

Smoking

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

smoking ordinance. The council will not take a vote, but members of the public will be allowed to comment.

Council member Steve Houglan said the issue has sparked more public response than any he has seen in 14 years.

Supporters of a ban say public smoking puts the community's health at risk. Council member Phil Barrow said he wants the smoking ban to be as strict as possible because of health concerns related to secondhand smoke in public and in workplaces.

Opponents say the government should not take away a business owner's right to decide whether smoking should be allowed in his or her establishment. Council member Joe Ault said he has difficulty interfering with residents' rights to smoke, even though he does not understand why they choose to do it.

A large crowd is expected to attend Monday's meeting. A public hearing will not be for another two weeks at the earliest, but the public will get a chance to speak at the meeting, Mayor Brenda Jones-Matthews said.

Meanwhile, both sides are preparing their arguments.

Smokers are being treated unfairly, Keith Rowe said. Tobacco is taxed, yet at the same time, smoking bans are taking smokers' rights away by removing their choice to smoke in public where allowed by businesses, he said.

Some local restaurant and bar owners oppose a smoking ban. People are not forced to go into or work in restaurants and bars that allow smoking, said Mary Barnaby, owner of Don and Dona's restaurant in downtown Franklin. Customers have the right to choose whether they smoke and whether to go into a business that allows smoking, she said.

Barnaby worries what will happen if the city passes a smoking ban that still allows customers to light up in bars, which happened recently in Greenwood. Customers who smoke may choose to go to a bar instead of her restaurant, which would cut into her business, she said.

Houglan, who is leaning toward supporting a ban, agrees that allowing smoking at some businesses and banning it in others is inconsistent, based on the argument that secondhand smoke is dangerous to employees at workplaces.

Council member Ann Gordon said she leans toward supporting a ban that would be extended to bars.

"I think that, if you leave any little crack in an ordinance like this, it kind of leaves it open for interpretation," she said.

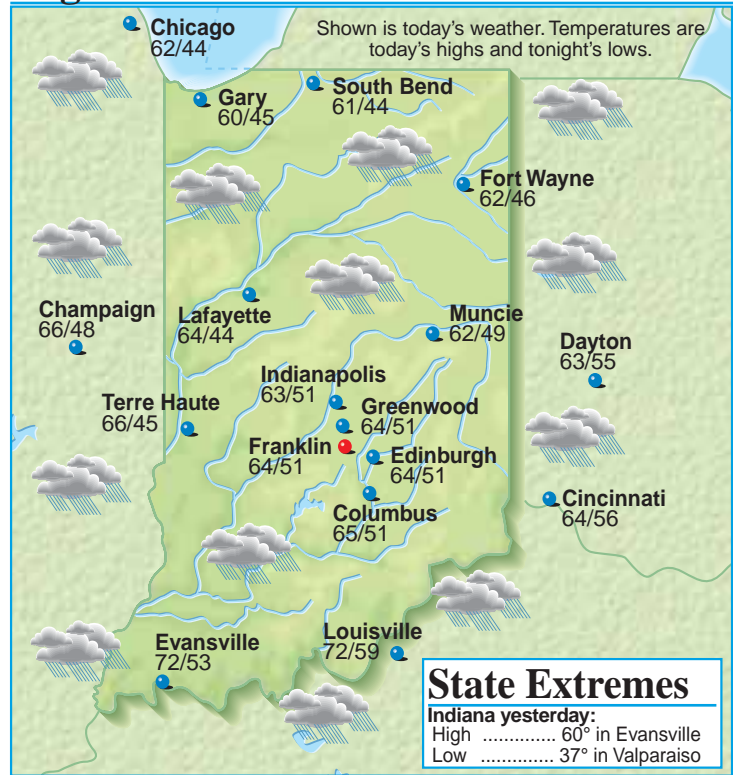
Barrow also said he wants the smoking ban to be as strict as possible. He is concerned with the health of the community and dangers posed by secondhand smoke, he said.

WEATHER

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Johnson County

Table with 5 columns: TODAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY. Includes icons, descriptions, and temperature ranges.

Regional weather



State Extremes table showing high and low temperatures for Indiana yesterday.

Regional summary

Indianapolis/Greenwood: Mostly cloudy with a couple of showers today. More numerous showers and a heavy thunderstorm tonight.

Edinburgh/Franklin: Mostly cloudy today with a couple of showers. More numerous showers and a strong-to-severe thunderstorm tonight.

Today in weather history

As of March 11, 1911, Tamarack, Calif., had the greatest snow depth ever observed in the United States at 471 inches.

Regional cities

Table listing regional cities with high/low and yesterday/sun temperature forecasts.

AccuWeather.com Almanac

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006. Statistics for Indianapolis through 5 p.m. yesterday. Temperature, Wind, Humidity, Air quality, and Precipitation data.

Sun and moon

Sunrise today 7:02 a.m., Sunset tonight 6:47 p.m., Moonrise today 3:45 p.m., Moonset today 5:47 a.m.

AccuWeather UV Index

Highest Today in Johnson County 2. Values indicate the exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays.

Weather Trivia

On what day did the blizzard of 1888 reach its peak fury?

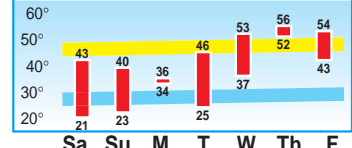
Wind Chill Today

How cold it feels based on temperature and wind speed. 8 a.m. 51°, Noon 59°, 4 p.m. 64°

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.

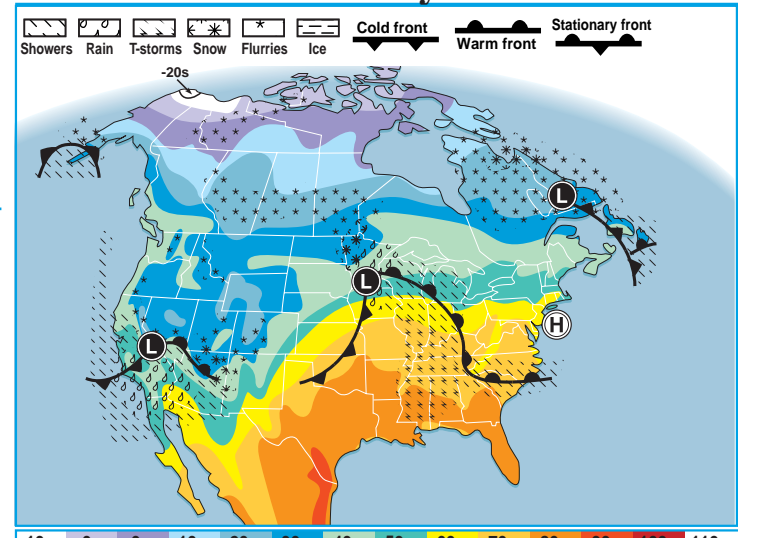
Weekly temperatures



River stages

Table showing river stages for White River, White River (East Fork), and Edinburg.

National weather today



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National cities

Table comparing weather conditions for various national cities including Albany, NY, Houston, and New York.

Students

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Both girls plan to appeal the expulsion and to continue to fight the punishment in court, Doyle said. He said he plans to ask the board to hear the appeal as quickly as possible so the girls can return to school.

Franklin principal Leighton Turner recommended the girls be expelled for a year.

Hight and Parsley, who are cousins, went to a dude ranch in Arizona during the school's annual intensive week in January.

Students on the trip stayed at a ranch-like resort where alcohol was accessible in a common lounge area, the girls' parents said.

An employee at the ranch reported to teachers that a bottle of wine was missing, but the incident was not investigated during the trip, the parents said.

Instead, Turner investigated the incident after students returned from the trip, they said.

He met with each girl on Jan. 13.

The girls and their parents have filed a lawsuit against Turner and the school district claiming their due process rights were violated when Turner did not give them details about any evidence he collected nor allow them to respond to specific accusations.

They were told to sign a form waiving their rights to due process, admit guilt and accept a 10-day suspension, or face expulsion, according to the lawsuit.

The girls did not sign the forms and were suspended for 10 days.

This week Davis, the district's expulsion hearing officer, handed down an expulsion half the length Turner recommended.

A judge ruled in January that the district had followed procedure when suspending the girls.

School investigations differ from criminal investigations. The law does not require schools to release the names of witnesses nor allow the accused to cross-examine their accusers. The law also says a school administrator can rely on hearsay and rumor when deciding whether to punish a student.

WHERE THEY STAND

Franklin City Council members will consider a smoking ban on Monday.

Council members have received e-mails, phone calls and letters about the issue. One council member says he has gotten more feedback on this than on any other issue in 14 years.

The council has final say about whether a smoking ban passes. Here are their comments about the smoking ban, based on what they have heard so far:

Steve Houglan

Has received about 50 calls and e-mails. Leans toward supporting a no-smoking ordinance, but wants to hear more from the community before making a decision.

Wants to read the proposal before saying anything about it and wants to wait for more public feedback.

Says smoking clearly is a problem in the workplace.

Joe Ault

Says he has a hard time telling people they can't smoke, even though he does not understand why they choose to.

Jeff Eggers

Has not decided how to handle the smoking ban issue, philosophically, because of competing interests: supporters are raising health concerns, and private business owners are concerned with their rights.

Has not read the proposal and wants to do so before making a decision.

Phil Barrow

Has heard a lot of feedback. Leans toward supporting a smoking ban and wants that ban to be as strict as possible.

Ann Gordon

Has received about 25 e-mails and spoken with many people by phone or in person.

Says most people she talked to favored a total smoking ban, and she leans that way too. Does not want to make exemptions for certain businesses, such as bars.

Ken Austin

Has had more than 100 phone calls, e-mails and comments.

Says the city will have some form of a smoking ban, but the exact form is unclear.

Employee

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was probably a good thing to have. Gabehart said he was hired to his current position on his merits and abilities.

As director of operations, Gabehart supervises Greenwood's street, sewer and engineering departments.

Johnson County Deputy Prosecutor Janine Jackson asked that Gabehart be convicted of a Class D felony for the crime and serve jail time followed by strict supervision and probation, with the possibility that the offense could later be downgraded to a less-serious misdemeanor.

Instead, Judge Craney granted Gabehart's request for a misdemeanor conviction, noting that his job might be in danger and he could be unable to provide for his children if he was a convicted felon.

As part of his sentence, Gabehart must serve 10 days in

"He's been punished by the courts and in some ways by the city, and I think that's sufficient."

Charles Henderson Greenwood mayor on why Gabehart will not face job sanctions

jail, will wear an electronic tracking device for 60 days and will be on probation for two years.

Considering the time Gabehart has already spent in jail, he has four days left to serve at the Johnson County jail. He'll serve that time from Thursday night to March 19.

Craney added an extra year of probation onto Gabehart's sentence and warned him that if he is arrested for a violation involving alcohol again, he could get harsher penalties, including prison.

He will also have to continue alcohol counseling, go through a special abuse program held in Morgan County, perform 40 hours of community service and have his license suspended for the

believe Gabehart's work saved as much money as the mayor claimed.

In 2005, the council voted against giving Gabehart a higher raise than any other city employee. Henderson had asked for a 37 percent raise for Gabehart to make up for the cut the year before and increase his pay. The council granted him a 3 percent raise, in line with what all other city employees received.

He is earning \$44,669 this year.

LOTTERY

Here are the winning numbers selected Friday in the Hoosier Lottery: Daily Three Midday: 8-8-4. Daily Three Evening: 9-6-7. Daily Four Midday: 2-0-7-5. Daily Four Evening: 2-0-2-7. Lucky Five Midday: 3-9-11-13-14. Lucky Five Evening: 10-13-27-30-36. Hoosier Lotto jackpot: \$1 million. Powerball jackpot: \$62 million.

Israeli PM lays out border plan

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM

Acting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert presented a sweeping vision for Israel's future in interviews published Friday, saying he will dismantle most West Bank settlements, fortify remaining settlement blocs and set the nation's borders by 2010.

The blueprint presented by Olmert, the frontrunner in March 28 elections, is the most detailed proposal for Israel's borders ever presented to voters by an Israeli leader, and it represents a major electoral gamble.

Previous candidates for prime minister remained intentionally vague about their plans for the West Bank, which Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast War, for fear of alienating the public.

But with polls showing his Kadima Party losing support Olmert gave detailed interviews to newspapers about his plans.

CORRECTION

In a photo that appeared on the front page of Friday's Daily Journal, the elementary student dancing with classmate Chandler Downs is Shelby Nelson. She was misidentified in the caption.

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