

#1073  
4.17.2017

**In this issue**

- [1. Reflections](#)
- [2. FYI](#)
- [3. Joke 1](#)
- [4. Reviews](#)
- [5. TV alert](#)
- [6. Joke 2](#)
- [7. Clips/Websites](#)
- [8. Technology tip](#)
- [9. Joke 3](#)
- [10. A quote I like](#)
- [11. Thought for the day](#)
- [12. Advance planning department](#)

**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: [lgibnc@aol.com](mailto:lgibnc@aol.com) and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Saw a powerful production of THIS IS OUR YOUTH at 36bow that starred: I-r: Maximilian Kogor, Trinnny Johnson and Elizabeth Babbaly. Kudos to Robert Dale Walker for his spot on direction, as well as to Shari Azar for work as assistant stage manager and stage manager, as well as for her handling the choreography.



(2) We then went to Pack's Tavern for dinner where, as always, we had a tasty meal. Nicole provided fine service. And we got to sit at our favorite location, right under this portrait of Max Hayes, his wife Dixie and their daughter Ruth. (We're becoming to feel like we are part of their family.)



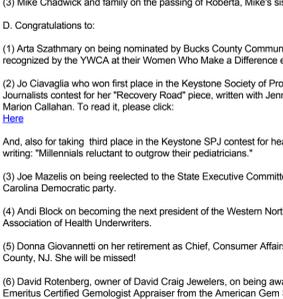
(3) For Passover, we first stopped off to Filo Pastries where we purchased chocolate-covered macaroons that were as good as we've ever had.



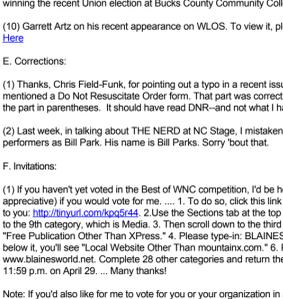
(4) Most of them miraculously made it to our Tom and Marcy Gallagher dinner. I-r (front row) Judy and Dave Burlio; and (back row) Tom and Marcy Gallagher.



(5) We also delivered Passover meals for Jewish Family Services. That's Alison Gleason, that organization's Executive Director on the left.

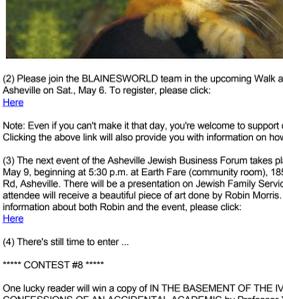


(6) Lastly, we got to join our friends Beth and Steve Byas for dinner at Winnie's. The food there was excellent, as was the service we received from Nicole—a different one than our server at Pack's Tavern.



B. During the week, I hosted my weekly BLAINESWORLD radio show that featured Cortland Mercer and Kevan Frazer (left photo); Cortland is in the center and Kevan is on the right, both with the Well Played Board Games Cafe in the first half and then Michelle Smith, consultant with Social Profit Strategies, in the second half. ... To listen, please click: [Here](#)

And then scroll down until you get to the 4.19.17 program.



**C. Condolences to:**

- (1) Jo Ciavaglia and family on the passing of Gidlo Ciavaglia, Jo's dad.
- (2) Linda Iadanza Pelli and family on the passing of Marie, Linda's mom.
- (3) Mike Chadwick and family on the passing of Roberta, Mike's sister.

**D. Congratulations to:**

- (1) Arta Szathmary on being nominated by Bucks County Community College to be recognized by the YWCA at their Women Who Make a Difference event.
- (2) Jo Ciavaglia who won first place in the Keystone State of Professional Journalists contest for her "Recovery Road" piece, written with Jenny Wagner and Marlon Callahan. To read it, please click: [Here](#)

And, also for taking third place in the Keystone SPJ contest for health and medical writing: "Millennials reluctant to outgrow their pediatricians."

- (3) Joe Mazells on being reelected to the State Executive Committee of the North Carolina Democratic party.
- (4) Andi Block on becoming the next president of the Western North Carolina Association of Health Underwriters.
- (5) Donna Giovannetti on her retirement as Chief, Consumer Affairs for Mercer County, NJ. She will be missed!

- (6) David Rotenberg, owner of David Craig Jewelers, on being awarded the title Emeritus Certified Gemologist Appraiser from the American Gem Society.
- (7) Matt Zipin for receiving the Student Award for Exemplary Leadership from Penn State University.

- (8) Padma Dvayne on her recent appearance on WPM-FM/103.7. To listen to it, please click: [Here](#)
- (9) John Strauss, Paul Process, Michael Haennessey, John Murray, Colleen Dunn, Ralph Hunsberger, Jim Freeman, Steve Cocco, Charlie Beem and Mary Dura on winning the recent Union election at Bucks County Community College.

- (10) Garrett Artz on his recent appearance on WLOS. To view it, please click: [Here](#)

**E. Corrections:**

- (1) Thanks, Chris Field-Funk, for pointing out a typo in a recent issue. Section 2 mentioned a Do Not Resuscitate Order form. That word was correct. What wasn't a typo in parentheses. It should have read DNR—and not what I had due to a typo.
- (2) Last week, in talking about THE NERD at NC Stage, I mistakenly listed one of the performers as Bill Park. His name is Bill Parks. Sorry about that.

**F. Invitations:**

- (1) If you haven't yet voted in the Best of WNC competition, I'd be honored (and most appreciate) if you would vote for me. ... 1. To do so, click this link to get a ballot sent to you: <http://bit.ly/voteforblain> 2. Use the Sections tab at the top of the ballot to go to the 9th category, which is Media. 3. Then scroll down to the third listing, which is "Free Publication Other Than X-Press." 4. Please type-in: BLAINESWORLD. 5. Right below it, you'll see "Local Websites Other Than mountainx.com." 6. Please type-in: [www.blaineworld.net](http://www.blaineworld.net). Complete 29 other categories and return the ballot on or before 11:59 p.m. on April 29. ... Many thanks!

Note: If you'd also like for me to vote for you or your organization in any other category, just post that information here (so others can see). And if you need any help with completing the 30 total categories, give a holler. ... Kindly share this information with your 437 closest friends and relatives—and also encourage them to vote as indicated in the above categories.



(2) Please join the BLAINESWORLD team in the upcoming Walk a Mile event in Asheville on Sat., May 6. To register, please click: [Here](#)

Note: Even if you can't make it that day, you're welcome to support our efforts virtually. Clicking the above link will also provide you with information on how to do so.

(3) The next event of the Asheville Jewish Business Forum takes place on Tuesday, May 9, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Earth Fare (community room), 1856 Hendersonville Rd, Asheville. There will be a presentation on Jewish Family Services and, also, one attendee will receive a beautiful piece of art done by Robin Morris. For more information about both Robin and the event, please click: [Here](#)

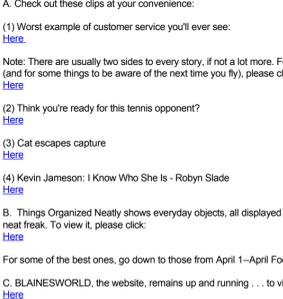
(4) There's still time to enter ...

\*\*\*\*\* CONTEST #8 \*\*\*\*\*

One lucky reader will win a copy of IN THE BASEMENT OF THE IVORY TOWER: CONFESSIONS OF AN ACCIDENTAL ACADEMIC by Professor X. ... to quote from my review in BLAINESWORLD #1003, "He [the author] really hits home when he describes what this experience is all about. ... If you're currently a college professor, you'll especially enjoy IN THE BASEMENT. Parents of students would also find this a worthwhile book." ... To enter the contest: Send an email to: [lgibnc@aol.com](mailto:lgibnc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #8 in the subject line. In the body of the email, please include your snail mail address. All entries must be received on or before Monday, April 24, at 9 p.m. ....

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

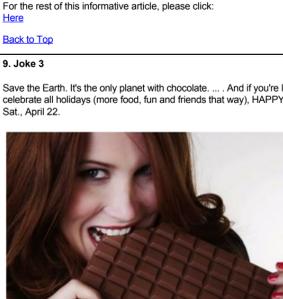
This week, it goes to Cameron Ranley—an employee with the Dakota Watch Company at the Asheville Mall. ... I recently needed the batteries replaced on my Vivofit Activity Tracker. After trying to locate them unsuccessfully at several local stores, I found out that Cameron had one of the two I needed. He replaced it and told me that he would order the other one. But he also said that I should come back if I could find another battery, and he would replace that at no extra charge. ... I was soon able to find another battery and so when I returned a few minutes later, Cameron replaced the second battery. In addition, he showed me an easier way both take off and put back on the watch band (something that's not an easy thing to do with this Vivofit product). ... As can be seen, Cameron also had a great smile. And he was both friendly and helpful, not just to me, but to every other customer who stopped by. ... Should you want to contact Dakota Watch, the number is: 828. 298.2300.



[Back to Top](#)

**2. FYI**

A turkey who shall remain nameless sent me the following coupon. It was a scam. ... How did I know? The address it was sent from looked legitimate, but it wasn't (I mentioned Dunkin' Donuts, but had some extra letters that tipped me off.) ... In addition, the company is not in the business of giving free donuts away. Remember: If something looks good to be true, it probably isn't! ... For more information, please click: [Here](#)



[Back to Top](#)

**FYI, part 2**

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click:

- (1) Eric Weinberger: BTW, great Passover joke in Blaineworld! (2) Closest Things to a wonder Drug? Try Exercise. (3) You're Too Busy, You Need "Shultz Hour." (4) Which Milk is Most Nutritious? Soy, Cashew, Almond or Coconut? (5) Rich and Shulman: Loved the jokes about the Jewish knight and the hellish pianist! (6) Deborah Belcher: OMG, the Passover/Queen joke!!!! LOVE IT. (7) Susan Harper: Do you have 1 minute a day for the next 22 days to help ACT? Score a \$100,000 for our annual campaign to build and education complex? (8) Remembering the World's Oldest Person, in the Objects She Left Behind. (9) Diet soda can increase risk of dementia and stroke.

[Back to Top](#)

**3. Joke 1**

MR. HELPFUL HERE: What y'all always wanted to know. ... Also, your taxes aren't due until Tues., April 18 because the 15th fell on a weekend; the 16th fell on Emancipation Day, which is a legal holiday in Washington, DC, and it was celebrated on the 17th. ... So no more delays. File your return or make sure you get an extension.



[Back to Top](#)

**4. Reviews**

A. Saw MR. CHURCH, a drama about a family cook who helps a young girl deal with the loss of her mother. Eddie Murphy, making a comeback, is effective as the cook, and I really liked the performance of Britt Robertson as the older version of the girl. The film got poor reviews, most of those who saw it—including me—liked it. Rated PG-13.

B. Saw RACHEL, RACHEL, a drama about a timid and sexually frustrated 35-year-old schoolteacher who desperately needs a change in her life. It comes via a screenwriter, Joanne Woodward is superb in the leading role, and she received an Oscar nomination for her work. Paul Newman's direction was equally as good. Rated R.

C. Read 52 WAYS TO CONNECT WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE OBSESSED KID: HOW TO ENGAGE WITH KIDS WHO CAN'T SEEM TO PRY THEIR EYES FROM THEIR DEVICES! (Shloh Run Press) by Jonathan McKee. ... This is a handy guide for parents who want their children to look up from their mobile devices and enjoy face-to-face relationships. ... There were many useful techniques here, but I especially liked these three: 1. The fine art of shutting up. ... [Rather than ask irritating questions like] How was school? Did you have any tests? How did you do? Do you have any homework? Then do it! ... (Instead) put some thought and creativity into your questions: If school were canceled tomorrow and you could go anywhere for the day, where would you go? Who would you want to bring with you? What is it that you enjoy so much about this friend? 2. The "Tech Tuesday" tactic. ... After our family went one month without entertainment media and technology, we were damaged goods. ... So we decided to bring it back. Not for a month (no way—that was too difficult), but for one night a week. 3. Say yes to any opportunity to connect with your teen. Any! ... Every face-to-face encounter you have with your kids not only reinforces you bond with them, it also helps the positive connection that can happen between two people when they look into each other's eyes and just talk. ... I only wish this book had been available when my daughter was younger!

D. Heard and enjoyed THE REVENGE OF ANALOG: REAL THINGS AND WHY THEY MATTER (Hachette Audio), written and read by David Sax. ... Businesses that once appeared to be outdated, are now coming back into popularity as evidenced by reemergence of vinyl records and various magazines. Even independent bookstores are springing up around the country—despite the fact that e-books are supposedly making the way books are read. ... I found the last chapter to be particularly thought-provoking. It pointed out how a summer camp is actually thriving, in spite of the fact that it doesn't allow campers to use cellphones or iPads. I don't know if I would be willing to give up either for an entire summer, but it may well be time for me to take an occasional break.

[Back to Top](#)

**5. TV alert**

A. GENIUS: Series premiere on Tues., April 25, at 9 p.m. on Nat Geo. A 10-part series about how Albert Einstein could not get a teaching job or doctorate in his early life, yet managed to go on to solve the secrets of the universe. Geoffrey Rush stars.

B. GREAT NEWS: Premieres on Tues., April 25, at 9 p.m. on NBC. Andrea Martin stars as a neurotically overprotective mom who manages to land an internship at the same New Jersey TV station where her daughter is a news producer.

C. NOODLES: Premieres on Wed., April 26, at 10 p.m. on TV Land. The sitcom follows three alumni of an improv troupe struggling to get respect and recognition in Hollywood in the shadows of their movie star pals.

D. 2017 ROK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION SPECIAL: Saturday, April 29, at 8 p.m. on HBO. This year, Yes, Journey, Pearl Jam, Joan Baez, Tupac Shakur and Electric Light get the rock hardware.

[Back to Top](#)

**6. Joke 2**

You know that flutter you get in your chest when you are truly happy? In my case, I'm fairly certain it's my arteries hardening after a Double Whopper with cheese. (Thanks, Robyn Fox, for sharing.)

[Back to Top](#)

**7. Clips/Websites**

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

- (1) Worst example of customer service you'll ever see: [Here](#)

Note: There are usually two sides to every story, if not a lot more. For more information (and for some things to be aware of the next time you fly), please click: [Here](#)

- (2) Think you're ready for this tennis opponent? [Here](#)
- (3) Cat escapes capture [Here](#)
- (4) Kevin Jameson: I Know Who She Is - Robyn Slade [Here](#)

B. Things Organized Neatly: shows everyday objects, all displayed ordinarily for the next freak. To view it, please click: [Here](#)

For some of the best ones, go down to those from April 1—April Fool's Day.

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

D. 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](#)

[Back to Top](#)

**8. Technology tip**

What the Repeal of Online Privacy Protections Means for You by Brian X. Chen

SAN FRANCISCO — Congress on Tuesday moved to dismantle online privacy rules created during the Obama era. The rules, which were scheduled to take effect this year, would have required internet providers to get permission before collecting and selling a customer's online information, including browsing activities.

What does this mean for your privacy and what can you do? Here's what to know.

For the rest of this informative article, please click: [Here](#)

[Back to Top](#)

**9. Joke 3**

Save the Earth: It's the only planet with chocolate. ... And if you're like me and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), HAPPY EARTH DAY on Sat., April 22.



[Back to Top](#)

**10. A quote I like**

"A coach is someone who can give correction without causing resentment."—John Wooden (1910-2010) June 4, 2010). American basketball head coach at UCLA whose teams won 10 NCAA national championships in a 12-year period

[Back to Top](#)

**11. Thought for the day**

Thanks, Steven Shulman, for sharing this on-so-profound tidbit: "A turkey was chatting with a bull. 'I would love to be able to get to the top of that tree,'" sighed the turkey. 'But I haven't got the energy.' ... 'Well, why don't you nibble on some of my droppings?'" replied the bull. "They're packed with nutrients." ... The turkey pecked at a lump of dung, and found it actually gave him enough strength to reach the lowest branch of the tree. The next day, after eating some more dung, he reached the second branch. Finally after a third night, the turkey was proudly perched at the top of the tree. ... He was promptly spotted by a farmer who shot him out of the tree. ... Moral of the story: Bullsh\*t might get you to the top, but it won't keep you there.

[Back to Top](#)

**12. Advance planning department**

To read about each of the following events in full, please click:

[Here](#)

**A. NC events**

- (1) Jerry Crouch: Jubilee Plays: AN ACT OF GOD. (2) Julia Holladay: Montford Park Players Company (Family) Photo Shoot. (3) Walela Dobroski: Show Me the Money Conference.

**B. PANJ event**

Lisa Zaglin: Private showing of BAD MOMS.

**PS. Make it a wonderful week!**

[Back to Top](#)

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