

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LITTLE CHUTE WINDMILL BOARD RECOGNIZES PRESIDENT DONALD DE GROOT WITH \$50,000 GIFT**

LITTLE CHUTE, WI (December 20, 2006) – The board of directors for Little Chute Windmill, Inc. has contributed almost \$50,000 to name an area in the Van Asten Visitor Center in honor of board president Donald De Groot. A special seating area set aside for conversation and relaxation will recognize De Groot’s enduring commitment to the Little Chute Windmill Project. “Not only does the \$50,000 gift help us reach our fundraising goal, it also demonstrates the high degree to which our board cares about this project and those who work so hard to make it happen,” said executive director Robin Dekker. The gift was announced at the Little Chute Windmill, Inc. annual meeting at Liberty Hall in Kimberly on December 19, much to De Groot’s surprise. “It is an honor that the board would do that for me. It certainly was a pleasant surprise. Without the commitment and diligence of our board of directors we would not have accomplished what we have to date,” said De Groot. Board vice president Michael Van Asten sent a letter to each board member inviting them to take part in honoring De Groot. Van Asten challenged the board to contribute \$25,000, which he pledged to match to reach the total goal of \$50,000 for the naming rights. Within a week \$21,000 has been contributed by the board members and the remainder is expected shortly. A few entities not on the board of directors also chose to contribute when they became aware of the room to be named in honor of De Groot.

The Van Asten Visitor Center will be located adjacent to the Little Chute Windmill and will house a gift shop, museum display area, video room, offices, and the relaxation area named in honor of De Groot. Visitors will enter the base of The Little Chute Windmill through the Van Asten Visitor Center and then proceed up through the multiple levels and tour the inner workings and environment of the windmill.

Little Chute Windmill, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to raising \$2.5 million to build an authentic 100 foot tall Dutch windmill and visitor center in downtown Little Chute to celebrate the Dutch heritage of the area. To date, approximately \$1.5 million towards the goal has been raised.

*For information please contact Executive Director Robin Dekker at 920-788-2629.*

