



Having fun with Mustangs and
Mustang people since 1977

Michiana Monthly



Chartered as a Regional Club
since 1978

Vol. 42 No. 5 May 2025

Next Meeting

April 14, 2025

Meeting at 7:00 pm

Beef 'O' Brady's

12479 Adams Rd. (IN-23)

(Intersection of IN-23 and Bittersweet
Road)

Granger, IN 46530

Upcoming Events

May 8 (Thursday)

Michiana Mustangs night at Essen-
haus in Middlebury

May 10 (Saturday)

Jimtown Car & Cycle Show, Jimtown
High School, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

May 12 (Monday)

Michiana Mustangs monthly meeting
at Beef 'O' Brady's

May 16/17 (Friday-Saturday)

48th Annual IN-SAAC 'Spring Fling'
at Brown County State Park

May 17 (Saturday)

3rd Annual Jerry 'pawpaw' Peterson
Memorial Cruise In, Noon -? 22864
C.R. 118, Goshen

May 26 (Monday)

Memorial Day parades (info to
come)

June 7 (Saturday)

16th Annual Jim & Ricky Cruise-in
Car Show, Oak Knoll Veterinary Clin
ic, 5498 E. Oak Knoll Rd., Rolling
Prairie, 9:00 - 3:00 EST

June 7 (Saturday)

Mustang Show at Tapper Ford in
Paw Paw



Every Thursday Night

4:30pm-8:00pm

May 2 - September 26

The second Thursday of each month (except for August) features the Michiana Mustangs as the featured car club of the night, with reserved parking spaces near the registration stand and group recognition. Registering your car is completely free and includes coupons to the Essenhaus Restaurant and the Essenhaus Village Shops. If you don't want to go into the restaurant, there are usually a number of Essenhaus-prepared box meals available for purchase. Most nights also feature door prizes, many from the Essenhaus Bakery.

Every week features a variety of cars (most often numbering in the hundreds), from Model Ts and Model As to the latest models out of the showroom, immaculate restorations to wild customs.

On 'our' nights, look for the club banner at the reserved parking area. Even if it's not 'our' night, there's usually a group of club members among the cars on the grounds.

If you haven't already, plan to come to the Essenhaus on Thursday nights for interesting cars, good food, and fellowship with other car folks.

Das Dutchman Essenhaus

240 U.S. 20

Middlebury, IN 46540

Scan the QR code below to go to our website or our Facebook page.



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2025 Event Calendar

(continued from page 1)

Date	Event
Thursday, June 12	Michiana Mustangs night at Essenhaus
Sunday, June 15	Granger Missionary Church Car Show
Friday-Sunday, June 27-29	Horsepower in the Queen City MCA National Show, Cincinnati, OH
Friday, July 4	July 4 Parade in Hebron, IN
Thursday, July 10	Michiana Mustangs night at Essenhaus
Monday, July 14	Club Picnic at Margaret Prickett Park in Mishawaka.
Saturday, July 19	Old Fort Mustangers 42 nd Annual Show, Ft. Wayne
Friday, July 25	Tom's Car Center Lube-A-Thon for Hospice
Saturday, August 2	Cars and Coffee at the Studebaker Museum in South Bend, co-hosted by Michiana Mustangs
Thursday, August 7	Michiana Mustangs night at Essenhaus
Saturday, August 9	Michiana Mustangs 42 nd Annual Mustang and Ford Show at Essenhaus
Monday, August 11	Monthly meeting at Beef 'O' Brady's (meeting at 7:00pm)
Saturday, August 17	Free car show at Congdon Park in Bristol, 11:00-3:00
Sunday, August 17	50th Anniversary Mustang Memories Car Show, Ford World Headquarters, Dearborn, MI
Saturday, August 30	Pork Fest Parade in Kouts, IN (TBC)
Monday, September 8	Monthly meeting at Beef 'O' Brady's (meeting at 7:00pm)
Thursday, September 11	Michiana Mustangs night at Essenhaus
Thursday, September 25	Season-ending Cruise-in at Essenhaus
Sunday, October 5	Hospice 'Coffee Cruise-in for a Cause'
Monday, October 8	Monthly meeting at Beef 'O' Brady's (meeting at 7:00pm) 2025 Officer Nominations at this meeting
Monday, November 8	Monthly meeting at Beef 'O' Brady's (meeting at 7:00pm) 2025 Officer Elections at this meeting

Behind the Wheel

By Scott Lickteig



Dear Michiana Mustangs Members,
As we dive into May, it's time to embrace our commitment to YOU, our cherished members. This year, we are all about enhancing your experience and providing an array of activities that cater to your interests and passions. To accomplish this, we need your valuable feedback!

We've prepared a brief survey designed to gather your thoughts on our club activities, newsletter, and website. Your opinions matter greatly, and we want to ensure that our offerings align perfectly with what you seek in our community.

The survey will be sent as a separate document so that you can include your answers on the survey.

Please take a few moments to fill out the questionnaire. Your insights will be invaluable in helping us develop an exciting and engaging event calendar, improving our communication channels, and fostering a stronger club community.

Thank you for your commitment and contribution to the Michiana Mustangs. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Best,
Scott Lickteig

Local cruise-ins

Tuesday: Portillo's, 5102 N. Main Street Mishawaka IN 46545. (May 14 through July 30)

Wednesday: Simonton Lake Drive-in, 51602 State Road 19, Elkhart, IN 46514-5817

Wednesday: Amvets Post 1978, 1117 E. Bertrand Rd., Niles 5:00-8:00 pm June 5 through August 28

Wednesday: 'Classic Car Cruise In' (5:00-8:00 pm) May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, and September 13, Swan Lake Resort, 5203 Plymouth LaPorte Trail, Plymouth, IN 46563

Thursday: Das Dutchman Essenhaus, 240 U.S. 20, Middlebury, IN 46540 (through September)

Saturday: Downtown Lincolnway, LaPorte (6:00-9:00 pm): June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, and October 5 (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.)

Saturday: Mobilgas Cars and Coffee, 1101 W. Jefferson Ave., Plymouth, IN (7:00-11:00 am) May 3, June 7, July 5, August 2, and September 6)

Saturday: Cars and Coffee at the Studebaker Museum, [201 Chapin Street, South Bend, IN 46601](#) (8:00-10:00 am) May 3, July 5, August 2, September 6)

Saturday: Carguys & Coffee at Carguys Auto Detailing, 1724 Lincolnway West, Osceola, IN (8:00-11:00 am April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, and October 11)

Please let me know of any other cruise-ins you are aware of...

Notes from Last Month's Meeting

The April meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Attending the meeting were Scott & Chris Anderson, David & Peggy Anson, Todd Brown, Greg Burkowski, Art & Becky Campbell, Jerry & Jeri Cardella, Scott Deardorff & Jenny Fogelsong, Pete & Chris Delchambre, Paul DeSmith, West Geairn, Bob & Pat Goeller, Lyn Gorski, Ron Gortney, George & Kenlyn Graber, Jack Hengert, Denny & Patty Jennings, Carl Kindig, Jim & Lisa Krill, Scott Lickteig, Debbie & Mike Mittleman, Phil & Tandy Nicodemus, Tom Podemski, Kenny & Diane Reed, Bill Stickley, Alan & Lisa Town, and David & Jane Yoder

- Todd Brown, along with Scott Deardorff and Jenny Fogelsong were attending their first meeting as members.
- As Jim Schmidt was not in attendance, there was no MCA report this month.
- Twelve members took part in the April 12 cruise to the Gilmore Car Museum in Michigan.
- Members were reminded of the Mustang birthday party at Beef 'O' Brady's on April 17.
- A number of members volunteered for first aid training before this year's car show. Bob Goeller will try to arrange to have the training at Hospice in Mishawaka. The date will be announced as soon as possible.
- We were surprised to learn that former member Howard Barrett had died in January. See page 6.
- West Geairn won a second place award in the South Bend Auto Show in March. He also reminded us of the Jimtown High School car show on Saturday, May 10 (see page 8).
- New member Todd Brown won \$68.00 in the April 50/50 drawing and donated the money back to the club. Other winners were Mike Mittleman and Pat Goeller.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.



Membership News



This Month...

1	George Wachs
3	Dick Cornman
8	Paul DeSmith
9	Hal McClure
10	Becky Campbell
14	Rhonda Belcher
14	Jason Cleveland
19	Bob Goeller
21	Candice Cleveland
23	Pete Delchambre
23	Pat Goeller
24	Harold Jedrzejewski



Anniversaries This Month...

23	Tandy & Phil Nicodemus	53 years
23	Cindy & Ron Olson	38 years
31	Candice & Jason Cleveland	11 years

If I missed your birthday or anniversary, please let me know. Thanks!

We remember...

Leonard Malecki (May 20, 2001)
 Ron Newcomer (May 15, 2019)
 Pat Sauerbeck (May 25, 2020)
 Bonnie Higley (May 12, 2021)
 Jerry Sain, Sr. (May 10, 2022)

Last Month's Finances

Income

Membership income	300.00
50/50 Income	68.00
50/50 Donation (Todd Brown)	68.00
Pre-Registration	30.00

Total Income \$ 466.00

Expenses

MCA discount	25.00
Mustang Day birthday cake	65.98
2025 Show Flyers	85.60
Newsletter Postage	66.00

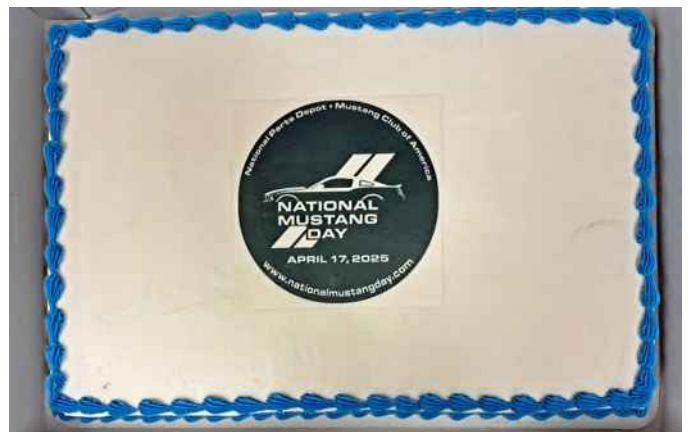
Total Expenses \$ 242.58

Net Income \$ 223.42

Membership Anniversaries

Pete & Chris Delchambre	46 years
Dick & Gloria Cornman	33 years
Steve York	32 years
Bob & Pat Goeller	27 years
Bill & Pat Stickley	25 years
Mona & Roy Miller	24 years
Kevin & Marianne McCarthy	9 years
Rick & Diane Kerlin	1 year
Alan & Lisa Town	1 year

Happy 61st birthday, Mustang!



Thanks to everyone who came out for the party. If you didn't make it, you missed some great cake!

Membership Renewals Due

March (pending deactivation)

Harold & Loretta Jedrzejewski
Kevin & Janette Price

April

Bob & Lori Killackey
Glen & Amy Klein
Paul Weaver

May

Rick & Diane Kerlin
Pete McClure & Jeanne
Mona & Roy Miller
Bill & Pat Stickley

Please note these procedures used by the treasurer for dues collection

- Month #1 (One month before due date): First Invoice
- Month #2 (The month of due date): Second Invoice
- Month #3 (De-Activation Month): No Invoice (notice in newsletter)

Dues should be mailed to David Yoder, 1155 N Center St #B, Bremen, IN 46506

Reminder: As of January 1, 2025, dues are \$30.00/year (\$25.00 per year for MCA members with MCA number)



New Members!

- Todd & Beth Brown, from Granger, with a 2021 Mach 1
- Scott Deardorff & Jenny Fogelsong, from Soth Bend, with an '88 GT, an '04 Mach 1, and an '18

Welcome to the club. We look forward to getting to know you!

Free to Good Home!

(1) Fabric Tonneau Cover for a '96 F-150
Contact Jim at 574-243-0723 or lkrill60@hotmail.com

For Sale



Hood Scoop for 2005-2009 Mustang GT \$75.00



FE 427 Dual 4-barrel Air Cleaner \$350.00



Encore Tonneau Cover for 6 1/2' Ford Bed
(Super Body only) \$350.00

For more details, call Jerry at 269-350-6040

Coffee Cruise in for a Cause

By Pat and Bob Goeller

We started off with a cool morning, but it ended up being one of the nicest days for a car cruise-in. Red Fisher, who oversaw the show, always has coffee and donuts for all the participants and visitors. A nice way to start the day. Cars started arriving at 6:30 a.m. The registration didn't begin until 7 so I guess they wanted to get an early start.

This spring show was the largest thus far. There were 70 participants, including cars of all kinds, motorcycles and trucks. Bryant Goldstone, a professional race driver, brought his 1973 AMC Javelin, which was the fastest street drag car in 2024. Bryant has been in Engine Builders magazine, Sick the Magazine (drag racing), 2023 NHRA Magazine and Hot Rod Magazine. The St. Joseph Valley Street Rods group, who donates all the proceeds from sale of Barnaby's Pizza coupons, was there with 12 of their members and cars. They have donated thousands of dollars from their coupon sales over the years. Michiana Mustangs members came in force with 14 cars.

At the award ceremony our very own members, Ken and Holly Witkowski, won Best of Show for their 2009 red Roush. This fall their car will be featured on the car dash plaque. Congratulations Ken and Holly!



Editor's note: Thanks to Bob and Pat for the story and pictures.

Howard Barrett 1947-2025



During the April meeting we were surprised and saddened to learn that Howard Barrett passed away in January.

Howard joined the club in April 2001. During his 22 years as a member, he spent 15 of them on the board of directors, including 8 years as club president. He was awarded the club's 'Pumper' award in 2003 and 2013.

Howard proudly served in the Navy during the war in Vietnam. He was very active in Vietnam veterans' activities, including organizing reunions of his Navy shipmates.

During last year's show, Howard suffered a medical emergency and received initial first aid from show attendees. He won't know it, but he will have a lasting influence on future shows; many club members will receive first aid training before the show.



Howard accepting the 2003 'Pumper' award from Brad Milliken

Getting to know...

Editor's note: Here are more submissions from the email request I sent to you in January. I have a few more, but far from a majority of members. Please add to my collection, and please include pictures. I think you'll agree that it's easier to get to know someone if you know what they look like! Thanks.

Jason and Candice Cleveland

Family (children at home, etc.): Two sons ages 27 and 21, and one daughter aged 18

Location: South Bend

Occupations: Automation Engineer and Employee Experience Specialist

Member since 2018

Current Mustang: 2016 Race Red GT w/Performance Pack

What got you 'into' Mustangs? My dad, he's always been a Mustang guy.

What is your favorite Mustang? '65 Fastback

What is your 'dream' Mustang? '65 Fastback Restomod, modern chassis and engine underneath, all '65 on the outside.

What is your favorite Mustang experience? Driving mine around Gingerman Raceway

What other activities do you enjoy? Autocross with my wife and dad (she has a 2017 Miata; he has a 2001 Mustang GT).



Ron & Vickie Gortney

Location: Elkhart How Long? 18 years

Occupations: Retired

Member since 2024

Current Mustang: 1970 Mach 1

What got you 'into' Mustangs? Always liked them

What is your favorite Mustang? 1966 Shelby GT 350

What is your 'dream' Mustang? 1966 Shelby GT 350

What is your favorite Mustang experience? Car shows

What other activities do you enjoy? Working on cars

People might be surprised to know that I... Worked on A.J. Foyt's personal 1969 Thunderbird



Ron, I had some space to fill, and I thought you might appreciate this...

Jimtown High School Presents:

JIMTOWN

CAR & CYCLE SHOW

May 10, 2025 from 11 am - 3 pm
(Voting at 12:30 pm)

7 Classifications for Judging

PreWar-1954, 1955-1968, 1969-1984, 1985-2000, 2001-2014, 2015-Present, Cycles

Best of Show is awarded for each classification.

People's Choice Award (\$1 per vote)

\$20.00 per parking spot

Free Admission/Open to the Public

All Vehicles and General Parking Enter at Elementary School

Benefits JHS Student Activities and PBIS

- Food
- Live Music by JHS Band
- Craft Vendors



Call JHS Office at 295-2343 ext. 2271 to pre-register or email
registration to carshow@baugo.org

Payments can be made in JHS office or at registration.

Since the '60s, Ford Has Stored Cars Underground in a Kansas City Cave

HAGERTY | Media

By Benjamin Hunting, 21 October 2024



Courtesy Hunt Midwest

You may have seen a photo floating around the Internet that depicts a gaggle of Mavericks—not the pickup, but the econo-coupe that preceded it—lurking in what appears to be some type of natural cave. Dig a little deeper, and you might even stumble across a sentence or two explaining that these unlikely spelunkers represent overstock stuffed by Ford into a subterranean system carved deep beneath the bedrock of Missouri.

The image might seem an oddball anachronism, some kind of temporary solution to overflowing dealer lots that somehow made sense in the 1970s. Would it surprise you to find out that Ford is actually entering its *seventh decade* of keeping cars in said caves, which are part of a vast business complex called SubTropolis?

Legacy of Limestone

Most of the time, defunct mining operations are viewed as hazards and liabilities. The legacy of resource extraction is highly variable but almost always negative, except in those rare cases where geology and foresight converge to present a singular opportunity.



dnr.mo.gov

Such was the case with the Bethany Falls limestone mine, a 1940s operation that dug deep into the 270-million-year-old bedrock underpinning Kansas City, Missouri. In the process, miners procured much of the stone that was used to construct the buildings and infrastructure needed for the bustling metropolis sprouting up in the center of America. Although limestone

exports were strong throughout the 1940s, over the course of the following two decades it began to look like the economic potential of the mine had been fully wrung from the rock. Left behind was a unique complex of stable, moisture-free man-made caverns located within Kansas City limits. Two decades later, it took an outsider to recognize the commercial potential of the mine's skeletal remains.

"The Hunt family got involved when Lamar moved up from Texas and brought the Kansas City Chiefs with him [in 1963]," said Ryan Tompkins, Director of Sales and Leasing at SubTropolis. "He wanted to invest in Kansas City and really show its people that he was here for good. He wanted to put his roots out. So, he purchased the active limestone mine at that time."

It's here that SubTropolis began to take shape. Rather than continuing to run the facility exclusively as a mine, Hunt began to use it to store mining equipment as well. It was a solid proof of concept: With a depth of up to 160 feet, the temperature inside the network of tunnels and chambers hovers between 68 and 72 degrees all year round, with humidity sitting at a comfortable 40 percent. Thanks to the miners' use of an extraction technique called the "room and pillar method," the enormous underground cavities left behind are supported by 16-foot pillars; the space is open, regular, and, expansive enough to accommodate nearly anything that can fit through its above-ground, drive-in entrance ramps.

Ford Tags In Early



Wiki Commons/Americasroof

It didn't take long before SubTropolis attracted its first major client. An article from the *Ford Kansas City News* employee newsletter dated August 30, 1965, features the headline "Parts Storage Area Completed After 560,000,000 Years," and describes the company's plans to use 82,000 square feet of the SubTropolis facility to support its nearby Kansas City Assembly Plant, which was originally built in 1951. Another article written a month later describes something called the "Ford Family Showing" that welcomed 5000 people into the limestone caves so they could get a look at automaker's 1966 line-up.

"In Kansas, in the Midwest, you get rain, you get hail, you get winter, you get ice, you get everything. And I think [Ford] really wanted to store the vehicles that they were producing and assembling in the area that wouldn't come into harm's way," said Tompkins. "And so, what better location than under a large roof? Since then, Ford has relocated its plant and they are now really adjacent

(continued on page 10)

Since the '60s, Ford Has Stored Cars Underground in a Kansas City Cave

Continued from page 9)

to our underground, so we continue to have a really tight relationship with them.”

Blue Oval in The Bedrock



Hunt Midwest

Although Hunt Midwest works with other automotive partners at SubTropolis, Ford is truly the anchor tenant. With its Kansas City plant still building the F-150 pickup (as it has since 1957), and another nearby Missouri facility churning out the Transit van, the company's underground presence has grown alongside both of those product lines.

“It's really [Automotive Alley](#),” said Tompkins, referring to the business center built above the caves. “You can consider SubTropolis as the ‘basement’ to the surface property and buildings up top. In addition to its production facilities, Ford has located its North American Vehicle Logistics facility, called the NAVL facility, right beside us.”



Hunt Midwest

What this means, functionally, is that every Transit produced in the United States since 2014 passes through Kansas City. This lure, plus the presence of the ever-green sales monster that is the F-Series, has attracted a critical mass of aftermarket upfitters—companies that modify vans and trucks for various commercial or retail buyers—that have chosen to locate their businesses within the confines of the cave complex.

“Since NAVL arrived, we've added close to two dozen upfitters occupying close to a million square feet. That's up to 120 acres of vehicle logistics, [which] equates to 13,000 vehicles [in SubTropolis] at any given time,” said Tompkins.

That footprint is on top of the 2 million square feet provided by surface buildings. The 7.8 million available square footage located underground is served by a stunning 10 miles of roads. Those figures are subject to change, as SubTropolis is constantly expanding, and Hunt Midwest claims 55 million square feet of usable space would be available in total should the entire cave system be developed.



Hunt Midwest

The appeal of being close to Ford's infrastructure is only part what's led to SubTropolis' success as a haven for truck and van customization. Kansas City has the advantage of proximity; it is located within a two-day drive of 90 percent of the population of the continental U.S., greatly simplifying transportation and planning for operations. Then there's the fact that snowy winters, rainy springs, and blistering summer heat have no impact on underground workers, who are free to comfortably install bedliners or transform a panel van without ever needing to surface. And don't forget, it's hard to beat the security of surrounding your business with impenetrable limestone.

Stalactite Drift



Hunt Midwest

SubTropolis claims to be the largest underground business facility ever built. By extension, that makes Ford's operations there the largest subterranean automotive operation. With the vast majority of the action hidden from prying eyes, perhaps it's to be expected that most enthusiasts are unfamiliar with the fact that the Blue Oval has been digging into the Missouri bedrock for 70 years. You don't have to be a Bond villain to appreciate the privacy, convenience, and stability of the caves, but it wouldn't be at all surprising to see something like SubTropolis show up as the backdrop for a chase sequence in the next *Fast and Furious* installment, with Torreto and fam drifting Raptors around 25 square-foot limestone pillars that are as cinematic as they are crucial to supporting an automotive operation like no other.

[Since the '60s, Ford Has Stored Cars Underground in a Kansas City Cave - Hagerty Media](#)

2025 Club Apparel



We are happy to announce a revamped apparel web store in cooperation with Logo Boys in Mishawaka, who will be our new supplier. The site address is <https://michianamustangsapparel.itemorder.com/shop/home>. We have expanded the choices to include not only short and long-sleeve T-shirts, but quarter-zip Microfleece in both Ladies' and Men's styles, hoodies, sweatshirts, jackets, accessories such as carrying bags, blankets, and more. We haven't forgotten the kids - we've included a couple youth apparel items too. For the T-shirts and sweatshirts, you can have the logo on the left chest only, or, for \$6 extra, you can add the full-size logo on the back. Depending on the item, we've offered every color currently available. The biggest change is that T-shirts are now available in quantities of one piece. All items have an attached sizing chart to help you choose the proper size. As with any printed or embroidered garment, these are not returnable so please be sure to order the proper size. You may pick up your orders at Logo Boys in Mishawaka at 3102 Home St. which runs north and south between McKinley Hwy and Day Rd. Or, you may choose to have your items shipped to your home although that is pretty expensive these days. We will be looking for more items to add to our store as time goes on, if anyone has something they'd like to see please let us know. We hope you find the new store exciting!

Please help with your newsletter!

Tell us your story: Do you love talking about your Mustang; what you've enjoyed most or least; how you bought it and why? Then you're halfway there. Send your story to me with a few photos.

Keep us in the loop: Did you do some great mods to your Mustang, or attend an auto-related event or car show? Take a trip that you'd recommend to others? Send me your photos and a short article on what you did.

Teach us: Did you make some mods to your Mustang or work on a restoration or repair? Take a few photos as you go through the process and send them to me.

How to submit: Email your story and photos to me, or mail them to the address in 'The fine print' in the next column.

Word format is preferable to .pdf; I can handle either, but there's an additional step required to convert the .pdf file. I can also handle things if you just write the story in the body of the email.

There are no restrictions on article length, especially since I'm now doing a separate newsletter for mailing. I can have as many pages as I need for emailing.

It's handier to have pictures attached as separate files. If it's important that the pictures be placed at specific places in the article, put them in place in the article; I can work with it without a problem.

The Weather Channel said dress for the mid 70s today.



The fine print...

Michiana Monthly is published monthly by the Michiana Mustangs Club, a regional club of the Mustang Club of America.

Submissions for the newsletter may be made to Michiana Mustangs c/o Art Campbell, 51059 Woodhaven Drive, Elkhart, IN 46514 or e-mail to acampbell@michianamustangs.com. Your submissions should be received by the 25th of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

Michiana Mustangs Sponsors



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 2424 California Rd.
 Elkhart, IN 46514
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beakins@elkhart.k12.in.us