

#1219
1.27.2020

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1. Reflections

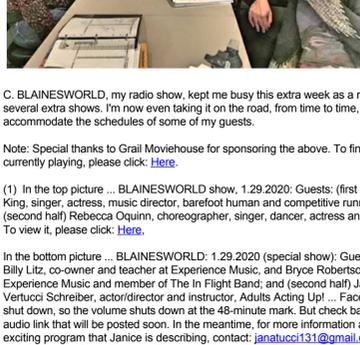
If you're reading this via Facebook or LinkedIn, please be advised that you will get it quicker if you get it via email. Another advantage: You'll never miss it that way because you may not have logged in for a day or two. And in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, all you need to do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

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had a delicious potluck dinner, hosted by our friend Bonnie Stiner (pictured in the front row on the far right), followed by a fun game of WHAT DO YOU MEME?



(2) Were dazzled by performance of Lau Maggie in MONSTERS UNDER THE BED, her recent one-woman show that she wrote with Chris Medrano, (who also contributed to the day's success with his voice-over contribution) .



B. Advance Planning Department about a play that I'd love you to see, in that I'm in it ... TRAITOR, now in rehearsal, opens at The Magnetic Theatre on March 13 and runs through March 28. This modern adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE is both hilarious and heartbreaking. ... David Anthony Yeates is the director, Marissa Wilson is the stage manager and many of your favorite local actors are in the show, including Tatie Albert, Caroline Renfro, Laura Gregory, Ana-Alicia Carol, Paula O'Brien, Bryan O'Brien, CJ Breland, John Baldwin, Gaia Eggert, Alex Guazzo, Victoria Lambert and Elaine Greenfield. ... For tickets, please click: [Here](#).



C. BLAINESWORLD, my radio show, kept me busy this extra week as a result of several extra shows. I'm now even taking it on the road, from time to time, so as to accommodate the schedules of some of my guests.

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

(1) In the top picture ... BLAINESWORLD show, 1.29.2020: Guests: (first half) Trissa King, singer, actress, music director, barefoot human and competitive runner; and (second half) Rebecca Oquinn, choreographer, singer, dancer, actress and counselor. To view it, please click: [Here](#).

In the bottom picture ... BLAINESWORLD: 1.29.2020 (special show): Guests: (first half) Billy Litz, co-owner and teacher at Experience Music, and Bryce Robertson, teacher at Experience Music and member of The In Flight Band; and (second half) Janice Vertucco Schreiber, actor/director and instructor, Audits Acting Up! ... Facebook Live shut down, so the volume shuts down at the 48-minute mark. But check back for the audio link that will be posted soon. In the meantime, for more information about the exciting program that Janice is describing, contact: janatucci131@gmail.com or msjullawharton@gmail.com. ... To view it, please click: [Here](#).

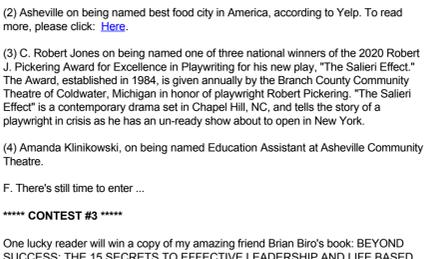


(2) In the top picture ... BLAINESWORLD show (on the road) ... Special edition of Blaine's WPVM show taped at Brevard Little Theatre on 1.26.2020, in which the director and actors discuss VIRTUALLY IN LOVE. ... Please note: There's some background noise, so please pump up the volume as need be. ... To view it, please click: [Here](#).

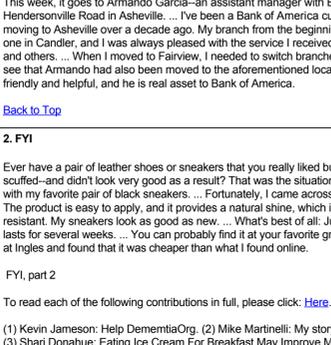
In the bottom picture ... BLAINESWORLD show, 2.1.2020 on the road with Mark Jones at Asheville Community Theatre. ... To view it, please click: [Here](#).



(3) And finally, I was honored to be a guest on the last part of my friend Laura Wagenknecht's new show: IN AWE. ... To view it, please click: [Here](#). (Make sure you view the first part, too. It features an interview with the fabulous Murphy Funkhouser Capps.)



C. Our Blimore Lakes property will have an Open House on both Feb. 2 and Feb. 9 from 2-4 p.m. Feel free to stop by. ... If you can't make either of those two dates or want more information, call Brent Russell--our realtor extraordinaire--at 828.528.1829. ... You can also get more information by clicking: [Here](#).



D. Condolences to Annemarie Gore and family on the passing of Angelo, Annemarie's son.

E. Congratulations to:

(1) Michele Louzon and Arms Around ASD to being featured in THE LAUREL OF ASHELLE. To read the article, please click: [Here](#).

(2) Asheville on being named best food city in America, according to Yelp. To read more, please click: [Here](#).

(3) C. Robert Jones on being named one of three national winners of the 2020 Robert J. Pickering Award for Excellence in Playwriting for his new play, "The Salleri Effect." The Award, established in 1984, is given annually by the Branch City Community Theatre of Colowater, Michigan in honor of playwright Robert Pickering. "The Salleri Effect" is a contemporary drama set in Chapel Hill, NC, and tells the story of a playwright in crisis as he has an un-named show about to open in New York.

(4) Amanda Kliniowski, on being named Education Assistant at Asheville Community Theatre.

F. There's still time to enter ...

****** CONTEST #3 ******

One lucky reader will win a copy of my amazing friend Brian Biro's book: BEYOND SUCCESS: THE 15 SECRETS TO EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP AND LIFE BASED ON LEGENDARY COACH JOHN WOODEN'S PYRAMID OF SUCCESS. To quote from Coach Wooden's recommendation: "Brian has uncovered new secrets within each block of the pyramid using captivating and inspiring analogies from his own experience. As you read his stories and learn about some of the wonderful people he has worked with over the years, you will begin to develop your own personalized game plan to enrich your life as a parent, a friend and a professional." ... To enter the contest, send an email to: bjginc@aol.com and include your mailing address in the body of the email. Put CONTEST #3 in the subject line. All entries must be received before 9 p.m on Feb. 3, 2020.

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

This week, it goes to Armando Garcia--an assistant manager with Bank of America on Hendersonville Road in Asheville. ... I've been a Bank of America customer since moving to Asheville over a decade ago. My branch from the beginning had been the one in Candler, and I was always pleased with the service I received from Armando and others. ... When I moved to Fairview, I needed to switch branches and was glad to see that Armando had also been moved to the aforementioned location. ... He is both friendly and helpful, and he is real asset to Bank of America.

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2. FYI

Ever have a pair of leather shoes or sneakers that you really liked but that had been all scuffed--and didn't look very good as a result? That was the situation I found myself in with my favorite pair of black sneakers. ... Fortunately, I came across KIWI Scuff Cover. The product is easy to apply, and it provides a natural shine, which is also water resistant. My sneakers look as good as new. ... What's best of all: Just one application lasts for several weeks. ... You can probably find it at your favorite grocery store. I got it at Ingles and found that it was cheaper than what I found online.

FYI, part 2

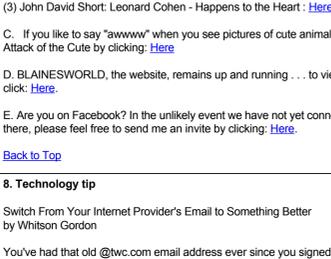
To read each of the following contributions in full, please click: [Here](#).

- (1) Kevin Jameson: Help DementiaOrg
- (2) Mike Martinelli: My story of sexual abuse.
- (3) Shari Donahue: Eating Ice Cream For Breakfast May Improve Mental Performance And Alertness. Study Says.
- (4) How Much Racism Do You Face Every Day?

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3. Joke 1

"You know America is backward when Groundhog Day is a holiday, and the Super Bowl isn't."--Anonymous. ... That's my opinion today, and I'm sticking by it. ... I'm also sticking with my plan to watch the game to see how Bill Murray reprises his classic film role in the 60-second Jeep ad that's slated to run during the broadcast. (For more information, please click: [Here](#).)



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4. Reviews

A. Saw THE SONG OF NAMES, a drama about an amateur sleuth trying to find out what became of a childhood friend who mysteriously vanished. ... Usually like both Tim Roth and Clive Owen (virtually unrecognizable), but their performances didn't move me in this film that I found quite flat for the most part. That said, the music was excellent, as was one touching scene involving how Owens found out about the fate of his family. Rated PG-13.

B. Catch SATAN & ADAM, an engrossing documentary on Netflix about a Jewish Ivy League graduate and black Mississippi blues man who make an unlikely pair on the streets on a Harlem street corner. After a celebrated debut record, the duo gained international acclaim only to have their meteoric rise cut short when one member mysteriously disappears. It's a fascinating story. Rated NR, but appropriate for anybody over the age of 12.

C. Natalie Kaye: Saw some really good movies lately, like Dark Waters, Just Mercy and Little Women.

D. Heard CONAN DOYLE FOR THE DEFENSE: THE TRUE STORY OF A SENSATIONAL BRITISH MURDER, A QUEST FOR JUSTICE AND THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS DETECTIVE (Random House Audio), written by Margalit Fox and narrated by Peter Forbes. ... This is a fascinating true crime book about a sensational murder and scandalous wrongful conviction that turned around when Sir Arthur Conan Doyle came to the rescue. It also marked the beginning of police work when prejudice was replaced by the scientific method. ... Unfortunately, we often don't follow the lesson of this book; i.e., facts should be followed to find the truth.

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5. TV alert

A. MISS AMERICA: Now on Netflix
Taylor Swift reflects on her life in the spotlight, as well as on her ever-evolving career.

B. MCMILLIONS: Monday, Feb. 3, at 10 p.m. on HBO
This six-part docuseries unravels a multi-million-dollar fraud targeting McDonald's Monopoly promotional game.

C. INDEBTED: Series premiere on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 9:30 p.m. on NBC
Fran Drescher (of THE NANNY fame) and Steven Weber (WINGS) play broke baby boomers in a new sitcom.

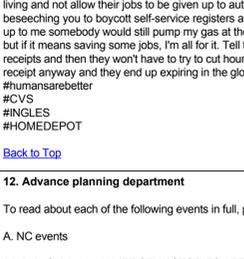
D. TOMMY: Thursday, Feb. 6, at 10 p.m. on CBS
Eddie Falco (multiple Emmy winner for both THE SOPRANOS and NURSE JACKIE) returns to TV as Abigail "Tommy" Thomas, the first female police chief in Los Angeles.

E. Natalie Kaye: We are enjoying several Netflix series, including Dolly Parton's Heartstrings. Also enjoying getting biographies on Prime like William Holden, Cary Grant, Richard Burton, etc. Love those kinds of films. We are also watching Outlander which we really enjoy, and, of course, Mrs. Maisel and Grace and Frankie. Loving This is Us.

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6. Joke 2

I now feel sooooo much better. And don't worry: If you are reading this, you don't fall into that category. (Thanks, Drew Emanuele, for sharing.)



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Video of the week

Dania Diaz: Venezuelan Magician's STUNNING Life-Story Act Wows: [Here](#).

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

(1) Bread: "If," one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Lavelle Olexa: Judi Dench: My Passion for Trees: [Here](#).

(3) John David Short: Leonard Cohen - Happens to the Heart: [Here](#).

C. If you like to say "awwww" when you see pictures of cute animals, check out Attack of the Cute by clicking: [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

Switch From Your Internet Provider's Email to Something Better by Whitson Gordon

You've had that old @tbc.com email address ever since you signed up for cable internet years ago, and it has served you well. But those cable company-provided email services are far from the best on the block, and in some cases, they may even disappear if you move or switch to a different internet provider, taking years of history and saved emails with them.

Sure, some internet service providers (or I.S.P.s) - like Comcast and AT&T - allow you to keep your email address when you leave, but others - like Spectrum - will disconnect your email service as soon as you jump ship. Even if you aren't thinking about leaving your provider now, you may be forced to in the future, and you would almost certainly be better served by a more modern, feature-filled email service like Gmail, Outlook or something else. Unfortunately, choosing a new email address means you'll need to figure out what to do with all your old messages - and set up a new email account that isn't tied to your internet service.

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

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9. Joke 3

This would never happen with our cat Lovey. ... She would never stick around for the scolding! (Thanks, Evelyn Blau, for sharing.)

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10. Two quotes I like

A. Thanks, Kobe Bryant (1978-2020), for dazzling me so often with your basketball talents that had you named 18 times as an All-Star and 15 times to the All-NBA Team, and also had you lead the Los Angeles Lakers to 5 championships. ... I was also impressed that in 2018, you became the first African American to win the Academy Award for Best Animated Short Film and the first former professional athlete to win an Academy Award in any category for DEAR BASKETBALL. ... For more information about his life, please click: [Here](#).

B. Thanks, Mary Higgins Clark (1927-2020), for your 56 books --many of which I have read and enjoyed. Your sobriquet "Queen of Suspense" was well-deserved. ... For more information about her life, please click: [Here](#).

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11. Thought for the day

Thanks, Carol Duernit, for allowing me to run this oh-so-insightful Facebook post: Human Service Announcement:

CVS Candler and probably other locations have now installed self-service registers. When I asked about this service I was told that overall, 85 hours had been cut from the employees that work in that store alone. I don't know about you, but I for one would rather pay a few cents more and keep my neighbors working and in a job than try to fart around with one of those stupid self-service registers. Seriously, we are not in that big of a hurry that we cannot honor the people in our community that are trying to work for a living and not allow their jobs to be given up to automation without a fight. So, I'm beseeching you to boycott self-service registers at Ingles, CVS, and the like. If I were up to me somebody would still pump my gas at the gas station. I hate the work boycott, but if it means saving some jobs, I'm all for it. Tell them to stop giving me 17 miles of receipts and when they won't have to try to cut hours for their employees. I don't use the receipt anyway and they end up expiring in the glove compartment of my car.

#humansarebetter

#CVS

#INGLES

#HOMEDEPOT

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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) Judy Calabrese: WHET SEXY STORIES ARE REAL. (2) Break the Silence Speaker Series: Amber Tamblyn. (3) Hendersonville Community Theatre: A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM.

B. PANJ events

All ActorsNet: SPIDER'S WEB.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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