



Burton Valley Elementary School Wins Green Award

... continued from page 1

You can't beat it." Hot lunch costs \$3.40, if students only want salad bar, \$1.90.

With a student body of about 640, excluding kindergarteners, Evaristo estimates that between 90% and 95% of the students participate in hot lunch on popular low-fat pizza day. Even on their worst day about 60% of the students buy lunch. In half-hour intervals from 11:00 through 12:30, kids rotate through lunch like a well-oiled machine – parent volunteers, Green Team and food all ready to roll.

Evaristo describes the Green Team as an extraordinary group of fourth graders that supervise clean up, separating out recyclables - milk cartons and water bottles, trays, and food waste that goes to the chickens at Merriewood next door first, with leftovers going directly to the school garden for compost. The group changes every six weeks, so everyone gets an opportunity to sort

The school has gone from ten containers of garbage per day

down to one – by encouraging hot lunch, and nudging students who bring their lunch to pack it in a reusable sack and to choose recyclable Tupperware containers, or re-using baggies.

Burton Valley used to use sugar cane trays that were completely recyclable for hot lunch, but they unfortunately cost \$450 per month and filled an entire trash can. Now indestructible, reusable bright red trays are used.

To celebrate Earth Week, special stations were set up around campus that the students rotated through. Sodexo arranged for the The Dairy Council to bring Ellie the cow and Della the calf to the school (a big hit with the kids), a station called Germ City – illuminating proper hand washing techniques, local farmer and recycling/composting lessons rounded out the special offerings that day.

One edible component of Earth Week was the first ever A to Z salad bar, offering fruits and vegetables corresponding to all 26 letters of the alphabet. Thank goodness for quince (Q) and a variety of grape that starts with the letter X.

"Every school is different," said John Scatena of Sodexo, "Clients request we provide fresh local food. We are not in business to disappoint our customers."

He continued, "We are very aware of sustainability, we make every effort to get our produce from within 150 miles, closer if possible. It's a requirement to source locally." Because of its size Sodexo can negotiate lower prices, especially on organic items that can be a bit more expensive.

Providing this healthy lunch, "Wouldn't be possible without all the parents that volunteer their time to serve," said Scatena. Approximately 125 moms, dads, and grandparents help serve lunches, estimates Evaristo.

"Everyone from students, staff, and the PTA – really work on reducing our waste, it's a team effort," said Assistant Principal Chris Reddam.

Awards for Environmental Excellence Announced

The City of Lafayette and Sustainable Lafayette recently announced the winners of the 2009 Green Awards, to people and businesses that have contributed to making Lafayette a more sustainable city by encouraging environmental excellence.

Resident Award - Louise Clark

For retrofitting her 52-year old home to become energy efficient and not burn any fossil fuel. (See our article on page OH1)

Resident Award - Jim Peacock

For remodeling a 1929 downtown cottage with a vast array of recycled materials.

Business Award - Diablo Foods

For offering local products, developing a mini Farmers Market, composting organic waste, offering green household products, and supporting sustainable practices by customers.

Business Award - Yankee Pier

For choosing to serve only ocean-fresh, local seafood, in accordance with Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch program and in promoting practices that are healthy for the oceans.

Business Award - ABsolute Center

For being a model of environmental sustainability as a certified Contra Costa Green Business and by their commitment to conserve resources and protect the environment.

Community Organization Award

Local Food Group

For bringing together a group of

For bringing together a group of determined volunteers to make local foods more available in the community and for starting the Lafayette Farmers Market in the downtown.

Community Organization Award - Lafayette Chamber of Commerce

For creating its Green Committee, starting the Green Business Recognition Program, making the Chamber Office greener, and transforming the Art & Wine Festival into the most successful large event recycling program in the County.

School Award - Lafayette School District

For installing solar panels in four of its five schools to save approximately 20 percent of the District's annual projected electrical energy costs.

School Award -

Lisa Evaristo of Burton Valley School

For transforming the school's hot lunch program into something more ecologically responsible and nutritious and reducing daily lunch waste from ten cans to one can.

Green Building Award - Lennox House

(John & Gwenn Lennox, Faulkner Architects, Tom Alderson, and Brent Buckham) For its use of solar, reclaimed rainwater, gray water, drought-tolerant landscaping, environmentallyfriendly materials, radiant heating and daylighting

C. Tyson



MOFD Chief Appointed to National Committee

design.

he Moraga Orinda Fire L District's (MOFD) Fire Chief Randall Bradley has been appointed to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Wildland Fire Operational Advisory Committee. This newly formed committee of ten representatives from federal, state, local and private organizations will meet this month to begin developing a strategic plan that will set the course for NFPA's Wildland Fire Operations Division for the next three to five years.

"I am honored to be selected as one of the charter members of this important committee. I believe the committee will serve as a catalyst for NFPA to begin to form a strategy to help address the wildland fire problem in the United States. We can apply what we learn to the wildland fire problem within our District," said Bradley.

According to MOFD Fire Marshall Michael Mentink, Bradley has served on NFPA's Technical Committee of Forest and Rural Fire Protection for 17 years and as the Committee's Chairman for eight years.

During his three year term on the committee, Bradley will help facilitate in-



formation and resource exchange between NFPA's Wildland Fire Operations Division and individuals from other groups involved in wildland fire safety, and will also make program and activity recommendations to strengthen NFPA resources to reduce the impact of wildland fires on people, property and natural resources.

L. Borrowman

Two Realtors working as one, dedicated to creating your finest real estate experience!





131 Marsha Place, Lafayette Burton Valley Beauty!

Located at the top of quiet Burton Valley cul-de-sac home exudes warmth, character & enjoys spectacular views from almost every rm. This 5BD/3BA 2549+/sf beauty w/great flat yard is conveniently located near Burton Valley Elem. and Rancho Swim and Tennis Club.

\$1,150,000 <u>www.131Marsha.com</u>

6 Juniper Drive, Lafayette Sophisticated and Stylish Rancher!

Situated on a corner lot w/gorgeous landscaping, this sensational 4BD/3BA 2,609+/-sf home has been completely remodeled (inside & out!) w/great attention to detail & quality. A sm. neighborhood assoc. offers a beautiful pool & tennis court. Every aspect of this home speaks sophistication & style!

\$1,419,000 <u>www.6JuniperDr.com</u>





325 Calle La Montana, Moraga

Phenomenal Campolindo Stunner!

Rebuilt 5BD/3.5BA stunner on .50+/-ac w/unrivaled panoramic Mt. Diablo views. Beautifully crafted 3700+/-sf home w/ designer upgrades & top quality finishes. Gorgeous gourmet kitchen, 2 spacious master suites w/ luxurious master bath. Designed for grand scale entertaining & comfortable family living.

\$1,350,000 www.CalleLaMontana.com

2133 Ptarmigan #2, Rossmoor

Stunning Santa Clara Condo With Views!

Beautifully remodeled 1.212+/-sf condo w/

2BD/2BA + den. This sophisticated level-in end unit w/sensational views has been completely updated including a wonderful kitchen w/granite countertops, updated baths, crown molding, smooth ceilings, private patio, grass area AND an attached carport.

\$399,000 www.2133Ptarmigan.com





2598 Oak Road. Apt. 286, Walnut Creek Lovely Updated Ashford Condo!

Exceptional 2BD/2.5BA 1,168+/-sf remodeled condo w/2 private patios & sep. garage. Beautifully updated throughout incl. updated kitchen w/granite counters, baths w/Toto Toilets, Bang & Olufsen stereo & speakers wired throughout, recessed lighting, new carpet, paint, Fabian light fixtures from Italy, marble fireplace with mantle, crown molding & more.

\$375,000 www.2598Oak.com

57 San Pablo Court, Moraga Coming Soon - Charming Dutch Colonial! Lovely 4BD/2.5BA two-story 2,878 +/-sf Dutch colonial on a wonderful quiet cul-de-sac. Fantastic floor plan w/beautiful living room, family room, formal dining area and eat-in kitchen downstairs. The bedrooms and an additional large sunlit bonus room upstairs. Located on .44+/-ac with a great

patio, grass area and sparkling pool.

Call for more information.



Cora Bahl Assistant & Licensed Agent DRE# 01859332