



### **Up-Close-and-Personal with a Local Navajo Code Talker**

Local Navajo Code Talker and Tuba City local, Dan Akee, celebrated his 94th birthday this past Veteran's Day. Mr. Akee recently requested to relocate back to his original Tuba City home from 1947.

Mr. Akee joined the Armed Forces and in 1944 volunteered to become a member of the Code Talker team with the 4th Marine Division. Based in the Pacific, Mr. Akee was part of at least four combat missions, including the famous Battle of Iwo Jima in 1945. Mr. Akee's involvement with the Code Talker team contributed to a victory for the Allied Forces during World War II.

The non-profit agency, Red Feather Development Group, is overseeing the remodel of Mr. Akee's original home and is staffing volunteers through the Tuba City High School. Western Technologies', Director of Flagstaff Environmental Services, Todd Sayers, provided the environmental survey to protect the remodel team and volunteers.

Western's involvement during the remodel was a small token of gratitude for Mr. Akee's military and historic contribution.

