the midwest

Wal-Mart Added To Sturgis Trademark Suit

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A federal judge has allowed the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally to add Wal-Mart Stores as a defendant in its lawsuit to protect registered trademarks for "Sturgis" and "Black Hills."

The nonprofit sued Rushmore Photo and Gifts last June, saying it owns the trademarks to protect the quality of products connected with the rally that draws hundreds of thousands of people each year.

In its amended suit, the rally says T-shirts from Rushmore Photo bearing a "Sturgis Motor Classic" logo are being sold in Walmart's Spearfish store.

Walmart spokesman Greg Rossiter says the company respects intellectual property rights but does not believe the rally has valid or enforceable trademark rights to "Sturgis," as it is the name of a city. Rushmore Photo says vendors have been selling goods bearing "Sturgis" for decades.

Giraffe Calf At Omaha Zoo Dies

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A month-old giraffe calf at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo has died.

A zoo news release says the female giraffe born on March 25 died early Wednesday morning, despite round-the-clock care by zoo veterinarians and staff.

The calf had been under veterinary care for about 10 days for multiple problems, including a bacterial infection. She appeared to have recovered, but relapsed last weekend. Staff said the still-nursing calf was not gaining weight and had become less active. Staff began bottle-feeding the calf, but it grew increasingly weaker and

died around 1 a.m. Wednesday.

It's hoped a necropsy will determine the cause of death, although zoo staff say it will take weeks to receive the results.

The zoo says another giraffe born on March 16 is doing well and

S.D. Woman Accused Of Attempted Murder

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A Brandon woman has been indicted in federal court for attempted murder.

The Argus Leader reports that a grand jury on Tuesday ruled 63year-old Jean M. Rollinger tried to smother Leroy Deling with a pillow at the VA Hospital in Sioux Falls on March 31.

VA Hospital spokeswoman Shirley Redmond says Rollinger is not an employee at the hospital.

Redmond did not offer details on Deling's medical condition,

saying she cannot release information on veterans.

Attempted murder within a VA hospital is a crime punishable by up to 20 years in federal prison.

Sentencing Set For Woman Who Killed Husband

PIERRE (AP) — A South Dakota woman who pleaded guilty to killing her husband is to be sentenced May 17.

KČCR radio reports that 49-year-old Connie Hirsch of Blunt is expected to be sentenced to no more than 20 years. Hirsch pleaded guilty to first-degree manslaughter in March for shooting her 65year-old husband Jerold Hirsch to death in 2010.

In exchange for the plea, prosecutors dropped a charge of first-

The shooting was at a home east of Pierre, where Connie Hirsch was working.

Justice Official Visits Students On N.D. Reservation

BY DAVE KOLPACK

Associated Press

FORT YATES, N.D. — The No. 2 official in the U.S. Department of Justice told students on a North Dakota American Indian reservation Wednesday that his trip coincided with an important day for tribal safety, noting Congress was discussing a law that could help prosecute domestic violence cases.

Deputy Attorney General James Cole visited Standing Rock High School as federal lawmakers discussed whether to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act, the federal government's main domestic violence program. A new part of the law, Cole said, would expand the number of cases that could be prosecuted in tribal courts, rather than waiting for them to go through the federal

"It is being argued today. It is being debated today," Cole told students. "This is something we are very much in favor of and we are pushing forward."

The legislation, though, may have a different look than what Cole has envisioned. Two Republican senators were working on an alternative that would eliminate several Democratic provisions, including one giving tribal officials more authority in cases of abuse of American Indian women by non-tribal members.

Cole was not available for comment after the program.

The 2.2 million-acre Standing Rock reservation straddles the North and South Dakota border. The Standing Rock school, located in Fort Yates, has about 250 students in grades seven through 12.

Jeremy Silva, a Standing Rock senior, asked Cole during a question-and-answer session about statistics showing that crimes rates are 2.5 times higher on reservations than elsewhere, and that only 50 percent of the cases are actually prosecuted.

Cole said the number of prosecutions isn't always a good measure on how much the Justice Department is fighting crime. He said

many cases aren't publicized because of pri-

vacy concerns.
"But we are working every day to improve our collection of evidence and make sure that crimes that happen here can be prosecuted here." Cole said. "That's another reason why we are pushing very hard for the Violence

Against Women Act.' Silva, who is heading to Dartmouth College to study government, said he learned some things from Cole that should help him down the road.

"Having him here was just a great experience," Silva said. "I got a chance to understand how he works and it gives me an idea of what I want to pursue."

Silva said his future could include law school, but he plans to return to the reservation to put a dent into the crime statistics he reeled off to Cole.

"I don't know how long it will take, but we need to become safe and secure," he said.

Welders

From Page 1

The major emphasis of the Welding in Industry class is placed on wire feed (MIG) welding. According to the course description, students will learn different welding positions, weld joints, math skills, cutting and separating as needed in the course, and safety.

One of the ultimate goals is for students to be able to eventually construct a leak-proof box and fulfill other assignments given by Pier.

It's natural, Pier said, for beginning students to experience a bit of anxiety as they operate welders for the very first time.

"Typically, the first-time welder tends to go too fast; they tend to rush, and one of the things that we really have to work on is to get people to slow down," he said. "Whether it be

my high school students or this group of students here, we first have to work on getting them to slow down.'

Before the "hands-on" portion of the course, where each student fires up a welder to practice techniques instructed by Pier, each participant spends some time in a classroom.

"During the first night of the course (April 10), we went over safety during the classroom portion of instruction," Pier said, "and we covered some of the machines that we'll be using in the course.'

The second night of the course, April 12, was dedicated to teaching students about different positions and joints used in welding.

"In future classes, we'll start working on more difficult welds," Pier said. "Tonight, we started with the real easy welds, in the flat position, but in the next couple weeks, we'll start to do the vertical welds and the overhead welds.

Participants will receive a certificate signifying that they've completed the coursework in late May. The students will then discover if their welding skills are sufficient when they go out into the workforce.

"If they go out to Masaba, for example, and apply for a welding job, they'll have to take a welding test," Pier said. "That's really where the 'test part' of this course comes into play. They have an individual out there who will have them weld, and will test their welds, and if they meet their standards, they can become employed there.

After this 35-hour session wraps up next month, another course likely will be held at the high school next October.

The course was designed with input from Pier, Steve Howe of the VCDC, and personnel from Masaba.

"We sat down and wrote a curriculum for what it is that Masaba needs as far as welders," Pier said. "We've got everything

Looking for

tailored to meet Masaba's needs, but, in reality, a person could go to another industry somewhere and work for them, and take those skills with them."

This course is playing an important role in Vermillion's changing economic landscape, Howe said.

"Vermillion has not had a tradition of the skilled trades," he said. "As we are recruiting these businesses and helping the existing ones grow, we're at a disadvantage with our workforce. We just don't have the skilled tradespeople necessary to meet their

Howe added that it's heartening to see different groups working together to help meet those

"It means that this community is taking an active role in getting the workforce that they need so they can continue to grow in Vermillion," he said. "It's a real positive when we have these different entities working together to do this.

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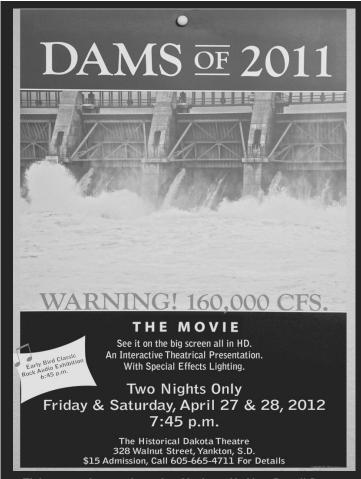
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