

From: [The Vasbys](#)
To: [Bill & Shirley \(Black\) Hartley](#)
Subject: LINCOLN HIGH NEWSLETTER - 2/17/22
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This week's topics:

1. What are your thoughts on all the things going on in Congress and lack of getting business done over the last many years?
2. Name one Federal Government entity in which you have confidence!
3. Does anyone have an opinion on robotic knee replacement surgery vs. non-robotic? Was there any problem with insurance coverage for the robotic method?
4. Winter storms. Get hit by any this winter? When? Where?
5. Involved in health care? When? Where? Doing what?
6. Indian reservations. Ever visit one? Where? When? Thoughts?
7. Got curved nails on toes or fingers? How do you deal with them? Cut them how?
8. How would your partner describe you?
9. What do you like to cook the most?

10. Who was your favorite teacher and why?

11. Whatever else you'd care to write about.

and responses:

Bob Schmidt - 2803chopper@gmail.com

1. History tells us that if the pendulum swings in one direction far enough, a correction will follow. Get ready for a correction. The Left has destroyed our economy, our energy independence, our Christian beliefs, our dollar's value, our military, our borders, our grand children's education, and destroyed hundreds of thousands of small businesses and careers. Democrats in droves, are announcing that they will not be running again for office and a new brand of conservatives, "Mr. Smith goes to Washington" types, are lining up for the primaries. Things aren't getting done in Washington, due to the Uber Left taking over and attempting to destroy capitalism and our way of life. The Truck Blockades are only the beginning.

Judy Kolstra McGowan ('62) - j44mcgowan@gmail.com

Here are my thoughts - if not appropriate for this, it's ok. I just couldn't let the opportunity go by without adding my comments about how much I enjoy this newsletter!

I've enjoyed comments on Vasby's newsletters for almost a year – just never responded. I'm class of '62 but remember some of your "contributors" as far back as grade school. Being a Westside kid, I'm always interested in memories shared by others from that side of town. Sandria Kegler was my best friend in kindergarten at Edison school, so I took notice when her brother added his story some months ago.

Other connections: Toni Weller's cousins lived 2 doors from me, Terry Stake was taught by my mother at Snyder School, Bill Cammack (class of '62) and I were in band together with Roger Hornig (one of my favorite teachers), etc.

Johnny's Rapids Inn: We loved the picture of Gail Vleeshouwers! John took

pictures for us at our wedding. Unfortunately his new camera wasn't working correctly so No Pics! But we had our wedding party at Johnny's on a Sunday afternoon - spent many hours/nights/years with those two!

Here's my two cents worth on past/present subjects:

Libraries: our local library welcomed us when my husband and I moved here (Fremont, WI) 17 years ago. I'm involved with both the library board and the Friends of the Library. After reading *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger during COVID, our librarian found every book he'd written, so we read them in sequence. Great pastime!

Knee Replacement: I don't know about robotic but I had both knees replaced last January and February. It was outpatient in Stevens Point and I was home by mid-afternoon, had one PT appointment, and was back to substitute teaching 3 weeks later. Not sure why I healed so well but I'll take it.

Thanks for offering this platform that keeps people connected.

Kurt Halverson (63) - kurt2541@yahoo.com

Robbery question from two weeks ago.

I lived in Milwaukee from 1964 to 1974. On a weekday night in 1969 I was bar hopping with a friend in downtown Milwaukee. We were traveling in separate vehicles. I parked my car on Wells just west of 2nd st. About 40 ft. from my car, 4 blacks approached me. One of them pulled out a semi-auto, pulled the slide to put a bullet in the chamber and proceeded to take my wallet and keys. As they marched me back to my car I decided I would rather take a chance of being shot than get in my car with them. I bolted into Wells St. and ran across the street to a corner alarm box and engaged a ringing alarm. Luckily they ran off.

The police arrived and drove around the area with me in the patrol car to no avail. The next day a store owner in the area called me and said they found my wallet in their entry. Other than a few \$ missing and replacing multiple keys; I was very grateful for the outcome.

Dick Trudeau LHS '64 - dickmerry77@hotmail.com

THOUGHTS ABOUT AN UNPRODUCTIVE CONGRESS -- Sometimes getting nothing done is for the best. If your politics are conservative you're hoping the Democrats "infrastructure" and "voting rights" bills die a painful death. Representative government has never been pretty. China has shown us how efficient an autocratic form of government can be. We can rid ourselves of the apparent chaos of democracy by eliminating the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 9th, and 10th amendments to the Constitution, the Supreme Court, the House of Representatives, and the Senate. The new government would retain the 6th amendment (the right to a speedy trial) just in case we have the nerve to speak out against it. Take your choice.

NAME ONE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENTITY IN WHICH YOU HAVE CONFIDENCE -- Confidence is a relative term. No entity is perfect, but I have confidence in the military. What other entity, public or private, calls upon its members to sacrifice their lives if called upon. That kind of commitment brings the best out of its men and women. Do you see anybody with bumper stickers or wearing baseball caps proudly proclaiming to be veterans of the EPA, OSHA, or the IRS? Those of you who have been in the military may laugh at me, but I truly regret not having served. I wonder if they could still use a 75 year old sharpshooter.

ROBOTIC VS. NON-ROBOTIC KNEE REPLACEMENT -- Seven or eight years ago I had a robotic partial knee replacement. The results are incredible. I have to look for the scar to remember which knee they worked on. I can't imagine that a non-robotic replacement could have produced better results.

FAVORITE TEACHER -- Clarence Klesmit. He was my fifth and sixth grade teacher. Somehow he commanded my respect without being a hard-nosed disciplinarian. He also played basketball with us at recess.

Karen King - yayaec@gmail.com

9) I think I like to make soup the most. Something about chopping and simmering and tasting and adjusting. Then the anticipation until it's done. And I prefer soup in a big kettle on the stove but resort to a crock pot if necessary. In truth cooking most anything is therapy for me, especially if I can share it at our table to present it to someone who either really likes it or hasn't time to cook much themselves.

10) My favorite high school teacher was Miss Ferguson—world history—I stayed

after class to discuss something with her and then asked what she thought about a current event. She answered me by saying, “It doesn’t matter what I think about this. What do YOU think about it?” And then stayed late to talk it through. She always challenged us to think. In college, my favorite professor was Leslie Polk, who taught journalism, and instead of giving a disappointing grade if work wasn’t up to what he thought the person’s standard was wrote: “Is this your best work?” That hurt more than a bad grade but motivated in the right direction.

I reconnected with Miss Ferguson several years ago. I wanted her to know she’d made an impression. We had many phone conversations and letters back and forth until she was unable to respond and then I just regularly sent cards. I filled her in on events about the reunions and the newsletter too. She died last summer at age 88.

Chuck Hiners - chuck@crgfinancialconsulting.com

11. Golf Memories

Pat McCarville slipped away in 2019. I have not been in Rapids since her death.

<https://www.ritchayfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Patricia-Pat-Ann-McCarville?>

The last time was in July of 19 before we moved to Louisville. Susan and I came to Rapids to have lunch with Heilman

He died January 31, 2020 without any notice being posted in the Tribune—but that story will be saved for later.

I started my golf career in 1958 at Tri-City. Pat’s late husband Lee was one of my early idols.

It was a crowded Saturday in 1959 when I saw this guy pound a drive out of sight on the first hole, a 343 yard par four.

At that time the hole went straight down what is now the practice fairway. Today’s hole of course in a dogleg right demanding a better placed tee shot to a narrower green. Lee’s drive was just 60 yards from the green and a good 100 yards further than I could hit my best shot at that time.

Someone said that was Lee McCarville and I never forgot that name. I’d see him

from time to time at Tri-City, but my shyness prevented me from talking to him.

I worked hard at golf and baseball. In 1960 I entered the VFW tournament at Tri-City. It was a match play tournament limited to the first 16 golfers that signed up.

The tournament was played at match play, the winner being the player who won the most holes. Each player got to use their full handicap and mine was 18 at the start of the tournament in June. The first match I played Chuck Lindgren who had played golf at Lincoln and was 18. He worked at Tri-City taking care of the course and had to give me 13 strokes given his 5 handicap. I managed to beat him on the last hole. Chuck was very gracious and supportive. I looked at the match brackets and saw that if I could win the next match against Ron Dohse, I'd get to play Lee McCarville!

Alack! Though I beat Dohse, Lee lost to Bill Ebsen who I managed to beat in the third round. In the final I played Bud Rued who was the club champion at Tri-City. Bud's handicap was 0 and he played to it. Somehow I managed to beat him in September, after Labor Day in the waning days of the golf season. Lee McCarville happened to be at Tri-City that day and congratulated me on beating Bud.

The real reason I won the tournament was that my handicap had dropped from 18 at the start of the tournament to just 9 at the end. The rules of the tournament were that your beginning handicap carried through the end of the tournament. Today all handicap events are played with current handicaps which change twice month.

The next year I played better than in 1960 and my handicap got into the mid-single digits. Lee invited me to play along with he and Bud from time to time and I was hooked on tournament golf. Nowadays I play senior golf tournaments in Kentucky and other locations around the country, taking in 12 to 15 tournaments each year.

Lee and Pat raised Brad and Denny to be excellent golfers but finer gentlemen. Pat worked at Tri-City and was a good friend of my Dad Clark who played at Tri-City until age 87. Loren Bailey, a Pearl Harbor survivor shared Clark's cart about 5 days a week. Several times my son Chas and I played with them in the annual Lee McCarville Memorial Tournament which was held at Tri-City and the front nine of Bull's Eye from 1981 until 2005, moving to The Ridges in 2006 along with Pat.

Golf and the wonderful people like the McCarvilles have burned deep ridges into channels of my brain where memories will reside until God reunites all of us.

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

2 - Federal Government agencies

My point of view is that government agencies are made up of American citizens and that they do some good things.

Most Americans seem to like their Social Security benefits, and these are administered through the Federal government.

Another example is the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), part of the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security. I wish there were no need for the TSA, but unruly passengers and people trying to take weapons on planes are part of our world today.

Thanks, Kent, for your work on this newsletter and the many different opinions it contains.

Lenore Haferman - lenorehaferman@yahoo.com

5. When I have had surgery the insurance has covered every thing, except for a few small things.

6. Have been on several Indian Reservations. It is sad to see that some have it pretty bad.

7. I just use a larger nail clipper.

8. I think Jim would say that I love to be busy, I can talk to any one, and that I try to help them if needed.