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Staying on Course

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follows his dream
on the PGA Tour



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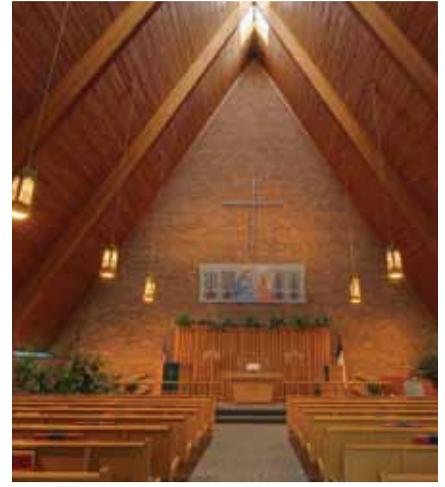
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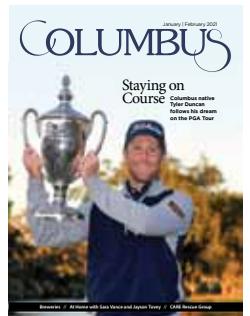
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HOME & FAMILY

Home Makeover

Jayson Tovey and Sara Vance bring modern aesthetic to 100-year-old house



ON THE COVER

Tyler Duncan
photographed by
Stan Badz/PGA TOUR
Getty Images

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COLUMBUS

January 20, 2021

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Happy 2021, COLUMBUS

We made it! The new year has arrived, and we can say farewell to 2020, a year of uncertainty and change for so many of us.

What resolutions have you made for this fresh, new year? I honestly didn't make any grand resolutions and by no means does that mean I don't have plenty of room for improvement. Ha! But I'm choosing to give myself a pat on the back for making it through a tough year and figuring out what this new normal looks like, one day at a time.

I hope you'll allow yourself to do the same and celebrate that we made it this far. I've witnessed our community support and encourage each other to keep going and not give up. Well done, Columbus. Let's do even better in 2021!

Please enjoy reading about Tyler Duncan in this issue of Columbus magazine and his determination to reach his goals on the PGA Tour. Find out what local breweries have to offer. Take a look inside Jayson Tovey and Sara Vance's home in the country and learn about Community Animal Rescue Effort's foster program.



Cheers to a new year!

Emilee

Emilee Miller

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Katharine
Smith

SENIOR COPY EDITOR

MEET THE TEAM

I've been at The Republic for more than 30 years, always serving in the same role as copy editor, first in the newsroom and now in the special publications department. I like to think that my lack of upward progress has more to do with my love for what I do rather than a shortage of motivation.

Back before copy editors became expendable at many struggling newspapers, we were charged with trying to keep errors out of print. That involves editing stories, writing headlines, asking lots of questions and annoying report-

ers. I have been privileged to work with gifted journalists over the years and now with a new, talented generation.

I still claim roots in Boston, while my husband is a California native. We met in college on the East Coast and moved to the middle of the country when Cummins offered him a job. Somehow we never left. We raised two children and a succession of sheepdogs here.

Before the pandemic we could visit two grandchildren in Oregon, and we're awaiting the spring arrival of a more accessible one in Indianapolis.



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In each issue of Columbus, we ask people for their opinions on a variety of topics. This month's question:

What long-gone Columbus business do you miss most and why?



"McCrory's. They had little toys and things in them, and it was down the street from my parents' house. My great-uncle Harold used to take walks and smoke a cigar, and I'd take a walk with him. He had a limp from World War II, and he'd take walks to stretch it out. We'd go over to McCrory's, and he would buy me little toys, and then he'd get more cigars at the Northside Drugstore."

— Jeff Bodart



"The business would be Becker's. I started marching band for North when I was in eighth grade, and it was still in business then. I remember walking with a bunch of upperclassmen friends almost every day before practice, and we would get an orange soda or root beer and fries. We would eat them and walk back, and I thought it was the cutest thing. It just left and everyone wondered if it would open up next season, but it never did. It is the little mom-and-pop shops that have an American twist to them. Being someone who is not American, I find them very charming. I hate to see them go under. I am originally from England. We moved here for my dad's job with Cummins."

— Caitlin Davey



"I miss Heart and Home the most. It was so fun to be able to shop and visit with friends at the same time. Lynn Rupp, the owner, and all the girls were always so nice, fun and helpful. It was a family-run business full of great finds from candles and floral arrangements to furniture."

— Katrina Barr



"The Cottonpatch, also known as The Village Craftsman, which was owned by friends of mine. They did custom-made jewelry, and I had several pieces of jewelry. There were also custom leather products like belts, wallets and clothing. They also carried hats and other stuff like incense and smoking accessories."

— Luther Scott



"Gropp's Fish of Stroh because they had the best and most reasonably priced seafood I have ever had."

— Diana Manners



"Hills department store. When I first moved to Indiana I moved to Shelbyville, and I was introduced to the Columbus Hills at that time. I started coming over here shopping, and then when I moved here I continued shopping there. It is like a Walmart; I could get everything at one place. That is where I bought all of my sons' school clothes, toys and everything. The kids loved it. My oldest son's teacher said he was her best-dressed student."

— Juanita Harris

"I miss the Harlequin Theatre because it is the business that really impacted our students the most at BCSC Columbus Signature Academy. We got to do theater projects, and Mr. Hay-Smith was a wonderful teacher and supporter of the arts with the students. They grew so much from that experience."

— Veronica Buckler



"The business I miss the most is the Crump Theatre. It is so rich with our town history, presented to our community by one of our founding families. For me it's much more than an old building or boarded up theater from the past, standing tall representing our roots in the arts. I worked at the Crump from age 13 until I became a licensed cosmetologist after graduation from high school. The building grabbed my soul. Families at the Saturday matinee, laughing, discussing the show as they leave; the boys spending the extra 50 cents a ticket for balcony seats, hoping for their first kiss. The Crump was a family venue. Whether it was a movie or performance, the one focus of the Crump — your family's good time."

— Theresa Gregory



"Bruning's dress shop. I miss it because it reminds me of my grandmother, who has passed away. She used to work there. I have memories of going in there as a child and seeing her at work. She was a seamstress. I like to sew, and I picked that up from my grandma and my mom. There was something about Washington Street and the little mom-and-pop stores that have faded away. I wish they were still there."

— Christy Edwards



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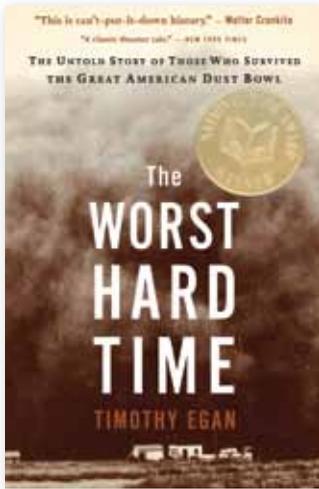


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“The Worst Hard Time”

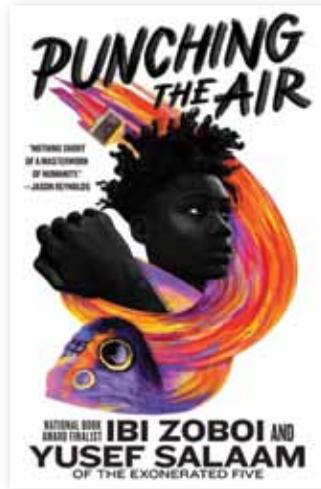
By Timothy Egan

Ah, 2020 ... a bootstrap year if ever there was one. However, if history teaches nothing else, it's that humankind is no stranger to hardship, and 2020 pales in comparison to other calamities, some of which dragged on for years.

Take, for example, the Dust Bowl. “The Worst Hard Time” is an older title (it's still available to order) that takes the reader into this decade of despair. Sure, we learned about the Dust Bowl in school, but I simply had no idea. This is riveting stuff.

In part because of this year's challenges, this was my top read for the year. You'll feel better about 2020, I promise, and also the chore of dusting.

— Polly Verbanic



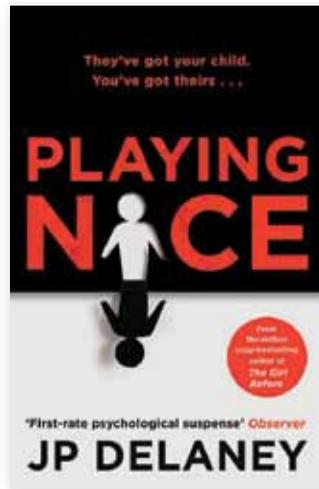
“Punching the Air”

By Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam

If you choose to look back on the year past and read only one book published in 2020, let it be “Punching the Air.” Friends and co-authors Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam met when Salaam, one of the Exonerated Five, was incarcerated for a crime that DNA evidence ultimately proved he did not commit.

From its beautiful lyrical verse, to its moving, impactful description of a life forever changed by wrongful conviction, this novel will change the way you view the world. We believe books can serve as windows to others' experiences, and as such, this book should be required reading for all adults and young adults.

— Angie Revell



“Playing Nice”

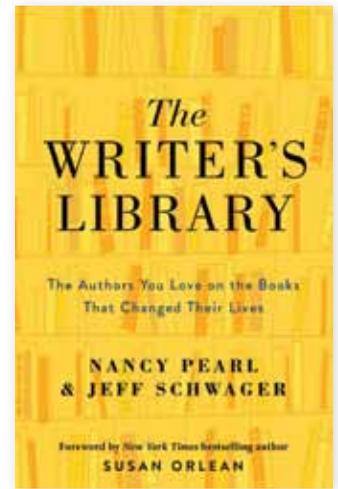
By JP Delaney

It has been quite a while since I read a book that I absolutely could not put down. Had my electricity not gone out, I would have stayed up all night to finish it.

There is a knock at your door. The man on the other side says your 2-year old son is really his, and he is raising your son. He wants to negotiate a modern family scenario of co-parenting — trying to “play nice” for the sake of the children. You agree because you love the child you are raising and do not want to lose contact with him.

The roller coaster of events that propel to the final page are riveting. How far would you go to protect your family from this kind of nightmare? I dare you to try to put this book down.

— Theresa Wilson



“The Writer’s Library”

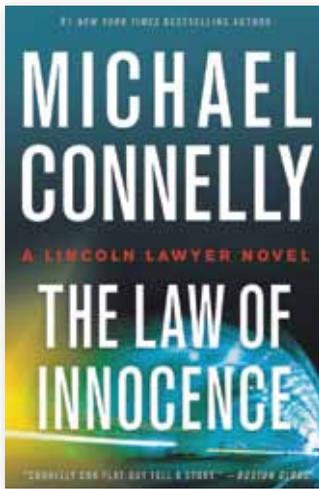
By Nancy Pearl and Jeff Schwager

What a wonderful book to give to those who are curious about how these prize-winning authors were inspired to write.

Whether a voracious reader as a child, a college student whose world was cracked open by a literary professor, or someone who didn't even think writing was in their future until they actually saw themselves portrayed in the pages of a novel for the first time, the 20 interviews are fascinating and informative.

Included at the end of each interview is the author's list of books that informed and influenced them.

— Michelle Malina



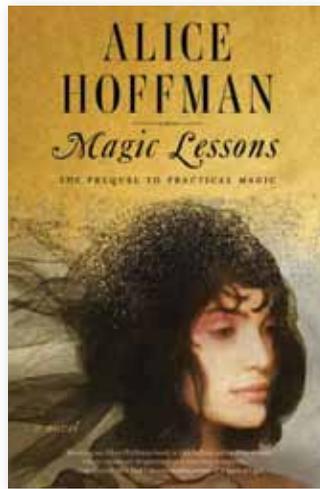
“The Law of Innocence”

By Michael Connelly

As a fan of Connelly’s Harry Bosch series, I was not surprised to find I also enjoy his Lincoln Lawyer novels featuring another complex character, defense attorney Mickey Haller. Add this to Connelly’s long list of carefully constructed, tightly woven (and even entertaining) legal thrillers. Knowing he has been framed but uncertain why or by whom, attorney Haller finds himself accused of murder and constructing his defense from inside his jail cell when he can’t post the exorbitant bail.

Relying on help from his half-brother, Harry Bosch, and investigator Cisco Wojciechowski, the Lincoln Lawyer knows he must do more than convince the court he isn’t guilty; he must also prove who really committed the murder if he is to be truly free.

— John Stroh



“Magic Lessons”

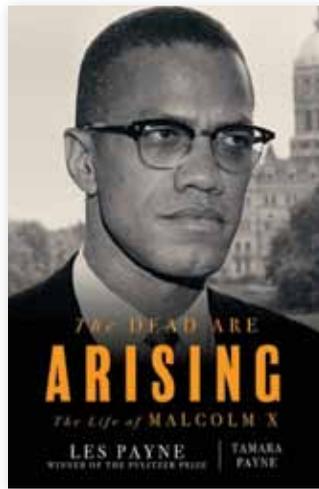
By Alice Hoffman

There are so many reasons I love Hoffman’s historical fiction, but one always rises to the top: her masterful creation of strong, passionate, intelligent and independent female characters who find outlets for their talents in spite of enormous challenges.

In “Magic Lessons,” we meet Maria, abandoned as an infant in the snowy fields of rural England and then found by Hannah Owens, a single woman who heals, raises, teaches and ultimately, sacrifices everything for her beloved adopted daughter.

Maria’s rich story and Hoffman’s extraordinary creation and telling of it make me grateful once again for the ability to read, described here as “true magic, the making and unmaking of the world with paper and ink.”

— Beth Stroh



“The Dead Are Arising: The Life of Malcolm X”

By Les Payne

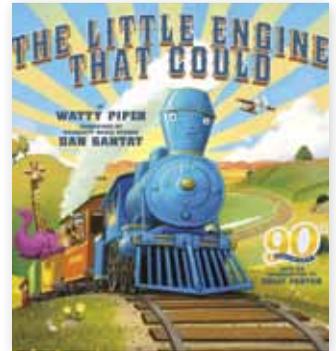
In 1990, Payne, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, began conducting hundreds of interviews with Malcolm X’s family members, childhood friends, classmates and bodyguards, as well as with FBI agents, photographers, U.N. representatives, African revolutionaries, presidents and the men falsely imprisoned for killing him.

He devoted almost 30 years to researching the book before his death in 2018. Completed by his daughter and principal researcher, Tamara Payne, it details key moments of Malcolm’s life. Incarceration at age 20 was the turning point. He accepted the teachings of the Nation of Islam while behind bars and became the group’s spokesman, with fierce criticism of white America and a gospel of Black self-respect.

This book illustrates the forces that shaped Malcolm X and captures the vibrant voice of a revolutionary whose words resonate powerfully in our own times.

— John Stroh

Children’s Literature



“The Little Engine That Could”

By Watty Piper; illustrated by Dan Santat

One of my favorite re-releases in 2020 was the classic “The Little Engine That Could,” a story that many of us remember from childhood. Originally published in 1930, “I think I can” is a timeless and still relevant message, and the Little Blue Engine’s kindness and determination are character traits to be learned and valued as much today as ever.

In this new, 90th anniversary edition, the message and story are still the same. The illustrations have been re-done, and they are gorgeous. Signed editions — often available at Viewpoint Books — are perfect additions to anyone’s library of children’s literature.

— Nanne Cutler

GET *Happy*

Local breweries offer original
flavors and old favorites

BY JON SHOULDERS // PHOTOGRAPHY BY JANA JONES





Yes, 2020 was a tough and stressful year in many ways, and that's a strong reason to get out in the new year and relax for a bit with a tall glass of something refreshing. We've done the work of finding some of the most optimal spots for a great local beer experience, so take note and get sipping.

Hog Molly Brewing Co. —

830 DEPOT ST., 812-374-4542, HOGMOLLYBREWING.COM



The level of hoppiness in any given beer is an important factor for many brew aficionados. Hog Molly Brewing Co.'s 2-A-Days Session Lemon IPA is something to consider for all palates.

"It's a great beer for IPA drinkers and non-IPA drinkers both," explains owner Lou Krempel, who plans to roll out peanut butter and raspberry porters in early 2021. "A lot of beer drinkers don't like it when an IPA reaches a certain point of bitterness. The Lemon IPA is not too bitter and has a nice, pleasing flavor."

Hog Molly opened in December 2019 and is the passion project of Krempel and his wife, Martha. The brewery's moniker is a football nickname for an offensive lineman — a position that Krempel and his son played in their football days. Most of the brewery's beer names also call football to mind, like the Placekicker Pilsner and the Knockin' Gourds Pumpkin Ale.



Visitors to Hog Molly can enjoy the drink selection, which includes amber ales, stouts, IPAs and more, in a small taproom while sampling from food trucks that make regular stops at the facility.



Upland Columbus Pump House

148 LINDSEY ST., 812-799-3587
UPLANDBEER.COM

A bit bored of bland, big-brand brews? Try the Champagne Velvet at Upland Columbus Pump House — a light German lager with some sweet notes. “It’s one of our core beers and does well across the spectrum for a lot of beer drinkers who appreciate a quality, local pilsner,” says Mike O’Donnell, general manager.

Another recent customer favorite is the Teddy Bear

Kisses, a dark Russian imperial stout perfect for those thirsting for something bolder than the Champagne Velvet. Several of Upland’s classic brews, including the Dragonfly IPA and the Upland Wheat Ale, are available in growlers as well as six and 12 packs for customers on the go.

Moving into the new year, Upland will continue its rotating Switch Back series of small-batch brews, produced

at the company’s Fountain Square location in Indianapolis.

If you need a little something to munch on while sampling Upland’s brews at the Pump House, the food menu offers as much variety as the beverage selection. Choose from shareables like nachos, cornbread muffins, wings and soft pretzels, as well as stone-fired pizza, salads, sandwiches and burgers.



Zwanzigz Pizza & Brewing

1038 LAFAYETTE AVE.
812-376-0200, ZWANZIGZ.COM

The beer selection at Zwanzigz, which ranges from light flavors like the White Gold Revolver IPA to the darker Bourbon Barrel Imperial Stout, is available via dine-in, delivery or carry-out every day of the week. Zwanzigz has won the Small Brewpub of the Year and Brewer of the Year awards from the Brewers Association.

“We have constantly rotating beers and there are a lot of favorites, but the Honey Wheat Ale and The Ticket, which is a chocolate golden ale, are big ones,” says Manager Bryan Follendorf. The Honey Wheat Ale is the

brewery’s bestseller. It’s brewed with wheat, honey, coriander and sweet orange peel and is available on tap and in 12-ounce bottles. Ticket Chocolate Ale is available on tap and for a limited time will soon be sold in bottles and cans.

“Through the winter our Reindeer Red amber ale was big too, and our various porter flavors are always popular.” A new chocolate-cherry blended, bourbon barrel-aged imperial stout will be available on tap soon.

Those interested in an on-site experience can enjoy a slice of the establishment’s pizza, served since 2002, while choosing from 20-plus rotating craft beers, produced at the company’s production facility located a few blocks from the restaurant.



If it's variety you're after, consider a trip to Hard Truth Hills, where visitors can sample selections from Big Woods Brewing and Quaff On Brewing, as well as a sizable dine-in and carry-out menu.

Derek Clifford, general manager for Quaff On, says the Strawberry Six Foot Blonde and Busted Knuckle are top beer sellers, although the Peanut Butter Busted Knuckle is gaining ground.

"Strawberry Blonde is not over the top with strawberry taste," he says. "It is just enough to know it is there, but not enough to completely cover the base beer, which is the Six Foot Blonde. Busted Knuckle is not only able to be enjoyed by dark-beer lovers but also those who generally would not consider ordering a dark beer. It is extremely approachable, though as dark as a stout. It is extremely dark in color but surprisingly light in the finish. I consider it to be the gateway dark beer."

Clifford adds that his company has several beer-related projects lined up for 2021.

"We have a new rotating IPA series after the first of the year available in draft and package," Clifford says, adding that Quaff On leaders have also launched a two-barrel, small-batch brewhouse above Big Woods Pizza in downtown Nashville, which will produce three unique beers per month. "The IPA series will be a return to the origins of an American IPA, which balances out the malts and hops equally, not bringing those hops directly in your palate."



Big Woods Hard Truth Hills

418 OLD STATE ROAD 46, NASHVILLE
812-720-4840, BIGWOODSRESTAURANTS.COM



450 North Brewing Co. —

8111 E. ROAD 450N, 812-546-0091, 450NORTHBREWING.COM

The 450 North team offers craft brews out of its taproom and produces both traditional beers and some specialty flavors, ciders and slushies. Cans and 32-ounce howlers are available for pickup as well. Check out the official 450 North website for a full listing of what's available in cans, howlers and on draft.

“We have some house beers that we keep on tap pretty consistently. These include Farmer’s Daughter, a farmhouse ale; Honey Kolsch, a Kolsch-style beer; and Copperhead, an amber ale,” says Hope

Douglas, assistant general manager. “Our house beers were the first that were brewed when we opened. Our Berliner Weisse-style slushies and New England-style IPAs are what we are known for though. Every three weeks we release a new round of these beers. Customers come from all over the country to pick up their orders at our brewery for each release.”

450 North’s brick oven-fired pizza has become a menu favorite among patrons, and the food menu also features nachos, sandwiches, wraps, salads and pasta.

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Maple & Pear

OATMEAL SANDWICH COOKIES



COOKIES

1 cup butter
¾ cup brown sugar,
packed
½ cup white sugar
2 large eggs, room
temperature
1 teaspoon vanilla
1½ tablespoons pure
maple syrup, room
temperature
1½ cups all-purpose
flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon
3 cups old-fashioned
rolled oats
1 cup chopped pear,
somewhat ripened

Preheat oven to 350 F. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper. Set aside.

Whisk together flour, salt, baking soda and cinnamon in a bowl. Set aside. Put butter and sugars into mixing bowl. Using paddle, mix on medium high speed for three minutes until light and fluffy. Scrape bowl sides down as needed.

Add eggs one at a time mixing very well after each addition. Add vanilla and maple syrup slowly, mixing well. On low speed, add flour mixture a little at a time. Mix to combine, scraping bowl sides down as needed. Add oats, mixing well. Gently fold in chopped pear by hand. Chill dough for at least 30 minutes.

With a food scale measure each sandwich cookie at 1.6 ounces. Roll dough into balls and flatten slightly with hands. Place on parchment-lined cookie sheet and bake 12 to 14 minutes until edges brown slightly. Do not overcook. Center of the cookie will appear a little undercooked. Cool on a baking sheet for 4 to 5 minutes and transfer to a cooling rack until completely cooled before adding buttercream filing.

MAPLE SYRUP BUTTERCREAM

1 cup butter, room
temperature
¾ cup brown sugar,
packed
1 cup powdered sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 to 3 tablespoons
heavy whipping cream,
room temperature
2 tablespoons pure
maple syrup, room
temperature
Pinch of salt

In a mixing bowl using paddle, mix brown sugar and butter. Beat on medium high for five minutes, scraping bowl as needed. Let butter and sugar mixture rest for 15 minutes to meld together. Beat again for three minutes, then rest for a few more minutes. Continue mixing until you have a smooth consistency. Add powdered sugar, mixing on low.

With mixer on low slowly add 2 tablespoons heavy cream, maple syrup, vanilla and salt. Mix to combine, then increase mixer speed to medium high for five minutes until light and fluffy. If buttercream is too thick, add a little more heavy cream by the teaspoon full. Increase speed to high and mix for eight minutes, stopping to scrape the bowl as needed. Consistency should be smooth and not gritty from the sugar.

Pipe or scoop buttercream onto one cookie. Place the other cookie on top and press lightly to spread the buttercream to all edges of the cookie. Wrap sandwich in plastic wrap and store in an airtight container. Refrigerate for up to three days. Bring to room temperature before serving.

Makes 12 to 14 servings



SKY'S THE LIMIT

Sara Vance and Jayson Tovey blend their families in a reimagined home in the country





BY GLENDA WINDERS // PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANGELA JACKSON

IT ALL STARTED WITH

the wish for a swimming pool. Sara Vance, then a real estate agent, and builder Jayson Tovey were happily living in a brand-new house in the Deer Creek neighborhood that was perfect except that they wanted a pool and they didn't have a private backyard.

While they were trying to figure out what to do, a couple who were Sara's clients asked Jayson to come along with them to look at houses so he could give them advice. The last home they looked at one day turned out to be "the one" — not for the clients but for Sara and Jayson themselves.





“It was so ugly,” Jayson said, “but with so much potential. While they were all outside talking, I went back in to have another look. I loved the layout.”

Sara agreed. They made an offer on the “ugly” house and its 20 acres on the west side of town and then crossed their fingers that no one else would discover it before their house sold.

“Our offer on this house was contingent on the sale of ours,” Sara said, “and our neighborhood wasn’t all the way developed. People could either build exactly what they wanted or buy our house, which had already been lived in.”

As Jayson puts it, “We got lucky.”

SECOND THOUGHTS

But once they moved to their new home in March 2015, they weren’t sure they had been so fortunate after all. The home had been an investment property for an out-of-town landlord who called it “Twin Creeks” and rented it to vacationers. To say it hadn’t been well cared for is an understatement.

“This house was really bad, way different from what it looks like now,” Jayson said. “It was mice-infested and disgusting.” Added Sara, “My son cried when he saw it for the first time. He was afraid to come in.”

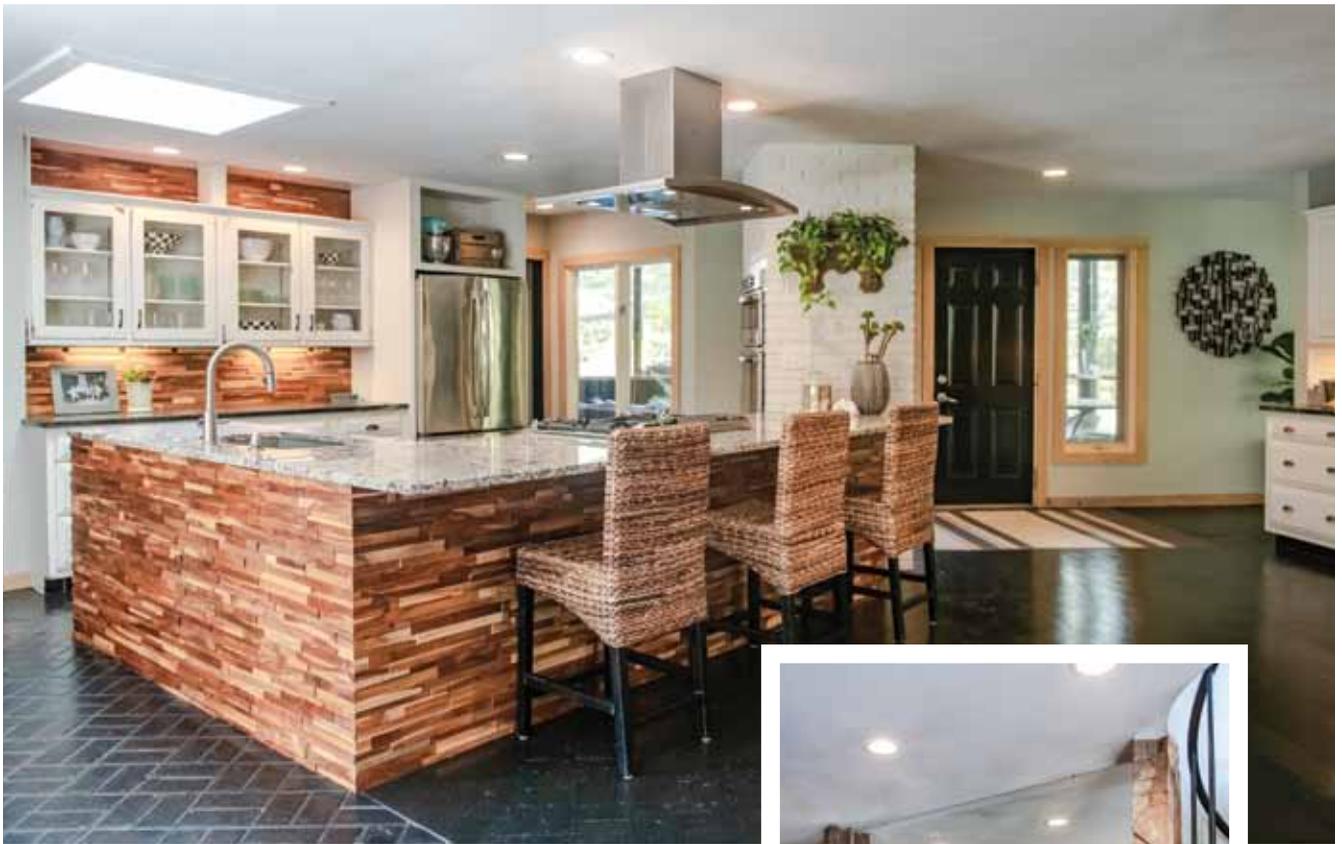
They bought the house furnished, then brought in a dumpster so they could throw away everything inside. But they didn’t start their renovation right away.

“The first thing we did was put in the pool,” Jayson said. “We thought if we were going to be working so much, we’d have to have a place to relax.”

One night while the pool was under construction, a flash flood washed out their driveway. Fortunately the installers had a skid steer that Jayson was able to use to replace it. The following night the same thing happened again, but this time the storm took down a sycamore tree that he had to cut up before he could get to the driveway and replace it a second time.

“It was a hard introduction into country life,” Sara said.

From there, however, the house began to take shape, starting with a new metal roof. The rest of the structure was sound, so they turned to the mostly cosmetic fixes that needed to be made. In the kitchen, for example, they painted the bricks around the double-sided fireplace and the openings for



an oven and microwave white. They also added new granite countertops and a textured wood backsplash that make the white, glass-front cabinets and stainless steel appliances pop. “Structurally we’ve never changed anything, but aesthetically we’ve changed everything,” Sara said. “Every surface has been changed, but we’ve never moved a wall.”

CENTURY OF HISTORY

The original house was built in 1900, and according to an elderly neighbor whose aunt once owned nearby property, it was at one time a brothel where John Dillinger was said to stop by. The neighbor added that the nearby creek had also been the site of moonshine operations.

Then in 1968 an extensive addition was constructed by Roger Nichter, with whom Jayson had worked for 10 years

right after high school. He figured out who the builder had been when he was in a crawl space and saw handwriting on the wall that he recognized as his former employer’s. When he found a set of original blueprints, he learned that Frank Adams had been the architect.

Today the eclectic, 4,200-square-foot home is filled with light from floor-to-ceiling windows that look out onto the forested acreage, and the couple say they have beautiful natural views in every season. The open concept means that they can sit in the kitchen and look all the way through the first floor of their home.

LIGHT AND BRIGHT

The great room is warm and hospitable. Large, welcoming leather sofas are arranged before the stone fireplace — the other side of the one in the

kitchen — which they brightened with mirrors on both sides. They painted the wood and brick floors black and tied all of the room’s elements together with a faux black-and-white cowhide rug. Plenty of occasional tables, some of them designed and built by Jayson, provide surfaces for drinks and snacks while watching the TV mounted over the fireplace so the family can enjoy both.

He also designed and



“Structurally we’ve never changed anything, but aesthetically we’ve changed everything. Every surface has been changed, but we’ve never moved a wall.”

— Sara Vance

constructed the nearby dining room table. At one point they owned an apartment complex in Madison, and when they sold it they kept two antique doors from the carriage house. Jayson cleaned and sanded one of them, mounted it on a steel frame and covered it with glass as a birthday gift for Sara. Sleek modern chairs with black seats surround it now, and the ensemble sits on a black-and-white patterned rug.

“We both love black and white,” Sara said, and nowhere is this more obvious than in an original artwork that is the focal point of the combined rooms. Created by artist friend Jared Landberg, the piece is composed of a set of blueprint reproduction computer cards found at the site of a failed nuclear power plant project. The cards had lain in a pile of debris and were exposed to the elements for close to 30 years before being found. Then they were scanned as negatives and assembled into the stunning piece.

Another distinctive piece is the oversized rosary in shades of turquoise and rust — a gift from Sara’s godmother after a



visit to her Arizona ranch — that wraps around some spindles of the spiral staircase that leads to the couple’s master suite. This area isn’t finished yet, but it has a lot of that potential Jayson mentioned. The screened porch off the bedroom that overlooks the pool is

their favorite nook for having coffee, taking phone calls or just relaxing. They have outfitted it with comfortable sofas, and Sara calls it her “lair.”

STILL TO DO

Their next project will be to overhaul the master bath — which currently contains a lot of

wasted space, outdated fixtures and no bathtub — to make it more spa-like. Double doors from the bedroom lead to a loft/balcony area (one of three in the house) that looks out through the trees and has yet to find its purpose.

They say that while it might work as an office, they have offices at work and don’t really need one at home. Sara eventually got her aesthetician’s license and opened a medical spa called Face Place in the building on Home Avenue that formerly housed Sweet Rose Bakehouse. Jayson is half of Tovey-Perry General Contractors with a friend he’s known since high school, Travis Perry.

Another set of double doors leads from this yet-to-be-determined space to the children’s area, which is actually

the original part of the house. Downstairs is a family room, which has lots of seating and another TV.

ROOM FOR ALL

Sara’s son, Ryan, 15, and Jayson’s son, Madux, 14, have nearby bedrooms and share a bathroom. Another staircase leads to the room Sara’s daughter, Lucy, a senior at Columbus North High School, shared with her sister, Madi, who is now a sophomore at Butler University. To reward the girls for agreeing to share a room, the couple made their bathroom a priority, so now Lucy has her own with a free-standing tub, vanity area and dramatic, professional-looking artwork on the wall that she created herself.

The Tovey-Vance family is a



little bit like the Brady Bunch on steroids. Besides their four biological children, the couple claim Zoe Huckaby, Tovey's ex-wife's daughter from a previous marriage, as well as Greta and Gabi Schuetz, who joined the clan when Sara's ex-husband, Jeff Beck, married Kristin Schuetz.

The two couples are great friends and have quarantined together during the COVID pandemic. Add to that mix three dogs — a toy Yorkie, toy fox terrier and miniature pinscher, three outdoor cats, a ball python, two guinea pigs and two bearded dragons that once produced 50 babies, and the result is a house that is always full of activity and surprises.

Plants fill every available spot, including a greenhouse outside. "I'm the plant-lover," Sara said. "During COVID they have been so calming. I have days when I just play with my plants all day long."

Jayson joked that it's a good thing he likes them, too, because he is the one who hauls the dirt and sand, carries the heavy pots and moves the greenery to wherever Sara wants it.

STAYING HOME

But just before the pandemic began the couple had been considering putting this fun-filled house up for sale. Progress on the renovation was moving slowly because Jayson was the only one working on it, and poor internet service meant the kids had to go to their other parent's house to do homework. They had flipped houses together before and thought maybe they'd do that with this one, as well.

"When COVID hit I was so thankful we hadn't put the



Ryan, Lucy,
Jayson, Madux,
Sara and Madi

house on the market," Sara said. "I have loved just being here and not having to leave. I couldn't imagine being quarantined in a neighborhood. That's when I started to appreciate the house for the first time."

Jayson says there is much more work to be done on the house — more paint, more roofing, windows to replace and the list goes on. "We enjoy being here," he said, "but it's a lot of work, a lot to take care of."

And Sara adds, "We'll never be done."

In the meantime, they'll work as they can and continue to relax in the pool at the end of the day. Thanks to the clearing where it is situated, they enjoy nighttime swimming because the stars are so bright.

"The whole sky is lit up, and we can see all of the constellations," Sara said. "It's like we're in a snow globe. It's an awesome place to be." ©

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Tyler Duncan at the American Express golf tournament in 2020 in La Quinta, Calif. AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez

MASTERSTROKE OF *Commitment*

Tyler Duncan is dedicated to continued success on PGA Tour

BY GLENDA WINDERS // PHOTOGRAPHY SUBMITTED

Professional golfer Tyler Duncan will tell you he has never been a “standout,” but a lot of people who know him will beg to differ. Now a PGA player who recently completed his first appearance at the Masters Tournament, he will also tell you that his success has been a matter of working as hard as he could to realize his dream and having a lot of supportive people behind him. But even if he weren’t a golfing celebrity, his inspiring personal story makes him a star. His coach at Columbus North High School, Doug Bieker, can vouch for that.

“Playing on the PGA Tour was his goal, but it has been a goal of a lot of golfers,” Bieker said. “He realized that and kept on working.”



Duncan credits his grandfather, J.J. Johnson, with sparking his interest in the sport and helping get him to the enviable place where he is today. His parents have photos of him playing with toy plastic clubs when he was very small, but his first memory of golfing is from when he was 6.

“My grandfather built clubs for the players at Greenbelt, so he built me a really short 3-wood, 8-iron and putter,” Duncan recalls. “Then I would sit between him and my grandmother in the golf cart, and we would go around the course and just have fun.”

Duncan’s uncle, pro golfer Andrew Johnson, won the state championship as an individual golfer while at North and went on to play for Ball State. Then he was his nephew’s role model; now he is also his coach.



Duncan at age 3 practicing his golf swing.

Seeing and doing

“He was always playing golf and traveling, and that was what I wanted to do,” Duncan said. “That helped keep me really motivated and gave me the drive and the edge to continue working hard and chasing after my dream. It was a huge blessing to have a role model who was so close to me and part of my family.”

Duncan said he played lots of sports at Schmitt Elemen-

tary School but didn’t make any of them a priority.

“I was just focused on being a kid and having fun, enjoying life and playing with friends,” he said, “but in middle school everything began to change.”

His mother, Angie Duncan, who characterizes her relationship with her son as “really close,” remembers when that happened.

“Starting in middle school he went to the golf course



Duncan was the Indiana High School state golf champion in 2007 when he played for Columbus North. The Republic file photos.



early in the morning, and then he'd stay there the entire day until dark, just practicing to get better," she said.

For a long while she was a single mom, so she knows about hard work, too.

"Tyler knows what it's like for someone not to have anything and to have to struggle," she said. "I always knew he would go places. He works very hard. I instilled that in him at an early age."

When Tyler was 9, she married Brian Duncan — also a golfer — and Tyler got a dad and a brother, Brandon. Awhile after that his little sister, Nicole, came along. Now a freshman at Purdue Univer-

sity, she plays, too.

All of Duncan's work enabled him not only to make the North team but also to play varsity as a freshman. He said Bieker and his teammates were instrumental in moving his ambition to the next level.

"Our team was always strong," he said, "and that was a good thing because I had a lot of guys on the team to challenge me. And Coach Bieker was always there to push us to work hard and get better."

Moving up

Thanks to that experience, he went to Purdue on a golfing scholarship and majored in

business management. Along the way he picked up an Andy Critzer Memorial Scholarship (awarded by the Heritage Fund in honor of the North golfer who was killed in an accident), and he was an Academic All American in both high school and college, where he made straight A's.

Just after graduation he met his wife, Maria, when they were watching a mutual friend play in an amateur golf tournament in Evansville.

"While we were watching, we started talking and connected right off," he said.

Later, when they were planning their wedding, Maria was between jobs, so



Playing in the Sony Open in Hawaii in 2020. Photo by Cliff Hawkins/Getty Images

“I ended up playing really well with her there. I got my PGA Tour card and finished fifth the first week of her traveling. We’ve been traveling together ever since, and it’s really fortunate that we can experience all of this together.”

— Tyler Duncan

she decided to wait until after the honeymoon to look for another one. She began traveling with her fiancé and turned out to be something of a lucky charm.

“I ended up playing really well with her there,” Duncan said. “I got my PGA Tour card and finished fifth the first week of her traveling. We’ve been traveling together ever since, and it’s really fortunate that we can experience all of this together.”

The couple have been married for three years, and her job now is to handle the business end of his career while he concentrates on the game. During one tournament he accidentally smacked her in the head with a ball, a move that made sports headlines. Fortunately she was unhurt, and for a while they laughed about her being more famous than he was.



Home on the road

If they didn’t travel together, they would seldom get to see one another. In a typical year he is on the road between 30 and 35 weeks. His longest stretch so far has been nine weeks in a row.

“That’s over two months of literally grinding and playing every single day,” he said. “I don’t think I left the couch for an entire week after that. I was exhausted.”

Duncan’s professional career began on the Latin American tour, where he moved around South and Central America on his own, trying to earn money and without knowing any Spanish. He said that while a pro golfer’s life might sound glamorous, lots of factors take a toll — such as living in hotels and changing time zones. He and Maria often share houses or condos



Tyler and Maria Duncan hold the winning trophy after a second hole playoff during the final round of the RSM Classic golf tournament in St. Simons Island, Ga., Nov. 24, 2019. AP Photo/Stephen B. Morton



Competing at the Wyndham Championship in Greensboro, N.C., in 2020. AP Photo/Chris Carlson

they find through Airbnb with other couples.

“Golf is a hard game — hard on your mentality,” he said. “I’ve won one event on the PGA Tour, and I’ve probably played 90 events. I’ve finished in the top 10 maybe four times. There are a lot more struggles than there are happy moments with this game. It’s a lot of fun, and I get a lot of satisfaction. When I play well, it’s unbelievable, but I don’t always play well, so I have to deal with that. Golf is going to beat you a lot more times than you’re going to beat it.”

When he is at home in Ponte Vedra, Florida, he is usually recovering from one tournament and getting ready for the next. A typical day includes morning and afternoon practices, working out and matches with friends.

A week away is just as

grueling. Monday is a travel day, but he still tries to get in a workout and some practice. Tuesday is a full day of playing along with practice and a workout. Wednesday is usually a pro-am day [where professional athletes compete with amateurs], so he plays all day before his practice and workout. Tournaments begin on Thursday and go through Sunday. Then he does it all again, leaving his house or hotel before 8 a.m. each day and getting back after dark.

He also has obligations to his sponsors — Titleist golf equipment, Foot Joy golf shoes and apparel, Mutual of Omaha insurance and LOCALiQ, an online marketing company. His role with them is as an ambassador for the companies. He uses their products, entertains clients and helps promote their brand



Photo: Pica Sadtler

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Duncan tees off at the first hole during the first round of the Masters golf tournament Nov. 12, 2020, in Augusta, Ga. AP Photo/David J. Phillip



Duncan's family, from left: Brandon Duncan, Maria Duncan, Tyler Duncan, Andrew Johnson, Kristen Johnson, Landry Johnson, J.J. Johnson, Jax Johnson, Jerry Duncan, Becky Duncan, Nicole Duncan, Brian Duncan and Angie Duncan

in any way he can, all of which leaves little time to spare.

“I prefer to spend my free time with my wife and family and friends and just enjoy the experiences we can make together,” he said. “I try to cherish those moments and enjoy the relationships I have made along the way.”

Revered course

He said his trip to the Masters was an “unbelievable experience.”

“Augusta is special,” he said. “When I showed up, I was expecting it to be just another golf course, but everyone said, ‘No, there’s something special about Augusta,’ and they were right. It’s hard to explain the feeling and the vibe there, but it’s very special.”

He said his only regret was that there were no fans at the event because of COVID-19. He would like to have had the family and friends who have supported him by his side, but he recalled that at the high point of his career so far — his PGA win at the RSM Golf Classic on

“Without Greenbelt I wouldn’t be playing on the PGA Tour, and I wouldn’t be playing golf. I didn’t have the background where we could go play at a country club and having access to a public nine-hole golf course right in the middle of town was huge.”

— Tyler Duncan

St. Simons Island, Georgia, in 2019 — they were all there.

“I never knew how far I would make it,” he said, “but I knew that I was always going to work hard and give myself the best opportunity.”

His former coach is not at all surprised that Duncan is living his dream.

“His work ethic is exceptional,” Bieker said. “When he was in high school, he spent a lot of time in the gym getting stronger, he ate right, he did all the little things it takes to be exceptional at anything. Now he’s married to a great lady, he surrounds himself with good people, and he continues to make good decisions that have kept moving him in the right direction and getting better out there on Tour.”

Hoosier at heart

One of the challenges Duncan said he faces with his busy schedule is not having time to come to Indiana to see his family and friends as often as he’d like. This spring, however, as part of a PGA charitable organization called “Pros for a Purpose,” he will be in Columbus to host a fundraiser at Greenbelt Golf Course. The

money they raise will allow kids 18 and under to play for free, regardless of where they live or go to school. He and Bieker are making plans for a golf clinic and dinner on Sunday and an outing on Monday, with the dates yet to be determined. Recently he wrote a guest column for The Republic in defense of saving the embattled course.

“Without Greenbelt I wouldn’t be playing on the PGA Tour, and I wouldn’t be playing golf,” he said. “I didn’t have the background where we could go play at a country club and having access to a public nine-hole golf course right in the middle of town was huge.”

Duncan said whatever happens in his career he will always call Columbus home.

“I think Columbus is a great city,” he said. “I’ve been to cities all over the country, and I don’t know that there’s another one I’d choose to grow up in. When they announce my name on the first tee, I could say I am ‘Tyler Duncan from Ponte Vedra, Florida,’ but no, I’m Tyler Duncan from Columbus, Indiana.”



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Lia Elliot with Luna and Ashley Anderson with Obie

t a k e CARE

Rescue group brings neglected animals to loving homes

BY BARNEY QUICK // PHOTOGRAPHY BY JANA JONES

Humans have a connection with dogs and cats that is unique among relationships between species. We react to dogs and cats in need, particularly those in dire circumstances, in ways akin to our reaction to people situated thusly. Our desire to help is fueled with urgency.

An organization in Columbus is making it possible for animals in several mid-America states to put their pasts behind them and find places in loving families, where they'll have warm beds, plenty to eat and a sense that everything is all right.

Community Animal Rescue Effort, better known by its acronym, CARE, matches animals with households willing to foster them and then help them find permanent homes. It partners with shelters in Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama to make futures possible.

CARE was founded in Martinsville and incorporated in 2001. There is no paid staff. The organization is funded through animal adoption fees and donors.

Current President Ashley Anderson, who has been involved with CARE since 2006, coordinates intakes.

"A lot of the shelters will contact me when they have requests," she says.



Jacki and Andy Mann with daughters, Ella and Alicia, niece, Brynn, and Trey, in front.

Always room for more

She's fostered hundreds of dogs over the years of her involvement. Her home is a most suitable environment, as she and her husband, Travis, have working lives centered on animals. They have a pet-sitting business, and Travis is an animal control officer.

Last fall they fostered a 5-month-old pup named Obie. If one were to meet the gregarious Obie with no explanation of his background, there would be little indication of the travails he'd endured.

He came to CARE from Tennessee with three broken legs, barely able to scoot



Fred and Kathi Armstrong with Molly and Pete.

himself across the floor. Upon arrival in Columbus, he underwent two major operations and physical therapy such as range-of-motion exercises. By late November, according to Anderson, his training was more in keeping with that of a typical energetic and curious puppy, such as “working on manners.”

Foster homes need training, too. They are paired with a mentor who walks them through what is required.

CARE provides them with supplies. The foster period gives all involved a chance to get a handle on an animal’s personality, so it can be placed in the most suitable adoptive environment.

Missy Neal and her husband, Eric, usually host at least one foster dog in their home. They started about a year and a half ago.

“I’d lost one of my dogs and was interested in seeing if the remaining dog would do well

with another in the house,” she says. “After the first foster dog, I was hooked.”

She generally fosters younger dogs, as they are easier to introduce to her own. The length of their stay is in the overnight-to-a-week range. She notes that three foster dogs at one time is her maximum.

On a mission

Laura Prechel runs the transport program that brings the animals to Indiana from Southern states. Through her involvement, a pilot named Charlie Cato has become a key player in the effort.

“Charlie has a huge heart for the animals. He bought the plane specifically to fly these babies.”

One recent flight bearing 10 dogs led to Kathi and Fred Armstrong taking in Molly, a beagle between 8 and 9 years old. Molly had been found near Paris, Kentucky. A puppy mill where she’d lived found her useless after she was too old to bear litters, so it dumped her.

“Dogs are supposed to have 42 teeth,” says Kathi. “Molly has 12, due to trying to chew through the metal of the cage she lived in.”

Molly’s feet are deformed, also a result of living in a cage, as no blanket or cushion lined the bottom.

She’s a good companion to Pete, the Armstrongs’ other beagle, but isn’t really able to play with him, given her condition. It also took her a while to become convinced she had her own bed.

CARE treasurer Lia Elliot has a blended family. She says her husband, Damon Chandler, brought the kids and she brought the dogs. Along

“Our pet Lab passed away in June. I’d known about CARE for some time. I saw Trey on their website and put in an application. Lia was fostering him. He’d apparently been thrown over a wall. His injuries were so severe he was going to be put down. He did have to have one front leg amputated, but now he gets around like he’s not even missing it.”

— Andy Mann

with their three dogs, they are active in fostering.

“The foster period helps us know an animal’s particulars, such as if it needs a fence, or if it’s good with kids,” she says.

Pandemic placements

She notes that demand for pets is high right now, undoubtedly partly due to the pandemic and people staying home a lot more.

“Most shelters are seeing an incredible surge in interest,” she says. “Vets’ offices are backed up.”

Andy and Jacki Mann acquired Trey through CARE.

“Our pet Lab passed away in June,” says Andy. “I’d known about CARE for some time. I saw Trey on their website and put in an application. Lia was fostering him. He’d apparently been thrown over a wall. His injuries were so severe he was going to be put down. He did have to have one front leg amputated, but now he gets around like he’s not even missing it.”

Monica Federle and her family have been fostering since the beginning of the pandemic lockdown in March. There was a delay in getting

the original dog they were scheduled to foster, and in the meantime they were assigned a “cute little terrier mix.” The original puppy eventually came on board as well, which worked out nicely. They played together so that their own older dog, who is somewhat of a loner, had plenty of space.

Altogether, they have fostered six dogs. They intend to continue after a break.

“There’s definitely work involved, but it’s super fun,” she says. “It feels good when you find the right families to adopt them.”

Elliot says that COVID has had an impact on CARE’s ability to fundraise.

“Our traditional annual fundraisers, the Spay-ghetti Dinner and Doggie Olympics, historically raise around \$25,000. We have a current GoFundMe online campaign to try to raise critical donations.”

CARE’s effectiveness seems to be due to the passion among its volunteers, as well as clarity about its mission: to bring animals with one last chance at a good life together with families looking to multiply their joy. ☺



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Abby Smith & Josh Swift

*Ceremony at First Christian Church
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Nov. 21, 2020*

Abby Smith grew up in Columbus and met Josh Swift in 2018 at the gym.

“We were one of the few who would regularly get a workout in on Sunday afternoons. Over the course of several weeks each of us would notice the other, often sharing a smile before continuing with our routines,” Josh said. After a few weeks, Abby broke the ice and said hello. Their first date was two weeks later.

Josh proposed in May 2020 on the beach in St. Simons Island, Georgia. With the help of Abby’s sister, Lauren, Josh planned the surprise proposal during a sunset walk. Abby thought she was posing for a picture, but she was actually being filmed as Josh went to one knee. Before he could finish asking the question, she fell into his arms, toppling both of them to the sand.

“It was definitely not the reaction I expected. I thought she would stand there in shock, silent, before breaking into tears. However, I wasn’t disappointed with her reaction at all,” Josh said.

He designed a custom-made engagement ring that included their birthstones, sapphire and ruby, hidden on the inside of the band. They continued the jewel tone theme throughout the planning process, with the floral arrangements, navy linens and emerald green ties and bouquet sashes. The choice of First Christian Church for the ceremony was easy because Abby’s parents and her older sister also were married there.

“With all the changes in the weeks (and days) before the wedding, I had no idea how our day would unfold,” Abby said. “When we chose the wedding date in May, we made a promise to each other that no matter what, we would marry on Nov. 21. Marrying Josh was the only nonnegotiable, and I framed everything else in my mind as a bonus. On the wedding day, I was so excited for each item on the itinerary. It felt like a dream to see all of these ‘bonuses’ come to fruition,” she said.

“I never felt nervous about marrying Abby,” Josh said. “I knew without a doubt where my heart was. I was, however, nervous that everything would go perfectly to plan so that it was everything Abby had dreamed of.

“The first sight of her brought tears to my eyes. She was stunning, and it instantly became real. We were really getting married,” he said. “Everyone you speak to says, ‘Make sure you take time for yourself because it goes by so fast.’

“Well, they were right. I told myself for weeks leading up to the day that I’d be sure to take it all in, but looking back, it was all just a blur. But the important moments — seeing her the first time, reading our vows, saying ‘I do’ — still replay clear as day.”







Embracing the holiday

The Christmas display at Columbus City Hall reflects the peace and joy of the season after a stressful year.

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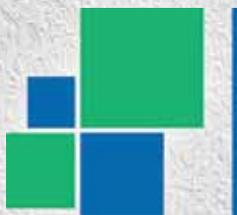
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