

Cologne Connection

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\$28,283 in cuts State notifies City of loss of LGA funds

Cologne joined cities throughout the state of Minnesota last month that were notified of the loss of Local Government Aid (LGA) funds. The City of Cologne will lose \$28,283 in LGA in 2009, following the loss of \$18,000 in LGA in 2008.

The City had been expecting a reduction between \$23,000 and \$45,000 in aid since early 2009, as the legislature and Governor Pawlenty tried to reach a budget agreement. When that didn't happen, the Governor used his unallotment authority to reduce the aid to cities — by the current amount.

The City Council held budget workshops to determine how to offset the loss of the more than \$28,000 in LGA funds. Council members recommended the following cuts to general expenditures:

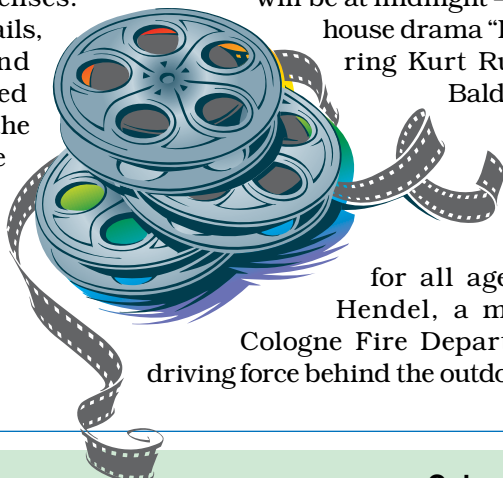
LGA Loss = City Budget Cuts

Professional Services	
Planner	\$ (1,000)
Employee Salaries	\$ (4,526)
Park - Capital Outlay	\$(20,000)
Reserves - Equipment	\$(3,000)
Totals	\$(28,526)

In 2010, the City of Cologne is expecting to lose \$65,260 in LGA funds.

Fund accounting required

Cities are required by law to use Fund Balance accounting. Generally, this means that City functions are divided into funds — the General Fund is the main fund used for City operations of police and fire, streets, parks, administration and their respective building expenses. Monies set aside for trails, construction and bond projects cannot be used for the expenditures of the General Fund and have to be used for capital projects in their intended fund area.



Citywide garage sales begin July 23

Fun for All

Cologne Glad Days July 24-25

There's no better place to meet new friends and connect with community neighbors than at the annual Cologne Glad Days celebration July 24-25. According to Event Chair Theresa Willems, the Volunteer Glad Days Committee has been meeting for months to plan this event and "it is sure to be a fun event for people of all ages."

Something for everyone

The weekend starts with citywide Garage Sales on Thursday, July 23. Interested residents should register their garage sale at the Glad Days Web site (www.colognegladdays.embarqspace.com) to be included in the Glad Days Garage Sale directory.

Lions Park will be home to the Annual Lions Softball Tournament, which begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, July 24 and continues through Saturday, July 25. The Cologne Lions recently installed a new kids play area at the park, and they invite the entire family to enjoy a hamburger, pork burger, hot dog — and a

cold beverage — while watching the softball teams in action.



The popular Friday night Kidfest returns to Marion Field, with this year's theme "Bedtime Stories." Kids and their parents can enjoy fire truck rides, a bounce house, games of all kinds, music by a DJ, visits with the Carver County Dairy Princesses and a hot dog dinner (courtesy of KleinBank) before snuggling up to watch the movie "Bedtime Stories" at dusk.

The event is free for all who attend, thanks to the Cologne Fire Relief Association and Youngstedt's Tire & Auto.

On Saturday, the fun moves to City Square Park and Fritz Field (near the downtown water tower site) and will start with a 5K run. Many favorite activities are back on the schedule, including the Kids Pedal Pull and performances by WonderWeaver's Storytellers, the Waconia Area Jazz Band and Andrea's Dance Performance (music groups sponsored in part by Se-

curity Bank of Cologne and Mid-County Coop). New this year are a Sheephead Tournament and a Kickball Tournament, PLUS a Dunk Tank featuring local "celebrities" in the tank. Proceeds from the Dunk Tank will help fund the purchase of needed equipment for a Cologne family with two autistic children. And, of course, Toilet Bowl races are back for 2009! Vendors will also provide food, beverages, crafts and more at City Square Park throughout the day.

Saturday night is Dance Night at Lions Park, and will be a fun way to wrap up a great Glad Days celebration. Advance sale tickets are available from any of the Cologne Lions members or by calling Theresa Willems at (952) 466-2659.

For more information about Cologne Glad Days — including schedule details and registration forms — visit www.colognegladdays.embarqspace.com. Volunteers are also needed; please call Willems at (952) 466-2659.



Blast from the past

Firehouse Drive-In Theater and Classic Car Night Aug. 22

Take a step back in time and enjoy a blast from the past this summer — and an entertaining triple feature — at Cologne's first-ever Firehouse Drive-In Theater.



The Cologne Fire Department Relief Association is setting up a one-night drive-in movie theater on Saturday, Aug. 22. The outdoor theater — with a 30-by-50-foot screen — will be located in the open park area at the Village at Cologne (Highway 212 and County Road 53).

The triple feature offers something for everyone, and will begin at sunset with the animated "Madagascar" at approximately 8:30 p.m. The 1984 film "Footloose" — featuring Kevin Bacon and Lori Singer — will follow at approximately 10 p.m. The final showing will be at midnight — the 1991 firehouse drama "Backdraft" starring Kurt Russell, William Baldwin and Robert DeNiro.

"We are planning a night of family fun for all ages," said John Hendel, a member of the Cologne Fire Department and the driving force behind the outdoor movie night.

"Our generation and older grew up going to the drive-in, and we all have fond memories of those nights under the stars.

"We want to bring back a 'blast from the past' and share this American pastime with our children."

Fired up for fun and movies

Gates will open at 6 p.m., and there will be a variety of activities to enjoy before the movies begin. Kids' activities will include a bounce house, smoke house trailer, fire truck rides and a playground. People who own older cars are encouraged to bring their vehicles for a Classic Car Night at the drive-in.

Hendel said to "come hungry, as the Cologne Fire Department will also host a concession stand — serving hamburgers, hotdogs, cold sodas, popcorn, candy and other favorite movie theater treats."

If you go ...

Firehouse Drive-In Theater and Classic Car Night Saturday, Aug. 22

Hwy. 212 and County Rd. 153 (Village at Cologne open park area)
Gates open at 6 p.m. (games, food, firetruck rides and more)
Movies begin at dusk: Madagascar, Footloose, Backdraft
Parking pass needed
Cologne Fire Department raising funds to restore the 1923 LaFrance.

The Fire Relief Association is setting up the drive-in to raise funds to restore the City of Cologne's first motorized fire truck, a 1923 American LaFrance. The Cologne Fire Department will celebrate its 125th Anniversary in 2014. According to Hendel, the Department's goal is to raise \$50,000 needed "to restore part of Cologne's history over the next few years, in time for the big 125th celebration."

Limited parking, pass needed

The Firehouse Drive-In is sponsored in part by Lenzen Chevrolet Buick and KleinBank. Parking passes are needed for the event and there is limited parking space — stop by KleinBank in Cologne or Lenzen Chevrolet Buick in Chaska to pick up a parking pass. Please consider giving a donation to the truck restoration fund when you pick up your parking pass.

Donations will also be accepted at KleinBank. For additional event details, visit www.firehousedrivein.com, ask a volunteer Cologne Fire & Rescue member or call John Hendel at (952) 466-2626.

City of Cologne
1211 Village Parkway, P.O. Box 120, Cologne, MN 55322
Web site: www.ci.cologne.mn.us

Contact Us
City Hall/Clerk's Office.....(952) 466-2064
John Douville, Administrator..... douville@ci.cologne.mn.us
Public Works..... Terry Bullock, Jeff Wildung

Emergency/after-hours public works pager.....(612) 579-7054

Cologne City Council
Mayor Bernie Shambour
Scott Williams
Jill Skaaland
The City Council meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7 p.m.

Planning Commission
Marcia Tellers
Kenton Exner
Don Meyer (Council Rep)
The Planning Commission meets on the 1st Monday at 6 p.m.

Don Meyer
Matt Lein

Joel Sievers
David Reif

Park & Recreation Board
Craig Pexa
Scott Rynerson
Open Park Board position
Mark Kalstas
Mark Willems

District #108 Community Education
531 Morse Street, Norwood Young America, MN 55368
Phone: (952) 467-7390
Web site: www.dist108ce.org

Trail to provide more Cologne 'connections'

TC&W rail crossing agreement finalized

“We’ve been working on the railroad” could be a theme song for the City of Cologne which, after nearly three years of work, recently reached an agreement with the Twin Cities & Western Railroad Company (TC&W) to construct an at-grade crossing at County Road 36 and Village Parkway.

Construction and maintenance agreements were signed by the City of Cologne and TC&W on June 15. This crossing was a critical component of the Village at Cologne development approval, and will allow safe access throughout the community under Highway 212. Expected to be opera-

tional by fall, the crossing is the final of four components to be completed in the Southwest Area Transportation project, which also included Village Parkway, the roundabout at County Road 53 and improvements to County Road 36.

The TC&W rail crossing, County Road 36 and Village Parkway improvements will be 100 percent paid for by assessments to the Village at Cologne development. Village of Cologne development fees are funding the County Road 53 roundabout.

County Road 36 trail plan
Creating a connected, walkable community is one step closer for the City

of Cologne. The City’s second priority trail — to be located along County Road 36 from Village Parkway to Playhouse Street — is currently in the permitting stage with Carver County. A majority of the funding for the County Road 36 trail will come from development fees.

This trail segment follows the 2006 completion of the Benton Lake Trail. Two smaller trail sections within Meadow Park and Marion Fields are also being considered for construction this year and will be paid from the City’s trail fund.

Shared resources, training Cologne joins new West Carver Regional Safety Group

A new safety group — consisting of cities in western Carver County — is being formed to coordinate city employee safety training in the region. Cologne is one of eight cities participating in the Carver County group that will provide ongoing safety training to staff. The League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust sponsors the training, and pays half of the monthly training costs

with the member cities sharing the balance. Joining Cologne as group members are the cities of Hamburg, Mayer, New Germany, Norwood Young America, Victoria, Waconia and Watertown.

The Safety Group is designed to provide consistent, high quality training in the areas of employee-right-to-know, hazardous materials, closed space and equipment handling.

Let there be light Benton Lake Trail lighting approved



Walkers, runners and strollers who use the popular Benton Lake Trail will soon see — and be seen under — more light. The Cologne City Council recently approved the installation of five street lights for the trail along the east side of Benton Lake.

The dark green Evans street lights (similar to the photo at left) will be installed by Xcel Energy this fall. The Evans light was chosen due to its downward light design, which minimizes light pollution, and the lights will be placed 300 feet apart along the darkest section of the trail.

City engineers had recommended that 13 lights be placed 150 feet apart for proper lighting; however, the City Council approved the more conservative five-light option and greater separation.

While the 300-foot spacing will not light the full trail, it will allow for point-to-point lighted areas and help provide vertical recognition of pedestrians, cyclists and pets along the trail. The \$68,310 cost of the lighting will be funded by proceeds from the 2006A GO Bonds.

Cologne Area Seniors hit the road



Members of the Cologne Area Seniors Group and their guests gathered outside of the Old Log Theater, the first of two summer outings planned by the group.

The Cologne Area Seniors are getting “out and about” this summer.

On June 24, 20 members of the Cologne Area Seniors group and community friends enjoyed a day at the Old Log Theater in Excelsior. The group departed from the Cologne Community Center on the Carver/Scott County Transit CART bus. Upon arriving at the Old Log Theater, they were treated to lunch in the Old Log’s dining room, which overlooks 10 acres of grounds and natural wetlands. After lunch, they enjoyed the “rollicking, outrageously funny”

comedy “Funny Money” by Ray Cooney.

Later this month, the group will travel to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and enjoy the special “Waterosity” exhibit and the Arboretum in full July bloom.

The Cologne Area Seniors meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Cologne Community Center. To join the group or to learn more about the Cologne Area Seniors, please stop in or call Brenda at the City of Cologne, (952) 466-2064.

Benton Lake improvement activities continue

Co-leading efforts to improve the water quality and community use of Benton Lake in Cologne, Jacob Steinbauer (far right) and Don Smith (middle) enlisted the help of Josh and Andy Hendel to help them pick up litter along the lake’s shoreline in May. Steinbauer and Smith are in their second year of

collecting Benton Lake water samples for analysis by Carver County Land & Water Services. They also are forming the Benton Lake Watershed Conservancy to help guide improvement activities. To learn more or to help the Benton Lake efforts, call Smith at (952) 466-5995 or Steinbauer at (952) 466-2503.



Garden delights in Cologne

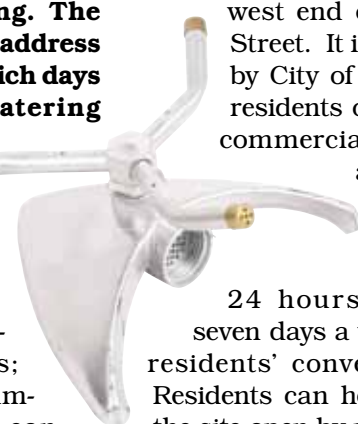
Take time to enjoy the view — the Benton Lake Garden is in full bloom. Cologne residents and visitors are invited to take a walk through the garden, located on the north side of Benton Lake, or just relax in the unique butterfly chair created by Storms Welding of Cologne. In the

garden east of the field stone walk, be sure to check out the interesting “Cassia” plant that smells like popcorn. Thanks to the Benton Lake Garden volunteers and the Carver County Horticultural Society for sharing your time, talent and “green thumbs!”

City of Cologne updates

**Ordinance regulations:
Seasonal reminder**
The City of Cologne has a seasonal lawn watering ordinance **which includes odd/even watering. The home or business address determines on which days of the month watering is allowed.** Watering is allowed on odd-numbered calendar days for homes or businesses with odd-numbered addresses; those with even-numbered addresses can water on even-numbered calendar days.
No watering is allowed from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Grass clippings — Do not mow grass clippings onto street.

Compost/branch pile open all day, every day
The City’s compost and branch pile has been moved and is now located at the west end of Louis Street. It is for use by City of Cologne residents only. No commercial use is allowed. The site is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for residents’ convenience. Residents can help keep the site open by notifying the City of any illegal use of the facility.



Street maintenance projects continue
The Public Works Department has definitely “hit the streets” this summer — filling pot holes, crack sealing and chip sealing streets throughout the City. Streets that were chip sealed this year were Benton Creek Avenue, Pond View Court, Gold Nugget Drive, Parkside Street/Circle, Playhouse Street, Villa Drive and Meadow Street from Highway 284 to Benton Creek Avenue. The \$39,000 maintenance and repair project was completed at the end of June. To extend the life of streets in the City of Cologne, seal work completed on approximately 20 percent of the City’s streets each year.

Community Calendar

Cologne Lions
Meetings held on the second and fourth Tuesdays, Sept.-June, 6:30 p.m., Louis Hall. Guests welcome. Call Lion Tom Stuewe at (952) 466-2570.

Lions Park: The shelter at Lions Park may be reserved for family reunions, picnics and other gatherings. A new playground area was recently installed. Contact information is posted at the park or call Lion Tom Stuewe at (952) 466-2570.

Cologne Area Seniors
Meetings held on the first and third Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m., Cologne Community Center. Call (952) 466-2064.

Thurs., July 23 – Sat., July 25
Cologne Glad Days and Citywide Garage Sales
(see article on front page)

Sat., Aug. 22
Firehouse Drive-In Movie
Gates open at 6 p.m.; movies begin at 8:30 p.m. Hosted by Cologne Fire Department (see article on front page)

Sat., Oct. 3
Cologne Firemen Relief Fund-Raiser Dance
Cologne Community Center

Sat., Oct. 10
Lions Oktoberfest

Cologne Academy
Now enrolling students in grades K-6
Tours and Informational Meetings at 6:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays: July 22, Aug. 5, Aug. 19
Call (952) 466-2276.

St. Bernard School
Now enrolling students in grades K-6. Daycare and preschool also available.
Call (952) 466-5917.

Cologne Hollanders Baseball
Sunday, July 19 vs. Young America, 2 p.m., Fritz Memorial Field
July 21-26 First Round Playoffs
July 28-Aug. 2 Second Round Playoffs
Aug. 8-9, 15-16 Region Tournament at Ballcharts
More info at www.ballcharts.com/colognehollanders