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Syracuse Keeps its Promise to the Rock of the Marne

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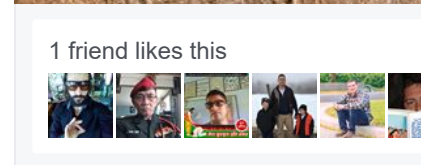
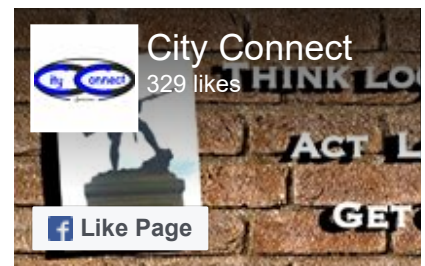
In honor of more than 1,100 WWI soldiers who died in battle, The Rock of the Marne serves as a timeless tribute to their sacrifice. Nearly 100 years ago, the city of Syracuse was entrusted to remember the men who fought and died for their country. The Mayor of Syracuse made a promise to guard the memory; to never forget. Now, nearly one hundred years later – well, we forgot.

Billings Park is a small triangular bit of land between Salina, Warren, and Adams, just south of the bus station. On the north end of the park is a 18 foot bronze statue. The statue depicts a WW1 doughboy

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The Rock of the Marne

standing with his foot upon a rock. At its base, are names of soldiers who lost their lives during the infamous battle. The nickname bestowed upon these men is also the title of the proud statue: "The Rock of the Marne."

In the summer of 1918, the brave men of the Army's 38th Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division became what is known as the Rock of the Marne. They wrote one the greatest stories in American history and arguably, of the modern day world.

The story is one of honor, courage, and commitment.

The Rock of the Marne is a story of great men and a great city.

The story teaches what it means to be a great city, one that is proud and one that people will love.

The Rock of the Marne teaches us why the City of Syracuse can be proud of its history.

History is more than names and dates. Often, it weaves the fabric of who we are. It not only teaches us who we once were, it also shows us who we can be.

Time has a way of making us forget. Maybe time is a forgiving force and simply lets us forget. Whatever the reason, most veterans living in Syracuse and true ambassadors of the city have never heard the story behind the Rock of the Marne statue.

[City Connect](#), the [Downtown Committee of Syracuse](#), and the [Onondaga Historical Association](#) along with a growing group have pledged to keep the city's promise.

As the 100th anniversary of the 2nd Battle of the Marne approaches, plans are underway to honor the Rock of the Marne.

In the tradition of storytelling, City Connect will help ensure Syracuse never forgets again by sharing the proud history.

[Read more here!](#)

Check back here to read more about the Rock of the Marne, learn about the progress toward next year's event, and how you can help.

You can help by sharing the story!



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