

# Colfax Connections

Published by the City of Colfax

## City Sewer Rates Will Not Be Raised For Fiscal Year 2025-2026



Waste Water Treatment Plant solar power array project completed.

Photo by Tom Parnham

By [wstockwin2024@gmail.com](mailto:wstockwin2024@gmail.com)

As a testament to how much things have improved in the operation of its waste water treatment plant (WWTP), the Colfax city council voted unanimously at its **June 25 meeting** for a 0% increase in city sewer rates for fiscal year 2025-2026. You read that correctly: for the first time in recent memory, city sewer rates will not be raised. The council had the option to raise rates 1%, 2% or 3% but decided to give ratepayers the first break they've had in years.

That good news was the final piece of official business on a short agenda, and followed another item that the installation of a 492-kilowatt solar array at the WWTP has been completed. The project, which began construction in 2022, cost \$1.85 million and was funded by a state grant.

The project will offset electrical supply from PG&E to provide power for the WWTP. The solar array will go online once a Notice of Completion is filed with the Placer County Recorder, and

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### Colfax Soroptimists Install New Officers

The Eden Valley Community Club was the site for the recent Installation of Colfax Soroptimist's officers for the upcoming year. Rae DeGabriel, District Director for Soroptimist's Sierra Nevada Region was the guest speaker for the event.



Left to right – Janice Quinn-Recording Secretary, Jen Rollins-Treasurer, Marnice Emerson-Recording Secretary, Patrice Goulet-Corresponding Secretary, Sonja Keller-President, Kim Johnson-Vice President, Tina Tran-Community Ambassador

Photo by Alan Shuttleworth

## Colfax Lions Club Awards CTE/STEM Scholarship To Cameron Dodgson



**Cameron receives a \$2000 scholarship check to support his AA degree studies at Universal Technical Institute in Sacramento. His entire family, including sister, mom and dad, were present for the award ceremony. Shown from left to right are: Alice Dodgson, Cory Dodgson, Lauren Dodgson, Cameron Dodgson, and Lions Award Chairman Ted Huss.**

Colfax Lions recently honored Cameron Dodgson with its annual \$2000 CTE/STEM scholarship. Cameron Dodgson recently graduated from Colfax High School with a 4.0 grade point average and an Alpha Omega Award to recognize his scholarship.

CTE is Career and Technical Education and STEM is Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Both focus on career development and provide students with opportunities to explore careers and gain marketable skills.

Cameron is well on his way to an automotive career. While at Colfax High, he was an IT Technician at Colfax High and completed regular computer maintenance over the summer months. In addition, he interned at Auburn Toyota and Thunderhill Auto Raceway.

Cameron stated, "I will be attending Universal Technical Institute in Sacramento to start my future as an automotive technician. Thank you, Colfax Lions, for your support."

Lions Student Awards Chair, Ted Huss, stated, "Cameron is a great award recipient. We are thrilled to help him along his path to success in career and life."

**Story and Photo by Alan Shuttleworth**

### City council from page 1

PG&E issues the Permission-to-Operate letter. The council voted unanimously to accept the project as completed.

During agency reports at the start of the meeting CalFire reminded everyone that all burn permits have been suspended until further notice. (see page 6)

The Colfax Boys Basketball Program was the **June 11 city council meeting** agenda's sole piece of official business, returning from the council's May 28 meeting to ask again for a city donation to help refurbish the Sierra Vista Center (SVC) gym.

The group's request was tabled last month by Mayor Sean Lomen to allow for "additional research and information regarding the status of the SVC" with no explanation as to what that meant or implied. A second reason for tabling the motion was that the full council was not available at the May 28 meeting.

The Colfax Boys Basketball Program has been teaching local boys to play basketball for 62 years, fielding school teams that have won 17 league championships and 5 section titles.

The program coaching staff has mentored more than 700 players not only on the fundamentals of the game, but to also make the transition from boys to being young men of good character.

Planned improvements to the SVC gym will include: Two new

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glass backboards, new basketball court lines, floor refinishing, a smart TV and rolling stand, and local school logos for Colfax High School, Weimar Elementary School, Colfax Elementary School, and Chicago Park Elementary School painted on the walls of the gym by local artist Foxey McCleary.

Bob Morales of Sierra Soar gave a short version of the presentation that he gave to the council on May 28. He stressed the value of donating to a project that benefits the boys basketball program, the community center and the community at large.

Councilman Larry Hillberg started the council discussion off by suggesting a \$5,000.00 donation to the boys basketball program.

Councilmembers Trinity Burruss and Caroline McCully countered with forming an ad hoc committee to draft an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) that would be signed by the community center and the city.

Public comment was unanimously in favor of a city donation, and the item closed with two motions: donating the remaining cash (\$2,200) in the city's non-profit support fund to Sierra Soar; and forming an ad hoc committee to produce an MOU.

Council members Burruss and Hillberg volunteered for the MOU ad hoc committee and the motion passed unanimously.

**July City Council meetings on the 9th and 23rd**

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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**  
**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 and Snapdragon**

**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

Where in Colfax can I buy Colfax shirts, stickers, magnets, trail details for the Stevens and other trails, and lots more? Naturally, it is the premier gift shop in town: The **Colfax Visitor Center** in the Depot Building on Railroad St.

Maybe you thought the Visitor Center was a place only for tourists and for locals with family visiting from out of town. It is all that and more.

Let's look at the mission statement to get the big picture: 'The Colfax Visitor Center serves as a welcoming gateway for travelers exploring the charming town of Colfax, nestled in the picturesque landscapes of the foothills of northern California.

This center provides a wealth of information about the area's rich history, vibrant community events, and diverse outdoor activities, making it an essential stop for tourists and locals alike. Visitors can gather maps, brochures and personalized recommendations from knowledgeable staff to enhance their experience.

'Whether you are interested in hiking the nearby trails, exploring Gold Country heritage or enjoying local dining and shopping, the Colfax Visitor Center is your starting point for discovering all that this delightful region has to offer.'

What the mission statement does not mention is the attractive and well-organized gift shop in the Center. Visitors and travelers for the Amtrak trains and the Amtrak bus appreciate all the Colfax items, the train merchandise and snacks. The items for sale also include toiletries for the traveler, such as pain remedies.

The big ticket items are the Colfax T-shirts and Colfax hooded sweatshirts and Colfax stickers, magnets, patches and mugs. They also have travel games, postcards, hats, train whistles, trains and other toys, plus for July 3rd they will have patriotic items. Special items to highlight are locally-



crafted earrings and bracelets, and art crafted by local artists.

In the snacks department, there are crisply cold drinks; candies, including Old Fashioned Drops (the Root Beer flavor is especially yummy); a variety of chips; cookies; peanut butter and cheese crackers; packages of healthy nuts, and regular candies ex. Reese's, Snickers and M&M's.

The Visitor Center shares its space with the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce office, but the Center is separate from the Chamber. The building has public restrooms at one end, and the Colfax Area Historical Society's Heritage Museum at the other end.

The front doors to the Visitor Center and the Museum are trackside, not street side. The Center has a welcoming presence and that introduces visitors to the welcoming nature of our town. And, what makes the Visitor Center so welcoming? According to Visitor Center Director, Amy Andrews, it is the friendly volunteers. "We wouldn't exist without our happy volunteers."

Amy added, "WE NEED VOLUNTEERS." To inquire about volunteering and anything else concerning the Visitor Center or the Chamber, call (530)346-8888. Hours and days of operation are Monday through Saturday, 9 to 2, except holidays like July 4th, when they are closed.

Please email me your Colfax business news:  
[LindaLouHaines14@gmail.com](mailto:LindaLouHaines14@gmail.com).

**Photos by  
Alan Shuttleworth**



# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

## California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit



**CONTACT:** Mary Eldridge  
Information Officer  
(530) 889-0111X1023

**RELEASE**  
**DATE:** June 19, 2025

## CAL FIRE Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Suspends Burning

**Auburn-** After a normal winter and average snowpack, warming temperatures and winds are quickly drying out the abundant annual grass crop. The increasing fire danger posed by the high volume of dead grass and hotter, drier conditions in the region is prompting CAL FIRE to suspend all burn permits for outdoor residential burning within the State Responsibility Area of Nevada, Yuba, Placer, and Sierra Counties. This suspension takes effect Monday, June 23rd, 2025, at 8am and bans all residential outdoor burning of landscape debris such as branches and leaves.

While outdoor burning of landscape debris by homeowners is no longer allowed, CAL FIRE is asking residents to take that extra time to ensure they are prepared for wildfires by maintaining a minimum of 100 feet of Defensible Space around every home and buildings on their property and being prepared to evacuate if the time comes.

Here are some tips to help prepare homes and property:

- Clear all dead and or dying vegetation 100 feet from around all structures.
- Landscape with fire resistant plants and non-flammable ground cover.
- Find alternative ways to dispose of landscape debris like chipping or hauling it to a biomass energy or green waste facility.

The department may issue restricted temporary burning permits if there is an essential reason due to public health and safety. Agriculture, land management, fire training, and other industrial type burning may proceed if a CAL FIRE official inspects the burn site and issues a special permit.

The suspension of burn permits for residential landscape debris does not apply to campfires within organized campgrounds or on private property. Campfires may be permitted if the campfire is maintained in such a manner as to prevent its spread to the wildland. A campfire permit can be obtained at local fire stations or online at [PreventWildfireCA.org](http://PreventWildfireCA.org).

For additional information on how to create Defensible Space, on how to be prepared for wildfires, as well as tips to prevent wildfires, visit [www.ReadyForWildfire.org](http://www.ReadyForWildfire.org).

# 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.

## Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

*The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining.* — John F. Kennedy



At the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce, we have the distinct pleasure and opportunity to work with many businesses both from the for-profit and non-profit sectors. It is our goal to support and encourage them by providing access to resources, marketing and education. This month I met with a new member, Sergey Karelson, to learn more about his business, Rigid Roofing.

Sergey started as a carpenter and has dedicated his life to provide the best service while using the finest resources for his clients. That passion transitioned into working with metal roofing and siding ten years ago. He started Rigid Roofing with his partner, Sergey Korshunkov, using only American made materials and cutting all the metal at the job site for a completely unique custom job.

Rigid Roofing offers metal roofing for flat metal roofs, A-frames and custom-built jobs. They also specialize in metal fabrication, metal siding and soffits as well as panel fabrication. Rigid Roofing seeks to help you protect the home that is your largest investment. According to their website, Rigid Roofing's roofs delivers "unmatched strength, energy savings, and timeless style to homes across the region."

Rigid Roofing brings the highest standard in custom metal fabricated roofing that are built to resist cracking, shrinking and eroding over time.

To find out more about Rigid Roofing, or for your free estimate, please visit them online at: <https://rigidca.com>, by phone: (530) 479-3117, or by email at [rigid.ca@gmail.com](mailto:rigid.ca@gmail.com).

As mentioned previously, we love to see you involved in community events and below are a few examples of how to best get involved.

The City Council holds meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month starting at 6:00 p.m. The Chamber hosts a Coffee & Conversations on the first Friday of the month at the train depot from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Our next speaker in August is from Placer County and she is going to share how she scouts out sites for commercials and films.

Colfax Veterans Memorial Hall offers their all-you-can-eat breakfast the second Sunday of the month, and Sierra Vista Center hosts 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.

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

**Amanda Palmquist, CACC President**



**[www.ColfaxChamber.com](http://www.ColfaxChamber.com)**  
**99 Railroad St. (Physical),**  
**PO Box 86 (Mailing),**  
**Colfax, Ca 95713**  
**(530) 346-8888**



CHICKEN LASAGNA, CAESAR SALAD, FOCCACIA BREAD AND FOR DESSERT TIRAMISU.

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 August 2nd 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:

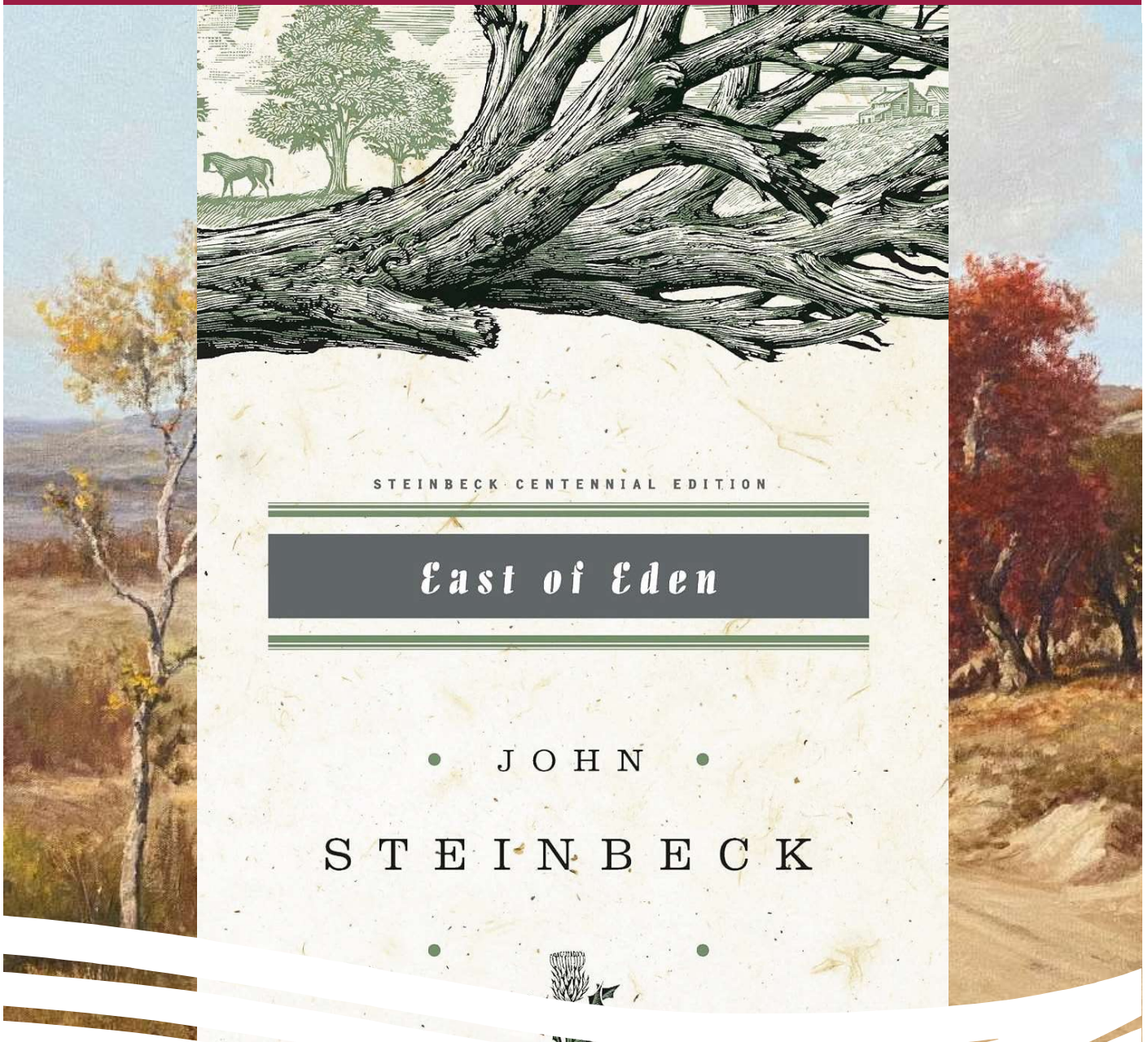
Phone numbers

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

**Email:**

**commander@post192colfaxca.com**  
22 Sunset circle,  
Colfax

Find it on  Libby.



# COLFAX LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY AUG 13 | 2PM



## Churches



Colfax Assembly of  
God Community  
Fellowship  
252 Culver St., Colfax,  
CA 95713  
Email: colfaxesagca@  
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>

# SVG FARMACY FARMERS MARKET

THURSDAY 4PM – 7:30PM

S. MAIN ST. COLFAX

COME SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL  
FARMERS, MAKERS, BAKERS AND  
MORE!

