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➔ TODAY'S VERSE

John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Meet Trixie

Trixie

AWL doesn't just have cute cats & dogs available for adoption. Trixie's adoption fee is \$35.00. A black rabbit is often seen as a symbol of magic, good luck, wisdom, and fortune. In some folklore, they are also associated with the souls of the dead. Black rabbits are rare due to a genetic mutation and are said to possess the magic of the stars and the wisdom of the ages. Please call the shelter and/or fill out an adoption application.

AWL is open Monday - Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p. Come say hi, snuggle cats, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!



So what about that idea of creating a local DOGE with an outsider like Elon Musk? Seems like there's some merit there, huh?

The Paper OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

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CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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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!


It's the final few days of April, which means it's almost May – the Merry Month of May! Flowers and trees will be in full bloom and folks have already been cutting grass. Farmers will be in the field and the cold weather may not be entirely gone (you never know when it'll raise its ugly head), but for the most part, the weather is on the upswing!

So without further ado, here is a look at May . . . by the numbers.

109 Indiana is probably best known for, especially in the month of May, the Greatest Spectacle in Racing, the Indianapolis 500. This year marks the 109th running! If you want tickets, they are still available. In fact, the prices don't go up until May 1. So hurry up and get that order in!

5-10 Speaking of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the stars of the NTT Indycar Series take to the IMS road course on May 10 in the Sonsoio Grand Prix.


33 Of course we couldn't leave mention of the 500 without the number 33 – the traditional number of cars in the field each year. Do you know the last time the race didn't have 33 cars? It's been a minute – 1947.

5 Days in May  **300,000** At almost the opposite end of the state, in Lowell, there are 300,000 stunning tulip blooms in their full glory at the First-ever Tulip Festival. It's going on now until May 11.

OK, it's a bit of a drive, but the world's largest Beatles-inspired music festival is down on the southern tip of the state. Abbey Road on the River takes place May 22-26 in Jeffersonville.

5 Cinco-de-Mayo takes place on May 5. This is a celebration of the Mexican Army's victory over France. It occurred at the battle of Puebla (and is also known as the Battle of Puebla Day) in 1862. Of course, restaurants and communities all over Indiana will observe the celebration in their own ways! Just remember, if you celebrate with a margarita or two, have a designated driver!

2 minutes OK, we mentioned the Greatest Spectacle in Racing, so here's a quick mention of what's called the Greatest Two Minutes in Sports – the Kentucky Derby. For those keeping score at home, this year marks the 151st running and takes place on May 3. Also for those keeping score at home, about 150,000 to 170,000 people go to Louisville for the Derby each year. Some say that makes it the biggest sporting event in the world. We Hoosiers and Indy 500 fans know that's simply not true!

1 On May 11, we can all celebrate the one most special lady in our lives, Mom! 

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Take a walk after eating, particularly if the meal contained a lot of fat.

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

➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know

- 1** Indiana Chamber of Commerce CEO Vanessa Green Sindere seems to be a fan of the \$2 per pack increase in the cigarette tax. "With (the) announcement of an increase in the cigarette tax, the first in over 17 years, we are taking the necessary steps to create healthier Hoosiers and slow the growth of Medicaid while also generating additional revenue . . . Reducing our smoking levels will increase employee wellness, lower healthcare costs for employers and reduce absenteeism in the workplace. . . . The Indiana Chamber has been advocating for an increase in the cigarette tax for nearly 15 years."
- 2** Hoosiers drank the alcoholic equivalent of a million Indy 500 fuel tanks last winter, according to our friends at MyBioSource (www.mybiosource.com). And we weren't alone. This past winter delivered a heavy dose of stress for many Americans. With grocery prices refusing to budge, housing costs steadily rising, and the buzz of election season amplifying the tension, it's no surprise people felt the strain. MyBioSource conducted a survey of 3,003 adults and found that Louisiana topped the list with residents averaging 234 standard drinks over the season - about 18 per week. New Hampshire and Wyoming tied for second. Indiana came in 42nd.
- 3** The American Red Cross is asking donors to help keep the blood supply stable by making an appointment to give blood now. Type O blood and platelets are especially needed. For the rest of this month, donors will get an exclusive Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last, plus be automatically entered for a chance to win a \$5,000 prize. There will be three winners. See RedCrossBlood.org/Hope. As spring travel and activities fill calendars, volunteer blood donations remain essential to critical medical care. Book a time to give blood now by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Much good work is lost for the lack of a little more."
Edward H. Harriman

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Did you hear about the new book on gravity?
It's impossible to put down!

➔ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Annual Meeting for the Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce will be held during Breakfast Before Business on May 5 at Fusion 54. The 2025-26 nominating committee's slate of candidates to serve on the Board of Directors will be voted on at that time. If elected, they begin their terms effective June 1, 2025. For more information, go to <http://www.crawfordsvillechamber.org/>

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

Butch Visits the Ben Hur Drive-In

 There were many changes to American society after WWII, when the "Baby Boomer" generation, including yours truly, appeared on the scene. The economy gained steam. Home starts increased dramatically. The steel shortage had ended, and new cars started rolling off the assembly line. A new thing called a "shopping center" appeared in many areas, along with drive-in root beer and hot dog and hamburger stands. Driving a car wasn't just plain transportation, it was a symbol of freedom. People, especially teenagers, took to the road. In Crawfordsville, teenagers started hanging out at the Ginger-Boo (later on called the Country Diner), Zach's A&W and the Dog-N-Suds.

Two drive-in movie theaters also appeared on the scene in Crawfordsville, the Ben Hur drive-in theater, which was located on US 136 approximately a half-mile east of town, and the Crawfordsville Drive-In Theater, located a half-mile east on State Road 32. I never had the occasion to visit the one on 32, but I made many trips to the Ben Hur through the years. The entrance housed the ticket booth, and I believe a ticket was 50 cents. Even though the price was cheap, a few teenagers tried to sneak in without paying, by hiding in the back seat or in the trunk. The drive-in had a capacity of several hundred cars. Each car parked by a post, which had a small light and a speaker that could be attached to the car window. The screen, which was painted white, was quite large and was visible from every part of the lot. There was a small concession stand and rest room near the center of the lot. The proprietors sold hot dogs, candy, soft drinks, ice cream treats, and popcorn; however, many large families brought their own food, snacks and a cooler. Most teenagers ate at one of the drive-in restaurants, and hung out with their friends before heading to the theater.

Cars started arriving ➔ See BUTCH Page A3

**FLOWER LOVERS
GARDEN CLUB
17th GARDEN & ARTS TOUR**
Sunday June 29th 2025
11-5 Rain or Shine



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Country Hearts & flowers
126 N. Green St. 362-8860

Just Because 210 E. Market St.
307-2341

Milligan's Flowers 115 E. Main St.
362-3496

Crawfordsville Library 205 S. Washington St. 362-2242

Tickets will also be available the day of the Tour (Sunday, June 29) at Pike Place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Live From The Cornerstone . . .



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

Grammy-nominated Leslie Jordan performed last week at the Masonic Cornerstone Granda Hall & Event Center. From all accounts, Leslie wowed the crowd with her wonderful voice and guitar talents. She sang a variety of songs, including some from her new work, The Agonist, an album inspired by her grandfather. After leaving Crawfordsville, she headed for her next tour stop in Nashville, Tenn. Leslie is the daughter of local writer Gwynn Wills.



Photo courtesy Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church

An encore performance from Cameron Cody and James Kelly kicks off the Concerts on the Corner series at Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church Friday.

**YouTube Sensations
Return to Crawfordsville**

Pianists and singers Cameron Cody and James Kelly will perform for Concerts on the Corner at Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church this Friday at 7 p.m. Facebook favorites, the dueling pianists from Houston were a hit with a large audience last year and organizers of Concerts on the Corner are excited to welcome them back.

Cody is an internationally recognized concert artist, conductor and organist. He presently serves as Director of Music and Principal Organist at Chapelwood United Methodist Church in Houston. Kelly is a professional pianist, singer, and Director of

Contemporary Worship and Music at the Chapelwood Church. As both performers have separate careers, Wabash Avenue is delighted to have them perform together in Crawfordsville.

There is no admission fee for Concerts on the Corner, but a free-will offering collected at the Cody / Kelly concert will support Crawfordsville's Trinity Life Ministry. Upcoming concerts will feature classical violinist Ben Abel (June 1) and Nashville singer and songwriter Jesse MacLeod (Oct. 11). The mission of Concerts on the Corner is to spread the love of God through the joy of music. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Butch
Dale's
Flashback
Trivia**



**Do You Recognize this
1965 New Ross H.S.
Graduate?**

**HINT:
She was one of the most
popular girls and was
active in all of the school
organizations.**

**Answer on
Page A3**

Easter Vigil



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

Easter services took place all over the world a little more than a week ago, and Montgomery County was no exception. Pictured here is a photo from the Easter Vigil at St. Stephen's Orthodox Church. This was the first time in centuries when East and West – followers of the Gregorian calendar and the Julian calendar – were in line to celebrate Easter on the same day. There is an almost two-week difference between the two calendars. The last time the two aligned was 325 CE. The photo above was taken during the April 19-20 midnight divine liturgy. Fr. Joel Weir is the presbyter of the parish.

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1,000 Stealth Comedy Sets for Unsuspecting Visitors


CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

The bad thing about living in a new place is that I don't know anyone. The good thing about living in a new place is that I meet new people.

Jade is one of the new people I have met while spending time in Mexico. Jade used to be an eye doctor. But after retiring from medicine in her 60s, she decided to do something a little different. I'm pretty sure —no matter how much time I gave you—you would never guess how Jade now spends her time.

Stand-up comedy.

"But how? And why?" everyone wants to know.

To hear Jade tell it, it happened in a moment. Her grown son was watching a well-known comedian on TV. Jade knew almost nothing about comedy. She watched this comedy special and something clicked. A button Jade didn't know she had was activated.

"I decided that was what I was going to do."

Generally, when someone tells me they are going to try a new thing, I imagine it might be a hobby they would like to try once or twice. That would not be Jade. When she decided comedy was her next big thing, she dove in with both feet. She read books about comedy. She watched every working comedian, and some that were long dead. She read interviews and memoirs. She joined clubs and took classes.

But since it was hard to get a lot of time on stage, and getting it meant driving long distances, Jade took to heart the words of Shakespeare when he wrote, "All the world's a stage." Jade started doing her five-minute stand-up routine for total strangers in the park.

I have done some performing in my life, but I have never done anything as brave as that.

Jade calls it "stealth comedy," and people are certainly surprised. No one expects an

impromptu comedy set while strolling through the park. But Jade has now done well over 1,000 stealth comedy sets for unsuspecting visitors. I think that is astonishing.

For the last couple of days, I have been a little grumpy. I am living with some uncertainty about my book. Uncertainty comes with life—and certainly with writing —so it's silly to get grumpy about the way things usually are. But I have been anyway.

Yesterday I went to meet with Jade because, in addition to doing stand-up in clubs and in the park, she is turning her material into a memoir, which is naturally very funny. I feel honored to work with her on it. I told my husband, Peter, it was good I was going to meet her. "It's impossible to be grumpy around Jade."

I told Jade I was grumpy because I didn't know what was going to happen next with my book. "What's the worst that can happen?" she asked, and I realized she was right. There was no real downside, just a lot of uncertainty.

Jade embraces uncertainty. She walks up to total strangers and says, "Would you like five minutes of comedy?"


I would be terrified that every one of them would say, "No!" And, the truth is, some of them do. But overwhelmingly, people say, "Sure, why not?" Jade proves, time after time, that the worst thing that can happen is really not that bad.

Jade and I spent almost two hours over a cup of coffee and ginger tea, laughing and talking. When I got home, I thought about how much I admire her humor and her audacious bravery and her solid advice.

Maybe a little uncertainty is exactly what I need.

Till next time,
Carrie

Can You Tell Me Where James Fenimore Cooper Drive Is?


DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

I once wrote that I would be a great tour bus driver because the people on the bus have no idea where they are going—that's why they are taking a bus. They know nothing about the area—that's why they need a tour guide. So, if I got lost, I'd just explain how it was in this very isolated area 200 years ago, hundreds of miles from food, water and medical treatment, three nuns saved the island of Nantucket by staying awake 72 straight hours to keep the lighthouse open with only dried cranberries to eat.

Pretty good, huh? I just made all that up.

Truth is that even with GPS, I am always lost, especially in a subdivision. When I ask Siri for directions, she begins by saying "proceed to the route." If I knew the route, I wouldn't need her. Being lost in a fancy-schmancy neighborhood is infuriating. Street names are seldom helpful. You'll see a Commander Avenue, Commander Way, Commander Circle and Commander Court. Excuse me. Did they run out of nautical terms right after they named the complex Commander Havens? Sometimes there's a Sheila Road, a Sandy Court, and a Samantha Way. You just know that these are either the builder's daughters or all his ex-wives.

Never ask for directions in a subdivision. If you're not actually looking for the street you're presently on, couples out for a leisurely walk will stare at you and shrug. Even their Lhasa Apso will give you a quizzical look. "Excuse me, can you tell me where James Fenimore Cooper Drive is?"

"Uh, let's see. This is Nathaniel Hawthorne Lane and the next left is Herman Melville Court. Or maybe it's Edgar Allan Poe Place. I think the next street is Hemingway Lane. Are you sure James Fenimore Cooper Drive

is here in the Americana neighborhood?"

"Yes, it's in The Americana. Do you think there's another nerdy builder in the country who would name streets after dead American writers?"

The reason these people don't know the names of any of the nearby streets is because they have no friends who live there. All their friends live in a pricier cul-de-sac, the one with streets named after French writers.

The most humiliating experience is when you have finally given up finding the Habershams' dinner party and you simply want to crawl your way out of the subdivision before someone calls the police to report suspicious loitering, but you swallow your pride and ask...

"Excuse me, Sir, but can you tell me how to get to the main road? We've been driving around forever."

"Sorry, but I can't help you. I've only lived here three years. Would you like directions to the pool or the Pickleball courts?"

"No, we don't want to go to the pool. We want to go home. Do you have any idea how we get out of this neighborhood?"

"Okay, let's try this: turn left on the street that's named after that guy who wrote The Prince and the Pauper, then a right on the road named after the man who...what's his name? The man who wrote The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.

We finally got home. It was certainly a unique experience.

Novel might be a better word.

– Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Paper of Montgomery County. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.



Photo courtesy Butch Dale

The Ben Hur and a great many other drive-in theaters closed in the '70s.

before sundown to get a good spot . . . perhaps the back row if you had a hot date. If I remember correctly there was a playground for little kids to use before the movie began. Most people stayed in their cars, but a few parked their pickup trucks facing away from the screen and sat in lawn chairs in the truck bed. Some families brought blankets and pillows and just sat on the ground. Most people brought a flashlight, and it was also a good idea to bring insect repellant on hot summer nights! Before the main attraction there was a cartoon, and I'll always remember the film clips which urged you to purchase concessions ... those dancing hot dogs and ice-cream bars.

Most of the drive-in movies were family oriented, with quite a few "B-rated" films, but we didn't care. It was great just to be outdoors, enjoy the fresh air, munch on treats and have an enjoyable evening. Of course, the teenagers who brought their dates may not have seen much of the movie.

They had other things

on their minds... promises of love, kisses to be stolen, moves to be made . . . many of these aspirations hoped for, but never realized. Granted, there were a few very passionate couples, some of whom accidentally drove off after the movie with the speaker still attached to the car window...a souvenir after an evening of romance.

I have been told that the Crawfordsville drive-in on 32 closed in the 1970s. The First Baptist church is now in that location. The Ben Hur drive-in closed down several years later, and was eventually demolished, too. There are very few drive-in movie theaters in Indiana today. With DVDs and streaming services, indoor theaters may also become a thing of the past...another fun type of entertainment...a family tradition...gone forever...and that's a shame.


John "Butch" Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 36 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.


Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia Answer: Madonna Feltner

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Picture: Daughter, Ava Dale Barrel Racing



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FOR THE RECORD

For The Record is a public service and regular feature in The Paper of Montgomery County. It is designed to tell you what is scheduled to happen and what actually does happen in meetings paid for with your tax dollars. The Paper encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BUILDING CORPORATION

Monday, April 28, 2025
8:30 a.m.
Montgomery County Government Center
Commissioners Conference Room
1580 Constitution Row - Suite E
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

- AGENDA
- 1. Call to Order/Roll
 - 2. Approval of Minutes of March 24, 2025
 - 3. New Business
 - Approve Change Orders
 - Approve Claims
 - Approve Escrow Agreement
 - 1. Other Business
 - 2. Adjournment

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025 @ 9:30 AM
Montgomery County Government Center
1580 Constitution Row – Room E9
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

- AGENDA
- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - II. NEW BUSINESS
 - III. APPROVE MINUTES – March 24, 2025
 - IV. CCC DIRECTOR SHERRI HILL
 - A. Questions regarding Director submitted report
 - Updates: Staffing, Locution & Quality Assurance Audit
 - B. Acknowledge Receipt Of Financial Report
 - V. OTHER BUSINESS
 - VI. ADJOURNMENT

SOUTHMONT SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE SESSION SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Corporation Board Room
6401 US 231 South, Crawfordsville, IN 47933
Wednesday, April 30, 2025 5:00 pm
The South Montgomery Community School Corporation Board of Trustees will meet in executive session on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 @ 5:00 pm at the Corporation’s Administrative Office located at 6401 South US 231, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

- Agenda
- I. Call to Order
 - II. Roll Call They will meet for the following purpose:
To discuss a job performance evaluation.
 - III. Adjourn.

Future Meetings: . May 12, 2025 - Regular Meeting - Corporation Board Room - 6:00 PM
June 9, 2025 - Regular Meeting - Corporation Board Room - 6:00 PM

Old S.R. 55 bridge over I-74 to close


The Indiana Department of Transportation announces a temporary bridge closure on Old State Road 55/County Road 400 W. over I-74 near Crawfordsville. and subject to change. The unofficial local detour around the closure is U.S.136 to C.R. 650 W to C.R. 625 W to C.R. 450 N to C.R. 400 W to C.R. 400 N to C.R. 275 W.

Beginning on or after Thursday, May 1, crews will close the bridge for a deck replacement. Work is anticipated to last until November but is weather-dependent INDOT encourages drivers to seek an alternate route around the closure and to use caution while traveling in and around all work zones.



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Back in the Day with Butch Dale



Everyone loves a parade, and one of the largest parades in Crawfordsville history was one for Civil War Veterans in 1910.

Montgomery Medicine: The Season of Sneezing



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Montgomery Medicine

It’s once again time to run my annual column on allergies. Some of our readers are likely already cursing the annual return of allergy symptoms. Tree pollen levels of maple, ash, and birch are high and climbing. Spring allergy symptoms can make it even more difficult to differentiate who might have an upper respiratory infection, COVID-19, or just run-of-the-mill allergy symptoms.

Seasonal allergies are a major problem for many people. When allergy sufferers are asked about their quality of life, they often rate allergies as more bothersome than heart disease and sometimes even cancer. Many different things cause allergies; here I will focus on the seasonal type.

Seasonal allergies are caused by pollen. Pollen contains the male genetic material of plants; it is analogous to sperm in animals. One of the main jobs of any organism is to disseminate its genetic material as far and wide as possible to mix with that of others in the species in order to improve fitness and survival. Pollen accomplishes this task in exquisite fashion.

There are two main categories of pollen: anemophilous (wind-loving) and entomophilous (insect-loving). Anemophilous pollen is very lightweight, allowing it to move great distances, particularly on windy days. It is produced by trees, grasses, and weeds. Golf ball engineers even utilize biomimicry of pollen grains to

design the dimples on balls to help them fly farther.

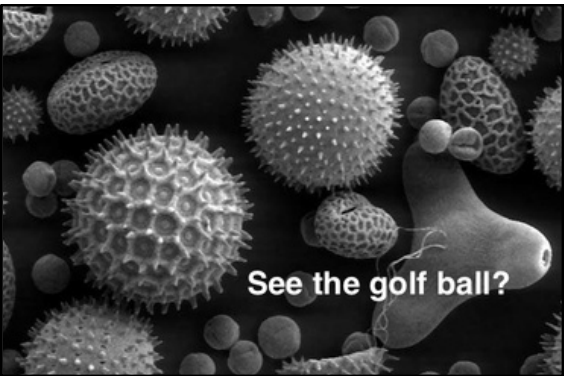
Entomophilous pollen is produced primarily by flowering plants. It is much heavier and stickier, allowing it to be picked up and spread by pollinators such as bees. The loss of pollinating insects due to insecticide use and climate change is a real threat to these plants. Entomophilous pollens are much less likely to cause allergies since they are not typically inhaled or blown into noses and eyes by the wind.

Plants release pollen at various times of the year, hence the “seasonal” nature of allergies. Trees in Indiana start pollinating in late February and usually end by May. Each species of tree pollinates for about one to two weeks.

Grasses begin in April and continue through May. Hoosiers then get a brief reprieve until mid-August when ragweed starts up and continues until sometime in October. The allergy season has become longer over the past two decades, starting about three weeks earlier and lasting two to three weeks longer. This is very likely due to warming from climate change.

Pollen grains contain proteins on their surfaces that bind to the tissues of the eyes and inside the nose. To develop allergies, a person must be genetically programmed for their immune system to recognize these proteins as foreign invaders. This is the case in about 40 percent of people.

The immune system responds by creating a specific class of antibodies called



immunoglobulin E (IgE). It can take two to ten years of exposure to an allergen to develop enough IgE to cause symptoms. This explains why some people suddenly develop an allergy to a pet they have had for years.

When IgE is produced, it attaches to specialized mast cells, where it sits waiting to respond. When pollen encounters a mast cell coated with IgE specific to it, it binds and causes the cell to release substances that trigger allergy symptoms.

One of the primary molecules released by mast cells is histamine. It causes typical nasal symptoms like congestion and watery discharge, along with red, itchy, watery eyes, and sometimes wheezing. These responses are meant to expel the allergen from the body through sneezing, coughing, or tearing.

Diagnosing pollen allergies is usually straightforward. The likely culprit can often be identified based on the timing of symptoms. Sometimes, an allergist may perform skin or blood tests to determine specific allergens.

There are numerous treatments available. Avoidance is the best prevention strategy: stay indoors when

possible, especially on windy days, and use air conditioning rather than opening windows. Use high-quality filters in the home ventilation system. Saline rinses are effective at removing pollen from the nose. This can be done using products such as a Neti Pot or a squeeze bottle like Sinus Rinse®.

Antihistamines are also a cornerstone of treatment. They block the effects of histamine. Many are available over-the-counter or by prescription. Older antihistamines like Benadryl® (diphenhydramine) often cause drowsiness but are effective. Newer options like Claritin® (loratadine), Allegra® (fexofenadine), Zyrtec® (cetirizine), and Xyzal® (levocetirizine) are typically less sedating but may cost more.

Other treatments include nasal steroid sprays such as Flonase® (fluticasone), as well as sprays that stabilize mast cells. For those with severe symptoms or who don’t respond to standard therapy, allergy injections or sublingual drops may be necessary to reduce sensitivity over time.

– Dr. John Roberts is a retired member of the Franciscan Physician Network specializing in Family Medicine.

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2025 Subaru WRX tS Does It All Toot Sweet – Even If It Is a Little Blue



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

Subaru claims the tS in the latest special WRX stands for “Tuned by STI”, which will warm Subie lover hearts as they dream of getting a little of the high-performance magic once delivered by the automaker’s in-house tuner. But, I like to think it really means the car will do it all toot sweet – even if that means dropping kids at school or getting groceries.

The tS is new for 2025, replacing last year’s “track-ready” TR version, but offers the latter’s increased handling and improved ride control that comes with an electronic suspension. It’s also the first Subaru to offer a flatscreen instrument cluster.I love Subaru’s clear analog gauges, but it was time to embrace the modern age.

Like the previous TR, the tS adopts familiar

Subaru styling cues with wide gray grille, angry curve-following LED headlamps, and gray wheelwell cladding attached to a tidy sport sedan with chiseled sculpting. Notice the hood scoop, gray lower body trim, 19” wheels, and subtle rear spoiler. I especially like our car’s Sapphire Blue Pearl paint, even if it does attract dirt like lint to a sweater.

You’ll ask, “Am I blue?” when you open the door.The answer is yes because dash, door, and seat inserts are super bright blue – as is steering wheel and surface stitching. I’m down for it, though as it comes with deep Recaro seats and dash coverings wrapped in Ultrasuede. Seats may be a bit firm for daily driving, but they do hug you tight.

Adding to the technology suite, Wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto enable easy phone

connections. Some may not love the touchscreen and its menus, but I find it easy to navigate for audio, phone, climate and navigation. Redundant physical controls for temperature, defroster, volume and tuning add convenience. The 11-speaker Harman Kardon audio system is decent, but not brilliant.

Safety is though, fortified by Subaru’s EyeSight camera system that enables adaptive cruise, automatic emergency braking, and lane keep assist. Blind spot warning and rear cross path detection help too. I just wish Subaru would go ahead and add a head-up display to aid drivers no matter where they travel.

Whizzing behind the large grille is a 2.4-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine that

delivers 271 horsepower, 258 lb.-ft. of torque, and 19/26-MPG city/highway when equipped with our car’s very mechanical six-speed manual transmission. A taller sixth gear is needed to enhance fuel economy, but the Porsche-style horizontally-opposed engine keeps weight low in the chassis for stable handling. Tap the turbo for 0-60 mph in 5.6 seconds, or barely slower than last year’s track-ready TR edition.

If I’m being honest, I can tell no difference between the tS and the TR I drove last summer from behind the wheel, but the electronic adaptive suspension system does as reasonable job of soaking up rough pavement and handling challenging backroads between errands. It’s borderline too firm for daily driving, but not quite. This edition also comes with high-performance Brembo brakes to enhance

stopping, active torque vectoring to shorten corners, and Drive Mode Select to adjust throttle, steering, and suspension calibration.

Another thing the tS will do toot sweet is empty you bank account. While the base WRX starts around \$35,000, this one takes \$45,705 from future earnings. But, it’s kind of worth it considering

similar priced competitors like the Honda Civic Type R, Ford Mustang, Acura Integra Type S, Hyundai Elantra N and Audi S3.

Storm Forward!

Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.

Likes

- Blue interior
- Turbo engine
- Flatscreen gauges

Dislikes

- Tight seats
- Firm suspension
- Underwhelming audio

2025 Subaru WRX tS

Five-passenger, AWD Sedan
Powertrain: 2.4-liter T4, 6-spd trans
Output: 271hp/258 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Elect. Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 19”/19” alloy
Brakes f/r: Brembo disc/disc
0-60 mph: 5.6s
Fuel economy: 19/26 mpg city/hwy
Assembly: Ota, Gunma, Japan
Base/As-tested price: \$35,750/45,705

Montgomery Murder Mysteries: Molly’s Manifesto

EDITOR’S NOTE: Karen Zach, a 50-year-local history writer, presents her Montgomery Murder Mysteries – historical fiction, based on fact – of the first 13 or so murders in our county. Karen has written a weekly column for The Paper of Montgomery County and was the editor of Montgomery Memories, a monthly publication from The Paper for many years. Now that she is retired, she is sharing these stories and The Paper is very pleased to continue working with Karen and her talented writings.



KAREN ZACH
Montgomery Murder Mysteries

Chapter 10 - Blessings

Aug 29, 1898 –8:00 a.m. -- I don’t write in my journal very often but today I feel I must get some things in the open here. First of all, I love to write and I had a teacher tell me once that writing was an excellent way to soothe the soul. I had my own students do journal entries daily the four years I taught after finishing school. I miss those days but would never give my children back. So silly it is that the school trustees will not let married women teach. I can teach just as well now as I did then. Yet, who would take care of Will? Momma couldn’t do it. Opa Wells might be able to but he’s getting up in years and I’d hate to ask him. Besides, it’s a mute point anyway, and the reason of my journal entry today is to uplift my spirits, so here goes. I’m listing my blessings so that I can use this list everyday to remind me what a lucky woman I really am.

- #1 my God
- #2 my four adorable boys
- #3 my momma
- #4 my family, brother and sisters and other extended folks
- #5 Alfred
- #6 my home
- #7 the good food we raise
- #8 my friends and neighbors
- #9 my flowers
- #10 my good brain and

my ability to communicate, although I don’t seem to be doing that very well with Alfred of late.

There I have it! There are lots of blessings. Funny though I’d list Alfred as #5. Until the last few months, I’d have listed Alfred as #1, yes, number one even above my God, but right now, I need God, my boys, my momma, my family and help for Alfred.

Later in the day – Help came. Brother George and Dr. J.B. arrived about noon. I offered to fix them a meal, but they declined, just asking where Alfred was.I directed them to the shed where Alfred and the boys were making new fence posts. Very shortly, the boys were all ushered out by George. Dr. J.B. stayed in the shed for a very long time with Alfred. George sat with me on the back steps. He told me not to worry that he’d told Dr. J.B. all about what had been happening with Alfred, and that he said there was a medicine that would probably help him. I said, “Thank the Lord, you, and Dr. J.B!”

Chapter 11 – No

Nonononononononoi ’mnotgoingmadi’mnotg oingmadpeopleletllmei’ mseemingtobemadbuti’ mnotgoing mad. I don’t like George anymore! I don’t like Dr. J.B. and I threw those pills down the hole in the outhouse.Nononononoi ’mnotgoingmad!

Chapter 12 – Putting on an Act

I need to put on an act for Molly and the boys.I’m an intelligent man. I can figure out how to fool ‘em. Always been good at acting, why Molly and me once brought down the house at a church program. Yes, siree, I’m putting on an act!

Chapter 13 - Getting Better

September 9 – Journal Entry. The boys have gone back to school and Alfred and I have had a few good, lazy days together before time to get in our corn. We took little Will over to visit his Opa. One day we took a picnic lunch to our fishing hole and caught enough for supper. Blue gill, Alfred’s favorite. Alfred seems happy again. Must be those pills Dr. J.B. gave him. Alfred even held my hand, but when I rested against him, he flinched and moved away. Oh, well, it’s a start. At supper, the boys had to hear every detail of the fishing expedition, and this was after Alfred said the meal prayer. Things are definitely getting better.

Chapter 14 – Unbelievable Scene

Today, when the boys went off in the school hack, Alfred went over to help the Cosby’s sheer their sheep. He’s always been good at this job and Sam Cosby said he’d give him some money for helping. I told Sam no, thinking it’d be too much of a strain on Alfred, but

Alfred told me to be quiet. Alfred had not been gone but maybe half an hour when Annie came screaming, “Molly, oh, Molly go to our house quick. I’ll stay here with little Will. No questions, just RUN!”

I didn’t even take off my apron. I did just what Annie told me – I ran across the field. Sam met me at their barn door, saying, “Molly, it’s Alfred. Be prepared for the worst. Dr. J.B.’s talking to him now. He thought you might help soothe Alfred. Go in cautiously.”

Go in cautiously, pshaw! How ridiculous, but as I entered, I never in all my life would have guessed what I saw. There was Alfred standing on the sheering block spouting Bible verses. Not so bad except he was stark naked save for my Sunday hat made of black and red feathers with the sheer veil covering his eyes. I nearly laughed – was I mad, too?

To be continued...

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Honoring Ernie Pyle



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

Former State Sen. Phil Boots, left, was part of the recent ceremony that honored Hoosier and World War II War correspondent Ernie Pyle in Dana, Ind. Boots and the Newport American Legion, the Cayuga American Legion, volunteers from the Ernie Pyle WWII Museum, students from North Vermillion High School and others took part. Pyle was killed by enemy fire on April 18, 1945. This was the 80th anniversary of his death – and later this year will mark the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II. Boots is a member of the Ernie Pyle WW II Museum Board of Directors.



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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
28	29	30	1 Preschool Story Time 10a Lego Club: 4p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-8p	2 Wiggle and Giggle: 10a	3 4 Intermediate Tech Excel: 1:30p May the 4th Celebration
5 Drop-in Resume Help: 5:30-7p	6 Baby Story Time: 9:30a Tech Tuesday Beginners' Excel: 6p	7 Toddler Story Time: 10a	8 Preschool Story Time 10a Cupcake Decorating: 4p CDPL Board Meeting: 4p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-8p	9 Wiggle and Giggle: 10a	10 Book Sale 10a-4p Sale 11 Intermediate Tech Word: 1:30p Mother's Day
12 Drop-in Resume Help: 5:30-7p Yarn Works: 6p Full Moon	13 Genealogy Club: 7p Tech Tuesday Beginners' Word: 6p	14	15 Craft Collective: 5:30p Yarn Works: 10a Drop-in Tech Help: 6-8p	16	17 Pioneer Plant History Hike: 10a Chill Out! Fidget: 2p 18
19 Drop-in Resume Help: 5:30-7p	20 Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners: 5p Tech Tuesday Beginners' PowerPoint: 6p	21 Wyrd Words Book Club: 7p	22 Teen Anime Club: 6p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-8p	23	24 25 CLOSED
26 New Moon CLOSED	27 Baby Story Time: 9:30a Genealogy Basics: 6p Tech Tuesday Beginners' Computers: 6p All Summer Programs Begin	28 Toddler Story Time: 10a Kindergarten Book Club: 4p Mystery of History Club: 7p	29 Preschool Story Time 10a	30 Activity in the Pavilion: 10a	31 1

MAY 2025


Adults All ages Teens Children

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