

**From:** [The Vasbys](#)  
**To:** [Bill & Shirley \(Black\) Hartley](#)  
**Subject:** Lincoln High Newsletter - 12/10/20  
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This week's topics:

1. Since graduation from HS, Where else have you lived? Where do you live now? Where was your favorite place to live?
2. Have you done the Lambeau tour? How many times.?
3. 2020 is depressing. Anyone taking a medical anti-depressant that works? What?
4. City or school library memories.
5. Memories of turning 18.
6. Neighborhood memories - then and now.
7. Driver's test - Anything happen that's memorable?
8. How many of you are aware of the "cabin filters" in our cars and trucks that filter the air inside the vehicle and need the filter to be changed at least yearly? Changed it?
9. Last time you were in the hospital - for what?
10. Whatever else, maybe a topic for next week?

and responses:

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Bob Schmidt - [2803chopper@gmail.com](mailto:2803chopper@gmail.com)

Number seven. I recall that I was actually able to get out of class in order to take the test. Was fortunate enough to pass the first time, as I already had my first date while driving a car, planned for that evening. It was from that day on, that I realize the importance of planning ahead..

Number eight . In Arizona, it is important to change the cabin filters every six months. I replaced the one in my truck, and the one in my wife's car about a month ago, and it's amazing what the change in the freshness of the air was, immediately. They were both hidden behind the glove compartment, and thank you YouTube.

Number nine. About four months ago, I was in the hospital for that exciting procedure, where you lay on your belly. Good for another five years.

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Wendy (Davis) Weiss - [wweiss@centurytel.net](mailto:wweiss@centurytel.net)

1. I lived in Oshkosh during college, moved to Fremont for a year after getting married, then to Richland Center, and back to Fremont for the last 43 years. Favorite place is Fremont with the river and our farmland. However, RC provided us with many different experiences with the hills and big snowstorms.

9. Not in hospital in August but in the Orthopedic and Sports Institute in Appleton for day surgery on my foot. Nice to have all the services without the hospital hassle.

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Kathy Gotter - [gotterkd@yahoo.com](mailto:gotterkd@yahoo.com)

1. Since graduation from HS, Where else have you lived? Where do you live now? Where was your favorite place to live?

I have lived in Stevens Point and Appleton for education after graduation. My husband was in the military so we spent our first couple of years in Neidenbach, West Germany. It was a quaint little village that we really enjoyed. Once we got home, We lived in my husband's hometown of Brillion, Wisc for 5 years and then moved to Rapids for 12 years. After that we moved to Fond du Lac for 2 years and then to the Oshkosh area. My husband worked for Mercury Marine in the engineering dept. when they decided new product engineering needed to be closer to manufacturing in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Upon retirement we moved to a lake house in Spavinaw, Oklahoma. After 27 years in Oklahoma, we ended up in Ft Myers, Florida. I loved Germany but Ft Myers is now my favorite home. Rapids will always have a special place in my heart. Especially with all my special friends who have always been there.

2. Have you done the Lambeau tour? How many times.? - Since my husband grew up less than 1/2 hour from Lambeau, we have been there many times.

7. Driver's test - Anything happen that's memorable? - I took my driver's test in one of the worst early snow storms. Passed with flying colors. Do you think he felt sorry for me? Who knows!

8. How many of you are aware of the "cabin filters" in our cars and trucks that filter the air inside the vehicle and need the filter to be changed at least yearly? Changed it? - Since my husband was a mechanic in his younger years, I was always aware of the cabin filter and do service when necessary.

9. Last time you were in the hospital - for what? - I was last in the hospital in October 2019. Spent 2 days in the ER in a hallway since there were no open ER rooms and no open hospital rooms. And this was before Corona!! Go figure. Hospitals fill up with other things besides corona. My issue was fluctuating blood pressure.

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Lenore Haferman - [lenorehaferman@yahoo.com](mailto:lenorehaferman@yahoo.com)

1. Lived in New York for the Worlds Fair, came back to Wi. for college. Lived in Fond du lac for a while, then moved to Madison, where I taught at Madison West high School, while Jim went to Law school. Jim felt we needed to be closer to his mom to help out, so we moved to Stevens Point where we still are, and we love it here.

2. Yes we did both of the Lambeau tours. The guide we had was quite old and had

been working there all those years, so he had some fun memories to tell.

3. There is no depression in our family. Some of our family did get Covid, but they did fine. We play a lot of cards and board games. This week we brought wood in to the house for winter, and we started splitting wood yesterday. We keep busy.

9. Last time in the hospital they replaced my shoulder, I also have a new knee, so I guess I am part robotic.

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Edward Hasenohrl - [ehasenoh@yahoo.com](mailto:ehasenoh@yahoo.com)

I did Lambeau tour about 10 years while in Green Bay and thought that the whole Lambeau field and stadium were very interesting and VERY nice ! All my life , I have not followed sport team or player and NOW glad , as the U.S.A. turns.

I know that my 2010 had cabin filters as the yearly service bill . I found out that my 2019 and 2020 have sensors on the air filters, because of changing to a performance air filter that are oil based. If oil gets on the sensor , the car will give alarm . The CEO of Mercedes Benz stated that the electric car will have 200 working parts and the same car today has 2000 . BMW has moved most of their motor production out of Germany to go electric. Electric cars are HERE . NOT to my liking.

Three weeks ago I had a bunion taken off my foot ,at the local Wisconsin River Surgical Center in Wisconsin Rapids , I took the local taxi at the cost of \$2.00 for a senior. Then I was going to take the local taxi back home. All my problem solved . Then found out that , because I was on medication , the Surgical Center could not release me to the taxi driver. Problem solved as my Doctor, the surgeon, gave me a ride home. Only in Wisconsin Rapids.

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Roger Fritz - [fritzcat11@yahoo.com](mailto:fritzcat11@yahoo.com)

I have lived in 16 different areas over my lifetime and have two more moves to go. (Old Folks Home and the graveyard). Spent various amounts of time, from 5 months to 19 years and in some areas had various dwellings. In Wisconsin have lived in Pittsville, Wisconsin Rapids, River Falls, Madison and Milwaukee (twice). Also lived in Olympia, WA.; La Grange, San Francisco and Pasadena, CA: Washington DC/ Northern VA area (twice): Wintersburg, AZ: Jubail, Saudi Arabia: Boston / Lakeville ,MA and now in Union Hall, Virginia. We have been in all 50

states except Hawaii and North Dakota. My favorite place was the Washington DC area. Spent the most time there, the weather was good, my favorite project (the Smithsonian Metro Station) was there and there was much to do. Would love to have \$0.02/ mile for all my travels and commutes to work.

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Terry Stake - [mrtbass7106@gmail.com](mailto:mrtbass7106@gmail.com)

I lived in Wisconsin Rapids most my life. We now live in God;s country. Lake Tomahawk Wi - its between Minocqua and Rhinelander . We have lived here for 7 years

I had a very simple driver's test. We had a major snowstorm that night . The officer said if I could drive safely around the block and park the car I would pass. Mission accomplished

I have been hospitalized twice in the last 5 years. The first a severe allergy attack. I spent 4 days in the ICU sedated and intubated. I am allergic to sunflower seed and someone put sunflower oil in a salad I ate. The second time 12 days most in the ICU with fluid on my lungs

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Rosie (Akkerman) Passer - [rjpasser@frontier.com](mailto:rjpasser@frontier.com)

1. I have lived in the Rapids area until John and I retired. We then moved to the Phelps area on a lake. Can't believe that was 20 years ago.

8. John Takes care of the cars and he says this is done when it needs to be at oil changes.

From the last couple of news letters, we did nothing for Thanksgiving and we are doing nothing for Xmas this year. We sent all the kids, grandkids, and great grandkids their presents right after the thanksgiving weekend.

On Tuesday Dec. 1st we headed for our winter place in Texas. We have rented the same place down here for the last six years now. We had good weather all the way down and arrived here last Thursday. We hope to stay here until at least April 1st and then head to Las Vegas for a week before heading home. We feel just as safe from covid down here as at home in Wis.because we are not doing anything different than at home. Again thanks for the newsletter

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## In Memoriam



Donald F. Ruffi, age 74, of Wisconsin Rapids, passed away on Saturday, December 5, 2020 surrounded by his loving wife and three daughters.

Don was born October 18, 1946 in Wisconsin Rapids to Maurice and Victoria (Szafka) Ruffi. He graduated in 1964 from Lincoln High School and went on to serve his country in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War aboard the USS Herbert J. Thomas.

He was united in marriage to Judy Huser on August 24, 1968 at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Wisconsin Rapids. They were blessed with 52 years of marriage and three daughters.

Don worked for Fisher's Dairy before entering the US Navy. When he returned to civilian life, he was employed at D-Mart Grocery Store. He later returned back to the Wisconsin Rapids area and he became part owner of Herman's Distributing and Vending. He finished his working career as Produce Manager at County Market in Wisconsin Rapids.

He was an avid outdoorsman who shared his love of hunting, fishing, and camping with his daughters and golfing with his nephews and son in-laws. Donald was passionate about his faith and family and always willing to share life lessons and a seat at the supper table. His favorite time of the year was Christmas playing Christmas songs year round. Don also was a member of the St. Lawrence Holy

Name Society, Wisconsin Rapids West Side Lions Club and VFW Post 2534.

Don is survived by his loving wife, Judy; three daughters: Regina Ruffi-Pagel (Jeff Pagel), Paula (Jim) Gidlund, and Kalina (Tim) Kline

A funeral Mass will be held at a future date at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Wisconsin Rapids. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.hermantaylorfuneralhome.com](http://www.hermantaylorfuneralhome.com).