

NEWS/OBITUARIES

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Stroke offers addiction clue

Damage to part of brain seems to erase urge to smoke, study says

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

A longtime smoker, a patient code-named Nathan, simply forgot his two pack-a-day addiction after a stroke.

He had no cravings, no desire to quit.

"My body forgot the urge to smoke," he told his doctor nonchalantly.

His comment inspired research that suggests damage to a silver dollar-sized spot deep in the brain can wipe out the urge to smoke. The surprising discovery may shed important new light on addiction.

"The quitting is like a light switch that went off," said Dr. Antoine Bechara of the University of Southern California, who scanned the brains of 69 smokers and ex-smokers to pinpoint the region involved. "This is very striking."

Clearly brain damage isn't a treatment option for people struggling to kick the habit.

But the finding, reported in today's edition of the journal *Science*, does point scientists toward new ways to develop anti-smoking aids by targeting this little-known brain region called the insula. And it sparked excitement among addiction specialists who expect the insula to play a key role in other addictions, too.

"It's a fantastic paper; it's a fantastic finding," said Dr. Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse and a longtime investigator of the brain's addiction pathways.

"What this study shows unequivocally is the insula is a key structure in the brain for perceiving the urges to take the drug," urges that are "the backbone of the addiction," Volkow

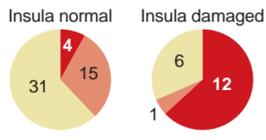
Portion of brain linked to addiction

A recent study found that smokers with brain damage to the insula were able to stop addictive urges.



Insula

- Patients who quit very easily, addiction broken
- Regular quitting
- Nonquitters



SOURCE: Science
AP

added. Why? The insula appears to be where the brain turns physical reactions into feelings, such as feeling anxious when your heart speeds up.

When those reactions are caused by a particular substance, the insula may act like sort of a headquarters for cravings.

Some 44 million Americans smoke, and the government says more than 400,000 a year die of smoking-related illnesses.

Declines in smoking have slowed in recent years, making it unlikely that the nation will reach a public health goal of reducing the rate to 12 percent by 2010.

Nicotine is one of the most addictive substances known, and it's common for smokers to suffer relapses when they try to quit.

GREENWOOD Merrill I. Abell

Merrill I. Abell, 94, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2007, at Community Hospital South in Indianapolis. He was a 72-year resident of Greenwood.

He was born April 19, 1912, in Petersburg to the late Henry and Grace (Pride) Abell. He married Edith Willis on Dec. 28, 1935, and she preceded him in death on Sept. 20, 2000.

He is survived by three sons and their wives, Don and Donna Abell of Greenwood, Ron and Dorothy Abell of Greenwood and John and Gloria Abell of Carmel; a sister-in-law, Elizabeth Abell; eight grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Paul and Oral "Jim" Abell; and a sister, Mildred James.

Merrill retired in 1972 from International Harvester after 32 years as a layout inspector. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Greenwood and was a former president of Greenwood Senior Citizens Center.

The Rev. Tom Bridges will conduct a funeral service at 11 a.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church of Greenwood, 99 W. Main St. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service and Crematory, Greenwood Chapel, 481 W. Main St. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church of Greenwood, 99 W. Main St., Greenwood, IN 46142.

Online condolences may be sent to the Abell family at www.wilsonstpiere.com.

INDIANAPOLIS Franca Anne (Persell) Ballard

Franca Anne (Persell) Ballard, 65, died Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007, in Indianapolis. She was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include a son, James Richard (Ha-Trang) Parks; three daughters, Becca (Garth) Cartledge, Roni (Mark) Boehnlein and Renee (Russ) Ham; and seven grandchildren.

Friends may call from 2 to

Franklin
Lenora E. Kleingartner, 82
Greenwood
Merrill I. Abell, 94
Barbara A. Green, 71
Diane Jones, 58
Martha Jane Pepper
Indianapolis
Franca Anne Ballard, 65
Jim S. Harris, 76
Elsewhere
David R. Cline Jr., 94
Dorothy "Dot" Hercamp, 85

6 p.m. Saturday at 8811 Rapp Drive in Indianapolis.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Business Women's Association Greenwood Chapter Scholarship Fund, Attn: Janell Gidens at National Bank of Indianapolis, 1689 W. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood, IN 46143.

BROWN COUNTY David R. Cline Jr.

David R. Cline Jr., 94, died Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007, at his residence in Brown County.

Arrangements are pending with Meredith-Clark Funeral Home, Cremation & Personalization Center in Morgantown.

GREENWOOD Barbara A. Green

Barbara A. Green, 71, died Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2007, at her residence in Greenwood.

Arrangements are pending at G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home.

INDIANAPOLIS Jim S. Harris

Jim S. Harris, 76, died Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2007. He was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Harris; a son, Dwayne Harris; a daughter, Rhonda Woods; a brother, Loren G. Harris; and four grandchildren.

A funeral service will be conducted at 1 p.m. Saturday 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 American Cancer Society, 6030 W. 62nd St., Indianapolis, IN 46278.

SEYMOUR Dorothy "Dot" Hercamp

Dorothy "Dot" Hercamp, 85, died Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2007, at Lutheran Community Home. She was a resident of Seymour.

Survivors include a daughter, Sandra DeSpain of Greenwood; two sons, James (Brenda) Hercamp of Indianapolis and Jack (Bea) Hercamp of Seymour; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ernest and Gertrude (Burns) McKain; and her husband, Malcom James Hercamp.

The Rev. Rosa Harris will conduct a funeral service at 1:30 p.m. today at Voss Chapel, 316 N. Chestnut St. in Seymour. Friends may call from noon until service time today at the chapel. Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery in Seymour.

Memorial contributions may be made to Rockford United Methodist Church Building Fund, 1934 N. Ewing St., Seymour, IN 47274, or Lutheran Community Home, 111 W. Church Ave., Seymour, IN 47274.

Information: www.vossfuneralservice.com

GREENWOOD Diane Jones

Diane Jones, 58, died at her residence in Greenwood.

Arrangements are pending at G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home.

FRANKLIN Lenora E. Kleingartner

Lenora E. Kleingartner, 82, of Franklin, formerly of Greenwood, died Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2007.

She was born Dec. 26, 1924, to the late Jacob and Leatina Schlenz.

She was a beautician and a member of Mount Auburn United Methodist Church.

Survivors include two sons, T.J. "Jack" (Janet) Kleingartner and James (Jan) Kleingartner; a brother, Art Schlenz; a sister, Ardella Myers; two grandsons, Clint Kleingartner and Travis (Mary) Kleingartner; and two great-grandchildren, Samuel and Jacob.

Lenora was preceded in death by her husband, Theo David Kleingartner; a brother, Irvin Schlenz; and a twin sister, Leonita Nitchkze.

A funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 1977 S. State Road 135, Greenwood. Visitation will be from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

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

GREENWOOD Martha Jane Pepper

Martha Jane Pepper, loving mother, grandmother and aunt, passed away Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007.

She was preceded in death by her husband, David Glen Pepper.

Survivors include two daughters, Kim (Dean) Stecher and Karen (Lynn) Jackson; two sisters, Ida Harmon and Fay Lee; five grandchildren, Rob, Melissa, Joseph, Michael and Lynn Andrew; a great-grandchild, Emalynn; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Viewing will be from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. today at SS. Francis and Clare Catholic Church, 5901 Olive Branch Road in Greenwood, followed by the Mass of Christian burial at 11:30 a.m. in the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the donor's favorite charity.

Daniel F. O'Riley Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

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 custom obituaries on this page have been paid for.

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.

Fewer women getting scanned

Drop in mammograms troubling some doctors

By MIKE STOBBE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA

The percentage of American women getting mammograms has dropped slightly over the past few years, in what health officials said Thursday is a troubling sign that the battle against breast cancer may be flagging.

The share of women 40 and older who said they had a mammogram in the previous two years slipped from 76.4 percent to 74.6 percent between 2000 and 2005, according to study released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The rate had risen dramatically over the past two decades, from 29 percent in 1987, according to American Cancer Society statistics.

The CDC and other researchers said possible explanations for the drop include a shortage of mammography screening centers and specialists and a lack of health insurance among patients.

Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, the cancer society's deputy chief medical officer, said the decline may also reflect complacency among women.

"This is a group of women who have grown up with mammography as they've aged, they've perhaps had it done many times over the years, and they've decided, 'Well, it's been OK, maybe I can put it off for a while,'" he said.

He warned that the recently reported declines in breast cancer incidence rates and cancer deaths are at risk if the decline continues.

"If we don't pay attention now, we run the risk of seeing some of the gains we've made reversed," he said.

ANNUAL MEETING
Hopewell Cemetery Association Lot Holders
Sat., January 27, 2007
10:00 a.m.
at Hopewell Church

Come Celebrate
The Retirement & Birthday Party
for
LORI MURRAY
of LORI'S HAIR CARE
Open house at the Elks Lodge (Upstairs)
40 North Water St., Franklin
Saturday January 27th 6pm-10pm

MILEY EDWARD SAWYER
(MARCH 11, 1955-DECEMBER 22, 2006)
Please consider this a personal and heartfelt thank you to all who did so much for our family. The Medics and Johnson Memorial emergency room personnel who were so caring, along with Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Home who helped to comfort us. The kind words of Reverend William Horner, and the pall bearers who have been family friends and continue to be a support to us. We greatly appreciate everyone who came to visit or attended the service, provided food, sent flowers and cards or provided a shoulder to lean on. You have all been so kind and helpful. We want you all to know how much we appreciate everything you have done and continue to do for us. You know who you are and how special you are to our family. Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.
Eva Jane, Milley & Mark, Anji & Steve, Sara and Alivia

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