

Bomb Cyclone's 11.2 Inches Of Rain Drowns Fire Season

By wstockwin@hughes.net

Lost in the gusty winds of the drenching "bomb cyclone," that blew through Colfax on Sunday, October 24, was the collective regional sigh that the most devastating local fire season in recent memory was surely over.

Brian Eagan, Battalion Chief/Colfax, Alta Battalion, confirmed that at last week's council meeting saying:

"Mother Nature stuck a fork in the fire season for us."

The last time Colfax saw 11 inches of rain in October was in 2016, when 11.82 inches was the total recorded for the entire month. October rain totals have since dwindled from less than two inches in 2017/18, to zero in 2019/20.

The 11.2 inches that was recorded at Downtown Farm in Colfax all fell during a 24-hour period between early morning on Sunday the 24th, to early morning on Monday the 25th.

And when you look at October rainfall for the years 2016-2020, when the FIVE-YEAR total was a meager 13.82 inches, receiving 11.2 inches over 24 hours becomes an even more astounding event.

Weather forecasters in Sacramento, where the 5.4 inches that fell on October 24 broke a oneday rainfall record set in 1880, are calling the record breaker a "200-year storm."

They are also saying that as big as the storm was, it won't be enough to officially end the drought that has gripped Northern California for the last three years. It definitely helped though. As hard as it rained, we didn't see any water running in the drainage ditches on Downtown Farm until after five inches had fallen and soaked into the parched soil. Oroville Lake reportedly rose some 20 feet.

Burn Season Opens

Chief Eagan also said that the swift end to the fire season had opened the door to the debrisburning season. Those of us with cleanup piles can now resume burning without a permit on burn days. The number to call to see if burning is permissible is 530-889-6868.



He reminded the audience that debris burn escapes topped the list for causes of larger fires last spring. "All of the liability will be on anyone whose fire gets away and requires a callout of county and state fire agencies," he said.

And after our close call with the River Fire in August, being careful with fire out there should pretty much go without saying.

Marguerite Bailey Appointed As Colfax City Clerk



The Colfax city council appointed Marguerite Bailey as our new city clerk at its October 13 meeting. She started work on October 18. The position had been open for 10 months, with Auburn city clerk Amy Lind filling in on a part time basis. The council received 22 applications and eventually interviewed three people for the position.

Bailey was the unanimous choice and received a 4-0 confirmation vote. Councilmember Burruss was absent.

Prior to her new position Bailey worked for 16 years as a police and fire dispatcher. She lives across the Bear River in Chicago Park with her husband and five children.

Photo by Will Stockwin

City Council Using Its Consent Agenda To Get Things Done

By wstockwin@hughes.net

October 27, 2021 City Council meeting – This was another meeting with a short agenda and two council members, Mendoza and Ackerman, absent. The meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. and closed 45 minutes later.

A public hearing on the city's mitigation fees for developers took up the bulk of the meeting. Following a review of the existing fee schedule for retail and commercial properties councilmember Fatula suggested a new rate study to examine perceived inequities in the current fee schedule.

The meeting's consent agenda included seven items, among them:

- Sewer collection and Waste Water Treatment Plant improvements
- A cash summary
- Improvement to the vacant lot at 101 Railroad St.
- Construction bids for improvements to sewer lift station 5
- Improvements to the council chamber audio system not to exceed \$14,383

After a brief discussion the consent agenda passed unanimously.

From there the meeting proceeded rapidly to the sole item of council business – the establishment of a poultry ad hoc committee to set rules and guidelines for residents who want to raise chickens.

Councilmember Fatula lead the

City Council from page 2

brief discussion that closed when he and Mayor Lomen were appointed as the two committee members.

October 13, 2021 City Council Meeting – Four councilmembers were present, with council member Burruss absent. Aside from the appointment of Marguerite Bailey to be city clerk, there was no other council business.

There were six items on the consent agenda, however, including:

• A proposed agreement with SCI Consulting Group for a Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) ballot measure not to exceed \$18,250.

• A proposed agreement with R3 Consulting for an audit of the franchise fees paid by Recology, the city's trash hauler, for the period of 2016-2021 not to exceed \$7,000.

• A second proposed agreement with R3 Consulting for SB 1383 compliance assistance, not to exceed \$10,000. SB 1383 requires municipalities to provide collection of food waste from residential customers, the establishment of food recovery systems, and creating an enforcement ordinance.

Due to the law's complexity, city staff recommended contracting with a consultant experienced with the law.

All of the items passed with a unanimous vote.

Because Of The Thanksgiving Holiday, The Only City Council Meeting Scheduled For November Is On Wednesday the 10th.

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Colfax Connections is a monthly city publication edited by Will Stockwin, who can be contacted via e-mail at **wstockwin@hughes.net**. All submissions are welcome, the earlier the better.

Deadline is the 20th of the previous month.

STAFF Photography – Alan Shuttleworth Assistant To Editor – LindaLou Haines

Hard Copies of Colfax Connections can be found at City Hall, the Colfax Library, Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce, Colfax Heritage Museum.

Digital copies can also be found on the Chamber's Website at (www.ColfaxChamber.com) and on the City's Website at (www.colfax-ca.gov).



Business Briefs with LindaLou Haines

"It is so great to have a cycle shop in town ..."

You know how I love to toot the horn for new businesses in Colfax. So, Toot-Toot for **Goob Cy-clery** at 301 Railroad St. at the far end of the Fruit Exchange building.

Goob (short for Goober, a childhood nickname) Cyclery is owned by John Comstock. He and his family have lived here in Colfax for three years. This is his first business, but he has experience in auto mechanics and all aspects of the bike shop business and repair since 2008.

While I was visiting John in his shop, a customer from Gold Run, Dick Adams, came in. He said, "It is so great to have a cycle shop in town and not have to drive to Auburn or Nevada City for bike needs, parts or repairs."

As to what products he sells: Bike brands, Giant and the women's line Liv; Scott, and Haro--all selling mountain bikes, road bikes, comfort bikes and bikes for children. He also has a full line of parts, such as seats, tires, inner tubes, grips, helmets, gloves, apparel, water bottles, chains, pumps, tools and children's accessories. Plus, he does any necessary repairs.

John stressed that he can order whatever he doesn't have for a customer, pending the global issues with the current supply chain crisis. On order right now are E (electric) bikes, bicycle racks for your car and more apparel.

Goob Cyclery is open Tuesday to Friday, 10 - 6 and Saturday, 10 - 5. Closed on Sunday and Monday. For more information, call 512-5018 or email John at **goobcyclery@gmail.com**.

Our next business is not new, but it has many new offerings. **Subway Sandwiches** at 350 S. Canyon Way has a whole new selection of meats which enables them to expand the variety of sandwiches. New sandwiches include Steak & Cheese, CALI FRESH Turkey, CALI FRESH Steak, All-American Club, Black Forest Ham, Italian B.M.T. and Rotisserie Chicken.

Those new choices are added to the menu of Baja Steak & Jack, Buffalo Chicken, Meatball Marinara, the classic Cold Cut Combo and more. Customers also have the option of fresh-baked rolls or wraps for their sandwiches.

Sandwich orders can be placed online, Subway.com/en-US/menu, and picked up at the curb locally. Or call 346-6133. Hours are 9 am to 10 pm. Dining-in is an option, and masks are still required.

> Do share your business news, especially new businesses and existing businesses providing new products or services. All businesses in this column must be in the City limits. I'd like to hear from you at: **lindalouhaines14@gmail.com.**

John Comstock, owner of GOOB Cyclery.

Photo by Will Stockwin



Placer Artists' Studios Tour With A Special Foothills Flair

By Pamela Biery Thumbler

The 28th Placer Artists Studio Tour is November 12, 13, 14, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This tour includes eight regions and over 100 artists. This year the tour is hosted by the new organization, Placer Artists Tour, and a full directory of the tour is online at **PlacerArtistsTour.org.**

Colfax/Gold Run Artists in the November Tour:

Jaime Baxter/Pysanky, Barbara Ann Chestnutt/Ceramic sculpture & functional art, DeAnna Nellist/ Alcohol ink, Mark Oldland/Metal, wood & stone sculpture, Cat Raymond/Graphite, acrylic, watercolor & digital media, Marilyn Salomon/Batik, Suzanne Scotten/Wooden puzzles, Jay Stargaard/ Metal sculpture, Susan Stoll/Photography & acrylic paintings.



Above - Mark Oldman of Gold Run (metal gate) Right - Cat Raymond of Colfax (raven painting)

Know and Go:

What: 28th Annual Placer Artists Studios Tour When: November 12, 13 & 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Where: 66 locations throughout Placer County Learn more: **PlacerArtistsTour.org**

Note: All events are free of charge and open to the public. Venues are subject to COVID-19 mandates. Please use discretion.



Above - Connie Simpson of Meadow Vista (ceramic mugs)





11-18-2021 American legion post 192 colfax

3rd Thursday of the month veterans fundraising dinner at the Colfax Memorial hall.

Beef Bourguignon with mushrooms and onions, mashed potatoes, buttered carrots, roll and butter, and (TBA) dessert..

Nonalcoholic beverages served with dinner.



\$15.00 per person, \$8.00 ages 7-13 and under 7 free

We have restarted our Monthly Thursday night dinners

Adult Social hour at 5PM, dinner served at 6PM

Even though county restrictions have been lifted we would appreciate that you call ahead for reservations. Commander's cell 916 216-8254

POST 192

22 Sunset Circle, Colfax 95713 post192colfaxca.com

New menu every month



Flags To Be Lowered, Then Free Pizza For Vets

On November 10, flags will be solemnly placed at the Colfax cemetery around 9:30 a.m., weather permitting.

The flags will be retrieved on November 12 at 9:30 a.m.

VFW Post 2003 will have a flag lowering ceremony at the cemetery on November 11, between 11 a.m. and noon.

American Legion Post 192 will also be buying lunch for all vets and their immediate family members at the Pizza Factory from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Browse the collection

PLACER COUNTY IBRARYEXPRESS

> Get information Computers and printing available Register for a library card Free WiFi

Auburn, Colfax, Granite Bay, Rocklin Foresthill, Kings Beach, Tahoe City 10:00 - 6:00 Friday & Saturday 10:00 - 5:00

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10:30 - 4:00

Wednesday

12:30 - 6:00

Online 24/7 placer.ca.gov/library



Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

It's that time of year when the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce is deep in the planning of the annual Winterfest. Unfortunately, this year has hit everyone with some unwanted snowballs.

Between the continuing pandemic and the devastating River Fire, we have fallen short of our fundraising goals this year. Right now, we can't serve our community the way we'd like.

We would like to take this time to reach out to our community that has such great love for the people within the community and the community itself. We are seeking donations, sponsorship, vendors, and volunteers for the 2021 Winterfest Celebration.



Your support will help bring back the spirit of our small town after an extremely difficult two years. We are hoping to provide a space for our community to laugh, dance, eat and support each other.

Would you consider donating time or money to our community event? As little as \$5 helps pay for some local talent to play music or to even pay for the port-a-potties that are needed to host an event like this.

If you would like to take part in this wonderful cause, please reach out to the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce.

You can also mail donations to P.O. Box 86, Colfax, CA 95713, or use our PayPal account at @ColfaxChamber.

If you know a company that might be interested in becoming a sponsor for this event, please see some of the options below:

• \$200.00 Hot Cocoa Package - Recognition on all our social media pages

• \$350.00 Warm Mittens Package - All the above & Logo on a "Thank you Banner" in Downtown Colfax.

• \$500.00 Sleigh Ride Package - All the above & you are included on our eBlasts and flyers.

• \$750.00 Let it Snow Package - All the above & logo on the digital billboard as a proud sponsor.

• \$1,000.00 Winterfest Package - All the above & a digital page on the billboard for a month.

• Other - \$____

Thank you for making Winterfest a successful holiday-spirited event!

CACC Board of Directors





https://myturn.ca.gov

It's your turn.

The vaccine is free to all. No insurance required.

Safe, free, effective COVID-19 vaccines are available to everyone age 12 and up—regardless of immigration or insurance status. Stay healthy, protect others and help us end the pandemic. Find a walk-in clinic or make an appointment today.

Stay protected! Booster doses of all three COVID-19 vaccine brands are now available.



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Churches

Colfax Assembly of God Community Fellowship 252 Culver St., Colfax, CA 95713 Email: colfaxaog@ gmail.com Website: http://www.colfaxagca.org/



Colfax United Methodist Church 59 W. Church St., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-2267 Website: https://www.colfaxumc.org/

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witnesses 944 Canyon Way, Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-2525 Website: https://www.jw.org/en/

St. Dominic's Catholic Church 589 E. Oak St., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-2286 Website: https://www.scd.org/parish/ st-dominic-parish-colfax

Seventh Day Adventist 454 Scholtz Ave., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-8844 Website: https://www.colfaxsdachurch.com

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 1875 S. Auburn St., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-7702 Website: https://www.lds.org/

Social Organizations

American Legion Post 192 22 Sunset Dr., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-9433 Website: http://norwellpost192.org Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce 99 S. Railroad St., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-8888 Website: http://colfaxchamber.com

Colfax Area Historical Society Archives: PO Box 185, Colfax, CA 95713 Museum 99 Railroad St., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-8599 Website: https://colfaxhistory.org

Colfax Garden Club PO Box 1801, Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-7474 Website: http://californiagardenclubs.com/content/ colfax-garden-club

Colfax Lions Club PO Box 664, Colfax, CA 95713 530-477-2533 Website: https://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/colfaxca

Gold Country Lionesses PO Box 1852, Colfax, CA 95713

Illinoistown Clay-Mason Lodge #51 of Colfax 14 N. Main St., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-6627 Website: http://lodge51.freemason.org

Sierra Vista Artists 55 School St., Rm. C-4, Colfax, CA 95713 530-320-0433

Sierra Vista Center 55 School St., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-8726 Website: https://sierravistacolfax.wordpress.com

Soroptimist International of Colfax PO Box 475, Colfax, CA 95713 530-637-4878

VFW Post 2003 22 Sunset Dr., Colfax, CA 95713 530-346-7768 https://www.colfaxveterans.org/vfw.html





Shop Local



Invest in your community this holiday season.

Shopping locally...



Preserves jobs in your community.



Helps keep businesses open.



Keeps your tax dollars invested where you live.

#ShopPlacer is a collaborative initiative with Placer County cities, chambers, and communities. ShopPlacer.com