October 5, 2018

National News

Detailed New National Maps Show How Neighborhoods Shape Children for Life
NYT | 10.1.18
The part of this city east of Northgate Mall looks like many of the neighborhoods that surround it, with its modest midcentury homes beneath dogwood and Douglas fir trees. Read More

Slight Increase in Mortgage Rates in September
NAHB | 10.1.18
The Federal Housing Finance Agency reported that mortgage rates on purchases of newly built homes (MIRS) rose by three basis points over the month of September 2018 to 4.63 percent, marking the tenth consecutive monthly increase. Read More

Bank of America says existing home sales have peaked
HousingWire | 10.1.18
Economists at Bank of America Merrill Lynch are phoning it in: The largest segment of the housing market has peaked. Read More

The American Dream Is Harder To Find In Some Neighborhoods
NPR | 10.1.18
Does the neighborhood you grow up in determine how far you move up the economic ladder? Read More

What Makes Rent “Affordable”? 
Slate | 10.1.18
It’s no surprise that a California ballot measure to restore rent-control power to cities has the most support in Los Angeles. The city has the nation’s largest unsheltered homeless population and strongest anti-gentrification movement, and it’s often ranked the least affordable metro area in the United States. Read More

Sen. Elizabeth Warren Breaks Down America’s Ugly History of Housing Discrimination and How She Plans to Fix It
The Root | 10.1.18
Home ownership is at the heart of the American dream. Michael Smith, his wife, Janet, and their daughter, Ashley, were living that dream. They scrimped and saved for a down payment while he worked full-time moving packages for DHL, and Janet, for Chase. Finally, they bought a modest home with a small yard in a safe Chicago neighborhood. Read More

How vacation homes went from private escape to investment opportunities
Curbed | 10.2.18
Airbnb’s meteoric climb from small startup to multibillion-dollar hospitality juggernaut has seen the short-term rental service closely associated with cities. Read More
Opinion: tariffs threaten to derail U.S. housing
Builder | 10.2.18
However well intentioned, new tariffs and import taxes have created a terrible ripple effect in the economy, often hurting the working-class backbone of a community the most. As affordable homes are becoming more and more scarce throughout the nation, these new financial burdens threaten the housing market in the United States. Read More

Construction spending barely inches forward
HousingWire | 10.2.18
The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced that construction spending during August 2018 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $1.319 trillion, only 0.1% above the revised July estimate of $1.317 trillion. Read More

Home Prices Still Rising
NMP | 10.2.18
Home prices in August increased nationally by 5.5 percent from a year ago and by 0.1 percent from the previous month, according to new data from CoreLogic. Read More

It’s been one year since HUD shook up the reverse mortgage industry
HousingWire | 10.2.18
Tuesday marks exactly one year since the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development implemented HECM program changes in a move that took lenders by surprise and drastically impacted the reverse mortgage business. Read More

Americans and Europeans have very different ideas on home design
Fast Company | 10.2.18
Gas-guzzling SUVs or shared electric cars. Trump or Macron. Burgers or steak tartar. Despite globalization, Americans and European still have very distinct tastes when it comes to, well, almost everything. Homes are no exception—although new statistics underline some striking coincidences. Read More

MBA: weekly mortgage applications remain steady
HousingWire | 10.3.18
Mortgage applications didn’t budge for the week ending on September 28, 2018, according to data from the Mortgage Bankers Association’s Weekly Mortgage Applications Survey. Read More

Here’s Zillow’s top 10 takeaways on new home buyer trends
Builder | 10.3.18
Newsflash. It’s getting harder to sell other big ticket items in a U.S. economy. Read More

Townhouse construction keeps growing
Builder | 10.3.18
In a housing market increasingly constrained by supply-side bottlenecks and demand-side affordability concerns, the need for more entry-level housing continues to grow. Read More
A housing survey reveals five trends about American pet owners
Urban Institute | 10.3.18
Nearly half of US households have a pet, but we have few data on pet ownership and how it may interact with housing and demographic trends. While working with data from the 2017 American Housing Survey (AHS), we housing finance researchers were surprised to come across a question about pets; specifically whether respondents would need help with their pets in case of a disaster. Read More

New Listings in September Up Eight Percent YoY
NMP | 10.3.18
More than 465,000 new listings of homes for sale were posted in September, an eight percent year-over-year increase and the largest upturn in new listings since 2013, according to new data from Realtor.com. Despite this increase in listings, September’s inventory level was only 0.2 percent below the level from one year ago. Read More

Millennials’ Preference for Conventional Loans at Four-Year High
NMP | 10.3.18
Millennials overwhelmingly relied on conventional mortgages for their homebuying needs in August, according to new data from Ellie Mae. Read More

The affordability dilemma
Builder | 10.4.18
For many of our young adult children coming of age as the lifeblood and true north of our communities and cities and wider jurisdictions, earn what they might from pretty good paying essential worker types of jobs--teaching, fire fighting, police work, sanitation, etc.--it doesn't matter. Read More

Freddie Mac: Mortgage rates cool slightly
HousingWire | 10.4.18
After five weeks of consistent climbing, mortgage rates slightly cooled off, according to Freddie Mac’s latest Primary Mortgage Market survey. Read More

Home Affordability at 10-Year Low
NMP | 10.4.18
Two new data reports offer further evidence that the pursuit of affordable homeownership opportunities has become increasingly complicated. Read More

Why aren’t communities more supportive of new housing development?
Builder | 10.4.18
You know NIMBY stands for “not in my backyard,” and you know that when the attitude rears its ugly head, it can block or delay almost any proposed new housing development. Read More
10 years later: How the housing market has changed since the crash
The Washington Post | 10.4.18
Flashback to fall 2008 and you'll remember the free fall the U.S. economy experienced. At the heart of it was the collapse of the housing market. Read More

A red flashing light in the housing market could spell trouble for the economy
CNBC | 10.4.18
The U.S. economy is growing at a healthy pace, the labor market is its tightest in years and consumer confidence hasn't been this high since 2000. Read More

The tale of two 55+ markets
Builder | 10.5.18
Can the 55+ market for new homes and communities pick up the recent slack in new home orders and deliveries? Read More

Local News

New legal clinic for renters facing eviction celebrated in Westminster
Denverite | 10.1.18
Community members and politicians near Denver on Monday celebrated the creation of a publicly funded clinic offering renters facing eviction something they usually don't get — legal representation. Read More

Homeless Out Loud delivers more than 9,000 signatures for “right to survive” ballot question
Denverite | 10.1.18
Petitioners on Monday turned in more than 9,000 signatures in support of asking Denver voters whether to effectively overturn the city's urban camping ban. Read More

Affordable housing increasingly difficult to find in Colorado Springs
KKTV | 10.2.18
The city is taking measures to provide more affordable housing for lower-income residents. But the math isn't adding up. Read More

Report: Denver has 17th most expensive rental market in country
Fox 31 | 10.3.18
A September report on local rental rates shows Denver remains on of the most expensive markets in the country. Read More

The Pipeline: commercial real estate deals for 10.5.18
BusinessDen | 10.5.18
Read More