

Exercise

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

At least seven central Indiana counties have been asked to participate in the event. More than 30 people from school drama classes and Boy and Girl Scout troops are being asked to perform as victims.

Johnson Memorial Hospital in Franklin plans to shift into emergency mode to treat infected patients. Police officers, firefighters and paramedics will converge on the scene.

"We don't want this to be staged too much," Sutton said. "But we want to be as unobtrusive as possible."

Public safety and emergency management officials meet today to run through the scenario and prepare for the May event.

"We won't be surprised if we find aspects to make better," he said. "That's what this is all about. We hope it never happens, but if it does, we'll be ready."

This is the first time Johnson County has conducted a drill, but it's not the first time one has been planned.

County officials had planned a tornado-response exercise at Whiteland Community High School and Franklin College in September 2002. But on the day the event was to take place, an actual tornado ripped through the northern part of the county.

Sutton and the county's public safety departments kicked into action, and Sutton said everything ran smoothly even without the practice.

The state's homeland security department is paying about \$134,000 for the exercise and will reimburse the county for equipment and any overtime expenses, he said.

After the drill, the county will review its response and determine what, if any, changes need to be made for a real emergency, he said.

The mock bioterrorism attack will not interfere with normal hospital operations, Johnson Memorial spokesman Bill Oakes said.

The amount of staff needed to respond depends on the size of the emergency and how many patients are sent to the hospital, Oakes said.

"We'll play it by ear and see how the disaster unfolds and what kind of traffic comes through," he said.

Oakes said the drill is intended to mimic the threat of a chemical agent called tularemia, also known as rabbit fever. The bacterial disease is very infectious and could result in a large number of pneumonia cases after exposure, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Hoop

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Before a game, Johnson and his buddies simply scoot the couch into an adjoining area which might serve as a dining room for another, less basketball-obsessed home owner.

But for Johnson, it's a convenient space to stash the couch until the game's over.

Room décor follows a basketball-inspired theme.

Large, colorful NCAA banners grace every wall. A poster from the movie "Hoosiers" is centered neatly above the fireplace.

And on the cat walk above the hoop, there is a display of every NCAA basketball created since 1989.

Johnson, 48, grew up in Bloomington. He fell in love with the game before he got his two front teeth, and readily recalls the first time he successfully heaved the ball from the free throw line to the basket. He was 7 years old.

Every other kid on the block also loved to play basketball, Johnson said.

Those were the days before kids had the luxury of indoor courts, so Johnson has fond but chilly memories of after-school games.

He often hurried home to shovel snow and chip off a layer of ice if necessary from around the driveway net.

"My fingers would be so cold they would split," Johnson said. "It's just what you did as a male growing up in southern Indiana. You didn't let a little bit of snow stop you from playing."

Naturally, this particular time of year is just as good as Christmas for a basketball enthusiast such as Johnson.

As a local marketing director for a Chicago-based company, Johnson has worked since 1997 for site control with the NCAA.

When the Circle City plays host to the tournament, Johnson works as a team escort.

"It is just an incredible, behind-the-scenes experience of the NCAA tournament," he said.

Only one detail is missing on the home court, Johnson said.

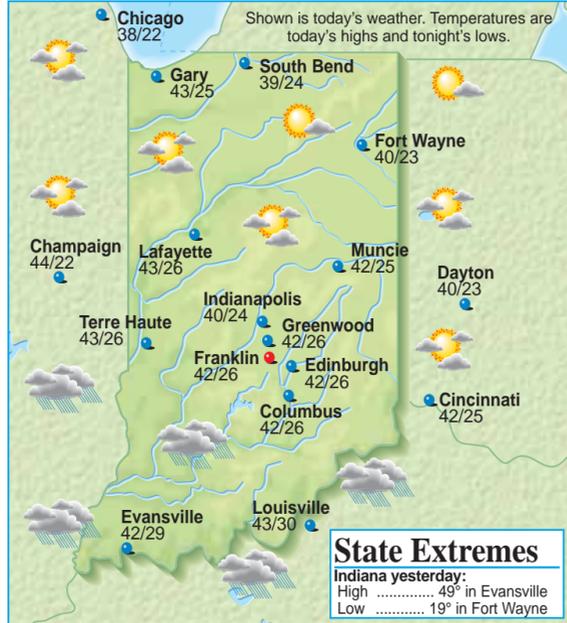
"My buddies want me to paint a lane," he said.

WEATHER

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Johnson County

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
40-44 24-28	29-33 19-23	40-44 23-27	43-47 24-28	39-43 27-31

Regional weather



Regional summary

Indianapolis/Greenwood: Considerable cloudiness; breezy and cold today. Snow at times later tonight will leave up to an inch of accumulation.

Edinburgh/Franklin: Breezy and cold today with plenty of clouds. Snow at times later tonight will leave up to an inch.

Today in weather history™

On March 20, 1948, Juneau, Alaska, received almost 33 inches of snow. This was the heaviest snow ever to fall in Alaska's capital.

Regional cities

City	Yest. Hi/Lo/W	Tues. Hi/Lo/W	City	Yest. Hi/Lo/W	Tues. Hi/Lo/W
Anderson	47/21/s	31/21/sn	Indianapolis	47/21/pc	32/21/sn
Bloomington	48/23/pc	36/19/sn	Kokomo	49/25/s	35/21/sn
Chicago	47/26/pc	36/22/c	Lafayette	48/19/s	37/21/sn
Cincinnati	46/24/pc	33/19/sn	Louisville	49/30/pc	37/25/sn
Evansville	49/33/pc	39/23/sn	Muncie	46/21/s	31/21/sn
Fort Wayne	47/19/s	34/21/sn	South Bend	44/19/s	35/20/sn
Gary	44/22/pc	37/20/sn	Terre Haute	49/23/pc	36/19/sn

Sun and moon

Sunrise today 6:48 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 6:56 p.m.
 Moonrise today none
 Moonset today 9:21 a.m.

Last New First Full
 Mar 22 Mar 29 Apr 5 Apr 13

AccuWeather UV Index™

Highest Today in Johnson County
 Values indicate the exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+

Low Moderate High Very High Extreme

Weather Trivia™

Where do the vertical rays of the sun shift just after spring begins?
Into the Northern Hemisphere

Wind Chill Today

How cold it feels based on temperature and wind speed.

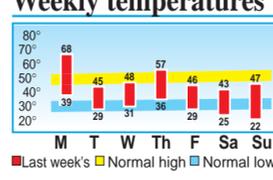
8 a.m. Noon 4 p.m.
 19° 29° 34°

Heating Degree Days

Index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the average temperature was below 65 degrees for the day with negative values counting as zero

Yesterday 30
 Month to date 429
 Normal month to date 486

Weekly temperatures



River stages

Fid: flood stage. Stage: in feet at 7 a.m.
 Sunday. Chg: change in previous 24 hours.

Station	Fid	Stage	Chg
White River			
Mooreville	9	8.65	-0.17
White River (East Fork)			
Edinburgh	12	5.45	-0.26

AccuWeather.com

Almanac Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006
 Statistics for Indianapolis through 5 p.m. yesterday.

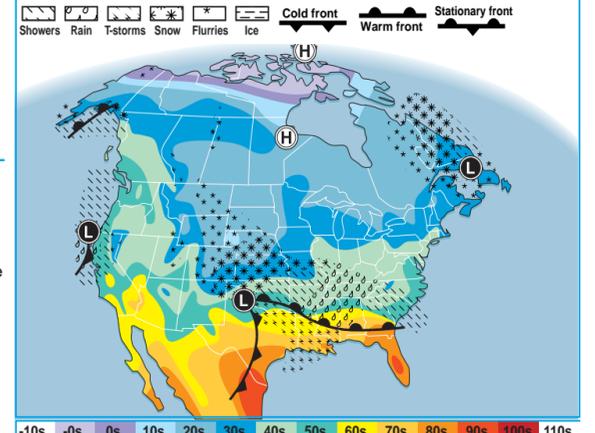
Temperature
 High 47°
 Low 22°
 Normal high 53°
 Normal low 33°
 Record high 78° in 1921
 Record low 7° in 1923

Precipitation
 24 hrs. ending 5 p.m. yest. 0.00"
 Month to date 4.71"
 Normal month to date 2.03"
 Year to date 9.90"
 Normal year to date 6.92"

Humidity
 Yesterday's average 53%
 Today's average 57%

Air quality
Indianapolis Source: IACP
 Yesterday 36
 0-50, Good; 51-100, Moderate; 101-151, Unhealthy (sens. grps.); 151-200, Unhealthy

National weather today



National cities

City	Yest. Hi/Lo/W	Tues. Hi/Lo/W	City	Yest. Hi/Lo/W	Tues. Hi/Lo/W
Albany, NY	35/20/sn	39/22/pc	Houston	81/66/t	68/40/s
Atlanta	56/44/r	62/31/r	Jacksonville	69/46/pc	84/50/t
Atlantic City	47/27/s	37/24/sn	Kansas City	44/39/p	33/21/sn
Baltimore	52/26/s	34/26/sn	Las Vegas	55/45/pc	62/44/sh
Boston	38/24/sf	44/28/pc	Los Angeles	61/44/pc	60/48/sh
Buffalo	33/26/sf	34/22/pc	Louisville	49/30/pc	37/25/sn
Burlington, VT	30/20/sf	37/21/sf	Memphis	53/43/r	47/32/pc
Champaign	48/21/pc	36/18/sn	Miami	83/64/pc	88/68/pc
Charleston, SC	63/41/pc	67/45/t	Milwaukee	43/26/s	34/22/pc
Cheyenne	31/28/sn	28/16/pc	Minneapolis	39/12/pc	32/14/pc
Chicago	47/26/pc	36/22/c	Nashville	51/39/r	42/26/sh
Cleveland	41/27/pc	35/23/sn	New Orleans	76/58/t	76/48/s
Columbia, SC	61/40/sh	60/35/r	New York	43/32/sh	40/30/c
Columbus, GA	59/47/r	75/37/pc	Philadelphia	46/28/pc	38/28/sn
Dallas	57/49/t	55/34/s	Phoenix	58/46/sh	69/50/pc
Denver	43/32/sn	33/18/pc	St. Louis	46/35/c	38/23/sf
Des Moines	45/31/sf	33/19/sn	Salt Lake City	38/33/sn	46/30/r
Detroit	48/24/s	34/24/c	San Francisco	60/46/pc	58/45/sh
El Paso	72/48/pc	67/44/pc	Seattle	51/33/pc	52/39/c
Fairbanks	17/-5/sn	31/5/pc	Tampa	81/58/pc	80/62/pc
Honolulu	77/71/sh	81/69/pc	Washington, DC	53/28/s	37/28/sn

Weather (w): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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State looks at legislation to reduce dropout rates

By DEANNA MARTIN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS
Stephan Howell, 18, got in a lot of fights in his Indianapolis high school. He was suspended often, missing enough school to forfeit credit for some classes. By his senior year, Howell was told he would have to go to school for an extra year and a half if he wanted a diploma.



Stephan Howell, 18, poses in his Indianapolis apartment Thursday. Howell got in a lot of fights in high school and eventually dropped out.

"I didn't know I was that far behind," Howell said.

Howell dropped out, becoming one of an estimated 1 million high school students nationwide who fail to graduate each year, according to the Alliance for Excellent Education in Washington.

Pressured to boost graduation rates under No Child Left Behind, school districts nationwide are looking for ways to keep students like Howell in school. And many are turning to lawmakers for answers.

Indiana this month passed a bill that would allow students under 18 to drop out only because of health, financial or court reasons.

New Hampshire, West Virginia and Iowa introduced bills this year that would raise the age at which students can drop out from 16 to 18. The New Hampshire Senate gave preliminary approval to the measure;

the West Virginia and Iowa bills died.

Educators, lawmakers and social service agencies say finding a solution is crucial. Studies say dropouts are more likely to wind up in prison or need public assistance than those who get a diploma, and schools can face sanctions under No Child Left Behind if their graduation rates fall short.

Critics doubt legislation is the answer.

Jay Smink, executive director of the National Dropout Prevention Center at Clemson University, said some laws can be diffi-

cult to enforce.

For example, more than two dozen states tie student attendance or achievement to driving privileges, according to the non-partisan Education Commission of the States. But Smink thinks the effects are "marginal."

"There's bigger things that the BMV has to do than track down a dropout," he said.

Some states have backed off legislative solutions to the dropout problem. The South Dakota Senate in February rejected a bill that would have forced students to stay in high school until they graduate or turn 18, instead of the current age of 16. Opponents said the legislation would be counterproductive because teenagers who don't want to be in school would cause problems for other students.

A better approach, some suggest, is to address the reasons students drop out.

The National Dropout Prevention Center says some students leave school because they are bored or don't perform well academically or become pregnant.

Others have no parental involvement in their education, have difficulty connecting with teachers or chafe under strict school attendance policies or rules about suspensions.

Gov. Mitch Daniels said he expects to sign the Indiana bill.

Change

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Ward's father went to work in a Columbus barber shop. Ward's first job was in Southport.

Ward settled into his own business at Tracy Plaza on July 9, 1969. At the time, he shared the barren New Whiteland parking lot with a lone grocery store.

From the shop window, Ward has watched Whiteland and New Whiteland prosper through the years. Another strip mall is now across the way. Several housing additions have mushroomed.

Growth and change in all directions surrounding the barber shop hasn't affected Ward's business in a negative way.

Scheduling appointments instead of relying only on walk-in customers is the only change, Ward said. And that was necessary since customers lined chairs in front of the picture window too long, waiting to get a haircut or a hot shave.

Maybe his intention wasn't to stand for all these years behind the same barber chair. But then again, Ward said he's never given much thought to leaving a small business that feels like a second home.

"The longer you are someplace, the deeper your roots grow," Ward said.

Through the years, Ward has accumulated four generations of customers.

"I have a lot of people that got their first haircuts here," Ward said. "And they bring their kids in here for that first haircut."

Ward keeps a stack of certifi-

cates for little people who experience first haircuts in his barber chair.

They leave the shop with a sucker or a piece of bubble gum, or both, depending on how traumatic the experience happens to be.

Ward's grandson, Nicolas Andrews of Greenwood, will soon be 3 years old and often comes into the shop for haircuts.

"I cut Nick's hair," Ward said. "I used to have a five-minute window to get his done before he would pitch a hissy."

Ward's wife, Tanya, and son, Kevin, also frequent the shop for haircuts.

Most of the clientele is male and sports are likely to be the hot topic of conversation during the haircut, Ward said.

Many customers purchase a soft drink then drop the drink tabs in a three-gallon jar on Ward's desk.

Once full, the contents are donated as a fund-raiser to the Ronald McDonald House at Riley Hospital for Children.

"We've been collecting those pop tabs for nine years," he said. "And that's our 71st jug. Can you believe that?"

In the door before 9 a.m. five days a week, Ward spends the days shaking out smocks before fastening them around the neck of the next customer, offering hot lather shaves and wishing customers well as they exit the shop.

It's all in a day's work, Ward said.

"As long as I can do the job and as long as people will come in, I'll be here," he said.

Know someone we should profile? Send the suggestion to newstips@thejournalnet.com.

California city bans smoking in public places

The Associated Press

CALABASAS, Calif.

No more smoking in the park. Lighting up on the sidewalk could bring a fine. Dining on the restaurant patio? Don't bother asking for matches.

One of the strictest tobacco bans in the nation went into effect in the Los Angeles suburb of Calabasas last week, making smoking off limits in public places where someone else might be exposed to secondhand smoke: indoor businesses, outdoor businesses, parks, outdoor cafes, even apartment building common areas.

"We just don't want anyone blowing smoke in someone's face.

"We salute Calabasas for raising the bar."

Jim Knox
Legislative advocate for the American Cancer Society in Sacramento, Calif.

Unfortunately, what smokers do is harmful to everybody else. People should have the right to breathe clean air," said Mayor Pro Tem Dennis Washburn.

California air-quality regulators declared secondhand smoke a toxic air pollutant earlier this year.

The city took it a step farther, declaring secondhand smoke to

be a public nuisance and approving an ordinance banning smoking in all public places — indoors and out — where people might congregate.

Hotels can still allow smoking in up to 20 percent of their rooms, and smoking can be allowed in approved designated areas at shopping malls and work places in the upscale city of 23,000 residents.

But if a nonsmoker asks a smoker to stop, the smoker must snuff it or face a possible fine in the hundreds of dollars or even a lawsuit.

"We salute Calabasas for raising the bar," said Jim Knox, a legislative advocate for the American

Cancer Society in Sacramento. "Smoke regulations can play a very important role in reducing public exposure to harmful secondhand smoke."

Nationally, hundreds of U.S. cities and several states restrict smoking. In California, where communities have been at the forefront of smoking bans, San Francisco last year banned smoking in parks and stadiums, and oceanfront communities' smoking bans have inspired others in Florida and Delaware to designate smoke-free beaches.

A smoking ban in Greenwood goes into effect April 21. Franklin and Johnson County are considering smoking bans of their own.

LOTTERIES

Here are the winning numbers selected over the weekend:

Indiana

Sunday
 Daily Three: 6-5-1.
 Daily Four: 3-6-8-6.
 Lucky Five: 1-10-22-24-33.

Saturday
 Hoosier Lotto: 1-3-16-28-42-46.
 Jackpot: \$2 million. (No winner. New jackpot: \$2.5 million.)
 Daily Three Midday: 4-9-2.
 Daily Three Evening: 2-5-8.
 Daily Four Midday: 4-6-8-8.
 Daily Four Evening: 9-9-7-8.
 Lucky Five Midday: 7-11-15-31-35.
 Lucky Five Evening: 2-9-16-26-30.

Powerball
 1-25-34-36-42. Powerball: 19. Power Play: 2. Jackpot: \$87.7 million. (No winner. New jackpot: \$101 million.)