

WE ARE WINCHESTER

JUNE 2025

# OLDTOWNIST.COM



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PHOTO BY  
KATIE JORDAN



## Winchester Book Gallery Recommends:



In the near future, a civil servant is offered the salary of her dreams and is, shortly afterward, told what project she'll be working on. A recently established government ministry is gathering "expats" from across history to establish whether time travel is feasible—for the body, but also for the fabric of space-time.

She is tasked with working as a "bridge": living with, assisting, and monitoring the expat known as "1847" or Commander Graham Gore. As far as history is concerned, Commander Gore died on Sir John Franklin's doomed 1845 expedition to the Arctic, so he's a little disoriented to be living with an unmarried woman who regularly shows her calves, surrounded by outlandish concepts such as "washing machines," "Spotify," and "the collapse of the British Empire." But with an appetite for discovery, a seven-a-day cigarette habit, and the support of a charming and chaotic cast of fellow expats, he soon adjusts.

[WinchesterBookGallery.com](http://WinchesterBookGallery.com) | 3 N. Loudoun St

## LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

This month, Winchester is in full bloom—and so is its creativity.

From Scraposaurs roaring into the MSV gardens to the Belle Grove quilt project stitching together memory and meaning, June is bursting with ways to connect past and present. We're especially excited to highlight Sidney Enterprises' stunning new space, a love letter to restoration and roots.

Whether you're cooling off with a scoop from Kimberly's or wandering Mount Hebron's quiet paths, there's no better time to explore the layers of our town.

We'll see you in Old Town!



*Misty Weaver  
& Katie Jordan*

**WE ARE  
WINCHESTER**

## THE MARKET AT KIMBERLY'S

At The Market at Kimberly's, lunch is more than a meal—it's a love letter to Winchester. Their lineup of locally themed sandwiches pays homage to the streets of our historic city, with names like The Amherst, The Braddock, The Cameron, The Loudoun, and The Piccadilly. Each sandwich is thoughtfully crafted with quality ingredients and bold flavors.

Take The Loudoun, for example: a mouthwatering combination of pastrami, provolone, fresh arugula, and pickles, finished with spicy brown mustard. It's a crowd favorite that captures the heart of downtown flavor.

And while the sandwiches make the perfect lunch, don't forget dessert—it is a must. Indulge in Chickies homemade ice cream, with rotating monthly flavors and beloved staples—two of which are always dairy-free. It's made in-house by Berry Morefield, Kimberly's husband who has been making ice cream since he was a kid. We can't get enough of the Fresh Mint Chip, a refreshingly cool classic that keeps us coming back for more. Prefer something richer? Don't miss the decadent chocolate truffles.

Before you leave, browse Kimberly's curated collection of gourmet foods, specialty teas, and an impressive wine selection perfect for any occasion. Be sure to ask about their Wine Club for insider access to handpicked pours. Then stop next door for more gift options and clothing for men and women.

Visit the market in person at 127 N Braddock St or online at [Kimberlys.biz/pages/the-market](http://Kimberlys.biz/pages/the-market)





# ROOTED IN RESTORATION: SIDNEY ENTERPRISES

When you step into the newly transformed space at Sidney Enterprises in downtown Winchester, you can feel the layers of love and labor that went into it. The exposed brick, thoughtfully chosen finishes, and the curated selection of products speak to a vision—and a whole lot of hands-on work. That vision belongs to Caroline and Joe Wingenbach, the husband-and-wife duo who took the reins of Sidney Enterprises nearly three years ago, carrying forward a legacy while planting deep, personal roots right in the heart of Old Town.

Caroline has been part of Sidney for nearly a decade, starting out as a designer. With Joe's background in construction and home inspection, the couple saw an opportunity not just to collaborate professionally, but to build something that reflects both their skills and their values. "We wanted to put down roots in downtown Winchester and do something we could really build together," Caroline says. "And Joe actually grew up right across the street from this building—so this spot was special."

The couple's love for old buildings and giving forgotten spaces new life made the move downtown a natural one. Their new location—once chopped up with paneled walls, drop ceilings, and long-neglected rooms—has undergone a full gut and glow-up. It's now an open, welcoming showroom that doubles as a source of inspiration and a hub for homeowners and DIYers alike. And, after nine months of renovation (because, let's be honest, every renovation takes longer than you think), Sidney Enterprises is ready to host a grand opening this summer to celebrate their fresh space with the community.

Their company has also grown into two distinct, but complementary arms: Sidney Design & Build, which focuses on full-service remodeling and construction; and The Sidney Renovation Shop, a retail showroom offering everything from tile and cabinetry to fixtures and hardware. Whether you're ready for a full kitchen overhaul or just looking for that perfect tile you won't find at a big box store, there's now a local space to see and touch materials in person.

"We're trying to fill that niche," Caroline explains. "A lot of times people have to drive to Northern Virginia or spend hours online. We're curating products that you don't see everywhere, so your house doesn't look like everyone else's."

Trends in the area? Still pretty classic and timeless, Caroline says. Think warm brass, deep blues, and easy-clean surfaces like continuous slab backsplashes and no-grout shower panels—because everyone is over scrubbing grout lines.

While they do some new construction (like a just-finished home in Lake Holiday with builder and prior owner of Sidney Enterprises, Chris Cardinale), Caroline says the heart of their work is still renovation—especially old homes. "Those are our favorite," she says. "We just finished one on Clifford St, and another one on Washington St is almost done. That one's been a whole-home remodel inside and out, and the client loves color, so we've got some fun photos coming."

Of course, working with your spouse isn't always picture-perfect. "We're still working on turning it off," Caroline laughs. "We're trying to do weekly meetings so we don't end up talking about work 24/7. But honestly, it's fun to have a common goal. And I think it's been good for our kids to see what we're building."



With their children now growing up in the town Caroline visited as a child, and Joe back on the block where he grew up, the Wingenbachs aren't just building beautiful spaces—they're restoring a legacy and creating new ones, right in the center of the community they love.

Look for The Sidney Shop's grand opening in the coming weeks, and stay tuned for their updated websites, which will eventually allow online shopping and maybe even local delivery. Until then, swing by and take in all the inspiration for yourself.

For more information visit the showroom at 603 S Loudoun St or online at [SidneyEnterprises.com](https://www.SidneyEnterprises.com)





# SCRAPOSAURS ROAR INTO THE MSV

Prehistoric creatures have taken over the gardens of the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (MSV) in an imaginative new exhibition called Scraposaurs. On view through October 19, 2025, the exhibition features large-scale sculptures of dinosaurs and other ancient animals, all made from recycled metal and discarded industrial materials. Created by Minnesota-based artist Dale Lewis, the sculptures are crafted from items such as dinner forks, rebar, chains, car parts, and even aircraft components, transformed into expressive and lifelike representations of creatures that once roamed the earth.

Scraposaurs marks its East Coast debut at the MSV after previously touring the Midwest. The exhibition is spread across the museum's gardens, creating a playful and interactive experience for visitors of all ages. The works range in size and character—from a 300-pound sculpture inspired by the pet dinosaur in *The Flintstones*, to a towering 1,800-pound *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Other highlights include a stainless-steel pterodactyl with an 18-foot wingspan, a 22-foot-long *Spinosaurus*, and a woolly rhinoceros sculpted with 450 pounds of tire wire to simulate hair.

Dale Lewis, who began sculpting in retirement without any formal art training, has developed a distinctive approach that emphasizes creativity, humor, and environmental awareness. Since he began welding in 2010, he has created more than 150 sculptures, using an evolving blend of welding techniques and an intuitive sense for repurposing materials. Lewis often receives materials from friends in agriculture, aviation, and salvage industries who contribute unusual finds that might be turned into claws, horns, or armored plates. The exhibition aims to spark curiosity and joy while encouraging visitors to see discarded objects in a new light.

Interpretive signage in both English and Spanish at each sculpture offers scientific facts about the animal depicted, insights into Lewis' creative process, and fun trivia about the prehistoric era.

Visitors can take part in a seek-and-find activity, pose for photos on some of the sculptures, and enjoy the museum grounds with picnics or treats from a garden pop-up shop. The shop features dinosaur-themed books, puzzles, toys, and locally crafted artwork.

With its inventive blend of paleontology, recycling, and creativity, Scraposaurs invites visitors to experience the ancient world through a modern lens. Whether you're a dinosaur lover, an art enthusiast, or simply someone looking for a fun and enriching day out, this exhibition offers a rare opportunity to see extinct giants reborn from the bones of modern industry.

The MSV is located at 901 Amherst Street in Winchester. Learn more at [TheMSV.org](https://www.TheMSV.org).





# SEE AND BE SEEN

## June events

# 4

## MORNING GARDEN WALK

Explore how the identities of Julian Wood Glass Jr. and R. Lee Taylor influenced the design to express and protect the couple's relationships. [MSV](#)

# 7

## HOP BLOSSOM BEER FESTIVAL

This year we'll be bringing 80+ beers from 30+ local breweries, a ton of crafters, specialty vendors, and FUN! [Winchester Brew Works](#)

# 14

## 2ND BATTLE OF WINC ANNIV

Join the caravan tour taking you through all of the locations of interest involved in the 1863 battle that opened the Gettysburg Campaign. [Kernstown Battlefield](#)

# 15

## JUNETEENTH

Join us as we honor our shared heritage through history, education, and community. This meaningful event is an opportunity to reflect, learn, and come together in celebration of our culture and progress. [MSV](#)

# 21

## CHARITY DICE RUN

This 80 mile journey through VA & WV's rolling hills will benefit the Evans Home For Children! [Backseat Bar & Grill](#)



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# MOUNT HEBRON CEMETERY

Mount Hebron Cemetery holds the distinction of being the city's oldest established business. Founded in 1844, it was born out of a community-driven effort by twelve Frederick County residents who petitioned the Virginia General Assembly to create a non-profit public cemetery for those not affiliated with a church. Their petition was granted a year later, and the cemetery was established on five acres of land adjoining the Lutheran and Reformed cemeteries. Today, Mount Hebron spans over 56 acres and serves as a peaceful, reflective space steeped in history.

One of the most distinctive features of Mount Hebron is its impressive Gatehouse, completed in 1902 thanks to a generous donation from local businessman and philanthropist Charles Rouss. Designed by New York architects James Stewart Barney and Henry Otis Chapman and built by local craftsman Henry Deahl, the Gatehouse cost \$9,700 to construct. It was built in the Chateausque architectural style, enhanced with Gothic and Renaissance accents. Constructed from hand-cut local blue limestone, with wood framing, siding, and a slate roof, the Gatehouse includes a chapel, superintendent's quarters, and a cellar with vaults capable of storing up to 18 coffins during the winter months when the frozen earth made grave excavation impossible.

Mount Hebron is not just a burial ground—it is a site of historical and national significance. Adjacent to the Gatehouse lies the Lutheran Church yard, where a stone monument with a bronze plaque honors approximately 30 Revolutionary War patriots buried across the Lutheran, German Reformed, and Mount Hebron cemeteries. A few yards away, an interpretive sign offers a visual representation of the original Lutheran Church, which was destroyed by fire. The lone stone wall still standing is all that remains of that early structure.

Within Mount Hebron is the Stonewall Cemetery, dedicated in 1866 as a final resting place for 2,576 Confederate soldiers who died in nearby battles or local hospitals. The cemetery is divided by the states the soldiers represented, and at its center lies a solemn mass grave for 829 unknown soldiers, a powerful reminder of the human toll of the Civil War. The cemetery also reflects the religious history of Winchester; nearby East Lane, once known as Cemetery Lane then later Church Street, marked the edge of the city limits. During the era of Lord Fairfax, churches not affiliated with the Church of England were required to be located outside town boundaries, leading to a concentration of houses of worship along that road.



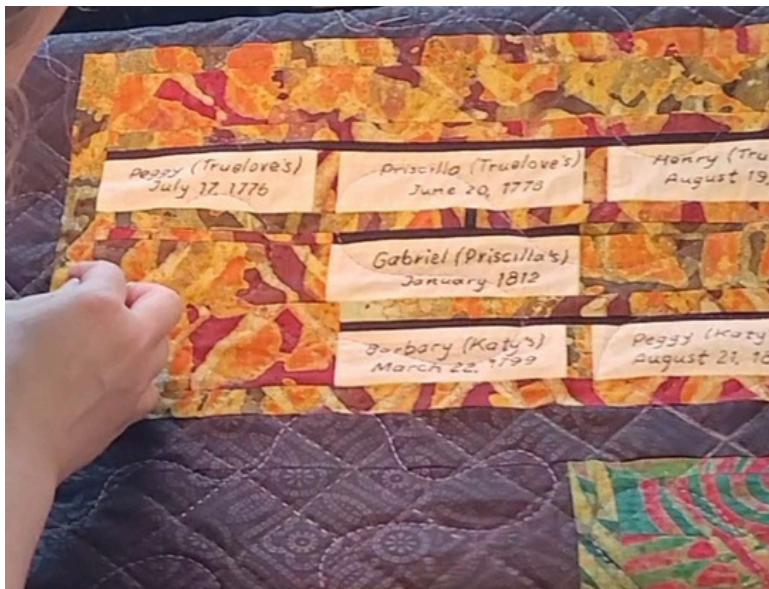
Mount Hebron is the final resting place for many of Winchester's most influential historical figures. Among them is Revolutionary War General Daniel Morgan, whose grave is the most visited in the cemetery. Originally buried at the old stone Presbyterian Church, Morgan's remains were relocated to Mount Hebron in 1868 out of fear that Union forces might seize his remains. Soldiers had even begun chipping away pieces of the war hero's marble ledger as souvenirs, prompting preservationists to embed the ledger in a granite base to protect it. Other notable burials include Judge John Handley, whose tomb is visited each year by representative Winchester Public School students and staff to honor his financial gift to education in Winchester, and Charles Rouss himself.

Today, Mount Hebron continues to serve the Winchester community with a variety of burial options, including traditional plots, mausoleums, columbaria, cremation niches, and monuments. Some cremation niches even feature glass-fronted compartments where loved ones can place photographs and memorabilia. The cemetery accommodates an average of 150 burials per year and is currently home to nearly 40,000 interments. With a forward-looking board of directors and dedicated staff of eight, Mount Hebron has long-term plans in place for the next 200 years, including financial reserves to ensure care and maintenance long after new burials cease.

Mount Hebron Cemetery is more than a burial ground; it is a historic landmark, a space for remembrance, and a reflection of Winchester's evolution through the centuries. Visitors can walk among gravestones that tell the story of the nation's founding, its defining conflicts, and the lives of the people who built and shaped the community. For more information or to plan a visit, go to [MtHebronCemetery.org](http://MtHebronCemetery.org).



# STITCHING HISTORY: BELLE GROVE QUILT PROJECT



At a long table inside the Josephine School Community Museum, fingers moved slowly but purposefully—threading, pulling, stitching. Voices were hushed, focused. A few laughed softly, helping each other learn a simple hand stitch. But what we were really doing that day was holding names. Saying them quietly to ourselves.

The Belle Grove quilt project is not just about fabric and thread. It's a memorial. A reckoning. And it's also a way to bring the community into that process of remembering.

Belle Grove, the historic plantation in Middletown, was once home to generations of enslaved people—men, women, and children whose names are often buried in history. Except that in this rare case, they weren't. Through a collection of estate records, Belle Grove historians were able to recover over 270 names of people once enslaved at the plantation. Many were listed in Isaac Hite's Jur's Commonplace Book, a bound volume where their names were recorded alongside notes like "gift to daughter," "purchased," or the chilling "how disposed." These records treated humans as property. The quilt helps reclaim their humanity.

Inspired by the tradition of family quilts, the Belle Grove team worked with African American textile artist Carole Gary Staples, who designed two large-scale quilts using African batik fabrics to represent family groups and a traditional African mourning cloth to border each square—a striking and somber reminder of the grief woven into every name. Quilt expert Pam Pampe assembled the blocks and prepared them for hand-stitching.

But the most moving element of this project? It's not behind glass. It's not untouchable. It's made to be shared. Community quilting bees—like the one held at the Josephine School—are open to anyone who wants to sit down and take part. Each stitch is a tribute. A way to bear witness, however small, to the stories we've lost and the resilience that remains.

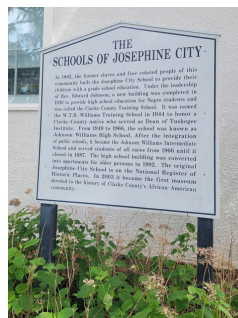
For those unfamiliar, the Josephine School is itself a cornerstone of local Black history. Founded in 1882 by African American residents seeking education for their children in the years after emancipation, it now serves as a museum and cultural center. To bring the quilt there was not just a convenience—it was a homecoming. A way for the living descendants of that history to gather in a space of meaning and stitch the past back together, one name at a time.

As I sat down to take my turn at hand stitching the area just under Peggy, identified as one of Truelove's daughters born July 17, 1776, just after our nation declared Independence, I took the time to ponder on being part of a quilting bee for the first time. Pam gave us practice time before releasing us to leave our mark through rainbow colored thread, each needle lovingly threaded by her husband. We talked about our lives today, none of us master quilters, and yet we had been drawn to the event. I realized the project is not just about connecting the ties between the enslaved, but also between us. These were real people. And this quilt helps remind us of that as we connect with each other.

The quilts will continue to travel to events across the region, including Juneteenth and future community gatherings. There will be more opportunities for locals to sit down, pick up a needle, and quite literally join in the stitching of history.

Eventually, both finished quilts will hang at Belle Grove's lower level, flanking the entrance to the kitchen—a space of labor and life for the enslaved people who once worked there. It's a deliberate choice, echoing the project's mission: to bring those long-silenced voices forward, and to root them in the very places where they once lived, worked, and hoped.

For upcoming quilting bees and exhibit times, visit [BelleGrove.org/quilt](https://BelleGrove.org/quilt) or the [Josephine School Community Museum](https://JosephineSchoolCommunityMuseum.org).



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