

THIS WEEK'S

SHOPPING NEWS

831 East Vasa, Fergus Falls, MN 56537, 218-739-3308, Locally Owned & Operated

A publication of The Midweek, Inc.

WINTER FOOD DRIVE

from the Fergus Falls Community Food Shelf

We need your help to fill the food shelf!



Here's what you can get for \$40.00



Here's what your food shelf can get for \$40.00

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1512 1st Ave. N., Fergus Falls, MN 56537

All monies and pounds of non-perishable foods are reported to the Minnesota Food Share and the Feinstein Corporation. We then receive a percentage return.

In 2023 we served 15,000 individuals, we distributed 410,000 pounds of food and 8,000 volunteer hours. We appreciate your generosity!

"A different kind of food fight"

Thank you for your thoughtful support.

Monetary Donations
Please send to the Food Shelf
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Food Donations
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1512 1st Ave. N., Fergus Falls, MN 56537

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SERTOMA

ICE FISHING EXTRAVAGANZA!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Have some fun with the whole family and all your friends ON & OFF the ice

ICE FISHING DERBY ON PEBBLE LAKE • 10am-12pm

Kids Games, Prizes, Raffles, BINGO & Concessions at the Eagles • 1-3pm



POSITION: PROJECT COORDINATOR

LOCATION: Fergus Falls, Minnesota

Description: At Otter Tail Power Company, our employees support the communities we serve by producing reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible electricity. Everyone has an important role in accomplishing these objectives!

In the Project Coordinator role, the following activities are performed:

- Coordinate cost estimate and forecasts for internal and external projects.
- Facilitate required meetings.
- Track deliverables for each project identifying and making recommendations to mitigate any risks associated with schedules, resources, filings.

To be successful in this role, we're looking for candidates who possess the following skills and traits:

- There's a lot of innovation in our industry and we want positive, can-do people who are resilient through the challenges that sometimes come with change.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal relationship as you partner with various internal and external teams and stakeholders.
- A bachelor's degree or equivalent experience required; a degree in business or engineering is a plus.
- Project and contract management experience utilizing

tools and/or techniques in developing, managing, and implementing multiple projects and contracts concurrently.

- Experience leading and coordinating cross-functional teams and projects and setting priorities in a constantly changing environment.

Selected candidates will be required to complete a pre-interview assessment.

Offering:

We believe employment is a partnership and we expect excellence from our talented employees. To support our employees and help them thrive in their career experience and goals, we offer:

- Competitive wage & benefit package.
 - Employee Stock Ownership options
 - Retirement Savings Fund with employer match
 - Health insurance plan options
- Training – our employees are provided training and

development opportunities each year! This includes safety – one of our 5 values and key to our success –, technical, compliance and developmental training.

- Career development is critical to our long-term success. Otter Tail Power employees have opportunities to participate in various leadership development programs, gain access to an a la carte online leadership course catalog, receive mentorship from current leaders and more!
- Access to mental health support from the experts at SupportLinc.

If this sounds like a great fit for you, apply today. Don't wait too long though! To apply, visit our careers page at www.otpc.com. We'll accept applications through January 28, 2024.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

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BOWLING?

NEWS

City League Jan. 10th
Jason Haugen 253 - 243 - 720
Dale Boese 710
LeWayne Saunders 249 - 705

Trivia? The Pacific Ocean covers how many square miles?
16 million 32 million 64 million

Commercial League Jan. 12th
Troy Weisenberger 289 - 743
Dale Boese 290 - 688
Dom Hemingsen 246 - 661

Trivia? The oceans cover what percent of the earth's surface?
67% 71% 75%

First Nighters Jan. 15th
Dom Hemingsen 246 - 257 - 737
Bobby Grant 268 - 687
Nate Runninger 663

Trivia? Who was the original host of the game show Jeopardy?
Art Fleming Mark Johnson Jim Davis

FOR SALE

6X8 ALUMINUM fishhouse 4 holes, 36" door, fully insulated, weighs only 600# \$2200. 1997 Dodge Ram 1/2 ton 4x4 clean MN title, runs great, newer tires \$1200. 218-731-3957

A.B.U TRAILERS on sale 20' 14,000 skidsteer \$6595. 82x14 3500# w/ gate & jack \$2995.18 DT Car Hauler 7,000 \$4795. Also aluminum sheets 49x63 \$13. We also buy aluminum, cooper, brass. Weetown outpost 218-737-3737

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FOR RENT!

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- Must have 4-8 Household Members

Contact The Management Office 218-739-9506

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Cardinal Homes

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- 2 Bedroom Family Units

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1BR 1Bath apartment, 62+ or disabled individual. Rent is 30% of income. Large apartment, elevator, on site laundry, community events & activities. Home care & health care assistance available on site.

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Beginning Experience

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Beginning Experience, a non-profit Christian Support Group for Divorced, Widowed or Separated people, will begin a 10 Week Session **"COPING WITH LIFE ALONE"** on **March 11, 2024 in Fergus Falls.** All facilitators are volunteers who have experienced a divorce, been widowed or are separated from their partner.

Please call 218-560-1686, if there's no answer leave your name and phone number and we will call you back.

The Shopping List

Featured BUSINESS



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Framing		\$30.00.....	\$22.50
K & S Carpet Cleaners Restoration			
\$100.00 Certificate		\$100.00.....	\$80.00
\$50.00 Certificate		\$50.00.....	\$40.00
Lake Cabin Meat and Deli, Fergus Falls			
\$50.00 Certificate		\$50.00.....	\$40.00
\$20.00 Certificate		\$20.00.....	\$15.00
\$10.00 Certificate		\$10.00.....	\$7.50
Rothsay Cafe, Rothsay		\$10.00.....	\$7.50
Stalker Lake Golf Course Bar & Grill, Dalton.....		\$25.00.....	\$20.00
VFW Post 612, Fergus Falls.....		\$20.00.....	\$15.00

Certificates are good 30 to 60 days after purchase depending on retailer. Limited quantities of certificates available. All sales final. No reissues, no refunds, no exceptions.

the MIDWEEK inc. PUBLICATIONS

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<p>'11 Ford Explorer Limited FWD 3.5L 6 cyl., a lot of great options, white, 118,442 mi. \$11,990</p>	<p>'19 GMC Acadia SLE-2 AWD 3.6L, 6 cyl., 3rd row seating, p. lift gate, GMC rubber floor mats, pepperdust metallic, 24,693 mi. \$33,490</p>	<p>'18 Hyundai Santa Fe SE Local trade, one owner, 3.3L, 6 cyl., AWD, many great options, red, 50,756 mi. \$20,990</p>	<p>'21 Ford F150 Lariat 2.7L, 6 cyl., 4WD, Bluetooth connection, heated front/rear seats, lane keeping assist, NAV, black leather, carbonized grey, 15,654 mi. \$47,990</p>	<p>'19 Nissan Rogue S AWD 2.5L, newer tires, heated seats, great ride. real clean, 23K \$20,990</p>	<p>'21 Ford F150 Lariat 2.7L, 6 cyl., 4WD, adaptive cruise control, fog lamps, backup camera, climate control, lane keeping assist, red, 20k</p>
<p>'18 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT 5.3L V8, 8 cyl., heated/cooled front seats, NAV, gray leather interior, silver, 83,542 mi. \$33,990</p>	<p>'21 Ford F150 Lariat 3.5L 6 cyl., 6.5' box, backup camera, NAV, heated/cooled front seats, space white, 42,293 mi. CALL FOR PRICE</p>	<p>'18 Ram 1500 Limited 4x4 5.7L V8, auto 8 spd., backup camera, backup sensor, heated/cooled front seats, heated rear seats, gray, 87k \$32,990</p>	<p>'21 Ford F150 XLT 4x4 2.7L V6 ecoboost eng., trailer tow, box liner, lane keeping, lane departure, backup camera, p. drivers seat, room for 6 pass., NAV, race red, 32,700 mi. \$40,990</p>	<p>'22 Ford Bronco Sport Badlands 2.0L, 4 cyl., 4WD, adaptive cruise control, heated steering whl., NAV, cactus grey, 7,326 mi. \$37,990</p>	<p>'20 Ford Explorer ST Just In! 3.0L 6 cyl., hands-free liftgate, keyless start, pano roof, leather seats, agate black metallic, 33,367 mi. \$38,990</p>
<p>'18 Ford Edge SEL AWD 2.0L, 4 cyl., heated seats, NAV, blind spot monitor, pano roof black, 37K \$25,990</p>	<p>'19 Ford Thunderbird XT 2 door, one family owned, well maintained, always kept in the garage, dark orange, 14,235 mi. \$17,000</p>	<p>'15 Chevy Silverado 1500 LTZ 5.3L 8 cyl., truck comes with a topper, backup camera, heated front seats, brown, 137k \$21,990</p>	<p>'19 Ford F150 Lariat 6.5' box, 3.5L 6 cyl., NAV, cooled/heated seats, backup camera, remote start, brown, 22,100 mi. \$38,990</p>	<p>'19 Chevy Silverado 1500 RST 4WD Crew Cab 5.3L V8, heated bucket seats, p. seat, heated steering whl., running boards, fog lights, 15k, blue \$42,990</p>	<p>'23 Ford Bronco Big Bend 2.7L, 6 cyl., hard top, backup camera, bluetooth connection, fog lamps, keyless start, NAV, carbonized gray metallic, 1,815 mi. \$52,500</p>
<p>'19 Ram Ram Pickup 1500 Classic SLT 5.7L 8 cyl., satellite radio, backup camera, silver, 24,770 mi. \$32,990</p>	<p>'20 Ram Ram Pickup 1500 Laramie 5.7L 8 cyl., line-x spray in bed liner, backup camera, heated/cooled front seats, rear sensors, black, 53k \$39,990</p>	<p>'17 Ford F250 Super Duty King Ranch SRW Crew Cab 6.7L dsl., 8 cyl., pano roof, keyless start, backup camera, oxford white, 81,087 mi. \$57,990</p>	<p>'19 Ford Flex Limited 3.5L 6 cyl., 3rd row seat, backup camera, heated front seats, p. driver seat, p. liftgate, black, 62,707 mi. \$25,490</p>	<p>'18 Chevy Tahoe Premier 4x4 5.3L V8, auto 6 spd., backup camera, cooled/heated front seats, rain sensing wipers, keyless start, white, 74,441 mi. \$41,990</p>	<p>'21 Ford F150 Lariat 4WD Super Crew 5.5' box, 2.7L, 6 cyl., backup camera, cooled front seats, keyless start, NAV, oxford white, 9,458 mi.</p>
<p>'17 Ford Edge SEL 3.5L 6 cyl., backup camera, heated steering whl., keyless start, pano roof, NAV, magnetic metallic, 25,337 mi. \$24,990</p>	<p>'22 Ford Explorer Limited 4WD 2.3L 4 cyl., white, 31,019 mi. \$35,990</p>	<p>'21 Ford F150 Lariat 3.5L 6 cyl., EcoBoost eng., keyless start, Bluetooth, heated/cooled front seats, NAV, star white, 29,603 mi. Just In! \$48,990</p>	<p>'22 Ford F150 Lariat 4WD Super Crew 5.5' box, 2.7L V6, 6 cyl., adaptive cruise control, keyless start, NAV, agate black metallic, 28,151 mi. \$48,490</p>	<p>'17 Ford F250 Super Duty Platinum 6.7L, 8 cyl., heated front/rear seats, keyless start, rain sensing wipers, white, 93,500 mi. CALL FOR PRICE</p>	<p>'19 Ford Explorer Limited 3.5L 6 cyl., blind spot monitor, keyless start, climate control, black, 67k, Just In! \$27,990</p>

PUPPY SCAMS ARE AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH

Kristi Lausch, for the Humane Society of Otter Tail County

It's estimated that tens of thousands of individuals fell victim to dog breeding scams this past year with most reporting they never received the pets they "purchased" and others getting pets with health or genetic problems. Scammers love to prey on people when the emotions and excitement of buying a puppy can cloud good judgment. The more you educate yourself on the signs of spotting a scam, the better prepared you will be.

What are the Red Flags?

- **No phone calls.** A reputable breeder will always be willing to communicate with you via phone or video chat before selling you a puppy. Fraudulent sellers are oftentimes outside of the U.S. and may be hiding their phone number by only communicating via email. Also, while scammers are likely to start talking money immediately, legitimate sources will take time and diligence to learn more about you and make sure the dog you are choosing is a good fit for your family.
- **Copycat or stock photos.** Photos of the dog or ad text can be found on multiple websites. *For every legitimate breeder on the web, there is another FAKE ONE and it is difficult to spot the difference.*
- **Sketchy payment.** The seller asks for wiring of money or payment by gift cards; and they may seem anxious to complete the sale or get your deposit as soon as possible. If you feel like you are being pushed to make a quick decision, be careful. Such behavior is often a warning sign that the person you are dealing with is actually a scammer. Avoid paying a stranger using apps such as Venmo, as it is harder to get your money back if you don't get what you paid for.
- **Price is too good to be true.** Research the prices for the breed you are considering ahead of time. Purebred dogs sold at deeply discounted prices are typically frauds. If the seller says they register their dogs with a specific organization, you can call the organization to confirm.
- **And lastly, try to visit the breeder in person, meet the canine parents and tour the breeding property in its entirety.** If they won't allow you to drop by, this is a big red flag. Prepare a list of questions and ask for PROOF of vet records, immunizations and health screenings. Facebook puppy scams are also very common where fraudsters disguised as real people post a sale of a dog for whom "they wish to find a new home." If you ever have any questions or concerns when buying a puppy, our best advice is to slow down, do your homework and be patient. And remember, the HSOTC professionals are always available to help answer your questions, **218-739-3494**.

HUMANE SOCIETY

OTTER TAIL COUNTY

Featured Pets

OSCAR

BREED

Great Pyrenees/Mix

COLOR

White

AGE

1 Year, 1 Month

GENDER

Male

CUTIE

BREED

Domestic Shorthair/Mix

COLOR

White/Grey

AGE

1 Year, 9 Months

GENDER

Female

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Please Help Expand The PAWPRINT!

The HSOTC is the only animal surrender/shelter in Otter Tail County, serving all 62 townships and 13 municipalities. They provide a safe-haven to approximately 900 dogs and cats each year and are a totally independent non-profit, 501(c3), not affiliated with any national organization or government entity. They rely on donations from people like YOU to do the critical work they do.

The planned 3,800 sq ft, \$2 million dollar expansion, at the existing location, will take a lot of "kibble" from every two-legged in the county and beyond. Your donation, big or small, matters! Imagine the PAWSIBILITIES to do even more!

www.humanesocietyotc.org/build

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MURDER IN THE HOUSE

By Bev Johnson, WOT Master Gardener

There is no official plant person in Petunia's office. The janitor occasionally will water a plant that he notices appears to be dry. As a result, most of the plants were barely hanging on, that is until Bruce was hired. He not only was good at his job, but he was also a Master Gardener and specialized in house plants. He discovered the biggest problem with the office plants was not only were they not getting watered properly, the water was softened. And they were watered once a week whether they needed it or not.

People who complain that they kill plants are overwatering them, or watering on a schedule, or even using softened water. All big no nos. Just what is the right way to water your house plants? It's important to catch them before there is any sign of wilting. That doesn't mean keeping the plant wet all the time. that just leads to root rot and dead plants. Signs that your baby needs a drink. Foliage turns slightly duller, a less lively green. Succulent leaves get a little rubbery. The container feels lighter, the soil feels dry to the touch at the surface and a finger length down.

First the water. Never use water from a softener. It has salts in it and will eventually turn your plants into mush. If you use city water and your plants get brown tips, it's from the fluoride in the water. If possible, use rainwater, melted snow or bottled water for the best results.

Cacti and succulents can be allowed to get quite dry between waterings. However, if they are in bright light, they will thrive on a bit more. Plants with tough leathery leaves, like the old-fashioned rubber tree or ponytail palm,

can go for quite a long time between waterings.

Foliage plants, the kind that make up most office plants, don't do well if they are subject to wild swings from extremely dry to drowning. If the surface of the soil feels dry, stick a finger into the soil. If the tip of it feels damp, hold off on watering. When you do water, water until it is coming out the drain hole. Let the plant sit for a few minutes then dump any water sitting in the saucer.

Now about the soil, always use potting soil. It has different sized particles, so it drains well. The higher the peat content, the more water the soil will hold. Don't bother putting pebbles or charcoal in the bottom of the pot. It does nothing to help drainage. If you are concerned about soil spilling out the drain when you re-pot, put a piece of newspaper or a coffee filter on the bottom of the pot before you fill it.

Most of your house plants are tropical or semi tropical. When it rains the water is relatively warm. When you pour cold tap water on them, it's a shock. It's like you stepping into an ice-cold shower. Let the water warm up to room temperature. And never, never put an ice cube in the same pot as your orchid, no matter what the instructions say. Let the cube melt and come to room temperature first. The idea of the ice cube is so you don't overwater your new baby.

Keep a watering can full of water so it will always be at room temperature. Problem solved. Do keep it out of traffic lanes, and if you have a cat, on the floor. If the earth was flat, cats would have pushed everything over the edge by now. They just can't resist.

Ice is Never 100% Safe!





Minimum Ice Thickness Guidelines for New Clear Ice Only

m

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

mndnr.org/icesafety



POSITION: OUTAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (OMS) OPERATOR

LOCATION: Fergus Falls, MN or one of our Customer Service Centers

At Otter Tail Power, our employees help us serve the communities we support by producing reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible electricity. Our employees' impact can take many forms. Our successful employees ensure that our customers and communities have the power they need for modern life.

In this role, the Outage Management System Operator will be responsible for field dispatch for Otter Tail Power electrical system outages, internal and external communication leveraging the Company Outage Management System (OMS).

- Handle inbound and outbound calls for purposes of distribution system restoration (planned and unplanned outages).
- Initial entry, update, and completion of trouble tickets for emergency outage and non-outage conditions on the distribution system.
- Update outage prediction, which includes combining or splitting outages based on input from field employees or management.
- Coordinate field personnel to respond to outages or other issues on the Company distribution system and when requested by Power System Operators.
- Completing tasks related to customer requests and billing for electric services shall be fulfilled while not actively working planned or unplanned outages.

Qualifications:
We're seeking candidates with a wide range of skills who are motivated to deeply understand complex information and effectively communicate their findings while aligning with our core values: Integrity, Community, Safety,

Resourcefulness, Customer Service and People. Some examples of what we're looking for include:

- Associate degree or equivalent work experience in electric utility or office setting or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- One or two years of experience in electrical utility dispatch and knowledge of electrical distribution switching devices and procedures is preferred.
- Must be proficient with Microsoft Software.
- Requires the ability to work rotating shifts, irregular hours and overtime as assigned.
- Strong oral and written communication skills are required.

Selected candidates will be required to complete a pre-interview assessment.



Offering:
We believe employment is a partnership and we expect excellence from our talented employees. To support our employees and help them thrive in their career experience and goals, we offer:

- Competitive wage & benefit package.
- o Employee Stock Ownership options
- o Retirement Savings Fund with employer match
- o Health insurance plan options

- Training – our average employee spends 40 hours in training and development each year! This includes safety – one of our 5 values and key to our success – technical, compliance and developmental training.
- Career development is critical to our long-term success. Otter Tail Power employees have opportunities to participate in various leadership development programs, gain access to an a la carte online leadership course catalog, receive mentorship from current leaders and more!
- Access to mental health support from the experts at SupportLinc.

If this sounds like a great fit for you, apply today. Don't wait too long though! To apply, visit our careers page at www.otpc.com. We'll accept applications through January 28, 2024.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.



POSITION: CONSTRUCTION MANAGER, TRANSMISSION LINES

LOCATION: FERGUS FALLS*, MINNESOTA *This role is eligible for a hybrid remote work schedule.

Description: At Otter Tail Power Company, our employees support the communities we serve by producing reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible electricity. Everyone has an important role in accomplishing these objectives!

In the Construction Manager, Transmission & Substation role, the following activities are performed:

- Lead and supervise the construction of transmission lines or substations on various construction projects.
- Oversee and direct contractors, sub-contractors, utility management and other electrical contractors to ensure facilities are constructed to specifications and high level of workmanship.
- Advise and provide leadership on project costs, Requests For Proposal (RFP), contractor selection and any necessary change orders.
- Drive projects to completion while maintaining a safe work environment, staying on budget and on schedule
- Collaborate with internal teams like Project Engineers and Procurement to determine how to successfully complete projects.
- Develop appropriate project controls and contractor payment methodologies.

To be successful in this role, we're looking for candidates who possess the following skills and traits:

- There's a lot of innovation in our industry and we want positive, can-do people who are resilient through the challenges that sometimes come with change.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal relationship as you partner with various internal and external teams and stakeholders.
- We're looking for someone who can hit the ground running so a general understanding of transmission lines and transmission substation construction is required.
- We have a lot to accomplish so top candidates will be able to independently direct and manage their own and various teams' time and responsibilities. Balancing many projects and initiatives will be necessary to succeed.

- Our many internal and external teams and stakeholders will benefit most from a confident and experienced Project Manager.
- Safety is one of our values, so knowledge of OSHA requirements is required.
- PMP Certification or ability and willingness to obtain within a year of position acceptance.


Selected Candidates will be required to complete pre-interview assessment.

Otter Tail Power Company has a competitive wage and benefit package and has a strong focus on talent development. Apply online at www.otpc.com. Applications accepted through February 9, 2024.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.


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