



### VISITOR INFORMATION

#### Theodore Roosevelt National Park

##### South Unit

Visitor Center Hours  
8:00-4:30 MDT

##### North Unit

Visitor Center Hours  
9:00 am -5:30pm CDT  
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday  
& as time allows on other days. (701) 842-2333 for more info.

##### Painted Canyon

Closed November 11th  
Will Reopen April 1st  
(weather permitting)

##### Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site

8:00 am -4:30 pm MDT

##### Upper Souris NWR

8:00 am - 4:30 pm CDT  
Monday-Friday

### Upcoming Events

February 21, 2009

#### Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site

##### Winter Event

Activities for the day include craft/projected indicative of Northern Great Plains Indian culture, snow showing hike with archeologist to internationally recognized archeological sites, dinner in Hidatsa earthlodge, and special story telling presentations and music by elders and noted artists.

For more information on this event please contact the staff at Knife River Indian Villages NHS.

# TRNHA NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year!

January 2009

## Theodore Roosevelt National Park Elk Management Plan & Draft Environmental Impact Statement Released

Theodore Roosevelt National Park has released its Elk Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement. After five years of planning and development, the plan is now available for public comment for a 90 day period which started December 19. In late January or early February, park staff will be traveling around North Dakota to host public meetings about the elk management plan. We hope you will plan to at-

tend one of the public meetings to learn more about the complexities of this very important issue.

During public meetings held in 2004, some members of the public wanted to see hunting in the park. However, hunting is not allowed in the park under its enabling legislation, so is not allowed. In addition, hunting would be a very difficult alternative to implement in the park environment and would be a

costly and slow way to deal with the elk population.

The park has outlined a "no action" alternative in the plan, as well as four action alternatives for reducing the elk population. The alternatives include a) no action, b) sharpshooting using staff, contractors or skilled volunteers, c) rounding up elk and euthanizing them, d) rounding up elk, testing a sample for chronic wasting disease,

*Story continued on page 3*

## Check out these Great Items!

### Birds of the Dakotas

#### Field Guide

by: Stanley Tekelia

\$13.95



A wonderful guide, to birds found in the Dakotas, is sorted by color and has great photos for easy identification.

### Buffalo Natural

#### History & Conservation

by: Harold Picton

\$17.95



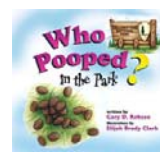
A look at the past of this great creature that once roamed freely. This book shows how vitally important this animal was to the Native Americans.

### Who Pooped in the Park?

by: Gary Robson

& Robert Rath

\$9.95



A great book with a fun title takes a look into the signs left behind by animals in Yellowstone National Park.





Ranger Craig Hansen enjoys a good read. He recommends *Buffalo Jump* for young readers.

**Welcome to Ranger Recommends!**

January's featured Ranger is Craig Hansen, an education specialist at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. Craig moved home to North Dakota about six years ago after spending some time working with the US Corps of Engineers as a ranger in Minnesota and California. Knife River has benefitted

greatly from Craig's years of experience as a nature educator.

Craig highly recommends the *Buffalo Jump* by Peter Roop.

Craig says:

*"Every child will be able to relate with Little Blaze as his dad picks his older brother to lead the buffalo over the buffalo jump. Each time I have read this*

*book to a group of children they have hung on every word."*

If you are interested in purchasing this book please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Bookstores or visit our online bookstore at

[www.trnha.org/bookstorehome.htm](http://www.trnha.org/bookstorehome.htm)

*Buffalo Jump*  
**\$8.95**

*"Fireworks shed a beautiful light over Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas."*

A light dusting of snow fell on Saturday evening bringing holiday spirit to the Cowboy Christmas festivities. Local people and Medora visitor were treated to a full day of shopping, snacking, hay rides, and enjoying the festive atmosphere. The day would not be complete without a delicious

**Cowboy Christmas**

Christmas dinner.

The wonderful folks putting on the event wouldn't stop there. In what has become a Medora tradition, before the annual Christmas dance, the whole town was treated to a firework show over the bluffs surrounding town. Only in Medora can you spend a



cold December night standing outside in the freshly fallen snow, watching an amazing firework display.

We invite you to join in on the Cowboy festivities in December of 2009.

**Member and Visitor Feedback**



Andria and Jan are from Victoria West, South Africa visited Theodore Roosevelt National Park in November.

**Tell us what you think...**

Andria & Jan said:  
*"Ongelooflik mooi. Asemronede natuurskoon!"*

After a little searching for translation on the world wide web I have loosely translated this as:

*"Unbelievable, beautiful, breathtaking nature."* Because I do not consider myself bilingual I am not

sure if my translation is correct. If you have a better translation please let me know!

What do you like best about our park, association, or North Dakota in general? We have reserved this section of our newsletter to give the visitor perspective. Please send in your thoughts and comments about Theodore Roosevelt National

Park, Knife River Indian Villages National Historical Site, and Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuges. Help our readers plan their trip to North Dakota based on your experience.

Please send comments, suggestions, photos, or questions to:

[info@trnha.org](mailto:info@trnha.org)

# Elk Management Plan Released (continued from page 1)

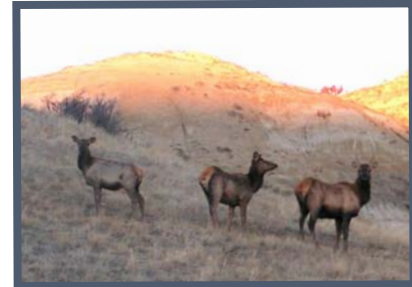
Thank you Valerie Naylor, Theodore Roosevelt National Park Superintendent for this wonderful update.

and shipping others to willing recipients, and e) providing hunting opportunities outside the park. The last alternative would involve encouraging elk to leave the park and would require the cooperation of the ND Game and Fish Department as well as local landowners.

The park has not identified a preferred alternative or an environmentally preferred alternative. Those will be determined after the public comment period. In the end, the park could select any of the alternatives or

some combination of them.

The plan is a lengthy, but well written document that explains all of the alternatives and their environmental consequences in depth. If you are interested in this issue, we hope you will request a copy and take the time to look through it. The plan is available on the internet, on CD, or in hard copy format.



## TRNHA Membership Increases in 2009

Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association has decided to make some changes in 2009. The rising cost of maintaining a business has forced us to reconstruct our membership program beginning this month.

We have been very reluctant to do so in the past, but must make the change. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us.

### Membership Levels

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Individual.....   | \$20.00  |
| Family.....       | \$30.00  |
| Contributing..... | \$75.00  |
| Supporting.....   | \$250.00 |

### Membership Benefits

- 15% Discount on sales items at our five bookstore locations: Painted Canyon, South Unit, & North Unit (All at Theodore Roosevelt National Park); Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, and Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge.
- TRNHA membership is honored by most National Park Cooperating Association with a reciprocal discount.
- Monthly e-newsletter
- Special member gift for new and renewing members.
- Newsletters and program announcements on the activities of the Association and the areas it serves.
- Special member only offers. (Please check our website for monthly specials)
- The pleasures of knowing that your membership contributes to the support of National park and refuge sites in North Dakota.

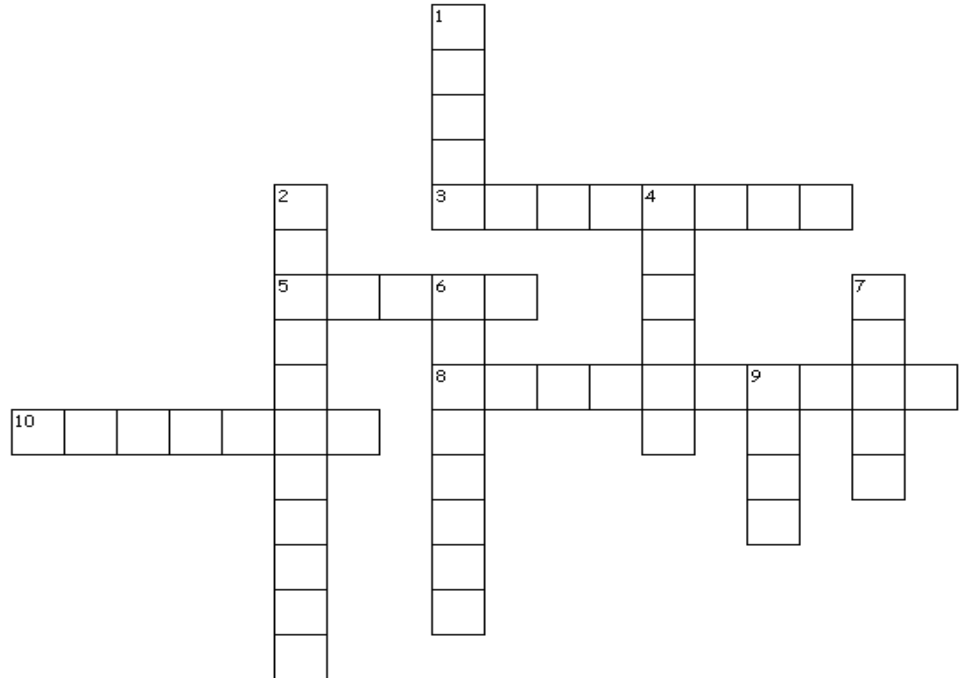
## Tracy's Top 10

### Things you can only do in Medora in the winter.....

1. Walk the streets in the evenings looking for deer.
2. Stop by the post office and visit with the postmaster, Madi, and the locals who are already there.
3. Have coffee at the convenience store with the local law enforcement.
4. Go downtown and check out the progress on the new Rough Riders Hotel.
5. Lay in the middle of the street after a fresh dusting of snow and make snow angels.
6. Visit the park's visitor center and watch the park movie, *TR Country*.
7. Go ice skating on the Little Missouri River.
8. Sit in a chair in the backyard and look at the Northern Lights.
9. Spend **two hours** knocking door to door asking for the eggs needed to make supper (*and talking to the neighbors*), so you don't have to spend **an hour** driving to Dickinson for groceries.
10. Go to the City Council Chamber of Commerce, and Zoning board meetings.

**Disclaimer:** Contrary to popular belief there are things to do in Medora during the winter months. This list is strictly for our readers amusement. For a complete list of events and activities please contact the Chamber of Commerce

## North Dakota Crossword Challenge



### Across

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ hey trail connects the three units of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_, ND is the geographical center of North America.  
 8. North Dakota grows more \_\_\_\_\_ than any other state.  
 10. Lewis and Clark encountered their first \_\_\_\_\_ bear in North Dakota.

### Down

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Sue is the world's largest cow sculpture.  
 2. Native Americans constructed these living quarters along the Knife River.  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_ Lake is the largest natural body of water in North Dakota.  
 6. The state capital of North Dakota.  
 7. The largest city in North Dakota.  
 9. Lawrence \_\_\_\_\_ left his home in North Dakota in 1924 to pursue a music career.

Crossword answers at bottom of page.

## It's for the birds!

### Supplies needed:

- 1/2 c. of shortening
- 3/4 c. of bird food mixture (birdseed, sunflower seeds, nuts, oats, raisins, etc.)
- 2 clean yogurt cups
- metal hook, ribbon or netting
- scissors
- ribbon for hanging

### Instructions:

1. Heat the shortening in a pot until it just melts. Add the bird food mixture to the liquid and stir thoroughly.
2. Fill each of the yogurt cups and insert a hook in the center of each cup while the mixture is still wet. The hook will normally hold on its own. You may also choose to use a ribbon for hanging. Just knot one end and insert the knotted end in the wet

- mixture.... or insert nothing and use a netting material to hold the food cake when solid.  
 3. Store the cups either outside (if the temperatures are cold enough) or in the refrigerator until the shortening hardens and the mixture is solid.  
 4. Cut the yogurt cup away from the bird food cake.  
 5. Tie a ribbon to the hook and hang on a branch.



Enjoy all of the birds who come to enjoy your wonderful treat!