

Colfax Connections

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Council Struggles With Outdoor Dining Design

By wstockwin2024@gmail.com

The March 26 council meeting had barely gotten started when council member Trinity Burruss voiced her displeasure that an item she had previously requested be put on the night's agenda was missing.

The item, a city donation of \$1,000 to Colfax High School in recognition of the girls' basketball team's five-year winning record, was placed on the agenda as an urgent item at the meeting's end and passed with a 4-0 vote. Council member Kim Douglass was absent from the meeting.

There were three pieces of official council business on the agenda, starting with another discussion regarding three different cost estimates from City Engineer Carl Moore for upgrading the outdoor dining area on North Main St.

The first included a concrete pad that would raise the dining area to the level of the exist-



Undated photo of Colfax, North Main Street. This is just one of the pictures of the historic buildings listed in the *Colfax Historic Resource Inventory*. (see page 10)

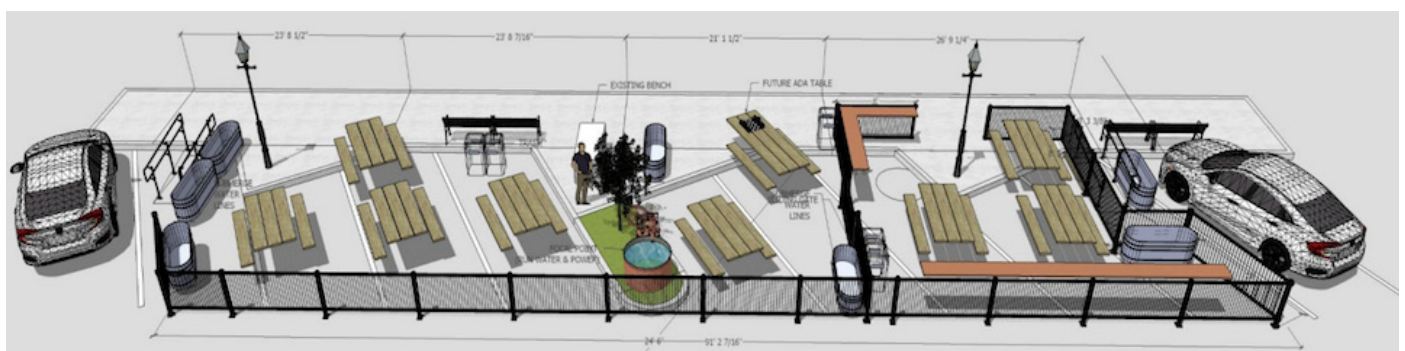
ing curb, cost \$112,109.80. The second estimate would use decomposed granite to raise the area to curb level for \$71,137.89, and the third estimate would utilize new fencing, tables and a handicap ramp for \$10,442.00.

City manager Ron Walker suggested making the improvements in separate phases, and the city engineer suggested consulting with a landscape architect for a different perspective. After a lengthy discussion

and public comment, including comments that the current dining corral "eyesore" should be taken down, it was decided to keep working on the problem while moving the existing arrangement a little farther north, and giving the city the job of keeping it clean.

Two final pieces of official business each passed on 4-0 votes. The first was approving a petition to rename the area known as the Colfax Ballpark to the

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Concept drawing of proposed replacement for the outdoor dining area on North Main Street.

Colfax Girls Basketball ... Another Stellar Season

The Lady Falcons did it once again. In Pioneer Valley League play, they blew out their Division III competitors by huge margins and coasted to another league championship.

Using a “competitive equity” philosophy, the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), moves schools into divisions of higher school enrollment to prevent “power schools” from continuing lopsided winning records.

Because of their huge wins, the Lady Falcons were moved to Division II to compete with much larger schools in the Sac-Joaquin Section.

Despite the move to Division II, the Falcons continued their dominance. The Section Final was against Ponderosa (Shingle Springs/El Dorado County) and Colfax won by a score of 73-52. Because of their performance at league and section levels, Colfax earned a #3 seeding in the Division II Nor Cal Regional playoffs. An overall win, at this level, moves a team to the state final, always a goal for the Lady Falcons.

Their first Nor Cal game was at home against Clovis East High School from Fresno. Clovis has a student population of 2900 while Colfax’s enrollment is 650! A decisive 64-37 win put Colfax in the quarterfinals game against Salesian College Preparatory High School from Richmond. A scrappy game ended in front of another home crowd with a 53-51 loss to Salesian.



The Colfax Girls put together a string of 19 straight victories this season, played their way into the playoffs again, and can be proud of their latest season on the hardwood.

Story and Photos by Alan Shuttleworth



Top – Kaia Dieterichs bringing the ball down court against a Salesian defender

Above – Juliette James going for a layup in the NorCal quarterfinals vs Salesian.

At left – Freshman Belle Chu earned a varsity position because of her superior ball handling and 3-point shooting accuracy.



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“Colfax Area Living Veterans War Memorial Park.” The last official business item concerned amending the contract with Wood Rogers, the firm preparing two Planning Grant applications for the Shady Glen Sewer Consolidation Project, by \$10,000 to complete the application process.

Earlier in the meeting City planner Kathy Pease gave a 10-minute presentation on the city’s Historic Resource Inventory that was mandated by the 2040 General Plan. The Inventory is a list of unprotected historic buildings mostly in the downtown area that merit conservation. She said the Inventory listed 32 structures, two of which – the Freight Depot, and the Passenger Depot – were both listed on the Federal National Register and the California Historic Resources List.

Pease said the Inventory was limited in scope and that additional surveys would be required for the remainder of the city. Even so, the Inventory contains a lot of interesting information, such as this regarding the Colfax Library:

“The Colfax Library is believed to have been started by a group of volunteer women in 1938. The first-known library was housed in a small building next to the home of Mrs. Viscia located on Grass Valley Street.

“In 1943, the library was moved to the old bakery building at the north end of Main Street. The library moved again in 1946 to a small building next door to Kaufmann’s Gas Station and Garage. The library remained there until 1951 when it moved next door into the former

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April 2025



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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

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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

Best of the Best in Colfax

Some months ago we all had the opportunity to vote for the best of the best of Colfax businesses. These could be our favorites, a business owner or manager who did something special for you as a customer, a dealer who made a special product delivery just for your deadline and many more positive reasons to honor a business in Colfax.

When voting was complete, the Auburn Journal published the results in the Best of the Best in Colfax, 2024. The following list is not all inclusive of all the Colfax best of the best. It is meant to whet your appetite whether you are new to Colfax or are a long-termer who buzzes through town to work or school each weekday and other times without ever stopping.

Here we go, where in Colfax can I:

Buy plants to plant in my garden? Hills Flat Hardware & Nursery.

Buy vegan lunch items & meet up with friends? Snapdragon Provisions cafe.

Have my nails done? Digits by Angelina (Luchin).

Go to church? Colfax Baptist Church.

Get Mexican food? Madi's MexiCali Stop.

Get my auto repaired, smogged, & oil & lube done? Colfax Smog & Auto Repair.

Get a massage? Massage Central by Sherri Rubidoux.

Buy a pizza? Pizza Factory.

Get a drink in downtown Colfax? Main Street Pizza.

Hire a realtor? Amy Sibley.

Buy tires? Big Brand Tire & Service.

Buy breakfast? Wrecking Crew Bakery & Cafe.

Find a Dentist? Colfax Dental.

Find a local Doctor? Dr. Kurtis H. Fox.

Take Yoga classes? Paloma Yoga.

Find a full service Grocery Store? Mar-Val's Sierra Market.

Take my pet to a Veterinarian? Sierra Animal Wellness Center

A quick note about **Sierra Animal Wellness**: The clinic just moved from next door to Dine 'N Dash on So. Canyon Way to just off No. Canyon Way at 333 Canyon Court in the DC Solar building next to Colfax Smog. Big plans in the new, expanded space are in the works, so stay tuned for all the details and pictures here in May.

In the meantime, if you have Colfax business news, email me, lindalouhaines14@gmail.com.

Top 10 Reasons to Shop Local.



- 1 Strengthen your local economy.
- 2 Reduce climate change impacts.
- 3 Support community groups.
- 4 Keep our community unique.
- 5 Create more quality jobs.
- 6 Get better service.
- 7 Invest in your community.
- 8 Encourage local prosperity.
- 9 Put your taxes to good use.
- 10 Buy what you need. Don't buy the hype.



PINEAPPLE GLAZED HAM WITH
POTATOES AU GRATIN AND
GREEN BEANS, LEMON BARS
FOR DESSERT.

COLFAX
MEMORIAL
HALL



American Legion post 192 fundraiser.

Come out and have dinner with us and enjoy a delicious meal. We support our local veterans.

Saturday April 26 at 6:00 pm, social hour starts at 5:00 pm. A **wonderful dinner** for a donation of only **\$20.00 for adults and \$10:00 for children under 13**. Call for reservations early. **We accept credit cards.**

For reservations:

Phone numbers

Call **530 277-7598** or **Hank's cell 916 216-8254** Text OK.

Email:

commander@post192colfaxca.com
22 Sunset circle,
Colfax



Pena Takes First Place In First Annual Auburn Art Show

Story and Photo by Alan Shuttleworth

“Celebrating Auburn” was the theme for the City’s first juried art show. A number of Art pieces were on display at the City Hall Art Gallery through March 31. Sculptures and paintings were highlighted with brand new gallery-style lighting.

Winner of the show’s First Place Award went to Colfax Painter, Juan Pena. His work is entitled, “Oaks and Thistles Over the American River Canyon.”

An internationally published artist, Pena’s work can be found in numerous personal and corporate collections. His studio is at the Sierra Vista Community Center in Colfax, where he also offers periodic painting workshops.

Pena states, “This painting was done on location as a demonstration piece for my students. It is a view of the American River Canyon from McGuire’s Sports Bar on Lincoln Way” in Auburn.



Colfax artist, Juan Pena (right) is congratulated on his award by J. Randall Smith, spokesperson for the contest judges.

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 2025

JANUARY 16	•	APRIL 17
FEBRUARY 20	•	MAY 15
MARCH 20	•	JUNE 19

Easter egg hunt
March 30th at 10 am

SATURDAY
APRIL 19, 2025 • 10:00 AM
LIONS CLUB CHILDREN’S PARK
 (101 Park Hill Dr. NEXT TO THE BALL PARK IN COLFAX)

Prize for finding the Golden Egg!

Sponsored by
COLFAX LIONS

Downtown Colfax

The Path To

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

April 17th 5:00PM

★ EVENT BY THE HISTORIC COLFAX DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION ★

We are bringing in Gretchen Hilyard Boyce, a historic preservation specialist at Groundwork Preservation LLC, to guide us through the process of getting a property historically designated. Our expert will provide a step-by-step overview, answer your questions, and help you understand how to navigate local, state, and federal programs.

What You'll Learn:

- The process for listing properties in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Tax incentives, including the Federal and California Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits.
- How a historic district could benefit multiple property owners.

Why Historic Designation Matters:

- ✓ Financial Incentives: Access to tax credits and grants for rehabilitation.
- ✓ Use of the California Historical Building Code: For cost-effective renovations.
- ✓ Property Value Protection: Enhances community character and marketability.
- ✓ Community Revitalization: Help Move Colfax Forward to Historic City Designation

Register At PreservingColfax.com



Learn how you can take advantage of historic preservation incentives and contribute to the revitalization of Downtown Colfax!

Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

"There is no glory in star or blossom 'till looked upon by a loving eye. There is no fragrance in April breezes 'till breathed with joy as they wander by." William Cullen Bryant



There is something magical about the beginning of spring that gives us hope and offers small windows into the summer to come. There's something to be said of sharing those special moments around us with our loved ones and this month's member highlight is no exception!

This month we will be highlighting our member, Coco's Candy and Creamery.

Bob and Debbe Peterson started Lazy Dog Confections back in the 1990's. Debbe sold ice cream from her cart in the Brunswick Basin and, as they say, the rest is history. From their corner cart they slowly expanded adding carts, trailers and stores. Lazy Dog Confections became a staple in Nevada and Placer County at weddings, concerts, the County Fair and many other events.

Enter current owners, Barbara MacDonald and David Mendoza, who had always admired Lazy Dog Confections as customers and eventually as friends of Bob and Debbe. As the Petersons started to plan their retirement strategy Barbara and David saw an opportunity to take over their mobile cart business and open their own store where it had all started! They spent countless hours working with Bob and Debbe learning the ins and outs of Lazy Dog Confections. Barbara and David took over operations in 2022.

While Lazy Dog Confections has been an iconic name, they decided to rebrand. In keeping with the canine connection, they changed the name to "CoCo's". CoCo is an amazing yellow labrador that David rescued in 1994, and she enjoys living between David and Barbara's households, having the best of both worlds.

For more information about the delectable offerings at Coco's, to book a party or book a cart for your next event, please contact Coco's through their website at www.cocoscandyandcreamery.com by email at cocoscandyandcreamery@gmail.com or by telephone at 530-446-6203.

Coco's ice cream can also be found at the weekly farmers' market on South Main St., Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m. during the summer.

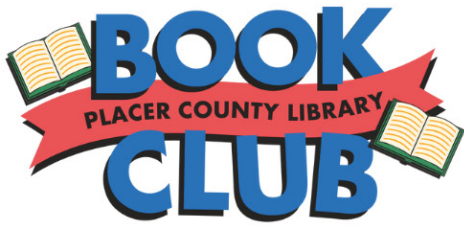
Coffee and Conversations is held on the first Thursday of every month from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at 99 Railroad Street and we would love to see all of you there. We have a variety of speakers lined up this year speaking on subjects such as tax preparation, community events, marketing and more.

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

Amanda Palmquist, CACC President

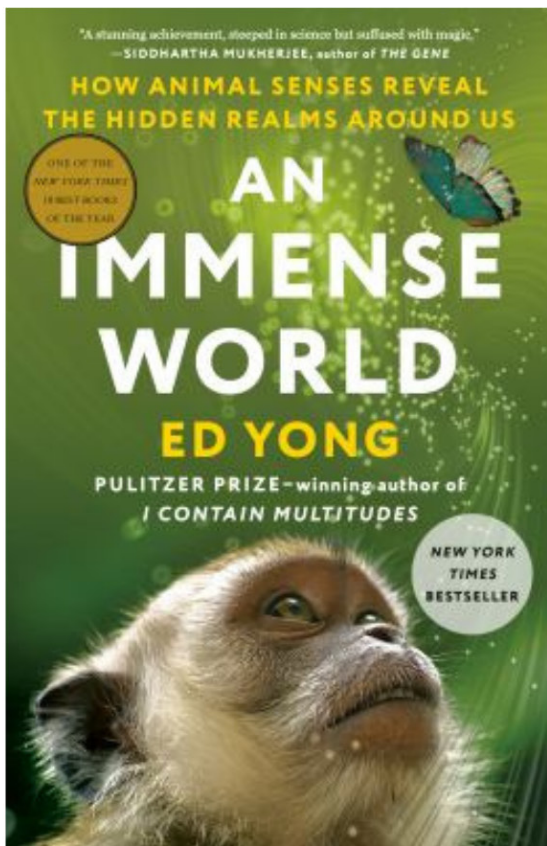
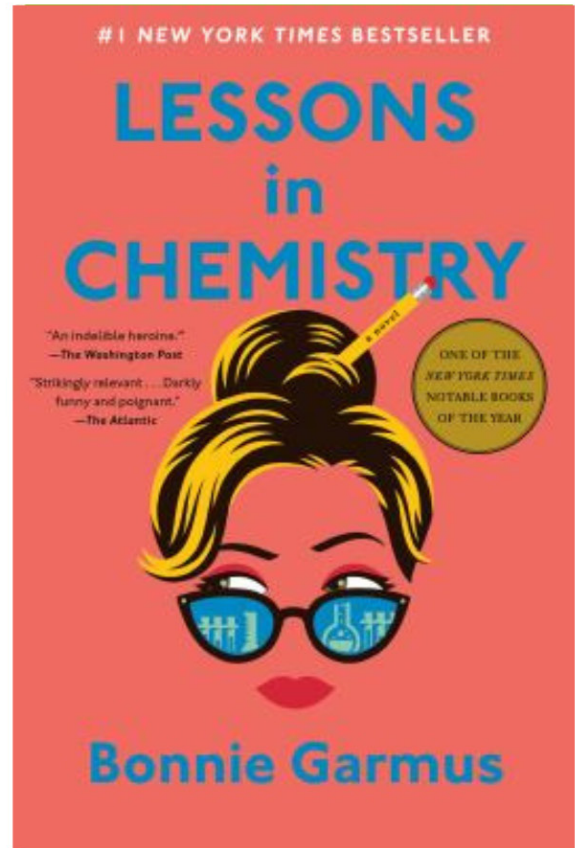


www.ColfaxChamber.com
99 Railroad St. (Physical),
PO Box 86 (Mailing),
Colfax, Ca 95713
(530) 346-8888



Colfax Library

**LESSONS IN
CHEMISTRY**
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 9
2:00-3:00pm



**AN IMMENSE
WORLD**
WEDNESDAY
MAY 14
2:00-3:00pm



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telephone company building. The library stayed in this building for 20 years, and then in 1971 it moved to the Justice Building on the corner of Culver Street. Finally, in 1976, the library made its final move to the old Colfax Post Office building (opened in 1855) at the corner of Church and Main streets."

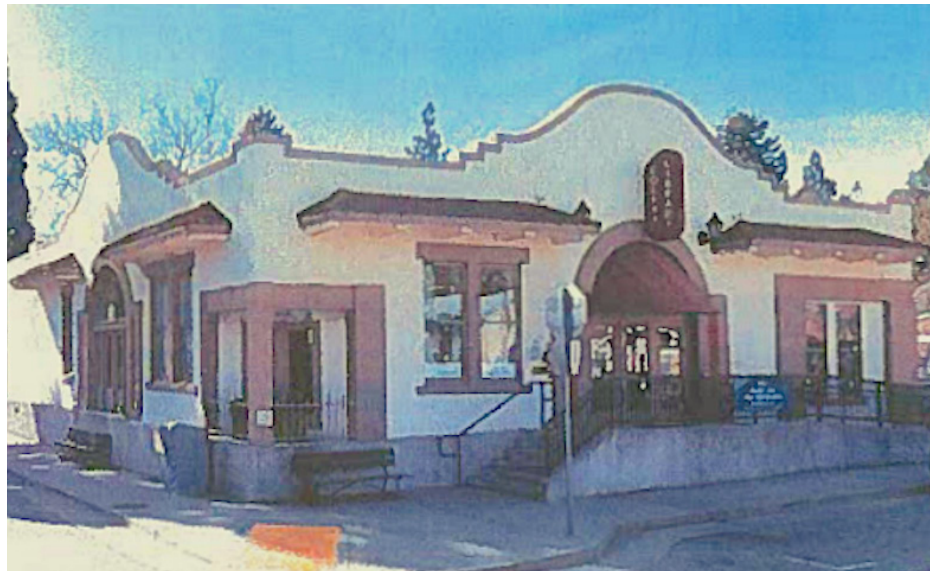
The council accepted and adopted the Inventory with a 4-0 vote.

March 12 council meeting

Former interim city manager Mike Luken led off the March 12 city council meeting with a brief presentation on implementing the Home Hardening and Defensible Space program that he said will be funded by a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hazard mitigation grant. All members of the council were present.

Luken said the program is targeting 137 local residences for defensible space and retrofit measures to increase protection from wildfires. Sixty-three additional residences have been identified for defensible space improvements.

Homeowners participating in the program will also be required to contribute 10% of the cost for the project, with the remaining 90% to be paid by the FEMA grant. The council authorized the city manager to enter a \$2,039,215.00 agreement with 4 Leaf Inc. to manage the three-phase program. Homeowners will also be required to maintain the defensible space for 10 years once the program is completed.



The Colfax City Library at W. Church St. and South Main St.

Luken was unsure of when the program would start, but said it would likely be next year.

When Luken was finished the consent calendar passed on a 5-0 unanimous vote, including the second reading of the Sidewalk Repair, Maintenance and Liability Ordinance that will now take effect on April 11.

There was second presentation by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) on the organization's 2025 Blueprint, a 20-year regional transportation and land use planning tool that is updated every four years. The presenter, SACOG's Clint Holtzen, said that Placer County was the fastest growing area in California. He said the agency polled 6,000 residents across the region and discovered that housing affordability was the region's #1 concern, followed by crime and safety, natural disasters, and lack of transportation options.

Holtzen said that SACOG will use the 2025 Blueprint update, expected to be approved by this November, to attract greater investment to the region through

grants, private investment, and economic growth.

There were six items of official council business, including: a mid-year operating budget review that passed unanimously, no action was taken on an economic development support budget review, a request by the Sierra Vista Center Community Garden for a \$500 Farm-to-Table dinner event that passed unanimously, and picking Greyson Sharpe as the winner of the second annual digital billboard photography contest.

The meeting closed following a discussion of improvements to the outdoor dining area on North Main St., where the council authorized spending \$15,000 for new fencing and tables. An Ad Hoc committee consisting of Mayor Lomen and Trinity Burruss was formed to continue discussions with staff regarding the outdoor dining area.

April City Council meetings will be on the 9th and 23rd

Churches



Colfax Assembly of
God Community
Fellowship
252 Culver St., Colfax,
CA 95713
Email: colfaxesagca@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.colfaxesagca.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.colfaxesumc.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.colfaxesdachurch.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>

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

