

Community Comment  
Tuesday, November 22, 2016

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

Happy Thanksgiving Week. We have so much to be Thankful for. Some years we have to look a little harder than others, but it's there.

Where do I start? Well, there's the Gilmore Girls marathon that's been running on the UP channel—and the new Gilmore Girls season premiering on Netflix this Friday. That makes me thankful.

I can probably look a little deeper than that though.

I'm thankful Measure E passed in Fortuna. Even if you are against taxes on principle, I think eventually you'll be glad Measure E passed. We need the additional funding—just like Eureka and the other cities have. Now we can have police staffing at a level we have enjoyed in the past. With disheartening state regulations reducing punishments for crime, we need whatever additional help we can get.

But back to what I'm thankful for. I'm thankful for Interim City Manager Randy Mendosa—we were lucky to engage his services and I'm grateful he has embraced us as his own. It can't be easy stepping into a position for a limited time with expectations that you will be up to speed the minute you walk in the door. Thank you Randy.

I'm thankful that the Humboldt Ice Rink in Fortuna is open – come on down, it's glorious! And for the upcoming Strongs Creek Open House—and Chamber Mixer—on Thursday, December 1. It will be a festive way to kick off December so stop by and join us.

I'm thankful for all of the lighted parades we have in December! Eureka, Fortuna and Ferndale invite trucks, cars, tractors, horse carriages

and bicycles to brightly light the winter sky. How can you not be thankful for that?

In Fortuna, we're lucky to have Free Holiday Movies two Saturdays in December—created by FBID to give parents a safe environment to drop their kids where they will be entertained for a few hours in the morning while they go shopping. I'm thankful for Dianna Rios and FBID—we don't see her much right now because she is down running the ice rink so this is a shout out to her!

I'm thankful for all of the citizens of Humboldt County who volunteer on non-profit boards—including the Fortuna Chamber board. Rotary, Kiwanis, Soroptimist, the Boys and Girls Club, all of the Chambers of Commerce and countless other clubs and associations couldn't exist without volunteers giving their valuable time to help out. You give up family time, work time, free time, time you might be doing errands, to serve our community. Thank you board members wherever you are.

And I'm thankful for our small businesses in Fortuna and throughout the County. You are the backbone of our economy and you are appreciated. Coming up this weekend is Small Business Saturday. I trust you are like me and make every Saturday Small Business Saturday. We all know how important it is to shop local—this year maybe more than ever.

This is Erin Dunn for the Fortuna Chamber of Commerce wishing all of you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.