



**Message From The Broker**

Can you believe Spring is around the corner already? Believe it!

My mom always told us Spring was a time of renewal -- all the things of the past year, whether triumphant or sorrowful, are dead –

done and over – could never be changed – so accept the past, move on and start afresh, embrace tomorrow – live each day to its fullest – thank God for today – never worry about tomorrow – be the best person we can be – and never do or say anything we will regret tomorrow. Today is the day we will rediscover ourselves. Today is the day we are going to love ourselves. Today is the day we are going to take control of our lives. Today is the day we will forgive ourselves for the mistakes of yesterday. Today is the day we will celebrate Spring within us. Today, we are Spring!

Now is the time to rediscover ourselves, have new interests, new aspirations, new beginning, and become a new person – a better person. This is what Spring is about. Renewal and rebirthing.

As we look around our neighborhoods, we see the process of renewal taking place before our eyes. The plants of Spring are coming back after a long period of rest. It seems each year they come back more vibrant than ever.

I believe the operation of nature is God’s example of how we are to operate as people. God gave us nature to show us how powerful He is, and if we pay close attention, our lives too, by the power of God, can be renewed, restored, revitalized and as vibrant as the Springtime.

It is no coincidence the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ occurred in the Springtime. The raising of Jesus Christ from the dead on the third day signifies a rebirthing – a spiritual rebirthing – the process of being born again from a human state to a spiritual state. Let’s see what the Bible tells us at John 3:3–8: <sup>3</sup>**Jesus replied, I assure you: Unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.** <sup>4</sup>**“But how can anyone be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked Him. “Can he enter his mother’s womb a second time and be born? <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “I assure you: Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be amazed that I told you that you must be born again. <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it pleases, and you hear its sound, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” NIV**

**Featured Guests**

Our special guest this month is my dear friend Lisa Kishoni. Lisa is one of the most creative persons I know. When it comes to plants and landscaping, Lisa is the best. Lisa is passionate about her love for plants, and it shows in her garden. When not in her garden, you can find Lisa busy at work on her mosaic art – many pieces of which end up on display in her Duluth Garden. Please see [www.vintagechinamosaics.com](http://www.vintagechinamosaics.com) for more information. Help us welcome Lisa Kishoni to the Barnum Realty Group’s family of vendors.

*Spring Has Sprung!*

Let’s say goodbye and good riddance to that last ice storm of the season and welcome Spring to our corner of the world! Spring in Georgia is glorious – not only do we have all the Dutch bulbs (tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocus, bluebells, etc.) doing their thing, we have our azaleas, rhododendrons, and mountain laurel “workin’ it” all around us. Add to that our wonderful Spring flowering trees – cherries (Yoshino and Kwanzan are favorites), redbuds (Forest Pansy, but of course!), plums, Carolina silverbells, etc. and it’s a veritable kaleidoscope of color! A plethora of happy hues, a smorgasbord of luscious fragrance. Ok, I know what you’re thinking – to heck with that, now I have to think get out the lawnmower! Don’t worry – it’ll all be worth it when you take an evening stroll in your garden and pause to take in the miracle of the landscape’s rebirth.



Although frost is still a danger throughout most of the mid-South until April, the brave gardeners among us get out and start playing in the dirt in March. Just don’t try to work in wet soil – our Georgia clay compacts easily when wet and you’ll end up making a brick instead of a garden! March is a great time to apply pre-emergence weed and crabgrass controls to your lawn and spray for weeds. Prune roses early in the month, evergreen shrubs and spring-flowering shrubs when they finish blooming. Fertilize evergreen lawns, shrubs, roses (when you prune them) and spring flowering shrubs (after they bloom). A shot of Epsom salts works wonders on pansies that have taken a beating by old man winter – try it, you’ll like it.

Today, let's be reborn by renewing our mind, our heart, our spirit. Today, let's make a change for the better. Let us allow our light to shine, encourage others, smile just because we are alive, compliment a stranger and make their day. There are so many small things we can do to make a difference in someone's life. The benefits of seeing someone smile will give you great joy! Go ahead, try it.

**Uplifting Scripture For The Month Of March  
More Than Conquerors – Romans 8:28-39**

<sup>28</sup>And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>**What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?** <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

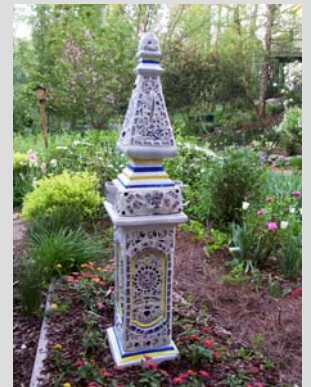
<sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Welcome**

Welcome to our Community News Page. Our goal is to provide you with news and events that positively impact our community. We welcome your suggestions and articles for our site. We are a community minded real estate firm and we look forward to hearing from you. Please e-mail us names of friends and family members who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, baptisms, as well as any occasion worthy of a celebration!

We would also like to recognize youths that are active in our community – academic, civic and sports oriented – so please send us an e-mail so we can make special mention of our youths. If you would like to submit an article for publication on our website, please e-mail your article to [dbarnum@barnumrealtygroup.com](mailto:dbarnum@barnumrealtygroup.com).

Did you notice the weeping willows in your subdivision – admire their tiny leaves lining long graceful branches. So pretty! Stick your nose into a hyacinth and immediately travel back in time to springs of yesterday. Nothing sparks my memory like this bulb's delicate, sweet scent. Hyacinth = Frilly Easter dresses and baskets filled with chocolate bunnies (ears to be eaten first, of course).



My helleborus orientalis (Lenten Rose) is still blooming and looking lovelier than ever, buy some for your shady spot and you'll thank me every year. (Piccadilly Farm in Watkinsville has "Hellebore Day" the first weekend in March every year. Go! Not only will you find hellebores in



amazing quantities to buy, they are growing over acres of naturalized gardens – along with daffodils, camellias and loads of other wonderful things. It's special. Hmm. Creeping phlox is special too – it needs to be in everyone's

garden – crawling lazily over stones in the sun, dripping over a retaining wall, spilling out of a container. Do it, now, does it. Buy it. Plant it.

The grass is never greener, the air is never fresher, the sky never bluer, than in Spring in Georgia.



Photos pictured are of Lisa's garden.

By Lisa Kishoni