



THE GAINESVILLE EXPRESS



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Supervisor John T. Stirrup
Gainesville District

Dear Gainesville Resident,

I hope you and your family enjoyed the holiday season and had a safe and joyous New Year celebration. Starting this year, the Gainesville Express Newsletter will be sent out monthly instead of quarterly. This new schedule will help keep you informed on current information and upcoming events in a more timely fashion. I will continue to hold the Gainesville District Town Hall Meetings quarterly, and I hope you will be able to attend many of the upcoming meetings as your schedule permits.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the voters of the Gainesville District for reelecting me as the Gainesville District Supervisor. It is truly a great honor to represent you. I am looking forward to continuing the partnership with fellow residents in facing the challenges and sharing in the benefits of this dynamic and beautiful Gainesville District that we call home.

Sincerely,

John T. Stirrup
Gainesville District Supervisor



Judge LeRoy Millette, Jr. delivers the oath of office to Supervisor Stirrup at the Swearing-In Ceremony at the McCoart Building, December 19, 2007

January 10, 2008 Next Gainesville District Quarterly Town Hall Meeting:

Please join Supervisor Stirrup for his next Town Hall Meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 10, 2008 at the Haymarket Town Hall, located at 15000 Washington Street in Haymarket. Supervisor Stirrup invited local officials to speak and join in a question & answer session. Board of County Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart, School Board Chairman Milt Johns, Town of Haymarket Mayor Pam Stutz and Gainesville District School Board Member Don Richardson are scheduled to attend.

Recap of the October 17, 2007 Town Hall Meeting:

Two major topics were covered: 1) an update on the power lines and 2) immigration legislation on the county, state and federal level.

Power Lines

Energy Economist Jeff Brown began the update reporting that 300 people testified at the State Corporation Commission (SCC) public hearings regarding why the transmission line should not be built, presenting 30 hours of testimony that was accepted as part of the record. Because of the significance of the filing and the volume of information presented, the State Corporation Commission staff has requested more time to review the testimony. December 14, 2007 was the deadline for written comments to the SCC, January 14, 2008, is the public hearing for personally delivered testimony with the Evidentiary Hearing scheduled for February 25, 2008. Assistant County Attorney Kevin Black will present Prince William County's position.

Next, Jim Feeney, retired Assistant Director of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, spoke of the Department of Energy's (DOE) designation of the Mid-Atlantic Area National Corridor which includes Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, Delaware, and the District of Columbia. The DOE designation was made despite strong objections from elected officials and hundreds of individuals who submitted comments and testimony in opposition of a National Corridor. DOE's authority for this action was made possible by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and allows the designation to remain in effect for 12 years. Jim Feeney encouraged letters to the Governor and Attorney General urging them to file for a rehearing and to challenge the DOE's decision in court by the DOE deadline which was November 5, 2007.

Following Jim Feeney, Delegate Bob Marshall spoke about his legislation HB3031 which is now implemented into the Virginia Code, which allows localities to designate electrical transmission corridors in their Comprehensive Plans. If adopted, the electrical transmission corridor designation by the County would require the SCC to "consider, upon the request of the governing body of any county or municipality in which the line is proposed to be constructed, (i) the costs and economic benefits likely to result from requiring the underground placement of the line and (ii) any potential impediments to timely construction of the line."

Immigration

Delegate Marshall began the immigration discussion by stating that in 1950 sheriffs were required to identify illegal immigrants. Immigration reform of 1986 took away state powers. These laws need to be changed. Virginia Senator Ken Cuccinelli, II, successfully passed SB1412, which gives a locality's zoning administrator power to enforce overcrowding of houses.

Board Chairman Corey Stewart then addressed the meeting, saying that since Supervisor Stirrup introduced the Rule of Law Resolution the county has started to make progress on stemming the tide of illegal immigration. "We never used to check for immigration status when someone was pulled over, or even at the jail. We released people on bond without checking their status." What the Board has done is not the cure, but we have seen positive changes already. We need more tools from the federal and state level."

The final speaker was Alan Knapp, Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Representative Judge Ted Poe from Texas, who requested those present to keep current on immigration issues. Mr. Knapp reported that other communities are looking to Prince William County for leadership, and that there are 100 Congressmen on an immigration caucus to assist us in our efforts. Information on the caucus can be found at <http://www.house.gov/bilbray/irc/>. “Until we can secure our borders, Congress needs to support the localities.”



*Alan Knapp, Delegate Bob Marshall, Jim Feeney, Jeff Brown & Supervisor Stirrup
October 17, 2007 Town Hall Meeting at Bull Run Middle School*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Board of County Supervisors Meetings

January 8th, 15th & 22nd starting at 2:00 p.m. in the Board Chambers at the McCoart Building located at 1 County Complex, Woodbridge. Meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Cable Channel 23, and then re-broadcast in their entirety at 7:30 p.m. on the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday following the Tuesday Board meeting and at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Transmission Line Hearing January 14, 2008 Reminder

Currently, Dominion Power and those opposed to the Meadowbrook to Loudoun transmission line are preparing to present their cases before the State Corporation Commission (SCC). The next scheduled hearing will be Monday, January 14, 2008, and will solely hear additional public witnesses. This meeting will be held in the Commission’s second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23219 and will begin at 9 a.m. Arrive early and sign-in with the bailiff. Keep in mind, if a person has already appeared and testified at the local hearing, he or she may not be allowed to speak again unless new information is being shared. The Evidentiary Hearing is scheduled for February 25, 2008.

County Accepting Applications from Youth for Community Works Training

The Prince William County Office on Youth is soliciting applications for the Community Works – Smart Teens Make Safer Communities training. Community Works provides teens with the information, skills and connections needed to make a meaningful contribution to the prevention of crime and to begin a life-long journey of leadership. The training is free and open to area high school students in grades 9–12. The training focuses on developing leadership skills, crime prevention and becoming involved in the community. Materials and lunch are included free with the training.

The program will be held at the James J. McCoart Administration Building on Saturday, February 2, 2008 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday, February, 9, 2008 from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Completion of all sessions on both days is required to receive a graduation certificate. To receive an application, call the Office on Youth at 703-792-6095 or visit the Web site at <http://www.pwcgov.org/youth>. The deadline to apply for the program is January 24, 2008.

**Prince William County Neighborhood Conference, "Building Community,"
February 2, 2008**

The conference, 'Building Community,' will be held Saturday, February 2, 2008 at the County Complex in Woodbridge from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. In the morning, both neighborhood groups and homeowner associations will learn an exciting and useful tool to address their community's challenges. Afternoon sessions are designed for the unique needs of HOA and non-HOA neighborhoods with four different tracks.

Registration is required. There is a \$25 registration fee that includes speakers' handouts, reference materials, morning and afternoon breaks and lunch. Questions? Call Neighborhood Services at 703-792-7018 or write preilly@pwcgov.org. The registration brochure for the Neighborhood Conference can be downloaded from the Neighborhood Services pages on the Prince William County government web site, <http://www.pwcgov.org/default.aspx?topic=010012002240003102>.

DID YOU KNOW?

Prince William Board of County Supervisors Meeting Archives

[PWC - BOCS Meeting Archives](#)

The board meetings are available for review. If you would like to find out how the supervisors voted, review a resolution, presentation or land use application, just click the link above.

Prince William County Police Department Has A Citizen Police Academy

Get an application!

[Citizen Police Academy Application Form](#)

Do you wonder what it would be like to be a police officer? How do they make the decisions they make? What does a detective do? How are they trained?

The Citizen Police Academy gives citizens an overview of the Prince William County Police Department. Graduates of the course will have a better understanding of the operation of the Department and a greater awareness and appreciation of the challenges and decisions faced by Prince William County police officers each day.

The Citizen Police Academy provides citizens with insight into the operation and activities of the Prince William County Police Department. The nine-week program meets one evening per week and consists of classroom and hands-on instruction. Topics to be covered include virtually every aspect of police work including Patrol Operations, Criminal Investigations, Tactical Operations, Crime Scene Management, Internal Affairs and Special Operations. In addition, participants will be given the opportunity to ride a shift with a patrol officer and be familiarized with police equipment including firearms.

For more information, call the Criminal Justice Academy at 703-792-6599.

Recent Happenings in Gainesville



Supervisor Stirrup at Fall Festival at Gateway Center in Gainesville



Scott Chambers, Senior Aide to Supervisor Stirrup

Sudley United Methodist Church's 84th Annual Turkey/ Oyster Dinner & Bazaar



Back row l to r: Martha Hendley, Gail Mockaitis, Corey Stewart & Scott Chambers
Front row l to r: Karen Ulrich, Carol Ferguson & John Stirrup

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