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Thursday April 13, 2006

Anti-casino advocate questioned

Thursday, April 13, 2006 9:47 AM EDT

To the editor,

The level of hypocrisy to which Gun Lake casino opponents will stoop never ceases to amaze, but the case of Tommy Brann is one for the books.

Mr. Brann is a vocal opponent of the casino and is a member of 23 is Enough. He is also promoting and profiting from the expansion of gaming in Michigan. Brann's Steak Houses in seven west Michigan locations and two in Southeast Michigan all offer Club Keno and pull tab gaming.

The Michigan Lottery publishes sales figures on the popular Club Keno game, with 2005 sales exceeding \$330 million. According to the lottery, the median retailer kept approximately 35 percent of the total sales.

Six of the top 20 Keno retailers are located in west Michigan. This is certainly contrary to the claim that "people here are opposed to gambling!"

Brann proves 23 is Enough itself isn't opposed to gambling!

Tommy Brann's Steak House in Wyoming is near the very top of the Lottery's statewide list of highest-selling Keno retailers. But it doesn't stop there. His empire boasts six other locations from Holland to Portage and back to Muskegon-that all take Club Keno wagers and pull tabs.

It's no wonder Tommy is opposed to the Gun Lake casino; he doesn't want competition with his games!

As many people in the know already understand, 23 is Enough isn't opposed to gaming; they're opposed to anything that threatens their profit margins. Gun Lake casino opposition only makes sense if you are a competitor. Gaming is already here; case in point-Tommy Brann's Steak House.

If Tommy Brann is truly opposed to gaming, he should stop offering gaming at his bars and donate his gaming profits to charity.

Jason Palmer



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Gun Lake Tribe

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