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ACTIVEWEST BUILDERS WINS 3 NAHB AWARDS

– Awards were presented at the International Builders Show in Orlando Feb. 9th –

February 10, 2012, Orlando, Florida – Dennis Cunningham and his company, ActiveWest Builders, has won 3 National Association of Home Builder’s (NAHB) 50+ Housing Awards for its active adult community, Meadow Ranch in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. Meadow Ranch picked up **2 Gold Achievement Awards for Best Green Community and Best Detached Home up to 2,100 sq. ft. and a Silver Award for Best for Sale – up to 200 Homes.**

In the **Green Community category**, Meadow Ranch competed with 3 other national communities - CantaMia in Arizona, English Commons at Topsfield in Massachusetts, and Park Centre Homes at La Posada in AZ.

For the **Best Detached Homes up to 2,100 sq. ft. category**, Meadow Ranch competed with Traditions of America at Liberty Hills in Pennsylvania. Meadow Ranch submitted The Armstrong – its model home, a 2-bed room with flex/ office and large heated workshop off of the garage. The home is 1,500 sq. ft.

And for **Best for Sale up to 200 Homes category**, Meadow Ranch competed again with English Commons at Topsfield in Mass., and The Residences at Black Rock in Mass., as well. Meadow Ranch, at build out will have up to 80 units in the active adult community – a mix of single –family detached homes, and craftsman town home duplexes.

Meadow Ranch is an active adult community located in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. The developer/builder, ActiveWest, builds **LEED® Certified** homes via the United States Green Building Council’s, LEED-H program. To date, AWB has built 9 LEED Platinum homes; 14 LEED Gold homes, and has 13 Pending LEED Certification – either Platinum or Gold. This contributed to ActiveWest recently winning the **2011 LEED-H Outstanding Production Builder Award** that was presented at the Green Expo in Toronto in October.

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In 2010 AWB received **LEED-ND certification** for Meadow Ranch. Meadow Ranch meets all the criteria in this detailed rating system, integrating the principles of smart growth, urbanism and green building. Meadow Ranch is one of approximately 80 internationally certified projects out of the 239 projects registered for the pilot program around the world and is one of two registered in Idaho.

In 2009, Meadow Ranch won the **Idaho Smart Growth & Green Building Award**. Meadow Ranch achieves all of the smart growth principles, especially those related to providing a range of transportation choices, mixed land uses, diverse housing opportunities and compact building patterns. It's a walk able, cost-effective neighborhood with a strong sense of place.

"All of these awards and certifications have helped to support the national recognition we have received from NAHB as well as USGBC," says Dennis Cunningham, President of ActiveWest Builders. "Its nice to have a larger scope that gives credibility outside of where we are building. To me, its all about being certified and credible – *Talking the Walk, and Walking the Talk*" so to speak. "

NAHB's 50+ Housing Council's *Best of 50+ Housing Awards*, sponsored by Lowes Commercial Services, are the industry's most prestigious national awards program honoring excellence in building, design and marketing of housing for boomers and beyond. The industry and media as a showcase for innovation view the Best of 50+ Housing Awards, emerging trends and quality housing for the mature demographic. A total of 79 entries were chosen as finalists and are eligible for either a Gold or Silver Award from NAHB's 50+ Housing Council.

"The finalists demonstrated how green and universal design features can be seamlessly incorporated throughout a home to enhance the lives of active adults, their children and grandchildren," said NAHB Chairman Bob Nielsen, a home builder from Reno, Nev. "We are excited to announce the award-winning projects during the 2012 NAHB International Builders' Show."

Finalists were selected from entries in 44 categories representing active adult housing, service-enriched housing and marketing activity. New categories focused on such areas as fitness and wellness, integration of technology and green communities. The judges also singled out several entries for innovation awards. NAHB's 50+ Housing Council launched the Best of 50+ Housing Awards to encourage quality and innovation in the market. The Council provides information, education and networking opportunities for members and provides advocacy support on key 50+ housing issues.

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