



Patti's Picks

The Return to Newport!

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Introduction

Hello to all my old friends!

For those of you not familiar with Patti's Picks, let me fill you in. When this conference first started 21 years ago, I had just moved to Newport and found myself providing local tips and information to many of my customers. I have a vague memory of a rather rough and cryptic word doc being faxed around (no e-mail then!). The following year it took on a name and became my unofficial guide. A year after that, it then became the official NEMBC restaurant/dining guide until the conference moved to Providence in 2003.

My focus is primarily on food, however I've included some lodging and sightseeing information for those that have told me they rely on this for return visits to Newport. It's intended to provide you with some guidance on places that I have enjoyed while both living and visiting Newport. It is not intended to be comprehensive. I have done my best to include the places that I've enjoyed, along with checking in each year with locals to make sure my old favorites are still good and what new places have opened that you may like as well. There are many, many casual places to dine and drink at and I can't include them all. As far as live entertainment, I encourage you to pick up a copy of *Newport This Week* upon your arrival for current and accurate entertainment news.

Summer 2008: Visiting an Old Friend

Visiting Newport *still* feels like I moved away just yesterday. While I have my mandatory places to go, I always look into what's new and what's "hot". Thankfully, there are many reliable locals I can go to for the current state of affairs. As far as I'm concerned, there is only one place to stay, The Francis Malbone House. I'm usually a fan of staying at the conference hotel for convenience sake, but not in Newport! You can make this Inn what you want: convenient, private & business-like if you're on the move; or cozy, romantic and relaxing if you're not. Once checked in and settled, it was on to the Moorings for lunch. After a stroll around town for some fun shopping, it was soon time for the next meal! Cocktails and dinner at The Black Pearl is a mainstay, but I should confess that I'm more a fan of seeing warm, familiar faces behind the bar and glad to see that Luke, Tim and Don did not disappoint. Chef Dan Knerr loves to make tableside visits and is still quite entertaining while serving up the classics. The next morning it was on to the Cliff Walk. I don't care how many times you've seen the mansions, you can't get tired of views from this walk. Take the extra time and get some exercise! You'll be happy you did. After that, you can then get in your car and follow Ten Mile Drive for even more spectacular views.

People, places and things may come and go in the City by the Sea, however, you can always find comfort in the many classic spots Newport has to offer. The restaurant scene is all a-buzz with both new additions and much needed jazzing-up to old classics. Who would ever have thought that an

institution like Christie's could vanish? No worries, plenty of other options for great lobsters and seafood. I still find the shopping a blast with many fun, new stores throughout the city. And just when you think you don't need to hit the seas, new options arise for harbor tours. There is so much to see and do, I just hope you find some time to break away from your busy schedule to take in all this wonderful town has to offer. Since I am now a true tourist and not a local, I've enlisted some help for my updates. Special thanks to Will Dewey, General Manager, at the Francis Malbone House for his input...always an honest and refreshing view from a long-time local. Also, thanks to Tim Walsh, full-time Newport Convention Bureau Big Kahuna and part-time Black Pearl bartender for his invaluable insight.

This year I've added a few new features to the guide. In addition to the alphabetical listing and brief description of each restaurant, I've added different categories in which I've sorted out the many choices. This may be particularly helpful for those who want to make sure they have a business appropriate atmosphere to dine in vs. those looking for something less formal.

I hope you enjoy Newport as much as I do!

Places to Eat
Places to Drink
Things to Do
Shopping

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Top Lists: These are listed in alphabetical order.
This is merely a shot at trying to help you sort out
the best from the rest!

Best Food:

22 Bowen
Bouchard's
Castle Hill
Spiced Pear

Most Popular:

Black Pearl
Clarke Cooke House
West Deck

Top Lunch

22 Bowen
Castle Hill
Clarke Cooke House-The Bistro
Mooring's

Power Dining

22 Bowen
Black Pearl-Commodores Room
Castle Hill
Clarke Cooke House-The Porch
White Horse Tavern

Pub Dining

Brick Alley Pub
Mudville Pub

Best Seafood

Mooring's
Scales & Shells

Places to Eat

22 Bowen's Wine Bar & Grille. Think Capital Grille, Morton's or The Palm. Yes, the City by the Sea has a steakhouse worth talking about! Great aged beef, along with a wonderfully fresh seafood selection. If you're a burger-junkie, their sirloin hamburger is WONDERFUL! This is also a great place for outdoor dining at lunchtime. Quiet, yet in the center of the action. Power-diners beware...be sure to ask for a table away from the kitchen. 22 Bowen's Wharf 401-841-8884

Asterisk Restaurant & Bar. This cleverly converted garage hosts an informal grill/bistro with an eclectic menu. The bar area is a wonderfully built and decorated spot offering entertainment on many nights. Very classy. 599 Thames, 401- 841-8833

Barking Crab

Leave it to Ms. Kathy Herminghaus to give me the scoop on the newest edition to Newport's dining scene. "Great seafood! A fun place for casual dining". We also hit it on our last visit and the roasted littlenecks were an interesting adaptation of a RI favorite. I loved the stuffies, too! This is the same ownership as the Boston restaurant. Brickmarket Place 2, 401-846-CRAB

Black Pearl. A Newport Classic, no matter where you eat or drink. I always try to include a stop here for a bowl of chowder and lobster roll. For those looking for more upscale dining, The Commodore room, located in the front of the building is an intimate waterfront restaurant in an elegant dining room. The casual back room is a local favorite for the aforementioned chowder and burgers. The fried brie is still great! Inside or out, the Pearl is still home to the best bartender team in town! Bannister's Wharf, 401-846-5264

Bouchard Restaurant. With Chef Albert Bouchard in command of the kitchen and his lovely wife Sarah as your hostess, Bouchard's has become a Newport standout. This small, elegant restaurant serves interesting adaptations of classic French dishes. 505 Thames, 401-846-0123

Brick Alley Pub & Restaurant. An inexpensive local hangout with burgers, nachos and other good pub food. With a pool table in the back, this is a great place to get away from the power-dining scene. 140 Thames, 401-849-6334

Cafe Zelda. So you want to talk with some sailors? Come here. A lively, local bar with a very loyal following. Casual dining in an intimate little dining room. Open for lunch. 528 Thames, 401-849-4002

Canfield House. Upstairs is a formal dining room that is now serving gourmet food in what was once Newport's oldest casino. This has always been my favorite place to go when you don't want to be overheard by another table. Private rooms available as well. 5 Memorial Blvd, 401-847-0416

Castle Hill. If you can't get here for dinner, please try to stop here for a cocktail, especially at sunset. Located on Ocean Drive, this Victorian mansion has a spectacular view of Narragansett Bay. It is also a wonderful setting for a getaway lunch. Private rooms are available for small groups. The Inn is now part of the Relais & Chateaux group. 590 Ocean Avenue, 401-849-3800

Christie's. Don't get confused, this is not the same Christie's as you remember from before. Located in the old Cheeky Monkey spot, this is a sister restaurant to Forty 1 North (which is in the old Christie's building), and

Christie's. (cont.) open to the public. Retro chic with an inventive bistro menu. One of the few places that serves breakfast everyday in a very nice setting. 14 Perry Mill Wharf, 401-847-5400

Clarke Cooke House. The multilevel hub of the Newport social scene. The upper most level, The Porch, has become one of Newport's finest places for formal dining. The popular bistro level has an inventive menu with creative daily specials (this level has been known to host a few wild and crazy dinners at this convention). Street level, known as the Candy Store, has a great bar that overlooks the docks. The Boom Boom Room is downstairs, the place to be on a weekend night. Bannister's Wharf, 401-849-2900

Fifth Element. Another new addition, this eclectic setting and equally inventive menu offer a little bit for everyone. The grilled pizzas are getting great reviews by locals. Also, they are quite eager to accommodate private functions. 509 Thames Street, 401-841-0011

Fluke. Opened in June '07, Fluke is the new "hot" spot in town. Serving both tapas style and full entrees in a bright and airy setting. The 3rd floor bar level offers a sleeper view of Newport Harbor and a quiet place to enjoy a drink and light snack. 41 Bowen's Wharf, 401-849-7778

Forty 1 North. While I wouldn't normally write up private clubs, for those that dine in Newport more than just during this conference or for those expecting larger check sizes, it is worth looking into...especially for business dining. As of print time, they offered Guest Programs for as little as \$350 which the entire fee is credited towards food and beverages at The Grill, an upscale, waterfront restaurant serving grilled seafood and meats. The former home of Christie's, it is a wonderful place to get away from the crowds and still enjoy some fantastic food in an open air setting. 351 Thames St, 401-846-8018

Flo's Clam Shack. If you want a classic dish of fried clams, make this a must on your dining list. Don't expect much for atmosphere, this is the kind of place to go in shorts, jeans and a T-shirt. With a wonderful selection of hot sauces at the upstairs bar, you can dress up any of the other fried fish entrees. Wave Ave., across from 1st Beach, Middletown
401-846-3357

Mooring Seafood Kitchen & Bar. This remains one of my favorite lunch spots, but is clearly a nice dinner choice as well. Located on the waterfront, they serve up traditional seafood specialties including a great lobster roll. The seafood chowder is my favorite! Yes, it does resemble clam chowder but it contains a few huge scallops. Parking is available in front.
1 Saylor's Wharf, 401-846-2260

Mudville Pub. Newport's own sports bar. Owner/proprietor (and former Celtic) Kevin Stacom has filled his bar with TV's (including 2 large screens) and loads of sports memorabilia. Traditional pub food is served along with nightly specials. This is one of my favorite places for a big, greasy hamburger and fries. Located just across the street from the Marriott, it is also a great place to grab a beer with some friends.
8 West Marlborough, 401-849-1408

Newport Blues Cafe. This place rocks! They haven't won numerous "Best Live Music" awards by having lousy bands. Music aside, you can go there for a more casual dinner or lunch, but my recommendation is to hit it for the after-dinner scene. Great local and regional bands play nightly. Along with great local and national bands, Doug Flutie and his band come here quite often too. 286 Thames, 401-841-5510

Perro Salado. Located in the old La Petite Auberge space, this funky Mexican restaurant is a welcome addition to the ethnic dining scene in Newport. Chef/Owner, Dan Hall relocated from Brooklyn to open this business with his brother ("the money guy"). I stopped by when they were closed and Dan was in the middle of unpacking a huge shipment of fresh produce. He was thrilled to hear that locals were giving him good reviews on both the food and his funky margarita's. I promised to come back and try one of the many, specialty tequila's he carries when I didn't have to drive soon after! 19 Charles Street, 401-619-4777

Pronto. Still a favorite amongst locals, this small, cozy Italian gem serves up creative pasta dishes. Their daily specials are truly the draw, as they incorporate many of the fresh vegetables and seafood of each season. Don't be fooled by the size of this restaurant. Along with the first floor, the upstairs offers a cute bar and additional seating. The upstairs is a wonderful location for private parties. 464 Thames, 401-847-5251

Puerini's. A cute, informal Italian eatery specializing in homemade pasta. 24 Memorial Blvd, 401-847-5506

Red Parrott. This was once a local favorite, but now seems to be jammed with only tourists. With so many new options, seems the locals have drifted to other places. Still, a great people-watching spot if you can get one of the tables along the sidewalk. 348 Thames, 401-847-3800

Restaurant Vanderbilt. I had heard from someone (?) that the restaurant in the Vanderbilt was very good. Not as formal as before, but not too casual either. For the last month I've yet to find anyone who has either dined there or who knew someone who had. So, after much debate, I've decided to keep this in and let you try it at your own risk. 41 Mary Street, 401-846-6200
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Rhode Island Quahog Company. I have no idea what this restaurant is like, but it has a cool name and a great location. This sounds like the perfect place for out-of-towners to go to get a feel for a true Rhode Island experience. Locals should go because the food gets decent reviews in magazines for classic items such as chowder, stuffies and clamcakes. One of these days I'll get here or find someone who has!
250 Thames, 401-848-2330

Rhumblin. Somewhat hidden, this is a local favorite for lunch. It is a great lunch spot if you want to take a short walk from either the Marriott or the Hyatt.
62 Bridge Street, 401-849-3999

Sardella's. A favorite amongst many for serving hearty, classic Italian dishes. Owner and former Mayor, Richard Sardella is almost always at the bar, ready for a chat. 30 Memorial Boulevard, 401-849-6312

Scales & Shells. Grilled seafood at its freshest and best! This lively, seafood only restaurant is a local favorite. The blackboard menu lists daily specials, but don't hesitate to walk over to the open grill to make your selection from the display of fresh fish. Fried calamari and lobster fra davolo are favorites. No credit cards. 527 Thames, 401-846-3474

Sea Shai Hibachi Garden. I have always been a fan of the sister-restaurant, Sea Shai, in Middletown for their sushi. However, this new location on Long Wharf offers a fun dining experience according to anyone who has been there. It's a Benihana-like atmosphere with knife yielding Teppanyaki chef's preparing your meal around the steel table. Tom Moran from Equity National Title loves it and says it's a great place for group dinners. Private rooms are available for party sizes from 10-40. 14 Long Wharf, 401-841-0051

Spiced Pear. For those of you who still have a decent size expense account, this is the place to go! Overlooking the Cliff Walk, this elegant establishment has a love-hate relationship with nearly everyone who dines there. They love the creative, wonderful flavors in all the dishes, but hate the price tag and small portions that go along with it. However, since GQ Magazine listed the *Not Just a Burger* as one of "The 20 Hamburgers You Must Eat Before You Die", I'll pull out my credit card and check this food challenge off my Bucket List while I'm there in September. 117 Memorial Boulevard, 401-847-2244

Trattoria Simpatico. If you're willing to make the extra effort (I highly recommend it!) to drive to Jamestown, this is well worth the trip! Italian food is served while Owner Phyllis Bedard carefully watches over. The menu is creative and fun. If the weather cooperates, after dinner drinks can be taken outside where you sit amongst the big oak trees (maybe maple trees, who cares...they are nice, big trees). 13 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown 401-423-3731

The West Deck. This friendly bistro is located in a restored building on Newport's hidden waterfront. You can choose to enjoy dinner in the cozy dining rooms or sit alongside the bar to watch all the action of an open kitchen. During the warmer months an outside grille has been added for casual, outdoor dining. While ownership has changed over the years, Mike Cheney has been a partner from the beginning and continues to grab hold of the local crowd with his careful attention to delivering a quality meal. Or, perhaps it's the fact that he's simply funny and a good guy! 1 Waite's Wharf, 401-847-3610

White Horse Tavern. No matter how many years have gone by, this is still a Newport classic and loved by locals for that special meal. The oldest, continuously operating tavern in America! This is an elegant setting for serving international cuisine. With many small and different dining rooms, this is an excellent choice for that power meal. 26 Marlborough Street, 401- 849-3600

Yesterday's & The Place. There are two sides of this popular Newport mainstay. The main entrance brings you into The Place, one of the most creative menus in New England. Fresh ingredients in a variety of unusual presentations is what kept me going back for more. However, as of late, the reviews have been mixed and inconsistencies have been reported. To the left of The Place dining room is the more casual, pub side of Yesterday's. The menu offers everything a traditional pub would serve, along with some great local specialties. When making reservations, be sure to specify what side of the restaurant you want. 28 Washington Square, 401-847-0116

Broadway Neighborhood. Well, this isn't a restaurant, nor is it exactly a neighborhood, but everyone kept asking me "Have you been up on Broadway?" I'm writing up a group of restaurants for a couple reasons. First, they are all located on Broadway (just up from Washington Square) where this section of the city is seeing a renaissance. Secondly, my experience with a couple of them have me a little concerned about the draw for a convention crowd. Each offer their own flair, but all are a little on the eclectic side. As one local said "It's a little bit of "Cambridge in Newport". Good description. 180, **Norey's, Portobella's, Salvation Café, Spark and Tuckers** have become the new hot spots for local dining. Not my choices for entertaining customers, but if I'm out with a couple friends looking for some creative food in a funky atmosphere, I'd go to any of these fine choices.

Places to Drink

Some bars are simply...bars. However sometimes you're looking for that perfect hangout for movers & shakers or simply the best dive to unwind in. Either way, some bars serve a purpose while others simply serve drinks. Here is my list of favorite places to fit all needs.

22 Bowen. Where I would go when I wanted a good martini in a classy setting. Bowen's Wharf 401-841-8884

Black Pearl. Whether you choose indoors or out, the Pearl remains on top for the best bartender team in Newport. Inside is a small, cozy bar while the outdoor deck has plenty of room for hooking up with friends. If the weather is nice, there isn't a better people-watching place than the outside bar.

Cafe Zelda. Clearly a beer-drinking, tall stories, kind of place.

Castle Hill. If you've never been out to Castle Hill, please put this on your "to do" list for your next visit. This is one of the prettiest locations in all of Newport. Perched high above Narragansett Bay, the views are spectacular and nothing feels more grand than sitting in one of the big Adirondack chairs on the lawn with a cocktail in hand. Sunset is nice, but any time of the day will do! A must do for all!

Clarke Cooke House. Any time of year, any weather, any of the 4 bar locations within. A fun, lively atmosphere in the heart of downtown.

Celtica Pulic House. An Irish Pub in the same block as the Marriott. 95 Long Wharf, 401-847-4770

Loca. Another casual location in the same block as the Marriott. Live Reggae music is often offered. Next door to Celtica. 109 Long Wharf. 401-843-8300

The Mooring. When the weather is bad and you want to stay warm and dry but look out at the water, this is a great bar to hang out at. It is also very lovely in nice weather, but somehow there are so many other places I'd hit first if I wanted to be outside. Sayer's Wharf 401-846-2260

O'Brien's Pub. If you want to really get away from the crowd, shoot some pool and have a few beers, head down here.

Things To Do

Cliff Walk: A Walk Worth Taking

You see the sign by First Beach and you know the mansions all face out to it, however, few have ventured along the Cliff Walk. Being the outdoor enthusiast I am, I have always been a huge fan of this incredible stretch of land. Beginning at Memorial Blvd., this picturesque walk overlooks the Atlantic and takes you in front of many of the mansions. A good choice is to park your car on Narragansett Avenue and walk as far as you have time for (as you face the water, head toward the right). Trade your dress shoes for sneakers, as some of this path is unpaved.

10 Mile Drive: A Drive Worth Taking

Ocean Drive, locally known as 10 Mile Drive, is a stretch of road that is still one of the prettiest our country has to offer. My trip to Newport is not complete unless I take this drive. Head down Thames Street and turn right on Wellington. Continue along the water, past the New York Yacht Club, Fort Adams and Hammersmith Farms (JFK's summer residence and site of his and Jackie's wedding reception). The drive then continues on past the Coast Guard Station at Castle Hill and out around Benton Point. It eventually brings you to Bellevue Avenue for a look at the mansions. The basic rule-of-thumb when driving this area is *when in doubt of the route, turn right.*

Visiting the Summer Cottages

There is nothing more reminiscent of Newport's Gilded Age than a tour through one of the many spectacular mansions. Even if you've been inside the Marble House or Rosecliff, taking a full guided tour is both fascinating and breathtaking. My favorite part is visiting the kitchens. You just can't imagine what it would be like to call some of these buildings home. And remember, they were simply summer cottages to them! The stories that are told add even more delight to the overall experience. GO!

Museum of Yachting

Located in Fort Adams, this museum displays the extensive history of sailing in Newport. Yachting memorabilia, models and photographs help you capture the thrill of the America's Cup races, as well as the single-handed races. This is not your typical museum. Well worth the trip if you appreciate the sport of sailing.

Newport by Water

One of the many things on my "must do" list is a tour of Newport by water. If you're not lucky enough to know someone with a boat, don't worry, there are many options available to you. Simply head over to Bowen's and Bannister's wharf. Nearly all the boats operate out of this area. Because of seasonal schedules, it's difficult to keep up on who is operating on weekdays vs. weekends and what time of year each of them set sail. By stopping by, you will also be able to see the different boats and take whichever one looks the best to you. *Amazing Grace*, *Schooner Madeleine*, *Aurora* or *Aquidneck II* all offer wonderful access to sunset sails or simply a harbor tour, depending upon your schedule. My favorite for you power-boaters is *Rum Runner II*. Built in 1929 for two New Jersey mobsters, she was used to elude the Coast Guard while smuggling the rum at the height of Prohibition. For schedule and reservations call 401-847-0299 or simply stop by.

A Cup of Coffee With a View

Whether it's first thing in the morning or simply a break from the day, sitting in a big Adirondack chair gazing at some of the prettiest yachts in Newport is my way of sipping a cup of Joe. At the end of Bannister's Wharf on the right is a tiny coffee shop serving bagels and miscellaneous sweets. Seating is outside, so don't bother if it's raining.

Wine Tasting

If you'd like to remain on land, yet still get the feel of "sea legs", Newport Vineyards & Winery is for you! Located just north of Newport in the town of Middletown, this family run vineyard offers tour and tasting daily. While quite small, it is one of the most modern in the East. 909 East Main Road. 401-848-5161.

Shopping

Walking around Newport each year is always an interesting experience... you never know what store will have gone out of business and what's in its place! This year did not disappoint! There have been many additions of national chains in the last few years, including J. Crew, Joseph A. Banks and Coldwater Creek. However, some of the charm still remains with independent stores filling the much needed niche for creative and unique shopping. The following list is a description of those that stand out to me.

Aardvark Antiques. I still love this place. Located at the base of the Newport bridge, this antique store has some of the funniest pieces of lawn sculpture or weird antiques one could ever want (or not want). I've seen everything from original hand-carved carousel horses to some of the most beautiful stained glass windows pass through this store. 9 J.T. Connell Highway, 401-849-7233

Annabelle. For those looking for fine lingerie or that hard to find specialty bra, this is a wonderful little shop to hit. While bra shopping isn't high on my list for things to do on a business trip, you don't find too many stores that specialize in them. So...guess you have to take it when it comes. 395 Thames, 401-846-0389

Aquidneck Lobster Company. I considered putting this under the "Things To Do", but figured some of you may want to pick up some Red Heads From the Sea for your dinner at home Friday night. I should also point out that my husband was upset and appalled by what this has turned in to. This use to be a hidden local gem for buying lobsters as the hustle and bustle of an always active commercial lobster company kept the timid out. If dead squid or fish guts on the floor made you queasy, the smell of the hundreds of lobster tanks would make you run. Now, signs welcome the tourists in to a clean,

Aquidneck Lobster Company (cont.) actually fresh smelling hallway that is now lined with a "fu-fu" jewelry store and frozen yogurt stand that leads to a spectacular deck overlooking Newport Harbor. He reluctantly admitted that the deck is one of the nicest additions, but clearly they have given up much of the commercial operations here for the t-shirt dollar. Fresh Lobsters as big as your arm are still available and can be picked out from the few remaining tanks. Bowen's Wharf.

The Armory. Representing over 125 dealers, this historic building houses an eclectic mix of antiques and fine art. It's a great place to browse for that perfect something you have yet to find! My favorite part of this building? A public rest room. 365 Thames, 401-848-2398

Brahmin. For those familiar with this beautiful line of ladies handbags, this is one of the few locations owned and operated by the manufacturer. Generally these are sold in better department stores. While not an outlet, many styles are 30-50% off the retail price. They also carry men's wallets and accessories. 22 Bannister's Wharf, 401-849-5990

Erica Zap Collection. Whether I'm looking for fun, funky jewelry or interesting home accessories, Erica Zap is still one of my favorite stores to visit when I'm in town. This was the first year I walked away empty handed. However, knowing I'll be back in a month, I may go back for a great clock...need to think about this one! She offers original designs on jewelry made from metals and materials other than gold and silver. Very reasonably priced. 477 Thames, 401-846-6999

J.H.Breakell & Co. Recognized nationwide, this predominantly mail-order jeweler is known for whimsical pieces made in either gold or silver. Children's pieces include cow's jumping over moons. Vegetables, winter theme designs and sea inspired creations come in earrings, bracelets, necklaces and cufflinks. Kathy Herminghaus owns the lobster pin and I have the quahog bracelet and an Aquidneck Island pin with a diamond where my home was located...very cool! All silver pieces are very reasonably priced. 128 Spring Street, 401-849-0195

Laura Jean. Shopping for new jeans is right up there with bra shopping for me...I hate them both! Men and women, this store has a pair of jeans to fit every size, style and budget. 94 Williams Street, 401-849-5326

Narragansett. In need of some new business casual clothes? This store offers upscale fashion with collections from Ralph Lauren, Atlantis and others. 3 Bowen's Wharf 401-847-0303

Only In Rhode Island. This is a really fun store, located just across the street from the Marriott. They carry products that are either made in Rhode Island or the artist is from Rhode Island. You can get anything from Del's Lemonade, Johnny Cake mix or an original watercolor of Newport Harbor. My favorite is the Mayor's Own Marinara Sauce, a pasta sauce created by Buddy Cianci, the infamous former Mayor of Providence. While he has always had his smiling face on the label, I got a kick out of seeing the updated picture of him without his bad rug. Long Wharf Mall, 401-846-5006

Re-Sails. This is not a store you'll find in your local mall. Jackets, duffle bags and other items are all made from used sails, racing numbers and all! The most windproof jacket you'll ever own. Kevlar accents available on many. 400 Thames, 401-849-8622

Thames Glass. Watch the artists at work as they make hand-blown vases and other items at the workshop next door to the studio where they are sold. Matthew Buechner's glasswork is both exhibited and sold internationally. 688 Thames, 401-846-0576

About the Author

Patti has lived in Rhode Island since 1984, currently splitting her time between Providence and Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Between 1985 and 1999 she lived in Newport, 8 of those years full-time. Most know her from a 15 year career at Freddie Mac, calling on lenders throughout New England and the Northeast. She also spent close to 3 years at Merrill Lynch which provided her with much useful subprime knowledge. Some of you may know her from one of her 2 brief stops along the way at Thornburg Mortgage and Chevy Chase Bank. Currently, Patti is retired from the business due to health issues. In 2007 she was diagnosed with 2 different and unrelated cancers. She has undergone successful treatment for one, and as of print time, living comfortably with the other (for more details on her saga, visit www.caringbridge.org/visit/pattislepkow for more info). When able, she and her husband spend their time having fun, traveling or just hanging out in Steamboat. Their love for food, wine and a good martini continues to be a favorite hobby no matter where their travels take them.

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Thank you!