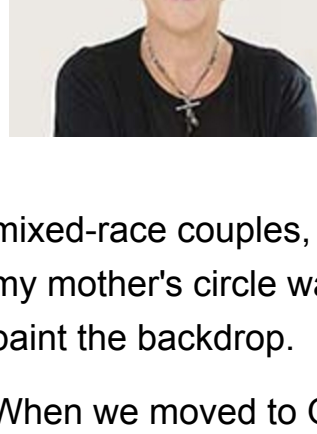


the e list

An Excruciatingly Opinionated Guide to the Connecticut Shoreline

SHOP CALENDAR EAT DISCOVER TRAVEL TOWN GUIDES



I grew up in what can only be called a multi-cultural house in Cambridge, Mass. My father was a trainer for the Peace Corps, and we had a stream of beautiful Nigerian men living with us (that provided my sister and me our first crushes). My dad was involved with the Urban League and had ties to the Black Panther Party. My parents' friends, during their marriage, were a multi-racial group that included a few

mixed-race couples, not a common thing in the early 70's. After my parents' divorce, my mother's circle was mainly Black. This is not to explain away my racism; it's just to paint the backdrop.

When we moved to Old Lyme, I think one Black family lived here. There was no diversity. No Jews, either. While I'm not religious and don't attend synagogue, when I asked where it was, my realtor said there was a "summer" one for the beach neighborhoods. This frightened me because I KNOW, first-hand, that ignorance breeds discrimination.

There were a few Black kids in my daughter's school, only one multi-racial child in her grade all through elementary. When she got to high school, a historic New England boarding school, I was thrilled to find a diverse student body. Finally. Lots of Black girls and Asian girls. Her roommate was from India by way of Hong Kong. I badgered her constantly to make friends with the Black girls.

PLEASE have a Black girlfriend. It became a running joke between us. But her tight group was just like her. And then I saw it. In the dining hall, the Black girls had their tables, the Asians their corner, and the White girls clumped together, too. It had never occurred to me that the Black girls did not WANT to be friends with my daughter. I had never, for one second, thought of myself as racist until that moment.

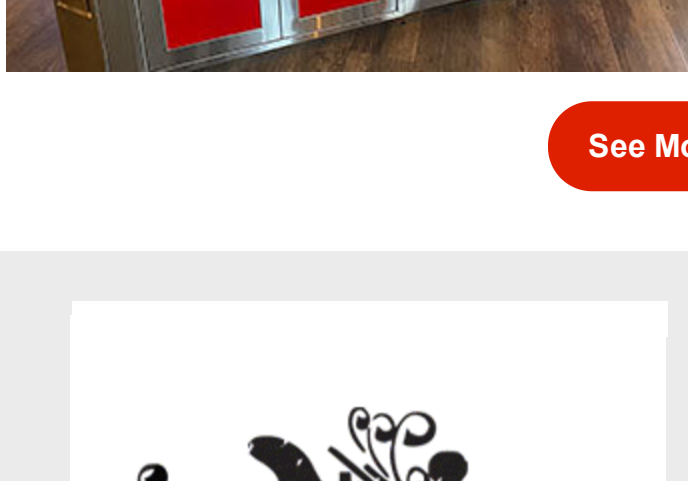
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We've all sat mired in terror and discomfort this week as the world descended into chaos. Friday afternoon, I eavesdropped on a Zoom meeting at my daughter's company. Her Black and Brown colleagues were given this platform to relate their experiences at work and in life. It was excruciating, very emotional, and painful to hear. I applaud her company for providing a safe space and wonder how many businesses have done the same this week. She and I took a deep dive over the weekend into the resources provided by her Diversity and Inclusion Committee. I've included some below in the hopes that knowledge and understanding will help stitch together our deeply divided country.

Love, Erica

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Code: bed25 Incoming orders only. Good at any Best Cleaners location. Exp. 7/15/20

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A Slice of Backyard Heaven for Grilling Dads (and Moms)

If you're stuck for a great gift for dad, you should head straight to Swanky's in Centerbrook. This relatively new cookout supply shop took over the old Bennie's building and has turned it into a backyard bonanza...

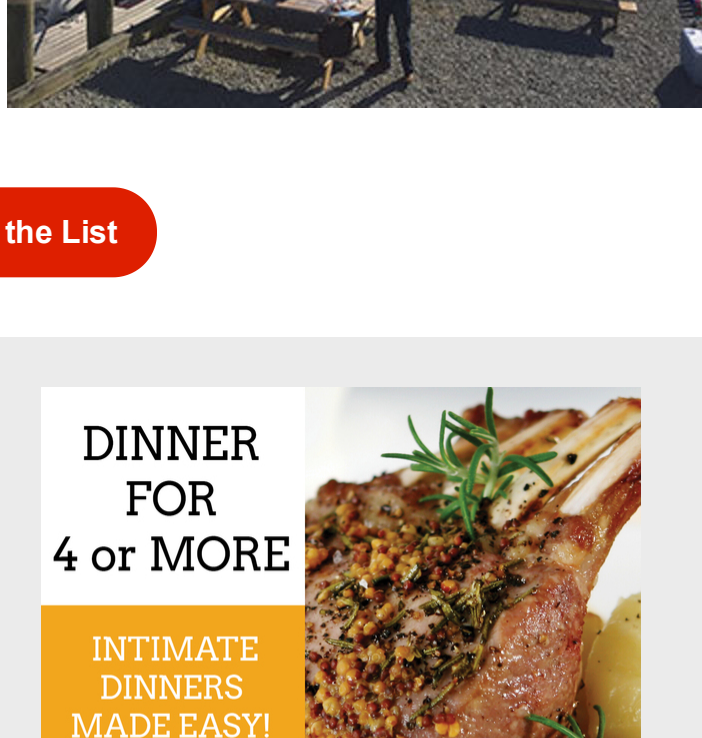
See More Pics

HERRLE CUSTOM HOMES

GRILL ROAST SMOKE BAKE
The Other Dads Will Be Green With Envy
Available at
PAGE'S
Big Green Egg by

A Guide to Outdoor Dining During the Pandemic

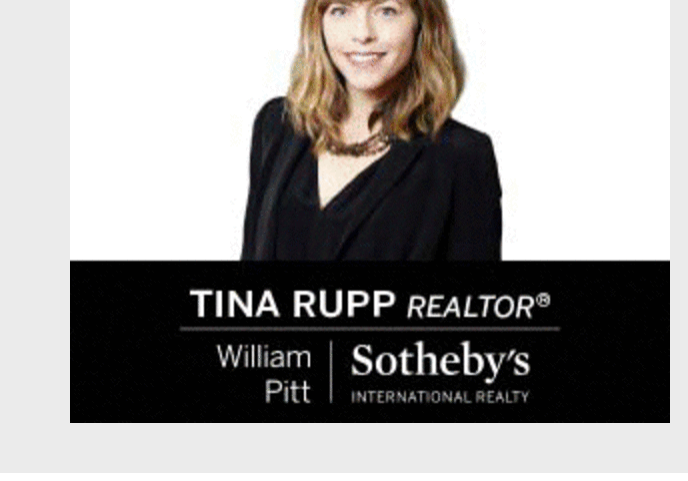
At long last, restaurants are back! Phase 2 of Connecticut's reopening has started, and with that comes outdoor dining. We checked in with a few of our favorite shoreline restaurants to see how they're reopening and revamping for outdoor dining:



Read the List

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Journal Gallery



Homes Need Goals, Too, By Caryn Paradis

You've had lots of time to contemplate your home. Local Interior Designer, Caryn Paradis, shares expert advice on setting reasonable goals for improvement.

Get the Tips

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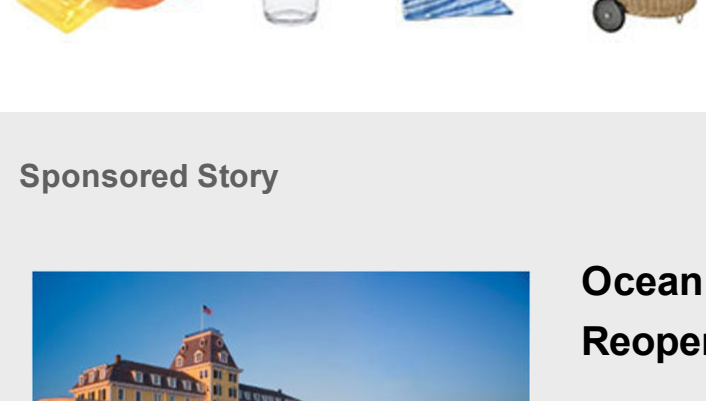
NEW TIKI TORCHES FOR THE GARDEN
ARCH
MADE IN OLD LYME
SHOP

Shop-Wide Sale: 40% Off Everything!

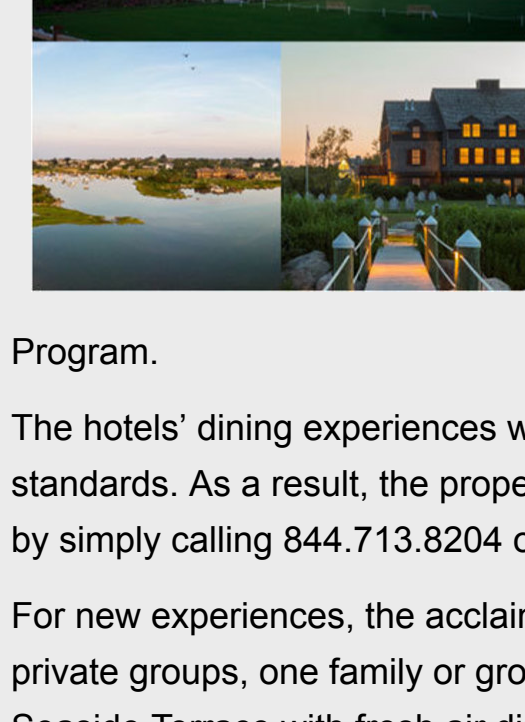
40% OFF everything
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• ALFRESCO DINING • SWIMMING •
LEARN ABOUT OUR TRIAL MEMBERSHIPS

TrueBikramYoga.com



Last week we shared updates to local farmers' markets, farm stands, and a collection of items to refresh your outdoor space. **Read it here if you missed it.**



Ocean House and Weekapaug Inn Reopen June 16

The award-winning Ocean House and Weekapaug reopen Tuesday, June 16, and welcome guests and the local community.

Ocean House and Weekapaug Inn are introducing new experiences and safety standards with their new OH Well Program.

The hotels' dining experiences will be open, all observing social distancing standards. As a result, the properties ask for advance reservations for dining by simply calling 844.713.8204 or visiting Open Table.

For new experiences, the acclaimed Secret Garden will be available for private groups, one family or group at a time in June and July. Ocean House's Seaside Terrace with fresh air dining and ocean views will be a new fast-casual format, open for breakfast and lunch.

The PondHouse at Weekapaug Inn is now offering brunch in addition to dinner with a private, one of a Kind waterfront dining experience.

In addition to dining, both Ocean House and Weekapaug Inn are carrying on their wonderful tradition of summer events. They will be smaller for social distancing, but still available for people of all ages.

Visit oceanhouseevents.com for information.

Learn More

p.s. from Erica

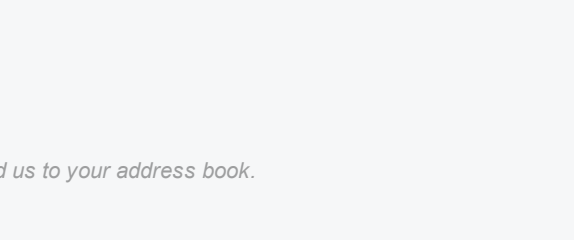
Resources For Non-Black Folks to Self Educate & Practice Direct Action: A Working List provided by MBooth's Diversity and Inclusion Committee - find them here.

Wondering what else is open? Find curbside pickup, virtual meetups, outdoor activities, and more on The E List events calendar:

Browse the Calendar

If a friend forwarded this newsletter to you and you'd like your own weekly dose of the best of the CT Shoreline, subscribe here.

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