

This is Erin Dunn of the Fortuna Chamber of Commerce with a Community Comment.

The month of August means one thing in Fortuna—Hops in Humboldt.

On Saturday, August 24, Hops in Humboldt will celebrate its 10th Anniversary of serving up the best in craft brews.

They have a few new events this year—there's a makeover contest (details are on their facebook page) and Cypress Grove is giving samples of their extraordinary cheese and sharing suggestions on which beer goes best with what cheese.

What's NOT new this year? How much Hops in Humboldt gives back to the community with the event proceeds.

If you've been to Hops or if you are going for your first time this year, you are not only sampling some of the best beer around, you are giving back to the community.

Over the past nine years, Hops has given more than \$200K in grants to Fortuna and the surrounding area. Sometimes it's their \$500 grant that makes a program possible.

They've given to local youth sports teams like Babe Ruth, the music program in Bridgeville and the Depot Museum.

They've also given substantial grants that have either started or maintained larger events. Did you know that when you buy a ticket to Hops in Humboldt, you are helping the Annual Fireworks Festival? And last year they gave seed money to the new Fortuna middle school basketball tournament. That tournament is expected to grow and bring in much-needed funds for the middle school.

Hops donates to Fortuna Senior Services, the Humboldt Senior Resource Center and was a major funder for the South Fortuna Elementary School track a few years ago.

They are helping fill a gap in community funding that Pacific Lumber Company used to provide. It's been a while since the days when it was no problem for the timber company to donate uniforms to the high school football team.

Fortuna is well aware of Hops in Humboldt's generous gifts to the community—they were the Chamber's non-profit of the year in 2010. And it's not just donations that make them great community partners. You may have tasted their award-winning chili at the Annual chili Cookoff—they were the overall champions in 2012. And Hops is co-hosting the next Chamber Mixer on August 21 at River Lodge.

Consider coming down to Hops in Humboldt this year. The Hops committee makes it easy to enjoy the biggest beer festival on the North Coast.

They have arranged for additional public transportation added—check shuttle locations and times on their website HopsInHumboldt.com

They also have Brethalizers on site. For just a dollar you can check and make sure you are ready to drive.

Of course you are encouraged to bring a designated driver or plan on alternate transportation.

So when you are lifting your glass for another taste of remarkable ale, remember, you are not only having a marvelous time, you are giving back to the local youth sports teams, supporting seniors and helping light up the July sky.

Thank you for attending Hops in Humboldt 2013.

This has been Erin Dun with a Community Comment.