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The Communicator

Your Community Connection

Edition 41
December 1, 2025
tiogandnews@gmail.com
www.tiogand.org



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Tioga ND 58852
701-664-8233



Community News

A Night for Tioga: Celebrating Community, Supporting Our Hospital, and Building the Future

- Josh Vachal, Tioga Area EDC Director

The Tioga Area EDC, in partnership with Tioga Medical Center, is excited to host the first annual “A Night for Tioga” gala, an evening dedicated to strengthening our community and investing in the future of local healthcare. This special event will raise funds for the Hospital’s Capital Improvement projects, ensuring our residents continue to receive high-quality care close to home. This gala is more than a fundraiser, it’s a celebration of community spirit, hometown pride, and the shared belief that Tioga’s future is worth investing in. By attending, bidding, and participating, guests play a direct role in shaping improvements that will benefit families, neighbors, and future generations.

Guests will enjoy an unforgettable night featuring live auction items, dueling pianos entertainment, and a prime rib and shrimp dinner prepared by Poor Decisions, just in time to kick off the holiday season. With the theme of Western Elegance, the night promises festive fun, good company, and a chance to come together for a meaningful cause.

We hope to build this gala into a cherished annual holiday tradition, one that our entire community looks forward to year after year.

Join us, celebrate the season, and support Tioga Medical Center. Let’s come together, bid with purpose, and enjoy “A Night for Tioga!” Tickets available at the door or call 701-840-5259 to reserve tickets today!



Tioga
Community
Center



December 12
Doors Open
6PM



Tioga Medical Center Welcomes Kari Ely, FNP-C

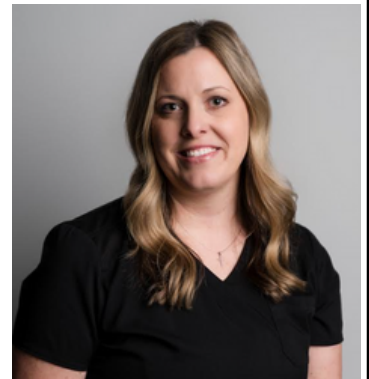
Tioga Medical Center is proud to welcome Kari Ely, FNP-C, as the newest member of our provider team.

Kari brings more than a decade of diverse and high-acuity nursing experience to Tioga Medical Center. Prior to joining the organization, she served in several critical roles at Trinity Health in Minot and St. Luke’s Medical Center in Crosby, providing simultaneous care to emergency, inpatient, outpatient, and swing bed patients. She worked closely with providers to deliver high-acuity care for patients experiencing chest pain, trauma, stroke, and psychiatric emergencies, demonstrating strong leadership and clinical versatility.

Kari’s clinical interests include preventive care and screenings for women, men, and children; urgent/emergent care; mental health management; dermatologic screenings; and functional medicine including hormone testing, food sensitivities, and gut health.

Kari’s broad clinical background, calm presence, and commitment to patient-centered care make her a strong addition to the Tioga Medical Center team. She looks forward to serving the Tioga community and building trusted relationships with her patients and their families.

To make an appointment with Kari, call 701-664-3368.



Greetings from Tioga American Legion Post 139 - Commander Scott B Post

We have historical and exciting news to share with this great community. On December 29th, 1919, a temporary charter was given to Post 139, and a permanent charter was granted January 19th, 1926. Traditionally, a legion post would also adopt a name. There are currently 203 legion posts in North Dakota, 17 of which are nameless. Post 139 is one of the nameless and our legion membership recommends that we adopt a name honoring one of our fallen as well.

The traditional naming convention was to select the full name of their community’s first killed in action. Vast research unveiled that Tioga had no KIAs from WWI. As a membership, we decided to look at our community’s WWII KIAs. Extensive research by our post service officer sadly revealed several KIAs from WWII and the Korean War. Post 139 will always honor and never forget those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, however, we as members must choose and feel that our community and post deserve a name. Department and National requirements are as follows; honorary selectee must be deceased, post must have a permanent charter, and family must give written permission.

At our last regular meeting, a main motion was proposed and unanimously carried to conduct a vote to adopt a name for Post 139. Only legionnaires of Tioga American Legion Post 139 are allowed to vote, and we encourage all active and inactive members to vote on this historic landmark.

Voting will be held and conducted by our Legion Auxiliary at the Norseman Museum on December 16th, 2025, from 1-6 pm.

Selected names of approved Tioga KIAs and a line for write ins will be on the ballot.

Members of Post 139, thank you and remember that all our KIAs, our Died in Service, and POWs will never be forgotten. Duty, Honor, Country!

Tioga EDC Update: Progress, Partnerships, and Exciting Developments Ahead - Josh Vachal, Tioga Area EDC Director

As we wrap up the past month, I’m proud to share several important steps forward for Tioga’s growth and future. One of the major initiatives underway is the Rural Catalyst Grant application. We recently secured matching funds through the Williams County 1% Fund, allowing us to confidently move into Phase 1 of the project, which is due January 7. This support is a significant milestone and reflects our region’s shared commitment to strengthening rural communities.

Securing this grant would allow us to move forward with the addition of a new softball field. This project will not only benefit our youth and recreational programs, but will also provide another welcoming space for families, tournaments, and community events.

In addition to grant work, the EDC is focusing on opportunities to develop our downtown EDC-owned lots. These properties hold tremendous potential for new commercial activity, local investment, and a more vibrant Main Street environment. Over the next few months, we’ll be shaping plans that support business growth and enhance the overall look and feel of our community’s core.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the vision and momentum of Tioga. Each project—big or small—helps build a stronger future for our city, and I look forward to continuing this work alongside all of you.



Tioga Parts Supply

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Monday-Friday: 7am- 6pm

Saturday: 7am- 4pm

105 Main St N, Tioga, ND 58852

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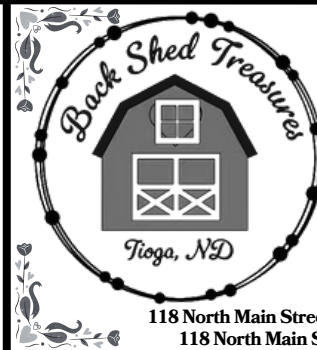


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Stop in and check out new Fall Sale Items

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Friday 10am-3pm

Saturday 10am-2pm

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Inspirational Quote

The true Christmas spirit is putting others' happiness before our own, and finding you've never known such happiness
-Toni Sorenson

Tioga Trivia

Jingle Bells was originally a Thanksgiving song. True or False?

Prev Edition Answer: 1987

Bible Verse of the Week

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
John 3:16

A Little Chuckle

What did Frosty's girlfriend give him when she was mad at him?
The cold shoulder

Did you know?

In 1836, Alabama was the first state to recognize Christmas as a state holiday.

Christmas Celebrations!

- Dec 4: Magical Medora Christmas, Community Center
- Dec 6: Magical Mainstreet Christmas, Main Street Tioga
- Dec 12: EDC/TMC: A Night for Tioga. Community Center 6PM
- Dec 21: The Baptist Boys Christmas Concert, Baptist Church 7PM
- Dec 7: Zion Church Sunday School Program 10:30AM
- Dec 7: McGregor Zion Church Ladies Christmas Tea 2PM
- Dec 14: McGregor Zion Church Sunday School Program 9AM
- Dec 14: St Thomas Catholic Church CCD Christmas Program 6PM
- Dec 14: Zion Ladies Christmas Tea 4PM
- Dec 14: First Lutheran Church Christmas Program 10:30AM

Don't miss Mrs Rehak's Students' Christmas Concert

Somehow, the holiday season is already upon us again! The students at Central have been singing about Christmas since early October and are super eager to share what they've been working so hard on. One exciting change for this year is that the 1st-6th grade concerts will be held in the old gym at the High School. This will allow for much more seating room for everyone to come and enjoy the music! Those programs will be on December 9th. The 1st-3rd grade program will be at 5:30, with the 4th-6th grades presenting "An Old-Fashioned Holiday" at 6:30. The Kindergarten program will be December 17th at 2pm in the elementary school gym. Come out and support our performers and celebrate the season with music and community!

Tioga School Superintendent's Scoop: December - Paul Olson

Happy Holidays to everyone! Tioga Public Schools is rounding out the end of 2025 with the completion of many projects. The construction project, which included the new gymnasium and classrooms, is now nearing the finish line. As many of you recall, the need for additional classrooms at the high school was due to Central Elementary School's enrollment at capacity with no additional space to add classrooms. As a result, our current 6th grade classes will be moving over to their new classrooms at the high school on January 5th. Mr. Schaffer and Mr. Odegaard are planning on having the sixth-grade students visit the high school prior to Christmas break. This will be a nice opportunity for the students to see their new classrooms and gain some comfort with this move. Our new gymnasium is in the process of finalizing with the installation of the new bleachers. We hope to have sporting events within this beautiful new facility starting soon. The renovations to our track (new surface) are not quite completed. The dirt work in making the track level and providing a sound foundation for the surface was completed, but not the actual rubber surface. The weather had turned cold before the rubber surface could be laid. Most likely it will be completed June of 2026. I do feel blessed to be able share that so far we

have not gone over budget and do not foresee the finishing touches on the track this coming summer changing this projection. I am proud to say our two building principals and staff have continued to work hard at instructing the students in our school district. Last school year (2024-2025), we participated in the Multi-Tiered System of Supports training (MTSS). This process/training has schools focus on their students' academic achievement on various assessments - especially the state's required assessment (ND A+). School administrators and teachers evaluate the assessment data to determine what academic support/interventions for students is needed. As a result of the training, Tioga High School has added an additional reading block for the seventh-grade students, as well as Spring Math during the Advisory time for seventh and eighth grade students to work on their math standards. At Central Elementary School, the staff realized the reading curriculum was old and needed to be updated to match the state's standards. As a result, they acquired a new reading curriculum and textbook.

Central Elementary also continues to use Spring Math and Amira (AI reading program that provides students with instant feedback on their reading skills) in the MTSS process to assist students in math and reading. In addition, our teachers continue to work with instructional coaches to give their students the best instruction and assistance possible. During the holiday season, I find myself feeling extremely blessed to be leading this district. There is a unified drive to provide our students with the best education possible by all of our educational staff and board members. I've also watched our custodians with the importance for the care of our buildings and grounds, our cooks in the preparation of food for our students, our bus drivers in making sure our students get to school and home again safely, and our administrative assistants making sure all our clerical forms are completed and submitted per state requirements while welcoming our community into our schools with their kind hearts. Their work and importance does not go unnoticed. I am very thankful for everyone's diligence in giving their very best to their roles in our district.

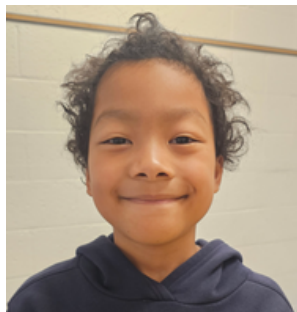
I close with a thank you to our wonderful community for all the support you have shown to Tioga Public School District #15. We share our most precious commodity - our students. I wish everyone a blessed holiday season! Sincerely, Paul Olson

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What are our Central Elementary Second Graders Thankful for?



Elliot Staal: My Family



Kanato Attigah: Books



Alaina Vejtasa: God, Food, My Mom



Adeline Neri: My Family



This holiday season, give gifts that truly matter by shopping small.

Unique finds: Local shops offer handmade, one-of-a-kind treasures.

Community impact: Every purchase supports jobs and keeps neighborhoods thriving.

Personal touch: Small business owners provide warm, thoughtful service.



When you buy local, you're not just shopping—you're investing in dreams and strengthening your community.

This Christmas, spread cheer by supporting the businesses that make your town special.

Mark your calendars

- Dec 6: Magical Mainstreet Christmas: Main Street Tioga
- Dec 9: Tioga Fund Meeting 6PM Tioga City Hall
- Dec 11: Visitor Promotion Meeting 5:30 PM Tioga City Hall
- Dec 12: A Night for Tioga - Community Center 6PM
- Dec 15: Tioga City Commission Meeting 7PM Tioga City Hall

Tioga School Calendar

- Dec 4: Pirate Boosters Pep Rally 7PM
- Dec 5: GBB vs Surrey
- Dec 8: GBB vs Washburn
- Dec 9: Elementary Christmas Concert
- Dec 13: BBB vs Glenburn



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Magical Main St. Christmas

Saturday, December 6th

Tioga, ND

1 p.m. FREE Children's matinee at the Tioga Theater!
(sponsored by American Legion Post 139)

2 p.m. - Horse drawn carriage rides provided by
John & Julie Woodbury!!

Santa Claus! Bring your letters to Santa and
have a visit with him and Mrs. Claus at
the Tioga Drug Ice Cream Shoppe!!

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. - Norseman Museum Train around
the Christmas tree and Scandinavian goodies!

4 p.m. - 8 p.m. Side Street Diner serving
Soups & Sandwiches plus Christmas treats!!

6 p.m. - Parade of Lights (line up at Nursing Home.)
Lighting of the Christmas Tree along with campfires
and Christmas caroling!!

Check out the incredible Christmas Light
Show at the park across from the pool!!

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