



CONSERVATOR

"Nature and Community in Harmony"

VOLUME 51, NO. 5

THE BURKE CENTRE CONSERVANCY

MAY 2024

Pipe Failure at Meadow Pond



COVER PHOTO: MIKE HOLMES

Meadow Pond experienced an outflow pipe failure on April 9, 2024 that dewatered the pond. The Conservancy has retained the services of a consulting engineer to assist us in determining the most cost-effective and expedient repair options and to help us navigate any associated permitting that may be required.

We are extremely grateful for all the community members that helped us with the emergency fish and aquatic life relocation mission. Time was of the essence, and moving them manually was about our only hope for saving as many fish as possible. *More details inside... please see page 2.*

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BURKE, VA
PERMIT NO. 853

Total Community Effort!



Core team led by James Murtha

Story and Photos by MIKE HOLMES, Bass Pond Cluster Chair | Open Space Committee Chair

CORE TEAM: James & Connor Murtha, Chris & Dylan Moore, Mike & Carter Hassan, Dan & Gabriel Negron. Michael Holmes, Morgan Johnson & Bryce Johnson.

SUPPORT TEAM: There were others involved for staging and moving pallets, supplies, food and hydration, etc. Total community effort! Christin Bratt arranged for lunch for the workers and numerous families brought water to keep everyone hydrated over two days. The first night people brought flood lights

up and collected frogs from along the shoreline until well after 11 PM, and transported them to Spring Pond.

PALLET SUPPORT: Pallets brought by members of the Robinson football team along with several local families who had some at home. Patrick Johnson used his tractor to bring the pallets up to the pond.

Key element was this was accomplished within a few hours of learning of the failure!



Community by definition. Everyone willing to give up their time, many took the day off work, and the students learned about environmental ecology first hand.



LETTERS

Letters to the editor enable Conservancy members to communicate among themselves and with the Board in accordance with the VA Property Owner's Association Act. All submissions must be signed by the author to be considered for publication. Author's address and contact number must be included for letter to be published.

Upon request, author's name will be withheld from publication. All submissions are subject to editing. The Conservancy is not responsible for the expressed opinions or for the authenticity of any presented facts discussed in submissions for publication.

Re: BURKE NAME CHANGE LETTER

To the editors:

In response to an individual advocating our community's name of Burke be changed let me offer four reasons why this initiative should not be supported or approved.

- It is not timely. The individual advocating this change lived in Burke 18 years before discovering Silas Burke owned slaves. This validates that Burke – the established community and responsible residents – has already committed Burke, the person, to history.

- It is not accurate. This individual evaluates Silas Burke, while making no attempt to appreciate the society in which he lived, or the context of his actions, and intentions. Additionally, he targets Burke although nearby communities and universities are also named after notable men who were - among many other things - slave owners. But he is not pursuing them, because in his judgment, they are named for men whose good deeds mitigate their misdeeds. It is not accurate to independently weigh right vs. wrong to selectively rename one entity while leaving others untouched.

- It is not impactful. The individual advocates that changing the community's name - while leaving Burke in the names of churches, streets, and businesses – may spark spontaneous discussion opportunities for families. A more impactful idea is for him to approach the public-school boards and solicit their review of his research. If deemed appropriate, it might be included in the state's history curriculum.

- It is not relevant. In the summer of 2003, a military move brought our family to Burke Centre. Even as far away as South Korea, Burke had a great reputation. It has been a blessing to live here ever since. We came to Burke, like many others, because of what this community was, and continues to be, not because of who or what Silas Burke was long ago.

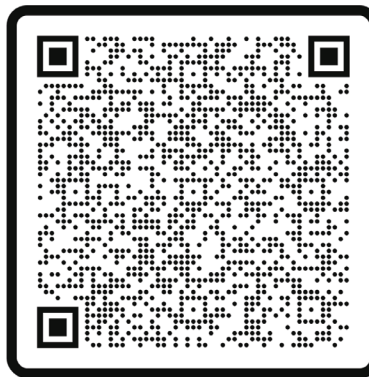
In conclusion, all citizens, communities, counties, and countries have a history - some of it good and some not. In response, to this name change initiative, I trust the residents of Burke will stand up for the true character of this wonderful community and continue to affirm - Burke is Best!

Respectfully,
Chip Sniffin (Landings)

Burke Centre Community-Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, May 11

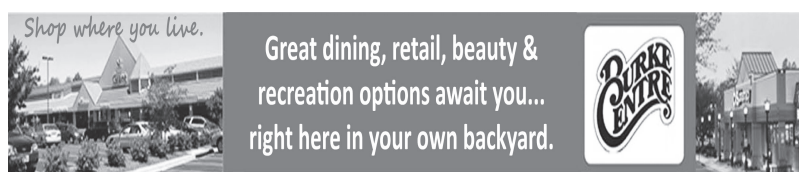
HOURS: 8 AM-Noon **WHERE:** Your Place

ADVERTISING: The Conservancy has posted a listing of individual locations and a brief description of items being sold on the Burke Centre Conservancy web site (www.burkecentre.com). Use the QR code for quick access to the most updated participation list. Yard sale dates, general information and web site links will also be posted on the Conservancy's mobile app and various social media sites.



REGISTRATION: To have your yard sale location and list of items being sold included in our listings, please email danny@burkecentre.org with your name, contact info (phone #/email), yard sale location address, and a brief description of items to be sold, i.e., furniture, toys, clothing, tools, bikes, etc. Please indicate if your yard sale will be a multi-family sale, or if you plan to extend your sale longer than the advertised hours.

ALSO VISIT FARMERS MARKET | 8 AM-Noon | BURKE VRE



Conservator Countdown... to digitalization!

One more issue to go...

Just one more issue to go! The monthly newsletter, *The Burke Centre Conservator*, is almost ready for its shift from print to digital format.

As a result of many efforts to address increasing printer and postal challenges, and to help achieve the long-standing goal of automating Conservancy operations, a plan was established to make the **final printed version of the *Conservator* 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 complete and accurate delivery system of community information.

The Conservancy is mindful about the loss many have expressed feeling when they stop receiving the paper version of the *Conservator*. Many community members have relied upon and enjoyed the paper copy for many years, and several

options for providing help to members who may need assistance transitioning will be available, along with a way to request printed copies for pick up at the office. Please note newsletter copies will not be available in the current newsprint format after July 1st.

Some changes you may notice over these next issues:

- More online links/ references for finding routine information that doesn't change significantly month to month.
- 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.)

Please reach out to Jeannie (jeannie@burkecentre.org) at the Conservancy office with any questions or feedback. Many thanks to those who have already shared their input, and to all who have supported *The Conservator*.

Burke Centre Conservancy

"Nature & Community in Harmony"

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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
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OAKS: STEVEN SHAPIRO
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PONDS: LEE SCHMIDT, Secretary
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JONATHAN POSEY (At-Large)

ANUP GAUTAM (Woods)

NORMA SANTANA-CONTI (Landings)

NICHOLAS PHILLIPS (At-Large)

ARB Application Deadlines:

5 PM on 5/7 for MAY meetings

5 PM on 6/4 for JUNE meetings

5 PM on 7/2 for JULY 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 April 15, 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@burke-centre.org, if you have any questions about this summary.

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Flaster called the meeting to order at 7:30 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. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: President Flaster asked if there were any objections to approving the 03/05/2024 Working Session minutes, the 03/18/24 Board meeting minutes, and the 03/25/24 Open Space Committee minutes as submitted. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS: President Flaster reported that the next Board meeting would be held on May 20th, in person, at the Woods Community Center. Additionally, he invited all residents to attend the Conservancy's Spring Wine & Beer Garden on April 26th.

V. RESIDENT INPUT: Kevin Morse (Woodwalk President) reported that he has been in talks with Dominion Energy's customer support regarding several lights that required repairs throughout his neighborhood.

Craig Willett (Open Space Committee) requested that Mr. Gloyd speak to the VA State Forestry to discuss the creation of a Forest Management Plan with the Board.

Chip Sniffin (Landings resident) expressed his disagreement with the initiative to change the name of the Burke township. There will be a meeting held on May 1 at Pohick Library to discuss the initiative. President Flaster reported that he had attended the introductory meeting regarding the initiative on March 27. Based on his understanding from the meeting, it did not seem the initiative would apply to the Burke Centre Conservancy.

Pat Relich (Burke Centre Tennis Association, "BCTA", President) indicated that he conducted an assessment of BCC's tennis courts, and has provided his recommendations to the Board for improvements. Also, he requested an additional walkthrough of all the courts with a Conservancy staff and/or Board liaison present to discuss the required repairs. President Flaster requested that the item be placed on the next Working Session agenda.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mr. Gloyd made a correction to the 2024 pool rates that were published in the April *Conservator*. The senior citizen rates for the 2024 pool year were not a part of the increased rate schedule, and would remain the same as they were in 2023. He then provided an update on the following goals:

a. Automation/Technological Improvements: The Enumerate Engage test launch for Board member review is anticipated to occur within the next 7-10 business days. Trustees will beta test the platform before enrollment in-

formation is disseminated to the entire community.

b. Tree Assessment Project: The Board decided, based on budgetary constraints, to wait to complete the remaining tree surveys until the end of this year or early next year.

c. Identify Opportunities to Utilize Volunteers & Recruitment: Staff organized a meeting to help promote volunteer recruitment opportunities. The meeting was cancelled due to low turnout.

d. EV Charging Stations/Policies: Staff has updated the Architectural Standards with the recently approved standard for EV charging stations for homes with parking space(s). The next step will be to draft and implement a new standard for charging stations at townhomes/multiple dwelling units.

e. Improvements to BCC footprint: The Bass Pond aeration project is nearly complete after a short delay due to work needed by Dominion Power. Also, the Summer Oak Tot Lot has been renovated. Additionally, the Conservancy will carry out cluster and asphalt remediation work throughout 2024.

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Payne reported that as of March 31, 2024, operating net income was \$26,223, with operating cash at \$1.5 million, and total assets of \$15.8 million with an operating equity of \$1,056,000. On the income statement for revenues, assessment income on an accrual basis was \$1,090,000 and YTD revenue was \$1.1 million. For expenses on the income statement, YTD actual expenses was \$1.1 million, resulting in \$60,000 under budget. With net income at \$26,223, and the YTD budget set at \$33,000, the Conservancy had almost \$60,000 in excess funds for this quarter.

VIII. MEADOW POND UPDATE: Mr. Gloyd reported that there was a pipe break at Meadow Pond on 4/9/24 which caused all the water to drain from the pond. Due to the hard work of several volunteers from the community, a lot of the wildlife was saved and relocated to nearby habitats. After consulting an engineer, he will present the recommended repair options to the Board and discuss whether preemptive measures should be taken at other ponds throughout the community.

IX. NEW/ONGOING BUSINESS:

a. VDOT Proposed BC Parkway Modifications: The Board scheduled a meeting with VDOT on 4/17 to get additional information about their analysis and their proposed modifications near the Chick Fil-A. Mr. Gloyd requested that the trustees submit any questions in advance to give VDOT time to review.

b. 2024 Asphalt and Concrete Paving Contract: Staff obtained two proposals for asphalt and concrete work this year. Trustee Lawson moved to award the 2024 Concrete and Asphalt Paving contract to Brothers Paving as recommended in the 4/11/24 memo from the staff. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gulakowski and passed unanimously.

c. Burke Centre Station Commons (BCSC) Conversion: Governing documents for BCSC are currently under expedited review by the Conservancy's legal counsel to meet a filing deadline needed for them to convert from a co-op to a condominium association.

d. VA Dept of Forestry Grant: A Forestry grant application was received and is under review.

e. Tennis Court Rekeying: President Flaster asked if there was any objection to having the staff order 600 keys for the rekeying of the tennis courts. Hearing none, Staff was directed to proceed with the established policy to rekey every two years.

f. Oaks Pool Update: Trustee Shapiro indicated that a proposal would be submitted over the next two months regarding what decision will be made for the Oaks Pool renovation.

g. Community Center Guidelines Draft: Staff provided a redlined version of updates to this document for Board review. Following review, the updates will be published for community review and input. After a lengthy discussion, the Board decided to continue the discussion at the following month's meeting.

h. RTAP/ Wilmington Drive Traffic Study: Information regarding various traffic-calming measures was received from the County. Five locations between Burke Lake Road and Burke Centre Parkway were selected for the installation of speed humps and speed tables. A meeting will be held on 4/22 at the Ponds Community Center to address the issues, and for affected residents to vote on the proposed options.

i. Conservator Transition Update: Tabled.

j. Landings Pickleball Court Conversion Project Funding: The BC Pickleball Association (BCPA) submitted a formal request detailing two different lighting plans for consideration at the pickleball courts. There is a strong preference for one plan over the other with the preferred plan costing an estimated \$192,000. President Flaster asked if there were any specific references as to how funding for the project would be addressed. Mr. Gloyd explained that the BCPA could cover a small portion of the funds, perhaps a few thousand dollars, but that the vast majority would be covered by the Conservancy if the renovation was undertaken. President Flaster expressed his concern with the Conservancy's ability to fund the project. Mr. Gloyd stated that although the Conservancy Board had agreed to convert the courts, this did not include renovation of the lighting. The Conservancy had waited to resurface the courts to the pickleball configuration due to a desire from the BCPA to change lighting on the courts first, which would require the courts to be resurfaced.

k. BCC Events Update: Ms. Winslow promoted the upcoming Spring Wine & Beer Garden on

BRIEFS - continued on page 7...

MARC FLASTER
Board President & Commons Trustee
commonstrustee@burkecentre.org



At the Board of Trustees meeting of April 15, residents brought up the project to rename the community of Burke to Fenton, the name of the child sold to slavery, and asked that this initiative be given greater daylight by the Board. I promised to highlight the May 1st public meeting at the Pohick Library that will be conducted by David Martosko, the originator of the proposal, in my monthly column. However, I didn't think through the publishing deadlines when I spoke, which requires us to submit columns a week or so after the last Board of Trustees meeting, which is of course earlier than the May 1 publication of the *Conservator*. As an alternative, what follows is my personal record of the earlier March 27th meeting that I attended for your consideration.

But first, I want to repeat stipulations that were communicated in last month's *Conservator*. First, the Conservancy management and the Board of Trustees are aware of this effort and are monitoring its progress. We have been in contact with the Conservancy's attorney as well. Second, the Conservancy has not taken a stand on this matter either for or against it. Our expectation is that Burke residents will be able to have an opportunity to weigh in on this in some capacity before any decision is reached. We know that our local governmental officials are aware of this proposal. I also want to add that any questions on the content or merit of the proposal are best addressed by contacting

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Mr. Martosko at his email address (from his April letter that was published) david@fentonproject.org, and his research can be found at FentonProject.org.

Some observations from the March 27th meeting (and these are my strictly my own): I would say there were somewhere around 60 plus residents/individuals at the library. Mr. Martosko made a well-researched and informative argument for the name change. He summarized his background and credentials and delineated his research and sources. In addition to changing the name of the unincorporated town of Burke to Fenton, he also envisions changing Burke Centre to Fenton Centre, albeit not the names of the streets of our community. The decision to change the name would be made by a United States geographic names board.

When Mr. Martosko finished his presentation, he opened the meeting for questions. I thought roughly two-thirds of the residents attending were against the proposal and spoke to substantive and practical reasons for keeping the Burke name as it stands. However, there were committed residents who spoke for the change to honor the children adversely affected by the slave trade, and to teach present day students of the horror of slavery.

By the time you read this column, May 1st will have passed, and I'll report subsequent events in my next issue. In the meantime, I expect that the Conser-

vancy management and the Board of Trustees will discuss next steps and any proactive actions that should be taken. I would caution that while the Conservancy management and Trustees can speak to matters affecting the Conservancy, please keep in mind that Mr. Martosko's proposal affects Burke as a whole, not just Burke Centre, and we have no authority outside of Burke Centre.

I further ask that residents should learn more about the proposal and feel free to express your views to your representatives both within Burke Centre and with your elected officials at the county, state and federal levels.

In my last column, I discussed the proposal for spending, by one obtained estimate, \$192,000 for upgrades to the Landings tennis courts lighting. I want to clarify that this was an estimate derived from the research conducted, and no formal proposal was prepared for Board consideration. That said, the Board of Trustees has determined that it will not spend this amount of dollars out of our reserves, and the effort to solicit lighting proposals from contractors and continued work by the staff has been suspended at this time.

Please visit <https://burkecentreweb.com/documentview.asp?id=1200> to view the *DRAFT* *Community Center Guidelines* prior to the Board vote. Send comments to: jeannie@burkecentre.org.

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THE LANDINGS

DENIS GULAKOWSKI

Board V.P. & Landings Trustee
landingstrustee@burkecentre.org



Much has happened since my last column. But per usual, let me first pose this month's trivia question: what is the meaning of the idiom "knock on wood"?

- A. Verifying that something is solid
- B. Checking for consistency
- C. Determining if something is real
- D. Preventing evil spirits from interfering
- E. None of these

The answer to this question appears at the end of the column. The answer to last month's trivia question, 'what does burning the midnight oil mean?'. Is B. Work late*.

Now on to the major issues of concern. First, an unexpected failure of the outflow pipe at Meadow Pond occurred on April 9 that essentially dewatered the pond. A local resident noticed the problem shortly after it began, and notified Conservancy staff, who immediately took action to minimize the negative results. Additionally, once the situation was assessed, many nearby neighbors jumped in and helped remove fish and turtles to adjacent Spring Pond.

In a demonstration of solidarity, additional local residents provided food and beverages to the staff and neighbors in support of their efforts to minimize negative effects. Staff has consulted with a storm water management professional to determine the best course of action to remediate the situation. Once the professional makes a determination and recommendation, repair work will begin. An accompanying concern now exists as to the vulnerability of the additional storm water management ponds in Burke Centre. Staff reported the problem to the Board of Trustees, and raised the possibility that additional action may be necessary for the other ponds. As more information becomes available, the board will determine what actions best suit the needs of the community, with respect to all the ponds. Ironically, Fairfax County personnel performed a routine scheduled inspection of the pond last November and it showed no basis for action.

Now onto transportation issues. On March 9, Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) representatives presented their recommendation for speed mitigation applications on Wilmington Drive to the Residential Traffic Administration Program (RTAP) Task Force leadership, the Ponds trustee, the Burke Centre Conservancy (BCC) Facilities & Resources Administrator and myself. During the presentation, FCDOT identified the next steps to be taken with an initial result being the scheduling and conduct of a total task force planning session that occurred on April 22. The results of that meeting included confirming and setting a schedule for the remaining tasks, developing a program for notifying affected residents and considering alternative methods of speed mitigation outside the purview of the RTAP. The task force is proceeding accordingly.

The second transportation issue involved the recommenda-

tions of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for modifications to the intersection of Burke Centre Parkway and the Burke Centre Shopping Center (Chick-fil-A and Kohl's), which resulted from the fatal crash that occurred at that location during the summer of last year. In preparation for this meeting, the staff discussed various aspects of the situation and provided questions and observations to the lead engineer prior to the conduct of the meeting. The VDOT representatives addressed that information and answered questions concerning various possibilities and outcomes associated with the roadway modification. As a result, we felt that VDOT had considered issues about which we were concerned and had satisfactory conclusions associated with them. The representatives indicated that materials for the modification were in stock and work on the project was expected to begin within the next month. Specifics about the project can be found at <https://www.vdot.virginia.gov/projects/northern-virginia-district/burke-centre-shopping-center-left-turn-restriction-in-fairfax-county/>.

Now onto an item regarding a Landings amenity that impacts the entire community. As you may recall, the Board of Trustees previously approved the conversion of a number of tennis courts at the Landings Community Center to the configuration of pickleball courts. In supplementing this process, the Burke Centre Pickleball Association (BCPA) requested several upgrades to the facility to include additional and increased lighting. At the time of approval, the board suggested that staff not implement the court configuration changes until a decision about the other amenities, especially the lighting, be completed. After many discussions with various contractors and service providers, and the BCC staff, the BCPA presented a proposal that would require \$192,000 to be spent to complete the work. Finally, after much discussion, and considering major financial impacts associated with the project, the board decided that the cost was prohibitive and it would be best to pursue the short-term goal of reconfiguring and surfacing the Landings courts designated for pickleball. This decision resulted from significant detailed discussions about cost-benefit ratios and the need to view the impact on overall Conservancy infrastructure requirements.

With respect to other matters, at the last board meeting we agreed to follow up on the Virginia Department of Forestry grant, and approved the 2024 asphalt and concrete paving contract, the rekeying of tennis court locks and scheduling an in-person monthly board meeting for May.

We also discussed the subject that involved an effort by a Burke Centre resident regarding an external issue concerning the naming of the unincorporated location of Burke, in the name of social and cultural equity. This individual has proposed changing the name Burke to Fenton. His

letter to the editor and the Conservancy position on the subject has been published in April's *Conservator* and may be found online at <https://www.fentonproject.org>. This activity and effort associated with it originate from the individual and is in no way associated with the Conservancy. The staff and the board discussed the possible legal ramifications of a name change and will continue to monitor the situation as it develops. *The answer to the trivia question is D.*

In closing, I'm thinking of the old adage, 'April showers bring May flowers' and while previous rainfall has alleviated dryness, I'm hoping the beautiful floral response of our community will continue to improve. In thinking ahead, I want to remind everyone about Memorial Day. It is a day that America remembers and appreciates the sacrifice of generations of men and women who gave their lives in service to their country. Burke Centre's VFW Post 5412 performs the annual remembrance ceremony each year at the Conservancy office. Please check elsewhere in the *Conservator* for specifics. Personally, I will be remembering 19 of my college classmates, who were killed in action during the Vietnam War.

I mentioned May flowers. Allow me to once again extract key lines from the 1961 hit, *"Where Have All the Flowers Gone,"* by the Kingston Trio, which gives us pause, when we remember those who have sacrificed so much.

*"Where have all the flowers gone?
Young girls picked them every one
Where have all the young girls gone?
Gone to young men every one
Where have all the young men gone?
Gone for soldiers every one
Where have all the soldiers gone?
Gone to graveyards every one
Where have all the graveyards gone?
Gone to flowers everyone
Where have all the flowers gone?
Young girls picked them every one
May they rest in peace"*

*The first records of 'burn the midnight oil' come from around 1635. At the time, oil lamps were commonplace and the expression refers to needing lamplight in order to see while reading or working late at night.

**May 20 Board Meeting In-Person, 7:30 PM
Woods Community Center**

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STEVEN SHAPIRO
Oaks Trustee
oakstrustee@burkecentre.org



Neighbors,
Spring arrived in a rush over the last few weeks with trees in bloom everywhere. Many of these are Cherry Trees and other trees with beautiful pink blossoms. The Azaleas are coming into bloom next. Burke Centre is at its most beautiful this time of year. I hope you spent some time outside enjoying the spectacle.

Upcoming In-Person Board of Trustees Meeting: On May 20th the Burke Centre Board of Trustees will hold its first in-person meeting in several years. This will not be a hybrid meeting where the community can attend in person, or by using their computers or smartphones. You must attend the meeting in-person to listen to the discussion of the items on the agenda, or to ask questions about issues that concern you. The meeting will be held at the Woods Community Center at 7:30 PM. All residents of Burke Centre are invited to attend.

Conversion of the Conservator and Enumerate Engage System: The Conversion of The Conservator from paper to computer screen format continues. The July issue will be the first issue that will only be available digitally. Printed copies of The Conservator will be available at the Conservancy Office for residents without computers.

The Conservator will be made available through the “Engage” software system that the Conservancy purchased last year. It will become the backbone of the Conservancy’s communications, documentation and record-keeping. In fact, you will need to use the Engage System to file an ARB application or almost any other transaction with the Conservancy. The Conservancy staff has told us that the Trustees will be given access to the Engage System before the May Board meeting so that we can have some first-hand experience with it before it becomes available to most of the Conservancy’s residents.

It has been suggested that the Conservancy establish a “Help Desk” to assist people that need help signing up for “Engage”. The Conservancy needs volunteers to staff this Help Desk. Contact Jeannie Winslow at the Conservancy if you are interested in becoming part of the Help Desk Team.

Changes at Chick-Fil-A Driveway: On April 17th members of the Board of Trustees and Conservancy staff attended a Virtual meeting with VDOT to discuss their proposed changes at the shopping center driveway that will reduce crashes by vehicles leaving the Chick-Fil-A restaurant. I think that VDOT has a good plan that will force all vehicles to turn right onto westbound Burke Centre Parkway when exiting from this driveway. But it has not talked about where the detoured vehicles will make a U-turn to the eastbound lanes of Burke Centre Parkway, or any changes that will be needed to facilitate this U-turn.

At the April 17th meeting, the Trustees had an opportunity to ask the VDOT project manager about details of the plan, community impacts, and changes in the patterns of traffic flow within the shopping center. VDOT said that based on their analysis they did not anticipate any traffic problems resulting from the detour.

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VDOT staff also said they had addressed the comments of citizens that had desired a public meeting on the proposed changes. The notifications associated with a public meeting would significantly delay the implementation of the safety improvements. The day after the Board’s meeting with VDOT, the Board members passed a motion in support of the VDOT plan and indicated that the Conservancy did not wish to call for a public meeting.

Update on the New Oaks Pool: The Oaks pool will be open this summer, and is likely to be open during the summer of 2025. My current efforts are based on getting additional ideas for the new pool based on comments from the lifeguards that have worked at the Burke Centre pools.

Pickleball Court Lighting: As the Board liaison to the Tennis-Pickleball Task force I feel I have a vested interest in making sure that the Pickleball players get courts they will be proud to play on. In recent months the Pickleball Association has requested that all of the Pickleball Courts at the Landings be significantly improved. Lighting is currently available for two pickleball courts and one tennis court at the Landings, and two tennis courts at the Oaks and the Woods courts. No lighting is provided at the Ponds Tennis Courts and the Commons Tennis Courts. I do not support the expense of paying for superior lighting for pickleball at the Landings while many of the tennis courts have no lighting at all.

Burke Centre is kept beautiful by the maintenance crews that work hard to preserve and enhance our community. These people also support the efforts of local community groups on clean-up drives by picking-up of the garbage bags at the end of the drive. And remember to say something to me or the

Conservancy staff at administration@burkecentre.org when you see something.

Board Briefs continued from p.4

April 26th.

1. ARB Application for Coffe Woods Cluster Landscaping: Trustee Trask motioned that the Coffe Woods Cluster’s ARB application for plantings on their cluster open space be approved. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gulakowski and passed unanimously.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Flaster motioned to adjourn the meeting into an Executive Session to discuss legal and contract matters. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gulakowski and passed unanimously.

The meeting reconvened at 10:05 PM. President Flaster requested that staff direct a letter to the Pickleball Association rejecting the request to expend Conservancy funds to renovate the lighting at the designated Pickleball Courts.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no objections the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:08 PM.



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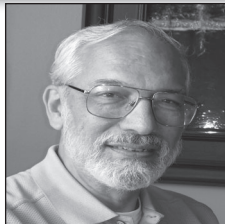
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MAY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT)

THE PONDS

LEE SCHMIDT

Board Secretary & Ponds Trustee
At-Large atlarge trustee1@burkecentre.org



It's Happening in the Ponds this Spring!

Meadow Pond dewatering: Early April 9th morning it was reported that the Meadow Pond water level was very low; and upon investigation, it was confirmed that where the metal drain pipe connected to the concrete riser there was a crack and a leak! Attempts to seal the crack did not work and the water continued to rush out of the pond. O'my what is going to happen to all the aquatic animals therein? An amazing event happened—Many adjacent residents came out that evening to capture said animals and transport them to Spring Pond! Five turtles, many large fish and other animals were safely moved. Signs and fencing was put around this pond to stem intrusion, but some water birds did trespass in. The following Monday, contractors started to visit Meadow Pond to price out proposals for repair.

Wilmington Road speed control: Some months ago, several moms reported their kids felt endangered by speeding vehicles on Wilmington. Fairfax County Transportation (FCDoT) was requested to conduct a speed survey; which indicated there was enough speeding to investigate implementing speed control devices (SCD). It was also necessary to establish a BCC task force to manage relations between

Wilmington area residents and FCDoT under the RTAP (Residential Traffic Administration Program). The County's RTAP suggested locations for SCD on Wilmington were reviewed/discussed at the TF meeting April 22. If the TF concurs with placement of a SCD at suggested locations, it will request BCC BoT endorsement of this plan and give a formal response to the Braddock Supervisor so the APF (Adjacent Property Form) may be distributed to affected property owners. After positive return of APFs, a community meeting and formal voting can occur.

Summer Paving Work: Both VDOT/FCDoT and BCC contractors will be doing paving work this summer in the Ponds. The BCC work is mostly on the trails in the Meadow Pond area. VDOT is programmed to do paving work this summer on most of the VDOT streets southeast of Marshall Pond Road—Belleair, Gooding, Homer Pond Dr/Ct, Knolls Pond, Lucas Pond, Manet, Mantle, Marquand, Meadow Pond, Ormandy, Rand, Skinner, Whidbey, Wicklow, Wilmette, Wilmington, Windward, Winnepeg Ct/Dr, Winter Park, Wolcott---not necessarily in this order. Signs will be posted ten days before a street is to be worked.

And if all have done their Spring Cleaning of their home---both inside and outside yard---and of their cluster, and prepared for the infrastructure work indicated above; then we are ready for Pool Time starting May 25 provided we did our pool pass registration

starting April 18. So have a lot of great Summer fun in all of our very fine amenities—tot lots, trails, courts, and pools.

What is Enumerate Engage?



A new operations system called Enumerate Engage will soon launch at the Conservancy office. It offers a myriad of impressive features and includes a mobile app and website that will become the official communication tools of the Burke Centre Conservancy.

Engage gives members fast access to their account information, as well as governing documents, ARB rules and applications, online forms, events, and more. Fill out and submit Architectural Review applications and have questions answered while online. Post lost pet notices in the neighborhood, Neighborhood Watch alerts, trash collection, cluster updates and so much more.

In time, individual neighborhoods/clusters/committees, charter groups, etc. will be able to manage their own group pages. Engage provides a dynamic way for the whole community to communicate. Extensive help options will be available once the system launches. Watch for your enrollment letter, expected to arrive soon in early June. Please send email to administration@burkecentre.org with any questions or comments you may have.



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MARCH MARKET UPDATE

2024 VS. 2023

+35.6%

MED. SALES PRICE
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-36.8%

HOMES SOLD
24

-68.7%

DAYS ON MARKET
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Data source: Bright MLS. Statistics Calculated as of April 4, 2024

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