

BLAINESWORLD

#1216
1.6.2020

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1. Reflections

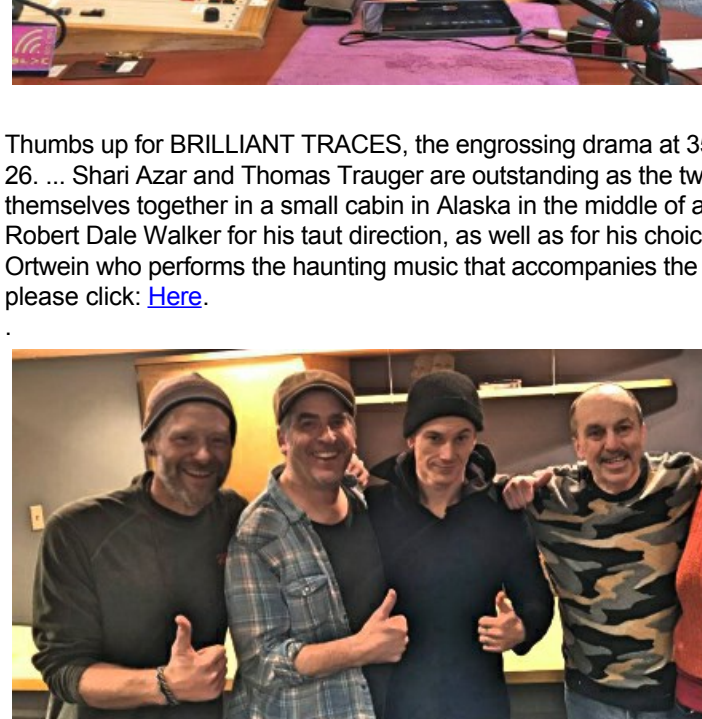
If you're reading this via Facebook or LinkedIn, please be advised that you will get it quicker if you get it via email. Another advantage: You'll never miss it that way because you may not have logged in for a day or two. And in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, all you need to do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

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had a blast welcoming in 2020 with friends at the Tap Haus. In the bottom left picture, that's us dropping the ball at 11:59 p.m. (It was actually several hours earlier. We had fast forwarded the clock, so that we were able to get home much earlier for our beauty sleep.) In the bottom right picture, that's Jensen Gelford and Beth Mayberry after we just announced their engagement. ... For other pictures, along with a clip of us dropping the ball, please click: [Here](#).

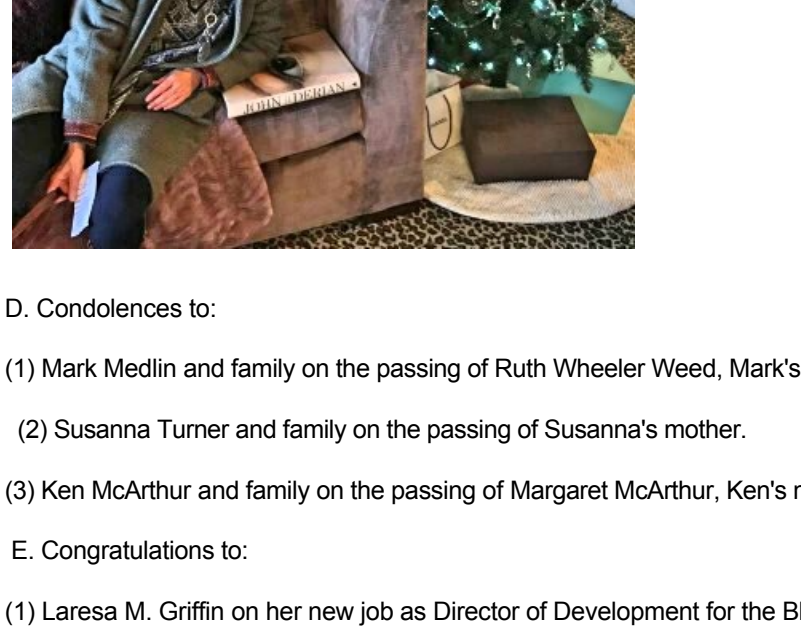


(2) Got tasty hamburgers and terrific fries at Burgerworx in Asheville. That was the first time we had been there. We will be back.

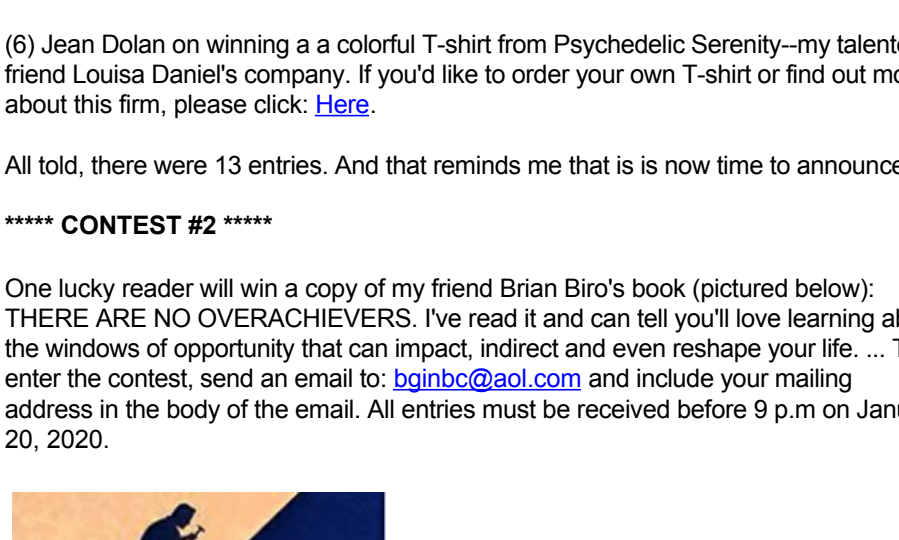


B. Catch this week's BLAINESWORLD show on WPVM, featuring Holiday Childress (left) in the first half and Robert Dale Walker (right) in the second half, by clicking: [Here](#).

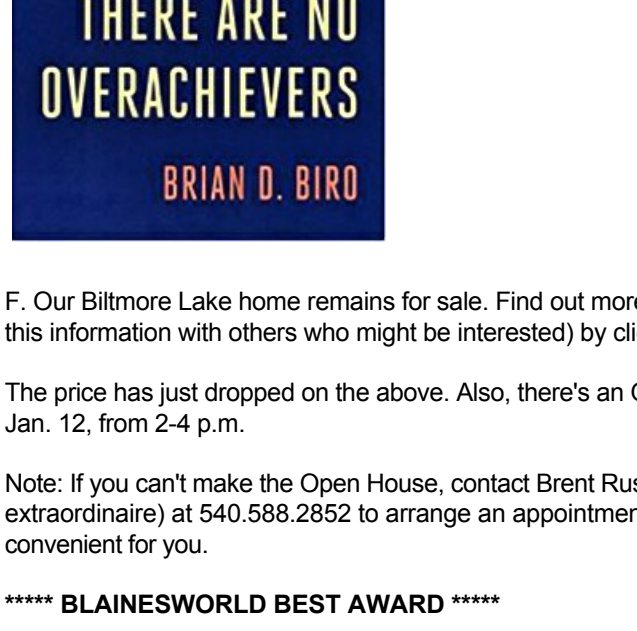
Note: Special thanks to Grail Moviehouse for sponsoring the above. To find out what's currently playing, please click: [Here](#).



Thumbs up for BRILLIANT TRACES, the engrossing drama at 35below through Jan. 26. ... Shari Azar and Thomas Trauger are outstanding as the two characters who find themselves together in a small cabin in Alaska in the middle of a snowstorm. Kudos to Robert Dale Walker for his taut direction, as well as for his choice of guitarist Travis Ortnwein who performs the haunting music that accompanies the play. ... For tickets, please click: [Here](#).



C. Cynthia recently got to spend some time with Nina, our friend Warren Fluharty's cat.



D. Condolences to:

- (1) Mark Medlin and family on the passing of Ruth Wheeler Weed, Mark's mother.
- (2) Susanna Turner and family on the passing of Susanna's mother.
- (3) Ken McArthur and family on the passing of Margaret McArthur, Ken's mother.

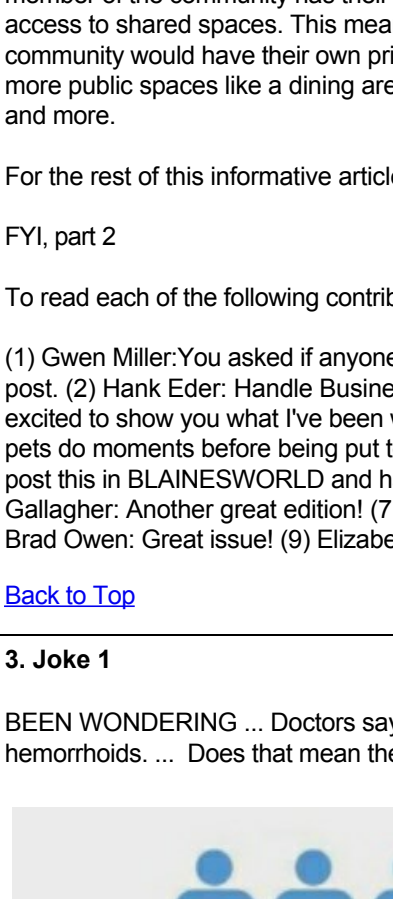
E. Congratulations to:

- (1) Laresa M. Griffin on her new job as Director of Development for the Blue Ridge Humane Society.
- (2) Barrie Barton on her new position as an adjunct teacher at UNCA.
- (3) Christine Breninger in being profiled in an excellent article, written by Peggy Ratusz, in SOFIA. To read it, please go to page 8 when you click: [Here](#).
- (4) Grayson Powell for winning BroadwayWorld's "Best Featured Actor in a Play" Award for MISS BENNET: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY.
- (5) Nina Hart and Laura Wagenknecht on both having new radio shows on WPVM. For more information, please click: [Here](#).
- (6) Jean Dolan on winning a colorful T-shirt from Psychedelic Serenity--my talented friend Louisa Daniele's company. If you'd like to order your own T-shirt or find out more about this firm, please click: [Here](#).

All told, there were 13 entries. And that reminds me that is is now time to announce ...

***** CONTEST #2 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of my friend Brian Biro's book (pictured below): THERE ARE NO OVERACHIEVERS. I've read it and can tell you I'll love learning about the windows of opportunity that can impact, indirect and even reshape your life. ... To enter the contest, send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and include your mailing address in the body of the email. All entries must be received before 9 p.m on January 20, 2020.



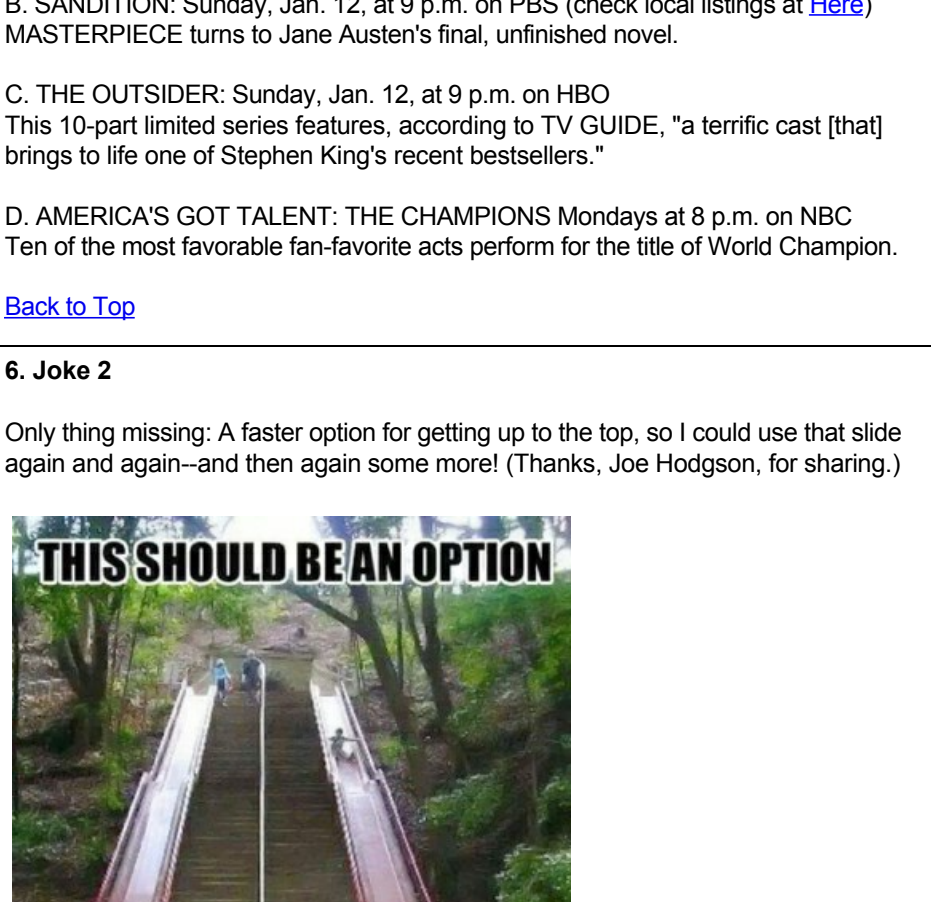
F. Our Biltmore Lake home remains for sale. Find out more about it yourself (or share this information with others who might be interested) by clicking: [Here](#).

The price has just dropped on the above. Also, there's an Open House on Sunday, Jan. 12, from 2-4 p.m.

Note: If you can't make the Open House, contact Brent Russell (our realtor extraordinaire) at 540.588.2852 to arrange an appointment at a time that would be convenient for you.

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

This week, it goes to the the following product: 16-Color Toilet Night Light, Motion Activated Detection Bathroom Bowl Lights--available from Amazon by clicking: [Home](#). ... When I first heard about it, I thought it was a joke. But was I wrong. ... When you go to the bathroom at night, it senses your presence and immediately lights up. No more bumping around in the dark, as well as no more wet toilet seats ... It is easy to both use and set up, and you can't beat the \$12.93 price. ... You'll be delighted with this product!



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2. FYI

Thanks, Carole Biro, for putting this on my radar screen: Goodbye Nursing Homes! The New Trend Is Co-Housing With Friends by Abley Ryan

Nursing homes have been the only real option available for elderly, retired seniors who are unable to live alone anymore and also don't have family nearby who are able to add them to their household. Despite the fact that this is a common option, nobody likes facing the decision of whether or not to move themselves (or their parent!) into a potentially lonely, unwelcoming nursing home. That's what makes this new evolution in senior housing such a great alternative! Give you: senior cohousing.

What Exactly Is Senior Cohousing?
This unique kind of senior care is exactly what it sounds like. A cohousing community's intent is to ensure that every member has privacy and a space of their own. Each member of the community has their own apartment or house, all while also having access to shared spaces. This means that every senior living in the cohousing community would have their own private space while living near friends who share more public spaces like a dining area, library, cinema center, fitness center, garden, and more.

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

FYI, part 2

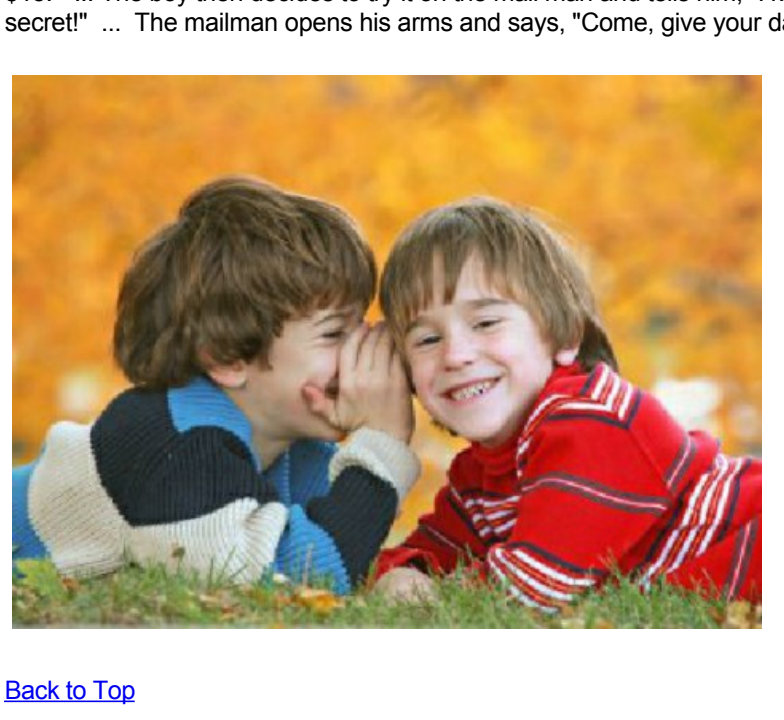
To read each of the following contributions in full, please click: [Here](#).

- (1) Gwen Miller: You asked if anyone had heard of or taken Collagen in a recent blog post. (2) Hank Eder: Handle Business Networking Meetings Like a BOSS! (3) I'm excited to show you what I've been working on. (4) Bonnie Silbner: Vet explains what pets do moments before being put to sleep. (5) Brian Biro: Thought you might want to post this in BLAINESWORLD and have Meredith as a guest on your show. (6) Tom Gallagher: Another great edition! (7) Walter Weeks: Fake spot did not respond. (8) Brad Owen: Great issue! (9) Elizabeth Yaruss: Oh no, has something changed?

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3. Joke 1

BEEN WONDERING ... Doctors say that 7 out of 10 Americans suffer from hemorrhoids. ... Does that mean the other 3 enjoy them?



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4. Reviews

A. Saw JUST MERCY, a thought-provoking true story about a lawyer who defends those on death row who were wrongly condemned or who were not afforded proper representation. Michael B. Jordan and Jamie Foxx were outstanding in the leading roles, and I also liked the work of Brie Larson and Tim Blake Nelson in supporting roles. I very much hope that both Foxx and Nelson get Oscar consideration, as well as David Atherton for the work he did on Nelson's makeup. Rated PG-13.

B. If you are a sports and/or documentary fan, catch TED WILLIAMS: THE GREATEST HITTER WHO EVER LIVED on Netflix. My only regret: It was too short at 60 minutes. I would have wanted to see much more detail about his amazing life. Jon Hamm's narration added to my enjoyment of the film. Rated NR.

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5. TV alert

A. LIVE TWICE, LOVE ONCE: Now on Netflix. When Emilio is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, he and his family embark on a quest to reunite him with his childhood crush.

B. MASTERTPIECE: Sunday, Jan. 12, at 9 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at [Here](#)) MASTERTPIECE turns to Jane Austen's final, unfinished novel.

C. THE OUTSIDER: Sunday, Jan. 12, at 9 p.m. on HBO. This 10-part limited series features, according to TV GUIDE, "a terrific cast [that] brings to life one of Stephen King's recent bestsellers."

D. AMERICA'S GOT TALENT: THE CHAMPIONS Mondays at 8 p.m. on NBC. Ten of the most favorable fan-favorite acts perform for the title of World Champion.

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6. Joke 2

Only thing missing: A faster option for getting up to the top, so I could use that slide again and again--and then again some more! (Thanks, Joe Hodgson, for sharing.)



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Video of the week

Bill Moore: Try this #chairchallenge! Guys CANNOT do it! Ladies...No problem!: [Here](#).

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

- (1) Michel Legrand: "Les Parapluies De Cherbourg," one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).
- (2) Debra Hoey: Bud Light Philadelphia Ad: [Here](#).
- (3) Annemarie Brown: Exercise is good for health: [Here](#).

C. Wikibuy offers savings on website purchases. To find out more, please click: [Here](#).

Mr. Curious here: You use the above? If so, do you have any results that you care to share?

I recently tried it and saved \$7 on an external mic I bought for my iPad.

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

Get Those Records, Tapes and CDs Onto Your Smartphone
by J. D. Biersdorfer

A huge amount of the world's audio has been digitized, but many veterans of the Analog Age still have out-of-print albums, lectures and other content locked on vinyl records, cassettes and CDs. Converting the audio to digital formats for personal use is much simpler than it used to be, though, thanks in part to gadgets that connect to a computer's USB port.

In addition to making files that play on your smartphone or media server, digitizing your analog audio creates an electronic archive you can store online for safekeeping. The steps for converting your old recordings vary on the formats and equipment you have, but here's a general outline of the process and the equipment you may need.

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

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9. Joke 3

Two boys are talking, and the one says to the other, "There is an easy way to get what you want." ... The other boy asks, "How?" ... The first boy replies, "Tell people you know their secret." ... The boy jumps up and runs to his dad, "I know your secret!" ... The dad replies, "Please don't tell your mom. Here's \$10." ... The boy then runs to his mom, "I know your secret!" ... The mom says, "Please don't tell your dad. Here's \$15." ... The boy then decides to try it on the mail man and tells him, "I know your secret!" ... The mailman opens his arms and says, "Come, give your dad a hug!"

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10. A quote I like

Thanks, Buck Henry (1930-2020), for your screenplay for THE GRADUATE, for directing HEAVEN CAN WAIT, for creating GET SMART, for hosting SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE 10 times and for your work in many other movies and television shows. I'm grateful for the fact that you always put a smile on my face. ... For more information about his life, please click: [Here](#).

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11. Thought for the day

FOOD FOR THOUGHT ... How come "you're a peach" is a compliment, but "you're bananas" is an insult? Why are we allowing fruit discrimination to tear society apart? ... On second thought, this is actually FRUIT FOR THOUGHT!! (Thanks, Colleen Dunn, for sharing.)

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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) SEVEN SINGERS SINGING. (2) Reasonably Priced Babies Comedy Improv. (3) An InterPlay-For-All Saturday Event.

B. PAWN Event

At Actor's Net of Bucks County: SPIDER'S WEB.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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