party. Once the Navajo Nation EPA sends out a responder, an investigation into the illegal dumpsite may result in a Notice of Violation to



Thousands of empty shell casings litter the ground at the Snake Rock Shooting Range.



Biohazard Illegal Dump: Catheters, medical supply equipment, and I.H.S. perscription bottles with patient names.



Students pick up trash on Earth Day 2009. As seen in this photo, large portions of the trash picked up by the students were 40 bottles. Unfortunately, a few months ago Kayenta received the infamous nick name "40 Town" from a photo published in the Navajo Times. Bootlegging has plagued the community of Kayenta for many years and some community members feel that law enforcement continues to procrastinate in combating the problem that inflicts much hardship and frustration on the people, especially women and children of the community and surrounding areas.

the responsible parties.

The penalty and warning on the Notice of Violation reads:

"A FACILITY WHICH IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NAVAJO NATION SOLID WASTE ACT AND REGULATIONS AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS IS LOCATED AT: Kayenta Transfer Station in Kayenta, Arizona; or White Mesa Landfill, Bluff, Utah for bulky waste.

FAILURE TO CORRECT THE VIOLATION(S) MAY RESULT IN CIVIL OR CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT BY THE NAVAJO NATION UNDER THE NAVAJO NATION SOLID WASTE ACT WHICH PROVIDES FOR:

- *Civil penalties in the amount of*

\$500.00 per day violation not to exceed \$25,000; and

- *Criminal penalties in the amount of \$500.00 per day per violation not to exceed \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than 180 days per violation, or both."*

So, once the EPA determines a Notice of Violation, the fees can get pretty hefty. (The contact people to submit your complaint and photos of illegal dumping are: Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency, Old DNR Building, Window Rock Blvd., (Building #2695), PO Box 339, Window Rock, AZ 86515.)

The Navajo Nation EPA Complaint Record Form(s) are available at the Kayenta Transfer Station, phone: (928) 697-8404.

A Community Perspective

By Ermas Claw

Kayenta, AZ – Greetings!

My name is Ermas Claw. I am Ye'ii Dine' é Tachii'nii, Kachina People Red Streak Running Into Water born for Tó Dichii'nii, Bitter Water. My paternal grandparents are Hashk'aan Hadzohi, Yucca Fruit Strung Out on A Line clan, and my maternal grandparents are Kinyaa'aanii, Towering House clan.

I am a student at Diné College finishing my degree in Diné Studies. I have a Social Behavior degree working on completing a Bachelors program in Political Science and Social Work at Northern Arizona University. The things I enjoy most about the community of Kayenta are the scenery, the Recreation Center, the Wednesday Flea Market, and the local establishments. One of the greatest perks of living in Kayenta AZ is being near the most breathtaking sites like Monument Valley, Betatakin, El Capitan, Narrow Canyon and Tsegi.

My family and I enjoy visiting these sites to take family hikes and picnics. The Recreation Park is one of the places I enjoy taking my son to play on weekends and have a family cook-out. The Wednesday flea market is the busiest time of the week and gives me a chance to admire the artwork, crafts, jewelry, and the people's entrepreneur skills. I am also fortunate to have my son enrolled at the Kayenta Community School where I think my son is receiving a good education, and surrounded by educators who are ambitious, and find creative ways to involve parents in their children's education. Kayenta may seem like a small town with little activity, but in my opinion, I think there is a wide range of entertainment.

I enjoy going to the local movie theater, shopping at the local market, renting movies from the video store,

dining at the local restaurants, and recreational activities at the Recreation Center. I currently reside in Kayenta and commute to my classes. Since November 2010, I have been completing my hours for work-study at Kayenta Township. Work-study is an opportunity the college gives students to work in a department that relates to their study or career choice and gain experience in that field. I have previously volunteered with Kayenta Township, so when I was given the opportunity to choose my study field, I knew beforehand I wanted to work with Kayenta Township.

I wanted to work with Kayenta Township because I wanted to learn more about the local government, and be more actively involved with the community. In the past five months, I have worked with Malcom Benally, Public Information Officer, organizing and helping to host community events.

Each day at Kayenta Township is a new day of learning and meeting new people. Some of the projects that I have been involved with are writing articles on upcoming community events for the Kayenta Today blog, and gathering research information for articles. One of the projects that I have greatly benefited from was my involvement with gathering surveys for a grant to expand utilities lines for the Kayenta Hospital. I also learned a lot searching for businesses in the four corners region and sending out letters to assist with the upcoming Fourth of July festivities.

By being involved, I observed the process, persistence, and dedication it takes to make a successful and entertaining event for the community. The project I was most blessed to be in attendance for was the Multi-Purpose



Ermas Claw

Justice Center groundbreaking ceremony. It was a great occasion to meet the NavajoNation leaders that were involved with the development of the detention center, and I look forward to the outcome and opportunities it will bring the Kayenta residents.

The most educational duties I was given while working in the Kayenta Township office was organizing the Regular Meetings and the Business Site Lease meeting packages. While organizing the packages, I was shown the procedures it takes to develop town hall meetings, and the process of how a resolution is amended, and how By-laws, policies and procedures are put into place. I would like to thank Lynn Donald and Ed Whitewater for taking the time and their willingness to share their knowledge and explain the process of how the town hall meetings are arranged and how polices are implemented.

Working at the front desk and being the first to greet, and assist customers as they walked into the door was also part of my duties. I appreciate Marty Bailey and Geneva Luna for showing me the routines around the front desk and getting me familiar with

the office equipment. As well as the Engineering Department who were helpful, and took the time to answer questions that I had to help me write summaries on the building codes and additional information I asked. In my opinion the employees of Kayenta Township make a great team, they are hardworking, and dedicated to make Kayenta prosper. The Township has an excellent Town Manager (Hygi Waeterman), who is friendly and prepared to address the public's concerns.

Most of all, I would like to thank Malcom Benally who guided me as a mentor and gave me the opportunity to be involved with important government projects and allowed me to work in his office and help organize community projects. A current project that I am working on is arranging a community scrapbook club at the Recreation Center library. I hope by arranging the club it will inspire community members to get together and share their stories and memories with local scrappers, and share their scrapping talents with community members that share an interest in scrapbooking or who like to begin scrapbooking. My expectation of the scrapbook club is that it will develop a network that gives scrappers a break in their daily routine. I also hope in the future it will develop more community clubs.

To sum up, receiving my degree at Dine College and working at the Kayenta Township has given me the opportunity to work closely with the local residents, learn more about our local government, and enjoy my leisure time at the local establishments. I am blessed to be able to wake up every morning to the beautiful landscapes of Kayenta and greet familiar faces or welcome new faces in the Kayenta community.



KAYENTA TOWNSHIP COMMISSION

P.O. Box 1490 Kayenta, AZ 86033 Phone: (928) 697-8451 FAX: (928) 697-8461

Job Announcement

POSITION: Temporary Accounts Receivable
START & END DATE: June 2011 to August 2011
PAY RATE: \$12.85 - \$14.56 (*depending on qualifications*)
LOCATION: Kayenta Township Office
DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: May 13, 2011

Send a precise resume with Kayenta Township Application to:

Kayenta Township Commission
 Attn: Selena Begay
 P.O. Box 1490
 Kayenta, Arizona 86033

or via email to: sbegay@kayentatownship.net

JOB DESCRIPTION: Position will maintain Accounts Receivable duties to provide financial, clerical and administrative services to ensure efficient, timely and accurate payment of accounts under his or her control. Accounts Receivable duties: maintain up-to-date billing system; follow up, collection and allocation of payments; carry out billing, collection and reporting activities according to specific deadlines; reconciliation of accounts; follow established procedures for processing receipts, cash etc.; prepare bank deposits and communication with customers via phone, email, mail or personally.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Knowledge of accounts receivable; knowledge of office administration and procedures; knowledge of general bookkeeping procedures; proficient in relevant computer application; 3-5 years accounts receivable and general accounting experience. Benefits will not be provided. Working hours is Monday-Friday from 8:00 am-5:00 pm.

Continued from page 1

Later and now, from the comforts of her home in Texas, she continues her attack on Kayenta: "It is my opinion that getting rid of the dogs was part of the town cleanup," she writes on her blog. She cites a documentary film "Rez Dogs" which was produced years before the community-clean up (2007) as "evidence" that a mass dog slaughter took place, is still unfounded.

Since 2007, the Kayenta community has opened the Kayenta Animal Care Center and each month several local and Navajo reservation-wide Veterinarians host low-cost spay neuter programs in Kayenta to combat the problem. Monument Valley High School recently opened a \$2 million Agri-Science building which can provide additional care and services to animals.

The problems being discussed and debated here are real. Over the span of a decade, Kayenta local leaders and especially the ones who care for the animals have not been disillusioned with continuing to provide services to animal care: dogs, cats, sheep, horses, etc.

Included with this article are perspectives from Dr. Charlotta Begaye, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Director of Kayenta Animal Care Shelter, a Letter To The Editor from a person who follows the issues here in the community by the name of Russ Mann, and a couple from Phoenix. Due to limited space, this is all we could provide, for a balance in perspectives.

Kayenta Today would like to recognize the pro-active stance Jalen Redhair took in committing to paper his desire to keep Kayenta clean. His gesture to the community has gone beyond just picking up trash; it has gone to the root of a problem. With the reaction his article has received from the public, there is no doubt the written word is a very powerful tool in reaching across cultures, boundaries, and getting things done out of sheer willingness. Thank you!



"I find it the penultimate hypocrisy that they can tout themselves as 'understanding and appreciating the concept of earth' when they have no respect for the souls that inhabit it. I guess I shouldn't be surprised given the unwillingness of anybody who lives with the problem to help. But the profound sorrow I feel for all of those dogs is almost more than I can tolerate and I vacillate between anger, sadness and an intense dislike for my fellow man."

- Susan Stoltz

Dr. Charlotta Begay, DVM, Kayenta Animal Care Center Director Provides A Critical Response to the Stray Animal Problem in Kayenta

I cannot argue that there is an immense displaced animal population on the Navajo Reservation. I've acknowledged it all my life. It is the reason why I became a veterinarian rather than an engineer, an MD, or a Federal Indian Law attorney. I've lived on the Reservation half of my life. I've experienced and have lived by Diné Culture and Traditional values growing up on the Reservation. As a child, I've herded sheep for my Náli and fed orphaned lambs for my Grandma. Growing up, I was instilled with the appreciation and respect for all life.

Unfortunately, it is very easy to place blame upon a people or a culture when, within that society, there are tremendous injustices or inhumane circumstances. I do not agree that the Navajo People are "hypocrites" when it comes to animals and traditional values. The stray and displaced animal issue on the Reservation is primarily a problem of socioeconomic standing and an imbalance of educational opportunities, political influence, financial position, challenges to economic development, etc. Due to these reasons, Indian Reserva-

So many things are sad regarding this situation... including the Navajos' failure to understand their own culture. Apparently, they only want to appear to be connected to the Earth and all its creatures, for the sake of tourist dollars.

- Kathy

(Comment posted on Susan's web site about the accusations of the slaughterings of dogs in Kayenta)



tions have third-world impediments, and therefore, have third-world problems such as animal over population, poverty, etc.

Before placing any judgment, guests of the Reservation need to understand that there are Navajo families still living without electricity and running water, and economic decisions are made upon whether or not children get enough food to eat. This occurs in an economy where the unemployment rate is 50% at best. The issues regarding animal welfare is too complex for any outsider to fathom. It is just too simple to impose blame on the people or a culture for these issues. A well-rounded understanding of these issues requires personal experience with the people, living on the Reservation, and an understanding of tribal socioeconomic complexities, not just a brief visit once per week, once per year, or every other year. Furthermore, these issues need to be addressed with intelligence and understanding, not rash judgments and opinions based upon misinformation and assumptions.

Contrary to Russ Mann's and Susan Stoltz's assertions, throughout my workday I encounter individuals every day who are "better than" what Mr. Mann or Ms. Stoltz depict in their statements. People, Diné People, "show" me compassion and empathy everyday by adopting stray dogs afflicted with mange, despite the malodor, the hairless, ulcerated skin, and the possibility of zoonotic transmission to themselves and other family members. Some of these animals have limb injuries or malformations, underlying diseases, and other health issues, and yet, these

individuals have the empathy and courage to help these animals.

Despite high gas prices, individuals go the extra 50 or 80 miles for further veterinary care that I cannot yet offer. Every day, people in this community, come to our facility (the Kayenta Animal Care Center) to seek basic veterinary care; and in some circumstances, these people pay for basic medical care for strays and pets at their economic peril. This is a tangible financial risk to these individuals and their families. In our economic reality, this is real courage. In our economic reality, it takes tremendous courage for a local government to "step up" and take the initiative to help "solve the problem" when money could be allocated to other programs.

My line of work, especially on an Indian Reservation where resources are quite limited, requires perseverance, innovation, and multi-tasking. I provide medical care to animals, and work as a kennel technician, receptionist, book keeper, office manager, dog trainer, etc. I do not find it "beneath me" to clean kennels nor do I find it beneath me "to feed starving animals". However, because of my position, routine and systematic feeding of stray animals outside our shelter facility would pose definitive liability for myself and Kayenta Animal Care Center.

To my knowledge, no reputable humane organization engages in the systematic feeding of stray and feral animals. Some would also argue the feeding of strays perpetuates the problem. Approximately half of the animals found roaming the streets of Kayenta have homes; these animals tend to congregate and seek food made available to them at various business establishments. In addition, Ms. Stoltz states "I put my own life at risk feeding a pack of half wild starving and neglected animals". She fails to recognize that she places children and other members of the community at risk of dog attacks. These animals will eventually associate people with food. Feeding feral animals is akin to feeding wild animals; at the very least it is irresponsible and at most, it

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

is dangerous for her and the community.

Kayenta Animal Care Center (KACC) was established by the Kayenta Township Commission and by the Community Members of Kayenta (who have voted to appropriate tax dollars to fund the facility), and is the only animal shelter on the Navajo Reservation. Given this fact, the Community of Kayenta has exhibited exceptional progress with regards to animal welfare. So yes, the Community of Kayenta has been proactive, supportive of, and engaged in the efforts to humanely care for its displaced animal population, and this community does “understand and appreciate the concept of earth”.

Since the start of test case operations, KACC has sheltered displaced animals, provided veterinary care, assisted individual rescue efforts, and has worked with humane groups outside the Reservation. Through the course of operations, KACC has accomplished the following:

- Sheltered over 100 animals
- Relocated 47 animals (This was accomplished through collaboration with various organizations including Second Chance Center for Animals, Blackhat Humane Society, Yavapai Humane Society, LaPlata Humane Society, and Humane Society of Southern Arizona.)
- Spayed and neutered 60 animals with the help of local veterinarians.
- Adopted over 60 cats and dogs.
- Returned two animals to their homes.
- Vaccinated 87 animals, not including shelter animals.
- Provided physical examinations, professional consultation, and basic treatment or medical referrals to 23 animals and their families.
- Provided miscellaneous care (such as nail trims, anal sac expressions, flea and tick treatment, grooming, etc.) to numerous pets.
- Removed over 15 animals that were a public health risk and risk to the general pet population of Kayenta.

Compared to outside groups better financed and equipped, these numbers are substantial. One un-spayed cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 kittens in six years, and one un-spayed female dog and her offspring can produce approximately 324 puppies in five years. Thus, KACC has averted an additional 100,000 to over one million animals from contributing to the stray animal problem, prevented further deaths due to disease and malnutrition,

and, most importantly, reduced risks to public health. More will be done as KACC’s ability to provide more comprehensive veterinary care is expanding daily. This Sunday, KACC is expecting the delivery of surgical equipment, donated by Dr. Eric Davis, and will commence its spay/neuter program as soon as possible. So yes, despite limited resources and previous setbacks, KACC is making a difference for the community and setting a model for future humane facilities on the Navajo Reservation. And yes, as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, I am fulfilling my oath of medicine, along with my dedicated staff of two people, despite limited resources and tremendous adversity.

Contrary to Ms. Stoltz’s assertion that “you (the Navajo People) do nothing to fix the problem and don’t cooperate with those who can”, Kayenta as a community is fixing the problem and does work and “cooperate” with outside, reputable humane organizations. In the past, Susan Stoltz had stated that she would raise money for KACC, and Russ Mann has contributed to KACC.

There is no arguing that all societies are comprised of “good” people and

“bad” people; the Navajo Nation is not immune to this. Having stated this, due to the unique and definitive socioeconomic inequality with the outside world, the Navajo People’s ability to counter the stray and feral animal predicament is more challenging and hindered than it is for non-Reservation municipalities such as Phoenix, Flagstaff, or Chelmsford, MA. Unless you have experienced life, first hand, on the Reservation, you have no basis to impose judgment. Live in a dirt-floored Hogan without electricity. Tough out the 30 degree mid-day winter afternoon and chop wood. Haul water 30 to 50 miles at least once per week. Live on an income just above or below the poverty level. Clean poop, mop the floors, care for dogs afflicted with mange, contribute, first hand, volunteer work at Kayenta Animal Care Center. Learn to speak Navajo and abide by our rules of kinship. Learn and understand that being Navajo is to persevere over hardship and yet maintain a positive world view through humor, family (including pets), and friends. And yes, being Diné, means that all life must be respected. And our People and the Community of Kayenta are doing just that.

A Letter to the Editor from Russ Mann, Sent To Bring Attention to the Plight of Dogs in Kayenta

I’m writing this letter to express my outrage toward one of the most heinous atrocities committed by man: the torture and slaughter of helpless animals, specifically the homeless dogs and cats on the Navajo Reservation in Kayenta.

I know this is true because I have been told so by reliable people, and I have seen it mentioned in the Rez Dogs video. Let me point out that I am aware that many Navajos decry this treatment and are exasperated by the lack of any humane solutions. I have talked to Navajo people who have a deep love for animals and are passionate about their pets. One friend of mine took it upon himself to feed a certain stray dog every afternoon. Sadly, he and the others appear to be in the minority because the rest of the population appears to either condone or have a nonchalant attitude towards this slaughter.

In an article in The Kayenta Today dated March 10, 2011, a student named Jalen Redhair wrote, “As Native Americans we are truly a part of a struggling race that understands and appreciates the concept of earth.” Apparently Jalen, there are many people in your culture who don’t appreciate the concept of earth because, if they did, they would not be killing helpless animals and disposing them as if they were trash. These people would not have such a callous disregard for animals who have been discarded and only want to be wanted. These people certainly would at least have the common decency to bury the lifeless bodies strewn along the roadside instead of leaving them to decay. And these people would certainly care for dogs that are seen limping around because of untreated injuries.

Jalen continues, “Visitors that travel from far and away have a difficult time perceiving this attitude because they perceive scattered trash, neglected dogs, and graffiti. We are better than this, and we need to show it.” Does that mean some of your people have to round up all the strays, shoot them, and then dump their bodies far out of the sight of tourists?

I have visited Kayenta three times. In the summer of 2006 I was just passing through and stopped for a drink and to fuel up my motorcycle. I wasn’t aware of any homeless animals at the time because I didn’t see any. I guess the round up and massacre had already taken place. When I returned on vaca



Former Kayenta Township employee Kee Carl shows pictures to the producers of the film “Rez Dogs” of injuries he sustained from a dog attack. While working out in the field, Kee was viciously attacked by a pit bull terrier.



Former Kayenta Town Manager Gary Nelson being interviewed and discussing the Kayenta Township’s stand on animal control. The Kayenta Township were active participants during the production of the documentary film “Rez Dogs”.

Continued on page 10

Continued from page 1

wind energy, and other renewable energy resources.

Then she introduced Anna Frazier of Dineh CARE who provided deep background information about a haze that the greater public began to notice in 2006 surrounding the Grand Canyon National Parks almost on a year around basis. Eventually, people began to get sick, she explained. The main cause, scientists determined, came from four coal-fired energy plants: Navajo Generation Station, Four Corners Power Plant, Escalante, and Cholla. Frazier's organization joined a lawsuit with other environmental organizations who then entered the courts with a lawsuit that put Arizona Public Services (APS) on the hot seat.

In October 2010, the United States Environmental Protection Agency came down with a ruling that required all the plants to implement the Best Available Retrofit Technology (aka the BART rulings) for the Four Corners Power Plant, which would require pollution controls to be built into the plant apparatus to reduce emissions and releasing pollutants into the air. The overall costs to reduce the haze and pollution: over \$717 million dollars!

Before any of the BART rulings could be implemented, Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly stated in his most recent State of the Nation address, April 15, 2011, that he signed a lease where he received and accepted a lease payment for \$7 million and APS is set to pay \$65 million a year in taxes from the operations of the Four Corners Power Plant(s). Most of the participants whispered these details as the State of the Nation address was aired on KTNN that day.

A Navajo Boiler Operator, Lester Begay said he came all the way out from New Mexico to attend the meeting. "I see a lot of coal-fired plants across the country. They are making strides in improving the work place and improving plant operations with the latest technology. But, here on Navajo land, they don't care what happens to the environment. I think the power plants we're talking about should just be shut down," he says. "APS is just going to run those power plants until they fall apart. They are too old. They're just buying time. That's why they want to wait over 40 years to make improvements. They're just buying time to run it into the ground." The facilitator thanked Mr. Begay for this information, then explained that the key factor that is missing from the information about environmental and cultural impacts was the perspectives of families affected by

mining, workers in the mines, workers in the plants, and families—mostly traditional Navajos—who live near the mine.

The nearest coal-fired plant of concern to everyone was the Navajo Generating Station which opened in 1974 and is powered by the low-sulfur coal from the Kayenta Mine. The Navajo Generating Station is the main source of power for the Central Arizona Project, an aqueduct water system that is diverted from the Colorado River in a canal that provides a renewable water supply to Maricopa, Pima, and Pinal counties in southern and Central Arizona. NGS provides water to the metropolitan areas of Phoenix and Tucson. NGS also provides electricity to Arizona, Nevada, and California. By far, the Navajo Generating Station and the Four Corners Power Plant in Upper Fruitland, New Mexico are the main cause of pollution on Navajo lands. Right now, the EPA is trying to decide what technology the NGS needs to install, and is projected to cost anywhere between \$550 million to one billion dollars.

"I am here today to tell you the truth," said Paul Clark, of Owl Springs from the Black Mesa region. He stood next to a map that showed the Navajo reservation in red and the Hopi reservation in white. "Some of us are just here to support our children today. The Elders like Katherine Smith and Glenna Begay, the matriarchs, we have seen our leaders work with these energy companies. We've been sharing our concerns and resisting all that is going on here almost all of our lives. These maps all tell a different story now. Some of the people who live here, we don't even have a correct census. On this map they took Navajo people and Hopi people and called it Peabody Coal Company, replacing names with new names. This map is just made up. We don't even have names anymore. How do we learn to say that all this mining is worth it? If someone dies from the effects of mining, how is Peabody or Navajo Generating Station going to pay for the hardships? It is true though Navajo and Hopi people built all these cities that surround us. And what do we get in return? It turns out we get nothing. Maybe I'm the only one who understands this. I don't know. Once we leave this meeting, what's going to happen to all this information I'm sharing with you now?" His humor and calm demeanor was almost cause to cheer on the next presenter, but the most important information came at the end.



Shirley Peaches, a health advocate, shared information that the nitrous oxide that is released from mining is the main cause for Elderly and children's visits to the emergency rooms. In recent years over 80% of emergency room admissions have been for cardiovascular and respiratory illness in the Elderly and children, who are the most susceptible to air pollution. The air pollution caused by coal fired plants also puts more carbon dioxide in the air.

The last but most devastating information came at the end: the proposed opening of four uranium ore mines in the North and South Rim of the Grand Canyon by Denison Mines, a Canadian-based mining company. Grand Canyon Trust advocate, Hertha Woody explained that "at least 46 unsecured trucks will carry uranium that

is mined from the Grand Canyon mines through Navajo land up to 12 times a day, four days a week for the next 20-years. The trucks hauling uranium will only be covered with a tarp. One spill, one truck turning over could be devastating for the community," she said.

A 45-day public comment period is currently under way and will end of May 04, 2011. To comment on the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was released for public review and comment on February 18, 2011. The document can be found in its entirety at: <http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout/deis.htm>. Please read Hertha Walker's article also in this issue of the Kayenta Today on page 11.

Kayenta CellularOne Thanks the Community

On behalf of CellularOne and the Kayenta team we want to say THANK YOU for allowing us to be part of your community. We have been located in the Basha's Store for the last 7 plus years and plan on being here for many years to come.

As the Wireless Provider in this area we have taken our responsibilities serious. We love being part of the community and sponsoring our local events. In the last few months we have held events and fed around 2000 of you! Recently we have turned on 2 new towers near Kayenta. One in Gouldings and the other near

Mexican Hat, UT. We plan on adding more towers as the year goes on too. The Kayenta team consists of Sharon Todecheene, Norma Redsteer and Tanya Paul. As a team they want to tell you they are here to help and want to provide you the best Customer Service they can.

Come on down to the store, we would love to share with you some amazing phones and plans that can help you save money and provide the best service!

For more information please come by the Kayenta Bashas store or call: (928) 697-8433



L-R: Tanya Paul, Sharon Todecheene and Norma Redsteer.

Green Building

Navajo blaze a trail in low-carbon architecture

By Joey Peters, E&E reporter

When a funding restriction didn't allow a school in Kayenta Township, Ariz., to be eligible for certification under the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, the town's building official had it commit to the International Green Construction Code (IGCC) instead.

By doing so, Kayenta, a part of the 200,000-strong Navajo Nation, became the first tribal community to adopt the code, which is designed to lower the environmental impact of construction projects. The school, called the Northeast Arizona Technical Institute of Vocational Education (N.A.T.I.V.E.), will provide vocational and technical training to tribal students around the area.

Part of an Arizona school district, the campus is scheduled to be completed for the fall, when the school year begins. It will be the first project built under the IGCC code.

The school is a part of a series of building projects in the 5,000-resident northeastern Arizona community that went into planning roughly three years ago. Kayenta was established in

1986 but didn't become fully recognized until 20 years later.

"As the township began to organize more over the years, we began capital improvement projects," said Malcolm Benally, the township's public information officer.

But the township had a lack of oversight on infrastructure plans, Benally said. Adopting efficient ways to build was one way to correct that.

The other buildings in construction include a \$30 million detention facility and a \$140 million hospital. The new buildings will create jobs and attract business, which could expand the township's population by 3,000 over the next 10 years, Benally said.

In February, township Building Official Philbert Tso was able to get the school to voluntarily commit to the IGCC. He has since been unable to get a commitment from the detention facility, but the hospital is going for a LEED Silver certification. Tso said he expects the detention facility to participate. It hasn't committed because it went under redesign after securing more funding.

Since the hospital will be on federal land just outside of Kayenta's southwest border, it will be federally



Groundbreaking ceremony for the new Kayenta Hospital.

funded. That alone helps it qualify for LEED Silver status. In the works for 20 years, the hospital will serve the community within a 200-mile radius.

"One of things that prohibited it from LEED Gold is the community didn't have a recycling program," Tso said. But now Kayenta is making strides for it, Tso said, including setting up programs in February to recycle tires and motor oil.

Tso is attempting to get Kayenta to adopt the International Energy Conservation Code 2009, which would mandate green building codes for the township. Public comment on it closes Nov. 15. If all goes according to plan, the community will commit to IGCC next year.

Republished with permission. Copyright 2011, E&E Publishing, LLC. www.eenews.net

New Book to Give Voice to Black Mesa Elders Due in Stores May 2011

By Abby Mogollon
University of Arizona Press

Many in Kayenta know Malcolm Benally from his years working as the community involvement coordinator and now as public information officer for the Kayenta Township, where every day he helps to spread the news of and from the town government.

But it is his work giving voice to the Diné narratives that form the forthcoming book "Bitter Water: Diné Oral Histories of the Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute," which Benally edited and translated.

The narratives and stories in the book span the events of three decades and offer reflections on spiritual lives in the face of political resistance. The book has the transcribed conversations of four elders, Mae Tso of Mosquito Springs, Roberta Blackgoat of Thin Rock Mesa, and Pauline Whitesinger and Ruth Benally, both of Big Mountain. The women speak out from their homes about their lives on Dzikijjin, the Black Mesa region, and speak as leaders of resistance to relocation.

The book is based on more than

twenty-five hours of filmed personal testimonies Benally took using a hi-8 documentary video camera and digital audiotape. Benally filmed families living within and in proximity to Hopi Partitioned Lands, "The flow of some of the chapters in the book in their tone represents my treatment for a documentary film," Benally said. "I realized that the book format would allow people to hear what these women have to say."

Unlike traditional interviewing methods, the filming allowed the women to speak naturally in their homes about things important to them without the intrusion of note-taking or audio recording. "I was so impressed with their candor and straightforwardness," said Benally. "It was very moving."

Scholar and Diné historian Jennifer Nez Denetdale concurs that the book brings forth an important personal element to the story of partitioned land. "These stories that Malcolm Benally so carefully records and painstakingly transcribes into written Diné and English are rich with emotion and passion," said Nez Denetdale, who contributed the foreword for the new book.



The Late Laura Etsitty, Shearing a sheep at her sheep camp on Black Mesa.

She added, "Diné narratives, like those presented by Malcolm, reference Navajo knowledge of the land between the four sacred mountains. The narratives of Navajo matriarchs blend the sacred with the domestic and root Navajos to the land, thereby affirming cultural integrity."

The filming took place during the course of three years in the late 1990s. Benally looked for ways to make the films and the women's stories available to broader audiences. Long a student of the Navajo language, Benally

Continued on page 10

Kayenta's 4th of July Celebration

By Malcolm Benally

KAYENTA, AZ – On Wednesday, March 30, 2011, the Kayenta Township, District II Navajo Song and Dance Committee, Kayenta Emergency Medical Technicians, Kayenta Rodeo Task Force, Indian Health Services, and Navajo Nation Special Diabetes Project attended the first Kayenta Rodeo Planning Committee meeting. From the beginning, it was made clear that this year's planning for the Rodeo will be somewhat of a challenge due to budget restraints.

Nevertheless, this year, with new additions to the 4th of July Celebration and Rodeo, it seems like the 14th Annual event from June 30, 2011 to July 04, 2011, this growing yearly event will be unique and draw larger crowds to events around town. For example, the Navajo Nation Special Diabetes will be celebrating its open house on July 01, 2011. The next morning, a hospitality tent will be set up outside in the Kayenta Chapter House parking lot will host a Health Fair and the first annual Chili Cook-Off. Joanne Begay, Recreation Leader at the Kayenta Recreation Center says, "The healthy community activities in Kayenta have been community favorites whenever they are held. So, it is just a great, welcome addition to the Fourth of July Festivities," she said.

The 1st Annual Navajo Special Diabetes Chili Cook-Off will provide prizes for up to 5th place, with its Grand Prize being a Outside Barbeque Grill, 2nd Place will be a Medium size Grill, 3rd Place will be a Charcoal Grill, 4th Place – a dish and pan set, and 5th place-A Dishes Set. The event will be coordinated and organized by licensed nutritionists.

To get the most out of a single day at the 4th of July Celebration, Saturday will be a busy day filled with activities, food, cultural events, and will begin in the morning Fourth of July parade at 10:00 am to Noon. While the parade is going on, registration for the day long Kayenta Get Down BMX and Skate Tournament will begin at the Kayenta Recreation Center. During the day, the hub of activity will be ongoing at the Kayenta Recreation Park.

The Just Move It Series, which is a Navajo Nation event that hosts an annual series of non-competitive Fun Run/Walks throughout the 110 Navajo Reservation communities (and 13 neighboring communities) during the summer months attracts an average of 50,000 participants a year. The 19th annual event is held each year to raise

awareness and educate the public through healthy activities about the prevention of diabetes. Just Move It encourages and motivates individuals to do something about their health and make changes in their lives to prevent diabetes and heart disease. This year in Kayenta, the Just Move It event will kick off the Fourth of July Festivities on June 30, 2011 with registration beginning at 5:00 pm by hosting their event near Hampton Inn and Sonics. The walk will detour east to west for two miles along Highway 160. For participating in the event, you get a Free T-Shirt!

No Navajo Nation Celebration is complete without food. The 4th of July Festivities is going all out again this year by serving a Free Pancake Breakfast each morning. On June 30th and July 1st, the Free Pancake Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:00 am at the Kayenta Rodeo Grounds. On Saturday, July 02, 2011, the Free Pancake Breakfast will move to the Kayenta Chapter until July 03, 2011. On Monday, July 04, 2011, the Free Pancake breakfast will move to the parking lot of the Kayenta Township.

Then there will be two sports tournaments. The Kayenta Beach Volleyball tournament will be held at the old Kayenta Rodeo grounds just below, and east of the Kayenta Bible Church. Lorenzo Clitso says, "The tournament has been held for several years now and has really grown in popularity. Last year, we had teams from Salt Lake City, California, and Phoenix, Arizona. This year, we are going to do what we can to bring the event to a professional level," he says. The Round Robin style of volleyball, where every team will play one another as they move up the bracket will be held all day beginning on Saturday, July 2, 2011.

The second will be a Slow Pitch Co-Ed Softball Tournament to be held at the Kayenta Recreation Center softball field. Softball Tournaments are also very popular throughout the Navajo Nation. The entry fee for each softball team will be \$200.00 this year.

For more information, please contact Vale Attakai at (928) 266-3741.



Cowgirls Night Out

WEDNESDAY JUNE 29, 2011

Barrel Racing Event 4D Format 5:00 P.M.

\$2000.00 Added Purse
 Buckles Awarded to 1D, 2D, 3D, 4D, Champions
 No Limit - Open to the World
 Entry Fee - Open/Youth \$60/\$50
 Administration Fee Open/Youth/Both \$25/\$15/\$30
 Exhibitions \$5.00
 Exhibition Will Run Between 3:00pm to 4:30pm
 Limit 3 Horses

Ladies Breakaway 7:30 P.M.

\$1000.00 Added Purse
 No Limit - Long / Short Go Format Top 10
 Entry Fee \$80.00
 Rodeo Stock Fee Encluded in Entry Fee
 Buckle Awarded to Event Champion
 Top 4 Average Winner - Winner Take All \$500.00

Entries Open: April 11, 2011 to June 18, 2011
 Vet/Draw outs until June 28, 2011
 Walk-in Entries Closed at 4:30 pm on June 29, 2011
 Late Entry Fee Will Apply After June 19, 2011 \$10.00

Event Secretary: Brenda Harvey
 P.O. Box 100024 • Aneth, UT 84510
 Home: 435-459-1155
 Email: rbhinhrenda2003@yahoo.com
KAYENTARODEO.COM




Rodeo Sponsors Will Not Be Held Liable For any Damages, Accidents, or Theft That Occur Before, During and after the Rodeo.

Continued from page 6

tion during the winter of that year, I became aware of these forlorn souls when I saw them begging for food outside my hotel. It was these pathetic sights that led me to conduct a fundraising effort to help improve the lives of as many animals as I could. I returned in the summer of 2007 with donations I received. Once again, I saw a cold indifference and sometimes outright dislike toward the animals.

A friend of mine is so committed to the welfare of these poor souls that each week she drives three hundred and fifty miles one way to feed them. During a visit this week, she counted only seven dogs instead of the usual fifty or so. When she asked one of the people working at a local fast food restaurant where all the animals were she was told, "They wanted to get rid of them before the tourists come."

Here are several suggestions to create more humane treatment of the homeless animals. If the animal shelter in town needs to be repaired in order to accept the animals that are neglected, repair it. Also, the resident veterinarian should not think it is beneath her or him to feed the starving animals.

Form a committee comprised of business leaders in the community to discuss how much of the proceeds generated from tourism each business could set aside in a fund. The committee should monitor this fund throughout the year. The monies could be used toward the care and feeding of the strays at various feeding stations. Perhaps a portion of the fund could go toward expanding SNAP's spaying and neutering services.

Create an "Adopt a Stray" awareness plan. This could be done by placing flyers in local businesses and in local publications. Part of the money charged for vaccinations and medical exams could be rolled back into the general fund.

Support the efforts of those who want to help with donations of money or food. These people sometimes put themselves at risk by feeding some of the more aggressive animals.

Euthanize only the most vicious dogs or those stricken with parvo. By taking these proactive measures, this would decrease, and perhaps eliminate, anymore attacks on people or livestock. The killing of hundreds of unwanted animals before the arrival of tourist season would be unnecessary, and it would certainly cast people's opinion of the Navajo nation in a more positive light.

This current apathetic behavior toward animals has been going on at least ten years. It is totally unacceptable and it can and must change. I, too, am a

tourist. Like many, I love Kayenta and the spectacular beauty of Monument Valley, especially while riding through it on a Harley-Davidson. I also represent the silent majority, although I will no longer remain silent. If this treatment of homeless animals continues, I guarantee you that I will submit this article to every major newspaper across the nation, every animal magazine, and every rescue group. By using the power of the press to call attention to this barbarism, I assure you that this damning, negative publicity will result in immeasurable damage to your tourism industry.

Mahatma Gandhi, the prominent figure of India's independence movement, said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." I'm sure that the Navajo people would like to think of themselves as better than the way their homeless animals are treated. I'm sure that with some carefully thought out ideas, perhaps such as those I outlined, Kayenta's citizens can learn to coexist with the animals that share their environment. To paraphrase Jalen Redhair's words, "You are better than this, and you need to show it."

Russ Mann
Chelmsford, MA
ram73@comcast.net
April 8, 2011

A Supporter Writes To Dr. Charlotta Begaye, Kayenta Animal Shelter

Dr. Begay:

Steve and I were very impressed with what you are doing at the Kayenta Animal Care Shelter. We quickly realized the overwhelming task that you face in your area.

With so many competing needs, the local community is to be commended for funding what appears to be the first shelter in Kayenta, and you are to be commended for your willingness to provide animal care by yourself supported only by volunteers. For this reason, we are making a contribution to your General Fund to support your endeavors. We do this because of your personal efforts to work with us to sponsor the capture, treatment and care of an injured dog and its companion.

As you know, we live some 350 miles away. When we entered Kayenta, it was startling to us to see so many dogs roaming around. But then, we live in the city surrounded by block walls and where leash laws are strictly enforced. We had forgotten how different things are in a rural community.

When we saw the injured dog and its companion, we immediately began trying to locate local sources of help for these dogs, and fortunately, we were able to connect with you. There are very few people, much less the only veterinarian in town, willing to drive around on your time (and gas) and make numerous calls in an effort to locate these two dogs. Thank you.

We realize that starting any rescue operation is extremely difficult. Until someone has walked in your shoes, that person cannot appreciate fully the hurdles that must be overcome. Our hope is that the people of your area and other interested people will place a high priority on the lives of these animals and, to that end, put cooperation and support of your organization as the most important priority.

Again, we wish to reiterate our willingness to sponsor these two dogs, and are grateful for your efforts to locate them. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Connie Lanker and Steve Udell

**New Book****Continued from page 8**

realized that the way the women spoke and what they said were extremely important. "Because the stories are told on digital media in the Navajo language, it was easier for the speakers interviewed to understand that they would have a general listening audience; so their words provided opportunities for an in-depth look at how the vernacular English and vernacular Navajo could come together in translation."

The process of translating the film footage to written text allowed the project to continue Benally's engagement in the difficult issues of the partitioned lands dispute. Benally created the transcripts in Diné and then translated them to English. "During the writing of the book, I was often asked for updates on the lives of the peoples, mainly the women, who speak in the book," Benally said. "I want to thank them all for deeply influencing my life with their words, their families, and their tenacity."

The text is presented first in Navajo and then in English, giving voice to the language as its primary mode of communication. "This is a story that must be told in the Navajo language, for posterity," Benally said. "These translations are intended to give voice to the traditional Navajo Diné, who find their lifestyle and everyday Navajo language threatened with extinction. The Navajo language, through these English translations, conveys a special tie to the lands here in the southwestern United States."

Benally credits his parents, who lived at the edge of the partitioned lands in Forest Lake, for inspiring his work as well as for the way that they were "able to accept things calmly and reasonably." Today, the family's pasture land is edged by one of the partition's fences. "We live in a pretty unique area," Benally said.

The University of Arizona Press is proud to publish *Bitter Water*. "We have a long commitment of making sure diverse voices are heard," said Kathryn Conrad, the interim director of the press. "Malcolm's book is an exciting example of how we continue to assure that the unheard narratives are published, available, and have a voice."

Bitter Water: Diné Oral histories of the Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute will be available in May. See <http://www.uapress.arizona.edu/BOOKS/bid2269.htm> for more information.

U.S. Department of Interior Leaves Only One Option to Protect Grand Canyon from Uranium Mining

By Hertha Woody
Grand Canyon Trust

On July 20, 2009, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar issued a two-year ban on new uranium mining claims on approximately one million acres of public lands adjacent to the Grand Canyon National Park.

During this temporary ban, the Department of the Interior (DOI) has been evaluating whether to withdraw the lands from mining for an additional 20 years.

On February 18, 2011 the DOI released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS for the Northern Arizona Proposed Mineral Withdrawal includes four alternatives; only one of those, Alternative B, affords protection from new uranium mines on the entire one million acres of watersheds that drain directly into the Grand Canyon.

Thousands of new mining claims have been filed over the past five years and the majority of the new claims are within ten miles of the Park. The increase in new uranium mining claims being filed adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park is due to the price increase in uranium ore which is driven by questionable perceptions of increased demand for uranium as dozens of proposed new nuclear power plants are scheduled for construction over the next decade.

The crisis at the Fukushima nuclear site in Japan continues, seemingly without end. The accident is now officially on the scale of Chernobyl. Radiation contamination has reached the food supply and seawater in the Pacific Ocean. The lesson of this catastrophe is clear. How anyone can view the images coming from Japan and continue to stake new claims for uranium mining at the Grand Canyon today is beyond our indigenous community's ability to comprehend.

The Navajo people are still dealing with adverse health effects of

past uranium mining on Navajo land. Even with proven facts of the effects of uranium ore, the mining companies are hauling uranium ore across Navajo communities once again, continue to desecrate the sacred Grand Canyon, and contaminate the land and precious water-supply today, while we are still dealing with the effects of yesterday.

The uranium ore mined from public lands surrounding the Grand Canyon are likely to be transported by truck on U.S. Highways 89, 160, and 163 and State Highway 98 through the Navajo Chapter communities of Camera, Tuba City, Tonalea, Lechee, Kaibeto, Shonto, Kayenta, Dennehotso, and Mexican Water. Denison Miles Company owns four developed and partially developed uranium mines near the Grand Canyon. Denison reports that, when operating at full capacity, there will be approximately 12 trucks per day from each of the mines traveling to the processing mill in Blanding, Utah. In addition, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality air quality permits (and Department of Transportation regulations) require Denison to cover the haul truck loads with a tarp and maintain the truck beds to ensure that ore does not fall out. In the event of a truck overturning in any of the Navajo communities where there is a well water protection, the damage to water resources would be irreversible.

If ever there was a time for the federal government to hear our voice, it is now! I am asking you--and everyone you know--to act now. We have never needed a larger public outpouring and more outreach than right now. PLEASE, TAKE ACTION. Send your comments to the BLM before the comment deadline on May 4th, 2011.

Email: NAZproposedwithdrawal@azblm.org. Your comments can also be mailed to: Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Strip District, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, UT 84790.

Kayenta Township Reaches Out for "Quality Child Care"

By Sondra Soter, M.Ed.,
Early Childhood Specialist
Ya' at'eeh',

This article is a follow up from my "Quality Child Care" presentation held at the Higher Education Fair on March 18, 2011 and at the Township monthly Meeting on April 11, 2011. The monthly town hall meetings are held on the second Monday each month at the township town hall meeting room.

I have lived and worked in Kayenta for the past 8 years teaching young children under the age 5, high school students, and college students in the field of early childhood education at Northern Pioneer College and Northern Arizona University.

I bring with me 25 years experience working directly with children and families in educational settings, home environments, hospital and special care settings. I am most passionate about sharing and learning from others on how we can provide the best quality care for "mothers to be" during the prenatal stages and young children birth to 5 years of age.

Have you ever wondered how you became the person you are today? It begins earlier than you may think. It can begin as early as before conception. Yes, that's right. If a couple is planning on creating a child, the couple should have healthy habits already in place before conception. If by chance that does not take place and unhealthy habits continue throughout the pregnancy, (smoking, alcohol, prescription, non-prescription drugs, even domestic violence has an impact on the developing fetus) the chances of having a child born with differences are greater. Did you know that a child can have brain damage for life if the mother drinks alcohol or uses drugs during pregnancy? These are disabilities that are preventable. That is why we need to continue providing perspective parents with educational resources and supports before and throughout the prenatal stages.

Have you ever wondered why babies cry? Why do two year olds tend to have more tantrums than a 3-4 year old? Why do young children have more energy than you know what to do with? Why it is important to read to children from birth? Why do we need to be talking to and with our children as early as the prenatal stages and especially from birth on? Did you ever wonder why babies coo and babble? Why is it important to hold and make eye contact with our babies? Why is it important to massage a premature baby several times a day? Have you ever wondered how you came up with a great idea? How you were able to pass a test that was very challenging for you? How you were able to problem solve a situation that you were about to give up on? It is all part of our natural development. If we shut off these experiences from children and prevent them the opportunities to go through their developmental stages, we are preventing their

brain from wiring to the connections it needs in order to grow.

Brain research has been telling us that 90% of our brain is developed by the age of five. Therefore, we need to be in tune with our children and their natural developmental stages.

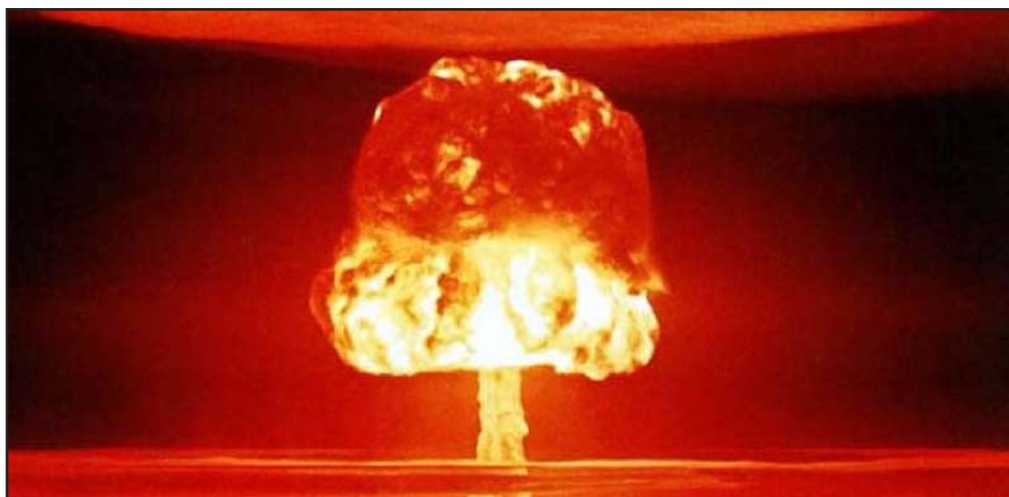
As a community we need to insure that all our early child care programs have safe, nurturing quality care for all children and provide opportunities for children to practice and learn: decision making skills, planning and organization, communication, multicultural sensitivity, problem solving, self-management skills, to work well as team members, responsibility, reliability, creative thinking, positive attitude, and to be motivated to learn with the drive for continuous learning. After all, these are the skills our employers want and they are skills for life!

I am excited to learn that Kayenta Township is concerned and embraces the need for quality child care in our community that will meet the needs of children and their families. A few ideas for our community are in the making, such as provide multi support services for families: library, supportive child care while parent's workout/exercise at the recreation, parent discussion groups, and free workshops for parents and child care providers. Topics such as: nutrition, how can I improve my child's development before they enter Kindergarten, behavior concerns, prenatal care, family events and bringing in additional resources/guest speakers can be organized.

After talking with Malcolm, Public Information Officer at the Kayenta Township, I learned that he is trying to organize and create a planning committee to build a new multi-purpose recreation center and facility. If we immersed our children at an early age at a place or center the community considers a respite, such as the Kayenta Recreation Center, I think the social and creative development of our children would grow in leaps in bounds!

Please feel free to contact Malcolm Benally at the Kayenta Town-hall if you have any further questions about how to become active in providing educational sessions, resources and or quality care for our early childhood programs and families. Remember.... Our children do not need fancy toys or furniture and classrooms filled with bright colors. They just need someone who will provide a safe, nurturing, loving learning environment that says you care and respect them for who they are today.

My goal is to assist our community in raising the awareness and insure quality care and supports for our children and families. When quality care and education is provided at an early age it has lasting benefits for our children and society. They are also better prepared for academic success, higher graduation rates, prepared for the workforce and become more engaged citizens.





Kayenta 4th of July Rodeo

7x Rodeo of the Year



JULY 01 - JULY 04, 2011

Rodeo Performances

Friday July 1st Morning Slack 8:00 a.m.
 Friday July 1st, 1st Performance 7:30 p.m.
 Saturday July 2nd, 2nd Performance 7:30 p.m.
 Sunday July 3rd 3rd Performance 7:30 p.m.
 Monday July 4th, Final Performance 7:30 p.m. (Short Go)
TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK! (Monday Night)

Awards

Trophy Saddles will be awarded to Major Event Champions
 Belt Buckle to each Minor Event Champion
 All Around Award - Three Horse Slant Aluminium Trailer
 Proudly Sponsored by: Kayenta



Fireworks Display

Kayenta Rodeo Grounds • July 4th 2011 • 10:00 p.m.
 Proudly Sponsored By: Kayenta Township & Kayenta Chapter

Major Events

Events	Limit	Entry Fee	Added Money	Long & Short Go
Bareback	20	\$120.00	\$2500.00	2 Go-Round
Saddle Bronc	30	\$120.00	\$2500.00	Top Ten
Bull Riding	60	\$140.00 (Dry Money Included)	\$2500.00	Top Ten
Calf Roping	No Limit	\$120.00	\$2500.00	Top Ten
Steer Wrestling	No Limit	\$120.00	\$2500.00	Top Ten
Team Roping	No Limit (2X)	\$240.00	\$5000.00	Top Ten
Barrel Racing	No Limit	\$120.00	\$2500.00	Top Ten
Break Away Roping	No Limit	\$120.00	\$2500.00	Top Ten

Rodeo Stock fee included in Entry Fee.
 Bareback event: TWO (2) GO ROUND FORMAT will be implemented.
 Bull Riders will have to mail Entry Fee before June 11th, 2011 Two Sections During Each Performance
 Bull Riders: Open Slots will be open to walk-in entry on June 30, 2011
 Morning slack on Friday July 1st, 2011 8:00 a.m. Steer Wrestling, Team Roping,
 Break Away Roping, Calf Roping and Barrel Racing.

Minor Events

Events	Limit	Entry Fee	Added Money
Jr. Barrel Racing	No Limit	\$65.00	\$100.00
Jr. Bullriding	No Limit	\$65.00	\$100.00
45+ Sr. Breakaway	No Limit	\$65.00	\$300.00
#12 Incentive Team Roping	No Limit (2X)	\$80.00	\$500.00
45+ Team Roping	No Limit (2X)	\$80.00	\$500.00

Rodeo Stock fee included in entry fee
 All Minor Events will be held in the Morning Slack July 1st, 2011 8:00 a.m.



KAYENTARODEO.COM

Entry Information

Sanctioned: NAIRA, RRCA, WIRCA, AIRCA
 CNRA, PIRA, BPIRA
 IIFR Rules Apply
 Stock Contractor: Tommy Tsosie Rodeo Company - Rough Stock
 Timed Event: Badonie Cattle Company
 CES Rodeo Secretary: Brenda Harvey
 P.O. Box 100024 • Aneth, UT 84310
 Home: 435-459-1155
 Email: robinbrenda2003@yahoo.com
 Call In: June 13, 2011 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
 Call In: June 14, 2011 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
 Call Backs: June 15, 2011 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
 Walk In Entry: Thursday, June 30, 2011 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 (Kayenta Monument Valley Inn Lobby)

Country Dances

9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.
 Friday July 1st - Ace's Wild & Hopi Clansman
 Saturday July 2nd - Ace's Wild & Stone Country
 Sunday July 3rd - Ace's Wild & Navajo Sundowners
 Monday July 4th - Ace's Wild & Joe Todannie Jr.



HOTEL RATES FOR CONTESTANTS
 Contestant Will Need To Show Proof for Rates
 Kayenta Monument Valley Inn Official Rodeo Headquarter
 For Reservations Call: (928) 697-3221

Rodeo Sponsors Will Not Be Held Liable For any Damages, Accidents, or Theft That Occur Before, During and after the Rodeo.



KAYENTA 4TH OF JULY INDIAN JUNIOR RODEO

IIRA SANCTION and NON MEMBERS WELCOME
 ALL STANDARD EVENT

Midget • Pee Wee • Junior Co-Ed • Sr. Girls and Sr. Boys

JUNE 30, 2011

ENTRY INFORMATION

IIRA CES: Kim R. Jim @ 505-406-6842 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
 Call In: June 20, 2011
 Walk-in Entry: Tuesday June 29, 2011 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at
 Kayenta Monument Valley Inn

AWARDS:

Trophy Saddle Awarded To Highest Point Winner
 Cowboy & Cowgirl
 Belt Buckles To All Around Champion in each Division
 Hooded Pullover: To Event Champion
 T-Shirts To The First 100 Entries

STOCK:

Rough Stock: Tsosie Brothers
 Time Event: Badonie Cattle Company
 Sheep and Goat: Clyde McBride

Rodeo Sponsors Will Not Be Held Liable For any Damages, Accidents, or Theft That Occur Before, During and after the Rodeo.