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features

24 | Secret Gardens

It's the season for garden tour fundraisers. Take a peek into the beautiful backyards of the Valley's most talented gardeners.

30 | Over-the-Hill Soccer League

It's never too late to get into the game for these residents. Stephen O'Connor profiles the die-hard players of this organization.

32 | Take a Free Ride

Cycling clubs are a great way to tour the area. Renée Le Verrier takes a spin with a few of the popular groups.

36 | Everything Old is New Again

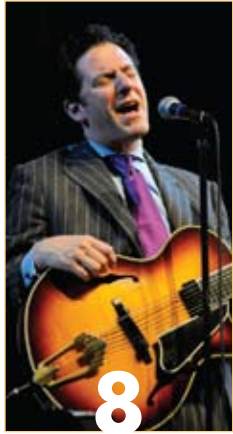
Michael Brindley gets an inside look at a home in Merrimacport that has been restored to its former glory.

58 | Taste of the Valley

Area farmers and fishermen provide a bounty for those residents enjoying the locavore lifestyle.

Cover Image:

A catch of fresh, local lobster is among the many offerings of Merrimack Valley fishermen. Read more about the locavore movement on page 58. Photo by Kevin Harkins.



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Recent events in the Merrimack Valley.

20 | movers & shakers:

Notable people in the Merrimack Valley.

22 | community calendar:

A preview of what's happening soon in your town, by Kate Harper.

28 | valley spotlight:

Meet the Merrimack Valley residents behind Rising Minds, a non-profit organization dedicated to making a quality education an attainable goal in Guatemala.

42 | shopping downtown:

Rona Gofstein takes a closer look at the current bow trend.

44 | community spotlight:

The Merrimack Valley Food Bank is working hard to serve the area's food pantries.

46 | remembrances:

Gillian Roberta Swart introduces us to Susan Little, longtime Newbury resident.

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48 | artist profile:

Vassilios Giavis is a prolific painter of the Lowell landscape; Beth Daigle shares her insights into his work.

50 | musician profile:

Kate Baldwin sits down with Newburyport musician Susan Levine to talk about her latest work.

52 | arts & entertainment calendar:

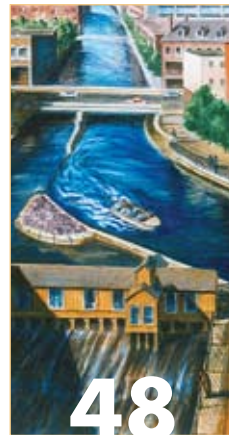
Your definitive guide to arts and entertainment in the Valley, by Kate Harper.

57 | book review:

The King's Grace, reviewed by Gillian Roberta Swart.

72 | portrait of the valley:

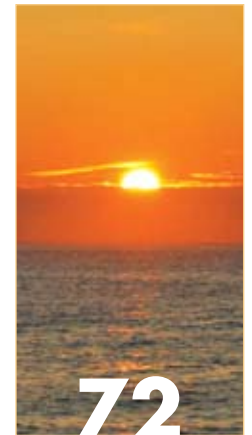
"Reflections and Patience" by Leane Lavoie.



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cuisine

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Emilie-Noelle Provost discovers a sparkling surprise in Prosecco wine.

64 | good eats:

Cotton Restaurant, reviewed by Betsey Beaven.

66 | dining guide:

A directory of restaurants and recipes that appeal to all tastes.