

#1084
7.3.2017

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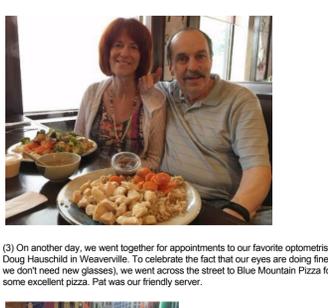
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1. Reflections

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 tblainebc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Saw a terrific, funny play at Hendersonville Community Theatre: SIGNIFICANT OTHER, written and directed by Jeff Messer (far left). There were many lines in it that had us laughing out loud, including this one: "Life is like golf. Sometimes you come under par. Sometimes you get a hole in one. But mostly, you just lose your balls."



(2) From there, we had a great meal at a new restaurant for us: Sumo's Japanese Steakhouse in Hendersonville located where Fortune Asian used to be). As can be seen, the portions were huge. They were very tasty, too, and we received fine service from Evan.



(3) On another day, we went together for appointments to our favorite optometrist: Dr. Doug Hauschild in Weaverville. To celebrate the fact that our eyes are doing fine (and we don't need new glasses), we went across the street to Blue Mountain Pizza for some excellent pizza. Pat was our friendly server.



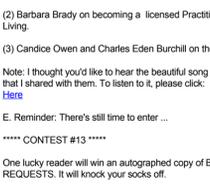
(4) It was then on to The Hop for some delicious ice cream.



(5) We were also glad to get together with our friends Tom and Marcy Gallagher for some chicken and waffles at King Daddy's Chicken and Waffles. As can be seen, our food got a thumbs up.



(6) And, lastly, we joined our friend Beth Byas for lunch at Barley's Taproom & Pizzeria—a place that always has good food.



B. During the week on my WPV/M radio show, I hosted in the first half: Grant Randall (left), dog trainer. For more information, call 516.669.8414. ... And in the second half: Janelle Lucido-Conste (right), pickle lady. For more information, click: [Here](#)

To listen to the show, please go to the 7.5.2017 show when you click: [Here](#)



C. Condolences to:

- (1) Steve Byas and family on the passing of Bob Mibauer, Steve's uncle.
- (2) The family of Frances Davis on her passing.

D. Congratulations to:

- (1) Jeff Thompson on being offered a position teaching English/Theatre/Music at Asheville Academy for Girls.
- (2) Barbara Brady on becoming a licensed Practitioner with the Centers for Spiritual Living
- (3) Candice Owen and Charles Eden Burchill on their wedding.

Note: I thought you'd like to hear the beautiful song (revised from the original version) that I shared with them. To listen to it, please click: [Here](#)

E. Reminder: There's still time to enter ...

***** CONTEST #13 *****

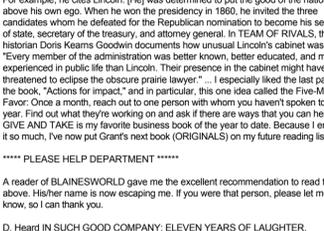
One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of Bruce Lang's new CD: MORE REQUESTS. It will knock your socks off.

To listen to the songs from it, please click: [Here](#)

To enter: Send an email to tblainebc@aol.com and put CONTEST #13 in the subject line. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Monday, July 10.

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

This week, it goes to Elizabeth Pou—Asheville SCORE's chair for the past two years. She has done a tremendous job in this capacity, moving the organization into several new, exciting areas. In addition, she has facilitated the Women's Business Roundtable in cooperation with ABTech. ... Also, she teaches two courses at the Osher Life Learning Institute at UNC Asheville. Crime Fiction: Books and Movies, as well as the Business of Art. And she has somehow managed to find the time to take a couple of trips to Africa as a volunteer with the United States Agency for International Development, working with farmer's associations on business-related matters. ... That's Elizabeth (below) with me at a recent SCORE recognition event she chaired at the Smoky Park Supper Club. ... For more information about Asheville SCORE, please click: [Here](#)



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2. FYI

Thanks, Bonnie Sibner, for sharing the following article: Drivers Who Merge at the Last Minute May Be Annoying ... But They're Right by Jesslyn Shields

If you're old enough to drive, you're old enough to have some thoughts about the best way to merge into highway traffic when your lane is ending or closing due to a wreck or road work. When you see the big, orange "LANE CLOSED IN 1000 FT" sign, you've got a couple of options:
1. Immediately turn on your blinker and wait until somebody in the next lane lets you in.
2. Just stay in your lane and wait for all the polite people to get out of your way before zooming to the front of the line and merging when the lane closes. Watch as people who merged early rage in your general direction.

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

***** MR. CURIOUS HERE *****

What do you think if the best way to merge? I'd also be interested in any positive or negative experiences you've had with merging.

FYI, part 2

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

- (1) Bray Crech: Love the brilliant idea! (2) Barbara Finestone: Two great jokes... # 2 & 3. (3) Helping Those Who Hoard. (4) What's Like to Test Drive a Racer? (5) The Golden Age of Baling (6) Peggy Shaffer: All 50 States Remained as Food Puns.

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3. Joke 1

GOOD NEWS! ... In case you never saw the original version of FROM HERE TO ETERNITY, the remake will soon be at your local theater. NJ Governor Chris Christie (right) stars. ... And since he was caught hogging Island Beach State Park for himself and family members after closing the public beach to all the rest of his state, he has been kept busy with other film shots and projects as can be seen by clicking: [Here](#)

(Thanks, Michael Lilly, for sharing.)



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4. Reviews

A. Saw THE BEGUILLED, a thriller set during the Civil War as a Southern girls' boarding school. An injured enemy soldier is taken in, and as he recovers, sexual tension and dangerous rivalries set in. Colin Farrell is quite good in the leading role, but the film is only fair. Wait until it comes out on DVD or even better, catch the 1971 version starring Clint Eastwood. It is superior. Rated R.

B. Now available on disc/streaming is CHRISTINE, the gripping true story about a Florida newscaster in pursuit of a job in a larger market. Rebecca Hall gives an Oscar-worthy performance in the leading role, and I also liked the work of both Michael C. Hall and Tracy Letts. I missed it when it was playing in the theatres, but I'm glad I saw it now. You will, too. Rated R.

C. READ GIVE AND TAKE: A REVOLUTIONARY APPROACH TO SUCCESS (Viking) by Adam Grant. ... The author, the youngest tenured professor and assistant rated teacher at The Wharton School, presents the viewpoint that there are three types of professional interactions: taking, matching and giving. ... He then explains that takers are those who try to take more than they give, matchers are those who try to give and take proportionally and conditionally, and givers are those who give more than they take. ... Using examples from a wide of fields, as well as his own groundbreaking research, Grant proceeds to get you thinking about the way you've worked in the past—and how you might want to change what you do in the future. ... For example, he cites Lincoln: [He] was determined to put the good of the nation above his own ego. When he won the presidency in 1860, he invited the three candidates whom he defeated for the Republican nomination to become his secretary of state, secretary of the treasury, and attorney general. In TEAM OF RIBALS, the historian Doris Kearns Goodwin documents how unusual Lincoln's cabinet was. "Every member of the administration was better known, better educated, and more experienced in public life than Lincoln. Their presence in the cabinet might have threatened to eclipse the obscure prairie lawyer." ... I especially liked the last part of the book, "Actions for impact," and in particular, this one idea called the Five-Minute Favor: "Once a month, reach out to one person with whom you haven't spoken to in a year. Find out what they're working on and ask if there are ways that you can help."

GIVE AND TAKE is my favorite business book of the year to date. Because I enjoyed it so much, I've now put Grant's next book (ORIGINALS) on my future reading list.

***** PLEASE HELP DEPARTMENT *****

A reader of BLAINESWORLD gave me the excellent recommendation to read the above. His/her name is now escaping me. If you were that person, please let me know, so I can thank you.

D. Heard IN SUCH GOOD COMPANY: ELEVEN YEARS OF LAUGHTER, MAYHEM AND FUN IN THE SANDBOX (Random House Audio), written and read by Carol Burnett. ... The award-winning woman comedian takes us back to 1967, when her show variety show first began, and looks at many of the 276 episodes that much it such a favorite. You'll get a kick out of the behind-the-scenes episodes featuring such performers as Harvey Korman, Tim Conway, Alan Alda, Aida Rodon, Tracy Morgan and many others. ... In addition, you'll smile at several of the Q&A sessions that are cited in the book—such as this one: "Did you take acting lessons?" "Yes. I did when I was at UCLA. I studied for a while. "Think it did you any good?" ... And: I'm asked if I've always had read hair. "To be honest, no. I was born bald." ... In addition, you'll get a kick out of revealing such "Went with the Wind" as: "Is there anything to Burnett's description of curtain rod dress. But my favorite part was her description of the time Korman went to the Conway who was playing a new dentist. ... If you liked the CAROL BURNETT SHOW, and I did, you'll love this book.

Note: Here are the aforementioned two scenes:

[Here](#)

[Here](#)

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5. TV alert

A. GYPSY: Available via Netflix. A drama series that stars Naomi Watts as Jean Holloway, a psychotherapist who secretly infiltrates her clients' private lives in order to help them. Gypsy Clasp co-stars her husband Michael. According to PEOPLE, Watts plays this very odd, possibly psychotic woman with a surface normalcy that sometimes makes her that much unnerving.

B. THE DEFIANT ONES: Sun., July 9, through July 12 at 9 p.m. each night on HBO. This 4-part music documentary isn't a remake of the Sidney Pottier-Tony Curtis classic; rather, it charts the careers and ultimately the partnerships of industry mavericks Dr. Dre and Jimmy Iovine. It features interviews from such superstars as Bruce Springsteen, Snoop Dogg, Bono, Stevie Nicks and Lady Gaga.

C. TOUR DE PHARMACY: Tues., July 11, at 8:15 p.m. on HBO. Andy Samberg's latest sports-spoof mockumentary (following 2015's very funny tennis parody, 7 DAYS IN HELL), takes on drug scandals in the Tour de France circa 1962. Look for Lance Armstrong to appear in a cameo.

D. ONE NIGHT ONLY: ALEC BALDWIN: ALEC BALDWIN: Wed., July 12, at 10:30 p.m. on Spike TV. The masterful Trump impersonation is the focus and target of a roast-type celebration. Bill Clinton is a surprise guest, joining Robert De Niro, Julianne Moore, Tracy Morgan and Jane Krakowski.

***** UPDATE *****

Previously, I recommended IF YOU'RE NOT IN THE OBIT, EAT BREAKFAST—an HBO special where Carl Reiner tracks down several celebrated friends in their 90s to show how the twilight years can truly be the happiest and most rewarding. If you haven't seen it yet, do so. It is now available On Demand.

I especially enjoyed the interview with Dick Van Dyke. Among his quotes: A publisher asked me to write a book about growing old. I said I will be a thin volume ... keep moving. My motives changed [for exercising]. At 30, I exercised to lose weight. In my 50s, I exercised to stay fit. In my 70s, I exercised to stay ambulatory. In my 80s, I exercised to avoid assisted living. And in my 90s, it's just going to be out of defiance. I have people who say to me, "You look good." Nobody when I was in my 30s said, "You look good. What they mean is, "You don't look dead." Look your age, but don't act it. You don't have to act serious to be serious. You need someone to love and something to do to feel of value.

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6. Joke 2

My boss said, "Dress for the job you want, not the job you have." Now, I'm sitting in a disciplinary meeting dressed as Batman. (Thanks, Michelle Baker, for sharing.)

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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

- (1) Daniel Hensley: Boy recorded coming out to his mother [Here](#)
- (2) Bonnie Sibner: All by Myself [Here](#)
- (3) Lois Rosenthal: Awkward Exes: Britain & America 1776 - The Breakup (by We Are Thomasse) [Here](#)
- (4) Roberta Gurwood: Lee Greenwood- God Bless the U.S.A. lyrics [Here](#)
- (5) Mike Martinnelli: Goodbye My Friend By Linda Ronstadt [Here](#)

B. Next Avenue is public media's first and only national journalism service for America's booming older population. Our daily content delivers vital ideas, context and perspectives on issues that matter most as we age. To find out more, please click: [Here](#)

Some of the "most popular" posts have included the following:
Sorry, Nobody Wants Your Parents' Stuff
What I Did to Stop 'Awfulizing' Retirement
3 Surprising Things That Raise Your Dementia Risk
A Cure for Senior Loneliness is Within Our Reach

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](#)

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8. Technology tip

How to Photograph Fireworks Like a Pro by Aimadou Diallo

A day off from work, food on the grill and a great fireworks show. These are the traditions we look forward to on the Fourth of July. But there is one tradition many of us unsuccessfully try to avoid year after year: taking awful photos of those fireworks. But we are here to help.

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

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9. Joke 3

George, the mailman, was retiring. On his last day, an elderly couple gave him a gift certificate. At the next house, the entire family gave him a box of fine cigars. ... At the third house, he was greeted by a sexy redhead wearing a skimpy negligee. Without a word, she signaled him to come inside where she proceeded to make mad love to him. ... She then led him downstairs and made him a huge breakfast. As he drank his coffee, he noticed a dollar bill sticking out from under the cup. Curious, he said "I appreciated everything. But what's the dollar bill for?" ... The redhead replied: "I asked my husband last night what to give you for your retirement. He said, 'Screw him. Give him a dollar!' The breakfast part was my idea." (Thanks, Janeen Ravkin, for sharing.)

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10. A quote I like

"What does an actor do who can't talk? Wait for silent pictures to come back."—Kirk Douglas, discussing his recovery from a stroke at the age of 80.

Note: Douglas turned 100 this past December. ... Since his stroke, he has made three films, written or performed in one-man shows, BEFORE I FORGET, and added three more books to his literary output. He has had a second bar mitzvah, and he also remarried his wife Annie (pictured below) on their 50th anniversary. They have now been married for 63 years.

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11. Thought for the day

Thanks, Carol-Lani Rose, for sharing this touching story on Facebook: Hugging

So I'm in line at the grocery store service desk just now and the customer in front of me, a 70-something African-American woman, is attempting to purchase a pack of cigarettes with multiple sources of payment: the \$4.56 that's left on a debit card, a crumpled dollar bill, a handful of change. The cashier informs her that she's 31 cents short. The girl in my hand before she turns to ask: "Did you take any money out of your wallet off and then something comes over me. I ask her how much a pack of her brand of cigarettes cost. Chagrined, and apparently thinking I'm challenging her spending her last pennies on poison, she hangs her head and confesses: "\$7.49, but I'll be making them last."

I turn to the cashier and ask her to give the woman another pack of the same brand of cigarettes. I hand her \$20 as payment and direct her to give the change to the older woman as well. I am thanked profusely and assured that she will "pay it forward". She shares that she was "just" telling her seat-mate on the bus ride over how something good was coming her way today. She smiles, looks what to give you for your retirement. He said, "Screw him. Give him a dollar!" The breakfast part was my idea." (Thanks, Janeen Ravkin, for sharing.)

And then another something comes over me and I say, "How about you pay me back with a hug? It's been a day and I could really use one." Her eyes light up, her arms fly apart, and I'm instantly engulfed in bosom; we sync and sway for enough time to inhale each other's intentions and exhale any preconceived notion either might have had of the other. Now THAT'S the way a hug's supposed to feel!" she declares before she thanks me again and walks away. I turn back to the cashier only to find her on the other side of the counter standing beside me. "That was so sweet", she says, "Can I have a hug too?"

And so was that I hugged a second stranger in as many minutes. Life is hard, Sweet Pepsi, and people are scraping the bottoms of coin purses trying to soothe themselves from it. Yet the only thing that truly meet the need is to breathe and sway together.

Source: Author unknown. If you know who wrote this and/or where it came from, please let me know.

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12. Advance planning department

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

A. NYC events

- (1) HAS ANYONE SEE MS. RAY? at The Magnetic Theatre. (2) AN ALL JAZZ AFFAIR: Richard Shulman & Sidney Barnes. (3) ABC Salt Theatre Company Presents the poignant comedy Guesshe Playground Inlinc.

B. PA/NJ events

- (1) ACTORSNET STAGES THE THREEPENNY OPERA - SEE MACK THE KNIFE RAISE HAVOC IN LONDON. (2) Sharpest Cowgirl in the West About to Take Aim at MCC's Kelsey Theatre in 'Annie Get Your Gun.'

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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