

COMMUNITY

New Chance for \$1000 Scholarship

The Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Scholarship Office recently announced a new opportunity for local high school seniors from the Class of 2016 to apply for Doyle Scholarships or Doyle Trustee Awards of up to \$1000 to attend SRJC during the 2016-17 academic year. The 2016-17 Doyle Scholarship application, which initially closed on March 13, is being reopened through June 30.

"We are very pleased to be able to offer these scholarships and awards to more students," said SRJC Student Financial Services Director Jana Cox. "At this time of year, many high school seniors are evaluating options for their future. Like tens of thousands before them, today's students may find that a Doyle Scholarship or Doyle Trustee Award could

make an important difference in helping them achieve their educational goals and dreams."

At the end of the first cycle in March, there were 1,544 total applicants for the Doyle scholarships; 1,162 were considered qualified. The SRJC Scholarship Committee recommended awards of \$1,000 for the 2016-17 academic year, based on a combination of fund balance, reserve requirements, program growth, and historical and projected acceptance rates. Currently, 90 students are under review to receive Doyle Trustee awards. In addition, 482 Doyle Scholars from the Class of 2015 will receive a renewal offer of their Doyle Scholarships for the 2016-17 academic year.

The Frank P. Doyle and Polly O'Meara Doyle Trust generates distributions for scholarships

to help qualified high school students who will be attending SRJC full-time. During the 2016-17 academic year, Doyle Trustee awards are for high school seniors who have a GPA between 2.0 and 2.74. The complete application, including eligibility information, for the 2016-17 Doyle Trustee award is available at <https://goo.gl/ObY7ZV>.

For the Doyle Scholarship, high school students who will graduate in the 2015-2016 academic year and have an overall (unweighted) grade point average of 2.75 or higher are eligible. The complete application, including eligibility information, for the 2016-17 Doyle Scholarship are available at <https://goo.gl/7tpPPW>. More information is available <http://scholarships.santarosa.edu/doyle-scholarship>

Eco-friendly Company Keeps the Sun Shining

Going solar these days is not considered a big deal, but Blake's Auto Body has been on the forefront of renewable energy and being green, tracing its roots to 17 years ago when they opened their 12,000-square-foot Rohnert Park headquarters, making it the largest private industry solar project in Northern California at the time.

The company recently purchased an additional

building at its Santa Rosa location, 1024 North Dutton Avenue, giving it the opportunity to become the third Blake's site to be solar-powered.

The 50.7 kilowatt-hour system was installed by Sungevity of Oakland, CA and has 195 panels. This is equivalent to powering 4.4 homes for a year, explained Blake's CEO Marc Sebastian. "Blake's Auto Body will offset carbon emissions equivalent to 2.3 million car miles driven or

40,639 tree seedlings grown for 10 years."

According to Sebastian, being eco-friendly is always a top priority for Blake's. Converting to solar energy provides financial benefits for the company with four locations and reduces the greenhouse effect.

The solar system will save the company more than \$150,000 in the next 25 years in energy costs and is expected to provide 1.5 million kwh of energy throughout the lifetime of the installation.

Blake's, which recently celebrated its 35th anniversary, was designated a member of the Green Power Partnership in 2003. It was also one of the first auto body chains to use waterbased paints, an environmentally friendly paint system.

Blake also has locations in Novato and San Rafael. Find them at BlakesAutoBody.com.



Blake Andros, owner of Blake's Auto Body, is proud of his company's commitment to the environment, showing off some of the new solar panels on its Santa Rosa location.



The Sweet Zone Debuts

After nine years in downtown Petaluma as Powell's Sweet Shoppe, this locally owned candy store is getting a major face lift. The owners of the Petaluma location of Powell's felt it was time for a change and decided not to renew their 10-year franchise agreement. They will remain at the same spot in Theatre Square and will be an independent store called The Sweet Zone.

The Sweet Zone will still carry the same selection of candy but plans to add more lose bulk candy, expand the chocolate section by bringing in more local chocolatiers, and add a "Chocolate Club." Plans also include a slushie

machine, new delicious confectionaries, and unique gift items all wrapped in a new colorful and upbeat appearance. Under the new name, The Sweet Zone will save money by not being part of the franchise and plans on starting a scholarship with the PEF as well as working with Mentor Me and Petaluma Animal Services.

"We have always donated to every non-profit that asks by donating gift certificates. Now we want to do more for the community and these are some of our favorites. We will continue to honor any gift certificates we donated in the past," said Will Bomar, Owner.

Hallberg Butterfly Gardens Celebration

The Hallberg Butterfly Gardens will host their 19th annual Open Gardens Celebration on Sunday, June 26 from 10 AM to 4 PM. This special Open Gardens event is free and everyone is welcome to come and learn about the butterfly life cycle, wildlife gardening, and habitat pres

This year, there will be specimens of our local butterflies, host plants, wildflowers, and garden plants on display. Guests are invited to participate in guided plant, bird and butterfly observation and identification and self-guided walking tours around the nine acres of habitat.

There will also be a few butterfly-attracting plants for sale, including Dutchman's Pipe, which is the slow-growing host plant for our native Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly that first brought butterflies to Della's garden, as well as other host and nectar species. There will be a staffed kids' craft table, which is always very popular.

The gardens are at 8687 Oak Grove Road (across from Oak Grove Elementary School) in Graton/Sebastopol. A parking shuttle will be available. Limited wheelchair access. Please, no smoking or pets. o New