MONDAY May 5, 2025

Building new clean energy will lower Hoosiers' bills & protect grid reliability.

TODAY'S VERSE

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Hamilton Happenings

Today, of course is Cinco de Mayo and there are various observations going on in our community. A common misperception is that May 5 is Mexican Independence Day. That date is actually Sept. 16. Cinco de Mayo is celebrated more in the U.S. than it is with our neighbors to the south. Still, any chance to enjoy a day and make friends is worth a lot. We encourage our readers to look around and take part in whatever way to celebrate they feel appropriate! Happy Cinco de Mayo!

Three Things You Should Know

1 The DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology announced the winners of its annual Historic Preservation Month photo contest. Here are the winners in each category: Altered:

Michael J. Sears of Newburgh (Warrick County) Photo subject: August Rosenberger Building in Evansville

Black and White:

Wilhelmina Leach of Georgetown (Floyd County) Photo subject: O'Bannon Woods State Park

Color:

Thomas Adams of Evansville (Vanderburgh County) Photo subject: George Rogers Clark Memorial

Kids: Grace White of Hanna (LaPorte County) Photo subject: University of

Notre Dame Preservation Month Annual Theme:

Jennifer Minnis of Paris, IL Photo subject: St. Mary-of-the-Woods College

2 Single-family building permits in Indiana saw a significant increase in March, according to the latest data from the U.S. Census Bureau. A total of 1,689



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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!

Are you a runner? Then you know all about the Mini. No, not the car. The Indianapolis Mini Marathon. And even if you are not a runner, you knew to avoid Indianapolis Saturday because there was an extra 30,000 or so people running around (no pun intended).

So without further ado, here is a look back at the Indianapolis Mini Marathon . . . by the numbers.

Believe it or not, this was the 50th running of the Mini. If you remember the first one, that makes you officially . . . good at remembering. (What? You didn't think we were going to call you old, did you!)

13.1 and 2.5

Runners know that mini or half marathons are 13.1 miles. For the rest of us, that seems like an insane number to walk or run. Of course one of the big draws of the Indy Mini is 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.

1:01:44 & 1:10:59

The men's and women's record times. Panuel Mkungo set the men's mark of 1:01.44 in 2023. Janet Cherobon set the women's record in 2010. Heck, we can't imagine riding a bicycle 13.1 miles in a little over an hour, let alone running it! If our math is correct, that's running a mile every 5 to 6 minutes . . . 13 times in a row!



The 2026 Mini is officially open and at a bargain rate. At least until May 13 then the price goes up. Next year's event is scheduled for May 2.

50 and 15+

Some of the more than 30,000 runners, joggers, walkers and wheelchair participants hail from all 50 states and more than 15 countries!

No. 1 The Indianapolis Mini-Marathon has been judged the best half marathon by publications like USA Today, Race Raves and Bib Rave.



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Resource Fair Emphasizing Vet Services

By Jim W. McGee

The Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County is pleased to announce the return of this free public event, the Hamilton County Resource & Health Fair 2025 on June 6, noon to 4 p.m. at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds.

The public is encouraged to join in for this exciting event to empower and engage the community and foster a stronger, more informed Hamilton County.

Join us for a community event that will bring together about 1,200 attendees. You can explore nearly 100 vendor booths that will offer food, clothing, baby supplies, and social services. Many nonprofits, businesses, and local organizations will be present to share programs and services that support families in Hamilton County and improve their quality of life.

ermits were issued state last month, a 21 percent increase from the 1,399 permits pulled in February 2025. This number is up 2 percent from March of 2024, when 1,656 permits were pulled. Indiana outpaced neighboring states again, with Ohio issuing 1,402 permits, Michigan at 1,233, Illinois at 964, and Kentucky at 835. Year-to-date, Indiana has recorded 4,441 single-family permits through the first three months of 2025, up 1 percent compared to the same period in 2024 (4,383 permits).

Indiana Audubon invites birders. families and nature lovers to celebrate the height of spring bird migration at the 2025 Indiana Dunes Birding Festival, set for May 15-18 at sites throughout the Indiana Dunes region and beyond. The festival is headquartered at the Indiana Dunes Visitor center, 1215 N. State Road 49 in Porter. The festival begins Wednesday, May 15, with a public launch event from 6 to 9 p.m. Central time at the Visitor Center. The Migration Marketplace tent will be open at the Visitor Center from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Although online registration for the Indiana Dunes Birding Festival has closed, limited walk-in registrations will be accepted beginning at 4 p.m. on May 15 at the Visitor Center. For more information about festival events, visit

indunesbirdingfestival.com.

One person has won the Mini five times. Gary Romesser won in 1983-84-85-88-91.

5-4-25

Believe it or not, there was a "recovery run" yesterday. It took place at the Athletic Annex in Carmel. At last check, more than 130 people had responded on Facebook. Yes, if we participated in the Mini we would need a "recovery" on Sunday, but it would not involve more running! Much respect to them!

5...again

Five people have participated in every Mini since the first one in 1977. They are Jerry Bates from North Carolina, John Hostetter from Kentucky, Eugene Lausch, Alva Such and Michael Vollmer – all from Indianapolis.



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Keep electronics (TVs, computers, video games, cell phones) out of kids' rooms to promote good sleep behaviors.



Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts.

HONEST HOOSIER

Mother's Day is Sunday. In the words of the immortal Lewis Grizzard, call your mother. I wish I could call mine.



TODAY'S QUOTE

My mother said to me, 'If you are a soldier, you will become a general. If you are a monk, you will become the Pope.' Instead, I was a painter, and became Picasso. Pablo Picasso

TODAY'S JOKE

What'd the mommy horse say to the baby horse? It's pasture bedtime!

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank FRED L EVANS for subscribing! Various exhibitors will provide educational information, health resources, and free items for those visiting different booths. Door prizes will be drawn by those who complete an onsite survey. Discover invaluable resources, explore volunteer opportunities, and become part of a vibrant community dedicated to making a difference.

This year's event will emphasize veterans services, highlighting the resources and support available to veterans, including benefits like health care, education, and disability compensation, and advocating for their needs within our communities and organizations.

To register as an exhibitor or vendor, please visit the Good Samaritan Network website (www.gsnlive.org/resource fair). Nonprofit organizations can participate for free, while for-profit exhibitors must pay a small registration fee. The registration deadline is May 30. Space is limited, so early registration is strongly recommended.

GSN Founder/Executive



OUR GENERATION

with the Times

Melissa Shaw's interview with Promenade Trails in Noblesville

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Photo courtesy State of Indiana

Pictured above is ISDA Director Don Lamb pulling a planter on an Indiana county road. Lots of farm equipment will be on roads. Keep an eye out and be safe.

Stay Alert, Share Road With Farm Equipment

Planting season is here for Indiana's 94,000 farmers. With the warm weather and sunshine, Hoosier motorists will also see more large slowmoving farm equipment traveling Indiana's rural roads and highways.

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana Department of Transportation, Indiana State Police and Hoosier Ag Today want to encourage motorists to slow down, be alert and be patient on roadways this spring.

"Spring time is incredibly busy for everyone. Hoosiers families will be taking their kids to spring sports, graduations and more, but it's especially busy for our farmers," said Lt. Gov. Beckwith, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "I want to encourage all motorists this spring to slow down, drive safely and share our roads with farmers and their large slow moving equipment."

said Anthony Scott, Indiana State Police Superintendent. "Let's make sure we are all giving them the space and patience necessary to get from field to field this season, because our primary goal is the safety of all those who travel our roads and highways."

While the term "farm equipment" encompasses a wide range of vehicles, the most common types motorists will encounter during planting season include sprayers, tractors pulling planters or tillage equipment, and large trucks hauling agricultural products. These vehicles are wide, sometimes taking up most of the road, and often travel at speeds no greater than 25 mph.

The following list includes several safety tips for motorists approaching large farm equipment:

Do not try to pass slow-moving farm equipment on the left without ensuring that the farmer driving is not planning a left turn. It may appear that the driver is pulling over to allow a vehicle to pass when the farmer is actually preparing to turn. You will drive right into its path, endangering yourself and the farmer.

Additionally,

- Avoid tailgating, as some farm equipment might have to make sudden stops along the road.
- Allow plenty of time to get to a destination, be aware of alternate routes and avoid distractions. Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director Don Lamb wants to remind motorists that farmers work hard to ensure they are being as safe as



Photo courtesy Hamilton Heights Schools

From left, Lincoln Pratt, Matthew Lynas, Audrey Meyer, Ace Miller and Jolie Garcia.

Hamilton Heights High School would like to recognize the following students who were named as Coffee Bean Award recipients for March / April. They include Jolie Garcia, Matthew Lynas, Audrey Meyer, Ace Miller and Lincoln Pratt.

The name and award, inspired by The *Coffee Bean*, a book written by Jon Gordon and Damon

West, delivers a simple, yet powerful message on positive change. All students nominated receive a certificate of recognition. At the end of the month, the names of the students who were nominated during the month are included in a drawing where the first five to-seven names drawn are called down to the office to enjoy a hot chocolate or coffee and a donut.

The monthly award objective is to encourage more acts of kindness, positivity, school spirit and help foster a closer sense of community within the high school.

Students and staff can nominate students. You can send a nomination by visiting our Student Services page at https://hs.hhsc huskies.org/

Westfield Farmers Market Kicks Off Thursday

The highly anticipated 2025 season of the Westfield Farmers Market, presented by Duke Energy, will kick off Thursday, from 5 -8 p.m. at Grand Junction Plaza (225 S. Union Street).

This year's market will feature over 60 local vendors, offering a diverse selection of fresh produce, locally sourced meats artisanal honey, jams, baked goods, handcrafted items, and much more. Popular new and returning vendors include Heritage Homestead Farms (chicken, beef, pork), Wild Loaf (bread). Tulip Tree Creamery (cheese), and Shining Waters Farm (produce).

more. Additionally, live music will return to the Market, giving local musicians a platform to showcase their skills.

Mayor Scott Willis will ring the opening bell to kick off the inaugural market.

"We are excited for another fantastic Farmers Market season down at Grand Junction Plaza." stated Mayor Willis. "It brings new energy to our downtown, supports our local growers and artisans, and gives families a reason to come together and enjoy everything our community has to offer."

south and park at the temporary parking lot near Poplar and Park Streets. If accessing heading north, take South Union Street to Mill Street. Attendees are encouraged to review traffic flow updates regarding the 32 Connects project impacting travel on State Road 32 before planning their visit. For access to suggested detour routes, click here.

In 2022, eleven occupants were involved in crashes with farm equipment in Indiana which resulted in one death, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration*.

"As we get further into the spring season, we will begin to see more farm machinery using our roadways as farmers begin planting their crops,"

- Farmers will pull over when they are able to let motorists pass, but it may take time for them to get to a safe place to do so.
- Be patient. Farm equipment is wide, sometimes taking up most of the road.
- Be careful when passing. Do not pass in a designated "No Passing Zone" or within 100 feet of any intersection, railroad grade crossing, bridge, elevation structure or tunnel.

possible.

"Getting planting equipment from field to field is the hardest part of planting season for Hoosier farmers," said Don Lamb, ISDA director and farmer from Boone county. "Having cars pull over when able is a huge help and farmers appreciate it and we also try to pull over when we can to let people pass. We want everyone to get to their destination safely, whether that is to school, daycare pickup or a farm field."

For a list of safety tips, visit isda.in.gov.

The market will also expand upon its popular themed nights, including 1970s Night, LIV Golf, Indy 500, Sensory-Friendly Night, and

Due to State Road 32 construction, there are two easy ways to access Grand Junction Plaza: if coming from US-31, exit the Poplar Street/Shamrock Boulevard roundabout to the

Complimentary shuttle service toand-from the Park Street parking lots west of the Westfield Washington Public Library will be available to attendees.

To learn more about the Westfield Farmers Market, including a lineup of weekly vendors and a full list of theme nights, visit westfieldin.gov/ westfield-farmersmarket.



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There?

Really! In

The Times, serving Noblesville and Hamilton County

Nervous as a Cat



A3

the saying goes. I have decided this expression CLASSON makes no The Postscript sense. Our

cat, Felix, is the least nervous creature I have ever lived with.

My old Newfoundland dog, Moxie, with her saggy jowls and lumbering gait, was much more nervous than Felix. Moxie was nervous about strange noises and things she couldn't see clearly (which was most everything) and loud voices. She was very well-behaved, but sometimes would pull a butter wrapper out of the garbage—oh, so carefully-and proceed to lick every trace of remaining butter off that wrapper. Then, knowing she had done a truly wicked thing, she would wait for the inevitable reckoning when I would return to the kitchen, see the wrapper splayed out flat on the rug and say to her, "Moxie, do you know anything about this?"

At that point, her legs would visibly quiver, she would press her face against the wall, and she would look as if she expected the beating of her life.

I never once hit that dog.

She was just nervous. And she had a conscience. She knew she was not supposed to remove trash from the trashcan—and despite many reprimands-she had done it. Again.

My cat, Felix, does not have these problems.

He regularly helps himself to the trash. He hauls out whatever he likes to see if there is anything tasty. Usually, it is stale bread or an empty package. (He has perfectly fine cat food in his bowl the entire time.) If there is nothing interesting in the trash, he will look further afield. We had some leftover cookies of various types in a plastic bag on the counter, and Felix hauled the bag onto the floor and took one bite from each type of cookie. None of them were any good, apparently, but

he did a very thorough test.

When, in the morning, my husband, Peter, or I discover his wickedness and yell at him, Felix looks at us, bored.

"People are ridiculous," Felix seems to say, "They get worked up about the stupidest things." Then he falls asleep.

I googled the expression "nervous as a cat," and it comes from the idea that a cat moves very quickly and suddenly. It is used when a person is uneasy or overly alert. I don't think Felix is uneasy in the least. But he is very alert. He can spring into action from complete stillness, zoom down the hall, bounce off the wall at the far end, return to hit the back of the sofa and land on a chair-all in a moment. He has a lot of fun doing this.

On the other hand, I am nervous. I worry about telephone conversations that happen and those that don't. I worry about the things I say and the things I forget to say. I stew over what I should have done after I've done something and what I should do before I've done anything at all. I am in a more-or-less permanent condition of nervousness, and I've been watching my cat with interest because I think being nervous as a cat would be a big improvement.

I would love to be utterly relaxed and then spring into action when the situation seemed to warrant it. I would love to bounce off the walls just because it was fun to do. I think that will be my new goal.

Cool Vacation in a Hot Spot

the winter? Seriously? That's DICK

what many WOLFSIE people Funny Bone said when I told them that Mary Ellen and I (and our son) were headed to Iceland for a vacation and taking 17 hearty souls with us. We knew that others had gone on this very same adventure and loved it. For many, this destination was on their bucket list.

Based on what we learned on the first day of the excursion from Greg, our excellent guide, it might have been too late for travelers on this trip to complete the remaining items on that bucket list. Why? Because there are lots of ways to die in Iceland. Here are a few:

Get in the way of an erupting volcano

Get swept into the ocean by a sneaker wave

Step into quicksand

Eat fermented shark that has not been properly processed

Get crushed by an avalanche

Step too close to a geyser.

And my favorite: Stand in front of a glacier and remain still...for a very long time.

Greg was overly cautious of each potential danger, with appropriate warnings to all of us. That's what a great guide does, and he filled the bill. And, of course, we were all safe. As virtually all travelers are.

how to adjust the settings. What could go wrong?" We did experience the Northern Lights, a display that few will forget. The next day, we ventured out on a boat to take another look from the bay.

I had a good one-liner during the trip, depending on whether you like dreadful puns or not. While we were exploring the terrain, a wedding party passed by, including the bride and groom. Apparently, their dream was to get married at the foot of a glacier. As the bride, in a stunning white wedding dress and hiking boots, negotiated several large boulders in her path, I couldn't resist screaming, "Your marriage is already on the rocks."

The highlight of the trip was the Sky Lagoon. This giant pool offered a luxurious experience, as we lounged in the water and sipped cocktails from the conveniently accessible bar. AHHH. Initially, we were scheduled to bathe in the Blue Lagoon, but Greg saw some data that suggested the nearby volcano could erupt at any time, spewing lava at 2,000 degrees into the wading area and potentially frying everyone. He thought that knowing this might compromise our relaxing experience.

The Icelandic language is very difficult. Imagine trying to teach a six-year-old to remember a simple word like Tryggingarmalastofnun, which is an insurance institution, or Landsbokasafnsvorour, which is a librarian.

Clore Insurance Gets Good News

Clore insurance, with offices in Carmel, Crawfordsville and Brazil, recently got some good news.

Consumer Reports ranked Erie Insurance No. 1 for best auto insurance. According to the Consumer **Reports** article (www.consumerreport s.org/money/carinsurance/best-carinsurance-companiesa8534720090/) the best car insurance policies take care of your financial needs and have a low premium, excellent customer service, proactive advice, and terms that are easy to understand. Erie Insurance was the top performer based on Consumer Reports' national survey of 40,566 policyholders

"The voice of consumers across the



Director Nancy Chance savs. "The Resource Fair is a remarkable free event for Central Indiana! Our vendors and exhibitors bring their extensive resources and expertise to one convenient

Sponsorships Available!

We invite sponsors to partner with us to make this community gathering a success. Together, we can make a meaningful impact in Hamilton County! Sponsorship categories include event sponsors, platform sponsors, silver sponsors, partner sponsors, and a lunch sponsor. Visit the Good Samaritan Network website (www.gsnlive.org/resourcefair) for sponsorship details, an updated sponsor list, and sponsor sign-up.

Some past comments we received, both from vendors and the public, include:

"I had over 100 people stop at my booth, I was very pleased..." - Vendor

"Thank you so much...it was a wonderful event..." - Public



Derrick Clore

nation is the best peace of mind we can offer to our prospective clients," Derrick Clore, President of Clore Insurance Group said. "It speaks not only to our competitive price but more importantly, the rest of the story, so to speak. When you buy insurance, you buy a promise. We believe this consumer reports proves we're the best bang for your buck and the best at delivering on our promises."

From Page A1

families will have

help them make

location. By attending,

access to a wealth of

information that can

informed decisions and

discover opportunities

they might not have

heard about before!"

The next time Peter asks me if I am worried, I'll assure him, "Not at all. I'm nervous as a cat!"

Till next time, Carrie

Farm Bureau Insurance Welcomes New Agent

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance is excited to announce that Drew Mueller has joined the company as an agent in the Carmel office at 240 E. Carmel Dr. He has completed Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance's professional insurance training program.

Mueller brings invaluable management and customer service experience to his new role. Driven by his passion for helping others, he transitioned to a career in insurance, where he is dedicated to assisting clients with customized coverage plans.

Muller resides in

Drew Mueller

Fishers and is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School. He likes spending time outdoors, camping, hiking and tends to many pets and plants at home. He also enjoys sports like football, soccer and wrestling. A devoted family man, he and his wife Wendy have three children, Katie, Ben and Michael.

The big draw of Iceland is viewing the Northern Lights. You have to be lucky to see this phenomenon. First, you need an almost cloudless sky at night, a relatively rare event in these parts. Additionally, the naked eye is not the most effective method for observing this solar activity. You really need your iPhone to record this astronomical event, along with a knowledge of several optical settings now available on newer cellular models.

On the first clear night, our bus was filled primarily with seniors. We headed to a nearby location with minimal light pollution. As my friend Carolyn observed, "We will have 40 older folks in a pitch-black parking lot, staring at their cell phones with no clue

My guess is that most first-grade teachers, after seven years on the job, opt for therapy rather than a sabbatical.

We all had a great time in the Land of Fire and Ice. You must put this on your must-do list. Or as they say in Icelandic: twyrpksjheeutkizopmgriejnduyriuejhk

Did I fool you? I just ran the back of my hand over the keyboard. I hope I didn't accidentally say anything off-color.

- 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.

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"Great fair... I got lots of information... "- Public

"I couldn't believe how many people were steadily coming in.... "- Vendor

"What a wonderful event ... This was my first year having a booth, and I will definitely plan on attending next year." - Vendor

"Thank you for doing this for us again this year." – Public

Visitors can network with numerous nonprofits, schools, faith-based organizations, businesses, government and social service organizations, and civic organizations, including volunteer sign-up opportunities.



OUR GENERATION with the Times



Melissa Shaw's interview with Steve from Adrienes Flowers & Gifts



2025 Nissan Murano has the Grace, Pace, and Style of Lang Lang Making Love with his Piano





choices, WILLIAMS when I saw a Auto Disney Reviews special of the

through

television

Chinese piano virtuoso Lang Lang playing Walt's famous songbook at London's Royal Albert Hall. He seemingly made love to his piano as he affected song after song. So, when I saw he would be performing in Carmel, Indiana, fifteen minutes from home, I snatched tickets for my family. Going in the freshly redesigned 2025 Nissan Murano Platinum seemed appropriate.

Lang Lang, always impeccably dressed, always looks like he's having fun as his fingers dance back and forth across the keys, dwelling just long enough in the bass range to quiver your soul. Parking for the concert, we paused a moment to appreciate the Murano's stylish futuristic attire that winks at both the

One evening, original 2003 model and I was flipping today's Nissan Ariya EV.

> Both look like somebody stole a concept car from an international auto show.

Take a look to see classic Murano cues like the rounded body with upturned rear window line, but also touches from the electric age like thin LED headlamps, wide expanses of black plastic facias, and driving lights hidden into the strakes. A sharp body line traces from the headlights to muscular rear fenders for a modern athletic aesthetic. Chrome detailing adds pizazz around the windows. Silvery LEDs wrap over the hatch. It all hunkers over 21-inch black alloy wheels. Every detail looks "designed" rather than merely applied - if you like that kind of glitz.

It's possible Steinway's atelier was involved in the Murano's interior from the swath of translucent aluminumlook sculpture spanning the dash to the curved stitched vallance that sweeps from pillar to pillar behind twin 12.3-inch flatscreens. As in the Ariya, a simulated wood plank doubles as a touchscreen with climate controls seemingly embedded and lit from within. Push-button gear selection, wireless phone charging, and a flybridge console add convenience.

There's also luxury in the intricately stitched heated, ventilated, and...massaging front seats. The twin-spoke squircle steering wheel and fold-flat rear seats are heated too. Everybody rides under a panoramic moonroof while enjoying Bose audio. A wide head-up display puts speed, navigation and cruise control status straight ahead. Stay safe with automatic emergency braking, lane centering steering, blind spot warning, and rear cross

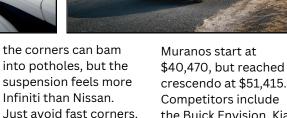


path detection.

The screens and ambient lighting illuminated the interior like a starship as we approached our parking spot after the concert. Rear sensors and camera keep us from ruining the evening of am ambling family behind us. I was still in the afterglow of how Lang Lang's hands hover just over the keys during a final breath before going finishing the phrase.

Time to go.

Leaving the last roundabout, I made music with the 2.0-liter turbocharged fourcylinder engine that plays 241 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft. of torque - routed to the allwheel-drive system through a 9-speed automatic transmission. Fuel economy is rated 21/27-MPG city/highway, which is good, but there's no available hybrid to make it better. The big steamrollers at



I doubt my daughter will ever forget seeing Lang Lang. Neither will her parents. Pure genius. Like Lang Lang, the Murano conveys its elegance with a youthful flair that entices you to indulge again and again. Base

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

the Buick Envision, Kia

Sorento, Mazda CX-70,

and Hyundai Santa Fe.

Likes	Dislikes
• Future-tech	 No hybrid
style	• Firm
• Luxury cabin	suspension
• Рерру	Overtly
engine	indulgent

2025 Nissan Murano Platinum

Five-passenger, AWD Crossover Powertrain: 2.0-liter T4, 9-spd trans Output: 241hp/260 lb.-ft. torque Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind Wheels f/r: 21"/21" alloy Brakes f/r: disc/disc Fuel economy: 21/27 mpg city/hwy Assembly: Smyrna, TN Base/As-tested price: \$40,470/51,415

Stressed-Out Hoosier Moms Share Mom's Day Ideas

Brunch is nice. So are flowers. But according to thousands of moms, what they'd really love this Mother's Day is a break - a proper "momcation." And with Mother's Day this coming Sunday, we thought we'd share some ideas for those who are searching for that perfect something for mom.

gentle walk along Lake James, enjoy a picnic under the trees, or simply relax by the water. Springtime in the park brings vibrant greenery and a sense of renewal, making it a great place for a restful getaway.

#3 Brown County

For moms who love nature and quiet retreats, Brown County offers rolling So what's holding moms back from taking more time for themselves? The biggest barrier by far was lack of time (27%), followed by guilt (19%) and financial constraints (18%). For many, it's a constant juggling act that leaves little room for rest and even less for recharging.

In fact, moms say they

hours here and there - hardly the kind of reset that truly restores energy or peace of mind.

When moms do get time, they recharge in different ways:

- Sleeping or napping: 16%
- Getting outside: 15%
- Watching movies/TV or doing nothing at all: 14% each Socializing, pampering, exercising, and reading all came in close behind.

"Mother's Day is about more than gifts - it's about giving moms a real moment

to recharge," says Sanjit Sandhu of Present.com. "Whether that means a peaceful beach, a cozy mountain town, or just somewhere without a to-do list, our survey shows that moms are craving experiences that let them slow down and feel appreciated."



Our friends at Present.com surveyed 3,025 mothers to find out where they dream of escaping for some well-deserved R&R. The results revealed a strong preference for peaceful small towns, charming spots, and nature-filled retreats places where mom can truly unwind, explore, and breathe.

Here are the top three Indiana destinations, according to moms:

#1 Madison

Nestled along the Ohio River, Madison is a charming town filled with historic architecture, scenic river views, and tranquil walking paths. Moms can take a slow stroll along the waterfront, explore the town's preserved 19th-century buildings, or simply relax in one of the many peaceful parks. The town's slower pace makes it a wonderful escape from the everyday.

#2 Pokagon State Park

For a quiet retreat surrounded by water and woodland, Pokagon State Park offers beautiful trails, peaceful lake views, and plenty of fresh air. Moms can take a

hills, scenic drives, and charming smalltown vibes. Moms can take a peaceful walk through Brown County State Park, admire the spring wildflowers, or enjoy the artistic charm of Nashville, Indiana. With its relaxed pace and beautiful surroundings, it's a perfect Mother's Day getaway.

But where moms want to go is only part of the story. The survey also pulled back the curtain on what modern motherhood really looks like - and why that elusive "day off" feels like gold. When asked how they'd spend a full day to themselves, moms said:

- Watching TV or bingeing a show: 19%
- Sleeping in and relaxing at home: 16%
- Spending time in nature (hiking, beach, park): 15%
- Enjoying a hobby (reading, crafting, cooking): 13%
- Shopping or treating themselves: 13%
- Spa time or massage: 12%
- Catching up with friends/family: 8%
- Traveling or a day trip: 4%

currently get just 5 hours and 55 minutes of alone time in a typical week - not even an hour a day. Ideally, they'd like closer to 8 hours and 27 minutes to feel fully recharged.

Even small gestures can make a big difference. When asked what gift or service would help lighten the mental load, here's what topped the list:

- House cleaning: 26%
- A full day off with no obligations: 20%
- Meal delivery or home-cooked meals: 14%
- A monthly massage or spa treatment: 12%
- Grocery delivery, childcare help, therapy, and laundry service rounded out the rest.

And the emotional toll is undeniable. Nearly half of moms - 42% admit they feel guilty taking time for themselves, even when they know it's necessary. One in ten haven't had a single uninterrupted break from family responsibilities in the past year. For most, the reality is grabbing just a few scattered

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Photo courtesy Hamilton Heights Schools

From left, Alayna Kauffman (daughter), Gabriella Kauffman (daughter), Jen Kauffman (wife, HHSC ECA Treasurer) Adrianna Kauffman (daughter), Jackson Cantlon (HHEF Student Director) Travis Kauffman, Will Duncan (HHEF Student Director) Craig Bowen (FC Tucker) and Mitch Street (HHHS Assistant Principal.

Travis Kauffman, Hamilton Heights High School Social Studies Teacher has been named the Husky Hero for the month of March. Kauffman, now in his 15th year of teaching at Hamilton Heights, has also served as the Head Coach for the Girls Soccer program at the high school. He has earned a respected reputation as an educator and person.

"Travis cares about how his students perform in his class, but more importantly, he invests in their lives as people," said Mitch Street, HHHS Assistant Principal. "He and his family have poured themselves into our community and we are blessed to have them in our community."

Here's what some of the nominators had to say about Kauffman:

"Mr. Kauffman has been an amazing mentor to my daughter throughout her high school years. He is academically gifted, and his love of teaching is evident every day. He consistently communicates with us as parents, and I have watched my daughter gain so much confidence and flourish because of him. Additionally, he volunteers to help in so many ways. Whether it's drama club concessions or mowing the huge school lawn in the cold rain, the man always shows up. We love Mr. Kauffman and his passion and feel he's incredibly deserving of the Husky Hero award." -Heather O'Neill

"Travis was recently recognized as a Serve Noblesville Star by completing Service of 10 years in a row with his Girls JV and Varsity Soccer Girls. He constantly gives back to the community when he has extra time. Mr. / Coach Kauffman is a Husky Hero and a HHHS Rock Star." -Bradford Malin

"He does a great job leading the girls Husky soccer team. We have an exchange student this year and she hasn't played soccer in a while. He has been awesome at welcoming her and helping her feel part of the team. It's been really amazing to watch him coach - he practices integrity and hard work above wins, and it seems to be working because our Husky girls are on fire! My student doesn't have him as a teacherbut I hear through the grapevine he is pretty great at that too." -Kayleigh Lyell

"Caring teacher and coach! Amazing role model! Always goes the extra mile for his students and team." -Karlee Lantzer

"Receiving this

some of whom may truly need positive interactions from teachers who cheer and help them."

Kauffman's motivation is always the growth and success of students. "It's rarely an easy path, but the toughest things are often the most rewarding," he pointed out. "Especially at this time of year, we begin to see where the year's journey has taken us academically and in other areas of our lives. That's what I enjoy most - seeing and hearing that what students have achieved and how they've grown throughout the school year is in ways and in degrees that they didn't even think were likely."

"The award is a recognition for what has been done and it's a motivation to continue to keep working and fighting to build up, teach, and encourage those who will lead our future and teach others what they have been taught," added Kauffman.

Do you know Husky Hero? Nomination forms and information about this special recognition program for Hamilton Heights employees are available at: https:// bit.ly/hhschuskyhero. The Husky Hero Recognition program is made possible through the Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation in partnership with Craig and Amber Bowen (FC Tucker). #hhedfoundation



recognition was an honor," said Travis Kauffman. "People that work in the public schools don't do it for accolades and awards but because we care about our students, and we love to see them grow and succeed. So, to receive this based on student nominations confirms that I, and other teachers, are making a positive difference in the lives of students,

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Grand Park Getting More Businesses

GPS.fun, a locally owned family entertainment company, has announced plans to build in Westfield. The development will be located north of Grand Park, just off 191st Street and east of Horton Road, bringing exciting entertainment options and new housing to the area.

The centerpiece of the project is a 33,000square-foot indoor entertainment facility that will feature duckpin bowling, laser tag, a full-service bar, a modern arcade, and "Krazy Darts," a laserprojected dart game designed for all skill levels. Complementing the indoor offerings, a 40,000-square-foot outdoor facility will include a challenging ropes course and a mini golf course.

In addition to entertainment attractions, the development proposes the construction of up to 104 two-story townhomes on the northern portion of the site, providing new residential opportunities that blend seamlessly with the surrounding area and the city's broader development goals.

"We're excited to welcome GPS.fun to Westfield as another high-quality amenity for our residents and visitors," said Mayor Scott Willis. "This project not only provides much needed family entertainment for our residents but also supports our vision for the Grand Park area in creating a mix of entertainment and recreation options."

The project was introduced at the April 28 City Council meeting and will be followed by a public hearing at the Advisory Plan Commission (APC) meeting on May 5. Final adoption consideration by the City Council is anticipated on July 14, 2025.

Pending approvals, construction is expected to begin later this year with the entertainment venue anticipated to open to the public in late 2026.



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Aspire Names David E. Jose Chief Legal Counsel

Aspire Indiana Health has named David E. Jose its Chief Legal Counsel, a new position created to help the healthcare nonprofit navigate an increasingly complex and shifting regulatory landscape as it grows to serve Hoosiers facing barriers to receiving care.

Jose is a preeminent attorney in the field of healthcare law with more than three decades of experience practicing in Indiana. He has represented or advised numerous healthcare organizations of every stripe, from hospitals and nursing homes to mental health centers and physician practices, with a special focus on nonprofits serving people with complex health challenges. He has also been actively involved with many civic and cultural organizations in central Indiana.

"An evolving healthcare and human services landscape demands strategic legal guidance to ensure compliance, mitigate risk and support Aspire's mission to deliver compassionate, patient-centered care," said Antony Sheehan, Aspire's President & CEO. "David is widely regarded as a top legal mind in Indiana on these issues, and will play a pivotal role in



David E. Jose

navigating the legal and regulatory complexities of Aspire's growing programs and services."

Aspire has experienced continued growth over the last few years, adding and expanding health center locations and adding new pathways of care including residential recovery facilities and expanded medical and pharmacy services. Aspire is chartered by the state as a **Community Mental** Health Center in Boone, Hamilton, Madison and Marion Counties, and is credentialed as a Federally Qualified Health Center with nine locations. It primarily serves Medicaid/Medicare populations.

Jose earned his bachelor's degree in political science and East Asian studies at Earlham College, his master's degree in the same concentration at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and his law degree from Boston College Law School.

Carmel Parks Gets Grant from Duke for Culinary Program

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation received a \$1,000 grant from the **Duke Energy** Foundation to enhance recreation opportunities for individuals with disabilities. The grant will be used to acquire new equipment for **CCPR's Adaptive** Culinary Creations program, offered by **CCPR** Recreation Programs.

build essential life skills and confidence in the kitchen.

"We want to provide our participants with every opportunity to increase their self-

Fishers AgriPark Open For Pickin'

Summer arrives early in Fishers this week with the opening of several seasonal amenities and community favorites.

Experience new features at Fishers AgriPark

The Fishers AgriPark, Strengthened by IU Health, opened May 1 with the debut of several new features. The 33-acre urban farm (11171 Florida Road) is one of the city's most unique park properties and features free upick opportunities in the public fields and gardens, animal encounters, community programming, and more.

With an investment of more than \$900,000, upgrades in 2025 include a new multipurpose building featuring indoor restrooms and enhanced programming space, along with a new nature-themed playground made of Indiana black locust. The Fishers AgriPark will now be open yearround, a major shift from the park's standard May through October season. Hours will vary by season.

The AgriPark will also debut a new country store later this year, featuring a coffee shop and space for local vendors to sell goods through the winter season.

The park has expanded its summer hours for 2025, including:

- Sunday: Noon 4 p.m.
- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: Closed
- Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Thursday: 10 a.m. 6 p.m.
- Friday: 10 a.m. 6 p.m.
- Saturday: Noon 4 p.m.



Photo courtesy Hamilton Heights Schools / Jen Kauffman

Cordero (seated) is pictured with (from left) Nate Gibson (stepfather), Lindsay Gibson (mother) and Miguel Cordero (father).

Heights Booter Signs With IU-Columbus

Noah Cordero, Hamilton Heights' senior, signed a letter of intent to play soccer mother, Coach Collin Luckey, dad, stepdad and grandparents for his development as a student athlete on and off the field. When Cordero is not in class or on the field, he enjoys golf, photography, and video games.

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The Duke Energy Foundation provides more than \$30 million in grant funding annually to support the needs of communities where Duke Energy customers live and work. The Foundation is committed to reducing structural barriers and expanding access to opportunities for underserved populations.

Culinary Creations is a month-long program designed for young adults and adults with disabilities. It teaches participants how to prepare healthy recipes they can make independently, helping sufficiency, independence and confidence," said Kelvin Solares, CCPR Inclusion Program Supervisor. "Cooking materials wear down over time, and new, accessible technologies are constantly being developed. Thanks to the Duke Energy Foundation, we can purchase updated equipment to provide a safer and more consistent cooking experience for our participants."

Individuals interested in participating in the Culinary Creations program can register here. The program fee is \$65. For more information on CCPR's Adaptive programming, visit www.carmelclayparks. com/programs/ adaptive. for Indiana University-Columbus in Columbus, Indiana this fall. IU-Columbus is a member of the River States Conference and a NAIA athletic institution. He is the son of Lindsay Gibson and Miguel Cordero.

"It was the small campus and meeting Coach Kevin Nolan that made Indiana University-Columbus Cordero's pick to continue his education and play soccer at the next level. Cordero, who also played basketball for two years, was named to the 2024 All-**Conference Soccer** Team and earned an MVP Award for Hamilton Heights High School Soccer team, plans to earn a general business degree with a focus on sales.

Playing soccer his entire life and being a member of a club soccer team helped Cordero develop his skill and technique as a player. "I have played at the club level with Indy Fire for three years and am currently in my fifth year as a member of the Indiana Impact Soccer Club," he said.

Cordero credits his

"Very few players have the passion and love for the game that Noah Cordero has," said Collin Luckey, Hamilton Heights Boys Soccer Coach. "He is always striving to get better and was willing to do whatever it took for the team to succeed. He faced adversity throughout his career, but never let it truly affect him. I couldn't be prouder of his work ethic, passion, and ability. He is leaving a massive hole behind, but we are excited to watch him continue his soccer career."

"Noah has dedicated a lot of time to the sport of soccer since he was a youngster," added Kurt Ogden, Hamilton Heights Athletic Director. "His tremendous soccer skills are a true testament to that dedication. We are proud that he gets an opportunity to continue the sport he loves at Indiana University-Columbus."



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