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### **Gifford Lake Is Perfect Escape**

The Gifford Lake Association welcomes newest homeowners and association members Tom and Mandie Peterson.

The couple, from Midland, Michigan, purchased the former Sherna Graham property on Frick Rd. last summer.

“We were interested in an escape on the west side of the state since it would be close to home and easy for our kids from Grand Rapids to visit,” Tom said.

Tom and Mandie planned an extensive house hunting trip to the area in July.

“We had appointments to look at six different properties in a single day,” Tom added. “Gifford Lake was our fifth stop and turned out to be our last stop. After looking at the property, we cancelled our last appointment and made an offer the next day.”

According to Tom, Mandie loved the space, enough to accommodate family members. A short discussion with would-be neighbor Jack Frick clinched the deal for Tom.

“Jack told me of the strong sense of community and the shared respect and commitment to preserve Gifford Lake and surroundings,” Tom said. “That was all I needed to hear.”

The Petersons’ took possession in August.

“We plan on spending as much time as we can at the lake and look forward to getting to know our neighbors better and to make memories with our family,” Tom noted.

When not at the lake, Tom works as a technical leader in Research and Development at Dow Chemical in Midland. Mandie takes care of the home front with their dog, Charlie.

### **Family Celebrates the Arrival of 2024 at Gifford Lake**

It was a special New Years for Tom and Mandie who celebrated the holiday with their extended family, marking the first time everyone had been together at their new place.

Joining the couple were their three children and spouses.

Their son Alex, and his wife Becca, live in Grand Rapids. Alex is a dentist and Becca has an orthodontic practice. They are expecting their first child in June.

Their daughter Emily, got married this summer. She is a dentist at a community clinic in Muskegon. Her husband Ben, works in automotive marketing. They live a few doors down from Alex and Becca.

And son Ian, lives in Seattle, where he works in equities research and is studying to become a charter financial analyst.

“New Years was a special time with our entire family at our new place,” Tom said.

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