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The Communicator

Your Community Connection

Edition 22
February 15, 2025
tiogandnews@gmail.com
www.tiogand.org

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Community News

It's Just Coffee - w/ Red Moose Coffee Hus owner, Jenny Norgaard

I have always been entrepreneurial. Back when I worked downtown Minneapolis, on the side I created and sold handmade greeting cards to a couple skyway gift shops. Then in 1998 I started my own business intelligence consulting company. While I served several large clients in the metro area, most of my 20 years doing IT were spent working for 3M. And my favorite class while getting my MBA at the University of Minnesota was Entrepreneurship. So it's not too surprising that upon moving to Tioga in 2008, Chris indulged my day-dreaming about fixing up a little shop on Main Street.
The old American Family building on First and Main streets in Tioga was originally the Tioga State Bank. Remnants of the old bank remained, though turquoise carpeting, a dropped office-type ceiling, paneling and linoleum masked much of the beauty. I was undeterred and Chris and I bought that little brick building in 2010 from Earl and Alice Swenson. We worked and worked to fix it up and we rented it out as an apartment for a while because there was such a need for housing in Tioga. Once the boom slowed and the tenant gave notice, Chris was reaching to put the "For Rent" sign up in the window and I knew it was time. "Let me do something fun with it now," I appealed.
I started working on the business plan for the Red Moose Coffee Hus that sweet summer of 2016. Our townhouse was two blocks away from and all four of us had well-worn paths to the old bank as we worked once again to renovate. I worked with the health inspector, the city inspector, the electrician and plumber to meet all the requirements and get everything set up.
Building a coffee shop made sense to me. But one thing that didn't was making coffee! I could write a mean business plan and work my butt off varnishing a newly sanded original maple hardwood floor from 1902, but when I thought about actually making the coffee my eyes glazed over. When I would go to Starbucks I'd try so hard to pay attention, but it might as well have been rocket science. Whoosh, over my head. I didn't even know how to make Folgers. My mom had to bring her own coffee pot and coffee to my house when she and my dad came to visit. And this is the girl who decided to start a coffee shop?
As luck or fate would have it, Chris knew a guy. My husband manufactures a piece of equipment he invented way back in March 2003. For a while we rented a facility for assembling the Septic Heaters in Grand Forks, ND. Right next door was a guy who rented space for his coffee equipment servicing business. Dan Dan the Coffee Man is a gregarious guy who loves coffee and more importantly loves teaching people about how to make espresso drinks. Alleluia!
The Red Moose Coffee Hus opened in June 2017, just a few days before Rhubarb Fest. Setting up the coffee shop was exciting: planning out cabinets and equipment, doing drawings to scale for the health inspector, working on the business plan, estimating monthly cash flows, working up costs of every item by ounce – flavor, espresso, each type of milk, the cups, lids, sleeves, and straws. I'm a hard worker and I thoroughly enjoyed the year we prepped for coffee shop. When we decided it was ready and opened the doors to the public, it was a little surreal. I really hadn't fully envisioned "running" the coffee shop.
I didn't know what I was doing. But God knew what he was doing. In the seven years the shop has been open, He's placed just the right people in my path. When new baristas are nervous, I tell them as long as you do everything with a smile, it will be ok. It's not an emergency room, "it's just coffee."
The baristas turn over some each season. I usually employ six or seven at a time, a mix of students and adults. To many I was a mom figure, training them in on the coffee drinks, customer service, and teaching them to be aware of others, and to anticipate what the next crew might need done. And a few of the baristas – and a few of the customers – became my best friends.
It's just coffee....or is it?
The Red Moose Coffee Hus on the corner of First & Main has become a place to gather, to gab, to meet and greet. A place where a good cup of coffee is just the beginning.
We are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, and 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on weekends. We look forward to serving you!

CONGRATULATIONS WC FIRESTORM WRESTLING QUALIFYING FOR STATE AS A TEAM! GOOD LUCK ALSO TO THE INDIVIDUAL STATE QUALIFIERS!

107: Kase Brown
114: Tristan Miller
130: Annalisia Bishop
133: Levi Jensen
139: Walker Sheldon
145: Kash Brown

Tournament Dates:
Thurs Feb 20th -
Sat, Feb 22
Fargo ND

148: Jazmine Lindberg
152: Jeremiah Schmidt
172: Rocker Aguilar
189: Ashton Weathersby
215: Brennin Thuesen
285: Matthew Jacobs

Mark your calendars

Feb 17th: President's Day
Feb 18th: Tioga City Commission Meeting 7PM Tioga City Hall
Feb 18th: Tioga Park Board 6PM @ Park Shop
Feb 19th: ND Job Service 10AM-12PM @ Tioga Community Center
Feb 20th: Tioga Airport Authority Meeting 7PM Airport
Feb 21st: Midwest Murder Podcast 7PM Tioga Community Center
Feb 28th: Gather 6:30PM Neset Consulting Services

Tioga School Calendar

Feb 15: GBB Districts Four Bears Newtown ND
Feb 17th: President's Day - NO SCHOOL
Feb 18th: BBB vs Ray 4:30PM THS
Feb 18th: School Board Mtg 5:15PM THS Library
Feb 20th: BBB District Play-in Game
Feb 20-22nd: ND State Wrestling Tournament: Fargo ND
Feb 16-23rd: National FFA Week
Feb 24-27th: GBB Regionals Four Bears Newtown ND
Feb 24: Track Practice Begins

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Inspirational Quote

When given the choice, be wise in actions over wise in words.

Tioga Trivia

Who was the first governor of North Dakota?

Last Weeks Answer:

Bible Verse of the Week

Cast all of your anxiety on him because he cares for you.
-1 peter 5:7

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A Little Chuckle

What do you call it when a snowman has a temper tantrum?
A melt down

Today in History:

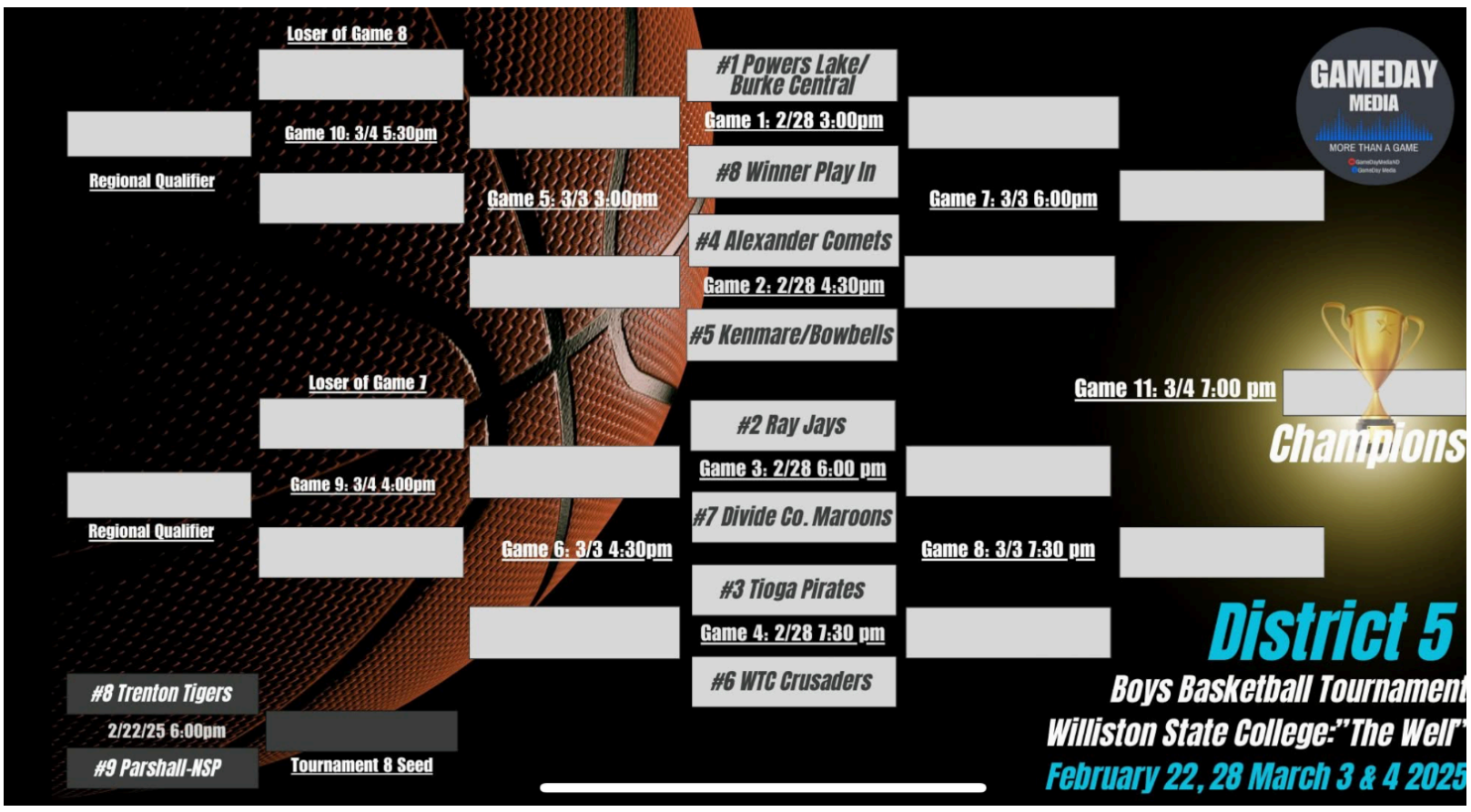
1898: USS Maine Explodes in Savanna Harbor
1903: First Teddy Bear goes on sale

Community News

You're Invited! Hidden Beauty Salon and Spa Open House! - Jennifer Wonser

Hidden Beauty Salon and Spa invites you to our open house on Sunday February 23rd at 6pm to celebrate our existing and new services.
We're happy to announce that our esthetician Tana is back providing spa quality facial services. She uses Farmhouse Fresh Skincare and we carry a variety of those products for you to enjoy at home. Farmhouse Fresh is made from nutrient rich, high quality ingredients fresh from their farm in Texas.
An addition to our services is provided by Dr. Ashley Karener from Revive Medical Spa in Rugby, N.D. Her Fontana Laser treatments include 4D Facelift, LipLase, fine line, wrinkles, scar, stretch marks and spider vein reduction, Onychomysis, Tight Sculpting, NightLase to help with sleep apnea, NaseLase, SmoothEye, benign lesion removal, Ablation Laser Peel, IntimaLase, RenovaLase and IncontiLase. Dr. Ashley Karener will be here at 3pm for consultations prior to our Open House. Please call 701-888-1015 to schedule a meeting with her.
We're excited to offer flowers again! The Rooted Home in Crosby, N.D. will be here weekly to stock the the cooler with lovely scented, beautifully arranged bouquets for you to share with loved ones.
We also have Nails by Nick here on Tuesdays for all of your manicure needs. Our massage therapy is provided by Heather from Wellspring Health. She has specialized in sports and injury recovery and chronic pain treatment for over a decade.
HB Salon and Spa owner Jessica Nygaard and fellow Master Stylist K'Lynn have over 30 yrs in combined experience. They expertly provide perms, cut and style, color transformations, beautiful hair extensions and scalp and hair treatments. They love what they do, you'll be happy that you you choose them for your haircare needs.
We are all looking forward to celebrating and visiting with you during our open house at 17 N. Main St.
Please call 701-664- 3579 for questions or appointments.

Good Luck to Tioga Pirate Boys Basketball Team at the District 5 Tournament!



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