



Our takeaways from sectional pairings

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Karl King Tower agrees to remedies

Juliane Balog
South Bend Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

SOUTH BEND — Karl King Riverbed Tower apartments and the Portage Township trustee's office have reached an agreement after Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita's office opened an investigation into habitability concerns in mid-January.

The concern came from reports of residents not having proper heating during the roughest winter South Bend has had since the winter of 2017-18. In previous reporting by The Tribune, Portage Township Trustee Jason Critchlow sent a demand letter Jan. 13 to owner Karl King Property LLC and property manager Treetop Companies.

The agreement "delivers immediate relief to tenants and establishes long-term safeguards to prevent future system failures," according to a press release from Portage Township.

The owner of the property agreed to a 20% rent credit for all 220 tenants for March 2026. Once it has been confirmed the credit is applied in full, the township agreed to release the restitution claim for housing assistance the township paid to tenants of the building who may have been affected by the heating outages.

The agreement requires the owner to enter a self-monitoring period of three years, in which they are to report any health or safety matters that affect 50% or more of all residing tenants within 72 hours of the issue occurring. Throughout this period, the township can uphold random inspections.

In a phone call with The Tribune, Critchlow said inspections will take place as a complaint is filed.

In the event of the owners not upholding the agreement through truthful disclosure, accurate reporting, documentation and corrective action

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Meeting on immigration fills Goshen Theater



Ashley Coto, a senior at Goshen College, shares an anonymous story from another student during a community immigration forum at Goshen Theater on Feb. 17 in Goshen. The forum, hosted by the Goshen Democratic Party, featured Goshen College students, local leaders, community members and legal experts. MICHAEL CLUBB/SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

Emotional tales of immigrant hardship, resource sharing at event

Juliane Balog
South Bend Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

GOSHEN — A Goshen College student held back tears as she read a classmate's story to a silent, attentive crowd.

"You see, I carry my U.S. passport because I have been granted the privilege to have one, though, just like the dollar, I feel like it's losing its value," Ashley Garcia Coto said as she presented the anonymous story. "There are terrible things happening outside at any time of night and day, poor hopeless people are being

dragged out of their homes.

"They're allowed to only take a knapsack and a little cash with them and even then, they're robbed of their possessions on the way, families torn apart, men, women and children are separated."

A Democratic Party Meeting on Immigration had the Goshen Theater bursting at its seams. There were people standing lined against the back wall or standing on the stairway to the balcony, unable to find an empty seat in the Miller Auditorium, which seats 558 people.

All these people showed up Tuesday,

Feb. 17, to talk about immigration enforcement concerns, how to support their immigrant neighbors and the various resources available to the community. The forum, sponsored by the Goshen City Democratic Party, featured 10 speakers and various informational booths outside the auditorium.

"Do what you can with what you've got, where you are ... Teddy Roosevelt, our 26th president, offered that powerful advice more than 100 years ago," said Richard Aguirre, the host and co-

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St. Joseph County transfers Portage Manor Cemetery to township

Rayleigh Deaton
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SOUTH BEND — After several years of deliberation, the historic cemetery near Portage Manor is now under the ownership of Portage Township.

Ownership of the Portage Manor

Cemetery has hung in the balance for a while, according to previous Tribune reporting. In late 2023, St. Joseph County officials said they wanted to transfer the cemetery to the Portage Township Trustee's office, and Trustee Jason Critchlow shared some plans to protect and restore the cemetery, which, at the time, was little more than an open

grassy field.

The Tribune was unable to see the current state of the cemetery, because public access to the Portage Manor property is now prohibited.

During a meeting Tuesday, Feb. 17, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve a resolution officially transferring

around 2.5 acres of land off Riverside Drive to the township, a plat that includes the Portage Manor Cemetery.

Previous reporting says the cemetery is the resting place for more than 1,200 people who were documented since 1907, including 372 children — many of

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