

# A Message from the President of the Youngstown Columbiana Association of REALTORS®

## Unlocking the Magic in a New Home for the Holidays

By, Michael Stevens

Released October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023



The holiday season is a time of joyfulness, and what could be more magical than moving into a new home just in time for the festivities? If you are someone seeking a fresh start, here's a guide on how you can make the dream of spending the holiday season in a new home a reality.

- 1. Plan Ahead:** The key to successfully moving into a new home for the holidays is careful planning. Whether you have a home to sell and are planning to buy a new one or are a first-time home buyer, planning ahead is an essential first step in getting into a new home for the holidays.
- 2. Financial Preparation:** Before you start house hunting, get your finances in order. Secure mortgage pre-approval and determine your budget. This not only streamlines the buying process but also makes you a more attractive buyer to sellers.
- 3. \*\*\*Partner with the Right Real Estate Professional:** Real estate professionals are your *guiding stars in this journey!* Find a reputable real estate agent in your local area and they will help you identify properties that meet your criteria and navigate the ever-so-complex process of purchasing a new home.
- 4. Be Open-Minded:** While having a clear vision of your dream home is important, be open to different possibilities. Sometimes, a home may not meet ALL your criteria, but with a little renovation and personalization, it could become your holiday haven.
- 5. Timing Matters:** Real estate trends vary throughout the year and your timing can significantly impact the deal you secure. Let your REALTOR® guide you through this process as they will help negotiate terms on your behalf to close on your new home in time to move in before the holidays. If you need to sell your current home, this can complicate the timeline so be sure you have a solid plan set in advance with your REALTOR®.
- 6. Delegate the Logistics:** Moving during the holiday season can be challenging, especially with so many other tasks on your plate. Consider hiring professional movers who are experienced in handling holiday moves. They can ensure a smooth transition, leaving you more time to enjoy the season.
- 7. Create a Cozy Atmosphere:** Once you're in your new home, it's time to make it feel like your own. Embrace the holiday spirit by sprucing up your new space with holiday decor. Stop by one of the many locally owned businesses in our area that specialize in the most festive holiday home décor.
- 8. Share the Joy:** And finally, host a holiday housewarming party to share the magic of your new space with loved ones. This is what makes the season truly special.

While getting into a new home for the holidays may require careful planning and coordination, the joy and magic it brings are truly worth the effort. It's a chance to create a new chapter in your life and infuse the season with your own unique traditions. If you want to be in a new home for the Holidays, contact a local REALTOR® today to get started on your home search today!

*Michael Stevens is the 2023 President of the Youngstown Columbiana Association of REALTORS®*