

# GLOBAL INDOOR HEALTH NETWORK

"WORKING TOGETHER FOR HEALTHY INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS"

<http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com>

## Inside This Issue

- 1 Rhode Island Proposed Mold Legislation
- 1 New Jersey Proposed Mold Legislation--Update
- 2 U.S. Mom, Doctors Eye Chemicals for Rise in Childhood Cancers
- 3 ServPro Released from Mold Abatement Project
- 3 Australia—Teachers Get Sick After Flooded School Reopens
- 4 Member Profile: Tom Jones
- 4 Research Papers Added to the Website
- 4 Black Mold Exposure movie
- 5 Mold Problems in University of Memphis Fraternity House
- 5 Health Fears Over Mould in London Flats
- 6 U.S. Anti-Microbial Coatings Market to Reach \$978.7 Million by 2015
- 6 Canada's Health Minister Proposes Indoor Exposure Limits on Toluene
- 6 Quick Links

## New Jersey Proposed Mold Legislation--Update

John McBride had a meeting today with Assemblyman Daniel Benson from the 14th District. Assemblyman Benson is sponsoring the Mold Safe Housing Act S2632/A3772 and S2633/A3773. The two bills now have sponsors on both the Republican and Democratic sides of the aisle. At the meeting, they discussed specifics about the bills and strategies on how to get them passed. John has learned that realtor organizations and the New Jersey Apartment Association are expressing their opinions about the bills.

During the meeting today, John was advised that he would need to testify at several committee meetings and to meet personally with several other legislators. There is a lot of work to be done, and John is asking for your help. We will provide contact information for New Jersey legislative committee members in upcoming Newsletters, so you can join in and help get these bills passed. In the meantime, please feel free to contact New Jersey legislative leaders and express your support for this important legislation.

## Rhode Island Proposed Mold Legislation

Legislation has been introduced in the Rhode Island Senate to regulate exposure to toxic mold in residential buildings, and to define procedures to report and remediate mold infestation.

The bill requires owners to inform any potential residents in writing about existing molds or chronic water problems. It also holds owners responsible for fixing these issues.

The bill creates an advisory board to help the Department of Health establish guidelines for allowable mold levels and procedures to remove the mold.

The establishment of the guidelines will be based on the health effects the mold could have on the public particularly those most susceptible to symptoms.

Mold becomes toxic when found in large quantities and excretes mycotoxin.

This can be absorbed through the skin, ingested and inhaled. Mold can cause problems such as respiratory issues, hemorrhaging, fatigue and cognitive losses.

The new guidelines will take into consideration the standards created by other states.

Senator Lanzi says "It is especially important that homes and residential buildings are checked due to the flood damage last year in Cranston, Warwick and other parts of Rhode Island. The water from the floods can lead to dangerous mold growth."

To read the entire article or the bill:

[Article--Senate to Take Up Bill on Toxic Mold](#)

[Senate Bill--Rhode Island Senate Bill on Mold S0108](#)

See *Doctors Eye Chemicals in Rise in Cancer* on page 2

## U.S. Mom, Doctors Eye Chemicals in Rise in Childhood Cancers

Christine Brouwer is calling for tougher regulation of chemicals suspected of being behind a rise in childhood cancers.

A mom whose 4-year-old died after losing a battle to a brain tumor called Wednesday for tougher regulation of chemicals suspected of being behind a rise in childhood cancers.

"There's growing evidence linking toxic chemicals and carcinogens in the environment with childhood cancer," Christine Brouwer told a telephone news conference as she described losing a child to cancer.

"I'll most likely never know what caused my daughter's cancer, but researchers are finding more and more links between the hazardous substances in our homes and workplaces and cancer and other diseases."

Her family questioned why the child was struck by such a serious illness so young, and Brouwer's suspicions turned toward the chemicals found in cleaning fluids for the floors that babies crawl on, in the plastic of the bottles they drink from and in some of the foods they and their parents eat.

Boston University professor of environmental health Richard Clapp said the incidence of childhood cancer in the United States has grown about one percent a year for the past two decades.

"It's clear that at least one component of the cause is environmental chemical exposure," he said.

*"The problem with our current situation is that we are putting so many chemicals out into our environment, and our bodies have no idea how to detoxify them, don't know how to prevent them from being absorbed."*



*The 35-year-old Toxic Substances Control Act needs an overhaul.*

## U.S. Mom, Doctors Eye Chemicals in Rise in Childhood Cancers (cont'd)

Epidemiologists have linked chlorinated solvents to childhood leukemia and other solvents to brain cancer in children, said Clapp, who served as director of the Massachusetts Cancer Registry for 10 years in the 1980s.

Pediatrician Sean Palfrey said doctors suspect chemicals and other environmental pollutants are behind a rise in everything from cancer to allergies to asthma in children.

"The problem with our current situation is that we are putting so many chemicals out into our environment, and our bodies have no idea how to detoxify them, don't know how to prevent them being absorbed," he said, calling for tougher U.S. laws on chemicals.

Brouwer, Clapp and Palfrey were participating in a news conference organized by the Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families advocacy group, which says the 35-year-old Toxic Substances Control Act does not cover the vast majority of chemicals in U.S. consumer products and urgently needs an overhaul.

To read the entire article:

[U.S. Mom, Doctors Eye Chemicals in Rise in Childhood Cancers](#)

### ServPro Released from Mold Abatement Project

Portsmouth Mayor David Malone held a press conference on Friday, January 21 as a part of the press conference he announced the company cleaning up the mold in the former police department Serv-Pro was let go.

Peggy Burton, Health Commissioner for the Portsmouth City Health Department sent a letter to Malone dated January 21 expressing some concerns on how Serv-Pro was cleaning up the mold.

"It has come to my attention that Serv-Pro is not following the mold remediation guidelines set forth by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). This causes me considerable concern that the occupants of the building may be exposed to an even greater variety of health effects," Burton said. "Because measures designed to protect the health of the public, are not being followed it is my recommendation that Serv-Pro follow the procedures they described to City council and in their contract or be let go."

"It's my opinion that the clean-up work done thus far has created more contamination than remediating," Burton said in concluding her letter.

In November council authorized \$50,000 for mold remediation. At the time council also requested the health department be involved to ensure the highest of standards are met once the work begins.

After some debate council authorized Malone to approach the second bidder to see if they could do the work.

### [City Releases Mold Abatement Company](#)



*Heavy rains damaged nine schools in Melbourne*



*ServPro Released from Mold Abatement Project*

### Australia—Teachers Get Sick After Flooded School Reopens

The Cranbourne Carlisle Primary School, in Cranbourne, was closed for several days after the carpets were damaged in the flash flooding.

Large fans and dehumidifiers were used to dry carpets and the school was given the all clear to open yesterday.

But it is now believed the fans caused mildew and chemicals used in the carpets to become airborne.

School council president Ash Peters says six teachers at the school went home sick yesterday, suffering headaches and nausea.

"The carpets were also sprayed or doused with a chemical to try and fight any future mould that might be laying dormant under the carpet," he said.

"So with the blowers going, obviously these airborne particles of chemicals have affected the teachers."

He said other teachers became concerned when their colleagues got sick and conducted the rest of the classes outside.

Mr. Peters says he and many other parents will continue to keep their children at home until they are confident it is safe.

### [Teachers Get Sick After Flooded School Reopens](#)

See *Member Profile: Tom Jones* on page 4

## Member Profile: Tom Jones

As I wrote my profile, I found it was difficult to fit 40 years of science training and experience into a brief profile, so I decided to concentrate on why I am a member of GIHN.

The majority of my scientific endeavors have been involved with human diagnostics. Initially trained as a clinical laboratory technician by Uncle Sam, I received a degree in biology, a pre-med curriculum, with an emphasis on microbiology. I worked 20 of my 40 years in basic research for the soldier dealing with pathogenic strains of bacteria and viruses that could be found both as endemic pathogens in a theater of operations or as biological weapons (BW) used by enemies against our fighting forces. For three years after leaving government service, I was involved in a project that dealt with the detection of haptens as BW agents. The target chosen for the study was Aflatoxin B1, a mycotoxin produced by strains of the fungi *Aspergillus*. This work and the subsequent study in the field of Mycology prepared me for a set of circumstances that I never could have foreseen.

In 2002, my wife, Liana, was exposed to toxigenic organisms in her work place. Over a period of three years, Liana's health deteriorated during which time she was misdiagnosed as having a rare and fatal brain tumor—an olfactory neuroblastoma. Environmental evaluation of the work place had shown there to be vegetative fungi present in the building prior to the diagnosis. After chemotherapy, surgery, and radiation treatments with no results, Liana and I turned to Dr. Ritchie Shoemaker and Dr. Michael Gray who were able to diagnose her as having a “chronic inflammatory response syndrome” or biotoxin illness. They treated the “tumor” with anti-fungal nasal sprays and pills.

Liana's story was presented on “Mystery Diagnosis” on the OWN network during January. You may be able to catch a rerun of the show, and you can also read Liana's story in Dr. Shoemaker's new book “Surviving Mold”.

To watch the introductory video:

[Mystery Diagnosis: Bizarre Nasal Growth](#)



*Tom and Liana Jones  
were featured on Mystery Diagnosis*

## Research Papers Added to the Website

The following paper was provided by Dr. Jack Thrasher and has been added to our website.

[The Role of TH17 in Neuroimmune Disorders: A Target for CAM Therapy. Part III.](#)

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> paper in the series on The Role of TH17.

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## “Black Mold Exposure” movie

As previously mentioned, the “Black Mold Exposure” movie was created by one of our members—Michael Roland Williams. Michael has made a generous offer to contribute 50% of the purchase price of each movie to GIHN to help further our vision and mission.

If you would like to purchase the movie, please go to the following website and mention GIHN in the *Comment* section of the order form.

[Black Mold Exposure movie](#)



## Mold Problems in University of Memphis Fraternity House

Overflowing trashcans and a laundry-littered floor tend to be common scenes in the home of a college student.

A bathroom ceiling spotted with black mold is more infrequent — unless you live in The University of Memphis-owned Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity house at 3609 Watauga Ave.

Three students currently live in the house, where the mold has been visible since fall 2009, according to former resident Nathaniel Coleman, vice president of Lambda Chi.

Coleman, sophomore accounting and hospitality major, said the mold, which is also in the attic, is "nasty."

"I'm not sure what allergies I have to mold, but I could definitely notice a difference when I stayed (at my parents') home over the weekend and when I went back," he said. "Again, I don't know if there is anything to that, but when you go into the attic, you can see it and smell it, and it's kind of gross."

To read the entire article:

[Fraternity Members Look Up to Mold](#)



*Mould on the ceiling in London Flats*



*University of Memphis, Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity*

## Health Fears Over Mould in London Flats

Residents living in a tower block in south London believe mould growing in their homes is seriously affecting their health.

They say living conditions in Hayesend House, on the Hazelhurst Estate, in Blackshaw Road, Tooting, are "an absolute nightmare".

Campaigners claim 36 out of 56 flats in the block are affected.

Resident Carrieann Nash said the mould had been causing chest infections, coughs, colds and bronchitis among her and her two young sons.

"It's terrible especially for my young son who has cerebral palsy. We are always ill and I'm sure it's because we are breathing in the fumes from the mould the whole time."

Fellow resident Jade Cunningham said she believed the mould was affecting the health of her three-week-old baby.

She said: "It's not just a patch of mould, it's metres and metres of it, cupboards are full of it and mould is over the furniture."

[Health Fears Over Mould in London Flats](#)

## U.S. Anti-Microbial Coatings Market to Reach \$978.7 Million by 2015

*Global Industry Analysts (GIA) announces the release of a comprehensive report on the U.S. Anti-microbial Coatings market.* The U.S. market for anti-microbial coatings is forecast to reach US\$978.7 million by the year 2015, propelled by increasing demand for enhanced levels of health, sanitation and hygiene, particularly in end-use markets of indoor air quality and medical devices. The economic turbulence caused by the recent recession could not hamper the industry's robust double-digit annual growth rate. The trend of strong growth pace is likely to continue in the future, spurred by growing urgency for infection control in hospitals, public places, food & beverage and public transportation systems among others.

Control of microbial growth and contamination is both vital and critical in every aspect of life and in every environment, ranging from food and beverage, dairy processing, pharmaceuticals, electronics, construction industry to healthcare. Microbes and germs are a daily threat. Common examples include antibiotic resistant infections in hospitals, infections of biomedical implants, degradation of protective coatings of houses, buildings, fouling of food products, loss of efficacy of pharmaceutical formulations, and many more. The latest and most efficient in the long line of defenses against the bugs are anti-microbial coatings. The two major end-use markets for antimicrobial coatings are the indoor air quality market and the medical devices market. Indoor air pollution in homes, and commercial buildings is believed to have a far more serious, and devastating impact on health when compared to outdoor pollution.

***By end-use, the market for Indoor Air Quality is deemed to be the largest consumer of anti-microbial coatings in the United States.***

To read the entire article:

[U.S. Anti-Microbial Coatings Market](#)

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**Next Newsletter: Friday, February 25**

## Canada's Health Minister Proposes Indoor Exposure Limits for Toluene

Canada's federal Health Minister gave notice of a proposed residential indoor air quality guideline for toluene. Health Canada referenced indoor sources of toluene as including building materials, e.g., solvent and water-based adhesives, floor covering, paint and chip board. It stated:

"Canadian's exposure to toluene is attributed predominantly to indoor air, because indoor air levels generally exceed ambient air levels, because of the greater time spent indoors." Exposure to toluene has been shown to cause eye, nose and throat irritation, as well as headaches, dizziness and feelings of intoxication. It has also been linked to neurological effects, including poorer performances in tests, short-term memory, attention and concentration, visual scanning, perceptual motor speeds and finger dexterity in the completion of physical tasks, as well as negative effects on colour vision and auditory capacity.

[Canada Proposes Exposure Limits on Toluene](#)

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## Quick Links

**Website:** <http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com>

**Members:**  
<http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/members>

**Personal Stories:**  
[http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/personal\\_stories](http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/personal_stories)

**Health Effects:**  
[http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/health\\_effects.html](http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/health_effects.html)

**Research Committee:**  
[http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/research\\_committee](http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/research_committee)

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