

Premier Greg Selinger speaks with area residents about the nearly completed St Joseph wind farm. A handful of turbines became operational Tuesday afternoon during a news conference.

### Wind farm up and running

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The wind farm, described as Over the life of the project Pattern Energy will pay local landthe sixth largest in Canada, is owners an estimated \$38 million seen to solidify Manitoba's role as a leader in renewable energy in royalty payments and contribdevelopment. This designation ute \$44 million in local municicomes even though the project, pal taxes (two-thirds to education which was in the planning stage and one-third to the municipalfor five years, was scaled back

At the beginning of the project, Reeve Vermette described the wind farm is a good deal for the region, noting some 40 farmers and other landowners will receive royalty payments for the turbines on their property. Each turbine will generate about \$17,000 annually in royalty payment for the life of the agreement.

He explained all property own-

Simplified drawing of typical wind turbine construction

ers whose land falls within the grid, regardless of the placement of turbines, were in line for a onetime payment of \$195 per acre.

Pattern Energy also has two other wind farms in operation or under construction, one in California and one in Texas, and has projects in development in eight states and four provinces (including Manitoba) as well as Puerto Rico and Chile.

The company, headquartered in San Francisco with offices in Toronto, Houston and San Diego, has projects totaling more than 520 megawatts in operation and under construction.

Manitoba's first wind farm, located near St Leon, became operational five years ago and produces 100-MW of electricity, enough to service about 35,000 homes.

The province in a brochure published several years ago explains that while no power plant operates at 100 percent of its installed capacity 100 percent of the time, the St Leon wind farm produces about 40 percent of its installed capacity. The St Leon site has enough wind for the turbines to generate some electricity about 90 percent of the time.

In comparison, it states, hydroelectric generating stations generally produce about 65 to 75 percent of their installed capacity.

Wind forecasting methods are continually improving as well, and over the long term, wind is quite predictable. Many turbines are operational 98 percent of the time, allowing the remaining two percent to be used for scheduled maintenance and repair or severe weather shutdowns.

## Groups irked by grant cuts

"There is a belief also that when acting in a fiscally responsibility...one should have a healthy operating balance sheet and budget," Barkman said.

South East Helping Hands is another organization which was both helped and hindered by the view it gets a lot of community support.

"I was happy we got some funding but I wasn't thrilled we didn't get the amount we applied for," said food bank chairman Hank Klassen.

"If you don't want to serve the poor...you want to serve the elite," he wondered aloud about council this week, a reference to city funding for the likes of the chamber of commerce and the arts council which receive over \$250,000 between them.

Just over \$100,000 of the \$150,145 received by the arts council is returned directly to the city as a rental fee for their city-owned building. The library has a similar arrangement about \$80,000 of its \$231,000 funding is returned to the city as rental revenue.

The food bank made a request to council for \$75,000 to council and a request for \$4,300 as a grant in lieu of taxes. It received one grant totaling \$25,000 which council said was a one-time contribution to help the organization pay down the \$290,000 mortgage it has on its new building.

Earl Funk for helping the food bank to get any funding at all but was still disappointed in what appeared to be an uneven playing field for the grants process.

Klassen credited Councillor

Leading up to the council meeting, Klassen noted the message he heard back from several council members was that the city would not be giving the food bank an operating grant, that the application needed to be

for a capital project. That didn't seem fair to Klassen since grants received by the organizations like the arts council, museum and chamber were

not tied to capital projects. "Make it clear what we're applying for," he says of the grants process, "If you want to change in midstream...'

If the city wants a capital project application, Klassen says he's already preparing an application for next year asking council to contribute to the costs of walk-in refrigeration units installed in the food bank in 2009. The \$55,000 project this week received almost \$10,000 from Farm Credit Canada.

# Young man helps keep Ukrainian music alive

by Jane Barkman

RADITIONS have been described as prehistoric in customs involving education [teaching language] and trade. In our own community the religious traditions such as Christmas and Easter are most evident. They are passed on from one generation to the next.

At the young age of 18, the one thing on Jayden Chornoboy's mind is, "Keeping the Ukrainian traditions alive." Being raised with Ukrainian roots on both his mother Shirley's and father Murray's side, Jayden has grown to love and appreciate the music and dance culture of the Ukraine.

Learning the art of Ukrainian dance at age five, he was drawn to the sounds of the music. Beginning with seven years of fiddle lessons at the Music Conservatory at the Steinbach Cultural Arts Centre and later at the conservatory in Winnipeg, Jayden excelled and today teaches his own seven students, ranging from six years to adult.

Following graduation Jayden took on a job with the provincial highways department, and his band, By Request, with Glen Ambrose on guitar, Ryan Smuk on accordion and Myron Smuk on drums, has entertained crowds in the area on a weekly basis.

He claims there is a larger following than most people would expect, many quite young. The group has produced a CD, promoting Ukrainian music. The band's 2011 calendar is booked solid beginning with malanka (New Year's Eve) at Pansy on

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Levi David Rempel Klassen

IN LOVING SUPPORT OF:

Gail Coombs. wife.

mother & grandmother

IN MEMORY OF:

Abe G. Penner

**Betty Barkman** 

Cornie & Mary Esau

Edmar J. Rempel

Elden Penner

**Esther Loewen** 

Frank & Corinne Klassen

George Esau

Jake Schellenberg

John Hiebert

John K. & Sarah Barkman

Lies Friesen

Marlene Penner

Millie McQuade &

Amel Kostvnvk

P.J. & Myrtle Reimer

P.K. & Elizabeth Penner

Pete Cornelsen

Randy Thiessen

Toby & Alice Heinrichs

Wayne Porter

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:** 

Mary Jane Hiebert, soloist

Chuck & Jackie Klassen,

sleigh rides Steinbach & Area Lions Club,

hotdogs

Bethesda Kitchen Staff,

hot chocolate

Art Sobering.

firewood

Bill Linden & Maintenance Staff,

decorating & assistance

Corny Rempel, Mix 96.7

for being the MC

Ken Reimer from Fairway Bus

Sales for the use of a bus for

Woodhaven residents and

Ike Kroeker, for driving it

Manitoba Hydro for decorating

the signature trees

Opry in Nashville, Jayden Chor- stays strong for the next generanoboy will help to ensure the tra-

With eyes set on the Grand Ole ditional Ukrainian style of music



Jayden Chornoboy is helping Ukrainian music alive.

SENTINEL TREE SPONSOR

## Nurse struck by conditions

While these stories seem to be extreme, they became the normal for Morran, who noted everyone was very dehydrated and everything expelled from their bodies was "extreme volumes of just water." She noted cholera causes extreme vomiting and diarrhea and people can become so dehydrated the body starts pulling fluids out of

### the blood. Life at a standstill

from 300 MW.

Manitoba Hydro and Pattern

Energy entered in to a 27-year

power purchase agreement, and

Hydro also agreed to contrib-

ute up to \$260 million through a

construction loan, repayable over

20 years, while Pattern Energy

invested \$95 million. Total esti-

mated cost of the project is \$345

While the devastation is obvious all around, Samaritan's Purse has done a good job building the clinic, Morran said. While still a tent of sorts, each of the wards is made of two by fours and good

Each tent, or clinic, houses 20 patients and sees a doctor, two Haitian nurses, a volunteer nurse (such as Morran) and a cleanup crew on each rotation. The Haitian nurses came with varying skill levels though, with some not even able to hook up an IV, Morran

Beds are constructed much the same as the clinic, but with holes cut out so that a bucket can be placed underneath for those with diarrhea and buckets next to the head of the bed for those vomiting.

She had to note the obvious as well, pointing out that with Haitians it is more difficult to notice if they are pale and veins are often invisible, which makes assessing their needs and setting up IVs all the more difficult. Despite all the misery Morran

witnessed, she is determined to go back, possibly in March. Right now she does not know for how long she will go back, or the exact timeline of her departure. All she knows is she will go back.

Haiti was hit by an earthquake Jan. 12, 2010 registering 7.0 on the Richter scale. More than 50 aftershocks registering 4.5 or greater were recorded over the next two More than 220,000 people were

killed and more than 300,000 were injured. Six months after the quake the United Nations estimated 1.5 million people, or roughly one in nine Haitians, were homeless and living in camps. It was estimated more than 20

million cubic metres of rubble littered the nation and that it could take up to 20 years to remove. Bodies are still being found a year later, including the remains of a pregnant woman in her 20s who went missing after the earthquake that were found the same day Morran arrived home.

In some Port-au-Prince neighbourhoods, mountains of rubble look much the same as they did immediately after the quake. Many residents and various groups have been questioning the Haitian government's handling of the funds raised and/or donated by other countries and why the residents affected by the earthquake have not seen much of that money.

Haitians are also now dealing with a cholera epidemic that has already more than 3,700 lives.



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Liane Morran of Kleefeld recently spent three weeks in Haiti treating cholera patients at a hydration clinic. These three children were staying at the clinic with their sick mothers when Morran decided to relieve the mothers so that they could take a much needed rest.