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Enter the zone...THE TWILIGHT ZONE

"Everyone has to have a hometown... Binghamton's Mine" -Rod Serling



Rod Serling (1924-1975) Binghamton Native, Writer, Producer, Teacher Known primarily for his role as the bost of

Known primarily for his role as the host of television's *The Twilight Zone*, Rod Serling had one of the most exceptional and varied careers in television. As a writer, a producer, and for many years a teacher, Serling constantly challenged the medium of television to reach for loftier artistic goals.

After a brief career in radio, Serling entered television in 1951, penning scripts for several programs including Hallmark Hall of Fame and Playhouse 90, at a time when the medium was referred to as "The Golden Age."

In 1955, Kraft Television Theatre presented Serling's teleplay Patterns and it changed both television as well as Rod Serling's life, winning him his first of six Emmy awards. The script established Serling as a rarity: a television playwright.

In October of 1959, CBS aired the first episode of a groundbreaking series, *"The Twilight Zone."* Serling fought hard for creative control, and became television's first writer/ producer. The series incorporated Serling's deep progressive social and moral views. This iconic series ran for five seasons winning numerous awards and critical acclaim for Serling and his artistic staff and provided a training ground for some of our most gifted actors.

The winner of more Emmy Awards for dramatic writing for television than anyone in history, Serling expressed a deep social conscience in nearly everything he did. Some of his most well know works include:

- Requiem for a Heavyweight (1956)
- The Twilight Zone (1959-1964)
- Planet of the Apes (1968)
- Night Gallery (1970-1973)

In June 1975, Rod Serling died of a heart attack. Today, many years after his death, Serling's legacy continues to grow. His television and cinematic works have reached iconic status enlivening a new interest in one of the great early pioneers of American television.

Another great source for information is the Rod Serling Memorial Foundation. Founded in 1986, the foundation is dedicated to the promotion and prerservation of Serling's contributions to the Arts and Humanities.

For more community information: Greater Binghamton Convention & Visitors Bureau www.VisitBinghamton.org

Enter the SERLING zone

Rod Serling (1924-1975) graduated from Binghamton Central HS, Class of 1943. Now known as **Binghamton High School**, it is the home of the Rod Serling School of Fine Arts. Visit the plaque dedicated to Serling on the front lawn, see the door casing where he signed his name in 1943 while working backstage, visit the Helen Foley Theatre named after Rod's drama



teacher and mentor and where he was commercement speaker in 1968, leaf through his high school yearbook at the library, or just stroll through the halls that Rod passed through each school day. Appointments are suggested. Please contact Lawrence Kassan, Coordinator of Special Events and Theatre for the Binghamton City School District at (607) 762-8202.

Each year, the **Rod Serling Film Festival** is presented by WSKG Public Broadcasting to sustain the Serling legacy and stir the creative imaginations of students K-12 both locally and nationally. Visit: www.wskg.org/program/rod-serling-film-festival

Visit **Recreation Park** on Binghamton's West Side to marvel at the inspiration for *The Twilight Zone's* fifth episode, "Walking Distance." Recreation Park's iconic pavilion can be spotted in the episode. Ride the carousel, visit the pavilion where Serling inscribed his initials, and see his commemorative bronze plaque, iust a few blocks from his boyhood home.



See the newly renovated carousel with "Fairground Art" style panels by artist Cortlandt Hull honoring Rod Serling and *The Twilight Zone*.

Visit the **Forum Theatre for the Performing Arts** to see Rod's star on the Wall of Fame and spend time viewing a display chronicling Rod Serling's life in photos, including a bronze bust of Rod Serling sculpted by Richard Styles, at the Forum Theatre for the Performing Arts. For hours of operation, contact The Forum Theater of Performing Arts at (607) 778-2480.



The Bundy Museum of History and Art offers A Rod Serling Archive Exhibit honoring one of America's greatest writers. View rare and one-ofa-kind pieces, original wire images, TV and film props, memorabilia and personal items. Twice a year, the Bundy Museum of History and Art hosts this symposium to educate the general public about Rod Serling and his importance to pop-culture, and how his work awakens the audience's sense of humanity. Watch two episodes of *The Twilight Zone* Series at the Bundy Annex followed by a discussion let by a guest moderator. Free admission.

For more information, contact The Bundy Museum at (607)772-9179.

CAROUSELS Discover Broome County's Time Machines

in the Carousel Capital of the World!



Between 1919 and 1934, George F. Johnson (1857-1948), shoe manufacturer and great benefactor, donated six beautiful carousels to our local parks. Johnson's commitment to recreation was always more than just good business. He felt carousels contributed to a happy life and would help youngsters grow into strong and useful citizens. Because of his own poor childhood, "George F." believed carousels should be enjoyed by everyone and insisted that the municipalities never

charge money for a magic ride.

Now, into their tenth decade, these magnificent machines still spin from Memorial Day through Labor Day at no charge, or for an admission of "one piece of litter." In a day when nothing is free, we boast the world's greatest entertainment bargain!



Our carousels (we've always called them "merry-go-rounds"), were all manufactured by the Allan Herschell Company of North Tonawanda, New York, in the "country fair" style. You can still hear the sounds of the original Wurlitzer Band Organs on the Recreation and Ross Park carousels. And, if you are lucky enough to ride on all six merry-go-rounds, you will be delighted by monkey chariots, horses with hidden lions in the saddle blankets, a pig, and even a dog. Not to worry, every carousel animal in Greater Binghamton is a "jumper"! You can "Ride the Carousel Circuit" by collecting a card at each carousel, and when you have all six you'll receive a special button. What is even more remarkable is that of 150 wood-carved carousels remaining in the United States and Canada, six are right here in Greater Binghamton, New York!

All six carousels are placed on the New York State Historic Register and National Register of Historic Places and restoration projects over the years attest to the commitment of our community to perserve these cultural legacies for future generations to enjoy.



98 C.F.J. Boulevard, Johnson City, NY 13790

Installed in 1923, this carousel is the largest of the six in the area, featuring 72 figures, 4-abreast. This carousel is considered the most elaborate group of carvings in our collection. Original scenic panels and beveled mirrors remain. The park also includes a basketball court, ball fields, volleyball court, a playground and a small water spray park for children. Park is open 9:00am-dusk. Carousel opens Memorial Day through June weekdays 4:00pm-8:00pm, weekends 12:00pm-8:00pm, then open daily 12:00pm-8:00pm July 1 through Labor Day. Call the Johnson City parks office at (607) 797-3031 (6:30am-2:30pm weekdays) for more details.



🛣 George W.Johnson Park

201 Oak Hill Avenue, Endicott, NY 13760

Installed in 1934 and historically restored in 1994, this carousel has 36 horses, 3-abreast and 2 chariots in its original carousel pavilion. A glass enclosure was added in 1999. Situated in the heart of Endicott's "Northside" and "Little Italy" neighborhoods, the George W. Johnson Park features a swimming pool, bathhouse, picnic shelter, the "Stage at Little Italy," ball fields and playground. The Carousel is host to "Halloween at the

Scarousel" in October and "Little Italy Christmas" in December. Park is open 8:00 am-8:00 pm. *Carousel is open daily Memorial Day through Labor Day from noon to 7:45, closed during inclement weather. For more information call (607) 757-2421.

*Hours may be limited weekdays from Memorial Day through June 24.



801 Hooper Road, Endwell, NY 13760

Installed in 1925, this carousel is the only one of the area's carousels that has been relocated. Originally located at the old En-Joie Park in Endicott, the carousel features 36 animals, 3-abreast: including a pig and a dog. Highland Park facilities include a swimming pool and wading pool, picnic **HIGHLAND PARK** area, playground, tennis courts, ball fields, volleyball, all in a wooded setting. Park is open 10:00am-dusk. Carousels run from 12:00pm-7:45 pm. Carousel open weekends only through June 24 and open daily beginning June 25. For more information, call (607) 786-2970.

The Recreation Park

58-78 Beethoven Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

Installed in 1925, this carousel includes 60 jumping horses, 4-abreast; chariots; and the original 2-roll frame Wurlitzer Military Band Organ with bells. The horses and the original carousel house cupola have been restored. Situated in the historic George F. Johnson Recreation Park, facilities include a reflective pond, statue of George F. Johnson, Rod Serling Memorial Plaque, band shell concerts, pools and bathhouse, tennis courts, playground, and ball fields. The Carousel is host to "Holiday Rides at Rec Park" the first three Saturdays in December; carousel is open from 5:00-8:00 pm with hayrides, horse and carriage rides, local choir/chorus groups, and more. Park is open dawn-9:00pm. Carousel is open May 28-June 24, Saturday and Sunday, 12:00pm-7:45pm and Monday-Friday, 4:00pm-7:45pm. Open daily, June 25-September 5, 12:00pm-7:45pm. For more information, call (607) 722-9166 or (607) 772-7017.





60 Morgan Road, Binghamton, NY 13903

Installed in 1920, this carousel features 60 jumping horses, 4-abreast; two chariots (one with monkeys) and an original 51-key Wurlitzer Military Band Organ. This magnificent carousel is set in the heart of the Binghamton Zoo, where you'll experience the sounds of the animals as well as that familiar carousel music! Ross Park open from May 28-June 24, call 607-772-7017 for hours. Open daily June 25-September 5 from 10:00am-4:45pm. For more information, call (607) 772-7017.



525 Maple Street at Page Avenue, Endicott, N.Y.

Installed in 1929, this carousel features 36 animals, 3-abreast, including a pig and a dog. The West Endicott Park is adjacent to Endicott-Johnson factories, consistent with Johnson's commitment to providing recreational facilities for his employees and their families. Park has a kiddie pool, tennis courts, playground and a covered picnic shelter. Park is open 10:00am-dusk. Carousel open 12:00pm-7:45pm weekends only through June 24, and open daily beginning June 25. For more information, call (607) 786-2970.



Located in six parks throughout Broome County, our carousels operate from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. Hours of operation vary by park. For specific hours of operation, please call the number provided in carousel description. Carousel operation is weather dependent.