



CONSERVATOR

"Nature and Community in Harmony"

VOLUME 51, NO. 3

THE BURKE CENTRE CONSERVANCY

MARCH 2024



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Oakwood Commons 20204

Burke Centre Conservancy 2024 Annual Meeting Notice



**Monday, March 18, 2023
7:30 PM via Zoom**

Zoom Meeting Registration Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZMvdurpzgvG9rUuWK1VUuwSrX8FhNiwa>

If prompted & you have difficulty accessing the meeting, use Meeting ID#: 872 1139 3520 | Password: 6581225188.

If you previously signed up for reoccurring meetings, please refresh your link.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:

**James R.
Walkinshaw**
Braddock District
Supervisor



THIS MONTH IN BURKE CENTRE

Garden Plot Association to hold Annual Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2024, 8 PM, Zoom

It's almost time for gardening again! The Burke Centre Garden Plot Association will meet virtually via Zoom on Monday, March 25 at 8:00 PM. All members and residents interested in becoming a member of the association are invited. A nominal fee to join the organization entitles a Burke Centre resident to use a designated garden plot (average size of 20' x 20') to raise vegetables, flowers, and help support our local butterflies and pollinators.



Residents interested in reserving a garden plot will be able to sign up at the meeting. First priority is given to current members. Please note we currently have a waiting list for new plots. Please email the President of the Garden Plot Association at burkegardenassociation@gmail.com to receive a meeting Zoom invitation or be added to the wait list. **A closing PSA for all Burke gardeners:** our local frost date at is the end of April—don't put tender plants out too early!

Burke Centre Tennis Association to meet

The Burke Centre Tennis Association (BCTA), after being inactive for the past couple of years, is going to work with Tennis DNA to establish and bring to the community various tennis activities. Recently BCTA conducted a couple of meetings to re-ignite the Association as a group charter in Burke. This charter is working its way through a review process and we hope final approval by the Burke Centre Conservancy Board of Trustees is in the near future.

At the second BCTA meeting held on February 26th at the Ponds Community Center, the following officers were elected: President Pat Relich, Vice President Stacy Huisman, Secretary Mike Hathaway, and Treasurer Paul Fisher. Currently, the BCTA group charter is proceeding through the review process and awaiting approval by the Board of Trustees. The BCTA officers plan to meet in March to discuss and plan activities that range from Community Service at the Fall Festival, a Tennis social in the Spring, and one or two afternoon Tennis Camps held at courts easily accessed from a Community Center pool. BCTA will coordinate all planned activities with Tennis DNA and the Conservancy Office.

Reality Check

Sign Up Now!

**Saturday, March 16
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**



Car crashes are the leading cause of injury and death for teens.
Attend Reality Check with your teenager
Keep them from becoming another statistic

This free course is designed for teens and their parents or guardians.

Student Program

- Interactive slideshow and video presentation
- Trauma bay & ER tour
- Mock trauma resuscitation
- EMS unit ambulance tour, Q & A Session with Fire & Rescue personnel
- Crash survivors who share their experiences
- Interactive driving simulator demonstrating effects of impaired and drowsy driving

Parent Program

- How to be an effective role model to teen drivers
- How to coach and teach teen drivers
- How to talk to teens about decision making, alcohol, and other difficult subjects
- How to implement a parent-teen driving safety contract

Saturday, March 16, 2024

10:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Inova Fairfax Medical Campus
Physicians Conference Center

Registration:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCMarch2024>

For Questions or more information:

Linda Watkins linda.watkins@inova.org or 703-776-3259



Sign-up now for Reality Check!

March 16, 2024 10:30 AM-1:30 PM (Please arrive between 10:00-10:20 AM.)
Inova Fairfax Medical Campus Physicians Conference Center

This free course is designed for teens and their parents or guardians. While all drivers are welcome, this three-hour program is ideal for drivers with learner permits or newly licensed drivers and their parents or guardians. Registration is limited. Register here: <https://bit.ly/3SXZW4z> Student Program · Interactive slideshow and video presentation · Trauma Bay & ER tour · Mock trauma resuscitation · EMS unit ambulance tour, Q & A Session with Fire & Rescue personnel · Crash survivors who share their experiences · Interactive driving simulator demonstrating effects of impaired and drowsy driving Parent Program · How to be an effective role model to teen drivers · How to coach and teach teen drivers · How to talk to teens about decision making, alcohol, and other difficult subjects · How to implement a parent-teen driving safety contract

**This is not a drop-off event. Parent or guardian must stay for the program!*

SPRING TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL SEASON 2024 AT BURKE CENTRE

Junior Lessons

**From March 11th
To June 9th
13 Weeks**

**No class on 5/27,
make up on 6/10**

Junior Tennis 12+ y.o.

Tuesdays

4 - 5 pm (at Landings)

Junior Tennis 8u

Tuesdays

5 - 6 pm (at Landings)

Junior Tennis 9-11 y.o.

Tuesdays

6 - 7 pm (at Landings)

8u Advanced / Rally Progression

Thursdays

5 - 6 pm (at Landings)

9-11 Advanced / Rally Progression

Thursdays

6 - 7 pm (at Landings)

\$338

Residents

\$377

Non-residents

Drop-in*

Residents **\$32**

Non-residents **\$35**

***Needs to be booked!**

Adult Lessons

Adult Pickleball Beginner

Mondays

530 - 630 pm (at Woods)

Tuesdays

530-630 (at Landings)

Adult Pickleball Advanced / Intermediate

Mondays

630 - 730 pm (at Woods)

Tuesdays

630-730 (at Landings)

Adult Tennis: Learn to Play

Thursdays

7 - 8 pm (at Landings)

**Tennis and Pickleball Team Play
Coming this Summer!**

**Would you like to be part of it?
Email admin@tennis-dna.com
for more information!**

Sign up now!

Junior

Adult



Court locations

Landings Community Center's Pickleball Courts:
6001 Cove Landing Road, Burke, VA 22015

Woods Community Center's Pickleball Courts:
10100 Wards Grove Cir, Burke, VA 22015

CONSERVANCY BUSINESS

Mulch Madness Sale!

Scout Troop 1345's Mulch Madness Super Sale is in progress, and will continue until March 29. The mulch will then be delivered to the driveways of hundreds of Burke homes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 4-6, 2024.

The scouts recently delivered flyers to over 5,000 homes in Burke to provide the details and order instructions for folks to purchase and receive 3-cubic-foot bags of quality double-shredded hardwood mulch that the scouts will deliver safely to your driveway on April 4-6. Mulch can be purchased in two ways: sending a check in with the flyer order form, or via PayPal from the Troop's website at <https://www.bsa1345burke.org>.

For over 40 years, Troop 1345 has been a proud chartered organization of the Burke Centre Conservancy and are known as "*The Burke Centre Flag-Raising Troop*" that posts American flags along the median of Burke Centre Parkway during all Federal holidays. They also provide the Honor Guard for Memorial Day, help keep our parks and green spaces clean, and collect food for the less fortunate of our community. They do this while learning leadership and citizen skills during BSA Scout training and at numerous outings, including hikes, campouts, skill building, and community service.

All of these activities require financial assistance to keep things running, and the Troop's annual "Mulch Madness Super Sale" is the only significant fundraising event all year. Please keep a lookout for their mulch flyers, or go onto the Troop's mulch website to get some quality mulch at a reasonable price. Deliveries will be made to the driveways and curbsides of houses and townhomes (*no delivery to backyards, please*).

The minimum order is 15 bags, and there is no maximum. A pallet of mulch consists of 45 bags, and the troop hopes to sell and deliver about 225 pallets this year. That's over 10,000 bags! Questions? Email: T1345mulch@gmail.com.

Tree Survey Work

Tree tags, whether silver, blue or another color, have no indicators other than to signal that the tree was included in the recent survey work and helps the Conservancy to identify tree types and the number of same species within a cluster. Each survey includes recommended actions such as removal or pruning. Please send inquiries to Stephanie Martin, Facilities & Resources Administrator, at smartin@burkecentre.org. Include the location (nearest landmark, street including cross street and/or specific property address).

Volunteer Q & A ~ Door Prizes

March 27, 2024, 7:30-8:30 PM via Zoom:

REGISTRATION LINK (required): <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZctceqtqz8vHtI794yzgSjybY7Pk6j91Wqn>

Since its inception in 1977, the Burke Centre Conservancy has relied upon volunteers to ensure successful outcomes for issues impacting all residents and neighbors. Would you like to be a part of that success? Let's count the many ways you can help make a difference (list available at www.burkecentre.org under Quick Links). To hear more about current volunteer opportunities, please consider registering for our first ever Volunteer Ops Q&A on Wednesday, March 27, which has been designed to bring awareness to residents who would like to help in some way. The Conservancy staff will go over a list of the opportunities, answer questions, and sign up those who are ready to get started. Door prize drawings will be included!

**NEW
EVENT**

Four issues to go!

4-3-2-1: Conservator Countdown ...to digitalization

As suggested by a community resident, this monthly "countdown" has been added to help us all prepare for the shift of the monthly newsletter, *The Burke Centre Conservator*, from print to digital format.

As many residents are now aware, as a result of many discussions and efforts to address increasing printer and postal challenges, and to achieve the goal of automating Conservancy operations, the transition period has begun.

The final printed version of the *Conservator* will be the June 2024 issue! The newsletter will be posted monthly in digital format thereafter, which is expected to bring significant benefits to members including cost-savings, staff time gains, real-time updates, and overall, a faster, more accurate delivery system of community information.

The Conservancy is mindful of expressed concerns about the loss of the paper version of the *Conservator*, which many community members rely upon and enjoy each month. With that in mind, several options for providing

help in real time for members who may need assistance will be available, along with a way to request a printed newsletter copy at the office. Please note that newsletter copies will not be available in the current newsprint format after July 1st.

Some changes you may notice over these next 4 issues:

- Fewer printed pages. Online links/references for finding routine information that doesn't change significantly month-to-month will be shown instead.
- Information, instructions, and links to the online data that will be increasing throughout the transition period.
- Fewer display advertisements. (Staff will be working to establish web-based advertising programs in the near future.)
- Public Service Announcements (PSA's) will be referenced with links but not printed in full.

Please reach out to Jeannie Winslow (jeannie@burkecentre.org) at the Conservancy office with any questions or input you may have. Many thanks to those who have already shared their input. Hearing from the community is helpful as we work to bring this new system to all Conservancy members.

**Final Print Issue:
June 2024**

Burke Centre Conservancy

"Nature & Community in Harmony"

6060 Burke Centre Parkway

Burke, VA 22015-3702

Office Phone: (703) 978-2928

Office Fax: (703) 978-5160

EMAIL: administration@burkecentre.org

WEB SITE: www.burkecentre.com

MOBILE APP: Search "Burke Centre

Conservancy" @Google Play & Apple Stores

Conservancy Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Sat. 9 am-Noon (Reception services only)

Assessment Mailing Address

Payment Processing Center

P.O. BOX 105007

Atlanta, GA 30348

CONSERVANCY VOLUNTEERS

All Board and committee/organization members are volunteers; not paid employees of the Conservancy. When you contact these fellow residents, please remember that they are volunteering their own time to serve the Burke Centre community. Thank you!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

COMMONS: MARC FLASTER, President

commonstrustee@burkecentre.org

LANDINGS: DENIS GULAKOWSKI, VP

landingstrustee@burkecentre.org

OAKS: STEVEN SHAPIRO

oakstrustee@burkecentre.org

PONDS: LEE SCHMIDT, Secretary

pondstrustee@burkecentre.org

WOODS: BRENDA TRASK

woodstrustee@burkecentre.org

AT-LARGE: GARY SCHNURRUSCH

atlargetrustee1@burkecentre.org

AT-LARGE: MARCI LAWSON, Treasurer

atlargetrustee2@burkecentre.org

APPEALS BOARD

DAVID CHESTERMAN, Chairman

COLEEN CHESTERMAN

JULES RADICE

GREG SMITH

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

MICHAEL SHUMAKER, CHAIR (Ponds)

JONATHAN POSEY (At-Large)

ANUP GAUTAM (Woods)

NORMA SANTANA-CONTI (Landings)

NICHOLAS PHILLIPS (At-Large)

ARB Application Deadlines:

5 PM on 3/5 for MARCH meetings

5 PM on 4/2 for APRIL meetings

5 PM on 5/7 for MAY meetings

arbapplications@burkecentre.org

Conservancy Management Staff

PATRICK GLOYD, Executive Director
(patrick@burkecentre.org)

Jeannie Winslow, Director of Administration
(jeannie@burkecentre.org)

Darryl Payne, Finance Administrator
(darryl@burkecentre.org)

Stephanie Martin, F&R Administrator
(smartin@burkecentre.org)

BOARD BRIEFS

The following summarizes actions made during the February 21, 2024 Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting. This summary is in DRAFT format, subject to change, and will not be approved until the next Board meeting. Please contact Jeannie Winslow, Conservancy office, 703-978-2928 | email: jeannie@burkecentre.org, if you have any questions about this summary.

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Flaster called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

II. AGENDA APPROVAL: President Flaster moved to approve the meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gulakowski and passed unanimously.

III. BOARD & COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES: President Flaster moved to approve the revised 12/18/23 Board meeting minutes, the 01/03/2024 Working Session minutes, and the 01/18/24 Board of Trustees meeting minutes as submitted. Hearing no objections, the motions were approved by unanimous consent.

IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

V. RESIDENT INPUT: Craig Willett (Woods resident) suggested adding a provision to the Conservancy's landscaping contract which reduces or bans the use of pesticide spraying to manage pests. He explained that spraying pesticides can be damaging to all insects, both native and non-native, and preventative measures could be taken instead to prevent pest problems from arriving.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mr. Gloyd provided updates on the following trustee goals.

a. ARB Process Automation/Technological Improvements: A final ARB operating system, including online applications, is expected to be functioning on the web site by July. Letters will be mailed to the membership with instructions on enrolling onto the new system once it is launched.

b. Accelerate Tree Assessment: With the additional arborist services added, the tree survey project has been proceeding at a rapid pace. Each survey comes with a recommendation to remove any potentially hazardous trees. Mr. Gloyd indicated that there are limited funds available in the 2024 budget, and that the Board may have to consider pausing the survey until additional funding can be procured.

c. Identify Opportunities to Utilize Volunteers & Recruitment: A meeting is scheduled via Zoom for to discuss volunteer opportunities, answer questions and recruit community members who wish to get involved.

d. EV Charging Stations/Policies: After the implementation of the single family home EV charging station standard, Mr. Gloyd explained that the next phase would be to start looking at a policy for homes that rely on common area parking. He recommended discussing this topic further at the next working session.

e. Improvements to BCC footprint: The Board is awaiting a recommendation from the Pickleball Association on what lighting they prefer so that staff can evaluate any permitting issues. Funding sources

for lighting are also being discussed. President Flaster suggested putting the issue on the agenda for the following month's meeting.

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Payne provided an overview of the financial statements as of January 31, 2024. Under the balance sheet, operating cash was \$1.9 million, total assets \$16 million with a net operating loss of \$17,000 to date.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Wilmington Traffic Study Update: The County will be meeting with the RTAP task force for a presentation in late March or early April.

b. ARB Application for Wood Mouse Cluster Sign: President Flaster moved to approve the installation of traffic control signs in the Wood Mouse Cluster as detailed in the ARB application reviewed and approved by the ARB on 12/21/23 and by the Open Space Committee on 01/07/24. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gulakowski, and after a brief discussion about the application contents, passed with 5 yes votes and one abstention [Shapiro].

c. Pool Usage Requests for 2024 Pool Season: Trustee Lawson noticed that there were around 10 additional hours being requested by the Burke Centre Swim Club compared to 2023, which were not highlighted on the request. Mr. Gloyd explained that at least some of the additional hours may be listed under the special events category of the usage report. Ms. Winslow explained that any additional hours would be balanced with the public usage hours before the season opened. The Board asked the staff to provide an update once completed.

Trustee Schnurppusch moved to approve the Nation's Capital Swim Club's pool usage request for the 2024 swim season as presented following review by the Conservancy staff. The motion was seconded by President Flaster and passed unanimously.

Trustee Schnurppusch moved to approve the Burke Centre Swim Club's request for pool and community center usage during the 2024 pool season as presented following review by the Conservancy staff. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lawson and passed unanimously.

d. Charter Requests & Renewals: Mr. Gloyd mentioned that there may be a few other groups that reach out in the following month to request charter or recognized status that may have failed to gather all necessary information in time for the initial deadline.

Trustee Schnurppusch requested that staff gather signatures from Scouts #1345 for both their annual and charter reports. Additionally, he mentioned

that staff would need to update the policy precepts at the following meeting to reflect the approved and disapproved groups, and that the staff would need to notify the groups of the Board's decision.

Having met the requirements contained in the Conservancy's policy precepts for chartered organizations, Trustee Schnurppusch moved to approve the request from the Burke 55'ers to become a Conservancy chartered organization. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lawson and passed unanimously.

Having met the requirements contained in the Conservancy's policy precepts for chartered organizations, Trustee Schnurppusch moved to approve charter agreements for the following groups: Burke Centre Garden Plot Association, Burke Centre Swim Club, Burke Pickleball Association, Burke Toastmasters, Friends of the Burke Centre Library, Quilts of Valor Foundation, and Scout Troop 1345. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lawson and passed unanimously.

Having met the renewal criteria for Conservancy non-charter groups, Trustee Schnurppusch moved to recognize the following groups - Burke Historical Society, Burke VFW Post 5412, Girl Scout Service Unit 52-7, and Mothers of Multiples. The motion was seconded by Trustee Shapiro and passed unanimously.

e. Conservator Transition to Electronic Format Update: Ms. Winslow indicated that she has an upcoming meeting with Enumerate to determine how ads will continue on the future website. Additionally, Ms. Winslow plans to work with the Garden Plot Association on creating new content that would be of interest to the community.

f. Oaks Pool Update: The staff is gathering data per Trustee Shapiro's request to review pool usage data to help with the decision-making on the Oaks Pool renovation. Trustee Shapiro has also been evaluating US census data for this purpose.

g. Ponds Management Policy Resolution: BCC Staff and Open Space Committee input has been incorporated into a draft policy. The Board will open discussion for community input on this matter at the March 18, 2024 Board meeting, prior to rendering a decision.

h. Landings Pickleball Court Conversion Project: Feeling that this topic was adequately covered in the Executive Director's report, the Board decided to skip this item.

i. Stormwater Pond 11B County Dam Clearing Project: The County has contracted a geotechnical engineer to provide a report on the necessity of removing trees on the north side of stormwater pond 11B in hopes of countering the state's requirement that they be removed. The County will begin work removing the south side trees in the next few months. Additionally, several homeowners on the north side expressed their regret that the trees would need to be removed and asked that Mr. Gloyd keep them informed of the State/County plans.

Mr. Willett questioned why the state had designated

BOARD BRIEFS - continued on next page

THE LANDINGS

DENIS GULAKOWSKI
Board Vice President &
Landings Trustee



Greetings neighbors, I hope all of you enjoyed the extra day that leap year provided, especially if it meant time to do spring yardwork or cleaning. Although technically, spring does not start officially until March 19, the warming trend we experienced was conducive for many to go outside and have a pleasant experience. I have several things that I wish to pass on to you, but before I do that, let me pose this month's trivia question:

- What does 'bury the hatchet' mean?
- A. Get rid of no longer useful tools
 - B. Finish chopping wood for your fireplace, if you have one
 - C. Make peace
 - D. Carefully store potentially dangerous items
 - E. None of these

The answer to last month's trivia question, "what does killing two birds with one stone, mean?" is B.: "To succeed in achieving two things in a single action".*

The first item I want to mention is that construction on the Popes Head Road/Fairfax County Parkway intersection cloverleaf has finally begun. As a matter of fact, as of this writing, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has scheduled a meeting - Pardon Our Dust - for the evening of February 28, during which the latest status of this massive road project will be discussed. I plan on attending, and will keep everyone posted regarding important information through the various Conservancy media avenues. For those of you who have not traveled along that section of the Parkway, a tremendous amount of trees have been cut down and significant sections of land have been cleared. It is a major step in the overall plan to expand the number of lanes on the Parkway north of Route 123. Our own Oaks Trustee Steve Shapiro has been involved in monitoring the project since prior to him being elected to the Board of Trustees. According to the VDOT website,** "This project is replacing the traffic signal at Fairfax County Parkway (Route 286) and Popes Head Road (Route 654) with an interchange. The interchange will feature triple roundabouts that will allow traffic to flow freely via two new bridges over Fairfax County Parkway." In addition, the project also includes:

- Building a short segment of the future Shirley Gate Road extension that will provide pedestrian and vehicle access to the future Patriot Park (Fairfax County is designing the rest of the Shirley Gate extension)
- Constructing a shared-use path linking the Fairfax County Parkway Trail to the future Patriot Park
- Reconstructing the Fairfax County Parkway Trail
- Installing a sidewalk along the north side of Popes Head Road
- Extending Ladues End Lane to the new roundabout at Popes Head Road
- Adding an acceleration lane for drivers turning from Nomes Court onto northbound Fairfax County Parkway"

One practical result of the current construction is that

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT)

anyone traveling on the Parkway roughly between the hours of 8 AM-5 PM may find reduced lane availability and slow-going. One solution, if you're traveling in that direction, is to go north on Route 123 to Braddock Road and take Braddock over to Fairfax County Parkway; along with dozens of other travelers who don't want to wait while on the Parkway.

The second item I want to mention is the situation regarding street lights in Burke Centre. There have been several reports of streetlamp outages in various sections of the Conservancy, to include the Landings, and after interacting with Supervisor Walkinshaw's community representative, Sally Kidalov, I can report that she has coordinated with Dominion Power to resolve the issue. It will probably take some time before all instances are corrected.

A third item I want to revive is the condition of some of the streets in the Landings, regarding parking and apparently abandoned cars and ones in need of repair. My personal observation is that there are too many cars and too few parking spaces in certain sections of the neighborhood and people are creating inconvenient situations for their neighbors, by the manner and location in which they park their vehicles. The Conservancy has a Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Task Force, previously created for just such situations, as well as the speeding problem we've had, but there has been a noticeable lack of involvement by affected residents. My recommendation, if you have concerns about such issues, is to talk to cluster reps, neighbors, and friends so we can start some action to mitigate the problems.

During our most recent board meeting, the trustees were apprised of the status of the Wilmington Drive Residential Traffic Administration Program (RTAP), which currently is awaiting the alternatives presentation by the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FC DOT), which is tentatively scheduled for later this month. The Conservancy task force, working the issue, has continued to research various courses of action to improve the safety along Wilmington Drive. The members provide a fine example of our residents becoming involved to help their community.

As a result of the diligent work by Trustees Schnurpusch and Lawson in conjunction with Conservancy staff, the following charter groups were approved by the board at our last meeting:

Burke 55'ers, Burke Centre Garden Plot Association, Burke Centre Swim Club, Burke Pickleball Association, Burke Toastmasters, Friends of Burke Centre Library, Quilts of Valor Foundation and Scout Troop 1345.

In addition, the following non-charter groups were recognized: the Burke Historical Society, Burke VFW Post 5412, Girl Scouts Unit 52-7, and Mothers of Multiples.

In closing, let me remind you of two things: first, March 29 is Vietnam War Commemoration Day to thank and honor our nation's Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice***, and second, that Daylight Savings Time begins March 10, and we need to "spring forward". And let's not forget the lyrics of the 2012 Beach Boys song, **SPRING VACATION**, "Spring vacation, Good vibration, Summer weather".

The answer to the trivia question is C.
*<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/kill-two-birds-with-one-stone>
**<https://www.vdot.virginia.gov/projects/northern-virginia-district/fairfax-county-parkway-widening-and-popes-head-road-interchange/>
***<https://www.army.mil/vietnamwar/#:~:text=HONOR%20THEIR%20LEGACY,families%20for%20service%20and%20sacrifice>

BOARD BRIEFS - continued from page 4

the area as stormwater pond given the lack of stormwater accumulation throughout the year. He reasoned that given the State/County designation, the pathway that runs the pond should not be there. Mr. Gloyd indicated the guidelines regarding pathways are set forth by the County, and given their close examination of the area, there is no reason to suggest that the County has an issue with the pathway.

j. Community Center Guidelines Draft: Work continues on the CC guidelines draft and the staff will continue to update the Board at each meeting as requested until the project's completion.

k. Appointments: President Flaster moved to appoint Tim Robinson of 5821 Wood Poppy Court to the Wood Flower Cluster Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gulakowski and passed unanimously.

President Flaster moved to appoint Carol Heinz of 6015 Scarborough Commons Lane to the Scarborough Commons Cluster Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gulakowski and passed unanimously.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Trustee Schmidt motioned to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing covenant violations and legal issues. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gulakowski and passed unanimously.

X. RECOVENE/ACTION(S) FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION: The regular meeting reconvened and the Board voted to assess monetary charges for the two properties discussed during the Executive Session for ARB violations, as recommended by the Architectural Review Board.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:32 PM.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT)

THE OAKS

STEVEN SHAPIRO

Oaks Trustee



Dear Neighbors,
It's still winter outside, and there was frost on the grass when I took the dogs out for their morning walk on Sunday. But the dogs must go out, and on most days, I dress warmly enough to enjoy these walks, and the beauty of our community.

Virtual Neighborhood Council Meeting: As your Trustee I feel it is my responsibility to hold meetings with my neighbors in the Oaks, to bring them up to date on significant events in Burke Centre and answer questions about our community. I use the computer-based virtual meeting format for the Neighborhood Council meetings because I believe that I can involve more of you this way. My next Virtual Neighborhood Council Meeting for the Oaks will be held at 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 28th. Please send me a brief note with "Virtual Neighborhood Council Meeting" in the subject line prior to the meeting if you would like to attend. I will forward these to the Conservancy staff and they will send you instructions on how to attend the meeting.

Burke Centre Shopping Center exit from Chick-fil-A: Thanks to Bill Hanson for keeping his eye on VDOT's activities. On March 25th, Bill posted a link to the VDOT webpage showing their proposed traffic control plans for the unsignalized intersection that connects Burke Centre Parkway with Chick-Fil-A and Kohls. This was the location of a fatal crash last summer that was caused by a speeding driver crashing into a car leaving the shopping center. The changes proposed by VDOT for this unsignalized intersection will prohibit the left-turn from the shopping center to eastbound Burke Centre Parkway. The left turn will be eliminated by the installation of a series of flexible plastic posts separating the eastbound through-lanes on Burke Centre Parkway from the eastbound left turn lane leading into the shopping center. These posts also serve as a barrier forcing vehicles exiting from the shopping center to turn right onto westbound Burke Centre Parkway. (Vehicles that want to go east on the Parkway will make a "U" turn at the traffic signal 600' to the west.) Supplementary signs and markings will also be installed reinforcing this restriction. People wanting to see the details are referred to the following VDOT URL (<https://www.vdot.virginia.gov/BurkeCentreSC>).

Conversion of the *Conservator*: As you probably know, the BC Conservancy will stop printing *The Conservator* this coming summer. *The Conservator* will not cease publication, it will be transformed to a new version that will be available on the internet. This change will eliminate the costs of printing and mailing the paper, and it will make the content of *The Conservator* paper more timely.

The Conservancy staff knows that some people may find it difficult to adapt to this change. I hope that those of you who are uncomfortable using a computer will be pleased to find out that the Conservancy is planning to enlist volunteers to

help you learn how to bring *The Conservator* up on a computer screen. People with less than 20-20 vision (like me) should note that you can make the text as large as you want after you have it on your screen.

BC Tennis Association: I recently learned that avid tennis players will soon have a group to support their interests. The Burke Centre Tennis Association (BCTA) is being formed to promote a variety of tennis related activities and will look for ways to work with local tennis programs to coordinate tennis activities and provide opportunities for instruction, tournaments, social activities, as well as community service. By the time you read this, the BCTA Charter should be finalized and its officers will have been elected. Those of you who are interested in finding out more about the BCTA should contact Mike Hathaway at: mike.hathaway7@gmail.com.

Update on the New Oaks Pool: Nothing much has changed since the last BOT meeting. I've suggested the pool be "tuned" to the needs of the local neighborhood and I'm trying to figure out what those needs are. This turns out to be more difficult than I first imagined because of the lack of useful data. My latest efforts are focused on the use of data collected by the Census.

You are reading this in mid-March. A Memorial-Day Pool Opening at the end of May 2024 is less than three (3) months away. There is no expectation that construction will disrupt the 2024 Summer Pool Season. Memorial Day 2025 is less than 15 months away. There are a lot of planning, engineering, administrative and permitting details to be completed prior to the start of construction. I feel fairly confident in saying that we will be using the existing Oaks Pool in the Summer of 2025, as long as the old pipes in the old concrete hold out.

Spring is right around the corner. I'm looking forward to it, but a little disappointed that I didn't get to ski at all this winter. Maybe next year.

Fairfax County Department of Transportation News

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is launching a transportation study of the Route 29 corridor between Buckleys Gate Drive/Summit Drive near the Fairfax County Parkway (VA 286) and Jermentown Road. The purpose of this study is to reassess the long-term needs

of the corridor and develop solutions that serve residents and commuters, including multimodal options. Feedback from this survey will help inform the Fairfax County Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

FCDOT asked residents and commuters to take the Route 29 Study Survey to describe what modes they use when traveling along or across this section of the corridor, along with frequency of their travel. Additionally, the County was seeking feedback regarding multimodal options for this segment of Route 29, including bicycling and walking.

FCDOT will present the results of the survey at a virtual public meeting on Tuesday, March 12, at 7 PM. Meeting details, a map of the study area and further details can be found on the Route 29 Study webpage.

Sign-up for alerts at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts. Follow FCDOT on Facebook or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/news. Follow Fairfax Connector on Twitter or Facebook or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/news.

Accessibility: FCDOT ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

This information provides an alternate format. If you would like to request reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency for events, contact FCDOT at 703-877-5600, TTY 711. Requests for assistance must be received at least 7 business days in advance of an event.

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GARY SCHNURRUSCH
At-Large Trustee
atlargetrustee1@burkecentre.org



We’re marching steadily into spring now and enjoy the temperatures gradually warming and staying warm. The season change brings to mind actions we all should be taking as our properties come out of winter wear.

Spring Actions for Home Maintenance and Curb Appeal. Here are some frequent property issues which need attention as we come out of winter: Mailboxes on the curb are often in disrepair, especially mailbox posts are leaning badly, not standing straight upright. This repair is pretty easy by remounting the post upright in a re-dug hole and packed tightly with dirt to ensure standing straight. In some cases, mailbox posts may be pretty old, rotting to some degree, so perhaps it's time to replace the post with a new one. Again, pretty easy after a purchase from our local hardware stores and remounting into a fresh hole. Mailbox posts last a long time and no longer need to be painted, and, in fact, should not be painted anymore.

Many mailbox flags have worn over the years and no longer lay level in their stored positions when not upright to signify mail for pick-up. When the bright red flag hangs down well below its level stored position due to years of wear, the appearance stands out as a blemish to curb appeal. Likely the mail flag just needs to be tightened, but maybe the wear is excessive. It may be time to replace the mailbox.

- House sidings on many homes have grown green mold extensively which detracts from house appearance and curb appeal. The fix is pretty easy by a good power wash, which ought to be completed every few years anyway to maintain the quality of house siding. There are lots of maintenance crews and companies around Burke Centre to gladly conduct a thorough total home power wash. Or the owners can do it themselves, but I think it’s a hassle and harder than it looks.
- It’s getting close to lawnmowing season. Early fertilizer and weed treatments should be considered to bring our winter grass to spring green.
- Getting lawnmowers serviced for another cutting season now is prudent to be ready for the first cutting and to maintain the mechanics of the lawnmower machinery and blade.
- Take a look at the shrubs that decorate home exteriors. Before long, shrubs will need a good trimming for curb appeal.
- Take a critical look at your yards. Sometimes we are just so used to being in and around our yards, we don’t always “see” what we should.

Charter and Non-Charter Groups. As the Trustee with duties to liaise and interface with Conservancy administration, I am really pleased at the success of the Chartered and Non-Chartered Groups to adopt and carry out this

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

year’s new group policies and earnestly conform to new reporting procedures this year. Our invaluable Chartered and Non-Chartered Groups contribute so much value to the Conservancy! By adhering to the Conservancy’s policies and procedures, these groups gain benefits and direct support from the Conservancy in return. Everybody wins!

At the Board of Trustees meeting on February 21, the following Chartered Groups were approved for 2024: BC Garden Plot Association, BC Swim Club, Burke Pickleball Association, Burke Toastmasters, Friends of the BC Library, Quilts of Valor, Scout Troop 1345, and we welcomed Burke 55ers who stepped up to become a newly chartered group this year!

And the Board officially recognized these Non-Chartered Groups for 2024: Burke Historical Society, Burke VFW Post 5412, Girl Scouts Unit 52-7, and Mothers of Multiples!

Volunteering. As 2024 progresses, Burke Centre continues to need and rely upon invaluable volunteers who give the Conservancy immense support. Thank you in advance!

New this year and as a direct benefit of our in-person Precepts meetings with groups last fall and winter, we are advertising volunteer opportunities in advance ... many more opportunities than just Wine Gardens and Fall Festival. You can see the current volunteer list on the BC Conservancy App under “Calendar,” then tap 29 February on the calendar. Tap the blue event box and see a “CLICK HERE” note in the text to access the current volunteer list. The volunteer list will be updated as opportunities are added. Check often. We look forward to working with our volunteers again this year, some are volunteer veterans and many will be new additions to the team. Welcome!

As always you can contact the Activities Staff at the Conservancy office (703-978-2928, administration@burkecentre.org) or the Director of Administration, Jeanne Winslow (jeannie@burkecentre.org) about pending volunteer opportunities.

Annual Meeting. Join us for our Annual meeting on March 18th, 7:30-9:30 PM, by Zoom. Hear the details of the “state of Burke Centre Conservancy,” our finan-

cial condition, meet the Board of Trustees and Conservancy leadership, and join the discussion.

Great ideas come from all over. Thoughts?
--- Gary: atlargetrustee1@burkecentre.org



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Working Session Summary

2/6/2024, 7:30 PM, via Zoom

(Approval of this draft pending next Board meeting.)

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Flaster called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

II. RESIDENT INPUT: Craig Willett (Woods resident) requested that the Conservancy reach out to our delegates to support of a budget bill that Senator Madson, Agriculture Committee Chairman, has proposed to provide financial assistance to Homeowners Associations for invasive plant support.

Additionally, Mr. Willett voiced a request from the Open Space Committee to approach the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) to provide the Conservancy with a forest management plan. He hopes that such a plan would provide a framework to assist the local forestry community with invasives, tree management, and stream erosion. He also invited the trustees to attend a planning meeting on February 12. Lastly, he indicated the VDOF Grant application had been moved to 2024 and was pending approval.

III. BOT GOALS AND PRIORITIES: Mr. Gloyd discussed the following goals:

a. Automation/Technological Improvements: The transition to the Enumerate platform is ongoing with comple-

tion expected during the first half of 2024.

b. Accelerate Tree Assessment: The Board recently authorized a contract with Growing Earth Tree Care to assist the Conservancy in completing tree surveys for each cluster. Mr. Gloyd indicated that the work has been paused to catch up on the high priority tree removals which have been identified.

c. Identify Opportunities to Utilize Volunteers & Recruitment: The Conservancy has increased its outreach efforts for volunteers. Additionally, a virtual Q&A Session has been scheduled for February 29th, where members can learn about various volunteer opportunities and how to get involved.

d. EV Charging Stations/Policies: The Board has implemented a policy for single family homes for EV charging and is now working to develop a policy for properties without a personal parking space.

e. Improvements to BCC footprint: The Summer Oak tot lot has a tentative installation date of February 19th, and there will be a pre-construction meeting on Feb 9th for staff to discuss the installation with the playground specialists.

IV. CONSERVATOR TRANSITION TO ELECTRONIC FORMAT: Ms. Winslow indicated that the transition is ongoing, and plans to have a preliminary version ready for members to view soon.

The final issue of the printed version of the newsletter will be June 2024. Trustee Schnurppusch emphasized that all members will need to sign up for the Enumerate Engage platform in order to receive Conservancy news.

V. POOL USAGE REQUESTS, NCAP & BCSC: Mr. Gloyd indicated that Nations Capital Swim Club and Burke Centre Swim Club submit a usage requests to the Conservancy for pool usage each the year. The Conservancy staff has been working to balance the requests with other bookings, and anticipates having a finalized usage request schedule for the Board's review packet.

VI. CHARTER RENEWALS & REQUESTS: Ms. Winslow reported that aside from a few insurance documents needed, nearly all groups have submitted their necessary documentation, and a complete package will be provided to the Board for the upcoming meeting.

VII. PONDS MAINTENANCE POLICY RESOLUTION: Mr. Gloyd stated that a revised Pond Management Policy dated January 18, 2024 was sent to the Open Space Committee (OSC) for review. A revised version of the maintenance policy incorporating feedback from the OSC as well as concerned members will be available for view in the *Conservator* as well as through a link on the website. The Conservancy is seeking additional feedback from members for the Board's

WORKING SESSION - continued next page

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