



Natalie Loudan's



ALCOVA MORTGAGE

Weekly Mortgage Update

Your referral is the highest compliment I can receive!

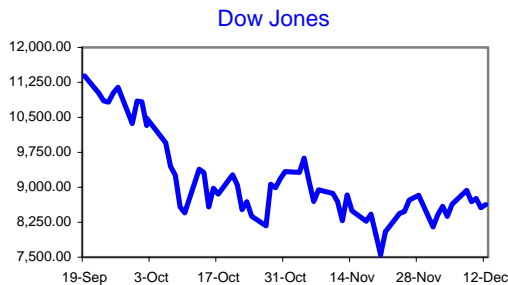
**Week of
Dec. 14,
2008**

Mortgage Market Commentary

Last week saw long-term mortgage rates drift downward to multi-year lows as economic news continued to reveal a struggling economy. Overall retail sales dropped 1.8%, which was near expectations. However, most of the drop came from gas and auto sales. Certain segments, including electronics and clothes, actually saw an increase in sales.

Even with a huge week of economic news due, we may see mortgage rates stay relatively flat. The most important item of the week is likely the release of the Fed's policy statement following its last meeting of the year. Expectations are for another interest rate cut, but the Fed's rate is having slightly less influence on mortgage rates in these challenging times. The recent promise of Treasury support for the secondary mortgage markets has driven rates about as far down as is reasonable to expect without some significant event or government program. Continued sour economic news and more evidence of waning inflationary pressure should serve to keep rates relatively low.

Stock Market Trend



Forty Years Later: Fair Housing Still A Dream?

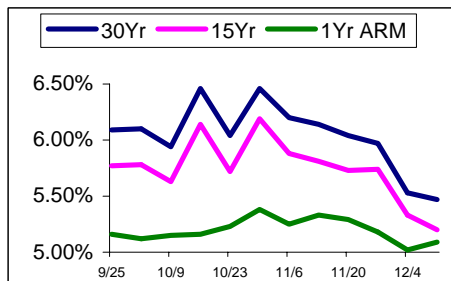
While progress has been made in the forty years since the passage of the Fair Housing Act, a six-month, multi-city investigation by the National Commission on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity found that "extreme levels" of residential segregation still divide our nation. If you would like to work with a lender who believes that fair lending is the right thing to do, please give me a call. I'll do all I can to find the best financing for you and your family.

Mortgage Rate Watcher

15 Day Rate Trend →

30 Day Rate Trend ↓

Market Volatility **High**



Worth Remembering

All mankind is divided into three classes: those that are immovable, those that are movable, and those that move.

Benjamin Franklin

Bonehead of the Week

A "too unlucky to be a criminal" bonehead award goes to George Parker of Bridgeton, NJ. Parker stole a car in Beachwood, NJ. Toms River Police Chief, Michael Mastronardy, heard the report on the radio and was surprised to see the stolen car right in front of him. Parker noticed he was being followed and decided to casually pull into a neighborhood and park in a driveway as if it was his home. Unfortunately, he pulled into the driveway of the home belonging to Police Chief Mastronardy. - AP



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