letter from the editor

Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder

elcome to Merrimack Valley Home. When someone enters my home, the first thing I like to say is welcome. I always enjoy inviting friends and family into my home to share in the comforts that I have created. I take great pride in making my home what I consider to be a warm, welcoming and beautiful place. I would like the pages of Merrimack Valley

Home to feel the same way.

"Beautiful," of course, means different things to different people. When it comes to our homes, the range of tastes, styles, shapes and sizes varies considerably. For some, the ultracontemporary home featured in our spring 2014 issue, with its sleek lines and minimalist decor, is striking. Others find traditional homes with ornate crown molding and a more formal decor to be ultimately appealing. Whatever your preference, we at Merrimack Valley Home strive to show you the best our area has to offer, from elegant to eclectic. Our pages are meant to inspire, intrigue and reveal a world of fresh ideas, trends and resources. Our team's sights are set on spaces with interesting, dramatic or simply stunning stories to tell. Expect beauty as well as the unexpected, special and downright cool.

I am thrilled to be working with MV Home's design consultant Linda Holt, of Linda Holt Interiors in Boxford, as we explore our region in order to bring you the finest in style, construction and decor. Whether you spy one small decoration or choose to replicate a feature home's entire look, we aim to offer inspiration.



This fall 2014 issue is a nod to the traditional. The Merrimack Valley is steeped in tradition, and that is reflected in many of the homes here. As the holidays approach, it is fitting to share with you homes and time-honored accents that evoke a sense of nostalgia and history.

Suzanne DeWitt writes about the sentimentality of Linda and Larry McHugh's distinguished brick colonial in North Andover, where a thoughtful story resides in nearly every room. Alyson Aiello tells us how Sandy and Peter McCarthy of Andover transformed their house into the home of their dreams by drawing from Sandy's love of Southern homes. Linda Holt talks about the return to traditional in her Decorating Trends column and also takes us on a Holiday House Tour through Newburyport.

We hope you will enjoy these stories, as well as our other regular columns, real estate information and additional articles on High Point Market in North Carolina, a luxurious landscape in Methuen, and home sound systems that will keep the music playing loud and clear.

All the best from our house to yours,

Beth

C Talk

Talk back to Beth at **BethDaigle@mvmag.net**