

Colfax Connections

Election Winners Take Their Seats On The City Council

By wstockwin@hughes.net

The city council's last meeting of 2022 on Wednesday, December 14 recognized the retirements of two well-known local first responders, CHP officer Chris Nave and CalFire assistant chief Mike Rufenacht. (See photos on page 10)

The council also entertained the offer of a donated pair of heritage railroad signals for a permanent, functioning display in downtown Colfax. The rest of the agenda dealt with the usual election-year-end clean up chores, including declaring certification of the November 8 election results, swearing in council election winners, and the annual rotation of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem council positions.

The City Clerk, Marguerite Bailey, read the final local election results that included three open, four-year council seats, and Measure B that proposed raising the TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax) from eight to 10 percent.

Measure B needed a majority vote to pass and received 70 percent of the 677 votes cast. The win will generate an expected \$29,000 to support essential City services, including police, fire, road repair, and parks and recreation.

continued on page 2



2022 City Council election winners, L-R, Trinity Burruss, Kim Douglass, and Sean Lomen are sworn in at the December 14 council meeting.
Photo by Martin Jones

Heritage Rail Signals Proposed for Downtown

By wstockwin@hughes.net



Semaphore Tower

The Placer Sierra Railroad Heritage Society (Society) and Union Pacific Railroad (UP) are offering to donate and install two vintage rail signals – a searchlight and a semaphore tower – as a permanent display in downtown Colfax.

The signals harken back to those used starting in 1940's on the Transcontinental Railroad through Colfax and over Donner Pass.

The searchlight signal is from a Sierra snow shed, and the semaphore is similar to the one that stood next to the Colfax passenger depot in the early 20th century.

continued on page 2

City Council from page 1

Bailey said 1,448 votes were cast to fill three City Council seats, with six candidates running. Trinity Burruss won her second four-year term with 25.4% of the vote, and Sean Lomen also notched his second four-year term with 22.8%. Kim Douglass returned to the council, filling the third seat with 15.1% of the vote. Rocky Orozco, Joe Fatula and Larry Hillberg finished with 14%, 12.6% and 9.6% respectively.

The new council members were sworn in en masse by the city

clerk before the final agenda item turned to the annual rotating of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem positions. In the past, the expected switch has the Pro Tem becoming Mayor, followed by the new council selecting one of the other four to become Mayor Pro Tem.

Not this time. Outgoing Mayor Pro Tem Marnie Mendoza opened the discussion by suggesting the 2023 council continue the current leadership with Burruss as Mayor and Mendoza as Mayor Pro Tem. After some brief concern over

whether such a move would create a precedent for future councils, Mendoza’s suggestion was approved with four in favor and Burruss abstaining.

The 2023 Colfax City Council will be Mayor Trinity Burruss, Mayor Pro Tem Marnie Mendoza, and Councilmembers David Ackerman, Sean Lomen, and Kim Douglass.

Council meetings in January, 2023 are scheduled for the 11th and 25th

Rail Signals from page 1

They would add to the city’s downtown rail history presentation, with their lights and signal arms functioning, just as they had over the years as track signals.

The proposed location for the display is the same one where the Bull and Bear statues once stood on Railroad St., next to

the depot. The site is already plumbed to provide power to any potential displays. The Society representatives told the council the donors would handle the planning and construction of the project. They “anticipated minimal costs to the city.”

The council voiced support for the proposed donation. They held off on making it official,

however, after city manager Wes Heathcock recommended setting up a working committee of various civic groups to get some public input on planning the installation.

The council agreed to bring it back on a meeting agenda in early spring.



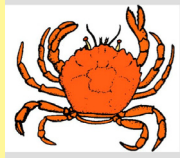
Top - Proposed location for the signal display.

Left - Searchlight signal on right side of snow shed.

**Colfax
Lions
Crab Feed**



\$65.00



**Get Your
Tickets Early**

Sat., Jan 14

Happy Hour 5:30 pm

Dinner: 6:30 pm

For Tickets Call:

530-477-2533

or

510-376-7856

**Sierra Vista
Center**

**55 School St.
Colfax**

**Proceeds Support
The Community
of Colfax**



**Contents
January 2023**



Cover - Council Winners Take Their Seats
Heritage Rail Signals Donation Proposed

Page 4 - Business Briefs Features

Page 5 - Soroptimists Soup Kitchen Returns

Page 7 - Senior Lunch Dates

Page 8 - Colfax Chamber Of Commerce Notes & Events

Page 9 - Colfax Library Storytimes

Page 10 - Council Honors Retiring First Responders

Back Cover - American Legion Monthly Dinner

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.

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

Where can I get my hair cut in Colfax?

Colfax has an abundance of hair salons for the size of our small town. A number of salons are in their own shops, while others work from home. This list will not include home salons.

To highlight just two:

Mane Tamer & Calico Palace, 219 Railroad St. at Oak St., 346-2041. Owner Beth Miller and staff style women's, men's and children's hair. In addition to hair styling, Beth offers some special services, such as ear piercing. She has been in business for 46 years.

The Key Salon, 333 S. Auburn St., #4, 346-6800. Owner Britni Lee has been in business for 15 years. She works with two other hair stylists and a nails artist, Angelina. Plus, once a month

a massage therapist comes in. Britni will take walk-ins, but she prefers customers to make an appointment. By the way, The Key Salon is in the location where Le' Orange used to be.

Hair House 'N' Nail Saloon, 520 S. Auburn St. (under TJ's Roadhouse), 346-7788.

Hair Razor, 13 Depot St., 512-5026.

Invision, 7 N. Main St., #2, 346-9195.

So, as you can see from these choices in Colfax, there is no need to head down the hill to have your hair done.

I wish you all a healthy and peaceful new year. And, as always, to contact me with your business news, here is my email,

lindalouhaines14@gmail.com





Photo by Victoria Shuttleworth

Colfax Soroptimist Club's 33rd Annual Soup Kitchen

By Alan Shuttleworth

After a virus-hiatus in 2020 and 2021, the entire Colfax Community was ready to return to one of their favorite holiday experiences. As in year's past, 20 different soups and endless garlic bread were offered, at a modest cost, in an all-you-can-eat style setting.

Eager diners had to choose between equally appealing options such as minestrone, chili, tortilla and vegetable. Of course, the crowd's favorite

depended on Connie Marson and her team of cooks who prepared a seemingly endless stock of clam chowder. Proceeds from the event will go to support area awards to both elementary and high school students as well as women re-entering the work force.

Co-Chairs, Dale Shuttleworth and Kim Johnson, paired to say, "We had a great turnout despite the rain, a good time was had by all and it was great fun to visit with old friends."



Right- Cynthia Eisenhut, Nikki Ahrens and Connie Marson taking a break in the kitchen.



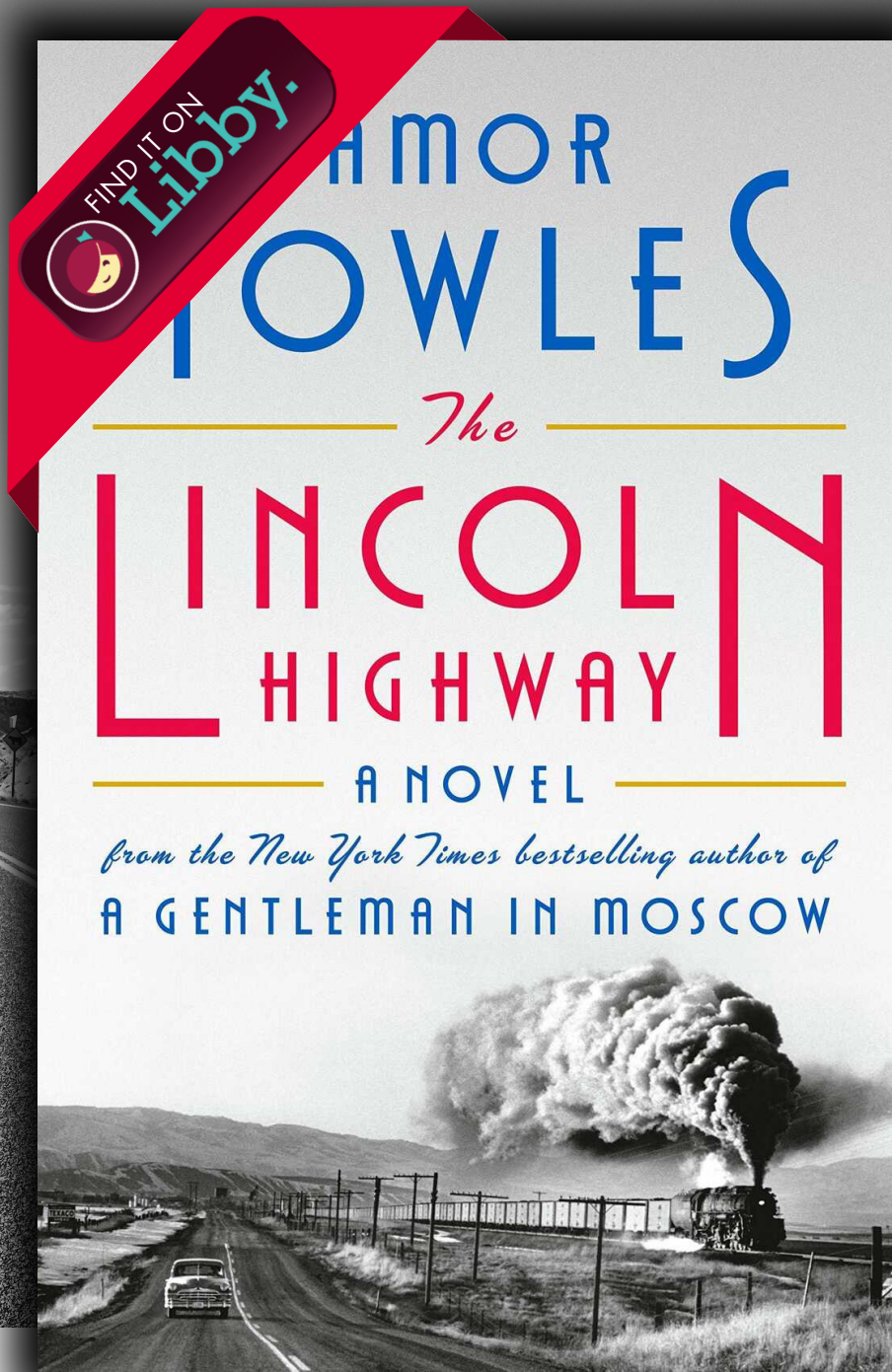
Below- Servers (front to back) Victoria Shuttleworth, Nikki Ahrens, and Janice Quinn. Waiting for soup are Karen and Stan Kirkman.



Top left- The Smith Family, L-R Kasia, Ela and Alexa. Back row- Terri, Lauren and Margie. Top right- Terry Johnson serving garlic bread. Bottom right- Dale Shuttleworth and daughter Victoria.



Photos by Alan Shuttleworth



COLFAX LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY JAN 11 | 2PM



SENIOR LUNCH

**& FUN ACTIVITY PROGRAM
3RD THURSDAY EVERY MONTH
FREE TO SENIORS 55+ • 12 noon - 2 PM**



SPONSORED BY:

COLFAX LIONS AT THE COLFAX METHODIST CHURCH 59
CHURCH STREET, COLFAX

THE DATES FOR 2023

JANUARY 19	•	APRIL 20
FEBRUARY 16	•	MAY 18
MARCH 16	•	JUNE 15

Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

"Winterfest" celebration Saturday, December 10, 2022 is a day we will long remember. It rained. It was windy with strong gusts. It was cold and chilling to the bone. And it turned out fantastic! After months of planning, scheduling, financing, and so much more, Winterfest came to be.



CACC President Tim Ryan

Perseverance and dedication was the theme for the day. Along with our volunteers, non-profit groups, and city staff, our streets were set up for all the festivities beginning the previous week and finalizing early Saturday Morning.

Calls, emails, and texts kept coming in asking if we were still having Winterfest.

The answer was yes; we are continuing rain or shine, wind or snow. We had everything except the snow, and that wasn't very far away up the hill. Some vendors had to cancel. Others wanted to know if they could still sign up and attend.

Vendors started showing up at 8:30 a.m. ready to put up their canopies, situate their trailers and began selling their goods. It was a real challenge for them with the rain and strong winds to stay dry and warm and keep their canopies from blowing down the streets. They all adjusted to the weather, however, and made the best of it.

The Colfax Friends of the Library hosted Santa Claus inside City Hall, greeting families with their children and bringing so much joy and happiness to everyone.

The Colfax Green Machine had their booths set-up and waiting to see if their band would be able to play. Unfortunately, the weather had turned for the worst, and it was decided to take down the booths and cancel the band. Fortunately, the band, "Malarkey," was able to continue their music inside the Railhead Saloon.

During a lull in the weather at 5:00 p.m. came the tree lighting. Our Mayor, Trinity Burruss, and

her family braved the elements and the tree was lit. Thank you to City staff for hanging new lights.

Next came the Light Parade. The Colfax Lions pulled it all together and presented a fun and enthusiastic showing. It looked like we had the emergency vehicles from all around our area. Classic cars, golf carts, motorcycles and more enjoying the parade.

Then came the Fireworks. A spectacular sight through the rain and mist. What a grand finale above our city. Your Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce thanks all those who participated in making this one of our more memorable Winterfest celebrations in years!

Please continue to check our Website for more information and upcoming events in our area at www.colfaxchamber.com. We welcome you to stop by our Chamber Office/Visitor Center and Colfax Heritage Museum, 99 South Railroad St. in Colfax Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Email us at colfaxareachamber@gmail.com or call us at 530-346-8888 for even more information. If you have some extra time and would like to help others and your community, please contact us as we are always looking for more volunteers. Your Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce wishes you all, "Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year."

I personally want to thank the board for being your President, Vice President, Secretary, Board Member and Volunteer (Ambassador) over the past seven years. It is time for me to move on and seek new adventures. We have a great board and executive director, Lauriana Cecchi, that will continue promoting, supporting, and recommending our businesses, non-profit organizations, associates, city and our communities. Please give them your full support as you have in the past!



Join Us For **STORYTIMES** at the Colfax Library

BABY LAPSIT

Wednesdays
10:30am

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



TODDLER TIME

Thursdays
10:30am

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

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Fridays
9:30am

Stories, songs, and activities for children ages 3-5





Colfax City Council Honors Retiring First Responders

Above – Retiring CHP officer Chris Nave (third from left) was recognized by the Colfax city Council for his 29 years of service as a law enforcement officer and for his contributions to the community and the City of Colfax.

Below – CAL FIRE Assistant Chief Mike Rufenacht is retiring from CAL FIRE after serving the community of Colfax and Placer County for 39 dedicated years. Council members (L-R) Trinity Burruss, Sean Lomen, Joe Fatula, Marnie Mendoza and David Ackerman.

Photos by Will Stockwin



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>





1-19-2023

AMERICAN LEGION POST 192 COLFAX

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

Menu To Be Announced

Nonalcoholic beverages served with dinner.



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

**Our Monthly
Thursday night
dinners**

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

***Reservations
are required* so
please call ahead
for reservations.**

**We also have
take-out available
(with
reservations).**

**Commander's cell
916 216-8254**

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

post192colfaxca.com

Come Join Us!