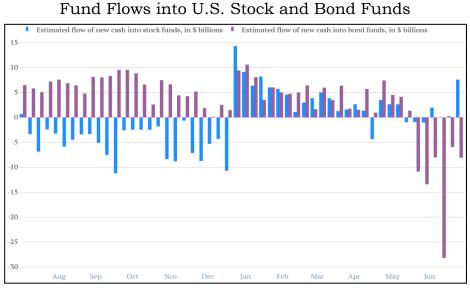
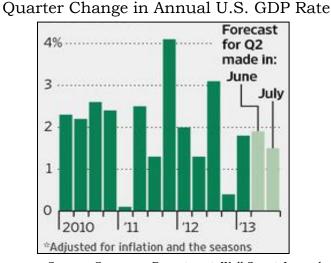
Market Recap



Source: Investment Company Institute



Source: Commerce Department; Wall Street Journal

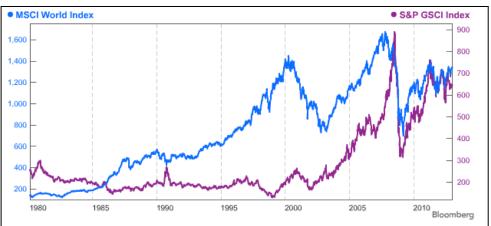
Investors have been fleeing bonds, but the longawaited rotation into stocks has not yet materialized. Despite their low yields, the most common landing spot for bond outflows has been money-market funds. Anxiety over stocks remains elevated even as equity indexes reach all-time highs. In June, investors withdrew an estimated \$43 billion from taxable bond mutual funds, the largest-ever monthly outflow. During that same month, an estimated \$6.3 billion came out of U.S. stock mutual funds. Money market fund values increased \$8.5 billion to \$2.6 trillion. But as markets stabilized during the first two weeks of July, investors moved \$7 billion back into U.S. stock mutual funds. This trend is expected to continue as investors tire of losing purchasing power and seek better returns.

Due to uneven recent economic and corporate earnings reports, expectations for accelerated U.S. GDP growth have been suspended. While economists expect a modest pickup in growth for the second half of the year, few are predicting the kind of substantial rebound needed to dramatically reduce unemployment and insulate the U.S. from economic threats abroad. There are signs that consumers are beginning to tighten their belts, with retail sales growing a modest 0.4% in June. In addition, second quarter corporate earnings have been mixed, with many companies citing the sluggish economy as cause for suboptimal results. Economists now believe the economy grew at an annualized rate of just 1.5% in the second quarter, down from initial estimates of 1.9%. For the second half of the year, economists predict a 2.4% annual growth rate in the third quarter, and 2.7% in the fourth. However, even if those projections hold up, GDP growth for the full year will be relatively anemic at around 2%.

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7/26/2013

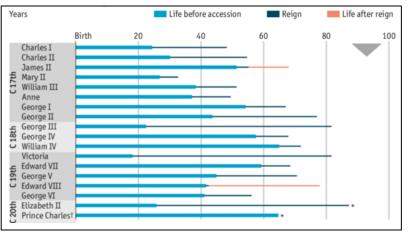
Market Recap



Price Movement of Commodities and MSCI World Stock Index

Source: Bloomberg

The British Monarchy



Source: The Royal Household; Encyclopedia Britannica; The Economist

The commonly held investment belief that commodities serve as a hedge against stock market exposure has been invalid during most of the last 30 years. A comparison of the S&P's GSCI index of commodity prices and the MSCI World Index of stocks in developed countries shows that the correlation between the indexes surged from mid-2008 onward after staying near zero for more than a decade. The reading can be as high as 1 if the indexes rise and fall in tandem, and as low as minus 1 if they move in completely opposite directions. From 2008 to 2012, investors would have earned higher returns owning commodities along with stocks, versus equities alone. However, the higher return would have been accompanied by higher volatility from the commodity investment. In 2013, as the stock market has soared. commodity prices have declined, leading, once again, to reduced correlation.

Prince George, the son of Prince William and great-grandson of Queen Elizabeth II, is third in line to the British throne. However, if recent history is any guide, and with two living predecessors, it could be a long time before his reign begins. Since William I (the Conqueror), the average age of accession has been 31 (Prince William's current age). The youngest king was Henry VI, who came to the throne in 1422 at nine months old, when his father Henry V died suddenly. However, Prince Charles, 64, and currently first in line, will soon become the longest king-in-waiting, passing William IV, who became king at 64 years and 10 months after his brother George IV died in 1830. With good health and longer life expectancies, together with few or no challenges to the throne, it could be another 50 years before the new Prince George ascends to rule.

Contact: If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at 703.992.6164. For more information about Harbour Capital Advisors, please visit our website at <u>www.harbourcapitaladvisors.com</u>.

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