

National Museum of American Illustration

Remember those classic *Saturday Evening Post* Norman Rockwell covers? Or artwork that used to accompany ads in old magazines like *Collier's*? So do Laurence and Judy Cutler, only they've gone one better: They own a lot of these original, historic works, including the second-largest Rockwell collection in the world, and display them in Vernon Court, their fifty-two-room mansion on Bellevue Avenue.



Norman Rockwell's "Miss Liberty," 1943, *Saturday Evening Post*.

Laurence Cutler boasts that this is the most important museum in Rhode Island. He may overstate things, but the Cutlers do have one impressive collection of vintage art, including one of the most famous Rockwell pieces, "Miss Liberty." Rockwell's work is stunning, the kind you can stare at for hours and see something new all the time. My favorite in the collection is "April Fool's Day," Rockwell's humor apparent in a painting that challenges you to find things wrong with it; his name painted backwards, for example, and a dog's head on a cat's body.