

# NEWS/OBITUARIES

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## Site aims to reduce errors

The Associated Press

### TERRE HAUTE

Indiana is set to become the second state in the nation, after Minnesota, to create a hospital-specific reporting system designed to prevent medical errors.

Early next month, a Web site run by the Indiana State Department of Health will debut that discloses information about medical errors, including the name of the hospital where the error occurred, the type of error and roughly when the error happened.

During a joint news conference

Friday, representatives from six western Indiana local medical centers explained the program and its purpose.

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels signed an executive order at his inauguration in 2005 mandating public reporting of medical errors.

That order followed recommendations of the Institute of Medicine's landmark report, "To Err Is Human," issued in 2000. It found that most medical errors result from system failures or processes inadequately designed to prevent medical personnel from inadvertently causing harm.

## Autistic

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

When parents first find out their child is autistic, they feel like no one else understands, Becca Lee said. The group gives parents a place to get to know people, to understand and learn which doctors will help the most and what therapy actually works, she said.

Many children benefit from sensory therapy, which helps calm them down. Sheila Benham's 6-year-old son Jack Morrison likes the way Legos feel, so touching them makes him feel better.

Some children like the way weight feels, so holding a weighted stuffed animal can help. Some of the grants awarded by the group will pay to set up a "sensory room" at local schools so children with autism can escape when they need to.

Jack Morrison was the inspiration for the autism support group. The group got started after Benham and a friend organized Jack's Walk in 2004 to raise money to start the group.

Parents of children with autism first met as a group in February 2005. About 100 people are on the group's member list. Now the group meets every month to learn more about the disorder and share tips for helping their children.

Lee has two autistic sons, 8-year-old Andrew Justis and 11-year-old Matt Justis.

Lee sees hope with Matt because she can now recognize when things are going to get bad, and his meltdowns are less frequent. She has seen improvements in his social skills and his performance at school.

He can go four months and be fine, and then have a meltdown where he will cry and hit himself, she said.

These meltdowns can be a healthy release, though, Lee said.

Andrea Bilsland agrees. Allowing her 8-year-old son, Noah, to release what's bothering him can help, she said.

"It's stressful for them to be normal," Lee said.

One of the biggest struggles for parents with autistic children is getting other people to understand. Children with autism don't look any different from children without autism.

Each parent said they have experienced the stares in public and the feeling that others don't understand. A tantrum in public isn't just their child misbehaving; it's a part of the disorder.

Change can cause a child with autism to have a meltdown.

School delays and cancellations are difficult, too. After so many days of delays, Jack Morrison didn't want to go to school, Sheila Benham said.

She would tell him the bus has

### AT A GLANCE

#### Want more information?

Visit the Johnson County Autism Support Group Web site at [www.jcasg.org](http://www.jcasg.org).

#### Grants awarded by the group

The Johnson County Autism Support Group awarded more than \$8,000 in grants to area schools and educators to enhance the school experience for kids with autism. The money came from group fund-raisers, including a golf outing and Jack's Walk.

"Numicon Math System," Pleasant Grove Elementary School, Yvonne Sturm, \$610

"Special Needs Academic Camp for Kids," Center Grove schools, Toni Flowers, \$250

"Can You Hear Me Now?" Creekside Elementary School, Trinda Barocas, \$1,200

"Social Communication Development," Pleasant Grove Elementary and Center Grove Middle School North, Sara Milano, \$175

"Greenwood Elementary Activity Club," Earlywood Education, Lesa Paddock and Mary Irvin Center, \$500

"Reading and Communication," Northeast Elementary School, Dawn Phelps, \$1,150

"Communication," Center Grove Elementary School and Center Grove High School, Judy Proctor, \$640

"Fifth Grade Academy," East Side Elementary School, Roxie Kindelsperger, \$401

"Autism Awareness," Isom Central Elementary, Sue Rice, \$107

"Sensory Integration Room," Special Services Johnson County, Martha Hotz and Lisa Geyer, \$270

"Bridging the Gap," Custer Baker Middle School, Mary Petrie, \$2,000

"Sensory Integration Room," Center Grove Elementary School, Leslie Ritter and Nicole DeKemper, \$801

#### Spring Swing for Autism

A golf outing at noon April 20 will help support the Johnson County Autism Support Group. All proceeds from the event will provide assistance to families for therapy and education for autistic children.

The outing includes an 18-hole game and other golf competitions, including a hole-in-one contest and a longest-drive contest.

The event costs \$60 for an individual or \$240 for a team of four people to participate. Sponsors also can pay \$50 to \$1,500 to support the event.

Greenwood Community High School senior Brittany Hassee is organizing the event as part of her senior project.

For more information, contact Hassee at 888-5299, Amanda Cooper at 888-9581 or e-mail [golfouting@jcasg.org](mailto:golfouting@jcasg.org).

arrived at the house and he would say, "No, thank you," she said.

While each child deals with autism differently and is at a different place on the spectrum of the disorder, parents are relieved they aren't alone.

The group allows them to share what they are experiencing and what is working to help their child.

Even a phone call during the day brings waves of fear that something is wrong at school. Knowing that other members of the group feel the same way brings relief, the parents said.

SELMA, Ala.

### Joseph Elmer Bills

Joseph Elmer Bills, 73, retired U.S. Air Force career master sergeant, civil service employee and honorable veteran, of Selma, Ala., formerly of Franklin, was mercifully called upon by the church triumphant from a Birmingham, Ala., area hospital on Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007.

Survivors include his wife of almost 47 years, Gertie Lee (Green) Bills of Selma, Ala.; a stepdaughter, Suellen Hall of Trussville, Ala., and son-in-law, Bill; a son, Sgt. Joe Bills of the Selma Police Department and daughter-in-law, Margaret; two grandsons, Spc. Benjamin Hall of Fort Lewis, Wash., and Evan Hall of Trussville, Ala.; two siblings, Phyllis Roush and Bobby Lee Bills, both of Franklin; and numerous extended family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Nelson S. Bills and Florence H. Bills; two siblings, Maxine G. "Buddy" Bills and Nelson Broniszewski, both formerly of Franklin; and a stepson, Marty Helton, formerly of Selma, Ala.

An honor service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Barrett Road United Methodist Church in Selma, Ala., with Greg Cory officiating and Lawrence Brown Service Funeral Home directing, with interment immediately following at Antioch United Methodist Church Cemetery in Chilton County, Ala. Visitation will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Barrett Road United Methodist Church, 615 Barrett Road, Selma, Ala., 36701; or Tabernacle Christian Church, 198 N. Water St., Franklin, IN 46131.

COLUMBUS

### Connie Lou Frazier

Connie Lou Frazier, 52, died Friday, Feb. 23, 2007, at Columbus Regional Hospital. She was a resident of Columbus.

Survivors include her husband, Ernest Frazier; two sons, Bruce (Rhonda) Galbraith and Travis Galbraith, both of Columbus; two stepsons, Gary (Marcella) Frazier and Billy (Mary) Baise, both of Glasgow, Ky.; a stepdaughter, Becky Bilyeu of Bowling Green, Ky.; three brothers, Timothy Johnson of Taylorsville and Jesse Lee (Leasa) Johnson Jr. and Clarence Douglas (Lisa) Johnson, both of Columbus; two sisters, Terri (Paul) Waltz of Edinburgh and Donna (Charles) Hollenbeck of Columbus; and nine grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jessie L. Johnson Sr. and Lucille (McGaha) Johnson.

The Rev. Mark Myers will conduct a service at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home, 302 E. Main Cross St., in Edinburgh. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Burial will be at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburgh.

FRANKLIN

### Marthagrace Hahn

Marthagrace Hahn, 91, died Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2007, at the Indiana Masonic Home in Franklin. She was a resident of Franklin.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Earle W. Hahn.

A service will be conducted at 11 a.m. today at the Kresge Chapel at the Indiana Masonic Home, 690 S. State St. in Franklin. Friends may call from 10 a.m. until service time today at the chapel. Burial will be at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Flanner & Buchanan Funeral Center, Washington Park East,

**Franklin**  
Marthagrace Hahn, 91  
Tom G. Jones, 72  
**Greenwood**  
Bernal Story, 95  
**Elsewhere**  
Joseph Elmer Bills, 73  
Connie Lou Frazier, 52  
Jack L. Powers, 77

in Indianapolis is handling arrangements.

Information: [www.flanner-buchanan.com](http://www.flanner-buchanan.com)

FRANKLIN

### Tom G. Jones

Tom G. Jones, 72, passed away Saturday, Feb. 24, 2007, at Wishard Memorial Hospital in Indianapolis. He was a resident of Franklin.



JONES

He was born Oct. 21, 1934, in Defiance, Ohio, to Russell and Edith (Guinn) Jones. He married Susan Crawford on Sept. 17, 1982. She survives.

Other survivors include his children, Amy Elizabeth Welsh (Dr. Michael) of Indianapolis, Mary Margaret Goss (Richard) of Franklin, Russell Nicholas Jones of Franklin, Jennifer Ann Auger (Michael) of Franklin, Robert Parker Whitacre (E.J.) of Noblesville, James Alan Whitacre of Crested Butte, Colo., and Elizabeth Lee Feldman (Derrick) of Indianapolis; twelve grandchildren, Carey Elizabeth Rogers, Kelly Marie Rogers, Thomas Leonard Rogers, Robert Joseph Welsh, William Austin Goss, Nicholas Coleman Jones, Isabel Marie Auger, Margaret Therese

Auger, Samuel Normand Auger, Annette Leduc Auger, Grace Margaret Whitacre and Natalie Jayne Whitacre; and one great-grandchild, Max Charles Snyder.

He was preceded in passing by his parents; and his brother, Robert James Jones.

Mr. Jones was a 1952 graduate of Franklin Community High School, where he was the first athlete to letter in five sports. He received his law degree from Indiana University School of Law, Indianapolis, J.D. 1961; Indiana University, B.S. in economics in 1956. He lettered in golf at Indiana University.

Mr. Jones was admitted to practice in Indiana and was a member of the Indiana State, Johnson County and American bar associations, Indiana Trial Lawyers Association, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, the National Associations of Criminal Defense Lawyers and American Board of Trial Advocates.

He established the pro bono legal project for free legal services for underprivileged people in Johnson County. He was also admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court, both Northern and Southern Districts, in Indiana. He has been listed in "The Best Lawyers in America" since 1987.

Mr. Jones was a member of Franklin Masonic Lodge 107 F&AM, the Shrine Club, Franklin Elks Lodge 1818, Legends of Indiana Golf Club and the Misty Creek Golf Club in Sarasota, Fla.

The Rev. William Horner will conduct a memorial service at 4 p.m. Wednesday at Tabernacle Christian Church, 198 Water St. in Franklin. Flinn & Maguire Funeral Home in Franklin is handling arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the IU Cancer Center for esophageal cancer, 535 Barnhill Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46202; or to the IU Foundation Scholarship in memo-

ry of Tom G. Jones, P.O. Box 500, Bloomington, IN 47402.

DANVILLE

### Jack L. Powers

Jack L. Powers, 77, died Saturday, Feb. 24, 2007. He was a resident of Danville.

Survivors include a son, Edward Powers; a daughter, Jacqueline Michener; a grandchild; and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Ethel Powers.

A service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 1977 S. State Road 135 in Greenwood. Friends may call from 2 to 6 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Information: [www.forestlawncemetery-flh.com](http://www.forestlawncemetery-flh.com)

GREENWOOD

### Bernal Story

Bernal Story, 95, died Friday, Feb. 23, 2007. He was a resident of Greenwood.

Survivors include a daughter, Cindy (Bob) Huffman; and a grandson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Lou Story.

A service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 1977 S. State Road 135 in Greenwood. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Greenwood Christian Church Building Fund, 2045 Averitt Road, Greenwood, IN 46143.

Information: [www.forestlawncemetery-flh.com](http://www.forestlawncemetery-flh.com)

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