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# The Communicator

Your Community Connection

Edition 51

May 1st, 2026

tiogandnews@gmail.com

www.tiogand.org



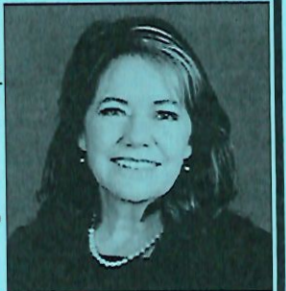
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## Community News

### 75 Years- A Look Back and a Way to the Future- Kathleen Neset

It is really quite amazing to look back 75 years, right here in Tioga, North Dakota, to understand the importance of the discovery of oil. Of course there were earlier attempts and wells drilled, but it wasn't until April 4, 1951 that the Clarence Iverson No. 1 was drilled and tested, that an economically successful oil industry was realized in North Dakota. We can only imagine the excitement that ensued. We have the newspaper articles and photos documenting this scene. It truly was historic. This became the modern day gold rush of the time – the black gold rush – that ushered in a new era for all of North Dakota. All we need to do is to go to our beautiful Norseman Museum right here in Tioga to relive the excitement and capture the importance of the day. As we look back, let's also look forward with this industry and recognize the ups and downs, the boom years and the busts, the good years and the lean years, as we think about this very volatile industry. What makes this oil and gas industry so prone to fluctuations? It appears that it becomes at times, a political tool and is used to further other causes globally. Everyone needs energy and we have a world that has become increasingly adept at making lives better. With about 8 billion people on this beautiful planet there are always those in far away countries trying to move out of energy poverty and into a safer more reliable source of energy. Oil and natural gas are two of the lower cost options to attain energy security. But to bring this to the people who need it, we need to continue to build and develop our energy assets. Seventy five years we have worked in North Dakota to improve our technology and our industry. We have been tremendously successful. We can look back to the early decades of oil and gas development and see how we moved from vertical drilling of wellbores with a success rate of approximately thirty percent to our present-day horizontal Bakken wellbores reaching target formation at 10,000 feet deep vertically and then drilling four miles laterally. Can you imagine what those Amerada engineers and geologists would think of the improvements and the technological advancements that have taken place. It is simply amazing. Our success rate now is approximately 98% wells drilled are economically successful. Today we are looking at advancements in the lab and in field work to improve the amount of oil that we can extract from these unconventional shale oil zones. Here in the Bakken, we estimate that we are recovering about 15% of the oil in place. What if we can improve that to 20 percent of the oil in place – or 30 percent of the oil recovered? In 2024 the State of North Dakota reached the milestone of 5 billion barrels of Bakken crude oil produced. With advancements in technology to bring about Bakken 2.0, Crack the Code, Enhanced Oil Recovery, or whatever term you want to use to describe this work, we can attain this level of production. Not only does this bring increased success to North Dakota, but it also helps to bring energy security to the world. North Dakota and the Bakken are well positioned to help bring this next wave of energy independence to America and to the world. Seventy five years of hard work and determination will lead to a future of continued energy independence for our great State and our Nation, and energy security to the world. **NESET**



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### Northwest Sportsman's Association (NWSA) - Kerissa Schaffer

Founded in 2024, the Northwest Sportsman's Association (NWSA) is a community-driven organization focused on creating opportunities for youth and adults through outdoor recreation, stewardship, and service. Our mission is to advance clay shooting sports, especially in our youth, by creating and maintaining a quality range, and promoting the education of safe and responsible firearm use. We strive to strengthen our community through events that bring people together and are invested in giving back to our community through service. The Northwest Sportsman's Association has been generously awarded \$196,000 in grant funding from the Tioga Community Fund to upgrade its shooting facility located north of the Tioga Dam. The NWSA range serves as the home facility for the Tioga Clay Shooting Team, which currently is the 8th largest high school Trap Team and 1st largest high school Skeet Team in North Dakota, with participation growing yearly. Increasing use from school teams and community members alike, make these improvements both timely and necessary. The awarded funding will be used on improvements that will bring the range into compliance with standards set by the Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) and the National Skeet Shooting Association (NSSA). The project includes the construction of two ATA standard trap fields, and two NSSA skeet fields. These necessary improvements will allow for expanded programming and the potential to host sanctioned events, in a variety of shooting disciplines, as well as provide the opportunity to practice and compete on a regulation-level field right here in Tioga. In addition to funding from the Tioga Community Fund, the project has also received strong support from local businesses and private individuals. Even with this momentum, the NWSA anticipates needing an additional \$65,000 to complete the range upgrades. Following completion of the range project, NWSA will turn its focus to securing funding for a clubhouse. This future space is intended to serve not only the shooting range, but the broader community as well, providing a flexible venue for education, events, and local gatherings. Those interested in donating or learning more are encouraged to contact NWSA President Layne Ferguson (701-641-2791), NWSA Vice President Nate Raan (701-641-3060), or NWSA Treasurer Kelci Hanson (701-641-2097).



ESTD

2024

# NORTHWEST

SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION

### Candidate Forum for City Commission and Park Board Races

Residents of Tioga are invited to attend an upcoming Candidate Forum designed to give community members the opportunity to hear directly from individuals running for local office. The forum will take place on Thursday, May 7, at the Tioga Community Center (201 Main St. W). Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with the forum beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Candidate Forum aims to provide a platform for voters to learn more about each candidate's background, priorities, and vision for the future of Tioga. Attendees will have the chance to hear prepared remarks and gain insight into the issues that matter most to the community.

Events like this play an important role in fostering civic engagement and ensuring residents are informed ahead of election day.

#### Tioga City Commission, including:

- Patches Fabbro
- Robert Fuson
- Timothy Holly
- Cody Normark
- Kyle Ralston

#### Park Board seats will also be participating:

- Dan Larson
- Ray Crain



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**Inspirational Quote**

“Try not to become a person of success but rather try to become a person of value.”  
 -Albert Einstein

**Tioga Trivia**

When is election day in Tioga?  
 Prev Edition Answer: Tioga, New York!

**Bible Verse of the Week**

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.  
 ~ Matthew 11:28

**A Little Chuckle**

Why did the farmer bury all his money?  
 -He wanted to make his soil rich!

**Did you know?**

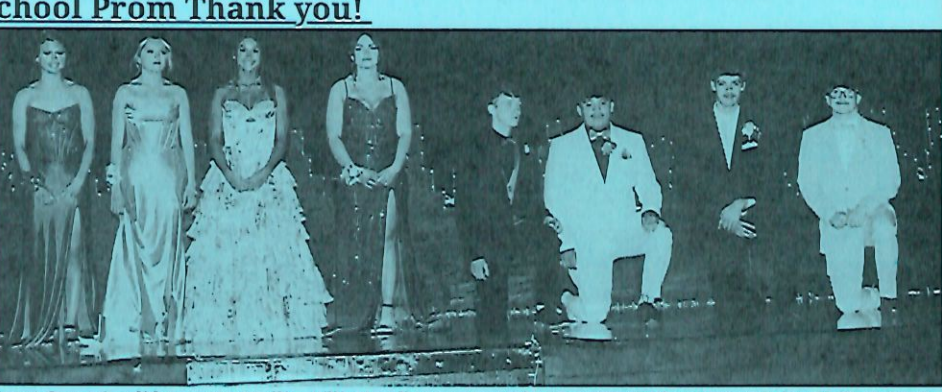
Elephants “Hear” Through Feet.



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**Tioga High School Prom Thank you!**  
 The Tioga After Prom party would like to thank the following businesses for their generous donations: Legion Gaming Funds, Kelly Harney, D&L Paraffin, Ray Farmer’s Union, Trade Wind Ranch and Scoria, Brandi Larson Insurance, The Tioga Fund, MWE, Sheldon Welding, Wade Works, Neset, Sundhagen Farms, XIXI Chapter Beta Sigma Phi, Pinnacle, Ace, Modern Dental, Tioga Parts Supply, Patriot Oilfield Services, Horizon Resources, Jeff & Wanda Moberg, KSI, NCC, Tioga Medical Center, Gary & Marcy Spooner, North Star Human Service Zone, Desi Hanson, Native Energy Solutions, Stones Throw Ag, Prairie Public Broadcasting Gaming, American Well Service Inc, American State Bank, Luxe Beauty Bar, WCCU, Tana Johnson, Tioga Machine Shop, Continental Resources, Tioga American Legion Post #139.



Prom Court Candidates: Ava Wallin, Billie Sundhagen, Amanda Kingston, Taylor Brown, Rylan Hollingshead, Diego Garcia, JT Hiatt, Gunnar Moberg.



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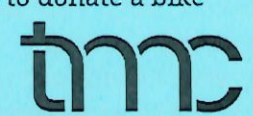
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**Spring Music Concert - Racheele Rehak**

Join us for a special evening of music on Thursday, May 14th, as our Central Elementary students will perform their spring concert at the Tioga High School old gym. They will be celebrating America’s Semiquicentennial, otherwise known as its 250th birthday! This program will feature patriotic songs and performances that honor the nation’s history, spirit, and diversity. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders will be singing at 5:30 pm. The 4th and 5th graders will follow at 6:30 pm. On May 20th, the Kindergarten celebration will be at 2 pm at Central Elementary gym. This great group will also be sharing a few patriotic songs, along with a couple songs celebrating everything they learned this year! Families, friends, and community members are invited to come support our young musicians as they share their hard work and talent.

**TMC Annual Bike Rodeo & Community BBQ May 13**

Tioga Medical Center invites the community to celebrate National Hospital Week with the annual Bike Rodeo and Community BBQ on Wednesday, May 13, in the Hospital/LTC parking lot. Bring your children, preschool through grade 6, and their bikes for free hands-on activities and bike safety provided by the Tioga Police Department and a chance to win door prizes! The bike rodeo runs from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The Community BBQ will follow. All are welcome to attend! Each year, generous support from our community members and local businesses makes it possible to give away bicycles to kids attending the Bike Rodeo. If you’d like to donate a bike for this year’s event, call Jordan Schmitt, TMC Foundation Director, at 701-664-3305ext. 9503




**Vern Holte’s Celebration of Life**

The Holte family would like to invite everyone to Vern Holte’s Celebration of Life service on Sunday, Mother’s Day, May 10 at 2:00 P. M. At NESET Consulting at 6844 ND Hwy 40. Please join us in celebrating his life, and share a meal with us.

**Tioga's #1 Pirate Fan!**



**Connie Maize Thanks Tioga Community!**

Thank you to everyone that attended my benift! A Big Thank You to Hidden Beauty Salon, Model Tavern, and Madhouse, Ace Hardware, and everyone who brought food. Also, thanks to Jace Lalim for letting me cut your hair!

**Prayers to the Family of:**

Helen Marie Johnson October 25, 1930- April 5, 2026  
 Marissa Lee Wallen Novermber 30, 1993- April 19, 2026  
 Kyle Neil Christofferson November 8, 1996-April 22, 2026  
 Kathryn Lynn Urbatsch June 15, 1953- April 24, 2026

“May there be comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten.”-Julie Hebert


**Mark your calendars**

May 1<sup>st</sup>: Annies Greenhouse Opens  
 May 1<sup>st</sup>: Red Riding Hood Performance Tioga Theatre @ 7pm  
 May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Red Riding Hood Performance Tioga Theatre @ 4pm  
 May 4<sup>th</sup>: Commission Meeting 7PM  
 May 11: Planning & Zooning Meeting 5:30pm  
 May 9<sup>th</sup>: Tioga City Wide Rummage Sale  
 May 9<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup>: City Wide Clean up week Free Dump Day 9th,12th,14th,16th  
 May 13<sup>th</sup>: City of Tioga Shred Day City Hall Parking Lot 10am-3pm

**Tioga School Calendar**

May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Softball vs. DLB 12pm  
 May 5<sup>th</sup>: JH NWC Boys Golf  
 May 5<sup>th</sup>: Baseball vs Kenmare 4:30pm  
 May 5<sup>th</sup>: Softball vs. Bottineau 4:30pm  
 May 7<sup>th</sup>: Baseball vs. New Town  
 May 8<sup>th</sup>: Elem Field Trip

May 8<sup>th</sup>: Softball Midseason Madness  
 May 12<sup>th</sup>: Baseball Region-play & Softball  
 May 13<sup>th</sup>: Senior Skip Day  
 May 14<sup>th</sup>: 1st-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade concert at 5:20 - 4<sup>th</sup>,5<sup>th</sup> Grade @ 6:30  
 May 15<sup>th</sup>: Track Regions




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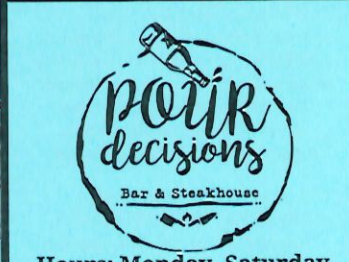
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