

## REAL ESTATE

## HOT PROPERTY

## Contemporary takes inspiration from modern shipbuilding

By Sloan Brewster

The home at 41 Mohican Road East in Westbrook was designed by a man who loved being on his yacht and wanted to bring that feeling to shore.

"It's like the phoenix rising and when you see it from the water it looks like a small hotel," said listing agent Janet Peckinpaugh of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty.

Built in 1992, the inside of the 8,244-square-foot contemporary resembles a ship, said seller Jeff Polep.

"It's like a ship, like the ocean, like waves," he said.

Sitting back one road from the beach, it has panoramic views of Long Island Sound.

Peckinpaugh sold the house to Polep three years ago, representing Betty Weber, the widow of Steven Weber, who designed the house.

The house was the couple's love child, Peckinpaugh said.

"He wanted to create a house that reminded him of being on a yacht," she said. "It was their dream house."

With curving walls made of glass blocks, glass block floors, two-story walls of windows, stained glass windows, high gloss inlay floors, art deco accoutrements, steel doors and stainless steel railings and fixtures and mood lighting, the finely detailed home is luminous.

With an inlaid floor, a giant marble fireplace and surrounded by windows, the sunken living room is breathtaking.

"It looks like you walked in and you're on the Queen Mary," Peckinpaugh said. "In the living room, you feel like you're seeing a painting being recreated all the time."

With rooftops views, a magnificent deck with a hot tub, enclosed porches, a game room and music fed through the entire home and outside, it's a great spot for entertaining.

Polep, who owns two other houses on the road, uses this one for entertaining. He has had catered events there and gatherings to watch fireworks, which light



William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty

Built in 1992, the the 8,244-square-foot contemporary at 41 Mohican Road East in Westbrook resembles a ship.

the sky through the night, he said.

"The house itself is very conducive to parties," he said.

Since he bought the place, Polep has converted the basement into a game room and has a pool table in the living room, so there's plenty to do at parties. For those looking for more relaxation, the rooftop deck has a chair set up for the perfect view.

"It's probably one of the nicest ocean views in the state," Polep said. "It's forever, you're really high and you're able to see everything for miles."

The ever expanding views get better and better as you climb higher and higher up the winding stairs of the house, Peckinpaugh said.

Decorative ceilings in the kitchen and dining room give the ap-

## Details

**Address:** 41 Mohican Road East, Westbrook

**Price:** \$1,399,000

**Number of rooms:** 11

**Features:** Designed like a ship, this contemporary features curving walls made of glass blocks, glass block floors, two-story walls of windows, stained glass windows, high gloss inlay floors, a sunken living room surrounded by windows and with a giant marble fireplace, art deco accoutrements, steel doors and stainless steel railings and fixtures and mood lighting. The finely detailed home is luminous and with steel beams and automated hurricane shutters, it can withstand the worst weather.

**Schools:** Daisy Ingraham Elementary, Westbrook Middle, Westbrook High

pearance of looking up at a cloud. The German-modern kitchen has a curved island with a sink.

A large compass rose designed into the floor at the bottom of the stairwell catches the eye from above.

With a bath with a large granite

shower with six shower heads and two walk-in closets big enough to be rooms, the master suite takes up a wing of the second floor. A private enclosed reading porch off the suite is sun filled, yet protected from the elements.

Two more bedrooms on the floor share an enormous bath with a Jacuzzi hot tub.

A private viewing room allows a telescopic view of Long Island Sound and the huge rooftop deck is perfect for star gazing. There are two laundry areas — on the first and second floors. The one on the first floor has a full bath with a shower for a quick cleanup after a trip to the beach.

With steel beams and automated hurricane shutters, the house is built to withstand the worst weather.

"I've never seen anything like it," Peckinpaugh said of the house. "It's hard to describe."

**Listing agent:** Janet Peckinpaugh, William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, (860) 985-3659, [ipeckinpaugh@wpsir.com](mailto:ipeckinpaugh@wpsir.com)

AGENT PROFILE *Bette Zollshan*

## Expert in corporate relocation

Clients come first for Bette Zollshan. Zollshan obtained her Realtor's license in 2004. She has a bachelor's degree in communications with a minor in Communications Research Methodology from Boston University. While living in Boston, she worked in advertising and marketing as a media director for an international advertising firm.

When she moved to Connecticut, she became a brand supervisor in product marketing for Heublein, Inc. and was responsible for a group of consumer brands.

While Zollshan was raising her children, she started a custom container planting business, which she ran for about six years.

Her business experiences helped get her ready for a future career in real estate.

"They were unbelievably preparatory because my experience was in marketing," she said.

She went into real estate with an understanding of what it takes to represent a client, promote products and how to work with the public to achieve success in sales. In addition, her experience gives her an edge in assisting



**Business:** William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty

**Expertise:** Working with buyers and sellers from Branford to Old Saybrook at a wide range of price points, including corporate relocation

**Works:** Madison

**Lives:** Madison

**Contact:** (203) 980-0099, [homes@bettezollshan.com](mailto:homes@bettezollshan.com)

AGENT PROFILE *Stephanie Dorman*

## An edge with financial markets

One of the things Stephanie Dorman loves most about real estate is that it's different every day.

A Realtor since 1987, she started out working in banking and finance. When she had her children, she needed flexibility and decided to try real estate.

Working in the financial industry gave her an edge in her new career as she had knowledge of finances and an awareness of the financial climate of the period, she said. She also gained experience working with the public, which she was able to take advantage of in real estate.

"That's one of the things that I love about real estate is working with the public, and every day is different," she said.

Dorman's first gig in real estate was at her mother's agency, Village Realty, in Branford, where her father was also an agent.

Dorman said her personal touch sets her apart and she loves working with first-time home buyers.

"The main thing is dealing with the public, just helping people achieve their dreams



**Business:** ReMax

**Expertise:** Buyers and sellers, investment properties, rentals, single-family, condominiums, "just about everything."

**Works:** Branford

**Lives:** Branford

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"Guiding them through the process and ultimately finding them the perfect place to