

OBITUARIES/NEWS

www.thejournalnet.com

GREENWOOD

Herschel E. 'Butch' Brown Jr.

Herschel E. "Butch" Brown Jr., 52, died Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006. He was a resident of Greenwood.

Survivors include a daughter, Brandy Miller; three sisters, Susan Brown, Betty Jo Inabnitt and Sandra J. Morrell; and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Herschel E. and Betty Joan (Carrigan) Brown.

A memorial service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Friday at the Greenwood Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5864, 333 S. Washington St. Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service and Crematory is handling arrangements.

INDIANAPOLIS

Clifford 'Cliff' Connerley

Clifford "Cliff" Connerley, 84, of Indianapolis, passed away Sunday, Feb. 5, 2006.

Born Dec. 7, 1921, in Lawrence County, he was the son of Harold and Ava (Dorsett) Connerley, who preceded him in death. He also was preceded in death by one brother, Dewey Connerley; and one sister, Irene King.

Mr. Connerley was a self-employed construction contractor.

Survivors include his wife, Belma F. (Lewis) Connerley; two daughters, Sandy Stevenson and Dee Hopkins; one son, Tom Connerley; six grandchildren, Tamala Dawn Stewart, David William Keeney, Julie Lynne Laidlaw, Tayla Tierra Lee, Katadyn Dawn Connerley and Erin Quill Connerley; and five great-grandchildren, Justin William Stewart, Elizabeth Dawn Stewart, Ian Patrick Laidlaw, Matthew Cedric Laidlaw and Paige Elyse Laidlaw.

Funeral services will be conducted by the Rev. Doug Willey at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Southport Baptist Church, 2901 E. Banta Road, of which Mr. Connerley was an active member, with a graveside service at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday at Mitchell Cemetery in Mitchell.

He also was highly involved with the Boy Scouts of America, Cub Scout Pack 99 and Explorer Post 99 ("Jolly Jolly Bob White-Woodbadge").

Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home, 1605 S. State Road 135 in Greenwood, and after 9 a.m. Wednesday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Southport Baptist Church, the American Lung Association or the Boy Scouts of America. Cards will be available at the funeral home.

HANOVER

Margaret Anne Green

Margaret Anne Green, 85, died Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006, at her residence in Hanover.

Survivors include her husband, James M. Green of Hanover; a son, James R. (Tamara Dunlevy) Green of Franklin; a daughter, Janet (Steven J.) Washburn of Greenwood; a brother, Boone (Wilma Walker) LaGrange of Rio Grande City, Texas; and four grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, W. Roy and Deborah Helen (Boone) LaGrange.

The Rev. James Richards will conduct a service at 2 p.m. Saturday at Hanover Presbyterian Church, 174 E. Main St. in Hanover. Friends may call from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Friday at Vail-Holt Funeral Home, Hanover Chapel, 278 Main St. in Hanover, and from 1 p.m. until service time Saturday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hanover College International Studies Abroad Program or Hanover Presbyterian Church Educational Fund through Vail-Holt Funeral Home, Hanover Chapel, 278 Main St., Hanover, IN 47243.

HOPE

Russell A. Johnson

Russell A. Johnson, 66, died Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006, at his home in Hope.

He was born June 28, 1939, in Omaha, Neb. His parents were Alvin E. and Mattie Lee (Thompson) Johnson. He married Martha Hanlin on Aug. 9, 1974, and she survives. Other survivors include a son, Randy (wife Rebecca) Johnson of Kentucky; a sister, Patty Pazderka of Iowa; and a grandson, Brandon Johnson of Kentucky. He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant brother.

He was a retired self-employed drywall finisher. He was a former director of the Franklin Men's Bowling Association.

He served with the U.S. Navy from 1958 to 1962.

Louis "Gene" Byrd will conduct a service at 2 p.m. today at

Franklin

Betty L. Morris, 65
Charlie R. Wilson, 93

Greenwood

Herschel E. Brown Jr., 52
Indianapolis

Clifford "Cliff" Connerley, 84
Dale S. Wiggins, 64

Elsewhere

Margaret Anne Green, 85
Russell A. Johnson, 66
Vicki Lee Johnson, 57
Ruth Marie Pedigo, 74
Mildred J. Williams, 73

Norman Funeral Home, 604 Main St. in Hope. Friends may call from noon until service time today at the funeral home. Burial will be at Hawcreek Cemetery in Hope.

Memorial contributions may be made to Americare Hospice, 20 Circle Drive, Franklin, IN 46131.

WILMINGTON, N.C.

Vicki Lee Johnson

Vicki Lee Johnson, 57, of Wilmington, N.C., and formerly of Greenwood, passed away Thursday, Feb. 2, 2006.

She was born Aug. 11, 1948, in Franklin County, Ky. Her father was Euler Barger. Her mother is Sybil (Mayhew) Williams of Scottsville, Ky. She married Kenneth R. Johnson. He survives. Other survivors include two sons, Roger D. Johnson and his wife, Emily A., of Indianapolis, and Jeff A. Johnson and his wife, Lisa M., of Indianapolis.

She was a member of Spring View First Baptist Church in Wilmington, N.C., and Greenwood Christian Church.

She had been an office manager for State Farm Insurance for 12 years.

The Rev. Shan Rutherford will conduct a service at 2 p.m. today at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 1977 S. State Road 135 in Greenwood, with visitation from noon until service time today at the funeral home. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood.

FRANKLIN

Betty L. (Witt) Morris

Betty L. (Witt) Morris, 65, passed away Sunday, Feb. 5, 2006, at Johnson Memorial Hospital in Franklin. She was a resident of Franklin.

She was born on March 10, 1940, in Johnson County to Leslie and Laura (Goode) Witt. She married John N. Morris on Oct. 28, 1961. He preceded her in passing in 1997. Survivors include a son, Jon Morris and his wife Marlene of Indianapolis; a brother, Norman Witt of Franklin; a sister, Frances (Witt) Miller of Franklin; a sister-in-law, Marjorie Witt; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild. She was preceded in passing by her parents; brothers, Clifton Witt and Max Witt; and sisters, Helen Quick, Audra Witt and Pauline Witt.

She graduated from Franklin High School. She worked for Western Electric Phone Co., which later became AT&T. She retired from AT&T after 30 years of service in Indianapolis and Columbus, Ohio. She was a member of IBEW Local 2020. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and friends.

A service will be conducted at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Flinn and Maguire Funeral Home, 2898 N. Morton St., in Franklin. Friends may call from 2 p.m. until service time Wednesday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Garland Brook Cemetery in Columbus.

Online condolences may be sent to www.flinnmaguire.com

COLUMBUS

Ruth Marie Pedigo

Ruth Marie Pedigo, 74, died Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006, at her residence in Columbus.

Survivors include her husband, Clyde Pedigo; two sons, William D. (Marcia) Pedigo of Columbus and Tim W. (Beth) Pedigo of Franklin; a daughter, Lea A. Pedigo of Columbus; a sister, Fronia Back of North Vernon; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ollie and Grace M. (Phelps) DeSpain; and

a daughter, Tammy Lou Pedigo.

The Rev. Jerry Ballard will conduct a service at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Jewell-Rittman Family Funeral Home, 3855 25th St. in Columbus. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. until service time Wednesday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburg.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Diabetes Association, 222 S. Downey Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46219; or National Kidney Foundation, 911 E. 86th St., Suite 100, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Information: www.jewell-rittman.com

INDIANAPOLIS

Dale S. Wiggins

Dale S. Wiggins, 64, died Monday, Feb. 6, 2006, at Community Hospital East in Indianapolis. He was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include three brothers, Bobby Wiggins of Mooresville, George Wiggins of North Vernon, and Norman House of Indianapolis; and three sisters, Gloria Giles of Dyersburg, Tenn., Nancy Bowers of Syracuse, and Mary Barnsfather of Delphi. He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank S. and Mary L. (Owens) Wiggins.

A service will be conducted at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home, 302 E. Main Cross St., in Edinburg. Friends may call from 11 a.m. until service time Wednesday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburg.

TAMPA, Fla.

Mildred J. Williams

Mildred J. "Millie, The Avon Lady" Williams, 73, entered into rest Jan. 25, 2006. A resident of Tampa, Fla., Millie was born in Indianapolis on April 17, 1932.

A proud graduate of the Southport High School Class of 1950, Millie was a representative of Avon for more than 22 years and enjoyed bingo.

She was preceded in death by the love of her life, Mr. Ralph Williams, and her beloved mother, Alma Wilson. She preceded her father, Charlie Wilson of Franklin, in death by nine days. She is loved and will be dearly missed by her sons, Bruce (Brenda) and Charlie (Lisa) Williams; sisters, Pat (Don) Gillum and Judy Wilson; and grandsons, Aaron and Adam Williams.

In memory of Millie, the family requests that donations be made to LifePath Hospice, 12973 Temple Parkway, Suite 100, Temple Terrace, FL 33637, in her name.

FRANKLIN

Charlie R. Wilson

Charlie R. Wilson, 93, of Franklin, passed away Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006.

He was retired from Bemis Bag Co. after working there 45 years.

Charlie was a member of Southport Masonic Lodge.

He was married May 16, 1931, to Alma (Pressley) Wilson, the love of his life. They were married for 65 years, and she preceded him in death. His daughter, Mildred Williams, also preceded him by only nine days.

Charlie is survived by two daughters, Judy Wilson and Patricia (Don) Gillum; a sister, Leona Harman; grandchildren, Debbie Repasky, Butch and Duane Gillum and Charlie and Bruce Williams; and nine great-grandchildren.

He loved his family dearly, and they were his life.

A funeral service will be conducted at 11 a.m. today at the Indiana Masonic Home, 690 State St. in Franklin. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood. Visitation was from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at the Indiana Masonic Home. Arrangements are by Little & Sons Funeral Home, 4901 E. Stop 11 Road in Indianapolis.

The family would like to thank everyone at the Masonic home for their love and caring over the years. Memorial contributions may be made to the Indiana Masonic Home, 690 State St., Franklin, IN 46131.

States pushing for blocks on protests at military funerals

By CARRIE SPENCER GHOSE

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio

Several states, including Indiana, are rushing to limit when and where people may protest at funerals, all because of a small fundamentalist Kansas church whose members picket soldiers' burials, arguing that Americans are dying for a country that harbors homosexuals.

During the 1990s, the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., went around picketing the funerals of AIDS victims with protest signs. But politicians began paying more attention recently when church members started showing up at the burials of soldiers and Marines killed in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Legislation is being considered in at least 14 states, and several of the bills are moving quickly, with backing from legislative leaders and governors.

If they pass, the bills could set up a clash between privacy and free speech rights, and court challenges are almost certain.

"We're not proposing to silence the speech of the Westboro Baptist Church, as offensive as most of us find that," said Kansas Senate Majority Leader Derek Schmidt, a Republican. Instead, he said, he is trying to achieve a balance that respects "the rights of families to

States look to curb funeral protests

Fourteen states are considering laws restricting protests at funerals. If passed, some laws could keep protesters from 10 car lengths to five blocks away from a funeral.



bury their dead in peace."

Among the states considering the measures: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Some of the bills specify noisy, disruptive behavior or signs with "fighting words," as in Wisconsin. Some bar protests within one or two hours before or after a funeral starts; others specify distances ranging from 10 car lengths to five blocks away; some include both.

Violations can bring fines of a few hundred dollars, up to 30 days in jail, or more. Wisconsin is calling for fines of up to \$10,000; one

of five Oklahoma bills would set a one-year jail sentence.

The church has about 75 members, most of them belonging to the extended family of Westboro Baptist's pastor, the Rev. Fred Phelps. The church is an independent congregation that preaches a literal reading of the Bible.

Legislation against funeral protests was also introduced in West Virginia last month after a small knot of protesters from Westboro Baptist demonstrated outside a memorial for the 12 men killed in the Sago Mine disaster, arguing that the miners' deaths were a sign of God's wrath for tolerating gays.

Trucker

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

then jackknifed across both southbound lanes, he said.

Duff was unable to stop and smashed into the tanker, Poole said. Meredith was not injured in the crash, according to a state police report.

Witnesses said the driver of the Mercury

couldn't see because of frost on the windows, the report said.

Dawn Nikki Shue, 34, of Lebanon was arrested at her workplace on a charge of leaving the scene of a fatal accident. State police believe she was the driver of the Mercury.

The felony charge carries a maximum penalty of eight years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Poole said the investigation continues and more charges could be filed.

The southbound lanes were reopened at 1:30 p.m. Monday, the report said.



Dawn Nikki Shue was arrested on charges of leaving the scene of a fatal accident.

Fined

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Memorial Hospital in Indianapolis after suffering extensive second-degree burns when the vehicle he was driving struck the buried gas line Oct. 14.

"Our major concern has been that he makes a full recovery,

and it looks like that's going to happen," Weihe safety and human resources manager Barry Jackson said.

After the accident, workers completed more extensive training on how to find buried utility lines, and Weihe purchased new equipment, Jackson said.

As of a Jan. 11 inspection, Weihe had corrected the problem at the Greenwood work site, the state report said.

The department originally fined the company \$4,000 but later reduced the penalty in a settlement with the company. As part of the settlement, the company waived its rights to contest the safety findings, the report said.

Reduced fines are commonly used to encourage the company to fix problems more quickly, Deputy IOWA Commissioner Tim Grogg said.

Headaches

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Richey summed up the new duties in a few simple words.

"It's a pain in the butt," he said.

Richey has spent hours on the phone since enrollment for Medicare-approved prescription drug insurance plans started Jan. 1, trying to iron out paperwork snafus and checking coverage information.

Most calls take at least 15 minutes, though he's been on the phone for two hours waiting to talk to insurance representatives on some occasions, the co-owner of Henderson Pharmacy said.

Some companies will automatically cut the call off after leaving Richey on hold for hours.

A few calls they make seem repetitive too, Richey said. Some companies require both the pharmacist and the doctor's office to call them when a patient needs a drug the insurance plan doesn't cover, he said.

"You feel like you're being cheated out of being able to provide the services," Richey said.

At the Walgreen's store in Franklin, pharmacy workers saw similar problems. One worker spent eight hours working on Medicare questions for one customer, pharmacy manager John Hartman said.

Filling out paperwork for purchases of cold medicines that have possible meth-making ingredients also takes time, as the information has to be handwritten.

The extra paperwork can cause more frustration for independent, locally run pharmacies than chains, which typically have more support workers to field non-health-related questions.

At Henderson Pharmacy, there are only two pharmacists, who may not be working at the same time, and another cashier to field customer questions.

"When you take away somebody else in the work flow, we all have to shift to respond," Richey said.

He estimated that he spent about 85 percent of his time counseling patients on health-care questions a few months ago. Now, he spends less than half his time talking to patients about health concerns, he said.

Pharmacy technical workers are able to help relieve the paperwork burden at some chain stores.

Pharmacists are hoping the extra time spent tracking down insurance information and cold medicines will be temporary headaches.

Richey said he thinks the problems with Medicare prescription drug plans may be less time-consuming after all the bugs in the program are worked out during the next six to eight months.

"We're handling everything," Richey said. "For now, it's just unfortunate."

Medicare insurance questions are already taking less time now than they did in the first week, Hartman said.

Down the line, the cold medicine paperwork may be replaced

by the swipe of a driver's license, he said.

Even with the delays, Hartman said he's able to spend much more time consulting on patient care than when he started working as a pharmacist 30 years ago.

When he started working as a pharmacist, he spent most of his time writing out copies of prescriptions by hand and then filling them.

A patient would rarely talk to a pharmacist first when they had a question about health care, Hartman said.

Now, computer programs help pharmacists track prescriptions, check for drugs that may have been incorrectly prescribed and plug health-care information into online databases.

Improvements in technology help pharmacists not only have more time for patients but also allow them to specialize in their field, becoming experts on heart or diabetes information, Hartman said.

He said that if he could offer any advice, it would be that it's a benefit for retail pharmacists to get some business experience in school.

"You hear all negative, and there are times when it is negative," Hartman said. "But from when I first started, we've gone nowhere but up."



Carrie Hill Au.D., CCC-A
Doctor of Audiology

(317) 736-0080

600 Ironwood Drive, Suite F
Franklin IN 46131



"We listen so you can hear"

Myth: It's too expensive to get a really good hearing aid.

Fact: The very best hearing aids available are well within the reach of most people. Any way you look at it, a hearing aid can be the best investment you can make.

Call today for a FREE Consumer Guide!

KEEPSAKES

Do you need additional copies of the Daily Journal for your family, friends or scrapbook? Limited back issues are available at our Customer Service Center, 2575 N. Morton St. (U.S. 31) in Franklin.

Weekday copies are 50 cents, and Weekend copies are \$1 each, and can be picked up at the newspaper office or delivered to your home for a nominal fee.

To reserve your copies, please call: 736-7101

DAILY JOURNAL