

Fears

(continued from page 1)

relationship to the dangers of mercury vapor. Mercury is not radioactive.

Investigators, though, are taking no chances. Anyone who enters the building must change into a full body suit with breathing apparatus, then be scanned when leaving.

"It's very unlikely that it's still a danger," said Daniel Pindzola, PhD, an air quality engineering expert who also teaches at Wilkes.

Pindzola said the vast majority of a spill, "99.9% of it," would probably be picked up by vacuuming, but "When you have children, zero is what they want."

"That's not much," Pindzola said of the estimated two-pound spill. "It's not worth a big story."

A freshman student has confessed to removing the mercury from a locked cabinet in Ryback's science classroom on at least one and perhaps more occasions.

Meeting

(continued from page 1)

"He left the school open for five days and it was unnecessary. We want to hear how Wycallis is going to weasel his way out of this," said Donna Sutton of Shavertown who started a petition that called for the Superintendent's resignation.

"We don't want to find out down the road that he foolishly exposed our children for days," said one Trucksville mother.

The board maintains that the school was aware that some mercury had been stolen on Oct. 28. A small portion was then discovered on Nov. 1, and more on the 5th, which is what prompted the school to call in DATOM to clean up the mercury.

"From the information we had, we acted appropriately," said Wycallis.

Other parents were concerned about how the students would have to make up the days. "It depends on the amount of days the school will be out, but we are looking at the day after Thanksgiving, Deer hunting day, Saturdays, and snow days to help make up the time," said Wycallis.

The experts answered as many questions as they could. Leonard Insalaco from the DEP was the first expert to take the stage. He explained the DEP's role. "We were notified on Nov. 5. At that time we realized the contamination was greater than we thought," Insalaco said.

Insalaco also said they tested school buses and seven homes off campus. He explained the amount

"I would never do anything to damage a child."

Frank Galicki Dallas High School principal

of mercury was less than the 10 pound estimate that had originally been reported. Specific questions on the amount of mercury vapor found in the air could not be answered.

As Insalaco was answering questions about mercury, more and more people started to ask questions of the board. Many wanted to know more about the five days after the mercury was discovered missing.

One upset mother addressed Principal Galicki about her three-year-old daughter's symptoms and the school's handling of the spill. "You should be ashamed of yourselves for trying to save your reputations. My three year old has every symptom of this. For four days you left babies in that school. The day after Halloween she came home with burns on her mouth," said the enraged mother.

"It was a small amount of mercury that was recovered. I would never do anything to damage a child," said Galicki.

Many people wanted answers about what they should do concerning their children.

"If you have reason to believe that your child was exposed and is having some of the symptoms, I would take them to a doctor. But, I don't think that it's necessary for any sort of mass screening. It wouldn't be productive. At this point we're looking at a small amount of people," said Joel Hersh of the Health Dept.

When asked how dangerous the exposure was and who was affected most, Hersh said he couldn't answer that exactly. "It's hard to recreate history. That's what we're attempting to do. We work from the investigation and people believed to be involved and work our way out. We have about 20 kids that we know have been exposed. We need all the information we can get. Maybe someone is not telling us everything and there are more than 20," said Hersh.

One parent commented that she appreciates all of the experts for doing a fine job protecting the students, but she wanted to hear from the board. After much applause and many comments yelled out throughout the meeting, the experts handed the podium to the people.

Ted Krohn addressed the board. "What was the mercury doing in the school in the first place? There is nothing in the curriculum that says it's necessary. All of the dates are extremely different. Someone knew about this on the 28th and it wasn't make known until the 5th. It was cover up! No one wanted their record to be blemished," said Krohn. "I am

calling for the resignations of those involved," he proclaimed.

As the roar of applause stopped Ben Jones, attorney for the board, told Krohn he would meet with him discuss and establish the chronology of the events.

The meeting took an even more intense turn when Clarence Michael tried to address Jones. After the two men exchanged

heated words, Jones read a legal statement forbidding Michael to speak to him publicly or privately. The meeting was then adjourned to the catcalls of many who did not get a chance to speak.

The school will open after more tests to see if the contamination is completely gone. Test results are expected Wednesday at the earliest.

Civil War group to meet November 20

The Wyoming Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Wed., Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Dallas Senior High Library. The speaker will be Mr. Lawrence Keener-Farley, a student of the Civil War for over 35 years. Keener-Farley graduated from York College, Shippensburg Univ., Temple Univ., and Widener Univ. He is an attorney at law. He is a member of numerous Civil War organizations and frequent contributor to the Civil War News.

Use the coupon on page 2 to subscribe

ARTISTIC IMPRESSIONS - Custom Framing & Art Gallery - COMPLETE CUSTOM FRAMING DONE ON PREMISES • READY MADE FRAMES • DO IT YOURSELF • MATTING • MOUNTING • NEEDLE WORK MOUNTING • GLASS • DECORATIVE GIFTS • OPEN & LIMITED EDITION PRINTS • OIL PAINTINGS • MIRRORS • WHOLESALE • COMMERCIAL ACCTS. • DESIGN CONSULTANT ON STAFF • FUND-RAISING ART AUCTIONS

"It takes long-term, repeated exposure for any of these symptoms to appear." J. Michael Case, PhD Shavertown

Joy Morgan, a senior at the school, said she remembered using mercury in freshman science while learning to calculate the density of different materials.

Galicki and assistant high school principal Gil Griffiths began an investigation to find out what had happened to the container, and were still looking into the matter when someone noticed mercury in the typing room Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 5. Wycallis contacted DEP at that point and cleanup crews began work that night.

Kevin Augustine, a DEP assistant emergency response coordinator, said Nov. 6 that he was told about 10 lbs. of mercury was unaccounted for. That figure was based on Ryback's estimate that the container could hold 10 lbs. of the extremely heavy substance.

The container was found later that day with about three pounds of mercury still in it. When Ryback showed DEP personnel the level he thought the mercury had reached, they estimated the container had held about five pounds of the element, and two pounds had been removed, Wycallis said.

Five specialists from Datom Products Inc., a hazardous materials removal company from Dunmore, spent all Tuesday night cleaning up beads of mercury from the affected area, using flashlights to locate the highly-reflective material, then picking it up with vacuum cleaners.

Wycallis said the meters DEP first used gave direct readings of the concentration of vapors, but additional machines only took readings that had to be sent to New Jersey to be interpreted. Results will have to be interpreted by DEP and the state Department of Health before any information is released or the school is deemed safe for occupancy.

Editor's Note: J. Michael Case of Wilkes University provided research materials for use as background information for this article. Want to know more about mercury? Log on to the Ecologia home page on the Internet. It provides links to other pages with information about substances that may be harmful to health or the environment.

286 CORPORATION THE LARGEST TRUCK DEALER IN THE NORTHEAST!

INSTEAD OF WAITING 'TIL THANKSGIVING WE'RE GIVING THANKS ALL MONTH LONG!

WE'RE OFFERING YOU OUR LOWEST PRICES EVER!

SEDANS & LUXURY CARS

Table of car models and prices including '88 CADILLAC BROUGHAM (\$4495), '93 DODGE DYNASTY LE (\$6995), '90 LINCOLN CONT. SIGNATURE SERIES (\$7895), '91 BUICK LeSABRE LIMITED (\$7995), '92 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE SE (\$8450), '94 MERCURY SABLE GS (\$9650), '94 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX (\$9650), '94 BUICK SKYLARK SDN. (\$9995), '94 BUICK CENTURY SDN. (\$9995), '94 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE SDN. (\$10,900), '94 FORD TAURUS GL SW (\$10,900), '94 FORD CROWN VIC SDN. (\$11,500), '92 CADILLAC SEDAN DeVILLE (\$12,995), '93 CADILLAC SEDAN DeVILLE (\$13,900), '96 DODGE STRATUS ES SDN. (\$14,995), '94 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL (\$15,800), '93 CADDY SEVILLE (\$16,500), '94 CADILLAC DeVILLE (\$16,995), '94 CADILLAC SEDAN DeVILLE (\$17,900), '94 CADILLAC SEVILLE SLS (\$18,995), '95 CADILLAC DeVILLE (\$22,995).

SPORT UTILITIES 4X4's & PICKUPS

Table of SUV and pickup models including '90 GMC JIMMY 4X4 (\$5995), '87 CHEV. K-5 BLAZER 4X4 (\$6995), '90 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4 (\$7995), '93 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4 (\$9950), '92 CHEV. S-10 BLAZER 2 DR. 4X4 (\$9950), '91 CHEV. K-1500 4X4 PU (\$9995), '91 FORD EXPLORER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$9995), '93 FORD F-150 4X4 PICKUP (\$9995), '92 FORD EXPLORER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$11,800), '92 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4 (\$11,900), '92 FORD EXPLORER EB 4X4 (\$12,450), '94 FORD F-150 4X4 PICKUP (\$12,995), '92 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4x4 (\$13,495), '92 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4x4 (\$13,500), '94 FORD EXPLORER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$13,995), '92 FORD EXPLORER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$14,700), '93 GMC S-15 JIMMY 4 DR. 4X4 (\$15,500), '92 FORD EXPLORER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$15,500), '94 FORD EXPLORER SPORT 2 DR. 4X4 (\$15,700), '94 FORD EXPLORER SPORT 4X4 (\$16,700), '93 CHEV. S-10 BLAZER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$16,995), '94 FORD BRONCO 4X4 (\$17,400), '94 FORD EXPLORER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$17,900), '93 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD 4X4 (\$18,900), '96 CHEVY S-10 BLAZER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$21,900), '96 GMC S10 JIMMY 4 DR. 4X4 (\$22,995), '93 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD 4X4 (\$23,995), '96 GMC JIMMY LT 4x4 (\$23,995), '95 CHEVROLET TAHOE 4X4 (\$25,500), '96 FORD EXPLORER 4 DR. 4X4 (\$25,595).

ECONOMY CARS

Table of economy car models including '88 BUICK REGAL LIMITED (\$3595), '89 MERCURY COUGAR LS (\$4495), '91 FORD TAURUS SDN. (\$4995), '93 CHEVROLET CORSA (\$5895), '94 MERCURY TOPAZ GS (\$5995), '93 CAVALIER RS SDN. (\$6695), '93 OLDSMOBILE ACHIEVA SC CPE. (\$6995), '94 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE (\$7495), '91 HONDA CIVIC SEDAN (\$7495), '94 FORD TAURUS (\$7995), '95 FORD ESCORT LX SDN. (\$7995), '95 PLYMOUTH NEON SEDAN (\$8495), '93 HONDA DEL SOL SI (\$8995), '95 TOYOTA COROLLA SEDANS (\$9995), '96 CHEV. CAVALIERS (\$10,595).

FOREIGN/EXOTIC/SPORTY

Table of exotic car models including '92 PONTIAC FIREBIRD (\$7995), '93 EAGLE TALON ES (\$8995), '96 NISSAN SENTRA GXE SEDANS (\$10,995), '95 NISSAN ALTIMA SEDANS (\$11,495), '88 CADILLAC ALLANTE (\$13,995), '95 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE GS (\$13,995), '92 JAGUAR XJ6 (\$14,900), '94 LINCOLN MARK VIII (\$14,995), '95 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE (\$16,900), '96 HONDA ACCORD LX SDN. (\$16,995), '93 JAGUAR XJ6 (\$18,995), '94 JAGUAR XJ6 (\$21,900), '94 CADILLAC ELDRADO (\$25,995), '94 JAGUAR XJS (\$29,900), '95 ACURA LEGEND LS CPE. (\$31,500).

CARGO & PASS. VANS

Table of cargo and passenger van models including '89 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER (\$3950), '91 DODGE CARAVAN (\$5995), '90 PONTIAC TRANSPORT SE (\$6995), '90 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN (\$8850), '95 CHEVROLET ASTRO CARGO VAN (\$11,800), '95 FORD WINDSTAR WGN. (\$13,700), '94 CHEVY LUMINA LS S.W. (\$13,995), '94 CHEVY ASTRO EXT. ALL WHEEL DRIVE (\$13,995), '95 CHEVY G-20 CARGO VAN (\$13,995).

286 CORPORATION

8 SOUTH KEYSER AVE., TAYLOR, PA CALL TOLL FREE: 693-0555 1-800-521-5999

Send The Post to a friend It makes a great gift Call 675-5211 for details

CREDIT PROBLEMS... MR. CLEVER CAN HELP! Call: 1-800-521-5999

Safeguard ASK ABOUT OUR SAFEBUILD USED VEHICLE PROTECTION PLAN HOURS: Monday-Friday: 8 AM-10 PM Saturday: 8 AM-6 PM