

# At Home

Dakota Ridge Village in Boulder: Stunning views, open space and a vibrant community

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# Dakota Ridge Village in Boulder: Stunning views, open space and a vibrant community

By Judy Finman



When Michael Markel, owner and president of Markel Homes Construction Company, first saw the extraordinary property situated along the Foothills in northwest Boulder, he knew it was the perfect site for Dakota Ridge Village.

“It’s so rare to come across a parcel of land in the City of Boulder that’s directly adjacent to open space, with such stunning views,” he says. “As a local developer in business for almost 40 years, I felt I had a unique opportunity to build a distinctive community that would preserve the natural beauty of the site and reflect Coloradans’ tastes and connection to the outdoors.”

Dakota Ridge Village is located in North Boulder, west of Broadway and U.S. 36. Spread out over 57 acres, the community is surrounded on two sides by City of Boulder open space. The popular Foothills Trailway runs along the neighborhood’s south and west sides. Many homes have panoramic views, and everywhere is an open, expansive perspective. Residents enjoy easy access to trails and bike paths as well as city amenities, parks and a congenial neighborhood atmosphere.

## Saved the best for last

The last phase of building is currently under way, with lots situated directly across from protected open space and featuring spectacular Foothills and Flatiron views. Included in the final phase are custom solar homes priced from the \$800,000s to \$1.5 million, from three local builders: Markel Homes, MayerMartini Homes and Murphy Homes.

At Dakota Ridge Village, Markel Homes has built a series of unique single-family homes from Markel’s **newwest** collection. Inspired by the heritage of the West, **newwest** living combines favorite traditional elements with the spacious feel of contemporary design and an attitude of urban sophistication.

- 5229 Pierre Street is part of the **newwest** collection and available now. Priced at \$879,900, this home features multiple outdoor spaces, including two large patios and a third-floor skyloft, high-end finishes throughout and large distinctive windows for abundant natural light and expansive views.

- 5334 2nd Street, \$1,525,000 from MayerMartini Homes, sits directly across from open space to the west and offers unobstructed views of the Flatirons and the Foothills. Built in a New England style, this home features a Nana-style wall of windows, large screened-in side porch to the southwest, luxurious master suite and gourmet kitchen.

- Murphy Homes is offering 343 Dakota Boulevard, a south-facing home priced at \$1,349,000, with an open and airy floor plan, awesome views from the large covered front porch and third floor skyloft, and an inviting stone entry. This beautiful home won Best in Show in the 2009 Tour of Homes.

## A vibrant community

Wes Hobson, a Realtor with RE/MAX of Boulder, has lived at Dakota Ridge Village for three years. He’s pleased with how the community has evolved.

“I’m surprised how many families there are,” he says. “Seventy percent of the homeowners have kids in K through 12. At our stop, 18 to 22 kids get on the school bus every morning.”

As the father of an 8-month-old and an 8-year-old, Hobson is delighted with the big new community park that recently opened, with plenty of activities for kids of all ages. As an athlete and outdoorsman, Hobson values the easy access to open space and trails.

“Very thoughtful planning went into this place,” he says. “The alleyway is a great design. You see people come and go, and the kids play there instead of on the street – it’s safer. There are spontaneous ‘happy hours’ in the alleys; it’s a very friendly community.”

When Hobson and his wife were looking for a home, they wanted to live west of Broadway and enjoy great views. They looked at a lot of older housing. “We picked Dakota Ridge Village because it’s new construction. The floor plans are open and modern. It’s a good value compared to the older properties we saw.”

Businesswoman Roberta Gantz is another contented Dakota Ridge Village homeowner; she moved into her new home in 2006. “I am more than happy I bought it. I haven’t regretted one day. I work hard and come home and I’m ecstatic about the house they [Markel Homes] built for me.”

The neighborhood is also important to her. “This is a community for people like me – over 50, retired and not retired – and families with one or more children. It’s a real community. People are happy with their homes, their surroundings, and their community. We have nice homeowners’ associations. I love my investment.”

## Markel Homes

Markel Homes, one of Colorado’s premier homebuilders, plans, develops and builds Colorado neighborhoods that integrate the natural landscape and comfortable lifestyle of the West. Innovative design and distinctive architecture characterize a Markel community, along with quality construction and green practices. Markel is a homegrown Boulder company that has built homes in various locations in Boulder County and in Fort Collins.

**For information about available homes at Dakota Ridge Village, visit [MarkelHomes.com](http://MarkelHomes.com) or call sales manager Nancy Haney at 303.200.0488.**