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Family's dream home is system-built

OKEMOS, Mich.—Thomas and Donna Ferdig wanted a custom-designed home for their family. As professionals in the real estate and building industry, they knew the process involved in the construction of a site-built home could be a very long and difficult undertaking. Finding the right property, hiring a designer, finding a builder, and waiting for a long time, they knew the entire process was arduous, and could take a year or much longer.

From experience, both knew the system-built home building process would be more efficient; it would save them money and they could move into the new house in a matter of a few months. They knew that the craftsmen were experts in factory home construction.

They began the process in May, looking through catalogs with floor plans of two-story system-built homes. They found a floor plan and exterior elevation that they liked and made design and floor plan changes that would better suit their needs and tastes. According to Thomas, “It’s a great system where you can actually have a hands-on role in the design of your home without a lot of complications and lost time.” Their changes went to the designers at the manufacturing center, and within a couple of weeks they had a finished set of plans.

The 3,300 square-foot home was ordered in early July. The home was built and delivered in five modules to their building site where local contractors had prepared a basement and other site improvements. The time from order to delivery to the home site was about six weeks. Total building time was four months from the time they first began to look at the catalogs.

A large den area with a large architectural window that reaches up to a vaulted wood ceiling is at the back of the house. Both girls love the home because they can entertain their friends in the large finished basement. The basement is poured concrete with brick stampings on the walls and the large area is decorated in a Florida Keys motif with a Tiki bar and whimsical accents throughout the room.

For more information about system-built housing, visit www.michhome.org, call 800.551.1315 or contact MMHA, 2222 Association Drive, Okemos, MI 48864-5978; 517.349.3300.

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