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THE TIMES

Sunday, October 19, 2025

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‘NO HATE, NO FEAR’

Highland protest joins thousands nationwide in ‘No Kings’ movement



MICHAEL HOWIE
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HIGHLAND — Rain poured over Highland on Saturday as hundreds crowded the corner of Ridge Road and Indianapolis Boulevard, their chants and signs rising above the blare of car horns in protest of what they called the “tyrannical” direction of President Donald Trump’s administration.

The Highland protest was one of several taking place across the Region on Saturday, including demonstrations in Crown Point, Valparaiso, Gary, Michigan City and others. Organizers estimated 2,500 pro-democracy No Kings rallies took place nationwide.

Indivisible NWI, an activist group founded after Trump’s first presidential election victory in 2016, organized Saturday’s protest in Highland.

“There are millions across the world who wake up each day under the shadow of oppression,” said Kim Eldridge, president of Indivisible NWI. “We are feeling that here, right now, in the United States. Our voices are being silenced, our choices are becoming limited and the dreams of many in our country are being denied.”

Hundreds lined the intersection of Ridge Road and Indianapolis Boulevard in Highland for Saturday’s “No Kings” protest.

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Pizza, pasta, making people happy

AARON DORMAN

The back of Battista’s Artisan Pizzeria mobile pizza oven is plastered with graffiti, highlighted by the proud affirmation: “Located in the heart of Crown Point (don’t be a square.)”

Inside, the oven is 700 degrees, but the massive wood-fired oven is so well insulated that you can put your hand on it and you wouldn’t know that pizza and roasted green peppers

bubbles. The sourdough crust rises and falls like a tiny mountain range, with a nice char here and there. Gaal boasts that his sourdough base is easy on the stomach, but honestly, who cares? What matters is that it’s delicious.

“Bread, flour, yeast, water, salt,” Gaal said. “It’s my therapy.”

He can rattle off half a dozen old-time pizza joints on Chicago’s Southeast side — Bob and Jacks, Pasquale’s, Palermo’s,



JOHN J. WATKINS, THE TIMES

Chef of Steel Joe Gaal displays his Vespa submarine sandwich at Battista’s Market Deli in Cedar Lake.

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