

## Barrington Hills book delights

BARRINGTON HILLS HAS BEEN CAPTURED in a children's book filled with photographs of the area. First time author Meggan Hill and photographer Susan M. Graunke had their story, *Nico and Lola*, come firsthand. While Hill's son, Nico, took care of Graunke's dog, Lola, a story of kindness evolved. In this book, Nico must search his heart to find ways to be kind while caring for Lola. Tender messages are woven into pictures as a boy and a dog share kindness together.

Both author and photographer have lived in Barrington for more than 10 years where they have worked together. Graunke has owned Kickapoo Farms since 1998 where Hill continues to manage Graunke's quarter horses bred and raised for the sport of cutting. They also founded and operated Cowboy Dreams, a Barrington Hills based nonprofit organization offering hippotherapy and therapeutic riding for children with special needs from 1999 to 2007.

The two believe caring for animals directly affects who people become, and every child who learns and shares kindness from a pet has the power to make a difference and the world a better place. "It's a big idea coming from just two little beings but we hope it resonates in schools, libraries, and homes everywhere," Hill said.

A book for all ages, this tale reminds everyone to be a little bit kinder in everything. For more information about *Nico and Lola*, please visit [www.nicoandlola.com](http://www.nicoandlola.com).

