

# Tests show fuel tank did not leak

By AMANDA CREGAN  
STAFF WRITER

There is still no sign of an oil leak after thousands of gallons went missing from an underground tank in Springfield last month.

State officials have spent the last couple of weeks testing nearby water wells and soils, and have ruled there is no evidence of contamination after approximately 6,300 gallons of heating oil was suspected to have leaked from a 10,000 gallon underground storage tank at Coopersburg Kenworth Trucks, located along Route 309.

The company sells and services new and used tractor-trailer trucks.

The oil is used to heat the commercial building on site.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection responded to an emergency call last month of a possible

## Springfield

oil leak.

There was concern that thousands of gallons were seeping underground, and potentially polluting water wells at nearby homes and businesses.

According to records, on Dec. 28, 3,000 gallons of oil had been delivered to the tank.

On Jan. 3, the heating oil company delivered another 3,000 gallons.

By Jan. 5, the tank was out of fuel, according to Richard Schilling, Springfield Township manager.

On Jan. 20, the oil tank was pulled from the ground, but there were no signs of any spilled oil, according to a DEP report.

"As the 10,000 gallon oil tank was lifted from the excavation, the tank appeared in excellent condition with no holes, no rust spots, and no leakage from the bottom of the tank," according to the DEP report.

The surrounding area also showed no sign of an oil leak.

"Since the excavation pit was clean and free from spilled oil, there appears to some miscalculation in the amount of heating oil that was discharged to the environment," according to DEP officials. "At this time there appears to be no threat of pollution to the nearby private and public wells from this incident."

Kenworth officials declined to comment.

The truck company's incident is rare, said Lynda Rebarchak, DEP spokeswoman.

Typically, when a loss of inventory is reported and a tank is excavated there is an environmental impact, she said.

"We were pleasantly surprised."

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## Almshouse Road closure



RICK KINTZEL / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Vehicles travel the bridge over Little Neshaminy Creek in Warwick on Friday. Almshouse Road will be closed and detoured between Mearns Road and Rushland Road in Warwick beginning Monday for the rehabilitation of the bridge, which is expected to reopen in May. During construction, Almshouse Road traffic will be detoured over Mearns Road, Bristol Road and Route 263. Crews will replace the prestressed concrete adjacent box beams and bearing pads, construct high-performance concrete bridge deck and parapets, mill and pave the roadway approaches and repair the substructure.

# STUDENTS HAVE THEIR OWN 'TODAY' SHOW

At St. Joseph/St. Robert, a five-minute TV broadcast starts each school day.

By RICH PIETRAS  
STAFF WRITER

As Catholic Schools Week closed out Friday at St. Joseph/St. Robert School in Warrington, students started the day as many other schools in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia by reciting prayers.

But unlike other schools, the prayers were followed by another daily routine: the morning TV show.

Just as they have for the past five years, the seventh- and eighth-graders at St. Joseph/St. Robert produced "SJR Today," which airs at 8:20 in every classroom.

Started by Father Stephen Paolino, "SJR Today" incorporates weather, school events, sports and even trivia and packs it into a clean and tight five-minute window.

Kathy Williamson, the school's director of advancement, said that while Paolino moved to another school in Philadelphia, the television show has blossomed.

Paolino "really got this together," Williamson said. "He was very tech savvy and saw the opportunity to get the students involved with something unique. He even took the students down to Fox News studios to see how they run that and it is something we want to do again."

Using PowerPoint, a mixing board and a digital camera, the operation isn't extremely high tech. That said, it is hard to imagine many other 12- to-14-year olds producing their own daily programming.

Friday's show was produced by the regular staff of eighth-graders Michael Griffith, Sam Thiers and Andrew Repisky.

As Father Matt Tralies watched the technology-talented trio Friday, he refused to take any of the credit.

Tralies just recently arrived at the school and said the program is really passed down as students get involved and gain more experience.

"SJR Today," he said, is totally student driven.

"I really just oversee it; they do all the work. I think it is a great confidence builder ... It provides the basic tools for students who might want to explore this type of work later in life."

While other students take turns working as anchors for the show, Repisky, of Warminster, is a regular behind the scenes and might want to pursue a career in television production after the 14-year-old finishes junior high school, high school and possibly college.

"I like it and it could be a



ART GENTILE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eighth-graders Andrew Repisky (top) and Sam Thiers are two of the technicians behind the school's morning Today show.

cool thing to do," Repisky said. "We'll see."

Friday's show was co-anchored by eighth-grader Dylan Dement and seventh-grader Mary Jane McGlinchey.

Another seventh-grader, Katie DiFurio, provided an update on

the book of the week (Alex Finni's "Beastly"), while seventh-grader Emily Chrostowski worked as the producer.

Cassie Staph, another seasoned eighth-grader, wrote the script.

"I think it helps get the

word out about what is going on in school," Staph said. "We really don't do any world events or anything."

While the program sticks to school news, even an outsider can learn a thing or two from the show.

Friday's trivia revealed 51,585 students are enrolled in schools in the archdiocese.

Williamson said the student-driven effort provides much more than weather reports and the day's lunch menu.

"The kids really rotate the on-camera duties, so anyone that wants to try it gets a chance. They do everything, from the camera work to the news."

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