

NEWS/OBITUARIES

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● School

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Indiana child to attend kindergarten all day, said Sen. Vi Simpson, D-Bloomington.

Senate Democrats said they hoped the General Assembly would pass their plan this year, then work out funding details during next year's session, which will include debate on the state's budget.

"We have been talking about full-day kindergarten, and every time it comes up, everybody says they're for it, but nobody wants to bite the bullet and do it and it never gets done," Simpson said. "In my opinion, the only way full-day kindergarten will ever be implemented in the state of Indiana is if we commit the next legislature to do it."

During the next session, however, lawmakers could decide not to fund the proposal.

Supporters say attending kindergarten all day helps students, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, get a head start on learning. The Department of Education has for years supported efforts to implement the program. Some schools do have all-day kindergarten.

Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels supports the idea but says the state should wait until it can afford it.

"We agree on the concept, and I think we ought to have a good, constructive conversation about the financially responsible timing," he said. "But they are raising a good idea, one that I've been for openly now for two or three years."

Sen. Earline Rogers, D-Gary, said investing in early childhood education will pay off in the future.

"We realize that this is a big cost, but we argue that there is even a greater cost if we don't do it," Rogers said. "Indiana can't afford to wait any longer."

The Senate Democrats' education plan, dubbed "Start Smart," includes several other initiatives, which would:

- Give children one free book every month from the date of their birth until their fifth birthday.

- Create a trust fund to award matching grants to school corporations that want to provide early education programs, including for preschool, parental education and early reading.

- Expand education purchasing pools that allow school corporations to buy goods and services in bulk to save money.

Meanwhile, a Democrat in the House says he will introduce a similar full-day kindergarten bill.

Rep. John Day, D-Indianapolis, is proposing a \$200 million early childhood education program that includes full-day, a preschool pilot program and grants to help teachers earn graduate degrees.

Day's bill would pay for the program with an income tax increase. Taxes for those making between \$75,000 and \$99,999 would rise from 3.4 percent to 3.6 percent, and those making more than \$100,000 would pay 4.4 percent.

Day acknowledges it would be difficult for lawmakers to vote for an income tax increase during an election year but said it's important that the plan has funding behind it.

"I think this is a fair way to do that," Day said.

FRANKLIN

Roberta M. (Miller) Bates

Roberta M. (Miller) Bates, 80, died Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006, at Indiana Masonic Home in Franklin. She was a resident of Franklin and a former resident of Bradenton and Lake Okeechobee, Fla., from 1967 to 1993.



BATES

She was born Oct. 12, 1925, in Stones Crossing in Johnson County. Her parents were Charles W. and Hallie B. (Farley) Miller. She married Ray A. Bates on May 20, 1943, in Whiteland. He preceded her in death July 10, 2005.

Survivors include a son, Ronald E. Bates (Celine) of Morgantown; a daughter, Jaclynn S. McKell (David) of Tampa, Fla.; a sister, Alethia Prange of Wannamaker; six grandchildren, Andrea J. Amich, Debra L. Stout, James W. Byers, Jodee D. Decker, Jeanna L. Byers and David H. McKell III; and eight great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband; two brothers, Cecil and Mitchell Miller; and a sister, Gertrude Harter.

She graduated from Center Grove High School in 1943.

She was a homemaker.

She was a member of Banta Methodist Church.

The Revs. Doug Bohall and Cheryl Garbe will conduct a service at 1 p.m. Saturday at Meredith-Clark Funeral Home, Cremation and Personalization Center, 179 E. Mulberry St. in Morgantown. Friends may call from 11 a.m. until service time Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood.

Memorial contributions may be made to Morgantown United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 226, Morgantown, IN 46160. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.meredith-clark.com.

FRANKLIN

J.D. Fowler

J.D. Fowler, 93, passed away Tuesday evening, Jan. 3, 2006, at Franklin United Methodist Community. He was a lifelong resident of Franklin.



FOWLER

He was born May 31, 1912, in Livingston, Ky., to Alex and Mary DeNola (Norman) Fowler. He married Elma Mae Gill on July 27, 1932, in Columbus. She preceded him in death.

Survivors include three daughters, Mary M. Glassburn of Franklin, Judith E. Robbins of Indianapolis and Nola P. Burge of Centerville, Ohio; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, David and Norman Fowler; and five sisters, Olen F. Hopkins, Kathleen Fowler, Marguerite Mason, Cleo Robertson and Mary D. Carr.

Mr. Fowler was a lifelong farmer in Needham Township. He was a member of the Farm Bureau Co-op Extension and served as sur-

Franklin
Roberta M. Bates, 80
J.D. Fowler, 93
Greenwood
Iona R. Jackson, 88
John Carter Jackson Jr., 76
Indianapolis
Richard Lee Isaac Sr., 71
Dorothy L. Staley, 94
Elsewhere
Robert L. Van Dyke, 65

veyor for 15 years with the Johnson County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

He was a member of Second Mount Pleasant Church, where he had previously served as a deacon, head usher and trustee.

The Rev. Gobel Brockman will officiate a funeral at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service, Vandivier-Tudor Chapel, 951 N. Main St., Franklin. Calling will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Second Mount Pleasant Church, 1540 N. County Road 800E, Franklin, IN 46131. Online condolences may be sent to the Fowler family at wilsonstpierre.com.

INDIANAPOLIS

Richard Lee Isaac Sr.

Richard Lee Isaac Sr., 71, died Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2006. He was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis (Gillispie) Isaac; a son, Richard (Joanna) Isaac Jr. of Indianapolis; a brother, William R. Isaac; three sisters, Mildred Slater, Nell Poland and Betty Lilly; and a grandson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Elsie (Montgomery) Isaac.

A service will be conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday at Singleton Community Mortuary and Memorial Center, 7602 Madison Ave. in Indianapolis. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today, with a Masonic service at 7:15 p.m., at the mortuary. Burial will be at Anderson Cemetery.

GREENWOOD

Iona R. Jackson

Iona R. Jackson, 88, passed away Thursday, Jan. 5, 2006, at Greenwood Village.



I. JACKSON

She was born Feb. 28, 1917, in Beech Grove to the late James H. and Rita (Conway) Boyer. She was married to Joseph Seborn Jackson. He preceded her in death.

Survivors include one daughter, Karen Forslund; one son-in-law, Dana Forslund; two daughter-in-laws, Bonnie Jackson and Carolyn Farwick; one brother, Elmer Boyer; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded by two sons, Jerry L. and James E. Jackson; three brothers, Harry, James O. "Toby" and Cleo Boyer; and one sister, Ruthie Boyer.

Mrs. Jackson was a homemaker. She was a member of Greenwood United Methodist Church and Order of the Eastern Star, Beech Grove Chapter.

Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory, Greenwood Chapel, 481 W. Main St. A service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood.

Friends may make online condolences at www.wilsonstpierre.com.

GREENWOOD

John Carter 'J.C.' Jackson Jr.

John Carter "J.C." Jackson Jr., 76, died Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006, at his residence in Greenwood.

Survivors include his wife, Nora (Herald) Jackson; four daughters, Rosalind (Richard) Koscher of Fort Wayne, Terry (Charles) Smith of Columbus, Linda (Ray) Grammer of Elizabethtown and Rita (Dan) Bentley of Wise, Va.; a son, John (Leah) Jackson of Greenwood; 17 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, the Rev. John "J.C."

Carter Jackson Sr. and Betty (Vaughn) Jackson; his first wife, Mildred (Stewart) Jackson; and a daughter, Jean Alice Bentley.

The Rev. Elmer Wallen will conduct a service at 2 p.m. Saturday at Flinn and Maguire Funeral Home, 2898 N. Morton St. in Franklin. Friends may call from 11 a.m. until service time Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Greenlawn Cemetery in Franklin.

INDIANAPOLIS

Dorothy L. Staley

Dorothy L. Staley, 94, died Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006. She was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include four children, Patsy R. (Donald) Smith of Indianapolis, O. Glenn (Wanda) Staley of Murrells Inlet, S.C., N. Jean (Hugh) Wheatley of Greenwood and Eileen S. (Donald) Miller of Terre Haute; a brother, Floyd Davis of Muncie; a sister, Barbara Welch of Muncie; 11 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ray and Rosie Davis; and her husband, Harry O. Staley.

A service will be conducted at

11:30 a.m. Saturday at G.H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home, 5141 Madison Ave. in Indianapolis. Friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood.

AVON

Robert L. Van Dyke

Robert L. Van Dyke, 65, died Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006, in Martinsville. He was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include a daughter, Kelly Kent; three sons, Robert L., Jeffrey S. and William J. Van Dyke; two sisters, Lola Grider and Wanda Broadus; and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Sue Ann Van Dyke.

A service will be conducted at 11:30 a.m. Monday at Conkle Funeral Home, Avon Chapel, 76 N. State Road 267 in Avon. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 6100 W. 96th St., Indianapolis, IN 46278.

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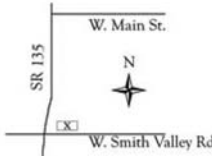
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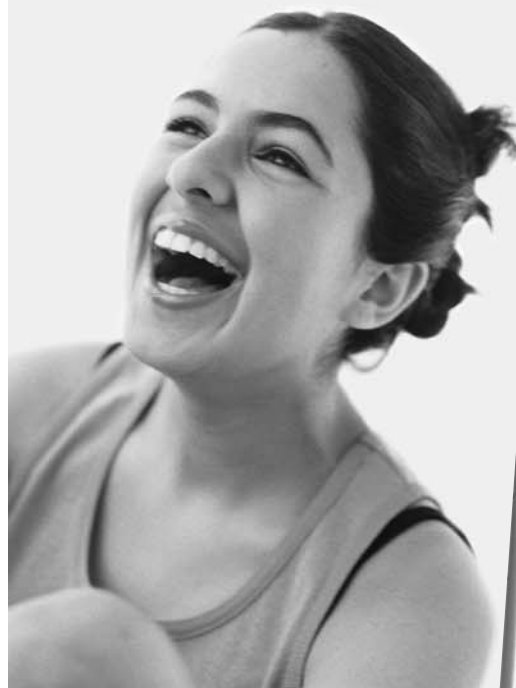
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