

# The Eyes of the World Will Soon Be on Colorado, And They'll Like What They See

Getting this column done on time was a little harder this week, because I couldn't turn off the TV coverage of the Olympics. Interspersed with the coverage were interesting features about the new China and the new Beijing. Soon, we'll join the rest of the world in watching Denver and Colorado being featured amid the coverage of the Democratic National Convention.

I've been blessed to have traveled a great deal in my 60 years, and I'm a Coloradan by choice. My parents, thankfully, introduced me to Colorado as a kindergartner, and I enjoyed four years in Denver before they dragged me back east. Among the states I've lived in are Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Wyoming, and Hawaii, plus the District of Columbia, and I have visited almost every state.

As a "citizen diplomat," I visited

the Soviet Union several times in the 1980's. In the fall of 1989, I spent two weeks in Beijing, during the martial law which followed the Tiananmen Square massacre.

I've spent weeks in Japan, France, England, Italy, and many other countries, but there's no place I'd rather live than here in Colorado.

And for all its flaws, there's no society or political system I'd rather be in than ours.

I'll never forget my first week back in Colorado when I moved here from Brooklyn in 1991. I arrived just as Wellington Webb won his run-off election against Norm Early. I was fascinated that a city with such a small black population had a run-off election between two black politicians after a three-way contest with a white man. Back in New York City, that wouldn't have happened — the white man would

have won. I attended Webb's victory party on Market Street in Lodo, and was stunned at the lack of police presence, compared to Mayor Dinkins' victory party two years earlier at the New York Sheraton. When Mayor Pena and his wife, baby in arms, showed up, they were equally unprotected and accessible. This was such a refreshing change from New York!

Selling real estate here is also a pleasure compared to New York, where all parties have to hire lawyers. From what I've heard from colleagues, there's probably no easier state to buy and sell real estate than here in Colorado.

Moreover, we are blessed that we did not see the kind of run-up in property values during this past decade that underlies the real estate crisis which is so much worse where real estate values increased by double digits year after year.

Not to mention our superior weather and fewer natural disasters. All in all, there's no place I'd rather be than here in Colorado!

**REAL ESTATE TODAY**



**By JIM SMITH, Realtor®**

## This Week's Featured New Listing:

### The Backyard Will Sell You on This House!

The Village at Mountain Ridge has some great homes, and this is one of them! I especially like the huge backyard with its mature trees and feeling of privacy. The concrete curbing separating the grass from trees, shrubs and garden area adds a nice touch of class, too! Inside, this home has great hardwood floors, a main-floor study, the nicest laundry room I've seen, a master suite with retreat, and a second-floor deck overlooking that beautiful back yard. It has a great view of the foothills, too (see picture). In the basement is an 11x15 home theater with stadium seating, a rec room, and two more bedrooms, one of them outfitted as an exercise room with sauna. The sauna and a fun pinball machine are included with a full-price offer! **Open Saturday, 1-4pm.**



**GOLDEN REAL ESTATE**

**Jim Smith**  
Broker/Owner

**Golden Real Estate, Inc.**

DIRECT: 303-525-1851  
OFFICE: 303-302-3636  
17695 South Golden Road, Golden 80401  
EMAIL: [Jim@GoldenRealEstate.com](mailto:Jim@GoldenRealEstate.com)  
Search MLS at [www.GoldenRealEstate.com](http://www.GoldenRealEstate.com)


