

Colfax Connections

Published by the City of Colfax

The Night Colfax Came Alive

The evening of Pints & Grooves felt like something out of a storybook. Lawn chairs lined the park on Main Street. The air smelled like opportunity. Kids danced in the grass while neighbors shared drinks under the glow of string lights.

From the moment George Hoffman, a Colfax High School student, strummed his first chord, the crowd fell silent, then erupted in applause.

George's performance reminded everyone why we wanted to bring more music to town: because it inspires the next generation.



An Music Concert Series
by the Historic Colfax
Downtown Association



Then Michael James Cox took the stage with his soulful outlaw-country storytelling, followed by Steel Horse Stampede, whose high-energy country rock had everyone clapping, dancing, and shouting for more

We ran out of beer and had to scramble for kegs. Three times. And no one wanted to leave.

One longtime resident summed it up perfectly, saying: "This is

the most alive I've ever seen Colfax."

That night wasn't just a concert, it was a statement. Colfax was ready for a comeback with music leadin the way.

***Story and Art Courtesy
of the Historic Colfax
Downtown Association***

Rare Agenda Move By Council Rescues Rainbow Music

By wstockwin2024@gmail.com

The **October 22 Colfax city council meeting** will be remembered by the full house in attendance as the night the council unanimously consented to move a closed session item to the open session agenda. The unexpected action was greeted with loud applause.

At issue was the lease held by Rainbow Music on the overland rail car at 99 Railroad Street. Rob and Christine Bonner, owners of the business for 40 years, recently received a letter from

the city saying they would have to vacate the rail car when their lease expired on November 1.

"We didn't see this coming," Rob said. "We don't want to leave, but if we have to we'll need more time to shut down and move everything out."

The issue was originally agendized as a closed session negotiation between the city and the Bonners and, as usual, the public was given a chance to speak from the podium on the issue before the council adjourned behind a closed door.

But after 17 speakers spoke passionately in favor of extending the lease amid applause, laughter and tears, saying: "Renew the lease and keep the music alive", "The Bonners are a rare and wonderful part of Colfax", and "Rainbow Music is an incubator of creativity," council member Trinity Burruss lead the council to unanimously agree on moving the negotiation to the open session.

The city attorney introduced the item by reminding both parties that the negotiation would

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focus on "price and terms of payment."

City manager Ron Walker apologised for "the breakdown in communication" with the Bonners, and said the city had no immediate plans for the rail car. He added that at some point the rail car would have to be vacated for a long overdue assessment of its overall condition.

Walker opened the discussion by verifying the accuracy of the formal request to extend the agreement through June 2026. Council member Larry Hillberg suggested a one-year extension, saying "Rainbow Music is probably the only 'destination' business in Colfax" and deserved more time to plan for moving out.

Council member Trinity Burruss agreed with Hillberg. "The city has no immediate plans for the rail car, it's not a safety problem and we have no idea of what fixing the rail car will entail," she said, before seconding Hillberg's suggestion.

Mayor Sean Lomen favored an eight-month extension, but just before 9:00 p.m. Burruss moved for a one-year extension, after which the lease would go on a month-by-month basis while the city figured out what to do with the rail car.

Her motion also contained a 90-day notice to cancel the lease by either party. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote and the meeting adjourned at 9:13 to a final round of applause.

Earlier in the meeting agenda,

the council:

- Unanimously approved a resolution granting a set-back variance for a 6,890 square foot exercise facility to be built at the corner of S. Auburn and E. Oak streets, across from the Catholic Church.
- Tabled a proposed resolution authorizing the city manager to develop a disposable foodware, convenience retail, and roadway impact fee ordinance aimed at reducing litter

and other waste accumulating along streets, frontage roads and drainage systems. Local businesses contributing to that problem were opposed.

- Unanimously passed a resolution authorizing the city manager to request federal recognition of Colfax street addresses in its Address Management System, which currently does not due to the city's designation as a post-office-box-only delivery area.

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SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF COLFAX 35th

Old Fashioned SOUP KITCHEN

SATURDAY
December 13, 2025

SAVE THE DATE

Sierra Vista Community Center,
55 School Street, Colfax, CA

TICKETS AT THE DOOR

For more information please call **(530) 648-6455**

PRESIDENT SONJA KELLER

PROCEEDS BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIPS & PROJECTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

City Council from page 2

• During good of the order council reports, council member Hillberg requested that the stalled Winterfest planning be put on the November 12 meeting agenda.

The **October 8 Colfax city council meeting** opened with all five members present. Subbing for the absent city clerk, the city attorney called the roll to get the meeting started.

The four-item consent calendar passed on a unanimous vote, and Agency Reports highlighted a report by Erin Newington on the successful “Pints and Grooves” music event the Colfax Historic Downtown Association put on in The Lot of Arts on October 4th. (see more on that event on page 1).

Public Comment had two speakers asking the council why Rainbow Music was being “booted” out of the overland rail car on Railroad Street. Mayor Sean Lomen denied that was happening and said the situation with Rainbow Music would be on the October 22 agenda.

The three items of city business opened with another discussion of how city donations made to non-profit organizations should be handled.

Council member Trinity Bur-

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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).



Business Briefs *with Lindalou Haines*

Coco's Ice Cream & Candy has yummy treats

A tasty cone of homemade ice cream or a homemade fudge treat or both. Got your attention?

Colfax has an ice cream shop again. Hooray. Coco's Ice Cream & Candy at 27 S Main St is where Scoops used to be right next to City Hall.

Coco's first came to Colfax as a vendor at the Farmers Market summer a year ago and then again this summer. They have a mobile cart that can easily travel to a variety of venues.

Coco's ice cream is all homemade and is dye-free and oh, so, tasty. Most of their candies are also homemade. Think fudge delicacies and chocolate specialties. Coco's also carries the line of Jelly Belly jelly beans that the previous owners carried and other commercial non-chocolate sugary treats.

The ice cream comes in many traditional flavors plus some exotic ones like Bailey's, Thai Tea and Strawberry Rhubarb. In the colder weather you will see soups added to the menu. The co-owners, Dave Mendoza and Barbara McDonald, also own a Coco's Ice Cream & Candy in Grass Valley at 2072 Ne-

vada City Hwy. and a Mexican restaurant Casa Las Katarina's in Alta Sierra. The mobile ice cream cart travels to the Nevada County Fair, its biggest event, and the recent Strawberry Music Festival, another large event. Also, it is available for birthdays, weddings and anniversaries; corporate events; school

and church events; picnics, and camps. The shop hours are 12 to 8, 7 days a week. Coco's can be reached at 530-446-6203 and www.cocoscandyandcreamery.com.

If you have Colfax City business news, contact me at LindaLouHaines14@gmail.com.



Photos by Alan Shuttleworth

At left – Coco employee Marie Granado.

Below – Store front at 27 S. Main St. next to City Hall.



Community Center Gym Floor Ready To Play Ball

The refurbished Sierra Vista Community Center Gym is ready to go as a location for individual or group coaching clinics for your basketball, baseball, and volleyball teams.

New next spring will be 3-on-3 leagues for both adults and youths. Also, a volleyball league could be possible, but a volleyball commissioner is needed.

For more details on scheduling and prices for renting the space, call the community center office at 530-346-8726. Office hours are 9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. M-W-F.

We are also looking for volunteers to provide greater access for the community. Call Bob Morales at 916-952-5254 if you are interested.

Donations are still welcome for additional gym equipment and improvements.



The new floor is lined to be used for basketball, volleyball, pickleball, and badminton games.
Photos by Bob Morales



21st Annual Colfax Lions Club Fashion Show

The 2025 Colfax Lions Harvest Moon Fashion Show was a big success. Guests were treated to a silent auction, a great lunch and cheery Lions Club models.

This year's vintage garments were donated by The Colfax Thrift Store with a later sale of modeled items available and encouraged. Following the show, there was lots of competition from Fashion Show guests who wanted to purchase a modeled item to add to their own private closet.

Proceeds from the event will support local Lions projects including student scholarships, elementary school literacy projects and vision services for needy individuals.

Event chair, Fran Waldo, said, "Everyone enjoys fashion show themes. We've already started planning for the 2026 show and are welcoming suggestions for the next show's theme."



Story And Photos By
Alan Shuttleworth

Top left – model, Suzanne Candler
Top right – model Ashley Baldwin
Below left – model Kim Faitz
Below right – model Kathy Horn
Bottom – Diners awaiting the show



City council from page 3

Burruss reiterated the suggestion she'd made several meetings ago that she favored setting up a separate non-profit for dealing with allocating city donations to other non-profit organizations.

Council member Caroline McCully voiced displeasure with an arrangement that would allow a separate organization to control taxpayer funds.

Council member Larry Hillberg teed up a lengthy list critiquing the city donation policy proposed by city staff, and agreed to send the city attorney and council members copies of the list.

When it looked like the discussion was stalled, Burruss suggested tabling the item and setting up a public workshop for more discussion. The rest of the council concurred, and the meeting moved on to the Winterfest planning report.

Hillberg immediately pointed out that the council had not seen a proposed budget for the event, saying they didn't have enough information to vote on anything yet. McCully and Burruss outlined a rough \$17,000–\$20,000 budget on the spot, which included \$12,000 for fireworks. That prompted Hillberg to ask where the money for the fireworks would come from, adding that it shouldn't be taken from the city's non-profit fund. Shortly after that the item was tabled to await a firmer budget that would include all funding sources.

That brought up the last item of business – paying \$15,000

for a city employee satisfaction survey to be done by an outside contractor. The council received one public comment from former mayor and former city employee, Tom Parnham, who suggested splitting the proposed fee among all city employees as a bonus and just asking them for their opinions. The council disagreed and voted unanimously for the item.

At that point the council adjourned to a closed session for two items:

- A request to modify the settlement with Snapdragon Provisions, and
- A property negotiation with Dave Gard and Winner Chevrolet. There was no report out from the closed session.



Ribbon Cutting and Dedication of "Service Mural Wall"



Colfax Veterans Memorial Hall
22 Sunset Circle
Colfax

Presented by:

Colfax American Legion Post 192
Colfax Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2003
Colfax Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Post 2003
Placer County
City of Colfax

Veteran Day

Tuesday November 11, 2025

1:00 pm Barbeque

{Donations appreciated}

2:00 pm Dedication and Ribbon Cutting

Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

Peering from some high window, at the gold of November sunset and feeling that if day has to become night, this is a beautiful way. – E. E. Cummings



November is a fine time to ready our wood fire stoves, stack the needed wood for winter and enjoy the changing of the seasons. As we enjoy the sunsets, sit by our fires with a warm cup of coffee and bask in the crisp Fall air we celebrate the beauty all around us.

This month we have the pleasure of introducing a long-standing member of the Chamber, **Nick Vogt Fine Arts**. Nick Vogt grew up with his brothers milking their cows, cutting wood, and bailing hay that they hauled and stacked to the roof of the 100-year-old barn at their ranch.

In the summers they cooled off by panning for gold and swimming in the Yuba River under Bridgeport Covered Bridge. By the age of 9 he leaned in to his love of drawing and painting the historical buildings and landmarks located near his home in the California Gold Country community.

He was one of the founding members of Pioneer Arts, and currently holds membership in Meadow Vista Artist Association, the Placer Artist Tour Council and Sierra Vista Artists in Colfax, CA.

Nick Vogt works in bold color vibrancy style watercolor painting. Some of his prints available for purchase include historic buildings and churches, historic bridges, barns, farms and animals among others. He is also available for commissioned work and has many happy collectors.

Nick Vogt Fine Arts is located at 1025 Grange Road, Meadow Vista CA95722; you can reach them by telephone at (530) 320-6565, email at Nick@NRVogtArt.com or through his website at <https://www.nrvogtart.com>.

As always, look for ways to get involved in the community! The City Council holds meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

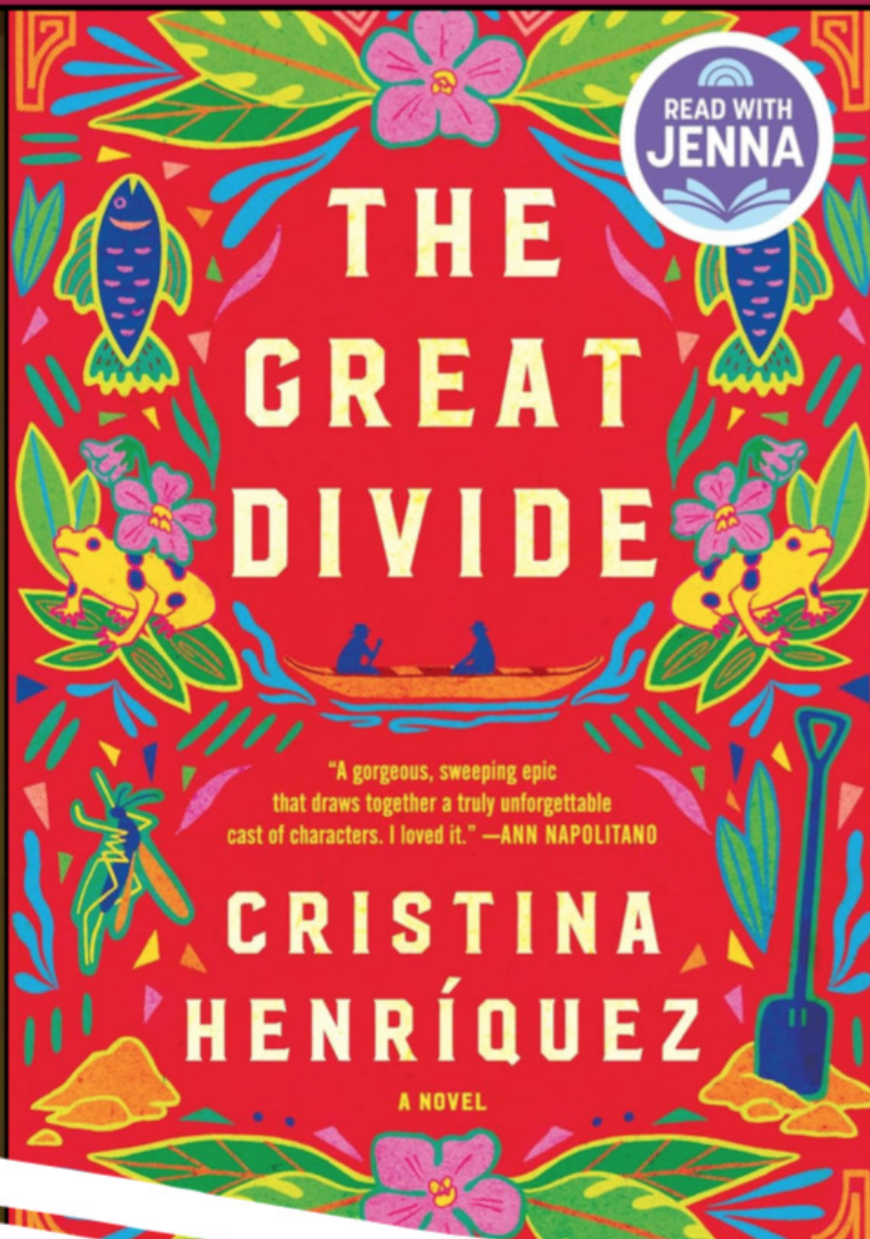
The Chamber hosts a Coffee & Conversations on the first Friday of the month at The Train Depot from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. As always, thank you from all of us at The Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce.

Amanda Palmquist, CACC President



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

Find it on  Libby.



COLFAX LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY DEC 10 | 2PM

COUNTY
OF **Placer**
LIBRARY SERVICES

JOIN US FOR STORYTIME!



Books, songs, rhymes, bounces, and playtime for babies 0-24 months.

- Auburn: Tuesdays 9:30
- Colfax: Wednesdays 10:30am
- Granite Bay: Wednesdays 10:30am
- Rocklin: Thursdays 10:30am
- Kings Beach: Wednesdays 10:30am
- Tahoe City: Fridays 10:30am

Movement, songs, and books to develop First 5 skills for children ages 18-36 months.

- Auburn: Wednesdays 9:30
- Colfax: Thursdays 10:30am
- Granite Bay: Thursdays 10:30am
- Rocklin: Wednesdays 10:30am & Fridays 9:30am



Stories, songs, and activities for children ages 3-5 years old.

- Auburn: Mondays 9:30
- Colfax: Fridays 10:30am
- Foresthill: Thursdays 10:30am
- Granite Bay: Fridays 10:30am
- Rocklin: Wednesdays 10:30am
- Kings Beach: Tuesdays 10:30am
- Tahoe City: Thursdays 10:30am



SCAN ME!

for more details about storytime, scan the QR code.

COUNTY OF
Placer
LIBRARY SERVICES

Churches



Colfax Assembly of
God Community
Fellowship
252 Culver St., Colfax,
CA 95713
Email: colfagaog@
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
530-305-7526
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](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 VFW Auxillary 2003
22 Sunset Dr, Colfax, CA 95713
530-305-6936
VFW Auxiliary 2003@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.auxiliary.org>



12-6-2025

AMERICAN LEGION POST 192 COLFAX

1st Saturday of the month of the month veterans fundraising dinner at the Colfax Memorial hall.

Prime rib au jus with twice baked potatoes, green beans, rolls and Tiramisu for dessert:

Nonalcoholic beverages served with dinner.

**Special Christmas
dinner (Prime Rib)
\$30.00 per
person.**

**Bring a gift of
\$10.00 or less to
swap with other
guests. Ticket
draw throughout
the evening. It
will be a fun night.**

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

**Please call ahead
for reservations.
Hank's cell 916
216-8254.**

**POST 192
22 Sunset Circle,
Colfax 95713**

post192colfaxca.com

**Thank you for
supporting our
veterans..**

