

THIS WEEK'S SHOPPING NEWS

CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL IFPA MFCP

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**New Years Eve Events**  
Open 2pm - 12am  
**MEAT RAFFLE AT 4 • BINGO AT 5**

Serving **PRIME RIB \$18** or **WALLEYE**  
4:30pm-6pm (or gone)

**8TH HOUR**  
taking the stage  
8pm-12am

**New Years Day Events**  
Open 9am - 6pm **BINGO AT 3**

Serving **PANCAKES & SAUSAGE**  
9am-11am  
(free for current members & family, \$5 for non-members)

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## OBITUARIES

### Susan Balken



Susan Balken, 76, of Fergus Falls, died Saturday, December 21, 2024 at PioneerCare in Fergus Falls.

Susan Kay Schultz was born August 25, 1948 to Donald William and Doris O. (Hauger) Schultz in Rothsay, MN. She attended school in Rothsay, graduating in 1966. In the fall of 1966, she attended New York Hairstyling in Fargo. It was her dream from second grade to be a hairstylist. She worked as a hairstylist in Fargo and Fergus Falls. She worked at Hair Productions in Fargo for two years and during her last year there,

moved to Rothsay and opened Sue's Hair Care. She worked at both salons for seven years until she became established in Rothsay.

As a single mom, the light of Sue's life was born in 1978, Christopher Own Schultz. Becoming a mother was the greatest blessing of her life.

In 1990, Sue married an amazing father to her son, Lynn Balken. It was a marriage filled with much love, many laughs, much joy, and never knowing what was going to be said or done next...Priceless! After marrying Lynn and moving to Fergus Falls, Sue worked at Glamour Beauty Salon, Hallmark for 15 years, The Market, and Olson Funeral Home.

Sue was a cancer survivor, she endured Crohn's for 35 years and took it all as what will be "It's all in God's hands."

Her pride and joy were her grandchildren. She loved going out to eat with Chris and spending time with him. She loved her flower garden in River Oaks and her container gardens at the condo. Being in her flower gardens was "Her Happy Place." If you ever visited Sue at home, you could catch her watching her favorite

movies on the Hallmark channel. Sue also loved spending time with her best friend, Pam, and all their many adventures and taking pictures.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Don and Doris Schultz; her husband, Lynn Balken, and step-son, Brian Balken.

Sue is survived by her children, Christopher (Sara) Schultz of Fargo, Kristi Larson of Hudson, WI, Lauri (Steve) Woodrich of Plymouth, MN, and Brent (Dimple) Balken of Fargo; grandchildren, Reece, Chelsea, Haley, Alex, Sadie, Andrew, Isaac, and Sophie; brother, Dale Schultz of Fargo; nephews, Darin, Dustin, and Drew. Memorials are preferred to American Red Cross, Cancer Society, and Partners in Rothsay.

Service: 1:00 p.m. Friday, December 27, 2024 at Olson Funeral and Cremation in Fergus Falls, with visitation one-hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Clergy: Reverend David Strom Interment: Hamar Cemetery, Rothsay, MN

Arrangements provided by Olson Funeral and Cremation in Fergus Falls.

Online condolences may be sent to [www.olsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.olsonfuneralhome.com)



### Duane Schultz

Age: 86  
From: Menahga, MN  
Passed Away: Fri., Dec. 20  
Services: No services to be held  
Funeral Home: Karvonen Funeral Home  
Online condolences may be sent to [www.karvonenfuneralhome.com](http://www.karvonenfuneralhome.com)

### Donald Bentley

Age: 67  
From: New York Mills, MN  
Passed Away: Wed., Dec. 18  
Celebration of Life Open House: Sun., Jan. 5, 1-4pm  
Location: Charles D. Center VFW Post #3289, New York Mills, MN  
Funeral Home: Karvonen Funeral Home  
Online condolences may be sent to [www.karvonenfuneralhome.com](http://www.karvonenfuneralhome.com)

### Brian Larson

Age: 66  
From: Menahga, MN  
Passed Away: Sun., Dec. 22  
Services will be held at a later date  
Funeral Home: Karvonen Funeral Home  
Online condolences may be sent to [www.karvonenfuneralhome.com](http://www.karvonenfuneralhome.com)



### JoAnn Tverberg

Age: 72  
From: Frazee, MN  
Passed Away: Sun., Dec. 22  
Services: No services to be held  
Funeral Home: Karvonen Funeral Home  
Online condolences may be sent to [www.karvonenfuneralhome.com](http://www.karvonenfuneralhome.com)



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# BOWLING NEWS

**Trivia** How many men signed both the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution?  
5 9 13

**High Bowling Scores for the week**

Ben Schultz	266	-	693
Blake Ricks	-	-	677
Dom Hemingsen	247	-	675
Jim Winter	245	-	670

**Trivia** What year did Eddie Velo come up with the idea of the Bobcat?  
1952 1956 1959

**Trivia** What kind of a barn was the Bobcat intended to be used for to clean?  
Chicken Turkey Hog

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**CRAFTSMAN SNOW** blower, 2003 5.5 hp, 24" electric start, works good \$150.00 call 218-205-5060

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**FOR SALE** McCormick American blended Whiskey Elvis designer decanter. In the original box, white porcelain with music box, 17 inches tall and not empty. Excellent condition. \$160 or best offer. Call (218) 671-0415

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Stalker Lake Golf Course Bar & Grill, Dalton		VFW Post 612, Fergus Falls. \$20.00	.....\$15.00
.....\$25.00	.....\$20.00		

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## JOURNEYMAN OR APPRENTICE ELECTRICAL LINE WORKER

The strength of our grid lies in the strength of our teams and our Line Workers are everyday heroes who ensure that our customers can depend on Otter Tail Power for their modern lifestyles. OTP is seeking a full-time Journeymen or Apprentice Electrical Line Worker to be temporarily located in Fergus Falls and Perham, MN.

Line Workers' days vary, and some duties will include maintaining or repairing overhead and underground electrical distribution and transmission systems and substations. They'll also frame and erect poles and attach necessary fixtures and equipment. They'll string, sag, and splice conductors (wires) and connect transformers and other equipment, trim trees, replace such equipment as broken insulators, split crossarms, cutouts, ties, faulty clamps, or braces, and perform similar replacement or repair work as necessary to clear up storm damage.

We're seeking candidates who have a diploma from an accredited line worker program and a valid, unrestricted interstate commercial driver's license. Candidates must have knowledge of electric line construction, maintenance, and repair, be able to work outdoors in any weather, be able to climb, have complete knowledge of safety rules and can get along well with others. The selected candidates will be expected to learn to use electrical instruments, to operate hydraulic equipment and to work out of an aerial basket. We also have a comprehensive apprenticeship program designed to develop great journeymen line workers. Any candidate selected will be expected to reside within 25 miles from the headquarters in Perham, MN and 25 miles from the headquarters in Fergus Falls, MN .

We believe employment is a partnership and to support our talent, we offer competitive wage and benefit package including employee stock ownership options, retirement savings fund with employer match, health insurance plan options and more.

**Apply on [www.otpc.com/careers](http://www.otpc.com/careers). In addition to the online application, please upload a current resume.**

*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.*




## Computer Science Intern

Location: Fergus Falls, MN

**Description**  
 Otter Tail Power Company is currently seeking a qualified student applicant to fill a Computer Science Intern position from January 2, 2025 to March 31, 2025.

The duties of the intern include:

1. Work with End User Support team to develop a plan to upgrade remaining Windows 10 notebooks and workstations to Windows 11.
2. Work with end users to coordinate times when their notebook or workstation can be upgraded.
3. Perform the upgrade to Windows 11 either through manual remote or physical access to the notebook or workstation.
4. Ensure Bitlocker is enabled once the upgrade to Windows 11 is complete.
5. Ensure each notebook or workstation is functioning properly after the upgrade is complete.
6. Comply with company policies, procedures and external compliance requirements in performing job accountabilities.
7. Perform other duties as may be assigned to address company business needs.

The position requires excellent customer service, organizational and written communication skills to work with end users and provide them with excellent service. Furthermore, the successful candidate will need strong oral communication skills and the ability to work together with people within the company.

**Qualifications**  
 Looking for students in the computer science curriculum with excellent customer service, oral and written communication skills. The applicant must be proficient in the use of the Microsoft Windows for notebooks and workstations. Applicant must also have a strong understanding of the Microsoft Office environment and the ability to troubleshoot issues in the moment. Some travel may be required.

**To apply, visit our employment page at [www.otpc.com](http://www.otpc.com) and submit your application and resume. We will accept applications until December 27, 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.*




## Business Specialist

Fergus Falls, Minnesota with hybrid remote work opportunities available

**Description**  
 At Otter Tail Power, our employees help us to serve the communities we support by producing reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible electricity. Everyone has an important role in accomplishing these objectives! In the Business Coordinator role, you will lead and support various processes across a variety of projects.

Some examples of those activities include:

- Updating and maintaining project-related records, costs, databases, and systems.
- Support contract management by tracking deliverables and change orders and appropriately taking action to keep the project moving.
- Lead and organize meetings to sustain project controls and ensure projects meet quality, budget, and timing expectations.
- Produce written reports and presentations regarding project progress.
- Coordinates with internal and external project stakeholders to communicate progress and potentially raise risk concerns as appropriate.

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.
- Must have demonstrated experience with typical office software such as Outlook, Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.
- This role is heavily collaborative, so someone who is team-oriented with exceptional communication and interpersonal skills is most likely to succeed and enjoy the role.
- You'll love this role if you're detail-oriented while able to see the big picture.
- Project and contract management experience utilizing tools and/or techniques in developing, managing, and implementing multiple projects and contracts concurrently.
- A bachelor's degree in business or accounting preferred but we'd be excited to hear about any relevant work experience.

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 drive their career experience and goals.

- Competitive wage & benefit package.
  - o Employee stock ownership options
  - o Retirement savings fund with employer match
  - o 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](http://www.otpc.com). We'll accept applications through December 27, 2024. Selected candidates will be required to complete a pre-interview assessment.**

*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.*




## 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.
- Experience with Project Management or Data Visualization software preferred.

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
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- 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](http://www.otpc.com). We'll accept applications through January 3, 2025.**

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## Home for the Holidays

SALE DECEMBER 15<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>

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Here's to a bright and prosperous New Year, together!

If you have a home, we can help - thank you for letting us be part of your story in 2024.

**See you in 2025!**

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*New Year*  
**Bring You**  
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*to Celebrate*

**Festive, Fun,  
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Peaceful,  
Meaningful...**

We hope 2025 is everything  
you're hoping for and more!  
Thanks for making us a part of  
your year and your celebrations.

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Each week we will be featuring recipes provided by our readers.

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### Make Baking Fun For The Entire Family



Family fun can entail many things, but producing delicious food in the kitchen is a popular way for adults and children to get together and let loose. Teaching kids how to follow a recipe and produce a finished meal imparts important lessons in everything from measuring to math to science. Cooking also shows kids that follow-through can lead to delicious results. Any recipe will do when cooking with kids. However, baking desserts may be particularly enticing to youngsters who

won't want to wait to dig into a sweet treat. Plenty of things can enhance the enjoyment factor of baking for children. Families can explore these ideas to make baking more fun.

- Accept the mess. Expecting baking to be a tidy process is setting yourself up for failure. Kids, particularly younger children, may not have the dexterity needed to keep everything neat and clean. Prepare for spills, flour trails on counters, poorly cracked eggs, and sticky situations. Keep a damp cloth nearby and go with the flow. Dress baking participants in clothes that can get soiled, or invest in matching aprons.
  - Assign age-appropriate tasks. Young kids will want to get in on the action, so figure out which tasks they can safely handle. These include measuring ingredients, mixing with a spoon, scooping batter into pans or tins, and adding chips or sprinkles to items. Adults should man electrical equipment and knives and handle tasks that involve a stove.
  - Let kids choose flavors and colors. Cater the recipe to the kids' likes and tastes. They will be more likely to participate fully if the end result features flavors they enjoy.
  - Explore the sensory experience. Enable kids to feel the different textures of the ingredients, from the coarse sugar to the silky flour. Talk about how ingredients change in texture when they are blended together and baked. Let kids watch baking soda bubble when an acid is added to it.
  - Try smaller tools. Invest in a set of kid-sized baking tools, such as spoons and spatulas, to make them easier to maneuver with small hands.
  - Encourage creativity. Let children come up with funny names for their creations, and don't cringe if they combine food colors or shapes that might not turn out so pretty. Be encouraging of the process and the results so kids want to continue baking in the future.
  - Listen to upbeat music. Music can help set the tone of the baking experience. Have children pick some of their favorite songs and let that playlist run in the background. Bounce and dance along while ingredients are being combined.
- Baking is an activity that family members of all ages can take part in. The process is more fun for children with some planning.

#### Bacon Crackers

- 1 box Club crackers (about 36 crackers)
- 1 pound bacon cut into thirds
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- Cayenne pepper
- Black pepper

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees
2. Line a baking sheet with foil and place a wire cooling rack on top.
3. Arrange crackers in an even layer on the baking rack. Top each cracker with a piece of bacon and sprinkle about a teaspoon of brown sugar evenly on top, then a pinch of cayenne pepper and black pepper.
4. Bake until sugar begins to melt and bacon is crisp, about 30-40 minutes.
5. Cool completely and allow to harden before serving.

#### Crockpot Pierogi Casserole with Kielbasa

- 3 packages cheddar pierogies
- 4 cups of chicken broth
- 1 8oz block of cream cheese
- 1 cup of shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 pound of kielbasa sliced
- Salt and pepper to taste

1. In the crockpot combine three cups of chicken broth, the frozen pierogis, sliced kielbasa, and shredded cheddar cheese.
2. Set the crockpot to cook on high for 3-4 hours or on low for 6 hours.
3. Approximately 30 minutes before the end of cooking, warm the block of cream cheese with the remaining one cup of chicken broth. This can be done in the microwave or stove top. Once warmed whisk the mixture until it achieves a smooth consistency.
4. Pour the smooth cream cheese mixture into the crockpot, stirring well to integrate. Sprinkle the remaining cup of shredded cheddar cheese over the top. Cook on low for an additional 30 minutes, allowing cheese to melt.

### FESTIVE FUDGE

(Makes approximately 25 squares)

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 3 cups semisweet or dark chocolate chips
- 14 oz. sweetened condensed milk
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter (cut into pieces)

#### OPTIONAL MIX-INS:

- chopped nuts (about 1/2 cup)
- Vanilla, almond or peppermint extract (about 1 teaspoon)
- dried coconut shreds
- mini marshmallows
- sea salt
- chopped dried fruit
- sprinkles
- candy or candy cane pieces



#### DIRECTIONS:

Coat an 8-inch square baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Lining the pan with parchment paper will make it easier to remove the fudge from the pan once it is set.

Melt the chocolate chips, condensed milk and butter over medium-low heat in a saucepan, stirring constantly until the mixture is smooth.

Remove the fudge mixture from heat and stir in any desired mix-ins.

Pour the fudge into the prepared pan and spread it evenly with a spatula.

Refrigerate until the fudge is set (about 2 to 3 hours).

Cut into squares and enjoy, or store in an airtight container for up to two weeks. You can also store fudge in the freezer for up to two months.



**BOWLING NEWS**  
**Trivia Answers**  
 5  
 1956  
 Turkey

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 Also, please don't forget to clean around your Midweek box.  
 You don't want to miss an issue of the paper.  
**Thank You!**  
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 Early Deadline Monday, December 30 due to New Year's

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address Must Accompany Ad. (For office use only)

PRINT AD BELOW: One word per line. Please use punctuation. First two words will be in bold capital letters. Include your address or phone number in ad. Deadline: Wed. at noon (Subject to change due to holidays.) WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ERRORS MADE DUE TO ILLEGIBLE COPY OR IMPROPER PUNCTUATION. The Midweek will not allow credit or extension of ad unless the error is reported the first business day after the publication date. Ad will not run until payment is received. Once your ad has been placed on our web site no refunds will be given.


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- MOTORCYCLES
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\$11.20	\$11.40	\$11.60	\$11.80	\$12.00	

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