

## BRIGHAM TREMONTON BOARD OF REALTORS®

*“Give the world the best you have and the best will come back to you.”* Madeline Bridge

### CALENDAR

#### DECEMBER

- 4 – UAR Inaugural Dinner
- 4 – Christmas Party 6:00pm  
@ Maple Springs, Box Elder  
High Madrigals performing
- 4 – Tremonton Home Tour
- 5 – Brigham Home Tour
- 11 – Tremonton Home Tour
- 12 – Brigham Home Tour
- 13 – BOD meeting 12:00pm
- 18 – Tremonton Home Tour
- 19 – Brigham Home Tour
- 24 – 25 Christmas  
Board Office Closed

#### JANUARY

- 1 – New Year’s Day  
Board Office Closed
- 8 – Tremonton Home Tour
- 9 – Brigham Home Tour
- 10 – BOD Meeting and  
Leadership Training mtg.
- 15 – Tremonton Home Tour
- 16 – Brigham Home Tour
- 21 – Human Rights Day  
Board Office Closed
- 22 – Tremonton Home Tour
- 22 – Brigham Home Tour
- 25 – UAR BOD Meeting
- 29 – Tremonton Home Tour
- 30 – Brigham Home Tour

#### FEBRUARY

- 5 – Tremonton Home Tour
- 6 – Brigham Home Tour

Join our Facebook page for the latest information on events and UAR legal updates along with other important reminders. Just search Brigham Tremonton Board of REALTORS.

#### NAR Urges Renewal of Flood Insurance

NAR is continuing to work with Capitol Hill lawmakers to pass legislation to reauthorize the [National Flood Insurance Program](#), which is set to expire on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. The association is also engaging with federal officials on ways to reform the program and remove regulatory obstacles to the issuance of private flood insurance policies. NAR President John Smaby outlined the [association’s position on flood insurance](#) in a Nov. 26 op-ed piece in The Hill newspaper.

#### NAR: Competition in Real Estate is Essential

An [article on nar.realtor](#) highlights steps NAR has taken since 2008 that have given consumers unprecedented access to listing data while empowering the brokerage community to adopt and leverage the power of the internet. A settlement agreement between NAR and the Department of Justice intended to ensure that NAR policies relating to Virtual Office Websites (VOWs) did not suppress technological innovation, reduce competition on price and quality, or reduce efficient cooperation among brokers expired on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, 10 years after it went into effect. NAR continues to keep the VOW policy in place as outlined in the agreement. [REALTOR® Magazine story.](#)

#### Increase to Res. Appraisal Threshold Proposed

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation have released a proposed rule that would increase the threshold for residential real estate transactions requiring an appraisal from \$250,000 to \$400,000. [More.](#)

#### Conforming Loan Limits to Rise 6.9%

The maximum conforming loan amount that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac can back will increase to \$484,350 from \$453,100 in 2019, a 6.9 percent increase, the Federal Housing Finance Agency announced. For high-cost areas, the limits—which are also used to define FHA limits—will rise to \$726,525 from \$679,650. “Without this assurance that loan limits keep up with home price growth, borrowers across the country risk being pushed out of the market altogether as mortgage rates and rising home prices continue to hold back potential homebuyers,” NAR President John Smaby said in a [statement](#) applauding the government’s announcement. [Determine your area’s limit.](#)