By Delray Tom, Office Specialist, Iyanbito Chapter

Recently, Iyanbito Chapter participated in the Eastern Navajo Agency Fair Parade on Saturday, July 27. The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) students built a parade float with the help of the Public Employment Program (PEP) staff. Members of the Community Land Use Planning Committee (CLUPC) and the SYEP students came together and assembled 1,000 fans to hand out to the public.

We are happy to announce that Iyanbito Chapter has placed second place in the NN Chapter Floats category! We would like to extend our appreciation to the volunteers that helped make this a reality.

All of the decorations and art work were created by the SYEP students and PEP staff with the awesome support of the Chapter Officials and CLUPC Committee. Great team work and great ideas were put together from everyone.
On April 17-19, 2019, the Kayenta and Tuba ASC Chapters participated in the Arizona Basic Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Academy conducted by the Coconino Fire Department at Tuba City Chapter House. The Agenda included the Disaster Preparedness, which addresses hazards to the people that are vulnerable in their community. The group addressed actions that participants and their families take before, during and after a disaster. The instructor explored and expanded response roles for civilians that they should begin to consider themselves as disaster workers.

The participants were taught about Disaster Fire Suppression which covered the fire chemistry, hazardous materials, fire hazards and fire suppression strategies. This included the use of the fire extinguishers, sizing up the situation, controlling utilities and extinguishing a small fire. The sessions also included Disaster Medical operations, where participants practiced diagnosing and treating airway obstruction, bleeding and shock by using simple triage and rapid treatment techniques. The participants learned about evaluating patients by doing a head to toe assessment, establishing a medical treatment area, performing basic first aid, and practicing in a safe and sanitary manner.

In summary, the Kayenta and Tuba City Chapters that are CERT certified include: Cameron, Bodaway-Gap, Lechee, Kaibeto, Tonalea, Inscription House, Chilchinbeto, Coalmine, Tuba City and Kayenta and Kayenta ASC Office.
Pax Harvey kept the 2019 NHA annual meeting in check as the master of ceremonies at the Arizona Grand Resort & Spa, the only AAA Four-Diamond, all-suite hotel in Phoenix on July 23rd through 25th. Speakers included RDC Chairman Ricki Nez and NNC Speaker Seth Damon on the first day. There were pre-recorded video clips of messages from folks like Congressman Tom O’Halleran and Congresswoman Deb Halland.

After the plenary sessions, over 300 NHA staff attended break-out sessions in the conference facility during the 110° Phoenix temperature. DCD’s NN Addressing Authority was invited to conduct training on rural addressing tasks. Each session was 1.5 hours with 15 minute breaks for three consecutive presentations for both the first day and second day.

On the second day, speakers filled the stage such as Q’orianka Kilcher, award-winning actress, singer, human rights and environmental activist, and producer. Ms. Kilcher made her appearance at age 14 with Colin Farrell and Christian Bale in “The New World” as she portrayed Pocahontas. Other speakers included White Mountain Apache Housing Authority staff and Kris Beecher, Chairman of the NHA Board of Commissioners.

26 NHA employees were recognized for their services. Categories were for: 5 years for six staff, three staff for 10 years, four staff for 15 years, three staff for 20 years, six staff for 25 years, one staff each for 30 and 35 years, and two staff for 40 years.

The evening banquet included guest speaker Cody Jesus, the 21 year old professional bull rider from Sawmill, AZ. At age 17, he captured the Navajo Nation Fair bull riding title. In 2017, he was crowned the CBR (Championship Bull Riding) finals champion followed by the Cheyenne Frontier Days title in 2018. Entertainment was provided by Adrianne Chalepah, a comedian, writer, and mother of four raised in Kiowa/Comanche/Apache territory of Oklahoma. She appeared on shows such as 49 Laughs Comedy.

The last day’s guest speaker list included: Arbin Mitchell, for US Census information; President Jonathan Nez, providing some inspiration to NHA staff to keep pulling along for the Navajo housing needs; Amber Crotty, 24th Navajo Nation Council with a message on the missing and murdered women initiatives; and James June, who provided comedy with his real-life experiences related to health and the importance of health screening.

The annual meeting is for NHA staff across Navajo Nation to provide first-hand management initiatives and strategies to address housing challenges. Speakers and presenters are invited to help facilitate some of these challenges. NHA employees are encouraged to bring family before school begins and certainly provides a relaxing atmosphere before returning to work for the Navajo people. As fancy as this 17,000 acres resort and spa is as designed by the South Mountain Preserve, the 110° temperature was still unavoidable. However, it tends to subside a little at the water park that is part of the facility.
Navajo Nation Attorney General announces new Chapter Unit under the Department of Justice

WINDOW ROCK – Navajo Nation Attorney General Doreen N. McPaul announced earlier this week the establishment of a new Chapter Unit within the Navajo Nation Department of Justice, to provide direct legal services to the Navajo Nation’s 110 chapters.

According to Title II, Section 1964(B) of the Navajo Nation Code, the Attorney General’s office is empowered to render “legal services to the Navajo Nation government, including its Chapters, branches, and entities.”

“The Nez-Lizer Administration, through the leadership of the Attorney General, is creating positive change by creating the Chapter Unit to address the legal needs of the Chapter governments. The chapters represents the largest clients of the Department of Justice, so this unit will assist in moving projects and legal matters forward,” said President Nez.

He added that the new Chapter Unit aligns with the Nez-Lizer Administration’s support for local empowerment and self-governance and will help with re-instilling the Navajo teaching of T’áá hwó’ ajít’éeg, or self-reliance and self-determination in our communities.

Assistant Attorney General Rodgerick Begay will lead the Chapter Unit along with two additional staff, Attorney Candidate Neomi Gilmore and Legal Secretary Christine Benally.

“The Chapter Unit is a project the Department of Justice has been contemplating for the past six years. The idea has now become a reality with the joint effort with Navajo Nation Division of Community Development Executive Director Dr. Pearl Yellowman,” stated Assistant Attorney General Rodgerick Begay.

Attorney General McPaul added, “Department of Justice is pleased to have collaborated with the Division of Community Development to initiate the Chapter Unit, and DOJ is committed to serving the legal needs of our clients as a team, including the Nation’s 110 chapters.”

“It’s wonderful to see change happening. The Navajo people want change and this change within the Department of Justice is another step in that process,” added Vice President Lizer.

The Navajo Nation Department of Justice plans to expand soon with additional legal staff to meet the many diverse legal needs and concerns of all chapter governments. The Chapter Unit officially began operation on Aug. 5 and is located at the Department of Justice in Window Rock, Ariz.

READ MORE AT: http://bit.ly/2YMCxJK
NEWLY-APPOINTED NEW MEXICO STATE SENATOR SHANNON PINTO TAKES OFFICE

GALLUP, N.M. – On Tuesday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez joined Shannon Pinto and her family as she was sworn-in by McKinley County Magistrate Court Judge Virginia A. Yazzie, to serve as the New Mexico State Senator for District 3, during a small ceremony held in Gallup, N.M. Sen. Shannon Pinto was appointed by New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on July 18, to replace her late grandfather and former Sen. John Pinto who passed away in May.

"On behalf of the Navajo people, we congratulate and thank Senator Shannon Pinto and her family for accepting the challenge of serving the people of District 3," said President Nez. "We stand with you just as you stand with the Navajo people."

President Nez also recalled the great leadership that late Sen. John Pinto provided for the Navajo people as a member of the state senate from 1977 to the time of his passing in May.

"We were honored and blessed to have a great leader like Senator John Pinto. We look forward to working with Senator Shannon Pinto to support her initiatives and those of her late grandfather," added President Nez.

Sen. Shannon Pinto is a member of the Navajo Nation and a resident of Tohatchi, N.M. She has Bachelor of Business Administration and Financial Management from the University of New Mexico and an Associates of Arts in Business Administration from the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute.

Her professional background includes experience in the fields of education, finance, business administration, recreation, and government relations.

"Working together in unity is the key to addressing all the challenges of the Navajo Nation and state of New Mexico. With the leadership of Shannon Pinto, we are looking forward to making positive changes," said Vice President Lizer.

Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie, and chair of the Eastern Navajo Land Commission, was also in attendance to support Sen. Shannon Pinto and her family and loved ones as she assumed her new role with the New Mexico State Legislature.

"The great Senator John Pinto was a warrior for our people and I'm confident that Senator Shannon Pinto will carry on that strength and determination as she serves our people," said Delegate Yazzie.


SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL PROPOSAL AIMS TO ADDRESS ILLEGAL [TRASH] DUMPING AND TO PROMOTE RECYCLING ON THE NAVAJO NATION

SALT RIVER, Ariz. – On Thursday, officials with the Nez-Lizer Administration including Navajo Nation Division of Community Development Executive Director Dr. Pearl Yellowman, Division of General Services Executive Director Lomardo Aseret, Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency Executive Director Oliver Whaley, and 24th Navajo Nation Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr. had the opportunity to visit and tour the Salt River Landfill, which is an enterprise of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The purpose of the visit was part of the overall initiative to design and establish a landfill for the Navajo Nation to address solid waste, eliminate illegal trash dumping, and to promote and increase recycling among the Navajo people and communities.

READ MORE AT: http://bit.ly/2KvEMZb

NEZ-LIZER CONGRATULATE NEWLY-APPOINTED NAVAJO AREA IHS DIRECTOR ROSELYN TSO

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer congratulate Roselyn Tso, a member of the Navajo Nation, who was appointed to serve as the director of the Navajo Area of the Indian Health Service. Rear Adm. Michael D. Weahkee, IHS principal deputy director made the announcement on Monday, during the IHS Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC) 4th quarterly meeting in Albuquerque, N.M. where President Nez and Navajo Department of Health Executive Director Dr. Jill Jim are meeting with other tribes and IHS officials.

Tso has recently served as director for the IHS Office of Direct Service and Contracting Tribes, where she directed a national program and was responsible for a wide range of agency functions that are critical to the working partnership between the IHS and federally recognized tribes. As Navajo Area director, she will be responsible for providing leadership in the administration of a comprehensive federal, tribal, and urban Indian health care system.

"We congratulate Roselyn Tso on her appointment and we look forward to working with her to address the health needs of the Navajo people. We are very proud to have of our own serve in this position. On behalf of the Navajo Nation, we also thank Capt. Brian Johnson for serving as the acting director for the Navajo Area IHS for the past three years," said President Nez.

With more than 35 years of service to IHS, Tso brings expertise in policy development and technical assistance concerning Title I Indian Self-Determination contracting.

PERSONNEL NEWS

DCD OPEN POSITIONS

Capital Projects Management Department

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For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM’s website at http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html

COMIC OF THE MONTH

Success is not always what you see

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Don't be distracted by criticism. Remember--the only taste of success some people get is to take a bite out of you.”

-- Zig Ziglar
Think you live in a town so small it’s not even on the map? Think again. Thanks to a combination of advanced satellite technology, geospatial mapping tools and real people pounding the pavement, even the most remote hamlets and hidden homes in the United States have been put on a map by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Census Bureau can verify housing units on a single block within two minutes by computer versus the two hours it previously took to do it on foot.

Since the first census in 1790, the Census Bureau has completed a count of every person living in the United States and its territories every 10 years by literally walking (or riding on horseback) on every single road and every single block in the country. In 2010, that was 11.2 million blocks — or 67 million miles traveled.

“The number of miles we walked (for the last Census was) astronomical,” said Robert Colosi, special assistant to the chief of the Decennial Statistical Studies Division. “We’re not going to do that in 2020.”

Times and technology have changed and nearly 70% of addresses in the country have already been verified without anyone having to leave their office.

The Census Bureau has created a software application known as BARCA or Block Assessment Research Classification Application. The program compares satellite images of the United States over time, allowing Census Bureau employees to spot new housing developments, changes in existing homes, or other housing units that did not exist before.

Result: The Census Bureau can verify housing units on a single block within two minutes by computer versus the two hours it previously took to do it on foot.

Master Address File

The Census Bureau’s Master Address File (MAF) provides the correct addresses for mailing census questionnaires — and enables the bureau to track homes that may require a follow-up visit by a census taker to help occupants complete the form.

All of the nation’s 11,155,486 blocks have already been reviewed.

Geospatial technology has improved or corrected 75 million addresses, and 5.3 million new addresses have been added over the last decade, according to the 2020 Census Program Management Review.

This “in-office address canvassing operation” is now the primary way the Census Bureau updates addresses. As a result, only 34.9% of the nation’s streets will be canvassed in person, this summer.
That means only 35,000 census takers will be needed, compared to 150,000 in 2010, according to John Pollicino, team lead of the Census Bureau's Geography Division's Spatial Update Branch.

**A Cloudy Day Affects Images**

At the Census Bureau's National Processing Center in Jeffersonville, Ind., a team of employees reviews current satellite imagery and compares them to images from 2010.

They label blocks as “passive, active or cloudy”. Passive blocks show no change in housing or new addresses since 2010 while active ones show notable changes and require further office or in-person review. Cloudy literally signifies an image is obscured by clouds.

“The imagery is updated so frequently that sometimes we have bad imagery,” Pollicino says. “Let’s say a storm happens to be passing through; all we get is clouds. So now, we have to review it again.”

The MAF is the Census Bureau’s “crown jewel,” according to Colosi of the Decennial Statistical Studies Division. Much of the information is collected by the Census Bureau but the file also includes data contributed by the US Postal Service and local governments through special partnerships designed to ensure the most up-to-date list of housing units across the country.

The Census Bureau only accepts data from these partners but it does not share its list with them.

“This information is used to invite people to respond to the census,” said Census Bureau Chief of Geography Division Deirdre Dalpiaz Bishop. “So, when we conduct the mailing of our letters and our postcards asking people to respond to the census, it’s using the Geography Division’s Master Address File.”

The Census Bureau address team uses specific triggers to determine whether to recheck blocks or areas.

“For example, if the Post Office says that there’s a new address in that block, that would trigger that block, and we would review it again using aerial imagery and see if we can see the new housing unit, like a rooftop, for instance,” Colosi said.

**TIGER: The Basis for Google Maps**

The Census Bureau also created TIGER, the Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing database. TIGER transformed paper maps into an electronic system and is the underpinning of most of the mapping technology we use today.

This same mapping system will guide canvassers and census takers in the field when the 2020 Census begins in the spring.

“The geospatial system as we know it really started back in the ‘80s and early ‘90s, and we’ve built on it since,” Bishop said. “Google Street View, Open Street Map, Bing – they used TIGER to build their foundation and they continue to use TIGER to update the features they have in their mapping databases.”

For address canvassing, the Census Bureau partners with a leading geospatial information organization, Digital Globe, and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. They provide real-time satellite images of the country. The U.S. Department of Agriculture provides satellite images of more remote areas.

**Then and Now**

In 1790, some 650 assistants to the U.S. Marshals spent nine months visiting every home they could identify in the young nation.

They counted nearly 3.9 million people, according to the Census Bureau.

Unfortunately, many of the original records from early censuses were lost or destroyed when the British burned Washington, D.C., in the War of 1812, according to Census Bureau Chief Historian Sharon Tosi Lacey.

Now the Census Bureau is looking even further ahead.

“The next step,” said Pollicino, “is to use this data to inform or to (leverage) this operation and do a more automated version of it.”

Natural Disaster or Emergency Preparedness

To better understand the needs of first responders and other emergency workers, the 2017 American Housing Survey asks U.S. residents how prepared they are for disasters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not Reported*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emergency Water Supply</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>At least three gallons or 24 bottles of water for each person in the household.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nonperishable Emergency Food</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Household has enough nonperishable food to sustain everyone in the household for three days.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prepared Emergency Evacuation Kit</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Emergency Meeting Location</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The communication plan must include a contingency for the disruption of cell phone service.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Evacuation Vehicle(s)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle(s) must be reliable and able to carry all household members, pets, and supplies up to 50 miles away.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Evacuation Funds</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>If you had to evacuate your home for a safe place at least 50 miles away, do you have financial resources to meet expenses of up to $2,000?</td>
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<td><strong>Generator Present</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Asked of 1-unit buildings and multiunit buildings with 2 to 4 units.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Access to Financial Information</strong></td>
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* Not reported: Households did not provide a response to this question.

The Census Could Undercount People Who Don’t Have Internet Access

By JESSICA ROSENWORCEL

There has been no shortage of debate about the upcoming census. For weeks, we had a steady stream of “will they or won’t they” as the White House, the courts, and advocates grappled with the addition of a citizenship question on the 2020 census form. But lost in this back-and-forth is another problem that could lead to the undercounting of the population of the United States, which would affect how billions in federal funds are distributed. It involves broadband.

For the first time in our history, the U.S. census will prioritize collecting responses online. In practice, this means that most households will get a letter in the mail directing them to fill out a form on a website. For households that do not respond, letters with paper forms may follow, and a census taker could eventually be sent to collect the data in person. But in light of the effort to increase internet responses, there will be a reduced effort to call on homes, knock on doors, and get responses in the mail. In fact, the Census Bureau has planned to hire 125,000 fewer staff members than during the last go-around 10 years ago, because it is counting on this online effort, in conjunction with local resources, to secure participation.

At first glance, this makes sense. In the digital age, wearing out shoe leather to survey the population seems more than a little antiquated. Plus, a technology-first approach will save scarce resources and better reflects how so many of us live our constantly connected lives. But it also creates a problem for communities without reliable access to broadband.
As a member of the Federal Communications Commission, I know too many Americans lack broadband at home. According to the agency’s official statistics, about 21 million Americans live in areas without high-speed service, the bulk of them in rural areas. However, the situation is worse than official numbers suggest. The method we use to count which households have internet access and which do not has a serious flaw. It assumes that if a single customer can get broadband in a census block, then service must be available throughout the entire block. As a result, official data significantly overstates the presence of broadband nationwide. In fact, a study found that as many as 162 million people across the United States do not use the internet at broadband speeds. The gap between 21 million and 162 million raises big questions about broadband coverage. It turns the digital divide into a chasm.

On top of this, many households simply cannot afford broadband service. The Pew Research Center reports that nearly half of adults who earn less than $30,000 do not have broadband service at home. Moreover, roughly 1 in 4 Hispanic and black adults depend on smartphones for internet access. As a result, data caps can limit their ability to do much online. This, when compounded with the heated rhetoric that has already surrounded the census, may put participation by parts of the population in jeopardy.

So what does this look like on the ground? Consider a census tract in Poplar Grove, Utah. As the Salt Lake Tribune has reported, census officials describe this area as one of the most difficult communities to count. This is a place where populations have been hard to survey even with traditional efforts. Many households speak limited English, and many more are low-income. During the last census, 1 out of every 3 residents was not counted during the initial round of responses. As a result, extensive outreach from canvassers on the ground was required to ensure the full community was counted. This time around, according to the Tribune, estimates suggest that 1 in 9 residents do not have access to the internet at home. What happens to this community—and so many more like it—is going to play a big part in the accuracy of our upcoming count.

Getting this right matters. Census data affects congressional districts and representation. It also informs how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funds are distributed. So undercounting could mean that states are shortchanged when it comes to federal dollars that provide funding for education, health care, agriculture, and investment in infrastructure. In short, it can mean the difference between communities growing and thriving or being left behind.

The constitutional challenge of surveying the United States for the census is daunting. What we choose to ask can have real consequences for participation, as discussion over the citizenship question suggests. But how we choose to ask is also important. The digital age has not reached everyone everywhere. Our duty is to count every person, whether or not they have access to or can afford the internet. If we’re not careful, we run the risk of having those who lack a connection cut off from the count.

Future Tense is a partnership of Slate, New America, and Arizona State University that examines emerging technologies, public policy, and society.

READ MORE AT: https://slate.com/technology/2019/07/census-undercount-internet-access.html
Aug. 12, 2019 — Today, the U.S. Census Bureau briefed the media on the launch of address canvassing, the first major field operation of the 2020 Census. Address canvassing improves and refines the Census Bureau’s address list of households nationwide, which is necessary to deliver invitations to respond to the census. The address list plays a vital role in ensuring a complete and accurate count of everyone living in the United States.

“The Census Bureau is dedicated to ensuring that we are on track, and ready to accomplish the mission of the 2020 Census,” said Census Bureau Director Steven Dillingham. “We have made many improvements and innovations over the past decade, including better technologies for canvassing neighborhoods and developing complete and updated address listings and maps.”

The Census Bureau created new software called the Block Assessment, Research and Classification Application (BARCA). It compares satellite images of the United States over time, allowing Census Bureau employees to spot new housing developments, changes in existing homes and other housing units that did not previously exist. Reviewers also use BARCA to compare the number of housing units in current imagery with the number of addresses on file for each block.

“We were able to verify 65% of addresses using satellite imagery — a massive accomplishment for us,” said Census Bureau Geography Division Chief Deirdre Bishop during the briefing. “In 2010 we had to hire 150,000 people to verify 100% of the addresses in the field, this decade we will only have to hire about 40,000 employees around the nation to verify the remaining 35% of addresses.”

Census Bureau employees (listers) have started walking through neighborhoods across the country checking addresses not verified using BARCA software. In-field address canvassing will continue through mid-October.

To help identify address listers, employees will have badges and briefcases indicating their affiliation with the Census Bureau. They will knock on doors and ask a few simple questions to verify the address and any additional living quarters on the property for inclusion in the census.

Employees will introduce themselves as a Census Bureau employee, show their official government ID badge, and explain the purpose of the visit. People may also ask them for a picture ID from another source to confirm their identity.

The 2020 Census: In-Field Address Canvassing (IFAC) Viewer provides county information on areas that listers will visit.

This operation is one of several activities the Census Bureau conducts for an accurate and complete count. The Census Bureau also partners with the U.S. Postal Service and tribal, state and local officials to update the address list.

“Ultimately, the success of the census depends on everyone’s participation,” said Marilyn Sanders, Chicago regional director. “And it’s important to remember, when you respond to the census you shape your future and the future of your community.”

The 2020 Census officially starts counting people in January 2020 in remote Toksook Bay, Alaska. Following the count of people in remote Alaska, most households in the country will start receiving invitations to respond online, by phone or by mail in March 2020.

The U.S. Constitution mandates that a census of the population be conducted once every 10 years. Census data is used to determine the number of seats each state holds in Congress and how more than $675 billion in federal funds are distributed back to states and local communities every year for services and infrastructure, including health care, jobs, schools, roads and businesses.

For more information on address canvassing, visit the Census Bureau website.

FARMINGTON N.M.—Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez joined U.S. House Assistant Speaker Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.) of New Mexico, in welcoming telecommunications industry leaders, tribal leaders, and other entities to the Rural Networks Conference hosted by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission at San Juan College in Farmington, New Mexico on Wednesday.

In his opening remarks, President Nez spoke about the importance of strengthening partnerships between the Navajo Nation and telecommunications companies to create solutions by revisiting and changing policies and regulations in order to bring more broadband coverage to rural areas including the Navajo Nation. President Nez was also invited to participate in a roundtable discussion regarding broadband expansion efforts in tribal communities.

“We welcome the telecommunications companies and other groups who have interests in providing broadband for the Navajo Nation to put forth solutions and ideas and we’re willing to help develop changes in Navajo Nation policies and regulations, including the issue of right-of-way proposals, to help move that forward,” said President Nez, who was joined by Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission Office Executive Director Christopher Becenti.

“In the past, right-of-way corridors have been created for use by multiple utilities and in some cases, have been used for other non-intended items other than utility lines. We have been very generous in waiving fees for rights-of-way for telecommunication companies even though our Nation has financial concerns due to the pending closure of Navajo Generating Station and Kayenta Mine,” added President Nez.

During the conference, Assistant Speaker Ben Ray Luján announced the introduction of the Broadband Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, a bipartisan broadband package aimed at bridging the digital divide and expanding broadband in rural and underserved communities, and the deployment of high-speed internet across the country. He also emphasized the importance of mapping as an essential part of expanding broadband services in rural areas.

“The Navajo Nation is thankful to Assistant Speaker Luján for introducing this bill to help tribal communities and this is certainly a bill that we support,” President Nez stated.

With New Mexico Public Regulation Commission members in attendance, President Nez noted that there remains an opportunity for the Public Regulation Commission to support Navajo workers at San Juan Generating Station through benefits in the state of New Mexico’s Energy Transition Act, which includes the Energy Transition Economic Development Assistance funding, Energy Transition Displaced Worker Assistance funding as well as the Energy Transition Indian Affairs Fund.
“This funding will greatly assist the displaced workers and their families. We need the support of the Public Regulation Commission for the workers that will be displaced when the plant closes in 2022. This funding can be used to retrain the workers and build upon the skills they gained at the plant to work in other fields including the telecommunications industry,” said President Nez.

President Nez also highlighted several steps that the Navajo Nation is taking to expand telecommunications and broadband services for Navajo communities including the creation of a “cyber team” that is tasked with evaluating and advising the executive and legislative branches on future policies related to IT, telecom, and broadband issues in order to close the “digital divide” and ensure that Navajo residents have access to broadband services, including safety communications.

Under the direction of President Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer, the cyber group is working in partnership with the Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission Office under Executive Director Christopher Becenti and commission members.

President Nez also touched on the expansion of broadband fiber that was made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act several years ago, which is in need of further expansion to serve more homes, chapters, and other stakeholders.

The Nez-Lizer Administration also continues to encourage eligible Navajo families to take advantage of the Universal Service Administration Company Lifeline Phone and Internet Assistance Program, to reduce or eliminate the cost of telecommunication services. Individuals are considered eligible for a Lifeline benefit if they are currently enrolled in one of the following programs:

- Medicaid
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Reside on tribal lands and participate in one of the federal or state assistance programs listed above or one of the following Tribal-state programs—Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Head State, Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or Food Distribution Program
- Income based eligibility at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines

President Nez also noted that the Nez-Lizer Administration is working to expand broadband services to thousands of Navajo homes and businesses through the Connect America Funds Navajo Communications.

The Rural Networks Conference also offered several panel discussions on topics including business planning as it relates to broadband and telecommunications, engineering and broadband deployment, the Lifeline Phone and Internet Assistance Program, telecommunications on Native lands, and rural areas, connectivity, economic growth, and success stories.

“Thank you to the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission for hosting the Rural Networks Conference. We look forward to working closely with the telecommunications industry leaders to address right-of-way issues to expand broadband services to Navajo families, schools, businesses, first responders, and many others who contribute greatly to our Navajo communities,” stated President Nez.

READ MORE AT: http://bit.ly/2KMFel1
Community Land Use Planning on the Navajo Nation

Navajo Nation Local Governance Act (LGA)—Title 26
The LGA provides opportunities and grants Chapters authority over local issues relating to:
• Conserving natural resources
• Preserving Navajo heritage and culture
• Land Use Planning

Natural Resources to protect:
• Geology/soils and minerals
• Groundwater and surface water
• Grassland, shrubs, trees, etc.
• Wildlife
• Threatened/endangered species
• Air quality

Cultural Resources to protect:
• Anasazi cultural sites
• Historic preservation of sacred sites
• Graves protection/burial sites
• Traditionally sensitive areas
• Culturally significant areas
• Tourist sites/agriculture

The average American creates about 4.4 pounds of trash per day.
• That is about 1,600 pounds of trash created per person per year!
• According to the 2010 Census, 173,667 people live on the Navajo Nation.
• That is about 764,000 pounds of trash that are created on the Navajo Nation per day!

The Navajo Nation should pursue Solid Waste Management policies and practices that advance the values of environmental protection, materials conservation, and long-term sustainability. It is important to include Solid Waste Management in Community Infrastructure Plan.

The Navajo Nation Solid Waste Act (NNSWA) states:
• Section 201 prohibits the disposal of solid waste “...in a manner that will harm the environment, endanger the public health, safety and welfare, or create a public nuisance.” It is understood this prohibition includes open dumping, open burning, and dumping trash into a waterway. Section 204 explicitly prohibits open dumping. Subchapter 503 defines civil and criminal penalties for violations of designated parts of the NNSWA.

1. avoid/say no
2. make less/use less
3. use more than once
4. convert into something else
5. compost/decompose
6. make zero waste

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT www.nndcd.org (928) 871-7182
2020 Census Snapshot — American Indian/Alaska Native

What is the census?
Every 10 years, the United States counts everyone living in the country on April 1. Our tribes do not share enrollment numbers with the government, so it is important for all American Indians and Alaska Natives to participate in the 2020 Census.

What’s in it for me?
The 2020 Census is an opportunity to provide a better future for our communities and future generations. By participating in the 2020 Census, you help provide an accurate count of American Indians and Alaska Natives. Your responses to the 2020 Census can help shape how billions of dollars in federal funds are distributed each year for programs and grants in our communities.

The 2020 Census is our count. Our responses matter. Regardless of age, nationality, ethnicity, or where we live, we all need to be counted.

Responding to the 2020 Census is:

Easy
In early 2020, every household in the United States will receive a notice to complete the census online, by phone, or by mail.

Safe
Your responses to the 2020 Census are confidential and protected by law. Personal information is never shared with any other government agencies or law enforcement, including federal, local, and tribal authorities.

Important
The federal government and local American Indian and Alaska Native leaders and decision-makers will use 2020 Census data in a variety of ways that can benefit Native people and our communities.

2020Census.Gov
Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who should complete the census questionnaire?
A. One person in the home should complete the questionnaire and include every person living there, including relatives, nonrelatives, babies, and children.

Q. How do I fill out the race question correctly?
A. If you self-identify as American Indian or Alaska Native, you should check the American Indian or Alaska Native race box. You should then print the name of your enrolled or principal tribe in the write-in area.

Q. What kind of assistance is available to help people complete the questionnaire?
A. Assistance responding to the 2020 Census will be available on 2020census.gov and via our toll-free phone number. Language guides, language glossaries, and language identification cards will be available in 59 non-English languages. Large-print questionnaires will also be available upon request, as well as TTY via Federal Relay Service. On 2020census.gov, video tutorials and how-to resources can help you complete your census form. Many communities, partners, and local organizations will also provide assistance.

Q. How does the Census Bureau count people without a permanent residence?
A. Census Bureau employees work extensively to take in-person counts of people living in group housing, like college dormitories and shelters, as well as those experiencing homelessness or who have been displaced by natural disasters.

2020 Census Key Dates

January-April 2020
First census enumeration takes place in Toksook Bay, Alaska.

March 2020
Census notices are mailed or delivered to households.

March-May 2020
Census takers visit each household to update address lists and collect information on the questionnaire.

April 1, 2020
Census Day

May-July 2020
Census takers visit households that have not completed the questionnaire.

December 31, 2020
By law, the Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President for apportionment of congressional seats.

March 2021
By law, the Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

For more information, visit: 2020Census.Gov
The 2020 Census will count all the people living in the United States of America. We need your help! Make your next job count!

2020census.gov/jobs

Positions including:
- clerks
- recruiting assistants
- office operations supervisors
- census field supervisors
- census takers

The positions will be located nationwide and offer flexible work hours, including daytime, evenings and weekends.

A partial job description for Enumerators is below.

## ENUMERATOR

- Use automated smart phones or laptop computers to conduct job activities.
- Review assigned work to locate households for verifying addresses and/or conducting interviews.
- Conduct interviews with residents in assigned areas by following stringent guidelines and confidentiality laws.
- Explain the purpose of the census interview, answer respondent's questions, collect information following a script, and record census data using devices and/or paper forms.
- Update address lists and maps.
- Validate address and map updates for quality purposes.
- Follow procedures to conduct accurate work while maintaining acceptable production rates.
- Maintain and submit records of hours worked, miles driven, and expenses incurred in the performance of duties.
- Meet/talk with supervisor, as necessary, to review procedures, report issues or concerns, and receive additional instructions.

2020census.gov/jobs

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The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

NEWSLETTER TEAM:
Norbert Nez, Editor
Denise Copeland, Assistant Editor
Sylvia Jordan, Contributing Writer
Tiauna Begay, Reporter/Contributing Writer