

OPINION



Lisa's Lines

by Lisa Ingebrand

Are we there yet?

Maybe they'll remember the geysers and the hot springs.

Maybe they'll remember hiking the Tetons and exploring the Badlands.

Of course, they will remember the bison pooping right outside Ellen's side of the car (nothing is more hilarious than poop to 6 and 9 year olds).

And, Anna's unfortunate puking episode 10 minutes into our 19-hour drive home will live in infamy.

Family road trips are so fun.

My family of four headed west for a week. We toured four national parks--the Badlands, Yellowstone, the Grand Tetons, and Theodore Roosevelt Parks.

We hiked many miles and made many, many memories.

There were some scuffles in the back seat.

Big sister likes to spread things out and get comfortable with her blanket, pillow, dolls, coloring books, snacks, etc., which all tend to invade little sister's space and cause ruckus.

But, little sister isn't innocent. She's a button pusher. She likes to hoard snacks, crayons, and technical devices, much to her sister's displeasure.

It wasn't totally peaceful in the front seats either.

John drives. I offer to drive. He declines my offer. I stay up to help him watch for shining animal eyeballs at nighttime, but when I do see a pair of glowing, beady eyes, words tend to fail me and I scream/mumble/jump/brace myself for death... He doesn't like that.

Road tripping is an intimate experience. Even though I like to think that John and I know our kids and each other pretty well, you always learn more about your family members when trapped in a car with them.

My family now realizes my need for caffeine in the morning and John's need for a clean 4 ft. x 4 ft. area around him (even if the rest of the vehicle is a pig sty).

We learned that a certain someone has very stinky feet, and someone else will talk, hum or sing CONSTANTLY if given the chance. (Thankfully, the girls watched movies during long hauls.)

John learned about girls' desire to shop.

Each child was allowed to pick one souvenir. Ellen picked a stuffed animal, a wolf, that she named Faithful. Anna, my 9-year-old-going-on-16-year-old, picked a pretty ring. (Just for the record: Ellen schmoozed Daddy on last day and got him to buy her a stuffed

baby wolf to go with Mama Faithful Wolf, and Anna picked out a pack of huckleberry licorice to share with her class as compensation.)

We did not camp. We stayed in hotels. In Yellowstone, we spent two nights in Grant Village and two nights in Canyon. It was nice to return to a warm room and soft beds every night. While we did miss out on roasting marshmallows over a campfire, we managed to enjoy the fine dining experiences offered throughout the park in the evenings. All other meals came straight from the cooler or granola bar box.

Ellen was impressed by Old Faithful, but did not like elk giving her the "stink eye" while we hiked, and questioned why the presidents' heads at Mount Rushmore don't have ears.

Anna was not impressed by Mount Rushmore, but she did enjoy watching the mud volcanos in Yellowstone and taking the less traveled, off-the-boardwalk trails.

Both girls earned Junior Park Ranger badges by completing special workbooks, passing a mini exam, and taking the Junior Park Ranger oath.

We spent most of our time outdoors exploring famous sites and hiking established trails, but our favorite stop in Yellowstone isn't on the park's map.

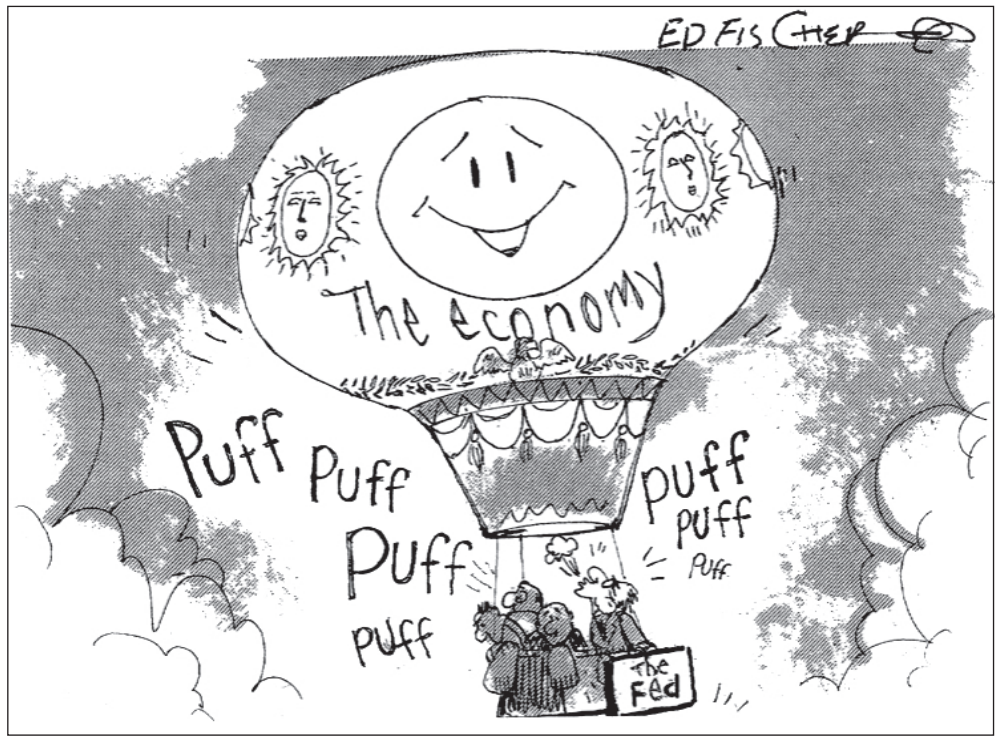
Just north of Mammoth Springs, there's a little known swimming hole in what's called the Boiling River. I happened to come across a mention of it before our trip and John used his GPS to find it. It's where boiling hot water from a nearby hot spring pours into a cold, cold river. After you get past the burning/freezing section, the water mixes to a very nice hot-tub temperature. John carried Anna and I piggybacked Ellen through the difficult section. It was all very exciting--and memorable--and beautiful. Warning: Once you're in, you won't want to get out.

We woke up at 5 a.m. on our last morning in the park and took our time watching the animals in Lamar Valley and traveling through the impressive Beartooth Pass. Our return trip took us through Montana and North Dakota. Twenty-one hours later, we arrived home.

Surprisingly, we only had one emergency side-of-the-road potty stop.

I'm truly impressed by my family. We survived the many miles, and we're still smiling.

We might actually be a road-tripping family... Might.



Letter to the Editor

Letter to the Editor:

For the public to make an informed decision on the school referendum, I believe they need topical clarification:

1: First and foremost - the Waterville-Elysian-Morristown school district is NOT closing the doors if this referendum fails. Those using these kinds of scare tactics are childish and it is unforgivable if you are a school board member, teacher, or school administrator.

2: We have had so many surveys that cost thousands of dollars and the results are mirrored images. We spent over \$12,000 on this one. 3800 surveys were sent out, 640 were returned, so approximately 360 returned surveys agreed something should be done using the 4 possible selections in that survey. That is a very small sampling of the district and I am sure those results were scattered across the varied proposals. This does not support a \$19.3 million referendum. Why were written comments withheld from the school board members?

3: Why are taxpayer dollars (\$20,000) being used to hire an expensive PR marketing group. The glossy fold out brochure and website are essentially redundant and certainly not worth the cost. I have to draw the conclusion that the proposed referendum is not constructed correctly to stand on its own.

4: Why spend \$2.2 million on a 6400 sq. foot addition when we have the Elysian school (30,000+ square footage) that we own and maintain? Surely a plan could be devised to use it effectively and save millions of dollars.

5: Farmers need to be aware that the 40% AG tax credit is not guaranteed for the life of the 20 year bond and that it only applies to the tax increase. Other taxation issues: the public needs to be aware of the 2019 tax assessments for all LeSueur county residents covering the cost of the new Justice Center in LeCenter, MN. 2019 tax assessments will be available No-

vember 10th, 2018. Isn't that convenient?

6: The 10 year Enrollment forecast predicts a significant decline from current numbers, down an additional 100+ students.

7: Why are we not investigating Modular classroom alternatives? Many area schools have used it successfully. Could be a cost effective alternative and possibly answer many issues are school district is facing.

I, like so many in the district want to do what is right for our school and have it provide leading edge technology and education. I don't believe this is a well thought out proposal and with 4 seats open on the school board perhaps new board members with new ideas will generate the right solution.

Marge Stangler
Waterville

Support our Students

We moved here 40+ years ago not knowing how much we would love this community. It has most everything: The Lakes, Arts close-by, Entertainment and Food close-by, and most importantly the greatest education system around. We've raised four daughters and 25 foster kids, no longer do we have students in our system. But one thing is clear, the health of our community depends on our school system. A good school system not only includes basic education in our curriculum, but Fine Arts, Industrial Tech, Agriculture, FACS, Language, etc. For this to be successful, our students need a place for this hard work to be done. Our student's education is best done here; by our great administration and teachers, in an environment where they can successfully accomplish what needs to be done. Without strong schools, the success of businesses and the community we have built will be lost. We whole-heartedly support this building/remodeling referendum - a necessity for our students - at a reasonable cost for us.

Bill & Karen Olson
Waterville

WEM School Menu

Breakfast and Lunch

Monday, October 22: French Toast Stix, Chilled Fruit, Milk. Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy/Butter, Peas, Spiced Apple Ring, Chilled Peaches, Dinner Roll, Milk.

Tuesday, October 23: Yogurt Bowls, Fruit Granola, Juice, Milk. Beef Nachos,

Chips, Cheese Sauce, Carrot Stix, Steamed Broccoli, Chilled Peas, Milk.

Wednesday, October 24: Cereal Choice, Juice, Chilled Fruit, Milk. Pizza, (Cheese or Sausage), Corn, Pineapple/Orange, Brownies, Milk.

Thursday, October 25: French Toast Bites, Chilled Fruit, Juice, Milk. Chicken

Fajitas, Onions & Peppers or Corn dogs, Lettuce, Corn, Chilled Fruit, Milk.

Friday, October 26: Egg/Sausage Biscuit, Fruit, Milk. Hotdog/Bun or Polish Sausage/Bun, Baked Beans, Dill Spears, Juice Treat, Fruit, Milk.

Senior Dining Menu

Call 625-8970 for Reservations or Cancellations by Noon the Day Before

Monday, October 29: Sloppy Joe, Bun, Potato Salad, Corn, Cookie, Milk.

Tuesday, October 30: Brat, Bun, Sauerkraut,

Ketchup/Mustard, Mashed Potatoes, Slice of Pie, Milk.

Wednesday, October 31: BBQ Chicken, Baked Potato, Sour Cream, Beets, Bread/Margarine, Apple Brown Betty, Milk.

Thursday, November 1:

Spaghetti and Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Peaches, Milk.

Friday, November 2: Country Steak/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Cauliflower, Dinner Roll/Margarine, Fruit Cobbler, Milk.

Malecha graduates from SMSU

A total of 531 degrees were awarded to students following the spring and summer sessions of courses at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall.

Jade Malecha of Waterville graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Hospitality Management.

Waterville Police Report

Monday, Oct. 15: Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Harassment / Threats, Informational, School Patrol.

Tuesday, Oct. 16: Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Security Check, School Patrol, Medical.

Wednesday, Oct. 17: Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Security Check, Security Check, Funeral Escort, School Patrol.

Thursday, Oct. 18: Security Check, Compliance

Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Traffic Stop, Traffic Stop, Background Check, Driving Complaint, Found Property, Security Check, Security Check, Traffic Stop.

Friday, Oct. 19: Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Medical, Security Check, Traffic Stop, Background Check, Traffic Stop, Traffic Stop, Traffic Stop, Driving Complaint, Suspicious Activity / Person / Vehicle, Harassment / Threats, Theft (\$80 Gas

Drive Off From Casey's).

Saturday, Oct. 20: Dispute, Security Check, Suspicious Activity / Person / Vehicle, Compliance Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Security Check, Funeral Escort, Traffic Stop, Area Business and Residential Check, Security Check, Traffic Stop.

Sunday, Oct. 21: Agency Assist, Suspicious Activity / Person / Vehicle, Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Informational, Security Check, Security Check.

Those Were The Days

125 YEARS AGO October 27, 1893

Charley Gray has purchased a Ferris wheel, which will be in operation next month sometime. They are becoming very popular throughout the country.

100 YEARS AGO October 25, 1918

Most of the surrounding towns have ordered churches, schools and other places of public gatherings to be closed until further notice, hoping to check the spread of influenza.

A new barn is being erected on the Robert Roemhildt farm to replace the building destroyed by lightning. The basement foundation was built by Robt. Zellmer in one day with the use of a cement mixer and the carpenter work will be done by Julius Preuss. The building will be 30x52 feet to be completed this fall.

Mr. Voter, do not make any mistake on election day. Search out the 100 percent loyal men on the ticket and make sure of their election. Don't vote for a man who has been wrong, is part wrong, or one to whom the finger of slightest suspicion has been pointed. Defeat them at the polls with the same uncompromising spirit that the boys over there are going after them.

75 YEARS AGO October 22, 1943

--APPLES, \$1.50 and up per bushel. The Haralson apple is now ready. Andrews Nursery, Faribault --

Miss Selma Berndt has taken the position of night operator at the Elysian telephone office, and Miss Au-

drey Cram relief operator.

The peacetime daily butter allowance of two ounces per soldier has been reduced to approximately 1.12 ounces per man, the War Department has reported. This includes butter used as a spread and in cooking.

Automobile license plates for 1944 went on sale in Minnesota. The new plates are made of steel, with white figures on a dark blue background, but instead of getting two license plates as in former years, this year motorists will get only one. The single plate was adopted as a war time measure. The one is to be displayed at the rear of the car.

50 YEARS AGO October 24, 1968

"The Odd Couple" featuring Jack Lemmon & Walter Matthau can be seen at the State Theatre in Waseca.

Everyone is invited to attend the Le Sueur County "After 60 Hobby Show" at the Elysian Public School on Thursday, October 24. People of all ages will enjoy seeing exhibits, shopping at the Bazaar and watching the entertaining program. Program begins at 1:30 with Master of Ceremonies, Jack Luther, Waterville, County Commissioner; Piano Selections, Mrs. Rezac; Vocal Solo, Judie LaFrance; Harmonica Selections, Mrs. Salze; Reading, Miss Waterville Judy Rayle; Clarinet Solo, Debbie Nusbaum; Slides of the Elysian Museum, Edna Pfalzgraff; Communtiy Sing led by Judie LaFrance and Mrs. Rezac; Coronation Ceremony, Margaret Goltz, President of the Extension Home Council assisted by Miss Waterville 1968. There will a coronation of oldest man and oldest woman present. The Elysian Museum will be open for an hour for the convenience of those attending the Hobby Show.

25 YEARS AGO October 21, 1993

Marge Pribyl of Elysian was honored by Modern Woodmen of America for her many years of dedicated service to the community, both in teaching kindergarten in the Waterville-Elysian school system for 30 years and for her other activities after her retirement.



Fun For Hallowe'en

Table needs
House Trimmings
Lanterns—Masks
Noise Makers.

See our Windows.

Luther's Stores

In 1943, Luther's Stores were offering these spooky fun decorations and toys for Halloween. This ad appeared in the Oct. 27, 1943, edition of The Waterville Advance.