

From: [The Vasbys](#)
To: [Bill & Shirley \(Black\) Hartley](#)
Subject: LINCOLN HIGH NEWSLETTER - 1/13/22
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This week's topics:

1. Are politics destroying our medical delivery system? How?
2. Any incidents in your life that left an imprint?
3. Body problems? Mechanical, plumbing, htng/cooling, ventilation, others?
4. What makes you nervous?
5. Use a flashlight lately? Why?
6. Got a telescope? What do you look at?
7. Break anything lately? What?
8. Favorite cookie is?
9. Ice fishing lately? Catch anything?
10. Ever use a medic alert? Why?

11. Whatever else you'd care to write about. Topic for next week?

and responses:

Bob Dent - ryedent46@gmail.com

Politics and medicine delivery.

My career of 40 years included primarily the delivery side hence some limited perspective. Possibly biased. The delivery part of medicine can be improved but the cost of medicine has caused the majority of the problem. Our capitalist economy has allowed too many layers of delivery each taking a cut leaving the total system highly expensive. THE PRICE WE PAY is a book that outlines the problem well. Our political system is simply broken and increasingly irrelevant and unable to reach consensus on making appropriate changes. It doesn't cause the problem but is unable to solve it.

My advice is to realize that whoever pays the bill, we as the people pay the cost.

Cookies - I love them all; however my sadistic physician keeps telling me that they are really bad for me. My problem is the realization that she is right.??

Roger Fritz - fritzcat11@yahoo.com

#2 More of a consequence than an imprint but, when I was two years old we lived on a poor dairy farm in Pittsville and I was headed for a lifetime of milking cows. When I was about five my step dad came along and I think his friendly, gabby, bullshitting ways imprinted on me.

#7 I take the "can't sell items" from the church yard sale donations, take them apart (often with a large hammer) and sort out the metals etc to sell to the scrap dealer. My step dad was a salesman for Frank Garber Co who had a side business buying and selling scrap metal. Guess that also imprinted on me?

Dick Trudeau LHS '64 - dickmerry77@hotmail.com

ANY INCIDENTS IN YOUR LIFE THAT LEFT AN IMPRINT? -- Over the last 2 or 3 years I've shared a number of incidents via this newsletter. There's always one more.

In 1974 I was working in Lewiston, Idaho with a co-worker named Jim. He was a crusty World War II bomber pilot who seldom minced his words. I admired Jim and he liked me. He was sort of a father figure to me. It was the middle of the Watergate scandal. We were at our desks discussing the subject when I commented "Jim, I think Nixon is going to survive this Watergate problem and turn out to be one of our better presidents". Jim responded "DICK, I TRUTHFULLY GOTTA TELL YA I DON'T SEE HOW AN INTELLIGENT YOUNG MAN LIKE YOURSELF CAN BE SO GOD-DAMN STUPID"! His words obviously left an "imprint" because I clearly remember them almost 50 years later.

I remember walking away from that discussion feeling pretty good about myself. It wasn't the first time in my life that I was accused of being less-than-brilliant, but it was the first time someone described me as an "intelligent young man". Whether or not Jim's assessment of me was accurate, doesn't matter. The lesson for me was that you can criticize someone and not hurt their feelings if you accompany it with a compliment. Over the years I've observed that more often than not, good-hearted people follow this practice.

For example, If you said to avid golfer Chuck Hinnners (LHS '65)



"Chuck, you need to work on your putting" he might be resentful. In the alternative, if you were to say "Chuck you have a beautiful golf swing, you just need to work on your putting" he'd have a smile on his face all the way to the practice green to work on his putting.

I suspect many of you apply this principle naturally. You don't even have to think about it. It's who you are. For others it's a learned thing. Some never grasp the concept.

WHAT MAKES YOU NERVOUS? -- Liberals, particularly the ones who refer to themselves as "progressives". They're friggin' scary!

USE A FLASHLIGHT LATELY? -- I have a flashlight fetish. I have about 20 of them. Several in the house, plus one in every glove compartment, backpack, hunting vest, motorcycle, camper, and ATV. The new LED flashlights are remarkable. For Christmas I bought one for each of our sons and grandsons. A flashlight is such a practical device they build one into our cell phones. Now if I could just remember how to turn it on.



FAVORITE COOKIE -- You just can't beat a chocolate chip cookie fresh out of the oven. I salivate just thinking about 'em

Toni Weller Olsen -class of '64 - tonicrafty@gmail.com

5 - I have a mini Maglite flashlight that I use often.



Watering our Christmas tree meant getting down on my hands and knees and using the flashlight to see how much water I was really pouring into the stand. On the other extreme, one of our closets has some shelves that are really high, and I aim my Maglite up there so I can see what I've hidden so far out of reach! When I worked the night shift as an LPN at a Florida hospital from 1989-1993, this same little flashlight came in handy when I answered a call light in a patient's room. I could knock and enter without flipping on the overhead light. Much calmer for the patient.

Kent Vasby - FAHS 58 - kentvasby@gmail.com

1. Are politics destroying our medical delivery system? How? - Well, the Liberals are pushing for socialized medicine (medicare to the extreme) and if it happens, you'll need auxiliary health insurance just to see a doctor in less than 6 months. Just like Canada. I've had doctors that would defer seeing me if I didn't have aux insurance for my medicare, so it's happening already.
2. Any incidents in your life that left an imprint? - I took a friend to the Air Force recruiter in Waukesha (his car wasn't working) and the recruiter said I should go to Air Force OTS (officer's training school) when I graduated from UWW. I did and retired from the Air Force/Air Guard 23 years later.

3. Body problems? Mechanical, plumbing, htng/cooling, ventilation, others? - The mechanics of my back and legs ain't working so hot any more. And plumbing? - I'll need diapers pretty soon! Ventilation is getting more difficult with COPD. Stocked up on fluvoxamine in case I should catch IT (it supposedly helps with respiration if you catch Covid). Got a shot in my eyeball Tuesday to ward off macular degeneration to help with sight.

4. What makes you nervous? - Watching the news! And going to the stores. Grocery prices up 5 to 10%. Went to hardware store this afternoon and clerk says all they're doing is changing prices all day. 8000+ items in a hardware store!

5. Use a flashlight lately? Why? - Use one every night to make my way to the john.

7. Break anything lately? What? - Dropped a lite bulb yesterday.. Smashed! Hard to find incandescents any more.