

Industry News

Exclusive Economic Update Scheduled for January 6

Gear up for the new year at the 2009 Housing Forecast. This premier event, co-sponsored by ABoR and the Home Builders Association of Greater Austin (HBA) will provide you with timely analysis of the Central Texas economy and the housing market in particular.

The program will take place from 8:30 to 11 a.m. on Tuesday, **January 6** at the Renaissance Austin Hotel, located at 9721 Arboretum Blvd., Austin, Texas 78759. Arrive at 7:30 a.m. for registration, followed by breakfast at 8 a.m. Speakers will include **Jon Hockenyos**, president of Texas Perspectives, **Eldon Rude**, director of MetroStudy for the Austin market, and **Gary Farmer**, president of Heritage Title.

Tickets for the 2009 Housing Forecast are \$75 each and are available only to ABoR and HBA members. ABoR members may purchase their tickets online at www.abor.com/events/HousingForecast.cfm or by contacting **Rita Barousse** at rbarousse@abor.com or 512/454-7636, ext. 1603.

Get the Facts on FDIC Changes

Growing economic concerns have placed increasing media attention on the Federal Deposit Insurance Company (FDIC). To better assist REALTORS® in understanding the changes to FDIC coverage, the National Association of

REALTORS® (NAR) has created a special fact sheet. This resource explains how agents and their clients will be affected by changes to federal insurance policies for escrow accounts, personal accounts and business accounts. The full article may be found online at www.realtor.org/letterlw.nsf/pages/1008fdic?opendocument&login (NAR login required).

Association Members Add International Flair to Services

LyLy Fisher of Fisher & Company R.E. is the latest ABoR member to receive the Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS) designation. She joins fellow REALTORS® **Alston Boyd** of Boyd & Boyd Properties, **Pam Cirkiel** of M.E. Gene Johnson Realty, **Harlan Cooper** of Cooper, REALTORS®, **Tri Minh Dao** of Harvard Realty, **Jolene Hall** of Turnquist Partners, REALTORS®, **Sheila Hawkins-Bucklew** of Hawkins Bucklew International, **Susie Kang** of Joa Realty, **Todd Smith** of Capital City Sotheby's Realty, **Rosa Vaca** of Rosa Vaca Real Estate and **Melissa Willingham** of Keller Williams Realty in holding this illustrious designation.

REALTORS® who hold the CIPS designation have undergone special training for the international real estate market, including communicating with diverse cultures, deciphering investment trends and understanding exchange rates and legal issues. For more information on the CIPS designation, visit www.realtor.org/cipshome.nsf/pages/cipshome.

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Upcoming Events

DEC

- 5 Installation & Awards Celebration
- 12 New Member Orientation
8:45 - 11 a.m.
ABoR Auditorium
- 12 Leadership Program
Application Deadline
For details, visit www.abor.com/leadership/leadershipprogram.pdf
- 15 ABoR Membership Fees Due
- 19 MLS Lunch and Learn
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
ABoR Auditorium
- 19 ABoR Office will close at 3 p.m.
- 24-26 ABoR Office Closed
Christmas Holiday
- 31 ABoR Office Closed
New Year's Eve

JAN

- 1 ABoR Office Closed
New Year's Day
- 2 New Member Orientation
8:45 - 11 a.m.
ABoR Auditorium
- 6 2009 Housing Forecast
For details, visit www.abor.com/events/HousingForecast.cfm
- 19 ABoR Office Closed
Staff Training
- 23 MLS Lunch and Learn
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
ABoR Auditorium

FEB

- 6 New Member Orientation
8:45 - 11 a.m.
ABoR Auditorium
- 11 TREPAC Gold Rush Party
For more information, call the Government and Community Affairs Department at 512/454-7636.
- 16 ABoR Office Closed
Staff Training
- 20 MLS Lunch and Learn
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
ABoR Auditorium
- 20-24 TAR Winter Meeting
For more information, visit www.texasrealtors.com