

# The New Rochelle Walk of Fame



New Rochelle, New York, located in Westchester County, on Long Island Sound is a place where many successful and famous people have lived and worked over the years. Norman Rockwell lived there for 25 years and he would often use people from the community as subjects in his illustrations. Frederic Remington painted his iconic western paintings in the studio adjacent to his house on Webster Avenue.

Joseph Stein wrote the book and Jerry Bock wrote the music for *Fiddler on the Roof* while living in New Rochelle and Carl Reiner set his hit television show *The Dick Van Dyke Show* on Bonnie Meadow Road, the same street where he lived in New Rochelle with his family.

Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee were politically active in the community. Carrie Chapman Catt, suffragist and the founder of the League of Woman Voters, hosted her famous teas in her home on Paine Avenue, not far from the house where Thomas Paine, the voice of the American Revolution once lived.

Lou Gehrig would hit baseballs with the local kids and go fishing in Echo Bay. Mariano Rivera, the Yankee "Closer," renovated the North Avenue Presbyterian Church and turned it into Refugio de Esperanza, "Refuge of Hope," where his wife Clara is the Senior Pastor.

The cartoon character Mighty Mouse emerged from the studios of Terrytoons located in the Kaufman or "K" Building on North Avenue. Don McLean's classic song American Pie was inspired by his youthful experiences of growing up in New Rochelle and Don Hewitt, the creator of the classic television news program 60 Minutes, began his journalist career by writing a sports column called "Athletes Footnotes" for the New Rochelle High School paper.

New Rochelle Walk of Fame was created and donated to the City by Roderick Kennedy, Jr., whose roots run deep in New Rochelle. He envisioned it becoming a motivational and educational tool for the youth of the community and as a source of civic pride. Instead of honoring the inductees with the ubiquitous plaque or sidewalk inscription, he bought them to life with words and pictures on colorful free-standing signs located in a park setting.

With the help of New Rochelle City Historian Barbara Davis and Parks Commissioner Bill Zimmerman, they were able to secure the approval of Ruby Dee Park at Library Green as the site by Mayor Bramson and the City Council. The criteria for selection include individuals of significant accomplishment and those who had lived in New Rochelle for at least five years. Selection also seeks gender and ethnic balance. Today, there are a total of 52 signs surrounding the perimeter of the park.



Rod Kennedy, Mayor Noam Bramson, City Historian Barbara Davis, Mariano Rivera

# Welcome to the New Rochelle Walk of Fame

Along this unique Walk of Fame, you will learn about the fascinating lives of various individuals from many fields – the arts, business, politics, education, the

media, entertainment and sports. What do they all have in common? They are all nationally renowned people with distinct ties to New Rochelle.

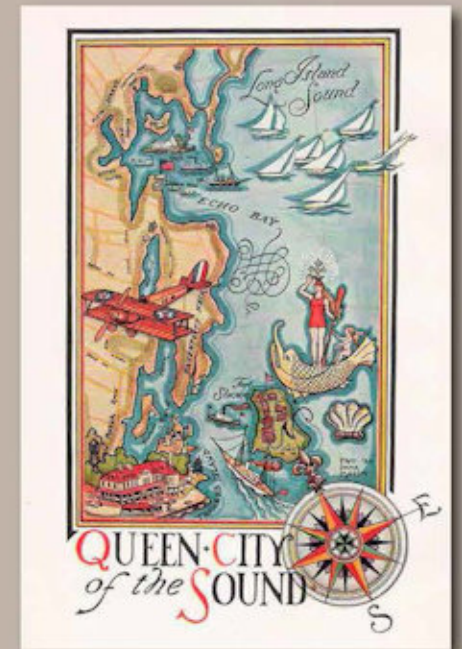


From its earliest years as a 17th century French settlement to present times, New Rochelle has attracted and nurtured an unprecedented number of notable and famous residents from every field of human endeavor.

Just “45 Minutes From Broadway,” New Rochelle earned the title “Queen City of the Sound” due to its many magnetizing attributes: a sweeping waterfront providing panoramic views of Long Island Sound and great access to aquatic activities, rolling hills of fertile acreage, a robust history, and wonderful neighborhoods that were planned as residential parks. All just an easy train ride from Manhattan...



*This innovative project, launched in 2011, was conceived and made possible by Roderick Kennedy Jr., who was born in New Rochelle and developed a great affection for the city while spending his early childhood here. An author, historian and entrepreneur, Mr. Kennedy realized the importance of truly celebrating the honorees' achievements. Watch the Walk of Fame continue to grow each year, as Mr. Kennedy and a committee of residents introduce additional New Rochelleans who were instrumental in shaping American society.*



Barbara Davis, City Historian, 2011



# Ossie Davis & Ruby Dee

1917-2005

1922-2014



Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee met in 1946 when they co-starred in the Broadway play *Jeb*. While the play lasted six months, their marriage in 1948 lasted 56 years. In their joint autobiography, *With Ossie And Ruby: In This Life Together*, they write that their marriage "almost felt like an appointment we finally got around to keeping."

They have 10 Emmy nominations between them, and have appeared together in productions such as

*A Raisin in the Sun*, *Roots: The Next Generation* and Spike Lee's *Do The Right Thing* and *Malcolm X* in which Davis reenacted the real-life eulogy he had given for the fallen civil rights leader.

Davis wrote the Broadway satire *Purlie Victorious* and co-wrote and directed the film *Cotton Comes to Harlem*. He collaborated with Dee on the PBS series *With Ossie & Ruby* and co-wrote the award-winning teleplay *For Us The Living: The Story of Medgar Evers*. His comedic roles include appearances in *Dr. Dolittle* and *Grumpy Old Men*.

Dee first attracted national recognition for her role in the 1950 movie *The Jackie Robinson Story*. She won the Emmy as best actress for the 1991 Hallmark Hall of Fame production *Decoration Day* and was the first black woman to play lead roles at the American Shakespeare Festival.

Davis and Dee were activists who used their celebrity status as actors to help promote the cause of African Americans and other minorities. They were at the forefront of many civil rights, justice, labor and anti-war struggles and were the masters-of-ceremony for the March on Washington.

Davis was born Raiford Chatman Davis in Cogdell, Georgia in 1917, and Dee was born Ruby Ann Wallace in Cleveland, Ohio in 1922. They moved to New Rochelle in 1963 and lived not far from where Thomas Paine, another New Rochelle activist once lived. In his acceptance speech for the Yitzhak Rabin Peacemaker Award Davis said, "I owe so much to the great people here in New Rochelle. We are fellow workers in the vineyard. New Rochelle is my Jerusalem."

In memory of their many contributions to the community, the theater at the New Rochelle Public Library was named for Ossie Davis and the park at Library Green was named for Ruby Dee. They have been honored with the National Medal for the Arts in 1995, the Screen Actor's Guild Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001, the Kennedy Center Honors in 2004 and the NAACP Image Award in 1989.



NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

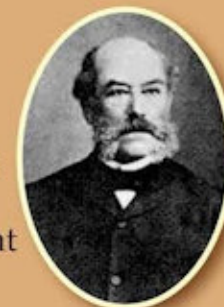
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# Adrian Iselin and Family

(1818-1905)

Adrian Iselin was a financier who invested in and developed real estate, railroads, textile and mining companies. At the outbreak of the Civil War his Wall Street firm of A. Iselin & Company was so strong that it helped to finance the United States Government. Socially, the family was among the elite high society in New York City. Above all others, the Iselin family had an enormous impact on the growth and development of New Rochelle.



Adrian Georg Iselin was born of Swiss ancestry in 1818. He moved to New York City as a young man and in 1845 married Eleanora O'Donnell of Baltimore. Like many rich men of his day, Iselin had a portrait of her painted by John Singer Sargent, the famous American artist.

An avid yachtsman, Adrian selected the attractive Sound shore community of New Rochelle for his summer home in 1858. Over forty years he and his children transformed the farms on Davenport Neck into extraordinary estates. In the northern part of New Rochelle, they eventually owned expanses of farm land and reservoirs that led to the first New Rochelle water system.

When he retired from business in 1878, Adrian Sr. focused his attentions to improving conditions in his adopted community of New Rochelle. In addition to starting the original water company, he established the first savings bank and built a full-equipped "gymnasium" for the public.

Adrian and wife, and subsequently their daughters Miss Georgine and Mrs. (Eleanora) Delancey Kane were major funders of Catholic causes, establishing St. Gabriel's and St. Joseph's Churches, and their parochial schools, as well as New Rochelle Hospital.

Sons Adrian, Jr., William E., Columbus O'Donnell, and Charles Oliver were each successful businessmen. Adrian and Columbus bought up extensive property in the community, and developed Residence, Neptune, Homestead and Sycamore Park neighborhoods. All great yachtsmen, C. Oliver was five times defender of America's Cup.

NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

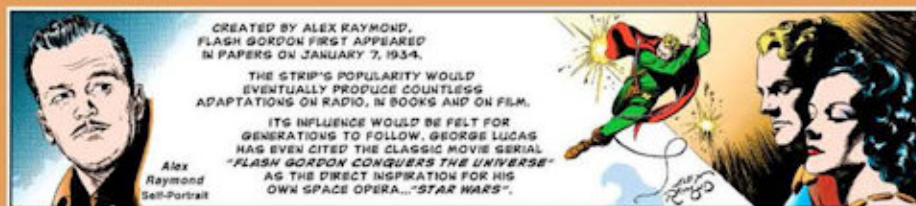
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# Alex Raymond

(1909-1956)

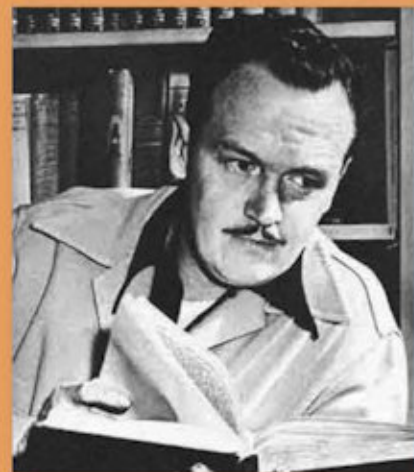
Alex Gillespie Raymond was a cartoonist, best known for creating *Flash Gordon* for King Features Syndicate in 1934. It came about as the result of a competition Raymond won to create a cartoon version of an up-to-date Jules Verne type story to compete with *Buck Rogers*.



The strip follows the adventures of Flash Gordon and his companions in their battles with Ming the Merciless, evil ruler of planet Mongo. It lasted only three years.

Alex Raymond's influence on other cartoonists was significant. The artistic creators of *Batman* (Bob Kane) and *Superman* (Joe Shuster) credit him as having had a strong influence on their artistic development. George Lucas has cited *Flash Gordon* as a major influence on his *Star Wars* films.

Raymond's other strips include *Jungle Jim*, *Secret Agent X-9* (written by author Dashiell Hammett) and *Rip Kirby*. He also assisted Chic Young on *Blondie*. In 1949, he won the Ruben Award for "Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year" and in 1996 he was inducted into the Comic Book Hall of Fame.



Born Alexander Gillespie Raymond on October 2, 1909 in New Rochelle, he went to New Rochelle High School and attended Iona Prep on an athletic scholarship. He eloped with hometown sweetheart Helen Williams in 1931 and they had five children. The names of his three daughters—Judith, Lynne and Helen ('Honey')—were immortalized in that of Rip Kirby's girlfriend, Judith Lynne "Honey" Dorian. His life was tragically cut short in an automobile accident in Westport, Connecticut at the age of 46.

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# Teresa Brewer



(1931-2007)

Teresa Brewer was born on May 7, 1931 in Toledo, Ohio to Helen and Louis Breuer. When she was two years old her mother had her try out on *Uncle August's Kiddie Show*, a local radio program where she belted out "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" and was paid with cookies and cupcakes. From age 5 to 12 she sang and danced for the *Major Bowes' Amateur Hour*.

She was truly "A Sweet Old Fashion Girl" with a spunky voice. She was one of the most prolific female singers in the 1950s and had nearly 40 songs that topped the charts. Her first gold record was "Music, Music, Music" released in 1950. One of her favorites, "Till I Waltz Again With You," was her biggest selling record and sold more than 1.4 million copies. She was most noted for pop but she also sang jazz, blues, country and rock. For her contribution to the recording industry, Teresa Brewer has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.



Teresa married William Monahan in 1949 and they had four daughters who attended Ursuline School in New Rochelle. She divorced in 1972 and married Bob Thiele who was in the recording industry. They lived on Pine Brook Blvd.



She appeared on TV and in film, including *Those Redheads from Seattle*. She turned down a seven-year contract with Paramount because she wanted to stay in New Rochelle and raise her family. "I don't need to be in the spotlight to be happy." She died at her home in New Rochelle on October 17, 2007.

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# Buffalo Bob Smith

(1917-1998)

*Say kids, what time is it? It's Howdy Doody Time!*

Buffalo Bob Smith was the creator and host of the pioneering children's television program *The Howdy Doody Show*. Howdy Doody, an affable freckle-faced puppet, lived in Doodyville, USA along with his friends Mr. Bluster, Dilly-Dally, the Flub-a-dub (puppets) and Clarabell the Clown, Princess Summerfall Winterspring and Chief Thunderthud (actors). The show played before a live audience of children who sat in the Peanut Gallery. It ran on NBC TV from 1947 to 1960 and was a favorite among today's baby boomers.

Born Robert Emil Schmidt in Buffalo, New York, Buffalo Bob was a talented musician who at 17 was invited to join the act of singer Kate "God Bless America" Smith, serving as both pianist and master of ceremonies. Before finding fame with *The Howdy Doody Show*, Smith created *Triple B Ranch*, a children's radio program that voiced a character named Elmer who frequently said "howdy doody." Elmer's favorite phrase was to become the name of TV's red-haired, freckle-faced marionette, Howdy Doody.



In 1946, Buffalo Bob Smith moved to 195 Paine Avenue in New Rochelle. In 1949, he began broadcasting an early-morning radio talk show from his New Rochelle basement and then traveled to Manhattan to do *The Howdy Doody Show* in the evening. Because of this rigorous schedule, he suffered a heart attack in 1954 and *The Howdy Doody Show* was broadcast from his basement studio while he recovered.

Buffalo Bob took an active interest in his community and was a familiar figure around town. His children went to Roosevelt School and he would make appearances at schools and civic events. He owned a liquor store in Wykagyl and was made an honorary member of the New Rochelle Police Association. He died in Hendersonville, North Carolina in 1998.

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# Carrie Chapman Catt

(1859-1947)



*In the adjustment of the new order of things, we women demand an equal voice; we shall accept nothing less.*

Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton launched the women's suffrage movement, but it was Carrie Chapman Catt who spearheaded the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution that gave U.S. women the right to vote in 1920. She served as president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association from 1900 to 1904 and from 1915 to 1920. She was the founder of the League of Women Voters and the International Alliance of Women. Carrie espoused the causes of world peace and child labor and, in 1925, founded the National Committee on the Cause and Cure of War. During her 40 years of continuous office holding she had never received a salary from any source at any time.

Born Carrie Clinton Lane in Ripon, Wisconsin, and raised in Iowa, she trained as a teacher, briefly studied law, and was appointed high school principal a year after graduating from Iowa State College. Her first husband, editor and publisher Leo Chapman, died in 1885. In 1890, she married wealthy engineer George W. Catt. They signed a prenuptial agreement that guaranteed her two months in the spring and two in the fall for her suffrage work. He supported her in these efforts, believing that his role in the marriage was to earn their living and hers was to reform society.



Carrie Chapman Catt settled in New Rochelle in 1928. She purchased a large gracious home on Paine Avenue that could accommodate up to 200 people for the teas she gave to promote her various causes. Carrie was active in the New Rochelle Chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Society, a supporter of the public library as well as a member of the Garden Club of New Rochelle. She died in her New Rochelle home at the age of 88 and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery.

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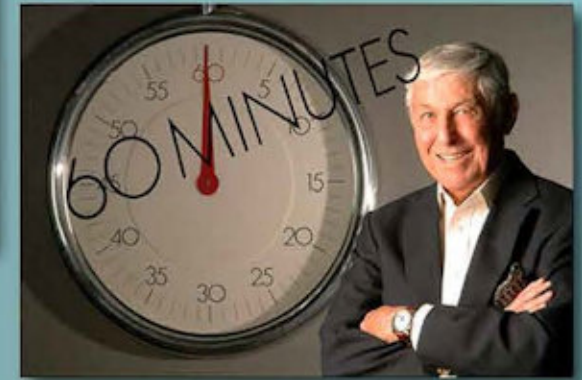




# Don Hewitt

(1922-2009)

Donald Shepard Hewitt, the man who created *60 Minutes*, grew up only "45 Minutes from Broadway" in New Rochelle, New York. He was born in New York City but his family moved to New Rochelle after stops in Boston and Milwaukee.



While Don loved the movies and would take the nickel trolley ride to the Cameo Theater in Mt. Vernon on Saturday afternoons, his real ambition was always to be a reporter. In the seventh grade at Albert Leonard Junior High School, he won a contest for best editorial in *Junior Scholastic* magazine. At New Rochelle High School he wrote a sports column called "Athletes Footnotes" and was captain of the track team. He began his journalism career writing for the *Pelham Sun* during the day and moonlighting as a copyboy for the *New York Herald Tribune* at night.

His career in broadcast journalism began when he joined the fledgling CBS news operation in 1948 before he even owned his first television set. It was Hewitt, who while producing-directing the first Kennedy-Nixon debate in 1960, attempted to advise Nixon to use appropriate make-up to cover his wan appearance. Nixon didn't listen, lost the debate, and lost the election. Hewitt later became executive producer of the *CBS Evening News* with Walter Cronkite, helping the famous broadcast of John F. Kennedy's assassination as the story developed.

In 1968, Don launched the legendary Emmy Award-winning show *60 Minutes*. Its title was taken from a memo he had written to argue for 60 minutes of prime time. The concept was inspired in part by *Life Magazine* which combined news stories with celebrity profiles. It was the first TV program to use a newsmagazine format.

Don Hewitt won two Peabody awards and eight Emmys, including a Founders Emmy from the International Council of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences in 1995. In 1990, he was inducted into the Television Academy Hall of Fame.

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# Eddie Foy and the Seven Little Foyes (1856-1928)

Born Edwin Fitzgerald to Irish immigrant parents in New York City, Eddie Foy was an actor, comedian, dancer and vaudevillian. At age six, Eddie began performing in the streets and local saloons to support his family. At 15, he changed his name to Foy and began dancing in bars and traveling throughout the West where he gained his first professional recognition in mining camps and cow towns.

Foy played the variety circuits for years in a series of song and dance acts, eventually rising to musical comedy stardom on Broadway. He specialized in eccentric routines and costumes, often appearing in drag. Eddie talked out of the side of his mouth, which added attitude to his casually tossed-off one-liners. He also noticed that he got laughs when he spit as he talked, so he also cultivated that Foy-ble.

In 1910 he formed Eddie Foy and The Seven Little Foyes, a family vaudeville act that quickly turned into a national sensation. After the act ended, the children pursued separate show business careers: Eddie Foy, Jr. became an



actor who played his father in several films including—*Yankee Doodle Dandy*. Bryan became a film director, composed show music and wrote for Buster Keaton. Richard and Irving worked in the movie theatre business and Charley and Mary operated a comedy supper club. The family's story was filmed in 1955 as *The Seven Little Foyes* with Bob Hope as Eddie Foy. The family performed many benefits for New Rochelle causes at Lowe's and RKO theaters on Main Street.

In 1903, Eddie Foy bought a house in New Rochelle near the corner of Weyman Avenue and Pelham Road that he named the "The Foyer." Next to the land where the house once stood is

Eddie Foy Park that was donated to the City of New Rochelle by the Foy family. All of Eddie Foy's children except Bryan are buried with their father at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in New Rochelle.



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# Ellabelle Davis

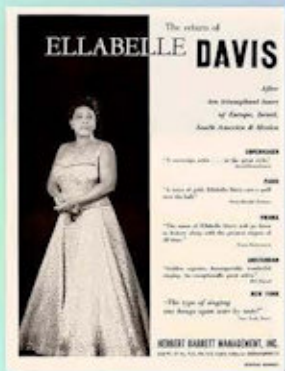
(1907-1960)

Ellabelle Davis made her operatic debut in 1946 as Aida at the Opera Nazionale in Mexico City. She sang the role again at La Scala in Milan, Italy in 1948. In 1947, the League of Composers named her the outstanding singer of the 1946-47 season and commissioned Lukas Foss to write the cantata *The Song of Songs* especially for her. "Her rich voice, artistry, spontaneous emotion, innate musical feeling, sincerity, joy of song, surpasses everything we have heard up to now ... (she is) a sensation of her age!" So resounded the praises for New Rochelle-born Ellabelle Davis following a concert in Oslo, Norway.



Years before she performed to standing-room-only audiences at Carnegie Hall and Town Hall in New York City, Ellabelle Davis captured the heart of her community singing in the choir lofts of St. Catherine's A.M.E. Zion Church, Bethesda Baptist Church and in the auditorium of New Rochelle High School. She was born on March 17, 1907 into one of New Rochelle's well-known African American families. She grew up on Horton Avenue where her father had built the first house in the area.

Ellabelle began singing at an early age. She sang herself to sleep with lullabys when she was two, and when she was twelve, she had her debut in a joint recital with her sister Marie, who played the piano sponsored by the Colored Women's Club in New Rochelle. Later, Ellabelle and her sister had a radio program on WABC and were known as the Davis sisters.



Bolstered by a strong and spirited family, an encouraging community and the financial backing of arts-patron Louise Crane, Ellabelle Davis gradually charted her unique course as one of the first black concert vocalists. Between appearances with such renowned conductors as Leonard Bernstein and Eugene Ormandy or on stopovers before one of her European tours, Miss Davis came home to New Rochelle where repeatedly during her career, she lent her "sumptuous voice and gracious platform presence" to benefit her community.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

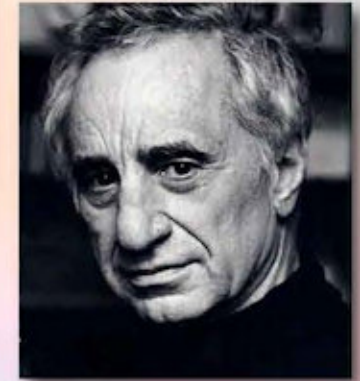
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# Elia Kazan



(1909-2003)



Elia Kazan was described as one of the most honored and influential directors in Broadway and Hollywood history. He was also vilified for his appearance before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1952. He produced and wrote screenplays and novels and acted professionally for eight years before becoming a stage and film director. Elia was a member of the influential Group Theater and co-founded the Actors Studio in 1947 that introduced "Method" acting to the American stage and cinema.

Kazan also introduced a new generation of unknown young actors to movie audiences, including Marlon Brando, James Dean, Julie Harris, Warren Beatty, Lee Remick and Eli Wallach. He directed 21 different actors to Oscar nominations resulting in nine wins. He became one of the consummate filmmakers of the 20th century after directing a string of successful films, including, *Splendor in the Grass*, *On the Waterfront*, and *East of Eden*. During his career, he won two Oscars for Best Director, received an Honorary Oscar in 1999, and won three Tony Awards and four Golden Globes.

In the 1940s, Elia Kazan gained fame as one of Broadway's finest talents for his direction of plays such as Tennessee William's *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* and Thornton Wilder's *The Skin of Our Teeth*. His novels include *The Arrangement* and *America, America*. The latter, went on to become an Academy Award winning movie of the same name.

Born Elias Kazanjoglou in Constantinople, Turkey to parents of Greek decent, Elia Kazan was four years old when his father moved to New York City and shortened the family name to Kazan. In 1922, the family moved to 731 Webster Avenue in New Rochelle. He graduated from New Rochelle High School and was a frequent patron of the New Rochelle Public Library.

Elia Kazan was married three times and had an affair with actress Marilyn Monroe before she married Arthur Miller. He died in 2003 in New York City at the age of 94.

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# Elizabeth Ann Seton

(1774-1821)

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first American woman to be canonized by the Catholic Church. Born in New York City in 1774, Elizabeth was raised as an Episcopalian. Her father, Dr. Richard Bayley, a prominent New York physician, was the first Health Officer of the Port of New York. Her mother, Catherine Charlton, was the daughter of an Anglican minister.



After her mother's premature death, Elizabeth spent most of her youth living with her uncle, William Bayley, in a house built by Joshua Pell that still stands today on the Shore Road at the New Rochelle-Pelham Manor border. It was in New Rochelle that Elizabeth became acquainted with her French Huguenot ancestry. She was related to 11 of the Huguenot Founding Fathers and the Coutant Cemetery was named for her relatives who are buried there.

In 1794, Elizabeth married William Seton, the son of a wealthy shipping merchant and she bore five children. The Setons were prominent in New York Society and Elizabeth helped organize New York's first private charity – the Society for the Relief of Poor Widows with Small Children at Trinity Church. When William Seton went bankrupt and lost his health as well, the Setons set sail for Italy, and soon after arriving, William died. Elizabeth stayed with the Filicchi family who were business partners of William. Their Catholic faith deeply impressed her, and when she returned to New York she converted to Catholicism.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
1774-1821  
Foundress - Sisters of Charity  
Memorial - 4 January

On March 25, 1809 Elizabeth Seton pronounced vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Thereafter, she became known as Mother Seton. She established the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph in 1809 in Emmitsburg, Maryland. She also established St. Joseph's Academy, the first Catholic parochial school in the United States. She died at the age of 47 in 1821. In September 1975, Elizabeth Seton was canonized and numerous Catholic parishes, schools, colleges and hospitals are named for her.

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# Frederic Remington



(1861-1909)

Frederic Remington created a mythical image of the American West that continues to inspire America today. This painter, sculptor, author and illustrator, who is so often identified with the American West, surprisingly spent most of his life in the East.

He was born Frederic Sackrider Remington in Canton, New York. His parents later moved to Ogdensburg, New York where today the Frederic Remington Art Museum is located. He studied art at Yale University and the Art Students League and, as a young man, traveled west where he worked as a rancher, a saloonkeeper and a self-described "cow puncher." His work appeared in *Collier's*, *Harper's Weekly* and in William Randolph Hearst's *New York Journal*.



In 1890, Remington and his wife Eva moved to a Gothic revival house in New Rochelle. Located at 301 Webster Avenue, the house was situated on a promontory known as "Lathers Hill." Remington called it "Endion," an Ojibwa word meaning "the place where I live." He would travel to the West to photograph Native Americans, cowboys and landscapes and then return to his New Rochelle studio to create his world-famous paintings and sculptures.

Remington's dramatic images fired the American imagination, and his vision of the West was adopted by the nation. As the end of the 19th century brought the closing of the frontier, Remington immortalized the Western experience as one of independence, individualism and stoic heroism. It was this optimistic vision that encouraged the settling of the West. He struck a mythical chord, defining our national character that still echoes today in popular culture. From the "Marlboro Man" in the cigarette advertisements to the epic Westerns of John Ford, these images that we perceive as uniquely American reflect the enduring legacy of Frederic Remington.



According to Theodore Roosevelt, whose book *Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail* Remington illustrated, "He has portrayed a most characteristic and yet vanishing type of American life."

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# IRENE CASTLE

(1893-1969)

On the brink of the Roaring Twenties, a New Rochelle girl and her dapper husband swept the country off its feet and onto the dance floor. Their glamorous, all-too-short career became a national preoccupation, as Irene and Vernon Castle enchanted dance-crazy America with their innovative steps, good looks and charm. Their storybook life together began during the summer of 1910 at the New Rochelle Rowing Club in Hudson Park.

Irene was born in New Rochelle in 1893, the second daughter of Dr. Hubert Townsend Foote and his wife, Annie. Their large red house was located at the entrance of Brookside Place until 1906 when it was moved closer to Beechmont Lake. Irene became an aspiring actress as a pre-teen. Her career was launched on the "local church and high school gym circuit," as she called the roles she performed for the city's charitable events.



By the summer of 1910 the New Rochelle Rowing Club was the hot spot for the city's young adult scene-setters. Irene was among them, as was a certain dashing 23 year-old Englishman, Vernon Castle, and following a brief courtship they were married. The newlyweds sailed off for the glamour of Paris where dancing as partners, their simple, elegant and innovative performance made them an overnight sensation. The success carried them back to New York and into the country's leading newspapers. Before long, Americans were doing their best to emulate the Castle's style and flair, on and off the dance floor.



The Castle reign was abruptly halted by World War I when Vernon was killed in a plane crash while training flyers at Fort Worth, Texas. Irene never found another partner but she continued to perform on stage and screen and was the technical advisor for the 1939 movie *The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle* starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Much of her later life was devoted to the cause of animal rights until her death in 1969.

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# Jan Peerce

(1904-1984)

Before Jan Peerce became one of the world's most renowned singers, he was Jacob Pincus Perelmuth from the Lower East Side who, as Pinky Pearl, performed at Jewish weddings in New York City. Peerce was as comfortable singing Bach as he was the "Bluebird of Happiness," and at the age of 67 he was delighting Broadway audiences as Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*.

In 1932, Peerce was discovered by impresario Samuel L. (Roxy) Rothafel who hired him as a tenor soloist with his Radio City Music Hall company and who renamed him John Pierce (later changed to Jan Peerce). Arturo Toscanini called him his "favorite tenor" and they produced some of the best-recorded opera music of the 1940s and '50s together.



Peerce came to sing several roles at the Met including Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, Cavaradossi in *Tosca* and Don Jose in *Carmen*. He became America's own tenor—the self-effacing "favorite uncle" who dropped into your hometown regularly to sing. He also toured the world, becoming in 1956 the first American to perform at Moscow's Bolshoi Opera after World War II.

Peerce gave much credit for his success to his wife, the former Alice Kalmanowitz, his childhood sweetheart from Orchard Street on the Lower East Side. He lived in New Rochelle for over 44 years at 370 Beechmont Drive overlooking Beechmont Lake. His family was active at Beth El Synagogue and his three children attended New Rochelle public schools.

Peerce's best-selling record was his 1945 RCA Victor recording of the "Bluebird of Happiness." It became his "signature tune" and was also the title of his memories published in 1976. As of the late 1970s, it is among the all-time best selling recordings by opera and concert singers. Jan Peerce was awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and the National Medal of Arts. His license plate read "DOREMI."

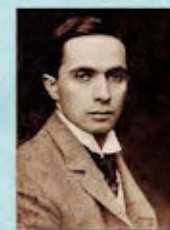
## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# J.C. Leyendecker



(1874-1951)

J.C. Leyendecker was one of the pre-eminent American illustrators of the early 20th century. He is best known for his poster, book and advertising illustrations, "The Arrow Collar Man" and his numerous covers for the *Saturday Evening Post*. Between 1896 and 1950, he painted more than 400 magazine covers and his art was selling Kellogg's Corn Flakes, Chesterfield cigarettes, Kuppenheimer clothing and Bibles as well.

Born Joseph Christian Leyendecker in 1874 in Montabaur, Germany, his family emigrated to the U.S. in 1882, first living in Chicago and then settling in New Rochelle. In the early part of the century, New Rochelle was a mecca for a great number of the country's leading artists. Its easy rail access to Manhattan and the host of publishers, advertising companies and clothing manufacturers vying for the artists' work was a big plus.



In 1914 Leyendecker purchased a large tract of land on Mt. Tom Road and built a 14-room mansion in the style of a French chateau. To accommodate his love for gardening, the property was magnificently cultivated and landscaped.

Leyendecker became one of the *Saturday Evening Post's* leading cover artists, and the Post's millions of readers awaited his annual covers for all holidays. Beginning with the first cover in 1906 featuring a winged cherub, Leyendecker was responsible for bringing to America the tradition of the New Year's baby. Nearly 40 graced the covers of the Post, and nearly all were modeled after New Rochelle infants.

Leyendecker was a member of the New Rochelle Art Association and he continued to complete top-rated work until his death in 1951. Fellow New Rochelle resident and artist, Norman Rockwell, was a pallbearer at his funeral.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# JOHN STEPHENSON

(1809-1893)

John G. Stephenson was a coachbuilder and inventor who patented the first streetcar to run on rails in the United States. In May 1831, Stephenson started his own business, the John Stephenson Company on Broadway in Manhattan where he created a new kind of city transportation. Combining the fledgling concept of rail travel with the traditional stagecoach mode, Stephenson built the first horse-drawn carriages to run on tracks.

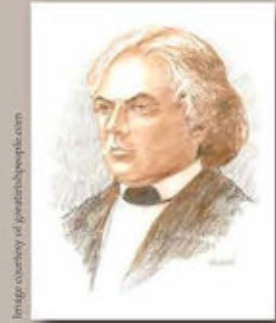
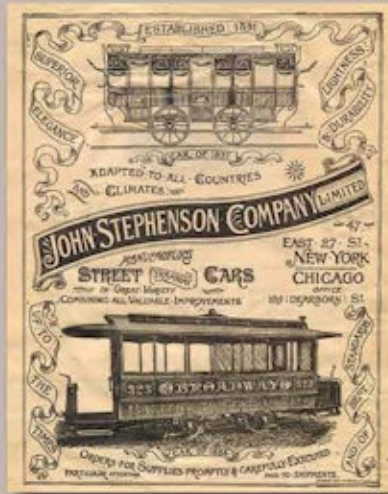


Image courtesy of [greatstephensons.com](http://greatstephensons.com)

This outstanding father of invention, who was born in County Armagh, Ireland, left indelible tracks in New York City and around the globe, as well as in his beloved, adopted, community of New Rochelle. Stephenson Boulevard that runs from Main Street to Palmer Avenue and the school that once stood on the hillside were named for him.

Stephenson and his wife, Julia, began retreating to New Rochelle for summer outings with their three children and in 1862, the couple purchased a large tract of shoreline property and constructed a year-round residence called "Clifford."



Stephenson's holdings in New Rochelle included what had been the site of Crystal Lake, which encompassed what is now the Stephenson playground and playfield. It was once the main source of ice for Manhattan and Brooklyn in the 1840s and 50s, but by the time Stephenson purchased the property, the lake, then stagnant, was a rich breeding ground for mosquitoes. Stephenson was declared a hero by the local press when he installed an expensive drainage system and "removed the malarial influences that formerly threatened that section of town."

An active crusader for the temperance movement and a trustee of the New Rochelle public schools, Stephenson was also a devout member of the (erstwhile) St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church. He died at the age of 84 and his funeral was held at Clifford mansion.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# Joseph Campbell

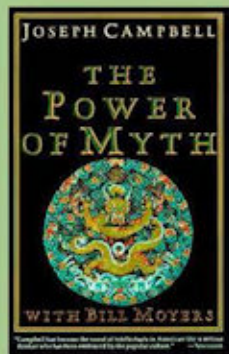
(1904-1987)



George Lucas called Joseph Campbell a person of magic. "If it hadn't been for him," he said, "it's possible I would still be trying to write *Star Wars*." Born in New York City, Joseph John Campbell, mythologist, writer, teacher and lecturer, was first inspired by a performance of Buffalo Bill's Wild West show and by visits to the Native American collection at the American Museum of Natural History. He soon became versed in Native American culture that led to his lifelong passion for myth and to his mapping of the similar threads in mythology that appeared to exist among different human cultures.

In 1913, the Campbell family moved to New Rochelle where as a boy he read through the entire collection of Indian mythology in the children's section of the Public Library. By the age of eleven he was admitted to the adult stacks to continue his studies. In 1919, fire destroyed the family home, killing his grandmother and destroying his collection of Indian books and relics.

Campbell was fascinated with basic, universal truths, expressed in different ways across different cultures. In the preface to *The Hero with a Thousand Faces* (1949), he indicates that a goal of his was to demonstrate similarities between Eastern and Western religions. In his four-volume series of books *The Masks of God* (1959-1968), he tried to summarize the main spiritual threads common throughout the world.



A world traveler, the author of *A Hero's Journey* nevertheless spent 35 years (1934 to 1972) as a professor of literature at Sarah Lawrence College in Yonkers, New York where he met his wife, dancer-choreographer Jean Erdman. The most memorable contribution of Campbell's career was the six-part television series Joseph Campbell and *The Power of Myth* with Bill Moyers, first broadcast in 1988.

In 1987, he died at his home in Honolulu. An obituary read, "Campbell has become one of the rarest of intellectuals in American life: a serious thinker who has been embraced by the popular culture."

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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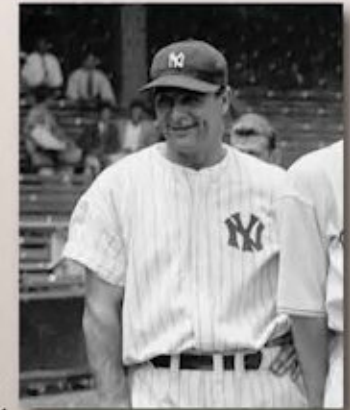


# Lou Gehrig

(1903-1941)

Henry Louis "Lou" Gehrig, the legendary Yankee first baseman and slugger, was the son of German immigrant parents. Born in the Yorkville section of Manhattan on June 19, 1903, he weighed in at a whopping 14 lbs.

Nicknamed "The Iron Horse" for his durability, Gehrig played his entire 17-year baseball career for the New York Yankees and became their team captain. He set several major league records including the most career grand slams (23), the most home runs by a first baseman (493) and most famously his 2,130 streak of consecutive games played, set in 1925 (broken by Cal Ripkin, Jr. in 1995).



Gehrig was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1939. In 1969 he was voted the greatest first baseman of all time by the Baseball Writers' Association, and was the leading vote-getter on the Major League Baseball All-Century Team chosen by fans in 1999.

For most of his career, the "Pride of the Yankees," lived in New Rochelle where his idle hours were spent in or near his home on Meadow Lane. On those rare summer evenings when he was not on the field, he was hitting balls with some lucky neighborhood kids, playing cards with the guys up at the Elks Club on Division Street or fishing off Echo Bay.



He could also be found "stretched out on the swing" of his porch — at least until 1933, when he married his wife Eleanor and moved to an apartment on Circuit Avenue.

Lou Gehrig's career and life was tragically cut short when he was diagnosed on his 36th birthday as having amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a form of muscular dystrophy. Despite this debilitating and terminal illness, he declared in his moving retirement speech at Yankee Stadium in 1939 "Fans, for the past two weeks you have been reading about the bad break I got. Yet today, I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth."

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# Madame Alexander

(1895-1990)



The woman who would become known as “Madame” Alexander, “The Queen of Dolls,” was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1895. She was named Bertha, but later adopted the more sophisticated “Beatrice.” The daughter of Russian immigrants, she was raised over her stepfather’s doll hospital – the first in America – and often played with the dolls waiting to be mended. Her belief in the American dream, combined with her love of dolls and their costumes, led her to start her own doll company at the age of 28. Within a few years she had moved her business from the kitchen table to a downtown studio in New York City, later relocating to its present-day headquarters in the Manhattanville section of Harlem.

Madame Alexander created the first “collectible” dolls based on a licensed character – Scarlett O’Hara from *Gone with the Wind*. Over the decades, great works of literature, the arts, and the different cultures of the world became the inspiration for many of her creations. She was also one of the early creators of mass-produced dolls in honor of living people, with dolls of the famous Dionne quintuplets in 1936 and a set of 36 Queen Elizabeth II dolls to commemorate the 1953 coronation celebrations in Britain.

Madame Alexander “*wanted to do dolls with souls.*” Her dolls had hair that could be styled and she created designer clothing for them. She was the first to introduce dolls with “sleep” eyes that opened and closed. The high-quality dolls were dubbed “*the Cadillacs of doll-dom*” by the press.

For over 35 years, Beatrice Alexander lived with her husband, Philip Behrman, at 315 Oxford Road in New Rochelle. They were members of Beth El Synagogue. Alexander died in 1990, and the toy industry continues to recognize her accomplishments, inducting her into the American Toymakers Hall of Fame in 2000. Today, rare Alexander dolls can fetch thousands of dollars from those eager to expand their collections.



## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

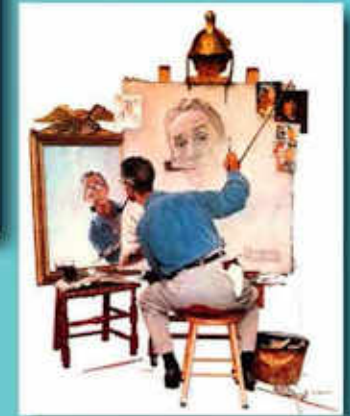
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# Norman Rockwell

(1894-1978)

The images of America's most popular illustrator, Norman Rockwell, have been reproduced more than those of any other artist. His iconic portrayals of Americana have illustrated 322 *Saturday Evening Post* covers, 49 Boy Scout calendars and dozens of other periodicals, children's books and advertisements.



Norman Rockwell was born in New York City in 1894 and moved with his family to the Brown Lodge, a boarding house on Prospect Street in New Rochelle in 1912. He lived and worked in a number of New Rochelle sites including his last home, an attractive house that is still located at 24 Lord Kitchener Road.

He used New Rochelle as a backdrop and its residents as models for much of his work during the 25 years he lived here. The four Rogge sisters, whose mother owned a candy store on North Avenue, all modeled for Rockwell, as did the three Bartnett boys. Edward Carson, the son of a well-known jeweler in town starred on Boy Scout posters. Charles A. King was the youngster peering through a spyglass in the August 19, 1922 cover, *Setting One's Sights*. New Rochelle high school girls scheduled posing sessions with Rockwell as they would babysitting jobs.

Rockwell's art achieved tremendous popularity during his New Rochelle years. Not only did he become one of the best-known illustrators of the day – he was also a familiar and beloved figure around town. He was forever scouring the city for ideas, models and props to compose his pictorial vignettes. "Some of my happiest years were spent in New Rochelle," Rockwell told a *Standard Star* reporter when he returned to the city for a visit six years before his death in 1978 at the age of 84.



Another daily reminder of Rockwell's legacy stands at the corner of Eastchester Road and Pelhamdale Avenue. It is one of the city's 10 charming entrance signs that were created by prominent local artists as a project of the New Rochelle Art Association in the 1920s.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# Pearl Primus

(1919-1994)

Before there was Alvin Ailey, there was Pearl Primus. Pearl Eileen Primus has been called “the grandmother of African-American dance.” An innovative dancer and choreographer, she studied African, African-American and Caribbean culture and incorporated her considerable knowledge into her dance programs. She also married the art of dance to social commentary, historical study and community action.



Born in Trinidad and raised in New York City, Pearl Primus developed a serious interest in dance after having graduated from Hunter College as a pre-medical student. Unable to find work in her chosen field, she began studying with the National Youth Administration’s New Dance Group. She took to dance immediately and began performing in public with dance groups. In 1946, she founded her own dance company.

In 1948, she traveled to Africa where she learned traditional dances and rituals. Returning to the United States, she introduced American audiences to African dance. “Everything I do is consistent with what I saw in Africa,” Primus said, “except for wearing a bra. I have to make that concession to modern standards.”

She met her husband, Percival Borde, while spending the summer in the West Indies studying Caribbean dance forms. They married and settled in New Rochelle on Coligni Avenue in 1970 and immediately embraced their new community. Pearl volunteered her time to teach dance in New Rochelle schools and at the Community Action Agency.



In a 1992 interview she relates, “I think it (dance) was really a mandate from the ancestors. From early on, I wanted to speak in dance of the beauty, the strength and dignity in the heritage of peoples of African ancestry.”

Pearl Primus held a Ph.D. in dance education from New York University. Her many honors and awards include the Liberian Star of Africa, the National Council of Negro Women's Scroll of Honor and the National Medal of the Arts. She died in her New Rochelle home in 1994.

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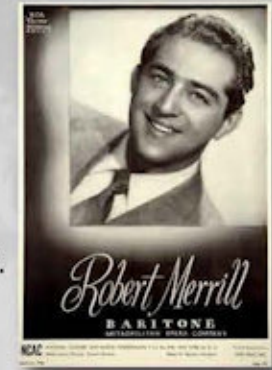
# Robert Merrill

(1917-2004)

Richard Tucker described Robert Merrill's voice as "the greatest natural voice that America created." He was unequalled among baritones of his generation at the Metropolitan Opera where he made his debut as Germont in *La Traviata* in 1945 and where he celebrated his 500th operatic performance in 1973.

Robert Merrill sang with popular stars as well ranging from Frank Sinatra to Louis Armstrong. He performed for every president from Franklin D. Roosevelt to Ronald Regan, and was presented the National Medal of the Arts by President Clinton in 1993. His lifelong enthusiasm for baseball led to his long tenure at Yankee Stadium, where he sang the national anthem on opening day and on special occasions for three decades.

Born Moishe Miller in Brooklyn, New York, he was the son of an immigrant tailor. As a teenager, he dreamed of either playing professional baseball or becoming America's next Bing Crosby. This did not thrill his mother Lillian, a soprano trained in Poland, who was her son's first voice teacher. During the Depression, Moishe helped his family pay the rent by pushing a dress cart in Manhattan's garment district. One day he decided to check out the Metropolitan Opera next door. *La Traviata* was playing, and the 16 year-old Moishe was thunderstruck. The rest, as they say, is history.



Robert Merrill lived at 79 Oxford Road in New Rochelle for over 40 years with his second wife, Marion. His first wife was Met soprano star Roberta Peters. Urged to live in New Rochelle by his good friend and fellow opera singer Jan Peerce, he was a familiar face around the city's north end. The Wykagyl Post Office was renamed in his honor in 2008, and he was supportive of the New Rochelle Opera Company and the New Rochelle Council on the Arts. He died at his home while watching Game 1 of the 2004 World Series between the Boston Red Sox and the St. Louis Cardinals.

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# THOMAS PAINE

(1737-1809)

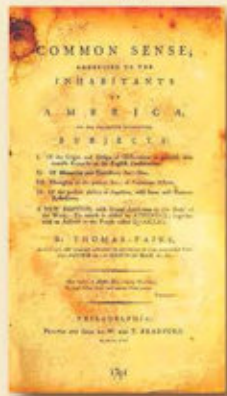
*"These are the times that try men's souls."*

Thomas Paine, was the voice of the American Revolution. His pamphlet *Common Sense*, advocating colonial America's independence from Great Britain, was so influential in spurring on the Revolutionary War that John Adams reportedly said, "Without the pen of the author of *Common Sense*, the sword of Washington would have been raised in vain." Paine also published *The Crisis* pamphlet series to boost the spirits of the American troops in their battles against the British army.



In 1791, Paine wrote the *Rights of Man*, which in part was a defense of the French Revolution. He became notorious for his book *The Age of Reason*, which promoted freethinking and argued against institutionalized religion.

Born in Thetford England, Thomas Paine was encouraged by Benjamin Franklin to emigrate to Philadelphia in 1774. In 1784, he was awarded a 320-acre farm in New Rochelle by the State of New York for his service to his country. The original stone house was destroyed by fire in 1793 but was replaced with a cottage that still stands today. Located just off North Avenue on Sicard Avenue, it is now known as the Thomas Paine Cottage and is owned and operated as a museum by the Huguenot and New Rochelle Historical Association. A memorial plaque to honor Paine was erected near the cottage.



In 1809, Paine was buried near the current location of the house after dying in Greenwich Village. A Quaker by birth, he wanted to be buried in a Quaker cemetery but, due to his writings, this request was refused. His friends walked his body to New Rochelle and buried him on his property. In 1819, the English radical William Cobbett removed Paine's remains to England to build a larger memorial, but he died before succeeding and the remains were lost.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# Walter Lantz

(1899-1994)



Walter Benjamin Lantz, animator, producer and director, was born in New Rochelle, New York to Italian immigrant parents. His father, whose surname Lanzas was anglicized to Lantz by an immigration official, was a soap maker by trade, but became a butcher when he moved to New Rochelle.

Walter was always interested in art, having completed a mail order drawing class at age 12. While working as an auto mechanic, he got his first break when a wealthy customer named Fred Kafka liked his drawings posted on the garage's bulletin board and financed his studies at the Art Students League. Kafka also helped him get a job as a copy boy at the *New York American*.



In 1927, Walter Lantz moved to Hollywood, where he worked as an independent producer and founded Walter Lantz Productions. His most famous cartoon characters were Andy Panda, Oswald the Lucky Rabbit and Woody Woodpecker. He is also credited with producing the first Technicolor cartoon.

It was during Lantz's honeymoon with actress Grace Stafford in 1940 at a lakeside cottage that Lantz found the inspiration for his most famous creation. When the couple heard a woodpecker drilling holes in the shingles on the roof, Grace suggested adapting the bird as a cartoon character. She eventually went on to become the voice of the pesky bird after her husband had initially turned her down because Woody was a male character. Undeterred, Grace secretly made an audition tape and submitted it anonymously. Not knowing whose voice was being heard, Lantz picked Grace's voice to do Woody and his raucous laugh.



Walter Lantz received an Academy Award for lifetime achievement for his contributions to the art of animation. His Woody Woodpecker artifacts are part of the collection of the Smithsonian Institution and in 1986, he was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# WHITNEY M. YOUNG, JR.

(1921-1971)



*"Every man is our brother, and every man's burden is our own."*

Whitney M. Young, Jr. was Executive Director of the National Urban League from 1961 until his untimely death in 1971. He worked tirelessly as an advocate for equal opportunities on behalf of African Americans, and he gained national respect as an outstanding bridge builder among individuals of every race, culture, religion, gender and economic background. Under his dynamic leadership, the Urban League moved into the forefront of the civil rights movement of the '60s.

Young focused on gaining equality for blacks in business and politics and on improving opportunities for the urban poor. He appealed to corporate leaders to support job programs, low-income housing, and education for African Americans. A close advisor to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, he also conferred with President Nixon. He helped to shape the policies of three administrations and played a major role in the development of the War on Poverty. He was a key participant in the legendary 1963 March on Washington and a major catalyst in uniting divergent black leaders. In 1969, he was awarded the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, by President Johnson.

On March 11, 1971, Whitney Young died in a drowning accident while attending a conference in Lagos, Nigeria. President Nixon sent a plane to collect his body and traveled to Kentucky to deliver the eulogy at his funeral. As stated by President Nixon in his eulogy, Whitney Young's legacy was that "he knew how to accomplish what other people were merely for."



Whitney Young, a native of Kentucky, and his wife Margaret lived in New Rochelle at 29 Mohegan Place for many years. Among the many monuments and awards that were named in his honor is the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Auditorium at New Rochelle High School. In 1981, he was memorialized in a commemorative stamp issued by the United States Postal Service.

NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# Willie Mays



Once upon a time, there were three baseball teams in New York – the New York Yankees, the New York Giants and the Brooklyn Dodgers. During the 1950s, these teams had three great center fielders: Mickey Mantle of the Yankees, Willie Mays of the Giants and Duke Snyder of the Dodgers. This was a golden age of baseball in New York. Led by these slugging outfielders, each of these teams became Pennant winners and World Series Champions.

New Rochelle can be proud to claim an association with part of this baseball history, as Willie Mays, the “Say Hey Kid,” lived in a 15 room Normandy style mansion at 90 Croft Terrace in the early 1960s.

Born William Howard Mays, Jr. on May 6, 1931, in Westfield, Alabama, Willie Mays was the son of a steelworker who played center field for a local professional baseball team. Mays’ mother, Ann, had been a high school track star, and it was clear from a very early age that Willie had inherited his parents’ athletic talents. According to his father, young Willie learned to walk at the age of six months. Soon the two center fielders were playing catch with each other – father instructing son in the basics of the game that would one day make him famous.

Willie Mays excelled in all phases of the game – hitting for average and power, fielding, throwing and base running. His career statistics include 3,283 hits and 660 home runs. He earned National League Rookie of the Year honors in 1951 and two MVP Awards. Willie accumulated 12 Gold Gloves, played in 24 All-Star games and participated in four World Series. His catch in the 1954 World Series lives on as one of baseball’s most memorable moments.



During his career, Willie Mays played for the Birmingham Black Barons (1948-1950), the New York Giants (1951-1957), the San Francisco Giants (1958-1972) and the New York Mets (1972-1973). In 1979, he was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

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# Barry Gray

(1916 – 1996)

## The Father of Talk Radio

Barry Gray was working as a disc jockey for New York radio station WMCA in 1945 when he decided to put the telephone receiver up to his microphone and share his conversation with the listening audience. The caller that evening just happened to be bandleader Woody Herman, one of the most popular celebrities of the day. This spontaneous live interview was such a hit that the talk radio format was born. Gray subsequently began doing listener call-ins as well.



Rival station WOR also saw the attraction of the talk format and Gray worked an overnight shift there from 1945 to 1948 interviewing everyone from Al Jolson to Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. He broadcast for WMGM from the Copacabana night club in the late 1940s, as well as on WMIE radio from Miami Beach. He returned to WMCA in 1950 and stayed there for 39 years, refining the talk show format still utilized today.

Gray also pioneered in early television, first as the host of *The Barry Gray Show* on New York WOR-TV in 1949, then as host of the very first Goodson and Todman game show *Winner Take All* in 1951.

Born Bernard Yaroslaw on July 2, 1916 in Red Lion, New Jersey, Barry Gray was known as a fierce critic of bigotry, and he survived the ugliness of McCarthyism and the Red Scare. A constant target of the blacklisting right-wing columnist Walter Winchell, Barry was fearless in calling out those he found mired in hypocrisy and abusive in power.

He lived at 143 Dorchester Avenue in the Heathcote section of New Rochelle in the 1950s and 60s with his wife Nancy and three children. In 2002, industry publication *Talkers Magazine* selected him as the 8th greatest radio talk show host of all time.



“He was one of the big influences in my life and one of my genuine heroes,” said CNN talk-show host Larry King.

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# Carl & Rob Reiner... All in the Family



In 1953, Carl and Estelle Reiner moved from the Bronx with their 6 year-old son Rob to 48 Bonnie Meadow Road in New Rochelle. Carl recalls that, at the time, this section of New Rochelle was still not developed and you could buy fresh corn from a local farm.

This was a fortuitous move for the Reiners, as Bonnie Meadow Road would also become the fictitious address of Rob and Laura Petrie who were featured in the hit TV series *The Dick Van Dyke Show* starring Dick Van Dyke and Mary Tyler Moore (1961 to 1966). Reiner created, wrote and acted in the show, which was based on his relationship with his wife Estelle, an artist, actress – best known for her famous line “I’ll have what she’s having” in son Rob’s 1989 movie *When Harry met Sally*.



Carl Reiner first made a name for himself in *Sid Caesar's Your Show of Shows* (1950-54) and *Caesar's Hour* (1954-57), where he won two Emmy awards. He directed *Enter*

*Laughing* (1967), *Oh, God* (1977), *The Jerk* (1979), *Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid* (1982), *The Man With Two Brains* (1983) and *All of Me* (1984). He is also known for his comedy routine with Mel Brooks, “The 2,000 Year-Old Man” for which he won a Grammy Award.



Rob Reiner began his television career writing for *The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour* (1967-1969). He came to prominence as Michael “Meathead” Stivic on the sit-com *All in the Family* (1971–1979). In 1987, he co-founded Castle Rock Entertainment that produced the TV series *Seinfeld* and such classic films as *When Harry Met Sally* (1989) and *A Few Good Men* (1992), which he directed as well. Other directing credits include *Stand by Me* (1986) and *The Princess Bride* (1987). Much like his *All in the Family* character, he is active in liberal politics and has championed numerous environmental causes.

His star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame is next to his father's, “25 years ago I would not have liked it” he said “now my reaction is completely different.”

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# Claire Trevor

(1910 – 2000)

Known as “The Queen of Film Noir,” Claire Trevor could play any number of heroines, but she proved particularly suited to the shadowy world of crime and mystery. Trevor gained her first significant industry attention via an Oscar-nominated performance in *Dead End* (1937). However, it was John Ford’s Western, *Stagecoach* (1939) that really put Trevor on the map and she enjoyed lead roles in several major productions during the years that followed. Her turns in the film noir thrillers *Murder, My Sweet* (1944), *Born to Kill* (1947), and *Key Largo* (1948) established Trevor as one of its premiere players. *Key Largo* brought Trevor an Academy Award for best supporting actress and her filmography contains many examples of her versatility that also extended to her stage and television assignments.



Born Claire Wemlinger in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn on March 8, 1910, her family moved to Mamaroneck where she attended high school and performed in school and church plays. She briefly attended Columbia University, leaving school during the Depression when her father lost his men’s clothing business in Manhattan. She chose to earn money for the family doing the only thing she knew—acting.



She launched her long and illustrious career as Claire Trevor while she was living in New Rochelle. In 1929, she moved with her parents, Noel and Edith to 130 Centre Avenue, Apartment 1-C. From New Rochelle, Claire would travel to Brooklyn for film shots and sound recordings at the Vitaphone Studios. She would later take the train from the New Rochelle station for her matinee and evening performances on Broadway. She would continue to maintain a home in New Rochelle until the late 1930s.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# Coots & Allen



Two of the most popular Christmas songs ever written were by songwriters who lived in New Rochelle – *Santa Claus is Comin' to Town* by J. Fred Coots, and *Home for the Holidays* by Robert Allen.

J. Fred Coots was born John Frederick Coots in Brooklyn, New York on May 2, 1897. His mother wanted him to become a concert pianist, but he heard the siren call of Tin Pan Alley instead. He worked in vaudeville writing material for several headliners, including Sophie Tucker and became a staff composer for the Shuberts, writing songs for many musicals and revues.

His many songwriting credits include *Love Letters in the Sand* (1931) and *For All We Know* (1934). His partnership with lyricist Haven Gillespie produced the jazz standard *You Go to My Head* (1938) and *Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town* (1932). An avid New York Ranger fan, he wrote the *Rangers Victory Song* to celebrate their 1940 Stanley Cup victory.

Coots lived on 85 Mountain Road in the 1940s and 50s with his wife Marjorie and four children. He was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1972.



Robert Allen was born in Troy, New York on February 5, 1928. He began his career as a nightclub pianist and accompanist – eventually arranging for Perry Como, Peter Lind Hayes, Arthur Godfrey as well as for the TV programs *Studio One* and *Playhouse 90*.



Allen teamed up with lyricist Al Stillman in the early 1950s and the pair produced some of the most timeless standards including *Home for the Holidays* (1954), *Chances Are* (1957) and *Moments to Remember* (1958). Like Coots, he also wrote a fight song, his was called *War Eagle* for Auburn University.

Allen moved to 217 Broadview Avenue in 1963 and lived there much of his professional life. The ASCAP Foundation Robert Allen Award is named in his honor.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

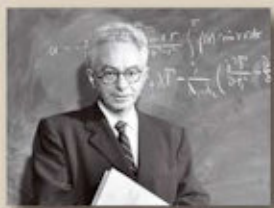
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# Richard Courant & Kurt Friedrichs (1888 - 1972) (1901 - 1982)

Richard Courant and Kurt Friedrichs were co-founders of The Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences – a division of New York University that serves as a center for research and advanced training in computer science and mathematics. The Institute, named after Richard Courant, is considered to be one of the most prestigious and leading mathematics schools and mathematical sciences research centers in the world.



Richard Courant was born in Lublinitz in the German Empire's Prussian Province of Silesia. He came to New York University in 1934 as a visiting professor after having left his position as director of the Mathematics Institute at the University of Göttingen in Germany. In 1935, he was invited to build up NYU's Department of Mathematics at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. He was joined by Kurt Friedrichs and James Stoker, and together they formed a research group that became the Courant Institute.

Apart from his outstanding organizational talent, Courant is well remembered both for his mathematical achievements and for his conviction that pure mathematics had practical applications. He and David Hilbert authored the influential textbook *Methods of Mathematical Physics*, and he coauthored *What is Mathematics?* with Herbert Robbins.

Kurt Otto Friedrichs was born in Kiel, Germany. Before coming to this country in 1937, he taught at the Aerodynamics Institute in Aachen and the Institute of Technology in Braunschweig. Friedrichs' greatest contribution to applied mathematics was his work on partial differential equations, operators in Hilbert space, perturbation theory and bifurcation theory. In 1972, he was the recipient of the National Academy of Science Award in Applied Mathematics and in 1977 President Jimmy Carter presented him with the National Medal of Science.



Both Courant and Friedrichs were long-time New Rochelle residents and good friends. Courant lived at 142 Calton Road and Friedrichs at 24 Lester Place. Other Courant Institute faculty members who resided in New Rochelle included Fritz John, Harold Grad and Wilhelm Magnus.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# Cynthia Ozick



Cynthia Ozick is a novelist, short-story writer, essayist, and intellectual whose works seek to define the challenge of being Jewish in contemporary America. Her first novel, *Trust* (1966), is the story of a woman's rejection of her wealthy American Jewish family and her search for her renegade father in Europe.

The psychological aftermath of the Holocaust is another theme of her work, especially in *Levitation: Five Fictions* (1982) and the novels *The Cannibal Galaxy* (1983) and *The Shawl* (1989). She often drew upon traditional Jewish mysticism to expand upon her themes. She has received numerous literary awards and honors including the Edward Lewis Wallant Award, the National Jewish Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award and the PEN/Nabokov and PEN/Malamud Awards.

Ozick has been nominated for the National Book Award and has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. She also received the American Academy of Arts and Letters Mildred and Harold Strauss Living Award.

Three of her stories have won first prize in the O. Henry Prize Story competition and five of her stories were chosen for republication in the yearly anthologies of Best American Short Stories. She has the unique honor of being the first writer to be given the Rea Award for the Short Story in 1986, and in 2007 she was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Bush.

The second of two children, Cynthia Shoshana Ozick was born on April 17, 1928 in New York City. She moved to the Pelham Bay Section of the Bronx with her Russian-Jewish immigrant parents, Celia (Regelson) and William Ozick who became proprietors of the Park View Pharmacy where as a girl she helped to deliver prescriptions. In 1961, she moved to the South End of New Rochelle with her husband Bernard Hallote. She is a long-time and active member of Congregation Anshe Sholom as well a supporter of the New Rochelle Public Library.



Cynthia Ozick

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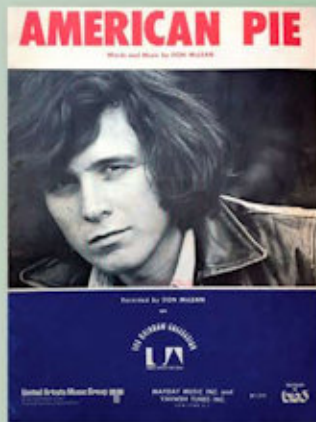


# Don McLean

Singer, songwriter Don McLean has amassed over 40 gold and platinum records over the years, but he is best remembered for his two 1971 classic hit songs, *American Pie* and *Vincent* (Starry Starry Night).



In 2001, *American Pie* was voted No. 5 in a poll of the 365 Songs of the Century compiled by the Recording Industry Association of America and the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2002, it was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. In 2004, McLean was inducted into the Songwriters' Hall of Fame, and in 2012 he won the BBC Life Time Achievement Award. Also, in 2012, the PBS network broadcast a feature-length documentary about his life and music called "American Troubadour."



Donald "Don" McLean was born in New Rochelle, New York on October 2, 1945. He lived at 15 Mulberry Lane. As a youth, he delivered copies of the now-defunct newspaper *The Standard-Star*. As a teenager, he purchased his first guitar from the House of Music on Main Street. Don graduated from Iona Prep in 1963 and from Iona College in 1968 (In 2001, the college awarded him an honorary doctorate degree). In 1969, he accompanied Pete Seeger on his Clearwater boat trip up the Hudson River to raise awareness about environmental pollution in the river.

Regarding the speculation on the meaning of the lyrics to *American Pie*, Mclean comments: "American Pie is set within the context of my own life experiences growing up, working and going to school in New Rochelle... The song starts off with my memories of the death of Buddy Holly, but it moves on to describe America as I was seeing it and how I was fantasizing it might become... You will find many interpretations of my lyrics but none of them by me. Isn't this fun? Sorry to leave you all on your own like this, but long ago I realized that songwriters should make their statements and move on, maintaining a dignified silence."

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# *Drew Saunders Days III* (1941 – 2020)



Drew Saunders Days III was a lawyer who served as Solicitor General of the United States from 1993 to 1996 under President Bill Clinton. From 1977 to 1980 he served as the first African-American Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division in the Carter Administration. He was also First Assistant Counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, where he litigated a wide range of civil rights cases.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, Days III was the son of Dorothea (Jamerson), a schoolteacher, and Drew Saunders Days, Jr., an insurance executive and accountant. He was a descendant of Reconstruction-era Georgia State Senator Edwin Belcher. Raised in Tampa, Florida, his litigation work brought him back to his childhood home of Tampa when he was part of the trial team which desegregated Tampa schools. The family later moved to New Rochelle where he graduated from New Rochelle High School in 1959 before going on to Hamilton College graduating cum laude in 1963.

Inspired by the civil rights leaders of that time, Drew enrolled in at Yale Law School. There, as a member of the Russian Glee Club, he met his future wife, Ann Ramsey Langdon. Upon graduation in 1966, he briefly practiced law in Chicago before he and Ann headed to Honduras to serve for two years as Peace Corps volunteers.

In 1981, Drew joined the Yale Law faculty, where in 1992 he became the Alfred M. Rankin Professor of Law. In recognition of his contributions to the legal profession and his extensive public service, he received the Award of Merit from the Yale Law School Association in 2003. From 1997 to 2011 he headed the Supreme Court and appellate practice at Morrison & Foerster LLP and was of counsel at the firm's Washington, D.C. office until his retirement in December, 2011.

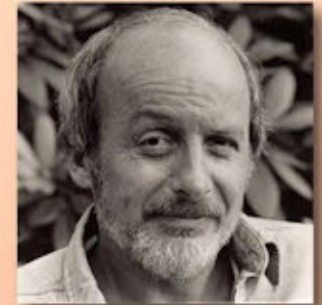


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# E. L. Doctorow

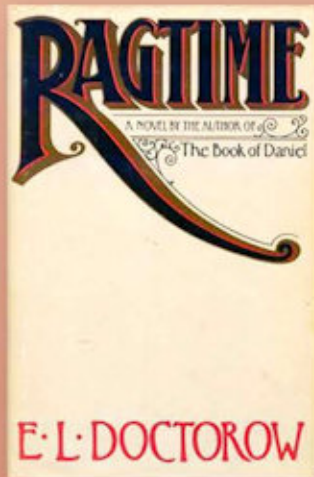


Edgar Lawrence Doctorow was born in the Bronx on January 6, 1931 to second-generation Russian-Jewish Americans. His parents named him after Edgar Allen Poe and he took to using his initials as a way to follow in the footsteps of authors he admired who had done the same.

An editor, professor and prolific writer, he is best-known for his works of historical fiction that include *The Book of Daniel* (1971), *Ragtime* (1975), *World's Fair* (1985), *Billy Bathgate* (1989), *The March* (2005) and *Homer and Langley* (2009). Among his honors are the National Book Award, three National Book Critics Circle awards, two PEN/Faulkner awards, the Edith Wharton Citation for Fiction, the William Dean Howells Medal of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the National Humanities Medal.

In 1964, E.L. Doctorow and his wife, Helen, moved to 170 Broadview Avenue in New Rochelle, the house that inspired the opening lines of his most famous novel, *Ragtime*:

"In 1902 Father built a house at the crest of the Broadview Avenue hill in New Rochelle, New York. It was a three-story brown shingle with dormers, bay windows and a screened porch."



New Rochelle serves as a backdrop for much of the novel, which captures the spirit of America in the era between the turn-of-the-century and the First World War. In 1981, it was made into a film starring James Cagney and it opened on Broadway as a musical in 1998.

E.L. Doctorow is a great friend of the New Rochelle Public Library where he did research for *Ragtime*. The Library's local history room is now named for him. In 2008, *Ragtime* was the focus of a month long "One City, One Book" project with the library and New Rochelle High School that included a play, a concert, a film, an exhibit, several book discussions, and a presentation by Mr. Doctorow.

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# Robert L. May

(1905 – 1976)

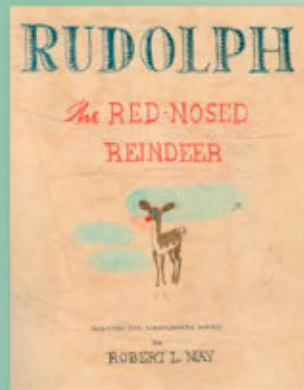
Robert L. May created *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* in 1939 as an assignment for Chicago-based Montgomery Ward. The retailer had been buying and giving away coloring books for Christmas every year and it was decided that creating their own book would save money. May considered naming the reindeer “Rollo” or “Reginald” before deciding on using the name “Rudolph.”



Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer is the story of a shy young reindeer who had a shiny red nose that glowed. Because he was different from the other reindeer, he was shunned until one foggy Christmas Eve Santa chose him to lead the sleigh. With Rudolph lighting the way, Santa delivered his presents on time and Rudolph was cheered as a hero gaining the love and respect of his fellow reindeer. The story was inspired by May's own experience of being bullied as a child.

In 1948 May persuaded his brother-in-law, Johnny Marks, to write the words and the music for a musical adaptation of Rudolph. It was recorded in 1949 by the singing cowboy Gene Autry. Achieving phenomenal success, the song became the second-most popular Christmas tune of all time, surpassed only by “White Christmas.”

Rudolph soon became part of the American culture as well. At the end of 1950, the *Chicago Tribune* wrote: “There is no question but that Rudolph has become a legend — the first new and accepted Christmas legend since Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol* and Clement Moore’s *A Visit from St. Nicholas*.”



Robert Lewis May was born in Queens, New York on July 27, 1905. The family moved to New Rochelle when May was still a child. He attended Mayflower Elementary School and later, in 1922, graduated from New Rochelle High School. While in New Rochelle the family lived in various homes, on Webster Terrace, Horton Avenue and Slocum Street.

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# Jerry Bock & Joseph Stein



## "Fiddler on the Roof"



*Fiddler on the Roof* is a musical with a score by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick and book by Joseph Stein. It is based on Sholem Aleichem's short stories and centers on Tevye, a poor milkman, and his attempts to maintain his family and Jewish religious traditions in a changing world. The stage version starring Zero Mostel opened in 1964 and held the record for the longest-running Broadway musical for almost 10 years. It was nominated for ten Tony Awards, winning nine. The 1971 film version starring Chaim Topal won three Academy Awards.



While *Fiddler* takes place in Anatevka, a Shtetl, or small Jewish village in 1905 Tsarist Russia, Jerry Bock wrote the music and Joseph Stein wrote the book when they lived in New Rochelle – Bock at 145 Wellington Avenue and Stein at 55 Elizabeth Road.

Composer Jerrold Lewis "Jerry" Bock was born in 1928 in New Haven Connecticut and grew up in Flushing, Queens. He received a Tony Award and a Pulitzer Prize for Drama for the 1959 musical *Fiorello!* and a Tony Award in 1964 for *Fiddler on the Roof*. He collaborated on the musical *Mr. Wonderful* (1956), designed for Sammy Davis, Jr., as well as for *Tenderloin* (1960), *The Apple Tree* (1966) and *The Rothschilds* (1970).

Playwright Joseph Stein was born in New York City in 1912. He won a Tony Award for his work on *Fiddler* and also supplied the book for nearly a dozen other musicals, including *Zorba*, *Mr. Wonderful* and *Plain and Fancy*. His career as a social worker was interrupted by a chance encounter with Zero Mostel who led him to start writing for radio personalities, such as Henry Morgan, Phil Silvers, and Jackie Gleason - and later for television when he joined *Sid Caesar's Your Show of Shows*.

In 2010, just 10 days before his own death from heart failure at the age of 81, Jerry Bock spoke at the funeral of his 98 year-old friend, Joseph Stein.

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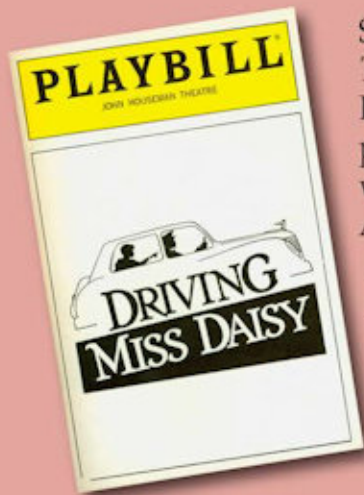


# Frances Sternhagen



Frances Sternhagen is a two-time Tony-winning actress who has performed on stage, in films and on television for more than five decades. Born on January 13, 1930 in Washington, D.C., she taught acting, singing and dancing to school children before first performing herself with the Arena Stage Group in 1953.

She is best known today for her motherly roles on *The Closer*, *ER*, *Sex and the City* and *Cheers*, the latter two earning her Emmy nominations. She made her film debut in the 1967 comedy *Up the Down Staircase* and went on to deliver memorable performances in *The Hospital*, *Starting Over*, *Outland*, *Misery*, *Doc Hollywood* and *Raising Cain*, to name a few. During the 1950s, Sternhagen appeared in numerous *Omnibus* series, including *Studio One*, *Goodyear Television Playhouse* and *Play of the Week*. For many years, she worked in soap operas such as *Another World*, *The Secret Storm*, *Love of Life* and *One Life to Live*, as well as guest spots on *Law & Order*, *Becker*, *Judging Amy*, *The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd* and others. Her television movie credits include *The Laramie Project*, *The Rising Place*, and *Mother and Daughter: The Loving War*.



Sternhagen's countless stage credits include her Tony-winning performances in *The Good Doctor*, *The Heiress*, and Tony-nominated roles in *The Sign in Sid Brustein's Window*, *Angel*, *Equus*, and as Ethel Thayer in the original Broadway production of *On Golden Pond*. Her off-Broadway performances include Obie-winning roles in *The Pinter Plays* and *The Admirable Bashville*, as well as a two-year run in *Driving Miss Daisy*. In 2013, she was presented with the Obie Lifetime Achievement Award.

In 1959 Frances Sternhagen and her husband, actor Tom Carlin, moved to the Sutton Manor neighborhood of New Rochelle, where they raised six children. Active in her community and church, she has graciously performed at countless cultural and charity events.

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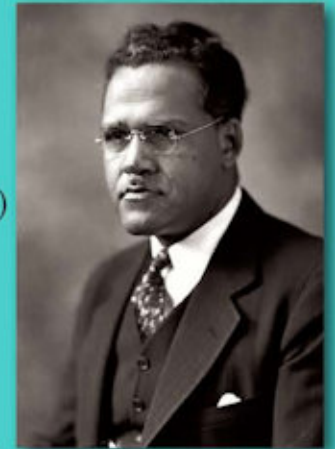




# FREDERICK DOUGLASS PATTERSON (1901-1988)

*“A Mind is A Terrible Thing to Waste”*

Frederick Douglas Patterson was born in Washington D.C. in 1901. Orphaned at the age of two, he was raised by his elder sister, a Texas schoolteacher. He was an educator, humanitarian and doctor of veterinary medicine. He is best remembered for founding the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) in 1944, an organization dedicated to raising and distributing scholarships to deserving minority students. Its motto, “A mind is a terrible thing to waste” has become one of the most widely recognized slogans in advertising history.



In 1935, he became president of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, one of the foremost African American institutions of higher education in the country. His goal was not only to increase the vocational training of his students, but also to raise them to higher levels of academic competency. One of his accomplishments was the creation of the black Army Air Corps. This program led to the formation of the Tuskegee Airmen, well known for their bravery in World War II and celebrated in the award-winning HBO TV movie *The Tuskegee Airman*.



As a member of President Truman’s Commission on Higher Education, Patterson helped file a 1947 report calling for the reorganization of higher education in the United States. President Johnson appointed him to oversee the adoption and growth of the federally sponsored school-lunch program. In the mid-1970s he devised the College Endowment Funding Plan, a program where funds from private businesses were matched with federal moneys. In 1987, President Reagan awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor.

Frederick Douglass Patterson was a longtime resident of New Rochelle and lived at 124 Rockland Place in Rochelle Park from 1953 until his death in 1988.

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# Fritz Pollard

(1894 – 1986)

Frederick Douglass “Fritz” Pollard was born in Chicago, Illinois on January 27, 1894. He was the first African American head coach in the National Football League (NFL) and, along with Bobby Marshall, was one of the first two African American players in the NFL in 1920. Sportswriter Walter Camp ranked Pollard as “one of the greatest runners these eyes have ever seen.”



Pollard played with the Akron Pros, the team he would lead to the NFL (APFA) championship in 1920. In 1921, he became the co-head coach of the Akron Pros while still maintaining his roster position as running back.

At the end of the 1926 season Pollard — along with all nine of the African American players in the NFL — were removed from the league, never to return. After that he spent some time organizing all-African American barnstorming teams, including the Chicago Black Hawks in 1928 and the Harlem Brown Bombers in the 1930s.

Fritz attended Brown University playing half-back on the Brown football team that went to the 1916 Rose Bowl. He was the first African American football player at Brown and the first African American player to play the Rose Bowl.

After football, he went on to other ventures including a talent agency, tax consulting, and film and music production. From 1935 to 1942, he published the first African American-owned newspaper in New York City, the New York Independent News.



In 1954, Pollard was the first African American elected to the National College Football Hall of Fame. In 2005, he received a long-overdue honor with his election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. His name lives on through the Fritz Pollard Alliance that was founded in 2003 to help promote the hiring of minorities in the NFL.

Pollard retired to New Rochelle in 1961, living at 288 Webster Avenue until 1983 when he moved to Silver Springs, MD to live with his son Fritz Jr. and his wife.

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# Henry Heimlich

(1920 – 2016)



Dr. Henry J. Heimlich was the inventor of the Heimlich maneuver, a technique for saving the lives of people who are choking. In the early 1970s, after learning that nearly 4,000 Americans die each year from choking on food or small objects, Dr. Heimlich researched ways to use sub diaphragmatic pressure to save victims of choking.

In 1974, he developed a method that allowed air trapped in the lungs to be used to expel the object from the victim's airway—a method that came to be known as the Heimlich Maneuver. Simple and easy to perform, the Maneuver involves a rescuer standing behind a patient and using his or her hands to exert pressure on the bottom of the diaphragm. This compresses the lungs and exerts pressure on any object lodged in the trachea, hopefully expelling it.

## The Heimlich Maneuver



- Position thumb side of fist 1" above navel and well below tip of sternum
- Thrust fist inward and upward
- Stop occasionally to check victim and your technique



The motion of the Heimlich maneuver raises the diaphragm, causing the lungs to compress.

This compression forces air out of the lungs at a high enough pressure to expel the object.

The Heimlich Maneuver has saved countless lives including President Ronald Reagan, Elizabeth Taylor, Goldie Hawn, Jack Lemmon, Cher, Nicole Kidman, Halle Berry, New York Mayor Ed Koch, news anchorman John Chancellor - as well as Rod Kennedy, creator of the New Rochelle Walk of Fame.

Henry Judah Heimlich was born in Wilmington, Delaware on February 3, 1920. As a child his family moved to New Rochelle where he lived on 8th Street and also on Stephenson Blvd. He graduated from New Rochelle High School in 1937. In 1951, Heimlich married Jane Murray, daughter of ballroom-dancing entrepreneur Arthur Murray.

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# Jay Leno

*You cannot be mad at somebody  
who makes you laugh*



Late-night television host Jay Leno began his show-business career as a standup comedian. He performed his comedy routines around the country making as many as 300 appearances a year. Eventually, he procured a spot as guest host of the popular late-night program the *Tonight Show* starring Johnny Carson. With Carson's retirement from the show, Leno stepped in as his successor, beating out other contenders including David Letterman. Soon dubbed the "King of Late Night" by the media, Leno's *Tonight Show* began topping late-night television ratings in 1995 and became a dominant force by the late 1990s.



Born James Douglas Muir Leno in 1950 in New Rochelle, Jay Leno was the son of an Italian-American father and a Scottish mother whom he claims had a "Gracie Allen type of humor."

He grew up in a house still located at 69 Leland Avenue. He attended Trinity School before his family moved to Massachusetts in 1959 but his relatives remained in New Rochelle. His uncle, Anthony, started the popular establishment Leno's Clam Bar on Pelham Road (although that side of the family pronounces the name "Leeno"). He apparently has always had a heart for comedy. His fifth-grade report card read "If Jay spent as much time studying as he does trying to be a comedian, he'd be a big star."

A car enthusiast, Jay has owned approximately 190 vehicles, about 90 of which are motorcycles. He hosts a website titled *Jay Leno's Garage*, and his column in *Popular Mechanics* showcases his collection and gives advice about various automotive topics. He also writes articles for *The Sunday Times*, reviewing high-end sports cars and giving his humorous take on automotive matters.

Jay Leno is well known for his philanthropy. He won Emmy Awards in 1995 and 2011, and has been nominated numerous times. He has been honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

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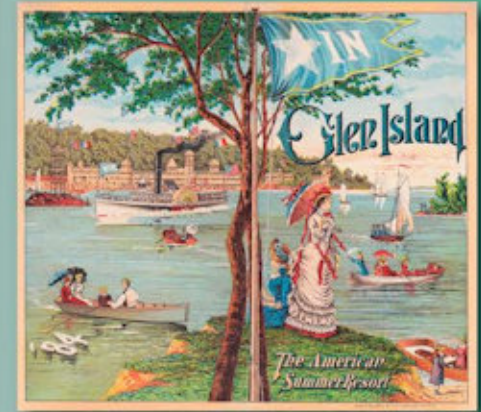
# JOHN STARIN



(1825 – 1909)

Today, Glen Island is a Westchester County Park just off the shore of New Rochelle. From 1879 to 1904 it was known as Starin's Glen Island – the brainchild of shipping magnet John H. Starin. Starin's purpose was to make the island the most popular resort in the country. He was soon drawing over 15,000 visitors daily who were brought to Glen Island by his steamships from Manhattan.

Actually, Starin's Glen Island comprised six islands connected by walking bridges. Among the numerous attractions were a zoo, an aviary, a natural history museum, dining and bathing pavilions, picnic grounds, a dairy, a Chinese pagoda tower, bowling alleys, a seal pond and tropical gardens.



Starin also billed Glen Island as a "New York World Fair" and it is considered to be America's first theme park. It included a Hindu Village imported from India; "Little Japan," featuring a teahouse with Geisha girls; a Filipino Village; a Puerto Rican Colony, a band of Sioux Indians living in tepees; a Dutch windmill (imported from Long Island) and, most famously, "Little Germany" – a replica of a Rhineland castle used as a beer garden that still stands today.

John Henry Starin was the founder and president of the Starin City, River & Harbor Transportation Line that at one time handled most of the freight and excursion business in New York Harbor. He was considered to be the largest owner of steamships, tugboats and barges in the country and was contracted by the U.S. Government to transport troops and supplies during the Civil War. Starin served as a U.S. Congressman from 1877 to 1881, and was once considered as a candidate for governor. He was a founding member of the New York City Rapid Transit Commission, organized in 1891 to build the New York City Subway.

Starin maintained a residence on Glen Island once named Locust Island. He renamed it Glen Island after the town of Glen in upstate New York where he also lived.

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# Alan Menken



Alan Menken is best known for his scores for films produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios and as the composer for the musical, *Little Shop of Horrors*. His scores for *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, and *Pocahontas* have each won him two Academy Awards (for Best Original Score and Best Original Song). He also composed the scores for *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Hercules*, *Home on the Range*, *The Shaggy Dog*, *Enchanted* and *Tangled*. With eight Academy Award wins, Menken is the second most prolific Oscar winner in a music category.

Alan Irwin Menken was born in New York City on July 22, 1949. He grew up in the Northfield section of New Rochelle and lived at 11 Stratford Road. He attended Roosevelt Elementary School, Albert Leonard Junior High School and New Rochelle High School. A budding musical talent, he developed an early interest in Beethoven and Brahms.

"Growing up, I was surrounded by a family that loved Broadway musicals," says Menken, "Regularly, we gathered around my father at the piano, and as he played and we sang, the house was filled with the sounds of Rodgers and Hart, the Gershwins, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Frank Loesser, Lerner and Loewe, and all the other great Broadway songwriters. As a child, I was introduced to the power of the American musical through shows like *My Fair Lady*, *Fiorello*, and *The Sound of Music*."



"I showed an interest in piano at a very young age, but I hated to practice, so when my parents left the room I'd make up my own version of the piece. That's how I started composing," he says.

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

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# Lillian & Dorothy Gish

Lillian & Dorothy Gish  
(1893 – 1993) (1898 – 1968)

Lillian Gish was called the *First Lady of American Cinema*. She is particularly associated with the films of director D. W. Griffith including *The Birth of a Nation* (1915) and *Intolerance* (1916). Dorothy Gish was noted as a fine comedian, and many of her films were comedies. Both sisters had great success on the stage and Dorothy was inducted into the American Theatre Hall of Fame.

When D. W. Griffith moved his film production company from Hollywood to Mamaroneck's Orienta Point in 1919, his leading ladies Lillian and Dorothy Gish followed. The two sisters rented a home overlooking the Sound in the south end of New Rochelle that was to become the Huguenot Yacht Club. The sisters resided there for the next few years commuting to Griffith's studios located on the former Flagler estate, working on some of his most important movies. Among them, *Way Down East*, starred Lillian Gish as an unwed mother opposite New Rochelle resident Richard Barthelmess and *Orphans of the Storm* starred both sisters. Lillian Gish used her adopted community of New Rochelle to film one of the few silent movies directed by a woman. In 1920, Gish directed her sister Dorothy in *Remodeling Her Husband*, and shot all the footage in New Rochelle locations.



Lillian also starred in some memorable sound films including *Duel in the Sun* (1946), *The Night of the Hunter* (1955) and *The Whales of August* (1987). In 1948, she made her television debut in *The Late Christopher Bean*, and continued to regularly appear on television for the rest of her life.

In 1970, Lillian was awarded a special Academy Award for "superlative artistry and for distinguished contribution to the progress of motion pictures." She died in 1993. Dorothy died in 1968 and both sisters are entombed in Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York City.

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# Mariano Rivera “The Closer”

In 2019, Mariano Rivera was the first player ever inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame by unanimous vote. Born on November 29, 1969, he was raised in the Panamanian fishing village of Puerto Caimito. He dropped out of school in the ninth grade to learn the fishing trade. He was also “hanging with the wrong people” and credits his girlfriend and future wife Clara for straightening him out. As he writes, “If it weren’t for Clara, I would never have become a New York Yankee.”



Rivera played for the New York Yankees from 1995 to 2013 as a relief pitcher nicknamed “Sandman” and “The Closer.” He posted 652 saves, struck out 1,173 batters, and achieved an ERA of 2.21. His career highlights include being named to 13 American League All-Star teams, playing on five World Series Championship teams, World Series MVP in 1999, five-time Rolaids Relief Man Awards winner, three-time Delivery Man of the Year and three-time MLB saves leader. In 2013, the Yankees retired his uniform number 42 that he wore in honor of Jackie Robinson. In 2016, he was awarded a plaque in Monument Park, and in 2019 the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

In 1995, as a young ballplayer, Rivera became friends with Joe Fosina whose company oversees the Yankees’ uniforms. Their friendship led to New Rochelle becoming his adopted home. He lived here for nine years at both Harbor House and the Greencroft Condominiums on Pelham Road. In 2014, he opened the doors to Refugio de Esperanza, “Refuge of Hope,” a Pentecostal congregation where Clara Rivera is the Senior Pastor. The structure was built in 1901 as the North

Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Mariano Rivera Foundation paid over three million dollars to renovate the building.



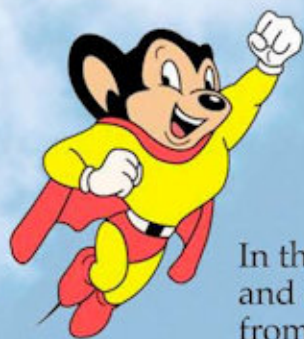
On July 27, 2019, New Rochelle hosted a parade and rally on ‘Mariano Rivera Day’ that featured a special presentation of the Key to the City. In an interview before the ceremony, Rivera said “New Rochelle has been my hometown since I came here in ‘95, it reminds me of my hometown and has been amazing.”

## NEW ROCHELLE WALK OF FAME

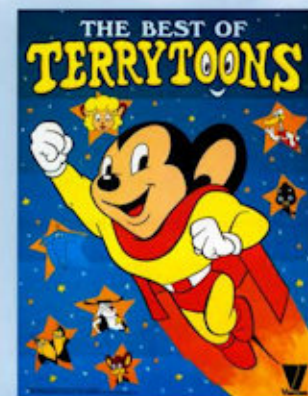
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# Mighty Mouse



In the crowded field of famous individuals New Rochelle can claim as native sons and daughters, perhaps the most extraordinary was Mighty Mouse who emerged from the New Rochelle studio of Terrytoons, the innovative animation company that brought us a 40-year long parade of cartoon characters known throughout the world.

To the refrain of "Here he comes to save the day," Mighty Mouse led the Terrytoons procession followed by such notables as Heckle and Jeckle, Gandy Goose and Deputy Dawg. Mighty Mouse was first created as a super-powered housefly named Superfly, but studio head Paul Terry changed the character into a cartoon mouse. Originally intended to be a parody of Superman, he first appeared in 1942 in a theatrical animated short titled *The Mouse of Tomorrow*.

Paul Terry, founder of Terrytoons, came to New York from California in 1911 as a newspaper photographer and artist. In 1915, he bought his first animated cartoon, "*Little Herman*," to the Thanhouser Film Company, the silent motion picture studio located on the Boston Post Road near Echo Avenue in New Rochelle. Some neighborhood kids got a sneak preview. As they roared with laughter, the president of Thanhouser Company purchased the film on the spot. Terry's career was launched.



In 1934, Paul Terry settled his company in the Pershing Square Building in New Rochelle, now known as the Kaufman or "K" Building. In 1949, he moved his studio to the former Knights of Columbus Hall at 38 Centre Avenue. He often remarked, "Disney is the Tiffany's of this business and I am the Woolworth's."

By 1951 his staff was churning out 26 cartoons a year and several million comic books were being produced each year as well. In 1955, Terry sold the company and property to CBS.

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# Monty Hall



Monty Hall is best known as the host of the classic television game show *Let's Make a Deal*. He was born Monty Halperin on August 25, 1921 in Winnipeg, Canada, and immigrated to the United States in 1955.

In 1963, Hall became the host of *Let's Make a Deal*, which he co-created and co-produced. The show is based around deals offered to members of the audience by the host. The traders have to weigh the possibility if the offer is for valuable prizes, or for undesirable items referred to as "Zonks." *Let's Make a Deal* is also known for the crazy costumes worn by audience members who dress up that way in order to increase their chances of being selected as a trader. Each show ends with the Big Deal that involves three doors, famously known as Door #1, Door #2 and Door #3 – each of which contains a prize behind it.

Monty Hall has extensively traveled the world speaking and performing for countless charities. He is currently on the boards of many charitable organizations, and his philanthropic activities have earned him over 500 awards. In April 1975, he was elected President of Variety Clubs International, the world's largest children's charity, and in 1981 he was honored with the lifetime title of International Chairman.

In 1988, the Government of Canada bestowed on him the Order of Canada for his humanitarian works. Hall received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1973, and in 2002 he was inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame. In 2007, Hall was one of the first inductees into the American TV Game Show Hall of Fame, and in 2013 he received a Daytime Emmy Lifetime Achievement Award.



Monty Hall lived at 110 Broadview Avenue in New Rochelle from 1955 to 1963 with his wife Marilyn and three children. Coincidentally, his house had three front doors, similar to those featured on the Big Deal segment of *Let's Make a Deal*.

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# NELL BRINKLEY

Nell Brinkley was the most popular illustrator and writer of romantic fantasy cartoons in the 1920s and 1930s. She was the creator of the "Brinkley Girl," characterized by lacy dresses and curly hair. The "Brinkley Girl" was a young liberated working woman who lived a secret romantic fantasy life. In one series of cartoons titled *Betty and Billy and their love through the ages*, the lovers see all of their past incarnations together in a crystal ball from ancient Egypt to Renaissance Scotland. The Brinkley Girl quickly became more popular than the stuffy "Gibson Girl." She appeared on magazine covers, in advertisements and pop songs and was the theme of the 1908 Ziegfeld Follies.

Promoting women's rights and the war effort, Nell Brinkley adapted her "Brinkley Girl" to a widely circulated drawing: "*The Three Graces*." It carried the caption, "Any man who loves and reveres his mother and his country should idolize, if he worships at all, the three graces – Suffrage, Preparedness and Americanism."



Nell Brinkley was born in Denver Colorado in 1886. She was not formally trained in the arts, and dropped out of high school to follow her natural drawing talent. She was hired by *The Denver Post* and later the *Rocky Mountain News*. In 1907, William Randolph Hearst hired her to work for the *New York Evening Journal* as an illustrator, columnist and commentator. Her fame was clinched when she was assigned to be the courtroom-illustrator of Evelyn Nesbit-Thaw during the sensational murder trial of Harry Thaw of architect Stanford White in 1906.



Nell Brinkley was a long-time resident of New Rochelle and bought her first house here in 1911. She joined the ranks of a growing artists' colony and became a life-long member of the prestigious New Rochelle Art Association.

She married New Rochelle native Bruce McRae in 1920 and they settled in Beechmont at 56 Pryor Terrace. She died in October, 1944 at the age of 56 and is buried in Beechwood Cemetery.

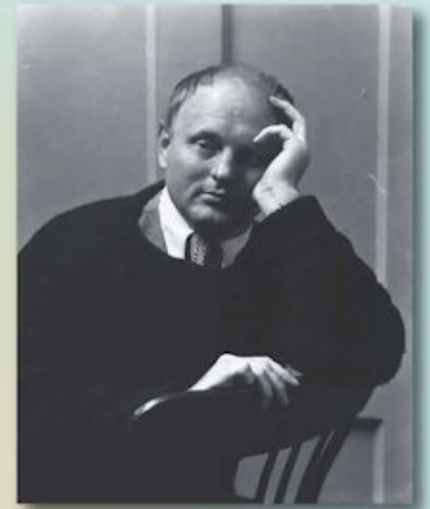
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# Reginald Marsh

(1898 - 1954)



Reginald Marsh was most notable for his depictions of life in New York City in the 1920s and 1930s. Crowded Coney Island beach scenes, popular entertainments such as vaudeville and burlesque, women and jobless men on the Bowery are subjects that reappear throughout his work.

In 1921, Marsh began taking classes at the Art Students League of New York where his first teacher was John Sloan. He rejected modern art that he found sterile. Marsh's style can best be described as social realism. His work depicts the Great Depression and a range of social classes whose division was accentuated by the economic crash. He was inspired by the Baroque Masters of the past in his portrayal of the present. Burlesque queens assume the classic Venus pose, Venuses and Adonises walk the Coney Island beach and deposed Christs collapse on the Bowery. The painting *Fourteenth Street* in the Museum of Modern Art depicts a large crowd in front of a theater hall in an arrangement that recalls a Last Judgment.



In 1914, Frederick Dana Marsh, Reginald's father, a painter, sculpture and muralist moved his family from New Jersey to New Rochelle to join the dozens of other well-known artists and illustrators who had turned New Rochelle into an artist colony. The Marshes were very active in the local art scene as members of the New Rochelle Art Association. Frederick's house at 56 Avon Road in Wykagyl Park also served as a studio for himself and his artist wife, Alice. James Marsh, his brother, was a metal artisan who developed the plan for New Rochelle's approach signs in the 1920s and forged the 10 iron signs that welcome visitors to the city.

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# Richard Roundtree



The modern image of the black male in cinema began with Richard Roundtree. As the charismatic private detective John Shaft in the wildly successful 1971 film *Shaft*, Roundtree created a black action hero of an entirely new kind: confident, hip, funny, triumphant over white antagonists, and possessed of a certain enjoyment of life. For American movie audiences of the 1970s, Roundtree was among the most recognizable of all the leading men in Hollywood.

As *Essence* magazine pointed out, "*Shaft* is the first picture to show a black man who leads a life free from racial torment. He is black and proud of it, but not obsessed with it . . . Shaft keeps his blackness in perspective." The *Shaft* soundtrack album, recorded by Isaac Hayes, was also a huge success, winning two Grammy Awards and the Academy Award for Best Original Song.

While Roundtree is best-known for his role as Detective John Shaft in *Shaft* and its two sequels, *Shaft's Big Score* (1972) and *Shaft in Africa* (1973), he also appeared opposite Laurence Olivier and Ben Gazzara in *Inchon* (1981). Other key films included the critically acclaimed 1995 movie *Seven* and the 2000 *Shaft* sequel where he reprised his role as John Shaft.



On television he played the slave Sam Bennett in the 1977 television series *Roots* and Dr. Daniel Reubens on *Generations* (1989 - 1991) – the first soap opera to feature an African-American family from its inception. As a member of New York's renowned Negro Ensemble Company, one of Roundtree's best early stage roles was that of black heavyweight boxing champ Jack Johnson in "*The Great White Hope*." Prior to becoming an actor, he was a football player and a model.

Born in New Rochelle on July 9, 1942, Richard Roundtree graduated from New Rochelle High School in 1961 and starred on New Rochelle High's undefeated and nationally ranked football team in 1960. He lived at 149 Remington Place.

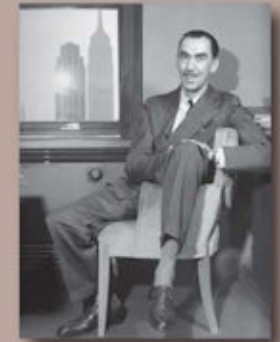
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# ROBERT SHERWOOD

(1896 – 1955)



Robert Emmet Sherwood was a film critic, playwright and screenwriter. He was born in New Rochelle, New York on April 4, 1896 and lived at 18 Neptune Place.

A colleague of Robert Benchley and Dorothy Parker at *Vanity Fair Magazine*, Sherwood was a founding member of the famed Algonquin Round Table – a group of writers who met monthly at the Algonquin Room bar in New York City. He stood six feet eight inches tall, and Dorothy Parker once commented that when she would walk down the street with him and six-foot-tall Robert Benchley, they looked like “a walking pipe organ.”

His 1930 play *Waterloo Bridge* was adapted into a critically acclaimed 1940 film starring Vivian Leigh and Robert Taylor. *The Petrified Forest* (1935) was adapted into the classic film starring Bette Davis, Leslie Howard and Humphrey Bogart. His 1936 play, *Idiot's Delight*, won the Pulitzer Prize. He won the Pulitzer Prize again in 1938 for *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* and, in 1940, he won his third Pulitzer for *There Shall Be No Night*. Only Eugene O'Neill was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama more times than Robert Sherwood with four wins.

His screenwriting credits include *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (1934), starring Leslie Howard and Merle Oberon; *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* (1940), adapted from his play, with Raymond Massey reprising his stage role; and Alfred Hitchcock's *Rebecca* (1940) starring Laurence Olivier and Joan Fontaine. In 1947, Sherwood won an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay for *The Best Years of Our Lives* (1946), starring Frederic March, Dana Andrews and Myrna Loy.



During World War II he became a speechwriter for President Franklin Roosevelt and coined the phrase “arsenal of democracy.” He also served as Director of the Office of War Information. In 1949, he won the Pulitzer Prize again, this time for biography, for his memoir *Roosevelt and Hopkins*.

He once admitted, “The trouble with me is that I start with a big message and end up with nothing but good entertainment.”

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# EDWIN & GERTRUDE THANHOUSER

(1865 – 1956)

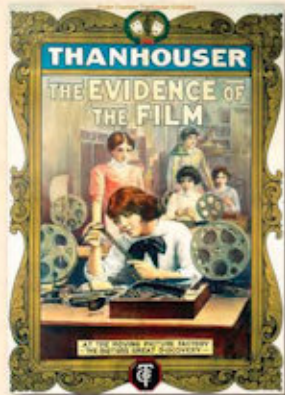
(1882 – 1951)

The New York Metropolitan Area was once a mecca for filmmaking. In 1893, Thomas Edison built the first movie studio in the U.S. near his laboratories in West Orange, New Jersey called the Black Maria. In 1895, the Biograph Company was founded near Union Square in Manhattan, and in 1913 it moved to the Bronx. American Vitagraph flourished in Brooklyn, and Fox Films and Universal Studios got their start in Fort Lee, New Jersey.



In New Rochelle, the Thanouser film studio was founded in 1909 by American theatrical impresario Edwin Thanouser, his wife Gertrude, and brother-in-law Lloyd Lonergan. Thanouser, known as “The Wizard of New Rochelle,” leased space in an old wooden skating rink near the current I-95 overpass on Grove Avenue. When fire destroyed the facility in 1913 the company moved to a building at 320 Main Street.

The Thanouser Company produced and released 1,086 films between 1910 and 1917. Gertrude Thanouser who worked as actress, scenario writer, film editor and studio executive made the studio one of the key independent film studios in the U.S. Lloyd Lonergan was a prolific scriptwriter and wrote the serial *The Million Dollar Mystery*, released in 1914 and which was a huge success for the studio earning over two million dollars! Thanouser brought actress Florence La Badie to the Company in 1911. She became their most prominent star and was known as “Fearless Flo” because she did her own stunts.



In 1912, Thanouser sold his company to The Mutual Film Corporation with Charles J. Hite assuming the presidency. Early in 1915, after Hite’s death, he once again took charge of the company, but by 1917, an economic slump and the movie industry’s exodus to Hollywood put the company out of business.

The Thanousers lived on Slocum Road in Rochelle Heights.

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# New Rochelle in the NFL



## Fritz Pollard



Frederick Douglass "Fritz" Pollard was the first African American head coach in the National Football League, and he and Bobby Marshall were the first two African American players in the NFL in 1920. Sportswriter Walter Camp ranked Pollard as "one of the greatest runners these eyes have ever seen."

Pollard played with the Akron Pros, the team he would lead to the NFL championship in 1920. In 1921, he became the co-head coach of the Akron Pros while still maintaining his roster position as running back. He also served as head coach for the Hammond Pros.

He was the first black football player at Brown University, the first black player to play the Rose Bowl and the first black running back to be named to the Walter Camp All-America team. In 1954, Pollard was the first African-American elected to the National College Football Hall of Fame.

In 2005, he received a long-overdue honor with his election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. His name lives on through the Fritz Pollard Alliance that was founded in 2003 to help promote the hiring of minorities in the NFL. Pollard was born in Chicago on January 27, 1894. He retired to New Rochelle in 1961, living here until 1983 when he moved to Silver Spring, MD where he died on May 11, 1986.

## Matt Snell



No. 41 Matt Snell was a running back for the New York Jets from 1964 to 1972. In his rookie year, Snell rushed for a team-record 180 yards against the Houston Oilers on his way to a 945-yard season and AFL Rookie of the Year honors. Snell went on to become an AFL Eastern Division All-Star in 1964 and 1966, and the Sporting News All-AFL fullback in 1969. Snell's defining moment came in Super Bowl III when the AFL champion Jets played the heavily favored NFL champion Baltimore Colts. Although slowed by knee injuries, Snell was a key player in

the Jets' ball-control offense during the 16-7 upset victory. He carried the ball 30 times for a then-Super Bowl record of 121 yards, and in the second quarter scored the Jets' only touchdown. He also helped set up a trio of field goals that finally put the game away for the Jets securing the AFL's first Super Bowl win. In 1973, Snell appeared in the first Miller Lite beer commercial featuring middle-aged sports stars that became a status symbol for retired athletes.

A long time New Rochelle resident, Matthews Snell was born on August 18, 1941 in Garfield, Georgia.

## George Starke



No. 74 George Starke was an offensive lineman who played for the Washington Redskins from 1972-84. He appeared with the Redskins in three Super Bowls helping them win Super Bowl XVII. Starke's professional football career lasted thirteen years and he had been captain of the Redskins for five years. He was named one of the 70 greatest players in Redskins history. Starke was known as the "Head Hog" of "The Hogs"—

the Redskins' famous offensive line. "The Hogs" later went on to become the most famous offensive group of linemen to ever play in the National Football League. After his retirement, Starke had a career in broadcasting and was involved in numerous business ventures. In 1996, he founded a not-for-profit job training facility named the Excel Institute designed as a two-year adult education program for at risk youth.

George Lawrence Starke was born in New York City on July 18, 1948 and grew up in New Rochelle. Upon graduation from New Rochelle High School, he received a series of football awards, including All-Westchester County, All-Metropolitan, All-State and All-American. He was inducted into the New Rochelle and Westchester County Sports Halls of Fame.

## Kyle Rote



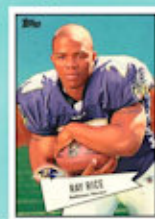
No. 44 Kyle Rote played for the New York Giants from 1951 to 1961. When he retired he had become the Giants' career leader in pass receptions (300), receiving yardage (4,805), and touchdown receptions (48). He was second highest in total touchdowns (56) and fifth-leading scorer (312 points). His average gain per catch was 15.9 yards. In all, Rote played in four world championship games. He was the captain of the New York Giants for eight years.

Rote spearheaded the movement that became the NFL Players Association fighting for equal opportunities for all players. He became its first elected president and also acted as the Giants team representative. Following his playing career in 1961, Rote served as the Giants backfield coach for two years and in both those years in New York captured the NFL's Eastern Division championship.

In the '60s and early '70s, he enjoyed a second career as a sportscaster working at NBC and WNBS New York on radio and television. Rote authored the books, *Pro Football for the Fans* and *The Language of Pro Football*, and co-wrote a Giants' fight song.

William Kyle Rote, Sr. was born in San Antonio, Texas on October 27, 1928 and died August 15, 2002. He lived with his wife and family at 36 Livingston Road.

## Ray Rice



No. 27 Ray Rice played as a running back with the Baltimore Ravens from 2008 to 2013. He helped to lead the Ravens to victory over the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl XLVII. He played college football for Rutgers and was drafted by the Ravens in 2008. After five outstanding seasons with the Ravens, Ray proved to be one of the league's most elusive backs averaging five yards every time he took a handoff and reeling in 60-plus passes a year.

In March 2014, Rice was involved in a much-publicized domestic violence incident. As a result, he became an advocate against domestic violence and warns "the only way to fix the problem is awareness. Domestic violence is an epidemic. I know that my situation raised awareness. I'm not thankful for being that guy, but I'm thankful for the people that now are not afraid to ask for help."

Raymell Maurice Rice was born in New Rochelle on January 22, 1987. He attended New Rochelle High School, where he played football for the Huguenots for long-time coach Lou DiRienzo.

## Fran Tarkenton



No. 10 Fran Tarkenton played in the NFL for 18 seasons and spent the majority of his career with the Minnesota Vikings. Tarkenton's tenure with the Vikings spanned 14 non-consecutive seasons, playing with the team for six seasons from 1961 to 1966, and then for seven seasons from 1972 to 1978. In between his years in Minnesota, Tarkenton was a member of the New York Giants for four seasons. At the time of his retirement, Tarkenton owned every major quarterback record. The Vikings retired his No 10 jersey and he was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1986.

In addition to his football career, Tarkenton served as a commentator on *Monday Night Football* and a co-host of *That's Incredible!*. He was a pioneer in computer software and founder of Tarkenton Software, a program generator company. He authored numerous books including a 1967 autobiography *No Time for Losing*, a whodunit novel titled *Murder at the Super Bowl* and several self-help, motivational books.

Francis Asbury "Fran" Tarkenton was born on February 3, 1940, in Richmond, Virginia. When he was traded to the New York Giants in 1967 he moved to New Rochelle. He lived at 4 Disbrow Lane, 15 minutes away from head coach Allie Sherman's house in Scarsdale.

## Courtney Greene



No. 36 Courtney Greene was a safety who played for the Seattle Seahawks (2009) and the Jacksonville Jaguars (2009 - 2011). He played college football at Rutgers where he was named a Freshman All-American by The Sporting News and the Football Writers Association of America. As a sophomore in 2006, Greene was named Second Team All-Big East, starting every game and helping to lead Rutgers to its best football season in three decades.

After football, Greene became a personal trainer to help NFL players, college and high school athletes. "I try to help guys get to the next level. It's been a good experience helping them with what I know. There's so much that goes into it and what I can impart to kids."

Courtney Greene was born in New Rochelle on November 23, 1986 and starred at New Rochelle High School alongside future college teammate Ray Rice. He led New Rochelle to the Class AA state championship in 2003 in which he earned MVP honors.

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