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Upper Crust Bakery and Café Expanding Into Trumbull, New Canaan

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[Upper Crust Bagels](#), a locally owned bakery and café that's developed a loyal following after 20 years in Darien has expanded into Trumbull and is set to open a new shop in downtown New Canaan.

— This article [originally was published](#) in somewhat different form by [NewCanaanite.com](#).

The business entered into a lease Wednesday and will open in one to two months, according to owner Charlie Sahlia.

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Officially named 'Upper Crust Bakery and Café,' the business has been serving Darien since 1997 and about 18 months ago, Sahlia expanded to a second shop in Trumbull near Sacred Heart University that he said has fared very well there.

"But what we pride ourselves in creating at Upper Crust is it's a 'neighborhoody,' healthier alternative to lunch and breakfast," he said in an interview.

"We make things as much as we can from natural and organic ingredients and make on premises and it is not anything bought from a big corporation that comes in and unloads trucks of processed foods.

"So we have the bagels, obviously, and muffins we make and also we do chopped salads that we will bring to New Canaan, and sandwiches and catering and of course, good coffee."

Sahlia said he's been hoping to open in New Canaan for a long time but has found rental rates on Elm and Main Streets cost-prohibitive. The town is "very family-oriented, with a lot of kids and there are businesses there we can cater to," Sahlia said.

New Canaanites have been without a dedicated bagel shop since Bruegger's [closed its doors](#) in early December.

In addition to a breakfast platter of muffins, croissants and pastries, a smoked salmon platter and yogurt parfait, Upper Crust sells fruit salad cups, granola bars, whole fruit and a wide range of bagels (plain, sesame, poppy, egg, honey wheat, cinnamon sugar, everything, onion salt, multigrain and more) and cream cheese flavors (plain, chive, vegetable, jalapeno, sun dried tomato, walnut raisin and lox).

Sandwiches include curry chicken salad, turkey avocado with Vermont cheddar and tomato, lemon basil chicken salad, hummus pita, crunchy veggie (cheddar, cucumber, avocado, tomato, sprouts and Tzatziki sauce) and a signature 'UCBC Club' of turkey, bacon, Swiss, lettuce, tomato and Russian dressing. Customers build their own salads from a wide array of toppings and dressings.

Sahlia noted that Upper Crust is deeply involved in supporting the communities where it has locations and that the company is in the process now of franchising.