

# OBITUARIES/NEWS

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## NASHVILLE

### Patricia Ann (Lewis) Dewar

Patricia Ann (Lewis) Dewar, 67, died Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2006, at Community Hospital South in Indianapolis. She was a resident of Nashville.

Survivors include her husband, Wesley Dewar of Nashville; son, Wesley D. Dewar II of Yokota, Japan; a brother, Herbert Lewis Jr. of Franklin; three sisters, Mary McClain of Franklin, Bernice Martin of Zephyrhills, Fla., and Norma Deckard of Greenwood; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Herbert Lewis Sr. and Hattie May (Sims) Lewis.

A funeral service will be conducted at 2 p.m. today at Jessen Funeral Home, Franklin Chapel, 197 E. Jefferson St. Friends may call from 1 p.m. until service time today at the funeral home. Burial will be at Greenlawn Cemetery in Franklin.

Information: 346-6155

## INDIANAPOLIS

### Ethel Margaret Ratz

Ethel Margaret Ratz, 90, died Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2006. She was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include her husband, Arthur K. Ratz; six children, Mary E., John A., Thomas J., Richard D., James F., and William A. Ratz; a sister, Roselyne McShane; and 13 grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Elizabeth Sanders.

A prayer service will be conducted at 8:15 a.m. Monday at G.H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home, 5141 Madison Ave. in Indianapolis. A requiem Mass will follow at 9 a.m. at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, 520 Stevens St. in Indianapolis. Friends may call from 2 to 7 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in Indianapolis.

## TRAFALGAR

### Karen Ann Reingardt

Karen Ann Reingardt, 62, of Trafalgar died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, after a lengthy illness.



REINGARDT

She had three brothers and two sisters. One sister, Phyllis Taylor of Weston, W.Va., and one brother, David Jarvis of Arizona, survive. Survivors also include two sons, Benjamin A. Reingardt of Greenwood and Aaron D. Reingardt of Indianapolis; six grandchildren: two girls, Katelyn Olivia and Payton Lauren, and four boys, Daniel, Brian, A.J. and Eric; and her husband of 41 years, Gerald Raymond "Jerry" Reingardt of Trafalgar.

She was a born-again Christian who did devotions every day for more than 25 years. Keeping notes on her devotions, she hoped to write a topical devotional book.

Every day, she had a different group of people she prayed for, co-workers, employees, neighbors, teachers, pastors, etc. She had file cards of God's promises. The final Bible promise read "Your sorrow will turn to Joy," John 16:20. The promise on the day before read "Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer nor his mercy from me," Psalms 66:20. (The family takes comfort in this.)

Karen would want her grandchildren to know she loved them with an everlasting love and she would want them to love God, to do justice and to show mercy.

Karen was hard to get to know, but once you did, you had a friend for life.

The Rev. Doug Bohall will conduct a memorial service at 3 p.m. Sunday at Flinn and Maguire Funeral Home, 2898 N. Morton St. in Franklin. Friends may call from 1 p.m. until service time Sunday at the funeral home.

Information: www.flinn maguire.com

## GREENWOOD

### Charlene E. Simpson

Charlene E. Simpson, 91, passed away Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, at Johnson Memorial Hospital in Franklin. She was a resident of Greenwood.



SIMPSON

She was born Oct. 30, 1914, in Indianapolis to the late Irwin and Grace L. (Jennings) Ackmann. She is survived by her son, Bob Clearwater; her daughters, Phyllis Cantwell and Cathy LaBonte; eight grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and a special friend, Gordon Davidson. She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur Simpson Jr.; and two brothers, Loren and Kenneth Ackmann.

Mrs. Simpson retired from L.S. Ayres, where she worked as a wig stylist.

Friends may call from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday at Wilson St. Pierre

## Greenwood

### Charlene E. Simpson, 91

Trafalgar

### Karen Ann Reingardt, 62

Indianapolis

### Ethel Margaret Ratz, 90

Elsewhere

### Patricia Ann Dewar, 67

Mary E. Smith, 80

### Basil Theo Wallace, 85

Funeral Service & Crematory, Greenwood Chapel, 481 W. Main St. A funeral will be conducted at the Peace Chapel at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis at 10:30 a.m. Monday. Burial will be at Crown Hill Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made to the Simpson family at www.wilsonstierre.com.

## ROCKVILLE

### Mary E. Smith

Mary E. Smith, 80, died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, at Rockville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Rockville. She was a resident of Rockville.

Survivors include two sons, Kevin W. Smith of Centerville and Alan W. Smith of Whiteland; a daughter, Carolyn Collins of Rockville; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter Cline Zachary and Etta Mae (Stewart) Zachary; her husband, Lowell Smith; and a daughter, Annette Marie Smith.

The Rev. Ward Wyndam will conduct a service at 11 a.m. Monday at Rockville Christian Church, on West State Road 36 in Rockville. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the church. Burial will be at Portland Mills Cemetery in Portland Mills. Gooch Funeral Home in Rockville is handling arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Portland Mills Cemetery Association, 9405 E. County Road 100N, Rockville, IN 47872.

Information: www.goochfuneral home.com

## YUMA, Ariz.

### Basil Theo Wallace

Basil Theo Wallace, 85, passed away Monday, Feb. 6, 2006, at his residence in Yuma, Ariz.

He was preceded in passing by his wife, Rosemary Wallace, in 1989; and his daughter, Nancy Robinette in 2005. He is survived by his son, David Wallace; grandchildren, Sherry Zilahi of Jasper, David Robinette of Elliott, Iowa, and Christina Liggins and Brent and Scott Robinette, all of Phoenix; and 12 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be conducted at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Flinn and Maguire Funeral Home, 2898 N. Morton St. in Franklin. Inurnment will follow at Greenlawn Cemetery in Franklin.

Information: www.flinn maguire.com

## Obituary policy

The Daily Journal will publish free death notices for Johnson County area residents, former residents and close relatives of area residents.

A free death notice contains basic information, including details about visitation and services, memorial contributions and some survivors.

Families who want to include more information or include a photograph can purchase a custom obituary. Additional information may include memberships, employment, education and additional survivors.

The Daily Journal takes obituary information from funeral homes. All obituaries must be verified with funeral homes before publication.

The deadline for submitting obituaries to the Daily Journal is 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. On Sundays, the deadline is 1 p.m.

# Ex-FEMA chief shifts blame

## Brown says he told White House severity of Katrina damage

By LARA JAKES JORDAN

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## WASHINGTON

Former federal disaster chief Michael Brown, the face of the government's listless response to Hurricane Katrina, said Friday he told top Bush officials the day the storm howled ashore of massive flooding in New Orleans and warned "we were realizing our worst nightmare."

More defiant than defensive, Brown told senators he dealt directly with White House officials the day of the Aug. 29 storm, including chief of staff Andrew Card and deputy chief of staff Joe Hagin.

He also said officials from the Department of Homeland Security were getting regular briefings that day. Administration officials have said they did not realize the severe damage Katrina had caused until after the storm had passed.

Under oath, Brown told the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee that he could not explain why his appeals failed to produce a faster response.

"I expected them to cut every piece of red tape, do everything they could ... that I didn't want to hear anybody say that we couldn't do everything they humanly could to respond to this," Brown said about a video conference with administration officials — in which President Bush briefly participated — the day before Katrina hit. "Because I knew in my gut this was the bad one."

In the end, the storm claimed more than 1,300 lives, uprooted hundreds of thousands more and caused tens of billions in damage. The devastation in New Orleans and other Gulf Coast communities left Americans with enduring



AP PHOTO

Former Federal Emergency Management Agency director Michael Brown testifies at a congressional hearing on Friday in Washington.

images of their countrymen dying in flooded nursing homes and pleading for rescue from rooftops.

Brown, in his second Capitol Hill appearance since Katrina, told his side to the senators five months after he quit under fire as chief of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

He agreed with some senators who characterized him as a scapegoat for government failures.

"I feel somewhat abandoned," said Brown.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff has said he did not know that New Orleans' levees were breached until Aug. 30. Bush at the time said, "I don't think anybody anticipated the breach of the levees."

At an occasionally contentious

White House briefing Friday, Bush spokesman Scott McClellan said there were conflicting reports about the levees in the immediate aftermath of the storm.

"We knew of the flooding that was going on," McClellan said. "That's why our top priority was focused on saving lives. ... The cause of the flooding was secondary to that top priority and that's the way it should be."

Recounting conference calls that described initial damage reports the day Katrina hit, Brown scoffed at claims that Homeland Security didn't know about the devastation's scope until the next day. He called those claims "just baloney."

The disjointed federal response, Brown said, was in part

## WHAT WAS REAL DEATH TOLL?

NEW ORLEANS — Nearly six months after Hurricane Katrina, more than 1,300 bodies have been found, but the real death toll is clearly higher. How much higher, no one can say with any certainty.

Hundreds of people are still unaccounted for, and some of them — again, no one is sure how many — were probably washed into the Gulf of Mexico, drowned when their fishing boats sank, swept into Lake Pontchartrain or alligator-infested swamps, or buried under crushed homes, said Dr. Louis Cataldie, Louisiana medical examiner.

Cataldie noted that coffins, dislodged from the earth by the floodwaters, have been found great distances from their graveyards, and "if we have coffins that have washed 30 miles away, I can assure you there are people who have."

"The likelihood is there are people we will not find," he said.

New Orleans Coroner Frank Minyard said a final sweep of homes in the devastated Ninth Ward will be done this month with help from federal officials. After that, he said, any more bodies found will probably be discovered in out-of-the-way places by hunters or fishermen.

the result of FEMA being swallowed in 2003 by the newly created Homeland Security Department, which he said was focused on fighting terrorism.

Natural disasters "had become the stepchild of the Department of Homeland Security," he said. Had there been a report that "a terrorist had blown up the 17th Street Canal levee, then everybody would have jumped all over that," he added.

# Studies: More Hispanics taking up smoking habit

By LISA HOFFMAN

SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

More Hispanic women and teenagers are smoking, according to a growing body of research.

After reviewing 11 studies involving 27,000 Hispanics in America, researchers at the University of California found that more Hispanic women smoke the longer they have been in the United States.

The study, unveiled in July, showed that smoking among some Hispanic women doubled after they moved to the United States.

Other surveys have found that Hispanic teenagers also are smoking more.

The 2004 National Health Interview Survey, conducted by the federal National Center for Health Statistics, determined that nearly 21 percent of Hispanic high-school students smoked. That was higher than the approximately 20 percent who did in 2002.

Overall, Hispanics in America smoke less than other racial or ethnic groups. A 2004 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report found that about 17 percent of Hispanics smoke. In contrast, American Indians have the highest rate, at nearly 41 percent; followed by non-Hispanic whites, with about 23 percent; non-Hispanic blacks, with 22 percent, and Asians with 13 percent.

Some Hispanic-rights advocates contend that the low rate of smoking by Hispanics has served as a beacon to tobacco companies looking for new customers.

Katherine Culliton, a lawyer with the nonprofit National Latino Council of Alcohol and Tobacco Prevention, in Washington, accuses the tobacco industry of deliberately targeting Latinos in its advertising and other ways. Popular telenovelas — prime-time soap operas — often feature characters who smoke, which sends the message that to do so is glamorous or attractive.

She also said that more smoking-related billboards and in-store ads can be found in Latino neighborhoods, and that Spanish-language magazines often feature cigarette ads.

"They're bombarded with ads," Culliton said. Tobacco companies "are trying to get away with things they don't do in" advertising to white customers.

Philip Morris USA, one of the largest cigarette companies, denied the accusations. Company spokeswoman Jennifer Gooisch noted that a landmark legal settlement in 1998 prohibits much of the marketing Culliton alleges is occurring.

Even though tobacco firms are allowed to advertise in magazines, Philip Morris does not do so, nor has it placed its products in any movies or television shows since 1990, she said.

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visit [www.partnershipjc.org](http://www.partnershipjc.org)

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## Did you know...

- More than 28 million Americans currently have some degree of hearing loss. And this number is expected to soar to 78 million by 2030.
- 30 million Americans are exposed to hazardous noise on the job every day.
- Hearing damage can begin at 85 decibels - roughly the sound of a lawnmower.

<sup>1</sup>As seen in Newsweek, June 6, 2005.

<sup>2</sup>Source: cdc.gov/noish

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