

South Dakota

# Tribes Seek State Help For Voting Stations

RAPID CITY — Three American Indian tribes in South Dakota and a voting-rights group have asked state election officials to help set up satellite voter registration and absentee voting offices for tribal members who live far from county court-houses.

The tribes are asking the state to use federal money to help operate satellite voting stations at Fort Thompson on the Crow Creek Reservation, at Wanblee on the Pine Ridge Reservation and at Eagle Butte on the Cheyenne River Reservation, the *Rapid City Journal* reported. All three towns are predominantly Native American, with populations exceeding that of county seats.

The state Board of Elections will discuss the funding request at a meeting Wednesday.

O.J. Semans with Four Directions Inc., a voting advocacy organization located in Mission on the Rosebud Sioux Reserva-

tion, said his group has helped pay for satellite offices in the past but is struggling to come up with money for the 2014 election. He said South Dakota should fund the three satellite registration and voting stations with federal funds available through the Help America Vote Act of 2002, passed by Congress to upgrade voting systems and voter access.

Semans said access to voting places should be part of that upgrade.

"One of the problems we keep running into is the counties say they can't afford it," Semans said. "In the past, Four Directions has been paying them. But we don't collect taxes and can't afford it."

Fort Thompson is 25 miles from the Buffalo County courthouse in Gann Valley, Wanblee is 27 miles from the Jackson County courthouse in Kadoka, and Eagle Butte is 54 miles from the Dewey County courthouse in Timber Lake.

Buffalo County Auditor Elaine Wulff

said a limited satellite office in Fort Thompson worked in 2012 because Four Directions paid the bill. But she said she doubts the county will have the money to pay for it next year.

One of the questions is whether a Native American community is eligible for the federal money if it is located in a county with a courthouse. Pine Ridge Village on the Pine Ridge Reservation and Rosebud Village on the Rosebud Reservation have had federal funding for satellite offices. Both are in unincorporated counties without courthouses that contract with adjoining counties for election services.

South Dakota Secretary of State Jason Gant, the state's top election official, declined to say whether he thinks Buffalo, Jackson and Dewey counties qualify for the federal funds, but he said the Election Board will discuss the issue.

# Lawsuit Filed To Challenge Neb. Petition Law

BY GRANT SCHULTE  
 Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — An Omaha man who has fought to loosen restrictions on petition circulators filed a lawsuit Tuesday alleging that two requirements in Nebraska violate his constitutional rights.

Kent Bernbeck argues that the rules have placed an unfair burden on his efforts to put ballot initiatives before voters. The lawsuit alleges that the restrictions — one in the Nebraska Constitution and the other in state law — violate his federal rights to free speech and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

The Nebraska Constitution requires petitioners to gather signatures from at least 5 per-

cent of registered voters in a minimum of 38 Nebraska counties — a two-fifths majority — before an issue can appear on the ballot. State law also prohibits petition organizers from paying circulators by the signature.

According to the lawsuit, Bernbeck mounted petition drives in the village of Denton and other cities to require that they publish the names of their lobbyists. The Denton village clerk, Charlotte TeBrink, consulted with the Nebraska Secretary of State's Office and approved the petition language.

Bernbeck paid a petition circulator to gather some of the signatures. The lawsuit says the village requested a judge's order to keep the petition question off the ballot

after consulting again with state officials. The judge ruled that three of the 16 petition signatures were invalid because they were collected by a paid circulator, and the judge declared that the village didn't have to put the petition on the ballot.

The lawsuit names TeBrink and Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale as defendants. TeBrink did not return a phone message on Tuesday, while a spokeswoman for Gale said the office hadn't yet been served with the lawsuit and couldn't comment on pending litigation.

In a written statement, Gale said: "The area of initiative petitions is quite often subject to litigation, so there are regularly new lawsuits and new decisions across the

country. We have had our share, and this is just the most recent one."

Bernbeck has previously said the petition process must be accessible to the public because it's one of the few checks against Nebraska's single-chamber Legislature.

"He is bringing this challenge to guarantee all Nebraskans can participate in this core democratic process," his attorney, David Domina, said Tuesday.

Bernbeck argues that the signature distribution requirement dilutes the voices and votes of people who live in counties with the greatest populations. He also argues the requirement violates the "one person, one vote" principle.

# OT

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department considered her as one of their own, Pruss said.

"Brenda cared deeply about trying to continue her education for becoming an EMT after things settled down a little bit," she said. "We felt the donation and starting the fund was the right thing to do."

Jim and Brenda Pisano had also served as Scout leaders, helping re-establish the Cub Scout pack in Springfield last fall. Because of the special connection, the Scouts quickly sought to raise money for the Pisano family.

Cub Scout Pack 86 has raised about \$1,100 so far, said

Crockett, who serves as the Cub Scout board's secretary.

The Cub Scouts raised about \$700 during last month's car wash and sale of donated cases of popcorn, Crockett said. Around 30 vehicles went through the four-hour car wash. "The boys were super excited when a Mustang pulled up and they got to wash it!" she said.

The day after the car wash, Mike Durfee State Prison of Springfield donated a dog house and bicycle for the Cub Scouts to raffle. The proceeds of \$300-400 were donated to the Pisano family.

The Pisanos had no ties to the prison, but staff and inmates wanted to help the family during their time of loss, said MDSF Associate Warden Susan Jacobs.

"Staff members donated their own funds," she said. "The inmates constructed



Pisano

both the dog house and bike for the raffle."

Donations for the family have come from both Springfield and surrounding communities, including Yankton, Pruss said. Efforts are under way to raise cash and to secure clothing, bedding and other necessities.

In particular, the ambulance crew and Cub Scouts are targeting funds to help repair the Pisano home. The family had purchased a fire-damaged home, planning to make the needed restorations.

"They don't have plumbing or electricity on the inside. They have to bring in water from the outside and run an extension cord for bringing

electricity into the house," Pruss said. "We would like to see (the home remodeling) get done before winter hits. With five kids, it's very hard for one man to do it himself."

A number of businesses have donated building materials. Karl's TV and Appliance donated a deep freeze and refrigerator.

With five children between ages 5 and 15, the Pisano family can always use clothes and shoes, Pruss said. One donation consisted of school supplies. The children's softball, baseball and football teams provided emotional and financial support.

Two Pisano sons were injured in last month's accident and are completing their recovery at home, Pruss said. Neighbors opened their homes to the family and continue to help care for the five children, she said.

# Late Spring Could Hurt Goose Hunters

MITCHELL (AP) — A late spring could lead to some frustrated goose hunters in South Dakota next month.

The state is holding a special hunt for the fourth straight year to reduce the resident population of Canada geese, which damage crops. But there might be fewer birds than expected to shoot at this year.

Game, Fish and Parks Waterfowl Biologist Rocco Murano tells *The Daily Republic* newspaper that because of a cold spring with late snowfall, Canada geese started breeding later than normal this year and many birds might not be flying when the season opens Saturday.

It takes up to three months for a hatched Canada goose to begin flight. The adults also go flightless for about a month while molting, or replacing damaged, lost or deteriorated feathers.

# Neb. Needs Rain, Irrigated Crops OK

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The rain Nebraska received over the past week hasn't been enough to alleviate dry conditions statewide, but irrigated crops are still doing OK.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says only 24 percent of Nebraska's subsoil and 31 percent of the topsoil has adequate or extra moisture.

About 78 percent of the irrigated corn in the state is in good or excellent condition. That's better than the average of 74 percent.

But only about 40 percent of dryland corn is in good or excellent condition. That's much lower than the average of 64 percent good or excellent.

The USDA says about 64 percent of the soybean crop is in good or excellent shape.

# Accused Double Voter Pleads Guilty

MITCHELL (AP) — A South Dakota man accused of voting twice in a school board election has pleaded guilty.

Craig Guymon, of Mitchell, pleaded guilty Tuesday to a felony voter fraud charge. It carries a maximum punishment of two years in prison and a \$4,000 fine.

*The Daily Republic* newspaper reports that the 54-year-old Guymon told a judge he voted in the polls in the morning of June 4 and voted at the auditor's office by absentee ballot that afternoon.

Guymon is known in town for being a vocal critic of school officials.

A sentencing date has not been set.

# Rare Dinosaur Horn Off To S.D. School

RAPID CITY (AP) — Scientists from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology are getting a rare dinosaur brow horn.

The 31-inch Triceratops horn is believed to be 65 million years old and was found by diggers in Nebraska working on a U.S. Forest Service project in the Thunder Basin National Grassland.

## CAMP KID SCOOP

Smart Fun in the Summertime!

### You're a GEM!

You know you have a birthDAY. Did you know you also have a birthSTONE? A special gem stone has been selected to be the birthstone for each month of the year.

Topaz	Pearl	Aquamarine
Sapphire	Garnet	Diamond
Amethyst	Emerald	Ruby
Peridot	Opal	Turquoise

**Color the Birthstones**

Garnet – purplish red  
 Amethyst – purple  
 Aquamarine – greenish blue  
 Diamond – white  
 Emerald – green  
 Pearl – white

Ruby – red  
 Peridot – light green  
 Sapphire – blue  
 Opal – blue and green and white  
 Topaz – orangish yellow  
 Turquoise – light blue

### Discover Your Birthstone

- Find the month you were born in the box below.
- Next to your birthday month, there are two symbols. The first symbol shows you which horizontal line to follow on the Intergalactic Gem Stone Locator Grid. The second symbol tells you which vertical line to follow.
- The gem at the point where the two lines meet is your personal birthstone!

Standards Link: Math: measure time using calendars. Reading Comprehension: follow simple written directions.

I brought precious Alphas from planet Criz Tahl to trade for gem stones from earth, but I dropped them all over this page. How many can you find?

### Birthstone Meanings

Each birthstone has a special meaning. To find out, do each math problem, put your answer on the line next to each gem and then find the answer in the list on the right.

13 - 9 = ___ Garnet	18 - 16 = ___ Ruby
7 - 2 = ___ Amethyst	9 - 6 = ___ Peridot
4 + 3 = ___ Aquamarine	11 - 10 = ___ Sapphire
4 + 4 = ___ Diamond	2 + 4 = ___ Opal
15 - 6 = ___ Emerald	8 + 2 = ___ Topaz
16 - 5 = ___ Pearl	16 - 4 = ___ Turquoise

Standards Link: Health: connect personal characteristics that contribute to positive self-esteem. Math: Calculate sums and differences.

### Extra! Extra! Words That Sparkle

Look through the newspaper for words that attract you to read more. The words could be used to attract you to an ad or a story. Can you find five? Use these words to write a story.

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: recognize words and phrases that show rather than tell events.

### Dig into reading at KidScoop.com!

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### Birthstone Survey

My birthstone is: \_\_\_\_\_

My friend's birthstone is: \_\_\_\_\_

My teacher's birthstone is: \_\_\_\_\_

My pet's birthstone is: \_\_\_\_\_

Family member birthstones: \_\_\_\_\_

Standards Link: Research; locate information through interview and investigation.

### Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

AQUAMARINE	B I R G A R N E T S
GARNET	A P E R I D O T U D
AMETHYST	M T R H S E T O R I
DIAMOND	E N I R A M A U Q A
EMERALD	T Y H N L E E Z U M
PEARL	H B P E A R L A O O
RUBY	Y U P S P A Q P I N
PERIDOT	S R A U O L I O S D
SAPPHIRE	T M S N O D A T E T
OPAL	
TOPAZ	
TURQUOISE	

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognizing identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

www.kidscoop.com

#### Fact and Opinion

A newspaper publishes both facts and opinions. Look through the newspaper for three examples of each. Discuss with a parent how you can tell the difference.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Distinguish between fact and opinion.

### Write On!

#### Rocket Ride

Pretend you could win a ride into space on a rocket. Write a paragraph telling why you should win that prize.

Send your story to:  
 Press & Dakotan  
 C/o Noelle Schlechter  
 319 Walnut Street  
 Yankton, SD 57078  
 605-665-7811, ext 112

Deadline: August 25 Published: Week of September 22  
 Please include your school and grade.

### Weekly Writing Corner

## Gems

*I am brilliant because ...*

I am brilliant because I won two spelling bees. One was in my classroom. The other one was my entire school. I went to the city competition and I was the runner-up.

**Paris, 4th grade**

I am brilliant because I found five to nine million diamonds and gems in five hours at a forbidden yard.

**Emma, 3rd grade**

I am brilliant because I can read chapter books, more than 10 chapters in one day. I am brilliant because I am a good bike rider. Also, I am brilliant because I am good at math. I am brilliant because I can catch a lacrosse ball with my lacrosse stick.

**Garrett, 1st grade**

I am brilliant because my family is brilliant.

**Sydney, 1st grade**

I am unique, no one else can be like me. I am loved by my family which makes it the most powerful thing in my life. What makes me brilliant is my brain—which allows me to learn. Also, my brain helps me to function each day. But, I have to have healthy food to nourish my brain. My brain stores so much information and it helps me a lot. Without it, what would I do or be?

**Rayne, 3rd grade**

I am brilliant because I passed kindergarten. I am brilliant because I am smart. I am brilliant because I know how to ride my bike without training wheels.

**Tomas, 1st grade**

I am brilliant because I am good at cleaning and drawing.

**Juliana, 1st grade**