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Proposed Sidewalk Repair Ordinance Passes Third First Reading

By wstockwin2024@gmail.com

February 26 City Council meeting

A brief presentation by the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) updated the council on two projects the agency is currently planning that will enhance water treatment capacity, infrastructure reliability and service quality for residents in the city, and the Shady Glen mobile home park.

PCWA project manager Doug York said that the existing water treatment plant on Pleasant Street is nearing the end of its operational life and needs to be replaced. The proposed new plant will have the capacity to process two million gallons-per-day (MGD), expandable to three MGD, and be sited on the vacant property at Hwy 174 and Rollins Lake Road. York said the project would cost \$35 million.

March 7, and a contract awarded on April 20. Groundbreaking will likely begin around mid-2025, and the project is expected to be finished by late 2027.

A second project, priced at \$3.5 million, will consolidate the Shady Glen water treatment system and provide a connection point to the new Colfax water treatment plant that will be right across the road. York said both projects would be funded via agreements with the State Water Resources Control Board.

The Sidewalk Repair, Maintenance and Liability Ordinance was back on the agenda for another public hearing and attempt to get past its first reading without further changes. At the January 12 meeting the proposed ordinance was sent back to staff for clarification regarding the defi-

York said the bidding process would open on

continued on page 2

Heavy February Rainfall Makes Up For Dry January Shortfall

By wstockwin2024@gmail.com

After the consistently wet Fall that ended 2024, producing 8.8 inches of rain in November and another 10.9 inches in December, we opened 2025 with 19.7 inches of rain churning white water in the ditches on Downtown Farm at the end of Pine St.

All hope that the rain would continue in January dried up after receiving 1.4 inches on the 4th before the storm door closed for the rest of the month, leaving the season total at 21.1 inches as we entered February.

continued on page 6



Doug Thorley caught a rainbow when he looked East out of his front door after a storm on Valentine's Day, 2025.

City council from page 1

nition of 'private' versus 'city' trees, and who is responsible for damage to sidewalks caused by those trees.

After a lengthy discussion where every public speaker was against the ordinance as written, the council passed the latest version and revisions with a 5-0 vote. A second reading of the ordinance was scheduled for the March 12 meeting.

The sole piece of official city business concerned a request by the Sierra Vista Center's Farmer's Market manager, Jennifer Mullin, for \$2500 to expand the market by bringing live music and community contests to the weekly event. After a brief discussion the council granted the request unanimously.

February 12, 2025 city council meeting

Mayor pro tem Caroline McCully ran the meeting because mayor Sean Lomen was attending via Zoom. All other council members were present. There were no presentations or public hearings on the agenda and the meeting moved quickly to the three items of council business.

Two of those items pertained to the city's wastewater treatment plant, and were presented by Matt Anderson, the chief plant operator.

The first item dealt with a Notice of Violation (NOV) issued by the Central Valley Water Board on April 11, 2024 after a series of effluent violations that amounted to \$36,000 in penalties. Rather than assessing the city for that amount however, the Water Board required the city to spend an equivalent amount making modifications to the plant in order to improve effluent water quality and minimize any further violations.

Modifications will include a dissolved oxygen monitoring system, and a nitrate monitoring system. The item passed on a 5-0 vote.

The second item involved two filtration units that filter the water before it enters the disinfection process. The filters had been in place for 13 years even though the manufacturer recommends changing them every five years. "They should have been replaced years ago," Anderson said. The two filtration units each hold 84 filtration panels, for a combined total of 168 panels. The panels retail for \$188.46 each, bringing the totals to \$31661.28. With the bulk purchase discount

continued on page 3



Manufacturer's photo of white filtration panels.



City Council from page 2

and freight costs the total purchase came to \$33,079.75, which the council approved with another majority vote.

The final business item concerned city manager Ron Walker's performance evaluation and merit-based compensation agreement. During a closed session on December 8, 2024 the council agreed to a cost of living increase of 3.67%, the same increase other city employees received, and an increase in his vehicle allowance from \$400 per year up to \$450 per year. The council publicly confirmed that agreement on a 4-0 vote.

> March 2025 City Council meetings will be on the 12th and 26th

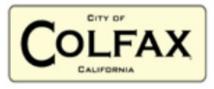
PCTPA 2050 RTP Update

Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) is in the process of updating the Placer County Regional Transportation Plan, known as the 2050 RTP, and has determined that the update is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

CEQA requires the preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR) prior to approving any project that may have a significant impact on the environment. PCTPA intends to prepare a supplemental EIR to evaluate new information and changes since the certification of the program-level EIR for the 2040 RTP.

PCTPA invites interested stakeholders to comment on the scope of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) and details about the 2050 RTP's supplemental EIR can be found online at **WWW.PCTPA.NET/RTP2050.**

Contents March 2025



- **Page 1 -** Sidewalk Repair Ordinance Not There Yet February Rain Makes Up For Dry january
- Page 3 PCTPA 2050 RTP Update
- Page 4 NID To Sell Centennial Dam Properties
- Page 5 Free Residential Trash Pickup May 7
- Page 6 Colfax Falcons Coach Boris Brown
- Page 7 Colfax Library Book Club
- Page 8 Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events
- Page 12 Green Machine March 22 Crab Feed

Colfax Connections is a monthly city publication edited by Will Stockwin, who can be contacted via e-mail at **wstockwin2024@gmail.com.** All submissions are welcome, the earlier the better.

Submissions 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 and Snapdragon

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).

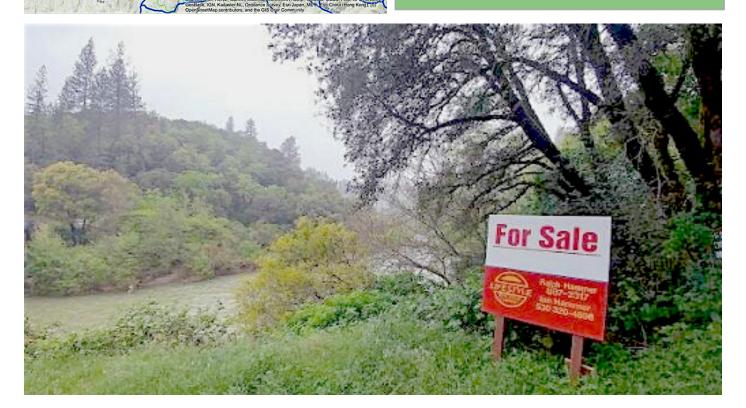


In the February 26 meeting of the NID Board, the Directors approved the staff recommendation to start the process of selling the lands the agency purchased when it was still planning to build Centennial Dam. The sale will begin with 17 parcels out of 48 parcels that NID owns in the abandoned Centennial Dam reservoir area.

Staff will bring back options to the Board on how to declare those 17 parcels as "surplus" to the needs of the District. The process then will continue with possible appraisals, and potential listings on the open market.

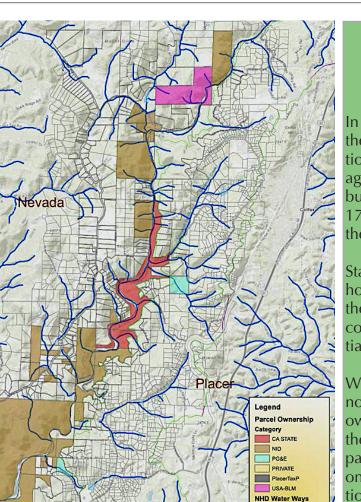
With one exception, these first 17 parcels are not of primary concern for the future public ownership possibilities and a broader vision for the future of the river. These are mostly small parcels with houses that are currently rented on a monthly basis by NID. For more information see the NID staff report at: https://www. nidwater.com/files/a116702ed/20250226_ BOD_Item_5A-Final.pdf

Story and accompanying art courtesy of BearParc.com



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CanalDitch



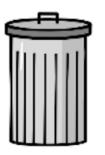
FREE Residential Trash Pick-up Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Limited to one (1) yard of trash per Residence (Equal to 6- 32 gallon bags). All trash must be set out the night before or before 5 am. Truck will only make one round for collection. ABSOLUTELY no hazardous waste Refuse exceeding the limit will not be picked up.



Large Appliances must be taken to the City Corp Yard for disposal at 250 Rising Sun The yard will be open from 7:00am to 3:00pm for drop off (May 7th) \$48.00 charge for appliances (with freon)

Items must not weigh more than sixty pounds. Residents should contain trash in such a way to be easily removed and to prevent breakage and spillage. Wood and trimmings must be cut in three-foot lengths and bundled.



City Staff will provide assistance to people with disabilities. Please call (530) 346-2313 for assistance.

For Questions about pick-up, Call Recology at (530) 885-3735

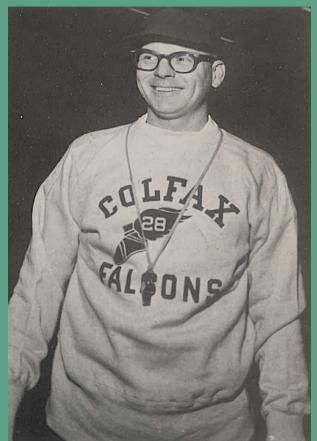


Compliments of the City of Colfax and Recology Auburn Placer





Colfax Falcons Coach Boris Brown – 12/15/35 to 1/15/25



Boris Brown. Photo courtesy of Mike Ray

By Mike Ray

Boris grew up in San Francisco, graduating from Polytechnic High School that was located right across the street from Kezar Stadium. Thus began Boris' lifelong love of the 49ers. He entered the US Marines after high school and then attended Chico State on the GI Bill.

While at Chico State, where he met longtime friend Dave Ingram, Boris played football and was on the boxing team. He began his teaching and coaching career at Sutter High, eventually coming to Colfax in the Fall of '62 as a social science teacher, jv football and varsity baseball coach.

Boris taught and coached at Colfax until 1972, then took a two-year sabbatical teaching in Bolivia. He returned to Colfax in 1974 and resumed teaching and coaching. He later was the school's athletic director and student activities director. The well-liked Coach Brown retired from Colfax High in 1997.

Weather report from page 1

The January dry spell quickly changed for the wetter when a four-day atmospheric river dumped 10.8 inches in the first week of the month, bringing the season total to 31.9 inches (10.1 inches more than we had at the same time in Feb. 2024) just as the daffodils began appearing in mid-month.

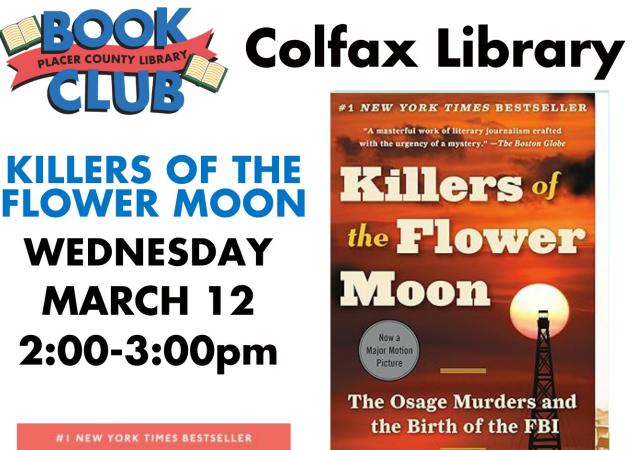
Local temperatures also dropped to near freezing at night through most of February, giving the pears and apples more chilling hours than they've had in recent years.

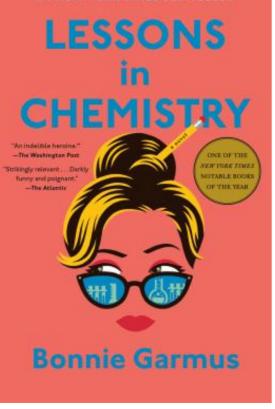
The rain persisted through the 19th, eventually adding 14.6 inches to a seasonal total that stood at 35.7 inches by the month's end.

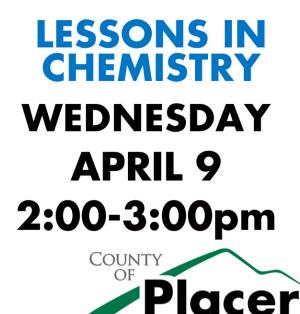
We finished February 2024 with 31.6 inches and, after the rain dried up in April and May, the entire season closed with 46.2 inches – 15.7 inches short of 2023's seasonal finish with 61.9 inches.



Photographer Alan Shuttleworth found some hardy daffodils standing tall in early February's chilly sunshine.







David Gran

LIBRARY SERVICES

Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

In March the soft rains continued, and each storm waited courteously until its predecessor sunk beneath the ground. – John Steinbeck

There is something magical about the beginning of spring that gives us hope and offers small windows into the summer to come.



While we've had another wet winter, I think we are all pleasantly surprised that it wasn't a reprise of the last couple of years.

Let us use this time to plan our gardens, calendar our summer events and look forward to the renewal that spring brings every year. I know I am looking forward to planting and planning for the summer harvest.

This month we will be highlighting our member Oscar Merida of Merida Art, LLC.

Oscar is the youngest of seven kids. He was designing and drawing by the age of four. He learned from his father and grew in his talent watching his uncle paint.

By the time the 90's came, hip-hop became something that he got absorbed in musically as well as dancing on a semi-professional level.

In 2015 he relocated with his two youngest kids to the beautiful historical town of Auburn in hopes of a more relaxed lifestyle after growing up in the busy, fast pace of Los Angeles.

It is there that he met the love of his life and became immersed in several artistic mediums such as acrylic paintings, tattoos, graphic designs and watercolors.

For more information about Oscar you can reach him by telephone at 530-344-2605 or on his website at https://www.meridaart.com. Coffee and Conversations is on the first Thursday of every month from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at 99 Railroad Street, and we would love to see all of you there. We have a variety of speakers lined up for this year.

As always, thank you from all of us at The Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce.

Amanda Palmquist, CACC President



www.ColfaxChamber.com 99 Railroad St. (Physical), PO Box 86 (Mailing), Colfax, Ca 95713 (530) 346-8888



FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

CAMERON PARK

10am-12pm | Faith Episcopal Church 2200 Country Club Dr. Cam. Park, 95682

1/2, 2/6, 3/6, 4/3, 5/1, 6/5

SHERIDAN

10am-12pm | Celebration Fam. Worship 5721 10th St. Sheridan, 95681

1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, 5/7, 6/11

POLLOCK PINES

10am-12pm | PP Community Center 2675 Sanders Dr. Pollock Pines, 95726

1/15, 2/19, 3/19, 4/16, 5/21, 6/18

LINCOLN

8-10am | McBean Park 65 McBean Park Dr. Lincoln, 95648

1/17, 2/21, 3/21, 4/18, 5/16, 6/20

ROCKLIN

8-10am | Johnson-Springview Park 5480 5th St. Rocklin, 95677

1/24, 2/28, 3/28, 4/25, 5/23, 6/27

ROSEVILLE

8-10am | Denio's Market 1401 Church St. Roseville, 95678

1/3, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/6

PLACERVILLE

10am-12pm | Lot next to MORE 337 Placerville Dr. Placerville, 95667

1/9, 2/13, 3/13, 4/10, 5/8, 6/12

GEORGETOWN

10:30am-12:30pm | St. James Church 2831 Harkness Rd. Georgetown, 95634

1/16, 2/20, 3/20, 4/17, 5/15, 6/19

COLFAX

10am-12pm | Sierra Community Center 55 School St. Colfax, 95713

1/28, 2/25, 3/25, 4/22, 5/20, 6/24

FORESTHILL

10am-12pm | Fire Dept. Office 24320 Main St. Foresthill, 95631

1/23, 2/27, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22, 6/26

Indicates when distribution falls on a different day of the week due to a holiday.

We offer a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables and more!

We will ask for basic information about you and your household to improve our services. You are also welcome to pick up for other folks in need who can't make it to the distribution.

More information at feedingthefoothills.org/get-food

2025



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THE DATES FOR 2025

JANUARY 16 FEBRUARY 20 MARCH 20

- APRIL 17
 - **MAY 15**
- JUNE 19

Churches

Colfax Assembly of God Community Fellowship 252 Culver St., Colfax, CA 95713 Email: colfaxaog@ 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

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 530-305-7526 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 530-269-9467 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

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 VFW Auxillary 2003 22 Sunset Dr, Colfax, CA 95713 530-305-6936 VFW Auxiliary 2003@gmail.com Website: https://www.auxiliary.org



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