

Colfax Connections

Three Candidates Running For Two City Council Seats

Two of the five Colfax City Council seats are being contested during the coming election in November. Marnie Mendoza and Kim Douglass are the incumbents currently occupying those seats. Both of them are running again, along with challenger David Ackerman. Colfax Connections asked them all four questions, which are listed below along with their answers. **Editor**



Marnie Mendoza, incumbent

1. Why do you want to be on the Colfax City Council?

I ran for Council to address public safety in this rural area. Wildland fires put Colfax in

an at-risk category. And there is so much more to complete around our at-risk community. I am running in 2020 to continue developing Public Safety and Community Emergency Response Teams. I will also continue advocating for federal funding and ensure Colfax gets its share of the regional funds.

2. What will your priorities be for the next four years?

- Public Safety
- Protecting Vulnerable Citizens in crisis.
- Preservation of Historic Colfax

3. If you are a sitting council

member, what are you most proud of accomplishing in your time on the council?

I am proud of protecting and saving the lives of our vulnerable citizens during the 2019 power outage, when they had no power for oxygen and sleep apnea equipment that they were dependent on. The solution was to transport generators to medically dependent citizens and to distribute food to the community. I am also proud that Colfax is in the process of having a Microgrid Power Station being installed in downtown, ensuring that some citizens have generated power during the next power shutdown.

4. Colfax high sewer rates are crippling the city's develop-

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Council Authorizes CARES Business Assistance Grants

By wstockwin@hughes.net

With an eye toward helping local businesses economically impacted by COVID-19, the City Council voted unanimously on Sept. 9 to authorize the allocation of funding in CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Security) Act for creation of a local small business grant assistance program.

The CARES Act, which was signed into law on March 27,

2020, established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to be used to reimburse states, territories, tribal and local governments for specified Coronavirus/Covid-19 related expenses. Colfax is eligible for \$50,000 allocation of CRF funding through the State of California Department of Finance.

The City Council voted to authorize the City CARES Act funding allocation as follows:

- \$5,000 - for City eligible ex-

penses due to COVID-19,
• \$42,500 - to fund a small business grant assistance program,

- \$2,500 - to fund agreement with Sierra Business Council to manage the small business grant assistance program. As a third-party administrator, Sierra Business Council will develop an online application process, review grant applications, determine eligibility, determine grantees and file program

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ment and local businesses. What are your thoughts on how to deal with this long-term problem?

When I first was elected 2017, I suggested using solar power at the sewer plant to reduce power costs. I pushed to apply to a grant program that had \$6.5 million for upgrades, and I participate in a Council sub-committee tasked with looking for ways to reduce costs and ratepayer bills.



David Ackerman, challenger

1. Why do you want to be on the Colfax City Council?

I'd like to be on the Colfax City Council, primarily to bring a fresh perspective to the scene and to apply my leadership, business experience and skills as a broker of operational services for various food companies to the rest of the council.

2. What will your priorities be for the next four years?

If elected, my priorities would be to truly listen to what the public has to say, help make rational and educated suggestions and decisions, and to use my skills to help the team more effectively follow through on actions.

3. If you are a potential new Council member, what should voters know about you?

As a potential new Council member, I would like voters to know how involved I have been with the Colfax community (see list of involvement below) since my family moved here in 2005, that I'm a successful Colfax business owner, and a person not afraid to make tough decisions.

4. Colfax high sewer rates are crippling the city's development and local businesses. What are your thoughts on how to deal with this long-term problem?

Regarding the high sewer rates and how it has negatively affected the city's development, I believe we need to continue to focus on economic and residential development to help offset such costs, including other costs such as road maintenance.

Here are just some of David's contributions to our community since he moved here in 2005:

- Successful Colfax Business Owner since 2012
- City of Colfax Planning Commission (2007-2008)
- Colfax Elementary School Board President (2012-2014)



Kim Douglass, incumbent

1. Why do you want to be on

the Colfax City Council?

To assist our city in becoming a family friendly community with a healthy business economy.

2. What will your priorities be for the next four years?

To encourage economic growth along with housing for the middle class. Our streets are in dire need of repair, and we need to allocate maintenance funds. Our projected long-term budget may be difficult to sustain, and attention must be given to ensure our city budget is healthy five years from now. Our wonderful community needs and deserves a swimming pool. Period.

3. If you are a sitting council member, what are you most proud of accomplishing in your time on the council?

With councilman Tony Hesch, I established a train 'quiet zone' in the downtown area.

4. Colfax high sewer rates are crippling the city's development and local businesses. What are your thoughts on how to deal with this long-term problem?

If we promote new business ventures, encourage new housing starts, monitor our budget then we can begin to reduce sewer fees.

Colfax Candidate Forum

Time: Oct 8, 2020, 6PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83246578164?pwd=SlJyRFIRT3F2cE5lTjBRcWVVM0h0QT09>

Meeting ID: 832 4657 8164

Passcode: 019216

**Update From Supervisor
Cindy Gustafson**

Most of us have heard by now that November’s election will be 100% vote by mail, and although it is correct that all active voters will be sent a vote by mail ballot, Placer County voters will also have the opportunity to vote in person if they prefer. If you are unsure about your registration status or you know you need to register to vote, please visit <https://voter-status.sos.ca.gov/>.

Vote by mail ballots will be mailed the week of October 5 and should arrive to you by October 15. If you are registered to vote you will receive this ballot automatically – you do not need to fill out an application or request a ballot.

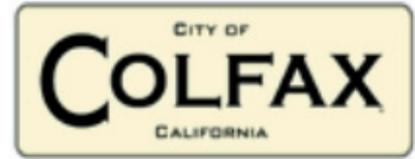
Vote by mail ballots will be mailed the week of October 5 and should arrive to you by October 15.

There are several options for getting your ballot to the Elections Division by the close of voting on November 3. You can return your ballot by mail, drop it in a designated ballot drop box or you can vote in person at multiple locations throughout the county.

Beginning October 5 through Election Day voters can visit either the Placer County Elections Office in Auburn or the Placer County Elections Warehouse in Rocklin to vote in person, Monday through Friday from 8AM to 5PM and the last two Saturdays

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October, 2020**



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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
Proofreading – LindaLou Haines

Hard Copies of Colfax Connections can be found at City Hall and Lumenaris.

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

Local businesses are heroes

It's about family and focusing on service to locals along with the many travelers right outside the door on I-80: Homie Joe's Tacos. You'll find it just before you reach the Colfax Cemetery at 212 N. Canyon Way.

Fresh, mostly handmade on the spot and very satisfying. (The only item not handmade is the nacho cheese sauce.)

Joe Rocha (not Habay as published elsewhere recently) is the chief cook-and-bottle-washer and co-founder of the Homie Joe's establishment. His mother Linda and step-dad Ray Habay co-founded Joe's restaurant more than two years ago when the property became available.

Opening the restaurant was a dream for Joe and his mom. Joe had run taco food trucks and trailers in the past, but never a restaurant before this one.

Since opening, Joe has had rave reviews from locals and tourists. And, I was thrilled to learn that fish tacos are on the menu now. Yummy!

Joe is exceptionally accommodating with special requests, such as corn or flour tortilla, tortilla or bowl and more complex choices. His menu already includes gluten-free, Keto and veggie options.

Speaking of menus, Joe's full menu is online so orders can be placed online ready for pick-up at an agreed time: HomieJoesTacosToGo.com. Customers can also call ahead: 346-8226. He is also on facebook: [FB/HomieJoesTacos/](https://www.facebook.com/HomieJoesTacos/).

Joe calls the east side of the highway where he is "The Sunny Side of the Highway!" You can't beat that as a reason to go to Homie Joe's Tacos to try his tacos and other Mexican dishes. Just read his

menu and your mouth may start to water.

To focus on local customers, Homie Joe's Tacos is open during the week only: Monday through Friday, 11:30 am to 6:30 pm. The weekend was very busy with travelers, but Joe said his focus is on satisfying the Colfax area locals.

Help me support this locally-owned Colfax business that is a hero!

Please contact me with your Colfax city business news. Priority is given to new businesses and existing businesses offering something new.
lindalouhaines14@gmail.com



Joe Rocha in front of his restaurant. Photo by LindaLou Haines

Anniversary Noted

It has now been one year since this team has been publishing the Colfax Connections. Will Stockwin, Editor, has had a career in journalism and has put that experience to use in editing our publication. Alan Shuttleworth, our esteemed photographer, is well known for his career as an educator and his talent with his camera. LindaLou Haines, our proof-reader and Business Buzz maven, has had careers in journalism and special education. How useful is our publication to you and your family?



JOIN US FOR THE 2nd ANNUAL

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 31ST

5 PM TO 8 PM

MAIN STREET,
DOWNTOWN COLFAX

IF YOU'D LIKE TO PASS OUT CANDY VISIT:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/30e0445aeac2fa6fb6-trunk>

COME AND VOTE
FOR YOUR
FAVORITE
SCARECROW!

*REMEMBER TO BE
MINDFUL OF SOCIAL
DISTANCING!*

SPONSORED BY:



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reporting as required to manage the program.

Eligibility Criteria

To be considered, for the small business grant assistance program the following eligibility criteria must be met:

1. Existing business as of March 01, 2020.
2. Must be a for-profit business and be operating legally.
3. Valid City of Colfax Business License.
4. Physical address within City of Colfax city limits and primary business conducted in the City.
5. Business is viable and intends to re-open.

6. Gross Revenues for 2019 were between \$25,000 and \$2,000,000. (Gross revenue is defined as line one of the tax return or schedule normally filed to report business income for federal tax purposes.)
7. Must have 50 or fewer employees.
8. Must demonstrate proof of a Covid-19 related economic injury or hardship between 3/1/2020 and 12/30/2020.
9. Business must certify that grant expenditures are eligible as defined by U.S. Treasury guidelines as part of the application process, and that qualified expenditures have not been submitted for any other grant or

loan programs.

Grant Funds/Award

Grants may be awarded up to the following amounts:

1. \$2,500 for businesses with 1-9 employees
2. \$5,000 for businesses with 10-50 employees

Grant awards will be based on a lottery once applicants have been determined to be eligible. The first round of the lottery will only include applicants who have not received a Placer County Shares grant. If funds remain after the first round there will be a second lottery for applicants that received Placer County Shares funds. This is intended to ensure that as many businesses as possible receive assistance.

Application Process

Applications for the Grant Program will be made via the City of Colfax website.

- Applications will open on Monday, October 5, 2020 and close on Friday, October 16, 2020. FAQ (frequently asked questions) and links to US Treasury guidelines for CARES Act funding allowable expenditures will be included on the website.
- **An online workshop for completing the application will be conducted on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 2pm.**
- "Office hours" will be available on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 to answer questions on the application process at 11am.
- It is anticipated that eligible grant recipients will be identified no later than mid-November. Distribution of funds will be made as soon as possible when lottery is completed.

Holiday Wreath Making Party

October 11th at 2 to 5

at Sierra Vista Center

Wreaths and all accessories will be provided and finger foods- \$25. A no host wine and Champagne bar will be available.



RSVP to Sierra Vista Center 530-8726

or Connie 530-346-8250

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and Sundays before Election Day: October 24 and 25 and October 31 and November 1.

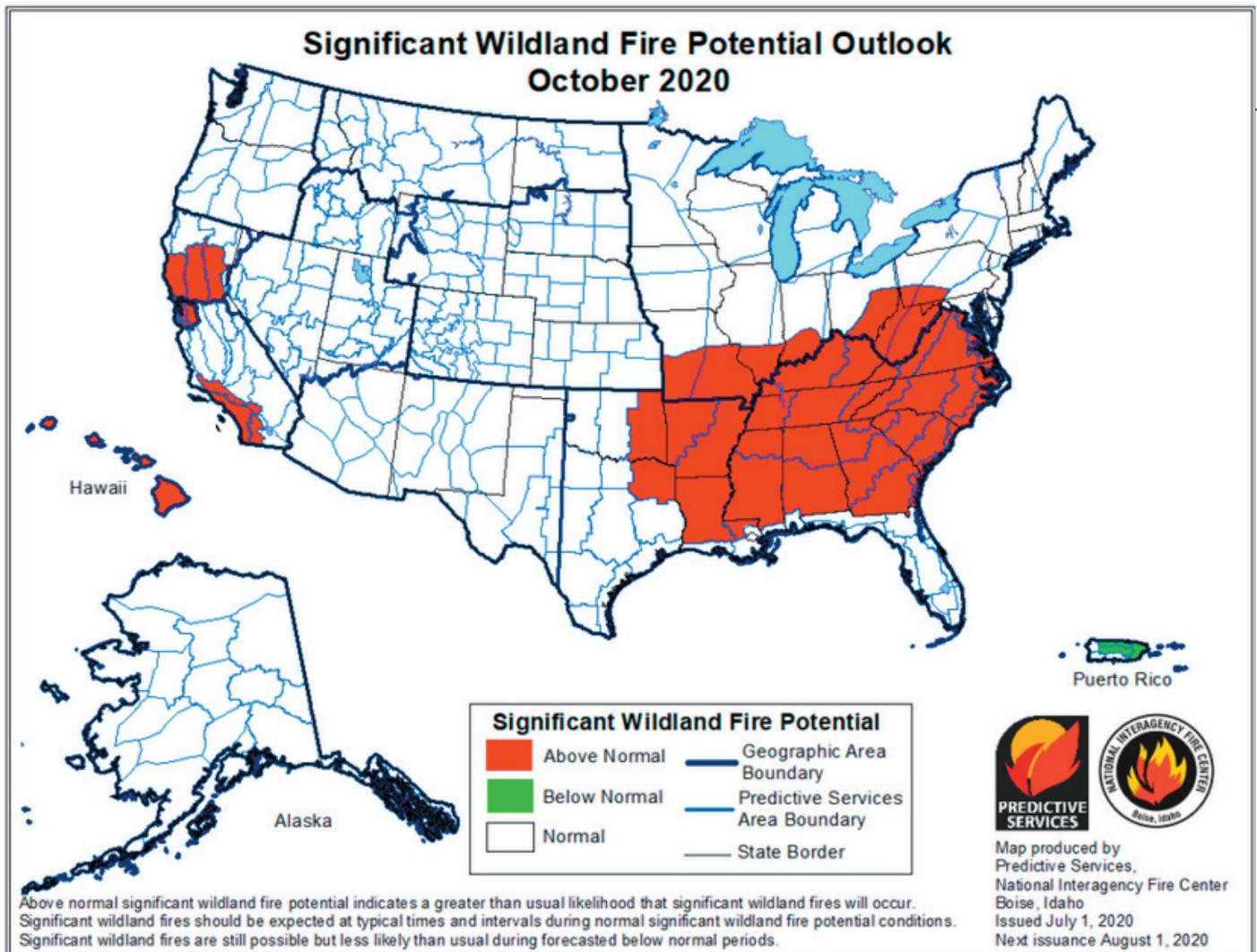
There will also be 28 voter service centers opened throughout Placer County for four days leading up to Election Day, from Saturday, October 31 through Election Day on November 3. Voter service centers in District 5 will be located in Auburn, Colfax, Foresthill, Alta, Tahoe City and Kings Beach.

Please visit <https://www.placerelections.com/vote-service-center-locator/> to find exact locations and hours. The information will also be included in your county voter information guide or with the ballot mailed

to you. If you prefer to vote in person consider doing so prior to November 3 in order to avoid potentially long lines and wait times on Election Day.

Voters who are concerned about potential postal service delays are encouraged to drop their completed vote by mail ballot in one of the 27 drop boxes around the county beginning October 6. Ballots deposited in a drop box get to the elections office faster than using

the mail, and because those ballots do not enter the mail stream, the county saves money on postage. The drop boxes are a secure and convenient voting option. **Drop box locations can be found here: <https://www.placerelections.com/drop-box-locations/>.** Voters can also submit their completed vote by mail ballot at any of the 28 voter service centers beginning October 31.



Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

Greetings from your Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce.

Every new season brings new challenges to our business community. This Spring brought Covid, and with it the shutting down of our businesses, either partially or entirely. Since that time, we've worked hard to provide our members with timely updates on regulations, safety information, advertising, PPE supplies and support to help them get through these times.

Our directors have been on the phone and in person, offering help and dropping off supplies, while our weekly e-blasts have kept them informed. Summer passed without our traditional



events, having had to cancel both July 3rd and Railroad Days, along with our monthly mixers and Coffee and Conversations. We really miss seeing all of the faces of our members and community, and we are looking forward to holding these events just as soon as it is safe and regulations allow us to!

Now Fall, and fire season are upon us, and with that will come impending power shut offs. We are proud to announce that the City of Colfax has partnered with PG&E to provide us with a power charging station, which has the capacity to keep

all of Main Street businesses with power round the clock in the event of power grid shutdowns that affect our area.

We are planning some Fall events to lift community spirits! Trunk or Treat was so successful last year that we are planning to hold it again this Halloween, with all safety standards in place. And we are in the midst of planning some limited Winterfest activities as well. In compliance with state and county regulations, we plan on holding the usual window-painting contest and Christmas tree along with decorations and a few festive activities. We will keep you posted!

We are planning to reopen our Visitors Center in late September with limited days and hours. We will be open for walk-up window service only Thursday through Saturday. Our volunteers will be present once again to provide information and brochures, share local lore and history, and sell limited snacks and gifts.

Meanwhile, The Great Colfax Scavenger Hunt is in full swing. We've had a great response and have sold lots of game boards, and the coupon books are very popular. Games can be picked up at one of several retail outlets in downtown for a \$5 fee, and there is a lot of fun built in along with a chance to win hundreds of Colfax Bucks redeemable for goods and services in Colfax.

For more information on our events and activities, please visit our website colfaxchamber.com. Our email address is colfaxareachamber@gmail.com, and our phone number is (530) 346-8888. As always, we welcome your inquiries, comments, concerns and solutions so that we may better serve you and our community.

Sally Laughlin,
CACC President



We Missed You!

COLFAX LIBRARY

**WALK THRU
HOLDS PICKUP
THUR-FRI
9AM-12PM**

**BOOK RETURN
SERVICES
MON-FRI
9AM-4PM**

Place holds and sign up for your library card at
placer.ca.gov/library



HALLOWEEN SCARECROW DECORATING CONTEST

← • • • →
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST

SHOW YOUR HALLOWEEN SPIRIT BY
CREATING YOUR OWN SCARECROW!!!

PLACE COMPLETED SCARECROW WITH BUSINESS OR NON-PROFIT NAME AND TICKET BAG FOR VOTING BY ONE OF THE WOODEN BUILDING POSTS BY 4:30 PM. WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE CONCLUSION OF TRUNK OR TREAT AND WILL RECEIVE A FREE VENDOR SPACE AT THE 2021 3RD OF JULY CELEBRATION AND A SPECIAL PRIZE!

TO SIGN UP, PLEASE VISIT:

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/30E0445AEAC2FA6FB6-SCARECROW](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0445aeac2fa6fb6-scarecrow)

Churches

Colfax Assembly of God Community Fellowship
252 Culver St., Colfax, CA 95713
Email: colfaxesog@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
530-346-9433
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>

Salvation Army Service Unit
320 S. Canyon Way, Ste.A, Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-2722

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>



Voting By Mail

- October 26 is the last day to request a Vote-By-Mail ballot.
- November election ballots must be received by 8pm on election day, or within 17 days after election day if postmarked on or before November 3. Mailing early is strongly advised.
- Ballots can also go in the official drop box inside City Hall.
- **The return envelope must be signed for your vote to count.**

Voting Hours at Sierra Vista Center

Oct. 31, 8am-4pm / Nov. 1&2, 9am-5pm / Nov. 3, 7am-8pm

For More Information contact:

Elections Office: 530-886-5650, election@placer.ca.gov



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