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Governor's Photo Contest

North Dakota Tourism and a staff member from the office of Governor John Hoeven pored over more than 2,000 entries to select this year's Governor's Photo Contest winners.

All winners receive a cash prize and their photos will appear in Tourism's 2008 marketing materials. Winning photographers this year:

Ken Yetter, Bismarck:

Activities - Native Dance 1;
Native Dance 2; Scenery - Sno Bridge

Bryan Lang, Fargo:

People - Little Buddy

Duane Strand, Wahpeton:

Events - The Arrowhead Maker

Rodney Ludwig, Fargo:

Scenery - No. 16 at Bully Pulpit

Faylin Myhre, Abercrombie:

Attraction - Bread & Water,
Chahinkapa Zoo

Crystal Bakken, Grand Forks: Attraction - Floating in the Clouds, Roosevelt Park Zoo

Bill Kingsbury, Grafton: Scenery - Buck at Sunset

Photo by Rodney Ludwig



Scenery: No. 16 at Bully Pulpit

Photo by Ken Yetter



Activities: Native Dance 1

Photo by Bryan Lang



People: Little Buddy

Stakeholders told of 2008 marketing plan

North Dakota Tourism Division will shift its focus from sponsorship of specific outdoors shows to a larger cable TV presence in key markets in 2008.

The division unveiled its 2008 marketing plans at a stakeholders meeting at Century Center in Bismarck.

Industry leaders from throughout the state learned how Tourism plans to marketing North Dakota as a destination, and how partners can work with the Tourism Division to help promote their areas.

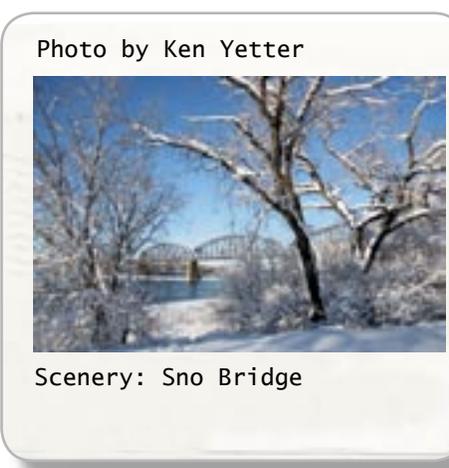
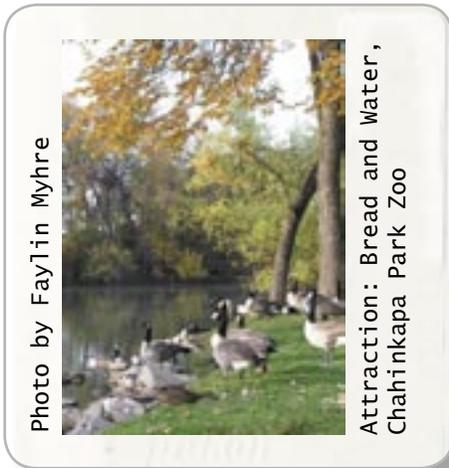
Tourism's plan highlights new promotions, such as skyway advertising. There will be an increased online presence, an earlier run of television, newspaper and print advertising and continued focus on key Canadian and border city markets.

"We are excited about the plan and a new out-of-home promotion in Minneapolis-St. Paul, which will put 15 (6x3 feet) panels in the heavily traveled skywalk system in downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul," Tourism Director Sara Otte Coleman said.

For a copy of the 2008 media and cooperative advertising plans, contact Heather LeMoine at 701-328-5372 or hlemoine@nd.gov.

More winners on following pages

More Governor's Photo Contest Winners



More winners on following page

State attends Tourism summit in Washington

Several members of North Dakota's tourism industry took part in the second annual Travel Leadership Summit in September in Washington, D.C.

Tourism Division Director Sara Otte Coleman was joined by Cole Carley of Fargo-Moorhead CVB, Terry Harzinski of Bismarck-Mandan CVB, Julie Rygg of Greater Grand Forks CVB, Wendy Howe of Minot CVB, David Borlaug of Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation, and Doug Hevenor of the International Peace Garden.



The North Dakota constituency met with Congressman Earl Pomeroy and Senator Byron Dorgan, in addition to top aides from both theirs and Senator Kent Conrad's offices.

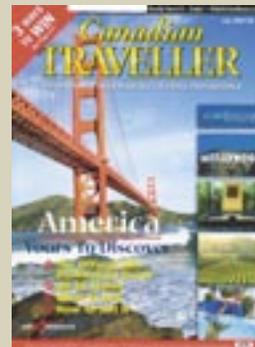
"Our priority in meeting with our delegation was to confirm their commitment to delay the passport deadline for Canadians to make sure it is implemented correctly," Otte Coleman said. "We also were pleased to learn of their support of a program to market the U.S. abroad." ●

The Press Run: Featuring North Dakota

North Dakota in the news: Third quarter 2007



- American Cowboy, July-August: Endless Horizons
- Style Manitoba, Summer: North Dakota Bound
- Destinations, August: National Treasures
- Midwest Living, July-August: Celebrations, Summer Getaways
- Family Fish and Game, September: State of the Month
- High Plains/Midwest Ag Journal, August: A Few Good Men
- Canadian Traveler, July: North Dakota, Peace Garden State
- Group Travel Leader, September: Where Less is More
- Golf Odyssey, September: Triple Golf Challenge
- Golf Week Magazine, August: Golf Rater Caravan
- Travel & Leisure Golf, July-August: : High Plains Drifter ●
- Boating Life, August: Devils Lake



Name that buffalo

The National Buffalo Museum is asking the public to help name the rare white calf born August 31. The public is encouraged to submit name ideas and reasons (if any) for the name in writing to: "Name White Cloud's Calf," National Buffalo Museum, 500 17th St. SE, Jamestown, ND 58401.



Only written submissions will be considered. E-mail submissions are acceptable and the sender should use "Name White Cloud's Calf" in the subject line. All submissions should include the name, address and phone number of the person making the submission so that they could be contacted in the event their calf name is chosen.

The deadline to submit a name is November 30, 2007. The person submitting the winning entry will receive a one-year family membership to the National Buffalo Museum and a \$100 gift certificate to the museum's gift shop. ●

Sports show partnerships

North Dakota Tourism is making preliminary plans to attend a variety of sports and travel shows this winter and spring.

Anyone wishing to be in the booth or to have materials displayed in the booth at a particular show should contact Mark Zimmerman at 701-328-2509 or mzimmerman@nd.gov.

The preliminary schedule:

■ **Twin Cities Ice Fishing Frenzy:**

Minneapolis Convention Center, November 16-18

■ **Pheasants Forever Pheasant**

Fest: St. Paul River Center, January 18-20

■ **Minneapolis/St. Paul RV Vacation and Camping Show:** Minneapolis

Convention Center, February 7-10

■ **RV & Outdoor Show:** Winnipeg, Manitoba, Winnipeg Convention Center, February 28-March 2

■ **Omaha Sport Show:** Omaha Qwest Center, March 6-9

■ **Bicycling-Travel & Adventure Expo:** Minneapolis Convention Center, March 8-9

■ **Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sports Show:** Wisconsin Exposition Center, State Fair Park, March 12-16

■ **Northwest Sport Show:** Minneapolis Convention Center, April 2-6

■ **Great Outdoors Festival:** Oshkosh, Wis., August (no definite dates yet) ●

More Governor's Photo Contest Winners

Photo by Crystal Bakken



Attraction: Floating in the Clouds, Duck at Roosevelt Park Zoo

Photo by Duane Strand



Events: Arrowhead Maker

In the News

(Go to the links below each item for a complete news release)



North Dakota Tourism was in the news in September

September 25: The American Bus Association (ABA) has designated two North Dakota events to its listing of Top 100 Events in North America for 2008. Making the list are the Medora Musical and the North Dakota Rodeo Association Championship Finals. <http://www.ndtourism.com/smartmail/news-releases/detail.asp?newsID=184>

September 25: North Dakota is joining hundreds of destinations worldwide in celebrating World Tourism Day, an event held each year on September 27. Sanctioned by the U.N. World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the event provides an opportunity to look beyond borders and celebrate the unique opportunities created by travel and tourism. <http://www.ndtourism.com/smartmail/news-releases/detail.asp?newsID=183>

September 26: Add some zest to the season by taking in some of the October activities scheduled across North Dakota. Check out North Dakota's inaugural extreme adventure race and art and wine walk or just take in a Broadway show or the myriad arts and crafts events. For a complete list of events, go to www.ndtourism.com/whatdo/events/ or call 701-328-2525 or 800-435-5663. <http://www.ndtourism.com/smartmail/news-releases/detail.asp?newsID=185> ●

Tourism grants awarded

North Dakota Tourism has awarded its program grants and event grants for 2008.

Fourteen tourism-related entities received awards. Matched Grants are for tourism-related attraction, destinations, packages, tours, etc. They can be used to promote or develop anything other than specific events.

Event Matched Grants are funds available to communities or promoters of specific events.

This year's recipients of North Dakota Tourism matched grants:

Program Grants: Scenic Byway Guide, The Printers; Motorcycle Guide, The Printers; Lewis and Clark Golf Trail; Red River Attractions; Triple Challenge Golf Package; Dakota Trails; KTM Adventure Tours.

Event Grants: International Peace Garden Horticulture Boot Camp, Dunseith; PWT Tournament, Devils Lake; Snow Jam, Fargo; Spirit of the West, Beach; Sully's Hill Birding and Nature Festival, Fort Totten; North Dakota State Fair, Minot; Lewis and Clark Fort Mandan Wings and Things Nature Fest, Washburn. ●

International visitation to U.S. up 12%

The U.S. Department of Commerce announced that 3.8 million international visitors traveled to the United States in June 2007, an increase of 12% over June 2006.

Total visitation for the first six months of 2007 was up over 8% from the same period in 2006. International visitors also spent more than \$10 billion during the month of June 2007, up 14% from June 2006 and \$58 billion year-to-date, up 10% from the first six months in 2006.

Visitation from Western Europe was up 13% in June 2007, and 8% year-to-date. Eastern European arrivals were up 9% in June and 11% for the first six months of 2007, respectively.

Arrivals from Sweden are up 18.8% and continue to rise.

North Dakota Tourism continues to court the Scandinavian and European markets in an effort to bring those travelers to North Dakota. ●

Passport requirements began again Oct. 1

Beginning October 1, airline passengers again need valid passports in order to travel between the United States and Bermuda, the Caribbean, Canada, and Mexico, according to the Department of Homeland Security.

The ruling was officially enacted last January as part of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, but the influx of passport applications was so overwhelming, the DHS suspended the law until September 30, 2007. The law will be extended next year to land borders and seaports as well.

Through Sept. 30, 2007, U.S. citizens traveling to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, or Bermuda who have applied for but not yet received passports could have temporarily entered and departed from the United States by air with a government-issued photo identification and official proof of application for a passport through the Department of State.

Now U.S. citizens traveling by air to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda must present a passport or other WHTI-compliant documentation to enter or depart from the United States. ●



DOT Transportation Enhancement projects

The North Dakota Department of Transportation is accepting applications for Director's Task Force Transportation Enhancement projects for fiscal year 2009.

There will be about \$875,000 for urban projects and \$350,000 for rural projects.

TE projects are in three categories: bikeway and pedestrian facilities, environmental and scenic, and historic. Projects must be transportation related.

Go to www.dot.nd.gov/transenhance1.html or to the local DOT division for application information. ●

Where's Scooter?

Antoinette Heier of Steele sees Sandy every day. She correctly placed me with Sandy the Sandhill Crane in Steele last month. This month, I'm heading to a Rendezvous with some of our early settlers. Where am I? Please E-mail your answers to jpursley@nd.gov by October 23. In the event of a tie, a drawing will be held to determine who receives the Legendary item. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number so I can contact you if you are the winner. ●



Exhibits at this public facility showcase the story of North Dakota's pioneer settlement.