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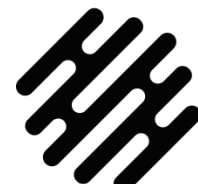
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# The Communicator

Your Community Connection

Edition 45

February 1, 2026

tiogandnews@gmail.com

www.tiogand.org



PO Box 93  
Tioga ND 58852  
701-664-8233



## Community News

### Tioga Fire Department is expanding! - Nathan Germundson, President

2026 will be an exciting time for the Tioga Fire Department. Near the end of 2025, the Fire Department was able to work out a deal with the Bank of Tioga to purchase the empty lots on the north side of the current fire hall. This was a dream and vision our members have had for many years, and we are finally able to see it come to fruition.

We partnered with EAPC, an architecture firm from Minot, who helped us through the process of designing an addition that meets our needs while also tying into our existing facility. At the end of December, we held a bid opening for a general contractor. The bid was awarded to First Dakota Enterprises of Pierre, SD, with construction scheduled to begin this spring. The addition will be just under 9,000 square feet. It will include three bays, each with the capability of stacking two units. The building will also feature two bathrooms with showers, a good-sized storage room, and a dedicated laundry room for cleaning bunker gear.

As we have added new units over the years, their size has continued to increase, making it more difficult for our members to safely work around them in our current space. This new addition will allow us to spread out our equipment and create a safer, more efficient working environment.

The bid for the project came in at \$2.8 million. We were able to secure full funding for the project through the Williams County 1% sales tax. As the project progresses, we will continue to keep the community informed. Our goal is to have the project completed by the end of 2026.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions. Once again, thank you to our community for the continued support you show the members of the Tioga Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Departments.



### Update From Jaden Iverson-Finance Commissioner

I have served on the commission since July of 2024 as the city Finance commissioner. I am very pleased with my experience thus far and for the support I have received from the community. Like any transition period my time on the commission has included challenges early on, some controversial projects and procedural issues. We lost some highly capable and dedicated employees that was not easy for us but at the same time we are very happy with the individuals who have stepped into those roles they have brought great skill, and fresh energy, and are very committed to serving the community.

It has been a busy term thus far we have had some big projects that we have completed like the expansion of the community center and the north main project, and chip seal project. We have been working to put our community in most strong financial position possible by paying down unnecessary debts, scrapping a few unnecessary projects, and investing idle funds into CD's while we plan out the best way to spend those resources on what will improve the community.

As the head of the finance department I am super excited about operational improvements we have made at city hall to make sure we are efficient and highly productive. One of my priorities has been an increase in training so our employees have vast knowledge about every aspect of the department and it seems to be paying off. As of late 2025 we modernized our timekeeping and payroll, by switching from paper to electronics systems. This will no doubt help us keep better records as well as make it faster and more convenient for all employees. We head into audit season; we will also begin revising and updating the city handbook later this year.

Looking ahead we have several upcoming goals we are working toward. These would include a ballfield, and developing ideas for road projects. A major focus for me is finding responsible ways to support growth in our community, including expanding housing options, and encouraging new business. We are working closely with the EDC to explore possibilities. I hope by end of my term we are well on our way to achieving these goals.

I would like to thank the community for the opportunity to serve and for the support. It is an honor to be part of this work, and I will continue using the remainder of my term to learn, and improve, and with the help of my other fellow commissioners strengthen an already great community.



### Tioga Area EDC Annual Meeting

Tioga Area EDC would like to invite our community business owners to attend the Tioga Area EDC Annual Meeting on Tuesday, February 11th, 2026, at 6:00 PM at Side Street Diner.

This meeting is a great opportunity for local business owners, business leaders, and community partners to come together and learn more about what's new and exciting for 2026 at the Tioga Area Economic Development Corporation. We are excited to share updates on current projects, future goals, and the overall vision for economic growth and development in Tioga over the next year.

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LPL Financial Advisor

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**Inspirational Quote**  
Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.  
- Mother Theresa

**Tioga Trivia**  
Can you buy your valentine cards at Tioga Drug? We'll give you the answer now - YES YOU CAN!  
Prev Edition Answer: 5

**Bible Verse of the Week**  
Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.  
~ 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

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**A Little Chuckle**

**Did you know?**

What flowers get the most kisses on Valentine's Day?  
Tulips

Conversation hearts originated as medical lozenges

### Live Well Tioga! Returns with a Fresh Focus on Community Health and Wellness - Tioga Area EDC

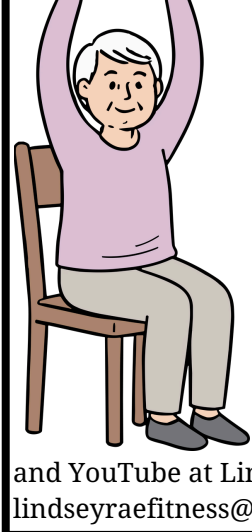
We are excited to share that Live Well Tioga is officially back, and this year it's returning with a fresh and expanded focus on what it truly means to live well in our community. Health and wellness have been on my mind a lot lately not just from a personal standpoint, but from a community development perspective. A healthy community is a strong community, and this year Live Well Tioga will highlight wellness in a whole new light. Over the coming months, residents can expect a variety of activities and learning opportunities centered around both physical and mental well-being. This will include everything from physical exercise and fitness classes, physical therapy and stretching sessions, cooking and preparing healthy meals, and learning about holistic approaches to wellness and overall health.



The goal is simple: to give our community accessible, practical tools to live healthier, feel better, and stay active together. More details on Live Well Tioga will be shared soon. If you haven't already, Like our Facebook page, Live Well Tioga.  
- Josh Vachal, EDC Director (701)-840-5259

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### Haman to offer Senior Citizen fitness in Tioga! - Lindsey Haman



Hello Tioga area seniors,  
Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Lindsey Haman, owner of Lindsey Rae Fitness. I am a certified personal trainer and senior fitness specialist here in Tioga. I learned at a young age that mobility and independence should never be taken for granted. While my grandparents were raising my sister and me, my grandma suffered a major stroke that left her completely paralyzed on her right side and unable to speak or walk unassisted. Growing up in a caretaker role for one of my own caretakers not only taught me to value my own strength and independence but also showed me the importance of being there for one another. That experience inspired me to help others stay strong, mobile, and independent. I am offering strength and balance classes on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. at the Tioga Senior Center, with plans to add more locations in the future. Starting March 1, 2026, I will also be offering affordable in-home senior training sessions. I truly believe it's never too late to get stronger and feel more confident in your body. I'd love to move with you and be part of your journey toward better balance, strength, and independence. If you're curious, I invite you to come try a class or reach out with any questions. You can find me on Facebook, TikTok, and YouTube at Lindsey Rae Fitness, where I share workout tips, modifications, and more. You can also reach me by email at lindseyraefitness@gmail.com or by phone at 701-388-7324

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### Bakken Business Network

One thing I have noticed over the past few years is just how many great young professionals we have here in Tioga and the surrounding area. For a community of just over 2,200 people, we are incredibly fortunate to have people working in a wide range of industries - oil and energy, healthcare, agriculture, finance, education, construction, small business, and so much more. We have talented people who chose to live, work, and invest their future in this region, and that's something worth celebrating and building on. That's why I'm excited to introduce a new idea: the Bakken Business Network. The goal of the Bakken Business Network is simple bring professionals together once a month in a relaxed, informal setting to network, share ideas, and learn more about what's happening across our region. Nothing formal, no pressure just a chance to get to know one another, build relationships, and create new connections within our community. I would love to hear from professionals across all industries: oil field representatives, healthcare workers, agricultural producers, financial professionals, business owners, and anyone else who is passionate about Tioga and the Bakken region. This group isn't just about networking it's about building community, supporting local businesses, creating new referrals and opportunities, and helping each other grow both personally and professionally. My hope is that the Bakken Business Network becomes a space where new ideas are shared, partnerships are formed, and people feel more connected to the place they call home. If you are a professional in the Tioga area and interested in being part of this group, I would love to hear from you. - Josh Vachal EDC Dir. josh.tiogaedc@gmail.com

**Tioga Area Economic Development Corporation**  
  
OIL & ENERGY CAPITAL OF NORTH DAKOTA

### Prayers to the Family of:

Vernell (Vern) Leroy Holte: July 14, 1942-December 26, 2025  
Diane Lynne Hanson: December 12, 1947 - January 16, 2026  
Gerald Curtis Peterson: November 29, 1940 - January 26, 2026  
"May there be comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten."-Julie Hebert

### Mark your calendars

Feb 2: City of Tioga Commission Meeting  
Feb 9: Planning and Zoning  
Feb 10: Tioga Fund Advisory Board Meeting  
Feb 10: Library Board Meeting  
Feb 14: Valentine's Day

### Tioga School Calendar

Feb 4: Early Dismissal 2:00PM  
Feb 5: BBB vs Alexander  
Feb 6: BBB/GBB vs Washburn  
Feb 7: Region Wrestling Duals  
Feb 9: BBB vs Garrison  
Feb 10: Parent Teacher Conferences  
Feb 12 - 14: District 5 GBB Tournament - The Well @ WSC

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