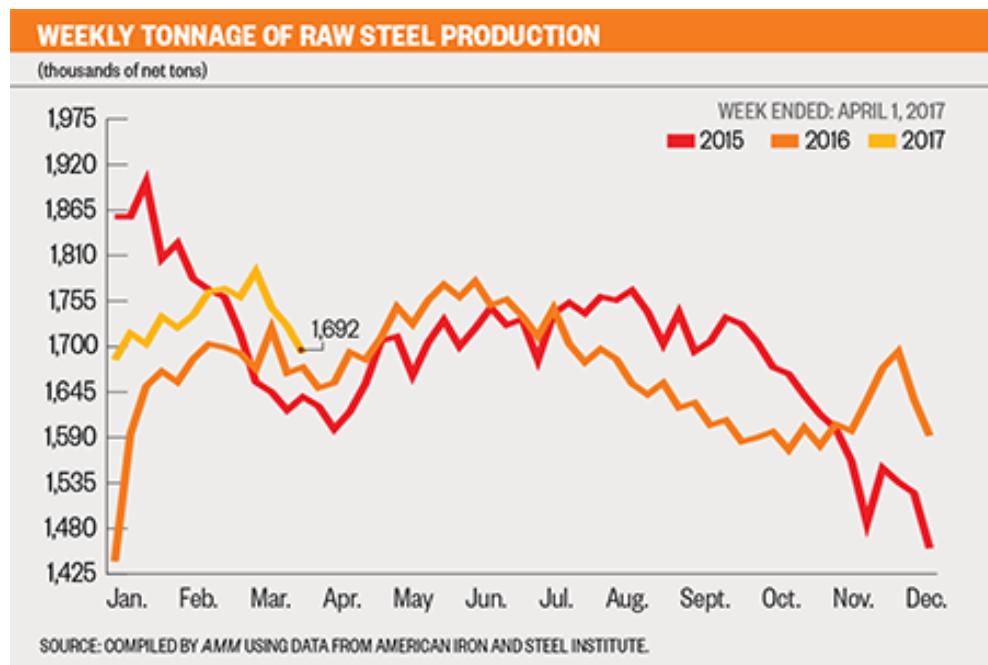
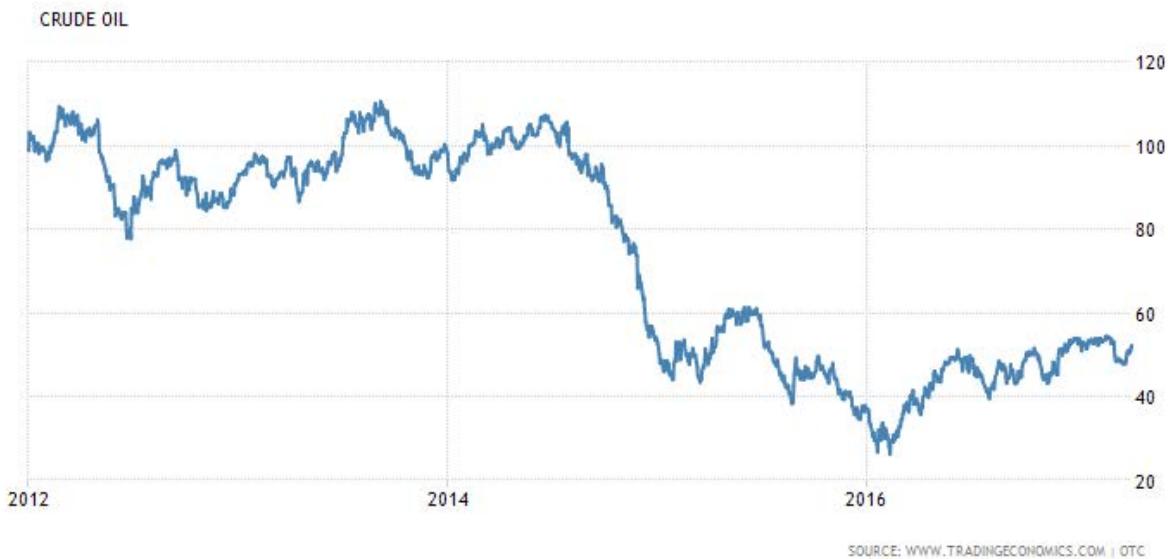


This is the Scrap Metal & Commodities Recycling Report, by BENLEE and Raleigh and Goldsboro Recycling, April 10th, 2017.

Last week commodity prices and economic reports were mixed.



U.S steel production declined again which may be driven by imports of rebar and automotive production softening.



Oil rose \$1 to \$52/barrel, about double last year's \$27 low. Problems in the Middle East continue to put upward pressure on prices.

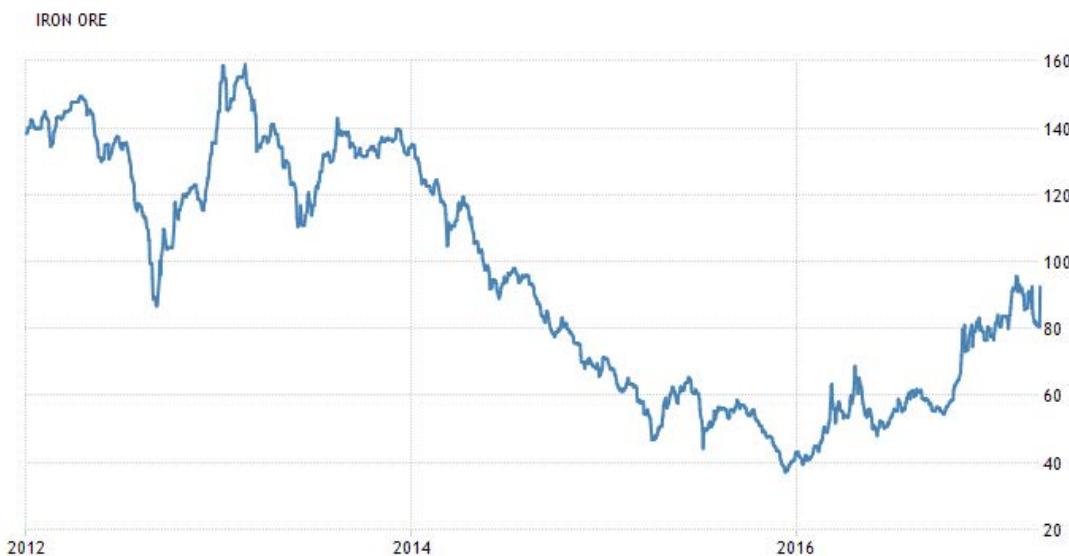
US OIL RIG COUNT



SOURCE: Baker Hughes

BUSINESS INSIDER

The oil rig count rose yet again to now 672, the highest in 18 months which is helping jobs and stabilize commodity prices. The great news is that this is still down a huge 58 percent from the high of about 2.5 years ago, so there remains a major upside.



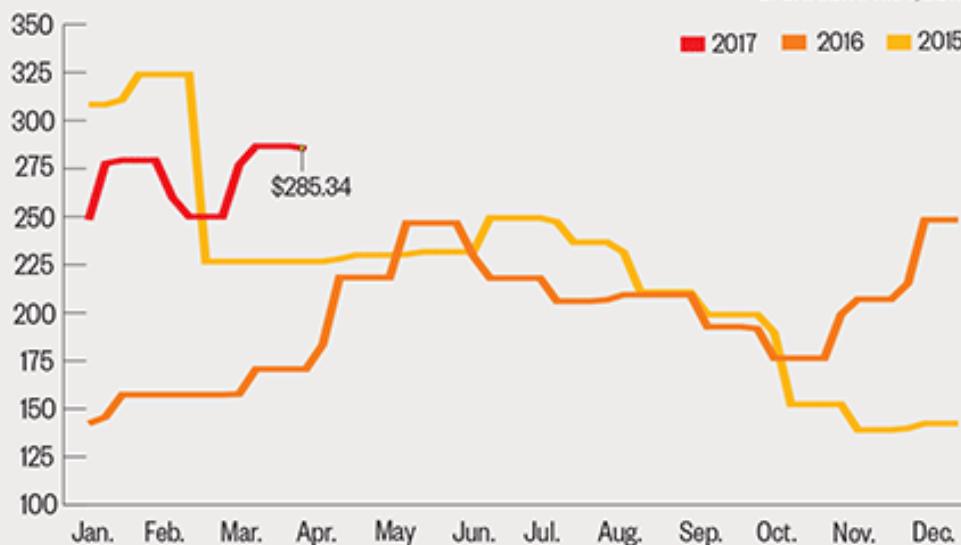
SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM / OTC

Iron ore spiked \$11 to \$92.5/MT closing at a multi month high. This could be an adjustment for a major drop in recent weeks, due to the spike makes little sense.

AMM WEEKLY NO. 1 HEAVY MELT PRICE COMPOSITE

(price per gross ton)

UPDATED: APRIL 7, 2017



BASED ON NO. 1 HEAVY MELTING STEEL AT PITTSBURGH, CHICAGO AND PHILADELPHIA.

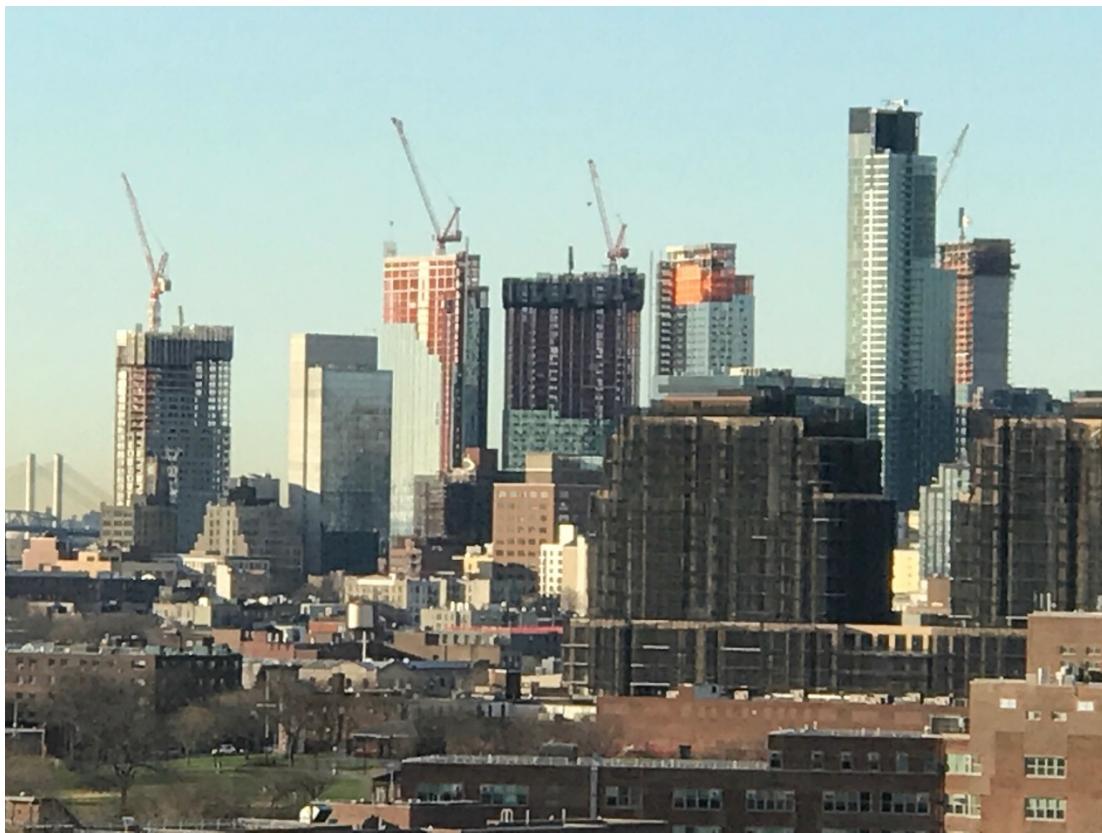
SOURCE: AMM.

Scrap ferrous prices show steady on this chart, but next week, they will show an approximate \$28/GT drop. U.S. production declines remain an issue, but global growth remains OK, so prices could stabilize to rise, in the coming months.

Hot Dipped Galvanized Coil



Despite market softening Hot dipped galvanized steel rose slightly to \$910/MT on somewhat steady volume.

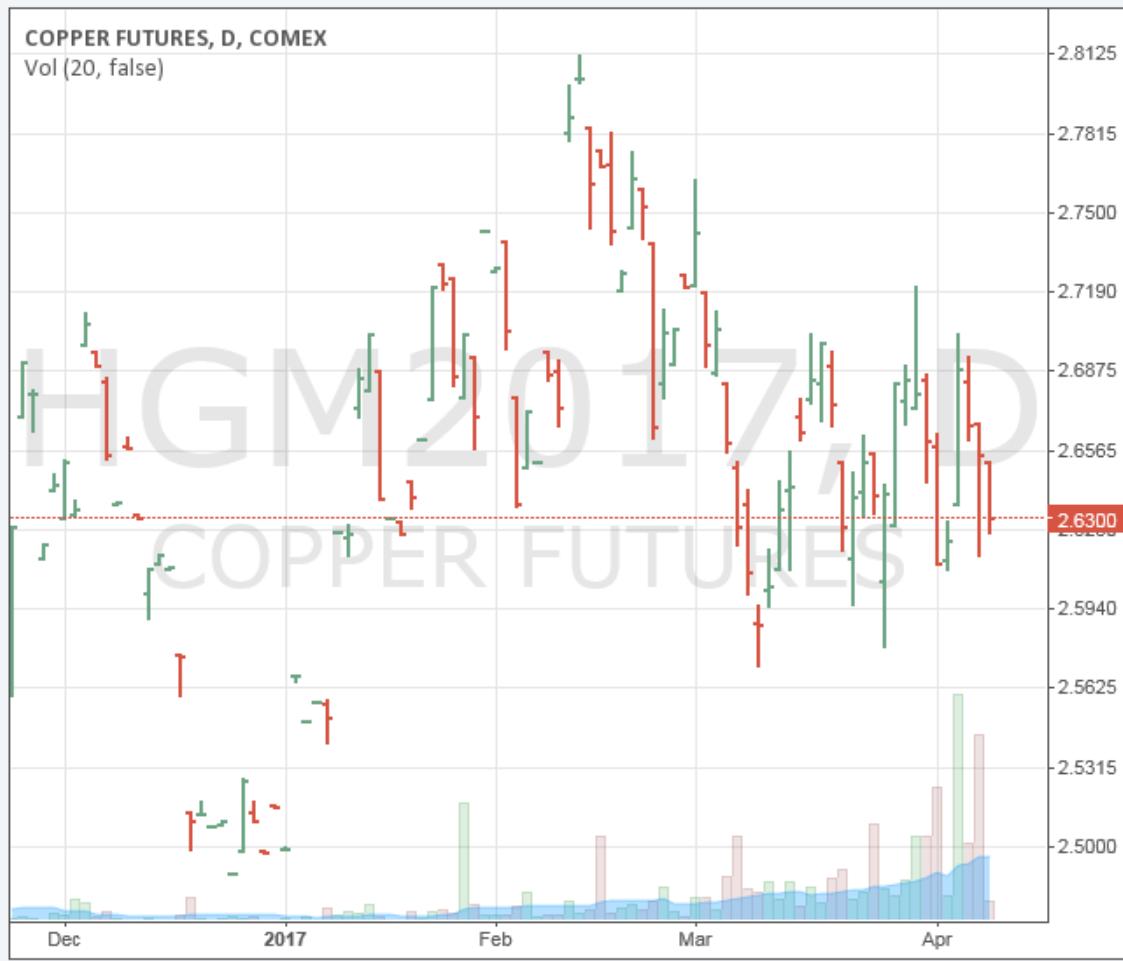


Here is a picture taken yesterday of downtown Queens, NY. Of the 7 high rise buildings in the skyline, 5 are new construction and the low rise large dark building in the foreground is also new construction. Steel use in commercial construction is strong.

304 Stainless Scrap



Stainless 304 scrap remained steady at 37 cents/lb., yet again on no news.

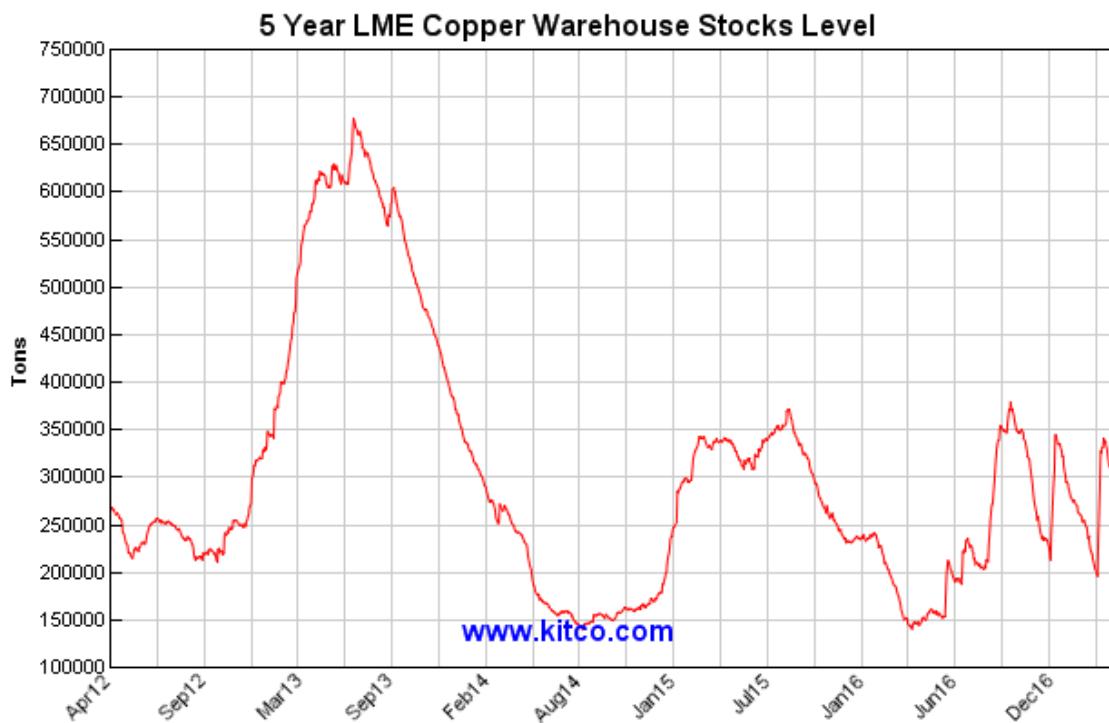


Created with TradingView

Copper fell a penny to \$2.65/lb., on no major news and is down another 2 cents this morning.



But the 5 year chart shows we remain near two year highs.



Copper inventories while coming down a bit, remain elevated, putting downward pressure on prices.



Aluminum stayed flat at 88 cents on solid demand, as construction, aerospace and automotive all remain strong. The Ford F 150 Pickup truck, the highest sales volume car or truck in the U.S. is very aluminum intensive, had its sales up 10% year over year in March, while GM pickup sales were flat.



The 5 year chart shows aluminum prices remain at multi-year highs.



Aluminum inventories continue to fall hitting new about 9 near lows, keeping upward pressure on prices. It is only a matter of time until new production comes on line which will stabilize the increases.

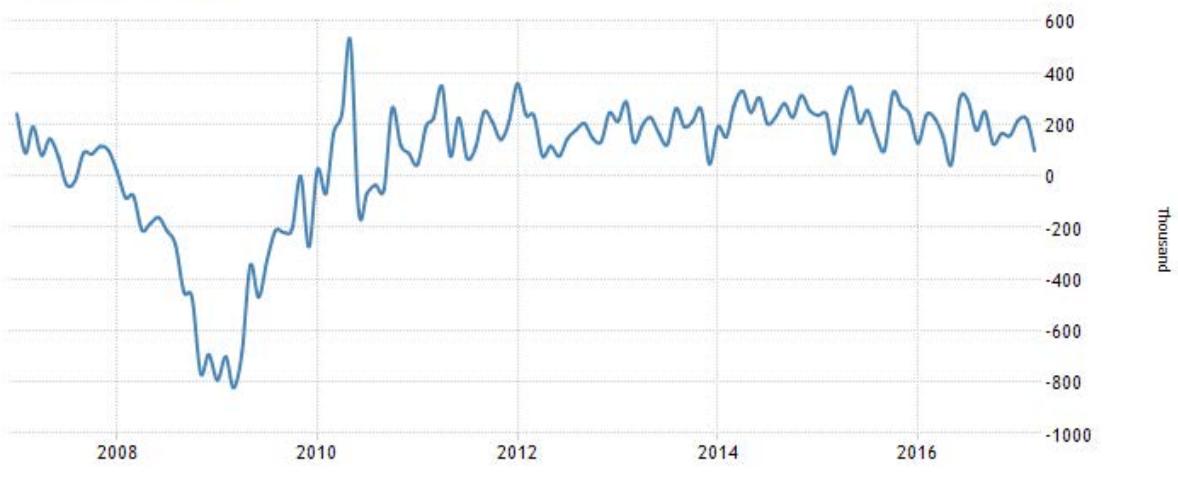
US ISM PURCHASING MANAGERS INDEX (PMI)



SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | INSTITUTE FOR SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

The ISM Manufacturing PMI, Purchasing Managers Index fell a bit to 57.2 it is down slightly from February's 2.5 year high of 57.7 with new orders, employment and exports remaining strong.

US NON FARM PAYROLLS



SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Non-farm payrolls grew a disappointing 98,000, the lowest growth since last May, with major cuts in retail, but growth in mining and business services.

US TOTAL VEHICLE SALES



SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | AUTODATA CORPORATION

Automotive sales have been weaker this year, with the March sales annual rate being 16.6M vs. 17.6M last March. This will put downward pressure on steel and copper prices.

US UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

The U.S. unemployment rate fell to 4.5 percent in March, a new almost 11 year low. A great thing for the economy, which is starting to bring wage pressures.

US LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE



SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

The labor force participation rate which is all people over 16 years old that could be working, is still only 63%. That means 37 percent of possible workers are not working, which does include people in college and high school. The rate has been as high as 67.3 percent in the year 2000, so as people reenter the workforce, it will keep inflation down.



The Dow Jones Average was about flat ending at 20,658, remaining near all-time highs, which remains positive news.

As always, feel free to call or email me with any questions and we hope all have a Safe and Profitable week.