

## **Aloha Urban Farming Solar Garden System Recycles Water for School Farm**

*Hydroponic vertical garden uses 90% less water, grows 24 healthy plants in 3.4 square feet.*

**NEWPORT BEACH, California – May 18, 2015** – Ramona Convent Secondary School’s new sustainable farm has gone high tech with the addition of two hydroponic food gardening systems. Both systems use up to 90% less water than traditional growing methods through recycling. Aloha Urban Farming’s Vertical Victory Garden can grow 24 edible plants in only 3.4 square feet. The second system recycles water through solar power.

These innovative systems, gifts from the Rybicki family, were developed by Alan Smith, Founder, Aloha Urban Farming Company, Newport Beach, CA. The garden systems were recently presented to Ramona’s President, Sister Kathleen Callaway, SNJM, in Alhambra, CA by Euphemia Ratkowski Rybicki, former president of both Ramona’s Alumnae/Past Pupil Association and the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce, and Smith.

He also provided the garden systems installation and hydroponic training to Francois Laborie, Ramona’s farm program director. By combining hydroponics (soilless horticulture) and space-saving technology, the self-watering Vertical Victory Garden and solar-powered system recycle 100% of the water used. Growing healthy vegetables, greens and herbs couldn’t be easier. Research shows they grow twice as fast as in conventional edible gardens. “We want everyone to have healthy, nutrient-rich food. California’s drought is the driving force behind our commitment to water-recycling systems,” said Smith.

“Aloha Urban Farming Company is dedicated to giving back to the community. For each unit sold, a donation will be made to Ramona’s farm program. I envision working with Ramona to support a hands-on education program for students that could evolve into a farmer’s market. My mission is to help people achieve greater self-sufficiency by teaching them how simple and economical it is to feed themselves and their families in a healthy, environmentally responsible way. My vision is that parents and teachers will nurture children to grow their dinner while saving water and building self-esteem,” Smith said.

For more information about these hydroponic garden systems, contact Alan Smith at 844.235.851 or visit [www.AlohaUrbanFarming.com](http://www.AlohaUrbanFarming.com).



Alan Smith of Aloha Urban Farming Company and former Alhambra Chamber of Commerce president, Euphemia “Fame” Rybicki (seated), presented solar-powered, water-recycling garden systems to Ramona Convent President, Sister Kathleen Callaway, SNJM on Monday, April 27. Students can learn to grow healthy food while recycling water on Ramona’s sustainable farm.