

**ALL LAFAYETTE RESIDENTS**

— why do you live here?

April 23rd 7pm Laf. Library and Learning Center

**TOWN HALL MEETING—COME & BE HEARD!**

Tired of the traffic? Keep open space?  
What happened to 'semi-rural'?  
Local vs. Regional Planning?  
Maintain our good schools?

Q&A with  
Mayor and State  
Rep. C. Baker.

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**Heads up for Dogtown this Saturday**

By Cathy Tyson



Artist Winston Smith and the three Dogs.

Photo Central Services

Mature residents will recognize the beloved smiling icons of the now defunct hot dog chain that will be visiting Lafayette's Dogtown Downtown this Saturday, April 11. Although the last of the Bay Area restaurants closed in 1986, the 10-foot-tall grinning dachshunds wearing bow ties and chef's hats are still with us. Age and California's sunshine have been a little hard on the pooches, so current owner of three dog heads, John Law, initiated a Kickstarter campaign that garnered over \$51,000 from 818 backers to pay for extensive refurbishment, complete with customized interior structural supports to replace the rusted out framing and professional paint and fiberglass work from top notch auto painters.

When talking about tracking down the dog head owner, organizer extraordinaire of the Dogtown Downtown event and executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, Jay Lifson, joked: "I stalked him online." He had heard about them and wanted to see if they could make an appearance. Turns out, Law is happy to share the pups – Manny, Moe and Jack, also known as the "Holy Dogminican Order" – at public events, gratis. The head float will be available for photos, but some may have their facelifts only

partially complete. It's no small feat to bring back the luxurious shine to their coats and spruce up their attire.

Saturday's Dogtown event starts at 10 a.m. with a dog parade strolling from Plaza Park to the Library. This second annual celebration of all things dog will include working dogs and canine agility demonstrations, dog competitions, creative crafts and more. Proud pooch owners who bear a resemblance to their furry friends are invited to compete in the "Looks Most Like Owner" event. Dog lovers are invited to partake in the best costume, best of show and best dog-owner team trick – kind of like the Westminster Kennel Club show-down, but way more casual and fun. There will also be veterinary specialists offering advice inside the Library; well-behaved dogs are welcome.

Thinking about adoption? Both the Animal Rescue Foundation and Contra Costa Animal Services will be offering pet adoptions. There will also be a special reading by author Dorothy Hinshaw Patent of her heartwarming book, "Saving Audi: A pit bull puppy gets a second chance." The event runs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is sponsored by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, the Lafayette Library and Learning Center and the City of Lafayette.

**Litigation Dilemma Over Wight House**

Who will sue?

By Cathy Tyson

The drama surrounding the controversial large home at the end of Monticello Road puts the Lafayette City Council in a very awkward position.

"The Wights have been very explicit; if we deny the project there will be litigation," said Council Member Don Tatzin, adding that based on correspondence from the neighbors "there is a reasonable basis to conclude that if we approve the project there will be litigation." He requested a closed session in the near future, to bring all the city council members up to speed and explore the issues.

With only three of the five city council members in attendance on

March 23, they were hesitant to make a final decision, but Mayor Brandt Andersson did direct staff to prepare a revised Mitigated Negative Declaration and to make changes to the Construction Management Plan. All agreed that it would be best to review the findings at a later date when all five are present.

Neighbors continued to express their concern about vehicle traffic – preferring one vehicle at a time on the street, but the Construction Management Plan isn't entirely clear about the number of trips per day and applicability of restrictions for large or small trucks, as well as standard-sized car trips. ... continued on page A9

**Security Camera Town Hall**

Somebody's watching you

Learn best practices, get questions answered and pick up general information about home and neighborhood security cameras at an upcoming Town Hall sponsored by the Lafayette Police Department and the Crime Prevention Commission. The second annual Residential Community and Homeowner Security Camera System meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 at the Lafayette Veterans Memorial Center, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

According to Lafayette Police

Chief Eric Christensen, home and car burglaries have fallen and police are catching bad guys like never before, benefitting from effective cameras to deter and solve crimes. "Since we embarked on this engagement over the past few years, the number of residential communities and homeowners who have installed cameras have grown – and it has tangibly and positively impacted the crime situation in the city," said Cam Burks, chair of the Lafayette Crime Prevention Commission. C. Tyson

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On a fabulous cul-de-sac in the heart of Burton Valley sits this beautifully updated 2-story 4BD/2.5BA home. This lovely 3,133+/- sf. retreat is located on .88+/- acres with ample room to create your dream yard. A private path takes you to Rancho Colorados Swim & Tennis Club.  
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*Executive Living*

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**ALAIN PINEL**