

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

Happy Valentine's Day everybody! Even though I consider February 14 to be a humongous commercial hijinks, I'm going to embrace it today and tell you about things I love.

I love that Fortuna hired Arcata City Council Person Mark Wheetley to be our new City Manager. The Council made great efforts to find someone local who already knew and loved the area—and they found that person. Big learning curve ahead? Yes. Is he walking into a City Hall with dedicated and hardworking staff that will make his transition smooth? Yes. Will we support him while he learns the ropes? Yes. I also love that the City chose to make the big announcement at our State of the City Breakfast that the Chamber sponsors with the City.

Welcome to Fortuna Mark.

I love that the process to find a new Superintendent of Humboldt County Schools was transparent and successful. Not at any time did it feel like cronyism was involved or that the public wasn't informed of every move that was being made—from interview dates to the final candidates. Well done Humboldt County Office of Education Board and Staff! And Congratulations Chris Hartley.

I love the HSU Business Department Intern Program. The Fortuna Chamber has a marvelous Intern doing very good work for us this semester. Thank you McLean Foundation for sponsoring the Fortuna interns.

Speaking of the McLean Foundation, I love being on the McLean Foundation Board. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would have the opportunity to be part of an organization that without-a-doubt changes peoples' lives in our Community, the Eel River Valley and Humboldt County. What I love most about being a part of the McLean

Foundation is the wide spectrum of support that we are able give. Sometimes it's providing an outside business specialist for an organization that has a particular challenge; often times, our small grants can mean the world to a non-profit or a school; and then there are the large projects that the public knows about--millions of dollars donated to advance health care at St. Joseph Hospital, Redwood Memorial Hospital and the new Open Door Facility being built in Fortuna. And now our new Community Center is underway.

I love businesses that have terrific customer service. It keeps me coming back time and after time. At the Fortuna Chamber dinner this Thursday we will announce our Best Customer Service Award to a deserving local business.

And finally, I love being in a service club. Many of you are in service clubs doing impactful work in your community and beyond. My club of choice happens to be Rotary. If you've thought about joining a service club but haven't yet, call me and I'll connect you to the right person for Kiwanis, Soroptimist, Lions and of course, Rotary.

Enjoy Heart Day today!

This has been Erin Dunn with a Community Comment.