

#1051  
11.14.2016

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

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Attended Our VOICE's 15th Annual Survivors Art Show, at which time Cynthia was also in a performance piece directed by Barrie Barton with Community Choreography Projects. She was joined by Bonnie Sibner (right photo) and several other talented friends. ... Kufos to Anne Heck for her presentation on "Dial Mating: A Pain to Healing." ... For more pictures from the evening, please click: [Here](#)



(2) Saw Hendersonville Community Theatre's excellent production of THE CHALK GARDEN, starring Coy Theoball and Kathy O'Connor (top), Beth Norris (bottom left) and Bonnie Freestone, among others. Philippe Coquet's direction was spot on.



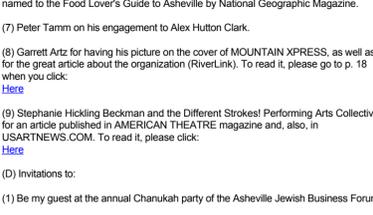
(3) From there, we journeyed back to Asheville for dinner with I-r (starting to the right of Cynthia) Tom Gallagher, Marcy Gallagher, Judy Blurnio and Dave Blurnio. Judy's pot roast was the big hit of the evening.



(4) We also joined our friends Padma Dvynne and Will Redish for dinner at Fresh Wood Fired Pizza. Cynthia and I split an oversized calzone filled with pineapple and chicken. It was delicious, and we now can't wait to get another one.



B. Afterward, I went with Padma and Will to Different Strokes! Performing Arts Collective's outstanding production of NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD, written and directed by Rodney Smith. Pictured, I-r (front row): Caitlin Lane, Eamon Martin, Darren Marshall, Drez Ryan, Carrie Kimbrell Kimsey, Paul Gallaher, Scott Cameron and DiAnna Riola; and (back row to the right of me) Rodney Smith.



In addition, I got to see my friend Brent Pack deliver the curtain speech. He did a fine job.



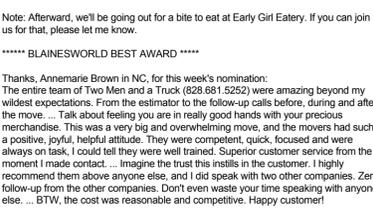
**C. Congratulations to:**

- (1) Will Apple and Carrie Tildy Boyd on their marriage.
- (2) Victor Ferraru on being appointed to a four-year term on the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services' Children's Justice Task Force. For more information, please click: [Here](#)
- (3) Howard Debs on having his latest poem published. To read it, please click: [Here](#)
- (4) Steve Pohl and Jeff Gitlenboth on their election to the Billmore Lake Board of Directors.
- (5) Sage Linden and Steve Morfman on their marriage.
- (6) The Chocolate Lab or Asheville and The Hop Ice Cream Cafe, both for being named to the Food Lover's Guide to Asheville by National Geographic Magazine.
- (7) Peter Tamm on his engagement to Alex Hutton Clark.
- (8) Garrett Artz for having his picture on the cover of MOUNTAIN XPRESS, as well as for the great article about the organization (RiverLink). To read it, please go to p. 18 when you click: [Here](#)
- (9) Stephanie Hickling Beckman and the Different Strokes! Performing Arts Collective for an article published in AMERICAN THEATRE magazine and, also, in USARTNEWS.COM. To read it, please click: [Here](#)

**(D) Invitations to:**

(1) Be my guest at the annual Chanukah party of the Asheville Jewish Business Forum

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 7  
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Location: The Meadows Blake House (see pictures below), 31 Meadows Blake House Lane, Fletcher, NC 28732



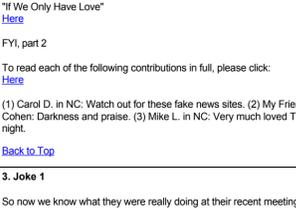
For more details about the above, as well as for information on how to register at no charge, please click: [Here](#)

(2) Join the Asheville Jewish Business Forum at the following event ...

The Asheville Jewish Business Forum has performed 50 tickets, courtesy of Charlotte Street Computers, for a special fundraiser/performance of the show SNOWBOUND.

Date: Thursday, Dec. 15  
Time: 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Asheville Community Theatre, 35 E. Walnut, Asheville

To read more about the play, as well as to find out how to obtain tickets at a discounted rate, please click: [Here](#)



**E. Reminders:**

(1) There's still time to enter ...  
\*\*\*\*\* CONTEST #23 \*\*\*\*\*  
One lucky reader will a copy of MIND THE GAP, a CD by Holiday Childress--courtesy of Holiday. .... This guy's music rocks! .... If you would like to check out some of it, please click: [Here](#)

To enter the contest: Send an email to: [hginc@aol.com](mailto:hginc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #23 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, Nov. 21, at 9 p.m.

(2) Please join me at this upcoming performance that Cynthia will be in: Community Choreography Projects Presents OUR STUFF: TRINKETS, TREASURES OR TIME TO LET GO

Sunday, Nov. 20  
5:30 p.m.  
Jubilee Community Church

Come experience this Story/Choreography performance of 15 cast members as they interweave stories, movement and multimedia into a montage of the human as collective -- personal and universal.

Enter our world of objects as eyewitness to our past as well as mirrors to our internal landscapes. An invitation to see your tangible world in a whole new light!

Tickets - \$10  
Purchase at the door

Note: Afterward, we'll be going out for a bite to eat at Early Girl Eatery. If you can join us for that, please let me know.

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

Thanks, Annemarie Brown in NC, for this week's nomination: The entire team of Two Men and a Truck (828.681.5252) were amazing beyond my wildest expectations. From the estimator to the follow-up calls before, during and after the move. ... Talk about feeling you are in really good hands with your precious merchandise. This was a very big and overwhelming move, and the movers had such a positive, joyful, helpful attitude. They were competent, quick, focused and were always on task. I could tell they were well trained. Superior customer service from the moment I made contact. ... Imagine the trust this instills in the customer. I highly recommend them above anyone else, and I did speak with two other companies. Zero follow-up from the other companies. Don't even waste your time speaking with anyone else. ... BTW, the cost was reasonable and competitive. Happy customer!

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**2. FYI**

5 Tips to bury the hatchet  
How to reconcile with friends and family who backed the other candidate:  
Don't gloat if your candidate won, and don't predict the end of the country if yours lost. Don't continue an argument that will get you nowhere.  
If you need to vent, do so with people who share your view.  
At holiday gatherings, respond to a gloating Trump supporter that you weren't for him but hope he is a good president. Then go get a glass of wine and find relatives who share your views.  
Put the presidential campaign in a box, leave it on the shelf and move on.

Source: Excellent article, "How to Reconcile With Family and Friends After the Elections," by Clare Ansberry that appeared in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL on 11.15.16. To read it, please click: [Here](#)

Mathinks you might also find the following of interest: "A 12-Step Program for Responding to President-Elect Trump" by Nicholas Kristof. To read it, please click: [Here](#)

And lastly, regardless of how you feel about the election, here are two songs to check out: "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life Sing-Along"  
[Here](#)

and:  
"If We Only Have Love"  
[Here](#)

FYI, part 2

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

(1) Carol D. in NC: Watch out for these fake news sites. (2) My friend Leonard Cohen: Darkness and praise. (3) Mike L. in NC: Very much Loved The Edge of 17 last night.

**3. Joke 1**

So now we know what they were really doing at their recent meeting!

They look like they're waiting for Michelle and Melania to finish trying on clothes at Lord & Taylor.



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**4. Reviews**

A. Saw HACKSHAW RIDGE, a true story about Desmond Doss who saved 75 men in WWII without firing or carrying a gun. He was also first conscientious objector to ever earn the Congressional Medal of Honor. ... Andrew Garfield was fantastic as Doss, but others in the cast were equally as good: Teresa Palmer, Sam Worthington and Vince Vaughn. Mel Gibson was the director, and he again proved that when it comes to war movies, he's up there with the best. ... The film is violent, especially in the second half, but I recommend it strongly. Rated R.

Note: I've added it to my list of favorite films. If you'd like to get that list, send an email to: [hginc@aol.com](mailto:hginc@aol.com) and put "FAVORITES" in the subject line.

B. Out on DVD IS STANDE OF STONE. My review from BLAINESWORLD #1040 follows: Saw HANDS OF STONE, the real-life account of Roberto Duran-the Panamanian fighter who made his professional debut in 1968 as a 16-year-old and retired in 2002 at the age of 50. Emphasis is on his 1980 fight when he defeated Sugar Ray Leonard to capture the WBC welterweight title and on his November rematch when he famously said words "no mas" (no more). I liked the boxing scenes, as well as the tremendous performance from Edgar Ramirez as Duran. Usher Raymond also scores as Leonard. Rated R.

C. Read THE RACKETTER: A NOVEL (Dell) by John Grisham. ... The author, long one of my favorites, has written many legal thrillers. I've read a vast majority of them, I would imagine, but nothing by him in the last few years. ... So I decided to give this book a shot, choosing to read it on my iPad--something I'm starting to do more often. ... The story, involving the murder of a federal judge and his young secretary, is very exciting in the beginning. Yet it became increasingly improbable as I got into it. And I was especially disappointed in the last 40 or so pages. They just seem to have been thrown together.

D. Heard LET'S PLAY MAKE-BELIEVE (James City Audio), a part of the BookShots series written by James Patterson with Hachette O. Born and read by Helen Wick. ... The novel is about a man and woman, both no longer with their original spouses, who fall in love at first sight. They soon begin to play a game of make-believe that held my interest from the beginning to the end. ... There were a lot of twists and turns, including a terrific ending that caught me by surprise.

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**5. TV alert**

A. AMERICAN MUSIC AWARDS: Sunday, Nov. 20, at 8 p.m. on ABC. Bruno Mars is the opening act, and Maroon 5 and Kendrick Lamar close the show. In addition, Sting receiving the AMA "Music Award of Merit," and there are performances by Lady Gaga, John Legend, Green Day, Fifth Harmony, The Weekend and many others.

B. ANNE OF GOLDEN GABLES: Thursday, Nov. 24, at 8 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at [Here](#))  
This latest adaptation of the Lucy Maud Montgomery classic stars Ella Ballentine as the plucky orphan who changes the lives of her adoptive family in the Canadian hamlet of Avonlea.

C. GILMORE GIRLS: A YEAR IN THE LIFE: Season premiere on Friday, Nov. 25, via Netflix.  
This four-part reunion is "is almost ridiculously satisfying" according to TV GUIDE.

D. A HEAVENLY CHRISTMAS: Saturday, Nov. 26, at 8 p.m. on the HALLMARK CHANNEL.  
I'm a sucker for Christmas movies, and this one has a fine cast: Kristin Davis, Shirley MacLaine and Eric McCormack.

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**6. Joke 2**

A balloonist (B) suddenly realizes he's lost. He reduces height and spots a man (M) down below. He lowers the balloon further and shouts, "Excuse me, can you tell me where I am?"; (M) "Yes. You're in a hot air balloon, hovering 30 feet above this field." ... (B) "You must work in Information Technology." ... (M) "I do. How did you know?" ... (B) "Well, everything you have told me is technically correct, but it's of no use to anyone." ... (M) "You must work in management." ... (B) "I do. But how'd you know?"; ... (M) "Well, you don't know where you are or where you're going, but you expect me to be able to help. Also, you're in the same position you were before we met--and now it's my fault."

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**7. Clips/Websites**

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:  
(1) Tom G. in NJ: It's a Trenton thing  
[Here](#)

(2) Joe M. in PA: Guy stands up against Muslims  
[Here](#)

(3) Cynthia G. in NC: Jersey Girl Meets Sweeney Todd  
[Here](#)

(4) Carol D. in NC: Never give up on your dreams  
[Here](#)

B. Ever wonder how to do something? If so, check out this website that has 17,000+ videos and articles on everything from how to decorate your lights to tracking smartphone data usage. To view it, please click: [Here](#)

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**

Protecting Your Digital Life in 7 Easy Steps  
by Jonah Engel Bromwich

There are more reasons than ever to understand how to protect your personal information.

Major hacks seem ever more frequent. Investigators believe that a set of top-secret National Security Agency hacking tools were offered to online bidders this summer.

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

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**9. Joke 3**

Apparently, if you look hard enough at this picture, you'll see a horse! And you'll also be amazed--as I was--that this picture of me holding the horse is now all over the internet.



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**10. A quote I like**

Gwen Ifill (1955-2016) was an American journalist, television newscaster and author. She was also the moderator and managing editor of Washington Week and co-anchor and co-managing editor, with Judy Woodruff, of PBS NewsHour. For her obituary, please click: [Here](#)



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**11. Thought for the day**

Kids say the damndest things--and sometimes ask the most profound questions, too! ... Thanks, Dad (and all the other veterans who helped make this great country of ours), for both your service and sacrifice.



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**12. Advance planning department**

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

A. NC events  
(1) Zuzu Welsh Band schedule. (2) HEAVEN IN YOUR PARK at Hendersonville Community Theatre.

B. PANJ events  
(1) Jim Freeman at The Newtwin Bookshop. (2) David Brahinsky and Friends.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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