

Stephen Moye

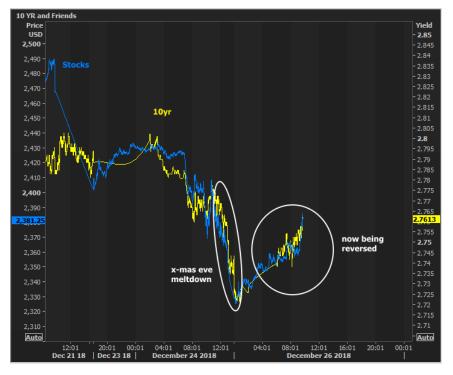
Sales Manager/Senior Loan Officer NMLS: 268619/CA-DBO268619, New American Funding Corporation. NMLS: 6606, Equal Housing Lender Licensed by the Department of Business Oversight Under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act

CA-DBO268619 Corp. NMLS: 67180 Equal Housing Lender 1615 Murray Canyon Road #1050 San Diego, CA 92108 Office: 619-309-1678 Mobile: 619-895-8128 Fax: (619) 793-1026 stephen.moye@nafinc.com

View My Website

The Day Ahead: Holiday Week Themes Still in Play

The title of the Day Ahead commentary on Monday was "Don't Get Too Attached." In a nutshell, the suggestion was to not get too attached to any decisive move in markets because wouldn't really be as decisive (due to lighter volume and liquidity). Today's overnight and early morning trading provide a good example of this theme in action. Whereas stocks panicked and bonds followed on Monday, the move runs the risk of happening in the opposite direction today.

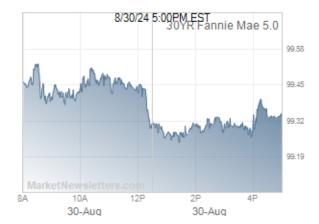


It doesn't really matter if these early trends continue through the rest of the day for the same reason the Christmas Eve move didn't matter. The chart above falsely suggests it was just the pre-Christmas trading environment that was serendipitous while today is somehow more "real." **No...** Today is actually part of the same overall holiday-week theme. It too could be seen as a mere temporary diversion by the time January's momentum ramps up. If you prefer, you could think of it as a small-scale example of the holiday theme.

MBS & Treasury Market Data

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 5.0	99.37	+0.02
MBS GNMA 5.0	99.93	+0.02
10 YR Treasury	3.9068	+0.0029
30 YR Treasury	4.1960	+0.0028

Pricing as of: 9/17:34PM EST



Average Mortgage Rates

	Rate	Change	Points	
Mortgage News Daily				
30 Yr. Fixed	6.43%	+0.02	0.00	
15 Yr. Fixed	5.95%	0.00	0.00	
30 Yr. FHA	5.82%	+0.02	0.00	
30 Yr. Jumbo	6.62%	0.00	0.00	
5/1 ARM	6.28%	-0.01	0.00	
Freddie Mac				
30 Yr. Fixed	6.35%	-0.51	0.00	
15 Yr. Fixed	5.51%	-0.65	0.00	
Mortgage Bankers Assoc.				
30 Yr. Fixed	6.44%	-0.06	0.54	
15 Yr. Fixed	5.88%	-0.16	0.68	
30 Yr. FHA	6.36%	-0.06	0.85	

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All we can do at this time of year is watch and wait. To whatever extent major technical levels are broken, we could hold out some hope that rate floors remain broken or that rate ceilings are only temporarily broken. We

	Rate	Change	Points
30 Yr. Jumbo	6.75%	+0.07	0.39
5/1 ARM	5.98%	-0.27	0.65

can consider the bigger picture implications of the moves we see, but we can't consider them very effectively until the 2nd week of January.

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