I'm Rick Knapp, President of the Humboldt Bay Bicycle Commuters Association, or HBBCA for short. On behalf of the Bike Month Humboldt Coalition, I would like to invite you to bike events scheduled through the rest of the month of May. The Bike Month Coalition consists of individuals, interest groups and agencies that advocate the use of bicycles as a healthy alternative to meet many transportation needs.

One of our signature events, the Bike to Work Day rally in Eureka, will be held at noon, May 18th, at the Gazebo in Old Town. Cyclists will ride from all over the greater Eureka area to celebrate bicycling at the rally. There will be several community groups and agencies present to provide a wide variety of information relevant to cyclists. Local bike shops have donated many prizes. Prizes will be awarded for the longest bike commute, best fitting helmet, best commuter bike, and other prizes for just having a winning ticket. There will be free snacks and drinks. The Eureka Police Department will provide free bike licenses. The Humboldt Transit Authority will show cyclists how to use its bike racks on buses. The Public Health Department will have their smoothie-making bike on hand with ingredients provided by Eureka Natural Foods. There will be a fun photo booth, and Pacific Outfitter's bike mechanics will do free mini tune-ups and repairs.

In the morning, from 7 to 9 a.m., before the Bike to Work Day rally, the North Coast Co-op will host an Energizer Station, providing free snacks, coffee and other drinks to cyclists on their way to work. Adventure's Edge bike mechanics will provide free bike mini-tuneups and repairs.

To find out about other events, including weekly group bike commute rides, bike rodeos for kids and pancake breakfast rides for adults, check the HBBCA's website, <a href="www.humbike.org">www.humbike.org</a> or BikeMonthHumboldt on Facebook.

Bike-friendly businesses are also offering perks to encourage people to use a bicycle to shop. Nearly 70 local businesses will give discounts or freebies to customers who come to their shops during Bike to Work Week. Some offerings are for the entire month. Look for the "Bike-friendly Business" signs in shop windows.

If you would like to learn how to be a safe and efficient bike rider, free training for adults and kids is offered by the HBBCA. Contact them at <a href="mailto:info@humbike.org">info@humbike.org</a>.

Bike on, and enjoy as many events as you can!

This is Rick Knapp for Community Comment