

## **DARIEN**

**Mina May Whiting Griswold** (1855-1941) was believed to be the first woman letter carrier in the United States. During the illness of her husband, the regular carrier, she handled the mail at the turn of the century. Women couldn't even vote when she began delivering the mail to support herself, invalid husband and three children. She carried the mail from 1902 to 1915 and her mode of travel was horse and buggy or in the winter months by cutter. During the roughest weather she always delivered the mail, suffering through frostbite for fear that if she failed her routes, she would be taken off. It took nearly an act of Congress to get her named as her husband's substitute. The New York State Governor's Commission Honoring the Achievements of Women selected Griswold to represent the past women of Genesee County and a marker was dedicated in 1998.

Submitted by Elmer Heiman, Town of Darien Historian

**Herbert Andrus Rapp** (1891-1964) was a World War I veteran who served as the Darien Town Clerk from 1915 until 1919, Town Supervisor from 1928 until 1932 and was a Member of the New York State Assembly from 1932 until 1947. He co-authored the Condon-Rapp Bill which provided retirement after 25 years of service to all police officers and other benefits to members of the State Police who completed a quarter of a century of service.

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