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Students give back



The W.C. Miller Collegiate Youth in Philanthropy group donated \$6,000 to reps from nine different local non-profits last week. For the full story, see Pg. 8.
PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

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Cutting the ribbon on the Stanley Community Pathway

By Lorne Stelmach

A large group of proponents, volunteers, supporters, and government officials came together June 2 to celebrate the official opening of the Stanley Community Pathway.

James Friesen, who spearheaded the volunteer committee behind the \$4.2 million project, reflected on how much came together to make this dream a reality.

“This has been a huge effort on the part of community at many levels. So we want to recognize the people, the organizations, and the support we’ve gotten to get this thing to where it is today,” he said. “We’re standing here because of the hopes and dreams of the community, thinking of this idea of connecting Winkler and Morden to the RM.

“Where we are today and where the pathway is built is, to me, a symbol of the sort of the generosity of generations of people. We’re right now on provincial land, it’s easement of the highway, with the province, next to the edge of farm land and businesses, over the top of infrastructure ... and so we’re here by the good graces of all those organizations.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Community leaders and project supporters cut the ribbon on the Stanley Community Pathway June 2.

“It also makes me mindful of when we think back to the stewardship that the Métis and Indigenous people had well before we organized it into farmland and other properties. It’s that generosity over generations that allows these kinds of things to happen. So to me this is a celebration of all of that, and you’re here today to recognize it.

Friesen paid tribute to the local business leaders who came on board with the idea early on and who championed the project to help it move forward.

“This group of individuals brought experience, wisdom, and knowledge to what we were doing,” he said, lauding as well the members of the Stanley Trail Association who joined the planning committee, which first began meeting six or seven years ago to begin fleshing out a dream that had been identified several years earlier. “Without this group, this pathway would not have been built.”

He also noted the funding support that came from all three levels of government.

“Every level of government was involved in making sure this thing was funded,” Friesen said. “About four years ago, I think it was, [the federal government] came through with \$2.1 million funding. So, for us .. that was half of the estimated cost of the pathway ... there was no turning back.”

“This has been something I have been watching happen over the years, and it’s exciting for me to see how the three levels have come together to collaborate and put this pathway together,” noted Morden-Winkler MLA Carrie Hiebert in her remarks. “I think this really shows the amazing municipal governments that we have in our area.

“Thank you for having the vision ... that is like a testament to our area. We are a blessed area.”

“I have to congratulate the organizing committee for not only your faith but your perseverance,” said Mor-

den Mayor Nancy Penner. “I love the Stanley Community Pathway because that’s what it’s all about is community ... this is just one example of what you can achieve.

“This pathway has been talked about for many years,” said RM of Stanley Reeve Ike Friesen. “The timing was right.

“This project demonstrates what is possible when people and organizations and municipalities work together towards a common goal,” he added. “I believe there’s an important lesson in that, as communities,

we can achieve great things when we focus on working together. My hope is that we continue to think that way as look towards for future opportunities.

“It provides a place to exercise, to connect with nature and to connect with one another. So thank you

and congratulations to everyone who help make this time.”

“It was with a fair amount of nervousness and trepidation that ultimately we agreed to fund it ... believing that there’s no likelihood that this thing gets built in our lifetime,” joked Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens.

“James and his committee, their dedication, their persistence, their really, really aggressive nature of being kindly aggressive, moved this thing forward continuously,” he said. “Thank you for your tenacity ... that allowed the rest of the community to get behind them. And we had a number of other really good supporters that have stepped in behind us and made this project possible.”

“WE’RE STANDING HERE BECAUSE OF THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF THE COMMUNITY.”

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SESSION DETAILS

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109 3rd Ave NE, Altona
- DATE:**
July 8, 2026
- START TIME:**
6:30 PM
DURATION: Approximately 1.5 hours

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Jackson Dean, Tiffany, and Tim & The Glory boys to headline Harvest Festival

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Harvest Festival & Exhibition has a banger of a lineup for its stage headliners this year.

Over the course of last week, festival organizers unveiled part of its musical schedule for the Aug. 7-9 celebration.

Finding acts that offer the wow factor the festival is always looking for while working within the budget is always a challenge, but one organizer Karina Bueckert and her team relish.

"The last couple of years, we've had big, big names. Owen Riegling, Tenth Avenue North [last year]—how do you beat that?" she said. "Being a free community event, it's a tricky balance, but our sponsors definitely step in and help us out with that."

"The reality is, we have a lot of draw. Lots of artists are now wanting to come here and perform on our stage, and I'm so excited to be a part of that."

Anchoring the Friday night country lineup this year is up and coming singer-songwriter Jackson Dean. Dean is a platinum-selling artist whose hits include "Don't Come Lookin'" and "Heavens To Betsy." Dean has opened for such acts as Toby Keith, Blake Shelton, and Brooks & Dunn in shows around the world.

Opening for Dean is Manitoba re-

ording artist Brandi Vezina and homegrown band Brothers Keep.

Saturday night's rock schedule will see '80s pop star Tiffany grace the stage. Her cover of the song "I Thing We're Alone Now" topped the Billboard charts in 1987 and was followed by such hits as "Could've Been," "I Saw Him Standing There," and "All This Time."

"Do you know how many '80s track suits are being ordered on Amazon right now for this show?" joked Bueckert, sharing Tiffany had been on her wish list for the festival for a few years now and she's thrilled to have been able to make it happen.

Opening for Tiffany is the Tom Petty's Full Moon Fever cover band. A second opening act is also in the works but has not yet been confirmed.

Finally, rounding out the weekend with the Sunday Christian music night is Tim & The Glory Boys playing a Starfield set.

Tim Neufeld was the co-founder and lead singer of the award-winning Christian worship band Starfield, which tore up the charts in the early 2000s with hits such as "Filled With Your Glory" and "The Saving One." He now leads the Glory Boys, which are a Juno-award winning group in their own right.

Opening acts that night are Jake Fretz and Peter Burton.

Habitat for Humanity breaks ground

By Lorne Stelmach

A family who came here from Syria are now able to look forward to settling into their own home thanks to Habitat for Humanity's Winkler-Morden chapter.

A sod-turning ceremony this past Saturday on Hanover Drive in Morden kicked off work on what will eventually become a home for Mustafa and Najah and their four children.

Now working as a welder at Farm King, Mustafa said a friend told him about Habitat for Humanity's zero interest, zero down payment mortgages for qualifying families. He applied, and the organization helped make the family's long-standing dream of home ownership a reality.

He shared their frustration about not being able to find a stable home, as they have had to move five times from rental properties.

"We were dreaming about having a house for a long time ... Habitat now makes the dream true," he said, recalling how his children "were crying a lot when we moved from house to

house. Now, no more tears, no more crying. We will have a stable home."

The house is more than shelter, as it brings emotional stability for their children and also helps strengthen their community connections.

Mustafa looks forward to being able to get involved in the build through the Habitat requirement for 500 hours of "sweat equity" from families.

"I'm very excited to start digging the ground, starting to help put my hand with all the people, helping to build the house," he said, adding he also would love in the future to help other families get settled here.

"They've had to move from place to place over the last five years, and they really just wanted a place that they could call their own and that they could call home," said Duane Falk of the Winkler-Morden Habitat for Humanity chapter.

Christina Falk, also of Habitat for Humanity, reflected on the challenges faced by many families when it comes to the severe lack of affordable housing options in the area.

Continued on page 4



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Clockwise from above: Jackson Dean, Tiffany, and Tim & The Glory Boys are the headlining acts at this year's Winkler Harvest Festival.



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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



Winkler, Morden grad parades coming up

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Morden-Winkler's class of 2026 is getting ready to celebrate, and they're inviting the community to help them do it.

The Winkler grad parade is coming up on Thursday, June 18 while Morden's parade hits the streets on Monday, June 22.

Winkler's event is a joint venture between Garden Valley Collegiate and Northlands Parkway Collegiate, share grads Maya Klassen (NPC) and Dishika Bansal (GVC).

"I think this is such a cool tradition," said Bansal. "The two high schools get to come together and we get to celebrate together, and we're also bringing the whole community together ... many of them, they've seen us grow up, and I think this is an amazing way to celebrate."

"It gives an opportunity for people who can't necessarily come to the grad ceremony" to cheer on the class of 2026, noted Klassen. "And think it's a really good way to show the camaraderie between the schools."

The event is also open to homeschool graduates. To register to take part as a grad, text Roni Wiebe at 204-362-7945.

The parade begins at 7:30 p.m. and will follow the same route as in past years, starting out by the Winkler Centennial Arena, travelling south on Park St, east down South Railway Ave. to 8th St., south down 8th to Pembina Ave., west down Pembina to 15th St., north up to and then down

Grandeur Ave. to end in the Parkland. The evening will wrap up at NPC with fireworks for the grads.

"It's kind of like a last moment that you're going to get to see these Gr. 12s from both the schools," Bansal said of the after-parade festivities. "It's a great way to meet up and have this one last big thing together before we all graduate."

In case of rain, the parade will be postponed to Monday, June 22. Updates will be posted on Instagram at [gvcaftergrad2026](#) or [npc_after_grad_2026](#).

Meanwhile, Morden hasn't had a grad parade in a few years, but this year's graduates decided it was time to change that.

"Morden did it during COVID, and everyone else did too, that's kind of how it started, but then Morden didn't do it after that," noted graduate Brielle Apperley.

But seeing how much of a celebration the annual parade has become in other communities, Apperley wanted

to bring that back to Morden.

"It's such a cool thing, and I really wanted to do it here," she said. "There's not really a whole lot of time for the grads to get dressed up and really enjoy it. So this provides one more reason for the grads to get together, get dressed up, and get excited for grad. And it's a great way for the community to see the grads."

"I'm super excited to hang out with my friends and show off our grad dresses to the whole city," agreed fellow graduate Molly Cowan, who stresses that everyone's invited to come cheer the class of 2026 on.

The parade starts at the Christian Life Centre (605 1st St.) makes its way south to Wardrop St. and then west on Wardrop to 12th St., north on 12th, east on Greenwood Dr., south on Nelson St. and then down Rampton St. en route back to the church.

The rain date for the Morden parade is Tuesday, June 23. Updates to that end will be posted on the [mci.safegrad.2026](#) Instagram page.

> HABITAT, FROM PG. 3

"We have affordable rental issues, and this is kind of where Habitat comes in," she said. "We have families, especially families with more than two children, who have a really difficult time finding a place to rent."

"We're here for lower-income families who are working hard and doing well managing their finances but just can't take that next step."

Morden-Winkler MLA Carrie Hiebert urged people to consider get-

ting involved in the project.

"If you've got any building skills, or anything like that, anything that you feel you can contribute, get involved with Habitat for Humanity."

Morden Councillor Brenda Klassen also addressed the future homeowners.

"We are privileged to celebrate this moment with you," said Klassen. "We look forward to seeing your new home take shape as you build your roots here in our community."

Letters

SHOWING LOVE

As a Christian I know there are some things I might not agree with this Pride Month, but that does not mean I will use my faith to hate on those that are only looking for love.

Instead, I will show them love and compassion. Showing them a side of faith that they rarely get to see.

**Scott Sitompul,
Morden**

Letter policy

The *Voice* welcomes letters from readers on local and regional issues and concerns.

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are less likely to be published), on-topic, and respectful.

The *Voice* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject any submission.

Please include your full name, address, and phone number for verification purposes. Your name and city will be published with your letter. We do not print anonymous letters.

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NPC Youth in Philanthropy give back \$3,842 to four non-profits

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Northlands Parkway Collegiate's Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) program took their mission seriously this school year, volunteering in numerous capacities and raising over a thousand dollars for the YIP endowment fund overseen by the Winkler Community Foundation (WCF).

As a result, with stretching funds from WCF, the teens were able to grant out \$3,842 to four local non-profits June 3.

The year was a whirlwind of activities, shared YIP members, Joy Plett and Bristol Hildebrand, both Gr. 11 students.

"We did a lot of different things at the beginning of the year," said Hildebrand. "We had a dinner theatre that was going on here and so we took advantage of that to host a silent auction. The community was very giving to us. We got a lot prizes from great places, and a lot of people donated to that."

"And then after that we did a couple sales with Valley Bakery," added Plett. "We bought some doughnuts from them and sold them, and the school really loved that."

YIP members also got involved in this spring's Kurling for Kids bonspiel, which raised funds for the Boundary Trails Health Centre's child and youth rehabilitation services.

The mix of fundraising activities with volunteerism is what drew the two to the club when it was started up again last school year.

"We started off kind of small because we didn't quite know what we were doing, but this year we were getting better and better. We doubled how much money we raised," said Plett.

Hildebrand noted it's a great way for youth to give back.

"Last year there weren't a lot of kids, but once we were there we were ex-

cited to just do something for the community and get involved," she said, adding that it's also given them a chance to learn more about the work being done by non-profits in the area and how they can help. "You don't have to be part of Youth in Philanthropy to give back to the community—you can always volunteer. I know the hospital loves volunteers, and there are lots of different organizations that you can be a part of."

Given all the great causes in the area, narrowing this year's grant recipients down to four was a tough decision for the group.

"We choose these ones because the things that they were funding for seemed like very good causes," said Plett.

Genesis House received \$1,500 for its children's program, the Winkler Family Resource Centre (WFRC) received \$1,092 for its Ready, Set, Go preschool program, Adult and Teen Challenge of Central Canada received \$1,000 for intake fees, and Katie Cares received \$250 for new pillow cases at Katie's Cottage.

Representatives from each organization were on hand to receive their grants and reflect on what these youth-driven donations mean to them.

"Together with YIP, we decided it would be very cool—and cool doesn't really cover it—if this grant, this donation could be used to cover an intake fee for a community member," shared Derek Neufeld, regional ministry manager with Adult and Teen Challenge. "This is going to be a gift for them to say don't let money be the reason for you not to get the help that you need."

The ministry has a healthy base of adult donors, but to see kids stepping up to support them in this way is amazing, Neufeld said.

"To see students and teenagers come



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

NPC YIP MEMBERS Helen Peters, Alisa Butaklik, Alexis Wiebe, and Matthew Coukell present Genesis House's Sophie Gerbrandt (centre) with a donation last week. Also receiving funds were reps from Adult and Teen Challenge, Katie Cares, and the Winkler Family Resource Centre.

alive and learn about being generous, doing something that's beyond themselves and helping a person who's at the end of their rope, it just warms the heart."

It's a sentiment shared by Sophie Gerbrandt, director of development at Genesis House.

"The financial donation obviously is huge, but for us the opportunity to let a group of high school students know about what we're doing at the shelter, that in itself is a gift," she said. "It's amazing to see the next generation be willing to talk about these issues, and it gives me a lot of hope."

The donation was a full circle moment for Ruth Reimer of Katie Cares. The agency's namesake and founder, Reimer's daughter Katie, was a member of her school's YIP program before her death.

"So it comes around, it circles around," Reimer observed. "It's so great to see a group of this size working together on something like this. They're learning about giving back ... it really is quite something to see."

Executive director Monica Dueck loves the fact it's kids helping kids when it comes the WFRC donation.

The money they received will support a program that helps pre-schoolers and their parents prepare for starting Kindergarten.

"It helps them get ready when they start their school journey, and these kids here are almost done their school journey," Dueck noted. "It's a pretty neat connection."

"It's so great to see so many young people involved in this and just becoming aware of what resources are in the community and ways they can get involved. They've been so generous with both their time and their grants, and we're very excited to see this new generation excited about that."

"They are a wonderful group of philanthropists," said YIP staff leader Zoé Fraser, noting the club had just over 20 members this year, and they were all keen to get to work. "So were able to have it all be completely student led."

Her hope is they leave the program armed with the knowledge that anyone of any age can make a difference.

"That helping others is the most important thing in life."

World Refugee Day celebration in Bethel park June 20

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Regional Connections Immigrant Services invites the community to Bethel Heritage Park in Winkler Saturday, June 20 to celebrate World Refugee Day.

Local reps have taken part in festivities for the day in Winnipeg for years, but this is the first time they're putting on a celebration of their own, shared Russelle Collantes, Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) coordinator.

"We decided to do it here this year, as most of the time when we go into

Winnipeg we can only bring a few of our clients along," he explained. "So we thought why not do something where everyone can celebrate? Let's do it here in our area."

World Refugee Day is recognized internationally as a day to celebrate refugees from all parts of the world.

"The main goal is to honour the resilience of people who have been forced to flee their homes because of war, violence, or persecution," Collantes said. "In our small communities, this is a good time to gather. It's an opportunity to build understand-

ing and be welcoming to newcomers, to celebrate the contribution that refugees bring to our community."

This year's global theme is "We are better together." It's a sentiment that holds true locally, Collantes said, as the Pembina Valley welcomes over 125 refugees each year through RAP.

"When we support one another, embrace diversity, and create a sense of belonging for everyone our community becomes stronger and more resilient," he said.

The celebration runs from 1-4 p.m. next Saturday and will feature face

painting, yard games, music from Briana Talavera, Tuesday and Promise Ebuade, and D'Juans Band, and a few brief words from past Resettlement Assistance Program clients.

"They will be sharing their success stories," Collantes said. "The help that they got from our community, the assistance that they got from the people, from the welcoming community members as they tried to settle in here."

All are welcome to attend. There is no admission fee.



Checkups for stuffies



The Winkler Family Resource Centre's Teddy Bear Picnic took over Winkler Park Saturday, giving kids the chance to have their stuffies looked at by a host of health care providers, including (above, from left) local doctors, optometrists, and pharmacists. There were also a few other fun activities on tap, including activity stations (right) and storytelling, Left: All smiles with their furry friends — who were given a clean bill of health—were Bennett, Jesse, and Symphony.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



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Philippine Independence Day celebration Saturday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The regional Filipino community is gathering in Morden this weekend to celebrate Philippine Independence Day. It's been 128 years since the Asian nation declared its independence from Spanish colonial rule on June 12, 1898. The anniversary of that date has become a "day of celebrating our Filipino heritage and showcasing our culture," shared event organizer Jewel White. "We celebrate it to remind everyone of the importance of independence,

and what it means when you don't have it."

The Morden festivities take place in Suncatch Plaza on Saturday, June 13 from noon to 9 p.m.

Food vendors will be opening up shop at 12 p.m. and traditional Filipino games will begin around 4 p.m. followed by a ceremony featuring guest speakers at 5 p.m.

Taking the stage throughout the evening will be a host of local bands, including The Seven Pines, Second Street Band, Victoria Junction, Jeepney Harmony, D'Juans, CFC Band, 10-4, and Ritmo. Also performing are solo singers Woody Palunday, Shekina Pennacerrada, Manny Araullo, and Miel David.

"It will be a continuous program of music and dance," White said, noting there will also be a fashion show of traditional Filipino garb with cash prizes up for grabs for the best outfits. To register to compete, email info@mordenpinoy.ca.

This will be the third time this community celebration has been held, growing a little each year. White encourages everyone to come join in on the fun.

"I'm really hoping people will come out and have a taste of the Philippines."

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Drive for Your Community raises \$7K for Central Stn.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Central Station and Hometown Service called on the community to take a drive for a good cause—and Winklerites responded in spades.

The May 30 Drive for Your Community fundraiser at the Winkler dealership saw people come out to test drive a Ford in exchange for a donation to the downtown community centre.

A total of 135 test drives were done, earning \$30 each from Ford. Further funds were raised thanks to food served up by Northern Flames BBQ and a bake sale table, allowing Hometown service manager Heather Derksen and Northern Flames' Julie Nickel to present Central Station with a cheque for \$7,203 on Friday.

"We thought the event went really well," said Derksen. "We were really

happy with the turnout that we got and just really excited to see so many people from our community come out to help support Central Station.

"Central Station is a really integral part of our community, and we're so happy that we can do this."

Nickel, who also works at Central Station, said Northern Flames BBQ were thrilled to be a part of the day.

"When we learned about this event, we thought, hey, how fun would it be to partner and bring some good food to the crowds that are coming out and hopefully make it a bigger event," she said, sharing they reached out to local businesses for food donations and "had such a great response. So we were able to put almost everything that was brought in back to the community, back for Central Station."

It was an amazing day, observed



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Central Station's Anita Wiebe (left) accepted a donation of \$7,203 Friday from Hometown Service's Heather Derksen and Northern Flame BBQ's Julie Nickel, raised at the Drive for Your Community fundraiser the weekend before.

Central Station executive director Anita Wiebe.

"We are constantly blown away by the support from our community in the most creative ways, like opportunities to collaborate with Hometown and Northern Flame and some exceptionally cute girls doing the bake sale," she said. "It was such a cool day to be a part of and to see our community physically come out and be part of things. The atmosphere was phenomenal."

Central Station will use the funds to support the work they do in building

relationships and supporting those in need. And while the money is most welcome, so too was the opportunity simply to connect with people, Wiebe said.

"Central Station is made up of the community. We have staff, but our volunteers, that's the community. So it was really was people that are Central Station coming to connect with us again," she said.

"It's a neat way for the community to be part of things and to feel like they are connected and they are a part of who Central Station is."

Dr. Jacob recognized



SUBMITTED PHOTO

In the Manitoba Legislature June 1, MLA Carrie Hiebert commended Dr. Chandy Jacob (front, centre) for his decades of work in the Winkler medical community.

By Voice staff

Longtime Winkler doctor Dr. Chandy Jacob received recognition in the Manitoba Legislature last week.

On Jacob's 90th birthday June 1, Morden-Winkler MLA Carrie Hiebert rose to deliver a private member statement thanking him for his decades of service in the local medical community.

"As the first medical specialist to establish a rural surgical program in southern Manitoba, Dr. Jacob brought advanced care closer to home for patients," she said. "Over an extraordinary 60-year career, he embodied the highest value of the medical profession: integrity, excellence and an unwavering commitment to patient care. Through his skills, kindness and selfless service, he earned the trust

and gratitude of generations of Manitobans.

"Dr. Jacob has advocated for rural health care, inspired colleagues and improved the lives of so many. He is also a visionary. Beginning in 1974, he championed the concept of regional health-care centres, helping lay the foundation for what would become the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

"Dr. Jacob could have chosen to practise anywhere in Canada, but he chose to stay in Winkler because of the relationships he built and the community he loves," Hiebert noted. "On behalf of all of us at the Legislature, the constituents of Morden-Winkler and all Manitobans, thank you. Mere words cannot express our sincere gratitude to you, Dr. Jacob, for your lifetime of service to us."

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Manitoba School Trustee Elections

Red River Glass cuts ribbon on new facility

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Red River Glass & Hardware celebrated its spacious new building in Altona's industrial park with a ribbon cutting and community lunch June 4.

The business, which had been in Altona's downtown area for decades, moved into a new build at 531 2nd St. NE this spring.

"We went from right around 3,000 square feet to right around 8,400 here," shared owner and president Jesse Voth.

Red River Glass & Hardware bills itself as the area's top source for window and door hardware and a one-stop shop for residential and commercial renovation, repair, and general contracting needs.

The company has seen steady growth in recent years, making the larger facility a necessity.

"I started purchasing the business in 2014 and the first thing we did was add seven or eight hundred square feet in the back of that one to try to make it semi-functional," Voth said. "We outgrew it immediately, and it just took a long time to actually take this next step."

Red River Glass & Hardware got its start in Altona in 1977. Voth took over the business from his father, Conrad.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Red River Glass & Hardware staff and family were joined by dignitaries in cutting the ribbon on their new building last week.

"I don't take lightly the history and the legacy that builds these businesses and makes them successful long term," Voth said, noting he came on board with a vision for growth, "but those visions don't work if you don't have a foundation to build from."

Today the company has nearly a dozen staff members and works on projects all across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario.

"We really want to focus on being the best in the market that we're in," Voth said of his hopes for the company's future. "Diversification isn't really what we're after—we're after continuing to set the standard in the industry that we're already in, gain more customers within industry. But

we have to be able to grow to do that."

Seeing the community come out to last week's ribbon cutting celebration—which also included a coffee cart from Co-op and lunch served up by Youth for Christ—was heartening for Voth.

"It's a big deal for me that everybody shows up. Community is important to me," he said. "Small startup businesses don't succeed without relationships in the community."

"I'm a hometown kid. Community is huge to me as an individual. It's huge to me as a business owner and as an employer," Voth said. "That's why we do so much for the community. I'm a big believer in businesses getting behind initiatives in the com-

munity, whether it's having our name on something or whether it's quietly supporting stuff. We do both, and I want my employees to also see us do that because I want them to be proud of what our business is doing in the community."

He also thanked his staff for all their hard work and dedication.

"We've got an absolutely amazing team of staff. Nothing could make me prouder than the fact that I've got guys, numerous guys, that have been here for 10, 12, 15, 16 years. Guys that started in their teens. Guys that now own homes, have wives, have kids. That's probably my biggest joy is seeing the family within the family grow."

W.C. Miller Youth in Philanthropy grants support local projects

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It was a banner year for the W.C. Miller Collegiate Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) group, which partners with the Altona Community Foundation (ACF) to fundraise and distribute grants to local charities.

Donations collected at student-led events are matched by the foundation each spring. The kids then have the opportunity to sort through applications and decide how those funds will be gifted out.

"This year we will be distributing \$6,000 to nine community groups," shared Jacob Friesen-Stoesz, Gr. 12 student

council chair, at the grant distribution event June 4. "This happens to be one of the largest sums of money we've given out to date."

The YIP group raised those funds through a community movie night, a concession stand at the school's musical production of *Annie*, and selling candygrams, chocolates, and roses for Christmas and Valentine's Day.

New to the fundraising lineup this year was the Altona Aces alumni hockey night in March, which YIP members planned and ran. The current Aces team took on the 2018 in an evening celebration that also raised funds through various prize raffles.

"It's so good to see students getting involved in helping the community and take initiative in their school," Friesen-Stoesz said. "I also believe this is a great learning opportunity for students and a way to say thank you to the community organizations for making our town special."

Friesen-Stoesz thanked everyone who came out to support YIP's fundraising campaign.

"We want to thank our school and the larger community for their support of our various fundraising events over the past year," he said. "We look forward to seeing what might be possible next year as we continue to find ways to improve our community."

Receiving the 2026 grants were:

- Kiddie Sunshine Centre, \$500 to help bring in

special educational presenters for the kids and to complete renovations to their playground.

- Genesis House, \$700 to purchase more culturally-inclusive educational toys, books, and activities for children staying at the regional shelter for the survivors of domestic violence.

- Altona Area Family Resource Centre, \$500 to cover the cost of renting the local pool for an accessible family event this summer.

- Katie Cares/Katie's Cottage, \$400, to purchase Beanie Babies to provide comfort to children receiving medical care.

- West Park School, \$700 to buy new equipment for students to use outdoors during recess, including hockey and volleyball nets, balls, and renewing the painted lines for outdoor games such as four-square.

- Youth for Christ, \$700 to purchase an outdoor griddle that can be used at The Station on drop-in nights and other special events for youth in the community.

- South Central Regional Library, \$700 to purchase tote bags that will be used as part of the crafts and programming events hosted over the summer for youth and children.

- Blue Sky Opportunities, \$700 to purchase of a manual hydraulic lift to provide a safe way to move day program participants who have reduced mobility.

Continued on page 9

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Weekly News at



IN MORRIS

MB

Gallery in the Park unveils new sculpture

By Holly Thorne-Wiebe

Gallery in the Park officially launched its 2026 season with a well-attended opening gala that featured new exhibitions, more than 100 guests, and the unveiling of a significant new addition to the sculpture garden.

Immigrant, a sculpture by Quebec artist Galina Stetko, was donated by Linda and the late Ray Loewen and was formally unveiled during the May 29 gala. Family and friends of the Loewens were on hand for the occasion, including one of the couple's daughters, who shared a tribute recognizing the donation and its significance to the gallery.

"It was beautiful," said gallery manager and curator Renee Friesen. "People were really touched."

The sculpture unveiling was part of a larger celebration that marked the beginning of the gallery's first exhibition season of the year.

Friesen said the opening gala was a tremendous success, drawing more than 100 visitors to experience the new exhibitions and reconnect with the gallery after the winter months.

"You hear it and you see it," she said. "People are just blown away by our space, but then by the artworks that these artists create and put into the space. It makes us excited too."

Visitors to the gallery this season can explore several exhibitions throughout the building. On the main floor, artist Kathy Lewandowski is presenting two complementary exhibitions; *Gossamer on Ground* and *Journey into Brassica*, which Friesen describes as colourful, immersive, and perfectly

suited to the gallery space.

Upstairs, visitors can view *A Wrinkle in Time* by watercolour artist Clyde Finlay, featuring landscapes from Manitoba as well as scenes inspired by travels in France and Poland.

Also on display is *For God's Glory*, a collection of medium- and large-scale abstract paintings by Sylke van Niekerk.

In addition to the exhibitions, Gallery in the Park has several special events planned for the coming months. A music night featuring Warren Friesen, Brett Schultz, and Arlen Penner is scheduled for July 16, while Lewandowski will host an artist talk on July 30.

The second half of the season at the gallery will launch Aug. 6 with new artist exhibitions.

Friesen said the gallery remains



PHOTO BY HOLLY THORNE-WIEBE/VOICE
Artist Galina Steko's "Immigrant" is the latest addition to Gallery in the Park's sculpture garden.

grateful for the support it receives from donors, volunteers, the Town of Altona, and local partners.

"We literally could not do it without them," she said.

> YIP, FROM PG. 8

• Altona & District Heritage Research Centre, \$700 to purchase the necessary supplies for preserving paper documents and photos, such as acid free file folders and storage boxes.

This grant is an extension of the partnership the heritage research centre already has with W.C. Miller, noted Dave Harms, who accepted the grant

on behalf of the historical group.

"We get volunteers from Miller to work at the archives, and we're finding out that while they are learning a lot from us, we are learning a lot more from them," he said, thanking the kids for opting to support their work with this donation.

Altona Library branch manager Rachael Friesen lauded the students for their hard work fundraising and

thanked them for selecting SCRL as a recipient. The money will be put to very good use, she shared.

"We run the summer reading program for all five of our branches," Friesen said, noting hundreds of kids sign up for this program each year. "So to find crafts and activities that we can do for those kids, it can be ex-

tremely expensive."

This donation is really a full-circle moment, she observed, as there's a good chance many of the YIP students may have been summer reading club participants when they were younger.

"We're so appreciative that they chose us to support," Friesen said.

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• Bromoxynil	• Aminocyclopyrachlor
• Clopyralid	• Aminopyralid
• Glyphosate	• Diflufenopyr
• Dicamba	• Metsulfuron-methyl
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King's Deli cuts ribbon on Morden location

By Ashleigh Viveiros

King's Deli Market & Eatery cut the ribbon on its second location Saturday afternoon.

Opening up shop down the highway from its original location in Winkler has been a dream fulfilled, shared owner Colton Schiller.

"It's something we've been thinking about for a long time," he said. "The timing was right, the options were right, we found a good spot, and the opportunity was there."

The new building is located at 201 Loren Dr. at the eastern entrance to the city. It features a cozy indoor dining space and a second-storey balcony so customers can enjoy dining al fresco.

The feedback has been amazing since they opened the doors late last year, Schiller shared.

"We are so excited to be in Morden. They are such a welcoming community. Everybody that comes in, a lot of what we're getting is, 'We're so glad

you're finally here and we're going to come back and we're going to bring our friends.' Morden, you guys are awesome."

While good food and a welcoming atmosphere are always on the menu at King's Deli, Schiller noted they're always striving to offer more.

"Our goal is twofold: it's to level up the Pembina Valley and to bring community," he said. "So whatever we can do to fill that role is what we're going to do, whether that is private events, whether that's public events. Even for our grand opening here, we're partnering with Big Brothers Big Sisters."

Proceeds from the sale of every cinnamon bun sold Saturday went to support the regional youth mentoring agency.

"And the goal is to make sure that the Pembina Valley is a destination," Schiller continued "It's not just a place where you live and then you go and spend your money in Winnipeg. What you can get in Winnipeg, you



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Colton and Aley Schiller, flanked by local dignitaries and staff, cut the ribbon on King's Deli's new Morden location Saturday.

can get in the Pembina Valley, and we want to be a part of that in any way we can.

"Let's build town squares where we can meet each other not just online, but in person over food where the most people have the most connection."

Bringing greetings at the ribbon cutting on behalf of the City of Morden was Coun. Tracey Krause.

"Something truly special about King's Deli is its focus on community," she observed. "The sense of belonging is what we're all about here in Morden. Community is fostered by

sharing spaces with people who come together. In Morden, our public spaces play a big role in that, but so do our local businesses. So we're very excited to have King's Deli here in Morden, not just for the delicious sandwiches and soups and the drinks ... but also for the friendly smiles, neighbourly chats, and the tables that they are providing for us to gather around."

The grand opening festivities also included free food and drinks, a bouncy castle for the kids, live music, and a sandwich-making contest so customers could get a taste of what it's like working behind the counter.

How seniors can remain physically and mentally active

Growing older is often equated with slowing down. Aging may be characterized as a period of decline marked by an inability to do the things you once did, but recent data indicates otherwise.

According to a report in the journal *Geriatrics*, a far more optimistic reality awaits seniors. Nearly 45 percent of people age 65 and older show measurable improvements in brain health, physical function or both over time when they take certain steps to promote physical and mental wellness.

Physical activity

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity per week, supplemented by at least two days of muscle-strengthening exercises. Brisk walking or swimming can improve cardiovascular health

and reduce the risk of stroke and hypertension, says the Massachusetts Council on Aging. Incorporating yoga or Tai Chi is vital for fall prevention, as it targets balance and flexibility. The CDC says improving joint mobility and balance can significantly extend the amount of time seniors can live independently. In addition, lifting light weights or using resistance bands helps combat age-related muscle loss, which is essential for maintaining metabolic health.

Cognitive advantages

Mental fitness is just as vital to seniors as physical fitness. According to the World Health Organization, routine cognitive stimulation enhances "brain capital," delaying the onset of dementia and Alzheimer's. Strategies for effective mental engagement include:

· Learning: Lifelong learning techniques in-

clude picking up a new language or learning an instrument. This helps strengthen neural pathways that allows the brain to reorganize itself even in later decades.

· Play games: Play isn't just for kids; games like chess or complex puzzles improve problem-solving and memory retention, according to Nixon Adult Daycare in Houston.

· Socialize: Isolation is a leading risk factor for cognitive decline, says the National Institutes of Health. Group activities like book clubs or community volunteering can offer emotional fulfillment and mental stimulation.

Power of positivity
Findings from a

recent Yale University study indicated seniors with a positive outlook on aging were significantly more likely to show physical and mental improvements compared to those with negative perspectives. Psy-

chological resilience is an important tool for seniors to stay healthy.

Movement, social interaction, stimulating activities, and a positive attitude can help seniors maintain overall health.

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SCHEDULE

DAY ONE - TUESDAY JUNE 9, 2026

-  8:00 AM Pickleball Women's Doubles
-  8:00 AM Equestrian **BIRDHILL PARK**
-  9:00 AM Disc Golf
-  9:00 AM Slo-Pitch
-  9:00 AM Floor Shuffleboard
-  9:30 AM Bridge - Contract
-  9:30 AM Bowling - Singles
-  9:30 AM 8-Ball 55+ Singles
-  9:30 AM Snooker 70+ Singles
-  9:30 AM 18 Hole Golf - Net: Callaway
-  9:30 AM Arts & Crafts
-  1:00 PM Swimming
-  2:00 PM Bridge - Duplicate
-  5:30 PM **Opening Ceremonies & Reception**



**OPENING CEREMONIES
& RECEPTION**
ACCESS EVENT CENTRE
IN MORDEN



2026 EVENT GUIDE













- HQ** Headquarters/Registration
Access Event Centre, Morden
Meridian Exhibition Centre, Winkler
-  **8-Ball & Snooker**
Morden Legion - 285 N. Railway, Morden
-  **9 & 18 Hole Golf**
Winkler Centennial Golf Course - 400 15th St, Winkler
-  **Bocce Ball**
Meridian Centre, 1045 Grandeur Ave, Winkler
-  **Bowling**
Carman Bowling Alley, 120 Main St., S., Carman
-  **Card Events**
Morden Active Living Centre - 306 N. Railway St., Morden
Morden Legion - 285 N. Railway, Morden
-  **Disc Golf**
Stanley Park - 23111 MB-14
-  **Equestrian**
Birds Hill Park, Birdshill MB
-  **Floor Shuffleboard**
Winkler Senior Centre - 650 South Railway Avenue
-  **Horseshoes**
Stanley Park - 23111 MB-14
-  **Predicted Walk & Run**
Discovery Trails School - Parkhill Dr., Morden
-  **Pickleball**
Access Event Centre, 111-D Gilmour St, Morden
Meridian Event Centre- Centennial Arena, Winkler
-  **Slo-Pitch**
Winkler Ball Diamonds, Winkler
-  **Swimming**
Winkler Aquatic Centre - 580 Park St, Winkler
-  **Track**
Discovery Trails School - Parkhill Dr., Morden

REGISTRATION DESK HOURS









- MONDAY - 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM**
- TUESDAY - 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM**
- WEDNESDAY - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**
- THURSDAY - 8:00 AM - NOON**

SCHEDULE

DAY TWO - WEDNESDAY JUNE 10, 2026

-  8:00 AM Pickleball Mixed Doubles
-  8:00 AM Equestrian **BIRDHILL PARK**
-  8:00 AM Track
-  9:00 AM Slo-Pitch
-  9:30 AM Cribbage - Pairs
-  9:30 AM Bowling - Teams
-  9:30 AM 8-Ball 70+ Singles
-  9:30 AM Snooker 55+ Singles
-  9:30 AM 18 Hole Golf: Gross
-  1:00 PM Floor Shuffleboard
-  1:30 PM 1km/3km Predicted Walk/Run
-  1:30 PM Cribbage - Individual

DAY THREE - THURSDAY JUNE 11, 2026

-  8:00 AM Pickleball Men's Doubles
-  9:00 AM Slo-Pitch
-  9:00 AM Floor Shuffleboard
-  9:00 AM Equestrian **BIRDHILL PARK**
-  9:30 AM Bocce Ball
-  9:30 AM Bowling - Teams
-  9:30 AM 9 Hole Golf: Gross
-  9:30 AM Horseshoes
- HQ** NOON Headquarters closes

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
ALL PARTICIPANTS!**

Best wishes
to all the participants
in the 2026
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(204) 325-7834
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sports & recreation

Winkler hosts Zone 4 track & field championship meet



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Schools from across the region were in Winkler last week for the Zone 4 Track & Field Championship, held at Garden Valley Collegiate. Qualifying athletes will wrap up their season at the provincial championships in Winnipeg this weekend.



Nighthawks win provincial baseball championship

The Northlands Parkway Collegiate varsity boys baseball team are tops in the province after a stellar showing at the G3 Provincial Baseball Championship in Selkirk over the weekend. The team followed up a 1-1/2 second-place showing in the round robin with victories over the River East Kodiaks (6-3) and Boissevain/Wawanesa 11-7 in the playoffs to earn a seat at the championship game against Vincent Massey, which they won 8-6 to bring home the title. The team were also the Zone 4 champs this season. In other high school provincials action over the weekend, the Morden Thunder girls were at the softball championships, where they finished first in their pool in the round robin with a 2-0 record but then got knocked out in the quarterfinals with an 11-1 loss to Vincent Massey. And the NPC girls soccer team were at the provincial AAA soccer championships in Steinbach, where they beat Kelvin 6-0 and Vincent Massey 2-1 before falling to Miles Macdonell 3-0 in the consolation final.

SUPPLIED PHOTO



Whips, Bisons post victories, Mud Hens fall

By Voice staff

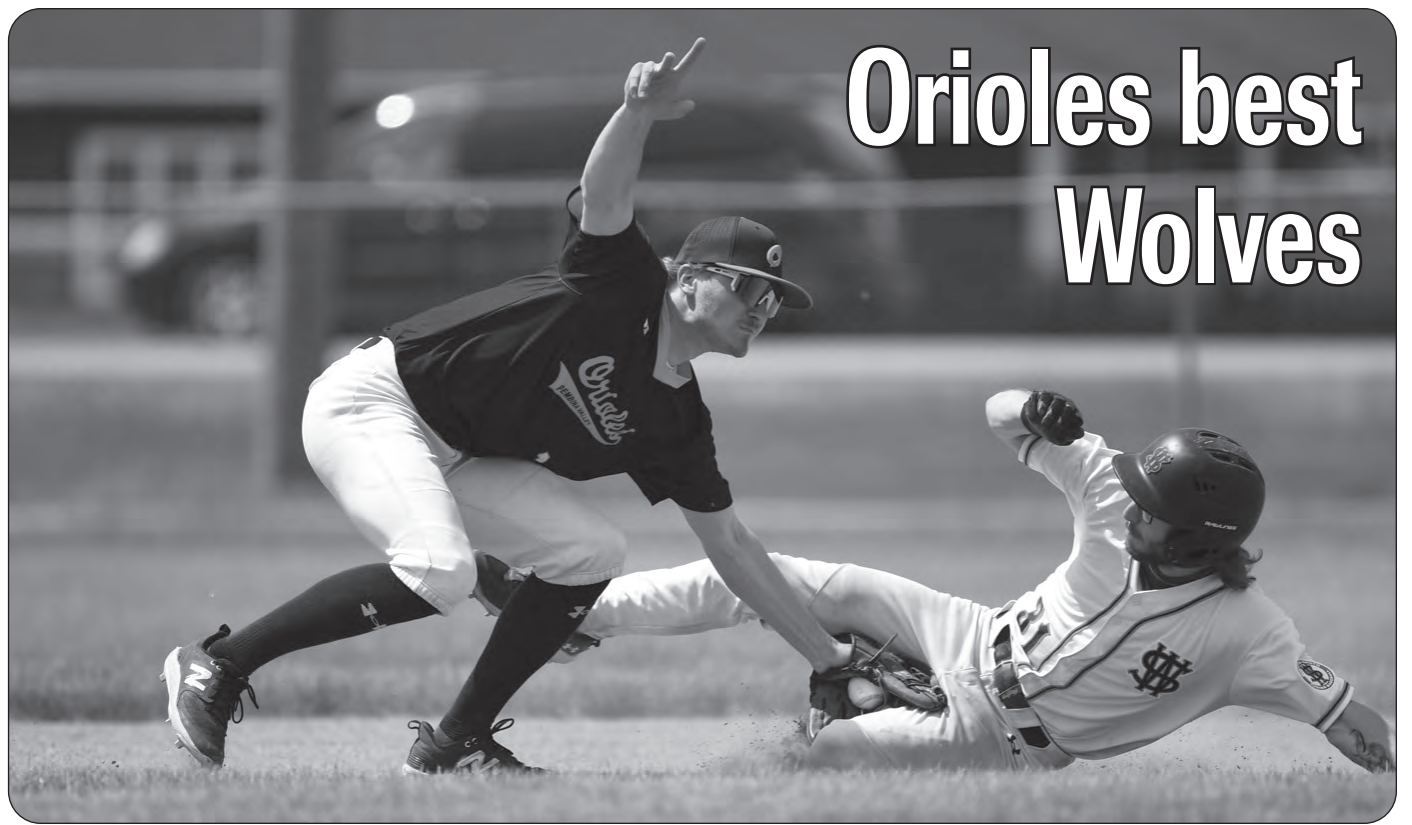
Two of the three local teams were victorious in Border Baseball League action over the weekend.

The Winkler Whips bolstered their East Division first-place record to 4-1 with a 7-1 victory over the Cartwright Twins, while the Altona Bisons, in second place at 3-1, trounced the Holland A's 7-1.

Meanwhile, the third-place Morden Mud Hens (2-3 for the summer so far) fell to the Regals in Baldur 7-5.

Rounding out the division are the Carman Cardinals in last place with an 0-5 record.

This week Tuesday saw Morden playing in Winkler and Carman in Altona. On Friday, the Cardinals host the Mud Hens and the Whips host the Bisons.



Orioles best Wolves

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Orioles second baseman AJ Peters signals the out and great throw from the catcher as he tags out Winnipeg South's Jeremie Thibert on the steal attempt Sunday in Winkler. Pembina Valley won game one of the double-header 4-3 and then took game two 11-1. In other Manitoba Junior Baseball League action last week, the Altona Bisons dropped an 8-4 decision to St. Boniface and then fell 13-3 and 10-1 to Interlake.

Daren Hesom wins Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour title in St. Andrews

By Annaliese Meier

Darren Hesom continued his strong start to the junior golf season, capturing the Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour (MJT) Juvenile Boys title at the MJT ZEAL Series event held June 6-7

at Larters at St. Andrews Golf and Country Club.

The 16-year-old Morden golfer opened the tournament with an impressive one-under-par 71 before carding a 76 in the second round to finish with a two-day total of

147, eight shots clear of runner-up Brayden Hamm of Brandon.

Hesom built a comfortable lead after the opening round and maintained his advantage throughout the final day to secure the division championship.

"Sean Murray helped me develop over the off-season and have early success this year," Hesom said following the victory.

With the win, Hesom qualified for the MJT National Tour Challenge, one of the tour's premier national events.



First local Run to End Endo a huge success

A large contingent was on hand Saturday at Morden Park for the Pembina Valley Run to End Endo. Endometriosis affects one in every 10 Canadians, afflicting them with severe menstrual pain, chronic pelvic pain, and fertility challenges. Many often feel alone in dealing with their disease due to lack of awareness and understanding or even dismissal of their symptoms by others, which is why the awareness raised by walks across the country is so important. The local walk drew a huge crowd of participants and supporters and raised upwards of \$13,000, contributing to the over \$180,000 raised nationally this year.

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



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WANTED: Collector paying top prices: old advertising signs, gas pumps, Red Indian, White Rose, Buffalo, Ford Dodge, GM. 1968-70 Chargers, 1970-71 Barracuda's. Running or not. 306-221-5908.

NOTICES

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

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PUBLIC NOTICE



UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING By-Law 06-2026

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

By-law No.06-2026, being an amendment to Zoning By-law No. 08-2017

Hearing Location: City of Morden Civic Center
195 Stephen St, Morden MB

Date and Time: June 22, 2026 at 7:00pm

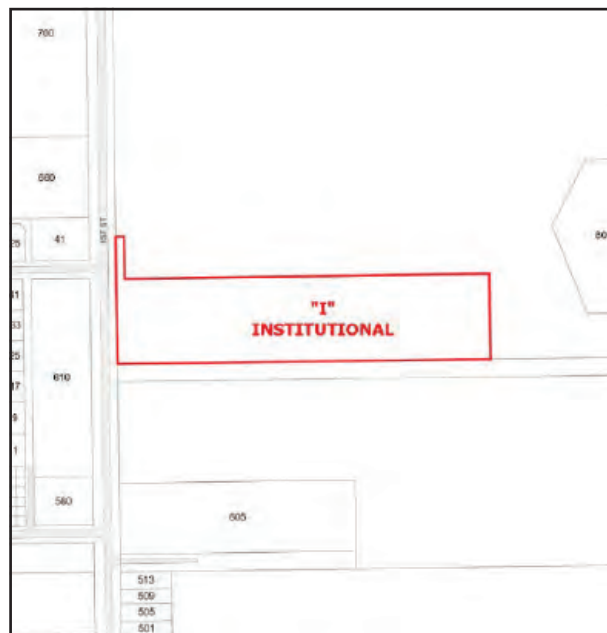
General Intent: To rezone the area as shown on the map below, from CR (Community Reserve) to I (Institutional) for the purpose of constructing a church

Area: Southwest portion of: Pt. NW 9-3-5 WPM
Lot Rng 05 Plan PT NW, Sec 09

For More Information Contact:

Ihor Nikitin,
City Planner
133 7th Street,
Morden MB R6M 1v3
204-822-4434 ext. 1106

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made, and extracts taken there from, upon request.



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Classifieds Announcements The Winkler Morden Voice

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BIRTHDAY



Please join us for
a Come and Go Birthday Celebration
in honor of

Maria Giesbrecht's 70th Birthday!
Saturday, June 13, 2026
from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
at 150 8th Street, Winkler.

Drop in anytime and stay as long as you like.
Snacks will be provided.
Please bring lawn chairs.

AUCTION

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NOTICE OF REGISTRATION



NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES FOR GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY

Please be advised that a general municipal election
will be held on October 28, 2026.

Prospective municipal election candidates must
register with the Senior Election Official (SEO) dur-
ing the registration period before they may begin to
accept contributions, incur expenses, fundraise or
borrow money for their campaign.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT candidate registra-
tions will be received:

For the office of head of council: Between May 1
and September 22, 2026

For the office of councillor: Between June 30 and
September 22, 2026

at the RM of Stanley Administration Office, 1-23111
PTH 14, during the regular hours of business.

To obtain a registration form contact the SEO at the
email or telephone number listed below:

Dan Giesbrecht
Senior Election Official (S.E.O.)
RM of Stanley
204-325-4101
seo@rmofstanley.ca

Dated at the RM of Stanley on April 9, 2026.

IN MEMORIAM



Kenton Harder 1986 - 2019
Byron Harder 1988 - 2024

Thinking of you boys
Something I do every day
It's as natural as taking a breath
Or my heart beating every day.
My mind is filled with your memories
As I walk through life's daily tasks
Thinking of all the times we shared
And so sad for the times we've lost.
God chose to take you home
His plans we cannot see
But those of us who are left behind
Must trust the diety.
You both trusted in Jesus
What a reward you did receive
When you opened your heavenly eyes
And Jesus you did see.
Oh how I wish I could hug you boys
And tell you all the things on your Mother's
heart
So I pray to our heavenly father
To impart what's on my heart.
So looking forward to the day
When my earthly eyes will close
My heavenly eyes will open
And my boys and Jesus I will see.
We Love and Miss You
Kenton and Byron
More than earthly words can express!!

-Love Mom and Dad
and your family

PUBLIC NOTICE



Boundary Trails Health Centre
FOUNDATION

The public is invited to attend

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, June 22, 2026 • 7:00 pm
In the new Multi-Purpose Rooms
on the second floor of the Community
Services Building at the Boundary Trails
Health Centre

Financial Year-End Statements
will be available at the
meeting or upon request.

For more information, please call or email
204-331-8808 ext. 2 or
info@bthcfoundation.com
Refreshments to follow

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OBITUARY



Colleen Elizabeth Lyne (née Moore)

Colleen Elizabeth Lyne (née Moore) of Morden, Manitoba, passed
away peacefully on June 1, 2026, at the age of 86, with her family
by her side.

She leaves behind her sister Diane; sisters-in-law Pat, Rowena,
Lynn, Sheryle, and Elaine; brothers-in-law Mervin and Joe; along
with many cherished extended family members and dear friends.

Colleen was predeceased by her loving husband, Bill; her
parents, Si and Irene Moore; her parents-in-law, Fred and Mary
Lyne; and her siblings Jim, John, Elaine, and Michael.

Born on December 24, 1939 on the family farm in Pilot Mound,
Manitoba, Colleen was the daughter of Si and Irene Moore and
grew up alongside her siblings Jim, John, Elaine, Diane, and
Michael.

Her passion for teaching began early—so early, in fact, that
at just 16, before completing Grade 12, she accepted her first teaching position on permit at
Star Mound School in 1955. After completing her education, she graduated from the Manitoba
Teachers' College in 1960 and began what would become a lifelong and deeply meaningful
career in education.

In 1965, at the Foresters Dance Hall in Pilot Mound, she met the love of her life, William Frederick
"Bill" Lyne. They were married on July 2, 1966 at St. Andrew's on the Red in Lockport, Manitoba.
Together, they built a life rooted in love, adventure, and unwavering devotion to one another.

Committed to lifelong learning, Colleen continued her education while teaching, ultimately
earning her Master's degree in Education in 1982—an achievement of which she was immensely
proud. She taught in various schools across Manitoba, in Europe, and even in St. Vincent,
touching the lives of countless students wherever she went. To Colleen, teaching was never just
a profession—it was her calling.

Colleen and Bill made their home in Pilot Mound in the early 1970s before moving to Morden in
1978, where they settled first on Parkview Place and later into the home she cherished for the rest
of her life. In January 1990, at the age of 50, Colleen suffered a stroke that would shape the years
to come. Through every challenge, her strength, resilience, and determination shone through.
With Bill's steadfast love and advocacy, she maintained her independence and remained in her
home, supported by her family, dedicated care providers, and nursing staff.

Together, Colleen and Bill traveled extensively, creating treasured memories in destinations
such as Hawaii, Alaska, and New Zealand. After Bill's passing in 2021, Colleen's world changed
profoundly, and she grew increasingly reliant on the support around her. In 2022, she met Sara,
who became not only a caregiver but a trusted companion and dear friend. Sara's presence
brought comfort, dignity, and joy to Colleen's daily life.

Colleen had a deep appreciation for the simple pleasures. She delighted in visits from her friends,
especially Meno and Judy, always insisting the "good dishes" be brought out for company. She
found joy in watching the birds and bunnies outside her window and kept a careful eye on Bill's
rhubarb patch. Many peaceful hours were spent in her sunroom, listening to her favorite music,
browsing her iPad, and keeping up with loved ones while searching for new recipes to try.

She took great pride in her home and her appearance and was known for her grace, positivity,
and quiet strength. Despite the challenges she faced, Colleen was not one to complain. Instead,
she chose gratitude, dignity, and perseverance.

Even in the face of her own health struggles, Colleen continued to give back. She remained
devoted to helping children improve their reading and language skills, celebrating every small
success with genuine joy. Her belief in the potential of others never wavered.

Colleen was deeply proud of her extended family and took great interest in their lives, dreams,
and accomplishments. In 2023, she established the Bill and Colleen Lyne Scholarship, reflecting
her lifelong commitment to education. She also supported numerous community initiatives,
including contributions to the new Echocardiogram Suite at Boundary Trails Health Centre, as
well as organizations such as Star Mound School, the Friendship Centre, and the Legion.

Colleen's life was one of compassion, resilience, and generosity. She was, in every sense, a
teacher for life—leaving a lasting legacy in the hearts of those who knew her and in the many
lives she touched.

Funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2026 at the Morden Alliance
Church. A private interment will take place prior to the service at the Snowflake Community
Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Colleen's memory to the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation
– Echocardiogram Unit (Cardiac Care) or to the Morden Alliance Church.

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Rumble in the Valley

The heat did not stop the grandstands from rattling on Friday and Saturday at Rumble in the Valley in Morris. There was something for everyone both days. Clockwise from left: A competitor gives it their all in the truck pull; Axel Skoglund, 6, sits in Ironman, which took home "Saturday Smoke Show of the night" and placed second in Unlimited Diesel category; the Punisher out on the course; the dance floor was the place to be during intermission, with Tiffany "LinedancingTee" Parada (in white hat) leading the way.

PHOTOS BY SIOBHAN MAAS/VOICE



Students come home with Skills Canada medals

By Lorne Stelmach

Two of the region's vocational students excelled and earned honours recently at a national competition.

W.C. Miller Collegiate student Brady Peters won a gold medal in the carpentry competition at the Skills Canada competition May 28-29 in Toronto, while Colton Pedersen, who is based out of Morden Collegiate but studies electrical technology at Northlands Parkway Collegiate in Winkler, earned a silver medal in the electrical installations category.

Peters said it was a challenging but good experience.

"I feel it went really good. It was really fun," he said. "When I got there, it felt like I was really nervous, but after I got into the competition I was just locked on what I had to do. I felt no nervousness at all. I just got it done."

Now in Grade 11, Peters is looking at this as a career.

"I'm working with my dad right now," he said, noting his father operates Open Country Mechanical and Electrical. "This summer I'm work-



Brady Peters (left) and Colton Pedersen (right) came home from the Skills Canada competition last month with a gold and a silver medal, respectively.

ing for him ... and then after I'm done high school, I'm going to Red River College for my second level."

He reflected on what he likes about doing this kind of work.

"You get to work with your brain and with your hands," said Peters.

"I'm always thinking, always work-



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

ing through the challenges, always trying to just get it done right. I'm In my own zone, trying to figure it all out in my head."

Pedersen also said it was a good experience.

"There were so many people, and it was pretty cool. There were lots of

people just walking around and coming to watch and taking pictures of everything else going on," he said. "The hard part is staying on my task and not getting sidetracked by everything that was going on. I had to just be able to focus and block out all the other commotion."

"We had to build a small playhouse about four by eight feet and about four feet tall. And I just had three walls with a roof and a railing on the front little front porch."

It was about 12 hours of work spread out over two days.

"It went pretty good. I worked as fast as I could the whole time," Pedersen said. "I missed one board on the bottom, but I knew that I had done the best I can, and the rest was out of my control."

Pedersen also sees this as being a career option for him.

"Either this or farming," he said.

"It was really fun," Pedersen added. "I got to meet a lot of people, which was pretty cool and different ... and I talked to a bunch of guys from different trades and professions."