



# News From AROUND THE BEND

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE HORSESHOE BEND HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION | JANUARY 2023

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Horseshoe Bend Community Assoc.

1175 Cicero Drive | Ste 100  
Alpharetta, GA 30022



**INTRODUCING YOUR FAVORITE  
PERSONALITIES!**

**95.5WSB**  
ATLANTA'S NEWS & TALK



Green and Growing with Ashley  
Frasca and The Home FIX IT  
page by Dave Baker

LOOK ON PAGE 18 FOR MORE!



# Moving With Mitch!



## Real Estate Q&A: Ask the Expert

### Question of the Month:

**“Is it a good time to sell? Or a better time to be a buyer? What are your thoughts on the real estate market for 2023?” – Many Neighbors**

### Brought to you by Mitch Falkin

Horseshoe Bend's Top Individual  
Real Estate Agent in 2022

direct: 770-330-2374

office: 770-350-7373

Mitch@MoveWithMitch.com

www.MoveWithMitch.com

About the expert: Mitch Falkin is an Associate Broker with RE/MAX Around Atlanta and has been a licensed real estate professional since 1986. Mitch is a long-time resident of Horseshoe Bend, having purchased his first home here in 1993, and moved to his second HSB residence in the Brentwood section in 2015. He was voted Horseshoe Bend's favorite Realtor on NextDoor.com for 2017, 2019, and 2021. Mitch has served on the HSBCA Board of Directors; created and manages the HSB Annual Spring Garage Sale (17th year); and can often be seen on the tennis courts at HSBCA as an avid player. In addition to supporting Golden Retriever Rescue of Atlanta, Mitch is a player/volunteer in the ALTA tennis league, where he is now serving on the Board of Directors.

Well...if I had definitive answers to these types of questions, I'd be sipping a drink on a beach somewhere for the rest of my life. And I hate hearing those real estate ads that are always screaming "it's a great time to sell/buy right now!" But seriously, **over my long real estate career I have developed three simple thoughts about "the real estate market" that I am happy to share here.** One caveat: these are my opinions and are not based on any current market data.

**First: For the home you live in, your specific life situation dictates whether it's a good time to sell, buy, or do nothing.** Some examples: If you just received a fantastic job offer in another part of the country that you can't pass up...it's a great time to sell your house here and buy a house in your new location. If your current home is perfect for you, and you have no need to move for any reason in the next couple of years... it's a great time to not sell. And if you have been renting for 5 years and have now accumulated a nice down payment with the goal of buying a house... it's a great time to buy a house. Whatever the market condition, if you decide to buy or sell, you simply do the best job you can for yourself in the current market environment... at least, up to point #2:

**Second: Sometimes current market prices trump whether you can do what you want to do.** For example: If you owe \$400k on your house and the current market price is \$350k, you may not be so eager to come out-of-pocket \$50k+ to sell. Or if you love your house and want to stay, but the market price has gotten so high that you feel the need to cash out, it may be a good time to sell. Or if you've saved up enough to buy a \$300k house, but you can't find any \$300k houses that suit you, you may not be so eager to buy a house you don't like, just to buy something.

**Third: For investment properties, it's all about buying at a price that makes the investment work, no matter what the overall market is doing.** I categorize 3 main residential investment types: quick purchase and flip; big-time renovation for profit; and long-term buy/hold as a rental property for appreciation. In a nutshell: if the numbers work, it's a good time to buy.

*One thing remains the same: Please contact me if you are interested in buying or selling a home. Whether buying or selling, I will help you get the most out of the market. And before you know it you too will be "Moving with Mitch!"*



**UNDER CONTRACT**

8865 Steeple Chase Dr



**UNDER CONTRACT**

202 Beckton Circle



**UNDER CONTRACT**

200 Pitch Lake Lane

*I have room for more good listings here, please contact me if you want to sell!*





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### Horseshoe Bend Community Association

11175 Cicero Drive, Suite 100  
Alpharetta, GA 30022

404-725-5281  
404-393-0594 fax  
hsbhome@aol.com

[www.HSBroswell.com](http://www.HSBroswell.com)

# HAPPY New Year

## WELCOME TO HORSESHOE BEND!

### NEIGHBORHOOD DIRECTORY

Access HSB Neighborhood Resident Directory  
online at: [bit.ly/HSBdirectory](http://bit.ly/HSBdirectory)



### COVENANTS / BYLAWS

You can access the covenants and bylaws by going to the website at  
[www.myhsb.org](http://www.myhsb.org) and looking under the Documents tab.

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

**HSB Security:**  
678-447-6100

**Roswell Police:**  
770-640-4100

**Tax/Billing Questions  
or Start/Stop Service:**

**Financial Dept**  
770-641-3759

**Sanitation  
Help Line  
and Customer Service:**  
770-641-3961  
770-641-3807

**City of Roswell  
Waterline Customers:**  
770-641-3715

**Fulton County  
Waterline Customers:**

**Report leaks:**  
770-640-3040  
**Report water violations:**  
770-641-3040

**Water Restrictions:**  
404-612-8097 or  
404-612-8745

**Roswell  
Recycling Center:**  
770-442-8822

**Toilet Rebate Program:**  
404-463-8645

**Community Waste  
Services (CWS) for Yard  
Waste and Curbside  
Recycling Questions or to  
Request a Recycling Bin:**  
678-240-9137

### CONTACT US TODAY! 770-623-6220 - [sales@kda-communications.com](mailto:sales@kda-communications.com)

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## ROSWELL PD FILLS ALL VACANT LAW ENFORCEMENT POSITIONS

The Roswell Police Department announced this month that it has zero (0) vacancies for sworn police officers and is operating at full authorized strength of 160 officers for the first time in 20 years.

At a time when hiring has proved a nationwide difficulty, Roswell's Mayor and Council and Police Chief James Conroy have made recruitment and retention of high-quality police officers a top priority. Over the course of 2022, the Roswell Police Department hired 36 new police officers, 23 of which come to Roswell with exemplary prior service and experience at other agencies.

"When this new Mayor and Council were elected last year, public safety was our number one priority. One of the first things we did was approve best-in-class pay for our police officers," Roswell Mayor Kurt Wilson said. "We are committed to recruiting and retaining the best police officers in the state for the safety of our residents and visitors. Zero vacancies for sworn police officers in Roswell proves the steps we have taken in the last year are working."

"Despite the pervasive challenges in public safety recruiting, we have never compromised our hiring standards," said Chief Conroy. "I'm extremely impressed with the high-caliber officers we have brought onto our team this year, and I know that the Roswell community will be equally impressed."



The support of the Roswell community has played a significant role in drawing quality candidates. In July of last year, Mayor Wilson and City Council passed "Best in Class" police pay, providing a 20% increase to starting salaries across the board, and raising salaries for current officers up to 20% as well.

In November, Roswell residents overwhelmingly passed a \$52 million Public Safety bond, \$23

million of which will fund a new Public Safety Headquarters bringing Police, Fire, and E911 all under one roof.

While currently fully staffed, the Roswell Police Department is anticipating future retirements and transfers and will be maintaining an eligibility list for qualified police officer candidates. Those interested can apply at <https://bit.ly/RoswellPDapply>

## ROSWELL HIRES JEFFREY LITTLEFIELD AS CITY'S NEW DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

The City of Roswell is pleased to announce the hiring of Jeffrey S. Littlefield as the City's new Director of Transportation. Littlefield comes to Roswell from Albemarle, North Carolina, where he has served as the Deputy Division Engineer for the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) since 2018. He brings with him more than 18 years of experience as a Professional Engineer and a Certified Public Manager.



Littlefield's extensive experience includes construction management, roadway design, right-of-way management, structure management, and transportation improvement projects (TIP).

In Littlefield's most recent position as NCOT's Deputy Division Engineer, he managed over 11 maintenance units across five counties, comprising over 420 employees, including 200

engineers, technicians, and transportation staff. He also oversaw the implementation of staff leadership development, performance management, and compliance.

"It is truly an excellent opportunity to work with a team full of incredible people, who are proud of their work," said Littlefield. "I am excited to execute the City's transportation master plan and see the vision for this department unfold.

I will strive to surpass any expectations and look forward to the mutual cooperation of my skillful staff, engaged community partners, and strong leadership team to keep Roswell moving forward."

Previous to his work with the NCDOT, Littlefield was responsible for managing and recruiting contract engineering inspectors and implemented a robust recruiting and talent search program as the Construction Services Manager for A Morton Thomas and Associates.

Littlefield earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from North Carolina State University. He is a certified Radiation Safety Officer, a Professional Engineer, and a Certified Public Manager. Littlefield is a servant leader, having served in the Marine Corps as a Machine Gun Leader for eight years. He is a member of several professional organizations, including the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRPTO) and the Technical Coordination Committee.

## BACK TO BASICS: CURBSIDE RECYCLING

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Start your New Year off right by going back to the basics on how to properly curbside recycle in the City of Roswell. As Horseshoe Bend Residents, please be mindful and retrieve your recycling and garbage cans from the street the same day they are emptied by the city's sanitation crews.

### Items Allowed in Curbside Recycling Container:

- ▶ Paper
  - Newspaper
  - Cardboard boxes (broken down)
  - Junk mail and other paper products
  - Paperback and phone books
  - Paper grocery bags
- ▶ Magazines
- ▶ Glass
  - Food containers
  - Beverage containers (bottles and jars)
- ▶ Plastic
  - Various plastic containers, including soda or water bottles, cartons, milk jugs, etc.
- ▶ Metal
  - Aluminum, steel, bi-metal cans
  - Lids from jars

### Items Not Allowed in Curbside Recycling Container:

- ▶ Plastic bags (grocery, Ziploc, etc.) or plastic wraps
- ▶ Styrofoam
- ▶ No molded plastics like toys, buckets, etc.
- ▶ Window glass, picture frame glass, or mirrors



**Do you know your recycling basics?**

Some items can go into the curbside bin. Others need to be taken to the Roswell Recycling Center.



- ▶ Light bulbs
- ▶ Ceramics
- ▶ Food contaminated paper or boxes (pizza boxes)
- ▶ Liquid or dried paint
- ▶ Metals other than the items listed above
- ▶ Wood or other construction materials

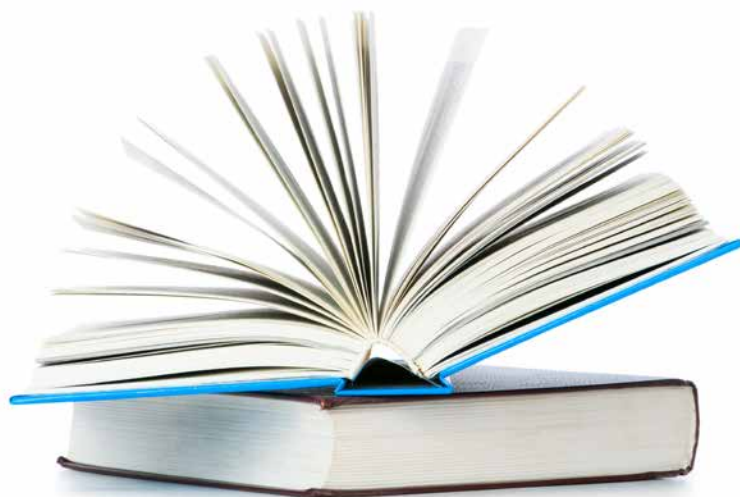
To ensure your recyclables get picked up each week, make sure there are no prohibited items, all cardboard is broken down, and the can is not overfilled, and the lid can be closed. Recycling must be placed curbside prior to 8 a.m. on collection day.

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## JOIN THE HORSESHOE BEND BOOK CLUB

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Are you interested in joining a neighborhood book club? The Horseshoe Bend Book Club typically meets the 4th Tuesday of each month in the evenings (approximately 10 times per year). We are now selecting our books for 2023. If you are interested in joining the book club, please contact Caroline Ward at [dward96@outlook.com](mailto:dward96@outlook.com) for more information. All book club enthusiasts are welcome!



## SCHOOL BUS SAFETY REMINDER

We have received reports of far too many cars passing our neighborhood school buses in the morning while they are loading with Horseshoe Bend children. Even ONE car doing this is too many. It's also against the law and enforced by the Roswell Police Department.

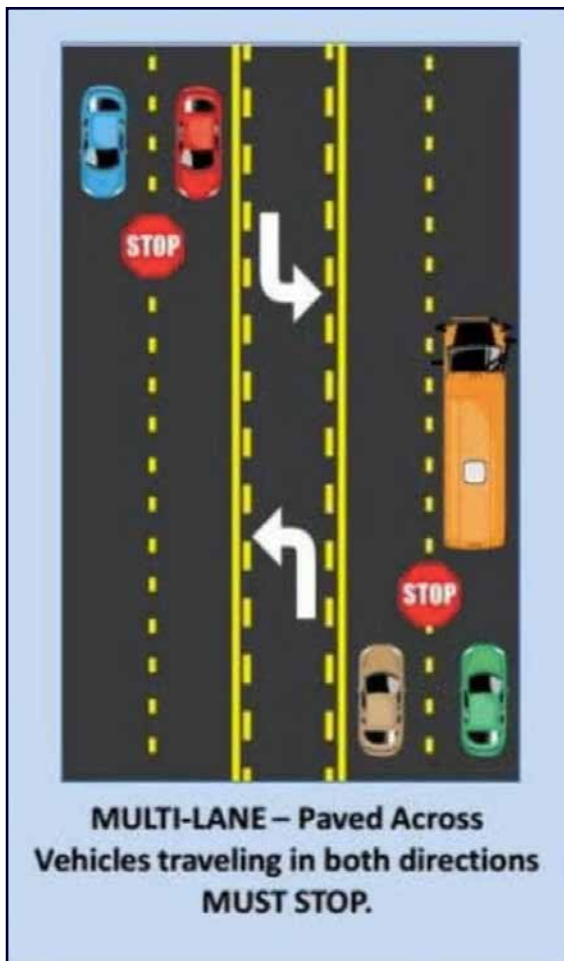
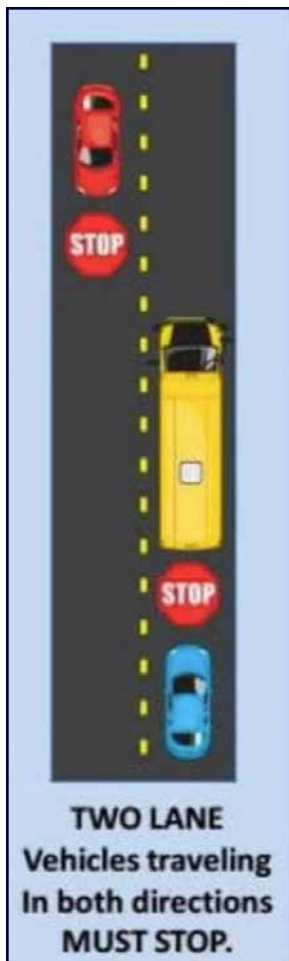
If the lights are flashing red and the stop sign is out - DO NOT PASS.

If you are in a hurry and running late, this isn't an excuse for risking the

lives of children or breaking the law. These incidents are being documented and reported to the police. Please stop!

Additionally, please speak with your teenage children who might be new drivers and have forgotten this law from their driver's test.

Thank you



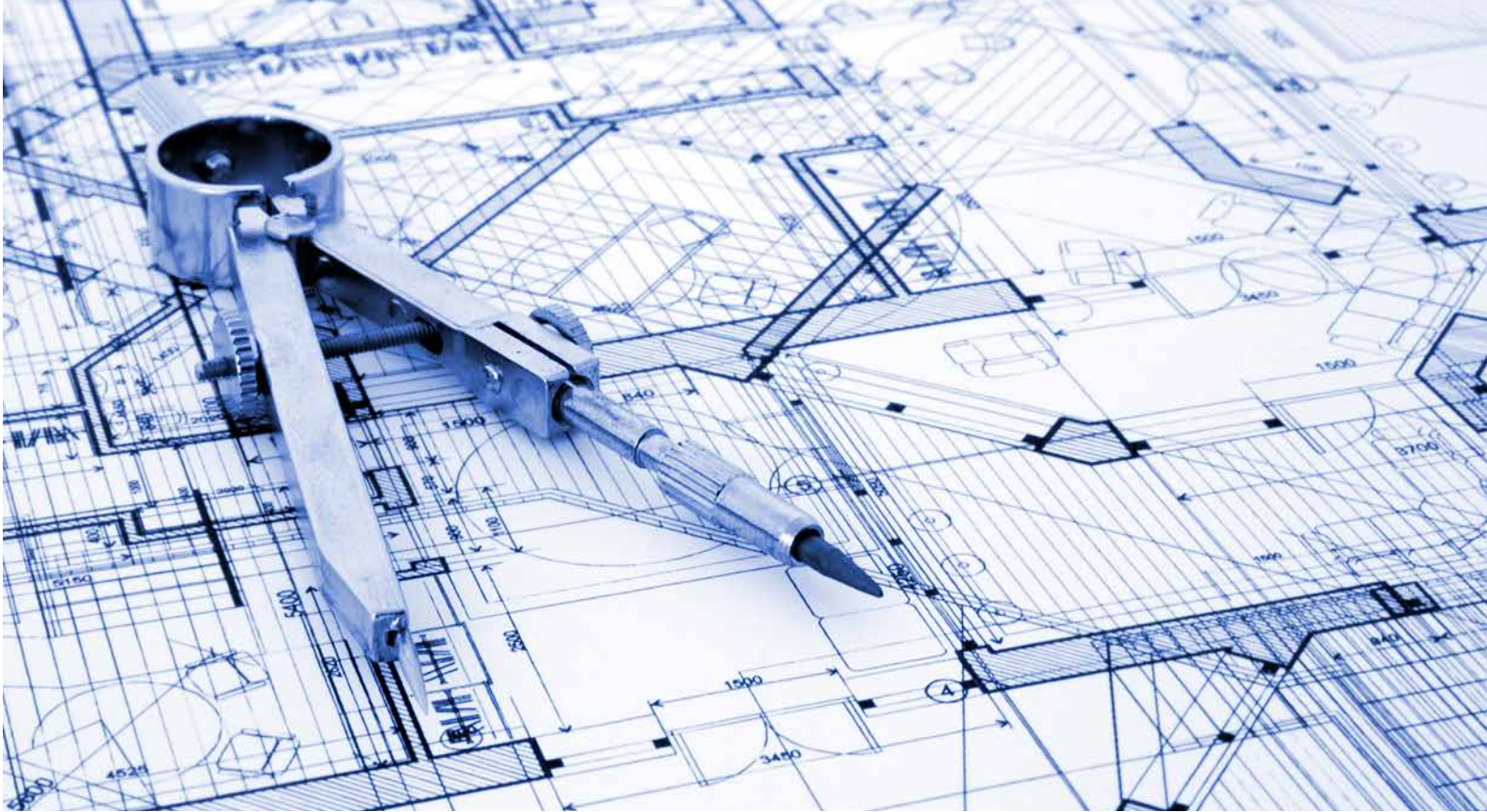
## ROSWELL MILL WATERFALL TRAIL CLOSED UNTIL APRIL

The trail located at Old Mill/Vickery Creek Park (95 Mill Street) that leads up to the waterfall on the Roswell side of Vickery Creek will be closed until April 30, 2023, weather permitting. The Fulton County Department of Public Works will be repairing sewer pipes and manholes in the Fulton County sewer easement inside the Old Mill Park.

Park goers will still have access to the lower section of the trails, the covered bridge (Chattahoochee National Park Access Point), the Mill

Ruins, the Old Mill Machine Shop, the elevated boardwalk and the restrooms. Public access to Old Mill Park will not be disrupted.

For any questions or concerns, please reach out to the Fulton County Department of Public Works, 141 Pryor Street, Suite 6001, Atlanta, GA 30303 or call 404-730-7400.



## YOUR ROADMAP TO SUCCESSFUL 2023 HSB HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

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As a homeowner in our community, we want to insure you are informed on how best to use the information, guidance and the resources provided by **HSB Architectural Control Committee**.

Utilizing this information will help to save you time and insure a timely and efficient start on any home improvement project you may be considering this year or in the future.

So, let's get started! - The **Architectural Control Committee** team is composed of 7 volunteers from our community. The Committee Director Joe Vollero, supported by Dylan Bonselaar, Jody Hutchins, Ben Lively, Lynn McGarry, Kim Thompson, and Maryann Winchester. Collectively, this team represents over 100+ years of volunteering, supporting the standards of our community and all live in various neighborhoods in our community

The **Architectural Control Committee's** purpose is to analyze, review and recommend approval or disapproval of applications submitted by homeowners who are looking to modify something about their home or property. Typical requests are for tree removal, landscape projects (new/replacement), fencing (new /replacement), driveway replacement and includes projects like Decks new/replacement Garage doors, windows/doors (replacement) to larger projects like painting the house, roofing replacement, refurbished/new additions, in ground pools, and various other home improvement projects.

The **Architectural Control Committee** uses established **Design Guidelines** to determine if the modification request is in boundaries of the

Design Guidelines and in harmony with the community or neighborhood to determine approval. Our objective is to work with the homeowner to help them meet the guidelines wherever possible upon receipt and review of the **Application for Modification**. **Design Guidelines** can be found on the HSB website: [HSBroswell.com](http://HSBroswell.com) once on site hit either the Governance Forms or Architectural Tab to review a copy of the Design Guidelines.

So, as you plan your home project inclusive of any changes or replacements to your home or property, **PLEASE** be sure to submit an **Application for Modification Review** to our administrator, Laurel Mizell, either by email at [hsbhome@aol.com](mailto:hsbhome@aol.com) (email is preferred) or by FAX to (404) 393-0594. The HSB Architectural application form can be found in this month's newsletter, the HSB website: [www.HSBroswell.com](http://www.HSBroswell.com) or in the Community Directory. Once the application is received, a member of our **Architectural Control Committee** will promptly contact you and plan a visit to your property to review your application.

Please keep in mind that we are a team of committed volunteers and do the very best in processing your applications in a timely manner upon receipt of your Application for Modification.

Finally, we welcome your input and voice into ways we can improve the quality of our HSB community. If you should have any questions or concerns upon review of the Design Guidelines, Applications process, or any of the information provided above please feel free to contact our HSB administrator Laurel Mizell.

# IMPORTANT REMINDER TO OUR HOMEOWNERS!

If you have a project to change something on your house or property, please submit an Application for Modification Review to HSB Administrator, Laurel Mizell, either by email at [hsbhome@aol.com](mailto:hsbhome@aol.com) or by FAX to (404)393-0594. (Email is preferred).

A copy of the Application for Modification form can be found in this newsletter, in the HSB Community Directory or online at the HSB website at [HSBroswell.com](http://HSBroswell.com)—under the Governance Forms.

**To allow your home project to have the best chance of success upon review by the architectural control committee.**

- Applications must be submitted in writing, using the standard Application for Modification Review process. **Applications must be received BEFORE any project can be started!**
- If you should have any questions before you fill out your Application for Modification, please call our HSB Administrator Laurel Mizell and request to speak with one of the Architectural Control Committee members.

- Please include as much detail about your project as you can inclusive of drawings and diagrams are encouraged. (Utilize your contractor as appropriate for your project as needed).
- Please mark the relevant areas of your property so we understand what you are proposing. (i.e. trees marked for removal, landscape locations, fencing locations, etc.)
- Please note, no work on any project should be started until you have received approval from the Architectural Control Committee.
- Our objective is to work with homeowners in support of their projects with a viewpoint that improvements are generally good for everyone, but we do need to adhere to the Design Guidelines to keep HSB the beautiful community we all enjoy and appreciate today and for the future.
- Thank you in advance for your support for future new projects in following these processes, which have been established for the welfare and desirability of our community.



Also please keep in mind that we are a team of committed volunteers and do the very best in processing your applications in a timely manner upon receipt of your application.

Finally, we welcome your input and voice into ways we can improve the quality of our HSB community. If you should have any questions or concerns upon review of the Design Guidelines, Applications process, or any of the information provided above please feel free to contact our HSB administrator Laurel Mizell.



**David Cooke is your Horseshoe Bend neighbor and real estate expert, helping you maximize your net proceeds in the sale of your home!**



Horseshoe Bend Sales Activity Jan. 1st, 2022 to Dec. 31st, 2022	# Sold	Avg. List Price	Avg. Sale Price	Avg. Seller Paid Cost	Avg. \$/SF	Avg. Days (List to Sale)	Avg. Net (+/- List)
Horseshoe Bend (All)	65	\$719,920	\$723,229	\$2,658	\$207	52	\$651
Willow Lake	6	\$599,833	\$588,042	\$5,667	\$212	60	(\$17,458)
Carriage Lake	10	\$597,100	\$618,050	\$4,005	\$226	55	\$16,945
Highlands / Villas	6	\$642,567	\$643,650	\$1,483	\$248	40	(\$400)
Estates / River Highlands / Heritage	9	\$1,037,111	\$1,031,667	\$1,669	\$188	45	(\$7,114)
Clubsides / Brookside / Fairways	4	\$800,000	\$840,500	\$0	\$197	41	\$40,500
Brentwood	12	\$747,375	\$754,000	\$2,044	\$190	62	\$4,581
Riverlinks / Village on the Green	14	\$645,850	\$634,232	\$3,269	\$207	50	(\$14,886)
The Glens / Belmont Place	4	\$706,250	\$716,250	\$1,125	\$197	54.25	\$8,875

*If ever buying or selling, I request the opportunity to earn your business and to exceed your expectations in both service and sale.*

*Sincerely,  
David Cooke*



**DAVID'S DATA FACTS:** The average Horseshoe Bend home sale price increased by 12.2% for the year 2022, compared to an increase of 21.1% for the year 2021. Despite an overall market slowdown, the demand for neighborhood homes greater than \$1-Million-Dollars remains elevated with 2022 sales having more than doubled the overall number of \$1-Million-Dollar homes ever sold in the history of Horseshoe Bend! Call David to learn more, it's never too early to explore selling.



**David Cooke | Realtor / Principal**  
 770-652-6270 | [dcooke@martinlakegroup.com](mailto:dcooke@martinlakegroup.com)  
 Martin Lake Group @ Keller Williams Realty Consultants  
 695 Mansell Rd #120, Roswell, GA 30076  
[www.martinlakegroup.com](http://www.martinlakegroup.com)





**Application for Modification Review  
Architectural Control Committee  
Horseshoe Bend Community Association, Inc.**

**Applicant/Homeowner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Property Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Does your property touch:** Steeple Chase Drive? \_\_\_\_\_ Either of the Lakes? \_\_\_\_\_ Golf Course? \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Numbers** (Cell): \_\_\_\_\_ (Other): \_\_\_\_\_ (Other): \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Addresses:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that it is the responsibility of the homeowner to verify their property lines prior to construction, and this application does not substitute as an approval of 'said' property lines. It is also the law and responsibility of the homeowner to apply for a 'Building Permit' with the city of Roswell before any home construction is started.

Modification Request: Enter a complete description of the nature and location of the requested work. If applicable, drawings, pictures, catalogue cuts, samples, etc., must be attached. Always include a site plan or lot plan showing the dimensions and location of any proposed construction or tree removal.

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PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT YOUR PROPOSED PROJECT

**Estimated start date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Estimated completion date\*:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED: Permission is hereby granted for members of the Community Architectural Review Committee and appropriate Horseshoe Bend Community Association Board representatives to enter the property to make reasonable inspection of the proposed modifications on location.**

**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit Request to:** Laurel Mizell, HBCA, 11175 Cicero Drive, Suite 100, Alpharetta GA 30022

**EMAIL PREFERRED:** [hsbhome@aol.com](mailto:hsbhome@aol.com) FAX: (404)393-0594 Phone: (404)725-5281

Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Denial: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Approval void after 90 days if not completed

**Date Application Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

Form Rev. 10-2014

# CLASSIFIEDS

## **BABYSITTER, DOG SITTER, HOUSE SITTER AVAILABLE. YOU NAME IT, I'LL SIT IT!**

Hi! My name is Ella Parker. I've lived in Horseshoe Bend for 15 years and I am currently a senior at the Mount Vernon School. I am available for any of your house sitting, babysitting or pet sitting needs. References available. If interested, please contact me by phone or text 678-620-5638 or eparker2023@mountvernonsschool.org

## **WOMEN'S FITNESS CLASS**

Women's fitness class @ Dance FX Studio (Rivermont Shopping Center). Horseshoe Bend resident and NASM -certified personal trainer now offering fitness classes @ Dance FX. Monday/Wednesday @ 9 a.m. and Friday 10 a.m. zoom virtual class. I have been teaching my own classes for over six years and offer a 1-hour workout that will get every muscle in your body! This class is for all fitness levels - it can be modified to fit your needs. Please contact Anna-Maria Kahl; KAHL74@bellsouth.net or 770-789-8624 for additional information.

## **MOTHER'S HELPER / BABYSITTERS AVAILABLE. TWO FOR ONE DEAL!**

Hi! Our names are Caitlin and Victoria and we are twins! We've lived in Horseshoe Bend for over 12 years and are available as Mother's Helpers or Babysitters on nights and weekends. We have graduated from Babysitter Boot Camp and are certified in the following:

\* First Aid \* CPR \* AED \* Emergency Training \*

We are trustworthy, reliable, responsible and fun! We are a two-for-one deal! If interested, please contact Mom at (404) 431-1900 or s\_tigert@bellsouth.net

## **SPANISH TUTOR: MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL SPANISH TUTORING IN HSB**

Hola! My name is Kimberly Webb. I love Spain, as well as Latin America, have an MA in Spanish Linguistics from GSU, and would love the opportunity to help your student succeed in language learning! My focus is on middle and high school students and I have over 10 years of tutoring experience, including both private and public schools. Face-to-face sessions are preferred, though virtual are also available, and Venmo accepted. Feel free to text or call me anytime. Gracias! Kimberly Webb 404-565-7164

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# THANK YOU for voting us Best Dentist in North Atlanta for the 7th year in a row!



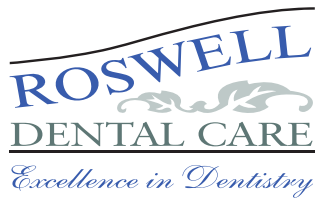
**Dr. David Remaley**  
DDS, FACD, FICD

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DMD, AEGD/GPR



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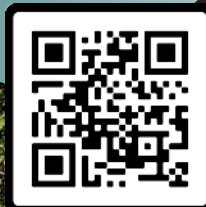
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# Exploring the origins of New Year's Resolutions

HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

For millenia, people around the world have commemorated the arrival of a new calendar year by adhering to various traditions. Once such tradition is making resolutions for the year ahead. Resolutions are promises to oneself geared around personal fulfillment and betterment.

Resolutions are widely practiced, but some people may not understand the origins of New Year's resolutions and why they have become the norm.

Some historians tie the practice of making resolutions to the ancient Babylonians. More than 4,000 years ago, the Babylonians celebrated the New Year in March rather than January. The spring harvest was in March, and a festival called Akitu, which lasted 12 days, was celebrated. An important part of the festival was the crowning of a new king.

Special rituals also affirmed a connection to the gods. The Babylonians made promises to the gods, which included vows to return borrowed objects and pay outstanding debts.

Resolutions can also be traced to ancient Rome. The Romans were instrumental in creating a more formal calendar, and the start of the new year was moved from March to January (January and February were added to the Roman calendar under the rule of Numa Pompilius). Julius Caesar wanted to honor January's namesake, Janus, the Roman god of beginnings. Janus' two faces enabled him to look back into the past and forward into the future. Sacrifices to Janus were made, and worshipers exchanged gifts with one another. A custom of setting resolutions began during this period as well, with Romans promising to be good to one another.

Eventually, these resolutions were funneled into prayers and fasting when Christianity was adopted by the Roman Empire. Other religious parallels include the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur, which is a day of atonement and reflection as celebrants examine their wrongdoings and seek forgiveness and to behave better moving forward. Yom Kippur follows Rosh Hashanah, Judaism's own new year.

Resolutions also may be loosely tied to Medieval times. During this time, knights took a "peacock vow" at the end of the Christmas season. Each year, these knights would reaffirm their commitment to chivalry.

Today New Year's resolutions are largely a secular tradition, but they're still connected to a desire to be a good person and put one's best self forward.

## Did you know?

Each January 1, people all over the world make resolutions for the new year. Many of the same resolutions pop up on popularity lists each year. According to a study by GoBankingRates, which in December of 2015 asked 5,000 people what their New Year's Resolutions would be for 2016, the top resolutions included:

- Enjoy life to the fullest.
- Live a healthier lifestyle.
- Lose weight.
- Spend more time with family and friends.
- Save more, spend less.

A study by Thomas Cook UK, a United Kingdom-based travel company, indicated many people in Britain planned to cut back on social media as a top resolution as well. It should be interesting to see which resolutions play out upon the arrival of the new year.



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happy New Year

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# Green & Growing

Welcome to 2023! Yes, January is traditionally one of the coldest months here in Georgia, but a little chill shouldn't stop you from getting things done in the landscape. December saw unusually warm temperatures, so maybe the first month of the new year will surprise us too!

The colder months are the best time to plant new trees and shrubs, so get to digging! Most plants' growth is halted by cooler temperatures, meaning they are less demanding for nutrients, so this time of year the focus is on root establishment and growth. When installing something new, it's always best to surround the base of the plant with mulch, but never up against the trunk or main stem.

Light pruning can be done on trees now. Do corrective and 'clean up' pruning on trees while you can see the branch structure, before they leaf back out. Start by pruning dead or diseased limbs, then ones that are crossing. And while some vegetative growth on the ground has died back, now is a good

time to chop bamboo, English ivy and kudzu back while you can get to the main stems of the plant.

Plant things with winter blooms, like pansies and hellebores! Pop them in garden beds, sprinkle a little Osmocote fertilizer around each one, and then cover each with a handful of mulch before watering them in. And there's still time to plant bulbs, like daffodils and irises.

This is the month we're likely to see our first "hard freeze" of the year. But what's the difference between a frost and a freeze? Frost is visible on plants, windshields, etc. and can occur when temps are ABOVE freezing, and it all depends on dew point as well. If the dew point is below freezing, a frost is more likely. Freezing is when the air temperature is literally below 32 degrees. And a freeze can come without a frost. A "hard freeze" is when the temperature drops further, below 28 degrees, for a longer time. It will kill the top growth of most perennials and root crops, BUT a hard frost doesn't mean plants are dead

though. Even after your plants have died back to the ground, the soil may be warm enough, so the roots are still growing.

And finally, what to do with that live Christmas tree? I am fortunate to be able to throw ours in the woods behind our house, and I am delighted to see birds and deer nesting by it. Some local parks and usually Home Depot stores offer to chip your tree, producing usable mulch.

**Cheers to many new garden opportunities in the coming year!**



Ashley Frasca is host of the radio show Green and Growing, heard on 95.5 WSB Radio every Saturday from 6-9:00 a.m. For gardening tips, information, and advice, follow her Facebook page: [Facebook.com/greenandgrowingwsb](https://www.facebook.com/greenandgrowingwsb)



## Been putting off basic homeowners chores?

Believe me, been there, done that.

We all have things around the home that while we know they would work better if we had them serviced, well, they are working now and that's good enough for me.

A properly maintained home is important, and all it takes in most cases is a phone call.

With our New Year's resolutions still fresh in our minds here are some things you absolutely need to have serviced this year...

### HVAC SYSTEM.

Get a service contract and have your air conditioner inspected by a pro this spring and your furnace inspected by a pro this fall. Your systems will run more efficiently, your filters will be changed, and you will save money on your home energy bills.

### ELECTRICAL SYSTEM.

Your electrical system wears down over time. Get a whole house electrical inspection and make sure it includes your smoke and CO detectors.

### GARAGE DOOR.

What? My garage door? You bet. It's the largest moving piece of equipment in your home and you rely on it every single day.

The once over will do it a world of good.

### SEPTIC TANK.

When's the last time you had your septic tank cleaned out? While it's not an every year job, it's something that you need to have done every 3 years. Think of it this way - when your a/c goes out you are hot, when your electrical goes out it's dark. What adjective best describes a bad septic situation? Exactly...

### WATER HEATER.

You know the average life span of a water heater in this area is 7 years. How old is yours again? Right. Have a professional come out and check it out. Make sure they check the T&P valve and that you have an expansion tank.

While they are there have them check your home's water pressure. High pressure is the evil villain to the inner workings of your faucets and commodes.

### DUCTS.

Your ducts work every day carrying the cool or warm air to the rooms in your house and return air and dirt back to your unit. Do yourself a favor a have them professionally cleaned.

A good, professional cleaning will have you breathing better and can possibly cut down

on the amount of dusting you have to do around the house. It will also increase the life and efficiency of your hvac system.

Extra good news - barring unforeseen circumstances you won't have to have them cleaned for another 5-7 years.

### ROOF.

How long has it been since you had a roofing pro inspect your roof? Most quality roofing companies offer a free roof analysis which will let you know the exact shape of your roof.

Plus, having a qualified roofer inspect your roof gives you the ability to tell the storm chaser roof guy "No thanks - I already have a professional inspection".

Sweet.



Grab your hammer and join the show! In Atlanta, 404.872.0750 or 1.800.972.8255. Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., Dave Baker is WSB's resident household repair and home improvement expert! He provides a multitude of tips and advice on planning, building and fixing up around the house. Follow Dave on his Facebook page: [Facebook.com/thehomefixpage](https://www.facebook.com/thehomefixpage)

# Welcome to January, the coldest month of the year!

Winter in Atlanta is usually mild, and it's not out of the question to experience afternoon temperatures in the upper 60s to low 70s during the month of January.

In fact, the warmest January day in Atlanta occurred on January 11, 1949 when the thermometer reached 79 degrees.

But temperatures in January can be very cold -- well below freezing and even below zero!

Averaging out all the highs and lows in the month of January, the average monthly temperature is 44.8 degrees, the coldest average monthly temperature of the year for Atlanta.

The coldest morning in January occurred on January 21, 1985 when the thermometer dropped to minus 8 degrees Fahrenheit. January 1982 was also bone-chilling cold, as the thermometer dropped to minus 5 degrees.

Another note about January 1982: Long-time Atlanta residents will remember the Snow Jam of January 12-14 1982, when 4 inches of

snow, sleet and freezing rain fell throughout Metro Atlanta, paralyzing the city. A total 7 inches of snow fell that January, marking the third snowiest January in Atlanta's history.

1. 1985	-8°
2. 1982	-5°
3. 1966	-3°
4. 1963	-3°
5. 1886	-2°



Other notable winter weather events in the month of January include January 23, 2000, when an ice storm struck Atlanta one week before the city was set to host the NFL's Super Bowl. As many as 500,000 people were without power that day as freezing rain accumulated on trees and powerlines.

1. 1940	8.3"
2. 1936	8.0"
3. 1982	7.0"
4. 1992	5.0"
5. 2002	4.6"



Snow Jam History repeated again in 2014 when 2.6 inches of snow fell during the morning and early afternoon of January 28. The city was paralyzed in melted snow that turned to ice under car tires. Thousands of people were stranded on the interstates and surface streets, and many spent the night freezing in their cars or walking home in non-walking shoes. Many more spent the night in grocery stores.

This storm was a stark reminder of the importance in keeping a weather-ready emergency kit in our vehicles. Always keep an extra blanket, jacket, pair of walking shoes, water, and non-perishable snacks in your vehicle in case weather leaves you stranded on the road for numerous hours.



#### Connect with me!

Facebook: Christina Edwards WSB  
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# January in Atlanta

DATA: NWS ATLANTA, 1991-2020

- Monthly Avg High: 54°
- Monthly Avg Low: 36°
- Jan 1 Sunrise: 7:42 am ET  
Jan 1 Sunset: 5:39 pm ET
- Jan 31 Sunrise: 7:34 am ET  
Jan 31 Sunset: 6:07 pm ET
- Jan Avg Rain: 4.59"



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## Dance Studio

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*-Robin Martin*

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