

THE FRIENDS OF THE SCARSDALE LIBRARY

PROUDLY PRESENT AUTHOR AND FORMER  
SCARSDALE RESIDENT

AUSTIN KEN KUTSCHER, MD

SPEAKING ON HIS BOOK

WATCHING WALTER CRONKITE,  
REFLECTIONS ON GROWING UP IN THE 1950S  
1960S

SUNDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, 3 PM

SCARSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY -  
SCOTT ROOM, FREE ADMISSION

When Ken Kutscher felt his young daughter wasn't completely grasping the significance of the tumultuous 1960s or the period leading up to it, he didn't send her to the library for books on the subject. Instead, he wrote his own. His book recounts his boyhood recollections as the war in Vietnam, the Civil Rights struggle, Woodstock, and the Moon landing all unfolded before his eyes. When the author scrutinized his past, he found that the one continuous link from his youth in the 1950s and into the 1960s was CBS broadcaster Walter Cronkite. This well-respected journalist was among the first to introduce visual images of these historic events as they happened to television watchers, including the impressionable Baby Boomers. The sharing of his personal experiences and his impressions as a teen through these oftentimes bewildering periods shed light on a world that seemed to be in danger of spinning out of control. And his daughter might now have a better understanding of the world and culture of her father as he survived with a mere three TV networks, AM radio, low-horsepower Ramblers, rear-engine Corvairs, and the Hula Hoop. (Foreword Magazine Reviews 2009F)

As a historian, I took special interest in Ken's take on the major events of the 1960's. He touches on almost all of them, but thankfully he isn't a Zelig or even a Forrest Gump. Watching Walter Cronkite is a coming-of-age memoir to which high school and college students can readily relate. It is a narrative that a skilled teacher can use in an American History or American Studies course. (Eric Rothschild, Retired Chairman of History Department of Scarsdale High School)

# Watching Walter Cronkite

Reflections on Growing Up  
in the 1950s and 1960s



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