

For News Of
Morrisville
Yardley
Makfield
See Page 20

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Delhaas OKs Tullytown Withdrawal

To Join Pennsbury Jointure

By SCOOP LEWIS
Courier-Times Staff Writer
Tullytown Borough's School District has been given the green light to withdraw from the Bristol Township - Delhaas Joint Schools in order to become a part of the Pennsbury Joint School District.

It took the Tullytown board a matter of moments last night to accomplish what it has been seeking for nearly two years. By an

(Explanation Story
Page 17)

62 vote, the Delhaas School Board approved Tullytown's resolution to withdraw from the joint agreement.

The withdrawal, however, will not be immediate. Edwin N. Popkin, solicitor for the Delhaas board, inserted one clause in the resolution before its passage. It stipulates that approval of the resolution is conditional under the settlement of financial accounts between Bristol Township and Tullytown "to the mutual satisfaction of both boards."

Also final disposition of the resolution is to be conditioned upon both boards agreeing to the method and amount of money Tullytown shall pay to Bristol Township during the remainder

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 1)

Good Evening!

Major mine disaster in West
Pa.

Little or no hope for 37 men trapped in U.S. Steel's big and modern Robena mine near Uniontown are alive and it's too bad. And this is a coal working in which all precautions are taken so that an explosion just can't happen.

We guess you just never know. And we have an idea that elderly and retired John L. Lewis, the great and most far-sighted of all labor chieftains, is shedding a tear.

Thunder, lightning, rain, snow and wind—'t's had 'em all during the past 24 hours, Indian Summer done.

And judging by the weather forecast, preview for the next few days of winter which officially arrives two weeks from tomorrow. As a matter of fact, it arrived with up to 16 inches of snow in the western sector of the state.

Windy and colder during the weekend which are daily for football games. Only there's a security of football outside of the professional cracking of ribs.

Pratt Harker Day it is. Anniversary of that sneak attack devastating most of our navy 27 years ago and a catastrophe most of us old enough to remember will never forget.

Void memory? Okay, just what were you doing when you first heard the news? We'll bet you recall to the smallest detail.

Wile Quill, the arrogant Transport Workers chief, up to his old tricks again as he threatens a transit strike in Philadelphia for next Wednesday.

We've always figured the wisest law Congress could pass would be one completely outlawing any and all strikes in the utility and other public service fields. We'll bet Sunday we'll get it—Wile Quill's help.

Today's super-snow day allows you to see less and less of more and more.

Girls who try to be talking on cyclopedias should remember that reference books are never taken out.

Christmas greetings speak of peace on earth—but they don't ser war.

Drive carefully, please.

37 TRAPPED, HOPE SLIM

They Work



A U.S. Steel official questions rescue workers who just arrived above ground after helping with rescue efforts to save 37 miners.

He Waits



Peter Steech of Fairless Hills patiently sits and waits for news of his brother trapped in the mine.

Weather

Cloudy, windy and cold today; high in mid 30s. Fair and continued cold tonight and tomorrow; low tonight 25-30, high tomorrow in the 40s. Sunday, light snow, continued cold.

Mine Blast Rescuers Battle Time

CARMICHAEL, Pa. (UPI) — Weary rescue workers battled against time today in an effort to reach 37 men trapped 680 feet below the earth's surface by an explosion in the Frosty Run shaft of a U.S. Steel Corp. coal mine.

Rescuers pushed to within 5,500 feet of an area where the men were believed trapped. At that point, progress was halted as a horizontal shaft was sealed off to permit further advances.

Officials said there was a slim chance the miners had reached a safe area and survived the explosion as gas explosion and a fire which apparently followed. But no word had been received from the trapped men since the blast.

E.H. Golt, U.S. Steel executive vice president of production, said "good progress has been made" in the rescue effort.

"We are approaching now an area where we must proceed with extreme caution because of the amount of gas present," Golt said. "It is important to re-establish the ventilation system which was destroyed by the explosion so we can protect the crews. It is our hope that the crews will reach the men in time."

The blast occurred at 1 p.m., EST, Thursday in the Frosty Run shaft of the Robena No. 2 mine owned and operated by the United States Steel Corp. Eighty-three men were in the mine at the time. Forty-seven fled to safety.

At 4:30 a.m. EST today, a U.S. Steel spokesman said rescue teams had worked their way to within about 5,500 feet of where the men were believed trapped. Rescuers reported no further progress at 9 a.m. because they were sealing off a horizontal section of the mine to permit them to move forward.

Peter and his wife, Anna, live at home with a 27-year-old son, Lawrence. Neither father nor son are working at present. Steech had left from National Tube of U.S. Steel's Fairless Works plant where he worked his way up from laborer to tool room attendant.

Always a Miner
Steech said his brother, Henry, was a miner all his life. He worked in the mines as a driver, loading coal and coupling the coal wagons in removing coal from the earth.

One before, Peter said, his brother was in a mining accident at Harkins Mine, W. Va. "But it's been so long, I don't recall it if he was actually in it or not," he said. "He was there at the time."

Thursday was the 50th anniversary of the worst mine disaster on record in the United States, one which killed 361 men Dec. 6, 1912, at Monacaugh, W. Va.

James B. Gird, assistant general superintendent of the Robena Mine, said it was "difficult to say" whether there could be any hope the missing miners were alive.

Gird said that two assistant mine foremen who were among the missing men were "crack the time."

Yesterday and horsemen are beginning to call him the best since Bill Hartack. Page 22.

The weather isn't supposed to halt the mailman, nor the jockey. Lower Bucks County's gift to the world of horse racing won't be a race in the snow.

INDEX
Announcements 11 Movie Timetable 11
Building 18 19 Obituaries 27
Classified 24-29 Santa's Mailbox 6
21 Sports 22
Editorial 4 Stocks 16
Editorial Features 7 TV Review 16
Jockey On Bridge 9 Women's News 12, 18

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By Levittown Couple Injunction Filed To Halt Sewer Pact

A Levittown couple today petitioned the Bucks County Court for an injunction that would keep the county from entering into a sewer pact with the township of Morrisville.

Judge Edwin H. Satterthwaite said yesterday on the hearing that the county board will pay up to \$100,000 per year over a 10-year period. This would be the county's share of the cost for the new sewer line.

The seven communities are Bensalem, Lower Southampton, Middletown and Northampton Townships and the boroughs of Thimble Shoar and Morrisville.

The MacCallans would derive the benefits from the sewer line since they live in Levittown where sewers were included in the town's No. 2 mine explosion.

The couple, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pordash of 642 Osborne Ave., were fearful that the husband of Mrs. Pordash's sister, a machine man who works in the Robena mine, might have been among those trapped.

Mrs. Pordash said, however, that although she was relieved not to see her brother-in-law's name among those listed, she was still deeply concerned.

"My husband and I know many of those trapped men and their families," she said, "because he worked with them in the Colonial No. 3 mine nearby before they were transferred to the Robena mine."

Mrs. Pordash said, "we have the Shank family and the Carlschmidt and the Shank families. I know how they must feel."

Mrs. Pordash said, "I need to every right along when my husband worked in the mines."

Mrs. Pordash said she and her husband have been living in Morrisville for nine years, and added, "I can't tell you how happy I am that my husband gave up mining."

High Winds Pile Up Snow On Turnpike
Heavy Snowstorm Misses Here
But Rest Of State Is Digging Out

Lower Bucks County once again seems to be in a most fortunate "pocket" today as howling snowstorms struck with devastating fury throughout the rest of the state.

While the first huge snowstorm of the season has thousands digging out from under from Indiana to New York State, the most the weatherman says we'll have has already been gone.

More light snow or rain may be coming Sunday, the weather bureau's Trenton report says. Up to 7 a.m. today the bureau recorded 1.3 inches of precipitation.

Anxious Time For Couple In Morrisville

A former miner and his wife now living in Morrisville spent many anxious hours this morning before they learned the names of the 37 miners trapped in the Robena No. 2 mine explosion.

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Source Says 'Yes' Toll Bridge Unit To Buy Bristol Span?

This development was disclosed after the first meeting over of the two bridge commissions yesterday. The Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission, with Morrisville headquarters, met at its Fairless, N.J., offices from 2:30 to 4:45 p.m. in a closed session.

The agreement was made with the Burlington County Bridge Commission, which currently operates the heavily traveled spanning linking Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Although all commission members involved agreed to secrecy on what was discussed, the unidentified source stated the transaction was the main topic. Apparently no actual financial arrangements were made, however.

"We reviewed in a very general way the problems of river crossing in the Burlington-Bristol area. We further agreed that we would continue to discuss the matter."

"Worst In Memory" Of London
Toll Reaches 106
As Smog Fades

LONDON (UPI)—Britain began to grope its way out of the worst smog in memory today but the death toll from a mixture of dirt, smoke and moisture rose steadily.

Scotland Yard said that since the killer fog crept in Monday night at least 106 sudden deaths had been reported in the 700-square mile area of greater London.

London, another 900 persons were hospitalized.

Most of the victims were elderly persons whose lungs could not take the choking smog heavily laced with sulphur dioxide.

Thursday night was the worst of all London came to a halt. Its 5,000 buses were pulled off the streets as visibility went to zero.

After dawn some commuters got a peek at blue sky in central London and London Airport, closed the night, "killer fog" of 1952. But it was believed the toll that this year would stop far short of the 4,000 lives claimed by the smog 10 years ago.

The weather bureau said the end may be near. Today's official forecast said the fog would thin this morning and clear away altogether by afternoon.

Young Man Believes
In 'Horsing Around'

The weather isn't supposed to halt the mailman, nor the jockey. Lower Bucks County's gift to the world of horse racing won't be a race in the snow.