

Thank You for using NewsLibrary

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

DANGER OF MOLDS IS FOCUS OF FORUM DISCUSSION PLANNED AT ROSEVILLE SCHOOL

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Section: METRO

Edition: METRO FINAL

Page: B4

BYLINE: Art Campos Bee Staff Writer

Concern over incidents of mold in homes and other enclosed structures has prompted a Roseville woman to organize a public forum on the potential dangers of the organism.

Teri Codina has put together the three-hour session for 2 p.m. Saturday at Oakmont High School, 1710 Cirby Way, Roseville, to warn and educate citizens about molds and their possible effects on health. Six experts in the fields of health and microbiology will be on a forum panel.

In the case of the Codina family, rain leaked into the walls and windows of her home, causing mold.

The Codinas have a pending lawsuit against the home builder to fix the leaks and the walls. For nearly six years, the family didn't vacate. By the time the family moved into a rented home a year ago, all six members had developed health problems, Codina said.

"We never realized the dangers of the mold," Codina said. "We knew it was making us sick, but we didn't know it was toxic."

"I've now got asthma, a sinus infection and a fungal infection in my lungs and possibly in my heart," said Codina, 38.

Other members of her family have suffered from sinus infections, rashes, nosebleeds, headaches and respiratory problems, Codina said.

Codina's research into the effects of mold has led her to find other homes in Roseville and in the Sacramento area where leaky walls and windows have developed and she has encouraged the inhabitants to take care of the problems immediately.

A week ago, an incident involving mold surfaced when parents of children at an Elk Grove elementary school complained that one of the classrooms was moldy and that their kids had been exposed to health risks.

One of the molds found under floorboards of the classroom was *Stachybotrys*

One of the molds found under floorboards of the classroom was *Stachybotrys chartarum*, a fungus that has been shown to suppress the immune system of laboratory animals.

Codina's forum is titled "The Menace of Mold and Mildew in the Indoor Environment," and it will be hosted by Dr. Frederick Herman of Roseville.

Panelists include Barbara Spark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Dr. Sandra McNeel of the California Department of Health Services, Dr. Vincent Marinkovich of Stanford Medical School, Dr. Chin Yang of P&K Microbiology in Cherry Hill, N.J., John Banta of Restoration Consultants and Dr. Patricia Heinsohn of Principal Micro Bios.

All content © 1998 THE SACRAMENTO BEE and may not be republished without permission.

All archives are stored on a SAVE (tm) newspaper library system from MediaStream Inc., a Knight-Ridder Inc. company.