Weichert® INSIGHTS

News you can use.

Valuable information to share with buyers and sellers.

High affordability, low mortgage rates and the $8,000 first-time buyer tax credit make now an excellent time to purchase a home. For those consumers interested in taking advantage of these favorable market conditions, it pays to do your homework.

Buying a home is probably the biggest purchase one makes in their lifetime. According to the National Association of Realtors, prospective buyers should spend some time getting educated before embarking on a house hunt:

- **Decide what you want**. Make a list of the features you want in a home. For example, figuring out the preferred style, size, location and number of bedrooms and bathrooms will help narrow down the possibilities.

- **Search online**. Browse the Web for homes that meet your criteria. Many sites, including Weichert.com, allow you to see multiple photos, view school and neighborhood information, and set up e-mail alerts to notify you of new listings.

- **Explore the community**. Drive through the neighborhoods and visit nearby shopping areas to get a better sense of the areas you are focusing on. Local real estate agents can also be a great source of information about the communities in which they do business.

Click here to access the Weichert Real Estate Guide to Buying a Home.

Weichert, Realtors®