

Sagamore News Media presents

Tropical Costa Rica



HOSTED BY DICK WOLFSIE | FEBRUARY 6 - 14, 2026

For more information contact Collette 800-581-8942
Refer to booking #1344002



■ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalms 88:2 Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry.

■ AWL TRIXIE



Say hello to little Miss Perfect, Trixie!! Trixie is a 3 year old female American Pit Bull Terrier that is available for adoption from AWL since 6/17/2025. Trixie loves going out for walks, playing fetch, and being showered with love/attention. Trixie will also gladly sit for treats! Trixie is spayed, dewormed, and up to date on of her shots!! She's ready to BUST OUTTA HERE!! Trixie is looking for her best friend! Could that be you? Trixie is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. AWL is open Monday-Friday from 2p-5p and Saturday's from 12-3p. Come snuggle cats in a community cat room, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!

SAD FACTS: Did you know pit bulls make up 30-40% of all shelter dogs intakes and have much lower adoption rates? In the United States, 568 dogs are killed in shelters EVERY SINGLE DAY of the year - that's one dog every 2.5 minutes! In some areas, up to 93% of Pit Bulls are euthanized. We find these statistics sad and alarming! Don't support backyard breeders, spay/neuter your pets, and adopt from a shelter or rescue - most are FULL of highly adoptable dogs!



Happy 74th Birthday Eve to Hoosier rocker John Mellencamp!

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The second Saturday of each month is the perfect chance to stock your home library. That's the monthly book sale at the Crawfordsville District Public Library. It takes place every month on the lower level from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hardcover books are 50 cents, paperbacks are a quarter, magazines 10 cents, CDs 50 cents, single DVDs \$1 and deluxe DVD sets \$3 a season. There are some special items that may have individual pricing. If you are downsizing and want to donate some books, the library will take gently used hardcover and paperbacks, DVDs and Blu-Rays, audiobooks and music CDs and complete puzzles and games. They cannot accept items with water or mildew or other damage, broken bindings, missing or items with strong odors like cigarette smoke.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I'll bet living in a nudist colony takes all the fun out of Halloween."

- Unknown

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What did one Irish ghost say to the other Irish ghost?

Top o' the moaning to ya!

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

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BY THE NUMBERS

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!

The Indiana Fever concluded their season a few days ago when they fell in the deciding game five of the WNBA semifinals . . . in overtime . . . without their star player Caitlin Clark . . . and to a team that has won two of the last three WNBA championships.

4 Despite all the odds against them, the Indiana Fever became one of only four teams left standing in the WNBA – and came within inches of being in the final two.



24 The number of games the Fever won in the regular seasons this year. That was in a 44-game schedule, so the final record was 24-20. And they did that despite their best player and leading scorer Caitlin Clark being injured most of the season.



Caitlin Clark

3rd Where the Fever finished in the Eastern Conference of the WNBA.

22 As most sports fans know, that's the number worn by Caitlin Clark. Coincidentally, Fever Coach Stephanie White also wore No. 22 at tiny Seeger High School. Well, that's before she wore the No. 1 jersey as Miss Basketball in Indiana. White, 48 years old, looks like she could still get out on the court and play.



Stephanie White

1 That's the number of WNBA titles the Fever have won, that coming in 2012. The Fever reached a second finals in 2015 – but fell in five games. Tamkia Catchings, one of the greatest WNBA players of all time led the team to their lone title. Tamika was No. 24 on the court, and No. 1 in a lot of Indiana fans' hearts.



Tamika Catchings

14 out of 25

Yes, it may be hard to believe, but the Indiana Fever have been around for 25 seasons. And in that quarter century, they have won one WNBA title (2012) and reached a second finals in 2015. Actually, they have made the playoffs 14 times in those 25 seasons!

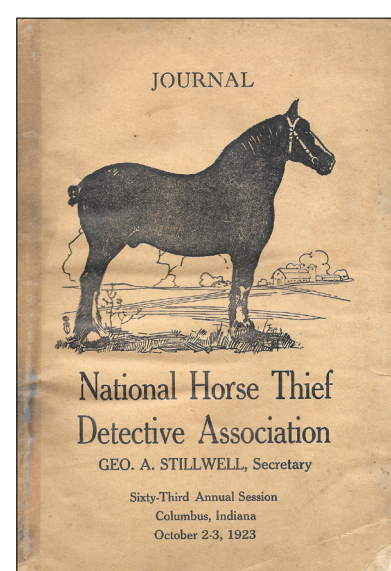


■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. Attorney General Todd Rokita and Indiana Department of Environmental Management Commissioner Clint Woods are championing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's plan to repeal what they term burdensome and ineffective climate regulations for cars and trucks that hurt Hoosiers and the economy. Rokita said these regulations restrict Hoosiers' ability to access affordable, reliable vehicles and hurt Indiana's small businesses in the manufacturing and industrial industries. As Indiana's lead environmental regulator, Commissioner Woods emphasized IDEM's success in balancing air quality gains with economic growth.

2. Fall drives aren't just about the scenery - they're about the season itself, the one where "cuffing season" takes hold and couples start seeking cozy, cinematic escapes. There is a crispness in the air that encourages blankets, warm drinks, and lingering conversations with the windows cracked open. Gunther Volkswagen carried out a survey of 3,005 couples to gauge their opinions, based on past experiences, of the most romantic fall drives in Indiana. All the top 3 turned out to be in southern Indiana – Brown County State Park, the Ohio River Scenic Byway and Indiana's Historic Pathways.

3. Fall also means football and our friends at the social casino website McLuck has identified the best-rated stadiums in the U.S., with Clemson Memorial Stadium in South Carolina taking the top spot. However, one stadium in Indiana ranked in the top 10 nationally – and no IU fans, Despite Coach Curt Cignetti's amazing success, it wasn't Memorial Stadium. It's the house that Rockne built up in South Bend. Notre Dame Stadium puts Indiana in top 10 nationally, following Clemson, Kyle Field in College Station, Texas and legendary Lambeau Field in Green Bay.



If Your Horse is Stolen, Butch Knows Who to Call



John 'Butch' Dale
Columnist

There are several people in Montgomery County today who own horses, but back in the day just about everyone owned horses for farming and transportation.

Unfortunately, horse theft became a common occurrence, especially in the rural areas. Organized gangs operated "stations" where horses were hidden, fed and rested until they were transported out west. The theft of a horse placed a severe hardship on farmers, so they decided to take action. In 1845, an association known as the Council Grove Minute Men, was formed near Wingate to apprehend horse thieves and recover the stolen horses. This early group eventually became known as the Horse Thief Detective Association, or HTDA.

The HTDA spread throughout the county to form separate chapters. A charter was secured from the state which gave each member the power and authority to pursue horse thieves and make arrests. These men could even cross state lines to make apprehensions, which local Sheriffs were unable to do. According to their standards, only the best men were chosen to belong, and they had to maintain strict standards of behavior. Any member who drank alcohol excessively, gambled or displayed improper conduct was expelled. They also used secret passwords and signs, paid dues, had regular meetings and carried badges.

If someone had a horse stolen, the HTDA was called into action. The description of the horse was circulated among the members, who fanned out over the countryside to try to track the criminals. Once caught, the offenders were turned over to the law enforcement authorities, although quite often they were "horsewhipped" and forced to leave the neighborhood . . . or else. Later on the

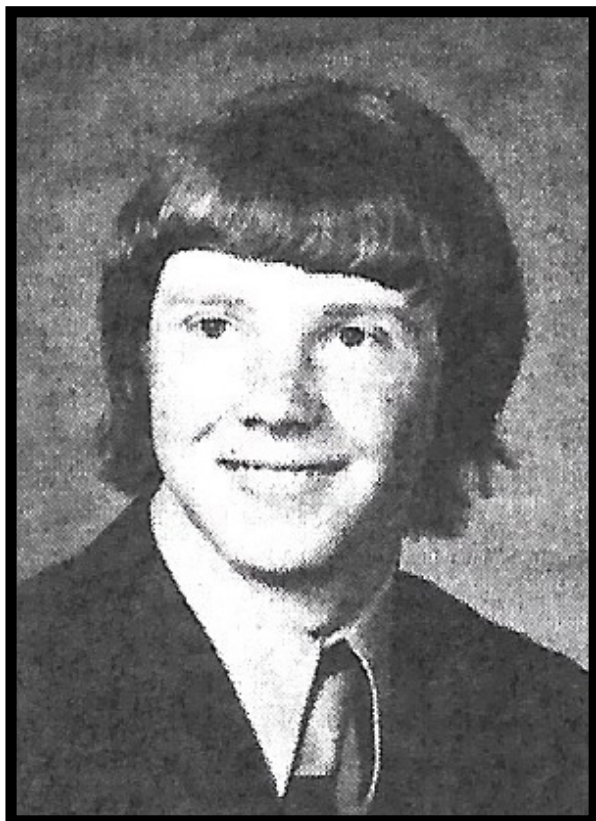
See BUTCH Page 4

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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■ BUTCH'S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



Do You Recognize This 1974 Southmont Grad?

HINT: He still lives in the New Ross area.

Answer on Page 4



The Dead Netles Band begin at 5 p.m. and entertain you until 8 p.m.

Waveland Strong Fall Fest Oct. 11

Waveland Strong will host its annual Fall Fest on Oct. 11, at the Waveland Volunteer Fire Department, beginning at 5 p.m. Invite a neighbor and come out for a fun evening of music and dinner. You will want to make sure and visit all the wonderful vendors. Wonderful time to get your Christmas shopping started.

Put on your dancing shoes for the evening while listening to The Dead Netles Band. They will begin at 5 p.m. and entertain you until 8 p.m. They will be singing all your favorite songs.

A free will donation chili dinner will be served by the Waveland Volunteer Fire Department from 5 p.m. or when the chili runs out. Invite a neighbor and come

out and enjoy the music and a bowl of chili. Help support our brave first responders!

Brown Lucky Leaf 4H Club will be having their annual Bake Sale. You will not want to miss all the wonderful goodies these kids make. The proceeds go to help them with their club activities throughout the year.

Waveland Strong will be having a 50/50 raffle to help with the costs of the beautification project they are working on for the town. Make sure and stop by to get your tickets. They will be \$1 a piece or \$20 for a wingspan.

For more information contact Amy Isenberg (765)376-1591 or Teresa Ciulla (765)366-8701.

Beckwith, OCRA Announce 5 Communities to Get Funding

The Office of Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs recently announced five Indiana communities will receive \$1,310,000 in Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Grants and Planning Grants through the Community Development Block Grant program.

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation grants are used to empower communities to directly fund homeowners of low-to-moderate income to make needed repairs on their homes. While communities awarded Planning Grants will use the funding to develop plans for long-term planning efforts.

"These grants are more than just dollars - they build hope for future growth and prosperity," Lieutenant Governor Beckwith said. "By helping Hoosiers make essential repairs to their homes, we are strengthening communities and ensuring families can build better lives right where they are."

Communities awarded an Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grant will establish a program to help fund low- and moderate-income homeowners make repairs on their homes. Eligible repairs include roof repair or replacement, ADA accessibility, heating and cooling replacement, lighting and electrical upgrades, and water heater replacement.

Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Grants are awarded to the following communities:

- The Town of Brookville is awarded \$350,000
- The Town of French Lick is awarded \$350,000
- Fayette County is awarded \$500,000

"The Owner Occupied Rehabilitation program

gives communities a boost in supporting vulnerable homeowners with necessary quality-of-life improvements. In addition, the Comprehensive Planning grant gives communities an opportunity to analyze their needs and identify next steps," OCRA Executive Director Fred Glynn said. "Congratulations to each of the five communities awarded for their hard work to earn this funding and improve the quality of life for their residents."

The Planning Grant program encourages communities to plan for sustainable community development with the aid of subject matter experts and community input. The applications being funded this quarter address comprehensive planning efforts.

Comprehensive Planning Grants are designed to aid communities in evaluating assets and identifying opportunities to address current needs in the following areas: land use, government capacity, public services, placemaking, economic development, housing, transportation, agriculture, natural resources and historic resources.

Comprehensive Planning Grants are awarded to two communities:

- The Town of Remington is awarded \$50,000
- The Decatur County is awarded \$60,000

Funding for OCRA's CDBG programs originates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant program and is administered by the State of Indiana by OCRA.

For more information, visit in.gov/ocra/cdbg/.

Funny Business!



Dick Wolfsie
Columnist

There's a great deal of pressure on me to be funny. I feel it at church, at pickleball, and when I run into people at the supermarket. This is what happens when you write a humor column for 25 years. At our book club, when I say something like, "I think the book has a good plot, but the main character's motives were not clearly drawn," Kim will look at me and say, "Dick, that wasn't amusing." And Kay will say, "I don't get it." Of course, sometimes I try to make a whimsical remark, and my wife will give me the evil eye and say, "NOT funny, Dick." I can't win.

Because people know that I am always looking for a topic for my next column, I'm afraid they won't take me seriously if I were to have a true emergency. Let's say I saw Mary Ellen get in my neighbor's car one morning, and she didn't return for two days, I'd call the police department, of course.

"Hello, Missing Persons Unit."

"Hi. This is Dick Wolfsie. I saw my wife jumping in my neighbor's car, and I haven't seen her in two days."

"Yes, Mr. Wolfsie, we all read your column. That's a very amusing premise. We here at Missing Persons are aware of the use of hyperbole to create a humorous and whimsical effect. By the way, we suggest three days. Those of us who have an ear for comedy know that a wife missing for two days just isn't catchy enough. You need the number three. Three is a funny number."

"I'm not trying to be funny, officer. I'm not writing a column. I believe my friend Alan may have run away with my wife."

"I think we know where you're going with this, Dick. Now you are going to say, 'And I really miss him.' Sorry, but that's an old joke and very predictable. However, humor does require a twist or surprise. So, the comic reversal here has potential. It just needs a little tweaking. You're on the right track. By the way, we are not the Missing Humor Bureau but we are happy to help."

"Look, I am not writing a humor column. My wife has vanished. When she left the house two days ago, I saw her getting in Alan's Honda."

"What a waste of potential amusement, Dick. Try saying 'Buick' or 'Pontiac.' Good use of the K sound is what you're after here. Kangaroo is a funnier word than rabbit. Any first-rate humorist knows this. By the way, scrap the name Alan. No one can form a clear mental picture of what someone named Alan would look like. You need a Bubba or a Reginald. Think visually, for heaven's sake."

"Look, for the absolute last time, officer, I am not writing a story; I am not trying to be amusing. I'm fairly certain my wife has run off with my best friend. His name is Alan, not Bubba and not Reginald. I do not miss him. I miss her. I saw them leave together in a Honda. She's been gone a day. Now, doesn't that all seem a bit funny to you?"

"No, Dick, not the way you tell it."

Dick Wolfsie is a retired TV personality, author, speaker, teacher and all-around good guy. His award-winning column appears here weekly. If you'd like to learn more about joining Dick on an upcoming trip to Costa Rica, go to this paper's website and click on the Collette Travel ads.

Franciscan ExpressCare Open

Franciscan ExpressCare in Crawfordsville is open today and Saturday during the motocross event.

Patients can enter the Franciscan ExpressCare parking lot off Vance St., behind the Dollar General. Parking at the Franciscan ExpressCare office is for patients only.

Today, Franciscan ExpressCare hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturday,

hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Virtual visits are also available for those who cannot make it to the location in person. To launch a virtual visit, go to FranciscanExpressCare.org.

Franciscan ExpressCare is located at 308 West Market Street in Crawfordsville and can be reached by phone at (765) 362-6374.

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2025 Nissan Z is the Alternative for Corvette Fans Who No Longer See One as an Attainable Aspiration

A base price of \$42,970 delivers a daily enjoyable sports car with epic performance



Casey Williams
Columnist

My best friend and I are both Corvette fans. He owned a 1976 “C3” for a few years and I currently own a 1989 “C4” that’s been in my garage for a quarter-century. For the past decade, he’s driven a Camaro with sights set on a new Vette. He called the other night complaining about how expensive Corvettes have become and he really didn’t want to spend that much. I suggested he look at the 2025 Nissan Z.

Corvette enthusiasts have to adjust their lens, but they’ll find a car exquisitely styled with classic cues taken from the original 1970 240Z. Starting at the front, ovoid headlamps recall round lamps set into the original’s fenders. The square lower grille and raised hood shape look familiar too. In side view, the long hood and sweeping roofline are classic, but modernized with 19-inch dark Rays wheels, angry sill extensions, and satin silver window trim. Wide taillamps recall earlier Zs. Classic logos add nostalgia. It’s especially fetching in Bayside Blue.

I love our car’s bright blue interior with sueded doors and seats. Aluminum pedals add a glint of sport while flatscreen gauges and 9-inch touchscreen with volume and tuning knobs keep it simple. Connect devices through wireless Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, or USBs below. An 8-speaker Bose audio system and heated seats amp the luxury while adaptive cruise, automatic emergency braking, blind spot warning, and rear cross path detection fortify safety. Gauges are clear, but I’d also prefer a head-up display.

I just wish it had a removable targa top to let in some sunshine.

If I peeled away the body, you’d find basic architecture that dates back twenty years. You’d never know that by looking at the car...nor by driving it. The body structure is stiff, suspension motions firm, and steering quick. I’ve read complaints saying the suspension is a little soft. Maybe a little, but there’s the Z NISMO if you want to attack tracks. This one is more livable on long drives and is beyond the capability of most drivers anyway. To balance handling, the engine is shoved far back in the chassis.

There’s no V8, but few will complain about the 400-horsepower 3.0-liter twin-turbo V6, connected to our six-speed manual or optional automatic transmission. Shifts are precise and mechanical with a heavy clutch. I drove home from the airport in evening traffic, so it’s not a replacement for leg day, but some may tire on longer slogs. Fuel economy is rated 18/24-MPG city/highway, but I saw closer to 27-MPG during Interstate runs.

With my friend’s harping in mind, I whipped out the old inflation calculator. His 1976 Corvette

had a base price of \$7,604 or \$43,171 inflation-adjusted. I knew prices rose quickly in the early ‘80s, so I also pegged a 1982 Corvette with an \$18,290 base price...or \$61,228 adjusted. My personal 1989 Vette retailed for about \$32,000 - \$83,367 today. A base 2025 mid-engine Corvette costs \$68,300. It’s expensive, but let’s keep perspective.

My buddy ended up buying a Ford Mustang with EcoBoost engine – a fine car with excellent handling and a plethora of technology. Good for him, but I’m thinking differently. If the Corvette ceased to be an attainable aspiration of the middle class, and I might argue it never really was affordable, then the Nissan Z is a killer bargain. It sports a base price of \$42,970, less than my buddy’s ‘76, and even at an as-tested \$55,985, is still a fraction of the “\$144,233” price of the ‘90s Corvette ZR1 it matches.

Storm Forward!

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

LIKES

- CLASSIC STYLE
- BLUE SEATS
- DAILY DRIVABILITY

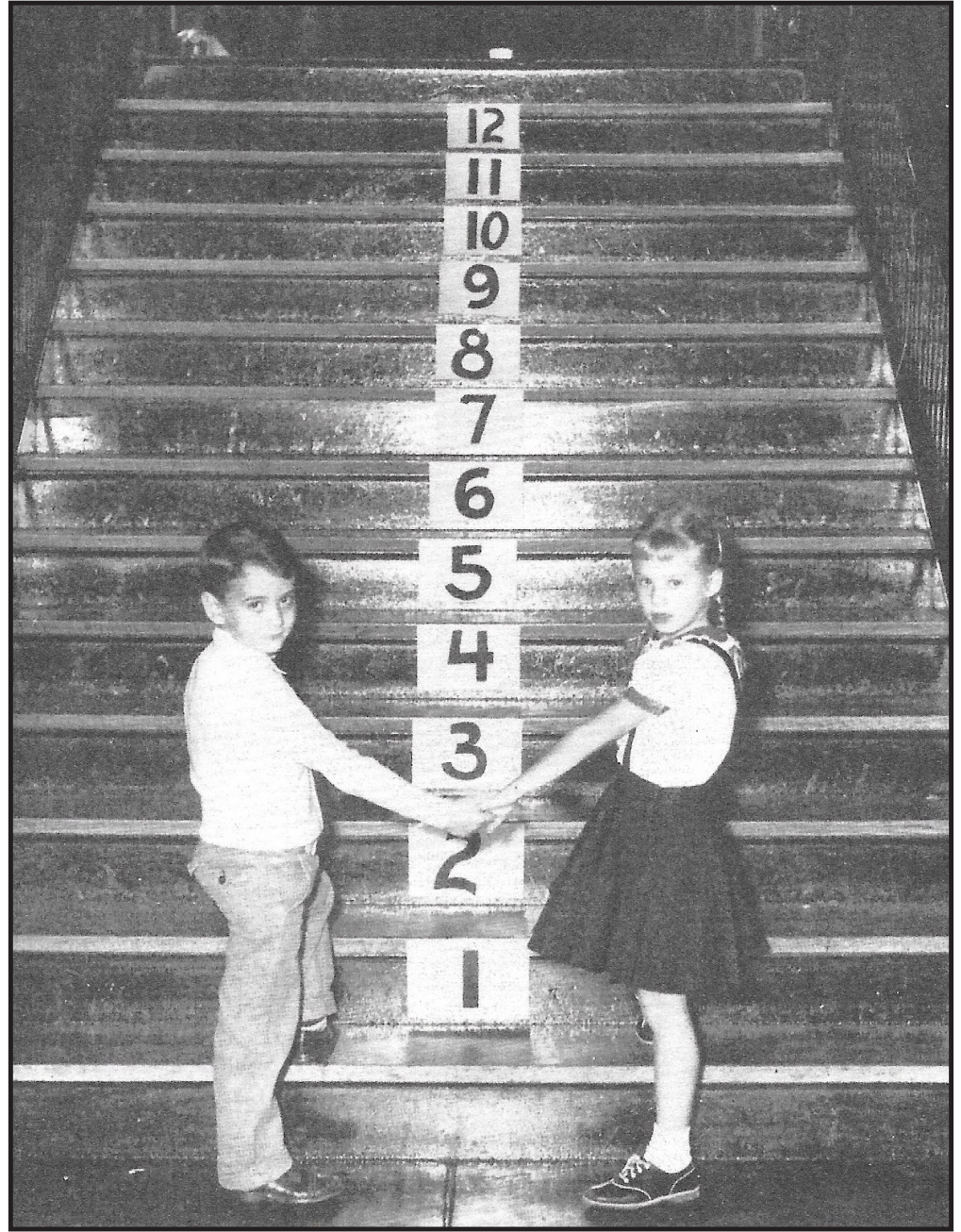
DISLIKES

- NO CONVERTIBLE
- TIGHT COCKPIT
- NO HUD

2025 Nissan Z Performance

Two-passenger, RWD Coupe
Powertrain: 3.0-liter TTV6, 6-spd man.
Output: 400hp/350 lb.-ft.
Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 19”/19” alloy
Brakes f/r: disc/disc
0-60 mph: 4.5s
Fuel economy city/hwy: 18/24-MPG
Assembly: Tochigi, Japan
Base/as-tested price: \$42,920/\$55,985

■ BUTCH DALE’S SCHOOL FROM BACK IN THE DAY



Back in the day, it was a bit frightening for kids just starting school for the first time, and it is still the same today. Shown above are two first graders at Linden in 1960 preparing to climb the stairs of success. Sometimes it’s best to hold a friend’s hand! We need a little help in identifying these two. Do you recognize them?

When I’m Just a Little Anxious



Carrie Classon
The Postscript

I’ve been trying to meditate a bit more.

I am a little anxious, and meditation calms me.

It helps me not to fly off in six directions at once. “What have you forgotten to do?!” anxiety is always screaming at me, and since I’ve obviously forgotten it, I never have a good answer. Except meditation. Meditation is a good answer.

Meditation says, “Oh! Look at that. It’s an anxious thought.” Anxiety does not appreciate this, being relegated to a mere emotion, transitory and (let’s face it) not terribly important. It can’t really work itself into a full-blown panic with that kind of attitude.

So anxiety sulks off and—more often than not—joy takes root in its place.

That is the short answer as to why I’ve been marching off every week to the Episcopal church to sit in their chapel for an hour, looking at candles and stained-glass windows and the inside of my brain.

I tried another meditation group that meets on another night. This one involved some chanting

of religious text and a bit of meditation and then something that I’m sure has another name but I call “very slow walking.”

I honestly cannot think of anything less relaxing than walking much, much too slowly in a circle with other people who are also walking much too slowly, trying not to step on the heels of the person in front of me. It’s kind of torturous.

These folks were all good at it, however, except for one older man, who apparently thought we were moving too slowly even for very slow walking, and passed each of us (on the right) as we went around the circle. Having this human equivalent of a red convertible screaming up behind me, passing and then zooming on to pass the next person was even more nerve-wracking than just slow walking. I was waiting for a collision to occur at the next turn.

Afterward, we all chatted about what was on our minds, and I discovered these people were all very kind and terribly serious. I don’t think I’ve ever been so serious in all my life. I felt rather shallow. They asked what was on my mind, and all I could think to say was that the room we were meeting in looked like a speakeasy, and they

all laughed, and I realized that was the first time anyone had laughed in an hour and a half—which is a very long time to go without a laugh for me.

So I probably do not belong in the slow-walking group, as nice as they are. But I will keep going to the silent meditation. The door to the sanctuary is left open a little, and I love the cool air wafting into the chapel. It smells like every old church I’ve ever been in, and I could not possibly tell you what that smell is—but it is calming.

I know that I could do this in my own home, and I am determined to try. At home, I listen to guided meditations, but after a while, those start to make me anxious as well. I start to wonder who the person who made the recording was, and who they had in mind when they made it. I worry, because it sounds as if they think whoever is listening really does not have their act together. I feel the need to reassure them. I want to say, “Hey! I’m not doing that badly!”

Because I’m not, most of the time. I’m just a little anxious.

Till next time,

Carrie

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Tropical Costa Rica
HOSTED BY DICK WOLFSIE
FEBRUARY 6 - 14, 2026

For more information contact Collette
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KENNY THOMPSON

With decades of experience as an award-winning sports writer and sports editor – most of it covering Purdue athletics – Kenny Thompson has a perspective and inside knowledge that few others have. Whether it’s putting what’s going on in the Big Ten in historical perspective or shooting straight from the hip on what’s happening today, no one has a better take on Purdue and sports than Kenny!

Catch Kenny every Friday in The Paper!

About Crawfordsville Country Club

Founded in 1906, Crawfordsville Country Club has been a gathering place for golfers, families, and businesses for generations. With new leadership and a commitment to excellence, the club is entering a new era, offering enhanced amenities, premier golf, and a thriving social community in the heart of Montgomery County. Learn more at crawfordsvillecc.com.

Country Club Under New Management

Crawfordsville Country Club, founded in 1906, is proud to announce an exciting new chapter in its longstanding history. Under new management, the club is investing in significant upgrades to its golf course, facilities, and social amenities while transitioning from a public golf course to a fully private country club. Memberships are now open for individuals, families, and businesses looking to be part of this vibrant community.



experience, from golf and recreation to dining and social events, in a welcoming environment for families and professionals alike."

O'Neal Golf Management took over club management Aug. 1 of this year. The club remains governed by the Board of Directors.

The transition to private membership underscores the club's dedication to providing a premier lifestyle experience in Montgomery County. A variety of membership options including golf, social, and corporate are now available at a discounted rate through Dec. 19.

For more information about membership opportunities and upcoming improvements, visit crawfordsvillecc.com or contact the club by phone at (765) 362-2809 or by email at info@crawfordsvillecc.com.

BUTCH

Continued from Page 1

| Montgomery County 1923 | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| No. 72 | ALAMO | 18 Members |
| John Weir, Pres. | Crawfordsville, R. 8 | Alamo |
| Albert Smith, Sec. | Crawfordsville, R. 8 | Alamo |
| D. S. Myers, Capt. | Waynetown, R. 3 | Alamo |
| No. 3 | BEECH GROVE | 25 Members |
| W. B. Luster, Pres. | Crawfordsville | Crawfordsville |
| E. E. Luster, Sec. | Cville, R. 2 | Crawfordsville |
| Ben Oliver, Capt. | Crawfordsville | Crawfordsville |
| No. 91 | BLACK CREEK | 41 Members |
| Merle Hughes, Pres. | Crawfordsville | Crawfordsville |
| Lester Olin, Sec. | Crawfordsville | Crawfordsville |
| Lester McClamrock, Capt. | Crawfordsville | Crawfordsville |
| No. 59 | BOWERS | 27 Members |
| Wm. E. Evans, Pres. | Clarks Hill | Kirkpatrick |
| Frank Parker, Sec. | Darlington | Bowers |
| A. G. Dunbar, Capt. | Colfax | Bowers |
| No. 11 | BROWN'S VALLEY | 12 Members |
| Frank Knoll, Pres. | Crawfordsville | New Market |
| H. C. Fullenwider, Sec. | Waveland | Waveland |
| C. V. Rogers, Capt. | Brown's Valley | Brown's Valley |
| No. 1 | COUNCIL GROVE | 22 Members |
| C. A. McCorkle, Pres. | West Point | Odell |
| Judd Meharry, Sec. | New Richmond | Odell |
| Geo. B. Hawthorn, Capt. | West Point | Odell |
| No. 77 | CAMPBELL CHAPEL | 10 Members |
| Byron Cox, Pres. | Darlington | Darlington |
| E. C. Jackson, Sec. | Darlington | Crawfordsville |
| Gregg Conrad, Capt. | Darlington | Darlington |
| No. 229 | DARLINGTON | 12 Members |
| J. E. Dowden, Pres. | Darlington | Darlington |
| Wm. J. Holloway, Sec. | Darlington | Darlington |
| Jess Hole, Capt. | Darlington | Darlington |
| No. 42 | ELMDALE | 25 Members |
| Stephen Wainscott, Pres. | Wingate | Wingate |
| Oscar A. Swank, Sec. | New Richmond | New Richmond |
| R. A. Mitchell, Capt. | New Richmond | Wingate |
| No. 36 | FREDRICKSBURG | 65 Members |
| John W. Ward, Pres. | Crawfordsville | Mace |
| M. B. Dice, Sec. | New Ross | Mace |
| J. W. Patterson, Capt. | Crawfordsville | Mace |
| No. 20 | FAIRVIEW | 50 Members |
| Walter Saylor, Pres. | Brown's Valley | New Market |
| Geo. A. Stilwell, Sec. | Ladoga | Ladoga |
| Geo. Himes, Capt. | Crawfordsville | New Market |
| No. 66 | FREEDOM | 12 Members |
| Geo. H. Loman, Pres. | Waveland | Waveland |
| C. A. Canine, Sec. | Brown's Valley | Waveland |
| Paul Saylor, Capt. | Waveland | Waveland |
| No. 43 | GREENWOOD | 21 Members |
| A. C. Johnson, Pres. | Cville, R. 10 | Darlington |
| E. W. Bratton, Sec. | Cville, R. 5 | Crawfordsville |
| C. T. Smith, Capt. | Crawfordsville | Crawfordsville |
| No. 116 | HICKORY GROVE | 20 Members |
| Chas. Driver, Pres. | Crawfordsville | Darlington |
| Frank D. Nolan, Sec. | Crawfordsville | Crawfordsville |
| Robert Clark, Capt. | Crawfordsville | Crawfordsville |
| No. 189 | LINDEN | 16 Members |
| Paul Montgomery, Pres. | Linden | Linden |
| L. W. Owen, Sec. | Linden | Linden |
| Frank Little, Capt. | Linden | Linden |
| No. 22 | LADOGA | 84 Members |
| Wm. Brookshire, Pres. | Ladoga | Ladoga |
| Ralph Gottschall, Sec. | Ladoga | Ladoga |
| Ward Otterman, Capt. | Ladoga | Ladoga |
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HTDA's activities expanded to include dealing with other types of crimes as well. In the 1920s, a few of the HTDA members also belonged to the Ku Klux Klan, although in this county the KKK was more of a social organization, and no violent behavior occurred to other individuals or groups of people.

In the early 1900s, as horses used on farms became less common, and automobiles came on the scene, there was less need for the HTDA, and in 1933, when the Indiana State Police was formed, the state revoked the policing powers of the HTDA constables. The era of dedicated private citizens

enforcing the law had come to an end.

The HTDA put out a pamphlet each year which listed the three main officers (President, Secretary and Captain) of each chapter in all of the Indiana counties. Shown are the 25 HTDA chapters in Montgomery County in

1923. A total of 718 men in Montgomery County were members of the organization that year.

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.

Rokita leads 23-State Fight on Sex-Specific Bathrooms, Locker Rooms

Attorney General Todd Rokita is leading a 23-state coalition in filing an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court, calling on the Court to stay a Fourth Circuit injunction blocking a South Carolina school's policy to maintain sex-specific bathrooms and locker rooms.

In the brief Rokita argues that policies requiring students to use facilities aligned with their biological sex are constitutional, reasonable, and essential for safeguarding student privacy and safety. The coalition challenges the Fourth Circuit's reliance on *Grimm v. Gloucester County School Board*, which wrongly mandated

schools to allow bathroom access based on gender identity rather than sex.

"No child should fear for their safety or privacy when using a bathroom, changing in the locker room, or showering after sports," said Rokita. "Forcing schools to mix boys and girls in these types of spaces shouldn't be allowed or tolerated, and we're going to continue fighting to stop it."

The Fourth Circuit's injunction stems from a challenge to South Carolina's law requiring sex-specific restrooms and locker rooms, claiming it violates the rights of a transgender student. The

coalition's brief, citing the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *United States v. Skrametti*, asserts that policies applied equally to all students regardless of sex comply with federal law and do not discriminate.

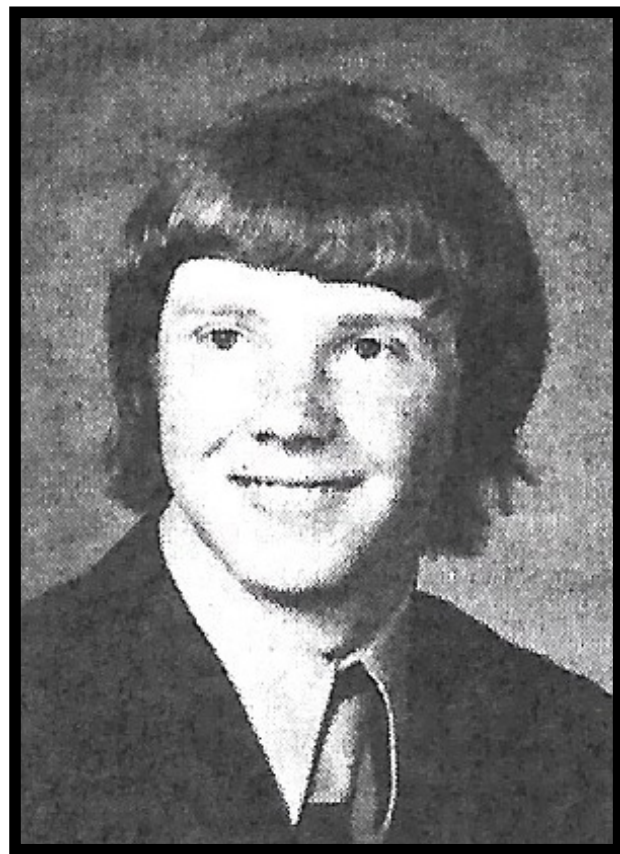
This effort builds on Indiana's leadership in a 25-state brief filed recently, supporting the Metropolitan School District of Martinsville in a similar Seventh Circuit case, reinforcing the right of schools nationwide to maintain sex-specific facilities.

The brief warns that the injunction endangers students by undermining privacy and exposes schools to liability for failing to

maintain safe, sex-separated facilities. This case has far-reaching implications for schools nationwide, as similar policies face legal challenges in multiple states.

"Title IX and the Constitution empower schools to prioritize student safety and local control, not to force policies that disregard biological reality," Rokita added. "We won't surrender even a single inch on this issue because enabling this madness is destructive. We need to protect kids and ensure schools can make commonsense decisions without judicial overreach."

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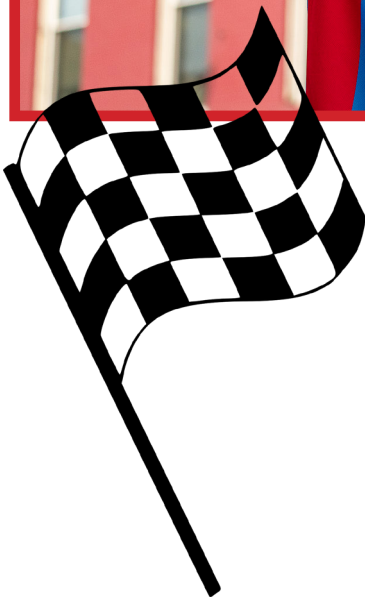
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MOTOCROSS OF NATIONS

Photos courtesy of Andy Chandler

The 2025 Motocross of Nations ROARED through Crawfordsville last week before setting up shop and wowing everyone just south of town with the wonderful Shaver family at their Ironman Raceway. Over the years Crawfordsville has been home to some pretty big events. Back in the day the Sugar Creek Canoe Race used to bring in Olympic competitors. Gen. Lew Wallace certainly drew attention to Crawfordsville during his storied career. The Monon Bell Football Rivalry between our Wabash College Little Giants and the DePauw Tigers has a national following. But perhaps none are bigger than the motocross events that bring tens of thousands of people and national and international media coverage. Freelance photographer, historian and all-around good guy Andy Chandler captured these images and is sharing them with all of you!



MOTOCROSS OF NATIONS



*Photos courtesy of
Andy Chandler*

State Leads U.S. in Halting Bad Business Practices

At the end of August, Indiana became the first state to request a waiver from federal requirements to implement race and gender-conscious components of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, as outlined in 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 26. If granted, the waiver requested by the Indiana Department of Transportation, would eliminate contract-specific DBE goals based on race, ethnicity or gender on federally assisted highway construction contracts.

The waiver request is prompted by a U.S. District Court preliminary injunction in the Mid-America Milling Company, LLC (MAMCO) v. U.S. Department of Transportation lawsuit. In the case, Indiana sub-contractor Mid-America Milling Company, LLC, alleges the federal DBE program's statutes and regulations unlawfully discriminate.

"I am a firm believer in offering equal opportunity for all to compete and succeed. If granted, this waiver will further position Indiana as

a state one would want to do business with and as a place to grow your business," said Gov. Mike Braun.

Under the proposed waiver, INDOT would transition to a race- and gender-neutral implementation strategy. The new methodology for setting goals and certifying businesses would focus exclusively on the availability of economically disadvantaged small businesses within specific geographic and industry markets. Attorney General Todd Rokita is leading a 17-state effort in support of the request for a waiver from the discriminatory and unlawful race and gender-conscious requirements of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program.

"Forcing INDOT to prioritize contractors based on race or gender is unconstitutional and undermines fair competition," said Attorney General Todd Rokita. "Granting the waiver INDOT is requesting is well within the Department of Transportation's authority and would be a critical step toward ensuring that

Indiana's transportation projects are awarded based on merit, not arbitrary classifications, and aligns with our constitutional duty to uphold equal protection under the law."

To support small businesses during this transition, INDOT will continue to offer a variety of supportive services to DBEs across Indiana. These services include business development programming, virtual learning opportunities, and DBE forums and networking events.

The proposed waiver is requested for a three-year period, which aligns with the timing of INDOT's next Disparity Study, expected to be completed in 2028. The results of that study will be used to determine a new DBE goal based solely on economic criteria. During the initial waiver period, INDOT will collect and analyze participation data, continue to submit annual reports to the Federal Highway Association, conduct its full Disparity Study, and follow all federal rules and regulations implemented with respect to DBEs.

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