

July 2025

JULY 1905 120 YEARS AGO

BERNARDSVILLE'S BIGGEST DAY

Firemen's Fourth of July Celebration Greatest Event in History of Village. *Bernardsville News, 7 July 1905, p 1*

Within the recollection of the oldest residents, the [Fourth of July] celebration was the greatest event of that kind that has ever taken place here. ... [T]he visitors who gathered from every nook and corner for miles around and from distant places...swelled the number in attendance to fully 6,000. The firemen's parade was the attraction of the day. The village streets along the line of march were crowded on either side, while in and about the park, people, carriages and automobiles were packed together like sardines. Many residences and businesses along the route were decorated with flags and bunting, while on the flagpoles in the park and at the station Old Glory was swung to the breeze amid the firing of cannon crackers and the roll of drum. ...

FIRE COMPANIES MAKE A SHOWING AT FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

Bernardsville News, 14 July 1905, page 4, col 1.

Bernardsville. The local and visiting fire companies on the occasion of the Fourth of July parade here, made a showing that was a great credit not alone to themselves but to the communities which they represented as well. ... Not the least attractive in the parade was the company from Basking Ridge, with ... a truck of which each member has a just right to feel proud, for it was made in its entirety, including ladders, hooks, etc., and was painted and lettered, by members of the company.

NEW BASEBALL TEAM IN SOMERVILLE *The Courier-News, 15 July 1905, page 5*

A new baseball team has been formed in Somerville, to be known as the All-Somervilles. The team will be composed of all home players, and "Gus" Thomas, "the boy wonder," is to be manager. The team was formed for the purpose of playing out-of-town clubs, such as Raritan, Bound Brook, and other nearby towns. The team will be uniformed and will be composed of some of Somerville's best baseball talent.

JULY 1925 100 YEARS AGO

COMMUNITY SING *The Courier-News, 30 July 1925, p 9*

Somerville. The second community sing of the season will be held on the Court House steps this evening at 8 o'clock. Judge Nelson Y. Dungan will call the singers to attention with the announcement of the Reveille to be blown by George Maurer, local cornetist. At that time, Philip D. Buchanan, general manager of the Terra Cotta plant at Rocky Hill, plans to have seated comfortably on the Court House steps a large representation from our neighboring town. The down county people will come by automobile. ... Captain Walter Schroeder, of Company B, has agreed to allow the use of the armory chairs ... Special numbers will include selections by the Industrial Glee Club... accompanied by Earl Epps at the piano. Mrs. C. D. Phoenix will accompany the mass singing in her inimitable style. Another feature will be the singing of the "Howd'y" song by the Somerville Jollity Boys. The program will consist of many old-time and fun-making songs.

RADIO STATION NEARING COMPLETION *The Courier-News, 9 July 1925, p 11*

Bound Brook. The Radio Corporation of America, which will move the transmitting apparatus of Station WJZ from New York to the site recently purchased adjoining the grounds of the Bound Brook Nursery, has completed the erection of its building. The radio tower is nearing completion, and because of its great height can easily be seen from the borough. The company will maintain its studio in New York.

CARD PARTY BENEFIT FOR SOMERSET HOSPITAL *The Courier-News, 9 July 1925, p 11*

Somerville. The final card party in the series of 240 which have been held throughout the vicinity during the past several months for the benefit of the Somerset Hospital, took place Tuesday evening at the Somerset Hotel ballroom, over a hundred being present to play. ... Numerous...prizes were awarded for bridge and 500. Following a humorous address by George A. Post, all of the winners presented their prizes to the hospital, dropping them in a well which had been made for the purpose. Mrs. Irving Werblin was general chairman of arrangements for the series of card parties and received the assistance of a large committee of ladies.