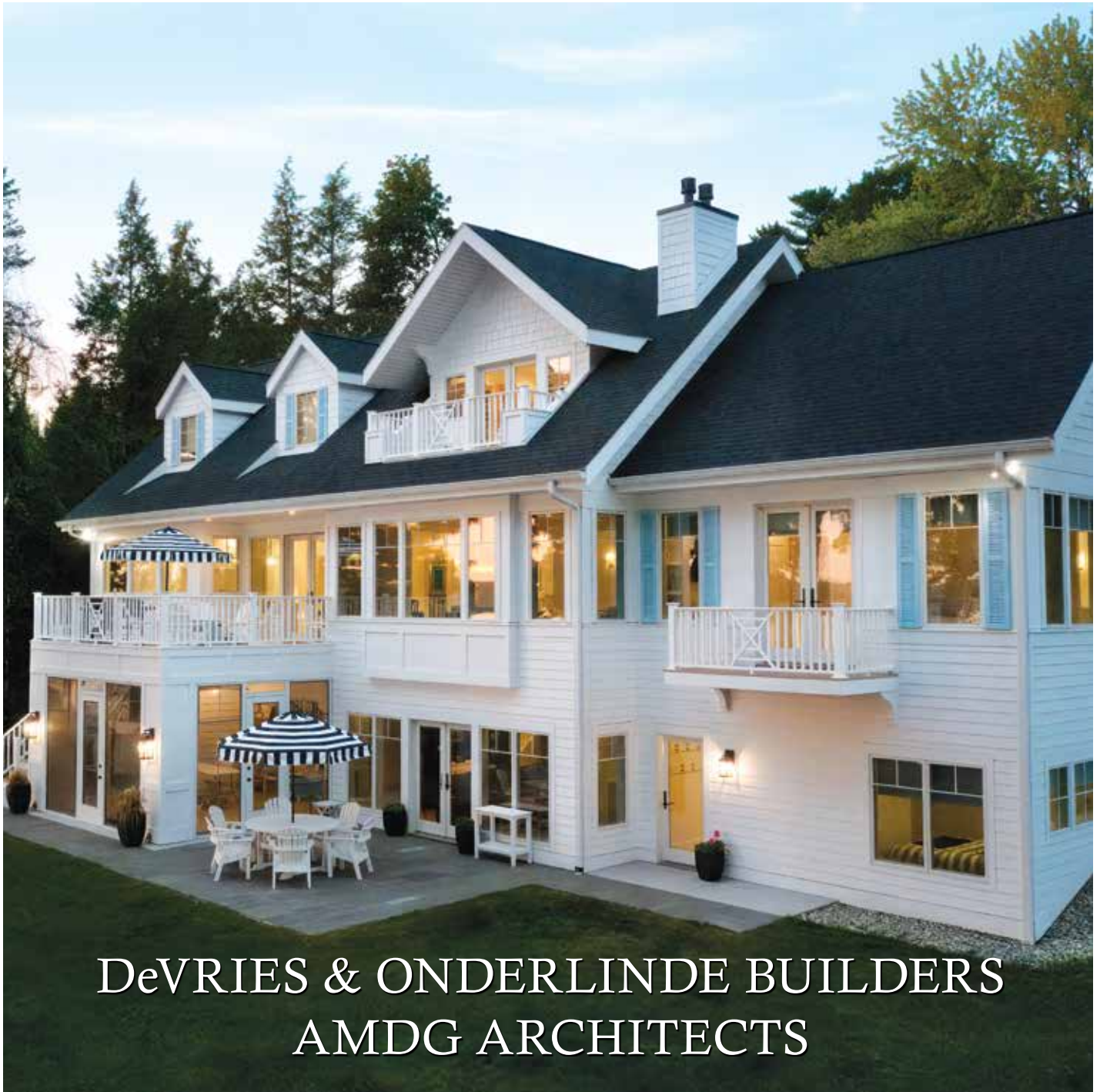


# SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN HOME



DeVRIES & ONDERLINDE BUILDERS  
AMDG ARCHITECTS

DeVRIES & ONDERLINDE BUILDERS  
AMDG ARCHITECTS

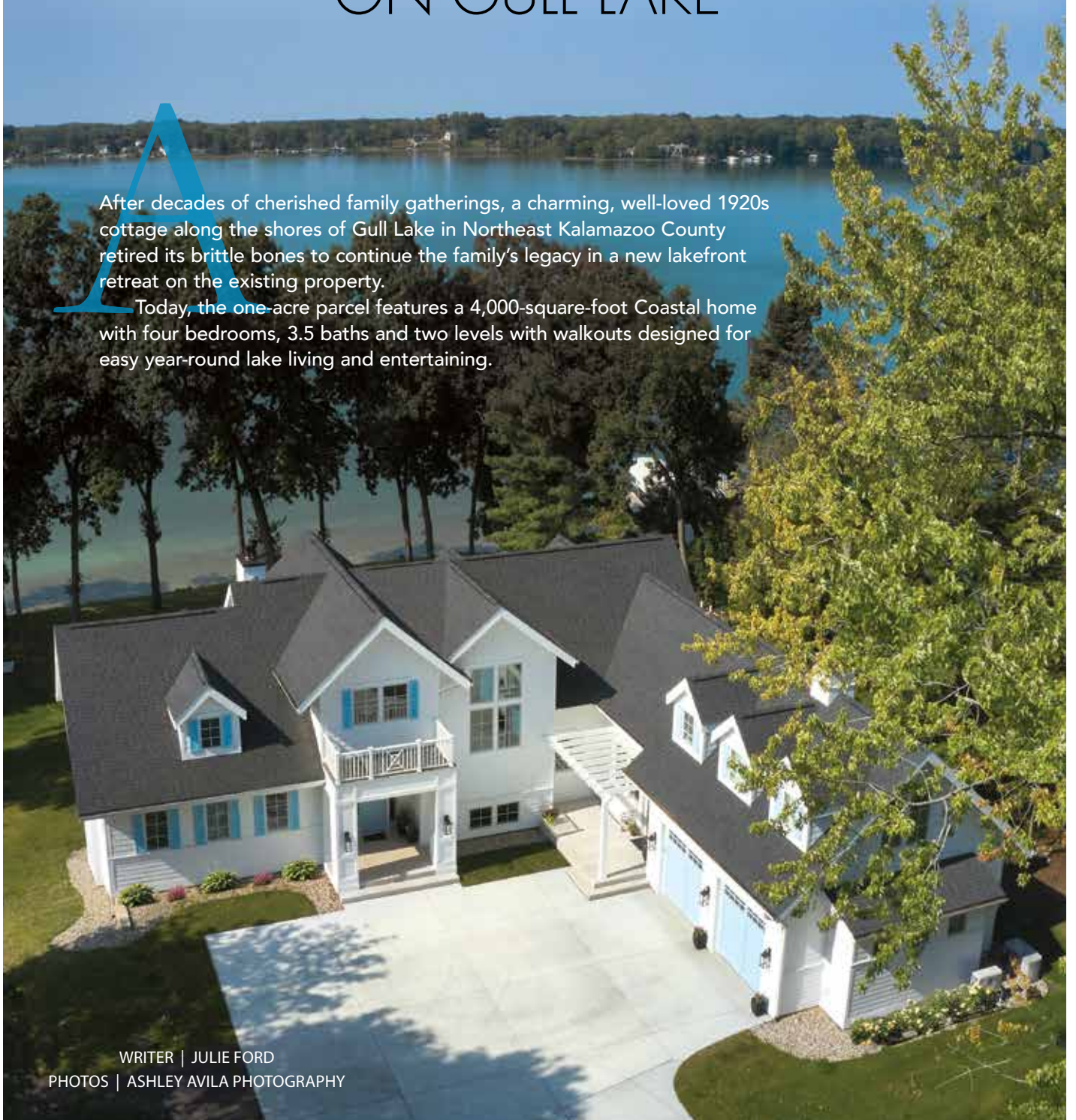
# Charming Coastal Splendor

## ON GULL LAKE

After decades of cherished family gatherings, a charming, well-loved 1920s cottage along the shores of Gull Lake in Northeast Kalamazoo County retired its brittle bones to continue the family's legacy in a new lakefront retreat on the existing property.

Today, the one-acre parcel features a 4,000-square-foot Coastal home with four bedrooms, 3.5 baths and two levels with walkouts designed for easy year-round lake living and entertaining.

REGIONAL FEATURE | DeVries & Onderlinde Builders | AMDG Architects



WRITER | JULIE FORD  
PHOTOS | ASHLEY AVILA PHOTOGRAPHY



“It was a very charming cottage and we made it work but it was to a point that it needed to come down,” the husband says.

After many interviews with architect firms and builders, the couple found the perfect partnership in AMDG Architects and DeVries & Onderlinde Builders. By sharing inspiration images and a clear vision for how they wanted their home to function, the couple helped set the tone for a collaborative experience.

“They were great clients,” Brent Dykstra, Principal and Residential Studio Leader of AMDG Architects says. “They trusted us, they had an idea of what they wanted and they allowed us to be creative.”

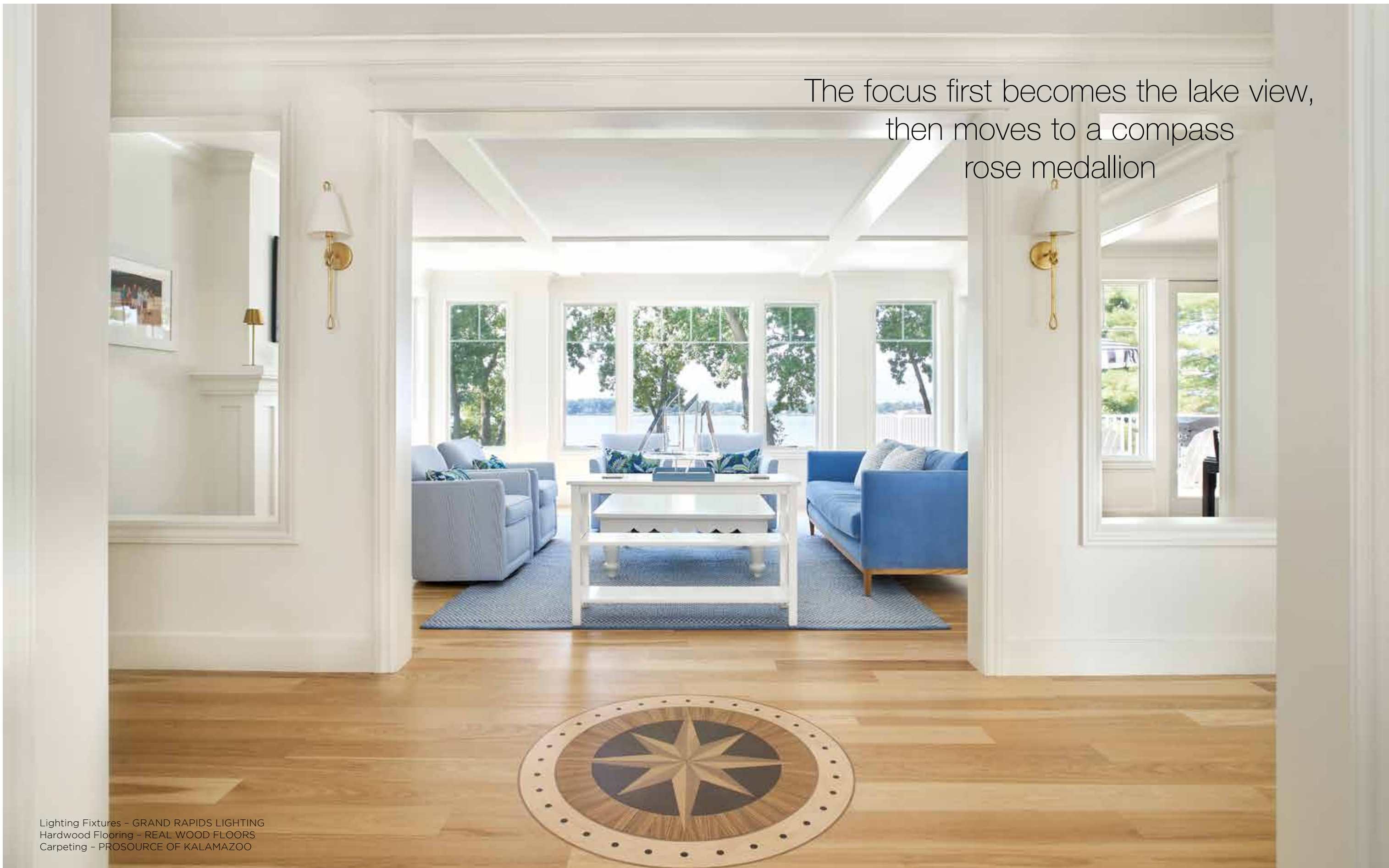
“We wanted to send a nod to the Cape Cod home that was here,” the wife says, emphasizing charm and symmetry as integral to the design. “We wanted a lake view from most anywhere in the home.”

The home’s white cement board-sided exterior with blue porch ceiling accents is iconic to Coastal homes. The mid-level entrance from the motor court in front of the home helped reduce the steep slope and create an arrival experience. Upon entering, the focus first becomes the lake view, then moves to a compass rose medallion feature that is embedded into hickory wood flooring which covers the main level.



Building Materials, Patio Doors & Windows - WOODWORKING SPECIALTIES  
 HVAC - METZGER'S HEATING & COOLING  
 Insulation - LEADING EDGE INSULATION SERVICES

The focus first becomes the lake view,  
then moves to a compass  
rose medallion



Lighting Fixtures - GRAND RAPIDS LIGHTING  
Hardwood Flooring - REAL WOOD FLOORS  
Carpeting - PROSOURCE OF KALAMAZOO



Tile/Marble Supplier and Installer - WENKE FLOORING AND DESIGN

"It's very much composed in an intentional way; it reinforces focus," Dykstra says. "The symmetry is about arrivals to the home, the view of the lake and the space within the home where you enjoy the lake."

With symmetry high on the list of design elements, one example of absolute symmetrical perfection was achieved in the interior design from the kitchen range to the fireplace in the great room.

Painted maple custom cabinetry and quartz countertops provide a bright and clean aesthetic not only for the kitchen but also throughout the entire home. The walk-in pantry is specially designed to hold everything the homeowners wanted, yet placed behind doors to avoid clutter.

"The view is phenomenal," Dave DeVries, owner of DeVries & Onderlinde Builders, says. "It's a really unique perspective of a panoramic view of the lake. In this home, the countertops have no upper cabinetry. It's all glass and truly remarkable."

In the great room, coffered 9-foot ceilings, a gas fireplace with a custom-built surround and sweeping views of the lake complement the natural light pouring in from every angle.

From the garage to the kitchen, a striking harlequin pattern floor in black-and-white porcelain



tile with marble effect flows through an area of lockers and the laundry room. Also situated on the main floor is the office featuring a desk made by the homeowners' son with planks from a 125-year-old red oak sourced on the property.

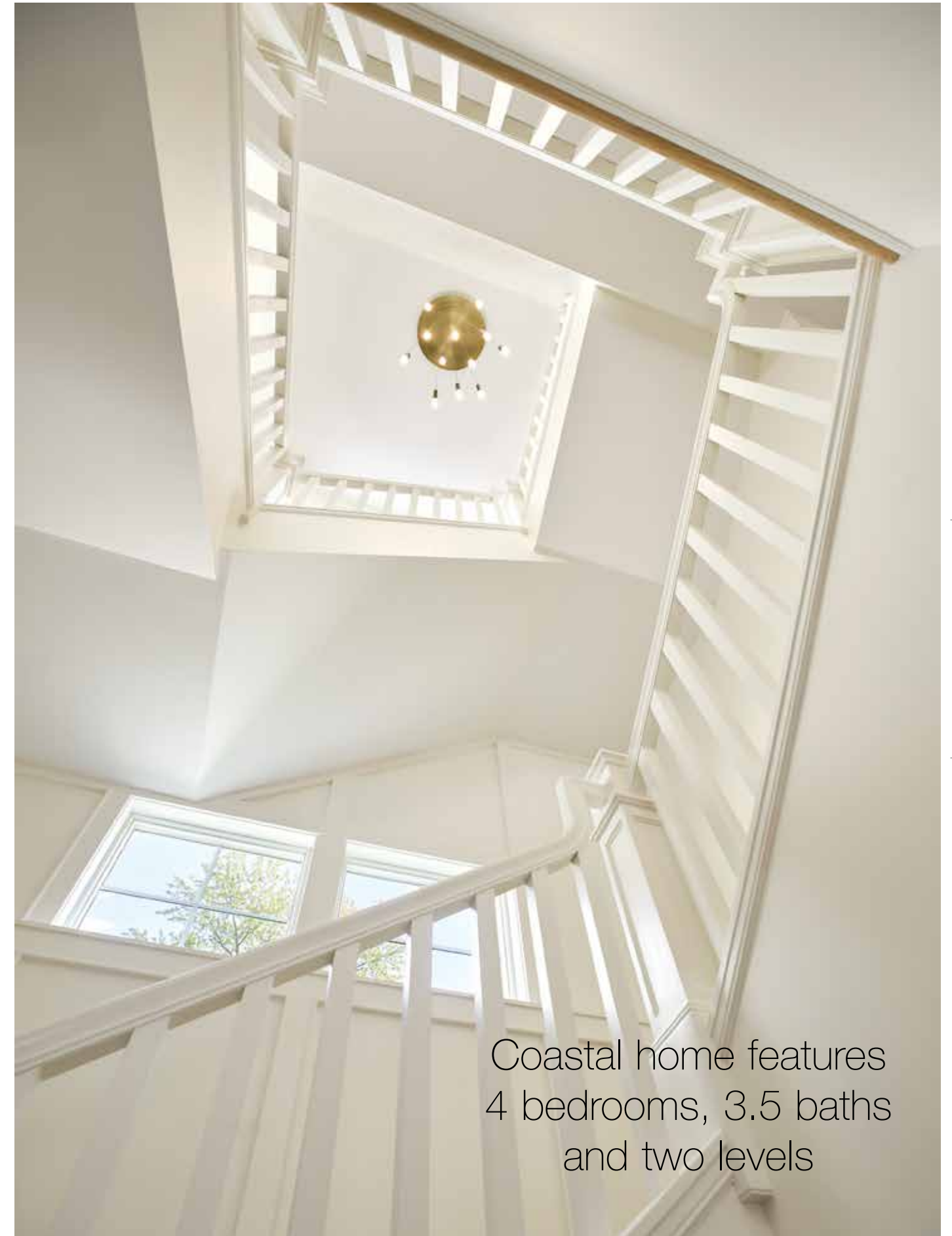
"It was very important to us to find a way to preserve the tree," the wife says.

While the tree was sacrificed to bring the house footprint back due to the steep grade, the family found a way to use a 10-foot section of the tree to make furniture for the home.

The master bedroom main floor location opens onto a porch overlooking the lake and has several built-ins. The adjoining bath flooring and waterfall shower feature porcelain tile, while painted maple cabinetry carrying the blue hue of the porch ceiling complements the quartz countertop for a simple, classic design.

The second floor is designed for storage and relaxation with a walk-in attic, TV room and an exercise-projects-reading sanctuary with two balconies, one facing the lake and one facing the motor court.

Two floors below, the walk-out level is an area specially designed for guests including a



Coastal home features 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and two levels



suite with two bedrooms, a bunk room and a full bath. Another bathroom on the lakeside is fondly referred to as the car wash for its waterproof floor and primary use of spraying off the sand from a day on the beach for both humans and canines.

"It's not quite a bathroom or a mudroom, it's a place to hose off the grandkids or yourself," Dykstra says.

Also included on the lower level is another bedroom suite, plus a comfortable living area with a gas fireplace and French doors that open to the patio and provide access to a screened-in porch.

For the nautical couple who grew up on Gull Lake, the ultimate centerpiece for entertaining on the walk-out level is the custom-built boat bar, named the Corsair.

"I talked to many companies who build boat bars and found one open to my design and features," the husband says. "It's such a beautiful part of that room."

While the Corsair name has a long history with Chris-Craft as a fiberglass performance-oriented model, the Corsair of this family's boat bar has a personal meaning. During World War II, the



Custom Glasswork - DAVE'S GLASS SERVICE



Fireplaces - SACKETT'S FIREPLACE

husband's father served in the United States Air Force from 1942 to 1945 as a B-17 gunner.

"Corsair fighter planes would fly cover for my dad, and he fell in love with the Corsair airplane," the husband says, describing how Corsairs gave his dad a level of comfort when they appeared on missions. His dad named his sailboat the Corsair I in the 1950s.

"I had a sailboat after college and named it Corsair II, and I wanted the boat bar to be named Corsair III."

Preserving the legacy of the family cottage on Gull Lake has been more than a successful undertaking for the couple.

"The homeowners came to us with a desire for a personal retreat. For her, the design, for him, all things nautical, and for both, to share and enjoy their interests," Dykstra says. The owners, with AMDG leading the process and design vision and DeVries & Onderlinde informing constructability, created a collaborative process where the right people were at the table at the right times.

"We have been blessed to have a great team of carpenters and subcontractors working on this project. It was a joy to work with the homeowners to bring their vision to life," DeVries says. □



Siding - HVE INC.  
Steel Beams - OIK INDUSTRIES



Poured Walls - JOHNSON Poured WALLS  
Roofing - SOUTHWEST ROOFING COMPANY  
Concrete Work - WOLTHUS BROTHERS CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION  
Excavating - VISSER EXCAVATING  
Overhead Doors - FAWLEY OVERHEAD DOOR, INC.



## Brent Dykstra AMDG Architects Residential Principal

At the heart of great design is a client who is understood. Brent Dykstra, Residential Principal, has always had the ability to listen carefully, ask good questions and find creative ways to solve complex challenges. Dykstra loves architecture and is enthusiastic about leading AMDG's residential team in engaging with clients and trusted building and design partners to deliver architecturally durable, functional and delightful homes.

For the past 27 years, Dykstra has been a valued member of the AMDG team. AMDG's focus on client-centered design and dedication to excellence has yielded a diverse portfolio of second residences, lakeshore cottages, urban penthouses and wooded retreats.

Dykstra earned a master's degree in architecture at Rice University and his bachelor's degree in architecture at The University of Michigan. When he is not making his clients' dreams a reality, Dykstra serves as a board member at Benjamin's Hope, can be found traveling or camping with his family, collecting antique toy trains or building an O-gauge train layout with his father and sons.



CONTACT INFORMATION:  
AMDG Architects | 25 Commerce Ave SW STE 400  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616-454-1600 | AMDGArchitects.com



## DeVries & Onderlinde Builders

DeVries & Onderlinde Builders is a family-owned residential construction and remodeling company, proudly serving our community for over 40 years. Founded by partners Dave DeVries and Tom Onderlinde, our mission has always been to deliver exceptional craftsmanship and thoughtful service, whether creating a luxury custom home or refreshing a single room.

We take pride in the talent and dedication of our in-house carpentry team, whose attention to detail and commitment to quality set us apart. Complemented by a trusted network of longstanding subcontractors, we approach every project collaboratively to ensure precision, efficiency, and a seamless client experience.

At DeVries & Onderlinde Builders, we value integrity, honesty and personalized care. Each project is an opportunity to build lasting relationships while exceeding expectations.

We are transitioning into our second generation of leadership. Ryan DeVries and Alex Onderlinde are carrying forward our legacy with vision, innovation, and a commitment to pushing craftsmanship forward.

We are blessed to serve our clients and community with a passion to design and build homes that reflect how our clients live — beautifully, intentionally and built to last.



CONTACT INFORMATION:  
DeVries & Onderlinde Builders | 5272 Lands End Drive  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
269-345-4880 | DeVriesOnderlinde.com