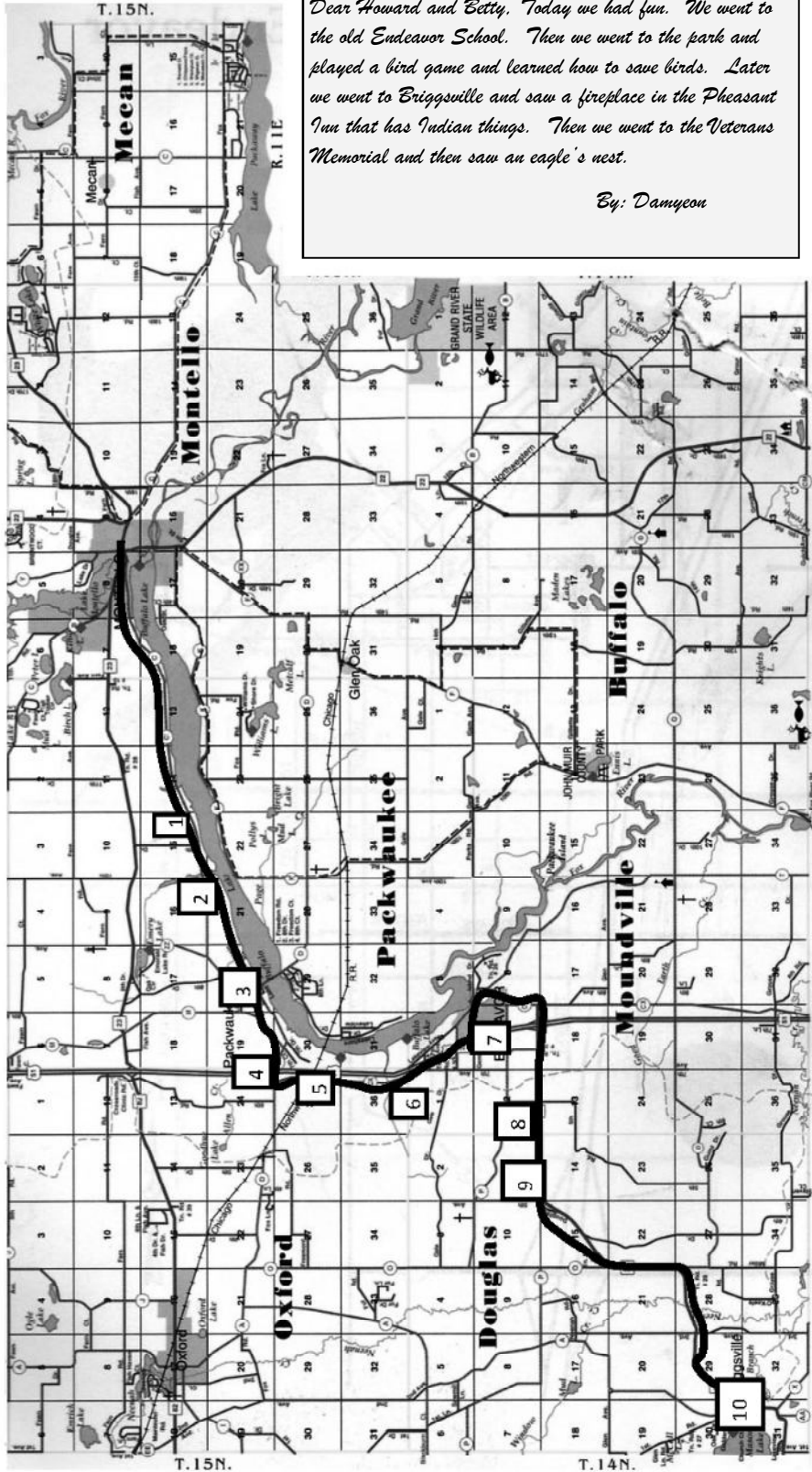


Endeavor and Briggsville

Road Trip Four

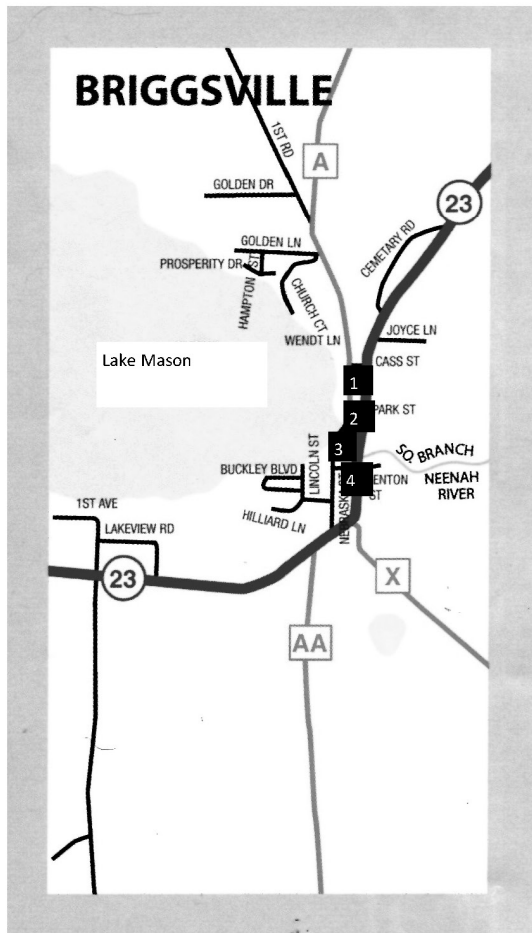


Dear Howard and Betty, Today we had fun. We went to the old Endeavor School. Then we went to the park and played a bird game and learned how to save birds. Later we went to Briggsville and saw a fireplace in the Pheasant Inn that has Indian things. Then we went to the Veterans Memorial and then saw an eagle's nest.

By: Damyeon

Trip guide

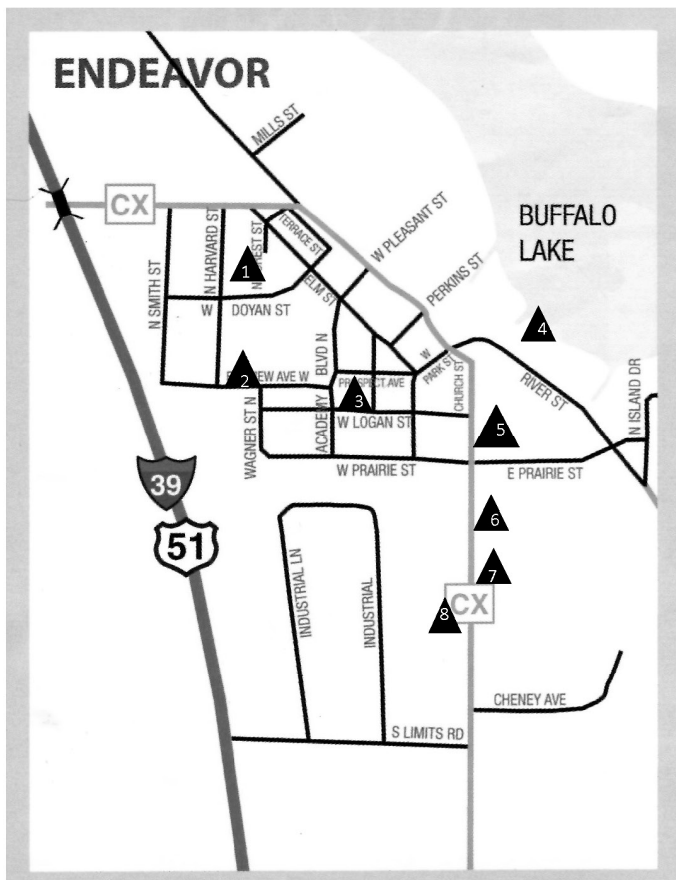
- We will be travelling along the historic Fox River which gets wider to form Buffalo Lake. Endeavor, Packwaukee and Montello are connected by the Fox River. Which way does the Fox River flow...north or south? Keep your eyes open for birds. This is migration time and thousands of birds travel through Marquette County and many stay for the summer.
1. The County Boat landing has a new nature trail and will soon have a kiosk (sign) up that tells about the Indians who lived for thousands of years along the Fox River as well as the train that used to travel along the river between Montello and Packwaukee. See the boat landing?
 2. This area around Ox Creek was a place that Ho-Chunk and other Indians used to hunt and fish. They harvested wild rice from along the shores of Buffalo Lake. celebrated their first 4th of July in their new country.
 3. Packwaukee was an Indian village for probably thousands of years and, we believe, had a fur trading post. It also is the first settlement in Marquette County and where John Muir and his family were.
 4. You are crossing over I 39/51, an interstate highway that travels from New Orleans all the way to the top of Wisconsin.
 5. Now you are crossing under the Union Pacific railroad. When it was built in 1911/12, it was called the Chicago and Northwestern. This line is over 100 years old now.
 6. Watch to the west...do you know which way west is?.....and you might see mint roots being planted in the big fields of black earth. Mint is grown and harvested in Marquette County and there are big buildings here that have mint "cookers." They are used to boil the mint oil from the plant. Later in the summer you can smell the mint being cooked.
 7. See the next page for sites in Endeavor
 8. Silent Night Christmas Trees on the north side of Highway 23 has had two of their Christmas trees chosen to be in the Governor's Mansion in Wisconsin.
 9. Now watch for TWO barn quilt murals, the first one on the south side and then one on the north. The one on the south is on the McTier farm and the one on the north on the Brancel farm. Ben Brancel who was raised there and still lives in Marquette County is the Wisconsin State Secretary of Agriculture, a very important job.
 10. We're in Briggsville, another important community in Marquette County.



Waldo's Store and Flouring Mill—1858

1. Briggsville Cemetery. We will see J. A. Briggs' grave here, the man whose father founded Briggsville as well as Owen Gromme's grave, the great wildlife artist. (And Kathleen's great great grandfather)
2. Kimball store building, a very historic building.
3. The Pheasant Inn is located on the site of the first log cabin built here and the site of a trading post way back in 1850. In 1938 you could buy a pheasant dinner here for \$1.50! It is still a wonderful place to visit and to eat lunch or dinner.
4. Briggsville also has a Veterans Memorial. The people here sell bricks to raise money for the memorial. Families buy a brick with the name of a Veteran on it.
5. The first dam on Neenah Creek was built by A. E. Briggs and Amplus Chamberlain. The dam was built in 1850 and the sawmill finished in 1852. Lumber went down Neenah Creek to the Fox River and then up the Fox to Portage and Fort Winnebago. The original mill is gone, but the dam remains.

Briggsville also has an elementary school, Town Hall and Fire Department like so many other Marquette County communities!!! We are all connected.



Welcome to the Village of Endeavor

1. Endeavor Christian Academy. This school was once a well-known academy that started in 1890. It closed in 1925 and this building became the Endeavor High School. This hill is made of the same BILLION year old rhyolite that Observatory Hill is made of...hardened volcanic lava. The Ho Chunk Indians have identified a turtle mound on the front of this hill.
2. Our Lady of Guadalupe migrant center and shrine. This shrine and school building were built by the Catholic Church and Marquette County farmers and volunteers to serve and educate migrant workers and their families in the 1960s and 70s. Once, hundreds of workers came from the Philippines and Mexico as well as Texas to work in the huge muck farm fields of Marquette County. They harvested lettuce, carrots, broccoli and mint. Some did not speak English. They were very important workers in the fields here and some made their homes here. Now, much of the work they did is done by machines, but immigrant workers are still very important to Wisconsin. This was built so they could more easily go to church and send their children to school.
3. Logan Hall, the first building of the Endeavor Christian Academy, is now a private home. It was part of the school and a dormitory for women students.
4. Merritt's Landing...Endeavor's first name was Merritt's Landing named after one of the first settlers, Cornelius Merritt, who operated a landing on the Fox River where boats would stop to drop off and load up goods.
5. Viet Nam Veterans Memorial...This helicopter and tank were obtained by local veterans and the Viet Nam Veterans of America Chapter 659 to honor men and women who served in that war. It is a UH-1 Huey helicopter and M60A3 tank. The helicopter was used in Viet Nam and transported wounded soldiers to hospital tents.
6. Library and Village Hall..Endeavor is very proud of its new library and Village Hall. It is called the Ada Mills Donner and Melvin R. Donner Civic Center because Mrs. Donner made a large donation so that this could be built. The library offers some great activities all year long! We have six libraries in Marquette County, aren't we lucky?
7. Endeavor Elementary School. This wonderful school belongs to the Portage School District.
8. Endeavor Fire Department...Volunteer Fire Departments are so important to people in Marquette County. We'll see another Fire Department in Briggsville. Montello also has a fire department and there are others in the county as well.