

**Home-price index 'positive' for Denver area:** Home values in the Denver area dipped 5.4 percent in the year ending in September, far better than the 17.4 percent drop for the 20 cities tracked in the closely monitored S&P/Case-Shiller Home Price Indices released on Tuesday. "I think Denver is going to lead (the nation) out of the doldrums," said Jack O'Connor, principal of the Prestige Real Estate Group in Denver.

<http://www.rockymountainnews.com/news/2008/nov/26/index-positive-for-city/>

**Colorado Ranked #4 by The Beacon Hill Institute:** The Beacon Hill Institute at Suffolk University is pleased to release its Eighth Annual State Competitiveness Report. In this report which ranks all states, Colorado came in at #4. "A state is competitive if it has in place the policies and conditions that ensure and sustain a high level of per capita income and continued growth." <http://www.beaconhill.org>

**ULI ranks Denver among top 10 real estate markets:** The Urban Land Institute named metro Denver one of its top 10 real estate markets to watch next year, in its Emerging Trends in Real Estate 2009 report released Oct. 21. <http://www.bizjournals.com/denver/stories/2008/11/03/daily8.html>

**MarketWatch ranks Denver No. 3:** The ranking, released Tuesday by MarketWatch, puts the Denver area at No. 3 this year, behind No. 1 Minneapolis-St. Paul and No. 2 Boston. MarketWatch considered such criteria as the number of companies in metro areas on four lists: the Fortune 1000, Forbes private companies, the S&P 500 and the Russell 2000. The companies are counted and averaged against an area's population. Population and job growth also were considered, as were unemployment figures.

<http://denver.bizjournals.com/denver/stories/2008/12/01/daily25.html>

**Lockheed wins \$1.1B NASA contract:** Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co. won a NASA contract worth up to \$1.1 billion to build a pair of sophisticated weather satellites for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the company reported Tuesday. The Littleton-based company is a division of defense and aerospace giant Lockheed Martin Corp. <http://denver.bizjournals.com/denver/stories/2008/12/01/daily26.html>

**Hottest 10 Buyers Markets:** Grand Junction listed as the 7<sup>th</sup> hottest buyers markets in 2008.

<http://www.housingpredictor.com/hot.html>

**Prospect Activity Heats Up:** The Grand Junction Economic Partnership ("GJEP") is pleased to announce that prospect activity for the year remains strong. The prospect activity, or companies expressing interest in doing business in the Grand Junction area, has spiked since the conclusion of a long election season. GJEP reports a 50% increase in prospect activity post election [http://www.gjep.org/news/news\\_resources.php](http://www.gjep.org/news/news_resources.php)

**Snowmass \$1B base village now showing signs of activity:** The first phase of the \$1 billion new base village at the foot of the Snowmass ski mountain in Aspen started opening this fall. The 60,000-square-foot village will include more than two dozen stores and restaurants as well as hotels and housing.

<http://denver.bizjournals.com/denver/stories/2008/11/24/story8.html>

*"It is the capacity to develop and improve their skills that distinguishes leaders from followers."  
Warren Bennis & Bert Nanus*