

On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me ...

Four beautiful homes,
Three decorators,
Two days to tour them,
and a scholarship fund
for local women



Your home owner Sandy Papamichalis (center) shows one of her many holiday collections to American Association of University Women Home Tour co-chairs Arlene Englert (left) and Sally Samara. Festooned for Christmas, the Papamichalis home will join three other area homes on the AAUW's popular seasonal event. Designers Denise Tauben of just gotta have it, Jan Wiele of Your Feathered Nest Custom Florals, and Mary Gmetro of Plano Florist will bedeck homes in Christmas trimmings.

Annual holiday home tour benefits scholarship program for area women

By Britney Porter

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) continues to open doors for women's education by opening homes in its annual Holiday Home Tour. This is the 28th year for the ever-popular tour, and this year's theme is "Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security." Four homes dressed in Christmas decorations will be open to the public Dec. 3 - 4 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Dr. Panos and Sandy Papamichalis
2620 Anders, Plano**

Designed with a contemporary Mediterranean stucco theme, Dr. Panos and Sandy Papamichalis' 5,800-square-foot home is situated off of Willow Bend, between Park Boulevard and Parker Road. The home is a golfer's paradise, as six large windows emit a spectacular view of Gleneagles golf course.

Copious light in the home's wide open spaces is Sandy's favorite part. "I love the light that comes in and the openness," she said.

But family photos and personal touches make this home warm and inviting. For example, a portrait of the Papamichalis' youngest daughter, Mary, hangs to the right of the foyer. And there is a black grand piano that all three of the Papamichalis' children have played. Andrew is a dentist in Plano. Barbara, or "Pennie," is an attorney in Boston. Mary, who also plays guitar, recently left for college in San Antonio. "When they get together it's a lot of fun," said Sandy. "They play music and say [to Sandy and Panos], now dance!"

Dr. Panos is the chair of the Electrical Engineering department at Southern Methodist University. His study includes striking artwork, including a beautiful needlepoint piece that his mother stitched together.

Many handmade elements are dispersed throughout the home, including colorful rugs that are more than 60 years old crafted by Sandy's mother. Handmade ornaments hang on the family tree, too.



Speaking of ornaments, Sandy owns Junior League ornaments as well as White House Christmas ornaments that she began collecting after her first Inaugural Ball. And if that's not enough sparkle for your eyes, then gawk over the Christmas tree that is decorated with jewelry.

You'll go nuts over Sandy's nutcracker collection. Twelve of them represent the 12 Days of Christmas, each holding a special present. Sandy started collecting nutcrackers when Andrew bought her a nutcracker that holds a toothbrush! Remember, he's a dentist.

Upstairs, discover the keepsakes Sandy brought over from her visits to Japan. "I am very fond of my Japanese collection," she said.

"I went around by myself to antique shops all over Japan, where no one spoke English and I spoke very little Japanese. From my frequent visits, some shops began recognizing me and would save certain pieces they knew I would be interested in. I was never sure what I would find."

A kimono hangs next to a shelf of delicate Asian dolls. "The beautiful antique vibrant orange kimono that I have was the most amazing find because it was crumpled in a suitcase until I rescued it!" Sandy said.

The Papamichalises are fond of art. Three paintings not to miss are *The Creation of Eve*, *Madonna and Child*, and *Three Sisters*. And don't forget to look up at the home tour. "See all my trophies up there?" said Sandy in the family room, revealing that one of her hobbies is tennis.

Since this is the Papamichalises first home tour, Sandy must be elated. "Yes, and nervous!" she said. But the Papamichalises have nothing to be nervous about for guests will surely feel welcomed.

Holiday fundraiser great way to get in the spirit



Greg and Judy Wingrove

3901 Braewood Circle, Plano

Christmas is a huge production at the Wingrove home! At least ten full-size trees each have its own theme. A 20-foot tall tree was purchased specifically for this home. The family tree in the den is decked in delicate ornaments – mementos from family vacations.

Greg and Judy, originally from Louisiana, bought this seven-year-old home last March. It needed a makeover

but the Wingroves could see "it had good bones" and open spaces for entertaining their two daughters, granddaughter and friends.

They set to work removing two trees that obscured the entire front of the home, as well as shrubbery that had overgrown into the pool. Greg landscaped the yard with an "Old South" touch. He added an arbor off the back, had the area around the pool extended, and added river rock beds.

Meanwhile, Judy assembled a palate of colors to decorate the home's interior. Cajun red walls greet you in the entryway and living room. The dining room ceiling exudes this same bold color. And when you are done admiring the original folk art paintings of Louisiana artist Clementine Hunter in the kitchen, admire the Staffordshire China in the breakfast area.

Since this will be the Wingroves first Christmas in this home, they are quite excited about the tour and hope that the community enjoys their home as much as they do.

home for the winding staircase. They had imagined their children walking down it primped and poised for proms and other special occasions. Walking up the stairs onto the cream-colored Berber carpet is like stepping onto thick, puffy snowflakes.

The upstairs was designed for entertaining. A deep red-colored pool table matches the lifted and lighted ceiling. To the right is a cozy media room with a chocolate leather couch, custom-made to snug the wall and allow for an open entryway. A deep red curtain drapes behind the couch and two low tables rest in front of it for dining or simply kicking back.

On this end of the upstairs wing is the Wrights' son's room with pictures reflecting a former Plano West football player. Chris currently attends Southern Methodist University. The other two upstairs bedrooms were the Wrights' twin daughters' rooms before they followed their brother to SMU. Both rooms reflect animated spirits. Morgan's room shouts Plano West High School with blue and silver memorabilia. Hot pink flowers accentuate Lauren's leopard-print room. The Wrights' oldest daughter Meredith,

who has graduated from SMU Law School, lives on her own so the Wrights transformed her room into a gym.

The Wrights' kitchen is warm yet masculine with a granite countertop and complementary colors on the wall. The kitchen opens to both the dining room and family room. The

"Santa tree" sits in the family room in front of five large windows that reveal a stone, see-through fireplace outside next to a swimming pool. The pool is lit and surrounded by lush plants.

The 7,000-square-foot home is situated at Lakeside on Preston, a subdivision off Parker Road. Grandeur mixed with nostalgia makes this manse a must-see.



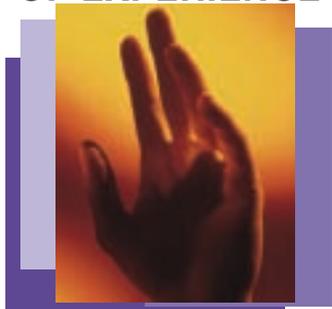
Steven and Betty Wright

3916 Wood Lake Drive, Plano

Walk into Steven and Betty Wright's stately home and a warm sense of comfort meets luxury. Music saturates the air from a shiny black grand piano playing in the formal sitting area.

The Wrights fell in love with the

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Lawrence and Debbie Brown
4823 Sea Pines, Dallas

"Pass Go and Collect \$200" comes to mind in Lawrence and Debbie Brown's home because, through the years, they have collected treasured antiques. About 15 American, French and German clocks range in all shapes and styles, from the largest, a grandfather clock, to



the smallest, a carriage clock. Two lamps with clocks built into the bases date from the '30s and '40s. Debbie's family has collected

clocks since the 1970s and used to own a popular clock shop in Dallas.

This comfortable home holds a surprise in almost every corner. A McCoy pottery collection as well as a collection of cut glass is housed in an antique china cupboard that belonged to Lawrence's mother. And in the country-French-style kitchen, a small collection of salt and pepper shakers sits on an antique-style island. Across from them is a beautiful collection of cream-colored pottery dating back to the '30s and '40s.

Debbie carries vintage clothes, too. She owns several hats, an original flapper dress and two beaded purses from the 1920s. An old sewing box, a bird cage, as well as three TV lamps from the 1950s are other treasured items.

The Browns' art collection is the envy of most aficionados of fine art. An original 1927 Louis Icart hangs on the wall. What are some of Debbie's Christmas collections? We'll let you discover those treasures on your own.

The Holiday Home Tour's co-chairs are Arlene Englert and Sally Samara. Sally Samara, when not lending a hand to AAUW, is with Keller Williams. Arlene Englert is a retired librarian for the Plano Independent School District and a full-time organizer of charitable events. Tour tickets are \$10 each. For more information on the tour, call 972-757-5712 or visit www.aauwplanocc.org.



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