

By Jenna Caputo | Photos by Mia Ertas, ME Photography and Contributed by the Facteau Family

Kevin & Meg Facteau are parents, entrepreneurs, volunteers, and active community members. They've traveled a lot over the years, but Clifton Park is not only where they live now, it has become home in every sense of the word.

Kevin is originally from the Capital District, having lived with his three brothers and one sister in both Troy and Cohoes. He grew up playing sports, primarily baseball. Meg's dad, Jim, was from here as well, graduating from Shen, but Meg was born in San Francisco, CA. She also enjoyed sports as a cheerleader and ice skater. Her family moved around a lot during her early years but ended up back in Clifton Park the summer before 12th grade. That was the year she and Kevin met during summer jobs at the Saratoga Racetrack, several months before he left for the Air Force. They've been together ever since.

They moved to NC for six years while Kevin was on active duty with the Air Force. "Serving as an Electrical Power Production Technician in a Civil Engineering Unit exposed me to so many experiences that I never would have had otherwise," recalls Kevin. "In an Air Force Civil Engineering Unit, you wear many hats, especially when in a deployed environment. Our primary focus is on building and maintaining a base, but that can take many forms. Today I may be operating a Power Plant but tomorrow I may be operating heavy equipment, posting guard, delivering medical supplies, or flying to a new location, unsure of what will be waiting for me when I land." Kevin says that his most treasured experiences, though, came from the people he met. "I have met and worked with so many incredible people from around the country and the world from different walks of life, different beliefs, and different cultures. These people provided me guidance and knowledge, which helped me overcome adversity and push through at difficult times."

There came a point when Kevin and Meg knew they wanted to start a family, but Kevin was away too often. After he was honorably discharged, they decided to move back to upstate NY



to be closer to their families, but Kevin soon realized how much he missed the Air Force and joined the Air Force Reserves based out of MA before being transferred to the Air Guard in Scotia in 2014 where he remains active as a Master Sergeant. They originally bought their first home in Schenectady, but when Meg's paternal grandmother, Janet, decided to move back to CA after 51 years in Clifton Park, they decided to buy her home instead. It has been a surreal experience. "My mom (Araceli) passed away suddenly as we were in the process of moving to Clifton Park, and she's who really pushed Kevin and I to buy my grandmother's home," says Meg. "I wasn't sure how I felt about it at first, but she told me I'd be happy here and she was right! She loved this home and the fact I could just take the kids and walk to the park or the town pools. My mother was my best friend, we were extremely close, so the fact I can remember being in this house with her and I have memories of her and my kids in this house is absolutely priceless."

Meg's maternal grandmother, Jewell, had lived with her family throughout Meg's childhood and into the years after Meg had moved away. Meg's parents were working full time and they needed help to care for Jewell during the day, but options were limited. After Jewell passed, the experience helped Jim, Araceli,



and Meg to open their first Home Instead office in Schenectady in 2007. Five years later, they opened a second office in Albany.

Home Instead is a senior care agency serving Schenectady, Albany, and Rensselaer counties. They provide everything from companionship to full home health care. "Some of our clients have a goal to stay in their home, and we help them maintain their independence as much as possible. Other clients we work with may be bedridden, in the hospital, or are living in senior communities. We provide supervision to help keep them safe. Although our specialty and a majority of our business is senior care, we've had clients of all ages," says Meg. "Our mission statement is, 'To us it's personal,' and we live by that motto. We are always looking for kind and compassionate people to help us continue to provide incredible care to our seniors. We do our best to care for our clients and employees, and we're very proud of the work we do and the quality care we provide to seniors in the Capital Region. We always keep Jewell and Araceli in mind for us to empathize with our clients and their families."

In addition to his guard duty, Kevin decided to open a Hommati Real Estate Photography franchise office. Serving the greater Capital Region, Hommati focuses on real estate photography and virtual real estate services. "Technology has really changed the way homes are viewed on the internet, and the goal of Hommati is to help bring so many things together to tell the story of a home. Having high-quality photographs are always





the number one thing that attracts customers, but many customers expect to see more, and the technology available today makes that possible," says Kevin.

One of their most sought-after services is the 3D Virtual Tour. "Years ago, to find a home you drove around searching for forsale signs or looking through local real estate magazines. Then the internet came along and offered customers the ability to begin their search from the comfort of their own homes. Today, well over 90% of customers are beginning their search for a new home online. Having a virtual tour available provides those customers with more details about the character and layout of a home by allowing them to move through a home at their own pace, stopping at a point of interest and even coming back to it later." Having the ability to use these services 24/7 from anywhere in the world has been a game changer in real estate. Hommati also builds floorplans and takes aerial photography using drones to show large areas of land and other features you can't get from ground level.

COVID, of course, had an impact. Home Instead was suddenly faced with staffing shortages and new regulations, changing the way the business was forced to operate. Having Hommati as another option was a comfort in this new virtual world, but Home Instead has survived and is still operating with COVID precautions in place.

Kevin is a member of the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce and the "Make It Count" Networking Group. Both Kevin and Meg are very involved with the Clifton Park Baseball League with Meg as the 7U Division Director and Kevin coaching. Kevin also coaches football and basketball as well as his daughter's soccer team. He had never played soccer as a kid, but once she became interested in it, he joined an adult league to learn more about the sport. They have been involved with the Alzheimer's association for years, participating in the Alzheimer's Walk annually. In addition, Meg's dad serves on the board for The Alzheimer's Association. Fighting Alzheimer's disease was very important to her mother, and the family continues their support in her honor.

Meg and Kevin now have two children, Cadence (9) and Bryson (7), along with five pets—three cats: Pumpkin (18), Silver (2), and Speed (2) as well as two rescue dogs: Lucy (13) and Ava (10). Lucy loves to meet new people and Ava loves being with her family more than anything else, especially during a thunderstorm. "For a dog that hates baths, she has been known to jump in the shower with someone if she hears thunder!" Meg laughs.

Cadence is an extremely confident and self-assured child. A textbook older sister, she's always looking out for her younger brother. She has a passion for cooking. "Her skills are starting to surpass mine!" says Meg. Cadence has an active side, participating in soccer, basketball, gymnastics, and skiing. In addition, she takes singing lessons, ballet, and is starting violin this year.

Bryson is also active and extremely outgoing. He has a witty personality and a quick sense of humor. His favorite activities include being with his friends and playing baseball, basketball, lacrosse, flag football, wrestling, and snowboarding. "There's



nothing he doesn't want to try!" says Meg.

After Cadence learned about an acting class through Drama Kids of the Capital Region from a friend, she wanted to sign up and immediately fell in love with performing. After seeing his big sister onstage, Bryson wanted to give it a try as well and ended up loving it just as much. Over the last three years, they've done several plays and musicals and are looking forward to more. The experience has greatly increased both of their confidence levels for getting up in front of a crowd.

Kevin and Meg continue to build their family and businesses, and now 20 years later, are looking forward to more adventures and travels ahead. Just before COVID, they took a Disney cruise out of Miami and they're excited to go back down to Disney World soon. In the meantime, they're waiting for the winter



months ahead here in the Capital District. Last year was their family's first time skiing and snowboarding, and they found they had a new favorite family activity. Bryson and Kevin took snowboarding lessons while Meg and Cadence tried skiing, and they can't wait to go back.

Their mantra in life is, "Anything worth doing is worth doing well," and they strive to live up to that every day. Their accomplishments so far have given them much to be proud of. Moving to Clifton Park was absolutely the right decision for them. "We thought long and hard about where we wanted to raise our kids, and Clifton Park seemed like the perfect place and it is! We've built an amazing community of friends and absolutely love this town!"

For more information on Home Instead, visit www.homeinstead. com/location/334.

For more information on Hommati Real Estate Photography services, visit www.hommati.com/office/189.





