

Season for Giving Community Comment February 27, 2014. Mike Goldsby

March is almost here and that marks the beginning of a new season, the season of giving in Humboldt County.

There are many worthwhile organizations in our County, but I want to mention two very unique fundraisers happening over the next couple of weeks; The Perilous Plunge and Bowling For Kid's Sake.

The Perilous Plunge is this Saturday at 10 AM at Humboldt Bay. It is a benefit for the Discovery Museum and, for the past 12 years, it has been their only big fundraiser. The concept is intriguing. People collect donations and, in return, they put on costumes and jump off the dock into Humboldt Bay. It is really a fun event for a worthwhile cause.

If you want to take the plunge, you better start collecting donations. You only have two days. There is still time to sponsor a plunger. Go to the Discovery Museum webpage and make your tax deductible donation online. The list of participants is intriguing. Lost Coast Brewery and, appropriately, the Humboldt B Oyster Company are among the many volunteers from the private and public sectors.

Bowling for Kid's Sake is next week, March 7th and 8th. This is the biggest annual fundraiser for North Coast Big Brothers Big Sisters. And the theme this year is Under the Sea. My team is Called Twenty Thousand Bowling Leagues Under the Sea and I am team Captain Nemo.

If you are not familiar with Bowl for Kids sake, I'll explain. Teams of about six people form and begin raising funds and taking donations in February. Next weekend, these teams meet at Harbor Lanes to turn in their donations and bowl a game dressed in wacky costumes.

Big Brothers Big Sisters has been around for 100 years and a chapter started on the North Coast in 1969. The organization matches adult mentors, called bigs, with youth who could use support. They are called littles.

Big Brothers Big Sisters do not just make a connection. They provide support and supervision, training and advice to make sure the match is working. They also work with the family of the little brother or sister.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters was evaluated in a large study in 1994 and 95. Researchers surveyed the youth and their families and compared the results to youth who did not participate in the program.

A year and a half after the experience, children in the program were less likely to use illegal drugs, less likely to skip school and less likely to hit a classmate. Families of the children reported they were getting along better at home and more confident with schoolwork.

A tax deductible donation to Big Brothers/Big Sisters will make a positive difference in the life of a young person in Humboldt County. And Bowling for Kids Sake is a fun way to make that donation.

You can call Big Brothers at 445-4871. For your donating convenience, I have included links to their donation webpage in the script of this community comment, online on the KINS webpage. You can make a secure pledge online and get your receipt for the tax deductible donation immediately.

Your donation will make a difference locally.
This is Mike Goldsby with Community Comment.

Link to my team: <http://www.firstgiving.com/team/253608>

Link to all teams: <http://www.firstgiving.com/ncbbbs/bfks2014>