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## Vision

We connect people to Medora for positive, life-changing experiences.

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Harold Schafer (1912-2001)

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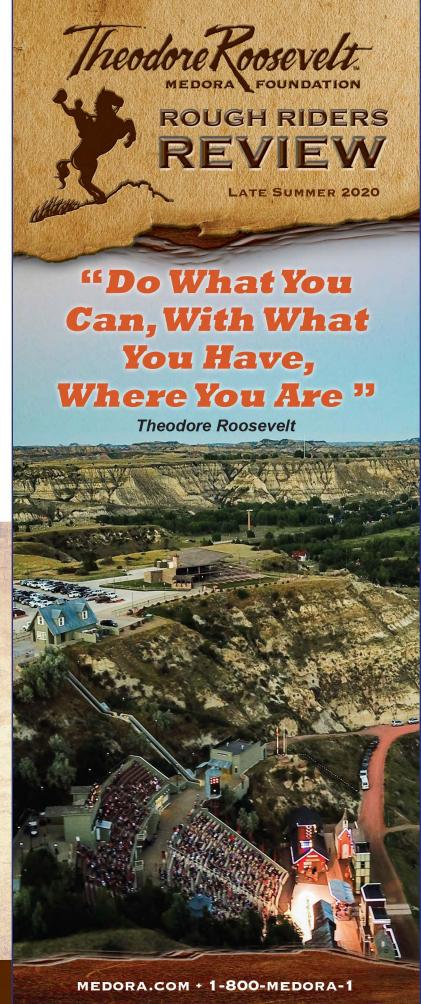
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### Your New Medora Newsletter

Like all things this year, we're trying a few different things with the newsletter. For the next three issues or so, we're going with a shortened print version, and many more great stories and detail on **blog.medora.com**. And, we'll send you those great stories via email and social media much more often, too. Using our Blog and email will save TRMF a lot of printing and postage dollars, will conserve ink and paper resources, and allow us to send more good stories to you, more often, like we're getting a lot of our other news these days. We'll see how this goes – after a few months, we'll be asking for your feedback on the new direction, too, so you can help us chart the path forward.

## **Better Than Expected. Thank You**



Randy Hatzenbuhler TRMF President

In an April video message, I said that, "when you're ready, we'll be here for you." Today, I just want to say, "Thank you." Thank you for your "ND Smart" visitation but most of all thank you for your continual support.

Theodore Roosevelt's words have guided us well, "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." Our founder, Harold Schafer, would have

added to that phrase that, "No one should do less. No one can expect more."

Living that advice has taken us to today, where we are grateful to be enjoying a season that is better than expected – instead of 40%, we may see 70% of the attendees that we planned for at the *Medora Musical*. I don't want to mislead you, we are going to see a significant reduction to our business this year. But we aren't going to focus solely on that. We are focusing on the lessons learned and the opportunities that lie ahead for TRMF.

So far this year, we have learned so much. We learned that dismissing the *Medora Musical* row-by-row is actually a very relaxing exit process. We learned that we could

offer two shows per night on key weekends – giving families a wonderful matinee time, TRMF the opportunity to one day welcome 5,000 attendees in one night, and meaning we may be able to offer the cast an off day, every week.

We were strongly reminded that people *really love* getting into the Badlands, too – specifically on the Maah Daah Hey Trail to experience the landscape the way TR did. Good things will come from these and other lessons.

Theodore Roosevelt also said that "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." Medora's next really big project, the TR Presidential Library, continues to make progress and has distilled TR's philosophies down to four impactful statements: Dare Greatly; Think Boldly; Live Passionately; and Care Deeply.

However this year ends up, we're not going to look at 2020 as the year of COVID-19. We're going to look at it as the year that TRMF began to become a better, stronger version of itself. When we dared *more* greatly, thought *more* boldly, lived more passionately, and *cared more deeply*.

We are excited and grateful for you to be a part of this wonderful, next chapter with us.

## Medora's Open, and People Are Happy

How important is it that Medora is open this year? We asked some of our visitors that very question. Here's what they had to say.



### Rick and Andrea Winkjer Collin, Bismarck:

"It's a big deal to have Medora open. It gives us some reassurance, which is really important. So many places have closed. The continuity is more important than ever, given all the distractions we've faced this year."



### Kathy Wachter, Bismarck, Medora Volunteer:

"It's absolutely important that we're here this summer. People need to breathe. There are so many things we haven't been able to do this year. Here we can take a deep breath and just relax."



#### Mary and Craig Verhoeven, Minnesota:

"We usually go to Grand Teton, but this year we're going to the North Dakota Badlands! We stopped here last summer on our way home from Grand Teton and played golf at Bully Pulpit. We liked it so much we came back in September and played

again, and here we are again this year. We're so happy to be here."



#### Pat and Diane Reuter, Fargo:

"A hundred percent. People need something to do, a place to go. We came to Medora to play this summer. There's a lot of outdoor activities here, and that's important to us."

More responses to our question

from Medora visitors are on our website,

blog.medora.com

## **Big Changes Ahead for Bully Pulpit!**

Bully Pulpit golfers are going to start noticing something new about the course as they make their way around this fall, and next spring. We're making some big changes at the course, and we're about as excited as we were 16 years ago when we opened the tee boxes for the first time.

Back in 2004, when we unveiled a new wonder to the world, Bully Pulpit quickly became a living legend and international golfing destination. No other course looked or played anything like it. It's a world-class golfing experience, and we know that it is likely the most beautiful course in North Dakota, or anywhere in the upper Midwest. We're not going to change either of those things. We're just going to make them better.

We're beginning a project to *Innovate, Repair, Replace, & Preserve* our beloved Bully Pulpit Golf Course; we're calling it "Legacy BP" and we'll be inviting you to get into the arena with us soon to help ensure that Bully Pulpit is again a Top 100 Public Course in the country.

Learn more about Legacy BP at blog.medora.com



How do you redesign a golf course to meet nature's challenges? Our golf course superintendent, Kyle Fick, figured it out – combine Google Maps, elevation levels, and consultations with world-renowned, original Bully Pulpit course designer, Dr. Michael Hurdzan, and voila! (plus a whole lot more.) Here is the reimagined design for the Front Nine from Kyle and endorsed by Dr. Hurdzan. We think you'll like how the design helps to Innovate, Repair, Replace, and Preserve Bully Pulpit.

# North Dakotans Star in the Medora Musical

our North Dakotans join the cast of the 2020 *Medora Musical* for its 55th anniversary season. Returning are crowd favorites Taylor Leet from Bismarck and Damon Fichter from Dickinson, and they'll be joined this year by Watford City's own Jeanna Zenz and J'Kobe Wallace from Minot.

Weeknight shows are at 7:30 pm MDT, just like in past years. Weekend shows are at 5:30 and 8:30. We're being as careful as careful can get this summer, leaving lots of room between our guests' seats. That means fewer tickets will be available, so call early, 800-MEDORA-1, to reserve your seats for the Greatest Show in the West, or go online to Medora.com for fast reservations.

Read all about this year's *Medora Musical* and meet our whole cast at our website,

blog.medora.com/the-2020-medora-musical-cast/



Taylor Leet Bismarck



Damon Fichter Dickinson



Jeanna Zenz Watford City



J'Kobe Wallace Minot

## Join the Ranks of the Rough Riders

This year, our Medora "Rough Riders" Foundation members are more important than ever. Join more than 1,000 of your fellow Medora supporters by becoming a member today. All the information you need to join can be found at our website,

medora.com/Members

Your membership dollars help us each year to fix the boardwalks and repair historic buildings, to buy new American flags and put new costumes on our wonderful Burning Hills Singers, and to help mow the grass, plant the flowers and do the hundreds of little things that make a difference in Medora.

You can join as an annual Rough Rider
Member quickly and easily online, or
download a form from the webpage
if you'd prefer to mail in your
membership. Daniel Gannarelli,
our annual giving director, love to
hear from you so feel free to shoot
him an email at DanielG@medora.
com or call or text him at 701-690-0745.
Thanks for supporting the Theodore
Roosevelt Medora Foundation with your
membership dollars.

## **Bully Spirit Award Winners**

We were so honored to award Jim and Joanne Kack with the Bully Spirit Award at the Rough Riders Roundup on August 8. The Bully Spirit Award is the highest honor bestowed by TRMF to an individual or couple who have committed extraordinary effort and dedication to fulfill and advance our mission to connect people to Historic Medora for positive life-changing experiences. The Kacks' extraordinary, positive impact on Medora has been immeasurable since the beginning and we are so proud to honor them and humbled by their incredible efforts. THANK YOU Jim and Joanne Kack!

You can read Rolf Sletten's full remarks honoring Jim and Joanne at **blog.medora.com** 



Joanne and Jim Kack hold their Bully Spirit Award, surrounded by friends and family

## Broadway In The Badlands Schedule

The Teddy Roosevelt Show
Matinees through September 12
Tuesday-Saturday 1:30 pm MDT
Evening September 15 – October 3
Tuesday-Saturday 7:30 pm MDT

Live, Laugh, Love
With Bill Sorensen
Now through September 12
Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday
3:30 pm MDT

## New Shopping in Medora!

illy and Zella's, next door to the Rough Riders Gift Shop, is our newest boutique in downtown Medora. It features the season's cutest clothes and accessories inspired by the western flair of the Badlands. Items to suit the most fashionable of women! Opeb Daily 9 am to 7 pm.

Cowboy Lyle's Candy has outgrown its little white store and has moved next door into Cowboy Lyle's Candy Barn! It's a barn full of sweet things for both young and old. Open 10 am to 7 pm daily. You'll love our new home-made chocolate selection!

## I Love Medora

y name is Colton Keightley. I am from Willamina, a very small town in Oregon and I am 20 years old. I consider myself somewhat of a unique individual, as I have Cerebral Palsy. Regardless, I do not let this hold me back from living my life to the fullest."

Those are the opening words in a new book, "The Worst Thing You Can Do Is Nothing," on sale at the Joe Ferris Store in Medora, written by one of our most interesting summer employees, Colton Keightley. It's recommended reading. If you just read of the accomplishments of this young man who's spending his second summer with us, you'd never know he suffered from a debilitating disorder.

You can read Colton's inspiring story, and learn why he "loves Medora," on our website, blog.medora.com. And be sure to stop in and say "Hi!" to Colton, and pick up a copy of his book at the Joe Ferris Store on your next visit to Medora



Colton's workout routine at our weight room in our Life Skills Center is an important part of his life. He's donating a part of the proceeds from sales of his book to add new weight equipment for all of our employees to use.