HSI Week Ended April 7th, 2017

The Husson Stock Index (HSI) decreased 0.29% from the week ended March 31st. The HSI on March 31st was 127.74 and is now 127.37. There were three significant changes that occurred this week. Bar Harbor Bankshares (BHB) decreased 7.44% from $33.08 to $30.62. The First Bancorp Inc. (FNLC) decreased 4.18% from $27.25 to $26.11. The significant increase of the week was Rite Aid (RAD) increased 8.24% from $4.25 to $4.60. Rite Aid increased due to optimism about the Walgreens deal to buyout Rite Aid.

Bar Harbor Bankshares (BHB) and The First Bancorp Inc. (FNLC): We were unable to find any conclusive evidence for either the Bar Harbor Bankshares decrease or the First Bancorp’s decrease.

Rite Aid (RAD):  Rite Aid’s stock price increased because of optimism from Fred’s drugstore, an active third party in Walgreens acquisition of Rite Aid. Fred’s is willing to purchase up to 1,200 Rite Aid stores in an effort to help the FTC accept the buyout. This is further explained by Dan Caplinger of The Motley Fool, “The real news for Rite Aid shareholders came in comments that emphasized Fred's commitment to holding up its part of the bargain that could help the merger of Rite Aid with Walgreens Boots Alliancego through.”

The Husson Stock Index was developed by Marie Kenney, while a student at Husson University, in consultation with Associate Professor J. Douglas Wellington. The index is currently being tracked and analyzed by Husson student Justin Hallowell. The index tracks and analyzes 28 companies that are considered to have an effect on the Maine economy. These companies are either based in Maine or have an influence on the Maine economy through employment, number of consumers, and overall presence in the State. This price-weighted index offers a numerical break down of Maine’s economy. The analysis looks into the events of the week and finds the likely reasons the index was up or down. The index and analysis help provide a better understanding of Maine’s economy and offer an explanation of significant changes in the stock prices of the companies that comprise the Husson Stock Index.

Caplinger, Dan. The Motley Fool. (April 6, 2017). *Why Sunoco, Rite Aid, and Yum China Jumped Today.*Retrieved from: <https://www.fool.com/investing/2017/04/06/why-sunoco-rite-aid-and-yum-china-jumped-today.aspx?yptr=yahoo>