

City of Kindred

"Where Kindness is a Way of Life"

Mayor's Memo

It's wonderful when community members come together for a common goal. The goal last month was a warming house for the ice skating rink that has been set up downtown. Lydia Ronningen from the

Park Board mentioned the warming house concept this fall, and her husband Joel and I decided to help with the construction to make the project a more affordable reality.

Similar to the "Repair and Repaint" project to the Memorial Building, we recruited some additional help from fellow Wildlife Club members. Bruce Lykken, Nate Weber, and Sue Kersting helped with the construction, and Kody from Kody's Electric donated the material and labor for the electrical work. Ohnstad Twichell - the legal firm representing Kindred - came forward with a donation to cover the material costs of this project. "Thank You" on behalf of the City to these supporters!

The Tree Lighting celebration held at the beginning of December was a great addition to the holiday season, and was made possible by generous community support. Uptown Eatery and Hawk's Market provided some hot cocoa and cookies for the families in attendance. Children were entertained by storybook readings from the Kindred Library volunteers, and folks enjoyed the songs from carolers standing in front of the decorated tree. Skaters (myself included!) were able to try out the newly frozen ice rink, set up earlier in the week by the Park staff and flooded by water that the Kindred Fire Department provided.

Lots of volunteers contributed time and effort to make this great event come together for the enjoyment of the citizens of Kindred. We are fortunate to have this community spirit and support in our town. How can you help out? If you have any ice skates or hockey sticks that you would like to donate, please contact the Park Board or drop off at City Hall.

Enjoy the Winter! - Mayor Darrell Kersting



2024 *review*

What a busy and exciting year 2024 turned out to be! The word of the year is GROWTH! But with a rich history and culture of agriculture in our community, of course growing is what Kindred does best! Here's the highlight reel for 2024:

A brand new development just north of town called Norman Acres broke ground with local developers David Braaten and Brian Ordahl. The 12-acre development and the land are now part of Kindred city limits. The development offers 11 total residential lots and eight shop lots, with three residential building permits already underway!

The final phase of the Newport Ridge development also broke ground. The development will add 22 residential home lots and complete the final phase of the development. Also included in this project were road improvements and infrastructure upgrades in Newport Ridge, as well as road improvements to 7th Ave S near the railroad tracks.

The new Wastewater Collection and Treatment project (new lagoon) was online for a full year and continues to be a benefit that will serve the growing community with its increased capacity for decades to come.

The Kindred App (launched end of 2023) also had a full year in 2024 under its belt as another tool to communicate and reach residents. This App is a true community tool, as several organizations, including Kindred Parks & Recreation and Kindred Public Library, are able to utilize the App's tools to send notifications about events and other information. Residents can also utilize the app to submit a concern or even

upload their own content on the Community Walls, such as job postings, items for sale, rummage sale information, and fundraisers.

The City began collaborating with Cass County Government, MetroCOG, and engineering firm Bolton & Menk to create a Comprehensive and Transportation Plan. The goal of this study is to outline a vision for the city's future and provide strategic guidance regarding growth decisions. Look for opportunities throughout the next several months to provide your valuable input with surveys, interactive maps, and more.

The Dakota Street sidewalk and turn lane project, which also included some work on Spruce and Elm Streets to address some drainage, commenced and was completed. The sidewalk helps increase safety for pedestrians, especially students, near the school.

The City welcomed Deputy Justin Hanson and said goodbye to Deputy Bryce Noonan, who had served the City for two years and left Kindred to take a promotion within the Cass County Sheriff's Department.

The 2024 election in June saw Councilmember Ozzie Peraza re-elected for another term and Councilmember Matt Sharp was elected for his first term on City Council in a position vacated by Shad Stoddard. Thank you, Shad, for your eight years serving on Council!

The City, in conjunction with the Kindred Public Library, completed their purchase of the building at 330 Elm St. The building had been occupied by the Library for more than 20 years, and housed other tenants. The Library raised funds, through donations and fundraisers, to contribute \$50,000.00 toward the City's purchase of the facility.



Kindred Parks & Recreation certainly had a busy and growing year! 2025 Summer registration for softball, t-ball, and swimming lessons will be here before we know it! Parks & Rec is always planning something fun - charcuterie board sessions, hat making, take and decorate cookies, cupcake ball or puzzle contests - there's something for everyone. This winter, Parks & Recreation spearheaded moving the ice rink downtown and, with the help of the Wildlife Club and others, built a warming house and held a tree lighting and caroling event. Thank you Parks & Rec for continuing to provide fun activities for all ages, all year long!

Speaking of growing, the Annual Kindred Days seems to be bigger and better every year and 2024 was no exception! Thank you to all those who volunteer to make this a great event. Be sure to save the date for 2025's Kindred Days on August 8-10!

Kindred Public Schools ushered students into the new Middle School this past fall. Grades 6-8 filled the new classrooms creating some breathing room for the growing High School and Elementary numbers. Other additions included a wrestling room, auditorium, and gymnasium.

Kindred Senior Citizens also saw their Bone Builders attendance grow in 2024. They also began Senior Meals in 2024 and have had a great response; they will continue to offer meals in 2025.

Montana Dakota Utilities expanded their service area by bringing natural gas to Kindred. The first customers were online in December and the remaining connections will be completed this spring.

Several businesses worked to begin, expand, and grow to benefit the community. With the remodeling and expansion of gas pumps at Express Lane and the new Korner Service offering gas and expanded food options, the community has enhanced availability to fill their tanks - cars and stomachs! Both of these businesses utilized the City's Renaissance Zone program in their projects.

Looking ahead to 2025

Despite all this, there's more work to be done. While the City is expecting several projects to wrap up in 2025 - such as Norman Acres, Newport Ridge, the Comprehensive and Transportation Plan, for example - there are a few goals and projects in the chute for 2025. As mentioned in this newsletter, Parks & Recreation will be working on building new playground equipment and finding a home for the skate park; the City will be utilizing their funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for some facilities enhancements for City Hall and the Memorial Building; and a new development, Meadow Trails, is in its early stages.

Another potential project of note for 2025 will be a water rate study. Cass Rural Water District (who the City purchases water from) increased their bulk user rate (last increase was 2017), so the City will be looking to have a third-party water rate study completed to ensure not only that we are able to maintain capacity with expected future growth, but that we are also creating revenue to maintain costs associated with the increased user rate.

If you're looking for an opportunity to get involved in 2025, the City has two board openings - Special Assessment Committee and Renaissance Board. The Special Assessment Committee meets as needed, and will be meeting this year once the Dakota St and Newport Ridge/7th Ave projects are complete to assess three improvement districts..

Keep your eyes peeled for a new online utility billing portal for paying your city utility bill as the city migrates to a new utility billing software early this year.

There are still more plans materializing for 2025 that the City hopes to share throughout the upcoming year. Don't hesitate to attend a meeting or contact city staff or board/council members with any questions!



City of Kindred, North Dakota

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

As the City enters Phase 2 of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan we want your feedback using the new interactive online mapping tool! Visit the website to learn more.

NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT!

Provide your feedback on where future development should be guided. Go to the interactive online mapping tool:



Be sure to spread the word and invite a friend to participate! A map is also available at City Hall for input.

PHASE 1 ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

City of Kindred, ND - Comprehensive & Transportation Plan

ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW:

The City of Kindred has launched an ambitious Comprehensive and Transportation Plan to guide its growth and development over the next 25 years. This initiative aims to align future land use, transportation, and policy decisions with the community's shared vision for a thriving city. During the first phase of this transformative project, held from August through December 2024, the city engaged residents through two community pop-ups, a student focus group, and a public survey. These efforts were designed to gather valuable insights and ensure the plan reflects the priorities and aspirations of Kindred's residents.



191
Survey Responses



2
Pop Ups



1
Focus Group

TOP COMMENT OBSERVATIONS:

- Cass County Highway 15 and State Highway 46 are key areas of concern for transportation safety.
- There is interest in improving lighting and expanding trails and sidewalks throughout the community.
- Downtown Kindred should be maintained as the primary commercial area. Beautification and business attraction are opportunities for improvement.
- Residents love living in Kindred and appreciate the parks and rec opportunities. Preservation of green space is important.
- Single-family and senior housing are top priorities for future residential development. Planning for growth should be thoughtful.



To view more survey results, visit Kindred's Comprehensive and Transportation Plan website.



2025 CITY of KINDRED

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*Observed holidays - Service delayed 1 day if holiday falls before or on Tuesday.



GARBAGE DAY



GARBAGE **AND** RECYCLING DAY

2025 WM OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day	January 1
Memorial Day	May 26
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	September 1
Thanksgiving	November 27
Christmas	December 25

Kindred Area

FOOD PANTRY

OPEN TUESDAYS NOON-5PM

KINDRED LUTHERAN CHURCH
391 SPRUCE STREET
KINDRED, ND

Phone: 701-428-3630

DONATIONS:

Venmo @kindredfoodpantry
Drop off at Kindred Lutheran Church
& Hawk's Market



Kindred Senior Citizens

BONE BUILDERS

& FOOTCARE CLINIC

Kindred Senior Citizens will be providing FREE Foot Care Service for those age 60 or better on Tuesday, February 4 at Kindred City Hall from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Taking care of your feet is essential for maintaining overall health and well-being. This service can also be provided in your own home. Call Carolyn at 701-238-4520 to schedule an appointment or if you have questions.

Kindred Senior Citizens also hosts Bone Builders every Monday and Friday from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at Kindred City Hall. Bone Builders provides an effective combination of weight bearing, balance and stretching exercises, with nutritional information. Classes include standing and sitting exercises, using hand weights and ankle weights for resistance training (all equipment is furnished). Available at no charge and open to all seniors, men and women.

VIKING VILLAGE

Our mission is to empower each student in the Kindred School District to reach their academic goals by supporting their basic needs physically, mentally, and socially. Viking Village make hygiene items, athletic gear, shoes, & clothing available to those who need them, the platform is entirely anonymous.

JANUARY REQUESTS:

Donation Boxes located at Kindred City Hall,
Hawk's Market, Kindred Public Library,
K-Town, Korner Plaza

SNACK ITEMS:

- Cheez-It (individual bags)
- granola bars
- beef sticks

Viking Village
information
thevikingvillage.org

Thank you for your generosity!

WE WANT YOUR OLD SKATES

Do you have old skates in your closet or garage? We are interested in gently used ice skates and hockey skates that still have some life left.

Drop off at City Hall.

Skates will be used for our community ice rink coming this winter.



Contact Lydia @
lydiakindredparkboard@gmail.com

You are Invited:

Kindred Area Senior Meals

Third Monday of every month @ 11:45am

Bring a friend!

Please RSVP: 701-428-3650

Kindred Lutheran Church

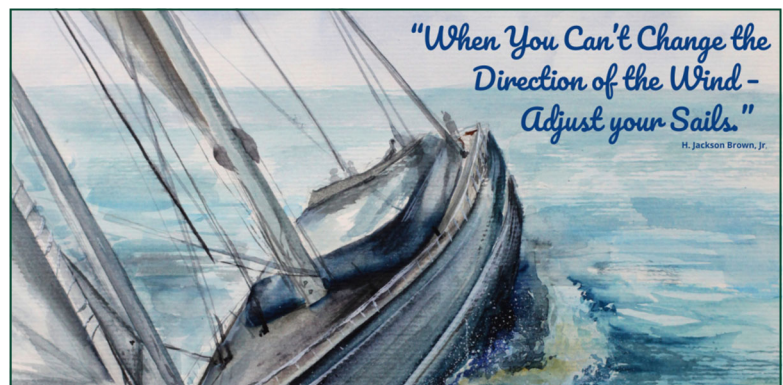
391 Spruce Street, Kindred, ND 58051



Wheelchair-accessible venue

\$4.00 suggested donation for meal

Games, bingo, singing, prizes, etc...





Kindred Park District and the City of Kindred are planning to update the City Park playground to be more inclusive and accessible. Updates like this one are important in breaking down barriers that prevent children and adults with disabilities from being able to engage with friends and family. This is an important step for our community, and we are excited to announce that we will begin work this **Spring**.

This will be a **COMMUNITY-LED PROJECT** so we're looking for willing volunteers to donate time and skills when we start the installation. More to come on this! If you are interested in helping or sponsoring a portion of the project, donating a memorial bench, or just have questions, please contact Lydia Ronningen @ lydiakindredparkboard@gmail.com.

▼ Sneak peak at some of the equipment.



Now you can
SUBSCRIBE

Head to
<https://kindredparks.recdesk.com/Community/Member/Login> and select
 Be "In the Know"

to receive email communication from the Parks Team. We will share the latest Parks and Recreation events, activities, and offerings as they go live. This way you and your family are guaranteed to not miss a minute of the action.



Everything is hard
 before it's easy

Goethe J.W

KINDRED CITY HALL

- 31 5th Ave N
 - PO Box 158, Kindred, ND 58051
 - KindredND.com
 - 701-428-3115
 - cityofkindred@msn.com
- For individual Councilmember email addresses, go to KindredND.com/council-staff-committees



ATTENTION NORTH DAKOTA HOMEOWNERS

PRIMARY RESIDENCE CREDIT (PRC)

As a North Dakota Homeowner,
 You May Qualify for a Property Tax Credit.

APPLY ONLINE BY MARCH 31, 2025
TAX.ND.GOV/PRC



PRIMARY RESIDENCE CREDIT

NORTH DAKOTA HOMEOWNERS MAY RECEIVE UP TO A \$500 TAX CREDIT!

Learn more at
tax.nd.gov



- NO AGE OR INCOME RESTRICTIONS
- PROPERTY MUST BE RESIDENT'S PRIMARY HOME
- ONLY ONE CREDIT AVAILABLE PER HOUSEHOLD
- APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MARCH 31, 2025



APPLY ONLINE AT TAX.ND.GOV/PRC



Kindred Public Library

What's Happening at the Library

January - March

Children's Story Time

Children's Story Time at the Library is a great outing for children ages 3-10. Join in the fun at 10:00 am on January 18 & 20; February 15 & 17; and March 15 & 17; April 19 & 21; and May 17 & 19.

Winter Reading Program runs January 13 through February 21

Readers of ALL ages are encouraged to participate in a Reading Scavenger Hunt for the 2025 Winter Reading Program. Each participant who completes the log will receive a prize, and there will be a grand prize drawing for pre-readers (the littlest kids), independent reader children, and teens/adults. Forms for the Winter Reading Program are available at the Library.

Breakfast with a Book

February 8 at 9:00 am: *The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore

March 8 at 9:00 am: *The Wedding People* by Alison Espach

April 12 at 9:00 am: *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles

All book selections are chosen from those available at the Library. Coffee/tea and a light snack will be available! Anyone interested in participating in the discussion is invited to join one or all sessions.

Monthly Meetings

Meetings for the Friends of the Kindred Public Library and the Board of Trustees are held at the Library on the second Monday of each month and are open to the public. The next meeting is February 10, with the Friends meeting at 6pm and the Trustees meeting at 7pm.

Little Free Libraries "Take a Book, Leave a Book!"

Little Free Libraries are located in Gilbertson Park & the City Park and are open year-round.

Contact the library about all events at 701-428-3456 or kindredpubliclibrary@gmail.com. Detailed information and updates will be posted on Facebook, at kindredndlibrary.org, and on the Kindred App.

Library Hours:

Monday: 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

Tuesday: 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Wednesday: 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Thursday: 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Friday: 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

2nd Saturday: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

CITY OF KINDRED

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KINDRED, ND 58051

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Permit # 9

Kindred, ND

58051

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