

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

A Publication of the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation





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The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (TRMF) is a public non-profit organization that was formed in 1986 by a multi-million dollar gift from Harold Schafer and his family – most famously known as the founders of the Gold Seal Company, the maker of Mr. Bubble, Glass Wax and other nationally-known household products.

For Harold and his wife Sheila, the beauty and history of Medora and the Badlands was just too much to let disappear with the sands of time – so he made it his life's work to save it for generations to come. He began his labor of love in 1962 with the renovation of the Rough Riders Hotel and revitalized what we know today as the Medora Musical in 1965.

Harold continued giving to the historic cow town frequented by Theodore Roosevelt, the Marquis de Mores, and many-a rough-andtumble westerner until his passing in 2001. Today, we at TRMF strive to accomplish our mission to preserve, present, and serve all that Harold loved about Medora by operating history, education, and entertainment businesses that allow the traveling public to fully enjoy the beautiful North Dakota Badlands.

Through the contributions and teamwork of a board of directors, a full time staff of 80, 450 seasonal employees, over 800 seasonal volunteers, and financial backing from generous supporters, TRMF connects people to Medora for positive, life-changing experiences.



#### **OUR VISION**

WE CONNECT PEOPLE TO HISTORIC MEDORA FOR POSITIVE, LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCES.

#### **OUR MISSION**

PRESERVE THE EXPERIENCE OF THE BADLANDS, THE HISTORIC CHARACTER OF MEDORA AND THE VALUES AND HERITAGE OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT AND HAROLD SCHAFER:

PRESENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR GUESTS TO BE EDUCATED AND INSPIRED THROUGH INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS, MUSEUMS AND ATTRACTIONS THAT FOCUS ON THE OLD WEST, OUR PATRIOTIC HERITAGE, AND THE LIFE OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT IN THE BADLANDS:

SERVE THE TRAVELING PUBLIC, PROVIDING FOR THEIR COMFORT WHILE VISITING HISTORIC MEDORA, THE BADLANDS AND THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK.

#### **OUR VALUES**

HAVE **FUN.**SHOW **RESPECT** FOR PEOPLE AND PLACE.
LIVE LIFE WITH AN **OWNERSHIP** MENTALITY.
ALWAYS BE **GRATEFUL**.
PROMOTE **SALES**.



#### FROM THE DESK OF TIM O'KEEFE

Dear Friends of Medora:

I've always found it fun and interesting as I meet volunteers, seasonal staff, and visitors, to ask "what's your Medora story"? While each person has a distinctly different byline, there are always definitive common themes held within.

Medora and the Badlands seem to bring a peaceful joy to everyone who visits or stays, something that for most of us keeps us coming back for more.

My wife Becky and I feel it every time we come over the rise and see Painted Canyon, where we first engage the remarkable beauty of the Badlands, and a sense of calm washes over us.

I've always been struck how Medora seems to bring the best out in people, where "North Dakota nice" is truly front and center, and everyone has their best behavior on.

Becky and I first visited Medora 50 years ago on our honeymoon, as guests of my cousin Jim Kack and his wife, Joanne Schafer Kack, Harold's daughter. Harold and Sheila were so proud to shepherd us around Medora, to the Musical, and especially the Zoo of that era, where all the animals came running for treats the minute they saw the Schafer's.

Every now and then I think about Harold and Sheila and reflect upon how they would view the Medora of today, tomorrow, and what the Board of Directors at TRMF are planning.

As Harold was known to be a "dreamer", I have to believe he would be immensely proud and excited, that in many ways Medora and TRMF are actually possibly exceeding where he thought we would be.

I'm a firm believer one of the primary distinctions between the USA and the rest of the world is the degree to which philanthropy is imbedded into our culture and society as a fundamental requirement of who we are as a country. Philanthropy changes how we live in the US for the better each and every day - - and doesn't giving simply make you feel good?

There isn't a better example of such in North Dakota than Medora/TRMF.

What Harold and the Schafer family began in Medora almost 70 years ago, each of you have picked up and taken to new heights. Just this year with your generosity TRMF opened the Point to Point Lazy River, Splash Pad, Bouncing Pad, Pickle Ball courts, and Schafer Point.

The latter [Schafer Point] is where as legend has it, Harold and a young Ed Schafer stood around 60 years ago overlooking Medora when Harold pronounced [paraphrasing] "there's just too much here that must be saved", to which the young boy replied, "What? There is nothing here."

In the years to come, working closely in partnership with the City of Medora, Billings County, the TR Presidential Library, and the TR National Park; the Board of Directors

of TRMF has plans to build a new horse riding operation at the east entrance to Medora where Ranch O Rama currently exists.

In concert with this move, phase two and three of the Point to Point trails will open up, connected to the current trail hike initiated in town by the miniature golf course.

West of the Little Missouri the plan is to build new rodeo grounds, an equine center done in partnership with the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame, an expanded campground heavy on 50 amp sites, horse stalls for the rodeo participants, and other amenities.

Bully Pulpit golf course has been remodeled with three new holes to replace two lost by the flooding near the Little Missouri. New cart paths, a concession stand in construction next year mid course, and other upgrades are in progress.

Across from Bully Pulpit on TRMF land, where the first Dude Ranch in the US was constructed in the early 1800's, a wedding and event center, several cabins, and a sport and trap shooting center are in the early planning stage.

None of this happens without two things in play;

Foremost, these opportunities are a testimony to the generosity and planning of Harold Schafer. As Board members we understand our greatest responsibility to Harold's generosity is to be great stewards of the land he purchased decades ago for TRMF use.

And, none of these plans happen without you, the generous donors who have made TRMF what it is today, and for the tomorrows ahead.

Exciting, vibrant plans, done with purpose to serve not only the traditional older generations who visit Medora, but also targeting the younger families who have begun to make their initial trips to see everything we now have to offer.

Gratitude is so important!

I'm grateful to Randy Hatzenbuhler, the entire team who make TRMF/Medora happen; almost 80 full time employees, 450 seasonal staff this summer, and over 800 volunteers who are the heart of all things Medora.

And to the dedicated colleagues of mine who serve on the TRMF Board of Directors, thank you for your dedicated time in extensive committee meetings, Zoom calls, and Board meetings. When each of you leave Medora and the Badlands, know you are continuing the legacy of Harold and Sheila Schafer, Theodore Roosevelt, and all the Board members and donors who preceded us.

See you on the streets of Medora soon!

Tim O'Keefe

Chair, TRMF Board of Directors

# **OUR LEADERSHIP**

Visionary founders. Leaders of character. A team committed to the TRMF Mission.

## The TRMF BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## **OUR FOUNDERS**

Harold Schafer (1912 - 2001) and Sheila Schafer (1925 - 2016)



Tim O'Keefe Board Chair



Levi Andrist
Board Vice Chair



Michael Zaun Treasurer/Secretary



Michelle Mongeon Allen



Rich Becker



Twylah Blotsky



Don Clement



Bruce Furness



Tom Gerhardt



Kristi Hanson



Jody Hodgson



Medora Sletten Lauf



Doug Mark



Tracy Martin



Laurel Nelson



Kathy Neset



Linda Pancratz



Barry Schafer



Rolf Sletten

### The 2022 Bully Spirit Award

# MIKE & PEGGY BULLINGER

"Success or failure is caused more by mental attitude than by mental capability."

Mike & Peggy Bullinger didn't just coin those words — they live by them. And it shows not only in Medora but across North Dakota.

Mike & Peggy are the owners of Western Products, a tremendously successful home improvement company based in Fargo. Successful, not thanks to chance, but to hard work — and a hard-scrabble journey we recognize as "the American Dream."

"They made a deal that whenever they bought a new house, the first meal they ate there would be beans and corn," said their daughter Nikki Nelson. "Because that's what they could afford to eat in the early days."



Peggy & Mike Bullinger receive the Bully Spirit Award from Randy Hatzenbuhler (right) at the 2022 Rough Riders Roundup Luncheon.

Their hard work paid off — and their success allowed them to give back to communities for which they care, like Medora. Mike & Peggy have generously contributed to numerous projects, including the Little Bully Pulpit Mini Golf Course, the Old Town Hall Theater, the Life Skills Center, and Bully Pulpit Golf Course.

But their embodiment of the Bully Spirit goes far beyond their philanthropy. To better understand it, we spoke to the entire extended Bullinger family and many of their friends. Scan the QR code on the right to see our complete tribute to Mike & Peggy Bullinger, and to see the pair accept the Bully Spirit Award at the 2022 Rough Riders Roundup luncheon in Medora!



Scan this code to see the 2022 Bully Spirit Award Presentation in its entirety!



# 2022 by the numbers

114,701 Medora Musical Attendees



15,730

Rounds at Bully Pulpit Golf Course



43,667

Meals at the Pitchfork Steak Fondue



Nights at our lodging facilities





# AN ELEVATED EXPERIENCE

The Medora experience is meant to be enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities. That's why we remain committed to a better experience for our guests who are elderly and to families who visit Medora with mobility and sensory disabilities.

That's also why June 8th, 2022, marked a significant date in our vision for Access Medora!

With profound thanks to the Engelstad Foundation and their \$1 million gift, two new high-capacity elevators opened for use at the Burning Hills Amphitheatre. We also owe a thank you to the State of North Dakota. We were awarded a \$1 million Tourism Transportation Grant during the 2021 Legislative

We're also pleased to report that the escalator is being refurbished this spring. Funding for that project was approved during the 2021 legislative session.

Safe, convenient access to the Burning Hills Amphitheatre is critical. Former TRMF board members Hannelore and John Davis say the elevators have been an important addition.

"My wife was in a wheelchair when we went out there last summer," John said. "That was a Godsend with the wheelchair. As you get older you can appreciate things like that."



The addition of these elevators was the first major project to increase accessibility since the Amphitheatre was rebuilt in 1992.

While they were a great addition to replace golf cars on the ramp and improve the entrance and exit experience from both safety and convenience standpoints, the elevators also serve guests who need to leave unexpectedly. And they offer efficient access for emergency responders.



# YOU MUST NEVER GO AROUND, BUT ALWAYS OVER, UNDER, OR THROUGH!

POINT TO POINT HIKES-THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S FAVORITE GAME-HAD THAT ONE RULE.

Point to Point Park---Medora's newest attraction—created a lot of laughter and smiles for families as it opened last summer as the ribbon was cut for the grand opening last June.

Point to Point Park is filled with lots of fun activities and is easily accessible from the Badlands Motel.

Visitors splashed and played in the Lazy Lil Mo lazy river and wade-in pool while following the harrowing story of Theodore Roosevelt capturing the boat thieves in the Badlands.

Kids couldn't get enough of the jump pillow and cooled off on the splash deck.

Extra seating in the shade gave parents a front-row seat to all the fun, including two new pickleball courts!

The new family attractions joined a host of existing activities including Little Bully Pulpit Mini-Golf Course, the Point to Point zip line "Manitou," and guided hikes on Point to Point Trails with our own Joe Wiegand.

Our goal has always been to connect people to Medora for positive, lifechanging experiences," said TRMF president Randy Hatzenbuhler. "Point to Point Park has been a terrific new way for families to make memories in Medora."

We would like to acknowledge the Matt & JoAnn Butler Foundation for their generous lead gift of \$2 million as a matching grant challenge to help make Point to Point Park a reality to be enjoyed by families and visitors now and into the future.





On June 11th, 2022, the ribbon was cut at Schafer Point – a historic location along the Point to Point Trails in Medora.

"The story is legendary, almost mythical," said TRMF president Randy Hatzenbuhler.

"Based on a true story," said Ed Schafer to the laughter of those gathered to celebrate, including Nancy, other family, friends and supporters of Medora.

Schafer Point is where, in 1952, Harold Schafer took young Ed to overlook the rundown cowboy town know as Medora and envisioned its vibrant future. Ed recalls Harold saying to him, "There's too much here to be lost. There's too much history, too much experience here to disappear."

Ed says he looked over town from the butte and told his dad, "There's nothing here!"

As we all know now, Harold was right.

Soon, a statue of Harold and Ed as that young boy will be placed at the site where the two stood that day.

TRMF Entertainment and Attractions Director Kinley Slauter came up with the design to commemorate the spot.

Slauter wanted to create a destination for hikers at the top of the butte that could serve as a stopping place to learn about the history and to get a break from the sun. The structure is intended to look new but also like it's been there for a hundred years. The wood is roughhewn in keeping with Harold's vision for Medora.

"It also provides interpretive information and relates the story of a forty something Harold telling a young Ed about Medora-since declared the start of Harold's attachment to Medora—the beginning of his legacy," Slauter said. "In a way we're saying we know some visitors are more interested in hiking than touring museums so let's give them a different way to meet Harold and the Schafer Family and tell some of their story."

The structure on Schafer Point is visible from Medora but blends into its surroundings.

We want to extend our sincere gratitude and a very special thank you to Jim and Joanne Kack whose generosity helped make Schafer Point a reality.



# A HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP





# THEODORE ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY



The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (TRMF) has gifted 3.5 acres to the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation (TRPLF), furthering a special partnership in the Badlands.

The donated land will be used for shared parking, walking and hiking pathways, and a redesigned passage to both the Burning Hills Amphitheatre and the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library.

"The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation and Presidential Library are crucial partners," said Linda Pancratz, board chair of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation and also a member of the TRMF board of directors.

"This gift makes clear that our success is shared—for Medora, Billings County, North Dakota, and our nation."

"The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation believes in the T.R. Presidential Library," said Tim O'Keefe, chair of TRMF. "The gift of this land is just the start of a mutually beneficial relationship as interdependent neighbors and partners."

Construction on the Presidential Library is set to begin this year with a grand opening planned for July 4th, 2026 – the 250th anniversary of the United States of America and the Declaration of Independence.



# **WE BUILT THIS CITY**

On every block of every street in Medora, North Dakota, you'll find evidence of passion, purpose, and hard work on behalf of TRMF's amazing volunteers.

Few know this as well as Dick Grosz, who has made the annual trip from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to volunteer in Medora with his wife Dee since 2005.

"It's good for a person!" Dick said. "We can go back to Medora now and see what we've done—and remember the people we worked with to get it done. That's special."

Dick's elbow grease can be found all over Medora from the wooden boardwalk outside the Rough Riders Hotel to the wood stain on the Schafer family cabin. But the impact of volunteerism in Medora goes far beyond manual labor.

Our 800+ annual volunteers build the community of Medora on the strength of their fellowship.

"It's like coming up for a family reunion, really!" said Viola Wysocki of Grand Forks. "We greet each other just like family."

And in some cases, they literally built a city! In 2001, a group of volunteers constructed the Medora Children's Park in less than five days. And last summer, a team of volunteers and folks from Bravera Bank refreshed the park.

Charles Cullen was there for both occasions. "It's been well used over the years," he said. If the Lord should tarry, it will be here for another twenty-one years!"

From major projects to smaller, often unseen duties, our volunteers carry the spirit of work that would make Teddy Roosevelt and Harold Schafer smile from ear to ear.

We can't thank our volunteers enough for the amazing work they do so selflessly each year in Medora.





HONKY TONK ANGELS & A VERY MERRY BADLANDS CHRISTMAS

We continued to build on our year-round programming with performances of Honky Tonk Angels and A Very Merry Badlands Christmas during the fall and winter of 2022.

Honky Tonk Angels performed 39 times between September 15th and November 6th with close to three thousand people attending.

Honky Tonk Angels is a group based on the music of Dolly Parton, Loretta Lynn, and Tammy Wynette and told the story of three women from three different backgrounds and how they followed their dreams to Nashville.

The cast of A Very Merry Badlands Christmas performed 13 times (two shows were canceled due to the weather) between December 1st and December 18th with over 1,400 people attending.

Medora Musical stars of the past and present brought our guests some of the season's very best music in the charming Old Town Hall Theater with a wonderful story and a dazzling finale that reminded all the reason for the season.

"These shows, combined with our spring series of shows and the well established summer programming like the Medora Musical allowed us to deliver great shows throughout the year." said TRMF Director of Entertainment and Attractions Kinley Slauter.



# A LIFETIME OF Giving

No people on earth have more cause to be thankful than ours, and this is said reverently, in no spirit of boastfulness in our own strength, but with gratitude to the Giver of Good who has blessed us with the conditions which have enabled us to achieve so large a measure of well-being and happiness.

During a grand celebration and in the company of his most esteemed friends, President Roosevelt opens his inaugural address with these words, 1905. TheodoreRooseveltCenter.org

THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS REPRESENT ALL CUMULATIVE GIVING TO THE THEODORE ROOSEVELT MEDORA FOUNDATION



Alwin Carus Mineral Trust

Harold (dec.) & Sheila (dec.) Schafer



### **BULLY SPIRIT SOCIETY**

\$1,000,000 TO \$2,499,999

Richard E. & Darlyne Anderson John (dec.) & Elaine (dec.) Andrist Anonymous Joanne & Frank (dec.) Bavendick Jim & Twylah Blotsky Mike & Peggy Bullinger Greg Butler Matt & JoAnn Butler Foundation C & J Energy Services The Engelstad Foundation Great River Energy Ron & Marlene Hoffart Family Frank & JoAndrea (dec.) Larson William C. & Jane B. Marcil The Harold & Mary Newman Family



# ELKHORN SOCIETY

\$500,000 TO \$999,999

Airwick Industries
Pat (dec.) & Bev Altringer
Jane & Bob Angerer
Arthur & Edith Pearson Foundation
City of Medora
Dickinson Ready Mix Co.
Herman Gierke (dec.)
Gremada Industries, Inc.
Joe & Florence Hauer
Jim & Joanne Kack

Joyce Krabseth
Van & Dee Larson
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North Dakota Petroleum Foundation
North American Coal
Linda M. Pancratz
George Pasternak
Harold Rase (dec.)
Roosevelt-Custer Regional Council
Roughrider Electric Cooperative

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Dr. Pamela Schafer
Doris Slaaten (dec.)
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Touchstone Energy Cooperatives
Erma Wolters (dec.)
Kay York
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# THEODORE ROOSEVELT SOCIETY

\$100,000 TO \$499,999

Bill & Sandy Altringer Claudia B. Anderson Anonymous Jim & Lynne Arthaud Baranko Brothers, Inc. Rich & Joanne Becker Rick Berg & Tracy Martin The Bismarck Tribune Sandy Boehler Bravera Winnifred Brown (dec.) Norene (dec.) & Art (dec.) Bunker JoAnn & Matt (dec.) Butler Bill (dec.) & Pat (dec.) Clairmont Jay & Carolyn Clemens Russell & Inez Coenen John & Hannelore Davis The Dickinson Press Doosan Bobcat Gertrude Eck (dec.) Bill (dec.) & Marietta (dec.) Ekberg Orville & Robyn Erlenbush Fred & Joyce Évans First State Bank & Trust First Western Bank & Trust Forum Communications Printing

Elsie & Leland (dec.) Gilbertson

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Larry & Dorothy Goodall

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#### HAROLD AND SHEILA SCHAFER FOUNDERS SOCIETY

\$25,000 TO \$99,999

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Ardis Afseth Allete, Inc.

Helene & Richard (dec.) Anderson

Anonymous

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Dakota Gasification Company

David Davis Pat Decker

Carroll L. & Crystal S. Dewing William (dec.) & Minnie (dec.) Diss

Ray A. Doering

James (dec.) & Mary Domaskin Duemeland - Stenberg Family George & Myrtle (dec.) Dynes

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Jeff & Ruth Kack Steven Kack

Ron & Paulette Keney

Jim & Liz Kertz

Katherine Kilbourne Burgum Trust

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Pam & Lonnie (dec.) Laffen

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Carolyn & Ron (dec.) Leech

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Marathon Oil Company Lorna & Earl (dec.) Marifjeren Duey & Char Marthaller

Harley (dec.) & Margaret (dec.) McDowell

Duane & Paula McIntyre Medora Corporation

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Keith & Cathy Peltier

Dorothea & Dr. Geoffrey (dec.) Rath

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Tom & Jill Schafer Scheels

Ellie Schafer

Ed & Charlotte Schilke

Dean Schlosser

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Michelle Sletten

Rolf Sletten & Emily Walter

Tyler & Sarah Sletten

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Warren & Rosemary Ackley

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Bob & Cynthia Albrecht All American Travel

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Associated Land Developers, Lllp Associated Pool Builders, Inc.

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Orlin (dec.) & Millie (dec.) Backes

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David & Pamela Bangen Bank of the West - Dickinson Don & Pam Barsness

Gary & Esther Beazley BEK Communications Co-op

Myron & Betty Bender Vonnie Bender Lowell & Carol Berntson Bio Master of North Dakota Bismarck Sertoma Club, Inc. David & Myrna Blackstead

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Border States Paving

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**CRU** 

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Gerald Eid

Randy & Brenda Ekness
Richard & Janet Elkin
Bruce & Donna Ellison
Emmerich Foundation
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Bob & Dede Engelstad
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Elizabeth & David (dec.) Fesler Kathy & Patrick (dec.) Fisher Flag Family Media Leland & Linda Fleischer Mark & Cindy Fliginger Flint Communications, Inc. Norma J. Flore (dec.)

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NID

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Dick & Dee Grosz David Groven

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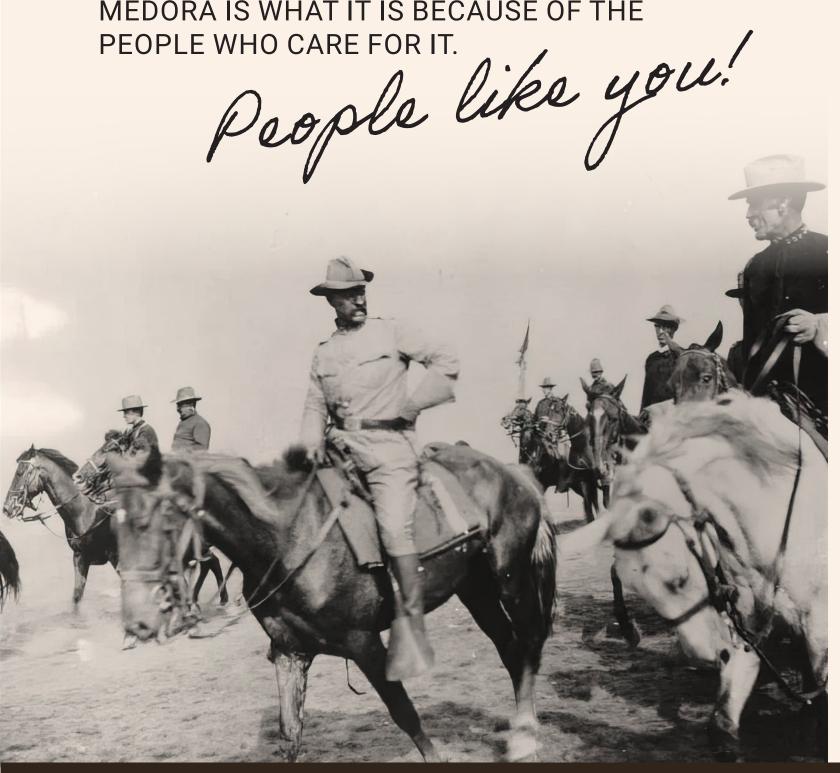
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Keith, Kim (Hanson), Anna & Abby Becker

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James & Charlotte Hardy

Mark & Katherine Hardy

Robert & Cherie Harms

Joyce Harnden

Bill & Barb Hassing

Arnie & Donna Hatzenbuhler

Jordan & Nicole Hatzenbuhler Randy & Laurie Hatzenbuhler

Darvin Hauff

Lorna Haug

Dale & Karen Haugen

Loren & Linda Haugen

George & Mary Haugo

Chad & Lynn Haverlock

Kevin & Jackie Hay Ike & Teresa Hecker

Vern & Marilyn Hedland

Donald & Carolyn Hedlund

Dale & Jennifer Heglund

Connie & Dick Heidt Kirk & Deb Heim

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Leo & Mavis Heinz Gary Helgeson

Arden & Marianne Helland

Tom & Mary Helland

Charles & Linda Helmstetler Jon & Brenda Hendrickson

Virginia & Ralph Henning

Gil & Elna Herbel

Dr. Everett & Carol Heringer

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Wendell & Sue Herman Mike Herr & Maggie Belle

Terry & Katherine Hildestad Michael & Ann Hilliard

Helmuth (Doc) Hilz & the late Helen Hilz

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Kadon & Michelle Hintz

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Larry & Beverly Hoffman Blaine & Marianne Hoffmann

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Delilah Holdahl

Wayne, Mike, & Jenny Holden

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Jodi Johnson

Dennis & Vaune Johnson Bruce & Candace Johnson

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Laurel Johnson & Gary Lindemann Laverne Johnson & Gwyn Herman Lee C. Johnson & Mary R. Teske Mark A. & Shelly Johnson Marvin & Geraine Johnson

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Roger & Mary Johnson Scott & Deb Johnson Shary Johnson Nolan & Kelly Johnsrud

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Cheri & Errol Schoenfish Cynthia Schreiber-Beck Fred & Dorothy Schroeder Nettie & Sarge Schuler

Lori Schulte

Harold & Karen Schulz Caroline Schwartz Elmer & Arlene Schwarz Bishop Craig & Wendy Schweitzer

Scott & Robbin Schwindt

Parker & Lezlie Scott

Chris, Tracy, Lucy & Aksel Seeve

Susan Sehnert Stuart (1972 Burning Hills

Singer) JeAnne Selby

Dave & Judith Senne Gary & Phyllis Sethre Monsignor James Shea

Chuck (dec.) & Betty Sheldon Anna Marie Shomento

Randy & Diane Sickler Ken (dec.) & Jean Siegel Kenny R. Siegel

Sandy Siemers Marvin & Janice Sigman

Queen Taija

Bob & Carol Simmers
LaNette Simonton
Ken & Vickie Sims
Steven & Deborah Sing
Clarence & Jennifer Sitter

Arnie Skachenko & Georgie Beckert Scott, Angela, Maycee, & Lailoni Skones

Donna & Sydney Slais
Kinley & Sarah Slauter
Cody & Megan Sletten
Tyler & Sarah Sletten
Harriet Smedshammer
Gene & Noreen Smestad
Irvin & Marsha Smith
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Gary & Martha Sorenson
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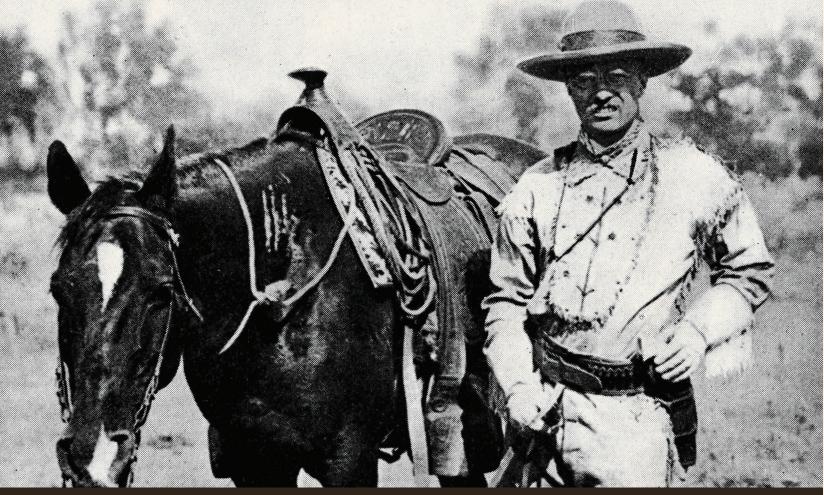
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# JR. ROUGH RIDER MEMBERS

The Junior Rough Rider program connects kids 17 and under to extra special Medora experiences, includes gifts, newsletters, messages, activities, and more!



JR. ROUGH RIDER MEMBERS

Theo Abrahamson Leighton Anderson Allison Avey Jack Avey Felix Andrea Axvig Kaylee Bahls Echo Juliett Barner Britta Beaudoin Finn Beehler Isabelle Joyce Billadeau Berklee Black Brita Black Cambria Black Elliot Boston Olive Boston Cohen Boykin Ramsey Boykin Skylar Boykin Summit Boykin

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Jaxton Doan Jayston Doan Jordy Doan Tenlee Doan Bridger Doering Eddie Doering Emmy Doering Tomi Doering Ty Doering Hadrian Lee Dorsher Cayla Duke Archer Robert Dulitz Henry Fletcher Dulitz Hudson Duppong Lily Edwards Hannah Edwards Charles Eidsness Maddie Eidsness George Farris

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Luke Farris Kaleb Faul Kinzley Faul Cayson Feininger

Rowan B. Fleischer Daugherty

Kowan B. Fleischer Karter Forbes Quinn Forbes Hayden Forde Hudson Forde Addie Forster Owen Forster Lincoln Fremont Porter F. Fremont Logan Garrett Caroline Gilligan Joseph Gilligan Liam Gjorven Sarah Gjorven Lily Glazener Sollie Glazener

Grace Hagens

Evan Haislet

Hudson Hagens

Harvey Haislet
Gracie Harviell
Maxwell Hatzenbuhler
Reagan Hatzenbuhler
Anna Heintz
Geof Heinz
Ada Jane Herman
Caroline Herman

Gage Birdsall Herman Henry Herman Delilah Hey Myles Hey James Hogan Dawson Huck Reese Huck Joshua M. Huovinen

Joshua M. Huovine
Herlof Huso
Braelynn Irish
Hatlee Irish
Kasey Jacobson
Kaylee Jahner
Remi Jahner
Wayne Jahner
Alina Johnson
Mariah Johnson
Amos Joraanstad
Addison Jorde
Payton Jorde
Scarlett Jorde
Charles Kaiser

Ada Jade Kath Brooke Kiecker Emmy Kiecker Jozie Kiecker Megan Kiecker Bria Kilwein Carter Klym Conner Klym Hannah Klym

Bernadette Krohm Sigrid Krohm Theodore Krohm

Beckett Kolling Kenna Kolling Esley Kuhn Lena Kunkel Greta Larson Logan Larson Megan Larson

Atley Kuhn

Teaghan Lengowski Brayden Lewis Bridget Liebel Mason Liebel Mary Martens Grant Marthaller

Laeni Marthaller Colton Mason Ruby Lynn Mason Weston Mason Kassidie McCullough

Keltie McCullough Kenadie McCullough Thatcher McCullough

Thatcher McCul Kit Meyer Sarah Musser William Musser Korbin Myers Nissa Myers Kae Nelson Cason Neset Luke Neset Mia Neset Bailey Ness Bella Ness Brayden Ness Elsie Ness

Marla Ness
Everly Nichols
Owen Nichols
Aubrey Northrop
Madison Northrop
Emilia Novotny
Evelynn Novotny
Calvin Olheiser
Hadley Olheiser
Medora Olson
Julian Tomas Ortiz
Jack Patterson
Ezra Pedack

Charlotte Peterson
Avery Pfennig
Lainey Pfennig
Andrew Piela
Elliot Piela
Julien Piela
Addisyn Pikop
Josie Raden
Lucie Raden
Walter Raden
Espen Ratcliffe-Cox

Watson Ratcliffe-Cox Aubrey Rau Emmitt Rau Kamryn Rausch Dally Rehbein

Nevaeh Ratcliffe-Cox

Daily Renbein
Dillon Theodore Reitan
Adriann Reuschlein
Hank Richards
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Zander Shinn Sofee Siroshton David Sitter Emily Sitter

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Anton Slauter Ava Slauter Amelia Sovak Oliver Sovak

Petra Sovak Wayne Stark Jake Streitz Liam Sullivan

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Jett Swanson
Justina Swanson
Kenny Swanson
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Clara Swenson
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Rokton Walter
Zahara Wandler
Brody Watterud
Hunter Watterud
Kaison Watterud
Rayce Watterud
Cooper Widicker
Jillian Widicker
Wyatt Widicker
Olivia Wiest
Kennedy Wiesz
Tucker Wiesz
Kiernen Williams
Rhett Wimmer
Quinn Yeager

Teagan Yeager Tristan James Zastrow Aaliyah McDaniel Zins

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Your support helps us accomplish our mission: to preserve the history of Medora, present it to the traveling public, and serve everyone who steps foot in this wonderful town.



#### **BUSINESS MEMBERS**

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5 Star Ranch-Randy & Suann Olson

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Advanced Collision Center, Inc.

AE2S, LLC

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All American Travel

Allied Appraisals of ND, Inc.

The American Legion Carl E. Rogen Post 29

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Aspire Credit Union

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Badlands Dental

Badlands Eye Clinic

**Badlands Truck Sales** 

Baker Boy

Baranko Companies

Belfield Automotive Supply

Berg Group/Alliance Property Mgmt

Berger Electric, Inc.

Bismarck Motor Company

Bismarck Sign Co.

Blue 42 Sports Grille & Bar

BNC National Bank

Border Plains Equipment

Border States

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Charley Montana Boutique

CHI St. Alexius Health Dickinson

Choice Bank

Christianson Companies

Community Options, Inc.

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Consolidated Telcom

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Creek Oilfield Services, LLC

Crosby American Legion Post #75

CWSTRUCTURAL Engineers

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Dacotah Paper Co.

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Dakota Foot & Ankle Clinic

Dakota Insurance Agency

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Dakota Specialty Milling Co.

Dakota Supply Group

Dakota Western Bank

Dan Porter Toyota Honda

Dickinson Renewable Diesel Facility

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Edward Jones - Nathan Dvorak

Edward Jones - Marlene Bradbury

Edward Jones - Nick Lonski

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Expressway Suites Of Bismarck

Farm Credit Services of Mandan Farmers & Merchants Bank of ND

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Fireside Office Solutions

First International Bank & Trust

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& Butter Sandwiches & Sodas

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Home and Land Company

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Jensen Travel

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Kelsch, Ruff, Kranda, Nagle & Ludwig

Attorneys at Law

Keystone Wealth Partners

KK Bold

**KLJ** Engineering

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Blake Krabseth, Comedian/Magician

Kyllo Trucking, Inc.

Larsen Service Drug

Jon Leet - 1st International Bank & Trust

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Neiman Enterprises, inc.

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Newby's Ace Hardware Gene & Connie Nicholas

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Nodak Mutual Insurance Company

Nodak Insurance Company, Clare Messmer,

Agent

North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame

North Dakota Newspaper Association

North Dakota Ready Mix & Concrete Products

Association

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Northwest Realty/Jim Christianson

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Nova Fire Protection

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Pearce Durick, PLLC

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Planningteam Financial Advisors

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Prairie View Landscaping

Pro Tech Diesel

Proximal50 Life Center

Puklich Chevrolet

Pure Skin Aesthetic & Laser Center

Quality Quick Print, Inc.

Queen City Abstract, Title & Escrow

Railway Credit Union

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RE/MAX Integrity Realty - Ninetta Wandler

Red Rock Ford of Dickinson

Riverwood RV

Dean & Debbie Rodne

Roers Construction

RTC Networks

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Sage Point

Joe & Katherine Satrom

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Schafer Ranch

Scheels

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Tires Plus

Trapper's Kettle

Triangle Electric, Inc.

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Medora UNCORK`d

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West River Health Services

White Owl Ranch

White Owl Ranch SW32

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Wimmer's Diamonds Winn Construction, Inc.

WSB

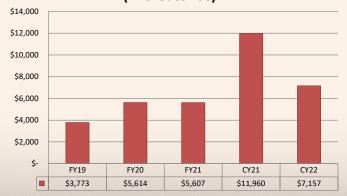
## 2022 FINANCIALS

### REVENUE PIE CHART

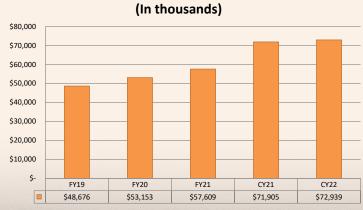


### **DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

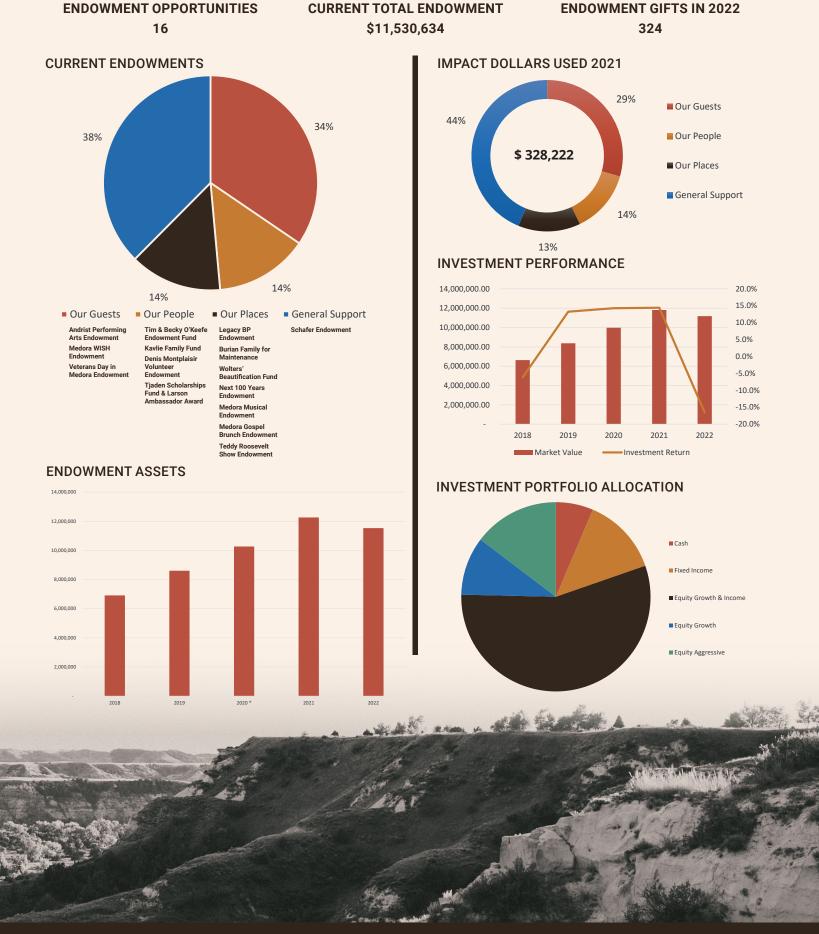
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### Net Assets



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## **ENDOWED WITH**

# It's American HISTORY Brought To Life!

Every summer since 2012, worldrenowned Theodore Roosevelt reprisor Joe Wiegand has portrayed TR at Medora's Old Town Hall Theater.

You'll hear epic stories of Roosevelt's time in the Badlands hunting and ranching. The adventure began the day he stepped off a train in the town of Little Missouri in the fall of 1883 to hunt bison. Learn about his two ranches in the Badlands, how he tracked down and captured the notorious "Boat Thieves," and how his time in and around Medora informed policy decisions he made as president.

Joe also hosts the Badlands Chautauqua, where new and younger Theodore Roosevelt reprisors are trained and encouraged to portray TR with the Little Missouri river in their veins.

Joe's portrayals of Theodore Roosevelt will literally leave you wondering if TR has come back to life!

The Teddy Roosevelt Show Endowment is supporting this show with the goal to one day fully endow the operating expenses of The Teddy Roosevelt Show, allowing us to support the program in perpetuity.



# **ENTERTAINMENT**



# The Most INSPIRING Show In Medora!

The Medora Gospel Brunch made its debut in 2016 as the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation introduced audiences to a brand-new experience.

The Gospel Brunch has become a staple of the Medora experience for thousands of guests each year, including fifty-two performances in 2022!

Since 2016, over 33,000 people have enjoyed the high-energy show! This toe-tapping gospel revue will leave you humming all day long. Whether you grew up with gospel music or you would just like to listen to some great music with a good gospel origin story, the Gospel Brunch is for you!

Prepare to be dazzled by Gospel Brunch host Emily Walter, "The Queen of the West." This will be Walter's eighth year anchoring the show that she calls one of her absolute favorites.

This refreshed gospel celebration includes a full band and gospel quartet—along with endless helping of egg bake, pastries and other brunch favorites!

The Medora Gospel Brunch Endowment is supporting this show with the goal to one day fully endow the operating expenses of the Medora Gospel Brunch, allowing us to support the program in perpetuity.

# **ENDOWED WITH**

# A MEANINGFUL MISSION

Medora WISH Endowment was created by Don and Pat Clement and Michael and Vicki Zaun with the purpose to create more free opportunities for kids in Medora.

After all, it was Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation founder Harold Schafer who said, "We must try to find ways to keep costs low for families to attend Medora activities."

Last year, over 1353 children enjoyed the Medora Musical for free during WISH Week July 2nd – 9th thanks to Medora WISH! and our generous donors!

Since its inception, the endowment has grown to more than \$2 Million with a goal of \$7 Million while gaining a growing list of WISH Wranglers.

WISH Wranglers, who contribute cumulative support of \$25,000 and above, help provide free tickets to the Musical as well as sponsoring special trips for people who otherwise would not be able to experience Medora due to physical, mental, or financial limitations.

## CONTRIBUTE TO MEDORA WISH.

We invite you to join us by making a contribution to Medora WISH. Gifts of all levels will help the endowment grow and provide support for kids and families.

LEARN MORE AT: FOUNDATION.MEDORA.COM/WISH



# IMPACTFUL SUCCESS



# CELEBRATING OUR HEROS

Each night during the summer, the Medora Musical celebrates the United States and honors the men and women who serve in our military.

The Veterans' Day In Medora Endowment helps us to host Veterans' and Military Appreciation Day at the Musical. Attendance is free for active duty and retired military members.

In 2022, Veterans' and Military Appreciation Day welcomed 362 service members. This included The Veterans' of Foreign Wars and American Legion Color Guard from Mandan, N.D., and a social for Veterans' and their families at Tjaden Terrace.

Attendees also witnessed Pilot Paul Weyrauch fly a 1956 Beechcraft T-34 Mentor over the Badlands. Around 2300 of these planes were produced between 1954 and 1963 and were used to train pilots in the Navy and Air Force. The T-34 Mentor is owned by TRMF Board Member Kathy Neset. Four of her brothers are retired Air Force pilots. The planes are favorites at air shows across the United States.

The Veterans' Endowment has grown to more than \$480,000 with a goal of growing the fund by \$1 Million dollars each year as we continue our efforts to provide more benefits to our military heroes and their spouses.

LEARN MORE AT:
FOUNDATION.MEDORA.COM/VETERANS

# CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE BADLANDS

The Tim and Becky O'Keefe Fund for Arts is growing and providing opportunities to learn and enjoy the arts in Medora!

Last August, Classical Music in the Badlands featured Duo Cantabile for a performance on the Andrist Stage.

Duo Cantabile formed in 2012 by two musicians and professors at the University of North Dakota—cellist Dr. Simona Barbu and pianist Dr. Nariaki Sugiura. Simona is an internationally known cellist and Burgum endowed chair at UND. Sugiura is also internationally renowned as a pianist. Dr. Barbu's endowment is made possible by Rick and Jody Burgum, both UND graduates, who recognize the critical role arts play in education.

Duo Cantabile has given performances, clinics, lectures, and master classes at prestigious institutions around the world.

This August, the Tim and Becky O'Keefe Fund for Arts will support a Medora Music Camp for ages 13-24 featuring Strings and Pianists.

The camp will provide a diverse offering of four days of classical music training, performance building, master classes, and concerts. Guest artists and prominent college faculty will perform and provide invaluable instruction to participating students in the heart of Medora!



For more information and to register, please visit Medora.com/MusicCamp

# SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES DURING THE 2022 SEASON WERE REWARDED FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

#### SCHOLARSHIPS

DEAN HILDEBRAND CONSERVATION AWARD

Sam Nebel

DON HUBBARD SCHOLARSHIP

McKenna Thompson Hannah Johnson

SHANNON "SUNSHINE" LARSON SCHOLARSHIP

Nick Bjork Charity Logemann

SHEILA SCHAFER SUNSHINE AWARD

Diana Ghergelegiu

TIM JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP

Beck Bekmukhambeta Katarina Crnogorac

WADE WESTIN SCHOLARSHIP

Van Rolle Mary Reid

WINSTON SATRAN SCHOLARSHIP

Saidy Caro Guillo

Jolene Wilson

TJADEN SCHOLARSHIP

Ana Castillo Raga Kau Avery Seadeek Jordyn Sauvageau Elimany Novas Pena Petronela Miron

Garrett Tershel

LARSON AMBASSADOR AWARDS

Matt Pavlik Mike Metzger

Matt Kallmeyer John Tczap

Skyler Nelson Benjamin Cabutage

Travis Campbell Natalia Jakowienko

Shammar Edie Dany Morelos

Siahi Taufa Mary Jo Larsen

Eugene Goettlicher Paul Gray Connor Roche Kristen White Eddie Winemiller

Wander Auer

Lea Brucker

# Wild Horse Place APARTMENTS

## Employee Housing For Medora's Bright Future

Construction on the Wild Horse Place apartments has progressed through the winter and is on track to be completed this June.

"We have about 20 units committed to be occupied right now and working towards marketing the last 12 units so that when construction is complete, we have a full building to welcome workers to Medora," said TRMF Chief Operating Officer Clarence Sitter.

Contractors have been working through the cold and snow to complete the 32 unit building that will be occupied by several TRMF employees, National Park employees and other individuals wanting to live in Medora.

"Housing is important because quality of life is important," Sitter said. "We have people who are passionate about providing our guests with positive, life-changing experiences. It's important we provide them with a good place to live and help them be a part of the community of Medora."

Wild Horse Place has a combination of 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom units throughout the building.

TRMF employees say it's a game-changer to have secure, available, affordable housing in Medora.



"Wild Horse Place is an exciting opportunity to finally have adequate living space here in Medora," TRMF System Administrator Anthony Olson said. "Before it was a challenge finding housing that was close-by that wouldn't involve increased driving expenses and living expenses."

"I think it is crucial to building a love for Medora by living in Medora and experiencing it in everyday life instead of only being in town during the workday and then leaving again," said TRMF Park and Recreation Manager Andrew Coe. "It is an invaluable benefit to me and other employees alike!"

Permanent housing has long been identified as critical for Medora and the TRMF Board of Directors approved the project in November of 2021.

Competition for labor in the hospitality industry is fierce and Wild Horse Place fills a need and is essential for Medora's future and is the final piece to a \$25 million campus that began in 2008 and includes the Spirit of Work Lodge, Life Skills Center, and Elkhorn Quarters.

Together, these building centralize employee training, education, dining, fitness, and recreation and provides significant parking to relieve pressure from the downtown area of Medora.



# WESTERN HERITAGE



### PRESERVE, ENHANCE, AND PROMOTE.

Theodore Roosevelt's first steps in the Badlands in the early morning of September 8th, 1883, were onto the sagebrush of what was known then as Little Missouri—just west of the Little Missouri River and what is now Medora.

The land Roosevelt first walked on ties the past to our future.

Roosevelt embodied the spirit of the west by embraceing the strenuous life, ranching, riding, hunting, working hard at work worth doing, and staying true to his word.

The goal of our Western Heritage Project is to create that space for others that preserve, enhance, and promote the cowboy history and western heritage that can be found in Medora and the Badlands.

Western Heritage will allow us to better utilize the land west of the Little Missouri River—where Roosevelt first stepped off the train—to establish new and exciting attractions including an outdoor arena, practice arena, learning center, an interactive children's exhibit, and horse camping stalls. It's land already owned by TRMF and will allow us to create a space for positive, lifechanging experiences.

WHILE IT'S STILL IN ITS PLANNING STAGES, WE HOPE YOU WILL BE INSPIRED BY THIS AMBITIOUS PROJECT.









## Liebe JOHN & HANNELORE

John Davis met his wife while he was in the Army stationed in Germany. "He didn't speak German and I didn't speak English," said Hannelore. But John was a good dancer, and that impressed her.

"We got married six months after." Three times in one day, as a matter of fact. "They wanted to make sure we both understood what we were doing," said a smiling Hannelore.

First, they got married in a courthouse. Then it was on to a German church. "Then we had dinner in the afternoon and then we went out to the (Army) post, and I had a priest. My guys in my unit were there and we had the American wedding—so that was that!" said John. That was 59 years ago this July.

When John was in high school, his family moved to Bismarck from their ranch near McClusky. His father, John E. Davis, was governor of North Dakota from 1957-1960. As fate would have it, they lived across the street from Harold and Sheila Schafer. A lifelong connection to Medora was born.

Back stateside, John couldn't wait to take Hannelore to the Badlands. Their first trip was in the fall of 1957. A second love blossomed.

Hannelore took heart watching the way Harold and Sheila lived and remembered asking Harold why he gave so much away.

He said, "You know what I found out? If you give something, you get it ten times back. It's a feeling you have in your body or soul. You just have to do it because it makes you feel good and then it's just part of your life."



John added, "He lived that way, and I watched him live that way, and Sheila was a great part of that."

Lesson learned. "Just be kind, be nice, and it comes back to you," said Hannelore.

With a deep love for each other, their family, and Medora, John, and Hannelore included TRMF as a beneficiary of their trust. They want their legacy of philanthropy associated with Medora.

"I wanted our kids and our grandkids and our six great grandkids to see and experience it and to keep it, to see what it really does for yourself," said Hannelore.

"I know that it was kind of mixed emotions when I put the ranch in the trust. And it felt good. And I felt it was a very good feeling to know that it was something I could do and it's not for me," John said.

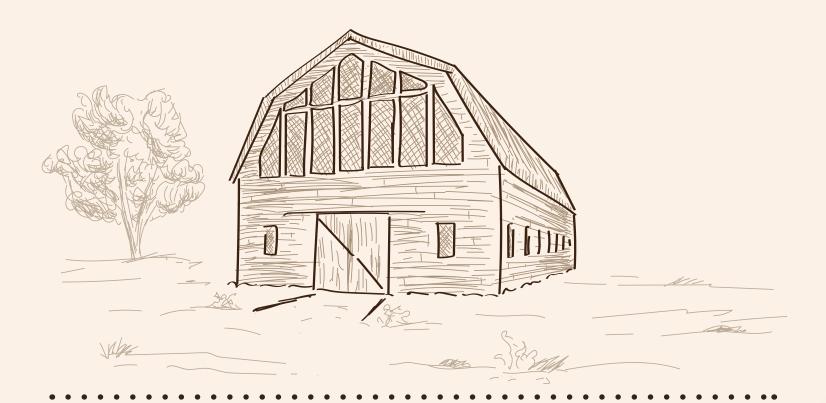
"Liebe." It's German for love. For John and Hannelore, it translates to love for each other, love for Medora, and love for the spirit of giving.



### THE MEDORA LEGACY SOCIETY

The future of Medora depends on the continued support of special people who, like Harold and Sheila Schafer before them, recognize the potential that this town holds for positive, life-changing experiences through history, education, and entertainment.

# LEARN ABOUT MORE WAYS TO GIVE AT FOUNDATION. MEDORA. COM/GIVE



# BULLY PULPIT AREA EXPANSION

Exciting plans for developing an event barn and shooting ranges near Bully Pulpit continue to move forward!

Both attractions will be located at the site where the Eaton Brothers developed the nation's first dude ranch (Custer Trail Ranch) from 1882-1904. During that time, Howard Eaton met Theodore Roosevelt.

The event barn will be a versatile space that could host a variety of events including weddings, family reunions, and corporate retreats. The area provides a stunning setting with its historic charm and picturesque surroundings.

The shooting ranges are exciting features in the proposed development. They will offer a variety of shooting options, including rifle, shotgun, pistol, and archery. The ranges will be a unique attraction for visitors and tie into the storied hunting and ranching history of Medora and the Badlands.

"On that historic property, we will build an event barn which will include additional guest facilities and we are in the process of obtaining federal Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act funding to support rifle, shotgun, pistol and archery shooting on the ranch," TRMF Chief Projects, Facilities, and Strategy Officer Nate Huntington said. "The application for those funds goes through the North Dakota Game and Fish Department."







The event barn and shooting range will help attract new visitors to the area and provide existing visitors with unique and exciting experiences and keep the history of the place alive! The projects will also help TRMF fulfill its mission, vision, and values through high-quality entertainment, education, and history.

At TRMF, we are committed to working to ensure that the development is done in a responsible and sustainable way that respects the historic and natural significance of the Eaton Ranch site.

Plans are still under consideration by TRMF and its Board of Directors with a campaign targeted to begin in 2024.

We kindly ask that you consider giving to our event barn and shooting ranges, as your support helps us preserve and promote the legacy of Harold Schafer, Theodore Roosevelt, historic Medora, and the Badlands.



701-223-4800 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN HELPING US HONOR AND **CELEBRATE THESE GREAT LEGACIES.** 



## HOW THE Theodore Rosevelt CONTINUES HIS LEGACY

Conservation means development as much as it does protection. I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land; but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us. ??

- Theodore Roosevelt, 1910

President Theodore Roosevelt was a practical conservationist. Today, we strive to follow his lead. To help celebrate the National Park Service that he helped shape so significantly, we've reignited our efforts to help ensure that our children, and our children's children, can enjoy our nation's wonders, too.

That's why, among other efforts, this report has been printed with a paper mixed with recycled sources. Helping American business while preserving natural forest. We believe President Roosevelt would say, "Bully!" to the balanced effort.

