EVERYTHIGS BIGGERIN TEXAS Local real estate market booms

Median listing home price in Coppell WHY DID YOU **MOVE TO** -\$535,000-**COPPELL?** Responses from a survey "Schools" 1/1 "Proximity" to airport" 11 "Proximity to work" Housing pricing **REAL ESTATE** TERMS YOU NEED TO KNOW Real Estate Market The buying/selling of houses in a certain area. Buyer's Market A market that is profitable for buyers. Seller's Market A market that is profitable for sellers. Inventory Homes that are on the market; supply

Story by Anjali Vishwanath Graphics by Srihari Yechangunja and Ashley Qian

Median house prices

around Coppell

\$450,000

\$375,000

\$375,000

Lewisville

Source: Realtor.com

Carrollton

Grapevine

I was one of the rare few who enjoyed school – I went to Coppell Middle School East and CHS – and made a lot of connections. Home is here; a lot of [my family's] heart remained here and I knew I would be welcomed back [after college]. [Coppell] feels like family." RYAN STORCH, REALTOR

exas is notorious for breaking the rules; trend continues as development in Texas as the only state that was once a country, remnants of that independence remain in the form of Texas flags and pledges in classrooms. Texas doesn't just break cultural precedent, though: it also defies economic standards.

As the real estate market crashes all over America, the market in Texas booms.

The real estate market is a living, breathing entity; it's mercurial. The term is a broad one, houses.' describing the trends in buying and selling property in the United States seller's market is one in which people are more likely to buy homes, making it profitable for sellers.

A buyer's market is one in which many people are selling, so prices dip as supply increases, making it beneficial for buyers. Texas is famous for attracting buyers with large, low-cost homes. However, in most cases, the COVID-19 market belongs to sellers, who are able to raise their prices in a time when few people are selling and many are buying; the buyers are willing to pay more due to necessity.

"[It is] definitely [a] sellers [market]," Everest Homes realtor Priva Pazhavidathu said. "So that's what the pandemic brought, which is surprising. We were anticipating the market to because of the school district, so there are not go down and stay a buyers market, but then _ as many young people as families with middle after a couple of months, people started venturing out to look for homes, [and] slowly started creating the demand."

This doesn't make the Texas market any less attractive for buyers, though. Many major technology companies, such as Oracle Corporation and Tesla, have moved their headquarters to the Dallas-Fort Worth area, bringing with them their employees. Texas has no state ncome tax and recently imposed an income ity becomes more evident. Co tax credit, making it significantly less expensive to conduct business here than California, ing from under \$100,000 to over \$1,000,000. the long-established technology hub centered around Silicon Valley.

Oracle principal software engineer Sourav Moha-patra said. "It's still affordable, but prices are Proximity to the city, a highly-ranked schoo

made the state attractive to many other Dallas Fort Worth metroplex" - wherein homebuyers, who contribute to Texas' residential and commercial developments second-place spot on the U.S. Census Bureau's have emerged. Texas has been a magnet for list of states by population. Within Texas, commercial development for years, but Dallas County is the second-most populous residential development is booming as Americounty, after Harris County.

Americans have been traveling west for warmer weather. residential development since the 18th centu- So welcome to Texas, snowbirds; drive ry, when Manifest Destiny ruled the land. The friendly.

booms; as of June 2021, several hundred construction permits were being submitted annually. Still, in spite of the large inventory, the market belongs to sellers.

"If a house is on the market, it takes less than three months to sell at this point," said Coppell realtor Ryan Storch, a 2017 graduate of Coppell High School. "Honestly, in Coppell and the DFW area, it takes less than 30 days to sell some

The pandemic began a veritable domino effect that devastated the housing market and housing situation in the United States. With costs rising as workers were laid off all over the country, many Americans struggled to pay rent, relying on a national eviction moratori um issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to stay in their homes. When a bid from the Biden Administration to renew the moratoriums was denied by the Supreme Court on Nov. 4, the market got even tighter, with demand increasing exponentially. In the midst of these struggles, though, one lone state's market booms: the lone star state's.

"Coppell is a family town," Storch said. "The average cost of a house here is about \$450,000 and high school-aged children.'

America is a contradictory country. It's a country of billionaires and a country with a homeless population of 580,466; Texas' population includes 25,858 homeless people - 4.57 percent of the state's population. This wealth disparity is reflected in many spheres of life, such as education and healthcare, as well as housing.

In smaller cities such as Coppell, that disparoptions for all budgets, with the market rang-

"Coppell is always prime [real estate] because of the school district and the "Due to recent influx of young professionals location," Pazhayidathu said. "I would say it's moving to Austin with their companies, the the niche you have the airports close, all the demand [for housing] has gone up drastically," highways are close by, so everywhere you want

Proximity to the city, a highly-ranked school going up every year, and with more companies district and a prevailing community atmomoving their headquarters to Austin I anticipate sphere are among the factors attracting buyers the prices increasing [further], and maybe 5-10 and investors alike to Coppell. The city also years from now it will be not be [as] affordable." contains the Cypress Waters development The influx of corporate moves to Texas has which promotes itself as the "heart of the cans flock to the south for lower taxes and