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# A TIME AND A PLACE

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PLAY

## Last Dog Days of Summer Fest

Saturday, Sept 13th - 11am to 3pm

After many successful years of hosting the Woofs & Wags Dog Walk on site at the Heart of the Catskill Humane Society, the shelter is retiring the dog walk and putting a fresh face on their September fundraiser. The new event is called the "Last Dog Days of Summer Fest. This family- and dog-friendly festival will be held at the beautiful River Rock Farm located at 739 County Highway 18 in Delhi (just cross over Fitches Covered Bridge) on Saturday, September 13 from 11am to 3pm.

Lots of activities will be happening including live local acoustic music performed by Dos Amigos. Tasty treats include a BBQ featuring chicken, burgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers cooked by a guest grill master, plus delicious side salads provided by the SUNY Delhi culinary students. There will be an art and jewelry sale and basket raffles in the main barn, a kids' arts and craft tent with lots of different crafts to enjoy, corn hole games, and a scavenger hunt. And

of course, they will have their famous bake sale tent, and gift and pet items for sale at our Beastie Boutique.

Enjoy an agility and canine carting demonstration and stop by the education tents occupied by Friends of the Feathered & Furry Wildlife Center (there will be some type of wildlife at this tent) and Wolf Mountain Nature Center (there will be no live animals at this tent). Feel free to ask the educators questions and learn some new things about wildlife!

Head on over (rain or shine!) and relax, eat, listen to tunes, enjoy lots of activities and stroll the beautiful grounds at River Rock Farm this Saturday, September 13th.

For more information, visit [www.heartofthecatskills.org](http://www.heartofthecatskills.org), call (607)746-3080 or email [info@heartofthecatskills.org](mailto:info@heartofthecatskills.org). Donations can be made on-line on the website, via phone, or mailed to HCHS P.O. Box 88, Delhi, NY 13753. Follow HOC on Facebook and Instagram.

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# BUYING LOCAL IS FOCAL!



## 4 local products and services to try today

When you hear the words “buy local,” do you immediately think of the grocery store? That’s a great starting point, especially since local products are becoming easier to spot. However, you can take your support for local businesses even further. Here are some categories to consider for your next purchases.

- 1. Furniture and home goods.** Explore local companies that manufacture furniture in your home state. Whether you need furniture for your office, bedroom or kitchen, you’re sure to find something that matches your style. Don’t forget to check out local artists and artisans for unique accessories and home goods.
- 2. Building materials.** Before making any purchases, do your research to ensure you’re sourcing materials like stone from a quarry in your region or wood from a nearby forest. Also,

consider purchasing your building materials from local or American-owned hardware stores.

- 3. Beauty products.** Treat yourself to locally made beauty products, including anti-aging creams, exfoliators, eye shadows and perfumes. You can look and feel your best while championing local businesses. Ask local experts for their top recommendations.
- 4. Digital platforms.** Get your entertainment, such as sports, music, movies, TV shows, podcasts and audiobooks, through homegrown platforms. Choosing regional companies over international giants supports local talent and offers a better user experience.

***Which swaps will you make to support your local community?***



# “Buying local is good for ME!”

You’ve probably heard that buying local boosts your economy and helps lower your carbon footprint. For those reasons alone, it’s no surprise that this practice is gaining popularity. If you need more convincing, consider the personal benefits of shopping locally.

## GUARANTEED FRESHNESS

When you buy baked goods, meat, cheese and vegetables directly from local producers or farmers’ markets, you get the freshest and most flavorful products possible. Additionally, local products found at grocery stores have traveled much shorter distances, which means they tend to be fresher than imported goods.

## BETTER QUALITY

The United States has strict production standards. This means that the products you buy locally, whether food, clothing or personal care items, are often safer and more sustainable than many imported options. Although some local items may come with a higher price tag, their quality can save you money in the long run.

## IMPROVED WELL-BEING

Shopping local allows you to enjoy personalized service and connect with your community. This fosters a sense of belonging and safety. Plus, shopping locally can save you time and reduce stress, improving your overall well-being.

## INCREASED DIVERSITY

Choosing to shop locally means helping your community thrive. A vibrant local economy attracts new businesses, giving you more options and helping preserve your area’s unique stores and offerings.

***Are you ready to buy local?***

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DO

WEST KORTRIGHT CENTER

PRESENTS

## Hop City Hellcats

SECOND SUNDAYS CONCERT SERIES

Sunday, September 14th at 2pm

West Kortright Center  
49 W Kortright Church Rd  
East Meredith



Randy Miritello formed Hop City Hellcats to explore more avenues of expression. Being a little more “electric”, Hop City became another voice with which to write.

Once described as “half-way between classic Cash and Dwight Yoakum” in style, most comfortable with an acoustic guitar in hand but, having a different array of backing instrumentation to play with, his songwriting opened up to more styles. Leaning into

his musical tastes of blues, traditional and outlaw country, rock and rockabilly Miritello set out to be the storyteller he always wanted to be.

The West Kortright Center is proud to present the Hop City Hellcats as part of the Second Sundays concert series, a free community event featuring concerts, workshops, art and food every second Sunday until October.



## **Wait—That’s Not a Service Dog? Understanding the 3 Types of Support Animals**

Let’s talk about the difference between ESAs (Emotional Support Animals), Therapy animals, and Working/Service animals. People are often under the impression that they are interchangeable or the same, when in fact they are three separate categories with different and varied requirements and training.

Emotional support animals don’t require any special training. They are basically a pet that provides comfort and companionship to someone with a mental health issue, such as anxiety or depression. Normally a medical professional will suggest an emotional support animal for a patient if they think it would be beneficial for their condition. However, when choosing a pet to be an ESA, it is wise to think about how that animal reacts and interacts with new people, new environments, and other animals. If you plan to have your ESA with you in public most of the time, you want to make sure the pet is comfortable in most situations. ESAs sometimes wear vests or tags in public that identify them as an ESA, but that does not make them a service animal. Businesses and public spaces can legally deny an ESA access, however most rentals do allow Emotional Support Animals with a legitimate note from your doctor.

Therapy dogs are the most common therapy animals, and therapy dogs and their owners do have to go through training and pass an evaluation before officially becoming a therapy animal. Most will get their Canine Good Citizen certification and prove that they are calm and friendly with humans and other animals in public and that they are not easily spooked or stressed out by noises, sudden movements, and things like walkers and wheelchairs. Once they pass their CGC evaluation and join an official dog therapy group, the dog and owner can visit schools, hospitals,

nursing homes, and more to bring the folks there some joy and comfort. Therapy dogs excel in being petted, loved, and hugged often by many different people and therapy visits must be documented. Unlike emotional support animals and service animals, that work to serve their handlers, therapy dogs work to serve the people whom they visit. In other words, the “clients” of emotional support animals and service animals are their handlers. The “clients” of therapy animals are other people to whom they bring joy and comfort; the handler is there to facilitate those interactions.

Service dogs are actual “working dogs.” They are often trained from a young age by a professional trainer for the type of service they will provide, though the owners of service dogs are allowed to train their working dog themselves. Service dogs provide support and perform tasks for humans with disabilities or

*continued...*



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Continued from Page 7...

medical conditions- such as people who are blind or deaf, people in wheelchairs, people who have seizures or other conditions that may render them unconscious without warning. Service dogs can often detect early signs that are not detectable to humans and can warn their humans to sit or lay down. They are trained to stay with their human or to go seek help if needed. Other service dogs perform tasks such as turning lights on and off, opening the fridge door, helping their human out of bed and more.

In public, service dogs often wear official vests to let people know they are "on duty." Service dogs are protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act and can enter any public space provided they are under the control of their handler. Protocol is to ignore the dog while they are working (though there is no need to ignore the owner) so as not to distract them. Don't approach a working dog, talk directly to the dog, or ask to pet them. They take their jobs seriously but can miss important signs of illness or danger if distracted. However, if approached by a service dog without their handler, they are most likely seeking help for a handler who is incapacitated in some way. You should follow them and see what you can do to help!

It's no surprise that people have a hard time differentiating between Emotional Support Animals, Therapy dogs, and Service dogs, as they all share some commonality, but we hope this helps to clear up any confusion.



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## HERE'S A TIP by JoAnn Derson

*Every member of our family has a plastic bin in his/her closet to hold items not currently in use. For the littler ones, it's hand-me-downs that are not quite ready for use. For my husband and myself, it is out of season items. And for everyone, there is a bin in the garage where we place usable items that no longer fit. Whenever it's full, we either donate it or start planning our next tag sale." -- A.E. in Massachusetts*

*"If you have to talk to someone at the cable company, call on a Thursday (unless it's urgent), as that's the day they tend to have the fastest response times, experts say." -- J.C. in Florida*

*If you have lost a zipper pull, you can create a temporary one with a paperclip.*

*You can use a salad spinner to gently "wring out" delicate hand washables. Remove excess water, and then hang dry or lay flat according to the garment's instruction.*

*Here's an oldie but a goodie! Iced coffee is at its best when brewed with twice the usual amount of ground coffee, because the coffee is diluted by the (melting) ice cubes. Or use regular-strength brewed ice coffee and serve over coffee ice cubes. They're easy to prepare: Pour cool brewed coffee into ice-cube trays and freeze.*

*Clear bins make it easy to group like items in your pantry. You can remove the bin, get what you need and replace it rather than digging through cans and boxes on a shelf and having to straighten it back up when you're done.*

*Use rubbing alcohol to clean window frames and trays. It evaporates quickly with no residue left behind.*

*"If you have a retractable cord on your vacuum, try this trick. Clip a clothespin at the optimum length, and the cord will not retract past that point. So, no more snapping right out of the outlet, which used to happen to me." -- P.L. in Tennessee*

*Coffee filters make wonderful glass cleaners. They leave behind no streaks and no residual lint.*

**Send your tips to**

**Now Here's a Tip**

**628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803**





DO

PRESENTS

Staged Readings of a New Play

## The Civilities

by Kyle Bass

Friday, September 12 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, September 14 at 3 pm

Franklin Stage Company

25 Institute Street, Franklin

[www.franklinstagecompany.org](http://www.franklinstagecompany.org)

The Franklin Stage Company (FSC), Delaware County's renowned professional summer theater, was awarded a Support for Artists Grant last year for the commission of the play, written by the author of *Possessing Harriet* and *Toliver & Wakeman*, which FSC produced during their 2019 and 2022 summer seasons, respectively. The readings will be directed by Gilbert McCauley.

Set in Ithaca, New York in 1936 (the 75th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War), *The Civilities* introduces Blessah Hart, a dynamic young Black graduate student of History and Anthropology at Cornell University, and M. Silas Jackson, an elderly white poet and Confederate army veteran who has resided in the North for 60 years. Conducting research for her graduate thesis on the narratives of surviving Confederates living in the North, Blessah reaches out to "son of the South" Jackson, whose poetry critiques and romanticizes Old Dixie. As researcher and subject, Blessah and Silas form an unlikely connection, and their relationship is tested when Blessah's perceptive nature leads her to "read between the lines" of Silas's work, prompting questions that strain his patience.

When Blessah travels to Silas's hometown in the South to uncover the missing pieces of his story, neither historian nor poet is prepared for the revelation her research uncovers: a discovery linking them to a history of bondage, birthright and bloodshed compels

a reckoning with the past and the wrongs of the present. *The Civilities* explores profound questions about heritage, race, civility, and the tension between history and literature as two means of conveying truth.

"It's wonderful to again be part of the development process of a new Kyle Bass play," said Artistic Director Patricia Buckley, "*Possessing Harriet* and *Toliver & Wakeman* were two of our audience's favorite shows, and we're very excited about Kyle's new piece, an exploration of local and historical facts and imaginings." The commission was funded by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). The final component of the grant is a public offering such as these staged readings, on Sept. 12 and 14.

Both presentations will include an audience talkback following the reading. For more information or to reserve seats, visit [www.franklinstagecompany.org](http://www.franklinstagecompany.org).

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Franklin Stage Company is a professional Actors Equity not-for-profit theater, founded in 1997 on the principle that great theater should be accessible to all. The company's dual mission is to produce professional, admission-free theater that brings together audiences and artists to create community and celebrate the enduring power of stories; and to ensure the preservation of Chapel Hall, our historic home, as both an architectural treasure and a center of community activity.

# Shop the Porch

## Locust Grove Soap Company

SHOP

Locust Grove Soap has been a customer favorite since Deborah Bauer established the company in a very non-traditional fashion.

Working jobs as a waitress and a floral designer, Deborah was slated to sell dried flowers at a booth at a seasonal fair and was in a bind when her flower order never arrived. Instead of skipping the event, Deborah made a last-minute decision to stock her booth with bars of soap that she had made as a hobby. Much to her surprise, she sold out seven baskets of her homemade products and an enterprise was born.

Encouraged by the popularity of her soaps, Deborah ramped up production and also began creating lotions. She became a regular vendor at craft fairs, the Pakatakan Farmer's Market along with a growing number of friends visiting the "Shop the Porch" at her Roxbury home to purchase her latest creations. The official start of her business was in 2002.

Today, the company's offerings have expanded significantly and include goat's milk and glycerin soaps, goat's milk lotion, body wash, bubble bath, Skeeter Beater insect repellent, liquid hand soap, shampoo and conditioner, scrubs, body butter, dead sea salts, lip balm, salves and soap, bath bombs, and gift sets. Do you have a special event coming up? Deborah will customize your selection with natural specialty items that you may want to include in an organza bag for easy gift giving.

Staying at a local B&B? You just might find yourself using one of Deborah's products!

What can we expect in the future? "I am always trying out new recipes and have very patient family members/friends who are 'test subjects' before I put the final products on the shelves," she explained.



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# Little Pockets of Good People

by Suzanne M Walsh

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PHOTO CREDIT: SUZANNE M WALSH © 2025

***Maggie, Ed and airport traffic lineman Ryan Keenan seen together after mission accomplished with the help of Ed's rescue plane, Piper Cherokee 6.***

"It all happens because of little pockets of good people that want to help...that's all there really is to it."

It was 6 pm and Maggie Jackman Pryor (Executive Director of the Animal Shelter of Schoharie County) was explaining something to me in her usual gifted way of making complicated-sounding things understandable—even to the layman.

We were beginning our journey back from Albany Airport after the completion of yet another successful animal rescue in which, like all the others that had taken place over the last many months, every single aspect of the operation had been very carefully planned.

Maggie's critical part in this evening's mission was to meet the landing aircraft carrying its living cargo

and transfer (in this case) four rescued dogs to the animal shelter in Schoharie County. With a following of over 20,000 Facebook friends, the success rate of adoptions for the 88 kill-shelter dogs already rescued by the shelter—this latest rescue brings the total number to 92—has been a remarkable 100%.

"I'm just lucky—" says Maggie about this jaw-dropping statistic. "I have an unbelievable staff—Jamie, Aprille, Deziray and Aleah—a truly supportive board, and the support of the surrounding community, like the Canine Training and Management Department at SUNY Cobleskill. There are my many, incredible volunteers, and of course my own family members that help me, especially



my husband, Bryan. I am also always networking closely with my good friends in the surrounding sister shelters of our region in New York State.”

Driving the shelter’s van right up alongside the plane that had arrived pretty much on schedule, the transfer began with the help of pilot Ed Ciolkowski, a volunteer like all those comprising Maggie’s modest description of the “little pockets of good people” making these rescue missions possible.

Ed had flown in tonight’s animals in his own Piper Cherokee 6 providing the gas (as do all the rescue pilots) to fuel the last relay of the journey from South Carolina. The good feeling was contagious; even the tarmac traffic lineman on duty that evening, Ryan Keenan, volunteered to help unload.

Like all the other operations in this network, at the center of tonight’s success from start to finish are the organizational skills of two volunteer women-- Rebecca and Karissa.

Overseeing every step of the coordination of the countless other volunteers involved, these exceptional women guide an array of constantly moving parts integral to each rescue. These include: volunteers inside the high-kill shelters; ground transport drivers removing the animals to safe houses; volunteer veterinarians trauma-treating and vaccinating the often-abused animals. There are also the army of volunteer pilots needing constant updating while these amazing two women at this virtual “central control” also monitor the continuously changing low-weather patterns, hour-to-hour up and down the east coast.

On this night, the accumulative pay-off for all that time and dedication was four remarkably beautiful, although frightened, healthy dogs being landed safely, alive and well, now sitting in separate cages under Maggie’s care in the back of the shelter van.

Understandably they were a little dazed, glassy-eyed and quiet. On top of being very confused, they hadn’t had any food intake since the night before (air travel health reasons), though they were much too nervous to eat. More likely, they were too frightened to even be hungry. All of this is unsurprising; only 24 hours before the four had been separated out and earmarked to be killed.

“There are thousands and thousands of these perfectly pet-worthy, loving animals being destroyed



PHOTO CREDIT: SUZANNE M WALSH © 2025

***Volunteer pilot Ed Ciolkowki holds one of the beautiful dogs rescued as one of the thousands being euthanized daily due to overcrowded shelters.***

every day—and not just dogs, either...” Behind the wheel Maggie was now steering us through the airport’s exit, deliberating over these harsh facts aloud. She was also instinctively keeping an eye on her nervous canine passengers, talking to them from time-to-time, reassuring them through her rear-view mirror.

The most critical part of Maggie’s responsibility in this mission had now been successfully completed—a mission just beginning to bear fruit in awakening minds throughout the country, waking up to the shocking realization that thousands of normal healthy animals are being needlessly euthanized every day as the go-to default solution to shelter overcrowding. Ed, the pilot that night, had even told us he’s usually assigned to transporting rescues numbering some 50 to 60 dogs each week. Sometime cats, too—and he’s just one of an army of many.

Maggie said she’s received guinea pigs and even rabbits through these airlifted rescues.

Paused for a moment at the stop light outside the airport just before pulling onto Albany Shaker Road

heading back to Schoharie County, Maggie hit "Send" on her previously prepared group text to all those anxiously awaiting to receive her message: "Success".

It was almost palpable to hear the invisible group sigh of relief that must've risen up that night, especially since these operations are so rife with risks. Once, as recently as last year, the risk was fatal and deeply mourned to this day. On November 24, the popular volunteer rescue pilot, Seuk Kim, got entangled with a sudden shift in the micro-climate over Mt. Pisgah in Windham on his way to Albany airport with rescued animals. The crash took his life, and the life of one of his three canine passengers.

This year the Animal Shelter of Schoharie County is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the entirety of all its good works of the past five decades. On September 13, there will be a gala Garden Party held on the grounds of, and catered by, the Grapevine in Cobleskill. Everybody's welcome to join this celebration. If you're unable to attend, you can also show your appreciation by

making a donation to the shelter and its exceptional and caring staff members through the shelter's website.

## Animal Shelter of Schoharie County

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## Middletown History Center

### Folk artists spotlighted in HSM exhibit

The 2025 exhibit at the Middletown History Center shines a light on two folk artists -- basket maker Karl Amor (1906-1992) and metal sculptor Joseph Schoell (1907-1993). They practiced their crafts just a couple miles from each other in Dunraven. Both had escaped oppression and upheaval in their home countries of Estonia and Hungary, and both found peace and inspiration in the Catskills.

To see their work and learn about their lives, visit the History Center, 778 Cemetery Road, Margaretville October 3 and 4, and October 31 and November 1, from 10am to 2pm.

Karl Amor baskets, woven from willow shoots, grapevines and spruce roots gathered by the artist along roadsides and streambanks, have been highly sought by local residents as well as folk art collectors. The HSM display features baskets recently donated to the historical society by folklorist Mary Zwolinski. A selection of these baskets will be sold at silent auction at the next History Center event, All Things Pumpkin!, Sunday, October 19 at 2pm.

Joseph Schoell, once a sheet metal worker in Hungary, is remembered for his dynamic creations in metal. A castle, a knight, a space shuttle and a striking Statue of Liberty were among the works that went from being traffic-stopping lawn ornaments to museum pieces in the 1990s.

The final event of the year at the Center will be the Historical Society of the Town of Middletown's Annual Meeting Sunday, November 2 at 2pm. Renowned photographer William Abranowitz, a resident of New Kingston, will be the featured speaker. There is no admission charge, and all are welcome.

For more information on these and other HSM activities, visit [www.mt-town-history.org](http://www.mt-town-history.org).

To make an appointment for a research visit to the archives, call 845-586-2400.



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# Finding Home Through Theater

by Iris Mead

"A place in the world where people care" was what Julia Rugg and Garth Kravitz had in mind when they were thinking about moving from their apartment in Montclair, New Jersey. But they had not yet found that place.

During a 2023 Memorial Day trip to Sullivan County, they explored more of the Catskills than they had before. On a whim, they started looking at real estate listings in the area, and a house that fit their criteria popped up in Margaretville. Julia knew of the village from visiting friends in the area, and they decided to visit and check out the listing.

Soon, they were living in the small village of Margaretville they had envisioned—along with their son, Lennox, and dog, Beckett. Julia works from home, with occasional trips to Manhattan to be on-site.

Garth has been in and around show business since his father got him and his brother involved in theater in Maryland. Twenty-plus years later, he and his brother were reunited on Broadway in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He is an actor, a writer, a musician, and has been teaching performing arts for over 30 years. He was also working with the music department at Margaretville Central School part of the school year.

Julia and Garth met while studying with the same theater group years prior, and reconnected on Instagram in 2020 during COVID. Their first date was in a grocery store, since there were no other places open.

Once settled in, they realized that the local arts community for school-age children lacked opportunities for acting and musical theater. The idea of forming the Delaware County School of Performing Arts (DCSPA) took shape. Last summer, 23 students signed up—all attending free of charge thanks to a generous grant.

Throughout the summer of 2024, these students learned what it takes to become a performer, with the goal of putting on a show at the end. An original musical was performed. Classes continued through the fall, winter, and spring of 2024, and on August 1,



*Julia Rugg and Garth Kravitz along with their son, Lennox, have not only found a home in Margaretville, they're creating youth theater opportunities the Catskills, as well.*

2025, another original musical was performed in the MCS gym. As with the previous year's performance, the students wrote the story, composed the music, and then performed it.

Garth and Julia feel that the community has opened its doors to them, and that they've added opportunities to the area that didn't exist before. They plan to continue expanding, offering more musical theater, ballet for toddlers, tap, and modern dance classes in 10-week sessions.

The next exciting event they've planned is a county-wide teen production of the musical *Pippin* in April 2026. Auditions will take place September 27–28 in Margaretville. This will be open to all Delaware County teens, and a press release with more information will be forthcoming.

As with any not-for-profit organization, the ability to raise money to keep things running is always a major concern. Garth and Julia have received grants and, so far, are able to continue their love of teaching theater.

Their hope is that a permanent public space will become available for use by DCSPA as the organization grows and offers more opportunities for theater and dance in the community.

When they heard that the Annual Cauliflower Festival might not be held this year, Julia and Garth volunteered to chair the long-running event. They've brought on community members to help make it a fresh and exciting festival once again.

Plans are in the works for a re-enactment of a cauliflower auction—as was done in the past—along with music, games, a Friday evening concert at Union Grove Distillery by Lara Hope & the Ark-Tones, and a special brunch on Sunday morning at Mornings Café.

As Garth noted, "This is the only cauliflower festival in the world. Let's celebrate it!"

The festival will take place at the Pavilion in Margaretville Park on September 20.



*Starting last summer, 23 students participated in the Delaware County School of Performing Arts (DCSPA), writing a story, composing the music, then performing the production.*



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by CJ Karcher

Owner & Systems Administrator

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## ***Windows 11: Here to Stay?***

It's been a few months since we last discussed the state of Windows 10, Windows 11, and the potential future of Windows 12. On October 14, Windows 10 will officially reach its end of life, meaning it will no longer receive updates or support from Microsoft. Windows 11 is now the current OS, but unlike past transitions, there's no beta for a new version in sight.

Instead of focusing on a brand-new operating system, Microsoft is refining what already exists. While Windows 11 has received mixed reviews, it performs well for most consumers and businesses. Now nearing its fourth anniversary, the OS has seen major updates—most notably the introduction of Copilot, Microsoft's built-in A.I. assistant.

What lies ahead remains uncertain, but one thing is clear: A.I. will play a central role in future Windows updates. This shift is met with both interest and skepticism. Concerns over data collection and privacy are growing, especially as Microsoft explores features like full voice control. That could be a game-changer or a complete disaster—imagine an office full of people talking to their computers at once.

Still, the idea has appeal. Waking up your system with a simple "Computer on," followed by "Read my emails, bring up my calendar, and search Marketplace for any new AMC Eagle listings," doesn't sound too bad. That said, Microsoft must remember that not all users want flashy A.I. integrations—many just want a stable, familiar system that works.

And then there's Linux. Around since 1991, this open-source OS has long been the third wheel in the operating system race. Historically hindered by poor driver support, recent improvements have made Linux more stable, user-friendly, and viable for everyday use. Could it become a serious contender if Microsoft's direction doesn't resonate with users?

In conclusion, we can't predict the future (though if you can, please let us know). What is certain is that A.I. is evolving rapidly, and it will continue to shape Windows moving forward. Microsoft has not announced any official plans for Windows 12, and has stated clearly that any claims about its release are false or scams.



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PRESENTS

## **Wet Plate Photography Workshop** with Mark Burnham

Saturday, September 13, 10am-3pm  
Headwaters Arts Center  
66 Main Street, Stamford

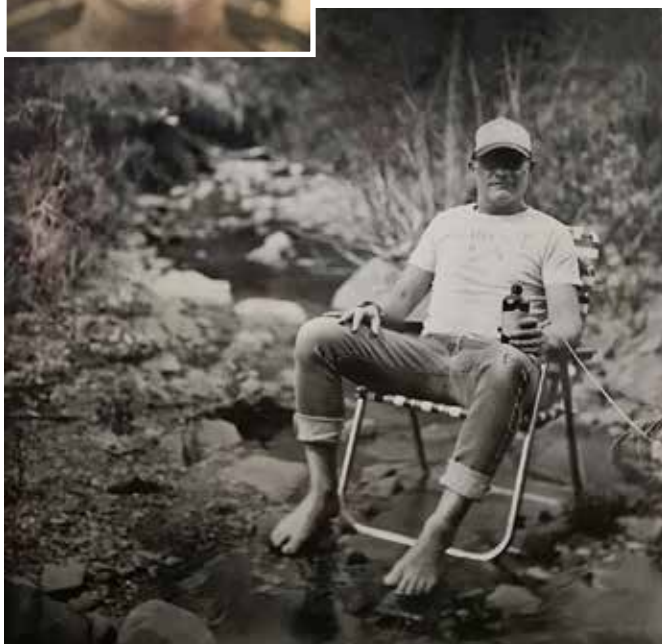
In this specialized workshop, Mark Burnham will offer students a rare opportunity to dive into the captivating world of wet plate photography with a five-hour workshop on Saturday, September 13. The workshop is offered with tiered equity pricing at \$50-\$125.

Originating in the 19th century, wet plate photography is one of the earliest forms of photography. From making wet plates, to creating long, slow exposures this workshop will give participants an in-depth, hands-on experience with the core processes of the wet plate technique.

No previous photography experience is necessary and all participants will have the opportunity to make multiple beautiful and unique images to take home. All materials are included. There are only four spots available, so those interested should register early to avoid disappointment.

Mark Burnham, a lifelong photography enthusiast, has mastered the art of wet plate collodion photography through study with experts John Coffey at Camp Tintype and Lisa Elmaleh at the Penumbra Foundation, NYC. Crafting numerous plates in his Roxbury studio, Mark's work combines historical techniques with a personal artistic vision.

This event is sponsored by Margaretville Telephone Company. For more information email [headwaters@roxburyartsgroup.org](mailto:headwaters@roxburyartsgroup.org) or visit [www.roxburyartsgroup.org](http://www.roxburyartsgroup.org)



DO

All programs offered by the Roxbury Arts Group are supported by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the NYS Legislature, the A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation, The Community Foundation for South Central New York, the Tianaderrah Foundation, The Delaware National Bank of Delhi, and individual supporters.



WEST KORTRIGHT CENTER

PRESENTS

## Mary Lattimore and the Tara Clerkin Trio

Wednesday September 17th at 7pm

West Kortright Center  
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Mary Lattimore's music exists somewhere far above us. The angelic tones emanating from her Lyon & Healy harp, often looped live through a Line 6 DL4 pedal, are at once distinct and eternally familiar. Once you start an album it's hard to turn off.

Blending her classical background with the experimental spirit of indie rock, Mary has collaborated with a slew of producers and artists to bring the harp into the modern landscape.

Mary says when she thinks of her songs, "I think about fading flowers in vases, melted candles, getting older, being on tour and having things change while you're away, not realizing how ephemeral experiences are until they don't happen anymore, fear for a planet we're losing because of greed, an ode to art and music that's really shaped your life that can transport you back in time, longing to maintain sensitivity and to not sink into hollow despondency."

Mary Lattimore will be joined by the Tara Clerkin Trio. Do not mistake their two year absence for inertia. Their time has been richly spent in continuous writing and recording, extensive live performances across Europe and Japan, a cultivation of local and more far-flung artistic connections (musical and otherwise), and a monthly NTS show that, through the voice of others, speaks most obviously to their own unorthodox interests. Their inspirations might



be centreless, but the trio still possess a very obvious anchor in the form of their hometown. Bristol stands as a city of multitudes, heterogenous and vibrant in such a way as to allow it to renew and remake time and again. Tara Clerkin Trio drink from that same well, duly reflecting a rich musical heritage built on forward-facing electronic subcultures and experimental urges.

You'll find them subject to their own subtle internal evolution, and experience the pervasive sense that you've caught them mid-bloom, on their way to becoming, but never anything but themselves.

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Tickets: \$30 in advance

Members receive a 10% discount

[CLICK](#) for more info and tickets

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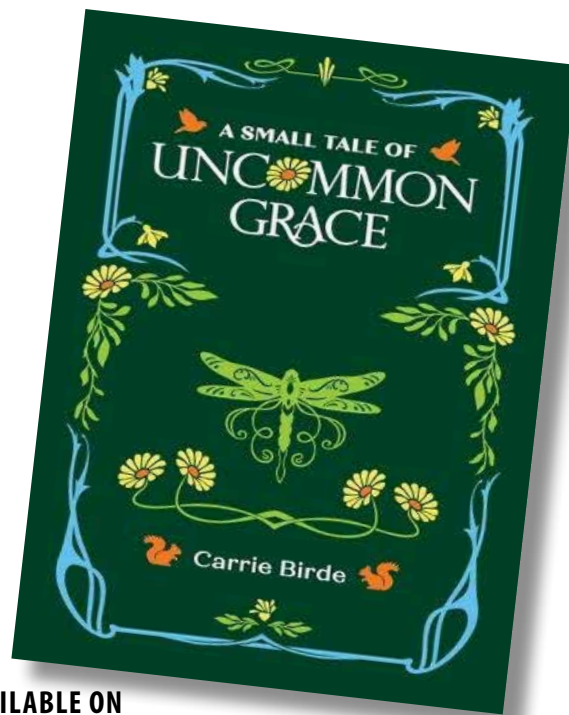


## ***A Small Tale of Uncommon Grace***

Your inner child is going to love this. *A Small Tale of Uncommon Grace* is a fairytale for adults which feels simultaneously old and new. The author, Carrie Birde, does not tell the reader in what bygone era the astonishing events unfold, but instead shows us in the rich details of the petticoats, the meals cooked over a hearth fire and the manual labor that sustained life and homestead before modern accruements took over. What is unique is Birde's ability to stay true to the time while reshaping the narrative for the modern reader. Perhaps Birde's success in never losing the reader in time and place is the choice in gifting the readers with the plucky heroine Grace who on the cusp of adulthood, feels relatable, yet wholly unique.

Grace, an only child of parents who are darlings devoted to each other, has grown up entertaining herself in her small village. Her playmates were pets and wildlife, her playground the outdoors, including a woods that she is inexplicably drawn to, the same woods that the other villagers avoid, rife with rumours of strange happenings, of people who come out, different. But Grace's innate love and respect for flora and fauna beckons her in and the woods welcome her like it was made just for her.

Day in and day out Grace grows in the usual way until her nineteenth birthday. Here is the part your inner child is going to love. The animals, plants and insects and more that Grace has always talked to, begin to talk back! Who among us has not wished hard for this to happen? Anyone? The author makes it possible for us to live this fantasy vicariously through Grace with the authenticity that makes one wonder if the



AVAILABLE ON  
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Author: Carrie Birde  
Publisher: Blydyn Square Books

writer herself has the ability. Strange thought, I know, but being engrossed in a fairytale can suspend belief and make all things possible, at least while reading.

If you have ever loved a main character this is your chance to also fall in love with nonhuman but equally important beings, even the seemingly inanimate objects that surround us, unheard. My favorite character is the dog, Murl, his inner thoughts unleashed, uncannily depict the beautiful innocence of a canine. My close second choice is a wolf. In fact my favorite sentence in the whole book was a simple one. Birde writes, "Wolf had said we."

But before you think this is all Disney princess perfect, every gift comes with consequences. Grace's newfound ability to communicate with the natural world around her opens her to exploitation and danger and ultimately transformation and adulthood. There is enough tension and romance to entertain the adult reader while also being appropriate for an older teen.

This is not a quick read, the author's carefully crafted sentences are so achingly beautiful that you will want to savor each one. It would make a lovely audiobook, read by the author. Hint hint. This book has made me rediscover the world around me. The natural world is listening, if only we learn how to hear it.



# STRANGE BUT TRUE

by Lucie Winborne

*The eyes on Michelangelo's statue of David look in different directions. Why is debatable, but some scholars believe the artist wanted to ensure the shepherd's gaze was as impactful as possible from either side.*

*Earth is the only planet in the solar system with rainbows.*

*A heatwave can make train tracks bend.*

*Cigarettes were once advertised as a source of relief for asthma and hay fever.*

*Silk is stronger than steel.*

*Ninety-five percent of books that are submitted to traditional publishers are rejected.*

*Canada's Parliament once argued about the appropriateness of using the word "fart" on the chamber floor.*

*In medieval Europe, animals, especially pigs, were put on trial for crimes, with prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges.*

*The average lipstick has 293 swipes.*

*Oct. 31, 2000, was the last day all humans were together on Earth. Since that time, there has always been at least one person in space.*

*Ninety-five percent of the average car's lifetime is spent being parked.*

*Biologists have found that plants exhibit competitiveness among strangers of the same species, but are more accommodating toward their siblings.*

*In early 2019, an 18-karat gold toilet named "America," made by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan and valued at \$6 million, was stolen from Blenheim Palace in England. The four thieves responsible were captured, but the toilet's ultimate fate remains a mystery, though authorities suspected it may have been melted down.*

*Steve Jobs would eat the same fruit or vegetable for weeks on end, and believed that binging nothing but apples or carrots reduced his body odor to the extent that he would need to shower just once a week.*

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## Italian-style Zucchini Rolls

### INGREDIENTS ( Serves 4)

- 1 medium-sized zucchini
- 32 mini bocconcini (about 3/8 inch in diameter)
- 1-1/2 cups homemade or store-bought tomato sauce
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- A few fresh basil leaves

### DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 375 F.
2. Using a vegetable peeler, create long, thin slices of zucchini. Place two mini bocconcini at the end of each zucchini slice and roll it up to create 16 small rolls.
3. Place the rolls in a large ovenproof frying pan. Pour tomato sauce into the pan, and then sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Season with salt and pepper.
4. Bake for 30 minutes, or until the sauce is bubbling. Garnish with basil and serve.



*Have you tried one of the recipes published in A Time and A Place?  
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# History of Our Hamlets

*Photos and recollections courtesy of Diane Galusha,  
Historical Society of the Town of Middletown*

History of Our Hamlets is sponsored by



Producing a crop of cauliflower back in the days when “cauliflower was king” in the Catskills required a lot of work at every stage: from planting the seeds in raised beds, to preparing the stony ground for the transplants and then planting the seedlings from the back of a horse or tractor-drawn planter (pictured below). And after the crop was harvested, it had to be packaged in crates, which of course had to be made by someone (like Sandy Thompson, shown at right.) With the cauliflower nicely crated, the family welcomed buyers from New York City commission merchants to look over, and hopefully buy, the results of months of their labor.







# Green living

## “Feeding” your trash can: A last resort

Sorting your waste may seem tedious, but throwing everything into the trash can lead to significant consequences. When you dispose of the wrong materials in landfills, you contribute to water, air and soil pollution, and you also prevent these items from being reused.

### Ask before you throw it away

Before you decide to throw something away—whether it’s food scraps, containers or other materials—make sure it’s your only option. Depending on the situation, consider the following questions:

- Can I repair it?
- Can I sell it or donate it?
- Is it a hazardous material?
- Can I repurpose it for another use?
- Can I use it in a different way without modifying it?

### Find out

If you’re unsure about how to dispose of a specific item you no longer need, check your municipality’s disposal rules or drop-off points.

Our local cities have details on their websites about how to dispose of everything from outdated computer equipment and leftover paint to returnable bottles, used batteries and even construction debris from renovations.

With a little determination and organization, you and your household can “starve” your trash can. This not only helps the planet but also encourages responsible waste management. It’s up to each of us to care for our earth!



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### Thought for the Day

“Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man’s character, give him power.”

-- Abraham Lincoln



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