



CELEBRATING 25TH ANNIVERSARY GLAD DAYS WILL BE 'FUN FOR ALL' JULY 23-26, INCLUDING PARADE ON SUNDAY, JULY 26

Celebrate all that is Cologne – including its history – during the 25th Annual Glad Days festival July 23-26, 2026. The annual event is named after the Gladiolus flower, for which the Lins family of Cologne was nationally recognized as growers and hybridizers in the 1940-60s decades. An all-volunteer committee plans, staffs and solicits support to host four days of fun-filled activities for young and old. *Glad Days continued on page 4*



Follow @CologneGladDays on Facebook or visit www.colognegladdays.com for the full schedule of events, updates, parade registration and more.

CITY OF COLOGNE CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

Filing open for City Council, Mayor positions July 14-July 28
Three positions on the Cologne City Council that will be open for candidates: Mayor – two-year term (currently held by Matt Lein); Council – two seats with four-year terms each (currently held by Carol Szaroletta and Selmer Olson).

The General Election will be held on **Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026, and the Primary Election date is Aug. 11, 2026.** Watch the City of Cologne's website at www.colognemn.com for details about the candidate filing process and dates, as well as the State of Minnesota website for additional information at Minnesota Secretary Of State - Election Administration & Campaigns.



New Facebook page for Cologne Community Center
Be sure to follow the new Facebook page to find recreational offerings, schedules, rental information and more about the Cologne Community Center at [@Cologne Community Center](https://www.facebook.com/CologneCommunityCenter)

News & Notes

NEWS & NOTES NEWSLETTER TO BE DELIVERED VIA EMAIL; SIGN UP TO CONTINUE RECEIVING

To help reduce City expenses, future issues of the Cologne *News & Notes* newsletter will no longer be printed and mailed to all households in the 55322 ZIP code. Beginning with the Fall 2026 issue, *News & Notes* will be sent electronically to residents and businesses that sign up to receive an email version.

To receive future issues of the newsletter and other email alerts from the City, please sign up here: www.colognemn.com/residents/email-alerts/ Each issue will also be posted on the City's website at www.colognemn.com/residents/cologne-newsletter/

A small number of print copies will be available at the City offices and to residents in the City of Cologne who request to be placed on a mailing list. Please call the City office at 952-466-2064 to request this option.

COMMUNITIES OF BELONGING

YOUR FEEDBACK REQUESTED VIA A COMMUNITY SURVEY; FREE SEED LIBRARY

The Cologne Community of Belonging (CCoB) group is conducting a follow-up community survey from the one it completed in 2021 in partnership with Carver County Public Health. Residents' feedback from that 2021 survey was used to develop the CCoB and to implement or expand several community-building and communication initiatives – including this newsletter, garden plots, community conversations, arts events, gathering activities, welcome signage and more.



Please use this QR code to access and complete the survey. The survey also will be shared at the CCoB table at Glad Days and via print copies at the City office. All information collected is anonymous, and it will help identify the strengths and opportunities for improvement within the Cologne community. The CCoB will use the data to guide its work in the future to build a connected, supported community.

NEW Free Seed Library

The Free Seed Library, courtesy of the Central High School Shop class students, has been installed at the Louis Street Gardens and is open for the public to use. The concept for our Free Seed Library is to use what you need and share what you do not. If you have a packet of viable seeds that you do not need, please share them with the community by putting them in a provided seed packet – and including the name and planting details. If you have more seedlings than you need, you can also put those in that library. If it is in the Free Seed Library, it is free to take.



FIELD & FORGE MARKET RETURNS FOR SUMMER

The Cologne Farmers Market is back in town, ready for vendors, producers, makers, crafters, food trucks and buyers until Aug. 25. Visit the Field & Forge Market on Tuesdays from 3-6 p.m. at the far Southeast parking lot near City Hall. Patrons: please park in Cologne Community Center parking lot (please do not park at STARS ELA or Cologne Academy lots for the safety of their scholars. Follow on Facebook @[Field & Forge Market](#) or learn more about how to participate at www.colognemn.com/partners-2/cologne-field-forge-market/

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

Oak & Steel Smokehouse – 102 Lake St. W., www.oakandsteelsmokehouse.com
612-760-2375



MinneSodaLicious
Dr. Fizzbottom's Summer Lab – 111 Village Parkway

1111 Village Parkway - Cologne, MN

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For the most current schedule and activities at the Cologne Community Center, visit www.cologne.mn.com and click on the Digital Bulletin Board.

Carver County Library programs at the Community Center
July 7 10:30-11:15 a.m., Bazillions interactive musical entertainment

Aug. 3 1:30-3:30 p.m., Summer Craft Party for families

Carver County Fall Waste Collection Event
Sept. 12 8 a.m.-Noon, Carver County Public Works, 3480 CR 21 Hollywood Township. The Carver County Environmental Center is also open year-round. Visit recyclecarver.org.

CARVER COUNTY PARKS
ADVENTURE AWAITS

Summer Adventure Camps

- **Minnewashta Adventure Camp:** June 23-25 & July 27-30
- **Waconia Adventure Camp:** June 4-5, June 16-18 & Aug. 24-27
- **Baylor Adventure Camp:** July 14-16
- **Wassermann Adventure Camp:** June 30-July 2

Register & learn more!

Download Our App
 Discover how easy it is to plan your visit with the free Carver County Parks app. From your phone, you can:

- Register for programs
- Reserve campsites and facilities
- Purchase event tickets
- Rent watercraft storage
- Get real-time park and trail updates

Scan to download

Cologne Field & Forge Market, City Hall, 1211 Village Parkway, (southeast parking lot), Tuesdays, 3-6 p.m. until Aug. 25

Cologne Lions
General meetings, Second Tuesday of each Month
 6-8 p.m., Cologne Community Center

Lions-sponsored Bountiful Basket Fundraising Breakfast
July 12 8 a.m.-Noon; breakfast will be served under the tent at 102 West Lake St.

Central Public Schools
 655 SW 7th St, Norwood Young America
July 14-16 **Baylor Adventure Camp**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., ages 8-13, Baylor Regional Park, STEM-based activities; \$159

Aug. 4 **Child and Babysitter Safety**, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., ages 10+, ASHI-certified instructor; \$55

For all Central Schools programs, event details and registration, visit isd108.eleyo.com

Cologne Academy, 1221 S. Village Pkwy., www.cologneacademy.org
Aug. 3 **Golf Classic** (open to the public), details at cologne-academy-golf-classic.perfectgolfevent.com
Aug. 25 **First day of school, K-8**
Sept. 15 **First day of PreK**

Hollanders Baseball 2026
SPECIAL EVENTS

\$1 Foul Balls, \$2 Beer Night, Fireworks, Kids Day, Fill the Hill / Fan Appreciation Day

Follow us:
 Facebook: Cologne Hollanders Baseball
 X: @Colognebaseball
 Instagram: colognehollanders

Cologne Hollanders, Fritz Memorial Field, 305 Playhouse St. W.; Ballcharts.com/colognehollanders
July 12 Facebook.com/colognehollandersbaseball
July 19 **Kids' Day**, 4 p.m.
Fill the Hill/Fan Appreciation, 2 p.m.

Zion Lutheran Church and School, 14735 County Rd. 153, www.zion-cologne.org
July 12-16 **Vacation Bible School**, 5:45-8 p.m., ages 3 to 6th grade. Open to all children of all backgrounds. Cost: \$15 p/child; \$45 max family. Details at www.zion-cologne.org/news_and_events.html

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Bountiful Basket 102 Lake St. W. Tues. 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.; Thursday, 3:30-6:30 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Community Library
 Bring a Book/Take a Book; Cologne Community Center back door (near fitness center); Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help take care of the Benton Lake Garden on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. Those Interested should bring gloves and/or a spade or shovel to help remove weeds and care for the flower maintenance. Please join and meet other community members and gardening enthusiasts!

1211 Village Parkway
PO Box 120, Cologne, MN 55322



Leadership Team

Diane Davis, ddavis@carvercountymn.gov
Lona Hendricks, lona.j.hendricks@gmail.com
Jayson Read, read.jayson@gmail.com



City of Cologne

1211 Village Parkway, PO Box 120, Cologne, MN 55322

Phone: 952-466-2064

Emergency/after-hours public works: 952-466-5601 and leave a voice mail message.

Email: info@colognemn.com

Website: www.colognemn.com

Facebook: @Cologne Community Center

City Office is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Closed: Friday, June 19, Juneteenth; Friday, July 3,

Independence Day, (Observed); Monday, Sept. 7, Labor Day

City Administrator: Michelle Morrison

Utility Billing Clerk: Jenna McInnis

Cologne City Council: Mayor Matt Lein, Sarah Bruss, Carol Szaroletta, Jeri Bowers, Selmer Olson

Summer 2026 meeting schedule: The City Council meets on the 3rd Monday, 7 p.m. (June, July, August)

Planning Commission meets on the 1st Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Citizens are welcome to attend meetings and learn about City Council work.

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According to Glad Days committee chair Betsy Pysick, “We are very excited to celebrate 25 years of Glad Days. We invite everyone to come out to celebrate our community’s past and present, and to make wonderful memories together. We are bringing back many favorite activities and musicians, while adding some new events for kids and adults.”

Glad Days will again begin with the Thursday night Garden Party, featuring Becky Rae Dalton, the “Puzzles and Guzzles” competition, food and a farmers’ market. Friday night brings the popular Kidfest, with a “Dress Your Best” theme followed by the return of “Hollywood BLVD” rock and roll band.

Pysick said “Saturday will be a great day – we’re adding a cribbage tournament for all ages and bringing back the Team Andy 5K Run/Walk to benefit mental health needs in our community.” Other activities include a BBQ contest, doggy walk and the return of the paintball arena. New this year is a Big Air BMX stunt show and the Topsy Town Ball Tournament at Fritz Field. The sounds of “Mitch Gordon & The Unleaded Band” will close out Saturday night.

“We will kick-off our big parade on Sunday, July 26 at Noon with the favorite tractor cruise down Main Street (Paul Ave.) and then enjoy our 25th celebration parade honoring members of the Glad Days committees from years past,” Pysick added. “We are still looking for event sponsors and parade entrants, and encourage everyone to visit www.colognegladdays.com or follow the Cologne Glad Days Facebook page for the most current information and ways to get involved. Save the date and help make it another spectacular Glad Days!”