

HOTLINE



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Johnny can't read in the park bathroom

QUESTION: The bathroom at the Lower Cascades Park playground is often locked. It seems the door can be locked and closed from the outside, leaving the bathroom closed. What do they expect children to do?

K.H., Bloomington

ANSWER: Bloomington Parks & Recreation Director Mick Renneisen acknowledged to Hotline that the Lower Cascades Park playground restroom door locks have not been working properly and "have unfortunately been the frequent target of vandalism." New locksets have been ordered and will be installed as quickly as possible.

The postman always moves twice

QUESTION: Where will the new post office be located when the Fourth Street office closes?

P.E., Bloomington

ANSWER: Bloomington Postmaster Jim Mennel told Hotline that the new Bloomington post office — to be constructed on a 6-acre site south of West Third Street and east of Patterson Drive, across from the former Rogers Building Supply site — is still in the approval stage.

The mayor's office is working with the U.S. Postal Service's marketing office to solicit for a contract station in the downtown area. The station will offer full window and post office box service. The goal is to have a station in place by the fall of 2009.

Searching for the great American buffet

QUESTION: As a senior citizen on a fixed budget, I deplore the absence of the American-style buffet. With the exception of the Golden Corral (which is excellent) and the very good Chinese buffets, we've lost Ponderosa, Shoney's, and Western Sizzlin'. Can Hotline please inquire whether Ponderosa will come back or perhaps Boston Market will come to Bloomington?

R.B., Bloomington

ANSWER: Hotline was unsuccessful in obtaining a response from Ponderosa, but Boston Market's director of communications sent the following pleasant note in response to Hotline's inquiry: "You can let your readers know that Boston Market is always evaluating markets for development opportunities and real estate locations. We do plan to grow the number of Boston Market restaurants in 2009. I am not sure if we have determined the zip codes into which we will expand at this time, but interested individuals may submit locations electronically to realestateinfo@bost.com or in writing to Boston Market Corporation, Real Estate Department, 14103 Denver West Parkway, Golden CO 80401."

Write to Hotline, c/o The Herald-Times, P.O. Box 909, Bloomington, IN 47402, or e-mail hotline@heraldt.com, using "Hotline Inquiry" as the subject line. You can also find Hotline tidbits on the Hotwire blog at blogs.HeraldTimesOnline.com/hotwire.

Forecast today

HOT 93 70

Partly sunny, very hot and more humid

Sun and moon

Sunset today 8:54 p.m.
Sunrise Tuesday 6:50 a.m.
Sunset Tuesday 8:53 p.m.
Moonrise today 10:24 a.m.
Moonset today 10:33 p.m.
Moonrise Tuesday 11:29 a.m.

Real Feel

Table with 4 columns: City, 8 a.m., Noon, 4 p.m. Rows include Bloomington, Bedford, and Martinsville.

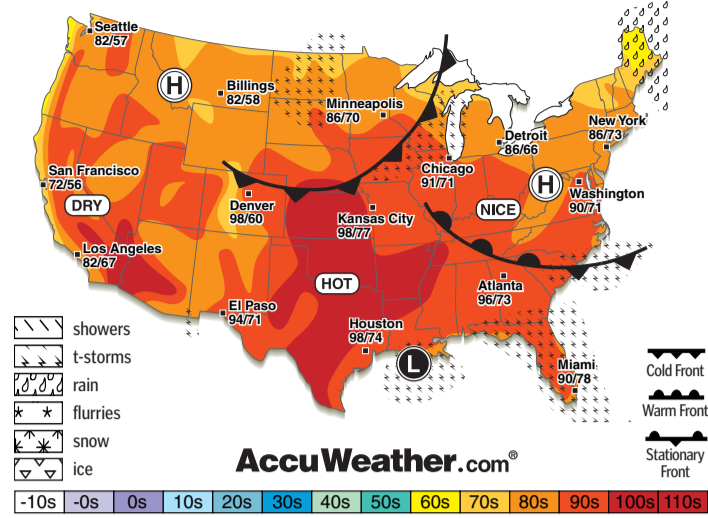
The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation and elevation on the body.

Area forecast

Table with 4 columns: City, High, Low, W. Rows include Chicago, Evansville, Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, Louisville, South Bend, and Terre Haute.

National outlook

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures given for selected cities.



Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, W-weather

Almanac

Data for Bloomington from the Indiana University Physical Plant and the Monroe County Airport.

Table with 2 columns: YESTERDAY and Today's weather data including high/low temps, humidity, precipitation, barometric pressure, wind direction, wind velocity, and conditions.

Around the nation today

Table listing weather forecasts for various cities across the nation, including Albany, Albuquerque, Anchorage, Atlanta, etc.

Around the world today

Table listing weather forecasts for various cities around the world, including Amsterdam, Athens, Baghdad, Bangkok, etc.

Weather forecast for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday with temperature ranges and icons. Tuesday: 96/70 (HOT), Wednesday: 87/66, Thursday: 84/60, Friday: 82/57.

Drunk on the water

Keeping intoxicated boaters off Lake Monroe is a challenge for conservation officers

By Marcela Creps
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Most people think they can spot a drunken driver. How about a drunken boater?

For Indiana conservation officers, there are more factors to consider when looking for intoxicated boat drivers, public information officer Angela Goldman said. While road police officers can look for someone weaving or a broken tail light, conservation officers have to find other ways to stop boaters.

"A lot of these boats, they go to the Allens Creek area, which is kind of the party cove on the water," Goldman said.

She said officers will keep an eye on boaters, making notes on which boaters are consuming alcohol. As long as the boat remains anchored, there isn't a problem. If the operator begins driving the boat, Goldman said, officers will look for any violation that may give them probable cause to stop it.

"Once the boat is operating and we have no suspicion that the driver might be drunk, it's incredibly difficult for us to come up with probable cause to stop the boat," she said.

As with any potential violator who is stopped, police are looking for the tell-tale signs of drinking, including slurred speech, bloodshot eyes and the smell of alcohol. Standard sobriety road tests don't translate to the waters, but there are a few tests which can be given on a boat. The most used is the "horizontal gaze nystagmus," or a jerking of the eye.

If the officer believes a boat operator



Conservation officers patrol Lake Monroe in this photo from 2005.

is intoxicated, the boater is transported back to the conservation office, where they will undergo a breath-test as well as the standard field sobriety testing, which includes standing on one leg and the heel-to-toe walk and turn.

Because police have to wait 20 minutes before giving a breath test, the boat operator has some time to get back their "land legs," especially if they have been on the water for a long time.

If an operator is found to be intoxicated, officers have more issues to contend with, including what to do with the boat and its passengers.

"There's a lot more logistically, that goes into making arrests," Goldman said. "But we take them in regardless of how difficult it is. We don't let that play into it."

Goldman said officers can't call a tow company as street officers can to take away the boat and secure it. Instead they have to consider a number of factors, including whether the boat is a rental

or personal boat and whether anyone on board is capable and sober enough to drive the boat.

Recently, Goldman said, an officer was preparing to tow a pontoon rental boat when one of the occupants jumped into the water in an attempt to flee. The officer had to jump in and save the individual who nearly drowned.

But there are other violations that conservation officers see. Public nudity, public intoxication and minors consuming alcohol are other acts that draw the attention of police.

At any one time, there are three or four conservation officers on duty during the busy weekend period. Goldman said one normally stays on shore, with two patrolling the waters.

She was quick to point out that there are lots of responsible boaters on the water that still manage to have a good time without causing problems. "We are pleasantly surprised at the number of designated drivers," she said.

PHISHING

IU researchers warn of look-alike Web sites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Type www.google.com into a Web browser, and you'll automatically be redirected to the correct site, www.google.com.

"When we came across what looked like redirects, most of them, about 81 percent, were not secure," said Shue.

That means those redirect commands were vulnerable to being hijacked to send users to the wrong Web site.

Hypothetically, "If I found a redirect on eBay's Web site, I could set up a link that uses that eBay link to redirect to my own site," explained Shue.

Phishing scammers can send out e-mails containing Web addresses that look legitimate but actually redirect users to their own sites. Often, the phishers even copy the graphics from the real sites to fool victims further.

The study, which surveyed about 2.5 million sites and found more than 128,000 vulnerable redirects, began as a class assignment given by Gupta.

"We are excited at the prospect of making it into a company product. That would give us a lot of satisfaction because it is a real problem," Gupta said.

Gupta said it is not difficult for criminals to begin phishing schemes, as some of the tools necessary to pull off the several aspects of a scam are downloadable as phishing kits. "Phishers don't have to have any infrastructure, they don't have to know any programming," she said.

Redirects to phishing Web sites are a problem for businesses. "They negatively impact their brand because they are allowing users to be defrauded through their site," said Shue.

The researchers' findings were presented at the USENIX Workshop on Offensive Technologies in San Jose, Calif.

Advertisement for 'Once upon a child' featuring a smiling boy and text: 'GET SMART ABOUT BACK-TO-SCHOOL! BEFORE YOU PAY RETAIL, SHOP ONCE UPON A CHILD! All the top brand names at a fraction of the retail price! Hundreds of new fall/winter items on the racks daily! Sizes up to kids 18/20!'