

Somerset County FLASHBACK **DECEMBER 2023**

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100 YEARS AGO DECEMBER 1923

HOLIDAY FOR RURAL MAIL CARRIERS Bernardsville News, Dec 20, 1923, p 11

Postmaster William L. Scheuerman, of Basking Ridge, announced yesterday that the Postmaster General has approved an amendment of the Postal Laws and Regulations, as a result of which rural mail carriers will be given a holiday Christmas Day. ... Postmasters and carriers have been requested to notify patrons of rural delivery ... that there will be no delivery on rural routes on Christmas Day so they may arrange for early mailing of Christmas packages or other matter. The holiday ruling in this community involves the rural carriers of the Millington, Basking Ridge, Far Hills, and Gladstone post offices.

KIDDIES ENJOYED CHRISTMAS PARTY Courier-News, Dec 22, 1923, p 15

North Plainfield's annual Christmas party for the children was held at Saengerbund Hall Saturday afternoon under the direction of the Ball-Kirch post, No. 265, American Legion and its Women's Auxiliary. Fully 600 children of the borough were in attendance. Duncan Patterson and James Fenner presented a program of music, and a number of songs and recitations by the children, accompanied on the piano by Miss Lillian Flossbach, completed that portion of the program. Dan D. Denny acted as Santa Claus and greeted the children as they passed up to the stage to receive their candy and toys.

SOMERVILLE ELKS ENTERTAINED 1,500 CHILDREN Courier-News. Dec 26, 1923, P 8

The Somerville Lodge of Elks yesterday entertained 1,500 children from its jurisdiction, the most of them coming from Somerville and Raritan. [At 9:30 o'clock Christmas morning] a six-reel "Wild West" picture was given for the benefit of the kiddies at the Cort Theatre, the seating capacity of which was entirely taken. At the conclusion of the motion pictures, as the children passed from the theatre, each was presented with a box of candy, an orange, a book, and a toy. ...

BOUND BROOK COMMUNITY TREE Courier-News, Dec 6, 1923, p 9

The community tree in Bound Brook this year will be erected on the High School grounds instead of in the little park in front of the station on Main street. ... The community associations of Bound Brook and Martinsville will combine their efforts. ... A 16th century Christmas play will be staged with the carols and waits and solos usually associated with an old-time Christmas. ... The entertainment will be given on Christmas eve.

BASKING RIDGE COMMUNITY CAROL SING

Bernardsville News, Dec 19, 1923, p 12

The Basking Ridge Parent-Teacher Association is again sponsoring a community carol sing this year on the Village Green at 7 p.m. Christmas Eve. The church bells will start ringing at 6:50 p.m. Erection of a large lighted tree around which the affair will take place is planned. Twenty smaller trees lighted along Finley avenue have been placed by business men and the fire company.

SEEN THIS WEEK Bernardsville News, Dec 13, 1923, p 4

- ⇒ Through a neighboring window on Prospect street as we passed – an Xmas tree, replete with candles and trimmings, and lighted with tiny electric bulbs.
- Leading artiment Store BERNARDSVILLE, N. J

 - *Dolls, *Doll Furniture, *Air Rifles, *Banks, *Blocks,
 - *Dishes and Tea Sets, *Drums, *Drawing Outfits, *Trains, *Mechanical Toys, *Games, *Gibb's Toys, *Horns and Trumpets,
 - *Housekeeping Toys, *Iron Toys, *Paint Boxes, *Rattles, *Rubber Toys, *Tinker Toys, *Kiddy Kars
- ⇒ One lone shack of corn stalks in an otherwise empty field on one of the nearby main roads, that had been large enough to hollow out and contain a soap box and a man. Brush and grain scattered about to entice pheasants and other game. Man, with gun ready, awaits the game to shoot it through the openings in the stalks.
- \Rightarrow The mail carriers, with ever-increasing loads of Christmas matter.

MEMORIAL LIBRARY TO BE ERECTED Courier-News, Dec 17, 1923, p 11

Bound Brook's Memorial Library will be erected and work will be commenced in the early spring. ... It was found that of the \$50,000 needed, \$25,000 had been subscribed and ... a large number of subscriptions had not yet been returned. ...

SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SELECTS RULES COMMITTEE Courier-News, Dec 22, 1923, p 9 A rules committee has been selected by the various classes to draw up rules and bring in suggestions for conduct in the new high school building, which will be in use shortly after school opens following the Christmas holiday.

