

Colfax Connections

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Revised Cannabis Ordinance Passes First Reading On 4-1 Vote

By wstockwin@hughes.net

The first reading of the newly revised cannabis ordinance sailed through on a 4-1 approval vote at the August 23 city council meeting.

The vote followed a short public hearing where fewer people spoke on the issue, but with the usual two-thirds majority in favor of allowing recreational cannabis to be sold in Colfax.

The second reading of the proposed change to the ordinance will occur at the September 13 meeting, followed by another vote.

If passed, the revised ordinance will take effect 30 days after that on October 13.

As explained by city attorney Mick Cabral, only a single word was changed in the ordinance, with 'adult use' replacing the word 'medicinal' based on council direction given at the July 26 council meeting.

Larry Hillberg was the only council member to speak prior to the vote, saying that as long as cannabis was going to be here it was better to have a safe, regulated product from a known local retailer.

Councilmember Kim Douglass was the lone opposition vote. All council members were present at the meeting.

There were two other main items of business on the 8/23 agenda: a review of the draft

updates to the city zoning code as preparation for directing city staff to draft a revised ordinance, and a report by Fred Abbott on the upcoming Railroad Days event on September 16 & 17.

City planner Emmanuel Ursu said the proposed changes to the city zoning code would comply with changes to state housing law, reflect updates to the general plan, and generally clean up the code's language and internal inconsistencies.

He spent a part of his report on zoning code changes necessary for compliance with state law regarding accessory dwelling units (ADUs), that can also serve as short term rentals.

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Railroad Days Rolls Back Into Colfax

Colfax celebrates its long railroad history with Railroad Days, a family-oriented, kid friendly weekend.

Rolling stock from Union Pacific, model train displays, street performers, food, entertainment, music, craft vendors, a safety fair, and Colfax's own restored caboose.

Nearly 90 booths will be set up on city streets for Railroad Days. Performances will entail mock gunfights and cannon fire. Residents concerned over loud noises should review the event schedule for September 16 and 17 and make decisions regarding attending with family members and pets that may be impacted by loud noises.

Sunday features a car show on Main St. Free. Saturday 10 a.m.– 5 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m.– 5 p.m.

COLFAX
2023
RAILROAD DAYS

This is a **FREE** Family Event in Downtown Colfax

SEPTEMBER 16 & 17
10 AM til 5 PM

Union Pacific Railroad Display • Model Train Displays
Lego Train Display • Quilt Show • Craft Vendors
Food • Refreshments • Face Painters • Balloon Artist
Black Flag Gang • 1840's Re-enactment Camp
People Mover Train Ride
American Legion Pancake Breakfast 8 'til 10 am \$10
Sunday Car Show Open to Any Age Vehicle (awards)
Sierra Vista Community Center Paid Parking \$10

Colfax Railroad Days Inc. • Fred & Reese • PO Box 323 Colfax CA 95713 • 530-401-7760

Colfax Garden Club Wins First Place in Statewide Competition



The award winning flowerbed dresses up the corner of West Grass Valley and Main Streets.

Story and photo by Ingrid Elsel

Many Colfax residents have commented about the colorful flowerbeds at the corner of Main and Grass Valley Streets, and Main and Church Streets.

The City Beautification Committee of the Colfax Garden Club planted the flowerbeds. Members of the City Beautification Committee included Barbara Loudon, Annette Choate, Shirley Jacobs, Jeannette Lowery, Caroline Hickson, Linda Hooper, Amy Maehler, Cheryl Hadley, and Eric Hadley. Ingrid Elsel chaired the committee.

The incentive for replanting the previously overgrown and weed-infested area came from the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce and the Lions Club. Both organizations have donated funds to the upkeep of the flowerbeds for many years.

Last Spring the City Beautification Committee decided to totally replant the beds. Since this was going to cost more than the funds available through donations, the Colfax Garden Club added money to the effort.

The City Beautification Committee was fortunate

because the City of Colfax Public Works Department offered to do the hard work. Their crew pulled out the existing vegetation, removed all rocks and debris, installed an irrigation system and covered the beds with weed cloth.

The Committee developed a plant pallet of native California plants. Its selection of plants is appropriate for our Sierra Nevada foothill climate, while also taking into consideration anticipated climate changes. We also wanted to demonstrate to the community that native and waterwise plants are good additions to our home gardens.

The results were quite beautiful and the Colfax Garden Club decided to enter the Beautification Project in an awards competition of California Garden Clubs, Inc. We were awarded First Place in the Civic Achievement category by the Pacific Region Garden Clubs, which is comprised of eight western states. We also received First Place from the California Garden Clubs, Inc. in the Civic Development category.

The Colfax Garden Club is very proud of these awards and hopes to expand its City beautification efforts into other plots downtown.

City Council from page 1

He described four variations of ADUs, as follows:

- Detached from the primary structure (house) on the property.
- Attached to the property’s primary structure.
- Converted existing space that is either attached to the primary structure or not.
- Junior ADU (JADU) converted from existing space contained inside a house, and that does not exceed 500 square feet.

Colfax residents thinking about building an accessory dwelling unit on their property should consider downloading the **Accessory Dwelling Unit Handbook** that was included in the August 23 city council meeting packet.

Ursu concluded his presentation with a summary of the proposed changes to the zoning code that will include changes to clarify development standards, correcting typographical errors, and removing internal consistencies found by staff during the latest code review.

The last piece of business was Fred Abbott’s report on Railroad Days, which he warned would be noisy and advised people to take appropriate precautions.

When he finished the council voted unanimously to donate \$2500 to the event, and the meeting adjourned shortly after that.



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September 2023**



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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.

Submissions deadline is the 20th of the previous month.

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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

'The Wrecking Crew'

What is The Wrecking Crew? It is **The Wrecking Crew Bakery & Café** that is coming to 38 N. Main St. Wait a minute: Isn't that the address of the former **Grandma C's Kitchen, Bakery & Espresso**?

THE WRECKING CREW BAKERY & CAFE



Snapdragon PROVISIONS

Pastries * Sandwiches * Coffee * Salads * Donuts * Smoothies * Espresso * Soups * Organic Juices

Enough teasing. Yes! By the way, The Wrecking Crew is named for the grandchildren of the new owner of the business at 38 N. Main St., Caroline Glenn Presson.

Caroline worked for owner Cyndee Schwartz for the three years Cyndee owned Grandma C's. While using Cyndee's recipes, Caroline was the main baker until it closed. Britney Dawson will continue with Caroline as a baker and a barista in the front of the store.

By the time you read this Caroline expects to be open with a new sign in place. She plans to be open seven days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Now, what will the bakery be creating? Using new recipes and tweaking some of Cyndee's recipes, Caroline will be making scones (my favorite), cookies, bagel bombs, breads, sandwiches, soups, espresso, other favorites and new items in time.

Caroline is buzzing with lots of ideas and plans. She said her confidence in this whole enterprise comes from having raised five kids and with hus-

band Bill having run a towing company for many years. Plus, in her 33 years of living in Colfax, she has a wide circle of family and friends who support her. The phone number for The Wrecking Crew is 530-537-5085.

If you remember the back room during past businesses at that location, where you could be served lunch and dinner, Caroline has plans for that space too. **Snapdragon Provisions**, formerly of 228 S. Auburn St., will be using the back room at 38 N. Main St., Caroline's shop.

Kallie Moore will be running Snapdragon with the same offerings they had at the other location. That will include vegan prepared foods, local produce, freshly made smoothies and soups and other old favorites and new items.

The big difference now is that there will no longer be a membership requirement to shop there. The two-page membership contract of the past is gone.

Good news for the average vegan shopper. More about Snapdragon in a future issue. Good news: **Grandma C's Kitchen** is not going away. It will go back to its beginnings in Cyndee's home kitchen, where her passion for baking cookies will continue.

She will still have them for sale in several regional locations, including in Colfax at MarVal's Sierra Market, 575 S. Auburn St., and Colfax Market at Main and Grass Valley Streets.

Please send me your Colfax business news. Just email me at lindalouhaines14@gmail.com with your ideas.



How Do Trees Help The Environment?



(Editor's note – Once again we are featuring the six winners of the Colfax Garden Club's annual 5th Grade Arbor Day Essay Contest. Starting with its May issue, Colfax Connections is sharing those essays with its readers. **Bella Lutz** was one of two Fourth Place winners.)

Did you know that trees filter our air?

All of that gas and smoke that comes out of cars and fireplaces, trees filter that bad air and reduce the pollution that we all breathe.

Trees are super helpful if you need food and they also keep the air fresh and clean.

Trees are also very helpful

when you need some nice fresh food. Trees produce lots of fruits and nuts, including oranges, lemons, peaches, and even cashew nuts.

Not all trees produce food though and some are just used to start fires and help you.

Did you know that most fruit trees aren't simply planted from seeds, but are grafted?

Even though they are all different, that doesn't mean that they aren't helpful in their own



special ways.

Trees help to keep our air stay fresh and clean by filtering all the bad air like gasoline and smoke into fresh air that we can breathe every day!

Name one person you know, do they drive a car? Yes? Trees can filter the exhaust that comes from their car and turn that bad air it into healthy air to put into your body so you won't get sick.

Now that you know all that information about trees, go share this with your friends so they can have all these amazing facts about trees.

Go outside and gather some acorns and plant them so you can be a part of the amazing growth of trees too.

1911 Cross Country Flight Attempt Ended In Colfax

**Story and Photo
By Alan Shuttleworth**

Did you ever wonder about the metal plaque near the US Bank in Colfax? It commemorates the 1911 flight of Robert Fowler in his attempt to be the first to fly across the country in less than 30 days. Since many people have wondered about that plaque, local historian, Swend Miller presented a recent Historical Society program that answered everyone's questions.

Miller began his remarks with a detailed history of the Wright Brother's early flight experiments and the now famous first powered flight. The Wright Brothers kept improving on the 1903 plane used at Kitty Hawk and by 1911, many of their planes were in use. Long distance flying was now a reality.

Newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst advertised a \$50,000 prize to the first pilot to make it from coast to coast in less than 30 days. The prize was huge and would have been \$1.5 million in today's currency.

Enter Robert Fowler. He received only three hours of flight instruction from Orville Wright, but everyone thought he had sufficient skills to achieve the goal. The Wright Flyer Model B was his craft of choice and everyone was optimistic. The flight path followed the route of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Leaving Golden Gate Park in San Francisco on September 11, 1911, Fowler crash landed near Alta. The damaged plane was



Sven Miller

hailed to the railyards in Colfax for repairs. The entire Colfax and Grass Valley communities pooled their resources and the craft was rebuilt. Fowler was underway within only 10 days! His fuel tank and system was

**Newspaper magnate
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in less than 30 days.**

unpressurized and the increasing altitude east of Colfax meant the engine could not deal with the altitude. The engine overheated at 6000 feet elevation

and repeated efforts to continue were unsuccessful.

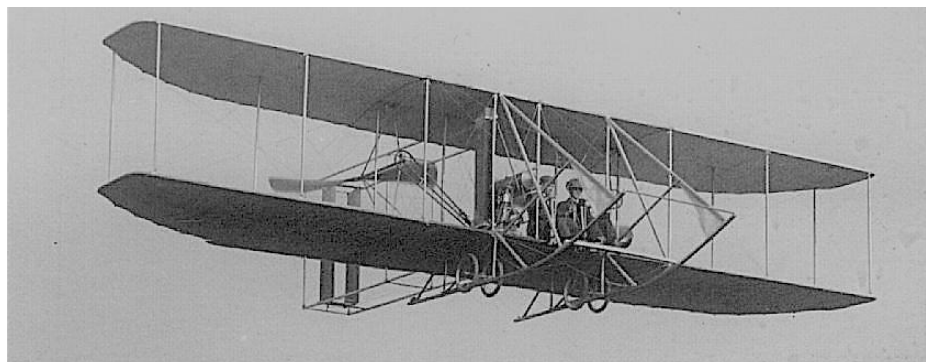
Fowler eventually gave up and the aircraft was sent to his Los Angeles area home. The cash prize was never issued.

Artifacts of the historic flight are now on display at the Colfax Heritage Museum and include a broken piece of the Model B aircraft from the Alta crash and the barometer that Fowler used as a rudimentary altimeter.

Miller's presentation was warmly received by a large group of history enthusiasts. As you might have guessed, Miller's early days were filled with lots of model airplane building.

He also has extensive engineering training and experience in developing systems for the Boeing 747. Given Miller's vast knowledge of historic flight, the audience was hanging on his every word.

From the Wright brother's early experiments to Fowler's attempt to fly crosscountry, Miller took the audience on a delightful and interesting flight from Kitty Hawk to Colfax.



Wright Model B airplane similar to the one that crashed in Alta.

JOIN US FOR



STORYTIMES!



BABY LAPSIT
Wednesdays at 10:30am



TODDLER TIME
Thursdays at 10:30am



**PRESCHOOL
STORYTIME**
Fridays at 9:30am

at the Colfax Library

**JOIN US FOR
A SPECIAL STORYTIME ON 9/16!**

**TRAINS
STORYTIME**

Sessions at
10:30am & 2:30pm

Colfax Library
10 W. Church St.



Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

"It was a lovely afternoon – such an afternoon as only September can produce when summer has stolen back for one more day of dream and glamour." L.M. Montgomery



September is here and full of hope and longing of what might be. School is back in session, the weather is cooling down sometimes and you can smell the changing seasons in the air. The whispers of caramel apples, pumpkin pastries and a warm cup of coffee are calling to us as we look forward to fall.

Looking forward to the possibilities of what is to come at the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce we have the privilege of working with many amazing businesses and this month I have the honor of highlighting one of our new members – Precision Self Care.

Precision Self Care, 233 S. Auburn #215, 530-346-4669, is owned by Brandy Navarro. Brandy opened her first store in 2020 and has a passion for helping her clients learn healthier options for reducing pain and looking and feeling their best. She offers a wide gamut of services including, but not limited to, Red Light Therapy, Body Contouring, Lip Infusions, Tanning and EMS Body Sculpting.

Red Light Therapy is the heart of her business, and she has seen the result time and again for her clients benefiting, both mentally and physically, from utilizing Red Light Therapy. Red Light Therapy alone heals your body on a cellular level, helps you release fat and increases collagen and elastin production. Red Light Therapy can also alleviate pain associated with neuropathy, osteoporosis, bone spurs, torn meniscus and so much more.

Brandy works and lives in Colfax with her children and she enjoys a variety of genres of music, hiking and being near the water.

In other news we have the regular monthly offerings in Colfax of Markets, Bingo, Food Pantry and the Art Walk, as well as Railroad Days on September 16 and 17. Railroad Days is a free family friendly event where you can expect plenty of good food, refreshments, model train displays and vendors selling a variety of wares. It is the celebration of Colfax's role in the building of the transcontinental railroad (see <https://colfaxrailroaddays.com> for more information.)

As always, we appreciate each of you and remind you to watch for announcements regarding our upcoming monthly mixers and ribbon cuttings. Please check out our full calendar at www.colfaxchamber.com

Amanda Palmquist
CACC President

**Colfax Area
Chamber of Commerce**
colfaxchamber.com

colfaxareachamber@gmail.com
(530) 346-8888



Paloma Yoga Classes

Monday 10am: Tai Chi
Tuesday 10am: Vinyasa Yoga
Wednesday 10am: Yin Yoga
Wednesday 6:30pm: Vinyasa Yoga
Thursday 10am: Vinyasa Yoga
Friday 6:30pm: Restorative Yoga
Saturday 9am: Vinyasa Yoga

7 N. Main St., Suite 1
Colfax, CA 95713

\$10 per class



RECYCLE FOR SIGHT



COLFAX LIONS

"Lions Recycle for Sight Program Changing Lives One Pair at a Time"

Donate Your Reusable Eye Glasses & Hearing Aids



Our donation box locations:
Colfax Thrift Shop
Colfax Drug
TJ's Restaurant
Leo's Club/ Colfax High School Library

Oktoberfest

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023

12:00-6:00PM

S. MAIN STREET, COLFAX CA



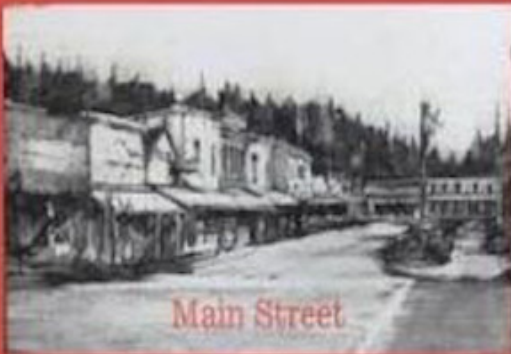


COLFAX ART WALKS ^{and} COLFAX LIONS CRUISE NIGHTS Historic Downtown Colfax

June 16 • July 21 • Aug. 18 • Sept. 15
From 4:00 TO 7:00 pm

ART WALK

2023



Sponsored by:

Sierra Vista



**COLFAX
LIONS**



Sign up by calling: Foxey McCleary (530) 320-0433
or email: tineywhite13@gmail.com

Sam Newton (530) 346-2944 or Tim Luckinbill (530) 272-7131

THE SEASON'S LAST ART WALK – DON'T MISS IT

Churches

Colfax Assembly of
God Community
Fellowship
252 Culver St., Col-
fax, CA 95713
Email: colfaxesag@
gmail.com
Website: <http://www.colfaxagca.org/>



Colfax Baptist Church
24850 Ben Taylor Rd., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-8110
Email: pastorgaryhoward@yahoo.com
Website: <http://colfaxbaptist.com/>

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](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](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](https://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/colfaxca)

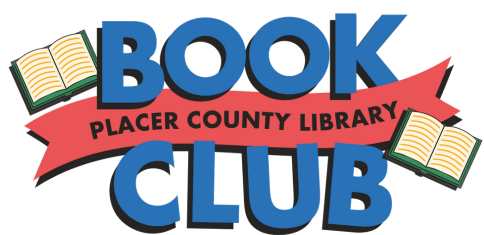
Sierra Vista Artists
55 School St., Rm. C-4, Colfax, CA 95713
530-320-0433

Sierra Vista Community 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>





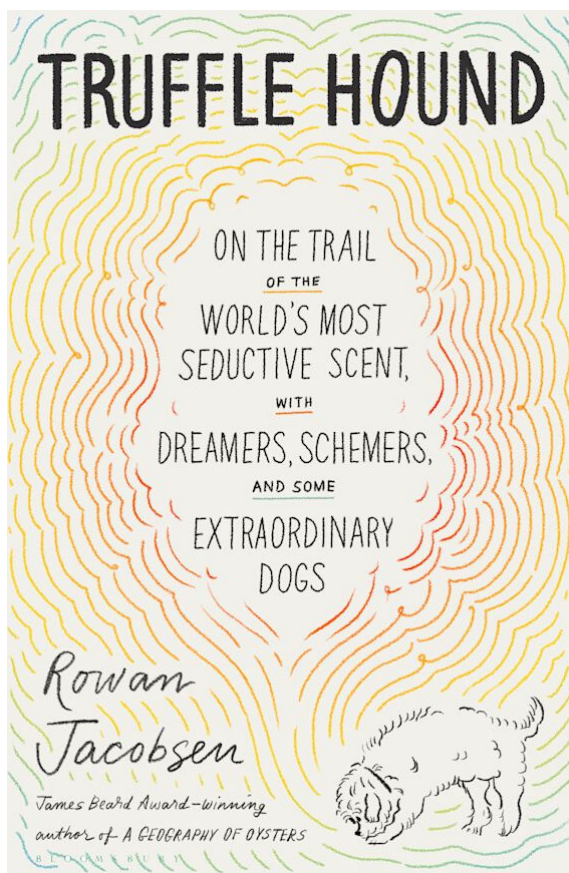
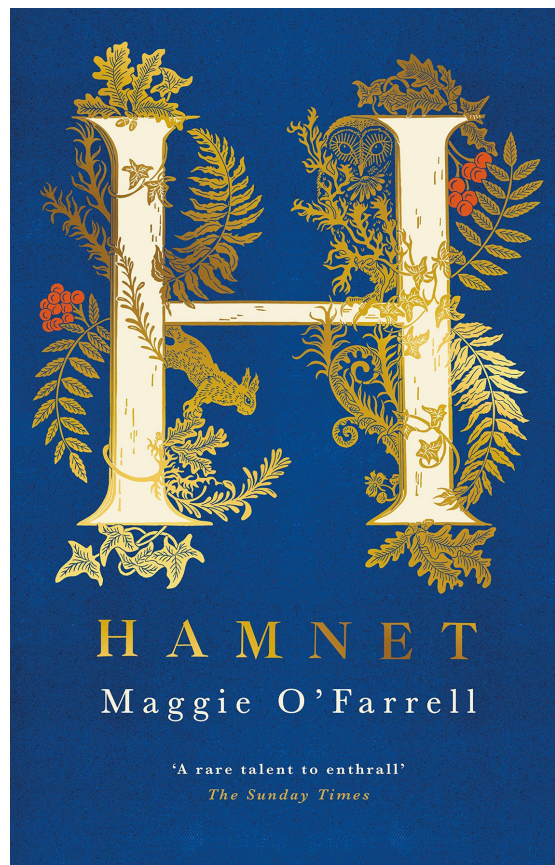
Colfax Library

HAMNET

WEDNESDAY

September 13

2:00-3:00pm



TRUFFLE HOUND

WEDNESDAY

October 11

2:00-3:00pm

