

Two Boy Scouts Are Rescued From Mine Shaft in Trumbull

TRUMBULL, May 11 — Two Boy Scouts were trapped in the abandoned main mine shaft at Old Mine park for two and one-half hours Saturday morning while a third scout was corralled by a four-foot protective fence, unable to summon help for the trio.

Police said Andrew Kolessar, 14, of 117 Inwood road, and William Lapinski, 12, of 11 Clemens avenue, had entered the shaft at 10:20 a.m. while Mark Baker, 13, of 101 Grove street, had crawled with them into the fenced off area where the mine is located, but did not venture into the shaft.

The boys were rescued, uninjured, at 12:45 o'clock by members of the Long Hill Fire department who lowered a ladder into a shaft.

Park Ranger Frank Mucci said the three boys were part of a group of scouts working on a conservation project in Old Mine park and the three wandered away and crawled under the fence surrounding the mine area.

The two who were trapped in the shaft had dropped from a shelf in the excavation, and could not find a toehold to climb back.

The boys wriggled under the "climber-proof" Paige fence on a slope. However, Mark was unable to escape the same way because the fence did not "give" to an up-hill push.

The plight of the trio was discovered by an unidentified member of the troop who had been detailed to find them.

They were returned to the Police station and their parents notified to pick them up.

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