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**Homes Prices in Columbus Remain Stable**

*Market conditions create opportunities for buyers*

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** (Nov. 6, 2006) – Home prices in Columbus remained virtually unchanged during the second quarter 2006, the most recent quarter for which information is available, declining only slightly – 0.1 percent – compared with the same quarter in 2005, according to data compiled by the National Association of Realtors® (NAR). By comparison, home prices nationwide rose 3.7 percent during the same period.

“These statistics clearly indicate our market continues to be stable,” said Bill Evans, president of HER Real Living. “If you are a buyer in central Ohio looking for a new home, the favorable market conditions coupled with low interest rates and a variety of homes to choose from mean there has never been a better time to buy.”

Interest rates have stayed relatively low despite a small increase in the past 12 months. “Affordable markets are less sensitive to interest rate changes and more dependent on job market conditions,” according to the 2006 Market-by-Market Home Price Analysis by the National Association of Realtors® (NAR).

Indicators pointing toward a strengthening market include job growth. “Local job growth has been recovering with steadily improving figures,” according to the NAR data. In addition, central Ohio’s unemployment rate of 5.3 percent in the first quarter is an improvement over recent quarters.

Another indicator pointing to the stability of the Ohio market is that existing sales showed only a small second quarter decline of 1.5 percent, compared with existing-home sales nationwide, which dropped 7 percent during the same period.

**About HER Real Living**

HER Real Living is part of Real Living Inc., the fourth-largest real estate firm in the country. It boasts nearly 4,000 agents and employees, \$8.4 billion in annual sales and more than 130 offices throughout 12 states. Real Living was awarded the 2005 Inman Innovator Award by *Inman News*, ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> in *Entrepreneur* magazine’s Top 50 Best New Franchises and has won numerous awards for its marketing achievements. Each month, Real Living’s Web sites receive nearly 14 million page views. Real Living also offers a full range of affiliated business services, including home financing, title, relocation, corporate relocation management and home warranties. For more information about Real Living, visit [www.Realliving.com](http://www.Realliving.com) or [www.HERRealLiving.com](http://www.HERRealLiving.com).

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