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**TODAY'S VERSE**

Matthew 24:34-35 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass

Meet Miles



Miles is a 2 year old male American Pit Bull Terrier available to foster and/or adopt (since 2/5/24). Miles is a new member of the Welcoming Committee as you enter The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL). Miles loves going out for walks, frolicking in a fenced yard, chew toys, and to be showered with love/attention. Miles is looking for his best friend. Could that be you? Miles is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. AWL is open Monday - Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p



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September 22 – October 6, 2024



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# The Paper

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## BTN

By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

Lieutenant governors are in the news. Micah Beckwith is a candidate for the office currently – and is bucking tradition a bit. Usually, the governor picks who the lieutenant governor will be. Beckwith says he wants to bring more accountability to the office and work for Hoosiers instead of one person in the governor's chair. And of course the current sitting lieutenant governor, Suzanne Crouch, is one of the people running for governor this time. We hope you enjoy a little bit about lieutenant governors in Indiana . . . **By The Numbers!**

**52**

The number of Lieutenant Governors in the history of the great state of



Christopher Harrison

Indiana. The first one was Christopher Harrison in 1816, and the current one, 208 years later, is Suzanne Crouch.

**3**

How many Lieutenant Governors who belonged to the Whig Party. We also had one from the Jacksonian Party, two from the Jeffersonian Republican Party, one from the Democratic Republican Party and one Independent. Since 1843, they have all been either a Republican or Democrat.



Suzanne Crouch



Kathy Davis



Sue Ellspermann



Becky Skillman

**4**

How many women have sat in that office.

**\$18,780.13**

The required filing fee when Micah Beckwith tossed his hat in the ring last week.



Micah Beckwith talks to officials in Jay County about Indiana politics.



A large crowd of enthusiastic supporters for Micah Beckwith gathered at the Statehouse last week in their support for Beckwith's campaign to become Indiana's next lieutenant governor.

**17**

The number of Democrats who have held the office. However, none have since Katherine Davis from 2003-05.



**27**

The number of Republicans who have held the office, including the last four in a row – Becky Skillman, Sue Ellspermann, Eric Holcomb and Crouch.



**TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

When you read a food label, make sure you determine how many servings are in the package.

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at [www.thepaper24-7.com](http://www.thepaper24-7.com)



**THREE THINGS You Should Know**

**1** Ivy Tech Community College and the Indiana Department of Correction are offering two programs for federal Pell Grants for prison education. If approved, people incarcerated in Indiana state prisons will have the opportunity to access need-based financial aid for high-quality education and training. For the first time in nearly 30 years, students enrolled in approved prison education programs are now eligible for federal Pell Grants under the FAFSA Simplification Act. Indiana is one of the first states to participate in the expansion of Pell Grants for incarcerated individuals.

**2** Travelers sometimes leave things behind at the end of a train trip, things like a book or a pair of glasses. But this guy forgot to take his bag containing some \$30,000 in cash when he detrained at his stop on the Long Island Rail Road recently. As fate would have it, the team at New York's Metropolitan Transportation Authority found the bag, discovered the cash and lost no time in tracking down the owner, contacting him and saving his day.

**3** A mystical cow roams the banks of Lake Thunderbird in Norman, Okla.; it's known to locals as Thundercow. When a local resident, Natalie Beville, came across the mystery cow for the first time she was baffled. As she told the reporters at KOCO-TV, "I was like, 'You know what, I can post on the neighborhood Facebook page just to kind of put out an alert,' and when I did that, that's when I started getting post after post after post in response telling me, 'Oh, hey, that's just Thundercow.'"

**TODAY'S QUOTE**

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."

Audrey Hepburn

**TODAY'S JOKE**

The boss told the gym trainer he burned up 1,500 calories that morning. She told him that was good and walked away. His workout partner asked him how he did it and he smiled and said he burnt the cake he had in the oven!

**THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE**

The Crawfordsville Middle School A-Team is stepping up to help the Animal Welfare League. The A-Team will be at RP Home and Harvest selling Paw Print Keepsakes Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for only \$5. All proceeds will go directly to the AWL. In addition to the A-Team offering their services to make your pet's pawprint permanent by creating a clay keepsake, they will also gladly accept pet food, toys and cleaning supplies people might want to donate. In addition, there will be pets available for adoption and free will donations will gladly be accepted as well.

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **KIM SKIBBE** for subscribing!

**Random Thoughts and Observations . . .**



BUTCH DALE Columnist

There are many successful people I have known through the years. I'm not referring necessarily to financial success, but rather the overall accomplishments of an individual. They all have one thing in common. They love what they are doing. If you have a job that you love . . . no matter how much money you make, your life will be much happier.

Many people, especially young people, look up to and try to emulate their heroes . . . actors and actresses, singers, sports stars, wealthy businessmen, etc. They will eventually learn that these people are not heroes. A real hero is a person who volunteers his time to help others, a friendly neighbor, a youth group leader, a teacher who cares, a grandpa who takes his grandkids fishing, a grandma who teaches her granddaughter to bake cookies, a parent who sacrifices his wants and needs to take care of a handicapped child . . . and many more examples found in our everyday lives. We all live in a busy and noisy world . . . constantly on the go, inundated by technological interruptions . . . cell phones, E-mails, radio, television, computers, digital this and digital that. Enough already! After dinner in the evening, it's time for a cup of coffee and a good book while resting in my easy chair, my dog sitting nearby. Ah yes, peace and quiet . . . and if I'm lucky . . . a short nap! TV news, politics, and idiot shows be damned. Then all is right with the world. I have discovered that many young people have very little knowledge of American history and traditions. To many others around the nation, history is only what they interpret it to be to satisfy their political beliefs. Tearing down statues benefits no one. It will not change history. Read about history and learn to accept history for what it is. It is only then that change is possible.

When my grandparents passed away, I felt like many of my cousins in the Dale family. I wished I had spent more time with them while I

## OBITUARY

### Harold W. Weliver II

April 23, 1951 - February 27, 2024

Harold Woodrow Weliver II, 72, passed away on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at Franciscan Health in Crawfordsville. He was born on April 23, 1951 to Harold and Christine (Birge) Weliver in Crawfordsville. Harold married Barbara Newlin on December 30, 1968 in Crawfordsville.



He was a graduate of Crawfordsville High School, Class of 1968. He was a truck driver for Weliver Transfer with his father and uncle.

Harold lived in Florida for 30 years before returning to Crawfordsville about 3 years ago. Harold was the special advisor to Francis and Mount and a prominent food taster for the restaurant. Harold and Barb went on a missionary trip in Africa in 2004. In his spare time, he enjoyed wood turning and raising a bit of hell. Family was always most important in Harold's life.

Harold is survived by his wife of 55 years, Barbara Weliver; children, Steve and Brandon Weliver; grandchildren, Trey, Ainsley, and Brecken; great granddaughter, Alina; and siblings, Brenda Deckard and Gary Weliver. Harold was loved by several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents; and a son, Harold Welliver III; sisters, Linda Stewart and Deborah Weliver. A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, March 4, 2024 from 5-8pm at Francis & Mount, 131 N Washington Street in Crawfordsville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Harold's memory to Feed the Fam, 131 N Washington Street, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 or [www.francisandmount.com/feed-the-fam](http://www.francisandmount.com/feed-the-fam).

Cremation was chosen with Sanders Priebe Funeral Care entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences at [www.SandersFuneralCare.com](http://www.SandersFuneralCare.com).

[www.thepaper24-7.com](http://www.thepaper24-7.com)

## Katie Viers, John Downey Top Agents in January



### Katie Viers

F.C. Tucker West Central is proud to announce Katie Viers as the Listing Leader and John Downey as the Sales Leader for the month of January. As a Crawfordsville transplant, Viers knows what it takes to buy and sell a home. Katie began her career in real estate over 4 years ago and loves helping clients make their home in Crawfordsville. Katie and her husband Tim have three kids, ages 10, 8 and 3. In her spare time, Katie enjoys spending time with her family and friends and doing all things outdoors. Downey is a life-long resident of Montgomery County. He has been married to his wife Thoma for 25 years. They have three children, Jarett, Clayton and Gavin. He received his bachelor's degree from Wabash College in 1989 and an MBA from Indiana Wesleyan in 1999. John has worked in real



### John Downey

estate as an appraiser in Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Fountain and Warren counties since 2006. He joined F.C. Tucker in 2016 specializing in residential listings and sales in West Central Indiana. In 2023, John closed on 40 transactions totaling just over \$9 million in sales volume. He is a two-time F.C. Tucker President's Club member, the 2020 Montgomery County MIBOR Realtor of the Year, and former chair of the local MIBOR division. "Katie Viers and John Downey exemplify the highest standards of professionalism, dedication, and expertise in the real estate industry," said Chad Hess, Broker / Owner at F.C. Tucker West Central. "Their exceptional performance in January is a testament to their unwavering commitment to serving our clients with excellence and integrity."

## Wabash Professor Lands \$424,000 Grant

Wabash College Physics Professor James Brown has received a \$424,670 grant from the National Science Foundation to help construct a new fast-neutron detector unique in the world of science.

This grant, through the NSF's Major Research Instrumentation program, is part of a shared research effort with the goal of constructing the next generation of fast-neutron detectors with members of the Modular Neutron Array (MoNA).

"It is a great honor for our collaboration and provides a wonderful opportunity for Wabash students," Brown said. "Wabash students will help build a detector system used to examine fundamental questions in nuclear science. In the process, they will gain skills and experiences that will help them in their careers. I look forward to the construction and testing of these new detectors, and to the exciting new physics we can explore with them."

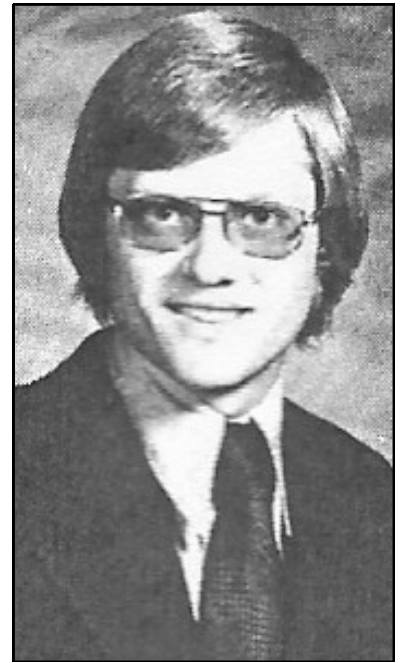
Brown and Wabash students will work with MoNA colleagues on this next-generation neutron detector with colleagues from Michigan State University's Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, a Department of Energy-funded laboratory. In addition to Wabash and MSU, participating institutions include Augustana College, Hope College, Indiana Wesleyan University, James Madison University, and Virginia State University. The MoNA collaboration constructed the first large array of fast-neutron detectors for use at the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory in 2002, and subsequently added an updated array, known as LISA, in 2010, both



### James Brown

with NSF funding. This array detects fast neutrons produced in nuclear reactions, identifying both the velocity and direction of the neutrons. These detectors in East Lansing, Michigan, enabled the collaboration to explore nuclei as the "neutron dripline," the most neutron-rich nuclei that nature allows to exist for fleeting milliseconds. Using plastic scintillator and silicon photomultipliers, the device detects when a fast neutron strikes a hydrogen nucleus in the detector and the recoiling proton travels through the plastic exciting molecules, causing it to emit light, similar to medical imaging methods like CT scans. This grant allows current Wabash students to gain crucial exposure to cutting-edge research and learn technical skills useful in their future, such as detector testing, assembly, and computer programming. More than 20 Wabash students have researched with Brown with many progressing to careers in nuclear sciences, including university teaching, medical physics, dark matter research, and advanced computing. A member of the Wabash faculty since 2003, Brown has secured more than \$1 million in grant funding and has co-authored more than 40 research publications.

## Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do you recognize this person?

**HINT:**  
 This 1974 Southmont graduate will sell to the highest bidder!!!

Answer on Page A3

## Two From County Make Dean's List

Tristen Bronaugh and Madison McCarthy, both of Crawfordsville, earned Dean's List honors at Manchester University. Undergraduate students earning a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher who have completed at least 12 semester hours with no more than three hours of Pass/Not Pass grades are

included on the Dean's List. Students with more than one hour of Incomplete (I) or Not Recorded (NR) grades at the end of the semester are not eligible for the Dean's List. Bronaugh is studying Digital Media Arts and McCarthy is studying Environmental Studies & Biology.

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collette

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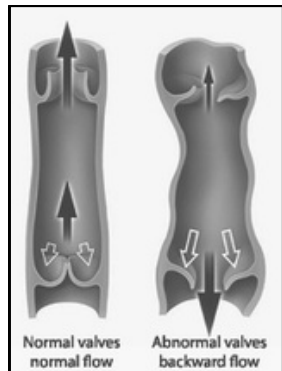
# Enlarged Veins?



**JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.**  
Montgomery Medicine

Physicians are seeing more patients presenting with swelling and pain in their legs. They are

often suffering from a problem that is becoming more common – pooling of blood in the legs leading to enlarged and unsightly veins. To understand how vein problems develop you need a basic understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the vascular system. Fresh blood containing oxygen and nutrients is pumped from the heart to the legs via arteries. The blood then moves through very tiny blood vessels called capillaries where the fresh oxygen and nutrients move out of the blood into the surrounding tissues. Waste products and carbon dioxide are removed from the tissues into the capillaries that empty into veins for the trip back to the heart. The stale blood is pumped to the lungs for removal of carbon dioxide, and to the liver and kidneys for removal of waste products. Blood in the leg veins has a hard time moving upward against gravity from the legs to the heart (unless you do a handstand). To get around this problem, the body utilizes two nifty mechanisms. The first is leg muscle contractions that push the blood upward like squeezing toothpaste out of a tube. The second is one-way valves that prevent venous blood from moving back down toward the feet, similar to a check valve in a plumbing pipe. When you understand how the physiology of venous blood flow works, it makes it easier to understand how things can go awry. Gravity is the major obstacle to overcome. People who stand all day long are battling the force of gravity as it constantly pulls the blood back toward the feet. This is why our feet tend to swell as the day progresses. Obese individuals are more likely to develop problems since their weight adds an additional force on the blood in their veins causing even more downward pressure and swelling. People who are inactive also tend to have more leg vein issues. Since they are not walking around, they don't receive the benefit of muscular contractions to squeeze the blood upward. The constant force of gravity causes our veins to stretch as we age. When this occurs, the valves in the veins no longer work to stop the downward flow and they become leaky (see diagram). This results in more blood pooling in the leg veins causing



more dilation and more leaking – a vicious cycle leading to unsightly varicose veins. Pooling of blood in the legs is called venous stasis. The blood can't move upward to have the waste products removed and the leg tissues, especially the skin, become unhealthy and start to break down. This can lead to rashes and itching called "stasis dermatitis," as well as ulcer formation and infections that can sometimes be very difficult to treat. Treating venous stasis can be very difficult depending on the how advanced the problem is at the time a patient presents to a clinician. Sometimes the dilated veins need to be tied off or surgically removed. Some veins can be closed by injecting them with solutions that cause scarring. Less severe cases of venous stasis can usually be treated with compression stockings and elevating the feet above the level of the heart. The stockings provide a compressive force that counteracts gravity. People who have developed rashes and ulcers may need to have medicated dressings. Response to treatment can be slow and may require referral to a specialized wound care center. Serious infections may require antibiotics and surgery. Diuretics (water pills) offer little relief. The best way to treat venous stasis is to prevent it in the first place. People who spend a lot of time on their feet or take long trips in planes, trains, or automobiles should walk frequently or do calf pumps or toe raises to help pump the blood out of their legs. They should also consider elevating the legs above the level of their chest on their breaks and after work. If they can't walk, they should wear compression stockings during their work shift. Good hydration is very important to keep the blood from becoming too thick that may result in blood clots (venous thrombosis). Obese people with venous stasis must concentrate on weight loss in addition to the prevention strategies above. I would be remiss if I did not mention that smoking also greatly increases the risk for injury to veins as well as slow wound healing. It greatly increases the risk for tissue breakdown, ulcer formation due to decreased oxygen delivery, and formation of blood clots.

# February VSO Updates



**JOE ELLIS**  
Guest Columnist

Wow what great weather we have had for the month of Feb. So now we have had 55 people called into my office for the month of Feb. We also had 19 people visit my office during the month of Feb. We took 15 veterans to their respective hospital's or clinic's.

Street Crawfordsville, IN 47933. It is just across the street from the court house.

Rieth-Riley Construction Co. is a heavy/highway contractor engaged in the construction of highways, roads, streets, bridges and they are located in Lafayette, and Indianapolis and are looking for Minority and Female Applicants. You may contact them at P.O. Box 276, Indianapolis, In 46206 Ph: 317-634-5561 Fax 317-631-6423 or in Lafayette, In 47905 their address is 3425 O'Farrel Road, Lafayette , In 47905

Ph: 765-447-2324 Fax: 765-448-1053.

We must not forget that the National Vietnam War Veterans Day is the 29th of March so let's thank a Vietnam Veteran!!!!

I will be at the American Legion Post 72 in Crawfordsville, IN on 3/07/2024 from 1-4 pm which is Thursday. I will also be at the VFW Post 1431 in Crawfordsville, IN on 03/21/2024 Thursday from 1-4 pm.

*Joe Ellis is the Veterans Service Officer for Montgomery County. You can reach him at Joe.Ellis@montgomerycounty.in.gov or (765) 361-4133. His office is located at 1580 Constitution Row Crawfordsville.*

## Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

### Answer: Bill Servies



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Vol. 20 Sen. Phil Boots, President USPS Publication Number: 022-679	Issue 26 Tim Timmons, Publisher Report address changes to circulation@thepaper24-7.com
Annual Print Subscription: \$84	Annual Online Subscription: \$42

To subscribe: circulation@thepaper24-7.com  
To contact news: news@thepaper24-7.com  
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## Donuts in the Middle of the Day



**CARRIE CLASSON**  
The Postscript

While a person may buy a cake here in Mexico seven days a week from early morning to late at night, getting any other kind of dessert is more challenging.

There is a bakery I walk by every day. Everything is fresh and in bins. Customers pick up a metal tray and tongs and select what they want, then bring it up to the counter. The tray is returned to the pile. The tongs are hung neatly with the other tongs. It is a great system, except that the tray holds a lot of baked goods—probably more than I should eat on any given day.

But a problem has occurred. I meet with a wonderful group of writers on a rooftop, and they have been kind enough to agree to read the first half of my new book. The first half (slightly more than half, actually) is 149 pages, so this is a generous thing for them to do. I want to bring treats, naturally. I thought apple empanadas would be best, as they are my favorite. But the meeting is at 2 in the afternoon, and the empanadas only appear at 2, promptly at 2, and never one minute before.

“I don’t suppose I could pick any up at 1?” I asked the nice girl at the counter. She shook her head sadly. No. They were only available at 2. “What do you have that I could buy at 1?” I inquired. She pointed to the bread. Somehow, showing up at the meeting with a bag of dinner rolls was not what I was imagining. “What about donuts?” I asked. The girl’s eyes widened as if I was really asking far too many questions, and she referred me to a baker standing in the back.

I explained to the baker (to the best of my ability) that I had a meeting at 2 and I would love to bring “sweets” to the

meeting. The meeting, I added, was with Americans. (There will also be several Canadians, but I decided not to complicate things.) I could tell he sensed the problem. This man looked as if he’d been baking things long enough to have heard of the eccentricities of Americans.

“So, no empanadas before 2?” I wanted to confirm.

No, he shook his head sadly. That could not be done.

“Cookies?” They come out later yet.

“Donuts?” He seemed to find this amusing. Donuts are never available before 5.

“Maybe you could buy empanadas the day before?” he suggested.

“Would they still be hard?” I asked (because I couldn’t remember how to say “soft”).

“They would be soft by the next day,” he admitted. I was stymied.

I asked Pepe at my hotel, “Why do you eat donuts at night?”

“Oh! They are good with hot chocolate or coffee after dinner. When do you eat them?”

“Usually in the morning,” I told him, feeling a little foolish as I admitted it.

“In the morning?” “Yes.”

I could tell Pepe was filing this away as yet another inexplicable thing he had learned about gringos while working at the hotel.

The meeting is next week, and I still do not have a good solution. I will probably take the baker’s advice and buy empanadas a day early.

They will be a little “suave,” as he said, but they will still be delicious. And, as long as I’m buying things a day ahead, I may throw in some donuts.

We’ll sit there on the roof, a bunch of happy idiots, eating donuts in the middle of the day.

Till next time,  
Carrie

To see photos, check out [CarrieClassonAuthor](#) on Facebook or visit [CarrieClasson.com](#).

## ↓ BUTCH

From Page A1

had the chance. I would have asked them more questions. I would have learned more about their lives. I could have learned many more things that would have helped me throughout my life. Grandparents love to talk, teach, and pass on family traditions. But we were too busy . . . and then it was too late.

My wife and I attended several North Montgomery boys and girls basketball games this winter. One of our granddaughters and her boyfriend play on the varsity teams. Win or lose, we enjoyed watching, except for one thing . . . those crazy people who criticize the players, coach, refs, etc. by YELLING LOUDLY. As a former player back in the old days, I can assure you that such imbecilic yelling does no good . . . those fans need to remember "it's only a game." Just let the pep block and cheerleaders do the yelling, and we'll all be happy.

My hometown is not what it used to be when I was a youngster in the 1950s and '60s. For the most part, the small

towns of Montgomery County are shells of their former selves . . . very few Mom and Pop businesses exist. On Main Street today in my hometown . . . no cafe, no grocery, no drug store, no barbershop, no clothing store, no furniture store, no appliance store, no farm implement store, no movie theater . . . and on and on. School consolidation may have saved money (and I seriously doubt that), but it killed the little towns. It was where I went to school, met my sweetheart, had fun with my friends, and learned about life from the oldtimers. Now I am an oldtimer. I feel sorry that today's kids cannot experience the things that I did. But life and communities, and yes . . . even nations, oftentimes go full circle. I can only hope that perhaps one day, after I am long gone, they will.

*John “Butch” Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 35 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.*

## Nothing Else to Do



**DICK WOLFISIE**  
Funny Bone

When I retired from television three years ago, I hoped to relax and have nothing to do.

But I did have stuff to do. Lots of stuff. I was busier than ever. So, I decided last week that I would set out a day where I had absolutely nothing to do. Zero. Nada. That was my goal. Today looks good. I have nothing to do.

Absolutely nothing. What a great feeling. I don’t know where to put myself. But putting myself somewhere is doing something, so I better be careful.

I am home alone, right now. I am two weeks ahead on my weekly humor column. No bills to pay. We have no dog to walk. All my laundry has been folded and put away. I think I’ve done it. But I am a little bored.

“Dick, why don’t you read a book or watch a movie on TV?” you might say. But you see, if I read or watch movies then I am doing something. That’s been my way of avoiding what needs to get done. If I read a book when I have nothing to do, what will I do when I really have to do something and I don’t want to? I’m losing you, aren’t I? Don’t stop reading now. Do you have anything better to do?

I am so excited about this that I am going to brag about my situation. I’ll call one of my busiest friends. I know he’ll be jealous.

“Bob, it’s Dick. What are you doing?” “Nothing, what about you?”

“Hey, that’s exactly what I’m doing. And I thought I was the only one who was that lucky.” “Dick, when I say

nothing, I don’t really mean nothing. I’m paying some bills, shopping online, doing some laundry, cleaning out the car and selling items on eBay so Cathy and I can donate more money to the homeless mission.”

“You call that nothing? That’s a lot of something. Don’t you know anything about nothing? I am really doing nothing. I mean absolutely nothing.”

“Do you want to come over here and do something together?”

“No, Bob, that’s the whole point. I don’t want to have anything to do with you.”

“Well, you don’t have to get nasty about it.” I tried another friend...

“Mikki, it’s Dick. Guess what? I have nothing to do.”

“So, take a nap.” “A nap? You consider a nap nothing? A good nap is a commitment. An actual event. A nap is not nothing. Trust me. If I were sleepy right now, a nap would be something to do. Geez, can’t I find one friend who knows something about nothing?”

I called my wife. She was out shopping. Doing something, of course. I decided to rub it in.

“Mary Ellen, it’s me. I wanted you to know I am home right now and I have absolutely nothing to do.”

“You’re home in a house that has several burnt-out light bulbs, a broken smoke detector, a dishwasher to be unloaded and a dirty litter box...and you say you have nothing to do? I’m glad you called. Get moving, time to get things done.

Boy, did that backfire. Now, all of a sudden I have like four things to do. I guess I better get started. After all, I have nothing else to do.

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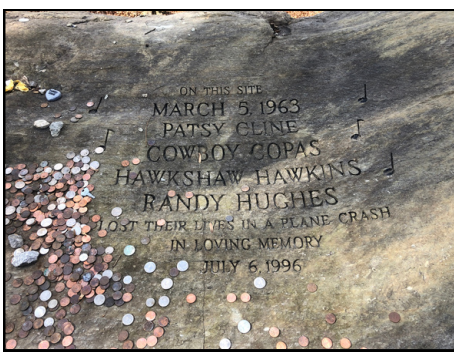
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# 2024 Buick Encore GX Travels from Indianapolis to Memphis in Search of Patsy Cline



**CASEY WILLIAMS**  
Auto Reviews

On March 5, 1963, Country music legend Patsy Cline, along with her manager Randy Hughes plus fellow Opry stars Hawkshaw Hawkins and Cowboy Copas, crashed their small single-engine plane into a valley about seventy miles east of Memphis, near Camden, Tennessee. Cline was just 30 years old. With a little extra time on my way to Memphis in the 2024 Buick Encore GX, it was time to pay my respects.

### Elegant Youthful Style

Before hitting the roads from Indianapolis, I stopped to give the little Buick a good look. Its sporty ST trim seems a perfect complement to young and energetic Cline. It's a class act, eschewing trite tacked on portholes for chic Euro styling that starts with a wide grille flanked by tucked headlamps

under squinty boomerang driving lights. Sophisticated body sculpting disguise the vehicle's tall narrow proportions. Our vehicle glimmered in brave Copper Ice Metallic paint over 18" black alloy wheels. Most trim on the ST is blacked out for a sinister vibe. It's as young and fresh inside where the dash is dominated by a sweeping twin-screen "Virtual Cockpit" for driver gauges and infotainment. It's slick, but wirelessly connects devices via Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. Wireless charging is available too. There's no Bose audio, but Cline's songs boomed loud on the highway. Gray seat stitching, thick flat-bottom leather-wrapped steering wheel, and satin silver accents added touches of elegance. Leatherette seats were all-day comfortable and can be easily cleaned should kids (or fallen Big Macs) necessitate a quick wipe-down. Unlike Cline and her compatriots, I travel

with a full contingent of safety gear. The Encore GX ST comes standard with rear cross traffic alert, lane change alert, and side blind zone alert. Adaptive cruise, automatic emergency braking, and lane departure warning are available.

### Spirited Turbo Performance

Putting steam into its step across Indiana cornfields, between Kentucky horse farms, and through Tennessee hills was a 1.3-liter turbocharged three-cylinder engine, connected to the front wheels through a continuously-variable transmission. Putting numbers too it, the engine delivers 155 horsepower and 174 lb.-ft. of torque. All-wheel-drive is available on the Encore GX, but our front-drive model is lighter on its wheels and provides the best fuel economy rated 29/31-MPG city/highway. I wouldn't normally like a continuously variable transmission, but it combined peacefully with the turbo to carry

the Encore through hill and dale with glee. On paper, the compound crank rear suspension wouldn't seem especially sophisticated either, but engineers tuned the suspension for a perfect balance of long-distance comfort and crisp handling. Whether storming tight sweepers on the Interstate, or swooping through rough two-lane curvy roads to the crash site, the suspension, steering, and short wheelbase indulged my will for spirited driving.

It's a solemn valley where the plane returned to earth, so I roll in with all due respect. Looking at the Encore along the trail that leads to a memorial of the tragedy, the little crossover glistens in dappled sunlight. It's difficult to comprehend the unspeakable tragedy that unfolded in this wooded valley over sixty years ago. On the flight back to Nashville, Hughes became

disoriented in the clouds and unwittingly spiraled their Piper Comanche into the treetops, ending the careers and lives of all aboard. No matter the terrain or speed, the Encore GX ST was a primo way to make quick work of long miles and a very somber side trip. And, hitting its target market of young sophisticates, the Encore GX ST comes with a very affordable price. Base Encore GX starts at \$25,600 with the ST rising from \$26,800. If you want something even more affordable,

and sportier still, check out the similar Buick Envista crossover coupe that starts at just \$22,400. Competitors include the similar Chevy Trax, Honda HR-V, Mazda CX-30, Kia Seltos, Nissan Kicks, and Hyundai Kona.

*Storm Forward!*

Send comments to Casey at [AutoCasey@aol.com](mailto:AutoCasey@aol.com); follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.

**2024 Buick Encore GX ST**  
 Five-passenger, FWD Crossover  
 Powertrain: 1.3-liter T4, CVT  
 Output: 155hp/174 lb.-ft. torque  
 Suspension f/r: Ind/Compound crank  
 Wheels f/r: 18"/18" alloy  
 Brakes f/r: disc/disc  
 Must-have features: Style, Turbo  
 Fuel economy: 29/31 mpg city/hwy  
 Assembly: Bupyeong, Korea  
 Base/As-tested price: \$25,600/\$26,800

Likes	Dislikes
· Bold style	· CVT
· Turbo engine	· Basic chassis
· Value price	· Limited options

## Coalition, YSB Offering Series to Educate Community

By Jessica Dixon  
 Courtesy Youth Service Bureau

Are you aware that our community has two permanent Medication Drop off Locations? Medication Drop Off locations are important. They are used for medication that is unneeded, unused and expired. A few of the most important reasons that medication should be dropped off is to ensure the safety of others by not allowing harmful ingestion or misuse and abuse. These two drop off boxes are at the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department (600 Memorial Dr., Crawfordsville) and the Crawfordsville Police Station (311 N. Green St., Crawfordsville). While these areas do have video surveillance, it is not a crime to drop off medications in these boxes. The Drug Free Montgomery County Coalition is dedicated to bringing information to the community. The goal of this articles and future ones is to be able to share information, statistics, resources and

awareness for the community and parents of children and teens. The Drug Free Montgomery County Coalition wants feedback from you about future articles and the desired content of these articles. To that end, the Coalition has created a link and a QR code. If you follow either, it will take you to a survey that is entirely anonymous and will only be used for compiling information for future articles and about how to best educate the community on these topics. Many resources can be found on the website at [drugfreemoco.org](http://drugfreemoco.org). Drug Free Montgomery County is a program of the Youth Service Bureau. The YSB is a United Way in Montgomery County partner agency and is also supported by the Montgomery County Community Foundation.



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