



David Haskell with
Tibetan Peace Candles



1st Thursday

April 5, 2007 🐉 7-9 pm

Dear recipients of this announcement: if you can, please let us know the likelihood of your attending the upcoming First Thursday by emailing us at RSVP@marinefm.org. Rather than necessarily implying a firm commitment on your part to attend or not, your response will help us decide (1) whether to adjust the intensity of our outreach, and (2) how many chairs to set up at our venue (usually the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership, 555 Northgate Drive, San Rafael).

First Thursday: Environmental Forum of Marin
Conversations on the Environment
April 5, 2007

David Haskell
Nelson, New Zealand

Bio: 4th generation California Native Son and 30 years resident of New Zealand. For the past three years David has been the project manager for the award winning Garden of Eatin' Childhood Obesity Prevention Project at Novato's North Bay Children's Center. David is a graduate of UC Berkeley. He was honored for his service to New Zealand by Queen Elizabeth for work he led as Director of Conservation with the NZ Ministry of Energy. David also contributed to New Zealand becoming the first nation on Earth to formally adopt a Zero Waste Policy. Recently and locally, he has been involved in speaking for and helping to organize Marin County's approach to Zero Waste. David says he does his work in America in honor of his NZ grandson – "As guardians of this Earth, we are responsible for every child's health and well being."

Discussion Topic:

Have Our Children Become the Unintended "Canaries in the Cage"?

Coal Miners take caged canaries down in the mine shaft as an early warning system. The canary, with its tiny quick-beating heart and fast metabolism, succumbs to poisonous gases long before the toxic conditions affect the men. Have our children become the unintended canaries in our toxic world? If so, what can we do to help our children and their families make healthy choices at home, in school and in our communities? What policy issues affect our ability to provide our children a healthy environment? How can our shared concern for children increase the effectiveness of our pursuit of a sustainable way of life?

The Environmental Forum of Marin is committed to promoting a sustainable world through environmental education. In keeping with our mission, First Thursday conversations on the environment are intended to provide opportunities for members and guests of our community to present information, knowledge, and experience; to share and discuss points of view that deepen our understanding and enhance our preparedness to act wisely – rather than to advocate for a particular position or course of action.