

# 2011 City of Lafayette Awards of Environmental Excellence

## ***Lafayette Resident***

**Gint Federas**: *Going green is a process, not a single event.* Gint Federas has embodied this concept in his home by undertaking a number of green practices, including: replacing all indoor and outdoor lighting to energy-efficient bulbs; installing solar panels; replacing the pool pump; installing a tankless water heater; composting in a worm farm; and insulating and weather-stripping. These practices have resulted in significant home energy savings, and are examples of what everyone can do in their own homes.

## ***Schools***

**Lafayette School District Green Team**: The District Green Team, a collaborative project of the Lafayette School District and Sustainable Lafayette, conducted energy, water, and waste audits across all campuses in 2009, and began implementing upgrades in 2010 that are already saving over \$75,000 per year for the District. Upgrades include: replacing all gym lights; replacing windows; installing water-saving devices; implementing a lunch recycling program; and creating a new District energy policy. The project has depended on an energized group of "School Liaisons" that provide leadership at individual schools. Members of the Green Team are: Barbara Williams, Fred Brill, Rob Davies, Sue Rusk, Art Kapoor, Shayne Silva, Ann Johnston, Nanette Hefferman, Brad Crane, Erika Prinsheim-Moore, Autumn Gonzalez, Violet Hsu, and Lisa Evaristo.

## ***Lafayette Businesses***

**Clocks, Etc.**: Clocks, Etc. is a Lafayette Green Business. It strives to be an active example of what businesses can do to reduce waste and adopt green practices to help Lafayette reach its waste reduction and environmental goals. Examples of these practices include: changing lighting to energy-efficient CFLs; recycling paper, shipping materials, glass, plastic and cans; offering a new line of green lighting fixtures; and using recyclable plastic bubble wrap. Clocks, Etc. supports local artists, and donates defective but useable products to ARF (Animal Rescue Fund).

**ECOlunchboxes.com**: ECOlunchboxes was founded out of a Lafayette mom's desire for sustainable and non-toxic lunchware for her children and a desire to reduce lunchtime waste. Sandra Harris founded the company in 2008 to make lunchware that was plastic-free as well as waste-free, vinyl-free, PVC-free, sweatshop-free, lead-free, and generally free of all toxins. Now the stainless steel lunchboxes and cotton lunch bags and napkins are now sold throughout the United States and distributed throughout Canada and Australia.

## ***Green Building***

**Ecohouse Design Team**: The Ecohouse project began in January 2011 and completed in January 2012. The goal was to take an original 1950s California ranch house, and convert it into a sustainable house for the future. The project was designed using Build It Green's Green Point Rating system. A blog was created to track the progress of the project, and act as a learning tool for others who are interested in doing something similar. While still calculating energy savings, the first PG&E bill was only \$50. Members of the Design Team include: Ken Hertel (architect), Michael Brison Bornn (designer), Karen Maggio (project manager and homeowner), and Mike Richardson (builder).