

# Real estate agents: Homes are selling

By Cheryl Wade Midland Daily News

Published: Thursday, August 20, 2009 12:24 PM EDT

A slight dip in July home sales following on the heels of an upturn in June hasn't dampened one real estate broker's belief that economic conditions for area home sellers are looking up.

The Midland Board of Realtors reported 94 homes were sold in June, up from 79 in June 2008. In July, 76 homes were sold, down from 80 in July 2008.

"Even dealing with these challenging circumstances, we're still working with buyers and sellers and getting these deals closed," said Tom Darger, associate broker with Ayre/Rhinehart Realtors. "And that makes me feel good."

He said there are almost 10 percent fewer homes on the market now compared to last year, although the market is better for some types of houses than for others. Midsized ranch homes, for example, are selling for about the same as they did in 2008 while two-story and multilevel homes are selling for less this year.