Leading Indicator Watch

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Unemployment: Continuing Jobless claims fell to 1,408k from 1,409k. Initial jobless claims fell to 180k from 185k which has remained steady over the past 4 weekly reporting cycles.















Consumer Goods & Materials: Core CPI showed signs of slowing after a possible peak in March of 6.5% following a moderated .3% (MoM) increase from February (.5% increase). Non-Defense Capital Goods: Core Durable Goods Orders reversed course in March, rising 1.2% for the month after a drop of 2.1% in February. Housing and Building: New Home Sales (MoM)(Mar) fell for the third consecutive month by 8.6% due to high prices and rising rates. Housing Price Index (Feb) rose higher by 2.1%. Yield Curve: 2's & 10's expanded this week. 2-year yields fell to 2.70% from 2.72% & 10-year yields fell to 2.89% from 2.90%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions. **M2 Money Stock:** The money supply, including time deposits, fell by \$2B to \$21.809T (March). Money supply is currently running 89% of current GDP. Manufacturing & Services: Preliminary Gross Domestic Product (GDP)(QoQ)(Q1) fell 1.4% which would be the first negative quarterly report since Q2 of 2020. S&P 500: The S&P 500 fell 139.85 points for the week, ending at 4,131.93 and is down 13.31% YTD. The VIX (CBOE Volatility Index) jumped to 30 from 22.7.

U. of Michigan Consumer Sentiment: Michigan Consumer Sentiment (April) rose to 65.2 from 59.4 (Mar) following poor inflation figures. Personal Spending rose 1.1% during this time.

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