

From: [The Vasbys](#)
To: [Bill & Shirley \(Black\) Hartley](#)
Subject: LINCOLN HIGH NEWSLETTER - 3/10/22
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Responses to previous topics:

Roger Fritz - fritzcat11@yahoo.com

#8: I collect tools and junk. Our church has an annual rummage sale with the items folks drop off all year and I bring the T & J home to my shop. I sort and organize the tools, which produces lots of small boxes of screwdrivers, hammers, etc. I'm a regular hardware store with some very old and interesting tools. The junk items I also take to the shop and dismantle for their various metal parts which go to the scrapyards for recycling. I get a thrill from smashing things with a large hammer and also getting an insight as to how things work and are put together. Lots of boxes of steel, aluminum, brass and copper, plus batteries, circuit boards.

This week's topics:

The world's in a mess, causing distress!

So, let's go back to the "good old days" if we can.

Your memories of:

1. Crockpots

2. Juke boxes
3. Mercurochrome/Iodine
4. Cap pistols
5. Scrubbing boards
6. Nutcrackers
7. Batons
8. Stove top percolators
9. Drive-in movie speakers
10. Chalkboards
11. Pushbutton transmissions
12. Liver and onions
13. Whatever else you'd care to write about.

and responses:

Chuck Hiners - chuck@crgfinancialconsulting.com

Mercurochrome's generic name is merbromin which as the name and chemical formula suggest is a combination of mercury and bromine. Chemical formula $C_{20}H_8Br_2HgNa_2O_6$. Merthiolate also includes mercury, but not bromine. Chemical formula $C_9H_{10}HgNa_2O_8$. Neither are available in drug stores any longer, since the feds banned them in 1998. Iodine disinfectant is simply elemental iodine I_2

4. Cap pistols - Feds banned after Supreme Court ruled in 2010 that Chicago handgun ban was unconstitutional
5. Scrubbing boards - Feds banned after Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked over lantern in

1871, opening the door for federal legislation to skirt the constitution, and give power to armies of un-elected bureaucrats.

6. Nutcrackers - Feds banned after UW frat party got out of hand in 1969
7. Batons - Feds banned after Wisconsin drum major after Tom Hornig bonked himself on the head by not catching the baton.
8. Stove top percolators - Feds banned because of intense lobbying effort from Starbucks, Keurig, Williams-sonoma, and Cuisinart
9. Drive-in movie speakers - Feds banned as part of the clean air act, eliminating noise from drive-in theaters
10. Chalkboards - Feds banned because of chalk dust link to pneumonoultramicroscopic silicovolcanoconiosis
11. Pushbutton transmissions - P N D L R in Heilman's Edsel
12. Liver and onions - Banned in Kentucky and 33 other states beginning in 2005

Sam Sampson (LHS 58) was a guy you never forgot. He was a character born to a man of great character.

<https://www.schmidtandbartelt.com/obituaries/detail.aspx?id=12832>

He slipped away while I wasn't looking. The last time I saw Sam was in 2007 at the fiftieth anniversary Little League Golf outing at Bull's Eye. Eleven players from the 1957 teams played golf that day and told stories about baseball exploits 50 years in the rear view mirror. Bill Heilman, Bill Dachel, Bob Jenkin, Denis Solie and I from the Braves, Mike Miers and Jim Natwick of the Dodgers, Bill Metcalf, Keith Fisher, and Larry Johnson of the Cubs and Ron Brazener of the Cardinals.

Brazener made an eagle 2 on the 410 yard 9th hole at Bull's Eye as the shot of the day

When I drove into the parking lot the first person I spotted was Skip Wilson. Skip and his dad Jimmy were coach and manager of our Braves team which outlasted the Cubs in the league championship. Skip had driven down from White Bear Lake Minnesota to meet his friends Sam Sampson and Bill and Nick Brazeau for their own game. The golf fees were reportedly taken care of by an anonymous donor who was a fan of the 1957 Little League. Sam was 17 and Skip was 18 in 1957.

My theory is the Sam footed the bill for our guys. Sam and Skip joined in the fun after golf.

Sam was also a very good golfer. In 1968 he played with Skip Wilson in the Northeastern Wisconsin Golf Association best ball tournament at Riverdale Country Club in Sheboygan. Eric Sydanmaa had challenged Sam to a few side bets on the practice green after play completed on the first day of matches. Eric rolled in a putt of 52 feet to beat Sam. When Eric hit the putt Sam, bottle of beer in each hand, exclaimed as only he could:

“Jesus Christ you can’t hit a putt that hard—you must be crazyyyy...” as Eric’s ball dropped smack into the middle of the hole.

Some things you just never forget! People make memories make life. Hold’em dear

Karen King - yayaec@ymail.com

Mercurochrome/Iodine: I remember attempting to open my stubborn bedroom window and plunging my elbow through it breaking the glass. My calm and practical father said, you’re okay. Took me to the bathroom and poured warm water over the wound and then Iodine and a hand towel. Guess what. I was/am okay.

Cap pistols. We had them and loved them even if the cap guns didn’t fire, a rock would do the trick.

Scrubbing boards. I still have my grandma’s and it is still useful. There’s a scrubbing surface on one side of my old washtubs too.

Stove top percolators remain one of the best ways to make coffee I think.

Liver and onions. Hated this as a child but ate it because of the meal options: take it or leave it. Welcomed moose liver when we lived in Alaska when we were proud to have gotten one and so hungry to boot. Now, only if I must. I’d rather eat salad. The question for me has always been if you overcook the liver in bacon grease and then pile bacon and fried onions on top of it to make it palatable, is it still healthy?

Dick Trudeau LHS '64 - dickmerry77@hotmail.com

CROCKPOTS -- This topic is proof of Kent Vasby's limitless imagination, In a million years I wouldn't have considered sharing my thoughts about crockpots, but now that the subject is on the table (pun intended) it does conjure up memories of some pretty wholesome meals. Hmmm, good call, Kent. Thanks

MERCUROCHROME/IODINE -- These two medicines reveal that my mother had a sadistic side to her. When we were kids, I suspect she hoped we'd come home with cuts and scrapes so she could play doctor with her little bottle of mercurochrome. If I remember correctly, it came in a small bottle with a glass dauber and was orange/red in color. It stung like hell when applied. Mercurochrome has been outlawed in the U.S. because of its mercury content. That explains some of my problems. I'd probably be a genius today if it weren't for that wicked stuff.

CAP PISTOLS -- Now there's a subject dear to my heart. I had many cap pistols when I was a kid, but my favorite was my "Fanner 50". "Fanner" refers to the fact that we didn't have to pull a trigger. Instead, we would hold the pistol in one hand and "fan" the hammer with the other. "50" refers to the roll of caps that was good for 50 shots, although we were lucky if half the caps fired. One of the things we learned was that we could lay the roll of caps on concrete and hit it with a hammer. All 50 caps would explode at the same time and could be heard several blocks away. I suspect that some of my diminished hearing can be blamed on those rolls of caps and my Dad's ball-peen hammer.

SCRUBBING BOARDS -- I can still see Mom washing clothes in our dimly lit basement with her antique wringer washer and scrubbing board. Remember Fels Naptha soap? It came in a bar from which Mom had to cut off shavings with a paring knife.

LIVER AND ONIONS -- I like onions, but liver brings back ugly memories. Dad would make me sit at the table long after we were done eating until I ate that god-awful crap.

Barbara Cammack - barbaracammack@hotmail.com

Well, I still use a crockpot. However, I think what I prepare now is more tasty. Years ago, many things seemed to get mushy and tasted bland.

Always had fun and stories to tell about the drive ins: surprisingly there still is an active theater in Door County, WI. People our age want their grandchildren to experience it. And there are some here in central FL. It would be too hot and buggy for me today. I can have my own popcorn, candy and beverage, sit in comfort at home and stream most any movie, (past or current) , or see any sports venue or news station.

We have liver and onions about every other month. Both Bill and I grew up eating it. I fry bacon first, saute the liver and onions and quickly, then put bacon back in and steam for 2 minutes. I soak the liver in milk for about an hour, pour off milk and pat dry before cooking. My family had mashed potatoes and creamed corn with it. Of course it's not a healthy meal in today's health conscience modes, but hey, we're all gonna die soon anyway.

Husband and friend spent about an hour taking apart our clothes dryer Tuesday. A trick to even get it apart. They thought it might be a belt slipping as it made a slapping sound but could find no issue there. Friend came back 15 min later after checking his dryer (same model as ours) and checking on line. What he got from Samsung was that we may have a crack on the drum. Sure enough, we do. Hubby called Samsung and they said that yes, there are issues when the drum is aluminum. But no recalls, newer ones made better, new drum is \$230, not installed, dryer is 7 yrs. old, lifespan of appliances is 7-10 yrs. So we will use it until it quits, breaks or starts to really bang; we'll need a new one soon enough.