

FEATURES

From the Merrimack to the Seine 24

Rebecca Spolarich continues on her Parisian adventure, sharing tales from the Metro.

Collective Design 32

Fellow Valley natives—including a craftsman, designer, and homeowner—collaborate on a North Andover home's renovation to suit an active family of six.

Re-discovering Whittier 38

In celebration of John Greenleaf Whittier's 200th birthday, Brian Kologe visits the Homestead and recalls the poet's influence on his youth.

Election Lessons: The Educations of Jim and Niki 42

Chris Markuns interviews the candidates from last fall's special congressional election: Congresswoman Niki Tsongas and her defeated opponent, Jim Ogonowski.

Enhancing the Mind/Body Connection 44

New Year = New Body? Writer and Yogi Renée Le Verrier offers guidance to the different yoga styles and studios found on the Massachusetts side of the border (part 1 of a two-part series).

A Taste of Chocolate for Every Palate 66

Buying locally has never been better; Barbara C. Bourassa takes us inside the world of artisanal chocolate.



32



42



44



66



38

Cover Image

Ovedia Artisan Chocolates' chocolate-covered pear is both a culinary and visual masterpiece.

Contents

JAN/FEB 2008

Merrimack
Valley
MAGAZINE

DEPARTMENTS

COMMUNITY:

Happenings 14

Recent events and notable people in the Merrimack Valley, by Gillian Roberta Swart

Community Spotlight 26

Gregory Norris visits the Nevins Farm MSCPA and Manchester Friends of Animals, just two of many organizations in the Valley that look out for our furry friends.

Eye on Business 28

Andover Medical Associates offers a fresh approach to health care, by Chris Markuns

Practical Matters 30

Tips for organizing your finances, contributed by Eva Valentine

Get Outside 52

Bundle up and head outside to the annual Lowell Winterfest, by Andy Smith

Remembrances 80

Gillian Roberta Swart interviews Haverhill resident and Whittier historian Richard Becker.

CULTURE:

Creative Minds 50

Artist Joe Unni shares his passion for wood, by Michelle Xiarhos Curran

River Roundup 54

Your definitive guide to arts and entertainment in the Valley, by Gillian Roberta Swart

Spotlight on the Arts 58

Remembering Robert Goulet, by Andy Smith

Musician Profile 59

Brett Cromwell takes a look at the evolving career of Valley native Stephen Brodsky.

Native Prose 60

An excerpt from John Greenleaf Whittier's "Snow-Bound", with illustrations by Kate Harper

Words in Review 61

Gillian Roberta Swart reviews *Daughter of York* by Anne Easter Smith

Portrait of the Valley 82

"Harp seal in the frozen marsh" by Jim Fenton of Haverhill

CUISINE:

Wine Notes 62

Hearty Zinfandels to warm up your winter, by Rich Collins

Good Eats 64

Barbara C. Bourassa visits Infusions Bistro of Chelmsford.

Dining Guide 72

A directory of Valley restaurants that appeal to all tastes (and a few tempting recipes, too)

