



# 2013 HOME IMPROVEMENT



April 7 & 10, 2013 | Check out 2013 Home Improvement Online at [www.paynesvillearea.com](http://www.paynesvillearea.com)



Photo by Michael Jacobson

Matt and Shelly Helfenstein built a new two-story house in the Bunker Hills development just south of Richmond last year. At the end of a cul-de-sac, the couple loved the location: great views, private and secluded, but close to Highway 23.

## Family builds new home on Horseshoe Chain

Proximity to Highway 23 key for Matt and Shelly Helfenstein

By Michael Jacobson

When Matt and Shelly Helfenstein saw the Bunker Hill development, just south of Richmond off Co. Rd. 71, they thought it was perfect.

"We sort of fell in love with the property, with the view," explained Matt.

Their five-acre lot, on the end of a cul-de-sac, is very private with little traffic (so far, of the eight lots, all but one are now sold, though only two houses have been built).

"This is what we really wanted...the view," explained Matt. "We've got 3.5 acres of wetlands behind us. It's pretty. It's secluded. It's perfect."

"We wanted a nice view," agreed Shelly. "We didn't want to be looking at houses." On the south side of Their Lake,

Richmond Community Park sits across the road from their new house. "The kids can walk through the trees and be at the park," said Matt.

While it's very secluded and private, "we're very accessible to Highway 23, and Richmond and Cold Spring are close," explained Shelly, "but you don't feel so accessible."

The Helfensteins, both from the Twin Cities originally, moved to the Horseshoe Chain of Lakes about 10 years ago. Matt's parents had a cabin on the Chain, as did Shelly's grandparents. "We were coming

up here every weekend, bringing the boat, so we decided just to move here," said Matt.

They lived originally on the Chain of Lakes, then on Rice Lake, and now are back on the Chain. They loved their house on Rice Lake, but moving closer to Highway 23 saves them 19 miles each way on their commute (both of them work in St. Cloud, Matt in sales and Shelly for a commercial construction company). They get additional windshield savings by being closer to school and their kids' activities. "During the school year, we

save 45 minutes per day," said Matt.

They saw the lot a year ago (in April 2012) and, having sold their house, they bought it in July 2012. After getting the necessary permits, including a shoreland alteration permit, since they are within 1,000 feet of Their Lake, they started construction of their new house in September 2012.

HELFENSTEINS - See page 2

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