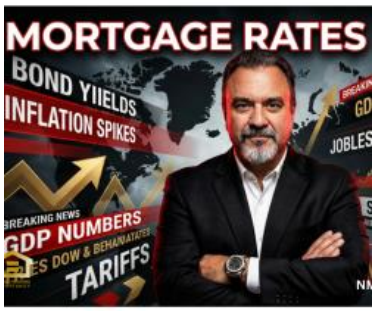
Another Small Victory For Mortgage Rates

The present week continues to be rather uneventful for mortgage rates, although not at all unpleasant. It began with Monday largely holding in line with Friday's latest levels. While those were the highest in several weeks, we've made slow and steady progress since then.

Each of the past 3 days has resulted in modest improvement with today's installment being the smallest so far at only 0.01%. The only caveat is that rates have needed some help in order to keep this gentle progress intact.

A vast majority of "help" since early-to-mid October has come in the form of a stock market correction and general concerns over the sustainability of the AI boom. This has resulted in bond yields frequently correlating with major stock market averages like the NASDAQ or S&P.

Today was no exception. Bonds were slightly weaker at first (thus implying slightly higher mortgage rates). It wasn't until stocks began to swoon around 10am ET that bond yields dropped, thus allowing mortgage lenders to set today's rates a bit lower than they otherwise could have.



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