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Lafayette's Green Award Winners

Every year the Green Awards single out people and businesses that contribute to a more sustainable community. Five winners, each representing a unique category, were recently selected by the Environmental Task Force and honored at a City Council meeting.

Lafayette Resident Category: Gint Federas took on a number of aspects of his home, replacing all indoor and outdoor lighting, installing solar panels, replacing the pool pump, installing a tankless water heater and more; the net result is significant home energy savings.

School category: Lafayette School District Green Team— Partnering with Sustainable Lafayette, the Lafayette School District conducted energy, water and waste audits across all campuses in 2009 and started implementing upgrades in 2010 that are already saving \$75,000 per year for the District. Gym lights were replaced, windows were replaced, and a lunch recycling program was kicked

off, with substantial assistance from students. "School Liaisons" at each school were an integral part of making Green Team so successful.

A tie in the Business category: Clocks, etc. changed all of the light fixtures in the store and is now offering a new line of green lighting fixtures. They're also recycling paper, shipping materials and more, supporting local artists and donating defective but useable products to ARF—the Animal Rescue Fund. ECOLunchboxes.com is a Lafayette-based, non-toxic lunch container company.

Green Building category: The Ecohouse Design Team took a year to transform an original 1950s ranch house into a sustainable home of the future. The very first PG & E bill for the home was only \$50. Members of the Design Team include architect Ken Hertel, designer Michael Brison Bornn, homeowner and project manager Karen Maggio and builder Mike Richardson. *C. Tyson*

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As seen in Lafayette...



Not something you see every day, but on a recent warm Sunday afternoon the French Quarter came to Lafayette complete with crawfish and a fantastic Zydeco band to entertain guests on the back patio at Yankee Pier restaurant. A native of southern Louisiana, Andrew Carriere, and his band, the Cajun Classics, set the tone for the New Orleans Crawfish Boil theme meal that was created to welcome summer weather to Lamorinda and celebrate the official opening of the back patio. A substantial turnout of happy diners enjoyed the relaxing rhythmic vibe, spicy crawfish, potatoes, roasted garlic cloves and artichoke halves, under the shade of umbrellas, surrounded by lush flowering plants. General Manager and Partner Michael Moore said there may be future musical events over the summer, stay tuned. *C. Tyson*

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