



News from the Redwood Empire Environmental Center

"I firmly believe, from what I have seen, that this is the chosen spot of all the earth as far as Nature is concerned." Luther Burbank

Town Hall Coalition Annual Report 2005-2006

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to announce the one year anniversary of the formation of the Redwood Empire Environmental Center in Sebastopol. Town Hall Coalition, Community Clean Water Institute, and other progressive grassroots groups have successfully combined our resources to provide a facility that is available to neighborhood groups and people from communities throughout Sonoma County. We are pleased to provide you with Town Hall Coalition Annual Report, which highlights our accomplishments over the past year and provides information about our continued programs.

We need your financial support to sustain our valuable work to protect community rights and the common good. Your donations to Town Hall Coalition will support our continued work to form a coalition of grassroots neighborhood groups and advocate for protection of our forests and healthy rural communities through responsible land use. Please send your tax-deductible donations to Town Hall Coalition and/or Community Clean Water Institute in the enclosed envelope. We appreciate your continued support and look forward to working with you to protect the quality of life in Sonoma County.



Political Comedy Night 2006



**Dick n Dubya headline Political Comedy
Night at the Sebastopol Community Center.**

Hilarious political satire with SF Mime Troupe's Amos Glick as Dubya and Ed Holmes as Dick with all new songs, speeches, a press conference and more. Also featuring stand up comedian Johnny Steele.

Sunday April 2nd

Sebastopol Community Center

5:00 PM Pre-show Reception with Dick and Dubya

6:30 PM Music

7:00 PM Comedy Show

Tickets: \$20 Show only

Pre-show Reception with Dick and Dubya, and Show- \$100
Starlight Wine Bar in Sebastopol - wine, appetizers, photo ops -
w/VIP seating at show (limited)

Reservations: Send check in the envelope- write "Comedy Night"
in the memo. Call (707) 824-4371, or tickets available at
Copperfield's Books in Sebastopol, or at the Redwood Empire
Environmental Center.



Town Hall Coalition

Town Hall Coalition's mission is to build a social movement that promotes ecologically and economically healthy communities through responsible land use.

Town Hall Projects Update

Since our formation over eight years ago, the staff and volunteers of the Town Hall Coalition have advocated to protect Sonoma County forests, wildlands, rural community rights, and the common good. We have assisted with the formation and support of independent grassroots neighborhood groups throughout the county. We follow important issues before the Board of Supervisors and other decision making bodies. We analyze policy, comment, and provide you with alerts because we know that people are busy and do not have time to attend Board meetings and follow each development. We need your financial support to keep our office open, pay our staff, and continue to provide information to you about policies that impact the quality of life. Please consider giving a generous donation. Make your checks to Town Hall Coalition and send it in the envelope provided with this newsletter. Thank you for your continued support.

Forest Conversion Ordinance

Sonoma County's remaining redwood forests are threatened by encroaching development and conversion to vineyards. Town Hall Coalition has been working since 1998 to pass a County Ordinance regulating Forest Conversion. On February 7, 2006, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 for a Timber Conversion Ordinance which gives the County guidelines to begin regulating conversions of our precious forests for the first time. But the problem of "Chainsaw Wine" is still a threat. Stay tuned!



General Plan Update



Town Hall Coalition joined Coastal Forest Alliance and others to protest "Chainsaw Wine"- deforestation for vineyards at the Board of Supervisors on August 23, 2005.

Town Hall Coalition will be submitting comments as Sonoma County updates its General Plan in 2006. This is an opportunity to protect our rural neighborhoods from wine factory invasions. We are in the process of commenting on the General Plan update which allows placement of "agricultural" support services including wine bottling factories; event, wedding, and concert halls; parking lots; commercial kitchens; roadside wine bars, campgrounds, bed and breakfasts, tourist souvenir shops and other commercial and industrial uses sprawled throughout diversified ag land and other rural areas of the county.

Formation of Neighborhood Groups-Save Our Sonoma County (SOS)

Town Hall Coalition has organized a network of grassroots neighborhood groups in rural areas throughout Sonoma County who are threatened by the development of wine factories and related uses where there is no infrastructure. These wine factories threaten water, public health, and safety of the residents in these neighborhoods. Wine factories belong in areas that are zoned for industry with infrastructure such as sewer, water, and roads. Contact the Town Hall office for more information.

Town Hall Coalition's 2005 Financial Report can be found on our website: www.townhallcoalition.org

Town Hall Coalition Board of Directors

Toben Dilworth
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Staff
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Town Hall Coalition 2005-2006 Annual Report



Inside:

Political Comedy Night- April 2, 2006

*Dick and Dubya from the SF Mime Troupe perform
hilarious political satire - Sebastopol Community Center.*

See inside for details.

- Town Hall Coalition Update:

New County Forest Conversion Ordinance

General Plan Update

Save Our Sonoma County Neighborhood Group

***Your tax deductible donation helps support the work of
Town Hall Coalition.***

Thank you for your support!

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