Spring is in the air! Flowers and trees are blooming—everything is being revived. Master’s Week is just around the corner which means Harlem will have visitors from all over the world visiting us, admiring our beautiful city and patronizing our businesses. Many will be surprised how we have changed in just a year and there is even more to come. We have several other potential businesses that have expressed an interest in coming to Harlem and we will share this information as the plans are finalized. In the meantime, do not forget to patronize the businesses that have already established here in our City. They would appreciate your support as well. Remember, when you shop locally you are not only supporting a business but Harlem as well!

There are also some new faces in our City Hall and Public Safety. Join us in welcoming Terrie Rigdon as our Customer Service Clerk and Andrew McMahon as our Tourism and Special Events Coordinator. Andrew has already started on plans for our Oliver Hardy Festival and is busy working alongside our Merchants Association in planning numerous activities that will be taking place throughout the City. By now you should have met our new Interim Chief of Police, Rob Lewis. We look forward to his leadership as we grow as a City. Please welcome Adam Deem as a new full time fireman. Even though Adam has been with the HFD as a volunteer, he is joining us as one of two newly approved full time firemen. Speaking of the Fire Department, you may have noticed some construction going on at Fire Station #2—we are expanding this station to house an ambulance and a full time crew. This is exciting as this is something Harlem has needed for a long time. Thank you to the commissioners for listening and providing this valuable service to our citizens.

Thanks to each of you for your support—there is a lot of small town pride in our little City!

Roxanne Whitaker, your Mayor
**SWIMMING POOL REMINDER**

With it getting warm again, swimming might be coming to mind. Remember, a pool open to small children is a drowning danger. The Georgia Swimming Pool Code provides guidance on important safety features like barriers, gates and latches, and ladders. The City of Harlem is more than happy to answer questions you might have about your current pool and how we can protect the children of Harlem. Please contact the City at 706 556-0043 or djenkins@harlemga.org if you have questions about your swimming pool (or spa) barrier fence, gates and latches, and ladders.

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**PIONEER GARDEN CLUB**

The Pioneer Garden Club will meet at 4:00 p.m. on April 16th at the Harlem Civic Center. We will be partnering with the City of Harlem for our Arbor Day Celebration. Come join us as we plant some beautiful flowering Yoshino Cherry Trees.

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**Bethesda Baptist Church**

Bethesda Baptist Church will be presenting the movie “The Passion of the Christ” on Good Friday, April 19, at 6:30 in our Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome but please note this movie is not suitable viewing for younger children. 5793 Old Augusta Highway, Harlem – 706 556-6818.

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The City of Harlem and Starling-Evans Funeral Home continues to collect gently used cellular phones for the Cell Phones for Soldiers on-going program. Cell Phones for Soldiers is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing cost-free communication services to active duty military members and veterans. Funds raised from the recycling of cellular phones are used to purchase pre-paid calling cards. You may drop off your old cell phones at Starling-Evans Funeral Home or at City Hall. For more information you may visit their website at www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com.

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**RECYCLE YOUR CANS**

Place your aluminum cans in a plastic trash bag and bring them to the bin located in the Harlem Public Safety Building parking lot. All proceeds go to support the Southeastern Firefighters Burn Foundation who provide assistance to families of burn patients at the Joseph M. Still Burn Center in Augusta. Please do your part to help those in need!