

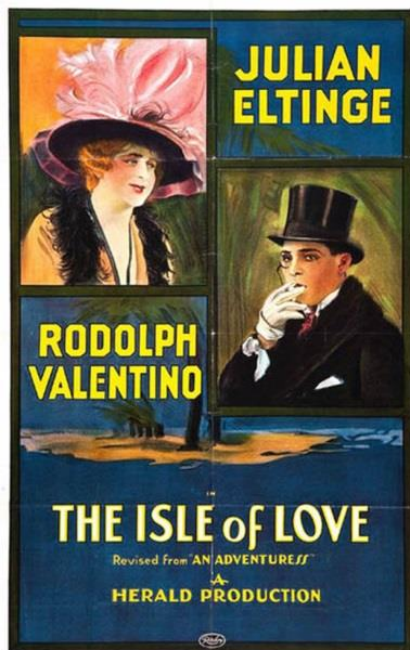
## An Alpine History Mystery:

### Who Was Alpine's Star of Stage & Screen?

March 2014

The 2014 Academy Awards were presented this month to some of the finest stars of our time, and that brings to mind Alpine's own star of stage and screen. If you didn't know that Alpine was once the home of one of the most sought after stars of Broadway and Hollywood, then we have a story for you.

Our celebrity was born in 1881 in Newton, Massachusetts, and first appeared on stage at age 10 in the Boston Cadets Revue. It is reported that our star stole the show and the following year the entire performance was written around this trouper. Under the stage name of Julian Eltinge, our artiste' first appeared on Broadway in 1904, and in 1906 debuted at the Palace Theater in London, which led to a command performance for King Edward VII. Then, in 1910, a series of musical comedies were written specifically for the talents of this headliner. In one of the most famous shows, *The Fascinating Widow*, Eltinge masters the art of disguise, playing the part of Hal Blake who "disguises" himself as Mrs. Monte, to the delight of the audience.



In 1914, Hollywood beckoned, and Eltinge played the leading lady role in the silent film version of *The Crinoline Girl*, followed by *Cousin Lucy*, and the 1917 film, *The Countess Charming*. The following year, Julian Eltinge starred with Rudolph Valentino in *The Isle of Love*. In all, Eltinge appeared in more than 18 films and 24 Broadway and Vaudeville shows.

In 1923, our celebrity came to Alpine, purchasing property along South Grade Road with plans to build a resort for Hollywood stars to get away for a back country respite. But, with massive losses during the Great Depression, the vision of a large hotel with first-class dining room and resort recreations was never realized.

Eltinge Drive in Alpine is named for this famous star of stage and screen, but Julian Eltinge was just a stage name. Do you know the real name of Julian Eltinge - one of the most famous female characters in theater and movies?