

# New Canaan Darrien + ROWAYTON

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REAL ESTATE

10  
*tips*

MAKE YOUR HOME  
**STAND OUT**  
AND **SELL FAST**

## HOME

Rooms that stand up to family  
life and still look fabulous

## GARDEN

Natural artistry blooms for  
Manhattan transplants

## FASHION

How to master this year's  
supremely feminine style

# THE DESIGN *Issue*

Local designers reimagine  
the way *you really live*

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# BUZZ

status report

AWARD-WINNING REMODEL • LOCAL DOCS DEBATE BENEFITS OF GLUTEN

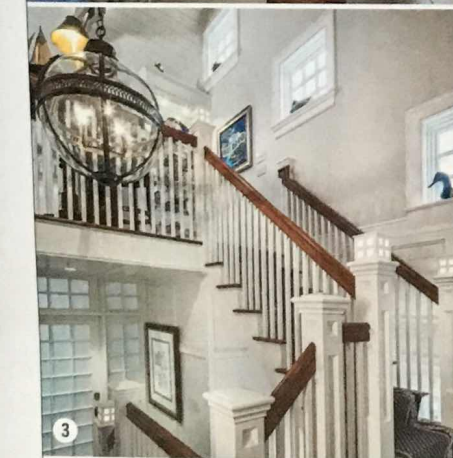


## Nautical & Nice

A ship-shape home on Bell Island in Rowayton takes top prize for an artful renovation



Half the fun of living in Fairfield County is the chance to see so many interesting houses. If you have a penchant for architecture and design, check out this Rowayton residence that recently earned a HOBI award for Best Remodel from the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Connecticut.



**1. BLUE VIEW** The waters of the Long Island Sound lap at the home's foundation from two sides.

**2. ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL** Walls and ceilings throughout the home are custom-milled to handsome effect.

**3. YACHT DETAILS** We like the nautically inspired cage light newel posts that artfully illuminate each of the stair landings.

**The Talent** This 3,000-square-foot home on Bell Island was made over by Hemingway Construction and Christopher Agliaro of PBS Architects in Norwalk.

**Inspiration** The owners bought the house in 2004 as a weekend beach retreat. Then they decided to make it their primary home and moved ahead on a major renovation that, among other things, would add another floor. Because the owners left a larger home to settle here, the design team had

to find ways to make it easy for the couple to relocate furnishings from their more formal home to this open plan. PBS generated computer filmstrips of proposals, which allowed the owners to better experience the floor plan options.

**Wow Factor** "This custom residence gives one a sense of sailing on an elegant yacht," says Peter Sciarretta of Hemingway Homes. "Surrounded by water crashing onto the foundation from two sides, the house feels as if it were anchored close to a sandy shore."

### Cool Craftsmanship

Free-standing continuous staircases span four floors. The cage light newel posts at every landing are yacht-inspired, as are the ceiling posts and beams on the third floor, designed to resemble a crow's nest. Walls and ceilings are custom-milled.

### Accommodations

The floor plan includes a dining room, living room, library, great room, sun room, office, exercise space and five bedrooms. There's also a front "show" kitchen and a back kitchen for the owners' chef.

## FRESH BREW

If you're a fan of the gourmet coffee and fresh bagels at Darien's **UPPER CRUST BAKERY CAFÉ**, you won't have to get your morning fix to go anymore; that is, if you're headed to Trumbull. This spring, **UCBC WILL OPEN ITS SECOND LOCATION IN TRUMBULL, AT 4244 MADISON AVENUE.** Owner Charly Sahlia, a Rowayton resident, is excited to expand his neighborhood bakery north. He'll operate the Trumbull store with co-owner and Trumbull resident Julie Stenz.

