if you build it . . .
They Will
COME

MEET
ANTHROPOLOGIST
Rena Martin
WE INVITE YOU TO VISIT US

Our doors are open for visitors - we would love to show you what God is doing here at Navajo Ministries.

We are located at 2103 W. Main Street, Farmington, NM. If you are unable to visit us in person, check out our website at www.NavajoMinistries.org, and learn about how we provide hope and restoration to families in the Four Corners Region through programs that establish self-sufficiency, resilience and Christian values.

We invite you to visit our online Trading Post, where we offer:
- Secure online transactions
- Authentic Navajo rugs
- Prints by renowned Navajo artist, Mark Silversmith

www.NavajoMinistries.org

EARN CASH for Navajo Ministries School

Remember, you no longer need to clip the entire label – just the UPC code itself.

A new school year has begun! What a great reminder to continue collecting Boxtops and Campbell’s labels.

We had a great school year last year of saving UPCs from Campbell products and the school now has a brand new Dell desktop computer. 93,250 UPCs purchased this equipment. The $2000 received through the Boxtops for Education Program is a tremendous help to our school budget.

Please continue looking for these familiar items and send them to us for the 2007-08 school year.

For a total list of participating products, visit boxtops4education.com and labelsforeducation.com

MAIL TO
Kay Baker
Navajo Ministries
PO Box 1230
Farmington, NM 87499
Caught Doing Good: Local student gives back to her community.

Meet Rena Martin, cultural anthropologist from the Four Corners.

Casting Some Fun: Highlights from the Youth Fly Fishing Adventure and San Juan River Bi-Fly Tournament.


Perfect Pieces of the Puzzle: Meet Annette Bauman.

If you Build it...They Will Come: The students of Navajo Ministries on-site school build an Adobe oven.

Complexities of the Mind: A look into the minds that God created.

Summer Connections in Navajoland: A look at three teams who shared the love of God through VBS this past summer.

A Vertical Impact on the Four Corners: Exciting changes.

LIVING MEMORIALS
Vertical Awards

In the spring of 2007, Vertical Radio was awarded the South Central Association of Blood Banks (SCABB) President’s Award of Merit for outstanding contributions. The awards ceremony took place in Las Vegas, Nevada. The award was presented to a group or financial contributor to the blood banking profession which has shown spectacular long or short term results. Vertical Radio was nominated by the United Blood Services in Albuquerque, New Mexico. SCAAB announced that the United Blood Service of Farmington, New Mexico, has received 100% support from all employees of the station, in the efforts of keeping and maintaining an adequate supply of blood for their community. The entire on-air staff continuously promotes the ongoing need for blood through consistent mentions during various radio programs. Vertical Radio also allows United Blood Service of Albuquerque to make presentations on-air each week to promote the next week’s up-coming blood drives as well as public education on the need for blood and what it’s used for.

A New Radio Drama

In July of 2007, Vertical Radio 88.9fm worked with Sandstone Productions of Farmington to produce a radio drama. Charles Dickens’ Christmas Carol is the radio drama which will be heard throughout the Four Corners region on and around Christmas Day. The radio drama features local actors who were in Sandstone Production plays throughout the summer as well as some of the kids from Four Corners Home for Children. Please visit VerticalRadio.org for more details on this production, including a schedule.

Live Nativity Rescheduled

Every December, Navajo Ministries holds its annual drive thru Live Navajo Nativity. However there has been a change in the regularly scheduled event. This year the Live Nativity will take place on Saturday December 22, 2007 from 6 to 8:00 p.m. This is a special event which includes kids from Four Corners Home for Children portraying the Nativity characters.
Caught...Doing Good!

Ever since KNMI radio went on the air in 1980, I have hosted a daily talk show, today known as Four Corners Spotlight. The studio is located in the Communication Center at Navajo Ministries. It’s one of the “hats” that I enjoy wearing each day as I interact with local government leaders, non-profit and ministry directors and national Christian authors.

Not all of my guests are professional leaders, however. Earlier this summer I had a delightful young lady, Nicole Emrich on the Four Corners Spotlight show. She had just finished fourth grade at Country Club Elementary. Her teacher, Kristine Ashworth told me about a project that Nicole took on after visiting the Humane Society one day with her mom. She was determined to do something to help make the homeless animals more comfortable during their stay at the shelter. She came up with a plan to collect old bedding, towels, and pillows for the cages as well as play toys, brushes, collars, leashes, and anything else they might need.

Nicole, her mom, and her teacher told her story to our listeners. Nicole said, “I was nervous about going to the principal’s office, so I composed a proposal to the principal, asking to put a big collection box in the lobby of the school.” She also produced a small flyer advertising her campaign for the kids to take home to their parents. Her family took the project one step further, bringing in a puppy from the shelter for the kids to play with during their lunch recess times. Her efforts were a huge success with lots of items overflowing the box!

So often our discussions and even my interviews center on teenage drinking, smoking, and gang activity. However Nicole’s story was refreshing. It’s always rewarding when you “catch kids doing good.” In this issue you will read of other young people doing good. Some came to teach Vacation Bible School on the reservation. In addition, over two dozen youngsters from our area raised $12,000 for the Children’s Home by participating in the annual Youth Fly-Fishing Adventure.

I challenge you to “catch someone doing something good” today. “Let’s see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out.” [Heb. 10:24, The Message]

James D. Baker
President
Connecting the Past with the Present

As a lifelong resident of the Four Corners, Rena Martin has been connecting the past with the present through anthropology and archeology.

Whether it’s surveying land for water lines and other utilities for the Navajo Nation or preserving the various pueblitos throughout the Four Corners region, Rena has a tremendous amount of knowledge which she shares with Navajo Ministries as an active board member.

Rena is of the Bear Clan {Naashashí Dine’é}, born for the Many Hogans {Hooghan Lání Dine’ é}; her maternal grandparents are the Mexican clan {Naakaii Dine’é}, and her paternal grandfather is the Bitterwater {Tó Dích’ii’níi} people. [A proper introduction from a Navajo person always includes the name of their clans].

It was the intrigue of her Navajo culture that inspired Rena to study anthropology. Rena is balancing her Christian beliefs while still studying the timeless traditions of the Navajo culture. Rena was brought up in the home of her traditional grandparents; yet Rena became familiar with Christianity when her mom started attending church.

Rena’s grandmother helped her mother raise her, while her father and grandfather worked for the railroad. “My mom and dad had a traditional Navajo marriage arrangement. Yet when they married, instead of my dad moving in with his mother’s family, my mother moved in with my dad’s family, because, my mom’s mother passed away.”

After the death of her father, when Rena was five years old, she started school at Berean Mission School at Dzi Ná oodii. After attending another Christian school in Albuquerque, which eventually closed, Rena ventured north to Montana to finish high school.

After high school, she went on to Dine College and started her studies in nursing, which was a two year program. Rena recalls her experience, “I really enjoyed my classes, especially the anthropology and culture classes. I wanted to be a public health nurse, but when it came time for my state ward test, I wasn’t ready to leave school. I wanted to study more of my culture.”

Her husband Mike supported her while she attended college. She and Mike also raised two sons. Rena explains, “Anthropology has allowed me to work with my people. The most important thing to me right now, is the respect and love that I have for my people. The work we do provides a service so that people can get water, utilities, and roads.”

One of Rena’s first jobs as an archaeologist was to survey, test and excavate numerous Anasazi and Navajo sites located over 100,000 acres of land which is now a part of Navajo Agriculture Products Industry (NAPI). Rena worked for the Navajo Nation Archeology and Historic Preservation
Department for approximately 20 years. Presently, Rena volunteers with the New Mexico State Stewards and the Bureau of Land Management for the upkeep of the Dinetah pueblitos, to insure there is Native input in the management and protection. “I think a lot of Navajos, like in most cultures, associate pueblos only with the Puebloan people. However, Navajos did live in pueblos. The pueblitos are most likely a result of Navajo interacting with Pueblo’s people.”

After she left her job with the Navajo Nation and completed graduate school, she did consulting work in cultural anthropology with a friend and now business partner, Mary Bernard. These projects were all located off the reservation. The pueblitos are most likely a result of Navajo interacting with Pueblo’s people.”

She recalled one author who compared his Christian walk and being Native to a set of railroad tracks. “One side of the track was his Native American life and the other track was his Christian walk. The tracks run side by side and appear to merge together at the horizon. However, when you arrive ‘at that point’ you realize the two do not merge; they are still separate.”

Rena states, “We as Indian people see the horizon especially when we are confronted with contemporary issues. We think of the values and traditions that we learned from our elders (grandmas and grandpas), before we learned the Bible. The traditions we learned from elders sometimes overpower what we learn at Church. So you start thinking about ‘I can’t analyze myself, I can’t be a Christian and Native.’ But we need to keep them separate.”

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Many people see a contradiction in Rena’s life because she is a cultural anthropologist, yet she is a Christian. It’s been said you either be Native and practice your traditions, or choose to neglect or suppress your Native identity and choose to practice Christianity and

For more information including history and driving directions to the Dinetah Pueblitos please visit this web site: www.nm.blm.gov/features/dinetah/dinetah_splash.html
Youth Fly Fishing Adventure

On June 22nd and 23rd thirty young anglers and five adult fishing buddies participated in the 7th annual Youth Fly Fishing Adventure.

They caught and released 55 fish! The biggest fish was 20 inches long. The smallest was 2 inches caught by an angler who wishes to remain anonymous [I guess what happens at the river, stays at the river, unless it’s a big one!] The average fish was 14 inches. The Adventure raised approximately $12,000 for the Four Corners Home for Children. We’re thankful for all our sponsors including the major sponsor, 7-2-11 Food Stores.

San Juan River Bi-Fly Tournament

The water was crystal clear this year as the anglers began the 14th annual Bi-Fly Fishing Tournament! Many of the veteran anglers said they have never seen the San Juan River that clear. Even in the deepest part of the Texas Hole you could see clearly to the bottom, some 15 feet below. What a joy it was to see these big and beautiful Rainbow Trout as the sun glistened off their colorful scales as they meandered through their glorious habitat, referred to by anglers as being World Class.

This year brought several “firsts” to the tournament. It was the first time we had 17 teams. It was the first time we had a team of wheelchair bound anglers competing and it was the first time we netted $64,000 for the Four Corners Home for Children.

Our major sponsors included San Juan Rotary Club, Holcomb Oil and Gas, San Juan Regional Medical Center and Citizens Bank. Many other businesses and individuals provided funds and services that helped make this another great FUNd Raiser.

In the past couple of months we have received several new children into our homes. For many of them dark clouds and obstacles have been a part of their lives. Gradually, through the loving support of houseparents and counselors, the bad feelings and pain begin to fade away. Hope is restored!

Many thanks to our Tournament Director, Bob Fitz, who spends many hours making these events possible. Perhaps he says it best, “It’s all for the sake of the kids!”

Thank you, Bob

After serving Navajo Ministries for 25 years, Vice President, Bob Fitz decided it was time to move on to a new adventure. In September he resigned and will become a business partner in establishing a new company in town named Cambridge Stone and Design.

Bob and his wife, Leslie, joined our staff in 1982 to serve as houseparents, which they did for five years. Bob has served as Vice President and General Manager, specializing in the financial accountability of the ministry since 1987. Kelly Karlin of the staff will direct the business and financial ministry after his departure.

Bob has also been the driving force behind the successful Fly Fishing Tournaments that benefit the Four Corners Home for Children. President Jim Baker says, “While we will miss seeing Bob on the grounds each day, I am pleased that he has agreed to continue to direct the Fishing Tournaments, and will assist with the construction management of our new expansion projects.

We are delighted to have Bob and Leslie as our close friends and pray God will bless this new era in his life.”
A Green Giant in the Desert

Farmington (the home of Navajo Ministries) is nestled in a fertile green valley in Northwestern New Mexico. Three rivers meet here which bring life to this high desert region that averages only eight inches of rain per year.

Just to the south of Farmington lies an amazing sight to those who arrive in the summer by plane. Huge green circles cover nearly 70,000 acres of brown desert. It’s the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry, better known as NAPI to area residents. This massive irrigation project is part of the treaty between the U. S. Government and the Navajo Nation that was signed in 1868. President John F. Kennedy signed the project into law in 1962. Then a massive engineering feat began which included the construction of Navajo Dam which created the Navajo Reservoir thirty-eight miles to the east of the NAPI site.

The water is conveyed through tunnels, siphons and canals. Then it is pumped into water towers which provide a constant pressure required to irrigate the fields.

Jim Baker, Navajo Ministries President, recalls, “The first summer I was at the Mission in 1975, I went with founder Jack Drake to the fields for the dedication ceremony of this monumental project. I’ll never forget the Grand Opening of the valve that released the water into the overhead sprinklers. Many of the Navajos who gathered there walked under the cool water, rejoicing in the day that was promised for so many years. I remember one grandma standing under the sprinklers with her hands raised to the sky in thanksgiving.”

Today, NAPI focuses their efforts on a variety of crops that grow well in this climate. Tsosie Lewis, the General Manager, says 80% of the pinto beans harvested goes to Mexico and a majority of the black beans will soon be going to Cuba. Potatoes are primarily purchased by Frito Lay. There is also a great demand from dairy farmers in southern New Mexico for their alfalfa crop.

Each fall 2,000 acres of pumpkins brighten a section of NAPI known as the Pumpkin Patch. Many non-profit organizations in the country place orders for pumpkins that are used as fund-raisers in their communities. NAPI has become a profitable, high tech agribusiness that is competitive in the international marketplace.

Visitors can drive through the NAPI Project. It is located just a few miles south of Farmington on Route 371.

For more information view their web site at www.NavajoPride.com
Perfect Pieces of the Puzzle

I love jigsaw puzzles. It’s a challenge to take 500 or 1000 pieces of a puzzle and begin matching colors and shapes to fit the pieces together and make a beautiful picture.

Sometimes I can search and search for just the right piece and it just cannot be found. Other times, the pieces seem to fall together almost effortlessly.

Over the years, I have seen God join our staff together like pieces of a puzzle. His timing is always perfect, and He amazes me with His provision as He brings just the right person to fill a position at just the right time.

This happened recently in our Childcare Department. For the past 32 years, I have served as a housemother, worked as a supervisor to our houseparents, and in more recent years served as Director of Childcare Administration. I have loved my ministry of working with our children and the childcare staff. I also knew when God brought just the right person to take my place as Director of Childcare Administration; I would willingly assume other responsibilities at Navajo Ministries.

God did just that when He brought Annette Bauman back to Navajo Ministries. Serving from August 1999 to July 2004 as a housemother at Navajo Ministries, Annette has a great deal of experience in childcare, as well as experience in understanding the challenges of being a great houseparent and working well with other staff members. She brings excitement, energy and lots of joy to our childcare program. I thank the Lord for His timing in adding the “perfect piece to the puzzle” as Annette now serves as our new Director of Childcare Administration.

I am now enjoying my new position as Director of Partnership Ministry, having more contact with you, our friends and supporters, who make this Ministry possible. As our Board, staff, prayer partners, donors, and friends all serve in the capacity God has called us to, He makes a beautiful picture of His Body working together as one to create Navajo Ministries.

Annette’s Perspective

I loathe jigsaw puzzles. I just do not enjoy them. I don’t seem to possess the patience required to search for and find the one and only little piece of misshapen cardboard that will fit snugly into another specific little piece of misshapen cardboard that looks like five hundred other little pieces of misshapen cardboard. I mean, to my way of thinking that is INSANITY.

At times life can seem like a puzzle and I am forever thankful that God is the Puzzle Master. The fact is, I don’t have to search for and find the pieces, and I only have to be obedient when I am one of the misshapen pieces! I only have to fit snugly into place and serve Him in whatever capacity He chooses for me.

As I sit in “Kay’s office”, I realize that God has once again completed the puzzle. Kay is snugly in place, heading up a brand new department of Navajo Ministries. She is our Director of Partnership Ministries and while she goes about her new work, I am endeavoring to follow the wonderful example that she has been for over three decades in childcare.
Fall is in the air! Kids are back in school, leaves are starting to turn, and it’s harvest season.

There are many traditions that are special to the Navajo people during the fall season. Some of the familiar sights on the Navajo Nation during fall are the many vendors who sell kneel down bread, steamed corn, and yeast bread.

For the children at Navajo Ministries’ on-site school, it’s a time to start new projects. This year’s school project is the construction of an adobe oven.

With the guidance of Ms. Nina (housemom at Navajo Ministries), the students will build a traditional Navajo adobe style oven. “This type of oven is part of everyday use in the Navajo Culture”, says Nina. The oven is used to make steamed corn, kneel down bread (Navajo-style corn bread), yeast bread, and even roast beef and turkey.

The students went to Nina’s farm to pick the ripened corn. For many of these youngsters, it was their first time in a corn field. They were amazed at the abundance of corn, which stood nine feet tall. One student, Aaron said, “the corn field reminds me of a rain forest…hmmm…where are the monkeys?”

Teacher Diane Hebbard is excited about the tasty treat the kids will make in the oven.

Please read the upcoming issues of Navajo Neighbors as we continue to report on the progress of the Adobe oven being constructed by the students of Navajo Ministries on-site school.
Complexities of the Mind

God created us with many of His attributes. For example, we have emotions. We can communicate on many different levels (verbally, or with body language, tone and volume) as well as choose not to communicate.

We are capable of higher cognitive processes than any other creature God has created.

It is the complexity of our makeup that tends to hinder us in our development and in our relationships. Children as well as adults have a lifetime to develop socially and culturally acceptable means of expressing thoughts and emotions.

Counseling can be useful in redirecting cognitions (thinking and analytical processing). This means changing our core beliefs about ourselves or the lies we have come to believe because of past environments or relationships. With a variety of methods, we can utilize counseling to process troubling memories or thoughts.

Often clients come into counseling because their emotions are out of control. This may be an excess of anger (one of the most common emotions to be out of control), excessive crying or feelings of loneliness, despondency, or depression. Cognitive therapy, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), or Cognitive/Behavioral therapeutic processes interspersed with Biblical principles are very effective in bringing emotions to a more functional level.

One of the most common misconceptions in the Christian community today is that as a Christian, you should not have to rely on medication nor counseling for depression, anxiety, or other thought disorders. We usually ask those individuals, ‘does that mean if you are a Christian you should never need to go to the doctor, take medication for heart problems, or have surgery?’ The answer is no.

Our physical, mental and emotional selves are so connected that it is hard to say that problems are solely one or the other. For instance, if you have physical pain, it also affects your emotions as well as your thinking processes.

The Church needs to start being more supportive of its members and realize that medications for emotional and mental issues can be very valuable in helping individuals function to their full potential. They would then be more able to get into step with the call that the Lord has put in their life.

For more information on cognitive therapy or Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) please contact Bill Eubank or Linda Eubank at 505.327.0264.
Summer Connections in Navajoland

This past summer three teams of young people joined us for our annual Vacation Bible School ministry on the reservation.

Another team went directly to a Navajo church, continuing a relationship they had built with that congregation during previous trips.

The children always look forward to these days when the youth teams come to interact with them as they play games, learn new songs and crafts, and share the Bible stories. Some accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior. This is a wonderful cross-cultural experience for both the teams who come and the churches that benefit from their ministry.

McCarroll Bible Church youth from Colorado came to teach VBS at the Da’Na’Hasta Church (Little Mesa). “I learned all my verses and the songs were fun”, said one child. Irene Nez of the church was very complimentary of the team saying, “they did more than we expected. Everyone had a good time. It was good to see the parents come back for the closing program and dinner. A number of the children who attended were not part of our congregation.”

In July we welcomed a team from Oak Brook Community Church in Illinois. Their team presented VBS to the Desert View Church in the Upper Fruitland area of the reservation, not far from Farmington. In addition, Gerri Begay ministered to over a dozen adult ladies while the children were in class. Her ministry is always well received and this time she spoke to them about ‘presenting themselves as a living sacrifice.’ One of the teenage team members shared, “One little girl came up to me and gave me a bracelet and considered me her older sister and that blessed me BIG time! The experience with the children changed my life forever.”

Later on a team from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Nekoosa, Wisconsin went to the Cudei Full Gospel Church, located near the Arizona border, not far from Four Corners National Monument. One of the team members reflects, “It was good for me to get out of my routine and surroundings to experience something different.”

Another comment from a little Navajo girl highlights the impact of these VBS days: “I used to believe in Jesus, but then got a thought in my mind that He wasn’t real. But now I know that He is real!”

If your group is interested in spreading the love and joy of Jesus through Vacation Bible School please contact Jim Baker at 505.325.0255, or email Navajo Ministries at NMI@NavajoMinistries.org
A Vertical Impact on the Four Corners

If you haven’t yet had an opportunity to take a look at the new website for KNMI Vertical Radio 88.9 FM, now is the time.

It has been so exciting to see the changes that have been made to the site. Completely renovated, it is now easier to find just what you are looking for, and a new department has been added. You now have an opportunity to purchase base ball caps, KNMI coffee mugs, tee shirts, knit “beanies”, and much more from the website. Two special blends of coffee have been created just for KNMI Vertical Radio (with pinon nuts for a wonderful Southwest flavor)

Four Corners Spotlight

Every weekday at 9:30 am join Jim Baker on Four Corners Spotlight. The Four Corners Spotlight is a “mix of information and inspiration” to quote Mr. Baker. Initially he and his wife Kay came to Navajo Missions in 1975 to serve as houseparents. Now one of the many things that Jim enjoys most is to shine the spotlight on local leaders who are making a difference in the Four Corners region. Leaders from many different professions are showcased and their stories are shared in a way that can impact the lives of all who listen. Check the website for a daily listing of Four Corners Spotlight guests.

Connie Mack

Did you know that it has been 40 years since a delegation of businessmen from Farmington traveled, (in what many believed to be a futile effort), to bid on the 1965 Connie Mack World Series? Connie Mack continues to be a team effort today with new ideas and new faces being added each year. The Connie Mack World Series has become the finest amateur tournament in baseball due in part to the support of many listeners, foster parents, civic clubs, and sponsors. The Connie Mack page on the web site even has a place where you can read listener comments and submit your own comments for the site. Please join us in looking forward to broadcasting the Connie Mack World Series for the next four years.

Support our Troops

One of the most important sections of the website is, Prayer for Our Troops! Each and every branch of service is included in our prayers, and can be accessed from the website. You may submit a Soldier for Prayer by going to the web page and entering a small amount of information about your friend or loved one. Prayer is our way of interacting with God and joining with Him to truly affect the lives and well being of our troops. We have been given the gift of prayer, but it is our choice to use it. KNMI Vertical Radio has been working with Blue Star Mothers for three years now in a project to support our troops, called “Remember our Veterans... Support our Troops.” There are many other ways to support our troops that are available to you through links on the web page. Please visit these links and support their efforts for our troops.

You can listen to KNMI Vertical Radio at the following locations:
88.9 Farmington, NM
90.5 Durango, CO
90.9 Pagosa Springs, CO
100.9 Cortez, CO.
Or listen to live streaming at www.VerticalRadio.org
Memories are a treasure…a gift from days gone by. Sometimes it’s a visual encounter that immediately takes us back in time.

A few weeks ago the school busses were back on the streets. Perhaps the sight of them reminded you of the feelings you had as a child when it was time to begin another school year. Hopefully those thoughts were good ones as you recalled favorite teachers and schoolmates.

Through our Living Memorial program you can bring remembrance to a loved one who has gone on to their eternal reward. It may be a recent home-going or perhaps you would like to remember one who has been gone for a long time.

You can also give honor to a special friend or family member while they are still living.

All gifts given as memorials benefit our ministry to children who live in our homes here at the Four Corners Home for Children. Many of these little ones have experienced great hardship and trauma in their young lives. Their memories have been tainted with the pains of abuse and neglect. You can be a part of helping us build some good memories into their lives through your Living Memorial gift.

When your gift is received, a beautiful remembrance card will be sent to the family of the one you are memorializing or honoring. No amounts will be mentioned.

All gifts are tax deductible and will be receipted. Please use the attached envelope to designate your Memorial gift along with the names and addresses of those to be notified.

Living Memorials as of September 2007

FROM
David Neville
Alta & Verna Washington
Deke & Marita Johnson
Kirk & Marie Wyman
Leona M Reynolds
David & Judith Drake
Ben & Brenda Medley
Lucyle M Wolcott
Pat Bowes
Tom & Jean Weaver
Anna Summerville Metcalf
Friends of Stardust Bible Church
Mary E Lockard
George Rice
Verdis M Overshiner
Allen & Babette Bassing
Richard and Donna Maser
Allan & Babette Bassing
Mellie Eppes
Aubrey & Betsy Morris
Mellie Eppes
Ms. Dixie B Crepeau
Mark Johnson
Charles & Peg Dorwick
Laurence & Sandra Seaman
Diane Banks
Allan & Babette Bassing
Dorothy Sterner
Barbara S. Wick
Camon & Bettye Buller

IN MEMORY OF
Helen Drake
Helen Drake
Stephanie Johnson
Chrissie Wyman
Helen Drake
Helen Drake
Helen Drake
Helen Drake
Garnetta Porter
hil & Ethel Nollisch
Jack Haynes
Lionel J. Charon
Anna Littlewood
Kathy Rice
Forrest Page Eubank
Breann Chavez
Breann Chavez
Breann Chavez
Harvey Finch
Paul Gerault
Paul Gerault
Breann Chavez
Stephanie Johnson
James Taylor
Helen Drake
J Robert Baker
Breann Chavez
Breann Chavez
Edit King
John Spencer Boice

FROM
Ed & Karen Kennedy
Robert & Maxine Weeks

IN HONOR OF
John & Linda Weschler
Lorraine Collins

Kids from Four Corners Home for Children have messy fun this summer as they helped prepare the ground for the Adobe oven project.
What runner does not run a race to win? He practices, trains and mentally prepares himself with the goal of winning the race. A good runner focuses on the finish line. Sure it is important to have a good start and to run a respectable pace but the contest is many times won or lost in the last few yards of the race. The winner finishes strong.

As an Estate Planner I have had the opportunity to talk to Christians all over the United States. I find that a vast majority of them have not spent a lot of time focusing on the finish line. They are too busy running the race. The result is that they, or should I say more accurately, their families and charities will end up losing in the end. God has entrusted each one of us with an estate, some small some large. The size is not the issue. What is important is that we be found faithful as stewards of whatever He has entrusted to us.

Without a written estate plan the legal system is set up to transfer your estate through a process called probate. This process is time consuming and can be costly. You will even have to go through this probate if you have a will. One of the ways to avoid this probate is with a revocable living trust. In addition, because you did not have a written plan you will pay the highest amount of estate taxes and there will be no provision to leave a portion of your estate to the Lord’s work.

There is so much more that can be discussed regarding a Christian estate plan. Give us a call for more information on how we can help you evaluate your estate planning options so that you can finish strong.

Mark D. Johnson, CFP®
800.950.2109
fountain@fastq.com