

## REAL ESTATE

### LUXURY LIVING

# Foyers that make an impressive entrance



Daniel Milstein Photography / Contributed photo

The antique Colonial at 72 Willow St., Southport, boasts a formal entry that opens into a grand reception hall and features a handsome fireplace, quarter sawn oak floors, beautiful millwork and raised wall paneling.

#### By Bernadette Blaze

A home's entry foyer is all about making a first impression. It sets the stage for what is yet to be revealed and conveys the inhabitants' lifestyle. While their primary purpose is to receive guests, they can also offer added function by providing convenient storage spaces for coats and landing zones for keys and the like. Styles range from grand and formal multi-story designs with sweeping staircases, traditional entries that span from the front to the back of the home or spaces that blend right into the main living area.

"The foyer is like curb appeal," says Joni Usdan of the JoniHomes Group at Coldwell Banker. "It's your first impression inside the house." Usdan says that buyers have definite preferences over formal vs. informal entries and are conscious of entries that seem dark, tight or crowded.

She also noticed a trend toward feng shui. "People want to see openness and light, with no clutter," she added.

The home located at 3 Pioneer Road in Westport is a brilliant example of the latest trend in entry foyers found in the modern farmhouse. Casually elegant, a thick oak door opens into the foyer with wide-plank cereused character oak flooring, matching sliding barn doors that open to the living room and off to the side, a floating steel and oak staircase. Usdan describes it as a remarkable space that buyers comment on the moment they step inside. "They love this style. It is open, yet not stark, and very warm."

Built in 2019 by Schmiedeck, renowned builders of 'haute couture homes' and cutting-edge construction, the 9,500-square-foot, six-bedroom home is set on 1.6 acres in the Old Hill area. The home features innovative design-

er materials and liberal use of glass, steel and stone, a banquet-sized dining room, two libraries, master suite with dual dressing rooms and spa bath a huge lower walkout entertaining level, built-in pool-house, pool laundry and bedroom suite with private entry. It is offered at \$3,850,000.

In the heart of Southport Village, the antique Colonial at 72 Willow Street boasts a formal entry that opens into a grand reception hall. The expansive space features a handsome fireplace, quarter sawn oak floors, beautiful millwork and raised wall paneling. Built in 1797, the elegant five-bedroom Captain's House is an historic landmark located steps from Southport Harbor. A fine example of Federal architecture with superbly restored original elements, this 4,800-square foot home features a formal living room, dining room and library, each with a fireplace, newer designer kitchen and fami-



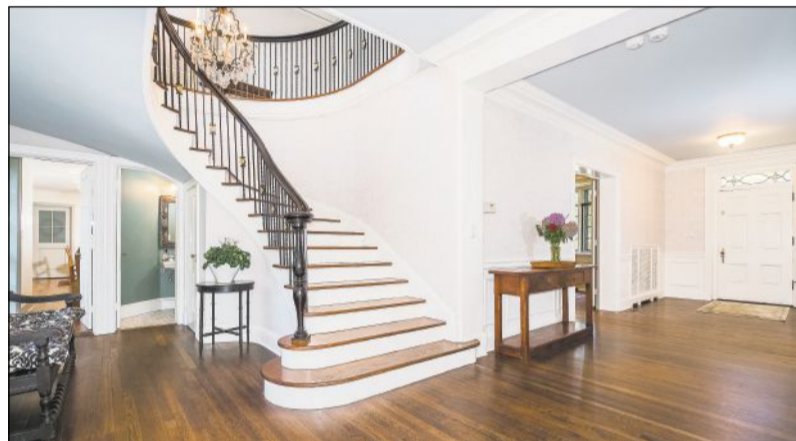
Coldwell Banker / Contributed photo

This home located at 3 Pioneer Road in Westport is a brilliant example of the latest trend in entry foyers found in the modern farmhouse.

ly room addition, all surrounded by a beautiful veranda, gardens and terraces. The property is offered at \$1,995,000 by Vicky Fingelly of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty.

Also harkening back to a by-gone era is the foyer of this circa 1926 fieldstone manor house at 475 Algonquin Road in Fairfield. The gracious foyer at "Ledgeoaks" is distinguished by a sweeping staircase with elegant curved lines. Brimming with period details and tastefully renovated over the past two years, the five-bed-

room home is further characterized by five fireplaces, plaster moldings, antique light fixtures and wide plank floors. Majestically sited on just over three acres across from Brooklawn Country Club, notable features include a formal living room, newer chef's kitchen by Deane, breakfast room, family room with wet bar and a master suite with dressing room, fireplace, sitting area and balcony. It is offered at \$1,350,000 by Cathy Mulrenan of William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty.



Nathan Spotts and/or Lauren Kinkade / Contributed photo

The foyer of this circa 1926 fieldstone manor house at 475 Algonquin Road in Fairfield is distinguished by a sweeping staircase with elegant curved lines.

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