

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL

September 24, 2007

Auctioneer to Sell Luxury Homes in Del Mar, La Jolla to Highest Bidders

North County Home Sale Prices Take Modest Leap

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Crest Estates LLC of Del Mar Heights has teamed up with the Miami-based Auction Company of America to sell luxury properties in San Diego County online Sept. 29 and 30.

Properties to be sold include a 10,000-square-foot mansion and 10,000-square-foot residence on River Trail in Rancho Santa Fe and a 5,600-square-foot home near Mount Soledad in La Jolla. The two Rancho Santa Fe properties are new construction, while the La Jolla home is bank-owned.

In addition, Crest said it would auction off a 31,000-square-foot lot in the Preserve at Del Mar subdivision in Del Mar Mesa. The property is approved for the construction of a 10,000-square-foot home.

"Auctions are one of the most effective ways to expedite the sale of real estate, and in some cases, it is a far more effective way to expose and market high-end properties," said Steve Uhlir, president of Crest Estates.

Uhlir said he hopes to debunk the misconception that properties sold at auction have desperate owners or are less than desirable. He said the Rancho Santa Fe properties are valued at \$6.7 million and \$7 million, the La Jolla property at \$5 million and the lot in Del Mar Mesa at \$1.8 million.

Uhlir and Auction Company of America President Jim Gall have been advertising the unique auction for several weeks.

Crest Estates and the Auction Company of America also plan to hold a charity auction Sept. 28. A portion of proceeds from estate items, including a signed Billy Joel piano, original pieces by Pablo Picasso and other jewelry and artwork will benefit PhotoCharity, a local nonprofit serving homeless and disadvantaged youth.

Uhlir said he has teamed with the Auction Company of America before. The Miami-based company said it has sold more than 16,000 properties in 45 states since 1979.

More information can be found at RanchoSantaFeAuction.com.

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Prices Rise: Home prices enjoyed a modest gain from July to August in North County.

According to the North San Diego County Association of Realtors monthly HomeDex report, the median price for single-family detached and single-family attached homes in North County rose to \$567,900 in August from \$559,538 in July.

The median priced single-family detached home increased 1.54 percent to \$660,000 in August from \$650,000 in July.