



### **SALES DOWN AND VALUES UP IN MAY:**

In a press release to the media today, Maine home sales decreased -20.08% comparing May 2023 to May 2022. The median sales price (MSP) was \$373,000, a 6.57% increase in that same time period. NAR reports that

existing home sales and median sales prices were down nationally comparing May 2023 to May 2022. In the northeast, existing home sales were down and median sales prices were up in May 2023 compared to a year ago. [Read the full release here!](#)

### **HAPPY PRIDE MONTH AND HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH!**

In recognition of Pride Month and Homeownership Month, we remind you of the importance of Fair Housing and housing for all. Check out these resources:

- NAR Code of Ethics – Article 10
- MAR Resources
- NAR Resources



### **LOCAL REALTORS® OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED:**

Congratulations to these recently announced 2023 local REALTORS® of the Year!

-Maine Commercial Association of REALTORS®: [Kirk Butterfield](#) (Keller Williams Realty; Portland)

-Waldo County Council of the MidCoast Board of REALTORS®: [Monet Yarnell](#) (Sell 207; Belfast)

### **THANK YOU FOR TAKING ACTION!**

Last week we asked you to TAKE ACTION to

## Quick Links

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

[National Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Listings](#)

[Maine Real Estate Commission](#)

## Board Portal Links

[Greater Bangor Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Greater Portland Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Kennebec Valley Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

- Maine Commercial Association
- MAR Only Members
- York County Council

[Mid-Coast Board of REALTORS®](#)

- Acadia Council
- Waldo County Council
- Penobscot Bay Council

[Mountains to Shore Board of REALTORS®](#)

- Androscoggin Valley Council
- Lincoln County Council
- Merrymeeting Council
- Western Maine Council

## MAR Leadership

defeat LD 804 “An Act to Increase the Time Period for Notice to Terminate a Tenancy at Will”, and you did! More than 1,250 emails were sent! We reached 95% of the total Maine Legislature, including 100% of Maine’s Senators urging an OUGHT NOT TO PASS vote. Both the House and the Senate voted NO to the bill! Thank you for helping us defeat this high priority issue for private property owners!



### **SCAM: FRAUDULENT SELLERS:**

MAR continues to hear about situations involving fraudulent sellers who try to sell properties in Maine that they do not own - recently on a property in Portland and another in Kittery. These scams are happening across the country, most commonly involving vacant land listings with non-local owners.

For prospective sellers who are not physically located near you/the property, ask them to Zoom, Google Meet, Facetime with you for a first meeting – and ask them to show their identification on the screen. While scammers may also have fraudulent identification, they are likely to be unwilling to show their face on a screen.

For potential sellers who are nearby, always schedule first meetings with customers/clients in the office, verify their identity (take a photo of their driver’s license), and introduce them to a colleague.

Use your Forewarn app (a NO-COST member benefit provided by Maine Listings).

- Conduct a reverse lookup of the telephone number in FOREWARN and if it comes back with anything other than the expected person – investigate further.
  - Conduct a reverse name search in FOREWARN and call the number(s) provided to confirm the person’s identity and whether or not they did indeed contact you to list the property.
- In addition, you should verify information about the listing property and owner with the town/municipal tax records and the registry of deeds.

Trust your instincts, be safe, and let law enforcement and others know about any suspicious and unsettling interactions. Always.

### **LUNCH & LEARN MATERIALS** **MAINE CONNECTIVITY AUTHORITY:**

If you missed MAR’s Lunch & Learn on June 20th with the [Maine Connectivity Authority](#) you can review the slides from the presentation here: [Click Here](#). Note that the URL’s are

- President  
Carmen McPhail
- President Elect  
Paul McKee
- First Vice President  
Jeff Harris
- Treasurer  
Eric Flynn
- Chief Executive Officer  
Suzanne Guild

Last Issue: June 13

Some content may be commercial in nature.

hyperlinked to additional resources.



## **ECONOMIC UPDATE** **LUNCH & LEARN JULY 24:**

Mark your calendar for Monday, July 24th 12pm-1pm, as we are joined by Maine State Senior Economic Analyst, Megan Bailey alongside NAR's Senior Economic Analyst and Director of Economic Research, Nadia Evangelou. We'll

hear economic updates for Maine and the nation. Grab some lunch and bring your questions!

**Register  
Now!**

### **MAINE LISTINGS NEWS:**

Click on the links below to learn about:



- [Insider Tips for Today's Market](#)
- [Clear Your Cache](#)
- [CartoFront](#)
- [Coming Soon/No Show](#)
- [Training Registration](#)
- [Compliance Corner](#)
- [Training](#)

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