

#1229
4.6.2020

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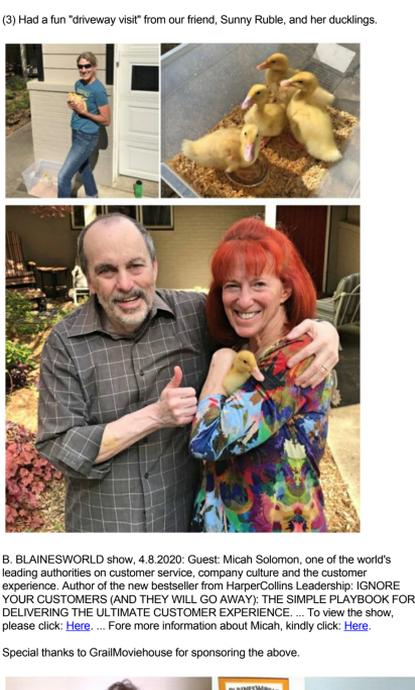
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1. Reflections

If you're reading this via Facebook or LinkedIn, please be advised that you will get it quicker if you get it via email. Another advantage: You'll never miss it that way because you may not have logged in for a day or two. And in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, all you need to do is send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

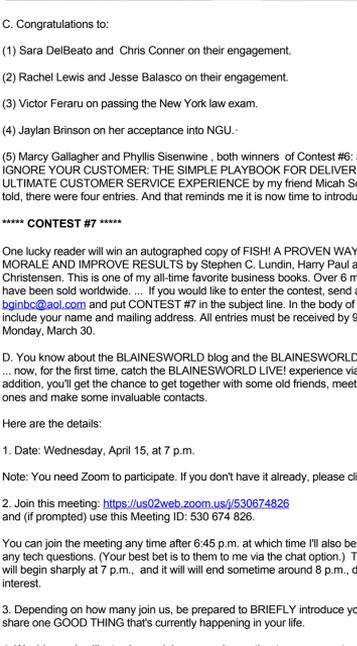
A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

- (1) Enjoyed from afar a terrific Passover Seder, led by Cynthia's nephew Benjamin Litchman.



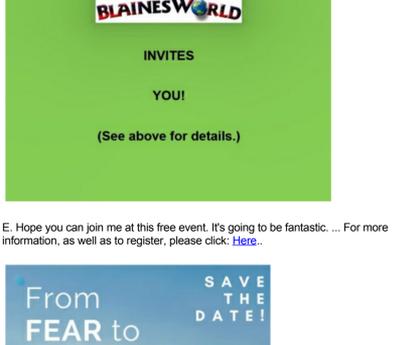
- (2) Thanks, Natalie Kaye, for inviting us to a second Passover Seder where we were joined by such notables as Jason Alexander, Idina Menzel, John Groban, Henry Winkler and Bette Midler, among others. It was fabulous. To view it, please click: [Here](#).

- (3) Had a fun "fatweyway visit" from our friend, Sunny Ruble, and her ducklings.



B. BLAINESWORLD show, 4.8.2020: Guest: Micah Solomon, one of the world's leading authorities on customer service, company culture and the customer experience. Author of the new bestseller from HarperCollins Leadership: IGNORE YOUR CUSTOMERS (AND THEY WILL GO AWAY): THE SIMPLE PLAYBOOK FOR DELIVERING THE ULTIMATE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE. ... To view the show, please click: [Here](#). ... For more information about Micah, kindly click: [Here](#).

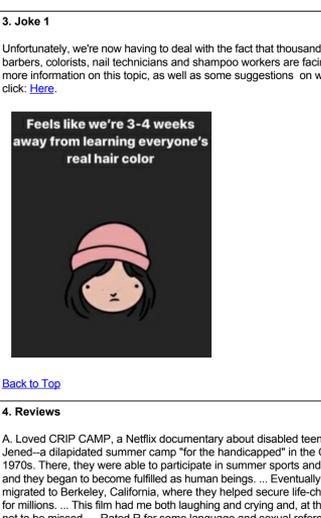
Special thanks to GraillMoviehouse for sponsoring the above.



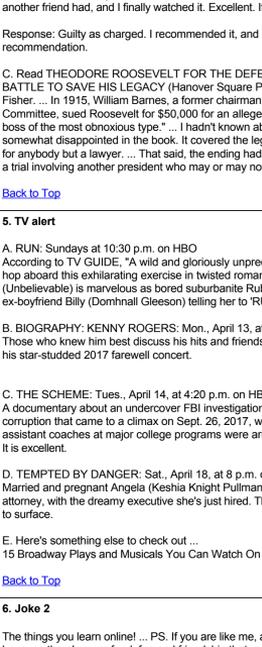
C. Congratulations to:

- (1) Sara DelBeato and Chris Conner on their engagement.
 - (2) Rachel Lewis and Jesse Balasco on their engagement.
 - (3) Victor Feraru on passing the New York law exam.
 - (4) Jaylan Brinson on her acceptance into NGU.
 - (5) Marcy Gallagher and Phyllis Sisenwine, both winners of Contest #6: a copy of IGNORE YOUR CUSTOMER: THE SIMPLE PLAYBOOK FOR DELIVERING THE ULTIMATE CUSTOMER SERVICE EXPERIENCE by my friend Micah Solomon. All told, there were four entries. And that reminds me it is now time to introduce:

**** CONTEST #7 ****
- One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of FISH! A PROVEN WAY TO BOOST MORALE AND IMPROVE RESULTS by Stephen C. Lundin, Harry Paul and John Christensen. This is one of my all-time favorite business books. Over 6 million copies have been sold worldwide. ... If you would like to enter the contest, send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #7 in the subject line. In the body of the email, include your name and mailing address. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Monday, March 30.
- D. You know about the BLAINESWORLD blog and the BLAINESWORLD radio show ... now, for the first time, catch the BLAINESWORLD LIVE! experience via Zoom. In addition, you'll get the chance to get together with some old friends, meet some new ones and make some invaluable contacts.
- Here are the details:
- 1. Date: Wednesday, April 15, at 7 p.m.
- Note: You need Zoom to participate. If you don't have it already, please click: [Here](#).
- 2. Join this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/530674826> and (if prompted) use this Meeting ID: 530 674 826.
- You can join the meeting any time after 6:45 p.m. at which time I'll also be available for any tech questions. (Your best bet is to them to me via the chat option.) The meeting will begin sharply at 7 p.m., and it will end sometime around 8 p.m., depending on interest.
- 3. Depending on how many join us, be prepared to BRIEFLY introduce yourself and share one GOOD THING that's currently happening in your life.
 - 4. Would you also like to share a joke, song, dance, theatre news, quote, thought for the day, technology tip, movie or TV recommendation, book review, website, useful tidbits, etc.?
- A. If so, please keep what you say to 1 minute or less. (2 minutes maximum.)
 - B. Kindly let me know in advance, so I can schedule things accordingly. I'll try to slot in as many folks as possible.
 - C. Please respond to: bjnbc@aol.com and put APRIL 15 in the subject line. In the body of the email, include your name and information about what you want to share. Or just join in when invited to do so by me.
- 5. Be prepared to HAVE FUN!



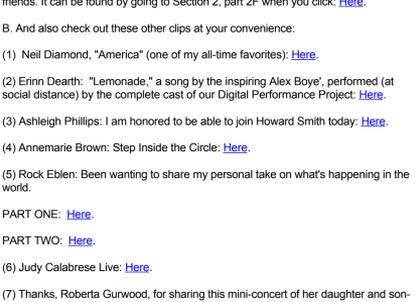
E. Hope you can join me at this free event. It's going to be fantastic. ... For more information, as well as to register, please click: [Here](#).



****** BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD ******

This week, it goes to both Elstan Torres and Doug Emery, two very talented musicians, for their efforts on behalf of MusiCares. To find out why I nominated them, as well as to view their recent performance, please see below for one of my recent Facebook posts.

Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I (right photo) couldn't stop dancing as we saw an amazing performance from my friend Elstan Torres (left photo) and Doug Emery that helped raise funds for the MusiCares COVID-19 Fund. ... Please watch it by clicking: [Here](#). ... If you enjoy it as much as we did, kindly join us in making a contribution to MusiCares by clicking: [Here](#). When you do, indicate that your donation was "in honor of" Elstan Torres' performance. ... PS. And whatever you do, make sure you catch the Leonard Cohen song, "Dance Me to the End of Love," at the 50-minute mark.



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2. FYI

Thanks, Dawn Westmoreland, for sharing this: A list of free, online, boredom-busting resources! by Claire Ryan

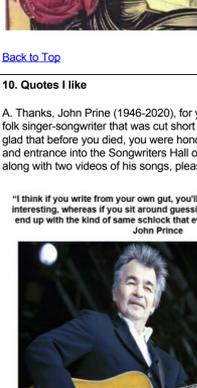
I just wanted to say THANK YOU for all of your messages, emails, and comments. It means the world to me to know how many people from all over the world are benefiting from this resource list.

I work for the NHS and run ChatterPack on a voluntary basis in my "spare" (I) time to help share information and resources to those who need it. It was truly heartwarming. D. Micah Solomon: Free Money for Small Business: Two Loans You May Not Have to Repay That You Should Apply for Now. E. Tina FireWolf: Kicking & Screaming - the present moment is exactly what you need. F. Carole Biro: Sharing Jenna's roommate's masks for a fabulous cause, post with family and friends. G. Dawn Westmoreland: Not enough money to feed your pet? Asheville Humane Society Can Help. H. Susan Dobroski: Some auto insurers are giving refunds because of the coronavirus outbreak.

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3. Joke 1

Unfortunately, we're now having to deal with the fact that thousands of hairdressers, barbers, colorists, nail technicians and shampoo workers are facing bleak futures. For more information on this topic, as well as some suggestions on what to do, please click: [Here](#).



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4. Reviews

A. Loved CRIP CAMP, a Netflix documentary about disabled teenagers at Camp Jened—a dilapidated summer camp "for the handicapped" in the Catskills in the early 1970s. There, they were able to participate in summer sports and make out sessions, and they began to become fulfilled as human beings. ... Eventually, many of them migrated to Berkeley, California, where they helped secure life-changing accessibility for millions. ... The film had me both laughing and crying and, at the end, cheering. It is not to be missed. ... Rated R for some language and sexual references, but I think it is appropriate for teenagers—and should be seen by them.

Note: CRIP CAMP has been added to my list of favorite films. If you'd like to get the list, please send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

B. John Strauss: Did you mention SEARCHING FOR SUGARMAN to me? I know you should see it! Those who knew him best discuss his hits and friendships. The special also revisits his star-studded 2017 farewell concert.

Response: Guilty as charged. I recommended it, and I also agree with your recommendation.

C. Read THEODORE ROOSEVELT FOR THE DEFENSE: THE COURTROOM BATTLE TO SAVE HIS LEGACY (Hanover Square Press) by Dan Abrams and David Fisher. ... In 1915, William Barnes, a former chairman of the Republican National Committee, sued Roosevelt for \$50,000 for an alleged libelous statement "a political boss of the most obnoxious type." ... I hadn't known about this particular trial, but I was somewhat disappointed in the book. It covered the legal aspects in far too much detail for anybody but a lawyer. ... That said, the ending had me wondering if we will ever see a trial involving another president who may or may not get elected in 2020.

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5. TV alert

A. RUN: Sundays at 10:30 p.m. on HBO According to TV GUIDE, "A wild and gloriously unpredictable ride awaits those who hop aboard this exhilarating exercise in twisted romantic comedy. Merritt Weaver (Unbelievable!) is marvelous as bored suburbanite Ruby, who gets a text from rascally ex-boyfriend Billy (Dominic Monaghan) telling her to 'RUN.'"

B. BIOGRAPHY: KENNY ROGERS: Mon., April 13, at 9 p.m. on A&E Those who knew him best discuss his hits and friendships. The special also revisits his star-studded 2017 farewell concert.

C. THE SCHEME: Tues., April 14, at 4:20 p.m. on HBO2 A documentary about an undercover FBI investigation into college-basketball corruption that came to a climax on Sept. 26, 2017, when Adidas executives and assistant coaches at major college programs were arrested in a pay-for-play scheme. It is excellent.

D. TEMPTED BY DANGER: Sat., April 18, at 8 p.m. on Lifetime Married and pregnant Angela (Keshia Knight Pullman) sets up her sister, a rising attorney, with the dreamy executive she's just hired. Then his obsessive nature starts to surface.

E. Here's something else to check out ... Watch On Stage From Home: [Here](#).

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6. Joke 2

The things you learn online! ... PS. If you are like me, and you celebrate all holidays because there's more food, fun and friendship that way, HAPPY PASSOVER!! (Thanks, Donna Allen, for sharing.)

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7. Clips/Websites

A. Video of the week
Carole Biro: DIY No Sew Face Mask Easy and Quick for Anyone: [Here](#).
Note: For another option, see the mask for sale that's been made by one of Carole's friends. It can be found by going to Section 2, part 2F when you click: [Here](#).

B. And also check out these other clips at your convenience:

- (1) Neil Diamond, "America" (one of my all-time favorites): [Here](#).

- (2) Erinn Dearth: "Lemonade," a song by the inspiring Alex Boye, performed (at social distance) by the complete cast of our Digital Performance Project: [Here](#).

- (3) Ashleigh Phillips: I am honored to be able to join Howard Smith today: [Here](#).

- (4) Annemarie Brown: Step Inside the Circle: [Here](#).

- (5) Rock Eblen: Been wanting to share my personal take on what's happening in the world.

PART ONE: [Here](#).

PART TWO: [Here](#).

- (6) Judy Calabrese Live: [Here](#).

- (7) Thanks, Roberta Gunwood, for sharing this mini-concert of her daughter and son-in-law (Jodi and Joe Handler) in a mini-concert from their home: [Here](#).

- (8) Nate Himmelstein: Corona song parodist: [Here](#).

- (9) Lois Rosenthal: I gotta wash my hands: [Here](#).

- (10) Brent Russell: Quarantine challenge: [Here](#).

C. Dawn Westmoreland: You can now download over 300,000 books from the NYPL for free: [Here](#).

D. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running. ... to view it, please click: [Here](#).

E. Are you on Facebook? In the unlikely event we have not yet connected as friends there, please feel free to send me an invite by clicking: [Here](#).

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8. Technology tip

HandBrake is a tool for converting video from nearly any format to a selection of modern, widely supported codes. Best of all, you can use it to pump up the volume on any video you may have created. It's free. To download a copy, please click: [Here](#).

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9. Joke 3

Now you know! ... PS. If you are like me, and you celebrate all holidays because there's more food, fun and friendship that way, HAPPY EASTER!! (Thanks, Carole Biro, for sharing.)

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10. Quotes I like

A. Thanks, John Prite (1946-2020), for your amazing career as an American country folk singer-songwriter that was cut short by complications from Covid-19. ... I'm just glad that before you died, you were honored to have received two Grammy awards and entrance into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. ... For more information about his life, along with two videos of his songs, please click: [Here](#).

"I think if you write from your own gut, you'll come up with something interesting, whereas if you sit around guessing what people want, you end up with the kind of same schlock that everybody else has got."
John Prite

B. Thanks, Al Kaline (1934-2020), for your 22 season baseball career—all with the Detroit Tigers. I never tired of watching your steadiness as a hitter, as well as your prowess as a fielder with one of the strongest arms I've ever seen. ... Your selection to the Hall of Fame of the first ballot in 1980 was well-deserved. ... For more information about this life, please click: [Here](#).

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11. Thought for the day

What a curriculum! Methinks it could be made even more inclusive if this was added: demonstrate kindness. (Thanks, Jimmy Ferraro, for sharing.)

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12. Advance planning department

To read about each of the following events in full, please click: [Here](#).

A. Greg Davis: Save the Date Theatre Lovest! B. B. The Magnetic Theatre: Beautiful Cages, by local playwright Jamie Knox, is part of The Magnetic Theatre's New Play Development program. C. Jerry Crouch: Shakespeare's Globe Theater Will Stream Performances For Free in April.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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