



G2G runner Dirk Diemont is enjoying a "highlight" of his visit to Kanab so far – a hike to the top of the K Hill, as he waves to Dave Baird flying by in his plane. Photo by Susana Young.

## Grand 2 Grand Ultra – a Kanab welcome!

By Susana Young

The organizers of Grand 2 Grand Ultra and their team are deep into preparation for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual event based out of Kanab. They ensure the course is mapped and marked; prepare the course booklet for the runners which includes details about the route (elevation, points of interests, terrain, check point locations); prepare the volunteer handbook for the camp crews, check point teams, and so many others who help make the race happen; prepare goodie bags for runners

and volunteers; make sure communications processes are in place for friends and family to be able to keep up on Facebook with how the race is progressing. These are just a few of the tasks necessary for a meaningful, memorable, rigorous, high-quality event.

The first gathering for the runners is G2G check-in. Organizers Colin and Tess Geddes invite the community to come to the Kane County Visitor Center to welcome the G2G entrants as they go through the rigorous backpack and medical check this Friday,

September 22, starting around 12 Noon and ending by 4 p.m. Dixie Brunner will emcee the event!

G2G runners started arriving in Kanab last Friday. Give them a friendly wave when you see them, as you certainly will. They'll be those not-so-incognito slim people running about town. Dirk Diemont arrived from South Africa, and was caught on top of the K-Hill waving to Dave Baird as he flew by in his Cessna 182. "This is such a small town, and there are so many things to do!" Diemont exclaimed. He is an experienced runner who should

do well in G2G.

Diemont is one of 120 runners this year who hail from 26 countries. Ages range from 20 to 76. They descend on Kanab by car, shuttle, plane and motorcycle. They are facing a seven-day stage race that is self-supported – or as Brian Bartaby from the UK says: "That means not only will I be running (or running, walking and crawling), but I will be carrying everything I need to support myself – all my kit, food for seven days, sleeping gear and emergency equipment."

This year, 14 G2G alumni are returning, including Paul Grimm, who was one of Kanab's scholarship recipients last year. He trained a bit with Tara Timpson, this year's local contestant and he says, "She's ready!"

The oldest competitors are a USA husband and wife team – James Wright, 76, and Laurel Wright, 65. Impressive! The Maylins (New Zealand) and the Hulls (Australia) are two other couples who'll be going the distance together.

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## KCWCD fluidly celebrates 25 years

By Dixie Brunner

The Kane County Water Conservancy District (KCWCD) celebrated its 25th year with a September 14 open house at its new residence at 725 E. Kaneplex

Drive in Kanab. One significant feature of the new building is a large conference room with floor to ceiling windows that yield a panoramic view of the KCWCD's signature project – the Jackson

Flat Reservoir.

"It's smart in the second driest state in the nation to pay attention to water development, conservation and improvements," explained KCWCD Director Mike

Noel. "A community in Utah without good water sources cannot exist and grow."

### KCWCD history

The KCWCD was organized in 1992 as a political subdivision of the State of Utah under the Water Conservancy Act. The Kane County Commission, under the direction of Kane County Attorney Todd McFarlane, sought the district for the county and water users to come together to tax for the benefit of water development. The District was formed after an overwhelming vote of the citizens but to agree to a property tax to support the new district.

KCWCD Executive Director Mike Noel, who was employed by the Bureau of Land Management at the time and with permission of his employer, accepted an appointment to the board by the Commission.

The seven board members were selected as representative of different water drainages in the county (Sevier River, Virgin River, Johnson Wash, two for Kanab Creek; north and south-east and west; Paria River, and Cedar Mountain, which is Sevier and Virgin River).

The District was organized for conserving and developing water

for multiple uses including: domestic, municipal, agricultural, commercial, industrial, wildlife and stock watering.

The District's 2012 handbook stated its objective was to plan for, finance, design and construct water distribution systems, including pipelines, wells, reservoirs and other improvements as necessary to utilize and conserve water resources within Kane County for the benefit of its citizens.

Noel was named Executive Director in 1996, and has held the position ever since.

### Water-worthy projects Cedar Mountain

Of the multitude of projects the KCWCD has accomplished in its 25 years of existence, perhaps no one geographic area of the county has benefited more than Cedar Mountain! Prior to 2000, there were 17 different water companies on the mountain that either hauled water or accessed unreliable wells and local springs, which would often times dry up in the summer or freeze in the winter.

"There were so many concerns about source, storage and quality, on the mountain," recalled Noel.

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Cloyd Chamberlain cuts the ribbon to the new Kane County Water Conservancy District office building as Kane County Commissioner Dirk Clayson (left of Chamberlain) and Director Mike Noel (right) look on.

### KANAB WEATHER

September			
Date	High	Low	Prec
13	91	57	Tr
14	79	57	.15
15	79	47	
16	81	50	
17	81	50	
18	83	47	
19	81	45	

Courtesy: Wayne & Stacy Grosz

### INSIDE THE SUN THIS WEEK:



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Strut Your Mutt - Page 7



Tri-Valley Junior Rodeo - Page 8



Kanab High School volleyball team - Page 8