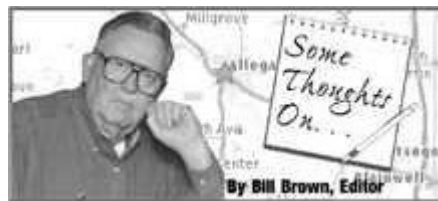


Monday April 2, 2007

Some Thoughts On...

Wednesday, March 28, 2007 10:39 AM EDT

The headline on the Grand Rapids Press lead story Sunday, March 25, said it all ... "Could GR get casino? You bet" ... The article went on to say, "Is that realistic in a city so identified with an anti-casino stance? Peter Secchia thinks so ...



The former ambassador and retired executive has resigned his leadership post in a prominent anti-casino group and is exploring how to locate a gaming house downtown" ... Secchia, the story goes on to say, has resigned from "23 is Enough" ... Is anybody surprised? ... Only those who did not believe the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce's indignation over the Gun Lake Tribe's planned casino was nothing more than stall tactics, until they could get their own casino underway ... That these wealthy and self-righteous hypocrites could spend as much money as they have denying a 300-plus member tribe of Native Americans from realizing their goal of bettering their lives, speaks volumes about the character of these men ... The unmitigated gall of these people is unimaginable ... Secchia has obviously conceded the casino at Bradley to the Gun Lake Tribe, but now I have to wonder, will the tribe play as big an obstructionist role in all of this as the casino opposition has toward them? ... Will appeal after appeal be filed to slow down the construction of a casino in Grand Rapids? ... Somehow I think not ... Tribal chairman D.K. Sprague is no Secchia ... D.K. is low-key, laid-back Christian who is a Red Cross Emergency Disaster volunteer ... He sincerely cares about people and is devoted to Tribal members ... I don't think Sprague cares about revenge ... But, that said, others might be interested in "pay back" of some form ... I only hope that the federal judges waiting to rule on this last MichGO appeal take this latest news into consideration and perhaps expedite a ruling in favor of the Gun Lake Tribe.