

## The Beamery

By Deanna Bunten

Timber frame structures are known for their big, heavy, dramatic designs and David Watters knows how to accentuate their beauty, boldness, and efficiency. For one of his recent projects, David worked with a client to build a full, heavy, four-story timber frame home using traditional mortise and tenon joinery. Located on a stunning piece of property in Indiana, this home qualifies as a passive house which means it meets rigorous, voluntary standard for energy efficiency and has a reduced ecological footprint. Through its design elements of orientation, solar gain, and

extremely well insulated panel wall structure, this home can be heated and cooled on a small, mini-split air system similar to a hotel unit.

The home is a special showcase piece for David's business, The Beamery, because it boasts all the unique and early construction



methods of timber frame with a modern twist on efficiency and design. Built using bald cypress, this residence has 4,479 square feet. From the initial meeting to completion, the project took a few years because ample time was given for planning and financing. The fabrication and erection of the frame took David and his crew about 2 months.



Using Wood-Mizer's compact, powerhouse mill, the LT15, David sawed 90% of the wood needed and shared that the mill while "small but mighty, was invaluable" on the fabrication of this job. Additionally, the MP100 Molder/Planer attachment was "essential in providing a smooth timber surface that the client desired," continued David. "This versatile machine [LT15] has been a real value and money maker for our company."

The Beamery is enjoying the outstanding reaction by the owners, friends, family and new clients who have toured the home. David concludes that this project "proves that timber frame homes can be a great choice for building and thanks to our Wood-Mizer we were able to build it."  $\overline{\mathbf{w}}$