



HOME MAGAZINE

Kitchen & Bath Edition

A SPECIAL SECTION PUBLICATION FOR THE
DAILY HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE & GREENFIELD RECORDER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024

**Features to consider for a relaxation-
themed bathroom remodel**

**Organizational tips for bathrooms
and laundry spaces**

**Simple strategies to create more
storage space in the kitchen**

and more

ALSO INSIDE:

Northampton business owner,
Aimee Salmon is on a mission to
inspire active lifestyles and
celebrating African culture

By Emily Thurlow



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JANUARY 2024
Kitchen & Bath Edition

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ON THE COVER: Inset picture courtesy of
Aimee Salmon

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MUST-HAVE FEATURES in your bathroom remodel



AS HOMEOWNERS PLAN THEIR BATHROOM RENOVATIONS, IT'S A GOOD TIME TO CONSIDER IMPROVEMENTS THAT WILL IMPROVE FUNCTION AND ADD DESIGN APPEAL FOR YEARS TO COME

Veteran homeowners recognize the value of remodeling their kitchens and bathrooms. Kitchens and baths tend to appear dated more quickly than other spaces, such as living rooms and bedrooms, which can always be re-vamped with some fresh paint and new furnishings.

The home improvement pricing resource Home Guide indicates an average bathroom remodel costs anywhere from \$5,500 to \$15,000 depending on the size and scope of the renovation. However, a bath redo can increase a home's resale value and can return as much as 68 percent of homeowners' investments. As homeowners plan their bathroom renovations, it's a good time to consider improvements that will improve function and add design appeal for years to come.

FLOATING VANITY

Add an airy feeling to the room by creating space between the vanity and the floor. A floating vanity can be a counter with a vessel sink or even have

cabinets, as long as the vanity doesn't extend to the floor.

FREESTANDING TRADITIONAL SINK OR TUB

There's something elegant about a freestanding tub or pedestal sink. Such features can lend a classic vibe to a space. However, freestanding fixtures also come in modern or eclectic forms, so there are options for any design style.

FRAMELESS SHOWERS

Switch to a walk-in shower option, which improves aesthetics and makes it easier to 'age in place' in a home. Pair that frameless shower with clear glass shower doors so sightline in the space remains unencumbered.

NATURAL TEXTURES

Create a calm and serene sanctuary in the bathroom with light, natural hues and materials. Nature-inspired colors on tiles, walls and vanities can add to the spa vibe.

DUAL SINKS AND VANITIES

With a double vanity, two people can share the space and easily use the bathroom without getting in each other's way. One vanity with two sinks works, but homeowners can create even more personal space by dividing vanities and mirrors.

SMALL TEXTURED TILE ON SHOWER FLOORS

Small textures are appealing and add safety. The added texture and grouting will keep feet from slipping on wet floors. Also, opt for mold-resistant grout to make cleanup even easier.

SPECIAL SHOWER HEADS

Invest in shower heads that can run the gamut from creating steam showers to rainfall effects. Some showers will have multiple shower jets to offer an invigorating experience.

IMPROVE DRAINAGE

Increase the diameter of the drain pipe in the bathroom from the standard to a two-inch drain pipe. This will reduce the risk of clogs and overflow leaks.

INSTALL A WINDOW

Natural light and air flow can reduce the risk for mold and mildew growth, and windows add some aesthetic appeal to a space. Just be sure to choose frosted privacy glass.

Additional considerations for a bath remodel include heated floors, well-placed and attractive storage options and a toilet enclosure (water closet) for added privacy. These and other bathroom renovation ideas can add value and improve the appeal of the room.

PICTURE COURTESY OF AIMEE SALMON

EMPOWERING

connection and common ground by combining retail and fitness

NORTHAMPTON BUSINESS
OWNER IS ON A MISSION TO
INSPIRE ACTIVE LIFESTYLES AND
CELEBRATING AFRICAN CULTURE

By Emily Thurlow
For Home Magazine

Over the past year, we at Home Magazine have gotten to know some of the people who work, live and play in the Valley.

In ringing in the New Year, we've decided to continue on that momentum and learn more about what makes the region home to business owners like Aimee Salmon, the owner of a

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

Aimee Salmon



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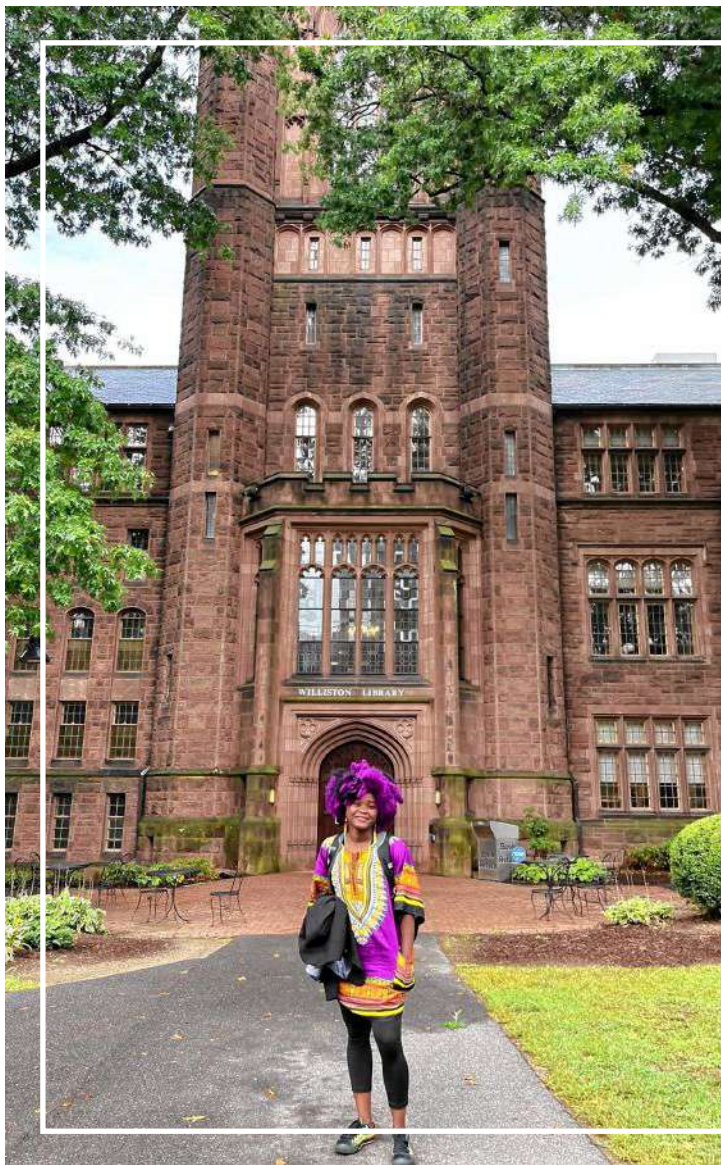
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Salmon with her son CJ

PICTURES COURTESY OF AIMEE SALMON

“The region offers ample opportunities for outdoor activities. As a resident with numerous hiking trails, biking routes, and parks, I enjoy camping, skiing, fishing, and kayaking.”

— AIMEE SALMON

storefront in Northampton’s Thornes Marketplace called Positively Africana, LLC.

Salmon’s business is one of the newest businesses to open at Thornes.

Here’s what she had to say:

Emily Thurlow: Where are you from originally?

Aimee Salmon: I am originally from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and moved to Northampton in 2013.

Thurlow: What do you do for work?

Salmon: I am a business owner, the founder and operator of Positively Africana, LLC. My business aims to celebrate and promote Africa’s rich culture and heritage through movement and retail. My company offers African-inspired products, fitness programs, and corporate wellness programs. Additionally, 25% of our profits support

women entrepreneurs and artists in the Congo. Working at Thornes Market has allowed me to engage with the vibrant community and showcase our African-inspired products.

Thurlow: What made you call The Valley home, and what is your favorite part?

Salmon: *Several factors make the Pioneer Valley a desirable place to call home for me. Here are a few reasons:

■ **Natural Beauty:** The Pioneer Valley boasts stunning landscapes, rolling hills, and scenic views. The region is home to the Connecticut River, which adds to its charm and provides numerous recreational activities. The beauty of Western Massachusetts is unparalleled, and it offers a variety of outdoor experiences without the need for expensive travel.

■ **Education and Culture:** The Pioneer Valley is enriched by prestigious colleges and universities, including the University

of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst College, Mount Holyoke, and Smith College. This concentration of educational institutions brings a vibrant and diverse cultural scene to the area, with art galleries, theaters, and museums. As a Mount Holyoke alumna, I appreciate the local access to world-class education and cultural experiences.

■ **Outdoor Recreation:** The region offers ample opportunities for outdoor activities. As a resident with numerous hiking trails, biking routes, and parks, I enjoy camping, skiing, fishing, and kayaking.

■ **Agriculture and Farming:** The Pioneer Valley has a rich agricultural tradition, fertile soil, and a long growing season. The area is known for its farms, orchards, and farmers’ markets, providing fresh and locally sourced food options.

■ **Community and Small-Town Charm:** The Pioneer Valley is made up of several small towns and close-knit communities. As a Resident, I often feel a strong sense

of belonging and connection. The region fosters a friendly and welcoming atmosphere with community events, festivals, and local businesses.

Thurlow: How do you define the word “home?” What does it mean to you?

Salmon: To me, “home” represents a place of belonging, comfort, and security. It is a space where I can be myself and create meaningful connections with others. Home is not just a physical location but also a feeling of being surrounded by like-minded individuals and loved ones and a sense of familiarity.

Thurlow: How would you describe the Valley in three words?

Salmon: Beautiful, vibrant, and innovative.

The Valley’s natural beauty, lively community, and welcoming atmosphere make it a truly special place to live and visit.



PICTURES COURTESY OF AIMEE SALMON

“My company offers African-inspired products, fitness programs, and corporate wellness programs. Additionally, 25% of our profits support women entrepreneurs and artists in the Congo.”

— AIMEE SALMON

Thurlow: When someone first moves to the area, what's the first thing they should do or place they should go?

Salmon: When someone first moves to the Pioneer Valley, I suggest exploring the vibrant downtown areas of cities like Northampton or Amherst. These areas offer a variety of shops, restaurants, and local businesses that provide a taste of the

Valley's unique culture and community. It's a great way to understand the local flavor and connect with the community.

Thurlow: How do you find community?

Salmon: I find community by actively engaging with local organizations,

teaching group exercise classes, and participating in community events that align with my mission and interests. I seek opportunities to collaborate with like-minded individuals and attend gatherings such as farmers' markets, festivals, and art exhibits to connect with others who share my passion. Building relationships and participating

in community activities are essential to my sense of belonging and finding a supportive network.

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DID YOU KNOW?

While home buyers typically take their time to examine each room and space inside and outside a home before making an offer, the real estate experts at Trulia note that two rooms in particular seem to merit the closest inspection among prospective buyers. Kitchens and the bathroom in an owner's suite can dramatically increase the value of a home. Trulia recommends that homeowners consider their neighborhood and identify their target buyers prior to beginning a kitchen or owner's suite renovation, as such variables can provide direction and inspiration when refurbishing these widely valued areas in a home.

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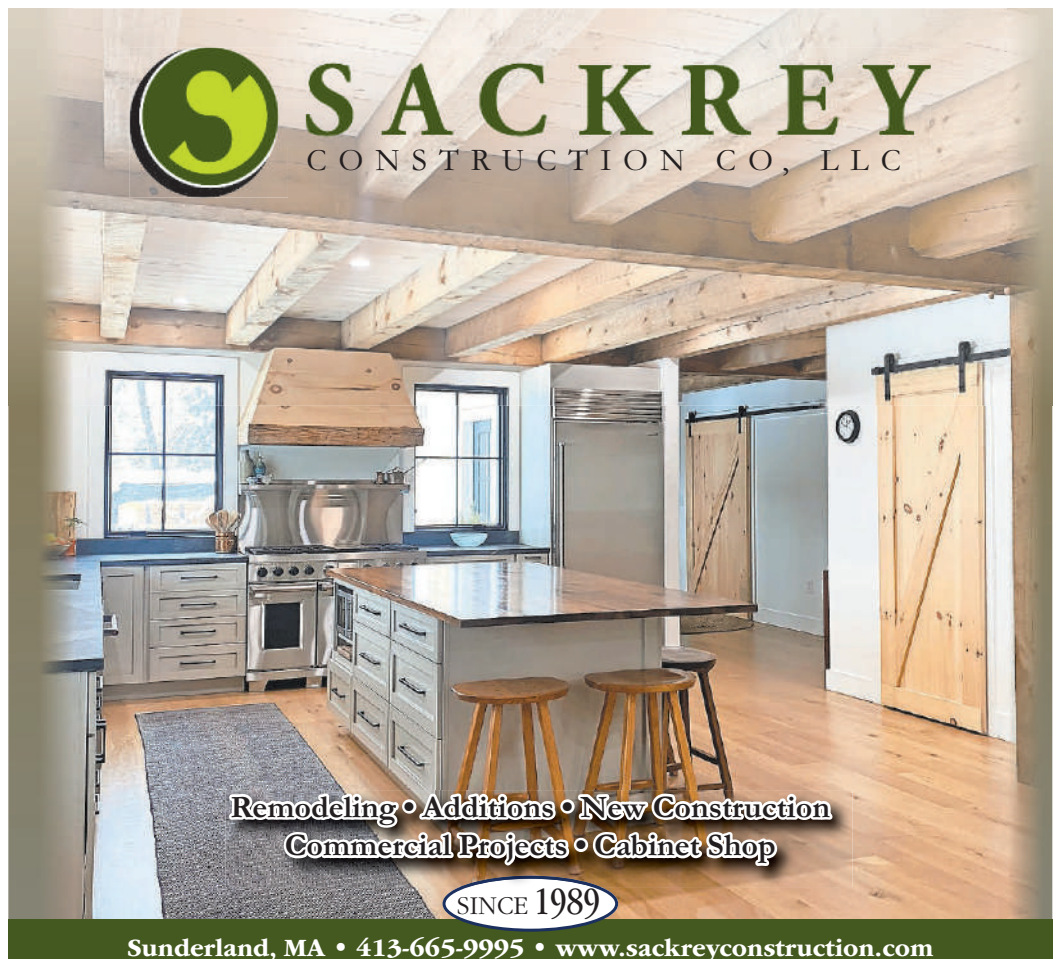
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gazettenet.com & recorder.com

What to know about kitchen COUNTERTOP MATERIALS



WHEN RENOVATING A KITCHEN, HOMEOWNERS WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE WHICH COUNTERTOP MATERIAL THEY WANT TO INSTALL, AND THE FOLLOWING RUNDOWN OF POPULAR OPTIONS CAN HELP SIMPLIFY THAT DECISION

Kitchens are the busiest rooms in most homes. Kitchens have become more than just places to prepare meals, with many functioning as gathering spaces and even go-to dining spots in homes that do not feature formal dining rooms.

So much time spent in the kitchen makes it worthwhile to invest in these popular spaces. Kitchen renovations are high on many homeowners' to-do lists, and there's many decisions to make once they commit to redoing the room. When renovating a kitchen, homeowners will have to choose which countertop material they want to install, and the following rundown of popular options can help simplify that decision.

QUARTZ

Quartz is considered a low-maintenance and durable countertop material. The home improvement experts at This Old House note that quartz countertops are typically 94 percent ground quartz and now come with an honed, sand-blasted or embossed treatment, which makes them appealing to homeowners



with varying ideas on the ideal look of a kitchen countertop. Quartz can crack if it's not handled properly, and edges and corners can chip over time. Rounded edges can minimize the risk of chipping. Costs vary by location and product availability, but quartz typically costs about the same as natural stone.

GRANITE

Consumer Reports notes that no two slabs of granite are the same, and that uniqueness has long appealed to homeowners. Tests run by Consumer Reports

found that heat, cuts and scratches did not harm granite, though this material, like quartz, can crack around edges and corners. Granite is a durable material that, if properly maintained, can last several decades. Granite also is nonporous, which makes it resistant to bacteria.

LAMINATE

Laminate countertops appeal to budget-friendly homeowners and Consumer Reports notes that they're easy to install. Home Depot also notes that laminate countertops come in a wide range of colors, textures and designs. Laminate countertops also are durable, which helps budget-conscious homeowners stretch their dollars even further. Laminate countertops are easily maintained, though it's also easy to permanently damage them with knives, so Consumer Reports recommends always using a cutting board when preparing meals on laminate.

BUTCHER BLOCK

Butcher block countertops are among the more unique options homeowners

may consider. Sometimes referred to as 'wood countertops,' butcher block countertops are made from wooden strips that are fused together. The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that butcher block is among the more affordable materials, but the final cost will be dictated by location and availability. BobVila.com notes that butcher block countertops are highly sensitive to liquid, so exposure to moisture should be limited. Sealing butcher block countertops immediately after installation can help protect against bacteria and warping. Though butcher blocks can be high maintenance, many homeowners find the unique look is well worth the extra elbow grease.

Kitchen countertops can define how the room looks, and homeowners have many options to choose from when designing a new kitchen.

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Things to do close to HOME

All Levels Yoga 1/10/2024 7:30am

This is the indoor location for Yoga Outside (www.yogaoutside.today). We offer free, donation-based yoga every day to make regular practice accessible to all.

<https://www.amherstma.gov/calendar.aspx?EID=26134>

1046 South East Street,
Amherst, MA

Forbes Staff Art Show 1/10/2024 10:00am

Please join us for our first ever Forbes Library staff art show!

This exhibit showcases the creative endeavors of our talented staff ranging from digital to sculpture, textile to watercolor and so much more.

Out of an interest to share with their beloved community some of the fruits of their creative labors, the staff of the Forbes Library presents a humble conspectus. The array of media and range of talents, so gathered, conveys the play of logic and whimsy that brings a library to life. We hope that any delight these pieces bring to the viewer may serve to further the welcome that it is the Forbes Library's honor to extend. Thank you.

Reception: Tuesday January 16, 5:30-7:30 PM

20 West Street, Northampton, MA (413) 587-1013

Makerspace Book Club: Cat Castles!

1/10/2024 5:00pm

Are you obsessed with your cat? Do you have excess cardboard leftover from the holidays? Stop by the Greenfield Public Library Makerspace and build a castle for your feline friend! You bring the cardboard, we'll supply the cutting tools and fancy tape. For inspiration, stop by GPL and pick up a copy of the book *Cat Castles: 20 Cardboard Habitats You Can Build Yourself* by Carin Olive.

Pre Registration is recommended, but not required. Register at: forms.gle/4EFYViwektBctBwb7

This program, funded by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library, is the first in a 4 part series, and is intended for teens and adults.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

Photographs by James Barnhill 1/10/2024 9:00am

Photographs by Amherst photographer James H. Barnhill will be exhibited in the Amherst Town Hall Gallery from December 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024. Barnhill's artistic interests span land-

scapes, candid portraits of people, abstracts, and architecture. Originally grounded in practices based on traditional equipment and dark-room methods, he has since embraced computer programs that expand the photographer's vision.

Barnhill strives for interesting images of technical and compositional merit with some novelty and a "second-looker" quality that reveals something not evident on first viewing. His work has appeared in juried exhibits in Massachusetts and in various books.

1 Boltwood Avenue, Amherst, MA (413) 259-3333

Portals and Passageways: Paintings and Process by Amy A Crawley 1/10/2024 9:00am

In this exhibit, I explore my ongoing journey with portals. With a focus on the movement of spirals and circles, I draw the viewer's eye toward the center of a space and take the viewer on a visual meditation that transports them from one place to another.

The portals theme started when a family member was diagnosed with cognitive memory loss. It prompted me to think about memory. How we hold onto our memories, why we lose our memories, and, more personally, would I face the same fate.

I soon found myself in a portal of my own making the more I thought about this theme. What is a portal? How do I depict a portal?

It was on a visit to Bandelier National Monument in New Mexico when this theme coalesced. Seeing the Ancestral Pueblo dwellings in the rock cliffs, the doorways, ladders and openings, I knew I'd found a direction.

Using the memory of place and the feelings it inspired, I worked with oil and cold wax medium to create layer upon layer, developing a history through my painting process. I add and subtract elements; reveal and lose layers. I use rhythm, repetition and pattern.

The chaos created in my process settles into an atmospheric final piece. As I paint, each layer becomes a meditative and intuitive process. These multi-layered paintings beckon the viewer to stay a while.

You can find my art at <https://amyacrawley.com/>

43 Amity Street, Amherst, MA (413) 259-3090

Winter Show 2023 1/10/2024 10:00am

William Baczek Fine Arts, in Northampton, Massachusetts is

pleased to announce our 2023-2024 Winter Show. This group exhibition highlights the work of gallery artists. The featured works span many mediums, including oil, watercolor, and egg tempera painting.

36 Main Street, Northampton, MA (413) 587-9880

Artist Social and Critique, 2nd Thursday of every month. 1/11/2024 6:00pm

Calling all Massachusetts artists who live within an hour's drive of the Local Art Gallery: Come to our Artist Social and Critique night with 1-2 pieces of artwork/images for peer critique. This is a safe community space for constructive and supportive feedback for artists of all abilities and mediums. Let's boost each other up and encourage our artistic growth. Hosted by Nayana Lafond. Free. Ages 14+.

91 Cows Road, Amherst, MA (413) 835-0966

Finding a Passion for Landscape Painting Later in Life 1/11/2024 6:00pm

The Amherst Woman's Club is proud to present a talk by Maggie Hodges on "Finding a Passion for Landscape Painting Later in Life." The talk is on Thursday, January 11th, 2024 at The Amherst Woman's Club, 35 Triangle Street, Amherst, MA. A wine and cheese reception takes place from 6pm to 6:30pm, and the talk follows at 6:30pm. The event is free and open to the public. This is part of the club's Thursday Evening Speakers Series, which features remarkable and accomplished local women and their personal journeys of challenges and achievements.

35 Triangle Street, Amherst, MA (413) 549-5679

GPL at the Movies 1/11/2024 2:00pm

Join us on Thursdays at 2 pm for "GPL goes to the Movies," beginning on January 4 with a New Year's classic rom com. The doors open 30 minutes before the show starts. Outside food and drink are allowed. All movies start at 2 p.m. and run until completed, unless otherwise indicated.

For more information, contact Jeremiah Rood at librarian@greenfieldpubliclibrary.org or call (413) 772-1544.

Movies are free to the public, thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

IN RESIDENCE: Art for the Soul Gallery Artists 1/11/2024 2:00pm

Gallery A3 collaborates with the Art for the Soul Gallery, with artists from the Springfield gallery displaying work in Amherst during January. Curated by Rosemary Tracy Woods, Executive Director of Art for the Soul, and William "Billy" Myers, Artistic Director and Chief Curator, IN RESIDENCE: Art for the Soul Gallery Artists includes work by Charlie Gould, Lorraine MacAlpine, Paul Midura, and Ryan Murray.

28 Amity Street 1D, Amherst Center, MA (413) 256-4250

Live Music 1/11/2024 5:00pm

30 Fort Hill Road, Easthampton, MA (413) 203-5754

Old-Growth Trek: Dunbar Brook 1/11/2024 1:00pm

Ages 8 to adult. Hike the Dunbar Brook Trail in Monroe State Forest. A moderate brookside trail to a forest that has never been timbered; old-growth forest represents 0.1% of Massachusetts woodlands, making it the rarest ecosystem in the state and a place of unique beauty and invaluable worth. 2 mile educational hike with option to explore further for incredible vistas. Trail can be narrow and very steep in old-growth section; hiking poles recommended but not required. Meet at Dunbar Brook Trailhead. Use GPS for directions to Dunbar Brook Trailhead on River Road, Monroe, MA - 25-minute drive from Charlemont center.

Greenfield, MA

Oxbow Art Gallery New Members Show 1/11/2024 12:00pm

Easthampton's Oxbow Gallery welcomes eight new members to its ranks and as an introduction to the community will host an exhibition showcasing their work. The exhibition includes textile art, prints/collage, sculpture, paintings, photography, and multi-media works. New members include Eileen Claveloux, Nancy Diessner, Olwen O'Herlihy Dowling, Shawn Farley, Kathy Ford, Nicole Gadon, Abbie Steiner, and Katherine Weinstein. Artist Reception: Sunday, January 14, 3pm-5pm. 40 Cottage Street, Easthampton, MA (413) 203-1196

Stitch Circle 1/11/2024 4:00pm

The Mill District Local Art Gallery offers a Stitch Circle every Thursday from 4 - 6 PM.

Bring your own project: knit, crochet, embroider, or hand quilt. Free and welcoming. Ages 16+

91 Cows Road, Amherst, MA (413) 835-0966

Trivia Night at Brewery at Four Star 1/11/2024 6:00pm

Library Trivia Night at the Brewery at Four Star Farms. Teams of 1-6 players. 3 rounds of 10 questions. Feel free to bring your own food, or show up early and order from the delicious food truck. Playing mostly for fun, and maybe a little bit for prizes. You don't know what you'll know!

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Drop-in Tech Help 1/12/2024 4:00pm

Do you need help using your computer, tablet, or smartphone? Did you run into a sticky software problem? Do you want to learn how to use a new piece of technology? Come to a drop-in tech help session! Bring your device, or use one of the library's computers, to have your questions answered by a knowledgeable volunteer.

20 West Street, Northampton, MA (413) 587-1011

Senior Gay Men's Group 1/12/2024 1:00pm

Senior Gay Men's group drop in at the Northampton Senior Center, 67 Conz St, Northampton at 1 PM every Friday <http://www.northampton seniors.com/> 67 Conz Street, Northampton, MA (413) 587-1228

Trees of Peace Tour 1/12/2024

Ages 6 to adult. Mohawk Trail State Forest famously features the tallest trees in New England. Marvel at our treasured, towering white pine trees and learn why they are so important to our forest ecosystem and American history. A lightly uphill hike! About 1.6 miles. Meet at Nature Center near Park Entrance.

1 Cold River Road/Route 2
Charlemont, MA

Chess Club - Casual, Drop in! 1/13/2024 1:00pm

Informal drop in chess for all ages! Boards provided at the reference desk, or bring your own.

19 Meadow Street, Northampton, MA (413) 587-1500

Gaslight Tinkers at Wendell Fullmoon Coffehouse! 1/13/2024 7:30pm

The Gaslight Tinkers are a high energy band, blending influ-

Things to do close to HOME

ences of Celtic, Caribbean, Folk, and Funk!

Great for dancing! The evening supports the Wendell Free Library. The Wendell Full-moon Coffeehouse has been running for 34 years. Always in support of a great cause and always a great community show!

Open Mic starts a 7:30, Main Act at 8pm

6 Center Street, Wendell, MA

Katie Clarke & Larry LeBlanc in Concert!

1/13/2024 7:00pm

Hear this talented songwriter and instrumentalist/harmony vocalist blending bluegrass, folk, country, gospel, & old-time favorites!

Katie Clarke and Larry LeBlanc met in 2016 at the Conway Inn bluegrass jam in Western Massachusetts. Katie had just left her group the Boxcar Lilies and hotshot multi-instrumentalist Larry had just moved to Conway from the City of Old Town, Maine. The magic began! Their duo developed a mix of Katie's soulful originals and choice covers of bluegrass, folk, country, gospel, and old time music and enjoy bringing it to venues around the Northeast.

TICKETS: \$20 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/katie-clarke-larry-leblanc-in-concert-tickets-764962051087>

(email PermaculturePlace@gmail.com to request sliding scale for tickets :)

49 Conway Street, Shelburne Falls, MA

MASS MoCA After Hours

1/13/2024 5:00pm

Join us for a night at the museum for a celebration of EJ Hill: Brake Run Helix honoring regional BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) artists, writers, and performers in the Berkshires. Brake Run Helix is a celebratory work by EJ Hill examining how those from marginalized backgrounds explore joy and play, and in that spirit, we bid it farewell (closing February 11) with a BIPOC mixer in the exhibition's gallery (Building 5) including dancing and activities from the diaspora. Attendees will also be able to view MASS MoCA's newest exhibition, Like Magic, which will remain open for this MASS MoCA After Hours event. Arrive early to visit the full museum and stay extra late by purchasing a ticket for comedian Zainab Johnson, who takes the stage at MASS MoCA's Club B10 at 8pm, following the event. Generous support for Brake Run Helix is provided by the VIA

Art Fund, National Endowment for the Arts, Further Forward Foundation, and the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Foundation.

1040 MASS MoCA WAY, North Adams, MA (413) 662-2111

Oddly Satisfying

1/13/2024 11:00am

You know that feeling of happiness after you've completed a repetitive and relaxing task? That's what Oddly Satisfying is all about! Join Danielle (of Deerfield Academy Summer Art Camp fame!!) for a monthly oddly satisfying TikTok inspired art project. In January we'll be painting using cake decorating tools.

This program, generously sponsored by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library, is free and intended for middle and high school aged youth.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

Zainab Johnson

1/13/2024 8:00pm

Hailed by Variety as a Top 10 Comic To Watch, stand-up comedian, actor, and writer Zainab Johnson brings her unique point of view, which was shaped growing up as one of thirteen siblings in a Muslim family, to Club B10. Zainab is a regular at the Comedy Cellar in New York as well as the Comedy Store and Improv in Los Angeles, adding North Adams, Massachusetts, to her circuit for the first time. She's made appearances on Late Night with Seth Meyers, HBO's All Def Comedy, MTV's Acting Out, and NBC's Last Comic Standing, and had a breakout performance at The Melbourne Comedy Festival. She regularly returns to the Just For Laughs festival in Montreal, and can currently be seen on the Amazon series UPLOAD and hosting Netflix's 100 Humans, a social experiment in which 100 individuals take part in interactive experiments exploring sex, happiness, torture, and all the other aspects of being human.

1040 MASS MoCA WAY, North Adams, MA (413) 662-2111

The Ethel Lee Ensemble and Juke Joint Jazz

1/14/2024 7:30pm

We're back for another Marigold Sunday Double Dose of Jazz featuring the fabulous Ethel Lee Ensemble. Ethel and the band have been playing together throughout New England for the past 25 years, and have the most interesting and dynamic repertoire of Jazz and R&B that we've ever heard. This evening will definitely



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Things to do close to HOME



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HOME MAGAZINE

NEXT ISSUE
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FEBRUARY 14

warm your cockles in January!

Juke Joint Jazz will open with a set of Hard Drivin' Jazz with the full sextet of Ken Forfia on Piano, David Kisala on Saxophones, Clark Siebold on Drums, Ed Brainerd on Trumpet and Flugelhorn, George Kaye on Bass and Michael Levine on Guitar.

This is the birthday weekend of the greatest peace activist of the 20th century – Martin Luther King – and we're looking forward to celebrating in style!

84 Cottage Street, Easthampton, MA (413) 203-2011

Start Your Sunday with Qigong

1/14/2024 10:00am

Join your first "Start Your Sunday with Qigong" online class for free.

Class includes: Breathing exercises; Light stretching; Lubricating the joints; Both energizing and calming movements from Qigong

BENEFITS: Alleviates Chronic Pain; Heals the nervous system; Improves flexibility and Strengthens the joints; Calms the mind and soothes the heart; and many many more!!!

"Lynne, my instructor is a terrific guide. I know my Sunday will be a great day when I start it off with Qigong. She is an enormous inspiration and I'm grateful to have discovered her class. It gives me the energy I want in my life." -Peter Klarman, Chef and Certified Reflexologist

Amherst Center, MA (413) 575-7468

GPL Lego Club (drop-in)

1/15/2024 3:30pm

Come be a part of the kids' GPL Lego Club!

Legos will be available to play with in the Children's Room every Monday from 3:30 - 5pm. Complete one of the given challenges or make your own creation to be put on display until the next week.

This program, made possible through the generosity of the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library, is free and intended for ages 12 and older.

For more information, contact Children's Librarian Ellen Lavoie at ellen.lavoie@greenfield-ma.gov or call (413) 772-1544 x5104.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

Scrabble Club (open to all)

1/15/2024 4:30pm

The Northampton Scrabble Club is open to all levels, and the priority is FUN! We play every Monday with games starting at 4:30 but come in at any point and leave after any number of games.

We'll help you learn tips & tricks to get better in a fun atmosphere, no commitment needed. Questions? Contact Brett: 413-387-9678 or nohoscraable@gmail.com

19 Meadow Street, Florence, MA (413) 587-1500

Burger night

1/16/2024 4:00pm

Tuesday: Burger night(4 pm - 8 pm) for \$9 you get a cocktail of choice (excluding top shelf) a fresh hand made bacon cheese-burger on a brioche bun with fries.

Mmmmmmm best burger around!!!

79 Maple Street, Easthampton, MA (413) 527-9847

City Sports Swing

1/16/2024 7:00pm

Your Tuesdays are about to swing! Join us at City Sports Grill (the bar inside of the Northampton Spare Time bowling alley) weekly for: 7-8 Lindy Lesson; 8-10 DJ'd Music and Dancing, featuring DJ RaggMOP. Easy access right off of I91, with free and ample parking! Food & drink available for purchase. Please, to support the venue, no outside food and drink. They have a full bar for you! For non-dancers or in between songs: there's plenty of seating and an arcade room, with pool tables.

525 Pleasant Street, Northampton, MA (413) 584-4830

Drop In Scrabble Night

1/16/2024 5:30pm

Spellmasters are invited to join a by-weekly game of Scrabble. At Scrabble night we welcome all levels of experience, and the emphasis is on having fun! Games start at 5:30 and 6:30 pm in the GPL Game area.

This program, made possible through the generosity of the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library, is free and intended for ages 12 and older.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

Drop-in Computer Help

1/16/2024 2:00pm

Do you need a little help using a computer? Are you having trouble getting started? Did you run into a sticky problem? Do you want to get an email account? Are you looking for a better way to format a document? Come to a drop-in computer help session! Bring your wireless laptop, or use one of the library's computers to have your questions answered by a knowledgeable volunteer.

20 West Street, Northampton, MA (413) 587-1011

Things to do close to HOME

Drop-in Knitting

1/16/2024 6:00pm

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Intersectional Speculative Fiction Book Club

1/16/2024 6:30pm

Our Intersectional Speculative Fiction Book Club meets every other month, on the third Tuesday, from 6:30 – 8:00 PM. All are welcome to join! Registration is required. Email Elli at bookclubs@ewmlibrary.org if you are interested in joining and to request the next book title.

9 Park Street, Easthampton, MA (413) 527-1031

Yoga at the Library

1/16/2024 8:30am

Yoga class by donation with Michele Morales Wolk. Michele has been trained and certified at Karuna Yoga. She has been teaching yoga in the valley for 15 years and currently teaches classes at the Northampton and Southampton Senior Centers and at Baystate Hospital.

19 Meadow Street, Northampton, MA (413) 587-1500

ECO Book Club

1/18/2024 2:00pm

The Easthampton Council on Aging Book Club meets at the Council on Aging every other month on the third Thursday, from 2 – 3:30pm. We provide copies of each title for participants to check out. Read the book and drop-in at the ECOA for the discussion. Visit the ECOA Book Club page for a list of dates and titles, with links to each in the catalog.

9 Park Street, Easthampton, MA (413) 527-1031

Greenfield Ukulele Players

1/19/2024 1:00pm

Join The Greenfield Ukulele Players on the first and third Friday of each month from 1 - 2:30 pm in the GPL Conference Room. All you need is love...and a ukulele!

This program is free and open to the public.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

Officer Frank and Officer Llewelyn Visit (drop in)

1/19/2024 3:00pm

Come visit with the Greenfield Police Department's comfort dog, K9 Frank, and his handler Officer Llewelyn. Frank is a chocolate lab that loves meeting kids and families!

This program, made possible through the generosity of the Greenfield Police Department, is free and open to all kids 0 - 12.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

Dancing Dream: The Tribute to ABBA

1/20/2024 7:00pm

Dancing Dream: The Tribute to ABBA, the greatest pop supergroup from Sweden, electrifies audiences of all ages with the hits "Mamma Mia", "Dancing Queen", "Take a Chance", "Fernando", "Waterloo", and many more. Established in 2009, the New York City-based touring tribute act transports nostalgic audiences back to the happy and groovy times of the 70s. What can you expect from a Dancing Dream show? Beautiful harmonies, costumes that reflect the original ABBA stage outfits, and exciting choreography! Every show is one to be remembered...don't miss your trip down memory lane!

242 Old Petersham Road, Hardwick, MA (413) 477-6746

Greenfield Winter Farmers Market

1/20/2024 10:00am

Your local Winter Farmers Market has a new home at the Greenfield Public Library!

Join us as the Greenfield Farmers Market Association kicks off their Winter Market with local farmers, artisans, music and more! At each market, there will be a rotating selection of vendors including some familiar favorites, and some new faces. There will be a wide variety of fresh produce, value-added foods, meat & eggs, and crafts.

After shopping, drop by the Library's makerspace for a special drop-in craft project. There will also be a family story time at 10 am in the Children's Room.

This event, sponsored by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library and the Greenfield Farmers Market Association, is open to everyone in our community.

412 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

Art Gallery Listening Session

1/21/2024 1:00pm

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<https://www.nohoarts.org/events/category/art-gallery-listening-session>

We are thrilled to announce that in January 2024, after the final construction phase of 33 Haw-



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ley is complete, the Center will be stewarding a brand new art gallery! We envision this gallery as an accessible and welcoming space partially programmed by a committee that includes community members. As we work towards this vision, we want to hear from you! What do you want to see in an art gallery? What's missing from the gallery scene in our area? What do you love about specific galleries that you want to see included in our approach? Please join us on Saturday, January 21, from 1-2:30pm for a listening session and share your thoughts! (We will also be sending out a survey after the listening session to invite feedback from folks who aren't able to attend). Refreshments and childcare provided!

33 Hawley Street, Northampton, MA (413) 584-7327

Conversational French 1/23/2024 5:30pm

--Vous parlez français? --Euh... oui, un peu.

If this is you, and you would like to put a few drops of oil on your rusty French conversation skills, have a seat at La Table Française, the 4th Tuesday of the month, from 5:30 - 6:30 pm, in the GPL Conference Room. This is an intermediate conversation group, not a class. Tamara Grogan, Greenfield resident and 25-year veteran French teacher, will facilitate. If interested, please send an email to Tamara at lagrogan1@gmail.com.

À bientôt!

This program is free and intended for ages 16+.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

MCB book group (Erving) 1/25/2024 5:30pm

This book club will follow the monthly themes of the Mass Center for the Book (MCB)

Reading Challenge . Participants will choose any book that fits the theme. They can sign up

with MCB online to track their reading. Book club monthly get-togethers will offer light refreshments and informal discussions about what members have been reading. RSVP is not required. The last event of the year will offer a small reward (for example a limited edition pin or sticker), and there will be a door prize with a gift certificate to a local bookseller and other small goodies. Alternating locations between Erving and Northfield Public Libraries. Generally the last Thursday of each month, with the exception of October, November, and December.

This month in Erving: "A book you read years ago that you may feel different about now."

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Woodpeckers

1/25/2024 6:00pm

Northfield Bird Club presents: Surprising stories about Woodpeckers, super craftsmen of the bird world, who are with us all winter in Northfield. Presenters Dana and Bob Fox have birded throughout the United States and the world. They have given numerous talks about birds they have studied, including

crows, loons, and hummingbirds. This program is supported by a grant from New Salem Academy.

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Food Pantry 10:00-1:00

1/27/2024 10:00am

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Free Day 2024

1/27/2024

Free for all who walk through our doors, MASS MoCA's annual community celebration rocks the galleries with thematic museum tours, art-making in Kidspace, FIREBIRD installation viewings throughout the day, and more! Come by and get inspired, on the house.

1040 MASS MoCA WAY, North Adams, MA (413) 662-2111

Winter Crow Roost

1/28/2024 2:00pm

Learn about crows and visit a roost in this indoor/outdoor program. Crows are among the most intelligent of birds, and winter time presents an opportunity to observe crows at their urban roost sites. Springfield hosts one of the largest roosts in the state with over 7,000 birds gathering

each evening around sunset. We will begin with an indoor presentation at Arcadia and then carpool to Springfield to view the roost. The exact location may change each night, so details on where to meet in Springfield will be emailed to registrants a week prior to the program and updated if needed. Adults. Registration is required.

127 Combs Road, Easthampton, MA (413) 584-3009

Monday Night Book Club

1/29/2024 6:30pm

Our Monday Night Book Club meets monthly (except twice in January and not in December), on the fourth Monday, from 6:30 - 8 PM. Drop-in. We provide copies of each title for participants to check out. Visit the Monday Night Book Club page for a list of dates and titles, with links to each in the catalog.

9 Park Street, Easthampton, MA (413) 527-1031

Amherst Monthly Veterans' Lunch

1/31/2024 12:00pm

Come join us for a monthly luncheon for the Veterans' Community. Sponsored by Town of Amherst Community Responders

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for Equity, Safety , and Service (CRESS) and by Gene Herman, CRESS Veterans' Outreach Volunteer www.amherstma.gov/calendar.aspx?EID=26653

121 North Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA

Spice Club Pickup Starts 2/1/2024

The first Thursday of the month we will have spice kits to pick up at the library. They will have a sample of the month's spice and some recipes and information about it. No registration required. While supplies last.

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Wine with Friends 2/2/2024 5:00pm

All our Friends 21 and older are invited to come out of hibernation! Sample 5 wines and enjoy company and refreshments. Drawings will be on display mid January

30 East Street, Southampton, MA (413) 527-9480

Reading the Forested Landscape 2/3/2024 10:00am

Ages 8 to adult. A guided tour of the first part of the Mahican-Mohawk Trail will teach you how to identify its plants & animals and read its ancient and recent history through its landscape. A great start for a longer hike through the park or by itself as an educational nature walk. Meet at Trail Parking Lot on Route 2 at Park Entrance.

to Mohawk Trail State Forest, Charlemont, MA

Color Me Calm 2/5/2024 4:00pm

Color Me Calm is a laid-back coloring group for ages 13 & up. Join us in the Community Meeting Room for an afternoon of coloring your cares away! Coloring pages and utensils will be provided, or BYOCB (Bring Your Own Coloring Book).

2 Canal Street, South Hadley, MA (413) 538-5045

LGBTQIA+ and allies Rainbow Coffee Hour at the Amherst Senior Center 2/6/2024 10:00am

Rainbow Coffee Hour is a new LGBTQIA+ social coffee group that meets the first Tuesday of every month from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Amherst Senior Center for ages 50 and allies. There is no format, no agenda—just a welcoming space to get together for

an hour once a month to socialize and make connections. All people who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community are welcome to drop in
70 Boltwood Walk, Amherst, MA (413) 259-3060

Readers Choice 2/7/2024 10:00am

Join us the first Wednesday of every month for this lively book discussion.

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Artist Social and Critique, 2nd Thursday of every month. 2/8/2024 6:00pm

Calling all Massachusetts artists who live within an hour's drive of the Local Art Gallery: Come to our Artist Social and Critique night with 1-2 pieces of artwork/images for peer critique. This is a safe community space for constructive and supportive feedback for artists of all abilities and mediums. Let's boost each other up and encourage our artistic growth. Hosted by Nayana Lafond. Free. Ages 14+.

91 Cows Road, Amherst, MA (413) 835-0966

Climate Cafe 2/8/2024 6:30pm

This month's Environmental Discussion Group meeting will be a one-time Climate Cafe: "a facilitated, welcoming space for people concerned about the climate and ecological crises, and their impacts on the global, local, and individual levels. It is a safe space for people to talk about their emotions surrounding climate and ecological crises."

Facilitated by Sadie Forsyth, LICSW, a climate-aware therapist, and Hannah Harvester, a Conway-based artist. Both are members of the Climate Psychology Alliance of North America.

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Mahjong at the GPL 2/8/2024 2:00pm

Join your neighbors in a fun and exciting round of American Mah Jong.

Newcomers welcome. No experience required.

This program is free and intended for ages 14 and up.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

Old-Growth Trek: Dunbar Brook 2/8/2024 1:00pm

Ages 8 to adult. Hike the Dun-

bar Brook Trail in Monroe State Forest. A moderate brookside trail to a forest that has never been timbered; old-growth forest represents 0.1% of Massachusetts woodlands, making it the rarest ecosystem in the state and a place of unique beauty and invaluable worth. 2 mile educational hike with option to explore further for incredible vistas. Trail can be narrow and very steep in old-growth section; hiking poles recommended but not required. Meet at Dunbar Brook Trailhead. Use GPS for directions to Dunbar Brook Trailhead on River Road, Monroe, MA - 25-minute drive from Charlemont center.

Greenfield, MA

Play Bridge 2/8/2024 7:00pm

The Northampton Bridge Club welcomes anyone who wishes to play duplicate bridge. Open games are played online <https://www.bridgebase.com/> at 7:00PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays; In-person games are played at 1:00PM on Wednesdays at the Christ United Methodist Church, 271 Rocky Hill Road (Route 66) in Northampton.

Visit www.northamptonbridgeclub.org and click "HELP" to learn more. If you need additional information or partner, please contact Philippe at phgalaski@gmail.com.

271 Rocky Hill Road (Route 66), Northampton, MA

Stitch Circle 2/8/2024 4:00pm

The Mill District Local Art Gallery offers a Stitch Circle every Thursday from 4 – 6 PM. Bring your own project: knit, crochet, embroider, or hand quilt. Free and welcoming. Ages 16+

91 Cows Road, Amherst, MA (413) 835-0966

Trivia Night at Brewery at Four Star 2/8/2024 6:00pm

Library Trivia Night at the Brewery at Four Star Farms. Teams of 1-6 players. 3 rounds of 10 questions. Feel free to bring your own food, or show up early and order from the delicious food truck. Playing mostly for fun, and maybe a little bit for prizes. You don't know what you'll know!

115 Main Street, Northfield, MA (413) 498-2455

Trees of Peace Tour 2/9/2024

Ages 6 to adult. Mohawk Trail State Forest famously features the tallest trees in New England. Marvel at our treasured, towering

white pine trees and learn why they are so important to our forest ecosystem and American history. A lightly uphill hike! About 1.6 miles. Meet at Nature Center near Park Entrance.

1 Cold River Road/Route 2, Charlemont, MA

The Green Sisters 2/10/2024 7:00pm

Sprouting from a small farm in rural Massachusetts, the four Green Sisters were raised with music accompanying their chores. Their sound spans a wide range of bluegrass, barbershop, blues, country, and lots of original songs which fit right into the mix. They've been playing venues in New England regularly for the last several years and release their second studio album in late 2020. The Green Sisters have garnered quite the following; it's hard not to smile when treated with their tight harmonies and high energy tunes. Their live show is where they really shine, bouncing their jovial banter round the stage as only siblings can.

242 Old Petersham Road, Hardwick, MA (413) 477-6746

Live Music 2/11/2024 3:30pm

30 Fort Hill Road, Easthampton, MA (413) 203-5754

Silver Chord Bowl 2024 2/11/2024 2:00pm

60 Elm Street, Northampton, MA

All Levels Yoga 2/12/2024 5:30pm

This 60 minute class includes: centering, warm-up, breathwork, yoga postures, and a final relaxation to build balance, strength, flexibility, range of motion, and a sense of improved well-being and wholeness. Modifications are offered for all levels.

All are welcome. No pre-registration required.

<https://www.amherstma.gov/calendar.aspx?EID=26184>

1046 South East Street, Amherst, MA

Burger night 2/13/2024 4:00pm

Tuesday: Burger night(4 pm - 8 pm) for \$9 you get a cocktail of choice (excluding top shelf) a fresh hand made bacon cheeseburger on a brioche bun with fries.

Mmmmmm best burger around!!!

79 Maple Street, Easthampton, MA (413) 527-9847

City Sports Swing 2/13/2024 7:00pm

Your Tuesdays are about to swing! Join us at City Sports Grill (the bar inside of the Northampton Spare Time bowling alley) weekly for: 7-8 Lindy Lesson; 8-10 DJ'd Music and Dancing, featuring DJ RaggmOP. Easy access right off of I91, with free and ample parking! Food & drink available for purchase. Please, to support the venue, no outside food and drink. They have a full bar for you! For non-dancers or in between songs: there's plenty of seating and an arcade room, with pool tables.

525 Pleasant Street, Northampton, MA (413) 584-4830

PVTA Senior ID Card 2/13/2024 11:00am

Did you know people 60 and over can ride the PVTA for a one way fare of \$0.75? All you need is a Senior ID card. Bring a copy of your Medicare Card, SSI Award Letter, proof of age, or be a veteran with 70% or more of a disability to our Senior ID Card workshop to apply. Need to renew? You can do that too! No appointment necessary. <https://www.amherstma.gov/calendar.aspx?EID=25433>

70 Boltwood Walk, Amherst, MA

Yoga at the Library 2/13/2024 8:30am

Yoga class by donation with Michele Morales Wolk. Michele has been trained and certified at Karuna Yoga. She has been teaching yoga in the valley for 15 years and currently teaches classes at the Northampton and Southampton Senior Centers and at Baystate Hospital.

19 Meadow Street, Northampton, MA (413) 587-1500

Drop-In Knitting & Crochet 2/13/2024 5:30pm

Drop in at the Greenfield Public Library for an evening of knitting and crocheting! All skill levels are welcome, whether you're new with needles and hooks, or an old pro. Bring your own supplies, and enjoy some time working on your project while connecting with other crafters.

This program, generously sponsored by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library, is free and intended for ages 12 and up.

402 Main Street, Greenfield, MA (413) 772-1544

HOME
MAGAZINE

Features to consider for a RELAXATION-THEMED bathroom remodel

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME FEATURES TO CONSIDER WHEN REMODELING
A BATHROOM WITH RELAXATION IN MIND

Homeowners want to view their homes as a respite from all that goes on outside their doors. Indeed, turning a home into a residents-only retreat can ensure everyone looks

forward to walking through the front the door at the end of the day.

One of the more popular ways to turn a home into one's own personal retreat is to upgrade the bathroom. A renovated

bathroom can completely transform how individuals feel about their homes. The following are some features to consider when remodeling a bathroom with relaxation in mind.

OPEN SHOWER

An open shower is a visually stunning addition to any bathroom. Such showers give a bathroom a more open look,



thanks in part to the fact that these modern features do not feature a door or require the use of a shower curtain. The result is a clean look that many people associate with a luxury hotel. When speaking with a contractor about an open shower install, homeowners can ask about a half-wall to safeguard against water splashing out of the shower. In addition, a heat lamp can help ensure residents stay warm until they're ready to leave the bathroom.

HEATED FEATURES

Additional features to keep everyone calm and warm can be considered when upgrading the bathroom. Radiant flooring can ensure everyone's toes remain toasty, and the installation of such a feature can eliminate the need for floor mats and bath mats that some homeowners may not like. Commit further to the heat theme with a heated towel rack, which is another feature associated with luxury hotels that can be just as enjoyable at home.



SOAKING TUB

An open shower creates an instant feeling of luxury, but few things are more suggestive of relaxation than a soaking tub. A long day at school or the office or a

day when winter winds are howling outside is made much better with a good a soak. The National Kitchen & Bath Association notes that luxury bathrooms featuring soaking tubs are wildly popular, and

that vaunted status is undoubtedly due to the relaxing benefits of a good soak.

SKYLIGHT

Even if the goal of a luxury bathroom is to leave the outside world outside, allowing some natural light inside is a great way to add a little extra calm to the room. Floor-to-ceiling windows may seem appealing in brochures or advertisements, but such features do not create the sense of privacy many people prefer in their bathrooms. One or two skylights can create that sense of privacy and still allow for natural light to enter the room, making this an option that provides the best of both worlds.

These features and more can help homeowners transform their bathrooms into luxurious, relaxing respites from the outside world.

HOME
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17 HOME MAGAZINE - JANUARY 2024

ORGANIZATIONAL TIPS for bathrooms and laundry spaces

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME WAYS TO MAXIMIZE STORAGE AND FUNCTION
IN BATHROOMS AND LAUNDRY SPACES



No two homes are exactly alike. While homes typically feature certain common amenities, even in planned communities homeowners do their best to set their homes apart from others in the development.

Certain areas of a home may initially garner less attention than others. This often is the case with small washrooms, sometimes called powder rooms or guest bathrooms, as well as laundry areas. Despite their utilitarian nature,

bathrooms and laundry rooms can often benefit from some better organization. The following are some ways to maximize storage and function in these spaces.

BATHROOM

Apart from a vanity and possibly a medicine cabinet, many bathroom layouts tend to be pretty sparse in terms of storage. So it is up to homeowners to in-

troduce more storage and organizational function.

OVER-TOILET SHELVING

Freestanding units are available from many different retailers, but they may lack aesthetic appeal. Homeowners can install open shelves above the toilet that coordinate with the style of the home. Use

them to store extra towels or display decorative items.

STREAMLINED CONTAINERS

Invest in coordinating storage containers (clear are preferable) so that all items can be uniformly put away. First sort through all items to determine which size containers are necessary and how many are required.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

CONCEAL TOILET PAPER

Homeowners want to have bath tissue on hand, but simply placing it near the toilet can look cluttered or unsightly. Use decorative baskets to house one or two extra rolls and place on shelving or on the toilet tank itself.

FREESTANDING CABINET

Those lucky enough to have linen

closets in their bathrooms can keep everything behind closed doors. In small bathrooms this may not be possible. However, a freestanding cabinet, similar to a kitchen pantry cabinet, can be used if there is space for it. Store all of the linens and other items inside.

LAUNDRY

Laundry rooms can be very organized or a catch-all space for objects that simply

do not fit in other rooms in the home. Perfecting laundry room organization can take some effort.

FOLDING STATION

A laundry room is more useful with a folding station. It can be a separate counter over cabinetry, or innovative homeowners build a counter over front-loading washing machines and dryers.

UTILIZE WALL SPACE

Use hooks and shelving to get items off the floor or counters. Use them to hold brooms, mops, ironing boards, detergent, and much more.

INVEST IN A PEDESTAL STORAGE DRAWER

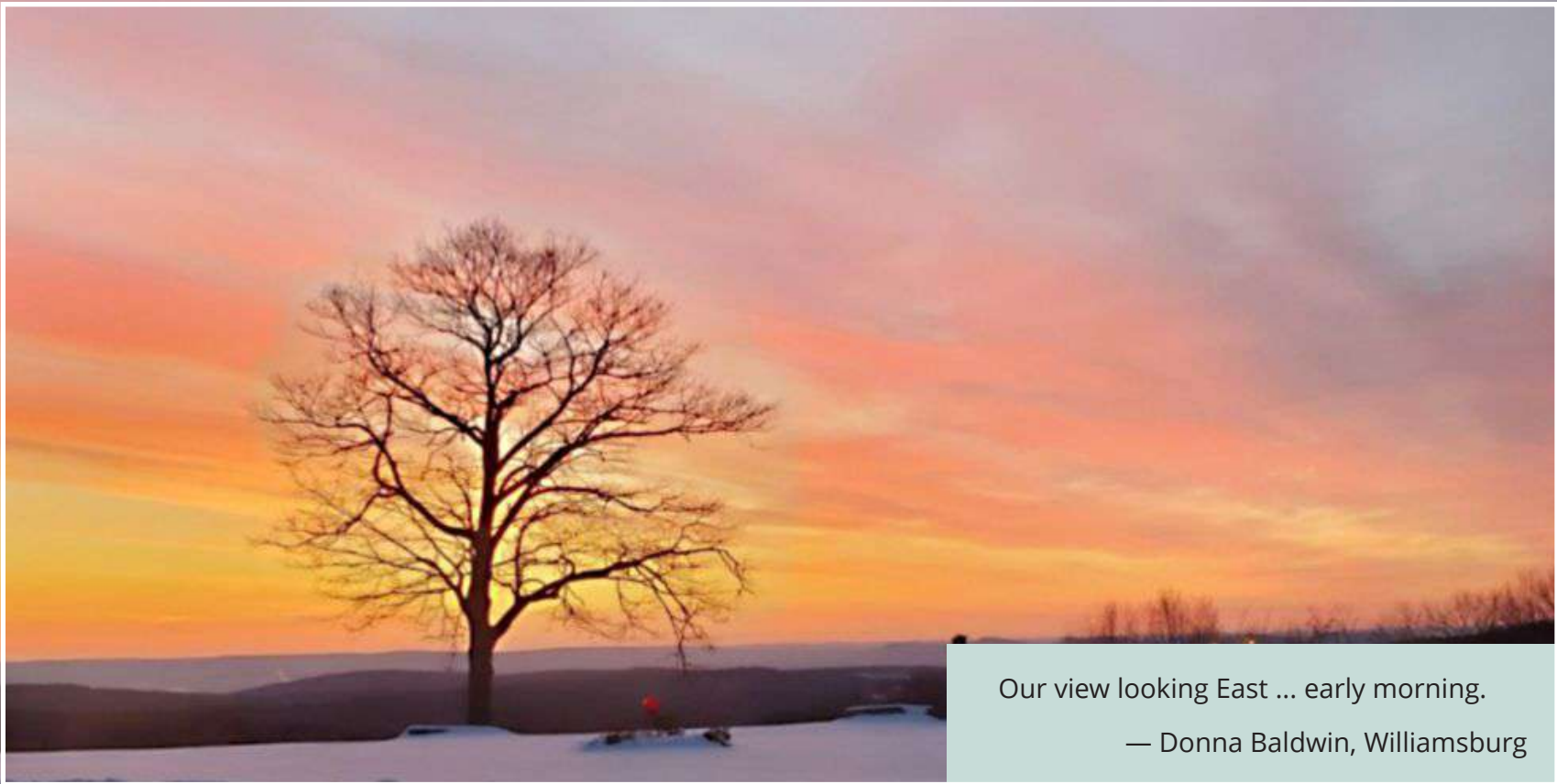
Laundry pedestal storage drawers can be used to keep dryer sheets, laundry pods and additional supplies out of view.

USE SPACE-SAVING CABINETRY

Pull out drawers and cabinets can be used to hold hampers, ironing boards, and other frequently used items without cluttering up the room.

Organizing bathrooms and wash rooms can give these spaces a cleaner, more impressive look.

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Our view looking East ... early morning.
— Donna Baldwin, Williamsburg

Simple strategies to create MORE STORAGE SPACE in the kitchen



WOULD-BE ORGANIZERS CAN CONSIDER THESE STRATEGIES TO CREATE MORE STORAGE SPACE IN THE KITCHEN

If home is where the heart is, then the kitchen is where that heart spends most of its time. Kitchens are where family and friends tend to congregate during holiday celebrations, and many a homework assignment has been completed at a kitchen island while parents prepare dinner.

The popularity of kitchens is reflected in the attention these rooms get from renovation-minded homeowners. Data from the National Association of Home Builders indicates kitchens are the most popular room to remodel. Upgrading kitchen storage is a popular renovation project, and it's also one that has practical appeal. Adding more storage in the kitchen gives the room a more organized feel, which can make preparing meals more enjoyable and create space when hosting and guests inevitably congregate around an island. With those benefits in mind, would-be organizers can con-

sider these strategies to create more storage space in the kitchen.

TAKE STOCK OF THE SPICE RACK

Creating more storage space does not necessarily have to involve tools like screwdrivers, hammers and nails. Spice racks can easily become overcrowded as amateur cooks expand their culinary repertoire. A crowded spice rack inevitably spills out onto the surrounding countertop. Take stock of the spice rack and discard any spices or seasonings you haven't used in a while. This can create a more organized look and free up extra counter space.

MAKE A DIGITAL COOKBOOK

If your go-to recipes are filling a binder or two, those binders are al-

most certainly taking up precious storage space. Scan printed recipes and covert your physical recipe collection into a digital cookbook you store on a tablet.

INSTALL ROLL-OUT SHELVING IN THE PANTRY

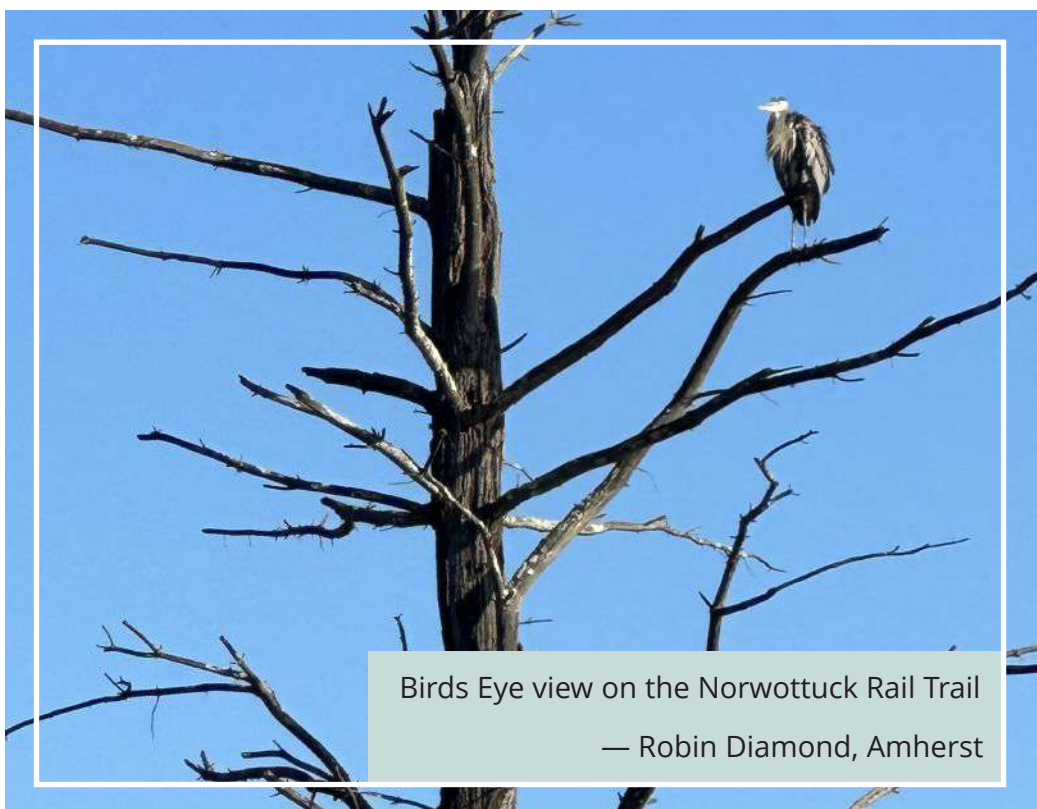
Roll-out shelving puts the entire pantry to use. Without such shelving, items are destined to be relegated to that nether region known as the back of the pantry. Some items never emerge from this area, as cooks forget they're there and then purchase duplicates, which inevitably contributes to storage issues. Roll-out shelving ensures all items in the pantry can be found and greatly reduces the likelihood that cooks will have lots of duplicate items taking up precious kitchen space.

REMOVE SINGLE-USE GADGETS FROM THE KITCHEN

Much like spices and seasonings vital to the preparation of specialty meals have a tendency to be used just once, kitchen gadgets that lack versatility have a way of gathering dust and taking up storage space. Whether it's a popcorn maker, a seldom-used but space-needy wok or another gadget that's used infrequently, if at all, store single-use gadgets in the garage or another area of the house where they won't get in the way or contribute to a less-than-organized look in the room.

A handful of simple strategies can help anyone create more storage space in the kitchen.

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Birds Eye view on the Norwottuck Rail Trail
— Robin Diamond, Amherst



Show us your home landscape pictures!

Submit a high resolution image along with your name and the town you live and a short description to be considered in an upcoming issue of *Home Magazine*. Send submissions to: jlevesque@gazettenet.com for consideration

SWEET-AND-SOUR BAKED SALMON

WHEN GLAZED IN AN EASY SAUCE, THIS 'SWEET-AND-SOUR BAKED SALMON' WILL BE THE STAR OF MEALTIME

Salmon is a hearty, flavorful and heart-healthy protein. When glazed in an easy sauce, this 'Sweet-and-Sour Baked Salmon' will be the star of mealtime. Enjoy it, courtesy of '30-Minute Meal Prep' (Sourcebooks) by Robin Miller.

SWEET-AND-SOUR BAKED SALMON

Serves 4

INGREDIENTS

- 8 salmon fillets, about 5 to 6 ounces each
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup 100 percent pineapple juice
- 2 tablespoons ketchup
- 2 tablespoons light brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar, regular or seasoned
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/8 ground ginger
- Chopped green onions for serving

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Coat a shallow baking dish with a thin layer of olive or vegetable oil.

2. Pat the salmon fillets dry and place them in the prepared pan. Season the salmon with salt and black pepper. Set aside.

3. In a small saucepan, whisk to-

gether the pineapple juice, ketchup, brown sugar, rice vinegar, soy sauce, cornstarch, garlic, and ginger. Set the pan over medium heat and bring to a simmer. Cook for 2 to 3 minutes, until the sauce thickens, stirring frequently.

4. Spoon the sauce over the salmon.

5. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes, until the salmon is fork tender (a meat ther-

mometer should register 145 degrees Fahrenheit).

6. Reserve half of the salmon for a future meal. Refrigerate up to 3 days.

7. Top the remaining salmon with the green onions, and serve.

Tip: You can make this dish spicy by adding hot sauce or sriracha sauce to

the glaze. You can also top the finished dish with crushed red pepper flakes.

Also, this thick sauce is versatile, so it can be used on chicken, beef and shellfish.



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