Happy Independence Day! As we celebrate our 244th year of independence, let us be very appreciative of the many freedoms we in America can enjoy. May God continue to bless and shine on us. Just a reminder about fireworks - first and foremost, be careful. We do not want you, your property or neighbor’s property damaged by your excessive celebration. You are welcome to enjoy Independence Day with your own display of fireworks but please be courteous and abide by the noise ordinance which prohibits loud noises between 12:00 midnight and 7:00 a.m. We have some citizens who suffer from PTSD and these noises are extremely disturbing to them. Also remember, most pets do not like the sound of fireworks. Secure your furry friends. Posting a picture of a lost or found pet on Facebook will help in reuniting the pet with their owner. I would also like to thank our Public Works Department not only for the beautiful flag display along the main street, but for keeping Harlem beautiful. Y’all do a great job! Be sure to thank our team of dedicated men who work tirelessly to make our little town shine!

We will continue our “Movies Under the Stars” this month and I hope you will come join in all the fun. On July 10th, Onward will be the featured movie and on July 24th, Back to the Future. Thank you to our sponsors and to Andrew McMahon for making these movies possible. If you are looking for a fun adventure for any weekday afternoon, stop by the museum and catch an old Laurel and Hardy movie. These movies run continuously all day.

I cannot say this enough, please shop locally. Our small business owners have invested their own money and time in our city because they love Harlem as much as you and I do. Let us show them support by shopping with them. From ice cream to Frappuccino’s, from little boutiques with the cutest clothing to restaurants that serve scrumptious meals, hair salons and barber shops, Harlem has this and more - and all our businesses are within walking distance or golf cart riding of each other.

God bless you and God bless America,

Roxanne Whitaker, your Mayor
“FLUSHABLE” WIPES

Wipes Clog Pipes! “Flushable” is **not what it seems**. Despite what their labeling may claim, “flushable” wet wipes are wreaking havoc on our sewer systems. Though they may technically go down when you flush, wet wipes do not easily break down. As they flow - intact - down your pipes and out to the street, they get caught.

Please be mindful of what you flush down your toilets. The less maintenance required is better for everybody.

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**A Message from the Community Development Department**

The City of Harlem has adopted the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code. It explains what the barrier (fence) requirements are, explains deck requirements, GFCI requirements for electrical outlets, circulation systems, filters, safety signs (including font size and type), and ladders to name a few. In-ground pools require a minimum 48” barrier (height) with a 36” clearance around the entire pool, but an above ground pool can act as its own barrier provided you remove the ladder system when not in use.

Make yourself aware of the requirements for owning pools, and more so for the maintenance of them. The City of Harlem has a pool registry, so you must register with the City if you have any type of pool in your yard. For more information, check out the Harlem website at www.harlemga.org.

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**GEORGIA’S BURN BAN IS IN EFFECT THROUGH SEPTEMBER**, when open burning of yard and land clearing debris is prohibited. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division puts the restrictions in place during the summer months when increases in ground level ozone may create health risks. Remember that burn permits are required, by law, during non burn ban months. For more information, go to [https://epd.georgia.gov](https://epd.georgia.gov), call 1-877-OK2-BURN or your local Georgia Forestry Office.

Also, it is against the law to burn man made materials *(EVEN IN A BARREL)* such as household garbage, tires, shingles, plastics, or lumber.

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