



# New Berkshire Eateries are Creating Community Gathering Places

BY EDIBLE BERKSHIRES | JUNE 25, 2025

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Shea Johnson (left) and Ali Tatro will manage The Coffee Shop. Their aim is to serve the very best coffee and pastries in a spot filled with art and decor from all over the world.

## THE COFFEE SHOP

When Gramercy Bistro closed its doors last year, its neighbors (Peter MacGillivray of Provisions Williamstown on the left; and Xtina Parks of Roam Gallery on the right) were sad to see the restaurant go. The building had been home to some truly iconic Berkshire businesses, including Mezze and, years ago, Phillips General Store, where MacGillivray recalls buying toys as a boy growing up in Williamstown. “The space was just begging to be activated,” he says. “It’s an unbelievable jewel of a space, on the edge of [Williams College] campus and in between MASS MoCA and The Clark, so we’re at a great crossroads.” He and Parks, who owns the building, saw an irresistible opportunity and decided to collaborate on a coffee shop. At this writing, a soft opening was scheduled for the end of June.

MacGillivray scoured the Brimfield Antique Flea Market for furniture and fixtures to fill the space, which he says will have a steampunk aesthetic. And he envisions the exposed brick walls covered with art from Roam, a gallery that features Parks’s photographs as well as a wide variety of African art. “We’ll have coffee from Africa in mugs from Africa,” MacGillivray says. Nostalgia Scratch Pastry of North Adams is on deck to provide patrons with their meticulously crafted baked goods; Ali Tatro and Shea Johnson (pictured) were hired to manage the shop. At some point, The Coffee Shop will also serve sandwiches, salads, and beer and wine. But for now, the offerings will be limited to coffee, espresso drinks, tea, matcha, and pastries. “We’re going to take our time and not rush,” says MacGillivray. “Our MO is to have superior products, and if we do that, people will hear about it.”

### The Coffee Shop

10 Water St., Williamstown

[thecoffeeshopwilliamstown.com](http://thecoffeeshopwilliamstown.com)

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