

# Colfax Connections

Published by the City of Colfax

## City To Apply For \$6.85 Million FEMA Grant

By [wstockwin@hughes.net](mailto:wstockwin@hughes.net)

**March 23, 2022 city council meeting** – Authorizing the city manager to submit two projects totaling \$6.85 million for funding via the California Hazard Mitigation Grant Program was the main item of business of the night.

If approved, the funding would allocate money to assist local property owners taking measures to mitigate threats from natural hazards including: wildfire, earthquake, drought, extreme weather, flooding, and other impacts of climate change. Property owners could potentially be eligible for grants up to \$40,000.

City manager Wes Heathcock said the funding for proposed projects would come through FEMA's (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. He said April 8 was the deadline for application submissions.

The ensuing council discussion highlighted the one aspect of the program that members took issue with, that being the 25% local cost share requirement that would require property owners to pay \$10,000 out of their own pocket. The city manager said the city would be looking for ways to reduce those out-of-pocket costs.

Along with the Community Home Hardening and Defensible Space Program, the city will also make application for an Energy Resilience Generator Installation for critical facilities and infrastructure. If granted it would provide back-up generators for city hall, the Placer County Sheriff's Office substation, and Sierra Vista Community Center when the primary power source is interrupted during emergencies.

The council voted 4-0 in favor of submitting the projects. Councilmember Ackerman was absent.

**March 9 city council meeting** – The fiscal Year 2021-2022 Mid-Year Operating Budget Review was the main piece of business for the city council's first meeting in March.

The review is based on six months of actual revenues and

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### Shuttleworths Receive 2022 Scoop Thurman Award



Alan and Dale Shuttleworth were surprised to receive the 2022 Scoop Thurman Award at the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce Luncheon at TJ's Restaurant in Colfax. The award is named for a *Colfax Record* editor who held that position for 35 years, and is given annually to a recipient known for giving back selflessly to the community. Myrtle Findley was also recognized as last year's winner.

Photo by Jay Shuttleworth

**City Council From Page 1**

expenditures (through December 31, 2020) and projections for the balance of the fiscal year based on current City activities and programs.

The detailed review by city staff of all funds for all operating revenue and expense accounts for fiscal year 2021-2022 shows that operating expenses and revenues were each slightly higher than projected. The following reasons were cited as the cause, including:

1. Land Development Fees - Increase in revenues and expenses primarily due to Best Western and Maidu developments (ARCO).
2. Transient Occupancy Taxes are projected lower than had been budgeted due to delay in Best Western opening.
3. Staffing vacancies across all operations resulted in decreased personnel expenses. The recruitment process has lengthened during the Pandemic due to lack of applicants.
4. The City continues to rely on contracted services for Engineering, Planning, Legal and Finance services. Costs fluctuate based on City projects and activities.
5. The budget for Sewer service charges included an increase in EDU billings due to new homes and projected hotel opening. Project delays resulted in a reduced revenue projection for the fiscal year.
6. The Solar project at the Wastewater Treatment plant was delayed due to the Grant award process with the State Water Board, therefore the anticipated reduction in utility costs will

Classification	Projected Actuals 02/23/22	Adopted Budget FY2021-2022	Difference	Percent of Budget
			Recommended adjustments	
<b>Operating Revenues</b>	\$ 5,277,167	\$ 5,230,156	\$ 47,011	0.9%
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	\$ 4,405,658	\$ 4,302,228	\$ 103,430	2.4%

not be realized this fiscal year.  
 7. Revenue and expense category differences due to the change in contract with Placer County for fires services.  
 8. The COVID Pandemic continued to restrict some City activities such as Council and

Staff attendance at trainings and conferences.

The results of this Mid-Year Budget review will be incorporated into the development of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budgets.

**City Council Salutes Retiring Tony Martello**



From left - Bonnie Martello, Tony Martello, Mayor Trinity Burruss, Councilmembers Sean Lomen and Joe Fatula

**Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, in 1982 Tony Martello graduated from Colfax High School as an all-league football player and captain, and started his coaching career in the late 1980s as a walk-on JV Coach; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 1996, after graduating from the University of Nevada, where he also coached as a student assistant, Tony obtained his teaching credential and was hired as Colfax High's Varsity Coach; and,

**WHEREAS**, Tony remarkably coached the Falcons to 230 Career victories, 37 playoff victories, 24 winning seasons, 23 Playoff appearances, 20 All-time vs Bear River (20-8), 16 League championships, 12 Cal-Hi Sports State Top 10, 10 - CIF Section finalists, 4 - CIF Sac-Joaquin Section championships, 1 - CIF State Bowl Finalist (2018); and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, Tony was inducted into the Northern California Oldtimers Association Hall of Fame. He is currently nominated on the coaches list for the upcoming CIF Sac-Joaquin Hall of Fame; and,

**WHEREAS**, with great pride Tony coached his son, Juliono an all-league receiver and running back who set a school record for yards per carry his senior year; and,

**WHEREAS**, his legacy includes mentoring former players who are now coaches themselves at such schools as UNLV, Twelve Bridges, UC Davis, and Colfax; and,

**WHEREAS**, with 26 dedicated years of coaching at an elite level and molding the youth in the community, Tony announced his coaching retirement.

**NOW THEREFORE**, City of Colfax City Council, do hereby recognize and congratulate, with great gratitude, Coach Tony Martello.

Signed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2022

## Update From Supervisor Cindy Gustafson



On March 18, 2022 District 5 Supervisor Cindy Gustafson gave a presentation to the Auburn Friends of the Library on the general state of Placer County.

Some of the topics she touched on were:

- **Population growth:** The 2020 Census counted 405,306 people currently residing in Placer County, up from 348,432 in 2010 and ranking the county as fifth largest in California.

- **Economic Snapshot, comparing Placer County to the state of California in the following categories:**

- \* Unemployment rate (Dec '21) – Placer 3.3%, State 7.5%

- \* Median Household Income (2019) – Placer \$89,691, State \$75,235

- \* Median Home Value (Dec '21) – Placer \$684,000, State \$734,612

- \* Median Home Selling Price

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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](mailto:wstockwin@hughes.net). All submissions are welcome, the earlier the better.

**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](http://www.ColfaxChamber.com)) and on the City's Website at ([www.colfax-ca.gov](http://www.colfax-ca.gov)).**



## Business Briefs . . . . . . with LindaLou Haines

### New Mexican Restaurant

It is always a great pleasure to announce a new business in town, esp. a new restaurant and a Mexican restaurant, at that.

**Mi Ranchito**, 1 South Main St., at the intersection of So. Main and Grass Valley streets, is that new eatery in downtown. Even a small town like Colfax needs a variety of places to eat out—different menus, different price ranges, different days and times of operation and more.

Owners are Chef Gustavo Noriega and his wife Stephanie Beltran. “Gustavo’s passion is cooking,” according to Stephanie. She he got his training by working at his parents’ restaurant in Sacramento.



Owners Gustavo Noriega, his wife Stephanie Beltran and his parents. Photo courtesy of restaurant owners.

So, I wanted to know why Colfax. Why come all the way up here from Sacramento? Gustavo had been looking for a location, and Colfax presented just the right opportunity to him.

The big plus is that all the food comes in fresh daily and is prepared fresh each day. “We hope that everybody enjoys our meals,” added Stephanie.

I ate at Mi Ranchito on a recent Friday night and had the Shrimp Fajitas. The shrimp and all the veggies were perfectly cooked with a little crunch to them. I loved it.

My friend had the Super Nachos, which were just spicy enough for her, and they were yummy.

Other diners to whom I have spoken loved the Fajitas Supreme and enjoyed the Carnita Plate and Street Tacos.

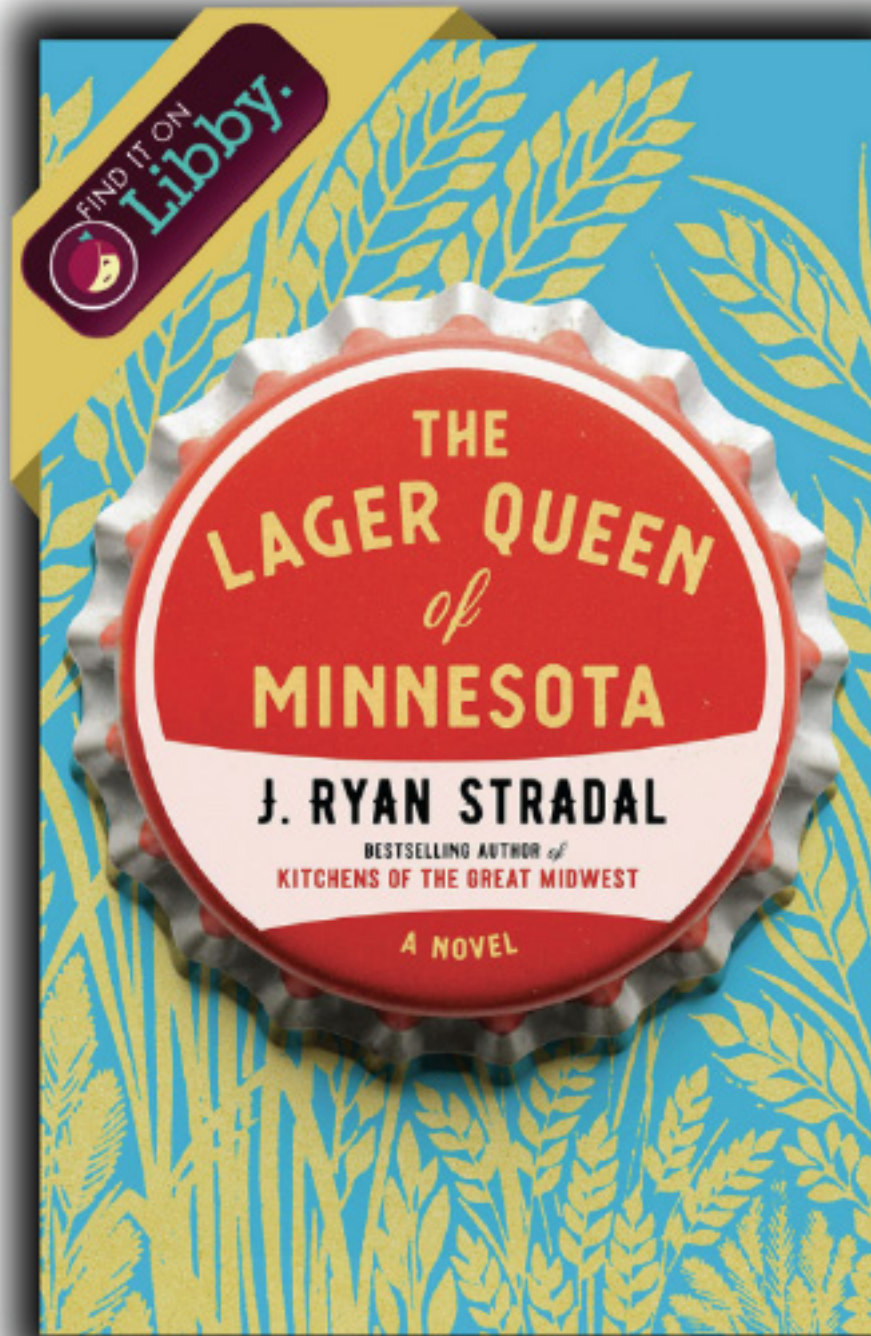
Mi Ranchito is open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 to 7. They enjoy serving you in the restaurant and preparing your take-out.



Fajitas Supreme is quickly becoming a Mi Ranchito favorite

To follow them on facebook, go to facebook.com/MiRanchitoColfax. Indicating ‘Colfax’ is important, otherwise you could end up in Stockton. And, that is the wrong Mi Ranchito. Also, the restaurant does not have a dedicated phone line yet, so stop in to pick up a menu and to place your take out order.

You know I love to toot the horn for our City of Colfax businesses. So, email me with your news, [lindalouhaines14@gmail.com](mailto:lindalouhaines14@gmail.com)



# COLFAX LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY APR 13 | 4PM



## Fifth Grader Tree Planting Celebrates 39th Arbor Day

By Carolyn Hickson

Each year, the Colfax Garden Club celebrates the upcoming arrival of spring by sponsoring an Arbor Day Essay Contest.

This year, twenty eight students from the fifth-grade classes of B. Tabatt, and R. Nelson, Colfax Elementary School, submitted essays on "How Do Trees Help the Environment?"

The first-place winner was Peyton Womack. The second-place winner was Paige Turner.

Two third-place winners were: Lilly Evett and Jack Saul.

Three fourth- place winners were: Maddox Randon, Andrew Nevarez, and Conner Paskey.

The contest winners were recognized at a luncheon at the Colfax Pizza Factory on March 8, hosted by the Colfax Garden Club, honoring California's Arbor Day.

After winning students and their parents enjoyed the pizza lunch, students received their awards and read their essays to their parents and Garden Club members.

They saw a short program on Famous Trees, and then departed for the Lot of Arts in downtown Colfax, where they all helped plant an "October Glory Maple."



This is the 39th year that the Colfax Garden Club has sponsored the contest, initiated by former President Gertrude Paul. Many of the trees in downtown Colfax and at the elementary school were planted by fifth-graders.

Seen above, from left to right – Lilly Evet, Andrew Nevarez, Conner Paskey, Maddox Randon, Jack Saul, Paige Turner, Peighton Womack. Photo courtesy of the Colfax Garden Club



**Gustafson from page 3**

(Dec '21) – Placer \$655,000,  
State \$796,570

\* College BA or Higher (2019)  
– Placer 39.7%, State 33.9%

**• Residential Chipper Program:**

Partially as a result of the post-Christmas storm, Placer RCD is experiencing a significant uptick in the amount of chipper service request and the size of the chipper service requests.

Larger chipper piles have resulted in each job taking longer to complete and there are currently 195 requests pending.

The county has hired a new staff member, which should increase the capacity of the program. It is anticipated that with lessening COVID impacts and improving pile construction, the number of jobs completed will increase and reduce waiting times, currently estimated at six weeks.

**• New Business Investment:**

Placer County is ranked second in the State in new business growth over the past three-year period, which equals 8.5% growth compared to the state average of 3.0%.

Placer County is ranked fourth in the State in overall business investment.

For a copy of the full presentation, contact Sophie Fox –District Director at [sfox@placer.ca.gov](mailto:sfox@placer.ca.gov)



# Placer County Chipper Program

Operated by:



The Chipper Program provides a low-cost, residential chipping service to help landowners manage their vegetation and meet defensible space goals.

**Please Read:**

- Chipping will occur alongside the road/driveway or other areas that allow the crew to work around the vegetation piles safely. No business or commercial use.
- Please stack vegetation with the cut ends facing one direction that is easily accessible by the Chipper vehicles. Stem diameters must be less than 12 inches.
- Please no poison oak, scotch broom, or vines, such as blackberry and grapes.
- All chipped vegetation will be blown back on the property.
- Chipping is completed on a rotational basis throughout the county to save on fuel costs. No appointments are made.
- After chipping, the crew will leave an invoice at your door. The minimum invoice will be for one hour of service, at the cost-share rate of \$80/hour.
- Cost-share fees may be waived for homeowners who either:
  - ...possess a disabled/handicapped vehicle placard, or
  - ...have a household income not exceeding the "Very Low Limit" as defined by the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development: [www.placercd.org/fees-waived](http://www.placercd.org/fees-waived)



**Notice:**

We check messages daily and will not return your call. Please leave only one message. This service is in very high demand. Wait times may be 2 to 6 weeks depending on request volume.

**Program Partners**



**To Schedule Service:**

Call the Chipper Program Message Center (530) 889-0111, Extension 3. Please listen to the instructions – leave your name, site address, phone number, and location of the chip pile.

Email questions to [chipper@placercd.org](mailto:chipper@placercd.org)

## Franscella, Samuelson Lead Falcons To First Place

Led by Nathan Franscella and Zachary Samuelson the Colfax High School's boys snowboarding team placed first in the California Nevada Interscholastic Ski and Snowboard Federation championship that was held March 7-8 at Mammoth Mountain.

Franscella and Samuelson individually finished sixth and 10th in the competition. The Falcons were fifth place finishers in the combined boys' and girls' results. The title is the Falcon's second in the boys' competition.

Del Oro High's Jaxon Sutter took the boys' slalom event, finishing with a three-second lead over the competition. He also finished first in the giant slalom race.

Placer High's Sophie Nunez's second place finishes in the girls' slalom and giant slalom races led the Placer's girls' squad to a second-place finish in the competition. She also took second place on the all-state team.

## Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

Welcome from your Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce. We are very excited to have seen an increase in new businesses despite losing some over the past year. It looks and feels like our area will be bouncing back better than ever!

The Colfax Discover publication is being completed and will be going to print very soon. We are looking forward to bringing back this directory for our community with great information available.

Our Visitor Center is growing everyday with new items. Shirts, hats, railroad merchandise, drinks and snacks and so much more are available for all.

Plus, great history can be found and re-lived within the Visitor Center and the Colfax Heritage Museum right next door.

We are happy to see in-person events and functions within our area organizations and look forward to attending more. We have started holding our ribbon cuttings and plaque presentations again. We have had a few over the last few weeks. More presentations are being planned for the new businesses and members joining our Chamber.

Our first Mixer will be April 14 at the Key Salon in Colfax with more planned throughout the year.

Coffee and Conversations are in full swing. They are held the first Wednesday of the month beginning at 8:00 AM at the Chamber/Visitor Center. Our next event on 4/6/22 will have our new Mayor, Trinity Burruss, speaking. The City of Colfax obtained a grant for downtown improvements, and we will be collaborating with them, our businesses, and community to review concepts to improve and develop our downtown area.

Our annual luncheon and meeting was held this month, March 30, at TJ's Roadhouse. This was a chance to meet and mingle in a relaxed atmosphere and review what has been happening with your Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce

and other businesses in our area.

The "Scoop Thurman" award was presented at the Luncheon and recognized a citizen that has contributed their time, care, and passion to our area over many years. Please check our Website to find more information about future events.

As with any organization/business, change is always happening. I would like to present our current Board of Directors:

President-Tim Ryan  
Secretary-Bob Morales  
Treasurer- Randy Eley  
Director-Amy Andrews  
Director-Ted Zwerdling  
Director- Andrea Harrison  
Director-Paul Raj  
Director-Connie Heilaman  
Executive Director- Lauriana Cecchi

Even though we go through changes, our mission never stops: "Involvement in the production of local community events, supports the cooperation of community business services, promotes resources such as recreation, tourism, historical and local railroad past, as well as promotes local businesses and organizations by encouraging good business and civil ethics."

Please visit our website, [www.Colfaxchamber.com](http://www.Colfaxchamber.com), for more information and event listings. We welcome you to stop by our Chamber office/Visitor Center and the Colfax Heritage Museum, 99 South Railroad Street in Colfax.

**Tim Ryan**  
**CACC President**

**Tim Ryan, CACC President**  
**Colfax Area**  
**Chamber of Commerce**  
**[colfaxchamber.com](http://colfaxchamber.com)**  
**(530) 346-8888**  
**[colfaxareachamber@gmail.com](mailto:colfaxareachamber@gmail.com)**





## Soroptimist International of Colfax Recognizes 2022 Ruby Award Winner

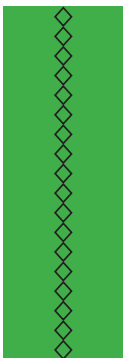
The Ruby Award is given in memory of Ruby Lee Minar, the first Soroptimist of the Americas Regional President. The award recognizes women who have, through their personal or professional lives, worked to improve the lives of other women and girls.

The 2022 Colfax Soroptimist Ruby Award was given, posthumously, to Cyndi Ray. As the principal's secretary at Weimar Junior High, Cyndi's efforts were largely geared to helping students. She gathered donations and stocked her office closet with clothing and personal items that she was able to connect with students who needed a small boost.

This Soroptimist award includes a \$500 honorarium which, at Cyndi's husband's request, will be reserved to assist Weimar School's lady athletes.



From left - Dale Shuttleworth, Club Foundations Chair, Julie Paul, Weimar Teacher accepting the award on Cyndi's behalf, and Karen Miller, Colfax Club President. Photo by Melinda Groth

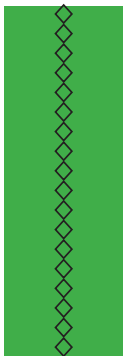


## Coffee & Conversation

A networking event for our business owners to connect and get reacquainted! Bring your business cards. Coffee & donuts will be provided.

Join us!

Date: 1st Wednesday of Every Month  
Time: 8 AM - 9:30 AM  
Location: 99 Railroad St, Colfax  
Hosted by: Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce



# Colfax Garden Club



# Plant Sale

**Saturday May 7, 2022**

**8:00 am to Noon**

**Roy Toms Plaza, Downtown Colfax**

**Varieties of Plants & Garden-Related Items**

**Veggies, flowers, shrubs, trees,  
garden art, and so much more!**

**JUST IN TIME FOR MOTHER'S  
DAY & SPRING PLANTING!**

## Churches

Colfax Assembly of  
God Community  
Fellowship  
252 Culver St., Col-  
fax, CA 95713  
Email: colfaxesaog@  
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/col-  
faxca](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>

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>





# 4-21-2022

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 192 COLFAX

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month veterans fundraising dinner at the Colfax Memorial hall.

*Fish Tacos with Cilantro lime rice and black beans and for dessert Pina Colada cheesecake.*

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](http://post192colfaxca.com)

**New menu every month**