

OPINION



Lisa's Lines

by Lisa Ingebrand

It's the eve of my daughter's eleventh birthday.

I'm waiting for her to fall asleep, but the girl is a bookworm and is deep into a classic novel.

I could have gone to sleep hours ago.

But, tomorrow is her birthday.

When I was a young, new parent I decided to fill my baby girl's room with balloons on her first birthday. It was adorable. She loved waking up to a floor covered in pink balloons.

Then, I did it on her second birthday... and her third.

By then, her sister, Ellen, was born, and well... She needed balloons in her bedroom on her birthday, too.

So, it continued, and the girls started speculating who or what fills all those balloons on their birthdays.

Not wanting to ruin the magic, the legend of the Birthday Fairy was born. (She and the Tooth Fairy are best friends.)

On the nights before their birthdays, our girls still whisper to each other about the Birthday Fairy... wondering if she will come again.

There's hope, but now, there's also doubt. They're growing up and the magic of childhood is fading. It breaks my heart a little.

But, their desire to hold on to that magic makes me happy.

I don't think it's about the balloons so much anymore... It's more about feeling special on their very own special day. But, the balloons make it fun and memorable.

They love plowing through the piles of balloons and making them fly and then showing them off to family members and friends who visit to wish them a happy birthday.

We allow the balloons to hang around the house for about a week, then it's popping time! Only the cats don't enjoy the noisy fun.

The balloons have become a tradition I never intended.

And now, here I sit, waiting for my preteen to fall asleep so I can start blowing up 100 balloons (with my husband's help) and sneak them into her bedroom. I find myself contemplating just going to bed and ending this "tradition."

Would she care?

Maybe the birthday fairy only visits those aged 10 and under?

How long are my husband and I going to keep this up?

Will we be sneaking into her dorm room some day? Ha. That's not going to happen (because my husband won't allow me to be that crazy).

Honestly, it will be difficult for me to give it up. Just thinking about my girls waking up to an empty room on their birthday gives me a sad, sinking feeling inside.

So, I will stay up tonight. John and I will blow up dozens of balloons and haul them up to Anna's room... tiptoeing all the way.

Someday, our girls will know it was us.

The magic of it all will be gone.

I only hope they'll know it was truly love—not magic—that kept their parents up late, blowing up balloons just to make sure they would wake up smiling on their birthdays.

But, let's not rush the process.

***MORNING UPDATE:** John tripped on a toy while throwing balloons into Anna's room. She woke up and discovered the true identity of the Birthday Fairy, shouting, "Dad! It's you!"

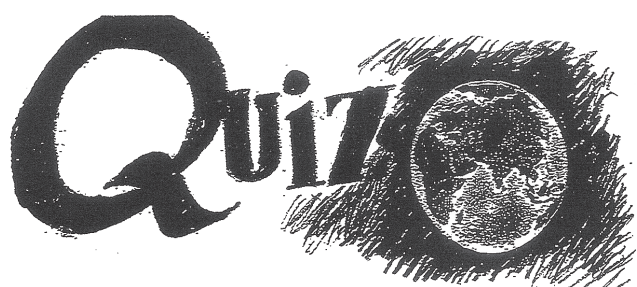
John felt horrible about waking her up, but after I crawled into bed with our 11 year old and explained things to her, she is thrilled to be "in the know" and is excited to help us fill her sister's bedroom with balloons in the future. She also informed us that she still wants balloons in her bedroom on her birthdays.

The best part? After kissing her goodnight and rolling out of her bed, she turned to me and said, "Thank you, Mom."

In the morning, Anna woke up and announced the Birthday Fairy visited her and allowed her sister to run into her room and play in the balloon pile with her.

She even asked Ellen, "If you could pick, what color of balloons would you wish for on your birthday?"

The magic of childhood continues in our house... at least for a few more years.



The world doesn't have enough...

Love

food

health... etc.

What is it the world has too much of?

Answer



PAIG

EDFIS

Those Were The Days

125 Years Ago July 12, 1895

Harvey Edwards has an elegant new ice cream freezer in his store in Waterville. When you are in there now and order ice cream, they don't dish it right out to you, but you sit down and wait while they freeze it for you, and you wait only about a minute, for the freezer is very rapid in its work, and the ice cream served fresh.

There were 400 teams by actual count that went out to the races at the Andrew's track on the Fourth.

The masons are laying the foundation for the new brick school house in Elysian.

The Case Samaritan at Waterville caught fire twice during Saturday last and was badly damaged. During the fire, Dr. Case sustained a bad fracture of the hip.

100 Years Ago July 16, 1920

W.E. Stewart, the brick manufacturer of Mankato, is completing a large cottage on the lakeshore west of Elysian. A.L. Price, the Janesville hardware merchant, will also build a new cottage there on the land they bought of Richard Clarke.

Mr. D. Corcoran celebrated his 23rd anniversary of business life in Waterville on July 5. He came here an entire stranger with limited means and started in a small way. The past year he has been rebuilding and now has a fine two story new 44x100 and two one stories with 44 feet frontage.

75 Years Ago July 18, 1945

There were 103 eighth grade graduates of the Le Sueur County rural schools. The valedictorian of this large class was Marlow Stangler of Dist. 58; the salutatorian was Elden Schwartz of Dist. 77.

The Waterville Sportsman's Club is sponsoring a dance at Brady's Pavilion on July 23. Music for the dance will be by Hiller Teff's "Shades of Blue" orchestra. The dance is for the benefit of the local Boy Scout troop which the club sponsors. Proceeds of the dance are to be used for the building of a club house for the Scouts on a lot near one of the lakes.

50 Years Ago July 16, 1970

Grand opening of the Waterville House Restaurant in

Waterville is set for Sunday, July 19. Owners of the new business are Mrs. Delores Frechette and Wrey Frechette. Jean Johnson and Vi Ferch are the waitresses.

Earl P. Wetzel of rural Waterville has announced that he has filed for county commissioner for this district. Clarence "Babe" Miller of rural Kilkenny has also filed for county commissioner of this district. The incumbent, John E. Luther, has not filed for re-election.

25 Years Ago July 13, 1995

Angela Hagerty, RN, has been named the Assistant Director of Nurses at Waterville Good Samaritan Center.

Modern Woodmen of America District Manager Royal Myers was able to donate a check for more than \$5,000 to Greg and Bonnie Harriman to help with the expenses incurred by their son Jim at the U of M Hospital. Jim was diagnosed with nephrotic syndrome, which affects the kidneys. A matching funds pancake breakfast was held for Jim at Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

Winners of Elysian July 4th Lighting Contest

Commercial:

1. Scoops – 105 ½ Main Street East – \$50.00
2. Rusty Flamingo – 205 Fifth SW – \$25.00
3. MaMa's Mercantile/Ellie Gails – 410 State Hwy #60 – \$10.00

Residential:

1. Sally Weber – 105 Second Street NE – \$50.00
2. Peggy & Mark Hecht – 106 Third Street NE – \$25.00

Waterville Liquor Store

GEO WENDELSCHAFFER, Prop.

OFF AND ON SALE

FINE WINES & LIQUORS

FLECK'S BEER ON TAP

You are Always Welcome at Our Store

This advertisement appeared in the July 18, 1945, edition of The Waterville Advance.

Waterville Police Report

Monday, July 6: Security Check, Directed Patrol, Assist, Directed Patrol, Possible Theft From Mailbox, 911.

Tuesday, July 7: Juvenile Problem, Security Check, Directed Patrol, Harassment/Threats, Harassment/Threats, Verbal Domestic - No Charges, Alarm, Administrative Detail, Suspicious Activity/Person/Vehicle.

Wednesday, July 8: Security Check, Medical, Parking Complaint, Directed Patrol, Directed Patrol, Alarm, Directed Patrol, Fraud, Traffic Stop, Medical, Directed Patrol, Security Check, Informational, Driving Complaint.

Thursday, July 9: Alarm, Directed Patrol, Fraud, Traffic Stop, Medical, Directed Patrol, Security Check, Informational, Driving Complaint.

Friday, July 10: Traffic Stop, Suspicious Activity/Person/Vehicle, Directed Patrol, Traffic Stop, Traffic Stop, Security Check, Directed Patrol, Informational, Animal Complaint, Harassment/Threats.

Saturday, July 11: Compliance Check, Compliance Check, Dispute, Intoxicated Person, Suspicious Activity/Person/Vehicle, Directed Patrol, Traffic Stop, Security Check, Traffic Stop, Directed Patrol, Fireworks Complaint.

Sunday, July 12: Compliance Check, Compliance Check, Directed Patrol, Animal Complaint, Administrative Detail, Domestic - Incident Took Place in County - Assigned in Error, Security Check, Alarm, Directed Patrol, Informational, Traffic Stop, Informational, Driving Complaint.

MN South Lake Region

LifeEnterprise

- Established in 1883 -
Published weekly by Suel Printing Co., Inc.
at 115 S. 3rd Street, Waterville, MN 56096

SINGLE COPY PRICE: \$1.25

Official newspaper of the City of Waterville,
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown School District
#2143, City of Elysian, City of Morristown, City of
Kilkenny, and Le Sueur County second publication

CONTACT INFO
Phone: (507) 362-4495 • Fax: (507) 362-4458
lrlife@frontiernet.net • lrnews@frontiernet.net
lrlifeoffice@frontiernet.net • mnsouthnews.com

Managing Editor: **Jay M. Schneider**
Staff: **Deb Atherton & Lisa Ingebrand**

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
\$44 per year in Le Sueur, Waseca,
Rice and Blue Earth Counties
\$51 per year in Minnesota & Snowbirds
\$59 per year outside Minnesota

Postal regulations require that all subscriptions be paid in advance. Pre-paid subscriptions are transferable, but NOT refundable.

AD RATES
Display Advertising.....\$10.00 per column inch
Classified Display.....\$10.50 per column inch
Word Classified.....\$12.00 first week
\$7.00 each additional week
Garage Sale / Thanks.....\$10.00 per column inch

POSTAL INFORMATION
Periodicals postage paid at
Waterville, MN 56096
USPS 007-200

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:
LifeEnterprise
115 S. 3rd Street
Waterville, MN 56096

Member of the Minnesota Newspaper Association.

Material in the LifeEnterprise is copyrighted under United States copyright laws and can only be reprinted with permission.

Senior Dining Menu

PLEASE NOTE - The kitchen at The Village in Waterville will be delivering meals every day. The congregate part of the meal program is not available until further notice, but pick-up/delivery continues.

Monday, July 20: Sausage Gravy, Biscuit, Peas & Pearl Onions, Cinnamon Apples, Cookie, Milk.

Tuesday, July 21: Swedish Meatballs, Mashed Potato, California Blend Vegetables, Dinner w/Butter, Choice

Blueberry Dessert, Milk.

Wednesday, July 22: Baked Fish w/Tartar Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Corn Muffin, Dessert, Milk.

Thursday, July 23: Beef Tips/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Dinner Roll/Butter, Dessert, Milk.

Friday, July 24: Tuna Pasta Salad, Sliced Cucumbers, Banana, Desserts, Milk.

For home delivered meals, call 507-362-8599 (leave message) before noon for the

next day's meal.

Full cost of meals is \$7.40. A donation of \$4.50 to \$7.40 will help us to meet our cost to serve quality meals.

Older Adults (age 60+) and their spouse have a right to a meal based on their ability to donate. Food Stamps (SNAP Vouchers) accepted. For guests under 60 years of age, the charge is \$7.40. Children under 12 years of age pay \$3.70 and receive ½ portions.

Meals provided by Lutheran Social Services.

THE BOOK CORNER

Need a summer get-away? These titles will take you there:
 "Summer at Lake Haven" by RaeAnne Thayne, adult fiction, Idaho.
 "Summer in Eclipse Bay" by Jayne Ann Krentz, adult fiction, Oregon.
 "Summer at Fairacre" by Miss Read, adult pastoral fiction, England.
 "Summer in Tuscany" by Elizabeth Adler, adult domestic fiction, Italy.
 "Summer at Firefly Beach" by Jenny Hale, adult romance fiction.
 "Summer in February," a Tribeca Film, adult DVD fiction, pre-war England.
 "Summer at Willow Lake" by Susan Wiggs, the Lakeshore Chronicles, adult fiction in the Catskills.
 "Summer Days and Summer Nights" by Stephanie Perkins, young adult romance fiction.
 "Summer at The Garden Café" by Felicity Hayes-McCoy, domestic adult fiction, Ireland.
 "Secret of The Summer School Zombies" by Scott Nickel, junior graphic novel.
 "Summer at Little Beach Street Bakery" by Jenny Colgan, with recipes, large print adult romance, England.
 These items and many more are available through the Traverse des Sioux Library System at tds-mt.iii.com and can be picked up at the Waterville Public Library.
 "One benefit of summer is that we have more light to read by." ~ Jeanette Walls