

# SRCAR At A Glance

October 3, 2006

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## News from SRCAR

**Special Task Force Looking for Volunteers** – A special task force has been created to review the existing MLS areas within our jurisdiction and to make recommendations to the Board of Directors on reducing the number of areas. Dave Lynch will be chairing this special task force. If you are interested in participating in this task force to review this subject, please email Nancy Donahue Jones at [nancy@srcar.org](mailto:nancy@srcar.org). All appointments to task forces/committees must be approved by the Chairman and the Board of Directors. Task Force will be meeting soon. Thank you.

**Guest Speaker at MLS Marketing Meeting – Temecula/Murrieta** – Kevin Jeffries, candidate for the Assembly, will be speaking at the MLS Marketing Meeting for just a few moments on Tuesday, October 10, 2006. Kevin has been endorsed by the California Association of REALTORS® and SRCAR.

**Upcoming Educational Opportunities for SRCAR Members at the Association Office** – visit the Association's website at [www.srcar.org](http://www.srcar.org) for more information regarding any of the following events:

**October 9, 2006** – US RealNet w/Roger Singer sponsored by LandAmerica Gateway Title from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. – RSVP to Michelle Bacon at 951-961-8422.

**October 11, 2006** – 9:00 to 12:00 Noon – Call Capture Class (Agents/Lenders) sponsored by Scott Harris with Fidelity Title.

**October 11, 2006** – 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. – FREE – Achieving Success in Real Estate w/Michael Valenti – 3hrs DRE Credit. RSVP to Practical Resources at 760-753-4066.

**October 25, 2006** – Risk Management Training from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. by DW Duke of Giardinelli, Duke & Simmons, LLP at SRCAR. Doors Open at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$10 for REALTORS® and \$20 for all other. Payment must be received at time of reservation. Continental Breakfast will be provided by EBR Escrow. Seating is very limited to call SRCAR today at 951-894-2571,

**Website Update** – Have you taken a few moments to visit the Association's website at [www.srcar.org](http://www.srcar.org)? If not, please do so today. Lots of new and enhance items are there for your information on the Southwest Riverside County Association of REALTORS®. Comments regarding the site and its features can be directed to Daniel Brincat, IT Manager ([Daniel@srcar.org](mailto:Daniel@srcar.org)) at the Association office.

## Matrix Add/Edit Features Goes Live Today

**Matrix System Goes Live Today** – MRMLS is transitioning from IMRMLS to MRMLS Matrix. All entry of listings will occur in our new Matrix program starting today. As a result, MRMLS would like to officially reintroduce MRMLS Matrix, the new state-of-the-art Web-based MLS system. Overview classes are available, but space is limited, so sign up now!

Go to <http://www.imrmls.com/centsite/training.html> to sign up for training. The next class offered at the Association office will be on Thursday, October 19, 2006. **The training schedule is as follows: Listing Upload – Matrix (10-12), Matrix Overview (1-2:30) and SmartMap (2:45-3:45).** Seating is limited so please RSVP today with your Association office at 951-894-2571. Thank you.

Matrix Overview Classes will also be offered on October 12, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. (1 hour each then a repeat) and October 30, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (1 hour each and then a repeat). Members are urged to RSVP to your Association office at 951-894-2571.

As a reminder, now that the Matrix System has become the primary system, the history from the previous system has been transferred over. Unfortunately, your prospects will not and you will need to set up this feature in the Matrix System.

**SRCAR Is Looking For Volunteers. Are You Ready to Serve?** - Tom Plant, 2007 Chairman of the Board and the Southwest Riverside County Association of REALTORS® will have numerous openings for volunteers to serve in assisting the Association move forward with its goals and objectives.

If you would like to be considered for an appointment for 2007, please complete the 2007 Volunteer Sign Form (available on line at [www.srcar.org](http://www.srcar.org)) or inserted into the October & November editions of the SRCAR REALTORS® Report, and return it to the Association office by December 31, 2006. You must be a REALTOR® or an Affiliate member in good standing with SRCAR to be considered.

Some of the committee/task forces are:

- Affiliates
- Joint Finance (SRCAR, SRCMLS & SRCAR Scholarship Foundation)
- Grievance (REALTOR® & Must have been in the business minimum of 3 yrs)\*
- Professional Standards (REALTOR® & Must have served on the Grievance Committee for 2 years)\*
- Education/Training
- Legislative/Local Government Awareness
- MLS
- Marketing Meetings
- Nominating
- Orientation
- SRCAR Scholarship Fundraiser
- Strategic Planning

\*service on these committees have required annual training that must be completed prior to members being appointed.

If you have any questions or comments regarding serving on a SRCAR Committee/Task Force, please do not hesitate to contact either Tom Plant, Chair-elect at Prudential Canyon Lake – 951-244-2353 or 951-907-9701 or SRCAR CEO, Nancy Donahue-Jones at 951-894-2571 or via email at [nancy@srcar.org](mailto:nancy@srcar.org).

**Auto Pay to Discontinue January 1, 2007** – If you currently have a credit card authorization on file with the Association of REALTORS® to pay your quarterly MLS Dues and Lockbox Fees, please be advised that as of January 1, 2007, this service will no longer be available. Dues can be made via the Association's website at [www.srcar.org](http://www.srcar.org) – it is safe and secure and a receipt will be issued to you immediately. You can pay using your Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover Credit Cards. Debit cards will also be accepted provided they have the Visa or MasterCard logo on them. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of your Association Staff at 951-894-2571. Thank you.

**Tuesday MLS Marketing Meeting Has Moved** – As a reminder, the Tuesday MLS Marketing Meeting has moved to the Temeku Theatres in Temecula (near K-Mart). The meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. with Beverages & Breakfast provided by one of our Great SRCAR Affiliates and their company. The meeting is hosted by a member of the Board of Directors and Bernie Thomas.

Any listings Members wish to be included on the caravan for the Tuesday Marketing Meeting preview must have the listing in the "Agent Open House" section of the MLS by 7:00 a.m. the Tuesday of the caravan. Any listings received after the stated time may not be included in the printed caravan sheet that is distributed at the Tuesday meeting. Copies of the printed caravan sheet will be made available either at the Tuesday Marketing Meeting or at the Association office.

*Members who have properties on the weekly tour and who are attending the Marketing Meeting are asked to sit in the first few rows at the Theatre so that promoting your listings during the meeting will be easier to pass the microphone. Members have 45 seconds to "pitch" their listings.*

Members are urged to place photos of their properties on their listings so that they maybe highlighted at the tour meeting when the properties are scheduled for tour. Any questions about placing properties on tour can be directed to the SRCAR Staff at the Association office at 951-894-2571.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Southwest Riverside County Association of REALTORS®, members will soon be receiving a survey on the Tuesday MLS Marketing Meetings. The survey will ask some general questions regarding the meeting and should take no more than 1-2 minutes to complete. The purpose of the survey is to gather some general information. Thank you.

**A Reminder Please** – The Staff at your Association office is receiving numerous calls each day regarding legal questions, the use of specific forms in a real estate transaction as well as how to complete the forms. As a reminder, the Staff at SRCAR are not licensed in real estate nor are they attorneys and can not provide this type of information. Please seek the guidance of your Broker or Office Manager and when necessary, please use the CAR Legal Hotline at 213-739-8282.

In addition, we ask that you please not yell or curse at the Association staff. You do not like it when you are yelled at or cursed at by others; we ask that you please extend the same courtesy to the Association staff. The staff at the Association is here to work with you and for you and to provide you service within the established guidelines of the organization. While you may not like a particular policy, the staff did not draft the policy. Changes can be made to existing policies by simply putting your comments, questions and concerns to the attention of the Leadership. Upon receipt these questions, comments and concerns will be addressed by the Board of Directors at their next scheduled meeting for possible action. Thank you.

**Chaplin Services Available** – REALTOR® Jim Tracy has volunteered his services as Chaplin (non-denominational) for Southwest Riverside County Association of REALTORS® members. Should you need these services, please contact Jim Tracy at Pacific Pride Property at 951-699-3199 or by cell at 949-212-7026. Thank you.

**MLS at SRCAR New Fax/E Number Established** - A new fax/e number has been established for the MLS area within SRCAR. Please use it when sending new listings and changes to existing listings within the MLS at SRCAR. This fax/e number will go directly to [mls@srcar.org](mailto:mls@srcar.org) within the Association. The new fax number is: 951/572-3721.

This new fax/e number was established to assist members when submitting new listings and changes to existing listings directly to the MLS Department rather than through the central fax at the Association office. We hope that you will take advantage of this new service. Should you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Lipscomb at SRCAR at 951/894-2571, ext. 134 or email [mls@srcar.org](mailto:mls@srcar.org). Thank you.

**New Email Address for the Supra/Lockbox Department at SRCAR** – A new email address has been established at the Association office for questions, comments and concerns regarding the Supra Keys & Lockbox Department. The email address is: [suprakeys@srcar.org](mailto:suprakeys@srcar.org). Michele Medley from the Association office is currently the staff administrator in this area. Michele can be reached at 951-894-2571. Thank you.

**New Membership Signups** –New members should plan to join the Association during the following hours: **8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** This time period will provide adequate assistance in joining and avoid any unnecessary delays. Please make sure that the application is completed with the MLS Participant/Designation

REALTORS® signature. This will enable the staff to complete the process in a more timely and efficiently manner. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

A new fax/e number has been established for this department. Please use it when submitting new membership applications and changes to existing members to the Association. This fax/e number will go directly to the [membership@srcar.org](mailto:membership@srcar.org) address within the Association. The new fax number is: 951/253-4795. We hope that you will take advantage of this new service.

### Important Numbers:

- Supra Technical Support @ 800/545-9601 or 877/699-6787
- MRMLS Tech Support @ 800/925-1525 (from 909/951 area codes); 626/574-3830 (from all others)
- WINForms Support Center – 586/840-0140 (<http://support.zipform.com/>)
- CAR Legal Hotline: 213/739-8282
- SRCAR General Office Fax Number: 951/894-2572
- MLS Citations & Fine Policy Department Fax Number at SRCAR @ 951/572-3700 or [mlsviolations@srcar.org](mailto:mlsviolations@srcar.org)
- MLS Citations & Fine Policy Department Toll Free Number @ 800/919-1008
- Membership Department Fax Number at SRCAR @ 951/253-4795 or [membership@srcar.org](mailto:membership@srcar.org)
- MLS Department Fax Number at SRCAR @ 951/572-3721 or [mls@srcar.org](mailto:mls@srcar.org)
- Grievance & Professional Standards (aka Complaint) Department Toll Free Number @ 800-446-3646
- Supra/Lockbox Department at SRCAR @ 951-894-2571 or [suprakeys@srcar.org](mailto:suprakeys@srcar.org)

## News from MRMLS

**MRMLS Computer Training** – Join the training staff from MRMLS for Computer Training on Thursday, October 19, 2006 for the following classes:

- Listing Upload – Matrix (10-12)
- Matrix Overview (1-2:30)
- SmartMap (2:45-3:45)

Reservations are strongly suggested. Please call SRCAR to reserve your seat today at 951/894-2571. These classes will be offered each month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the large meeting room at the Association. Please see the calendar for exact dates on the Association's website at [www.srcar.org](http://www.srcar.org).

## News from CAR

**Member Legal Services** has published a revised legal article, [The Duty to Arbitrate When REALTORS® Are Acting Solely as Principals in a Real Estate Transaction](#) (September 26, 2006). It is available on Legal's [What's New](#) and the [Legal Articles](#) pages on *C.A.R. Online*.

This legal article has been reviewed for accuracy and updated. There have been no substantive changes to the NAR Code of Ethics discussed in the article; however, a link has been added to the Article 17 Case Interpretations.

**Member Legal Services** has published a revised legal article, [Firestorms: Basic Real Estate Legal Issues](#) (September 28, 2006). It is available on Legal's [What's New](#) and the [Legal Articles](#) pages on *C.A.R. Online*.

This legal article has been reviewed for accuracy and updated. There have been no substantive changes to the law; however, a link has been added to the Internal Revenue Code and citations were added.

## News from NAR

**NAR Natural Disaster Policy Symposium Boosts Insurance Ideas** - NAR hosted a federal natural disaster policy symposium last week in Washington to help identify federal policies for dealing with the next natural disaster before it strikes. Attending were 100 representatives from a wide variety of associations, nongovernmental organizations, congressional offices, and federal agencies. NAR has been lobbying Congress on the need to protect home owners and the economy by ensuring the affordability of disaster insurance, especially in disaster-prone areas. NAR is reaching out to industry groups and stakeholders to explore formation of a coalition group to work with members of Congress to advance legislation when the new 110th Congress convenes next year.

**NAR President Urges Support of OMB Regulatory Affairs Nominee** - NAR President Thomas M. Stevens has written to senators Susan Collins (R-Maine) and Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) in support of the nomination of Susan Dudley for Director of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Sen. Collins is the chair of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, and Sen. Lieberman is the ranking member. The committee must evaluate the nomination and make recommendations to the Senate. The OIRA position is important to NAR and its members because it is a gatekeeper in the federal regulatory process. Ms. Dudley has developed a reputation as a thoughtful analyst on regulatory issues, NAR says. Her record indicates that she will keep efficiency and effectiveness as well as congressional intent in mind when evaluating regulatory proposals from the federal agencies. At present, hearings have not been scheduled on the nomination.

**Existing-Home Sales Holding at a Sustainable Pace** - Existing-home sales stabilized at a sustainable pace in August, while home prices showed an anticipated decline, NAR says. Total existing-home sales--including single-family, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops--slipped 0.5 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.30 million units in August from a level of 6.33 million in July, and were 12.6 percent lower than the 7.21 million-unit pace in August 2005, which was the second-highest on record. David Lereah, NAR's chief economist, said home sales appear to be leveling out. "After a stronger-than-expected drop in July, the fairly even sales numbers in August tell us the market is at a more sustainable pace," he says. "It keeps us on track to see the third-highest sales year on record, but we do expect an adjustment in home prices to last several months as we work through a buildup in the inventory of homes on the market."

**NARdi Gras Shaping Up to Be Major Success** - Fewer than 50 days before the NARdi Gras celebration begins; more than 14,500 people have registered, 3 percent more than for San Francisco at this time last year. More than 560 exhibitors have signed on, and sales remain strong. New Mexico and Vermont have reached their goal for helping NAR meet its 30,000 attendance mark. Idaho, Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, and West Virginia are doing well toward meeting their attendance goal. Some 1,040 volunteers have signed up for rebuilding work, and more have indicated they'll sign up, too. For more on how the 2006 REALTORS® Conference & Expo is shaping up, [click here](#).

**Former Presidents Bush, Clinton to Speak at NAR Conference** -Joining REALTORS® at the site of the most destructive hurricane ever on U.S. soil will be former presidents George H.W. Bush and William Clinton. They'll take the stage during the General Session at the 2006 REALTORS® Conference & Expo in New Orleans. Presidents Bush and Clinton -- who worked together on relief efforts after the 2004 South Asian tsunami and again after Hurricane Katrina in 2005 -- will talk about their Katrina relief efforts. The Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund has raised more than \$100 million to date and has so far announced \$40 million in grants to the affected states and \$30 million in grants to higher education institutions that were devastated by Katrina, the presidents' foundation Web site says. REALTORS® and others in the real estate community have stepped up to the plate, too, contributing some \$18 million to the REALTOR® Relief Foundation, American Red Cross, United Way, and other charities to help storm victims. Also at the General Session, NAR 2006 President Thomas M. Stevens will give his industry address and recognize the outstanding achievements of REALTORS®. The General Session is Saturday, Nov. 11, 4-6 p.m. For more on the conference, [click here](#). To register online, [click here](#).