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➡ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Meet Vigo



Vigo is a 2 year old male Australian Cattle Dog mix (know the breed Herding Group - Loyal / Intelligent / Tenacious) available for adoption from The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL) since 10/9/24. ALL ADULT DOG ADOPTIONS FEE WAIVED (sponsored by Best Friends)!

Vigo loves going out for walks, frolicking in a fenced yard, and will gladly sit for treats. Vigo is looking for his best friend. Could that be you? Vigo is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. Come say hi!!

HONEST HOOSIER

Ready for the Greatest Spectacle in Racing? I sure am!

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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!

As we approach Memorial Day, the unofficial start to summer, let's take a look at some of the numbers.

5-26

The date we observe Memorial Day – and remember your favorite online edition won't be published that day. Who knows, maybe we'll be traveling!

109

This will be the 109th running of the greatest spectacle in racing, the Indianapolis 500! We still miss Jim Nabors – but what a wonderful day to be both a Hoosier and a racing fan! The green flag is set to drop this Sunday.

5-30-1868

The first official Memorial Day. That's when Gen. John Logan began paying tribute to the fallen U.S. soldiers from the Civil War. "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land . . ." Word is that Logan picked May 30 because flowers would be in bloom.

5,000

The approximate number of people who attend the annual ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

1968

The year Congress decided to switch Memorial Day to the last Monday in May. That took effect three years later.

45,000,000

How many American men and women who have served in the military during a time of war.

3 p.m.

A moment of silence should be observed on Memorial Day for the 1,304,447 U.S. soldiers who have lost their lives in military conflicts ranging from the Spanish-American war to the Civil War to the world wars to the war on terrorism.

Butch Remembers Those Tearjerker Animal Movies

Since one of our granddaughters has a horse and competes as a barrel racer, we decided to watch the movie "National Velvet" again a few weeks ago. This 1944 classic, starring a very young Elizabeth Taylor, is definitely a "feel good" movie, and we never get tired of watching it. While this movie has a happy ending, I have seen many animal movies that are real tearjerkers. In fact, if you are like us, you are likely to become very emotional when an animal is mistreated or dies in a movie.

In the 1950s, I watched the movie "Old Yeller" at the Sunshine theater in Darlington. The young boy Travis has a strong bond with his dog Old Yeller. Even though the dog seems to get in a bit of trouble now and then, Old Yeller becomes a hero when he fights off a bear and earns a place as the family protector. Unfortunately Old Yeller contracts rabies when he is bitten by a wolf, and there's no cure. Travis must do the unthinkable and put Old Yeller down . . . truly a gut-wrenching ending. At least a new puppy appeared at the very end to make me feel better!

➡ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

See your dentist regularly – dental disease can contribute to a number of health problems like heart disease.

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

➡ TODAY'S QUOTE

"The truth is incontrovertible. Malice may attack it, ignorance may deride it, but in the end, there it is."

Winston Churchill

➡ TODAY'S JOKE

What do frogs do to cool off on a hot day?

Drink Croak-a-Cola!

➡ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Looking for your creative outlet? Then consider the Craft Collective, a crafting club for adults. It meets the third Thursday of the month at the Crawfordsville District Public Library at 5:30 p.m. Come on along and create a new project every month. Supplies and instruction will be provided. However, be sure to register in advance. You can go to <https://crawfordsvillelibrary.in.gov/> for more information and to register.

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank CARYL BARNES for subscribing!

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➡ THREE THINGS You Should Know

- A second-edition publication produced by Attorney General Todd Rokita in collaboration with Lieutenant Governor Micah Beckwith – titled the Churches' Bill of Rights – provides guidance to Hoosiers about the rights and protections afforded to churches and other houses of worship under state and federal laws. The document is written in a Q-and-A format. It covers such topics as the extent to which churches may participate in elections and politics, churches' tax-exempt status, freedom of worship, protections for church governance and autonomy, and other topics. This document is an update of the September 2024 guidance Rokita's office sent to religious leaders and churches across the state on how to participate in election-related activities and engage on important matters of public policy in ways consistent with their tax-exempt status.
- Hoosier women leaders take a back seat to no one. Our friends at MarketBeat.com, a financial media company, surveyed 3,021 people to uncover the most inspirational female leaders in the country. The aim? To celebrate both household names and hidden heroes - leaders whose stories deserve a wider audience. Three Indiana women, Kristen Cooper (Founder & CEO; The Startup Ladies), Mel Raines (CEO; Pacers Sports & Entertainment) and Gail Boudreaux (President & CEO; Elevance Health) ranked in the top 100 nationally.
- Unfortunately, the great Hoosier state did not fare well in a new study highlighting the U.S. states where residents are most and least committed to quitting smoking, utilizing data from the American Lung Association. Vape experts ProVape used the most recent smoking cessation data from the American Lung Association and found that Indiana is the tenth least-determined state to quit smoking with 52.1 percent of current smokers making a quit attempt. Connecticut tops the ranking, with 63.6 percent of current smokers attempting to quit.

➡ See BUTCH Page A3

Dates: June 17-18

Time: Drop off and pick up at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. both days

Location: General Lew Wallace Study & Museum Registration: Contact Thomas Meeks at (765) 362-5769 or tmeeks@ben-hur.com. Registration forms and additional information are available at www.benhur.com/programs/archicamp/

ArchiCamp Coming in June

The General Lew Wallace Study & Museum proudly announces the return of ArchiCamp in collaboration with Indiana Landmarks. ArchiCamp is a two-day architecture-themed camp to engage and inspire children with the rich history of Crawfordsville to instill a sense of

➡ See CAMP Page A2

Wrong Place, Wrong Time!



Photo courtesy of Ron Keedy

It was quite the exciting afternoon for Christa Overshiner and her daughter last week when a tree fell as she was going around a corner, in Waveland. The tree fell across the road and yanked down some utility lines, enveloping her utility vehicle in live wires. Waveland First Responders were on the scene, almost immediately, and determined Christa and her daughter would be safe by remaining in the ATV. After a restless 45 minutes, Duke Energy arrived and cut the power.

Christa and her daughter were not harmed.

CAMP From Page A1



Photo courtesy General Lew Wallace Study & Museum

Scheduled for June 17-18, ArchiCamp opens the worlds of local history and architecture to young explorers aged 8-12.

stewardship for cultural heritage.

Scheduled for June 17 and 18, ArchiCamp invites young explorers aged 8-12 to embark on an immersive journey through local history, architecture and creativity. Campers will delve into the distinctive architectural styles of downtown Crawfordsville and the Lew Wallace Study through enlightening walking tours. Campers will participate in a variety of hands-on activities tailored to spark their imagination and curiosity. Past years activities have included crafting popsicle stick bridges, designing blueprints and constructing cityscapes using recycled material. ArchiCamp offers an array of experiences that blend education with fun.



available for ArchiCamp, and scholarships are accessible to ensure inclusivity. Parents and guardians are encouraged to register their young architects promptly to secure a place for this enriching experience. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity for children to explore the wonders of architecture and history at ArchiCamp. Join us in nurturing the next generation of stewards for our cultural heritage.

Limited spots are

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.

NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOL BOARD

- May 19
Regular Meeting 5 p.m.
480 W 580 N, Crawfordsville
1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
 2. Public comment
 3. Consent agenda
 - a. Minutes
 - b. Monthly claims
 - c. Personnel, extra-curricular, field trips, facilities usage, contributions, gifts, superintendent stipends
 - d. Other
 - e. Consent vote
 4. Action items
 - a. Approve Policy Analytics LLC Agreement
 - b. Approve Revisions to the Wellness Policies 2413.01 and 8510
 - c. Hear Second Reading and Approval of Policy – Reserve and Liquidity
 - d. Approve Summer School Offering
 5. Other
 6. Adjournment
 7. Years of Service and Retirements Recognized

RT Insurance Wins Circle of Excellence Award

RT Insurance Agency is proud to announce they have won the Circle of Excellence award from Indiana Farmers Insurance for outstanding business performance in 2024.

As a result of RT Insurance's recognition, they were able to donate \$1000 to a charity of choice. This year, they chose to donate to the Crawfordsville/Montgomery County Boys & Girls Club. RT Insurance and Indiana Farmers are both committed to supporting the communities they serve.



Robb Williamson



Tim Congleton

"We are honored to win the award and thrilled to donate to such a worthy organization," stated Robb Williamson, co-president of RT Insurance. "The Boys & Girls Club plays a vital role in shaping young lives here in Crawfordsville and Montgomery County. We're honored to support the incredible work they do every day."

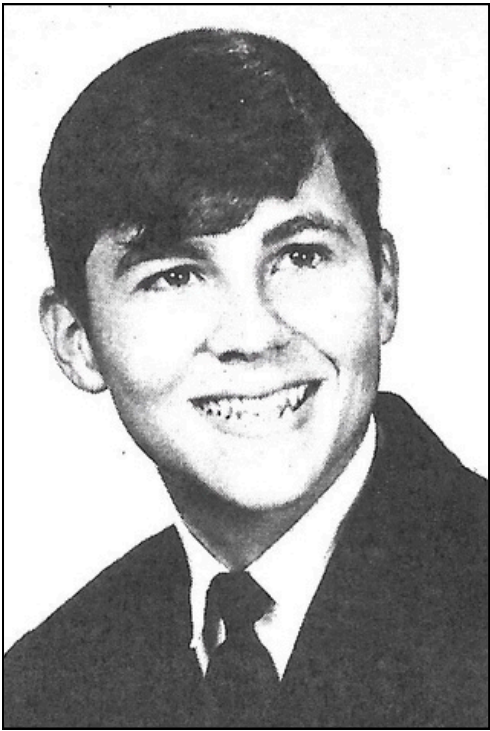
RT Insurance has seen tremendous growth in the last several years. To win the award, an agency must be a member of the President's Club, grow policy count by at least 1% and be profitable over three consecutive years. RT Insurance continues to expand services, partnerships, team and footprint in the insurance industry, most recently adding a specialization in public entity insurance to go along with personal lines, ag, business and outdoor insurance.

"We were thrilled to win this award," stated Tim

Congleton, co-president of RT Insurance. "It's important to us that we support the communities we serve as much as possible. Supporting the Boys & Girls Club means investing in tomorrow's leaders and we feel that is pretty important."

RT Insurance is a local multi-line insurance agency which provides commercial, personal, life and health insurance products. Established in 1871, the agency has a strong agricultural and business emphasis and offers personal and commercial insurance products. With RT Outdoors, RT Public Entity and RT Emergency, the agency offers insurance specializing in outdoor, public entity and emergency services insurance respectively.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize this 1968 Wainwright Grad?

HINT:
He has a teacher and administrator for the Tippecanoe School Corporation for over 40 years.

Answer on Page A3



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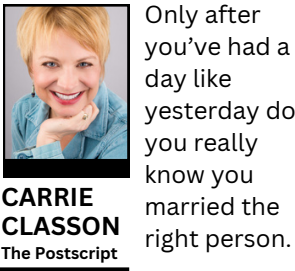
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CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

The day started out fine. We were flying back from Mexico to the U.S. My husband, Peter, books all our flights, and he had arranged it so we did not have to get up at “the crack of stupid,” as he would say. Instead, the cab arrived in the late morning, so I had time for a last walk around the city before we said goodbye to the wonderful staff at the apartment hotel where we stay every year.

It was only as we were getting off the first plane in the U.S., headed toward our connecting flight, that I suspected something might be wrong.

“Felix smells!” I told Peter.

Felix is our cat. He had made a small noise a few minutes before landing, but I had thought nothing of it. Now it smelled as if something was badly amiss. I know you might be having your breakfast as you read this, so suffice to say, of the three types of potential messes an animal could make in a small container, this was the worst of the options.

“What do we do?” Peter asked.

Peter had never had a cat before Felix, and so he considers me the resident cat expert, but my previous cat ownership was of no use in this situation.

“Maybe we can hit a bathroom before the next flight.”

Unfortunately, the security line was very long, and as I slowly wound through the line, I was anticipating having to take this cat out of the carrier and walk through the screening. The mess was even worse than I feared.

“How long do we have?” I asked Peter when we finally got through security with our very smelly cat.

“Not long!”

“Do you think we can find

a family bathroom?”

We did. I will spare you the details—but bathing a cat on a tight schedule is not something I would recommend if you have any choice in the matter. We exited the bathroom with only minutes to spare.

“Look innocent!” Peter said as we walked out. He started to laugh as we raced through the terminal. “If I ever had to dispose of a body, you’re the person I’d want to do it with,” he told me.

It was very late when we got home, and I knew the first thing I had to do was shampoo a cat. Felix wasn’t any happier about the situation than I was, but I think he knew we were on the same team.

And then, when you think it can’t get any worse, it does.

“Why is the carpet wet?” Peter yelled from the bedroom. I was in no position to investigate. I was shampooing a cat.

“Oh, no,” I heard. And then, “Oh, NO!”

A sprinkler pipe had broken in the bedroom wall. The floor flooded with water. The walls were soaked. The carpeting was ruined. There was nothing to do but go to bed with our still-damp cat who now smelled of baby shampoo.

“Should we put on life preservers?” I asked Peter.

It was now nearly morning. But before I fell asleep, what I remembered about this day was how much I had laughed.

I had laughed because, as bad as it had been, nothing that had happened was truly terrible. I had laughed because I knew we would make it through. And I had laughed because I had a partner who could—and would—always laugh with me in the worst of times.

*Till next time,
Carrie*

Looking for a part-time job that does not involve the words:
Would You Like Fries With That?

The Paper of Montgomery County is looking for clerical help. This could be the perfect job for part-time students all the way up to Baby Boomers looking for something to do.

Basic data entry skills are required. Experience with QuickBooks is a bonus.

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DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

My wife is smarter than I am. She has earned more money than I have. She is far better looking and makes a better parent.

I wanted to tell you this up front because I'm going to make fun of her now, and I don't want you to think I'm a total jerk. As you'll see, I'm still not taking any chances.

This all started a few weeks ago when I was driving Mary Ellen's car and noticed that in six months, she had gone exactly the number of miles allotted to her on the lease. Pleased we had made the right consumer choice, I used the circumstance to initiate some lively marital patter.

"Mary Ellen, guess how many miles you've driven since you got the car in August?" I asked.

"Heavens, I don't know. If I had to guess, 800 miles."

"Eight hundred miles? You've had the car for six months. You've driven somewhere every day, seven days a week for six months. How can you say 800 miles? Just going to church on Sunday is 300 miles a month."

(My wife has an MBA, she's been a vice president of a major hospital, a Butler University administrator and her IQ is 20 points higher than mine. Okay, back to making fun of her.)

I began to realize that Mary Ellen has no sense of distance, speed or time.

"Mary Ellen, how far is it from New York to California?"

"I'll say 50,000 miles."

"That's not even close. You would see that if we drove there."

"Well, don't go by my odometer. According to you, it was 6000 miles off."

"Let's try it another way. If you got in the car in New York and drove straight to California, how long would it take?"

"In months?"

"Months? We could travel from New York to LA in less than a week."

"Not if we stop in Vegas. What's the big rush?"

(My wife dresses better than I do, has better manners, understands movies and speaks German. Okay, now back to the needling.)

"Mary Ellen, how far is it from the Earth to the moon?"

"Not a clue. I'll say five million miles."

Wow, I bet that even got a wince from Carl Sagan. "Actually, about 240,000 miles."

"I think these are trick questions. Whose car are we using?"

(My wife graduated in the top 10% of her class and is a gourmet cook). "Okay, one more chance. If you get this answer within a million miles, I'll buy you an expensive candlelight dinner. How far is it around the Earth at the equator?"

"Now, that has to be a million miles."

"No, but you did just describe Christopher Columbus' recurring nightmare. It's actually 25,000 miles."

"My, it IS a small world. I thought that was just a Walt Disney expression." (She has a beautiful figure and is very sensitive)

"One more chance to redeem yourself. How fast does light travel?"

"Hmmm. Well, you say California is 3000 miles away, and my hairdresser is 10 miles from the house, and the moon is 240,000 miles from Earth, and the equator is 25,000 miles around. Keeping that in mind, I'd say light travels 186,000 miles per second."

"I'm absolutely dumbfounded! That is correct. How did you do that? You've been spoofing me all along. I am so gullible. But to be exact, it's 186,282 miles per second."

"I see, so it got faster."

– 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.

Butch Dale’s Flashback Trivia

Answer: Sequoyah Bible

The Paper of Montgomery County

Event Timeline:
Saturday, June 7
8 a.m. - Registration opens
8:30 a.m. - Activities Start
8:30 to 11:30 a.m. - Healthy Family Fun Fair
9:30 a.m. - Race Starts
10:15 a.m. - Awards

All activities will take place at 3920 St. Francis Way, Lafayette, IN 47905

Franciscan 5K Celebrating 10th Anniversary

Join Franciscan Health in Lafayette for the 5K Race for Kids on June 7, an event dedicated to supporting the Level III NICU and pediatric therapy departments.	decade of impact, Franciscan is inviting the public to join the \$10 for 10 challenge. Here's how it works:
Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the event has raised more than \$200,000 to fund life-saving equipment and expand our therapy programs, making a direct impact on the lives of countless children.	Donate \$10 to support the 5K Race for Kids Challenge 10 friends to do the same.
By participating or sponsoring, you are directly helping to improve the health and well-being of children in our community.	Watch the impact grow!
	It's that simple - your \$10 can multiple into thousands with the power of community! Every \$10 provides transportation for a pediatric therapy patient or NICU parent.
	Cost is \$30 (10 and under are free)

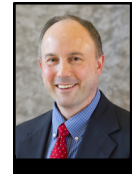
The special milestone of the 10th anniversary of the 5K Race for Kids is something Franciscan Health wants to celebrate. To honor a

For more information, go to <https://raceforkids5k.itsyourrace.com/event.aspx?id=14300>

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

That movie reminded me of when I watched the animated movie "Bambi" when I was even younger. I enjoyed the characters of Bambi, Thumper, Flower and Owl, but when Bambi's mother was killed by a hunter . . . "Your mother can't be with you anymore," that was quite a sad moment. Although I appreciate the high quality and craftsmanship of older firearms, I never had any desire to become a hunter after watching that movie.	From Page A1
Two movies that can also cause a few tears to be shed are "Marley and Me" and "My Dog Skip." Marley is a Labrador Retriever who is a little wild and fails obedience training, but becomes an important member of the family and is loved by everyone. But when he ages and his body begins to fail him, the decision is made to put him down. Anyone who has owned a dog and gone through something like this is sure to get wattery eyes watching that movie.	emotional part of the movie. Well, at least the Indians got revenge. A year ago I watched the movie "Warhorse" after I had read the book. There are two horses featured, Topthorn, a trained military horse, and Joey, a farm horse sold to the army. Both horses end up being captured by the German army and used to haul artillery. When Topthorn dies from overwork and exhaustion, it is certainly a sad moment. Thankfully, Joey is eventually rescued and returns to his owner Albert on the farm . . . a very emotional moment indeed.
In the My Dog Skip movie, a close friendship develops between Skip and the boy Willie. They are together all the time, but when Willie heads off to college, Skip still sleeps in Willie's room and dies on Willie's bed. The ending will get to you every time!	Sometimes even an animal movie in which the animal kills people can make a person sad. Remember when King Kong climbs to the top of the Empire State Building, is shot by planes, and falls to his death? His love for the blonde Ann, and his effort to protect her, showed his sensitive side . . . very sad ending in a way, and I actually felt kind of sorry for him.
In the 1990 movie "Dances With Wolves," the main character Lt. John Dunbar befriends a wolf that he names Two Socks. Later in the movie, Dunbar is being transported back east as a prisoner charged with desertion. Two Socks tries to follow him and is shot and killed by the soldiers . . . a senseless act and	Some of the other emotional animal movies include "Hachi: a Dog's Tale," "Where the Red Fern Grows," "Eight Below," "Red Dog" and the old classic "Lassie Come Home," but I'm sure you can think of several more. Just remember to keep some tissue handy when you watch any of these!
	<i>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.</i>

Montgomery Medicine: The MAHA Mirage

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

President Donald Trump promised to hire “the best people” to lead his administration. His Health and Human Services Secretary, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., heads an agency whose mission he is undermining. Kennedy has launched his own version of a populist health platform called "MAHA" (Make Americans Healthy Again), touting the benefits of organic food, clean water, and fewer environmental toxins. But while good nutrition and clean environments are important, Kennedy's actions speak louder than his rhetoric. His drastic cuts to public health and biomedical research threaten to roll back decades of medical progress and endanger the very Americans he claims to protect. When we neglect scientific research, we slow the very innovations that have made modern medicine so effective.

The Department of Health and Human Services oversees critical institutions like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Budget proposals released by Secretary Kennedy's office indicate sweeping cuts to HHS discretionary spending. According to nonpartisan analysts and preliminary data from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the proposed reduction approaches \$11.7 billion, or roughly 14% from the previous fiscal year. The NIH would shoulder a large share of this burden, with the National Cancer Institute projected to lose approximately \$1.1 billion in funding – a reduction that could result in the elimination of hundreds of grants and delay or suspend numerous ongoing studies. These setbacks would likely slow critical progress in treating cancers such as breast, prostate, and pediatric

malignancies.

Beyond cancer, the ripple effects are vast. Funding is being pulled from Alzheimer's disease research, rare genetic conditions, and emerging infectious disease preparedness. The COVID-19 pandemic taught us the cost of underinvesting in public health infrastructure, yet Kennedy's proposal inexplicably reduces the CDC's budget by over 10%, severely limiting CDC's ability to monitor outbreaks, respond to epidemics, and protect vulnerable communities. Infectious diseases do not care what your political affiliation is. They do not pause for talking points or yield to ideology. They exploit vulnerability. When we weaken our defenses – through disinvestment, misinformation, or political theater – we invite infectious diseases to flourish.

What's perhaps most troubling is the hypocrisy at the heart of Kennedy's agenda. He claims to champion health while simultaneously undermining the most effective tools we have to preserve it. Nowhere is this clearer than in his longstanding opposition to routine childhood vaccinations. Despite overwhelming scientific consensus that vaccines are safe and effective, Kennedy has promoted discredited theories linking vaccines to autism and other chronic illnesses. Under his leadership, HHS has signaled it may roll back support for federal immunization programs, which would be catastrophic for American children.

In the 20th century, childhood vaccination programs nearly eradicated diseases like measles, polio, and diphtheria. These are not minor infections—they are killers, especially of children. As pediatricians often say, "Childhood vaccination leads to adulthood." Without

strong federal support, we will see declining immunization rates, rising outbreaks, and entirely preventable deaths. Recent measles outbreaks across the country are evidence of this. With Kennedy in charge, this trend is likely to accelerate.

Most physicians and other healthcare workers around the country are demoralized. There is a doctor shortage. More and more doctors are leaving medicine not just because of burnout, but because they are disheartened by the growing influence of anti-science ideology in government leadership. When public health is politicized, and evidence-based policy is replaced by conspiracy and budget cuts, it becomes harder to practice good medicine. We lose good physicians, reduce access to care, and ultimately sacrifice the health of our patients.

There is a dangerous irony in Kennedy's approach. He promises to improve American health, but cuts the very programs that do just that. Investing in cancer research saves lives. Funding the CDC prevents epidemics. Supporting the FDA ensures safe medications. Promoting vaccines protects our children. These are not luxuries; they are the foundation of public health.

Improving diet and reducing environmental exposures are worthwhile goals. But they are not a substitute for a functioning, well-funded public health system. If Robert Kennedy Jr. truly wants to Make Americans Healthy Again, he must abandon the hollow slogans and fund the science that saves lives.

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

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



In 1976, during our country's Bicentennial, many towns had special celebrations and activities. Darlington had a queen contest, with men dressing up in their finest. Shown above is Bob Believer, “Miss Darlington,” strutting his stuff before the judges.

Postcards Arriving Soon as State Cleans Voter Rolls

Hoosier voters will be receiving postcards in the mail from the Secretary of State's Election Division. The mailings are part of a statewide voter list maintenance. The goal is to identify outdated, duplicate, and inaccurate voter registrations to improve the accuracy and integrity of Indiana's voter registration list.

You don't have to do anything in response to receiving a postcard. If a postcard is returned by the Post Office as undeliverable, a second postcard will be sent to the forwardable address on file with the US Postal Service. The second postcard will ask the voter to confirm or update their residence address or cancel their Indiana voter registration using a postage pre-paid voter response card. Hoosiers who receive a second postcard should follow the instructions to

complete and return the pre-addressed, postage-paid response card to the Secretary of State Election Division.

This process required by federal and state law is part of an ongoing effort to identify outdated, obsolete, and inaccurate voter registrations.

A registration “flagged” as inaccurate by this process can only be canceled by a county voter registration board if the “flagged” registration is not utilized for voting in two successive federal elections. Voters can correct or update a “flagged” registration by mail, in-person at their county clerk's office, or at the polls when they vote in a Primary or General Election.

Over the past two voter list maintenance cycles, this process has led to approximately 800,000

inactive/outdated voter registrations being canceled in Indiana.

“Sending these postcards is an essential step in maintaining clean and accurate voter rolls. It helps identify outdated or incorrect information and ensures our voter registration lists reflect current, eligible voters. This process is vital to protecting the integrity of our elections and upholding voter confidence across Indiana,” said Indiana Secretary of State Diego Morales.

These mailings should also serve as a reminder for Hoosiers to verify, update or start a voter registration online at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/>. Voters can also visit their county clerk's office to register or update their voter registration. An image of a sample postcard can be found online.

Master Gardeners Native Plant Sale June 7

The Master Gardeners of Montgomery County along with Purdue Extension - Montgomery County will hold a Native Plant Jamboree Saturday, June 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Montgomery County 4-H Fairgrounds.

Native Plants Unlimited of Fishers and ProGreen Nursery will have more than 100

varieties of Native Plants for sale. In addition, there will be booths from the Indiana Native Plant Society of Lafayette, Montgomery County Soil & Water District, the Seed Library at Crawfordsville District Public Library and others.

Tricia Herr, Extension Educator/Agriculture & Natural Resources, will

have a seminar at 10:30 on the Importance of Native Plants. There will also be an activity for the kids.

So, come learn more about Native Plants and what they mean to nature and us. Please check Facebook page “Master Gardeners of Montgomery County (Indiana)” for more details.



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2025 Trax, Silverado EV Travel From Opposite Ends of the Chevrolet Utility Spectrum



2025 Chevrolet Trax LT



2025 Chevrolet Silverado EV LT



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

No matter your budget, Chevrolet has a utility vehicle to impress. Whether you just need basic transportation that’s practical and enjoyable to drive or want a large-to-charge electric pickup that drives itself, one of these vehicles should get it.

2025 Chevrolet Trax LT

For a recent drive from Indianapolis, Indiana to Bowling Green, Kentucky; Flint, Michigan and home, I had a choice of vehicles, but chose Chevrolet’s entry-level vehicle, the Trax crossover. My brain wondered what I was doing as I drove out, but I made a surprisingly good choice.

Much of its style is cribbed from the Trailblazer, with which it shares architecture, and larger Blazer crossovers. Its front wears Chevy’s chrome cross-bar grille, clinched to the sides under thin driving lamps and lower inset headlamps. Muscular body forms and zags of lower cladding add drama above 17” wheels.

Interiors are pretty cool too with drivers facing

Corvette-style twin flatscreens. Carbon-look dash trim, large round air vents, and chrome accents lend an upscale air, and as in expensive Chevys, devices connect wirelessly via Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. Automatic climate control was a nice surprise. Cloth seats are firmly bolstered, but thin lumbar support make backs stiff on long trips. Tip-tap to find lots of plastic, but it all looks good. Sacrifices must be made to keep prices low...

One of my favorite roads is I65 just south of Louisville where one finally greets the foothills of Appalachia in sweeping fast curves that stress a vehicle’s powertrain and chassis. Speeds can easily have a “9” in front of them. And it doesn’t matter if we’re discussing a sports car or utility, GM engineers know how to dial in a chassis for the right balance of comfort and handling. Kick the Trax off a bridge seam and it just settles without drama. Steering is tight and precise. There’s a lot of road noise that intrudes on the stereo, but I’ve driven \$40,000 crossovers that would be embarrassed by this car’s handling. Chevrolet may have specified a less

sophisticated powertrain in the Trax, but it’s one of my favorites. On paper, a 1.2-liter turbocharged three-cylinder engine, connected to the front wheels through a six-speed automatic transmission, may not seem that exciting. However, it produces 137 horsepower and 162 lb.-ft. of torque. That allows quick enough acceleration onto freeways, but the turbo carries through the hills. A slight click down on the throttle crisply scrubs a gear or two while surging ahead. All that, and 28/32-MPG city/highway.

As I’m working on this story, I watch a video about the 1981 Citation X-11, the hottest variant of Chevy’s infamous hatchback. Back then it had about 130 horsepower and ran 0-60 mph in 8.5 seconds. Don’t think that’s fast? A 1981 Corvette with a 5.7-liter V8 did it in 8.1 seconds. The Trax? Yep, 8.5 seconds. The lowest of today’s Chevrolets, challenges top performers from the early ‘80s with a fraction of the engine displacement.

Chevrolet could sell lots full of the Trax

even without a low price, but it gets one anyway. Entry LS models start at \$20,500 while the sportier RS and more luxurious LT trims rise from under \$24,000. Shop the Kia Soul, Hyundai Venue, Nissan Kicks, Subaru Impreza and similar Buick Envista for comparison.

2025 Chevrolet Silverado EV LT

A couple of months ago, I tested the Chevy Silverado EV RST, which top-trim of the electric pickup with 460 miles range, air suspension, sportified interior, and city slicker body trim. It was also \$96,000. Yikes. So, let’s see what we can get for slightly less coin.

For that, we try the middle-range LT trim. There are obvious differences. The LT trades body color trim for black plastic, 24” wheels become 22”, and the RST’s 460 miles range decreases by 70 miles. The air suspension is gone too. And, if I hadn’t already driven the RST, I never would have noticed. At least we kept the fly twin-screen dashboard and hands-off Super Cruise system for relaxed highway driving.

Almost nobody will

complain about 390 miles range. It can fast-charge 100 miles every 10 minutes, so less than 40 minutes for a full tap. You’ll need closer to 12 hours for the same on a 240v home or commercial charger – an easy overnight replenish. If you’re counting miles-per-gallon equivalents, it posts 70/59-MPG city/highway.

Being a truck, the Silverado EV can do real truck stuff – like hauling 1,800 lbs. in the bed or up to 12,500 lbs. on its pre-wired hitch. Of course, towing a boat or camper will zap half of your range, but that’s still enough to get to a local state park or city recreational area without worry. Copying a trick from the discontinued

Avalanche pickup, the rear cab wall folds in to load kayaks, lumber, or camping gear from backs of the front seats to the tailgate completely sealed and secure.

By the end of the year, Chevrolet will offer the Silverado EV in three trim levels: Work Truck, LT, and RST. An entry level price of \$57,095 rises to \$84,590 for our well-equipped LT – not cheap, but still \$12k less than last time. Compare it to the Tesla Cybertruck, Ford F-150 Lightening, Rivian R1T, and similar GMC Sierra EV.

Storm Forward!

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

Likes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sophisticated interior• Turbo engine• Tight handling	Dislikes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rear styling• Hard plastics• Hard seats
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2025 Chevy Trax LS

Five-passenger, fwd Crossover
Powertrain: 1.2-liter T3, 6-spd trans
Output: 137hp/162 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Ind/Torsion beam
Wheels f/r: 17"/17" alloy
Brakes f/r: disc/disc
0-60 mph: 8.5s
Fuel economy: 28/32 mpg city/hwy
Assembly: Changwon, Korea
Base/as-tested price: \$20,500/24,000

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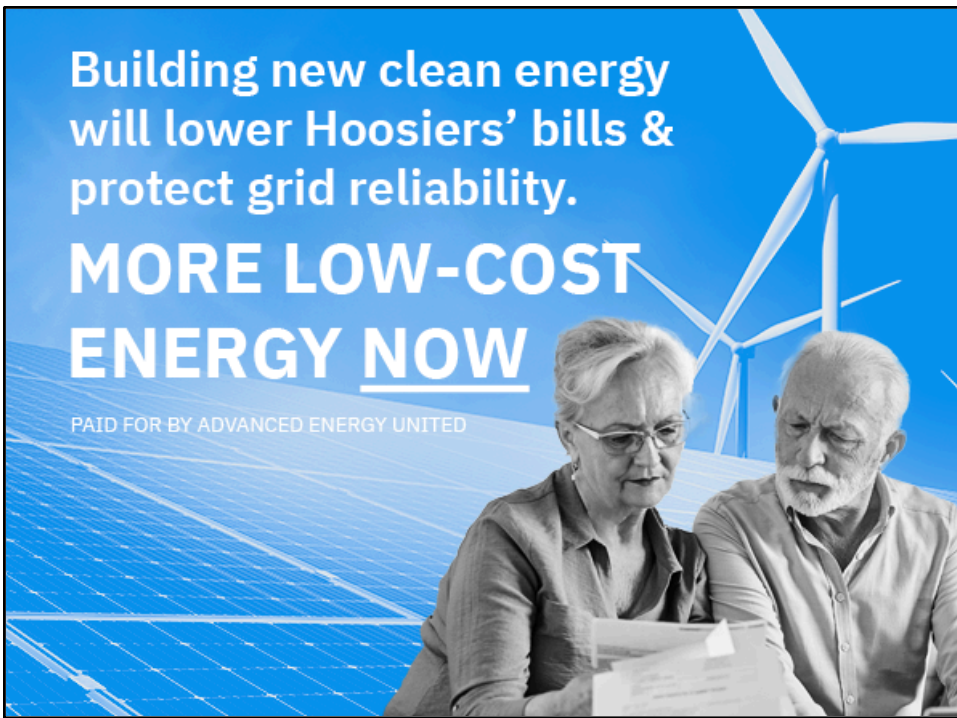
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EDITOR'S NOTE: Karen Zach, a 50-year-local history writer, presents her Montgomery Murder Mysteries – historical fiction, based on fact – of the first 13 or so murders in our county. Karen has written a weekly column for The Paper of Montgomery County 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.



Alfred came in on the 3:45 train. He looks so good, so healthy, so cocked the two up and threw air, laughing them. Lee hook his Alfred gave m welcome. dded and noon, Molly.” onship be crained than son comes an insane

He said, “No, Molly, I think I want to do something for you, the boys and Alfred.” Then, he jumped out of his wagon, got his picture taker and supplies and had us line up on the porch for a shot. It was so exciting. Gave the boys something to talk about for days and Alfred wrote how he’d enjoyed it, and how it’d kept him going. Wish I had one, too but Bert sent just the one copy to Alfred. Bert and Alfred had worked together for a farmer many years ago and had stayed fairly close and Bert thought that might be something he could do for an old time friend. Made us all happy.

The Larricks weren't quite as generous with a free gift, but we bartered some work. Ira and Lizzie have two girls, one Will's age and little Lois just born. Ira needs Lizzie in the grocery to help him out so Lizzie often brought the girls out and I'd watch them for her. It was pretty hard to do keeping up with the work around here, taking care of the boys, lessoning them and all, but it put some extra food on our table we definitely wouldn't have had. I'm sure Lizzie could have hired a girl in town to watch the babes, but she knew I needed help and I was most glad for it.

I'd sure loved to have had the newspaper while Alfred was away, but affording that was a no, nor could I think of any way to barter with Al Peterson. Of course, Momma got one and sometimes brought one over. If she didn't she was always good to let me know the latest on all my friends and neighbors. She never told me anything about Alfred when he'd be in there but George did. He knew better than to leave it from me. There had been a write-up in The Echo when Alfred was home for Christmas saying, *"Alfred Wells has returned to the area for the holidays from the Indiana Insane Institute. Alfred was thrilled to be with his family and friends but had to return for further treatment after December 28th."* Nothing like throwing out a body's dirty laundry. Oh, well, everyone knows where he's been anyway. Most don't hold it against us, but there are a few snub their noses. For the most part, people have been wonderful while he's gone, and I do hope they continue to do so now that he's home again!

Didn't think the day would ever come. Dr. Wendall told me I had to keep writing and would need to send him at least three entries a

It's Sunday, really the day I've been dreading the most. As long as I'm home, things aren't going so bad, but today, I had to face everyone. I'm thinking that Pastor Paul was heading our lesson today toward me. He told us how it's our mission to see the good in all things. Adding that we should read our Bible daily, he furthered the lesson and this is how I'm sure it was pointed at me, he said that the Lord never gives us more than we can bear that we should see how good things around us are. do know how good the boys and Molly are, how it's so fine to be close to my father again, yet Pastor has no idea that the Lord can give some more than they can take. I've walked that line many times, but I just have to go on with it!

Most days with Alfred home have been good ones, but yesterday, Sunday, was rather unpleasant. I had planned on sitting in the back row and leaving early. For some odd reason, Alfred decided we needed to sit right by the pulpit. Pastor Paul's lesson was about appreciating what you have. I'm afraid I haven't been very good at that lately. I think he was directing that right at me. He kept eyeing little Will and smiling his half toothless grin at my baby. Will beamed. Pastor Paul doesn't get it. It's not the boys I'm having trouble appreciating, it's Alfred. Just as when he was home for the holidays, he rarely talks to me. Sometimes he smiles or touches my shoulder, but he doesn't sleep in my bed. He sleeps well though. I've always heard that mental people rarely sleep, that they wake at night. Alfred hits that big chair of his and is gone for hours. He's resting, but I'm not. Next week will be our spring gathering and I really don't want to go, but come Sunday we will see how things are going here in my little once-happy family. I feel everyone is looking at us, wondering what Alfred has been through. I probably don't want to know. I've heard stories about crazy people being locked into rooms behind bars. Other tales say they're given medicines that make them climb the walls. I'd ask Alfred but he doesn't talk to me much nor do I think he'd remember, anyway. Dr. Wendall assures me that Alfred is well, but then again, he doesn't live with Alfred, now, does he? Well, Pastor Paul went on to say that the Lord never gives us more than we can handle, and handle it, I will with the Power of God!

To be continued....

The Boone County Preservation Group is applauding recent developments indicating that the Indiana Economic Development Corporation may be reconsidering the scope of its ambitious LEAP Research and Innovation District project. This shift aligns with the Preservation Group's longstanding concerns about the project's impact on local farmland and natural resources, as well as the lack of transparency with the community.

In a significant turn of events, the IEDC has placed two houses and their associated land back on the market - potentially at a financial loss. These properties were purchased as part of the LEAP project.

"This move suggests that the anticipated economic returns from the project may not materialize as expected," said Group Member Brian Daggy. "It's been more than three years, and the only confirmed LEAP tenant is Lilly. The fact that these properties

are back on the market indicates a shift may be happening.”

Additionally, Governor Mike Braun has ordered a forensic audit of the IEDC and its affiliate, Elevate Ventures, in response to allegations of financial mismanagement and lack of transparency. As part of this investigation, all Elevate Ventures funds have been frozen and spending by the IEDC Foundation has been suspended.

“The Boone County Preservation Group and other community members have long raised concerns regarding the LEAP project and the lack of transparency around its finances,” said Group Member Jim Love. “Reckless growth also creates a strain on taxpayers of existing utilities. The Preservation Group has consistently advocated for responsible land development that prioritizes the preservation of the area’s agricultural heritage and natural resources. These

recent developments suggest that the state is beginning to acknowledge the validity of these concerns.”

These recent events reinforce the Group's belief that the government should not act as a property developer, and is not capable of the task.

“Fiscal responsibility and fiscal accountability are not built into the current IEDC model of development,” added Daggy.

While the Preservation Group supports thoughtful economic growth, they advocate for development that is transparent, fiscally responsible, and respectful of Boone County's farmland, natural resources, and community identity—and will continue monitoring the situation to ensure these values are upheld.

For more information
about the Boone
County Preservation
Group and its mission,
please visit
[preserving-boone-
county.org](http://preserving-boone-
county.org)

Congressman Jim Baird (IN-04) released the following statement after the House Agriculture Committee markup and passage of the committee's portion of the One Big, Beautiful Bill:

"I was proud to vote to advance the House Agriculture Committee's portion of the One Big, Beautiful Bill," Baird said. "This legislation represents an important step toward passing the Farm Bill to properly invest in our farmers, growers, and producers and prioritize rural America. The

Agriculture Committee's portion of this bill also enacts common-sense reforms to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Throughout the process, I was deeply disappointed to hear my Democrat colleagues repeatedly fearmonger and mislead the American public. These reforms simply do not leave children, the elderly, veterans, or other Americans in need without a lifeline or access to nutrition. Instead, this bill prevents non-citizens, except green card holders, from receiving federal SNAP

benefits, closes loopholes in work requirement waivers, corrects the Biden Administration's overreach, roots out fraud, and creates incentives for Americans to find opportunities that lift them out of poverty. Republicans are putting our farmers and American citizens first and strengthening our federal programs for those truly in need. I look forward to passing this legislation through the full House and Senate and sending this One Big, Beautiful Bill to President Trump's desk soon."

A red banner with white text and a newspaper icon. The text on the left reads "Don't forget to renew your subscription!" in a bold, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized icon of a newspaper with the word "NEWS" at the top and a yellow square on the front page. Below the text and icon, the URL "thepaper24-7.com/subscribe" is written in a bold, sans-serif font.