

Search this site... Go

Welcome! Login | Signup



News Obituaries Opinion Business Sports Outdoors Education Health Online Ads Services Community Voice E-Edition

Home News

Backus Legion charitable gambling contribution increases 49 percent in 2016

Story Comments

Print Font Size:

Recommend 1 Tweet G+1 0 Share

Posted: Thursday, March 23, 2017 7:46 am

staff reports pilotnews@pilotindependent.com

CLICK HERE FOR Bargains of the Month

ARROWHEAD
True Value BUILDERS SUPPLY

5159 Hwy 84 No., Longville • 218-363-2124

*A Full Service Home Center
Open 7 Days a Week Year Round!*

BACKUS — Citing a continued improvement in the economy, moderate gas prices that helped boost travel to the lakes area and public support of its program, the Backus American Legion Charitable Gaming Partnership increased its contribution to charity and taxes paid to government by \$29,814 or 49 percent in 2016.

Donations to civic causes, including education, service organizations, food shelves, public safety and youth recreation totaled \$46,822, an increase of \$16,647 or 55 percent over 2015. The state of Minnesota continued to be the largest single recipient of the Legion's charitable gaming profits, collecting \$39,662 in taxes and fees in 2016, an increase of \$12,610 or 46 percent from the previous year.

The heavy state burden has continued to draw criticism from Allied Charities of Minnesota, the umbrella organization representing the charitable gaming industry.

Sponsoring organizations, including veterans and fraternal clubs, were able to donate \$60 million to their communities but sent another \$56 million to the state in taxes and fees. Al Lund, ACM executive director, noted in a year-end analysis that 200 of 1,200 state licensed charitable gaming organization now pay more in taxes than they are able to donate to their communities. He predicted that trend will continue and that unless the Legislature enacts tax relief for charitable gaming, a majority of organizations, including veterans posts, will be paying more to the state than they raise for their charities.

"We understand that we will pay more than others in state tax, but more to the state than we have to use is something that we can no longer stand for," Lund said in a statement describing the status of the industry.

Education, public safety, youth recreation and local food shelves were among the chief benefactors of the Legion's partnership donations. The program includes the Backus Post, located at the intersection of Hwys. 371 and 87 W., and Willard's Saloon & Eatery in downtown Backus. This year the post added the Birchwood Char House in Hackensack to its program.

The post doubled its scholarship program donation to the Pine-River Backus School District, increasing the 10 scholarships awarded from \$500 to \$1,000 each for a total expenditure of \$10,000. It also raised from \$1,000 to \$1,500 the contribution to the Central Lakes Rotary STRIVE program aimed at keeping underperforming Pine River-Backus students in school, graduating and preparing for post-secondary education.

The Legion increased its support for boys and girls scouting activities and continued to support Hackensack and Pine River food shelves serving the area with a total contribution of \$6,000.

Leech Lake AREA CHAMBER of Commerce

(800) 833-1118

Enjoy the beautiful SEASONS OF LAKE

Leech-Lake.com

SONZ ON OFF

www.SpitzackBuilders.com

Volume **Sb** Spitzack Builders, Inc. We've Built Our Reputation By Building Our Customer's Dreams

Around The Web

- ▣ **Vice President Pence Makes Remarks at Little Rock Tours**
posted: March 24 | Comments
- ▣ **Press Briefing with Press Secretary Sean Spicer**
posted: March 24 | Comments
- ▣ **President Trump Meets with Charter Communications CEO Thomas Rutledge and Texas Governor Greg Abbott**
Updated: 6:00 am | Comments
- ▣ **President Trump Holds a National Economic Council Meeting**
posted: March 24 | Comments

Homes Jobs Cars

Homes

Close/Open Ad

Extraordinary Care For Extraordinary People

MAY CREEK
SENIOR LIVING CAMPUS
An Edgewood Property
Assisted Living | Memory Care

to the annual, summer-long Hackensack area childrens fishing contest

The post also continued its supports of childrens' holiday parties, veterans assistance programs and supported its auxiliary program providing holiday gifts for active duty troops.

"We are extremely pleased with the growing public support of our program," said Backus Legion Commander Eugene Gagnon. "It means we can continue to increase our commitment to meeting needs of our area residents and communities – making northern Minnesota a better place to live."

Charitable gambling's main source of revenue is pull-tabs, which have consistently provided more than 90 percent of revenues but includes bingo, paddle wheels, raffles and tip boards.

Weird New Gadget Gives ADHD Sufferers Laser Sharp Focus

Revolutionary new Focus Gadget stops attention deficit in its tracks. Lets users focus in like Einstein.



More about Walker Pilot

- ARTICLE: Historian Keith Butler at April 4 HCLL program
- ARTICLE: 'A Matter of Balance: Reducing your Risk of Falls' class begins April in Brainerd
- ARTICLE: DNR Weekly Conservation Officer Reports
- ARTICLE: No flu for you? If you're feeling well, donate blood April 4



Cass County Highway Engineer Dave Enblom (center), who retires March 31, presented the 2016

department report at the March 21 county board meeting, as fiscal supervisor Lori Koch and incoming Engineer Darrick Anderson listened.

More about Pilot-independent

- ARTICLE: Historian Keith Butler at April 4 HCLL program
- ARTICLE: 'A Matter of Balance: Reducing your Risk of Falls' class begins April in Brainerd
- ARTICLE: DNR Weekly Conservation Officer Reports
- ARTICLE: No flu for you? If you're feeling well, donate blood April 4



Cass County Highway Engineer Dave Enblom (center), who retires March 31, presented the 2016

department report at the March 21 county board meeting, as fiscal supervisor Lori Koch and incoming Engineer Darrick Anderson listened.

Your Business and Referrals Are Appreciated

Buying or Selling?

ISREAL MOE

Ready to work for you:

- 100+ years of experience
- 25+ years of education
- Top Agent Cedar Point Realty Corporation

Call me! 218-760-7318

ISREAL MOE
posted: November 09

BILL HANSEN REALTY
posted: March 22

[More Homes](#)

Homes

Edina Realty
posted: April 19

Your Business and Referrals Are Appreciated

Buying or Selling?

ISREAL MOE

Ready to work for you:

- 100+ years of experience
- 25+ years of education
- Top Agent Cedar Point Realty Corporation

Call me! 218-760-7318

ISREAL MOE
posted: November 09

BILL HANSEN REALTY
posted: March 22

[More Homes](#)

32°
Overcast



Colorado Police Departments Upgrade Their Gear: New Flashlights With Them

Recommend 1 Tweet G+1 0 Share

Discuss Print

Posted in News on Thursday, March 23, 2017 7:46 am. | Tags: Backus Legion Charitable Gambling, Walker Pilot, Pilot-independent

Sponsored Content

Recommended by