



# East Cobb

MY HOME • MY FAMILY • MY SELF

BEST OF 2026 ISSUE



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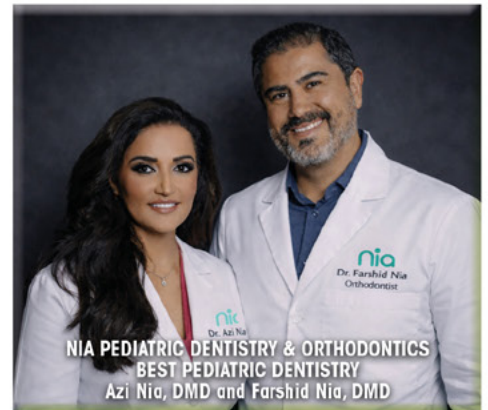
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FAVORITE BITES FROM AROUND TOWN P. 11



SPINDLE & OAK  
BEST SUNROOMS/SCREENED PATIOS  
Ben Walker



SENSORY-FRIENDLY PLAY SPACE P. 15

After thousands of votes, we reveal the businesses you chose as East Cobb's Best! p. 16

Plus  
Events Calendar • Date Night Ideas  
Five Ways to Give Back



WINNERS



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# From the Editor



## Get Outside, East Cobb!

Between nights out trying new restaurants (read about **Café Clement's avocado tartine on page 11**) and finding fun things to do as a family (try **dance lessons from page 9's Rock Steady Ballroom**), East Cobb has a huge draw for outdoor enthusiasts you might not hear as much about. A day at **Sope Creek** combines history lessons with scenic views and miles of trail for hiking and biking. **Cochran Shoals** invites hikers to trek riverside, fish and kayak. **Sweat Mountain Park** is a dog's dream, famed for its off-leash dog park and picnic areas. The list goes on, perfect for springtime bucket lists.

One thing is for sure—*My East Cobb* is committed to sharing more of that good stuff this year, including the best of the best from this neighborhood with you. Starting on **page 16**, meet the businesses that you and your community nominated and voted as the Best of East Cobb. From doctors and wellness services to home improvement

professionals, restaurants and more, these are the people you trust with the things that matter most. Meet the entire 2026 class at [atlantabestmedia.com](http://atlantabestmedia.com).

In this issue, I am also excited to introduce you to **Stephanie Fisher**. Through occupational therapy, she realized the lack of sensory-sensitive play areas in her neighborhood, so she opened one herself! Now the stay-at-home mom is an entrepreneur giving back to her community through play. Read more about **The Playroom at East Cobb on page 15**.

Enjoy all of the fun things to do over the next few pages—and there's even more online. I look forward to exploring them with you, doing everything East Cobb has to offer both inside and out!!

  
Jennifer Colosimo, editor

Want to know more about your neighborhood favorites?  
Sign up at [atlantabestmedia.com/newsletter-signup](http://atlantabestmedia.com/newsletter-signup) to receive our newsletter and stay tuned for updates on the new, fun and can't-miss things happening here!

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(left to right): Alan Gardner, MD; Michelle Kerrigan, MD; Spencer Hawkins, MD; Raven Elosiebo-Walker, MD; Radhika Trivedi, MD; Sandy Coleman, FNP-C; Sophia Georges, APRN; Sarah Miller, PA-C



Spa team (left to right): Kimberlyn Franquez, Sherry Keith, Lauren Kirk, Khaila Morrow, and Michele Salazar

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# CONTENTS



(L TO R): PINEAPPLE PORCH BOUTIQUE, STRONGVIBE, OUTBACK DECK, INC.

16

## BEST OF 2026

After thousands of votes, we reveal the businesses you chose as East Cobb's best! From doctors to restaurants, home improvement and more, read about some of your favorite neighbors. Meet all of the winners at [atlantabestmedia.com](http://atlantabestmedia.com).

## Meet Your Neighbor

Owner of The Playroom East Cobb, **Stephanie Fisher** recognized a need in her community for a different kind of playground. Read about how she created one on page 15.



## Hey, East Cobb!

- 4 **Editor's Letter**  
Get Outside, East Cobb!
- 9 **'Hood Winks**  
Nod to Your Neighbors
- 11 **Food Faves**  
Tried and True or New to You
- 13 **My Calendar of Events**  
Enjoy the 'Hood
- 37 **Good in the 'Hood**  
Lend a Hand to Local Causes



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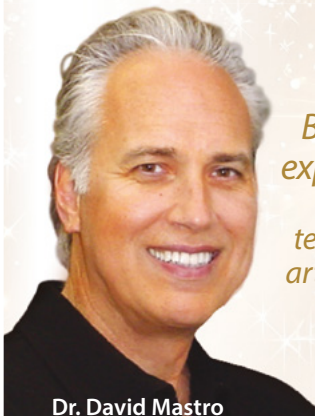


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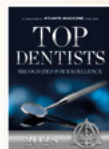
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# Hood Winks

Nod to your neighbors

By Stephanie Carnes



From **painting and ceramics to fabric arts, Cricut-making and wood carving**, there's something to spark every imagination at **Peachtree Art Center**. Explore exhibitions featuring local and visiting artists, whose work is available for purchase. With programs for all ages and options for private events, creativity is always welcome here. 2601 Sandy Plains Rd., peachtreeartcenter.com

Don't miss the **Blackwell Farmers Market** at St. Andrew United Methodist Church, open one Saturday a month from April through August. Pick up **fresh local produce, meats, cheeses, honey, plants and artisan products** and grab lunch from the food trucks before you go home to unpack your finds. 3455 Canton Rd. NE, [instagram.com/blackwellfarmersmarket](https://www.instagram.com/blackwellfarmersmarket)



## DATE NIGHT IN EAST COBB

Whether you're preparing for the first dance at your wedding or just want to shine on the dance floor, **Rock Steady Ballroom** helps you strut your stuff. Skilled instructors teach adults of all levels a variety of **classes from traditional ballroom to Latin and swing**. 15 Elan Ct., [rocksteadyballroom.com](http://rocksteadyballroom.com)

You've had New York's foldable slices. We love Chicago's deep dish. But have you tried Connecticut's pizza? **Ah-Beez** is a friendly, casual date destination that **serves authentic New Haven pizza**: a thin, chewy, crisp crust cooked at super high temperatures. Try it and see how it compares to your usual pie! 125 Ernest W. Barrett Pkwy. NW, Ste. A111, [ah-beetz.com](http://ah-beetz.com)

Ready to get outside? Take your date to **Soper Creek Trail** and **hike 1.5 miles** from the trailhead, past the 19th-century paper mill ruins (pro tip: it's a great photo op!), over creeks and around to Sibley Pond. Finish the date with a picnic back at the trailhead. 3760 Paper Mill Rd. SE, [atlantatrails.com](http://atlantatrails.com)



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF (TOP LEFT) JEN THEODORE, (TOP RIGHT) PREILLUMINATION SETH, (BOTTOM RIGHT) CRISTEN THOMPSON, (BOTTOM LEFT) WILL UNSPLASH.

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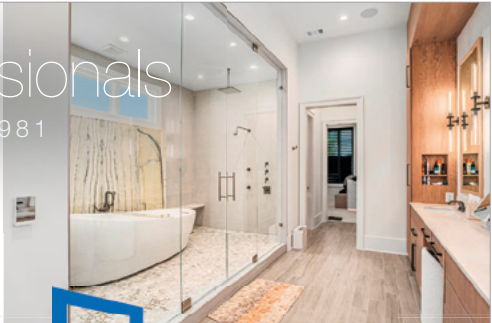


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# my Food Faves

Tried and true or new to you

1. **Season's** innovative, chef-driven flavors include the mouth-watering **Grilled Cheese Biscuit**— their twist on the traditional favorite, but with a cheese-plate-on-a-biscuit feel. This dish is a mixture of crisped cheesy goodness using white American, Muenster and caramelized Chihuahua cheeses and sweet apricot butter. 301 Lemon St., [seasonmarietta.com](http://seasonmarietta.com)



1

2. Pull up a seat at **Fuji Hana** and enjoy an array of tasty sushi, hibachi and other Asian classics. Feast on the grilled, Asian-marinated **Beef Short Ribs** that are so tender they fall right off the bone. It comes to your table on a bed of crunchy, fresh lettuce, alongside steamy soup, fresh salad and rice. 1255 Johnson Ferry Rd., [fujihanaeastcobb.com](http://fujihanaeastcobb.com)



2

3. **Fluffy Fluffy Cafe** is famous for its pillowy-soft and bouncy soufflés. Start with the **Blueberry Cheese Soufflé Pancake** for its tangy homemade blueberry sauce, creamy cheese and fresh fruit on the side. The breakfast-inspired treat melts in your mouth and turns your meal into an experience. 4400 Roswell Rd., Ste. 146, [fluffyfluffy.com/locations/marietta](http://fluffyfluffy.com/locations/marietta)



3

4. The menu at **Camps Kitchen and Bar** leans into creative comfort food, like the vibrant and punchy **Mediterranean Salad**. Made with a base of peppery arugula and crunchy radicchio, it's tossed with grilled eggplant, tangy sundried tomato, salty Kalamata olives, toasted almonds, soft crumbled goat cheese and drizzled with a citrusy lemon basil vinaigrette. 255 Village Pkwy. NE, Ste. 310, [campskitchenbar.com](http://campskitchenbar.com)



4

5. Grab a seat on the **Westfield Tavern** patio and order **The Dirty Bird**. Showcasing smoky, blackened chicken breast with a sweet-and-spicy blackberry-habanero sauce, it comes slathered in white pimento cheese and topped with pickled jalapeños, hydro Bibb lettuce and bacon. Don't skip the fries. 4401 Shallowford Rd., Ste. 138, [westfield-tavern.com](http://westfield-tavern.com)



5

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**Best of 2026**  
**my East Cobb**  
Best Pediatrician

Sandy Plains Healthcare

678-560-7160 | sandyphc.com | 3225 Shallowford Road, Bldg 1300, Marietta, GA



# Calendar of Events

Make a day or a night of it! Check out these fun places with family and friends.

## MARCH

### MARCH 21

#### Marietta Shamrock Shuffle 2026

Cobb County State Court Building  
8am  
\$40

Lace up for a festive fundraiser benefiting the Marietta Police Athletic League (PAL) organization. Runners can compete solo or in teams while spectators cheer along the course.

[marietashamrockshuffle.com](http://marietashamrockshuffle.com)



### MARCH 28

#### Renaissance Faire

The Art Place  
11am-4pm  
Free

Step into the spirit of the Georgia Renaissance Festival with this one-day community preview closer to home. Enjoy an afternoon of live performances, themed food and hands-on activities inspired by the era.

[artplacemarietta.org](http://artplacemarietta.org)

## APRIL

### APRIL 11

#### Tamil Storytime

Sewell Mill Library  
3pm  
Free

Introduce children to a new culture during a special storytime featuring books, songs and games. The interactive program celebrates language, music and learning.

[cobbcounty.gov](http://cobbcounty.gov)

## MAY

### MAY 2

#### Taste of East Cobb

Johnson Ferry Baptist Church  
11am-5pm  
Free

Sample dishes from East Cobb's restaurants and local businesses at the 20th anniversary of this annual community food festival.

[tasteofeastcobb.com](http://tasteofeastcobb.com)



## EVERY TUESDAY

### Family Storytime

East Cobb Library  
10:30am  
Free

Songs, stories and bubbles fill these weekly storytimes for babies and toddlers.

[cobbcounty.gov](http://cobbcounty.gov)



## EVERY SATURDAY

### Marietta Square Farmers Market

Marietta Square  
9am-noon  
Free

Stroll through the Marietta Square every weekend to shop with your neighbors for fresh, local produce and artisan goods. The weekly market offers a relaxed way to shop and connect with the community.

[mariettasquarefarmersmarket.com](http://mariettasquarefarmersmarket.com)

## 2ND AND 4TH TUESDAYS

### Bollywood Dance Dil Se

East Cobb Library  
6:30-7:30pm  
Free

Move to the rhythm during this bimonthly Bollywood workout that blends music, movement and energy. Open to adults ages 18 and up.

[cobbcounty.gov](http://cobbcounty.gov)

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## PROFILE

# Stephanie Fisher

MOTHER • BUSINESS OWNER • THERAPY ADVOCATE

By Cory Olesen

**Stephanie Fisher never planned on being a stay-at-home mom or own her own business. It turns out, she loves both.**

The Playroom East Cobb first opened its doors in 2024, inspired by Fisher's own journey through occupational therapy with her kids. The space is part indoor playground and part therapy gym, offering East Cobb families with young children an inclusive space for purposeful play.

The Playroom is a calm, intimate play experience where children can play without overstimulating or exhausting themselves. There's a two-level play structure, a pillow pit, a rock wall and an obstacle course, along with plenty of STEM and sensory areas for more mentally focused play.


"One of the most important things I learned from therapy is that kids need a mix of physical and mental play to stay emotionally regulated," says Fisher. "For example, trampoline parks focus only on physical play. Kids get so caught up jumping and running around that they forget to check in with their bodies. Having a mix of activities allows them to naturally transition between different levels of activity. It allows them to slow down and listen to what their bodies are telling them."

Therapy isn't just the inspiration behind The Playroom, but an integral part of the business model. When she first came up with the idea, Fisher reached out to child therapists in the area to get a better idea of what was needed. Now, she works with over 10 occupational and speech therapists to offer programs that build emotional, physical and cognitive skills through the power of play.

"I grew up in a small town," she says. "So I've always been rooted in community and actively seek it out. It's been great to connect with other moms who are business owners. I met one of our partnered therapists through a birthday party she booked here; she's now teaching our handwriting class. The mural that's painted in the calm room was done by a local mom. It's been wonderful!"

**The space has also become a safe haven for autistic children and their families. Fisher works closely with the Collective Autism Experience, a community group for parents with autistic kids.** The group meets at The Playroom for play dates, and Fisher has also worked with them to host sensory-friendly events like Sensitive Santa, a holiday event with reduced lighting and music, sensory-trained staff and limited guests, this past December.

"I wanted to create a space where kids like mine could have fun, and parents like me could relax. And, hopefully, that's what I've done."

theplayroomeastcobb.com 



FISHER, WITH HUSBAND NATE AND THEIR TWO SONS, JACKSON AND GREYSON



# 2026 *best*

## MY EAST COBB BEST OF 2026

After hundreds of nominations and thousands of votes, you have chosen My East Cobb's Best! For a complete winners list, visit [atlantabestmedia.com](http://atlantabestmedia.com)



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ALEXA DANTZLER, MD

### ▲ BEST PEDIATRICIAN

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Dr. Dantzer is a dedicated pediatrician at Sandy Plains Healthcare who is passionate about caring for children and supporting families through every stage of growth and development. Known for her warm and approachable style, she takes time to listen, educate and build strong relationships with patients and parents. Dr. Dantzer believes great pediatric care means creating a trusted medical home where families feel supported, informed and confident in their child's health and well-being. [sandyphc.com](http://sandyphc.com), 678.560.7160

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# 2026 *best*

MY EAST COBB BEST OF 2026



LAURA K. SCHILLING, JD, CPA, CFP, PFS

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***financialinnovations.biz, 404.458.0065***



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MARY GEORGY, MD; LOUIS KALISH, MD

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***atlantaallergy.com, 770.953.3331*** ➔

# 2026 *best*

MY EAST COBB BEST OF 2026



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[puroclean.com/pec-ga](http://puroclean.com/pec-ga), 770.627.0900



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[strongvibefit.com](http://strongvibefit.com), 770.573.4010

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[niadentistry.com](http://niadentistry.com), 770.479.9999



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Find a complete listing of therapists, along with their specialties, on their website. [mariettacounseling.com](http://mariettacounseling.com), 770.971.9311



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[outbackdeck.com](http://outbackdeck.com), 470.536.1981

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***hotdogscoolcats.net, 770.858.1000***



(L TO R): STACY TURNER, CUSTOM DESIGN CONSULTANT; ABBY STOKES, PRO SALES DESIGN CONSULTANT; TARYN THIBODEAUX, SHOWROOM MANAGER AND DESIGN CONSULTANT; JESSICA GRICE, SHOWROOM DESIGN CONSULTANT

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[alpha-omega-auto.com](http://alpha-omega-auto.com), 770.928.0006

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THE ATLANTA DIVORCE LAW GROUP

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CO-FOUNDERS AND LEAD INSTRUCTORS, KELLI MCHUGH GLOEKLER AND CARSON SIMONTON BEAVER

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[montroseanimalhospital.com](http://montroseanimalhospital.com), 770.977.9000



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THE SWAT SERVICES TEAM



BEFORE AND AFTER

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# Doing Good in the 'Hood

Lend a hand to local causes

**1** Like mother, like daughter—that's the idea behind the **East Cobb Chapter of the National Charity League**. This dedicated group of women fosters the mother-daughter relationship by **servicing their communities together, developing leadership skills and experiencing cultural enrichment**. Applications are open for the Classes of 2032 (rising 7th graders) and 2031 (rising 8th-graders) who want to grow and make a difference together. [nationalcharityleague.org/chapter/eastcobb](http://nationalcharityleague.org/chapter/eastcobb)



**2** Beautify the community with **Master Gardeners Volunteers of Cobb County**. As part of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service, this community of educated, service-minded gardeners hosts an annual Plant Sale & Expo every April, a Garden Tour every May, maintains public gardens, **helps establish educational gardens at local schools, grows fresh produce for local food pantries** and much more. [cobbmastergardeners.com](http://cobbmastergardeners.com)



**3** Medieval history buffs: Cobb PARKS, Cobb Senior Services and Cobb Public Libraries are teaming up for the first annual **Renaissance Faire** on March 28 from 11am - 4pm. Held at the shared campus on Sandy Plains Road between The Art Place, Mountain View Regional Library and Tim D. Lee Senior Center, volunteers are needed to **lead arts and crafts, games and activities like face painting and caricature art**. To get involved, email [luce.sexton@cobbcounty.gov](mailto:luce.sexton@cobbcounty.gov). [artplacemarietta.org/renaissance-faire](http://artplacemarietta.org/renaissance-faire)



**4** Volunteers are as essential as books at the **Cobb County Public Library**, where good samaritans are needed to organize and shelve materials, **lead book discussions, greet guests and help with self-checkout**, classroom instruction and more. Find full job descriptions and volunteer applications at [cobbcounty.gov/library](http://cobbcounty.gov/library).

**5** Keep practicing your green thumb by becoming a member of the Friends of **East Cobb Park**. There's no shortage of ways to get involved with this 100% volunteer-led organization, from **service projects and park clean-up days** to volunteering at community events such as the annual Holiday Lights, the Sunday Music in the Park series and movie nights. 3322 Roswell Rd., [eastcobbpark.org](http://eastcobbpark.org) 

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## LAWN DESIGN TRENDS FOR SPRING

# ELEVATE YOUR OUTDOOR SANCTUARY

As Atlanta bursts into spring, now is the perfect time to reimagine your outdoor space—not just as a yard, but as a personal sanctuary. This season, upscale lawn design is all about creating serene, stylish environments that effortlessly blend nature with luxury living. Your lawn sets the tone for your entire outdoor experience.

### Flowing Curves & Organic Lines

The days of boxy, overly manicured lawns are behind us. Instead, high-end landscapes are embracing softer shapes that mirror nature's curves. Meandering edges, rounded flower beds, and curved walkways invite a sense of calm and fluidity—perfect for creating a space that feels both designed and organic.

To bring this look to life, opt for lush, high-performance sod like Zeon Zoysia. Its fine texture and deep green hue elevate any design, while its dense growth pattern naturally discourages weeds and offers a luxurious feel underfoot.

### Layered Landscaping for a Designer Look

Just as layering in fashion adds depth and dimension, thoughtful layering in your landscape can create a rich, cohesive look. Think structured hedges against flowing ornamental grasses, flowering perennials nestled beside evergreens, and a lush, green lawn as the elegant canvas that ties it all together.

### Lawn Meets Living: The Rise of Outdoor Rooms

One of the most luxurious trends this spring is the creation of outdoor “rooms”—spaces designed with the same care and intention as indoor living areas. Imagine a sunken fire pit surrounded by soft sod, a cozy dining area under twinkling string lights, or a reading nook framed by azaleas and magnolia trees.

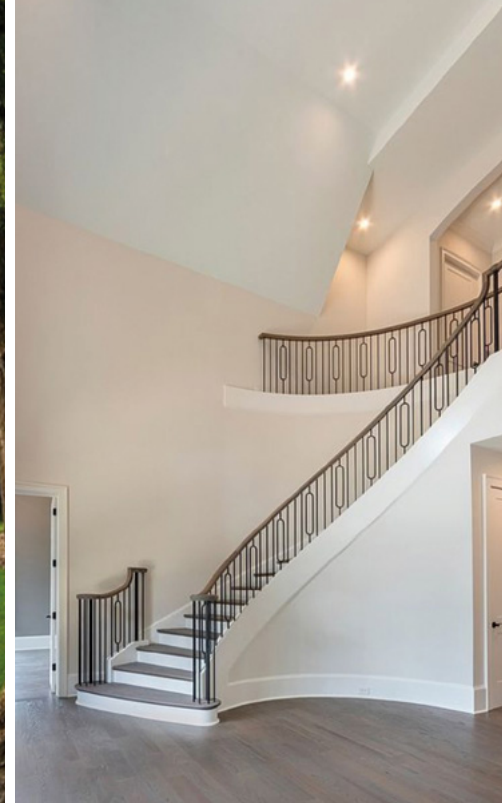
With NG Turf's premium sod as your foundation, these spaces feel effortlessly integrated into the landscape. The result? A seamless extension of your home that invites connection with the outdoors.

### Finishing Touch: Expert Sod Selection & Ongoing Support

To achieve a magazine-worthy finish, team up with a landscape professional who knows the local soil and climate. While NG Turf does not install sod, we supply contractors and homeowners with top-quality, fresh-harvested sod—delivered quickly, even on Saturdays or Monday mornings.

Our certified sod varieties, along with a one-year warranty on warm season grasses and guidance from experienced turfgrass professionals, help ensure long-term beauty and peace of mind.

*Let your outdoor space reflect the elegance of your home. Because luxury should start at the curb.*



my East Cobb  
Best Home Builder

## A Family Tradition of Excellence.

We have been residents of East Cobb for over 30 years and we strive to provide our clients with the kind of service that we would want for our family.

Our design team consults with each client closely to deliver our homes to the exact specifications expected from a world class builder.

No detail is too small and every detail is taken into consideration when building our beautiful properties.

Our homes are energy efficient, and only the finest quality materials are used for construction.

The finishes we use are unique and create a spectacular first impression.

We have the WOW factor covered, yet comfort and warmth are also created with touches such as hardwood floors and gorgeous light fixtures.

Your family will feel at home in luxury and comfort.

We have properties and lots available for custom builds, contact us for more information.



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