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## **The Flint Area Association of REALTORS® Celebrates National Homeownership Month**

**(Flint, Mich. – June 12, 2007)** – This June, the Flint Area Association of REALTORS® joins the National Association of REALTORS® and state and local REALTOR® associations across the nation in celebrating National Homeownership Month.

Named by President Bush in 2002, National Home Ownership Month is aimed to raise awareness and encourage more Americans to consider the benefits of owning their own home. It also includes efforts to make housing affordable and accessible to potential buyers, as well as bridging the diversity gap for potential buyers, and help struggling homeowners keep their homes.

According to the 2005 U.S. Census data, there are 195,545 housing units in Genesee County. Of those households, approximately 72 percent are owner-occupied. In 2005, the national homeownership rate was approximately 69 percent. Although there are not current Genesee County homeownership rates, the national rate for homeownership in the first quarter of 2007 is 68.4 percent according to the U.S. Census' Housing Vacancies and Homeownership information.

To celebrate this month, FAAR's REALTORS® are actively participating in efforts to encourage homeownership and to strengthen the communities in which they live and work.

FAAR's partnership with the mayor's office, Flint's Metro Housing Committee to form the Ambassador City Program have displayed efforts to close the homeownership gap in Flint. As many as 40 REALTORS® have earned the "At Home With Diversity" Designation. This six-hour training course builds diversity awareness and help minorities towards homeownership. The Flint Chapter of the Women's Council of REALTORS® is hosting a Mortgage Fraud seminar to educate Flint REALTORS® on protecting clients and homebuyers.

For more information about National Homeownership Month, visit the National Association of REALTORS® site: <http://www.realtor.org/homeownership>.

*The Flint Area Association of REALTORS® (FAAR) is a 1,400 plus member trade association which protects the rights of private property owners while serving as the primary source for Genesee County housing and real estate data. FAAR is comprised of 176 Local REALTOR® Brokerages, which adhere to a strict Code of Ethics, established by the National Association of REALTORS®.*



# National Homeownership Month June

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