

The 12 homes of Christmas on Long Island

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In the spirit of Friday's date -- 12/12 -- we thought it would be fun to feature 12 homes that are on the market. Think "The Twelve Days of Christmas." And while we loosely follow the Christmas carol's format, we occasionally borrow from it, too. Move over, five golden rings. A manse in Upper Brookville has -- count them -- five golden faucets. Well, 24-karat gold-plated faucets, to be exact. Though we couldn't find a partridge, we did come across a pear tree. Actually two, accompanied by nine apple trees. That grove on a verdant Hampton Bays property gave us No. 11 -- if you want a house with 11 fruit trees. And for the sheer fun of it (pun intended), our No. 7 spot features an alpaca farm, with, of course, seven alpacas. They live in style, as do the homeowners. No more spoilers. See what else we found that is for sale around the Island. Happy house hunting (and holidays).

1 indoor basketball court



(Credit: Town and Country Real Estate)

for entertaining," says the listing agent, noting the main living area has a nice flow, while outside, the long circular driveway offers ample parking for guests. Other interior details include a stone fireplace in the den and a Florida room, as well as five bedrooms, three bathrooms and two half-baths. Almost 3,800 square feet, the house is set on a one-acre parcel with a deck. John Cinque, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, 516-381-2908

11 Lemuria Lane, Quogue | \$3,795,000

If your true love is basketball, you'll appreciate the indoor half court in this 12,000-square-foot postmodern custom-built house. It's a slam dunk, with radiant heat, padded walls, tall windows and an electronic scoreboard. There's even a viewing area for spectators in the loft's professional glass basket. Outside, on the 1.44-acre property, there is a full court basketball court as well as an all-weather tennis court, a heated gunite pool surrounded by bluestone, a pool house, a built-in grill and bar and outdoor television. Back inside, a 12-seat home theater, billiard room, fitness room and wet bar, and high-speed elevator are among the amenities.

Patrick Galway, Town & Country Real Estate, 917-748-2117

110 Dalor Ct., Woodbury | \$1,159,000

Turn up the old Victrola because you will want to dance the night away in this retro party basement. Finished in the 1980s, the basement -- about 1,800 square feet -- has two dance floors flanking a custom circular wet bar. The bar, which seats 12, is equipped with a dishwasher and a refrigerator with an ice maker. There's also a billiard room and a media room on this level. "The house was made

2 dance floors



(Credit: Newsday / Audrey C. Tamari)

Teemseh Ct., Greenlawn | \$1,299,000
 What's really sweet about the master suite in this 4,500-square-foot Colonial is that it comprises three rooms. The 13-by-23-foot bedroom with wood floors and a tray ceiling is adjoined by an 11-by-10-foot sitting room, while a separate 11-by-12-foot dressing room is complemented by generous closet space. The sitting room is perfect for late-night reading or TV watching, which won't disturb a sleeping spouse, says the listing agent. The master bath, with Jacuzzi tub and shower stall, has marble countertops. The sound system can be heard in the main room and bathroom. There are another four bedrooms and 3½ baths. Other features include a grand entrance foyer, a two-story great room with a stone fireplace and a gourmet eat-in kitchen with a rear staircase. The house is on a flat one-acre parcel in a cul-de-sac. Janine Gleusner, Signature Premier Properties, 631-812-4408

3-room master suite



4 walk-in closets



151 Walnut St., Massapequa Park | \$749,999

What may call any house hunter to this 4,464-square-foot Colonial is its four walk-in closets. "You can physically walk in, move about and have ample space for your wardrobe," says the listing agent. The house, which can serve as a mother/daughter with the proper permits, has a total of six bedrooms. There are two on the main level and four on the second floor. Each floor also has two bathrooms and a laundry room. Other details include a front and back staircase. The main level -- with wood floors -- has a den and a dining room. There is a full basement as well. Situated in the village near the Massapequa Preserve, the house is on an 80-by-100-foot lot with a semi in-ground pool. Michael Musto, Exit Realty Premier, 516-578-1785

10 Colonial Dr., Upper Brookville | \$7,800,000

Five golden faucets are part of the package in the sale of this custom 8,000-square-foot manse. Seriously. All five bathrooms have 24-karat plated faucets, says the listing agent. And there's even more gold to be found, such as 24-karat hand-painted accents on custom moldings. Other features include four marble fireplaces, a three-car garage, two wet bars and an in-ground gunite pool. Set at the end of a cul-de-sac, the gated, manicured five-acre parcel also boasts a tennis court. Rudi Friedman and Jason Friedman, Laffey Fine Homes, 516-643-0630

5 golden faucets



6 months of taxes paid



223 Westside Ave., Freeport | \$359,000
 Six months of annual property taxes -- roughly \$10,500, paid by the seller -- is a nice way to start the new year. A tax grievance is on file, says the listing agent, noting the maximum tax reduction one can receive is 25 percent of the assessed value of the unit. (Taxes are \$14,882, with additional village taxes of \$5,762.) The asking price for the town house in this luxury bay-front complex was recently reduced as well. The most recent sale, adds the agent, was \$425,000. Set on Randall Bay, the unit comes with a slip that can accommodate a 50-foot boat. Features of the three-story unit, which overlooks the bay, include oversized windows, a fireplace and new porcelain tile floors. It has three bedrooms and 2½ baths. Carol Sparaco, Sparaco Lieberman Realty, 516-318-2588

139 Private Rd., East Patchogue | \$1,595,000

What's better than seven swans a-swimming? Seven alpacas to shear. In fact, the homeowner of this 2.6-acre property is making baby and toddler comforters from fleece sheared once a year from her seven alpacas. (Each generates roughly eight pounds of fleece.) Alpaca fleece, says owner Jackie Zahralban, "is as soft as cashmere, is hypoallergenic and breathable." Alpacas "are nice animals and easy to keep," says Zahralban. A domesticated species of South American camelid, alpacas are herding animals that eat hay, grass or grain. And since they don't have hooves, they don't damage the lawn. Of the seven that reside here, Clovis, the eldest, is 14, and King, the youngest, is 3. Their four-stall barn, paddock and heated tack room are visible from the rear patio, designed in part with an outdoor kitchen and fireplace. Features of the 10,000-square-foot postmodern include soaring ceilings, tray ceilings, crown moldings and two fireplaces, as well as five bedrooms and 4½ bathrooms. Irene Lockel, Netter Real Estate, 631-661-5100

7 alpacas



8-sided rooms



5 Mead Ave., Mount Sinai | \$549,900
 One room -- eight walls. Consider the octagonal formal living room, one of the special features of this Victorian-style house. The room, like some of the others, has crown molding and a chair rail. It also has six windows, interior French doors and another door that opens to a wraparound porch. Above the living room is the second-floor master suite, which is also octagonal. The master has seven windows, a tray ceiling, a walk-in closet and a bathroom with a Jacuzzi tub and separate shower. There are another four bedrooms and 2½ baths in the house. Wood floors, a stone fireplace and a finished basement are among the other details. Set on a dead-end block, the lot is 175 by 100 feet. Nicholas Aliano, Aliano Real Estate, 631-744-5000

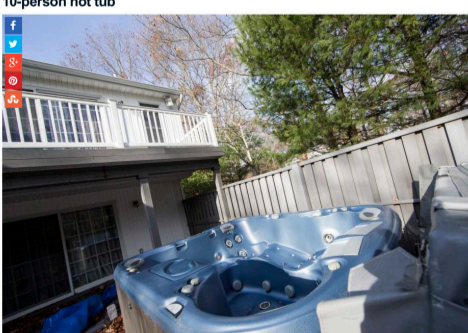
404 Central Islip Blvd., Ronkonkoma | \$379,990

Talk about a big driveway. This one accommodates up to nine cars. The previous owners had a large family, says the listing agent, noting the extra-wide space allows each driver to easily exit without having to deal with being blocked in. Set on a 100-by-100-foot lot, the house is set up as a mother/daughter residence. (The new owners will need to apply for the proper permit to use the feature.) It has two kitchens and a living room on each level. There are two bedrooms and two bathrooms on the main level, while the second floor contains three bedrooms and one bathroom as well as a dining room. Patrick Curtis, Suffolk Realty Group, 631-244-7000

A 9-car driveway



10-person hot tub

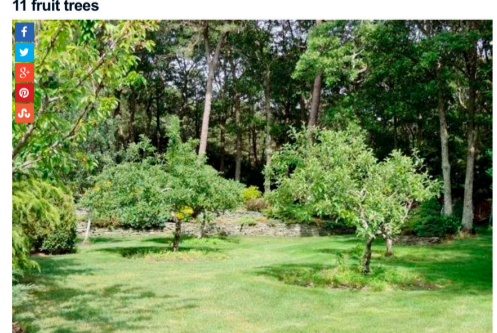


11 Deerfield Dr., Wading River | \$629,990

Chillax with friends outside on the deck in this 10-person hot tub. Overlooking the in-ground pool, the Sundance Maxxus has multiple jets to work out the kinks. Set the mood with underwater, dimmable multicolor lights. Almost one acre, the landscape also has a pond and mature trees and greenery. Bring the party inside to the great room, where there is a stone fireplace. Other features include the kitchen designed with custom cabinets, stainless steel appliances and a center island. Of four bedrooms, the master suite has a balcony. Laura Blanco and Anthony Guidice, Coldwell Banker Distinctive, 631-821-2040

.98-acre parcel also of an enclosed heated in-ground pool surrounded by masonry, as well as a basketball half-court. Some of the scenery can be enjoyed from the rear raised tile deck, which is accessible through sliding glass doors of the 2,338-square-foot raised ranch. Interior features include an open floor plan with cathedral ceilings, many windows and a fireplace. The updated kitchen is designed with cherrywood cabinets and stainless steel appliances. There are four bedrooms and three bathrooms. John Pace Jr., Pace Real Estate Services, 631-726-6597

11 fruit trees



12 apartments



108 Grove St., Hempstead | \$1,150,000

Twelve renters, renting. Yes, this 12-unit legal apartment building in the village is fully occupied, says the listing broker, noting it's an ideal investment property with an excellent rent roll. There are four units on each floor of this three-story walk-up. Of 12 units, nine have two bedrooms, and three have one bedroom. Each has one bathroom and is in "mint condition," the agent notes. The building is set on a 100-by-194-foot lot with parking. Stephen Portelli, Stephen Joseph Properties, 917-217-5801