

Weekly Market Commentary

Week Ended July 24, 2015

US Economy and Credit Markets					
Yields and Weekly Changes:					
3 Mo. T-Bill:	0.04 (+02 bps)	GNMA (30 Yr) 6% Coupon:	114-20/32 (1.43%)		
6 Mo. T-Bill:	0.13 (+02 bps)	Duration:	3.92 years		
1 Yr. T-Bill:	0.32 (+06 bps)	Bond Buyer 40 Yield:	4.41 (-05 bps)		
2 Yr. T-Note:	0.68 (+01 bps)	Crude Oil Futures:	48.12 (-2.77)		
3 Yr. T-Note:	1.04 (-01 bps)	Gold Futures:	1,097.90 (-34.00)		
5 Yr. T-Note:	1.62 (-05 bps)	Merrill Lynch High Yield Indices:			
10 Yr. T-Note:	2.26 (-09 bps)	U.S. High Yield:	7.24% (+26 bps)		
30 Yr. T-Bond:	2.96 (-12 bps)	BB:	5.45% (+15 bps)		
		B:	7.31% (+14 bps)		

Poor company earnings that dragged down the equity market, along with a slump in commodity prices, caused Treasury prices to rise over the course of the week. Treasury prices opened the week lower on Monday as investors made room for an influx of new corporate debt. However, Treasury prices had erased those losses and then some by the end of Tuesday, thanks to the selloff of commodities and Tuesday's drop in the equity markets due to technology company declines and a drop in crude oil. Treasury prices were mixed on Wednesday with May home prices and June existing home sales both exceeding expectations. Treasury prices then spiked on Thursday as investors had an appetite for safety after several poor earnings announcements in the equity market. This was despite fewer initial jobless claims than expected, which caused investors to believe the data-dependent Federal Reserve may increase interest rates at the next meeting. The week ended with Treasury prices rising modestly again on Friday as June New Home Sales were lower than expected. The slump in commodity prices over the course of the week saw oil drop 5% and gold drop 3.09%. Major economic reports (and related consensus forecasts) for the upcoming week include: Monday: June Durable Goods Orders (3.1%); Tuesday: July Consumer Confidence Index (100.0); Wednesday: July 24 MBA Mortgage Applications, June Pending Home Sales (1.0% MoM), July 29 FOMC Rate Decision (0.25% upper bound, 0.00% lower bound); Thursday: 2Q A GDP Annualized (2.6% QoQ), 2Q A Personal Consumption (2.7% QoQ), 2Q A GDP Price Index (1.5% QoQ), July 25 Initial Jobless Claims (272,000); Friday: July Chicago Purchasing Manager (50.7), July U. of Michigan Sentiment (94.0).

US Equities				
Weekly Index Performance:		Market Indicators:		
DJIA:	17568.53 (-2.84%)	Strong Sectors:	Cons. Discretionary,	
S&P 500:	2079.65 (-2.19%)		Cons. Staples, Financials	
S&P Midcap:	1476.74 (-2.05%)	Weak Sectors:	Materials, Energy,	
S&P Smallcap:	701.72 (-2.98%)		Industrials	
NASDAQ Comp:	5088.629 (-2.32%)	NYSE Advance/Decline:	645 / 2,610	
Russell 2000:	1225.992 (-3.23%)	NYSE New Highs/New Lows:	245 / 626	
		AAII Bulls/Bears:	32.5% / 25.6%	

Last week, the S&P 500 fell 2.19% after a series of companies considered economic bell weathers had disappointing earnings. The price of Gold also fell with equity markets. The precious metal sank 3.09% falling to lows the market hasn't seen since February of 2010. Also joining in the rout was Copper and Oil. Both commodities may have fallen in reaction to weaker-than-expected economic data originating from China. In week three of earnings season, Caterpillar, IBM and Apple all disappointed investors. Caterpillar shares fell 8.49% last week after announcing disappointing earnings and lowering 2015 sales guidance to \$49 billion from \$50 billion. Shares in IBM fell 7.40% after failing to meet sales estimates while revenues fell 13% from last year. Apple disappointed investors after missing sales expectations by more than 2%. Shares in the company dropped 4.23% after the announcement. However, the biggest surprise of the week probably came from Amazon.com. The web retailer frequently doesn't report positive earnings and investors were expecting to see the company lose \$.14/share this quarter. Instead, the company reported shocking positive earnings of \$.19/share. Shares in the company advanced 9.61% last week. Also late Friday, Cigna agreed to be acquired by Anthem. Shareholders will receive \$103.40 per share in cash and .5152 shares of Anthem valuing the company at \$47.1 billion. This represents a more than 24% premium to the unaffected share price of Cigna. Looking ahead to this week, we'll be entering a busy fourth week of earnings season. Norfolk Southern, UPS, Cummins, and US Steel will all be reporting results.