

There is a peaceful sense of communal spirit that prevails at picturesque Sidney Peak Ranch, a 1,500-acre spread sprawling across foothills and meadows just outside Steamboat Springs. It draws those with 'cowboy hearts and Colorado souls' whether they were born and raised here or hail from clear across the country.

Home On the Colorado Range



Two souls with such diverse backgrounds are Dr. Dana L. Shires who is known for possessing a gentle, generous heart and his outgoing, philanthropic wife Debra, a Meeker, Colorado gal raised on the county's largest sheep ranch. Dr. Shires is a co-founder of Gatorade and the nationally acclaimed founder of LifeLink Foundation, a national organ recovery program based in Tampa, Florida.

At their relaxed country home at Sidney Peak Ranch they have found the perfect way to provide a welcomed respite from his demanding career, keep her in step with community pursuits, and stay current with the daily activities of their combined family of nine children and 16 grandchildren. Here they can all come together in harmony in an easy-going, understated rural setting. Panoramic views overlooking verdant grassy meadows and gently

rolling hills of aspen and scrub oak were the deciding factor for Dr. Shires. A location that provided Debra the opportunity to ride her cherished quarter horses near her childhood hometown fulfilled her requirements for a Colorado getaway retreat.

This 8,000-square foot home set on 50 acres was still a work in progress when the Shires took ownership. This gave them the opportunity to lend their own personality to the massive rock and wood beamed two-story home with an oversized three-car garage. Each room offers stunning views of hills, meadows or the Steamboat Springs ski runs streaking down Mount Werner.

The home's angular design provides each room with an interesting footprint. A spacious step-down living room offers floor-to-ceiling northern views of the ranch. The main living area shares a

Builder: Herb LeMee & John Boler

Owners: Dr. Dana L. & Debra Shires

Interior Design: Olivia Kimmeth – Olivia's Home Accessories

Custom Cabinetry: Kevin Fedewa

Photography: Rod Hanna

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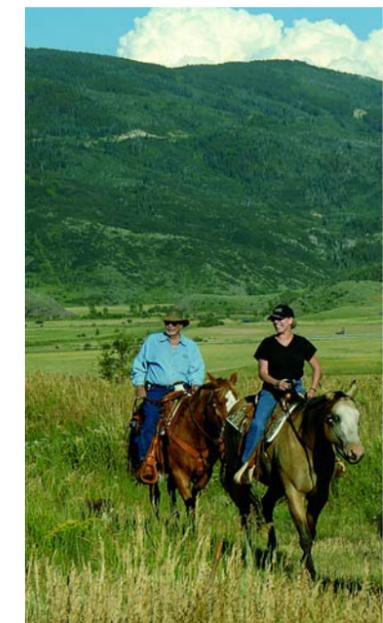
two-sided Colorado limestone fireplace with a casually sophisticated dining room overlooking one of many trout-stocked ponds on the ranch.

Olivia Kimmeth's connections with skilled craftsmen seamlessly brought together Debra's beloved baby grand piano with a spectacular 12-foot long, elk horn and cowhide bench made to Dr.

Shires' specifications that reside side by side along the window wall in the living room. Other conversation pieces close to the Shires' hearts are a unique, five-foot long tanned leather topped drum table with a hollowed cottonwood base that can actually be played, and a pair of authentic furry Buffalo hide 'woolies' chaps from the late 1800s to early 1900s that decorate a wall in the living room.

Dr. Shire has been drawn to Colorado for many years and enjoys bringing home unusual pieces acquired while traveling such as the single moose horn with a tip painted white that resembles a bald eagle in flight recently acquired in Alaska. It now soars from a massive pine beam above the living room. Faux alligator hide bar stools and a few gator replicas give subtle reference to the world-famous sports drink he helped formulate for the Florida Gators back in the 70s.

The kitchen is both sized and positioned to keep the chef and family all together. It took five full-sized granite slabs cut from the same vein to top all the counter space in this family gathering center. Smooth knotty pine and dark natural slate stone



Dr. Dana and Debra Shires

floors give the home warmth along with cozy Ralph Lauren wool and leather fabrics, such as those shown in the twin smoking chairs set in front of the fireplace in the dining room.

The master bedroom suite at the eastern end of the home brings the Shires 180-degree views of the valley below and Mount Werner. Two private decks, a limestone fireplace with sitting area and a planning desk, a workout room as well as a spacious bathroom with steam shower complete the master suite. Five bedrooms plus the upstairs guest quarters provide room for nearly the entire family to gather here at one time.

A narrow loft walk overlooking the living room showcases one of the Shires' many original paintings. A stunning piece set above the game and



puzzle table in the upstairs family playroom shows sheep grazing beneath a colorful fall palette of aspen in homage to Debra's family business. The upstairs deck offers spacious views to the south and serves two roomy bedrooms with sitting areas and a shared bathroom.

"Star gazing is great here," says Dr. Shires, "and if you sit quietly long enough you will see deer, elk, coyote and an occasional fox drink from the pond."

A hand-tooled leather chest set on a rustic wrought iron base and an antique miniature wooden rocking horse lend a Western touch in the foyer beside Debra's favorite settee that Kimmeth found and had covered in cloth that depicts a hunting scene. She enjoys hunter jumping at the private ranch community equestrian center and Western pleasure riding along the many riding trails that lace the property.

The 35-acre equestrian center at Sidney Peak Ranch offers an inviting club house setting with a family-style kitchen as well as 32 indoor stalls surrounding an indoor riding arena with indoor horse wash room and two tack rooms. Paddocks, outdoor stalls and another riding arena complete the private center enabling Debra and her son Austin, the opportunity to ride whenever they so desire. **•SM**