

LOCALNEWS

RANIER CITY COUNCIL

Residents could see a fee

BY EMILY GEDDE
Staff Writer

Ranier residents who fail to submit monthly water meter readings will be fined after action taken by the Ranier City Council Tuesday.

The council unanimously agreed to charge customers a \$150 fee if they fail to submit their monthly readings, according to minutes from the meeting.

The action stems from ongoing efforts to clear up the city's loss of about 2.5 million gallons of water after last summer's flood. The administrator's office has been trying to curtail the ongoing problem of customers' failure to submit the readings, the minutes said.

About 200 customers' meters are not read by a Ranier city staff and the resident must submit the readings. The minutes said about one third of those 200 customers "habitually fail" to submit the monthly readings, and Tara Mai, deputy clerk, must estimate monthly uses for the customers.

A remote reader costs about \$150 and Councilor Tony Cole suggested that amount be implemented as the fee.

Mai will issue notices to customers in question to inform them they must schedule an appointment to have their meters read by a Ranier representative by June 5 to avoid the fee.

In other business, Roberta

Hagen of the Ranier Recreation Club, informed the council the pianos in the park project will return to the city this summer.

As part of the Ranier "Keys to the City" project, three pianos are located in public spaces for anyone to play. The pianos were decorated by local artists and placed in three locations in Ranier last year.

The pianos will be located at Ranier Park, Riverview Park and City Beach. Dennis Jonson, International Falls street commissioner, is working with Nick Sears, city of Ranier, to coordinate placing the instruments. The Northland Art Society donated \$100 to have the pianos tuned once they are placed in their summer homes.

KA0: 'Groceries to You!' program benefits older adults, volunteers

Seeking new clients, volunteers

More and more older residents in International Falls are relying on "Groceries to You!" This volunteer-based delivery service was started by Koochiching Aging Options in 2013 as a way to get groceries to aging residents who have difficulty shopping for themselves.

"What the program has become is so much more," said Gary Kaunonen, the program's coordinator. "As much as the program is a vital grocery delivery service, it is also a chance to socialize. Participants and volunteers often spend time chatting together after a delivery."

According to Kaunonen, the program is growing and seeking new clients.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Volunteer Julie Christenson delivers groceries to client Lorraine Kantor.

Participants are asked to pre-register for the program before receiving their first delivery. Once signed up, participants will be sent instructions on how to complete their grocery order. They can then order groceries on Tuesday mornings with delivery occurring the following day. Participants must be at home to receive the order and must send a payment for the groceries to the store within one or two days of delivery. Participants are also asked to contribute to the program as they are able.

Participating merchants are Stewart's SuperOne and Miner's County Market.

"If you are interested in

having a direct, positive impact on someone's life, the program is also looking for additional volunteers," added Kaunonen. The program trains volunteers, and limited mileage reimbursement is offered.

Those interested in signing up for the service, or in volunteering, are encouraged to contact Koochiching Aging Options at 283-7030, by email at KoochichingAgingOptions@gmail.com or by stopping at the non-profit organization's office at 1000 Fifth Street in the Forestland Annex building in the Falls.



Groceries to You! volunteer Karen Bruyere takes an order from a G2Y! client.

Dreher farm named Century Farm

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

A Mizpah farm is among 222 Minnesota farms recognized by the Minnesota State Fair and Minnesota Farm Bureau as 2015 Century Farms.

Qualifying farms have been in continuous family ownership for at least 100 years and are 50 acres or more.

In Koochiching County, the Mizpah farm of John and Jennifer Dreher is being recognized. The farm has been owned by the family since it was purchased in 1915.

Century Farm families receive a commemorative sign, as well as a certificate signed by the State Fair and

Minnesota Farm Bureau presidents and Gov. Mark Dayton. Since the program began in 1976, more than 10,000 Minnesota farms have been recognized as Century Farms.

Information on all Century Farms will be available at the Minnesota Farm Bureau exhibit during the 2015 Minnesota State Fair, which runs Aug. 27 — Labor Day, Sept. 7. A Century Farm database is also available at fbmn.org.

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and best-attended expositions in the world, attracting 1.8 million visitors annually. Showcasing Minnesota's finest agriculture, art and industry, the Great Minne-

sota Get-Together is always 12 days of fun Ending Labor Day. Visit mnstatefair.org for more information.

Minnesota Farm Bureau is comprised of 78 local Farm Bureau associations across Minnesota. Members make their views known to political leaders, state government officials, special interest groups and the general public. Programs for young farmers and ranchers develop leadership skills and improve farm management. Promotion and Education Committee members work with programs such as Ag in the Classroom and safety education for children. See more about Farm Bureau at fbmn.org.

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<p>La Joya Wines 750 ml \$6⁹⁶</p>	<p>Bogle Wines 750 ml \$8⁹⁸</p>	<p>Cupcake Wines 750 ml \$6⁹⁶</p>

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