



Mountain Island Living

December 2020

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Contributors at Large: The residents of Overlook

We are always looking for residents to follow up on leads, find great stories and send us ideas. Let's celebrate the great things happening in our community! No contribution is too small. Please email cathy.mozingo@n2pub.com with your pictures, suggestions or requests.





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Kid to Kid



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Precious Pet



Sandy Solarchik
Precious Pet



new addition

Welcome to baby Levi Christopher Toci born September 23, 2020, at 12:41 am. Weighing 8 lbs. and 7 oz. at 21 inches long. His parents Ashely and Brandon are just overjoyed with this little guy and his big sister, Noelle, is thrilled to have a baby brother.



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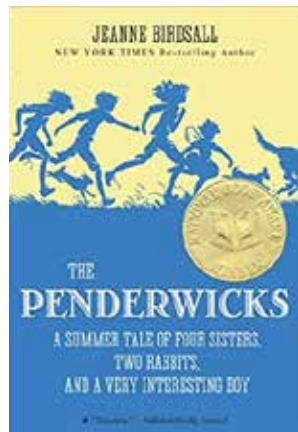
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book review

By Overlook resident and contributing writer **Julia Banta**

THE PENDERWICKS – *Book One*



“For a long time after that summer, the four Penderwick sisters still talked of Arundel. Fate drove us there, Jane would say. No, it was the greedy landlord who sold our vacation house on Cape Cod, someone else would say, probably Skye. Who knew which was right?”

In this crazy, unpredictable time we live in, visits to the movie theater have ceased to be common occurrences. However, the opportunity to

spend more time with your nose in a book has increased dramatically. Thus, many of my reviews have switched focus to recommend great read-alouds that can entertain the family while not wasting too many brain cells. So here is the beginning of a series that brings the very best adventure, laughs, and tears all at once. – *The Penderwicks* by Jeanne Birdsall.

Two weeks at a magnificent mansion with a crabby owner plus four lively, unsupervised sisters and a lovable (if not slobbery) dog named Hound. What could go wrong? The caring beauty of Rosalind, the rambunctious energy of Skye, the dreamy writer, Jane, and the animal-loving Batty can’t be more thrilled to be on vacation at #11 on Stafford Street. Exploring the extensive estate can’t entice them more, especially when they meet the proprietor’s son, Jeffery. Unfortunately, his mother, Mrs. Tifton, isn’t so excited about the Penderwick girls’ presence on her property. Staying out of trouble isn’t as easy as it looks, however, and thus begins a hilarious series of adventures starring the interesting personalities of Rosalind, Skye, Jane, Jeffrey, Batty, and Hound. The bonds of friendship and family, plus the cheerfulness of the distracted botanist that is the Penderwicks’ father seem to get them through every trial. Endless laughs are easily supplied by Skye’s funny quips, as well as her less-than-gentle splashes of reality. The plot thickens when their friend Jeffrey needs their help, and the sympathetic sisters are torn between loyalty to Jeffrey their promise to stay out of trouble. This heartwarming comedy brings out the best in exploits gone wrong.

This first book in one of my favorite series had me crying with laughter at every chapter and was an exceptional picture of family charm and adventure. It is a reading level of about 8-12 years but is still perfect for younger ones as well. I have no negative comments on this book but enjoyed it thoroughly. The characters are relatable and fascinating alike, and the plot is just as beautifully timeless as the rest of it. I give this book five stars.



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Thanks to photographer and Overlook resident Mark Witherspoon for this great shot he took in Iceland, thanks for sharing.

It is so fun to see these great pictures taken by our residents. If you have photos that you would like to submit, please email me at cathy.mozingo@n2pub.com.



Welcome to the new Overlook Board:

President – Shelby Jones
Vice President – Cathy Bannigan
Treasurer – Jeremy Saylor
Secretary – Erin Meyer
At Large – Pat Finn

We also want to thank Michelle Patridge-Doerr, Noelle Wooten, and Michelle Jernigan for volunteering to help the new board.

We also want to thank the past board members Bill Gibson and Tom Blomquist for their years of service to Overlook. We wish them well.

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By Lexi Torrence

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When Pete Bradham’s father and Uncle started Bradham Brothers 45 years ago, they set out to help their friends and neighbors’ homes stay warm, dry, and safe.

Today Pete continues that goal as Bradham Brothers’ general manager. The same company known for its trustworthiness and reliability that has been taking care of the area’s heating and air needs for over four decades now offers electrical services.

Bradham Brothers is a family business that values the strong relationships they have built in the local community. They want

to be able to do more for the families and homes they have served for decades.

People know they can trust Bradham Brothers’ expertise and integrity to service their homes. Pete says customers have been asking the company for years to go beyond heating and cooling to solve their electrical needs.

Bradham Brothers can help you in every room of your house. They are skilled, licensed and insured to help you with everything from replacing a light switch to rewiring your entire home.

Bradham Brothers also specializes in generator care, so even if an emergency hits, you and your family will still be able to keep the lights on. They are experts in installing and caring for Honeywell generators of all sizes. Bradham Brothers will help you find the right system that has the strength to power your home and business or one portable and light enough to take tailgating.

The South is known for its brutal hurricane season, and each storm brings high winds and rain that can knock out your power for days or weeks. With a generator maintained by Bradham Brothers, you can rest easy knowing your family will be protected even in the worst storm.

Pete recommends calling Bradham Brothers to inspect your generator after every 100 hours of use or once a year and to have your HVAC looked at each spring and fall. Their 15-point inspection covers your entire system inside and out.

Regular maintenance for your electrical system, HVAC and generator helps them work at maximum efficiency, last longer and save you money.

Pete warns that many homeowners often don’t know that their houses have electrical problems until the lights are off.

Flickering lights, frayed wires and tripped circuit breakers can all be signs that your electrical system is having issues.

“You want your homes to be warm and safe,” Pete says.

Get the most out of your systems by calling Bradham Brothers for yearly inspections to guarantee you will be safe and toasty when the next snowstorm or heat wave hits.



Bradham Brothers gives their customers peace of mind by offering multifaceted services that prevent issues, repair them if they happen, and maintain their homes.

With the addition of electrical contracting, Bradham Brothers can now give your family even more confidence in always knowing your house will run the way it should. Trust the company that has been taking care of your neighbors for almost half a century.

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meet your neighbor

Photos Provided By
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Family Member Names: Mike, Brooke, Patrick (age 4), Jackson (age 2)

Street: Overlook Mountain Drive

Pets: Lucy (11-year-old Spaniel/Shepherd Mix)

Profession(s): Mike works for Intelligent Buildings located in Charlotte as a Real Estate Services Consultant specializing in SMART and Connected Buildings. Brooke is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and works in the Counseling Center at Johnson & Wales University, Charlotte Campus. She also recently opened a private practice – Carolina Crescent Counseling Services, PLLC.

Favorites

Activities/Hobbies: Sailing (either on our sailboat in Lake Norman and pontoon boat on MIL); Cooking; and heading out to local breweries and wineries.

Park/Play Area/Hangout: The Whitewater Center and Latta Plantation are go-to outdoor spots for us. In non-COVID times, we also frequented the Discovery Place museums with the boys.

Restaurants: Mamma Ricottas; Duckworths; 300 East; and Heirloom for date nights.

Vacation Destination: In recent years we have vacationed locally taking trips to the mountains in both NC (Asheville) and VA (Blacksburg and Charlottesville). Some of our favorite past vacation spots include Key West, FL; New Orleans, LA; San Francisco, CA; and Annapolis, MD.

Sports Teams: Michigan Wolverines; VA Tech Hokies; and Carolina Panthers

TV Show/Movie: Crime dramas and mystery thrillers

Music: Avett Brothers; Wilco; David Gray; The *Frozen* Soundtrack (1 and 2) and Baby Shark are recent favorites on our playlists.

Family Dinner: Pizza is a favorite for the whole family.

Do you have any family traditions? Friday night is “Movie Night.” Our boys pick a movie and we sit down as a family with some popcorn to watch it together. Corn mazes in the fall and picking out a Christmas tree in the winter are annual family activities. Celebrating St. Patrick’s Day is also a family tradition!

What college/university did you attend? Mike attended Virginia Tech University and graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture. Brooke attended the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts. Brooke received her Master of Social Work (MSW) from Virginia Commonwealth University.

What school do your children attend? Discovery Harbor Learning Center

Where are you originally from? Mike is originally from New Jersey. His father was in the Navy and his family moved often and eventually settled in Newport News, VA. Brooke is originally from Rockville, MD. Prior to living in Charlotte, Mike and Brooke lived in Alexandria, VA.



How long have you lived in this neighborhood? We moved to Overlook in March 2015.

What do you like to do to relax? With two boys under 5, we don’t get much time to relax these days. But, it would be taking some time to visit one of our favorite local breweries (Olde Meck, Towne Brewing, Heist, Legion,



NODA, and Blue Blaze) or Wineries (Raffaldini, Piconne, ReyLen, and Veronet).

How are you involved in the community? We support local charities including Girls On The Run, Second Harvest Food Bank, and Smart Start of Mecklenburg County. We are also supporting members of the Discovery Place Museums.



If you have kids, what activities are they involved with? Gym classes at Little Gym of Huntersville; Soccer; and Swimming

What is your favorite part about living in your neighborhood? The walking trails, playgrounds, pool and access to the Lake are the amenities that we enjoy the most in Overlook.

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HALLOWEEN

in overlook





kid to kid

By Overlook resident and contributing writer Lily Kust.



Meet Nathan

Name: Nathan Richardson
Age: 8
Grade: Third
School: St. Mark's
Brothers or Sisters: one brother, Noah
Sports I Play: Soccer and Swim Team
Musical Instrument I Play: None
Musical Instrument I Want to Learn: Drums
Something Unique About Me: I am good at climbing things.
When I Grow Up I'm Going to Be: A builder

Favorites
Activities/Hobbies: Climbing trees and reading to his brother
Animal: Shark
Color: Green
Food: Pizza
Movie: *The Meg*
Music: Rap
Place to Play: Outside
Sports Teams: Patriots
Subject in School: Math

TV Show: *Pokémon*
Vacation: Atlanta
Favorite Holiday: Christmas
Favorite Game: Uno
Pets: One dog named Bella and a bunny named Bun-Bun.
What do you like about living in Overlook? Lots of fun things to do and a lot of space.



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precious pets

By Overlook Residents and contributing writer
Meghan Logue and Sandy Solarchik



Name: Cooper and Silas Wellman

Age: Cooper is 7 years old and Silas is 1 ½ years old

Breed: Both are beagles

Family: Thomas, Lisa, and Jakob (15) Wellman

Where/Why did you get your pet?

We got both Cooper and Silas from a breeder in Gainesville, FL. We like using them because they are a family business and the dogs are exposed to children.

Thomas and I both grew up having dogs, so they have always been a very important part of our lives. Cooper and Silas are our third and fourth beagles. Cooper was a birthday present for Jakob's 8th birthday, and we added Silas to the family after our female beagle, Beanie, passed on.

Is there a story behind their names?

Not really. We just tried to find names that suited them well!

Is there anything special or unusual about your pets?

Silas is very attached to his humans. In fact, we often joke that we should wear orange vests and be his emotional-support humans.

Both Cooper and Silas enjoy their kibble. They moonlight as vegetarians and enjoy snacking on pumpkin pieces, beans, asparagus, carrots, and apples.

Family and Friends

You may recognize them because they like to bark at other four-legged friends. You will often find Silas looking out of the upstairs window. He likes to bark hello as other dogs walk by.



Silas



Cooper



Both are great playmates for each other, but Silas has the most fun when his lab cousin, Blu, comes to visit!

Favorite Pastimes

Cooper and Silas both enjoy the lake, and go on boat rides with their humans during the summertime. Silas especially loves a good bath and long walks on the beach.

They also love to travel in our RV. In fact, Cooper accompanied our family on a 6,000-mile road trip out West.

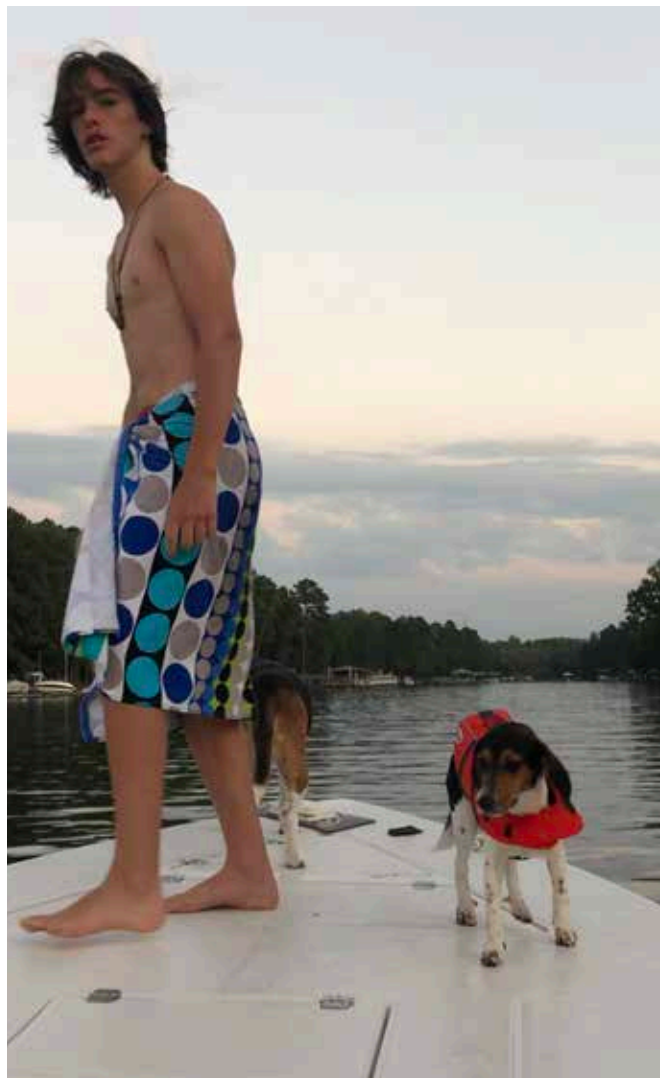
His favorite memory from that trip was coming almost nose to nose with a massive buffalo in Yellowstone National Park!

What is your dog's personality?

We like to call Cooper our elder statesman. He has taught Silas everything he knows. Silas, on the other hand, is just a typical, goofy, fun-loving puppy.

How spoiled are your pets?

They are extremely spoiled! Maybe not as much as Jakob, but pretty close! They have tons of toys and get lots of love daily.



Investment Lessons from 2020

As the year draws to a close, it's fair to say that we've all learned something about the social, political, physical and environmental forces that have affected everyone. And, in some ways, our lives will be changed, perhaps permanently. But as an investor, what lessons can you learn from 2020?

Here are some to consider:

- The markets look ahead. Here's something many investors discovered in 2020: Investment prices don't always move in the same direction as the overall economy. This might not have seemed apparent right after the COVID-19 pandemic struck in mid-February, as the overall economy and the stock market took big hits. But just about five weeks later, the markets began a rally that lasted several months. During this time, the economy also recovered somewhat, but still remains on weak footing.

What can explain this discrepancy between the markets and economic activity?

Essentially, economic numbers, such as the unemployment rate and gross domestic product (GDP), reflect what's happening today, but the markets are always looking toward tomorrow, which means they are anticipating a stronger economic recovery and the results that come with it, such as greater corporate earnings in 2021. No one can say for sure what the future holds, but you can usually know the market's opinion by its performance.

- Opportunities will always exist for investors. Although the coronavirus seems unprecedented, the equity markets have rebounded from many crises before it. From war to global financial meltdowns, the market has seen it all. But even at the height of these events, when the markets might be most affected, individual segments or industries can do well.

For example, in the current environment, when many people have been forced to work and shop from home, and get their entertainment online, it's probably not surprising that some parts of the technology sector have seen their economic activity grow, along with their stock prices. Here's the key point: Investment opportunities always exist, especially in times of market stress and smart investors will find them and incorporate them into their portfolios in a way that's appropriate for their goals and risk tolerance.

- Patience and discipline can pay dividends. As mentioned above, the stock market dropped sharply in the weeks immediately following the pandemic, but then gained steadily for months afterward. Investors who tried to "cut losses" and exited the market likely did so at the wrong time and missed out on the beginning of the upturn. Unfortunately, this is not uncommon – investors who overreact to market declines often find themselves on the investment sidelines just when a new rally begins. Rather than being reactive in this way, you may be better off sticking with a long-term investment strategy, and buying and selling investments only when it makes sense for your situation, such as when you need to diversify your portfolio.

For many reasons, it's unlikely that we'll see anything exactly like 2020 again. But some of the investment lessons we learned are applicable in every year, so keep them in mind for 2021 and beyond.

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CREAM CHEESE MINTS



resident recipe

By Overlook resident and contributing writer **Ella and Anna Bolliger.**

These are really fun and easy to make. You can make it as fancy or as simple as you want. If you want to try piping them, make sure you have a big tip and set up your piping bag beforehand, so that it doesn't get too hard to pipe.

Ingredients

1. 3 ounces cream cheese, softened
2. 1 teaspoon peppermint extract
3. 3 cups powdered sugar, sifted
4. food coloring-optional

Directions

Using a mixer, cream the cream cheese until smooth, add in extract and food coloring if using. Cream again till light and fluffy. Slowly add in powdered sugar, make sure to scrape down sides of mixing bowl. Once all sugar is added and well combined, roll dough into teaspoon sized balls. Place balls on wax paper lined tray, Use a fork to flatten. If your dough is sticky, you can roll them in powdered sugar first. Let mints dry for 12 hours then turn mints over to let bottom side dry. Store in an airtight container at room temperature. Mints will keep for at least a week.



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Real Estate RESOURCE

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Supplied by Judy Godley and Angie Godley Bright, Helen Adams Realty.



Address	Neighborhood	List Price	Sale Price	DOM	Beds	Baths	Sq Ft
2533 Hamilton Crossings Drive	Preservation Pointe	\$539,900	\$527,000	25	4	4	3,398
4329 Tranquillity Drive	Overlook	\$598,000	\$585,000	28	5	4	3,729
4432 Mountain Cove Drive	Overlook	\$485,000	\$485,000	2	5	3	3,554
316 Woodward Ridge Drive	Stonewater	\$425,000	\$420,000	88	5	4	3,224
1827 Mt Isle Harbor Drive	Mt Isle Harbor	\$849,500	\$825,000	68	4	3	3,613
12623 Preservation Pointe Drive	Overlook	\$1,099,999	\$1,100,000	1	5	5	5,028
4029 Nicole Eileen Lane	Overlook	\$498,000	\$471,000	42	4	4	3,506
208 Waterford Drive	Stonewater	\$575,000	\$617,500	2	4	4	3,454
10935 Preservation Park Drive	Preservation Pointe	\$580,000	\$580,000	29	5	4	4,049
2315 Island Lake Drive	Preservation Pointe	\$559,900	\$551,666	11	5	4	3,698
124 Whiterock Drive	Stonewater	\$499,500	\$490,000	2	4	3	3,719
3923 Mountain Cove Drive	Overlook	\$419,900	\$410,000	1	3	3	2,394
304 Beech Bluff Drive	Stonewater	\$625,000	\$600,000	4	5	5	6,177
101 Fox Ridge Lane	Stonewater	\$539,000	\$540,000	125	4	4	4,193
116 Kestrel Court	Stonewater	\$890,000	\$890,000		5	5	3,822
445 Woodward Ridge Drive	Stonewater	\$439,900	\$425,000	3	3	3	2,736
1334 Mt Isle Harbor Drive	Mt Isle Harbor	\$498,000	\$477,000	74	4	3	4,243
301 Holdsworth Drive	Stonewater	\$465,000	\$455,000	62	4	4	3,000
241 Village Glen Way	Stonewater	\$1,250,000	\$1,200,000	41	6	7	7,438
120 Kestrel Court	Stonewater	\$980,000	\$987,000	2	5	4	4,210

Mountain Island Lake Luxury Listings



UNDER CONTRACT IN 48 HOURS



2729 Olympus Dr

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4201 Mountain Cove Dr

SOLD - UNDER CONTRACT IN 34 DAYS



4412 Serene Ln

SOLD - WATERFRONT
REPRESENTED BUYERS



12619 Preservation Pointe Dr

SOLD - WATER VIEW
REPRESENTED BUYERS & SELLERS



12524 Preservation Pointe Dr

ACTIVE



12517 Preservation Pointe Dr

SOLD - UNDER CONTRACT IN 4 DAYS



12450 Preservation Pointe Dr

SOLD - UNDER CONTRACT IN 41 DAYS



12556 Overlook Mountain Dr

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12418 Overlook Mountain Dr

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