

OBITUARIES/NEWS

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INDIANAPOLIS

Don H. Arvin

Don H. Arvin, 75, died Friday, Feb. 23, 2007. He was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include his wife, Jan Arvin; a son, Donald J. (Amy) Arvin; a sister, Carolyn Weber; and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harlan and Mary Arvin.

A Mass of Christian burial will be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. Barnabas Catholic Church, 8300 Rahke Road in Indianapolis. Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. Monday at G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home, 1605 S. State Road 135, and from 10 a.m. until the Mass on Tuesday at the church. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood.

BEECH GROVE

Mary Agnes Bates

Mary Agnes Bates, 86, passed away Monday, Feb. 19, 2007, at St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove. She was a resident of Beech Grove.

Mary was born June 17, 1920, in Cincinnati to the late Charles and Laura (Judd) Record.

Mary was the first woman elected to the Beech Grove City Council, serving 16 years before retiring in 1995. She also was the first woman appointed to the Beech Grove Board of Public Works, serving four years, and was vice president of the Beech Grove Parks and Recreation Board for three years.

Mary was a four-time delegate to the Indiana State Republican Convention. The organizations that Mary also served were the Greater Beech Grove Business Association and the Beech Grove School Community Council. She was a member of Ascension Lutheran Church.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband of 51 years, Argus W. Bates. Surviving are two sons, Dan (Beth) Bates and Mark (Carrie) Bates; two daughters, Linda (Mike) Coombs and Paige (Ron) Green; a brother, Ken (Diana) Record; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

A private family service will be conducted at Washington Park East Cemetery, Little & Sons Funeral Home, Beech Grove Chapel, is in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of Indianapolis, 7929 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268; or Friends of the Beech Grove Library, 1102 Main St., Beech Grove, IN 46107.

INDIANAPOLIS

Warren D. Henry

Warren D. Henry, 80, died Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007, at Johnson Memorial Hospital in Franklin. He was a resident of Indianapolis and a former resident of Edinburg.

He was born Feb. 27, 1926, in Owen County. His parents were Odeth and Dorothy (Close) Henry. He married Virginia Crites on March 23, 1946. She survives.

Other survivors include three sons, William (Diana) Henry and John (Tina) Henry, both of Indianapolis, and Clifford (RaeJean) Henry of Edinburg; five daughters, Carolyn Yonts of Greensburg, Paula (Kennith) Centers of Flat Rock, and Crystal Belser, Nancy (Jerry) Belser and Judith (Donald) Meyers, all of Edinburg; two brothers, Gaylord Henry of Gosport and Paul Henry of Solsberry; three sisters, Viola Sanders of Michigan, Gelena Arthur of Loogootee and Byril Jefferies of Kansas; 18 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Walter Henry; and a sister, Wilma Rumpel.

He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II.

He was a member of the Church of Christ in Martinsville and Edinburg American Legion Post 233.

He retired from Interstate Brands Bakery in Columbus, where he had been a maintenance and sanitation supervisor.

He enjoyed HO-scale model trains and fishing.

The Rev. Byron Fritz will conduct a service at 11 a.m. Monday at Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home, 302 E. Main Cross St. in Edinburg. Friends may call from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Burial will be at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburg. Edinburg American Legion Post 233 will conduct military graveside rites.

GREENWOOD

Louise Sarah Hopkins

Louise Sarah Hopkins, 90, a resident of Greenwood Village South, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2007.

The daughter of Frank and Mabel (Myers) Clager, Louise was born June 11, 1916, in Wheatfield.

Louise was a teacher for Perry Township Schools for 10 years and a teacher and librarian for Indianapolis Public Schools for

Edinburg
Omer Johnson, 84
Greenwood
Louise Sarah Hopkins, 90
Georgene Jackson
Christina Rae Lowery, 51
Nineveh
Ralph V. Simpson, 65
Indianapolis
Don H. Arvin, 75
Warren D. Henry, 80
Elsewhere
Mary Agnes Bates, 86

34 years. She was a member of Greenwood Christian Church, Englewood Chapter 483 Order of the Eastern Star, the Indiana University Alumni Association and its Johnson County chapter and the Community Hospital South Auxiliary.

Louise was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur E. Hopkins. Survivors include two children, Ellen Ashcraft of Indianapolis and Edward A. Hopkins of Pendleton; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; three nieces; and two nephews.

Sister Sharon Bierman will conduct a memorial service at 7 p.m. Tuesday at St. Paul Hermitage, 501 N. 17th Ave. in Beech Grove.

Memorial contributions may be made to Indianapolis Public School Education Foundation, 120 E. Walnut St., Room 114, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

Arrangements have been entrusted to The Cremation Society of Indiana.

GREENWOOD

Georgene Jackson

Georgene Jackson passed away Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2007.

She was preceded in death by her husband, children's portrait artist Gene Mercere Jackson. Mrs. Jackson is survived by two sons, Jeb Stuart Jackson and Leon Beau-regard Jackson; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Georgene, a longtime Greenwood resident, co-founded the first local Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio of Indianapolis. She was a member of the Christian Science Church.

Those who knew Georgene would say she was a true lady, kind, generous, quiet, humble and always impeccably dressed. Georgene sought and found beauty in everything and everyone.

Mrs. Jackson was a successful businesswoman, opening her first cosmetic studio in 1940 with her mother, Catherine Miller.

Because Mrs. Jackson seldom spoke of herself, few people ever knew the often difficult but fascinating circumstances that surrounded her life. Mrs. Jackson was born in Peru, Ind., but shortly thereafter moved to the Irvington area of Indianapolis with her divorced mother. They resided there until 1929, when they lost everything in the Great Depression.

Her mother was fearless, however. They took one suitcase, boarded a Model T bus and headed for Los Angeles, where her mother looked for work. Mrs. Jackson lived in every state west of the Mississippi by the time she was 13, traveling with her mother, who sold coffee pots door to door.

In 1934, Georgene met and married her husband, a former prizefighter who became a well-known portrait artist. Greatly interested in art herself, she then traveled with her husband as he worked throughout the United States, at one time living in the French Quarter in New Orleans.

Mr. Jackson died unexpectedly

on Christmas Day in 1958. With little money and two young boys to raise, Mrs. Jackson faced the most difficult challenge of her life. Her only means of support was the Merle Norman Studio she and her mother had opened (with a starting inventory of \$100), which was on the 11th floor of the Roosevelt Building in downtown Indianapolis. It was a very poor location, but it was all they could afford.

In just six years, she built that one tiny studio into multiple locations throughout the city, overcoming many obstacles, including twice being denied a business loan. She was told that as a widow she was a poor risk. She opted to mortgage her only asset, her home, in order to grow her business.

In 1964, her studio became No. 1 in sales in the United States for Merle Norman, and from that day forward they remained at or near the top until the studios were sold in 1998. Georgene was appointed to the national Board of Directors of Merle Norman Cosmetics in 1970. Mrs. Jackson felt she owed much of her success to her pioneering mother and her many wonderful employees and customers, many of whom were like family.

There will be no calling or services. Memorial contributions may be made to the Salvation Army.

Anyone wishing to contact the family with information or stories to share regarding either Gene Mercere Jackson and his children's portraits, usually done in department stores, and/or Georgene Jackson and her career with Merle Norman and the impact she may have had in your life, you may do so by e-mail at lbjack51@aol.com or by letter in care of G.H. Herrmann Funeral Home, 1605 S. State Road 135, Greenwood, IN 46143.

EDINBURGH

Omer Johnson

Omer Johnson, 84, died Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007, at Columbus Regional Hospital. He was a resident of Edinburg.

Survivors include a son, Danny (Bonnie) Johnson of Campbells-ville, Ky.; five brothers, Wilbert and Lucian Johnson, both of Edinburg, Willis (Wilma) Johnson of Brown County, and Vitis (Nadine) Johnson and Shirley (Imogene) Johnson, both of Wilson Ridge, Ky.; two sisters, Imogene McGaha and Mary Burton, both of Edinburg; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Millard and Betty (Allen) Johnson; his wife, Betty Jean (Rutledge) Johnson; and a son, Johnny Johnson.

James Snyder will conduct a service at 1 p.m. today at Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home, 302 E. Main Cross St. in Edinburg. Burial will be at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburg.

GREENWOOD

Christina Rae (Marshall) Lowery

Christina Rae (Marshall) Lowery, 51, born July 9, 1955, in Indianapolis to Dorothy Suezan (Brisentine) and Stanley Nathan Marshall, passed away in her Greenwood home Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007.

She was married to Arthur LaVern Lowery on Oct. 9, 1982. The marriage was later solemnized in the Switzerland Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

She is survived by her husband; three children, Pam (Brent) Cramer of Alcoa, Tenn., Tammy (Brent) Soelberg of Fort Drum, N.Y., and Devon (Sarah) Lowery of Indianapolis; nine grandchildren, Austin, Brianna, McKenzie, Morgan, Mikaela, Savannah, Shay, Shaylee and Camry; her mother; her stepmother, JoAnn

Marshall; four sisters, Cindy Laslo, Joanna Caesar, Pam Lee and Shirley Hull; three brothers, Edward, Steven and Donald Hull; and many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Her father; her stepfather, Earl Hull; and two brothers, Larry Hull and Kent Huff, preceded her in death.

A funeral service will be conducted at 10 a.m. Monday at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Greenwood Ward, 900 E. Stop 11 Road in Indianapolis, with interment at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood. Friends may call from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 1977 State Road 135 in Greenwood with additional calling Monday from 9 a.m. until service time at the church.

NINEVEH

Ralph V. Simpson

Ralph V. Simpson, 65, Nineveh, passed away Monday, Feb. 19, 2007, after a brief illness.

He was born June 18, 1941, near Plainfield to Ralph Simpson and Eula (Hubbard) Simpson. He married Judy Wright on Jan. 9, 2002, in Las Vegas.

Ralph was vice president of operations at Milestone Construction, retiring in 2002. He had worked in the paving and construction industry since 1965. He also owned Ralph Simpson Inc.

Ralph's hobbies included travel, gambling, fishing, golfing and parading with his Mini-Mystics family. During his high school years at Decatur Central, he was known as "Bear" on the football team.

Preceding him in death were his parents; and a brother, Arthur "Jack" Simpson.

Ralph is survived by a sister, Phyllis Clark and her husband Bill; two daughters, Melissa Radde and her husband Benny of Sterling City, Texas, and Angela Hammons of Louisville, Ky.; a son, Ralph Simpson Jr. of Austin, Texas; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; and several cousins.

Ralph was a very giving individual and belonged to numerous organizations including Moose Lodge 398 of Columbus; Valley of Indianapolis Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite; Knights of the Sea; Johnson County Shrine Club; Johnson County Mini-Mystics; Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana-Nineveh No. 317; Murat Shrine; Murat Motor Corps; Murat Yacht Club; Kachina Klub; Sons of the American Legion Squad 0205; Elks USA 1818 of Franklin; and the Royal Order of Jesters.

There will be a service at 11 a.m. today at Carlisle & Son Funeral Chapel, 39 E. High St. in Mooresville, with calling from 10 a.m. until service time. Burial will follow immediately at White Lick Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to Shriners Hospitals for Children, 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, FL 33607; or Murat Transportation Fund, 510 N. New Jersey St., Indianapolis, IN 46204.

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.

The custom obituaries on this page have been paid for.

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.



SIMPSON

Plan

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

he would listen to what they have to say.

The Bohlsons asked school board members to delay their decision to finance the project another 30 days until they could present their proposal.

They want to rework the district's 10-year building plan, so that the middle schools have no more than 1,000 students each and high schools would have fewer than 2,000.

Board members did not delay and voted on Thursday to borrow money for the building construction and two smaller renovation projects.

The district's growing student population is driving the board's decision to build the school immediately, board member Jeff Brinkman said.

As of this school year, Clark-Pleasant is the fastest growing school district in Indiana over the past two years, Sonntag said at Thursday night's meeting.

He hopes the district's plan will allow it to build schools just fast enough to provide enough classrooms while keeping tax rates reasonable.

Debbie Pickett, a parent of two Whiteland graduates and teacher at the current middle school, said she supports building the large school. She served on the long-range task force that came up with the building plan in 2005.

She said she believes the district has done a reasonable job of keeping the public informed of its growth problems. The larger middle school is the best option, she said.

"I sat through too many meetings to know there wasn't an option we didn't explore," Pickett said.

The Bohlsons also served on the long-range task force. They formed a parent watchdog group after the committee concluded its work and the 10-year plan was presented to the school board in November.

They felt that the 10-year plan did not accurately fit the task force's desire to keep school sizes small, Vicki Bohlsen told the school board.

Tad Bohlsen said the group they formed has met once a month since December, with at least 10 members

attending each time. Parents formed committees to discuss the importance of keeping schools small with consultants from Indiana University and the University of Indianapolis. Some worked on an alternative long-range plan for Clark-Pleasant, he said.

He said there are about 50 people who consider themselves members of the group, called Clark-Pleasant Growth Focus Team, but he would not list the organization's entire membership.

Some members are employed by or volunteers with the district, and the membership has been informal so far, he said.

Their plan involves building several smaller middle and high schools. He thinks the property-tax rate might be slightly higher than with the district's long-range plan, but students wouldn't go to school in such large buildings.

"I think the community should have the choice to make that decision," he said.

Smaller schools allow students more opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities, parent Lisa Beatty said.

She has taken part in some of the meetings the Bohlsons have conducted.

Beatty said she believes that the more students are involved in activities, the more likely they are to stay in school and out of trouble.

"I would rather pay more in property taxes now to have safer streets (in the future)," she said.

The Bohlsons did not speak about their plan at any of the workshops Clark-Pleasant officials conducted about the project over the past six weeks.

Their alternative plans for the school district were not ready then, and they wanted to evaluate the school's proposal, Tad Bohlsen said.

Now, they will speak with an attorney to educate themselves about the remonstrance process, he said.

Bohlsen said he is finishing his proposal and wants to present it to Coopman and other school officials in the coming weeks.

"Based on the results of that meeting, we will make a decision on whether or not to go forward," he said.

Coopman said he would welcome a meeting and would gladly listen to whatever plans or recommendations the Bohlsons have.

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When it is time to pre-plan your funerals, it only makes sense to make your plans together or with your family. Pre-planning gives your family comfort and gives you peace of mind. Our staff is always ready to answer your questions concerning pre-planning and funeral services.

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Christian

GREENWOOD

OPEN ENROLLMENT

2007-08 SCHOOL YEAR

Greenwood Christian School will begin open registration for the 2007-08 school year on Monday, March 5, 2007. Located at the corner of Worthsville and Averitt Rd, Greenwood Christian School offers the following classes:

Preschool - must be 3 by August 1 and fully potty trained

Pre-Kindergarten - must be 4 by August 1

Explorers - for those children who are 5 and have missed the cut off date for Kindergarten or for children who just need that extra year before entering kindergarten.

All day kindergarten - children must be 5 by August 1

Grades 1 - 6 - We are pleased to announce the opening of a new 5th/6th grade multi-age class.

Before and After School Care - Kindergarten - 6th grade.

Summer Day Camp - an exciting daily summer program for students entering Kindergarten - 6th grade running May 29 - August 3, 2007.

The school office is open from 7:00am - 6:00pm to answer questions, provide tours of the facility and accept registrations. You may also call the office for more information at 881-9970 or email the administrator, Ellen Sheets at esheets@gcschool.com or associate administrator, Michelle Chappell at mchappell@gcschool.com.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS
Greenwood Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship programs and other school administered programs.

SS Francis and Clare School Ministry

5901 Olive Branch Road
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Pre-Kindergarten (4 years old by September 1)
Full Day Kindergarten through Second Grade
Open House March 2, 2007 9:00-11:00 AM

Fr. Vincent Lampert, Pastor Mrs. Sandi Patel, Principal