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— Scott Christopher

Above: The home's windows allow maximum natural light and endless views of the Lake Michigan coastline. Tilma designed custom window treatments for the windows, including built-in roller shades.

all it serendipity, or fate, or simply a spectacular coincidence, but things just came together for homeowners Bruce and Julie Lowing. Longtime Ludington residents, the couple desired a getaway residence where they could relax and make memories by the lake they'd loved for their whole lives.

While Lake Michigan properties, especially those with 'endless views' of the water, are hard to come by these days, things fell into place when a realtor friend alerted them to a listing — that admittedly needed a lot of work — about to hit the market.

The Lowings jumped at the opportunity, and called upon the trusted team at Scott Christopher Homes to create the home of their dreams.

"We were familiar with the team at Scott Christopher Homes and knew they were exactly who we wanted for this project," said Bruce Lowing. And it was no easy task.

"Building homes near the water is always a challenging task, but this was an especially complex project that involved the removal of an old home, clearing of land, and the new



build," explained Scott Christopher, owner of Scott Christopher Homes. "We knew we needed to assemble a team of the best in the business, and we did."

To begin, the team demolished the aging house and made way for the two-story modern estate designed by Brad D. Tilma of West Michigan-based Brad Douglas Design. Tilma's goal was to create views of the lake from every room, and thanks to state-of-the-art custom windows and thoughtful design, his goal became a stunning reality for the Lowings to enjoy for years to come.

The home sits further back from the road (closer to the lake) than the former residence did, which allowed for a larger footprint and the creation of an outdoor seating area and adjoining guest apartment. "Our children are out of the house, but we still wanted a place for them to be able to stay when they visit," said Julie.

Left: West Michigan-based RJ Raven created the custom white oak front door for the home. The custom 7-foot-tall door includes triple pane true divided glass for a sophisticated and stylish twist. Grand Rapids-based RJ Raven created the custom white oak door, adding to its portfolio of hand-crafted, high-quality doors and windows. To see more stunning examples of their work, visit rjraven.com or call (616) 245-5684.

"In lake homes, the front yards and spaces are often underutilized, and we wanted to incorporate that," Tilma explained.

Belden Brick & Supply outfitted the bluestone patio, which offers a view of the lake through the glass eastern wall.





The apartment was designed to feel private while still feeling like part of the home, and includes a large open bedroom with seating areas, mini kitchenette, and yes, its very own view of Lake Michigan.

Inside the home's front foyer, custom stone blend from Belden Brick & Supply creates a

stunning contrast to the framed view of Lake Michigan, visible immediately upon entrance.
The foyer divides the living spaces into two wings — private and public.

"We wanted the private wing to be an oasis, away from the noise and busyness of the rest of the home," Tilma said. To the north, the foyer opens into the spacious living spaces, including formal living and dining rooms, and custom kitchen, all with views overlooking the expansive shoreline.

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115 DECK MAIN FLOOR bath in the home's mud room.

Above: The main floor includes an open concept layout that includes the formal living and dining rooms, and kitchen, as well the master suite, and half

Below: The dining room includes floor-to-ceiling windows that create a breathtaking 180-degree Lake Michigan view.

To the north, the foyer opens into the spacious living spaces, including formal living and dining rooms, and custom kitchen, all with views overlooking the expansive shoreline.

Above: The upper level's open floor design not only makes the living spaces feel as expansive as the nearby lake, but it allows the natural light that enters the home through 360-degree clerestory windows to carry throughout the space.

Right: In the kitchen, the natural aesthetic is carried through with the beautiful Frosty Carrina quartz countertop by Caesarstone, supplied by Great Lakes Granite Works. The company provides full service design, fabrication, and installation throughout Michigan. Visit their Grand Rapids showroom to see the finest grade materials — granite, marble, quartz, and other natural stone from every part of the world.





54 MICHIGAN BLUE MICHIGAN BLUE 55



The southern wing of the home includes the master suite, complete with spectacular master bath, and a mudroom with additional half bathroom. "Bruce and Julie wanted to be able to come home after work and truly relax, and there's no better way to do that than sitting outside and watching the water," said builder Scott Christopher.

Large sliding glass doors frame the view and provide access to the home's sizable deck, which allows for sweeping views up and down the coastline. The colors in the master suite — as well as the rest of the home — are neutral and warm to allow the beauty and colors of the outer landscape to shine.

Bringing the outside in is also the theme in the master bath, which draws in views of the water and dunegrass, and couples them with fresh

white and warm gray finishes, along with polished chrome fixtures and rich, dark cabinetry. Outfitted with an impressive stand alone soaking tub and separate shower, the room is pure and natural, perfect for serene moments away from the hustle and bustle of daily life.

Hedke Painting of Grand Rapids did a masterful job on the paint throughout the home under the direction and vision of Tiffany Walters, interior designer from Via Design.

With furnishings supplied by Klingman's Furniture and Design, long known for its emphasis on quality and function, the home offers a variety of spaces to relax, entertain, and simply be.

Views from the master bath offer a peek-a-boo glimpse of the shoreline. Plumbing utilities and fixtures were installed by Lameyer Plumbing. Visit its Dorr showroom to see the latest advancements in fixtures, sinks, and more, online at lameyerplumbing.com.

The views are also endless in the master bath, thanks to custom mirrors and shower doors supplied by Glass Concepts of West Michigan. The company specializes in the fabrication and installation of mirrors, shower doors, and closet shelving, and has showrooms in Grand Haven and Holland. Learn more at glassconcepts inc.com.

The custom recessed lighting, supplied and installed by Res.Com Electric, creates an intimate glow in the master suite, perfect for nights spent watching the sunsets Lake Michigan is known for. The West Michigan company provides custom lighting solutions for homes large and small.

The custom-designed bed with a coordinating channel-tufted bench is a beautiful example of the high-quality attention to detail provided by interior designer Tiffany Walters of Via Design.



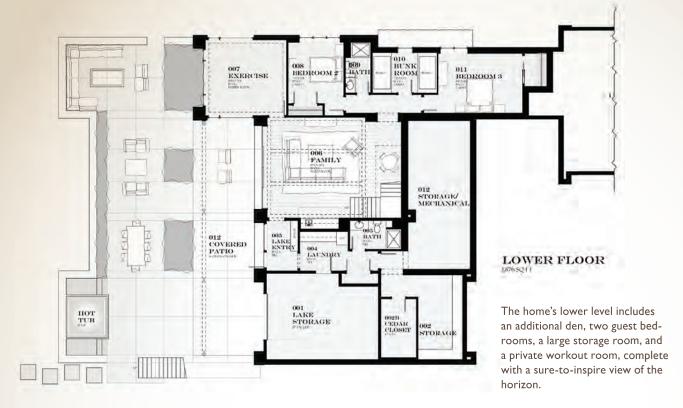




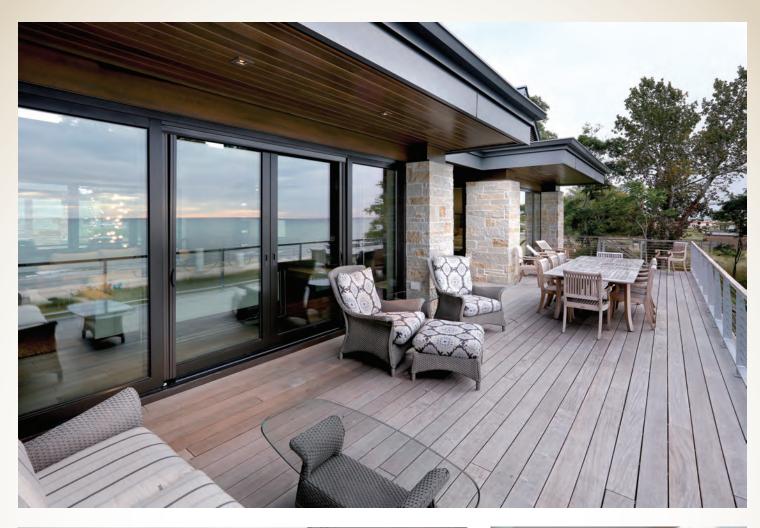
The neutral color palette was incorporated throughout the interior of the home with expert mixes of natural textures, like live sawn white oak flooring, soft contrasts of faux-fur pillows, and plush-pile area rugs.













Top: Hedke Painting providing the deck stain on the Lowings' lakeside deck, matching exquisitely with the custom stone blend from Belden Brick & Supply, which has showrooms in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Saginaw. See more at beldenbrick andsupply.com.

Above: Coach House Iron supplied the structural steel, and custom-rail fence system on the lake-facing deck and interior and exterior stairwells. The Sparta-based company was an integral part of creating places where the Lowings could have endless views of the lake.



Below: The clean lines of the home's roof mirrors the lake, creating an effective and transfixing modern design.

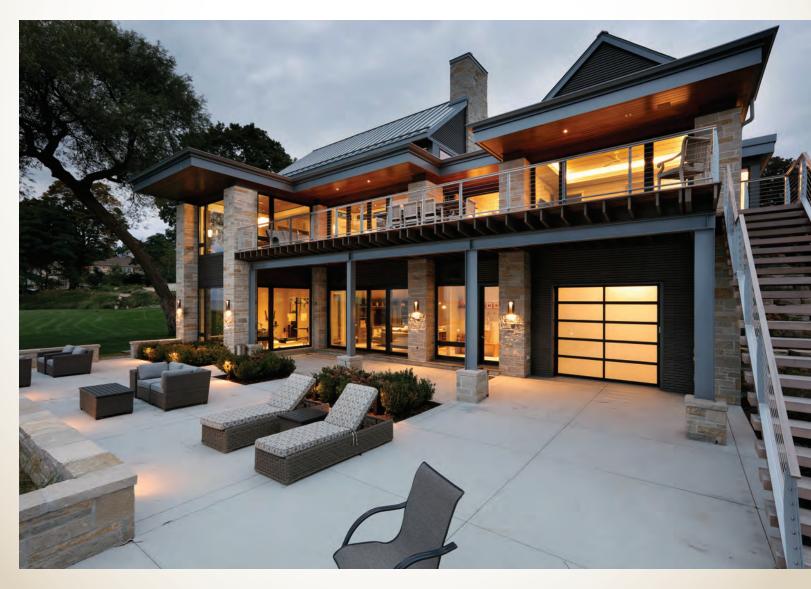
A corrugated metal roof complements the exterior natural aesthetic and provides ultimate protection against the ever-changing conditions of Lake Michigan living. Supplied by Buist Sheet Metal, a specialty architectural sheet metal contractor with a long history of providing materials made to withstand the toughest elements while still looking great. The company specializes in custom standing seam metal roofing, slate and clay tile roofing, and custom copper work.

The peaceful feel of the home doesn't end with the interior. Outside, the large deck spans the length of the rear of the house, offering outdoor areas of respite accessible from multiple areas of the home. The deck was outfitted with stained Douglas Fir wood and a cable-rail fence system that was selected for more unhindered views.

Standing seam metal roofing and corrugated metal siding complement the exterior natural aesthetic and provide protection against the ever-changing conditions of Lake Michigan living. Buist Sheet Metal, a specialty architectural sheet metal contractor with a long history of quality workmanship, installed both the metal roofing and siding, providing materials made to withstand the toughest elements while still looking great. The company specializes in cop-

per work, custom standing seam metal roofing, slate and clay tile roofing, and many other architectural metal elements.

Beneath the deck is an expansive outdoor living space, which includes more seating and dining areas, accessible through lower-level doors or the southern stairwell. "We wanted to keep everything very casual and very comfortable," Tilma said.





Framing the outdoor living spaces and the entire home is expert landscaping, provided by Landscape Design Services, who kept it

Finding true balance with a lakeshore landscape is something Scott Christopher Homes excels at, and the Lowings' home is another example of their time-honored legacy of spectacular custom homes on the water.

With the help of its trusted contractors and suppliers: Belden Brick & Supply, Brad Douglas Design, Buist Sheet Metal, Coach House Iron, Glass Concepts, Great Lakes Granite Works, Hedke Painting, Klingman's Furniture and Design, Landscape Design Services, Lameyer Plumbing, Res.Com Electric, R&J Raven Custom Doors and Windows, and Via Design, the Lowings now have the forever home and view — of their dreams.





Michigan Blue Magazine thanks Bruce and Julie Lowing for sharing their Great Lake Story with us and our readers. Please enjoy every chapter at mibluemag.com, including this 16-page full reveal. Photography for the Great Lake Story was provided by Mike Buck. Learn more about his work at mbuckstudio.com

TO READ THE ENTIRE ENDLESS VIEW STORY, visit mibluemag.com. Learn more about the exceptional local companies involved in this year's Great Lake Story:

Scott Christopher Homes - scottchristopherhomes.com Brad Douglas Design - braddouglasdesign.com Belden Brick & Supply - beldenbrickandsupply.com Landscape Design Services - LandscapeDS.com Klingman's Furniture & Design - klingmans.com RJ Raven Custom Doors and Windows - rjraven.com Buist Sheet Metal Company - buistsheetmetal.com Hedke Painting - 616.226.6797

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62 MICHIGAN BLUE MICHIGAN BLUE 63