

Colfax Connections

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City And County Team Up For Safe Streets Federal Grant

By **wstockwin2024@gmail.com**

Mayor Sean Lomen gavelled the May 28 city council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council member Trinity Burruss was absent.

The six-item consent calendar passed on a 4-0 vote before the agenda moved to agency reports. PCSO Sgt. Toby Williams reminded everyone that school would soon be out, and Cal-fire's Eric Schwab reported that there had been 24 wind-driven grass fires in Placer County so far in 2025.

There were no presentations or public hearings, and no takers when Mayor Lomen opened the floor for public comment. Following brief council and staff reports the meeting moved on to the agenda's four council business items.

The first item offered a resolution that, if passed, would authorize the city manager to sign an agreement with the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) to assist the city apply for a Safe Streets For All (SS4A) U.S. Department of Transportation grant to prepare a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) for Colfax.

The city applied for the same grant last year but was unsuccessful because the city's number of traffic accidents was

ruled too low to qualify.

If successful this year, the SS4A grant would supply \$100,000 that would also require a 20% match from the city, bringing the total amount for preparing the CSAP to \$120,000. If the grant is awarded in November, PCTPA would be the administrator that hires a consultant and completes the planning work. The grant submission deadline in June 26, 2025. The resolution passed on a 4-0 vote.

The second agenda item asked the council for two volunteers to form an Ad Hoc committee to explore options for continuing the Oktoberfest and Winterfest events now that the Chamber of Commerce has announced

it will no longer be sponsoring them. Council members Larry Hillberg and Kim Douglass volunteered after ensuring that other council members would help as needed.

That was followed by a pitch from Bob Morales of the Sierra SOAR non-profit organization to refurbish the Sierra Vista Center (SVC) gym, which could then be used to give the Colfax Boys Basketball program another court to practice and play on when school gyms were either closed or being used during the school year. Morales stressed that the SVC gym would also be used by the Center for other scheduled indoor sports such as

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The Yankee Jims Bridge Replacement Project



The Yankee Jims Bridge replacement project began May 19. For more information on the project see page 6.

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badminton, volleyball, pickleball, etc.

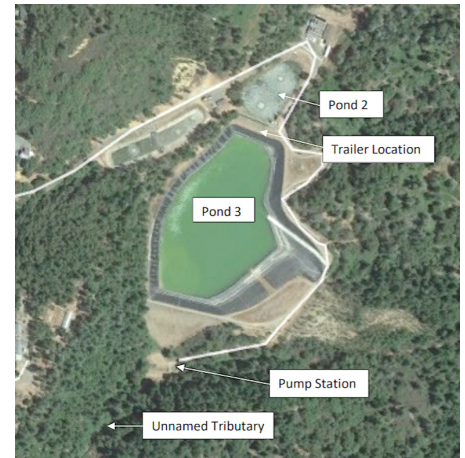
Morales said the improvements to the gym would include new glass backboards, new basketball court lines and refinishing the floor, and asked for a donation to help with the estimated cost of \$14,000 for the work that he said would be done largely by volunteer labor.

After a lengthy public comment session, and further questions from the council that seemed to imply they were in favor of making a donation, Mayor

Lomen suggested tabling the decision until the council's June 11 meeting when a full council might be available to vote and the other three went along. The meeting's last item dealt with postponing testing of the Waste Water Treatment Plant's new Suspended Air Flotation (SAF) unit.

Chief Plant Operator Matt Anderson told the council that he was advising delaying the testing due to insufficient algae levels currently in the pond water to make the test valid. He said intentionally managing the plant to encourage algae growth

for the test could backfire if the SAF unit fails the test, which could then result in potential permit violations from the state.



Aerial view of the waste water treatment plant.

Avoiding any permit problems with the state appealed to the council and after brief discussion, they voted unanimously to pass a resolution allowing the city manager to accept the new SAF unit without further testing. The meeting adjourned shortly after that.

The May 14 meeting opened on time with all council members present.

After moving quickly to approve the five-item consent calendar, they received an update from county engineering manager Kevin Ordway on the three-year Yankee Jims Bridge replacement project that he said would begin May 19 with a road closure at the bridge site. Ordway said people who normally use the road to get to Foresthill would be detoured to Foresthill Road until the project is completed. (See page 6 for more on the project.)

The annual presentation from the Placer Mosquito & Vector Control District, given by the District's public information officer Meagan Luevano, was next

Placer Mosquito & Vector Control District 3-D Printer Is Reducing Operational Costs

By wstockwin2024@gmail.com

The Placer Mosquito & Vector Control District board of trustees (District) approved spending \$2500.00 to purchase a 3-D printer in 2024 because it sounded like a good way to reduce the costs of critical components for the unmanned aircraft (drones) it uses for mosquito control. At its regular board meeting in April 2025, the board found out how good it turned out to be.

Also known as fused deposition modeling, 3-D printing turns out to be a very useful tool for making otherwise commercially expensive plastic replacement parts not only for the District's fleet of drones, but also for the hundreds of surveillance traps the District places around the county to monitor emerging mosquito populations throughout the spring and summer seasons.

Plastic hoppers were made for the District's AG-230 Drone. Purchased commercially, the hoppers cost \$1000.00 each. After mastering the learning curve on using the 3-D printer, District senior researcher Phil Spinks said he got the price under \$60.00 each by 3-D printing them in house.

Spinks said he has also printed display stands for drone remote controls, landing skid braces, granular spreader plates, and liquid pesticide pump mounts. He said that's not a complete list of the parts he's designed and printed, "but it demonstrates our capabilities to fabricate novel parts for our various programs at a fraction of the cost of buying new equipment."

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on the agenda. She reminded the council that ticks become active in May, and she advised people hiking local wild lands to wear long sleeves and long pants, and to check themselves carefully at the end of the day.

She said that the District should be called (916-380-5444) whenever a dead bird is found, so that it can be tested for West Nile Virus. She added that the virus has not been found in Placer County yet this year. She also reported that the invasive *Aedes Egypti* mosquito, which carries Zika virus, has now been found in 19 West Placer neighborhoods.

She finished with an announcement that this year the District will also be responding to calls about Yellowjackets.

The two items of council business were handled quickly. The first was a proclamation that May 18-24 was public works week that passed on a unanimous vote. And the second was a \$6800 donation to the 3rd of July organization to help fund the event, that also passed unanimously.

The meeting was gaveled close shortly thereafter.



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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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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

Colfax Healing Massage—ahh!

Got a chronic pain? How about a sharp pain that wakes you at 2:00 in the morning? Now, I know that a stressful day at court or wherever you work could lead to knots in your neck and shoulders.

So, let's get a relaxing Swedish massage. Tight muscles won't have a chance against those smooth strokes of the massage.

However, where can I get a therapeutic massage without having to travel down the hill? Colfax Healing Massage is the place to go. The owner is Carly Toth, CMT, who is a Neuromuscular Massage Therapist. Colfax Healing Massage has been located at 15 S. Main St., across from the bank for five years.

Carly graduated from the National Holistic Institute in Sacramento and has practiced massage for nine years. In October she plans to train in Cranial Sacral massage, which is especially suited to use with babies, who may need some early therapeutic intervention.

She also uses these techniques: stretches, deep tissue, Myofascial Release, Trigger Point Therapy, Reflexology and of course Swedish.

Another technique she can use is Cupping, which uses rubber cups to help with deep muscle tension by drawing stagnant blood to the surface, so it can resume circulating throughout the body. Also, she uses essential oils, soft music and hot towels. Aahh!

Therapeutic massage fosters relaxation, releases tension, increases energy and one's spirits, and improves blood circulation and mental health. Carly said her clients range in age from 20 to 80. Approximately 60% are women and 40% are men.

Call or text Carly to book an appointment, (530)



Carly Toth, CMT

Photo by Alan Shuttleworth

346-3138, and soon you will be able to check her website, <http://colfaxhealingmassage.com>. She is also on Facebook and Instagram as ColfaxHealingMassage.

Stay tuned because next month, we will be giving you an updated tour of the gift shop at the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center.

Please email me with your Colfax business news, LindaLouHaines14@gmail.com.



Colfax Soroptimists Honor Community Women



By Alan Shuttleworth

One of the goals of the Soroptimist International organization is to encourage women to improve their economic status by preparing them for the workplace.

At a recent dinner celebration in Eden Valley, the Colfax Soroptimists honored two outstanding young women for pursuing their education.

The Live Your Dream Award for 2025 went to Stephanie Camacho. She recently completed an AA degree at Sierra College and will begin a BA program at Sacramento State this fall. She has a goal of becoming an elementary school teacher. A Soroptimist cash award of \$1000 will be used to offset school expenses.

A Certificate of Recognition, along with a \$500 cash award went to Karen Smith. A single mom, she has traveled all the way from Florida to pursue a BA degree in nursing at the local Weimar University.

L-R are: Dale Shuttleworth, Foundations Co-Chair, Cynthia Eisenhut, Foundations Co-Chair, Stephanie Camacho, "Live Your Dream" award recipient, Karen Smith, "Special Recognition" award recipient, Tina Tran, Club Co-President, Pam Rex-Small, Club Co-President

COLFAX

FARM TO TABLE



EXCLUSIVE DINING EXPERIENCE

Indulge in a Three-Course Meal crafted with the freshest locally sourced ingredients.
Savor Exquisite Regional Wines, perfectly paired to complement each dish.
Enjoy Live Music while soaking in views of the Sierra Nevada mountains.
Support Our Community Garden—all proceeds go to Outfielders'.

JULY 26TH 6:30PM

\$100 PER PERSON | LIMITED TO 30 GUESTS

*Includes 1 complimentary glass of wine
Arrive at 6:00PM to enjoy a refreshing drink while taking in the beauty of the garden
Location: Veranda of the Sierra Vista Community Center, Colfax, CA
Purchase Tickets on Eventbrite
Please email Nicole Lescher with any questions at lescherhh@gmail.com

COLFAX FARMERS MARKET



PRODUCE

BAKED GOODS

FRESH EGGS

ICE CREAM

MAKER & CRAFTER ITEMS

FRESH CUT FLOWERS

4PM-7:30PM

THURSDAYS

Downtown Colfax

S. Main St

Yankee Jims Bridge Replacement Began Construction May 19



Artist's illustration of what the new suspension bridge will look like when finished.

Work on the Yankee Jims bridge replacement project began May 19, starting a three-year construction process that will require the closure of Yankee Jims Road between Gillis Hill Road and Shirttail Canyon Road throughout the project.

The historic Yankee Jims Bridge was built in the 1930s and is now considered to be structurally deficient, as it is unable to accommodate many modern vehicles and life-saving emergency vehicles.

Due to its historic nature, Yankee Jims Bridge will remain in place. A new two-lane arch suspension bridge will be built just downstream. The old bridge will be left in place for pedestrian and cyclist use similar to the Iowa Hill/Mineral Bar Bridge.

Access to the river from Colfax will be severely limited for the next two paddling seasons. Ponderosa Road and Ponderosa Bridge have recently been repaired and replaced, and they will serve

as a functional downstream access point from I-80.

A new parking area will accommodate approximately 31 vehicles and be built between the existing river access point and the North Fork American / Shirttail Creek confluence. The improved access trail will be sited where the current path is. California State Parks does not currently have plans to enforce paid parking.

"Because of the remote location with limited access, it's imperative that our contractor close the roads to ensure safety for drivers, workers and the public," said county engineering manager Kevin Ordway. Community members who use the road to travel between Colfax and Foresthill will be detoured to use Foresthill Road until the project is complete.

Recreational access will also be restricted during this time. Updates on recreational closures will be available by phone at 530-885-4527.



Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

June has never looked more beautiful than she does now, unadorned and honest, vulnerable yet invincible. - Marie Lu

For those of us in the Colfax area, as things wind down in May, and we welcome June and the promise of summer, sun and vacations, let us keep in mind all the local events that we can support this summer.



From weekly events like Thursday afternoon farmers market and Friday evening karaoke at Dine n Dash, to monthly happenings such as VFW Auxiliary Bake Sale and pancake breakfast, and the Art Walk & Cruise Night on Main Street, there is never a shortage of what to do here.

The Chamber has continued to host Coffee & Conversations on the first Friday of the month at the Train Depot from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. We have had guests ranging from the city manager, Placer County DA, a Sacramento attorney, to name a few.

We look forward to the time spent with fellow Colfax residents and the chance to not only listen to educational content, but to carve out time to discuss businesses and how we can support you and each other.

Thursdays are farmers market downtown on Main Street, and Sierra Vista Center (SVC) is still accepting vendor applications. Colfax Lions is hosting their cruise nights monthly on the third Friday from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., open to all car enthusiasts and paired with the Art Walk put on by local artists.

Colfax VFW is offering their all-you-can-eat breakfast the second Sunday of the month and SVC is hosting their monthly Flea Market the third Saturday.

All are local family friendly events and meant

to add to the richness that is Colfax living at its best. If you're looking for something a little faster paced, the Veterans Memorial Hall hosts a monthly Bingo to those 18+ on the third Saturday of the month.

Applegate Community Center is hosting the first mixer of the summer on June 20 at 5:30 p.m. They will be having a tri-tip dinner, raffles, drinks and karaoke. So dust off your dancing boots, and we look forward to seeing you there.

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

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.

Wet Season Ends With A Total Of 49.4 Inches For The Year.

By wstockwin2024@gmail.com

Folks who know that I track rainfall totals ask me what the 'normal' amount of annual rainfall is. And in these times of expanding climate change, I have to say, in my opinion, there's no such thing anymore.

As illustration, let's look at the last 15 years, from 2010 to 2025. During that span five years ended with 50 inches or more in the bucket, four years finished with more than 40 inches but less than 50, and six years finished the wet season with less than 40 inches total.

The highest total I recorded during those years was during an extremely wet 2017 that saw multiple atmospheric rivers drenching the foothills with 98 inches of water.

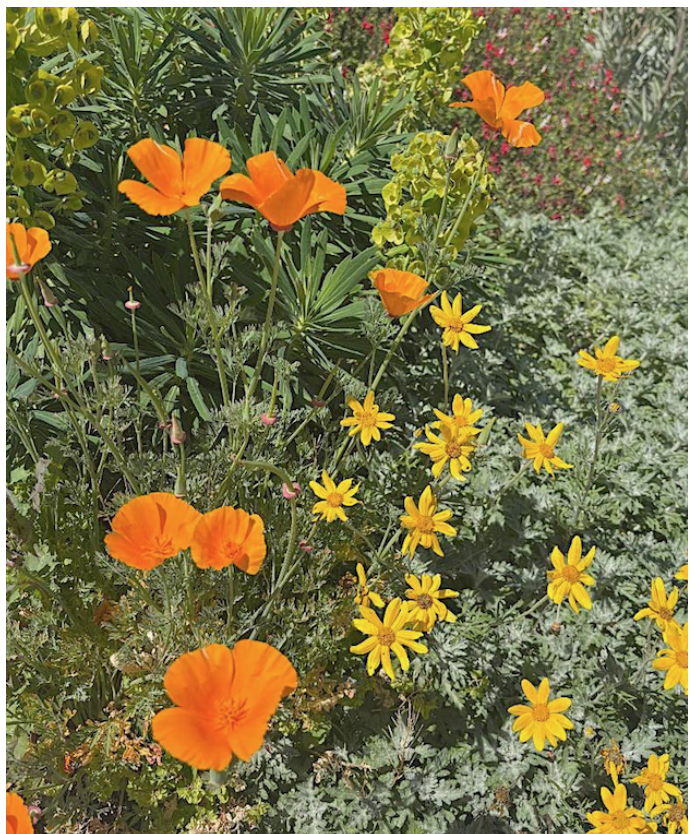
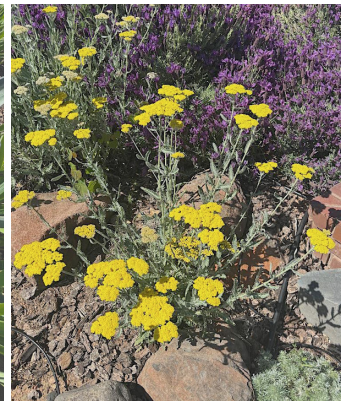
The lowest annual total occurred during a bone dry 2021, when it stopped raining in early May with just 24 inches recorded for the whole season.

Average annual rainfall over that 15-year span works out to 52 inches, but calling that 'normal' might be stretch. We finished our wet season this year close to that average, with 49.4 inches in mid-May. That was a respectable total considering how slow we started last fall when only December posted a double digit monthly total (11 inches) by the end of the 2024.

Even so, it was more than enough to generate this spring's profusion of beautiful wild flowers.



Photos by Alan Shuttleworth



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>

BBQ RIBS AND SMOKED CHICKEN,
POTATO SALAD, BAKED BEANS,
AND STRAWBERRY SHORT CAKE
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 June 7th 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@post192
colfaxca.com**
22 Sunset circle,
Colfax