



Mandan Progress Organization
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11th annual Santa Run takes flight in Mandan for first time

MANDAN, ND – The beloved Santa Run, a holiday tradition that has warmed the hearts of the community for the past decade, is hitching up the sleigh and flying across the river to its new home on **Main Street in Mandan!**

The Mandan Progress Organization (MPO) is excited to announce it will host the **11th Annual Santa Run** on **December 14, 2024**, as part of the increasingly popular **Mandan Holiday Lights on Main** celebration.

"We are honored to take on this wonderful tradition as Judge Dave and Ann retire," said Matt Schanandore, Executive Director of the MPO. "It seems fitting that the Santa Run finds its new home in Mandan and joins the holiday celebrations in conjunction with the region's largest Christmas lights display, the Mandan Holiday Lights on Main."

A New Chapter in Santa Run History

The Santa Run began in 2014 when **Judge David Reich** and his wife Ann decided the best way to spread Christmas cheer was to gather the community, dress everyone in Santa suits, and run a 5K together. Since then, the event has grown into a joyous annual tradition, drawing hundreds of participants and raising awareness for an important cause: addiction recovery.

The Santa Run brings attention to the pervasive issue of addiction in our communities while sending a positive message of hope and recovery. Through the support of generous sponsors, volunteers, and the community, the Santa Run has encouraged people to embrace running as a healthy lifestyle alternative. For the past 10 years, this uplifting event has celebrated many success stories amidst the challenges of addiction, offering hope to those in recovery.

"We are grateful to all of the wonderful sponsors, volunteers, and thousands of runners who have supported the Santa Run for the past 10 years," said Judge Reich, co-founder of the Santa Run. "The Santa Run is a community event that provides joy and hope to all and has made a positive difference in the lives of many. We thank Matt and the MPO for carrying on the tradition of the Santa Run and wish them the best of success for many more Santa Runs to come."





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The Tradition Continues in Mandan

This year's Santa Run will take its place alongside the Mandan Holiday Lights on Main, adding to the festive atmosphere that has become a hallmark of Mandan's holiday season. Registration for the event opens on Saturday, October 19.

The Santa Run is more than just a 5K; it's an opportunity for families, runners, and community members to come together, don their Santa suits, and celebrate the season of giving and recovery. Participants of all ages are invited to take part in the fun, whether they are experienced runners or first-time participants.

The event will feature music, hot cocoa, holiday treats, and plenty of Christmas cheer as the Santa-clad runners enjoy the festive displays of the holiday lights. Proceeds will benefit **Hope Manor** and local addiction recovery programs, continuing the event's legacy of raising awareness and supporting those on the path to recovery.

How to Get Involved

Sponsorship opportunities and registration details will be available soon. To become a sponsor, visit <https://bit.ly/SantaRunND2024> or contact the MPO at Arlyn@MandanProgress.org.

Join us in keeping the holiday spirit alive and making a difference in the community by participating in or supporting the 11th Annual Santa Run in Mandan!

About the Mandan Progress Organization

The Mandan Progress Organization is dedicated to fostering community pride and enhancing the quality of life for residents of Mandan and surrounding areas. By hosting events like the Santa Run, the MPO aims to strengthen the community and support causes that make a positive difference in the Mandan and Bismarck communities.

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