



The Gainesville Group

Democratic volunteers serving Prince William County

Issue #3

11/2009

Adopted – Heathcote is ours!

The signs went up and we are now the official sponsors of Heathcote blvd. from Route 29 to Old Carolina Road.



Our Sign on Heathcote

We are required to do 4 cleanups per year along our highway and we have scheduled the first for Saturday, December 12th at 1 pm. The more volunteers we can get to come out the less time it will take so please if you have a little time to spare, send an email to thegainesvillegroup@gmail.com.

We pickup along the sides of the road only, not in the medians, so we aren't crossing traffic. There is a brief video we need to watch that identifies some things to look out for. Dress warmly, vests, gloves, bags, etc. are provided by VDOT.

Summary of October Meeting

Due to the televised gubernatorial debates, turnout for the October meeting was small. That didn't stop us from learning a great deal about the ins and outs of our country's immigration processes thanks to Mr. Syed Saleem our guest speaker.

The discussion ranged over a variety of topics, but foremost was the issue of immigration

practices and the difficulties in finding any information. Through what is called "Administrative Processing" or AP an applicants paperwork can be held up indefinitely with no real recourse for the families. There is no means to learn why the application is delayed, whether there is a problem, when the application will be acted on, or even if it will ever be acted on.

In addition we learned the difficulties in finding places of worship. Mosques are few and sites for new ones are expensive even without the costs of construction. As a result Mr. Saleem

explained, groups lease meeting rooms in local motels. Unfortunately the motels have been known to cancel the agreements with little notice forcing the worshipers to find another location.

New look for the web site

The nice thing about the program I use for the web site is the ease with which I can change the appearance. While the old look was nice, I think the new look is more professional and cleaner. I hope you'll stop by and check it out and let me know what you think. As always if

In This Issue

- **Heathcote**
- **October Meeting**
- **Web Site New Look**
- **Summary of Nov Meeting**
- **December Meeting**

you have any suggestions or advice or expertise to share please email me.

<http://www.thegainevillegroup.org>

November Meeting

A great turnout for this meeting with a lot of good discussion as usual. Of course number one on peoples minds was the election and the poor performance of Democrats. I don't think we solved anything but we did get to vent a little about what we saw as weaknesses in some of the campaigns.

We also discussed volunteer experiences and there were several who indicated their experience was less than ideal. This is an area of concern for any campaign. Having volunteers show up with nothing to do, or having them feel like they were not valued is a sure means to drive them away.

Needless to say there is ample room for improvement in all aspects of our efforts prior to the next



The new look at our website

election in the fall of 2010.

December Meeting

There will be **NO** meeting in December. Instead we are encouraging all members to submit an application to the **Gainesville Magesterial District Democratic Committee** by Dec 5 and attend the reorganization meeting December 12th, 10 am, at Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant ~ 15120 Washington St, Haymarket.

Following the GMDDC meeting we will be gathering at **1 pm** in the parking lot by **Taste of Asian** to begin our **Heathcote cleanup**.

The day will be capped off with a **TGG 1st anniversary party** at our house, aka TGG Headquarters :-), 6349 Retriever Lane, Gainesville (in Heritage Hunt). All

members, friends, and fans of The Gainesville Group are welcome to join us for heavy hor d'ourves from 6 – 8 pm.

Please RSVP to: thegainevillegroup@gmail.com

Any suggestions or comments appreciated.

Carl