

December 2017

# News Brief

## Residential

### Home Buying Nightmare: Couple Could Get Stuck with Previous Owners Bills

Buying a home went from a dream to a nightmare for a Waukesha County couple, after a contractor claimed the previous owner didn't pay him for his work.

By: Kristen Barbaresi, WDJT-Milwaukee, November 21, 2017

**Read more:** <http://www.cbs58.com/news/home-buying-nightmare-couple-could-get-stuck-with-previous-owners-bills>

### Three Tax Changes that Would Affect Homeowners

As lawmakers work out the details of their tax plans, homeowners could be saying goodbye to some long-standing deductions.

By: Kathryn Vasel, CNN Money, November 15, 2017

**Read more:** <http://money.cnn.com/2017/11/14/real-estate/house-senate-tax-reform-homeowners-buyers-seller/index.html>

### Facebook Launches Massive Push into Real Estate Listings

Facebook announced it is significantly expanding the real estate listings section on its Marketplace, which is Facebook's attempt to take on Craigslist, eBay, and other e-commerce platforms.

By: Ben Lane, HousingWire, November 13, 2017

**Read more:** <https://www.housingwire.com/articles/41797-facebook-launches-massive-push-into-real-estate-listings>

### The Key to Better Cybersecurity: Keep Employee Rules Simple

Employee security training and best practices need to be user friendly and simple to be effective.

By: Maarten Van Horenbeeck, Harvard Business Review, November 21, 2017

**Read more:** <https://hbr.org/2017/11/the-key-to-better-cybersecurity-keep-employee-rules-simple>

### U.S. New Home Sales Scale 10-Year High; Supply Still Tight

Sales of new U.S. single-family homes unexpectedly rose in October to hit a 10-year high amid robust demand across the country, offering a boost to the housing market.

By: Lucia Mutikani, Reuters, November 27, 2017

**Read more:** <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-economy-housing/u-s-new-home-sales-scale-10-year-high-supply-still-tight-idUSKBN1DR1UM>

## Commercial

### Once-Hot Apartment Construction Cooling as U.S. Housing Engine

Faster apartment building was instrumental in pulling the U.S. housing market out of its slump a decade ago. Now, that engine is starting to throttle back.

By: Shobhana Chandra, Vince Golle and Jordan Yadoo, Bloomberg, November 20, 2017

**Read more:** <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-11-20/once-hot-apartment-construction-cooling-as-u-s-housing-engine>

### Regulators to Clarify Which Real Estate Loans are Considered Dangerous

A proposed rule on how banks should calculate the amount of equity they need to hold to compensate for construction loans and other precarious debt could bring transparency to a years-old regulatory tangle.

By: Matt Grossman, Commercial Observer, November 29, 2017

**Read more:** <https://commercialobserver.com/2017/11/regulators-to-clarify-which-loans-considered-dangerous/>

### CRE Opinion: What's Wrong with Those 'Retail Armageddon' Headlines

It's time to clear the air. The headlines of "Retail Armageddon" are greatly exaggerated.

By: Mike Geisler, contributor, DMagazine, November 28, 2017

**Read more:** <https://www.dmagazine.com/commercial-real-estate/2017/11/cre-opinion-whats-wrong-with-those-retail-armageddon-headlines/>

### Commercial Real Estate is Getting Greener

Several of the world's leading commercial real estate owners are making significant progress in improving their green credentials.

By: Steve Randall, Mortgage Professional America, November 21, 2017

**Read more:** <http://www.mpamag.com/market-update/commercial-real-estate-is-getting-greener-85523.aspx>

### The (Real) Impact of Big Data on Commercial Real Estate

Organizations are understanding how big data can help make smarter decisions around acquisition, management and disposal of properties.

By: Pamela Norton, IBM.com, November 29, 2017

**Read more:** <https://www.ibm.com/blogs/internet-of-things/real-impact-big-data-cre/>

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