



Gov. Pence doubles down on Donald

Governor issues emphatic endorsement of Trump Inc. at GOP convention

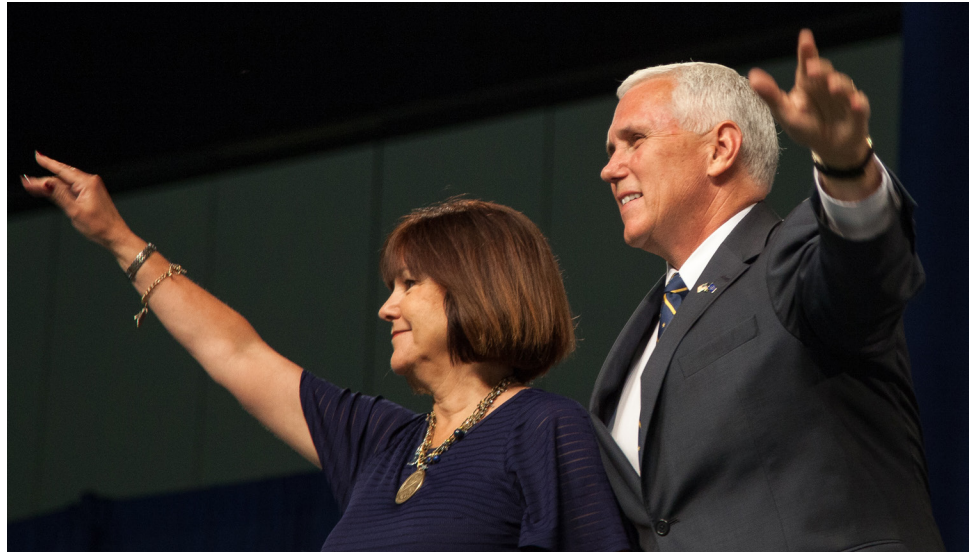
By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

INDIANAPOLIS – In the week preceding the Indiana Republican Convention, Speaker Paul Ryan described Donald Trump’s “textbook racism.” Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said Trump “doesn’t know a lot about the issues” and has not displayed

the requisite “seriousness of purpose” for the presidency. McConnell wouldn’t rule

out rescinding his endorsement. Mitt Romney warned that a “Presi-

dent Trump” could normalize racism, misogyny and bigotry in the national conscience. Businesswoman Meg Whitman compared the presumptive Republican presidential nomi-



Gov. Mike Pence and First Lady Karen wave to delegates after his Republican Convention speech where he left no doubt where he stands with controversial presidential nominee Donald Trump. (HPI Photo by Mark Curry)

nee to Adolf Hitler.

U.S. Sens. Jeff Flake, Mark Kirk and Lindsey Graham all said they couldn’t vote for Trump with Graham

Continued on page 4

A giant leap up the Hill

By **CRAIG DUNN**

KOKOMO – Indiana Republicans can be proud that they took a giant leap forward on Saturday, when delegates to the Indiana Republican State Convention nominated Elkhart County Prosecutor Curtis Hill to be their candidate for Indiana attorney general.

In a continuation of a political evolutionary process that witnessed three incredibly talented women lead the Indiana statewide Republican ticket in 2014, delegates to the 2016 Republican state convention created an historical moment with the Hill nomination. Curtis Hill became the first African-American Republican to be



“Weapons of war have no place on our streets. If the FBI is watching out for a suspected terror link, you shouldn’t be able to just go buy a gun with no questions asked.”

- Hillary Clinton, reacting to the Orlando massacre



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www.howeypolitics.com

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Republican attorney general nominee Curtis Hill and his family after winning a third-ballot victory Saturday. (HPI Photo by Mark Curry)

nominated for a statewide constitutional office.

First and foremost, Curtis Hill deserved the nomination. A four-term county prosecutor, Hill hit the entire State of Indiana like an April tornado. Endorsed by 40 of his peers, Hill quickly served notice last year that he was in it to win it with hard work and a great message.

The path to the nomination for attorney general was going to be a tough one for any eventual winner. Republicans displayed an embarrassment of riches with its four attorney general candidates.

Former Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter did an excellent job in his two terms in office. A tough and likeable guy, Carter is the type of candidate you just can't beat by outworking. Carter was omnipresent on the dead chicken tour that we call the Lincoln Day Dinner circuit. He went door to door visiting with delegates. He was definitely going to be a formidable candidate for a return to the attorney general's office.

Abby Kuzma honed her skills working as an assistant attorney general for Greg Zoeller. She is a talented, sharp and intelligent attorney. She was somewhat of a late entrant into the attorney general race and suffered from a lack of a political base to rely on for support. Still, not having run for office before and being a woman, coupled with her top notch

credentials, meant that she couldn't be ignored at a convention.

Finally, State Sen. Randy Head offered a potent mix of strengths for any convention run. He is young, talented and energetic and had a great vision for the attorney general office. In addition, he had the ability to marshal an army of his fellow state senators in his support. Head had also chaired the successful state treasurer campaign of Kelly Mitchell at the 2014 Republican State Convention. He had helped author a very successful convention strategy and was set to duplicate the feat in 2016.

The first step in the nominating process was a nomination speech made by an advocate for the candidate. I scored Randy Head the winner of the nomination speech derby. It is hard to beat having a statewide office holder, Treasurer Kelly Mitchell, do your nomination. Curtis Hill's nomination speech was impressive and kept the delegates' attention. Steve Carter's nomination speech focused on his many achievements as the former attorney general. I got a sense that many delegates were looking for more of a forward-looking nominating speech. Finally, Abby Kuzma's nominator told of her work in establishing the Neighborhood Christian Legal Network. This gave her credence as both an innovator and a Christian, two marketable traits to carry before Indiana Republican

delegates.

The candidate speeches themselves were a mixed bag of strategy and delivery.

Abby Kuzma focused on human trafficking and an emphasis on toughening enforcement of the laws governing this serious problem. While a worthwhile message, I believe the delegates were viewing each speech as an audition for who would bring the most value to a statewide ticket and Kuzma just didn't light many fires with her speech.

Randy Head delivered a spot-on speech that was energetic, had the right message and impressed the assembled delegates. Head looked pretty strong by the time he wrapped up his speech.

Steve Carter gave a relatively flat speech that failed to focus on his future plans for the office. While his accomplishments as attorney general were impressive, they were done eight years ago and delegates were looking for something to help light up the statewide ticket for 2016. You could almost sense that delegates were looking for lightning in a bottle. Carter failed to offer that elixir.

I had seen Curtis Hill speak on several occasions. Each time, Hill had kept his audiences riveted on his message and impressed with his delivery. The problem with being a dynamic speaker is the risk that on the big day, your speech fails to live up to expectations.

On Hill's big day, in front of 1,731 Republican delegates, he hit it out of the park. Hill talked about his family's journey, its challenges and its triumph. A product of a strong family that instilled in Hill a refusal to accept the status quo, he fought prejudice and triumphed over adversity. Hill then made a superb case for his vision for the future of the attorney general's office. He also made a forceful case for standing up to the federal government in court that was met with rousing applause.

The rules adopted for the Republican convention required that the lowest vote getter on each ballot be dropped from the contest. After the dramatic first ballot, Abby Kuzma was dropped after garnering only 76 votes. The remaining three candidates were within 100 votes of each other.

The big question after round one of voting was who would get Kuzma's votes on the second ballot. Kuzma threw her support to Randy Head between votes and Head needed the boost since he had finished third on the first ballot. The problem with endorsements after the balloting begins is the inability to effectively communicate these endorsements to the delegates. It only stands to reason that no serious candidate spends any time working on contingencies in the event of defeat. Trust me. I've been on the short end of the convention stick as a floor manager and

once you get eliminated, there's not much you can do to influence the eventual outcome.

Surprisingly, Head finished the second ballot with roughly the same total as on the first ballot, as did Steve Carter. The candidate who showed momentum on the second ballot was Curtis Hill, making significant gains.

With Sen. Head finding himself as the odd man out after the second ballot, he threw his support to Curtis Hill. The final ballot gave Hill a resounding victory and the rest, as they say, is history.

Curtis Hill presents Indiana Democrats with a major problem. He defies all of the stereotypes and prejudices that the Democrats spew in an effort to paint the Republican Party as the party of old white men. Hill brings a vigor and message to the campaign that will play well in every nook and cranny of Indiana. It shows the Indiana Republican Party to be the party of ideas and a party of



Republican attorney general nominee Curtis Hill of Elkhart arrives at the Republican Convention Friday night. (HPI Photo by Mark Curry)

progress. Curtis Hill will give John Gregg and the Democrats fits from now until Election Day.

On a personal note, I'd like to say that I was prouder of the Indiana Republican Party than I've been in some time. The 1,731 delegates assembled in Indianapolis met and selected not only the best candidate for the Republican ticket, as the attorney general candidate, but they also selected the best man for the job.

Indiana Republicans proved once again that when it comes time to do the right thing for the people of Indiana, we get it right. Curtis Hill was the right man at the right time and the Republican Party and the State of Indiana will be the better for his nomination. ❖

Dunn is chairman of the Howard County Republican Party.

Pence & Trump, from page 1

urging Republicans to get off his bandwagon. Govs. John Kasich and Scott Walker either wouldn't endorse or were "hesitant" to do so. Charles Koch said he was fed up with Trump's "vitriol." And the Washington Post, reporting from Clinton, Ind., quoted Republicans who described Trump as a "clown show" who doesn't have the temperament for "fitness" to be president. Jeff Cooperider, who voted for Ted Cruz on May 3, added, "I think we're headed for a war if we get Trump in there. Not just over there, but over here, with all the protesters."

But on Saturday morning, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence left no doubt about where he stands. Pence doubled down on the Trump bet. The governor issued an emphatic endorsement of Trump at the Indiana Republican Convention, urging delegates to make Indiana "the first state on the board to make Donald Trump the president of the United States," despite the controversies over race and misogyny battling around the week prior.

In the art of politics, timing can be everything. On the timing front, Pence has poor track record. On April 1, 2007, the kevlar-vested Pence joined Sen. John McCain and Gen. David Petraeus in touring Baghdad's Shorja market, where he declared that it was "like a normal outdoor market in Indiana in the summertime" even though 88 people had been killed by a bomb there the previous January. The next day, 21 people were killed at the market. In 2009, he passed on challenging U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh. In February 2010, Bayh shocked the Hoosier political world by dropping out of his reelection bid. So Pence missed out on a Senate seat and an enhanced national platform.

In 2012, after U.S. Senate nominee Richard Mourdock equated rape with "God's intent," in a disastrous debate with Joe Donnelly, Pence at first called for the nominee to "apologize" in the midst of a social media firestorm, then backtracked, saying in a late campaign stop in Dillsboro, "I continue to support Richard Mourdock and I think it is time to move on." In a race that many believed Pence would win in a landslide, he barely held on to defeat John Gregg by less than 3%, underperforming presidential nominee Mitt Romney, who distanced himself from Mourdock in the final week, by 144,544 votes, or nearly 5%.

And in March 2015, just as he was gearing up for his own presidential run, Pence signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act in the secretive "last supper" photo op that produced a state and national firestorm that he

has yet to fully recover from to this very day.

And Pence's reward for emphatically aligning with Trump? Less than a day after the convention concluded while reaffirming its "marriage between one man/one woman" plank, 50 people were murdered in a gay night club in Orlando by a terrorist acting out on ISIS impulse and gay hatreds. Trump would tweet out, "Appreciate the congrats for being right on radical Islamic terrorism, I don't want congrats, I want toughness & vigilance. We must be smart!"

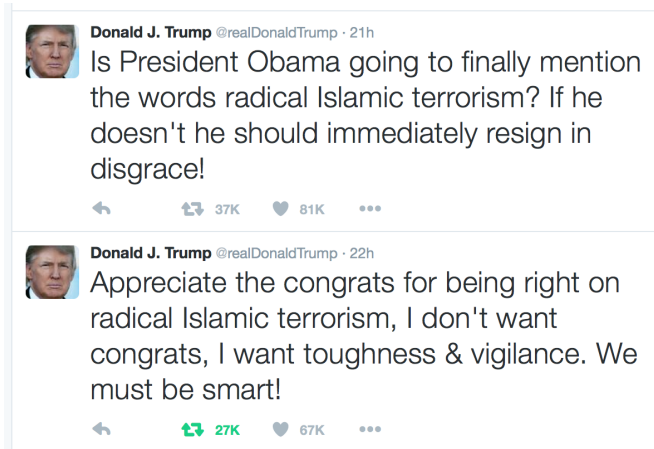
This followed a Trump MO after the massacres of Mother Emanuel in Charleston, Paris, San Bernardino, Brussels, and now Orlando: Self congrats, calls for issues such as banning all Muslims from entering the U.S., and then barbs aimed at opponents. Most political figures opt for thoughts and prayers, bind the wounds, and bring the nation together protocols.

Trump also called for President Obama to resign "in disgrace" for not using the words "radical Islam." Trump's Sunday remarks prompted Romney 2012 chief strategist Stuart Stevens to pronounce the remarks "childish," adding, "Every day he finds a different way to show he's unqualified to be president. Today he's accepting congratulations at a time when 50 people are slaughtered." Ron Fournier of the National Journal likened it to "A victory lap in blood." GOP pollster Whit Ayres warned Republicans to expect five months of wild cards. Politico put it this way: (Trump) could have appeared dignified, controlled, in-command, following the time-tested presidential path blazed by George W. Bush in 2001 and Obama on Sunday. Instead, he bellowed like Ralph Kramden

throwing an I-told-you-so over his shoulder at passengers on his bus.

By the end of the day, Trump announced an expanded Muslim ban, suggesting that all Muslims posed potential threats, even though the two American killers were born and raised in the U.S. He suggested on several occasions that President Obama was complicit in terror attacks. He banned Washington Post reporters from his rallies. At St. Anselm College, Trump's proposals, "presented an extraordinary break from longstanding rhetorical norms of American presidential nominees," according to the New York Times. Then, in a television interview on Monday morning, Trump darkly suggested that President Obama was sympathetic to Islamic terrorists. "We're led by a man that either is not tough, not smart, or he's got something else in mind," Mr. Trump said. "There is something going on."

The Washington Post reported: Trump's address contained a number of inaccuracies and overstatements. Among other things, he wrongly claimed that Clinton



wanted to abolish the Second Amendment; said the United States is "not screening" refugees, who undergo a rigorous vetting program that can take two years or more; and said the New York-born shooter was born "an Afghan, of Afghan parents who immigrated to the United States."

"Everybody says, 'Look, he's so civilized, he eats with a knife and fork,'" said Mike Murphy, a former top adviser to Jeb Bush. "And then an hour later, he takes the fork and stabs somebody in the eye with it."

Trump's presidential bid clearly benefited from the terror attacks last October and December. He and Pence have adopted similar tactics with the Muslim entry and Syrian refugee bans. Neither approach would have had any impact on the San Bernardino and Orlando massacres, as both primary shooters were born and raised in the U.S.

Some Republicans are taking a measured approach. State Rep. Mike Karickhoff wouldn't rule out supporting Trump, but said he would wait until after the Republican National Convention to make that decision, calibrating Trump's temperament and rhetoric.

Pence is now fully invested in Trump Inc., coming at a time when many of his fellow Republicans are in open flight, pondering that course, expressing deep reservations and anxiety in confidential quarters, while some rearrange the Titanic deck chairs.

Pence has been all over the map with Trump. When Trump suggested a ban of all Muslims entering the U.S., last December, Pence called the proposal "unconstitutional" and "offensive." He waited until the final week of the May 3 Indiana primary to endorse U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, but in doing so said of Trump, "I'm also particularly grateful that Donald Trump has taken a strong stand for Hoosier jobs when we saw jobs in the Carrier company abruptly announce leaving Indiana not for another state but for Mexico. I'm grateful for his voice in the national debate. Let me say, I've come to my decision about who I'm supporting and I'm not against anybody, but I will be voting for Ted Cruz in the upcoming Republican primary." This was portrayed in state and national media as one of the wishy-washiest endorsements ever.

Trump himself ridiculed the Pence endorsement, saying, on Fox News Sunday that it was "the weakest endorsement anyone has seen in a long time. If you really take a look at Mike Pence, I think he gave me more of an endorsement than Ted Cruz. His donors and special inter-

ests obviously made him give an endorsement."

Pence spent one day campaigning with Cruz in the 11th hour, cut one TV ad, then watched Trump maul Cruz 53-36%, essentially clinching the nomination. Two days later, Pence was on board with the nominee. "I'm fully supportive of our presumptive nominee, and I do think Donald Trump will do well in the state of Indiana," Pence said in Terre Haute. "I'm going to campaign hard for the Republican nominee because Indiana needs a partner in the White House."

Then came Trump's criticism of the "Mexican" federal Judge Gonzalo Curiel, born and raised in East Chicago and a fellow Indiana University Law School graduate. Pence mustered up enough ire to call the Trump Curiel rhetoric "inappropriate."

The governor looked agitated when reporters pressed him. "Every American is entitled to a fair trial and an impartial judge, but of course I think those comments were inappropriate," Pence said. "I don't think it's ever appropriate to question the partiality of the judge based on their ethnic background. But that being said, if I wanted to comment on everything that's said in the presidential campaigns, I would have run for president. I'm focused on the state of Indiana."

The Associated Press reported it this way: Pence also says he's focused on his own reelection bid and doesn't think he must respond to every development in the presidential race.

That's problematic. A presidential race, with a controversial and unpredictable nominee, will bleed into other races, just like Mourdock did in 2012.

Most political figures judiciously guard their political brands. There is great thought and strategy in linkage to another.

Pence is now on a political crap shoot, joining a man who he has called "offensive," "unconstitutional" and "inappropriate." He is fully signed on to the Trump circus, with no one knowing where it all could end up. The Washington Post put Pence on its list of 35 potential Trump running mates, and that actually might be the best career option for Pence given his sagging reelect numbers and his current investment in Trump Inc.

This is almost a certain story and linkage that will resurface over the next five months and Pence will own it.

Gov. Pence could end up on the highwire, he could swing on the political trapeze. He could end up bounding out of the Trump clown car, or follow the elephants with an out-sized scoop shovel.

HPI Horse Race Status: Tossup. ❖



Gov. Mike Pence during his address before the Indiana Republican Convention Saturday, and then with Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb and their wives. (HPI Photos by Brian A.

Curtis Hill makes history on third ballot

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**
and **THOMAS CURRY**

INDIANAPOLIS – Elkhart County Prosecutor Curtis Hill became the first African-American Republican to receive a statewide constitutional office nomination on Saturday.



His nomination comes as the Republican Party finds itself saddled with a presidential nominee who has used race as a touchstone of his controversial campaign. Hill won the third ballot against former two-term attorney general Steve

Carter, winning the nomination 908-602. He picked up the support of State Sen. Randy Head, who dropped off after finishing third on the second ballot.

Hill said of his victory, "I look forward to joining this ticket, I look forward to energizing this party and I look forward to running in the fall. This campaign from the beginning was about offering my experience and leadership on the challenges that face Hoosiers today. We need an attorney general who will never waver from standing up to federal government overreach and who has experience dealing with frauds, scams and violent crime on a daily basis.

Hill added, "I thank all those who supported my campaign from the beginning, including over 40 Indiana county prosecutors; the federal, state and local officials who joined along the way; and the delegates of the Indiana Republican Party State Convention who nominated me for this important responsibility. I also thank Sen. Randy Head, former Attorney General Steve Carter and Abby Kuzma for running campaigns worthy of the office of attorney general. We had a great, spirited campaign. That's the way it ought to be when you're running in a primary or a convention."

Carter praised Hill, saying, "Congratulations to

attorney general nominee, Curtis Hill. I appreciate all the candidates' efforts and all of our supporters' efforts to make this a successful convention for the Republican Party. These successes should lead to Republican victories this fall."

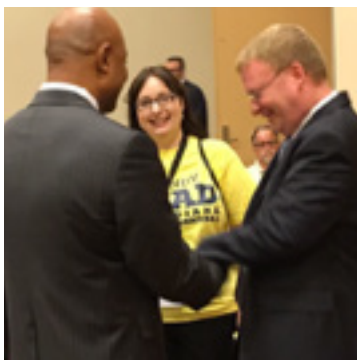
Hill, Carter and Head were bunched up after the first ballot, with Hill leading 553 votes over Carter with 514 and Head with 464 votes, while Abby Kuzma finished with 76 votes and dropped off. But Hill jetted out to a 620-489 lead over Carter on the second ballot.

The final ballot pitted a new face against the old guard. Carter served two terms as attorney general from 2001 to 2009 and was attempting a comeback. Hill is the four-term Elkhart County prosecutor who is waging his first bid for state office. Hill has been wooed by Republicans for congressional races as well as consideration to be Gov. Mike Pence's lieutenant governor when former Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann resigned in March and dropped off the ticket.

In a powerful speech before delegates, Hill talked of the role his father played in his life, but took aim at the federal government. "When I think of courage I think of my father, who as a young man still in his 20s set out to build a new home for his growing family on a lot he

had purchased in a new neighborhood. He was quickly confronted by his would-be neighbors and informed that neither he nor his family were welcome in that neighborhood and he was given the option to sell his lot or else. My father did not sell. He stood his ground. He built his home on that lot and my 88-year-old mother lives there to this day."

Hill told the delegates that the Elkhart home had been bombed and that his father had kept a loaded shotgun behind the bedroom door. "He taught us a valuable lesson on freedom that day: That even in America you sometimes have to fight for your freedom," Hill said. "Imagine what we could achieve if every little boy in America could say "my father is my hero. I'm running for attorney general because I want every little boy and every little girl to have



Curtis Hill and his floor team compare notes just prior to his third ballot victory in the attorney general floor fight. In lower photo, this is the moment where Hill picked up the endorsement of State Sen. Randy Head following the second ballot, then is congratulated by Carter . (HPI Photos by Mark Curry and Kyle Babcock)

that same courage that my father and mother instilled in me.”

Hill also latched on to an anti-federal government theme, saying, “When President Obama came to my home town to claim victory for our economic recovery, I stood up to tell him that our recovery was about the resiliency of our people, and came despite the oppressive unconstitutional tactics of the Obama administration,” Hill said. “And no matter what, we will fight against any and all overreach at every turn. As attorney general, I will be the last line of defense against an unlawfully expansive federal government.”

If he defeats former Lake County Judge Lorenzo Arredondo who will be nominated by Indiana Democrats next weekend, Hill would become the third African-American to hold the Indiana attorney general’s office, following Democrats Pamela Carter and Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson. The first Republican African-American to run statewide was Butler University Prof. Marvin Scott, who was defeated by U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh in 2004.

Earlier in the day, Gov. Mike Pence made an emphatic endorsement of Trump, who sparked national



Yorktown Supt. Jennifer McCormick celebrates with her floor team after her floor victory over Dawn Wooten. (HPI Photo by Mark Curry)

controversy when he called federal Judge Gonzalo Curiel a “Mexican” despite the fact that Curiel was born and raised in East Chicago and graduated from the Indiana University Law School. Pence urged delegates to make Indiana “the first state on the board to make Donald Trump the president of the United States” when he spoke to delegates Saturday morning.

This came after Pence called Trump’s remarks on Curiel “inappropriate.”

McCormick easily wins superintendent race

Yorktown Supt. Jennifer McCormick won a first

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ballot victory at the Indiana Republican Convention, dispatching Fort Wayne educator Dawn Wooten 1,030 to 574. She will face Democrat incumbent Supt. Glenda Ritz in November.

"This is a great day for the Republican Party," McCormick said after securing her victory. "I bring strong experience as a teacher, principal and superintendent. People understand there are situations that need to be fixed. We have to put students before politics.

McCormick said in her speech before delegates, "Indiana students deserve a Department of Education that can successfully administer statewide assessments that lead to fair and transparent accountability. Assessments must be meaningful and manageable. The days of reckless testing must end." She added, "Indiana students deserve to be put first. There is no wiggle room for political squabbling with our students' education on the line."

Pence delivers a stemwinder

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence delivered a reelection stemwinder Saturday morning at the Indiana Republican Convention, vowing to prompt voters to choose between "two futures." Pence is locked in a tossup rematch with Democrat John Gregg, with polls showing him with a narrow 4% lead. He appealed to delegates that his record,



Gov. Mike Pence and First Lady Karen greet delegates after his speech. (HPI Photo by Mark Curry)

and that of Gregg when he was House speaker for six years, offer a distinct, jarring contrast.

"Indiana is on the move," an intense Pence shouted to the 1,800 delegates. "We have a chance to accelerate on our state. Hoosiers have a choice to make. And it is a choice. My opponent likes to say this race is about my record. He's half right. It's also about his record. Despite his friends in the media, we're going to make sure Hoosiers know his record.

Pence said that in Gregg's six years as speaker, "His record was one of deficits, debt and higher taxes that couldn't be more different than the last 12 years."

Pence cited two balanced budgets, the expansion of school choice and vouchers, his program to bring career

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and vocational education in every high school and \$2.5 billion invested in roads and infrastructure, 150,000 new jobs and more than \$2 billion business investment. "My opponent's record is just a little bit different. He took a \$200 million surplus and turned it into an \$800 million deficit." Pence said that Gregg "raised taxes, delayed payments to schools" and added, "When we said no to Obamacare and state exchanges, Gregg said it was 'good news' and 'a game changer.'"

And he reminded delegates that he promised at the 2012 Republican convention, "I had one objective. I wanted more Hoosiers to go to work and for 10 consecutive months we've had record employment."

"It's going to take all of us to bring it home," Pence said. "We have to work as one party and one team. This is not really a choice between two candidates or two parties. It's a choice between two futures, of going backwards or going forward. I have faith that Hoosiers will choose the better way."

Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb, who was renominated by acclamation, told delegates, "I know where Indiana ranked during our opponent's time in office and I know where Indiana ranks today. I was there when we started cleaning up the mess John Gregg left us." That was in reference to Holcomb's role as Gov. Mitch Daniels' deputy chief of staff.

"You're going to hear him rewrite history," Holcomb said of Gregg. "When he wants to be, he is charmer. He is a great guy to go bowling with. But he is not a fiscal manager. When John Gregg was speaker of the House, Indiana ran up an \$800 million deficit. He called it nothing more than holding the House majority. He used our tax dollars for political gain. Again, his words, not mine."

And Holcomb recalled a WIBC interview, when Gregg called Gov. Daniels an "idiot" and said there was "an odor coming from Gov. Daniels' office. John Gregg wants you to believe he didn't create that mess. In a Rexism, 'That dog don't hunt,'" he said of a favorite quote of former Indiana Republican chairman Rex Early. "The facts speak for themselves. Oh, what a different a decade makes. We transformed and diversified our economy."

In other convention action, by an overwhelming standing vote, the convention adopted the platform without debate, including a plank support marriage as between "one man and one woman." Several delegates remained seated when the vast majority stood in favor

of the platform. The platform committee ruled on Friday that no changes to the platform would take place on the convention floor.

Trump calls Indiana his 'firewall'

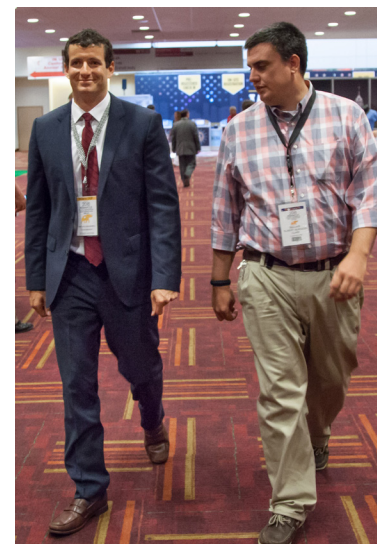
Republican presidential nominee made a pitch to Hoosier Republicans at the state convention Saturday morning, saying the state that put him over the top on May 3 was his "firewall."

Speaking to delegates via videos, Trump said, "Indiana is a special place to me. That is the state that really put me over the top. It was supposed to be a firewall for others but it was a firewall for me."

Trump earned applause from the delegates when he said of Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton,



Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump addresses Indiana delegates on Saturday morning. At right, 9th CD Republican nominee Trey Hollingsworth leaves the convention hall. (HPI Photo by Mark Curry)



"Hillary should be in jail. She is under criminal investigation."

Trump was introduced by his state chairman, Rex Early, who said, "We cannot elect another Obama. We must elect Donald Trump president. Donald Trump is our candidate and we must be united. Certainly most of our Hoosier voters, some 600,000 of them, like Donald Trump. That is a lot of voters. Now you'll see that Donald Trump likes us."

Trump told the delegates, "We are fighting very hard. Indiana is again going to be a focal point."

Trump said a highlight of his year long campaign that ended up with an improbable nomination was when former Indiana University basketball coach Bobby Knight endorsed him. "That was one of the most exciting evenings. That was so moment."

Trump said he wanted to "thank Indiana, the people of Indiana and all the politicians who helped me and endorsed me."

Trump has been endorsed by Gov. Mike Pence, Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb, U.S. Sen. Dan Coats and U.S. Reps. Todd Rokita, Jackie Walorski, Todd Rokita, Luke Messer and Larry Bucshon.

Marriage amendment unchallenged

The one man/one woman marriage plank remained in the Republican platform. Efforts to amend it on Friday were thwarted by a 7-3 vote. On Saturday morning, Chairman Jeff Cardwell had delegates stand up if they backed the platform, and more than 80% did. He followed that by asking delegates opposed to stand. This group included Evansville Mayor Lloyd Winnecke.

The plank reads: "We believe that strong families, based on marriage between a man and a woman, are the foundation of society. We also recognize that some families are much more diverse and we support the blended families, grandparents, guardians, and loving adults who successfully raise and nurture children to reach their full potential every day."

The whole matter lasted less than 10 minutes, unlike the 2014 convention when there was a lengthy floor debate over whether to return the plank, which had been deleted in 2012 at the insistence of Gov. Mitch Daniels.

One delegate, Josh Owens, circulated an "open letter" to delegates. "With this first sentence, I can't help but be offended and question my place in this party. I have a fantastically loving boyfriend, with whom I would love to someday raise children. Obviously, this part of my life is not accepted by our party. I am clearly not deemed a part of the 'foundation of society' we created. The second sentence does not make this any better. It assumes the value of the family is only for raising children. That is one, but just one, component of family. My relationship is not acknowledged or welcomed in this second sentence. It is intentionally left out. It hurts."

The plank is the first time ratified after the U.S. Supreme Court in June 2015 ruled that same sex marriage is constitutional. With that ruling, gays and lesbians can legally be married in Indiana.

Republicans honor Coats

Retiring U.S. Sen. Dan Coats was honored by Indiana Republicans on Saturday. The three-term senator addressed delegates, saying, "Thanks you for giving me the honor to be your senator and to be your voice in Washington. It's been a great privilege to serve. I will continue to speak out on principles and values. I am very excited about the man who is going to replace me in the Senate, Todd Young. I've had the privilege of getting to know Todd over the years and he is the right man. Todd and I have a lot in common. Both served in the military. And we've both run against and defeated Baron Hill. Send a message to Harry Reid that Indiana will not send another Democrat."

While Indiana Republicans have now honored Coats, and in 2014 cited outgoing Treasurer Richard Mourdock, the party has not paid tribute to former U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar, despite his stature as the party's all-time leading vote getter through two elections for Indianapolis mayor and eight elections for the U.S. Senate.



Republican National Committeeman John Hammond III, who was reelected, chats with former chairman Gordon Durnil (top photo). In middle, Chairman Jeff Cardwell goes over results with convention Chair Ed Simcox. In lower photo, former chairs Rex Early and Mike McDaniel watch the proceedings from the stage like, McDaniel said, the grumpy old farts in gallery in *The Muppets*. (HPI photos by Brian A. Howey)

Democrats react

Indiana Democratic Chairman John Zody called the Republican ticket "out of touch" following Saturday's convention. "With a governor who has put the state's reputation and economy in jeopardy, a trained attack dog as a lieutenant governor, a never-at-fault U.S. Senate candidate, and an out-of-touch delegation that had pushed a radical social agenda, the Indiana Republican Party is aiming to throw the state backward," Zody said. "This ticket makes clear the choice Hoosiers have this November. Do they want to go back to the same failed policies that caused our wages to plummet, caused a \$250 million economic panic, and bruised the state's welcoming image, or is it time to elect leaders who will use some Hoosier common sense by prioritizing the well-being of Hoosier families? Most importantly, do Hoosiers want opportunities that will lead them into the 21st Century or vault them in reverse? With Statehouse Republicans, Hoosiers will continue to fall further behind the rest of the nation, and it's why our Democratic candidates are the best choice in November." ❖

9th CD Democrat Shelli Yoder sees an open seat opportunity

By THOMAS CURRY

INDIANAPOLIS – Monroe County Councilwoman Shelli Yoder's bid to claim the open seat in the 9th CD vs Trey Hollingsworth may be attracting some of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's top brass in an attempt to flip a district from red to blue.

Late last month, Yoder released a Garin-Hart-Yang Poll that showed Hollingsworth and Yoder are neck and neck, tied at 41% earlier this month. The 9th CD, which has been Republican since district redrawing in 2010, may be set for a perfect storm.



Hollingsworth is not politically connected to the Republican Party, where many in the establishment view him as a "carpet-bagger." Presidential nominee

Donald Trump has proven to be a polarizing figure, Gov. Mike Pence enters his rematch with John Gregg with sagging reelection and approval numbers, and Yoder has proven to be a much better fundraiser, with more cash on hand today than she raised in her unsuccessful 2012 challenge to U.S. Rep. Todd Young.

Last week, HPI sat down with Yoder in our Indianapolis office to discuss Hollingsworth, Millennials, the unknowns of politics and her failed attempt at the same seat in 2012.

HPI: In 2012, you led a good campaign but you still finished about 10 points short. What do you think you learned from that, how do you think that makes you a better candidate this time, and how will the result be different?

Yoder: I learned through the 2012 campaign the importance of knowing how districts are created. It's called political science for a reason, because so much of it is numbers. So knowing that, fast forward four years later when Todd Young announced he was running for the Senate. Joe Donnelly and the state party both said, would you think about running again, and that's when I asked, show me the numbers. I never asked that question in 2012, but in 2016 I needed to see a path to win as a Democrat. If it was just a matter of a passion to serve I would say yes, but my husband said you are going to have convince us with numbers.

HPI: So you were confident enough in the numbers to go through with it? And at that point did you start laying the groundwork for your campaign?

Yoder: We knew I was going to have to run a near-perfect race. I am a pragmatic person, and looking at the district, I knew it was going to be extremely difficult. We put together our budget and our communications plan. But, probably for the same reason after running for the first time I decided to do it again, there is a little bit of the gift of the unknown. There are so many pieces that you have no control over, and as a candidate I need to do everything I can do to control what I can control. Whatever happens in the unknown part, when those pieces fall in alignment, then I can say as a candidate, we have ourselves a race.

HPI: Well certainly one of the unknowns of this race is your opponent. It was probably hard to predict that you would be facing someone like Trey Hollingsworth. He has his own SuperPac behind him and was able to dominate the airwaves in his primary campaign. How do you think you can combat that, and do you think your strategy is working?

Yoder: Much of our strategy has just been taking the messaging point of his own party. You are correct, no one saw my opponent coming because he didn't live here. It was a big surprise to all those running on the Republican ticket when he announced in early October. Believe me, I know exactly where I was when I got the announcement on my phone and started looking up this person. My team started asking, and I started to reach out across the river in Clark County since he claimed Jeffersonville as home, asking, "Do you know this person?" In local communities and even in our parties locally, you know all these players on both sides. You live with these people, you



work with these people, your kids go to school together, you have friends that may identify as the other party. Your ears are well-tuned to people who talk about running for office, and that just wasn't the case.

HPI: Your recent polling shows that you are in a relative dead heat with him heading into the general, despite the 9th being a Republican-leaning district. Why do you think some of these voters are turned off from Holling-

sworth?

Yoder: He has 57 percent name ID and only 41 percent support. His opponents' messaging got out there late, and they were not able to blanket the airwaves as my opponent was able to do. By the time they were able to get the messaging out, by the time the attorney general called him a scam artist, by the time one of his opponents called him Tennessee Trey or a carpetbagger, it was too late, they just ran out of time. The sense that the 9th District can be bought by the highest bidder, someone who has never lived here; to claim that they want to represent us is a notion that sticks in your gut and doesn't feel so great. That's a sentiment I think people throughout the 9th are feeling. Regardless of party, there is something wrong with that. When Citizens United, Super PACs and this way of financing campaigns became legal and acceptable, was a pill people could not swallow. We started seeing the repercussions of the decision and how it impacted our representation. That these Super PACs can be funded by one person, a close relative or a father, flies in the face of common sense. This message is getting people fired up and down right angry that this is what our democracy has come to.

HPI: His Alexandria, Va., address, was in the same office as the Senate Conservative Fund. Are you hearing that this is just a step to try to take Joe Donnelly's seat?

Yoder: Yes, I do hear this; that he was hiring a consultant and looking around at races that would be possible fits and choosing the 9th. I received a package of information, unmarked, of research that was done from D.C., with no idea who it was from. Clearly this is upsetting a lot of people regardless of party affiliation that this is an acceptable way of finding our public servants. But for me, I want to make sure that people have something they can vote for and not just against, that there has to be a balance. I want to be someone who, when people cast their vote for Shelli Yoder in Congress, they are going to get someone who takes very seriously the notion of serving them.

HPI: Have you heard from any of his Republican opponents?

Yoder: I called all of them and have had good conversations with many of them since. Believe me, as somebody who has worked hard in Indiana and who is from Indiana, that stings. I could appreciate how devastating that loss would be. Any loss is hard. In politics you win some and lose some certainly. Some losses sting much more than others and I think this one in particular was a hard one to make sense of.

HPI: Still so much isn't known about Hollingsworth. Have you reached out for a debate or some sort of

public forum where people will learn more about you and him?

Yoder: I am sure we will have forums and debates to do that.

HPI: You think he is going to show up to debates? He only showed up to one primary debate.

Yoder: I don't know. I certainly was at more of those debates than I ever saw him, so I don't know.

HPI: This general election year has garnered turnout and media attention never seen before. On May 3, Donald Trump won quite easily. It's safe to say Hollingsworth and Trump are harnessing that same Washington-outsider energy. With Trump recently making comments about Judge Curiel, who holds an IU law degree, not being fit to do his job, are you going to tie Hollingsworth and other Republicans to these statements? Do you think they are handling it right? Should they denounce Trump?

Yoder: Right now, I am just focusing on getting my message out. And the most efficient way to do it, when you have an opponent who can just continue to go the well when the budget gets tight or go back to his dad or just write another check from his own pocketbook, you have to take seriously how

you are going to spend every single dollar. The people of the 9th District are doing a great job of spreading this message. As they tell their neighbors, this is where social media can really help us get that message out for free, a message that started in his own party, that is beneficial to the efforts that we are making.

HPI: So let's talk about your messaging. One of the major focuses of your campaign has been job creation. Unfortunately, with the Carrier plant leaving with more than 1,200 jobs, the trend seems to be more companies leaving rather than coming in. How are you going to stop jobs leaving and attract new jobs in?

Yoder: I think first and foremost, just going into Washington and working on creating an economy of growth for the 9th District; looking forward, making sure that we are making investments in infrastructure, roads, broadband internet throughout the 9th District and making sure that our workforce has the skills attractive to those who want to expand or relocate into the district. The emphasis of my campaign is that I am all about serving the people of the 9th District.

HPI: Some of that is going to be bipartisanship, which has turned into a bad word for some politicians. How do you think you are going to combat the perception of getting further apart instead of going closer to the



middle?

Yoder: This notion of “Change Congress,” which is something I settled on early on in the campaign before I ever announced, is that we need a change in the kind of leadership we send to Washington. This whole notion of collaborative leadership, someone who is willing to seek out good ideas that are not bound by whatever letter is by the end of your name, is about solving serious problems facing people today and making sure that the solutions are ones people can take advantage of to advance their own economic empowerment. That for me what is important and what is at stake; this notion of changing Congress. It is time we elect a different kind of leader and this collaborative approach is one that the people of Indiana are hungry for. We want people to come up with common sense solutions instead of digging in and saying it’s my way or the highway.

HPI: One of the problems we have seen some bipartisanship work on is opioids. We have seen some legislation passed to try and stop the problem. In Indiana, we saw a decrease in the number of opioid prescriptions for the first time recently. What new solutions will you bring or what will you do to continue the fight against our serious drug addiction problems?

Yoder: Well I think communities are getting hit harder and harder with drug issues overall, opioids being one of them. Being able to give communities flexibility in how they address them is important. Public awareness and education are first and foremost what we need to do. People need to know what kind of medicine is being prescribed. They need the education and knowledge to self-regulate in a way that is helpful and not harmful. The notion that young people are able to access prescribed medication is problematic. I think we are seeing a shift because we are willing to talk about it. Everywhere I go across the state people are saying, what are you going to do about the drug use in our community? It is hitting families so hard. Sadly, it’s a tradition that is being passed on. We have to educate our communities and do everything we can to inform citizens of the impact of prescription drug use and illegal drugs. We think we have been doing for it illegal drugs, but it’s the thing you can find in your medicine cabinet.

HPI: With your experience at the Kelley School of Business, you have certainly been around young college grads. What issues do you find matter to them most and how does that effect your positions?

Yoder: I want the students I teach to be able to harness their own entrepreneurial spirit. Millennials want

to make a difference. Their concerns are, will I be able to carve a good niche for myself, will I be strapped with the debt of our country, will I be able to make a difference in the workplace? And what happens if my workplace ends up closing or shifts in a way that makes jobs obsolete, will I have the skills to adjust and flex a different set of muscles to be relevant again? This kind of skill set we need to be developing is what I talk about with my students. You need to have that ability to remain relevant in the 21st century global economy. We expect that from our students and we need to expect that from our communities. What I can do as a representative is to make sure I am fostering that throughout the 9th.

HPI: If elected, you will be representing the 40,000 students in Bloomington. Do you think your positions will resonate with people there?

Yoder: Absolutely, I think so. I certainly resonate in the classroom. I teach a course called COMPASS, a course that is required for all Kelley students and I teach all freshmen. It’s a course that speaks to critical thinking skills; it’s professionalism, it’s accessing 21st century technology to remain relevant in a 21st century workforce. We talk about the world of work changing forever and we want to make sure that we have graduates going out into communities

throughout Indiana for existing jobs or creating the next generation of jobs. That is what is exciting. Teaching business, there is a sense that my students just want to make money. I don’t hear this from my students. The majority of my students want to make a difference in their community and be able to pay their bills.

HPI: As you go through the summer and put your message out and you debate Hollingsworth, what do you want voters to be thinking about come November?

Yoder: Several things; I want them to have a sense of who I am, my bio and my background; what I value, how I critically think and how I make decisions; what is my moral compass. That is important, am I trustworthy? Will she show up for me? I think that informs how people vote. I recognize the fiscal impact of our economy is hitting the pocketbook of families throughout the 9th. I know this. I have lived pay check to pay check. I have had to be quite scrappy with making ends meet and paying the bills throughout my life, putting myself through college and working fulltime. I know that heavy burden and I will represent them with a heavy heart knowing that the fiscal impact is directly affecting them. I want to be able to look my neighbors and the people I grew up with in the eye and say I am doing all I can to make sure working families have the foundation necessary to thrive and to care for the next generation. People vote knowing who is going to share their values. I think these things will resonate with



people going into the voting booth.

HPI: Are you getting any sense that the DCCC will be involved in your race?

Yoder: They are totally fired up. I've talked to Sherry Bustos, co-chair of the Red to Blue Program. They are really excited about the race. I actually found out about my opponent in October going to candidate school. The DCCC had recognized the 9th and me as a strong candidate and reached out saying, we would love to get to know you better. During this time I found about my opponent. I know early on they recognized it as a long shot and as a dark horse race. As I said at the beginning of our interview, there are so many things in politics that are happenstance. When my opponent won and came out of that primary, I think it perked up some ears. People thought it could get interesting. Then, we decided to get into the field early with polling to get a better idea of what the numbers are and what we need to do win this thing. We didn't expect the results we got. Truthfully, my consultants told me to prepare myself for the worst. But the DCCC said, "Oh yeah, we will be there." This is a game changer.

HPI: Have you been in touch with Lee Hamilton?

Yoder: He is my honorary campaign chair. That meant so much to me. In 2012, he stayed out of that primary. When I won, he was helpful. Then Nancy passed away and that was a difficult fall for him. Fast forward four years, and I told him I was thinking about running again. I asked him would he consider being an honorary co-chair,

and when he said yes, it will forever go down as something that means so much to me, a real highlight. He could have sat out again and he didn't know who else was going to get involved. For him to place his belief and trust in me, I took that with quite a bit of reverence and I realized that this was serious.

HPI: Districts by the third cycle begin to change. We thought that with the right circumstances, the right candidate and right national wave, the 9th CD could be competitive. This year it seems all of this is coming together here.

Yoder: And we would have never been able to know. My message to people who are thinking about making a change or getting into public service, I just say do it. You don't know what is going to happen. Continue to work hard where you are and be ready. That is all you can do. Be ready. You will know when it's time to step out and run for this. I believe that sometimes winning and losing are funny labels to put on things because in some ways, 2012 was a win in several different fronts. It wasn't an open seat, I was a nobody, I had nothing but heart. Out of that, I felt, came many good points and an impact on the 9th district, which is what I wanted to do. I was able to serve in some way. My hope is that we will have a different outcome and a more traditional way of winning. We are going to go to Washington and solve some really tough problems in the 9th District.

HPI Horse Race Status: Tossup. ❖

Indiana Democrats to convene this week

By **THOMAS CURRY**

INDIANAPOLIS – Hoosier Democrats from throughout the state will be gathering this weekend at the convention center in downtown Indianapolis for the Indiana Democratic Party State Convention. The event will span two days. Friday will be the Hoosier Hospitality Dinner, starting with a general reception at 6 p.m. and the dinner lasting from 7 to 10. The general session Saturday will last from 3:30 to 6 p.m. and

is expected to attract more than 2,000 Democrats to the state capital. The party has dubbed the event, the "Big Dem Weekend."

Friday night's Hoosier Hospitality Dinner replaces the traditional Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner, due to the party wanting to distance themselves from the two party

founders who owned scores of slaves. In April, Communication Director Drew Anderson told Goshen News that, "We knew, when we were thinking about this dinner, that we'd been pushing to restore Hoosier hospitality. We want to reclaim it as the image for our state, especially after what Mike Pence has done."

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan is the keynote speaker for the Friday night dinner.

Saturday will be an opportunity for delegates to attend break out sessions focusing on each congressional district or for the various caucuses of the party, such as the Indiana Stonewall Democrats. Anderson told HPI that the purpose of these sessions is to "focus on the issues that are most important to each district/caucus." The CDs will be hosting meetings from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. After an hour lunch, the caucuses will be holding their meetings from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

According to Anderson, during their hour-long session the Stonewall Democrats "will huddle up on issues most important to the LGBT community." ❖



Gregg/Hale issues economic plan

By THOMAS CURRY

INDIANAPOLIS – Democratic gubernatorial nominee John Gregg and running mate Christina Hale unveiled their 35-point economic plan Monday afternoon that is promised to require no additional funding. It was the eighth major policy revealed by the Democrats.



Gregg described the plan as “extremely pro business” and said that it will help make Indiana become an economic beacon for other states. “It is the culmination of months and months of work

with community leaders, business owners and entrepreneurs” said Gregg.

Gregg believes that Indiana’s economy is not doing as well as Gov. Mike Pence is campaigning on, saying that too many Hoosiers are working two to three low paying jobs. Gregg explained that poor working class Hoosiers “don’t see this so called low unemployment rate at their kitchen tables or in their bank accounts.”

Gregg and Hale want to bring the focus back to the important issues of jobs and education instead of the “divisive social issues that embarrass the state and that Mike Pence spends all of his time on.”

The Gregg/Hale economic growth plan includes six major goals: Building and retaining a skilled workforce, growing Indiana small business, supporting existing business, streamlining the state’s economic and training efforts, leveraging partnerships and rebuilding the state’s reputation after what Gregg calls an “embarrassing obsession with social issues” by Pence over the past three and a half years.

A major focal point of the economic plan is the creation of comprehensive Pre-K program accessible to all four-year-olds around the state. The full details of this plan will be revealed Thursday. The basis of the plan is that the Gregg-Hale administration would eliminate wasteful spending and eliminate reversions to gather the \$240 million necessary to create the program. “This will happen when I am governor, we are done with this so called pilot program” said Gregg.

For growing Indiana’s work force, Gregg said that the plan will target funds toward training in five key sectors: Life sciences, IT, agro-business, advanced manufacturing and advanced 21st century logistics. Gregg and Hale want a “laser-like focus in these areas” since they are high paying and high quality jobs.

The economic plan also calls for the creation of

the GO Fund to replace the contract with Elevate Ventures, a system in which private sector business bids to take on new government contracts. Gregg described this system of businesses being able to use state money “an ism that isn’t capitalism, an ism I don’t want to talk about.” This GO Fund will let Indiana keep investors from taking their money to other states after taking government money to invest.

The Gregg administration would also have no problem with getting funds from the Chamber of Commerce. Gregg said that “If the Chamber of Commerce is offering us back our tax dollars Ol’ John would be on the first bus out there to get our money back.”

Special attention would be drawn to Indiana airports, of which there are 69 in the state. Gregg calls these airports “an economic oasis” due to the high paying jobs they provide. Special focus would be given by the IEDC to help develop these airports even further. On the subject of the IEDC, the Gregg/Hale Economic Growth Plan also calls for higher transparency in the department to make sure that the money and effort are being used properly.

Gregg and Hale called local governments “the life blood of our economy.” More autonomy would be given to local governments to be able to spend their economic



Democratic gubernatorial nominee John Gregg and lieutenant governor nominee Christina Hale unveiled their economic plan Monday afternoon. (HPI Photo by Thomas Curry)

development funds as they see fit. Currently, local government leaders have to get what they do with these funds approved by the state legislature and that hinders growth, according to Gregg.

Still, the most important issue affecting Indiana’s economy today is discrimination said Gregg. “We have got to do something to restore and rebuild Indiana’s reputation. It is the number one thing that I still hear about. It

loses us young people and talent. We can not be an unwelcoming place. On the very first day I will sign an executive order that protects the LGBT community," said Gregg.

Gregg and Hale hope their ambitious economic plan will bring back the entrepreneurial spirit to Indiana. "Its a big plan and a bold plan. Bottom line, recess is over. It's time to refocus state government on the nuts and bolts. It's time to take on the big effort of moving Indiana's economy forward."

The Pence campaign reacted to the Gregg/Hale proposals, with deputy campaign manager Marc Lotter saying, "While John Gregg belittles Indiana's success and is late to the game with a 'plan,' Pence has a plan that is already working for Indiana. Today Gov. Pence joined yet another high-tech company to announce they are investing and creating jobs in our state. The facts are clear: More Hoosiers are working than ever before and it is because of announcements from today and previously by companies such as Salesforce, Amazon, General Motors, Subaru, and many more that Hoosiers will continue Indiana's growth and success under Gov. Mike Pence."

The Pence campaign points to a litany of economic successes, including more than 150,000 new private sector jobs have been added; Indiana's unemployment rate has fallen from 8.4% to 5.2%; Indiana's per capita disposable income ranks 20th in the nation, adjusted for Indiana's low cost of living, up five places from 2012; Indiana's per capita disposable income ranks in the top 10 in the nation (9th), adjusted for cost of housing, up five places from 2012; and jobs attracted by the state in 2016 have an average wage 27% higher than state's average wage.

The Pence campaign points to recent business rankings:

- #1 in the Midwest and #5 Nationally – Chief Executive Magazine 2016, Best States for Business
- #1 for Cost of Doing Business – CNBC
- #1 for Business Cost Rank – Forbes
- #1 Small Business Regulation Index, The Pacific Research Institute
- #3 Top 10 Pro-Business States – Pollina Corporate Real Estate
- #4 – Best Business Climate – Business Facilities
- #6 – Best States for Business, Area Development
- #8 – Best States for Business, Forbes
- #8 – Business Tax Climate Index, Tax Foundation ❖

Pences announces tech firm move

Gov. Mike Pence and Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb joined Carmel city officials and executives from Determine Inc. (NASDAQ: DTRM) yesterday as the company announced plans to relocate its headquarters from San Mateo, Calif., to Carmel, advancing growth in Central Indiana's tech community which is adding jobs three times faster than the national average (Howey Politics Indiana). Determine, a global provider of cloud-based contract lifecycle management, will invest \$720,191 to lease and equip a

9,000-square-foot office, which will officially become Determine's global headquarters this month. Expanding from an Indiana satellite office in Carmel, the build out of the new space is now complete and the headquarters will provide a home base for the company's growing operations worldwide, which today also includes offices in California, Georgia, France and the United Kingdom. As part of its growth, Determine plans to add 24 high-wage jobs at its new Hamilton County headquarters by 2019. The company currently employs more than 160 associates globally, including approximately 35 in Indiana. The Indiana Economic Development Corporation offered Determine Inc. up to \$400,000 in conditional tax credits based on the company's job creation plans. These tax credits are performance-based, meaning until Hoosiers are hired, the company is not eligible to claim incentives. The city of Carmel supports the project. ❖

Biggest deal for East Chicago

Hoist Liftruck, which had been based in Bedford Park, Ill., now employs 350 workers and will employ 500 by 2022 at the long-vacant Blaw-Knox tank factory in East Chicago, where it invested \$40 million to make large-capacity forklifts that are used in steel mills, automotive factories and canning plants (Pete, NWI Times). Local economic development officials worked for 16 months on the deal, a major coup that's created jobs paying an average salary of \$55,000 a year and that's expected to lure even more Illinois companies across the state line. Some welders can make as much as \$80,000 with overtime there. Indiana worked hard to court Hoist Liftruck, sending Jim Staton, business recruitment director of Indiana Economic Development Corp., the state's commerce agency, to its Bedford Park facility dozens of times, and sending Indiana Secretary of Commerce Vincent Smith twice. Indiana offered the company \$14.79 million in incentives at the state, regional and local level to entice its \$40 million investment in a major expansion, while Illinois offered only \$200,000 in tax breaks to keep it in the state. About 15 other manufacturers from Illinois have contacted Hoist Liftruck about moving to lower-cost Indiana, where the forklift maker estimates it's saving \$2 million a year in operating costs, manager Vince Flaska said. ❖

Distribution Center comes to Fort Wayne

A \$32 million distribution center is planned to rise near the General Motors plant, a development that would create 200 jobs in the county (WANE-TV). NorthPoint Development of Kansas City, Mo., has filed an application for tax incentives with the Allen County Department of Planning Services for its planned development of a 791,000-square-foot facility within the Stonebridge Business Park. The real estate development company purchased 40 acres at the site for more than \$2 million two years ago, and is working to buy up another 41 acres. ❖

Trump's Curiel rant diminishes his stature

By JACK COLWELL

SOUTH BEND – Donald Trump had only nice things to say about Hoosiers when he wrapped up the Republican presidential nomination in Indiana, vanquishing his last challenger in the state's May 3 primary election. Now, his "racist" attack on a native Hoosier threatens to diminish



the value of that nomination.

The description of his tirade against Gonzalo Curiel as racist comes from Republicans such as House Speaker Paul Ryan as well as from Democrats. Republicans are the ones most worried about the ramifications. If their presidential nominee blusters on with insults of myriad groups and individuals, he could bring defeat to more Republicans than just

himself. Democrats are pleased with those prospects.

Instead of focusing on presidential issues, national and international, Trump relentlessly pursued a grudge from his business dealings with a personal attack on Curiel, the federal judge in one of the lawsuits alleging fraud and a scam in past operations of the defunct "Trump University." Trump showed, as columnist George Will writes, "eagerness to plumb new depths of destructiveness."

Furious because the judge didn't just throw out the suit, Trump called Curiel "a hater of Donald Trump" and said the judge "happens to be, we believe, Mexican." Later he confirmed those terrible suspicions, saying the judge is indeed of Mexican heritage and thus can't be fair because "I'm building a wall." He called for the judge to be investigated.

Well, it was found that the judge, born and raised in East Chicago, Ind., graduated from Indiana University and then went on to get a law degree from IU. Unlike Trump supporter Bobby Knight, Curiel never was dismissed by IU. He recently was honored by the law school.

This native Hoosier became a federal prosecutor, so vigorous in winning drug cartel convictions that he faced death threats and was protected by U.S. marshals at secret locations. A Republican governor appointed him to a California judgeship. Then President Obama appointed him to the federal bench. He was confirmed by the Senate without opposition. Trump's own attorney in the case said the judge was "doing his job" and sought no change of judge.

So, were the stop-Trump Republicans

who failed to stop him in Indiana right in warnings that Trump could prove to be a disaster? Maybe. Maybe not. A long campaign with many twists and turns and surprises is ahead. But Trump hurt his cause at least for now. And other Republicans who will be on the same ballot as Trump worry about the "Trump effect" and how to respond to his behavior. Some Republicans in tight races want nothing to do with Trump. Many already had decided not to attend the Republican National Convention. Republican Sen. Mark Kirk of Illinois finally concluded that he "cannot and will not support" Trump.

How to respond is particularly difficult for Republican candidates in Indiana. After all, it is a native born Hoosier who is the target of the racist attack. Some just keep repeating that they are supporting the party nominee. To them, apparently, it doesn't matter what the nominee does. Trump famously boasted that even if he shot somebody in the middle of New York's 5th Avenue, he "wouldn't lose voters." If he did so, would some of those Indiana Republican politicians just keep mouthing, "I'm supporting the nominee," when asked about the murder charge?

Most Indiana Republican officials do say Trump's remarks were inappropriate, often going on with stronger language to denounce this questioning of the judge because of his ethnic background. The effect of the attack on the Hoosier judge will not be the same everywhere. It could solidify Trump support among backers who admire his combative style and will blame that "Mexican" judge and the news media for Trump's problems.

Hoosiers played a decisive role in Trump winning the nomination. A Hoosier, unintentionally, just by becoming a victim of Trump vitriol, now plays a big role as the general election campaign begins. ❖

Colwell has covered Indiana politics over five decades for the South Bend Tribune.

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YOUR FRIENDS ALL HANG OUT HERE... DO YOU?

Indiana now has 1,006 townships

[This column is dedicated to the memory of Raymond Moscovitz, a newspaper man, who died June 8.]

By **MORTON MARCUS**

INDIANAPOLIS – First and foremost, I apologize for raising the anxieties of many readers last week when I reported that Indiana had gone from 1,008 to 1,009 townships.

That was my fault; gross neglect by failing to check my work and my sources when I got an unexpected result. Anyone who works with data knows unexpected results are very likely wrong. Triple check your work before you declare startling news to the world.

The U.S. Census of Governments in 2012 reported Indiana had 1,006 townships, a loss of two since citizens restructured governments in two counties. Gone is Eagle Township from Boone County, replaced by Zionsville and Whitestown. Gone is

Mount Pleasant Township from Delaware County, replaced by Yorktown and part of Muncie. Those four places have assumed the governmental functions of the two former townships. Indiana now has 1,010 county subdivisions.

This is in line with the desires of many conservative and liberal Hoosiers to modernize the provision of government services. In the 30 years from 1952 to 1982, the U.S. shed nearly 35,000 (23 percent) of its government units (including school districts). During that period, Indiana dropped only 184 (six percent) of its governments, fifth from last in the nation.

More recently, from 1982 to 2012, the nation reversed course and gained 8,300 government units, a 10-percent increase. Slow to change during this period, Indiana continued to decrease the number of governments, down 156 units (five percent), fourth from last in the nation.

Thus, in 2012 Census

reported Indiana had 91 counties (Marion County does not count), 569 municipalities (cities and towns), 1,006 townships, 291 independent school districts, and 752 special districts (mosquito abatement and other functions). That's a total of 2,709 governmental units for 6.5 million people, or 41.4 units for each 100,000 persons.

How does that stack up with other states? Nationally, there are 28.7 units/100,000; we rank 18th from the top (North Dakota is first at 382/100,000 and Hawaii is 50th at 1.5/100,000).

Our 1,006 townships are a result of 18th century conditions. They are similar to townships in eight other basically flat Midwestern states, where the number of townships is largely a function of the total area of the state. Our 569 municipalities put us 20th in the nation per 100,000 residents and our 291 independent school districts place us 24th per 100,000 persons.

These data might have you asking: Do we have too many governments in Indiana? That is a different question from: Does Indiana have too much government? The better question is: Could fewer units of governments achieve as much or more than the existing governmental structure?

Do our candidates for governor and your candidates for the General Assembly have substantive thoughts on the effectiveness and efficiency of government? I made a numeric error in my last column. Let's all avoid making the mistake of electing ignorant, unthinking candidates in this coming election.

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Photography With Punch
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Ron Brownstein, The Atlantic: Racial resentment has run like a dark thread through Donald Trump's presidential campaign literally from its first moments, when he denounced undocumented Mexican immigrants as "rapists" and criminals during his announcement speech. But only now, it seems, are Republican leaders fully confronting the risk that Trump will define the GOP as a party of white racial backlash. The party uproar over Trump's charge that Judge Gonzalo Curiel is biased against him because he is "Mexican" dwarfs the unease over any previous Trump comment. (Maybe only his coy refusal to immediately denounce Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke comes close.) The condemnation reached a crescendo this week when House Speaker Paul Ryan excoriated Trump's remarks as "the textbook definition of a racist comment." On both sides, senior party leaders have grumbled about Yet all Republican officials this week are undoubtedly recalibrating their posture toward Trump—and few will likely decide the right answer is to embrace him more tightly. There's good reason for that concern: Trump's tribal, racial appeal threatens the GOP in both the near and long term. Yet it's also understandable that Trump seemed blindsided by the heated Republican reaction to his attacks on the Indiana-born Curiel as a "Mexican" who cannot judge him impartially. Trump's overtly racial arguments against Curiel (barely softened by the candidate's unapologetic explanatory statement on Tuesday) threaten to explicitly brand the GOP as a party of white racial backlash. That's a formula not only for moral, but political, failure. ❖

Mary Dieter, IBJ: Gov. Mike Pence's statement about Donald Trump was unequivocal: "I'm fully supportive of our presumptive nominee." What, one wonders, does "fully supportive" mean? With Pence running for reelection, surely Hoosiers want to know. It's a question the news media and John Gregg, Pence's opponent, should ask. Soon and often. An Internet search turns up three substantive statements made by Pence about Trump. He praised Trump for criticizing Carrier Corp.'s decision to move jobs from Indiana to Mexico. Pence said he disagreed with Trump on the other two issues. Not really. The governor, claiming "a deep compassion for expected (sic) mothers and the unborn," said he disagreed with Trump's since-disavowed declaration that woman who have abortions should be punished. Pence also said he disagreed with Trump's call to ban Muslims from entering the country. But what, if not racial prejudice, drives Pence to try to stop Syrian refugees from settling in Indiana? So Pence's disagreements with Trump aren't really disagreements. What does that mean for the issues that Pence hasn't brought up? Does he think it's OK for Trump to urge his supporters to beat protesters? To mock a disabled reporter? To label those who disagree with him "losers"? Does he condone Trump's inclination to lie so offhandedly and

outrageously that reporters cannot keep count? ❖

David Brooks, New York Times: Paul Ryan says it's time for Republicans to unite with the presumptive nominee Donald Trump. Sure, Trump says racist things sometimes and disagrees with most of our proposals, but Republicans have to go into this campaign as a team. There has to be a Republican majority in Congress to give ballast to a Trump presidency or block the excesses of a Clinton one. If Republicans are divided from now until Election Day they will lose everything. Unity will also be good for the conservative agenda. Congressional Republicans are currently laying out a series of policy proposals. If they hug Trump, maybe he'll embrace some of them. Or, as a Wall Street Journal editorial put it this week: "There's no guarantee Mr. Trump would agree to Mr. Ryan's agenda, but there's no chance if Mr. Ryan publicly refuses to vote for him." These are decent arguments. Unfortunately, they are philosophically unsound and completely unworkable. For starters, this line of thinking is deeply anticonservative.

Conservatives believe that politics is a limited activity. Culture, psychology and morality come first. What happens in the family, neighborhood, house of worship and the heart is more fundamental and important than what happens in a legislature. The Republican Party can't unify around Donald Trump for the same reason it can't unify around a tornado. Trump, by his very essence, undermines cooperation, reciprocity, solidarity, stability or any other component of unity. He is a lone operator, a disloyal diva, who is incapable of horizontal relationships. He has demeaned and humiliated everybody who has tried to be his friend, from Chris Christie to Paul Ryan. The man who just crushed them is in no mood to submit to them. Furthermore, Trump's personality is pathological. It is driven by deep inner compulsions that defy friendly advice, political interest and common sense. By one theory narcissism flows from a developmental disorder called alexithymia, the inability to identify and describe emotions in the self. Sufferers have no inner voice to understand their own feelings and reflect honestly on their own actions. Unable to know themselves, or truly love themselves, they hunger for a never-ending supply of admiration from outside. They act at all times like they are performing before a crowd and cannot rest unless they are in the spotlight. To make decisions, these narcissists create a rigid set of external standards, often based around admiration and contempt. Their valuing criteria are based on simple division — winners and losers, victory or humiliation. Incapable of understanding themselves, they are also incapable of having empathy for others. They simply don't know what it feels like to put themselves in another's shoes. Other people are simply to be put to use as suppliers of admiration or as victims to be crushed as part of some dominance display. Therefore, they go out daily in search of enemies to insult and friends to degrade. ❖



Avon native killed at Orlando

ORLANDO — One of the victims of the tragic shooting inside an Orlando nightclub Sunday previously lived in Central Indiana and leaves behind family members who still live here. Darryl Roman Burt II, a 2005 graduate of Plainfield High School, was the 10th victim to be named by Orlando officials as one of 49 people killed in what is being called the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history. The gunman, identified by authorities as 29-year-old Omar Mateen, also was killed, making the final count 50 dead and 53 wounded. After graduation, according to Burt's LinkedIn page, Burt began studying English at Claflin University, a historically black university affiliated with the United Methodist Church in South Carolina. On Monday, former classmates posted messages of condolence with the hashtags #ClaflinStrong and #prayfororlando.



Trump bans WaPo reporters

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump said Monday that he is pulling The Washington Post's credentials to cover his events because he is upset with the newspaper's coverage of his campaign (Farhi, Washington Post). The move puts the newspaper on a long list of media outlets that the presumptive Republican nominee has banned for reporting that displeased him. "Based on the incredibly inaccurate coverage and reporting of the record setting Trump campaign, we are hereby revoking the press credentials of the phony and dishonest Washington Post," read a post on Trump's Facebook page. Trump referred to an article that posted online Monday during the mid-afternoon that was headlined, "Donald Trump seems to connect President Obama to

Orlando shooting." The article was the most-read on The Post's website at the time. Its original headline, which Trump accurately cited in his Facebook post, was changed after about an hour. The newspaper changed it on its own, before Trump's complaint. Post editors were unsure Monday evening what Trump's ban entailed. Editors learned of it from Facebook and have had no contact with Trump or his campaign aides. In a statement, Post Executive Editor Martin Baron said: "Donald Trump's decision to revoke The Washington Post's press credentials is nothing less

than a repudiation of the role of a free and independent press. When coverage doesn't correspond to what the candidate wants it to be, then a news organization is banished. The Post will continue to cover Donald Trump as it has all along — honorably, honestly, accurately, energetically and unflinchingly," Baron continued. "We're proud of our coverage, and we're going to keep at it."

Judge to hear HEA1337 challenge

INDIANAPOLIS — A federal judge will consider today Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky's legal challenge to stop Indiana's new abortion restrictions from going into effect July 1 (IndyStar). The law, known as House Enrolled Act 1337, would make it illegal for women to seek abortions solely because a fetus potentially has been diagnosed with a disability such as Down syndrome. The General Assembly passed the measure this year with Republican Gov. Mike Pence's approval, making Indiana's abortion laws among the strictest in the nation. Planned Parenthood's local affiliate filed a lawsuit in May contesting the constitutionality of the law, which the organization says infringes upon a woman's right to obtain an abortion in the first trimester. But the state contends that the law remains within the bounds of the 1973 case Roe v. Wade

because a woman can still receive a first-trimester abortion if she does not want a baby.

WTHI-TV sold in Terre Haute

TERRE HAUTE — Terre Haute television station WTHI was part of a five-station, \$115 million deal announced Monday that would allow its current owners, Nexstar Broadcasting Group and Media Group, to sell it to USA Television MidAmerica Holdings (Terre Haute Tribune-Star). Nexstar in March announced it planned to sell WTHI and keep its Farmersburg-based station WTWO-TV, which also manages WAWV-TV.

Clinton lead over Trump grows

WASHINGTON — Hillary Clinton's advantage over Donald Trump grew over the course of the last week, according to the results of the latest NBC News/SurveyMonkey poll released Tuesday (POLITICO). In the same week that Clinton clinched the Democratic nomination and Trump continued his criticism of federal Judge Gonzalo Curiel, the former secretary of state leads 49 percent to 42 percent. Clinton narrowed Trump's lead among men and white voters to single digits over the past week and now leads Trump by 25 points — 58 percent to 33 percent — among voters describing themselves as moderate. Trump led men by 14 points in last week's survey but now leads by only 9 points in this week's poll — 51 percent to 42 percent. Among white voters, Trump's lead also shrank to 9 points, 50 percent to 41 percent. In a four-way race including Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson and Green Party candidate Jill Stein, Clinton has also distanced herself from Trump, leading him 42 percent to 38 percent, compared with last week, when she trailed 40 percent to 39 percent. Johnson received 9 percent support, while Stein drew 5 percent.