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The newly expanded Cat Adopt Room at the Sioux Falls Area Humane Society underwent extensive renovations including redesigned cage layouts, custom-welded dividers to create two free-roaming cat rooms, new climbing structures, hiding spaces, interactive features and a designated treatment room for sick cats. PROVIDED BY THE SIOUX FALLS AREA HUMANE SOCIETY

'It's more than just a room'

Global nonprofit rennovates cat facilities at Sioux Falls humane society

Vanessa Carlson Bender Sioux Falls Argus Leader

USA TODAY NETWORK

The cats at the Sioux Falls Area Humane Society recently received a major upgrade, thanks to a \$50,000 grant from Boehringer Ingelheim through the Association for Animal Welfare Advancement's Shelter Shape Up contest in 2024. The renovation was carried out by Greater Good Charities, a global nonprofit dedicated to helping animals and communities in need.

The transformation of the shelter's cat adoption room began on July 7 and was completed on July 15, with the help of Greater Good Charities staff and volunteers.

Greater Good Charities has mobilized more than 6,000 volunteers nationwide since 2014, renovating more than 205 shelters across the country, including animal shelters, domestic violence shelters, wildlife facilities and housing for veterans and the unsheltered.

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Trump wants justices to strike down gun rules

Administration stepping into firearms litigation

Maureen Groppe

USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – After the Supreme Court in 2022 made it harder to restrict who can arm themselves in public, some states took a different approach.

Five Democrat-led, mostly densely populated states passed laws that prohibit bringing a handgun onto someone else's property without that person's express consent.

Now the Trump administration wants the Supreme Court to declare that such rules in Hawaii, California, New York, Maryland and New Jersey violate the Constitution.

"The United States has a substantial interest in the preservation of the right to keep and bear arms and in the proper interpretation of the Second Amendment," Solicitor General John Sauer wrote in explaining why the Justice Department wants the high court to weigh in.

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South Dakota Department of Health predicts West Nile Virus outbreak

Trevor J. Mitchell

Sioux Falls Argus Leader USA TODAY NETWORK

The South Dakota Department of Health is predicting the worst year for West Nile Virus since 2018 in the state.

A report sent out on July 17 showed that the department is projecting 137 cases for the state in 2025, which would be classified as an outbreak.

The last time cases were that high was in 2018, when there were a total of 169 cases in the state.

The department confirmed on July 16 that the first human case of the virus had been found in a Brookings County resident, and the disease has been identified in mosquito pools in Brown, Brookings, Codington, Hughes, Lincoln and Minnehaha counties.

The department recommends that people use mosquito repellent, limit the time spent outdoors from dusk to midnight and remove standing water in outdoor areas to avoid the virus.









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