

OCTOBER 1903 ~ 122 YEARS AGO

ESSEX HUNT SPORTS. *Bernardsville News, 30 October 1903, page 1*

The third annual Essex Hunt Steeplechase meeting will be held tomorrow afternoon at the kennel farm of Charles Pfizer at Gladstone. This event is looked forward to with much interest, especially by the farmers of the nearby surrounding country over whose lands the Essex Hounds are hunted. These farmers, who regard the occasion as a gala day, are always present in large numbers. Heretofore a sumptuous breakfast has been served, but this time the program will be changed by substituting a smoker. ... The course will be over a regular hunting country, finishing on the Steeplechase Course of the Essex Hunt.



TWO EXCITING ACCIDENTS. *Bernardsville News, 2 October 1903, page 1*

Some excitement was caused by two accidents in Bernardsville Monday. The first occurred just after 7 o'clock in the morning as Charles Welmerskirchen was returning to Bernardsville with a load of meat. While descending the hill near George Mullen's residence, the wagon pole dropped, causing the weight of the load to be thrown upon the horses. The animals, freeing themselves from the wagon, immediately started to run and proceeded as far as Blazure's Corner where they came in contact with a brick wagon and were stopped. Aside from a severe cut received by one of the horses, no serious damage was sustained. / The other ... incident transpired immediately after the arrival of the 5 o'clock express from New York. Mixed in with numerous vehicles moving rapidly up Claremont road, W. G. Ladd's rig collided with one of I. B. Bowers' buggies just as the driver of the latter had suddenly turned his horse to enter the stable. As Mr. Ladd could not check his horse in time, the front wheel of his wagon mounted the hub of Mr. Bowers' wheel, throwing Mr. Ladd out. The horse continued up the street a short distance, when it was stopped and brought back. Mr. Ladd was considerably shaken up but received no injury.

OCTOBER 1925 ~ 100 YEARS AGO

BOUND BROOK SUFFERS AGAIN — FLOOD AND GAS EXPLOSION *The Courier-News, 12 October 1903, page 1*

Voorhees Building Wrecked and Four People Injured — Trains Delayed and River Out of Bounds.

In the midst of the worst flood Bound Brook has undergone since 1896, an added disaster came early Saturday afternoon when the front portion of the Voorhees building, one of the largest in the place, was blown out by a terrific explosion. Three stores were wrecked and four persons were injured, but none seriously. ... All were cut by flying glass and huge splinters of wood ... The explosion was caused by water reaching a large quantity of calcium carbide in an acetylene gas tank, used to light the building, causing a great quantity of the gas to generate and burst its confines. The people who were hurt were in the center doorway of the building watching the flood and received no warning until the floors rose beneath them. ... / The business streets of the town were under water from 8 o'clock Friday night until late yesterday (Sunday) morning. At times it was four feet high in Main street but did not reach the record of 1896 by ten inches. The water rushed along with the speed of a mill race and carried sidewalks, fences, and small buildings with it. Until .. Saturday morning, trains were unable to pass through ... and passengers were marooned west of the town. ... No trolley cars were operated in the town from Friday night until this (Monday) morning. ...

NEW BOUND BROOK RADIO STATION NOW ABOUT READY *Bernardsville News, 1 October 1925, page 1*

The radio world, waits all attention, for the completion of the super-broadcasting station which is being erected on the River road in Bound Brook. It is being built on part of the acreage formerly controlled by the Bound Brook Nurseries. It is said that the Radio Corporation of America, which is erecting the plant, expects to send out its experimental messages early in October. ... The superstation in Bound Brook is to be designated WJZ. ... The corporation ... will handle international programmes from London, Paris, Berlin, and other European centers and those stations will also receive in exchange programmes from New York City or any other spot where they are being featured.