

THIS WEEK'S SHOPPING NEWS

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Sunday, March 02, 2025 Volume 50 Number 08

A publication of **The Midweek, Inc.**

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**Applications being accepted for
\$2,000 Mike Rohde
Spirit Scholarship Awards**

Applications for the 2025 Mike Rohde Spirit Scholarship Award are now available. \$2,000.00 scholarships will be awarded to youths in Otter Tail County who are pursuing an education beyond the secondary level. We are looking for applicants who have the greatest potential to succeed.

The Mike Rohde Spirit Scholarship Award was founded in 2002 by the Fergus Falls Sertoma Club and the Rohde Family. After Mike's untimely death of a hereditary heart disease in 2000 at age 51, the Mike Rohde Spirit Scholarship Awards were established to administer a scholarship in his name. These awards are meant to honor individuals who embody the warm, fun-loving and energetic spirit of Mike and his dedication to contributing to his community.

Applications and eligibility are available at High School Guidance Offices or by calling the Mike Rohde Spirit Scholarship Board (218) 739-3295. Completed applications are due by March, 21st, 2025.



Grace United Methodist Church, 1100 Friberg Ave.

**Mertz Family
Pancake Breakfast Benefit**

Sunday, March 30

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Silent Auction • Free-Will Offering

Donations to the Luke Mertz Benefit Fund are also being accepted at the Fergus Falls Branch of Bell Bank

In April 2024, Luke Mertz was diagnosed with glioblastoma, stage four cancer. Glioblastoma is a type of cancer that starts as a growth of cells in the brain or spinal cord. Luke's tumor was in the left occipital region of the brain which affects eyesight. He had surgery at Mayo to remove the tumor in May, 2024. Several rounds of chemo therapy and radiation followed which he finished in November, 2024. They have to return every couple of months for tests and lab work. All proceeds from the benefit breakfast will go to help defray the cost of insurance co-pays and expenses for trips to Mayo Clinic for follow-up treatment.

Luke works for Ziegler CAT but has to shorten his hours and Sarah for Otter Tail Power Company. They have three children Leeland, 15, Adelynn, 13 and Jasper, 10.

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Perham Location:
805 W Main Street
Perham, MN 56573
Phone: 218-298-1501

OBITUARIES

Joyce E. Anderson



Joyce Evelyn Anderson, 98, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota passed away early Monday, February 17 2025, at Pioneer Care under the loving care of Vivie Hospice and Pioneer staff. Joyce was also surrounded by the loving members of her family during her final days before going to be with her Lord Jesus Christ. Her memorial service is set for 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 8, 2025, at the Glende-Nilson Funeral Home in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. There will be a visitation one hour prior.

Pastor Kevin Patch presiding. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Karen, or donations may be made to either PioneerCare Foundation Greatest Need Fund, Lake Region Cancer Center, or to Vivie Hospice.

Joyce Evelyn Thorstenson was born on August 6, 1926, in Erhard Grove Township near Erhard, Minnesota, to Elmer and Josephine (Lyngstad) Thorstenson. She attended school in rural Erhard and was confirmed at the Tonseth Lutheran Church on September 15, 1940. Joyce married Raymond Anderson on September 15, 1943.

Joyce was a loving mother and grandmother, celebrating the major events in their lives with open houses for confirmations, graduations, bridal showers, wedding receptions, etc. Joyce liked to knit/crochet baby blankets and dish wash cloths for family and friends. Joyce enjoyed baking the perfect angel food birthday cakes, and making and eating lefse, sweet soup, and lutefisk! She also loved playing various games like Aggravation, Whist, UNO (except for Star Trek UNO) and Dominos. She was very competitive and stickler for the rules!

Joyce is survived by her children, Karen (Mike) Ingebrigtsen, Waubun, MN, Ron (Mary) Anderson, Fergus Falls, MN, Gary (Ann) Anderson, Bellevue, NE; 11 grandchildren; numerous great and great-great grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Josephine; ex-husband, Raymond; children, infant baby Anderson, Richard Anderson, Virgil David Anderson, Janice Jesnowski, Daryl Anderson; siblings, Harvey, Lenny, and Edward Thorstenson; and grandson Brian Anderson.

Burial of her cremains will be a private family ceremony at the Bethlehem Cemetery sometime in late Spring or early Summer.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

Norma Youngbauer

Age: 79
From: Verndale, MN
Passed Away: Fri., Feb. 21
Visitation: Wed., Feb. 26, 9-11am at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Wadena, MN
Rosary: Wed., Feb. 26, 9:30am at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Wadena, MN
Memorial Mass: Wed., Feb. 26, 11am
Location: St. Ann's Catholic Church, Wadena, MN
Funeral Home: Karvonen Funeral Home
Online condolences may be sent to www.karvonenfuneralhome.com

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Obituary**
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Kimberly F. Ohlrogge

Age: 65
From: Ottertail, MN
Passed Away: Fri., Feb. 21
Where: At her home
Visitation: Fri., Feb. 28, 10-11am at United Methodist Church, Richville, MN
Memorial Service: Fri., Feb. 28, 11am
Location: United Methodist Church, Richville, MN
Funeral Home: Karvonen Funeral Home
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This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



Supervisor, Electrical Technician

Location: OTP Service Areas

Description:

At Otter Tail Power, our employees help us to serve the communities we support by producing reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible electricity. In this role, the Supervisor, Electrical Technician will lead Electrical Technicians in order to complete Asset Management projects and maintain existing assets. By leading our employees well, the Supervisor, Electrical Technician will not only help to develop their careers but also ensure an excellent project execution.

Some examples of those activities will include:

- Lead team of Electrical Techs to complete projects, maintain existing assets, ensure NERC compliance testing, and power restoration
- Lead in repairing and maintaining equipment.
- Train and develop Apprentice employees into Journeyman Technicians.
- Ensure and foster safety behaviors and culture
- Develop and meet labor, materials and time budgets

Qualifications:

We're seeking candidates with a wide range of skills who are motivated to lead while ensuring top quality work. Some examples of what we're looking for include:

- This position is people-centric, so excellent communication and leadership skills are incredibly valued and preferred as we seek the next Supervisor, Electrical Technician.
- The Supervisor, Electrical Technician can wear many hats, so proven success in managing multiple complex projects is a must.
- A two-year degree in an electrical field or military equivalent with four years of experience in the electrical career is required.
- Familiarity with Collective Bargaining Agreements will enable a candidate to work with employees effectively.

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We believe employment is a partnership and we expect excellence from our talented employees. To support our employees and help drive their career experience and goals.

- Competitive wage & benefit package.
 - o The expected base compensation for this role is \$94,000 - \$104,00 annually. Actual base compensation within the identified range will vary based on factors relevant to the position.
 - o Incentive plans
 - o Employee Stock Ownership options
 - o Retirement Savings Fund with employer match
 - o Health, disability and life insurance plan options
- Training – our employees are provided training and development opportunities each year, including education reimbursement! This includes safety – one of our 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!
- Mental health support from the experts at SupportLinc as well as competitive vacation and sick leave to ensure employees are at their best when they're working.

Selected candidates will be required to complete a pre-interview assessment. Please apply by March 3, 2025. Apply online at Otter Tail Power Company Jobs page.

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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Otter Tail County is accepting applications for current and future openings for full-time and part-time Corrections/Bailiff Officer positions.

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WHO KNEW

By Bev Johnson, WOT Master Gardener

Almost 80% of the flowers sold in the U.S. are imported, although some of them are grown in California and Pennsylvania. Those 2 states can't grow enough to meet the demand especially since that demand skyrocketed during the coronavirus pandemic.

Since the beginning of the year more than one billion cut flowers have crossed into the U.S. We got roses from Colombia, tulips from the Netherlands and carnations from Ecuador. The U.S. is the world's largest importer of cut flowers. This year Americans spent \$27 billion dollars on Valentine's Day alone - a record-breaking sum. The United States imports \$150 million dollars worth of flowers every year.

Columbia, with its perfect combination of high altitude and generous sunlight and its low production costs, is uniquely suited to growing flowers. Roses are the most popular flower they grow, but the country boasts an impressive variety of more than 1,000 types of flowers, including chrysanthemums, carnations, lilies, and orchids.

Meanwhile, American growers grapple with labor shortages, rising fertilizer costs, and soaring land costs. Importing flowers is simply cheaper than growing them at home.

The flood of Colombian flowers into the U.S. has been decades in the making. In 1991, congress passed the Andean Trade Preference act. This law eliminated tariffs on several goods from Columbia, Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru. The aim was to shift these nations away from the illicit drug trade toward legitimate industries. The impact was almost instant. In the next 2 years, rose imports from Columbia grew over 30%.

In the years since, the U.S. flower market shows no sign of slowing down and neither do South American flower

exporters. Last year nearly 1,700 cargo flights carrying 50,000 tons of flowers left Bogota before last Valentine's Day. This is the equivalent of 150 million standard bouquets.

Flowers harvested in the morning in Columbia can be on sale in Florida that afternoon. After the flower is cut it's a race against time. Immediately after harvesting, the flowers undergo a hydration process then are sent to a warehouse. There they are assembled into bouquets. To extend their lifespan, the workers treat the blooms and package them for shipment. Most of them come through Miami International Airport where they are transferred to cold storage before they are inspected by customs and Border Protection. They look for diseases or pests that may have come with the flowers. They are then transferred to refrigerated trucks that take them to flower shops all over the U.S.

After their long flight, truck ride, and a stint in the flower shop's cooler, you can take home a bit of South America to brighten up your home. To lengthen their life, be sure your car is toasty warm, or have a cooler with a jar of hot water in it to bring your babies home. Just a taste of our frigid air will shorten their life. Run a sink full of warm water and emerge the bouquet up to the bloom for a few minutes. Now, trim the stems off and put your bouquet in a vase with some of the flower extender that come with your flowers. Recut the stems every time you change the water to prolong the blooms' lives. Remember, the longer the stem the more effort it takes to keep the flower hydrated and alive. Try three short bouquets instead of one tall one. Miss Manners says that is O.K. too.

Much of the information for this article is from an article in the Washington Post, by authors Julia Ledur and Fabiola Ferrero

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BOWLING NEWS

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Ben Dischinger	265	-	720
Camron Greenley	269	-	692
Dale Boese	254	-	681
Kimo KeKaha	257	-	675
Mark Bergerud	-	-	671

Trivia Answers: 1993, Woodstock, Beer

Trivia

The movie Ground Hog Day was made in what year?
1989 1993 1996

What town in Illinois was the movie made?
Decatur Rockford Woodstock

Which item is best to clean gold jewelry?
Coffee Beer Milk

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ARE YOU DIVORCED, WIDOWED OR SEPARATED?

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Monday, March 10, 2025

BE is for anyone who has lost a partner/spouse due to death, divorce, or separation.

Sessions will be held in Fergus Falls and the cost is \$50 including class materials.

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TO SUBMIT A RECIPE YOU CAN EMAIL THEM TO: results@themidweek.com
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Roasted Pork Loin

3 cloves garlic, minced
1 tablespoon dried rosemary
salt and pepper to taste

2 pounds boneless pork loin roast
1/4 cup olive oil
1/2 cup white wine

1. Gather all ingredients. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Crush garlic with rosemary, salt, and pepper in a mortar and pestle to make a paste.
3. Pierce meat with a sharp knife in several places and press garlic paste into the openings. Rub pork loin with the remaining garlic mixture and olive oil. Set into an oven-safe pan.
4. Place pork loin into the preheated oven, turning and basting with pan liquids every 30 minutes. Cook until the pork is no longer pink in the center, 90 minutes to 2 hours. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read 145 degrees F (63 degrees C). Remove roast to a platter and keep warm.
5. Place pan onto the stove over medium-high heat and pour wine into it. Heat wine and stir to loosen browned bits from the bottom of the pan. Simmer for 3 to 5 minutes.
6. Slice pork loin and serve with pan juices.

Slow-cooked Sweet Potato Bake

50g butter, chopped
2 red onions, thinly sliced
2 tsp finely chopped thyme leaves
2 garlic cloves, crushed
pinch ground nutmeg

1kg sweet potato, peeled, very thinly sliced (see notes)
80g gruyere, finely grated
1 cup vegetable stock
1 cup grated mozzarella

1. Preheat oven to 200C or 180C fan-forced. Grease a 5 cup ovenproof baking dish.
2. Melt butter in a large frying pan over medium-high heat. Cook onion and thyme, stirring, for 5 minutes. Reduce heat to medium and cook, stirring, for 5 minutes or until softened (but not coloured). Stir through garlic and nutmeg and cook for 1 minute or until fragrant. Season.
3. Arrange sweet potato in prepared dish, in flat layers, interspersing with onion mixture and half of gruyere. Press down. Pour over vegetable stock. Cover with foil and bake for 1 hour. Remove foil, top with combined mozzarella and remaining gruyere and bake for another 15 minutes or until golden and tender.

March 02, 2025

HUMANE SOCIETY OTTER TAIL COUNTY

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