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Section: Scene

Peep into The Colony for a good cause

Alisha Self, Of the Record staff

While many people have admired the magnificent homes in The Colony at White Pine Canyon from afar, few have had the chance to personally inspect the neighborhood's nooks and crannies. Next Saturday, Aug. 14, the 19th annual **Luxury Home Tour** will provide a rare glimpse into five private, luxury residences within the gated community.



The 19th Annual Luxury Home Tour, presented by the Park City Board of Realtors Philanthropic Foundation and benefiting Peace House, will feature five homes at The Colony at White Pine Canyon. (Photo Courtesy of Richard Springgate, www.springgatephotography.com)

The tour is presented by the Park City Board of Realtors Philanthropic Foundation to raise funds and awareness for Peace House, the local shelter for victims of domestic violence. Each year a different development is selected to host the event.

Past locations of the tour include lower Deer Valley, the Empire Pass/Red Cloud area, Deer Crest, Promontory and Quarry Mountain. The Colony previously hosted the fundraiser in 2002 and 2003.

"The Colony came to us and made a very supportive gesture to host the tour," says Sandra Vogt, a Park City Realtor and the **Luxury Home Tour** committee chair. In addition to hosting the event, Iron Mountain Associates, the developer of The Colony, recently announced a five-year commitment as the presenting sponsor.

"The Colony is honored and proud to be involved with the **Luxury Home Tour** as the presenting sponsor. Peace House is an important asset to the Park City area and the Colony homeowners are thrilled to assist such a worthy nonprofit organization," stated Colony developer Walt Brett in a press release. The tour will start at 8:30 a.m. and homes will be open until 6 p.m. Participants will meet at The Canyons' lower parking lot and transportation will be offered until 3 p.m. Upon reaching the development, guests will visit homes and travel by shuttle in small groups.

Members of the Utah Symphony will play live music at each home. Musicians will also be stationed at the tour shuttle stops. A barbecue lunch will be served midway through the day in an open meadow with sounds of alpenhorns, traditional Swiss musical instruments.

The unique thing about the **Luxury Home Tour**, Vogt says, is that the featured properties are not "spec homes"; rather, they are privately owned primary residences or second homes. Some of the homeowners will be on site during the tour, she notes.

Among the attractions are an impressive art collection from Africa and a garden waterfall that Vogt estimates to be 20 feet tall. "The art alone is worth the ticket and the time," she says. The Colony's landscape features a large number of statues and sculptures and is densely populated by wildflowers, she adds. "I'd say that this year is one of the best years for views."

All proceeds from the **Luxury Home Tour** benefit Peace House, a nonprofit organization that empowers women to break the cycle of domestic violence. In the past year, Peace House has assisted 135 women and children through its shelter program; 800 women and children through its outreach and support programs; and 5,000 children through its education program.

"The **Luxury Home Tour** is the pinnacle of our annual fundraising efforts," said Peace House Executive Director Jane Patten. "If it were not for the continued hard work and dedication of the Park City Board of Realtors Philanthropic Foundation, Peace House would not be able to operate at our current level. The support of the community is what helps keep our doors open and ensures lives are saved."

Vogt reminds tour patrons to wear comfortable shoes and come prepared for spontaneous rain showers. Golf carts will be available for those with limited mobility, she says.



Luxury Home Tour committee chair Sandra Vogt, The Colony developer Walt Brett, Peace House Executive Director Jane Patton, and Park City Board of Realtors CEO Sharon Woodbury, outside of The Colony at White Pine Canyon. (Photo by Liza Salowey)

Tickets for the **Luxury Home Tour** are \$40 in advance or \$45 the day of the tour and include lunch and transportation. For tickets or more information, visit www.luxuryhometour.org or call 658-4739.

For more information about Peace House, visit www.peacehouse.org.