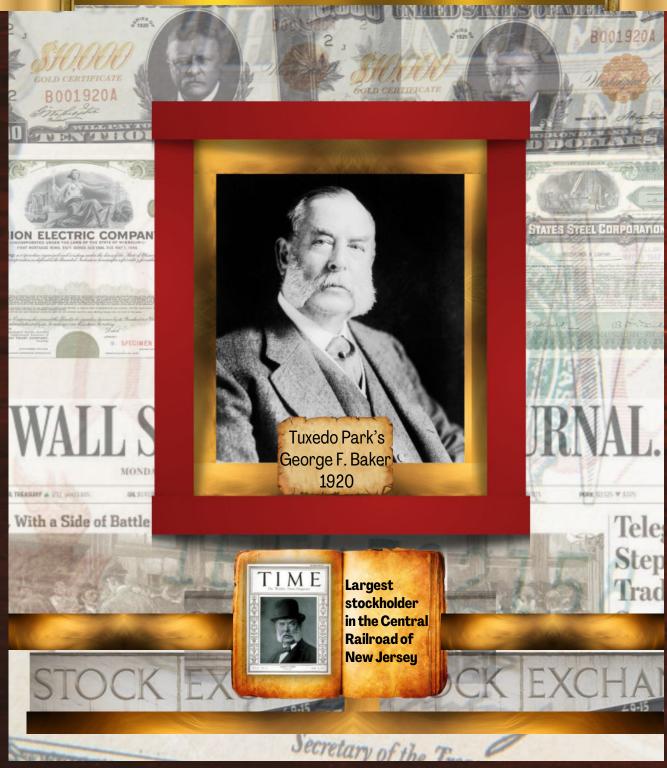
Tuxedo Park Magazine

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Tuxedo Park's George F. Baker

George Baker was born in Troy, New York, to Eveline Stevens Baker and George Ellis Baker, a shoe-store owner who was elected in 1850 on the Whig ticket to the New York State Assembly. At 14, young George entered the S.S. Seward Institute in Florida, New York, where he studied geography, bookkeeping, history, and algebra. At 16, he was hired as a junior clerk in the New York State Banking Department.

He did not attend university, but instead enlisted in the 18th Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteers at the start of the U.S. Civil War, and achieved the ranks of first lieutenant and adjutant.

In 1863, George Baker, along with his mentor, John Thompson, and Thompson's sons, Frederick Ferris Thompson and Samuel C. Thompson, co-founded the First National Bank of the City of New York. The first national bank to be chartered in New York City under the National Currency Act of 1863, it became a forerunner of today's Citibank.

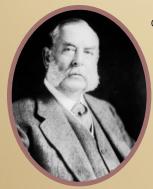
At age 37, he became First National's president in 1877. His 20,000 shares were worth about \$20 million today. He retired as president in 1909, and became chairman of the board. He was succeeded in the presidency by Francis L. Hine, the former vice president of the bank.

An avid investor, he held interests in many corporations and was the largest stockholder in the Central Railroad of New Jersey. In addition, he was a director in 22 corporations, which with their subsidiaries had aggregate resources of \$7.27 billion. Owning \$5,965,000 of U.S. Steel stock in the early 1920s, Baker was also the largest individual owner of U.S. Steel stock.

The April 14, 1924, edition of Time Magazine said of Baker:

"True, he is twice as rich as J. P. Morgan, having a fortune estimated at 200 million.
True, at the age of 84 when he has retired from many directorates, he dominates half a dozen railroads, several banks, and scores of industrial concerns."

George Baker was closely associated with Wall Street banker J.P. Morgan. Both were members of the Tuxedo Club in Tuxedo Park, where George had a grand home and thought Tuxedo Park one of the finest places, where one could establish a dignified lifestyle.



Continued next page

George Baker, Morgan, and, associates, organized super-trusts in U.S. Steel, shipping, and agricultural machinery. They also organized the railroads, where almost 30,000 miles of railway were controlled.

In addition, other interests for Baker and Morgan included electrical machinery (General Electric), communications (AT &T, Western Union), traction companies (IRT in New York, Hudson & Manhattan), and insurance (Equitable Life).

The March 26, 1934, Time magazine article called George F. Baker...

"the richest, most powerful and most taciturn commercial banker in U. S. history."

A 1934 article in Newsweek describes him as one of the most imposing figures in banking history. In the November 1994 issue of Worth magazine, James Grant, editor of the financial newsletter, called George Baker..." a hidebound, turn-of-the-century banker who always got his loans repaid. "

George Baker was famously silent in public, never commenting on events or giving interviews, until 1922, at age 82, when he gave his first newspaper interview. Thereafter, he spoke occasionally at luncheons and gatherings.

George Baker lived on Madison Avenue in New York City, had an estate in Tuxedo Park, and maintained a summer property on Jekyll Island. Although, his favorite residence was his estate in Tuxedo Park.

In 1929, Baker commissioned the construction of a unique Pierce Arrow town car for the wedding of his daughter. Built by Lebaron, the car's roof line was 5 inches taller than standard models so Baker could keep his top hat on. Trim lining in the rear compartment was made of 24-carat gold, as were perfume dispensers and an intercom.

Baker provided much of the initial funding for Harvard Business School with a 1924 grant of five million, for which Harvard gave him an honorary doctorate and named the library after him.

In 1922, he established a million dollar endowment fund for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He had been a member of the museum board since 1909.

George Baker donated 2 million to Cornell University for the construction of the Baker Laboratory of Chemistry, as well as Baker dormitories, and he endowed the Baker Lecture Series, the oldest continuous lectureship in chemistry in the United States.

He made other large donations to charitable causes throughout New York City and funded the construction of Baker Field, Columbia University's primary athletic facility. He was well liked in Tuxedo Park, where many of his close friends and business associates also resided.

Tuxedo Park magazine





COMMON CAPITAL STOCK

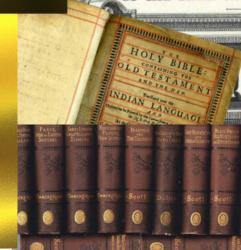












er of said

Grenville Kane, 'the dean of American book collectors', was one of the first residents of Tuxedo Park. He and his family were the first to remain through the winter months in their lovely home. Grenville was born in 1854 in New Rochelle, New York, the son of Pierre Corné and Edith Kane (Brevoort).

He attended St. Paul's School at Concord and graduated from Trinity College in 1875. Three years later he received the degree of LL.B. from Columbia University School of Law, although he never engaged in the practice of law in succeeding years.

He was a member of the firm of T. Suffern Tailer and Company, bankers, from 1906-1922. He was a director of several banks and railroads, and continued in an advisory capacity upon various boards until his partial retirement in 1927. He had an expert knowledge of railroad finance and management.

On April 28, 1881, he married Margaret Adelaide Wolfe, the daughter of John Wolfe, the noted art collector.

Grenville Kane is remembered chiefly as an ardent book collector. Although he collected in several different fields, his largest collection was of Americana, with some 1,270 separate items. An ardent fan of Tuxedo Park, Grenville's descendants of his five daughters remained for many years in Tuxedo Park. Several had their own homes built in the park, and their ancestral home still exists in Tuxedo Park.

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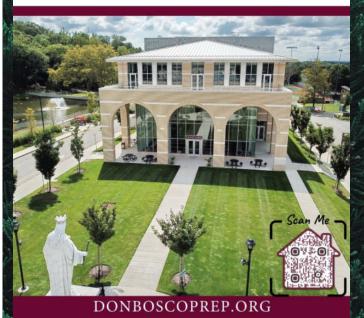
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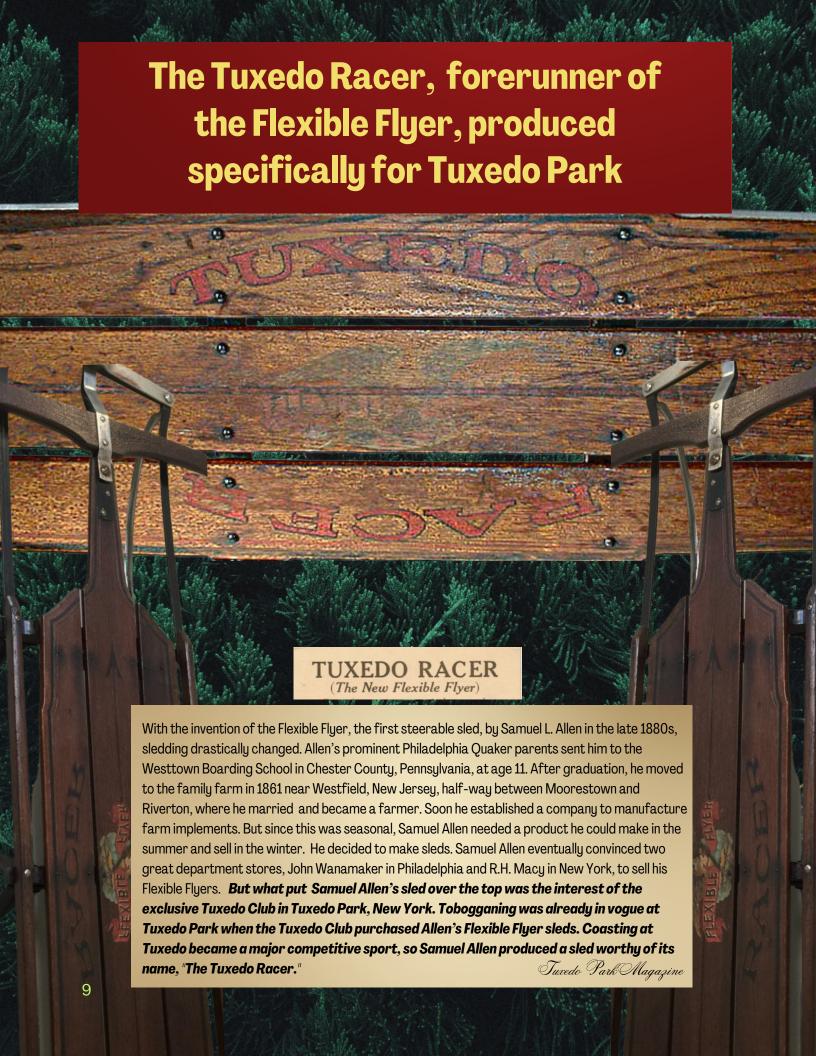






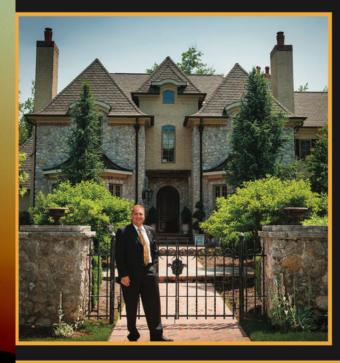
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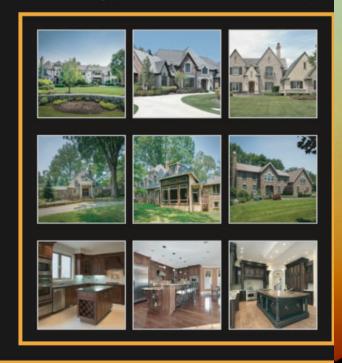
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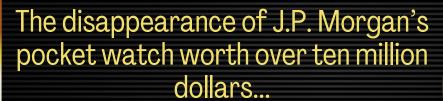
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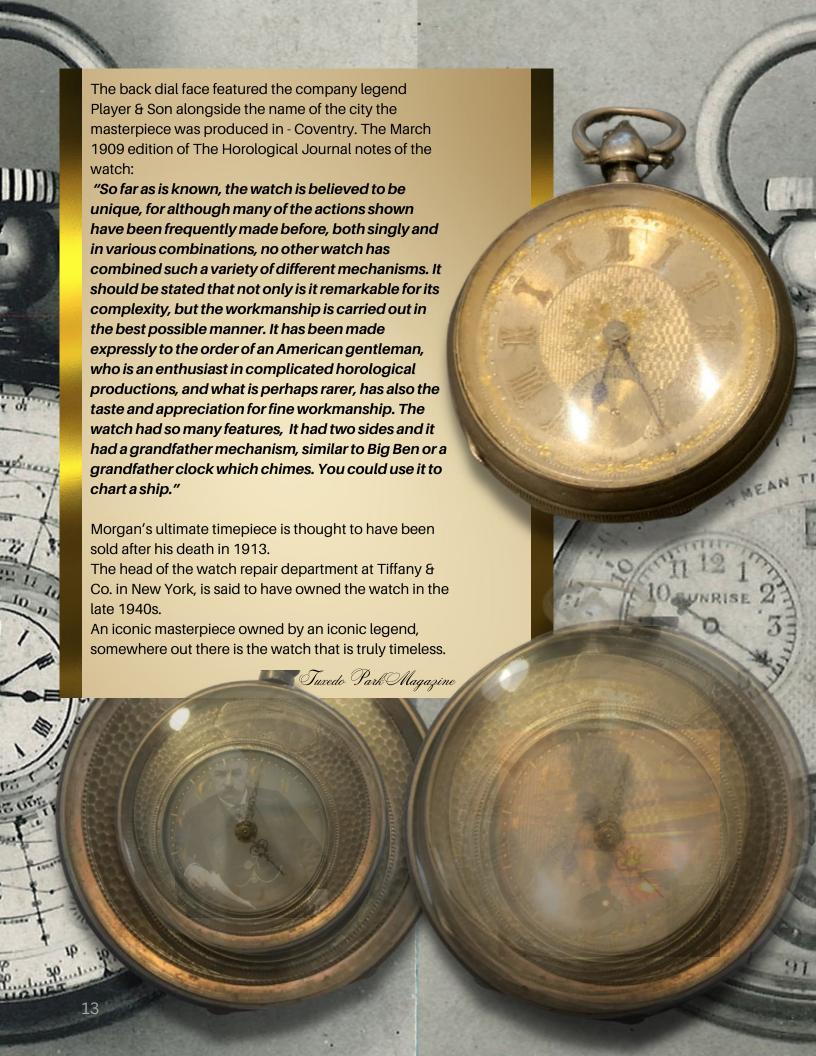
A masterpiece watch that was unparalleled at the time was made for the US financier but has since fallen into obscurity. A peerless feat of craftsmanship unrivaled anywhere in the world, the pocket watch made in Coventry befitted the highest standards of JP Morgan.

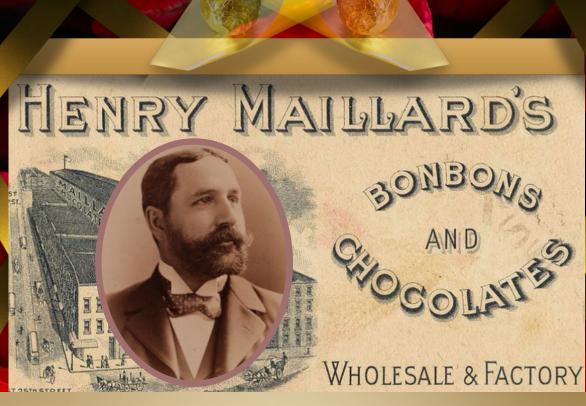
The American financier and banker's taste for the finest workmanship had led him to look beyond London and New York for his 'grand complication'.

In 1909, he paid renowned Coventry firm J Player & Son about £1,000, around twice the cost of a house in the UK at the time, for the feat of micro-engineering. With two large round face dials front and back, the pocket watch did far more than tell the time. The owner could map the stars or even chart a ship with the smart device of its time. Despite having once been the property of J.P. Morgan, its present whereabouts are unknown. J. Player & Son was the name on the rear face of the masterpiece as its creators. It was highly complex and it took four years to make. Over the following decades there would be others but it was unmatched at the time.

"The 'astronomical watch' had a dual purpose. As well as being a classy statement, it was increasingly important in a society that made appointments, ran factories and monitored working hours. London was the UK's main watchmaking center, but Player & Son had built up an enviable reputation despite being the trade's only company outside the capital. With such a pedigree, Morgan looked to the Coventry firm for his timepiece, which was the most complicated in the world at the time. The double-faced device packed in features including an annual calendar, times for sunrise, sunset, moon rise and moon set and kept the wearer informed of tidal levels and star constellations. The high-end spec also included a one-minute tourbillon – a mechanism to increase accuracy by negating gravity, that was visible through an aperture.



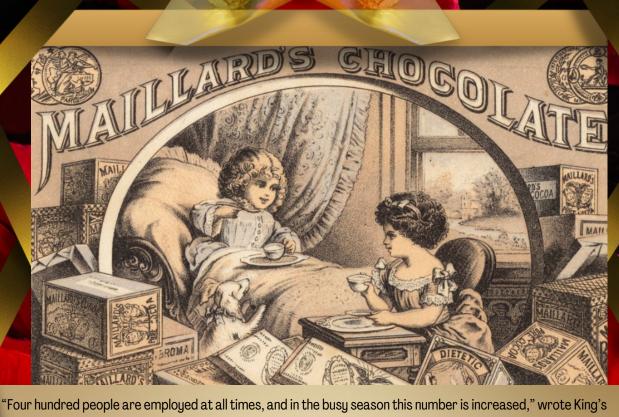




When Henry Maillard moved from France to New York City in 1848, he established a factory and catering business in Lower Manhattan shortly thereafter. He then began to receive raves as "confectioner par excellence in America," according to King's Handbook of New York. Much of Maillard's success in his new homeland was attributed to his elaborate catering at high-profile events.

One such occasion was a White House renovation unveiling party hosted by President Abraham Lincoln's wife, First Lady, Mary Todd Lincoln, in 1862. "The gala boasted as its centerpiece a Maillard-made confectionery steamship flying the Stars and Stripes, along with sugar models of Fort Sumter and the Goddess of Liberty," noted The Oxford Companion to Sugar and Sweets.

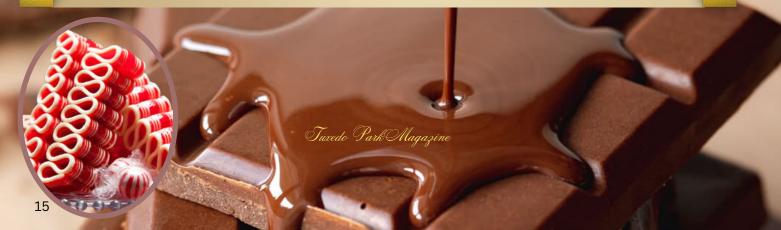
During this period, Maillard also initiated plans to open a store and restaurant. His factory had already relocated to 24th and 25th Streets just west of Sixth Avenue in Chelsea in the 1870s. Later, around the turn of the century, Maillard's ground floor restaurant and store at 1097 Broadway (at 24th Street inside the Fifth Avenue Hotel) received recognition as a designated go-to destination. The site "quickly became a sparkling jewel in Manhattan's crown," noted William Grimes in his book Appetite City: A Culinary History of New York.



"Four hundred people are employed at all times, and in the busy season this number is increased," wrote King's Handbook of New York. "Six traveling salesmen are engaged in making the products of the factory known to people in other cities; and in this work, they have valuable assistance at the hands of the women of New York and their provincial friends."

The 25th Street building also served as the headquarters for Maillard's New-York Chocolate School. According to King's Handbook of New York, "Here, free lessons are given on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons, from October to June, in the art of making a cup of chocolate or cocoa, so that these delicious and nutritive beverages may be served in their perfection."

Following Maillaird's death in 1900, and the 1908 demolition of the Fifth Avenue Hotel, the retailer moved to 35th Street and Fifth Avenue. There is but little question that Maillard is responsible for Americans being candy loving people, reported Confectioners' and Bakers' Gazette in their obituary about the chocolatier. "Maillard's chocolate, both to drink and to eat, gave us our first taste for a confection, which has since become one of the rivals of the staff of life." Maillard's fine chocolates were present on fine tables from Newport to Tuxedo Park, and were noted in the pages of head-housekeeper's journals, as a must have staple for gala estate gatherings.



Spotlight on Excellence: Dr. Vanessa Robinson Brings College-Level Research to Saddle River Day Upper School Students

Science Department Chair, Dr. Vanessa Robinson exemplifies a philosophy of education that focuses on empowerment and self-sufficiency. Spend a few minutes with her, and you'll see that she's dedicated to teaching with an emphasis on long-term learning and growth, utilizing her own research project on fruit flies as her teaching tools.

For the past several summers, Dr. Robinson has offered students a real world laboratory research experience by allowing them to assist in her study of the molecular impacts of social isolation on fruit flies. This year, that summer class has evolved into a year-long upper level science course during which students, working within the realm of sleep, circadian rhythms, the microbiome, immunity, and metabolism, and still working with fruit flies as their test subjects, and will have the opportunity to discern their own research question, design a set of experiments to test their hypothesis, evaluate their conclusions, and present their findings at the end of the year.

By basing the class format on the real process a graduate student would go through to begin a research project, Dr. Robinson is able to give her students – all of whom have either taken or are currently taking AP Biology – exposure to the process they will encounter in college and later, as research professionals. Students will be required to regularly present their progress during lab meetings, demonstrating the data they've collected, and soliciting feedback from their classmates. Dr. Robinson is assisted in this class by a current 5th year PhD student in her former lab at Columbia who will provide students with access to different fruit fly mutants to utilize in their experiments.

continued next page



But the most important thing that the students in Dr. Robinson's class will take away from this year will be a head start on most of their future classmates with regards to an understanding of how research works. The Saddle River Day School students who complete this class will enter college with the ability to identify the research projects that align with their interests, and the credibility and learned experience to immediately make them valuable members of any research team. The knowledge of how to navigate academia will enable them to better set themselves on a path to graduate school and, eventually, into a doctoral degree program.

For her part, Dr. Robinson loves working with high school students because they're curious, open to learning and instruction, and fearless when it comes to advancing hypotheses and interrogating new ideas. In particular, she loves working with the Saddle River Day School students because the model at SRDS is one of academic discovery where scholars are encouraged to challenge themselves, work to the best of their ability, expose themselves to new experiences, and pursue learning for the sake of knowledge rather than just achievement. She regularly reminds her students that where they attend college doesn't matter as much as what they do once they get there. With her guidance, Saddle River Day students are well positioned to take advantage of every opportunity they are offered from the first day they arrive at the college of their choice.







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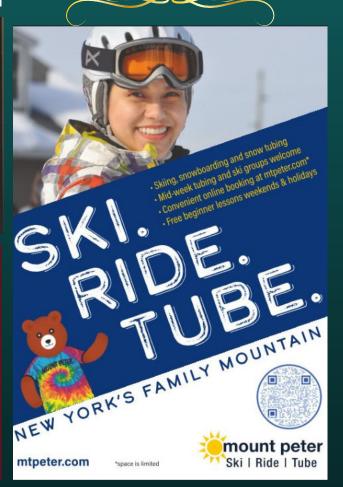




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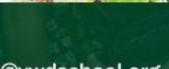
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