

# NORWALK CITIZEN NEWS



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The Brown family's residence in Bridgeport's East End, which was damaged by both flood and fire, recently was the setting for ABC-TV's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." Three Norwalk businesses took part in the project to give the family a new house. The episode is scheduled to air in November.

## To the Extreme

### Local Businesses Take Part in Home Makeover Show in Bridgeport

Three Norwalk businesses were among those answering the call to help make a Bridgeport family's dream of having a new home come true this summer.

Gribin Construction; Lillian August, Home Furnishings and Interior Design; and Klaff's took part in the latest project in ABC-TV's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," which began filming July 25 and wrapped up on Aug. 1. The episode, which is scheduled to air in early November, features the Brown family — single mother Gloria and three teenagers — whose flood- and fire-damaged house in Bridgeport's East End was demolished to make way for a new one.

As part of the site management team, Eric Gribin, the founder and president of Gribin Construction, was charged with sequencing, scheduling and supervising construction, as well as troubleshooting the inevitable problems and conflicts caused by field conditions, according to a press release from the company. He also played a crucial role by recruiting subcontractors, tradesmen and suppliers of building materials who donated their time, skills and merchandise.

"I am thrilled to be a part of this exciting and worthwhile effort and to lend my experience and resources to the team," Gribin said.

Lillian August donated furniture and accessories for the new house. The company's president, Dan Weiss, and chief operations officer, his brother John Weiss, met with the "Extreme Makeover" team to help choose just the right pieces to reflect Gloria Brown's love of beautiful, feminine, Victorian-inspired French and English design.

"We are very excited for the opportunity

to be a part of this grand makeover," Dan Weiss said in a press release. "As a company, we share the charitable philosophies practiced on 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition' and were thrilled to be asked to participate in a project right here in Connecticut."

"It reflects our company's strong belief in community involvement and service, and we are grateful for the chance to give back," said John Weiss.

At Klaff's, "Extreme Makeover" design team member Michael Moloney searched

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out the perfect lighting and other accessories for the project. During the 90-minute shopping spree, Klaff's lighting expert Jeff Heath, who is also the general manager of the lighting showrooms in South Norwalk and Danbury, collaborated with Moloney to select fixtures that reflect the home's Victorian style, the Browns' personal interests and the designer's signature look.

"Michael knows his stuff," Heath said in a press release. "We had a lot of fun helping him shop for the Brown family's new home and are honored to be part of this incredibly altruistic effort."

Family owned and operated, Klaff's has been based in South Norwalk for 86 years and is a purveyor of high-end design for kitchens and baths. It also has stores in Danbury and Westport. For more information, visit [www.klaffs.com](http://www.klaffs.com) or call 1-800-klaffs-1.

Lillian August Designs, Inc. is headquartered in Norwalk and has five home furnishing and interior design stores in Connecticut. For further information, visit [www.LillianAugust.com](http://www.LillianAugust.com).

Gribin Construction specializes in complete project management for residential and commercial properties in Fairfield and Westchester counties. For more information, visit [www.gribinconstruction.com](http://www.gribinconstruction.com) or call 866-8060.



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Klaff's lighting expert Jeff Heath, left, helps "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" designer Michael Moloney select lighting for the Brown family's new home.