

Kayenta Seeking Leaders
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THE KAYENTA TODAY

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE KAYENTA TOWNSHIP AND COMMUNITY

A Free Publication from the Kayenta Township



Summer 2008

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ENTERTAINMENT



Local Band
Ethnic De Generation
Nominated for
Aboriginal Peoples
Choice Awards
By Shonie De la Rosa

The 3rd annual Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards will take place Friday, November 7th, 2008 at the MTS Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. This spectacular gala event will be broadcast live on the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network(APTN) which will feature performances by the best Aboriginal recording artists across North America.

The local Kayenta group Ethnic De Generation has been nominated in two catagories; Best Rock CD and Best Duo or Group for their album Blood Land which was release earlier this year.

Recently voting was in its first round which ended August 15th. The Final round of voting began August 20th and ends October 17th. To vote, log on to http://www.aboriginalpeopleschoice.com/home and register to participate. Support Native Talent and vote!

For more info on Ethnic De Generation:

http://www.ethnicdegeneration.net/ http://www.myspace.com/edg



Resolution to Oust Chapter Secretary Passes

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- "I feel that we've done what needs to be done to get this community to come back together," said local veteran Rick Gray following last night's special meeting in which a resolution was passed, 38-15, to oust current Chapter Secretary Lena Clitso. The passage of the resolution is the latest reaction to get the Chapter Secretary to submit missing meeting minutes.

Kayenta Chapter officials contend that Clitso has not turned in over 25 months of meeting minutes going back as far as 2005. In a recent August 19 memo to top Navajo Nation officials from Chapter President Albert Bailey, Clitso had been notified several times "pleading to her to remit all outstanding Meeting minutes" because it was indicated that "many"

programs and services are on hold pending the Minutes."

One of those "programs" that is affected is the Fiscal 2008 \$8 million Supplemental Veterans Fund allocated for veterans that were given to all 110 chapters. According to Gray, the Kayenta Chapter was slated to receive \$106,000 from the Navajo Nation Supplemental Veterans Fund for use by veterans. However, the funds have yet to be distributed because of the missing meeting minutes when the chapter resoloution to approve the monies was passed on April 20, 2008.

This prompted the Kayenta Veterans organization to begin asking questions to Chapter officials and administrators about the reason for the delay in disbursement. The questions led to an eventual meeting with Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr. on August 15 at

at the Kayenta Township. In that meeting the veterans voiced their concerns about the delays stemming from missing meeting minutes and pleaded with the President for action that would get the funds to the veterans. All fingers seem to point at current Chapter Secretary Lena Clitso as she is responsible for the meeting minutes, according to Title 26 of the Navajo Nation Code.

Then on Sunday, August 17, the Kayenta Chapter held their regularly scheduled meeting in which the veterans organization planned to introduce a resolution to remove Clitso from office. However, the meeting lost its quorum during the reading of the previous month's minutes which some say lasted over an hour. The veterans then requested a special meeting to deal with the resolution to remove Clitso as Chapter Secretary. **Continued on Page 3**



Pictured: Anthony Peterman and Show Low Construction representatives exiting Kayenta District Court on Monday, August 11.

Kayenta District Court Hears KTC Domestic Complaint

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA-Every day throughout the nation there are projects that seem to threaten the daily activities or disrupt the comfortable environment or surroundings of local residents which usually results in public outcry. A new generating plant, redistricting or zoning for economic development, or allowing into the community a corporate business that would threaten the small **Continued on page 3**

Kayenta in Search of Leaders

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- A couple of months have passed and the Kayenta Unified School District (KUSD) and the Kayenta Township are still without someone in one of the most important positions of both organizations, a Town Manager and Superintendent.

The Kayenta Township has been in search of a Town Manager since the contract for former Town Manager Daniel Peaches was not renewed earlier this spring. Peaches served as the Town Manager for two years during a tumultuous time for the organization. According to the Commissioners, the decision to not renew his contract was based on the current direction of the organization which was not to the Commission's satisfaction. However, they did say that they appreciated his efforts to takeover an organization in the midst of public criticism and tribal scrutiny.

As for the KUSD Superintendent position, Dr. Alex Martinez submitted his resignation to the Governing Board earlier this summer and has since left town. According to a school official, his departure was due to personal reasons.

According to KUSD Attorney, Patrice Horseman, the search for a superintendent will continue following the upcoming KUSD Governing Board



Pictured: Kayenta Township Town Manager's Office Sits Vacant



Pictured: (L to R) Elwood Saganey, Dr. Alex Martinez, Raymond Laughter, Jimmie Austin II

Meeting on Wednesday, August 13. The meeting will be held at the KUSD Administration Building.

The search is expected to begin in January 2009 and hopefully the Board will make its selection by March 2009. The reason for the extended search is that most "good" Superintendents are already working by this time of year and when the new year comes in it will give the School District a better selection of candidates to choose from, according to Horseman.

The KUSD Governing Board is expected to authorize the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) to begin their search for a worthy candidate for the district at the next regularly scheduled Governing Board Meeting. KUSD is a member of the association and for a fee the ASBA will conduct a search for candidates for the superintendent position. The Governing Board will also decide who the interim superintendent will be to carry out the duties until a superintendent is hired.

In regards to the vacant Town Manager position at the Kayenta Township, Mr. Ed Whitewater is the interim Town Manager until the Commission selects someone. Advertisements and interviews were conducted a few weeks ago however the favored candidate, Alfred Francis, did not accept the position based on personal reasons.

Francis was one of three candidates that were interviewed during the month of June. The other two candidates, Steven Brown and Dorothy Smith were also interviewed but came in behind Francis. In response to Francis' decision the Commission will meet in a work session to discuss the options and decide whether to readvertise or continue with remaining interviewees. Until then, Township administration will continue with the projects and day-to-day activities.

Animal Control Highlights Chapter Planning Meeting



Pictured: The new Kayenta Animal Shelter during its construction phase, located just off Highway 163 in Kayenta.

KAYENTA-"Safety for our community is our biggest issue," said Kayenta Chapter Vice-President Andrew Bradley at the Planning meeting when the issue of the animal control surfaced. Mr. Bradley invited several officials from Kayenta Township, Navajo Nation Animal Control and Navajo Housing Authority to participate in the brief discussion.

Although, the resolution itself is not voted on by the public the officials will determine whether the resolution will be put on the August 17 Meeting Agenda. This is the first step in the Chapter process for a resolution to make it to the agenda where the community members present for the meeting will vote to support the resolution or not.

Animal control issues have always been around especially for Kayenta residents. For business owners, the stray dogs have become a safety issue for customers as well as a nuisance. Several calls and letters are made to the Township during the year for animal sweeps and while those letters do bring the Animal Control officer out to the site it doesn't do much good as more animals are dropped off by local and regional residents.

The Navajo Nation currently has 5 offices with only 5 Animal Control officers to cover the 25,000 square-miles that make up the Navajo Nation. The total number was recently reduced to 4 officers as one employee left the Many Farms (Central Agency) area office. Yesterday morning, Dale Lucero, Western Agency Animal Control Officer, attended the meeting and addressed some of the questions given by the Vice-President Bradley. Mr. Lucero mentioned that his office focuses mainly on bites and livestock damage stemming from loose animals.

He also said that their schedule is "booked" through December. In addition, he mentioned the amount of distress it causes on the owners when he attempts to pick up one of their dogs that has been reported for bites or has become a danger or nuisance to the surrounding community. "I have to wear a bullet proof vest because sometimes they shoot at me for taking their dogs," said Lucero.

According to Lucero, pet owners are taking in other animals such as birds, pigs, lizards, and not the normal cat or dog so it seems his responsibilities are venturing into other areas of animal control. "We get all kinds of pets, right now I have a peacock at the shelter and I've picked up pigs and ducks, too," remarked Lucero.

The Chapter resolution will request the NN Animal Control Office "to develop and implement an animal sweep activity for dog control within the Kayenta Chapter."

The Kayenta Township is nearly finished with the Animal Control Facility which is located just before the Laguna Creek Bridge and is awaiting electrical and plumbing work. According to Kayenta Township Project Manager Anthony Peterman the facility will house both cats and dogs and will have some space for the veterinarian to conduct their spay and neuter services in a designated location.

It is unclear what direction the facility will take in terms of an animal shelter or animal control facility. Frank Ramsey, local animal advocate, was the driving force for the need of an animal shelter however the program itself is still in its planning stages. Public meetings will be held to gain community feedback about what direction the community would like the program to take.

Resolution Continued from page 1

Over 60 people were in attendance at the special meeting where the discussion lasted over two hours before the resolution was finally put to a vote. Just before the main vote several supporters of Secretary Clitso motioned to table the resolution but was later defeated 16-26. Much of the questions surrounded the ability of Clitso to do the job she is responsible for. Shannon Young, an Army veteran, voiced her dissatisfaction with Clitso, "How much longer do you need? You tell us that you have high standards but I think we've seen what your standards are."

Despite the many questions and comments that questioned her abilities, Clitso, who remained silent for most of the meeting, still contends that her inability to effectively to do her job surrounds the fact that the chapter still has not provided her with adequate recording equipment. However, Community Services Coordinator Matthew Austin disputes her story saying that he sent a letter notifying her that they have been in search of the equipment she is requesting.

In NNC Title 26, Section 1001 (3) (d) it sultation with Chapter Secretary Clitso, states that the Chapter Secretary/Treasurer "shall take the minutes of Chapter meetings and record in detail all resolutions, votes and other official actions of the Chapter. Discussion of all action items shall be recorded with a tape recording machine."

What happens now?

The resolution that was passed will now be forwarded to the Ethics & Rules Office and the Navajo Nation Election Office. However, according to Edison Wauneka of the Election Office, the resolution cannot be recognized because residents where the reaction sometimes the chapter does not have the jurisdiction heads in the direction of impeaching or authority to remove an official from office. However, Clitso can choose to voluntarily resign from office based on the Chapter resolution.

He says that there are three ways that an official can be removed; resign, recall, or if there are violations of the ethics & rules established by the Navajo Nation. "Only voters have the right to remove the official because they voted them in and they can vote them out," remarked Wauneka. In the August 19 memo, Chapter President Bailey mentioned that Omar Tahir-Garrett. Mr. Garrett was on April 28, 2008 he sent a complaint to the NN Ethics and Rules Office regarding Clitso's non-compliance with the duties and responsibilities of chapter officials.

An employee from the Ethics & Rules Office said that they have been in con-Chapter President Albert Bailey, and Community Services Coordinator Matthew Austin to resolve the issue. Presently, no investigation was mentioned and that Clitso still retains her position as Chapter Secretary.

Court Continued from page 1

businesses are instances in which some residents were prompted to take action against the local governing body. . It's at that point that city projects or actions will prompt complaints from public officials or calling for the resignation of managers or employees. Whatever the complaints are city officials, elected or administrative, deal with these issues on a daily basis. In some instances the complaints go farther than just voicing their concerns.

In Seattle, Washington earlier this year, restraining orders were filed from Seattle School Board Members and Superintendent following threatening behavior from a community activist, known for his 2001 assault on thenmayor Paul Schell with a megaphone that left the mayor with broken bones and visual problems so the board members and superintendent felt threatened enough based on his behavior that they wanted to file the order of protection.

The judge in that case granted the the safety of the school board officials and the Superintendent. The restraining order, also known as an Order of Protection or protection order, is a legal form of injunction that permits the Court to order the defendant to stay away from the plaintiff, the person who initiates the order.

In Kayenta District Court on Monday, Judge Rudy Bedonie granted a restraining order against members of the Sullivan Family based on accusations of





threatening behavior at a recent meeting involving two Township Department Directors. The accusations were not disclosed during the hearing however, Judge Rudy Bedonie did review the information, spoke with attorneys from both sides and came to an understanding that both parties were able to agree on, which is that the family will not interfere with the construction workers on the site and the only interaction with members restraining order against Mr. Garrett for of the Township administration would be for business purposes.

> In response to the judge's ruling, Kayenta Township Attorney Patterson Joe said, "The court confirmed Kayenta Township's concern for the safety and well-being of its employees and construction workers."

The family's complaints arose from the \$6.8 million airport improvement project in which the airstrip would be moved 750 ft. to the east. The Sullivan family claim that the 750 ft of land the airstrip is being constructed on was not part of the deal when the Township and airport were approved. They also claim that promises of infrastructure to their home were not kept when the agreement was made. Several meetings have taken place with not much movement on either side with the exception of a new \$21,000 corral to be constructed to replace the old one that will be disassembled for the airport improvement project.

According to Community Development Director Anthony Peterman, the airport improvement project is being implemented from the original Airport Master Plan established by the Kayenta Chapter and approved by the Navajo Nation in the 1980's.



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Architects Present Kayenta Hospital Drawings

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- The Kayenta Alternative Rural Hospital Steering Committee received a "treat" as the architectural firm, Dekker/Perich/ Sabbatini, presented 3-D schematic drawings of the planned hospital.

With a crowd of over 40 people consisting of I.H.S. employess, Steering Committee members, and community members the architects spoke about the progress of the hospital design and what the hospital would like from the exterior.

The \$144 million project is expected to be construction ready by Spring 2009. Although, the drawings will be finished the funds needed for construction still need to appropriated. The Kayenta Hospital project is on the I.H.S. Facilities Construction Priority list but more lobbying still needs to be done, according to Planner Glenna Manymulesbitsoi.

The Kayenta Alternative Rural Hospital (KARH) Steering committee traveled to Washington D.C. in the early spring for lobbying efforts that included other members of construction facility projects on the Navajo Nation. The groups were accompanied by Navajo Nation Vice-President Ben Shelley and Navajo Area Division of Health Director Anslem Roanhorse.

The new hospital is expected to improve the amount services provided currently to users of the Kayenta Health Center. As expected, all in attendance were very excited about the reality of a new hospital being constructed in Kayenta. "Twenty years of work and now the hospital is closer to a reality than it has ever been," said Steering Committee Chairperson

Helen Bonnaha, "I'm just so proud of the work that has been done for this project."

Although, the drawing created a lot excitement and anticipation the discussion began to focus on the effectiveness and efficiency of the design. "The goal of the facility is to be user-friendly," said Kayenta Health CEO Linda White.

In addition to implementing culture and efficiency for the staff and clients, the efficiency of the building was also being discussed, in terms of the use of light, space, and energy. The hospital is expected to follow the LEEDS Concept which is to make the building more resourceful in using energy. Although, the building will have the capability to generate electricity it will only be enough for the building itself so energy will not flow back into the grid. Somewhat similar to the Yazzie House that was constructed near Pinon featured on ABC's Extreme Home Makeover where the solar energy that is generated feeds back into the grid so the family is able to receive credits on their utility bill.

Also, in attendance at the meeting were members, Peter Nachod and Raymond Cooke, from the Indian Health Service Headquarters in Rockville, MD. Needless to say, the Steering Committee members were delighted to hear and see that "Headquarters" was in attendance at the meeting.

According to KARH Planner Glenna Manymulesbitsoi, the Steering Committee will be planning another trip to Washington D.C. for another lobbying effort however no date was given. If you would like to see more pictures from the meeting or about the hospital drawings, contact Jarvis Williams at the Kayenta Township.



FAA Reports on Project Progress



By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- In a brief July 27th report, FAA representatives made a visit to the Kayenta Airport Reconstruction Project and returned a progress report to the Township Administration. According to the report, the progress is at 12% completion.

"Runway 5/23 Reconstruction" is at 8.8% completion while the "Relocate Airport Entrance Road" is 40.8% complete. According to the report, the excavation and preparation of the runway sub grade is in progress. The stockpiles of the dirt and gravel can be seen from the road as Show Low Construction has taken the old runway and crushed to its current state. The crushed product will be used on another part of the project, according to Community Development Director Anthony Peterman. "The project is on schedule and all involved parties are working together to ensure its completion," remarked Peterman.

The project is expected to finish within 240 working days and the report has indicated that 34 days have been charged as of July 27. This time of year is monsoon season for the Kayenta area as more precipitation is expected in the next few weeks. The more precipitation the more it may affect construction however according to the report the weather has not affected construction, so far.

Field testing for compaction was not required at the time of the report however the base course testing was completed and the widening paving was sampled and tested for compliance with Arizona Department of Transportation requirements. The results were not part of the report.

The contractor, Show Low Construction, will continue to prepare the sub grade and begin work on the embankment on the eastern extension of the runway and safety area. A new cattle guard was installed on the new airport access road. In addition, the Hwy. 16 0 widening will be chip sealed and striped, according to the report.

As for any problem areas or other comments, the report does allude to the recent vandalism of the survey sticks on the east end of the runway that cost the contractor some delays but was eventually completed with no other reported incidents.

"No Trespassing" signs were installed to secure the site at the recommendation of the Kayenta Police Department so that anyone not authorized to be on the site would be subjected to prosecution under Navajo Nation law. The signs were installed following the vandalism of the survey stakes.

Kayenta Chapter Prez.and Vice-Prez Results

KAYENTA-It was a good day to listen to the campaign efforts of candidates before over 300 voters casted their ballot for the Navajo Nation Primary Election on Tuesday at the Kayenta Chapter House. The primary election determines who makes it to the general election in November.

Local candidates Stanley Clitso and Ruth Gilmore could be seen walking the boundary speaking to voters as they entered the boundary making their way to the voting booth located inside the Chapter House. It may have worked as the unofficial results came back with both candidates gaining the most votes for the Kayenta Chapter President and Kayenta Chapter Vice-President.

Chapter President Candidate Stanley Clitso garnered 200 votes while second place candidate Andrew Bradley came in with 80 votes. Vice-Presidential candidate Ruth Gilmore managed to gather 130 votes while second place candidate Lena Clitso came in with 111 votes. Write-in Vice-Presidential candidate Delight Butler captured 80 votes to keep the competition close but was unable to steal enough votes to make it to the general election.

If the results hold up the candidates for Kayenta Chapter President will be Stanley Clitso and Andrew Bradley. And for Kayenta Chapter Vice-President the candidates will be Ruth Gilmore and Lena Clitso.

Other candidates seeking office for other positions include Daniel Peaches for Navajo Preparatory School Board, Helen Bonnaha and Patricia Parrish for Kayenta Community School Board.



Kayenta Workforce Hosts Youth Career Exploration Day

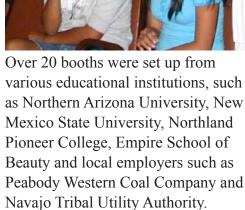
By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- "Excellence" was the word of the day yesterday during the Youth Career Exploration Day held at the Kayenta Recreation Center. Kayenta Workforce Development employee Frank Donald decided a few weeks ago to host the Youth Career Exploration Day and worked non-stop to make sure the event was a success.

With the assistance of fellow co-workers, Marcel Williams and Shannon Reddye, they were able to put the agenda together, confirm the invited speakers, and gather the supplies, including donations for the event. Over 100 participants from all agencies that included Page, Chinle, Crownpoint, Tuba City, Fort Defiance, Greasewood, Kaibeto, and LeChee gathered for the event. This was in addition to the local youth that were present.

Fifteen year old Window Rock H.S. Freshman, Shane Ramone, said "It's alright; the cool thing is that got play with some of the law enforcement stuff they had set up. Both of my brothers are in security so that's why I'm interested." Ramone mentioned that he wanted to possibly go into the law enforcement field based on the information given at the event.





Pat Hartman, Career Planning Specialist with Empire School of Beauty, said that the event was a good chance for her to talk with interested students.

"You know this is my first time here and we have a few students from Kayenta so wanted to come out and talk to interested students. We have 87 schools in 18 states and we know there are students here that are interested in this field so we want to help them so that they can have a skill that will improve their lives whether they use it as a stepping stone for higher education or for a more permanent type of business. The students that finish our program are certified in Arizona so they work anywhere in the state," said Hartman when asked about her program

Kayenta native, Stephanie Guajuardo, was also in attendance as a student of the Beauty College and also a former employee of the Kayenta Workforce Development. "I've been in the Cosmetology program for about 6 months and should be finished in about 5 months with my certification. I want to become a nail tech and start my own business here in Kayenta so I'm hoping to bring my experience and education back to Kayenta," remarked Guajardo when asked about the school.

"It was a good turnout. We wanted the youth to gain a sense of what opportunities are out there for them and to also help and prepare them for the real world," said Donald, "They can use the information to help guide them in the career direction they want to go in."

Kayenta Workforce plans to host the event again next year based on the success of this year's event. If "excellence" was what they were striving for, then Stephanie Guajardo is an example of the "excellent" possibilities that can happen using the resources available in the local community.



KCS Meets to Resolve Construction Labor Concerns

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- The construction of the Kayenta Community School brought excitement and anticipation of the new school. Along with it came local employment opportunities for families however, the excitement and anticipation was short lived as complaints of local workers being replaced with non-Indians, low wages being paid, and wrongful termination came from disgruntled workers.

In response, the Kayenta Community School members decided to hold a meeting with all the entities involved. A total of sixteen interested participants were in attendance; FCI, Inc. management, BIA, Army Corp of Engineers, Kayenta Township, Office of Navajo Labor Relations, Navajo Nation Division of Dine' Education, KCS school officials. The topics of discussion were in regards to hiring practices (Indian Preference), determination of wages, and general dissatisfaction of labor conditions.

Emerson Eskeet, BIA-Albuquerque Office, and Blaine Kemsley, Army Corp of Engineers-Albuquerque, facilitated the meeting. Mr. Eskeet began with a brief summary about the Indian Preference Clause and that the BIA was the funding entity. Mr. Kemsley also mentioned that the Army Corp of Engineers had contracting responsibility for this project.

Under federal regulations when a project on federal Indian land is awarded to contractors, Indian preference applies for workers they hire and sometimes the vendors they purchase from. It was also mentioned although Indian Preference applies during the hiring process; the employers must also make sure that the workers are able to perform the task.

"We want to do the best we can to get the best people we can to complete this project," remarked Mr. Kemsley in response to the hiring practices for the project.

Since the \$50 million project is under the Army Corp of Engineers, the responsibility to ensure that the contractors are in compliance with Indian Preference laws lies with Army Corp of Engineer Gary Wingerson. This was an issue that was unclear to discharged workers as they were unsure of whom to make their complaints to.

As a result, the discharged workers visited the offices of Delight Butler, Navajo Nation Office of Navajo Labor Relations; Velma Eisenberger, Kayenta Community School Principal; Helen Bonnaha, Kayenta Community School Board member; and Jarvis Williams, Kayenta Township Community Involvement Coordinator.

Stenson Wauneka, KCS Facilities
Manager, remarked that discharged
workers came to him with complaints
of Navajo workers being replaced with
non-Indians and wage discrepancies.
He said there was a 1-800 number on
the board that displayed the wages according to Indian Preference laws but
did not know if they were using the
number.

"Well, I believe the number goes to the Department of Labor but I'm sure the workers want someone they can talk to in person," said John Kelleher, FCI Construction. Blaine Kemsley said it seems that when the workers were discharged they were confused and unsure about whom to approach for their complaints or concerns following their discharge.





To resolve the issue FCI management offered Eugene Glasses, FCI Safety Officer, as the first point of contact for the concerns or complaints. The second person, if needed, would be Army Corp of Engineer Gary Wingerson, who conducts weekly compliance checks at the project site. "We just need to communicate better," remarked Blaine Kemsley. Askeet asked that the concerns or complaints be addressed quickly so that workers can decide quickly if they need to seek other employment.

As for job applications, the group decided to use the Kayenta-Workforce Development office as the point of collection and sorting. The contractors and sub-contractors will look through these applications first before looking elsewhere so that qualified local applicants will have more opportunities. Following the process the contractors and sub-contractors will conduct the interviews.

In response to the wages that are paid, Gary Wingerson and Stenson Wauneka said that the wages are posted on a board just as the law states and that is in compliance with the current law. In addition, Kemsley said that the workers need to be more informed about the wages by FCI Construction so that no misunderstandings take place.

Delight Butler, Kayenta-Office of Navajo Labor Relations, said that she had received numerous complaints from

local workers, as well as, workers who were from areas such as Chinle, Gallup, Tuba City and Fort Defiance and tried to investigate but was told that Navajo Nation did not have jurisdiction because it was federal project. She said that FCI Construction needed to make sure all the documents were in place so that workers will have a better understanding of why they were discharged or laid off.

In response to the issue regarding the local workforce being replaced by non-Indian, FCI Construction said that the sub-contractor did bring in outside qualified workers only because the Army Corp of Engineer contract required an American Concrete Institute (A.C.I.) certification for one of the jobs which none of the employees or applicants carried. Since then, that particular portion has been completed and the sub-contractor has moved to the next job so they are no longer on the jobsite.

Although, outside workers were used for that particular job other local workers have been hired by sub-contractors and taken to the next job.

"I'm glad that we were able to resolve these issues today. I see that FCI Construction is doing an excellent job constructing our new school and doing their best to stimulate our economy by hiring a qualified local workforce," said KCS Board member Helen Bonnaha following the meeting.

KUSD Repairs Water Line Break

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- Just eight days into the new school year, KUSD students received an unusual treat last week when the Kayenta Unified School District administrators made the decision to have half a day of school on Thursday and no school on Friday for emergency repairs.

The decision was based on a main water line break at the high school, according to Kayenta Unified School District Operations Director Julius Young, II. The 30-year old line was broken when an NTUA gas line crew was working on an installation. According to Kayenta-NTUA acting field superintendent Patricia Watchman, the location of the line was difficult to assess as the "as-built" drawings were not sufficient. In addition she says that the natural gas line installation project was given a "green light" to begin work by the school district and that any repairs resulting from the project would be handled by the school district.

The repair involved approximately 190 ft. of water line that was removed and replaced. An attempt was made to repair the crack initially but the pressure on the line caused the crack to extend further, said Operations Director Young II.

The school officials were informed of the water line break however, it was thought that they might make it through one more school day before starting the work on it. According Mr.

Young, II, the school officials suggested half a day on Friday at which time they could begin work on the line however, the pressure on the line from normal usage caused an even bigger crack. This prompted the school district to call off school and bring in the contractors to begin the work on it as soon as possible.

"We had to look at the kid's safety and well-being, as well as, the rest of the faculty and district employees so we made the decision in the best interest of the everyone involved for a half-a-day on Thursday and no school on Friday," said KUSD Operations Director Julius Young, II.

Lake Powell Construction was quickly brought in to do the repair and worked throughout the weekend to ensure that school would begin as scheduled on Monday morning. The cost estimates for the repair are not known since this was an emergency repair. The school district has a contingency budget for emergency circumstances such as these and that's where the money will come from to pay the bill.

At the time of the Sunday interview, Young II mentioned that the repair was 90% complete and should be ready for school on Monday. The students did arrive as scheduled on Monday morning and no other complications were reported. The repair was completed and the students had an early vacation to start the school year.



New KCS Facility Construction On Schedule

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- The construction for the new school has been going steady since it started on April 7, 2008. Twenty years ago amongst boarding school students and teachers the construction of a new school was only talk that circulated among local residents. Today, changes have been made as the school has transformed itself into a mix of boarding and public school students. Although, recent discussion has been centered around disputes concerning construction employment the reality of having a new school will certainly have a positive effect on everyone.

Students will now have a new school to call 'home'. The new school will house approximately 120 students total with 60 male and 60 female. However, the school can accept an estimated 400 students.

Included in the construction is a new parking lot which will make it much easier for teachers and parents to access. The old school had parents and teachers parking in unpaved, undesignated parking areas and the nearest paved parking lot was constructed for the Indian Health Service. In addition, the parking spaces were limited but in the new parking lot there will be plenty of designated parking spaces.

A new gym and cafeteria will also be included in the construction.

On Friday, July 11, a site-visit was conducted for the principal and KCS Board Members. They were given an update and personal tour of the construction site. The two-hour tour allowed the members to view the progress of the construction and have their questions answered by FCI Safety Officer Eugene Glasses.

Most questions dealt with the issue of Indian Preference and the Davis Bacon wage scale however Mr. Glasses suggested an invitation to the next board meeting so that FCI Construction Management could properly address the questions. He also mentioned that the wages were posted on a board located on site.

The questions referred to complaints arising from local area residents disgruntled from their recent departure from FCI. The complaints were referred to the Navajo Labor Relations Office and BIA Area Office in Albuquerque. Attempts to contact these offices were unsuccessful as of Friday, July 18.

In the meantime, construction for the building will continue as scheduled



KCS Principal Eisenberger gives the "thumbs up" for the new construction of the school at the conclusion of the site visit.

Mustang Volleyball Prepared For Tough Schedule



By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- In order to be the best you have to play the best, according to legendary 35-year head coach Lucinda Nash. The Mustangs have lined up an impressive schedule to prepare them for the post season. For the last few years, the Mustangs have gone to the final game only to come up short in the championship game.

As a result, Coach Nash has prepared a schedule that includes a scrimmage with 2007 Arizona 3A State Champion Parker HS, regular season games with 3A East rival Snowflake, 4A conference teams; Sinagua HS, Page HS, and then tournaments in Page and Fountain Hills and of course, the conference games with topranked Ganado HS. With powerpoint rankings having a tremendous influence on the seeds going into the state tournament, Coach Nash has had to adjust the team schedule to gain the advantage she needs to going into the post season.

Powerpoints are given regardless of a win or loss. However, a team will gain more points if they beat a team from a higher division or within the same

division. Beat a team with a higher ranking and your team will gain more points.

Tournaments don't count towards powerpoints only regular season games but that won't stop Coach Nash from allowing her team to gain more experience by playing the competition during tournament play.

Last year, the Mustangs finished #1 in the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) 3A Powerpoint rankings and #1 in the 3A North Region tournament which gave them the number one seed going into the state tournament. This gave them the advantage as it set #2 ranked Safford and #3 ranked Parker against each other in the semi-final on the opposite bracket while they faced off with the always tough conference rival Ganado in the semi-final. The result was a match-up in a sold-out state championship game with #3 seeded Parker High School. The game was arguably the most exciting game played at the tournament as the game was won in the fifth and deciding final set, 15-12.

Nash says that experience and knowledge are the biggest keys to a successful program. "It is not easy," remarked Nash. She says the kids have to make sure their grades are up, that they make it to practice on time, and that they have to commit to hundreds of hours of what she called "gym time.

During the off-season, the players are expected to log the hours and minutes they put in at the gym. The higher number of hours and minutes the better their chances of making the varsity team and gaining the important aspect of experience. "We play and perform at a high level," said Coach Nash.

No one can argue the fact that the Coach Nash and her staff have developed a top-notch program at Monument Valley High School. Monument Valley has won 5 state championships with the most recent coming in 2002, 5 times MV has finished as the state runner-up with three straight beginning in 2005. In addition to the trips to the state tournament Coach Nash and her Mustangs have also accumulated numerous region championships and conference championships. So, it's pretty obvious that Nash has found a winning formula that works for her athletes.

Over 50 players have come out and accepted the commitment that is required to play for the Mustangs and Coach Nash. However, only 12 players make

the remaining 40 players learning and gaining the valuable experience at the lower levels. She attributes the success of the program to her assistant coaches because they have the responsibility of developing and preparing the players to meet the level of play that is expected from Coach Nash. According to Nash, it is not only the players and coaches that have to commit but the parents also have a responsibility and commitment to ensure that their daughter makes it to practice, gets home and keeps up with their grades.

It should be another great season as the Mustangs return from their 2007 topranked team 5'11" sophomore middle hitter Bradley Nash, 5'9" junior Sabrina Seaton and senior setter Chantel Kescoli. With all the varsity players finishing a rigid summer program that included the famous Gold Medal Squared Volleyball Camp and plenty of regional tournaments, the Mustangs seem ready to take on the tough competition.

This weekend the Mustangs will travel to Sedona, Arizona for a friendly scrimmage with 2008 3A State Champions Parker High School. Then they begin their season with a game against 4A Conference team Sinagua High School on Wednesday, August 27. From there they will travel to Fountain Hills, Arizona for the Fountain Hills Tourney on Saturday, August 30.



Pictured: Coach Nash talking about commitment from parents and players

New Township Fuel Station Will Save on Rising Fuel Costs



By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA-When Kayenta Township Public Works Director Bill Cly proposed the construction of a fuel station a few months ago for its mobile equipment it was seen as a response to rising fuel costs. And that may be however, the real news is that the new fuel station is the first of its kind on the Navajo Nation.

The \$110,000 project is expected to reduce fuel costs by 20-25%. Last year, the Kayenta Township expended nearly \$60,000 in costs related to fuel. Currently, the Kayenta Township pays full price for its fuel at local gas stations whereas most municipalities have their own fuel stations and purchase bulk fuel to keep costs at a minimum.

That was the idea in the construction of the fuel station but the station is itself a new trend in the construction of fuel stations. Double-walled, self-contained fuel system is what D&H Petroleum & Environmental Services Branch Manager Burl Lambson said in a brief conversation Wednesday morning. Several calls were made to the Navajo Nation EPA to confirm but have not received any response from Environmental Specialist Warren Roan for the Navajo Nation Storage Tank Program.

Public Works Director Bill Cly is excited about the new fuel station, "Yes, the system will be completely automated and we'll have a top of the line system that the Navajo Nation EPA will approve of, in terms of safety and fuel containment."

The 13,000 gallon tank will be divided into two parts; a portion will have 3,000 gallons of unleaded and the other with 10,000 gallons of diesel. Bulk fuel prices will certainly help the organization as it continues to add vehicles and equipment to its current fleet.

Currently, bulk fuel prices hover around \$3.90/gallon for unleaded and \$4.05/gallon for diesel. The fuel prices may fluctuate but the savings in the long run will certainly help the Township. The station is expected to be completed by the end of the month and should be operational within that same time frame. The Kayenta Township employees will be trained on how to use the equipment and Mr. Cly will be trained on how to properly maintain and track the amount of fuel being used.

School is Back in Session with Changes



By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA-The students of Kayenta Unified School District went back to school on Monday leaving behind a short summer and welcoming a longer school day. The changes coming mainly from the Arizona English Language Learners Assessment (AZELLA). If you are not familiar with the AZEL-LA, as it is commonly called, it is an English Language assessment given by all public schools to determine if the student by state standards is proficient in the language of English. The program is a federally and state funded program under the Arizona Department of Education called the Office of English Language Acquisition Ser-

If a student does not pass the AZELLA then he/she is required to take 4 hours of English per day while in school until a new test is given, which is the main reason for extending the classes from 90 minutes to 100 minutes. Monument Valley High School students are enrolled in 8 classes per semester taking 4 classes a day alternating those days in order to receive equal amount of classroom instruction throughout the semester.

According to MVHS Principal Gillian Vormittag, the test will only be given to those students that have shown documented progress in class. According to Principal Vormittag a test was given in the spring of 2008, the results showed that approximately 18% of the MVHS student body needed to be in the program. Some of the students were seniors that were graduating however no number was given on how many were seniors.

In order to accommodate the new changes, Principal Vormittag has had to become very creative in the reorganization of the classes and staff schedules. Although, the changes meant more English classes Principal Vormittag mentioned that no new staff positions were required just some maneuvering of the staff schedules.

"We've worked within our budget and our staff have been very flexible but this is an enormous change for us," said Principal Vormittag regarding the AZELLA program. Principal Vormittag has been working with the staff since the fall of 2007 so the staff has been well informed of the intended changes.

The high school has also added several more electives for the students to choose from such as, 2 classes for Introduction to Sports Medicine, College Prep/ACT classes, Native American Literature, Nursing Program (Dual Enrollment Program with College of Eastern Utah), and AP Classes for English, Chemistry, and Fine Arts. "It's actually pretty impressive for a school of this size," remarked Principal Vormittag.

So, how well did everything go on the first day back from summer vacation? According to Assistant Principal Secretary Cheryl McKerry, "Smooth, this is actually the best I've ever seen it." Mckerry, and 2 Student Information Systems Coordinators assisted the Student Registar Yolanda Yazzie in obtaining student information to be delivered to the Arizona Department of Education and to assist students who do not have a schedule or who are waiting for their schedule to develop. There were about 30 students waiting patiently in the library for their chance to speak to counselors regarding their class schedules. A parent who was enrolling her daughter mentioned that the process was working well and that the staff was very cooperative.

Last year, Kayenta-Monument Valley High School had 4 Chief Manuelito Scholars, 3 Gates Millenium Scholars and 2 students that exceeded their AIMS Test and received in-state tuition waivers. In addition, MVHS has five school counselors to assist students in the development of their class schedules to best prepare them for college or other higher education institutions.

Township Ready to Re-advertise Town Manager Position



By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA-The Kayenta Township Commissioners met on Sunday, August 10 in a work session to discuss one of its biggest issues, the Town Manager position. The position has been vacant for two months now with Interim Town Manager Ed Whitewater at the helm.

Although, several interviews were held and then an offer made to the primary candidate, who later declined, the final decision from the Commissioners was to re-advertise.

The Town Manager position has had a busy history with removal and replacement but those acts follow a similar trend in other municipalities across the United States. The trend of finding a highly qualified person to carry out the responsibilities of city councils or commissions at the right price. In fact, the city of Farmington and Gallup have had their recent bouts in the last couple of years of dealing with removal and hiring of their city leaders.

"The position is a juggling act because you have to follow the directives of the Commission, make sure the administration carries it out and have to answer to the community. It's not as easy as it seems," said Interim Town Manager Ed Whitewater. "There is a great deal amount of stress and time that goes into a position such as a city or town manager."

Elected city leaders have the decision to keep or release their city manager if they think the projects or administration is headed in the wrong direction which was pretty much the decision from the Kayenta Township Commissioners

The topic of the vacant TM position resurfaced on Monday's Regular Township Meeting held at the Town Hall. Following a resolution for the renewal of Dr. Zah's Consultant contract some concerned citizens questioned the Commissioners about the progress of the organization and the lack of initiative from the Commissioners to hire a Town Manager.

The Commission's responded to the criticism with an explanation of why they decided to re-advertise the position. "Mr. Whitewater DOES his regular job duties in addition to being the Town Manager. That's a lot of work for him right now. We were unable to secure a candidate that has the right expertise needed for the position. We can't stay where we are, we need to take a step forward to develop above and beyond where we are now," responded Commissioner Chairman Eugene Badonie.

The position will be advertised on the Township website, www.kayentatownship.net, and other regional newspaper publications. The closing date for the position is September 19 at which time the Commissioners will reconvene and sift through the potential interviewees.

Interviews will be scheduled and hopefully within a couple of months a selection will be made. Until then, Interim Town Manager Ed Whitewater will have to continue his juggling act until the new manager takes his place.

Veterans Speak Out Over Chapter Meeting Minutes



By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- "Do your job or step down," said local veteran Ricky Gray about Kayenta Chapter Secretary following a meeting with Dr. Joe Shirley, Jr. The meeting was originally scheduled to be with the Kayenta Township on Friday but as word spread that he was coming to town another group decided to pay him a visit, the Kayenta Veterans Organization.

After waiting two hours for the meeting, the Kayenta Veterans had their chance to voice their concerns to the President. "The veteran's were allocated \$106,000 from the Nation for the Kayenta Chapter and we can't access it because Kayenta Chapter is under sanction. Mr. President, why do we have to pay for something that we didn't do," said Mr. Gray.

Gray noted that after asking questions and doing some "research" he found out that it came down to the missing Chapter meeting minutes. "We were told by Mr. Matthew Austin that they cannot give out the checks because the minutes haven't been sent to Window Rock," he said to Shirley. Matthew Austin is the Kayenta Chapter Coordinator.

Gray also mentioned that the minutes haven't gone out since 2005 and that he received statements from Kayenta Chapter Secretary Lena Clitso that were contradictory. "We asked her and she said that she couldn't do it because there was no tape recorder and later she said she recorded all the meetings. She wants to put in her 'two cents' and that's illegal," said Mr. Gray.

"What is wrong? Please help us, Mr. President," pleaded Gray. Gray also noted that some veterans needed some money for ceremonies to heal themselves and that he knew of two veterans that needed to go to the VA Hospital but couldn't because they needed

travel money. Chilchinbeto veterans are getting assistance from their chapter but we can't do it because of minutes, said Gray. In addition, Gray spoke about the scholarship funds that were approved for college students from the Kayenta Chapter but could not be given out because of the lack minutes from the Chapter Secretary.

Clitso was elected to Chapter Secretary in 2006 and has been serving the Chapter since. She is currently running for the office of Kayenta Chapter Vice-President.

"We have the resolution approved with all the signatures but Window Rock needs the minutes to get the money, I am telling you this as a concerned veteran and concerned voter," cried Gray to President Shirley.

President Shirley, Jr. regarded Gray's plea as an urgent matter that needed to be handled with the utmost importance. "I agree that the funds need to be given to the veterans and if there are scholarship monies available then we need to get it to them. We need to look at the leadership in this community. You are not the ones at fault," said President Shirley.

Stanley Yazzie from Division of Community Development mentioned that the money is supposed to be given to the chapters for distribution, if not then the money will stay where it is because of the current regulations in place. According to Yazzie, the chapter is under the Fort Defiance Local Governance Support Center where he mentioned that the Kayenta Chapter has not done anything to take care of the sanctions imposed by the Navajo Nation.

As the meeting came to a close, President Shirley reaffirmed to the veterans present that he would do his best to make sure the monies were made available to them and that he would direct his staff to find the best resolution for this matter.

Power Rankings Influence Mustang Football Schedule

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA-The Monument Valley High School Mustang Football team normally schedules a game or two outside of the state to gain some experience. However, according their 2008 Football Schedule it seems that has changed.

A couple of years ago, the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) adopted a Powerpoint Ranking system among its members of smaller Arizona high schools for certain sports. Last year, it was implemented into the Arizona 3A North Conference with some skepticism among fans and coaches in terms of how it would affect the teams chances of heading into the Arizona High School State Championship playoffs.

Some skeptics believe that the powerpoint rankings system give certain advantages to conferences that were more competitive in certain sports than other conferences, such as football, volleyball or basketball. In any case, it will definitely influence how teams put their schedules together.

In 3A Conference football, the power rankings will help determine seeds 1-4 based on their points. In addition, a team can earn more points if they play a team from a higher conference. If they should choose to play someone

from another state, no power points can be applied for their victory if they should win.

As for the Mustangs, who participate in the Arizona 3A North Conference with 6 other teams, they now have to decide based on school size and location who they should play because of the amount of points a team can gain by playing against them. Last year, they finished the year with a 3-6 record and 24th in the power standings so there is definitely room for improvement.

Because they are so close to the Four Corners area, playing teams from out of state is not out of the question. Last year they played two games out of state; Cortez, CO and Monument Valley, Utah. When it comes to the powerpoint system, the Mustangs did not gain any points by playing these teams whether they won or loss therefore it affects how the upcoming 2008-2009 Football schedule is created.

That means traveling 280 miles oneway to the valley to play Arizona 3A South Conference member, Estrella High School, rather than a 140 mile trip to Cortez, CO. In addition, the Mustangs have also scheduled Arizona 3A East football power, Snowflake High School, for a scrimmage game.





"It definitely affected our schedule. It is to our advantage to play more in-state teams rather than out -of-state teams. We gain more points if the teams we play...win and more when we beat them. I think our schedule this year is more suitable to our kids and the program in terms of increasing our chances to make into the state tournament," said Mustang Head Coach Bryan Begay when asked about the change in schedule for the upcoming season.

Most teams have adjusted their schedules to become more competitive or stay competitive. Whatever the reason Mustang Football is changing to fit the times so look forward to some great football action this season. Mustang football kicks off with a scrimmage against Snowflake on August 23 and the first game with Red Mesa at home on August 29.



Subway Coming To Kayenta



By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- For the last few years, the residents of Kayenta have had to rely on Bashas' deli for sandwiches but that is about to change. Soon residents will be playing "SubwayScrabble" as a new Subway restaurant will be opening in the Kayenta Shopping Center in the coming weeks.

It's been a few years since a sandwich restaurant opened its doors in Kayenta. The last sandwich restaurant, Blimpie's, opened for a short time but soon closed its doors. In fact, this new Subway will be opening its doors in the same location as its former competitor.

The famous franchise is one of the most sought after opportunities for potential owners. According the Subway website, the state of Arizona is listed as having no stores for sale just to demonstrate its popularity and success. In addition, the January 2007 issue of Entrepreneur Magazine listed Subway as the world's largest submarine sandwich franchise with 29,664 stores in 87 countries. Locals seem pretty excited as they visit the unopened site hoping it would be open for business but soon

learn that the restaurant is still in its hiring stages.

Attempts to contact the owner, Marvin Rose of RCC Partners LLC, were unsuccessful at the time of release for this article. However, what is known is that they own several Subways and other businesses throughout Arizona according to an April 2006 article written by Editor John Lofstock of Convenience Store Decisions, a monthly magazine with over 40,000 subscribers that deal with current issues of convenience stores.

In fact, a piece of paper taped on the window for curious visitors to read says that they'll be conducting interviews on Tuesday, August 12. The new business is seeking a restaurant manager, assistant manager and sandwich artists.

More information regarding the owners and the opening date will be forthcoming on the Township blog (kayentatownship.net/blog). For now, customers will have to be patient but a look inside the store says that the opening is not far off.

The Kayenta Township Commission

Eugene Badonie - Chairperson Charles H. Young - Vice-Chairperson Richard P. Mike - Secretary/Treasurer Jimmy Austin II - Member Alyce Mae Yazzie - Member

Kayenta Township Management

Ed Whitewater - Interim Town Manager ewhitewater@kayentatownship.net

Brenda Saggboy - Finance Manager bsaggboy@kayentatownship.net Ed Whitewater - Records Manager ewhitewater@kayentatownship.net Anthony Peterman - Project Manager apeterman@kayentatownship.net Bill Cly - Operations Manager

The Kayenta Township

P.O. Box 1490 Kayenta, AZ 86033 Phone: ((28) 697-8451 FAX: (928) 697-8461

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Locals Skaters Take Initiative

By Jarvis Williams

KAYENTA- It's a daunting task for anyone that has experienced the sand that accumulates from a wind storm and has to remove it. But that didn't dampen the spirits of some local skaters looking to take advantage of sunny spring day.

For three local skaters, it was finally a beautiful day to skate but something else stood in their way. A few days earlier the spring winds had picked up and presented a familiar scene to most locals, a build-up of sand. This time it was not in the driveway, in front of the door, or on the window sill, it was on the skatepark.

Local skaters, Derek Kelsey, Beau Kelsey, and Clayton Sells, took the initiative to sweep the sand and clean the park. No one told them that they needed to sweep it, it was just something they felt they needed to do. When asked about it they responded that they had done the same thing in the winter time when the snow had filled the park.

According to Recreation Leader Joann Begay the recently built skatepark is a source of pride amongst the youth, "Rain or shine, they're out there. They really come together and take care of the park."

For recreation leader Joann Begay the skaters taking the initiative to clean the park is nothing new and that the youth have made it a priority to keep their park clean. Additionally, she mentioned, "They really help each other by watching out for one another and also help me pick up trash around the park."

She also mentioned that several brooms were donated for the youth to sweep off the park so whether they have their own tools or they borrow it from the Recreation Center the skaters work together to keep the park clean.

The skatepark recently added a few new items such as a six-foot halfpipe, picnic bench with a launch ramp and some rails for the kids to enjoy.

Kayenta Today Goes Green and Launches New Blog Site

By Shonie De La Rosa

On July 10, 2007 the Kayenta Township blog was officially launched by IT Administrator Shonie De La Rosa and Community Involvement Coordinator Jarvis Williams.

"There were a number of reasons for the implementation of a blog site." said Jarvis Williams. "One of the main reasons is that much of the news and current events that we recieve becomes old news quickly by the time we get our monthly publiction of the Kayenta Today out to the public. This is because many other widely read newspapers have already published this information"

With the new Township blog, press releases, breaking news and events that the Township recieves can be published immediately to the blog. The blog has been generating a greater number of readers daily and is continuing to grow as more people learn of the blog site. Visitors to the site can read the latest news from the Navajo Nation to what's happening in Kayenta.

"It's a really cool site. It's easy to maintain and update. Also, visitors can register and post comments to the stories that are published.' said Shonie.

The blog site will also save the Township money. Publishing the Kayenta Today newspaper costs approximately \$3100.00 per month. The blog program was a free add-on to the Townships web hosting package. The Kayenta Today newspaper is not gone forever though, it will be published quarterly now with Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter issues.

Visit the Kayenta Township Blog at http://kayentatownship.net/blog

To submit a story or a press release e-mail:

Jarvis Williams jwilliams@kayentatownship.net

Shonie De la Rosa sdelarosa@kayentatownship.net

Or call the Kayenta Township for more information @(28) 697-8451