

#1175
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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 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 lovely day visiting Charlotte, at which time we got to see several of Cynthia's cousins. We first had a tasty lunch at Vivace (top photo). Pictured, l-r: Cheryl Fishman, Bob Bufano, Carol Fishman-Bufano, Vivian Fishman, Billy Fishman, Blaine Greenfield and Cynthia Greenfield. ... We then took a walk along the Little Sugar Creek Greenway (bottom photo).



- (2) Joined our friend Judy Ray for an excellent dinner at Apollo Flame Bistro where we received fine service from Sarah.



B. During the week, I:

- (1) Met my friend (and comedian extraordinaire) Jason Scholder for some delicious pizza at Del Vecchios where we solved all the world's problems.



- (2) Met another friend, Ryan Garcia, for sandwiches at Alykat Deli in Hendersonville. It was the first time I ate there; it won't be the last. The food was quite good. ... We also finalized plans for the upcoming Happy Together + 1 Revue that will have been held by the time you read this. Stay tuned for pictures and clips from the event.

In the meantime, you can see Ryan talking about it by clicking: [Here](#).



C. WPVMFM invites you to listen to the BLAINESWORLD show from Wednesday, March 27, 2019 ... The guests were Jim Blanton and Abby Moser, both with the Buncombe County, and Don Talley, with The Light Center. ... To listen to the show, please click: [Here](#). ... and to view the show, please click: [Here](#). ... Pictured: (front row) Ted Blanton and Abby Moser, and (rear row) Blaine Greenfield and Don Talley.

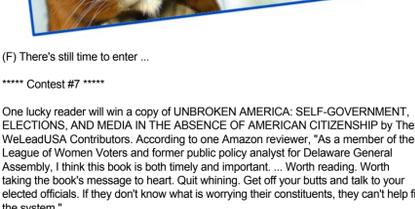


D. Congratulations to:

- (1) Mike Trayford on being featured on Fox 8 in Greensboro, NC. To view his appearance, please click: [Here](#).
- (2) Kris Saucedo on being accepted into Penn State University as a Musical Theatre Major.
- (3) Warren Friel on being promoted to Chief Operating Officer at MCR Services, Inc.

E. Please join me:

- (1) At a free show, LETTERS FROM HOME, you won't want to miss. It features, l-r: Dan Beckman and Einar Dearth (left photo) and Heather Nicole Bronson (right photo) as a guest performer. You'll see a USO-style show with singing, tap dancing, audience interaction and laughter to make your spirit bright. Date: Friday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m. ... Location: Attic Salt Theatre, 2002 Riverside Drive, Asheville. ... For tickets: Send an email to: wpvmfm@aol.com with your name and the number in your party.



- (2) In voting in the 2019 Best of WNC Readers' Poll, running through April 30. ... I'd be honored for your vote in these Media Categories: (1) Local Radio Personality/Announcer: Blaine Greenfield. (2) Local News Source: BLAINESWORLD. (3) Local Events Information Source: BLAINESWORLD. (4) Local Print Publication Other Than XPress: BLAINESWORLD. ... To do do, register: [Here](#). Then vote for me, as well as in at least 26 other categories. If your ballot doesn't have votes in 30 categories, it won't be counted. ... If you want me and others to vote for you, indicate your desired categories in an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put REQUEST in the subject line. ... And if you need help in completing the 30 categories, send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put SUGGESTIONS in the subject line.



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

***** Contest #7 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of UNBROKEN AMERICA: SELF-GOVERNMENT, ELECTIONS, AND MEDIA IN THE ABSENCE OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP by The WeLeadUSA Contributors. According to one Amazon reviewer, "As a member of the League of Women Voters and former public policy analyst for Delaware General Assembly, I think this book is both timely and important. ... Worth reading. Worth taking the book's message to heart. Out voting. Get off your butts and talk to your elected officials. If they don't know what is worrying their constituents, they can't help fix the system."

To enter the contest, send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #7 in the subject line, then include your name and snail mail address in the body of the email. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon., April 1.

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

This week, it goes to Tim Clark—owner of T. Clark's Handyman Services. We recently contacted him about how we could give Lovey, our indoor cat, access to the deck without keeping the door open all the time. Tim found us the perfect screen door that had a cat door, then did a fine job of installing it. He even got Cynthia to try it out. Now, all we have to do is get Lovey to use it! ... Tim has also done several other jobs for us. We find him both friendly and knowledgeable, and his prices are reasonable. ... For more information, please call Tim at 828.713.0426 or send an email to: Timbug8@aol.com.



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2. FYI

Thanks, Sandra Bilbray, for this terrific way to remember somebody's birthday—on Facebook, at a party or via a note: This stud, also known as my husband Reed Bilbray, has a Birthday today! He is an incredible man who I adore! To help celebrate his special day, please share your favorite memory of him or something you like about him! Happy Birthday Babel Love YOU!

My response:
I like the fact that Reed is extremely intelligent, as evidenced by the fact that he has chosen to be my friend!

FYI, part 2

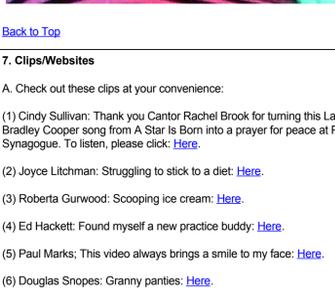
To read each of the following contributions in full, please click: [Here](#).

- (1) Carolyn Derreberry Beckner: Loved the Richard Gere quote. (2) (2) Cathy De Troia: Can't believe I made it into BLAINESWORLD! (3) Abby Moser: The library needs you! (4) Colleen Dunn: I will vote for you if you promise to explain the superiority of the St. Louis sliced bagel in your next newsletter. (5) Reading to your toddler are better than digital ones. (6) Edina Hegguler: There is No Books for your Hobbies Treat Adjuncts.

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3. Joke 1

Our teacher asked what our favorite animal was, and I answered, "Fried chicken." She said I wasn't funny, but she couldn't have been right because everyone else in the class laughed. Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office. I told him what happened, and he also laughed—then told me not to do it again. ... The next day, my teacher asked me what my favorite live animal was. I said, "Chicken." When asked why, I told her it was because you could make them into fried chicken. She also didn't think this was funny and sent me back to the principal. He laughed—then told me not to do it again. ... Today, my teacher asked us what famous person we admire most. I said, "Colonel Sanders." Guess where I am now. (Thanks, Ginger Heskett, for sharing.)



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4. Reviews

A. Saw JUANITA, a new film that's now available via Netflix. It's a sweet love story about a mother of three grown children who searches for hope and healing on a trip that has her wind up in Paper Moon, Montana. ... The performance of Alfre Woodard in the leading role makes it worth watching. Rated NR; appropriate for anybody over the age of 12.

B. Heard THIS YEAR YOU WRITE YOUR NOVEL (Hachette Audio), written by Salter Mosely and read by Deon Graham. ... This short, but insightful book gives you useful advice on what needs to be done from start to finish. I liked how it covered such topics as narrative voice, character development, plot, and editing, as well as the advice for any aspiring writer to read and study poetry, "the fount of all writing" ... I also liked these two recommendations: 1) Write every single day and "don't stop writing for any reason." 2) After you finish your novel, read it aloud to yourself. ... Graham's engaging narration added to my enjoyment of the book. ... Note: A review copy of THIS YEAR YOU WRITE YOUR NOVEL was provided by the publisher.

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5. TV alert

HBO is what you should be watching this week if you have that premium service for the following three shows:
A. BARRY: Sun., March 31, at 10 p.m. on HBO
Emmy winners Bill Hader and Henry Winkler return for the second season of this dark, original comedy about a moody former hitman who has an acting bug.

B. VEEP: Sun., March 31, at 10:30 p.m. on HBO
Multiple Emmy winner Julia Louis-Dreyfus hits the presidential campaign one last time in this satirical series that's unfortunately in its last and final season.

C. NATIVE SON: Sat., April 6, at 10 p.m. on HBO
This adaptation of Richard Wright's controversial 1940 novel is a winner, according to TV GUIDE: "The tragic urban tale of Bigger Thomas (MOONLIGHT)'s quietly expressive Aston Sanders) is effectively modernized in a script by Pulitzer-winning playwright Suzen-Lori Parks and visualized with an oppressive mood of fatalistic inevitability by artist Rashid Johnson, a first-time director."

Note: Kudos to HBO for the above, but a big thumbs down for dropping CRASHING after its third season. This series, bout a stand-up comedian, starring Pete Holmes, had become one I never wanted to miss.

D. APRIL FOODS' DAY MARATHON: Mon, April 1, beginning at 3 p.m. on Sundance TV
Be prepared to laugh at the comedic joys of AIRPLANE! and its sequel, followed by BLAZING SADDLES, PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES and SPACEBALLS.

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6. Joke 2

Today, I told the nurse about my recent headaches and the pain in my neck and back. She typed everything I mentioned into the computer. I told her the pain woke me up three times in the middle of the night this last week. ... She threw up her hands and was clearly terrified. Her mouth was open in shock and as she stared at me, I was so nervous. ... I said, "Oh no, is that really bad?" ... She replied, "There is a giant spider on the wall behind my computer!" (Thanks, Justin Slack, for sharing this exchange that actually took place. Fortunately, he is OK. The doctor told him that he just needed to get a massage and be less stressed.)



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

- (1) Cindy Sullivan: Thank you Cantor Rachel Brooker for turning this Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper song from A Star Is Born into a prayer for peace at Park Avenue Synagogue. To listen, please click: [Here](#).
- (2) Joyce Litchman: Struggling to stick to a diet: [Here](#).
- (3) Roberta Gurwood: Scooping ice cream: [Here](#).
- (4) Ed Hackett: Found myself a new practice buddy: [Here](#).
- (5) Paul Marks: This video always brings a smile to my face: [Here](#).
- (6) Douglas Snopes: Granny panties: [Here](#).
- (7) Linda Williams: When you have to go to the bathroom on the plane: [Here](#).
- (8) Wind Usdan: What do you mean, I can't take my margarita with me?: [Here](#)

B. Ever want to be a music composer? You can now become one, along the lines of Johann Sebastian Bach. ... To find out more, click [Here](#). ... The one that loads is the one I composed with Google Erase. Feel free erase it and then compose your own. ... I also recommend that you watch how the Doodle was created by clicking: [Here](#). (Thanks, David Broshar, for sharing.)

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

I don't use an ad-blocker as such, but I do use a service called Private Internet Access, which seems to bring about ad-blocking as a side-effect. I strongly recommend it. Here is their website: [Here](#). (Thanks, Eric Weinberger, for sharing.)

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9. Joke 3

The Pope is giving a speech at the UN in New York when his beeper goes off to summon him back to Rome immediately. He tells his limo driver to rush him to the airport. Traffic is so thick that the Pope tells his driver to switch seats to allow him to drive. ... They get on the Grand Central Parkway, and the Pope is speeding at 90 miles per hour when he gets pulled over by a cop who calls it in to the precinct and reports that he's got "a big one. ... "Who you got, Cuomo?" asks the sergeant. ... "No, this guy's bigger than Cuomo." ... "Who you got, Trump?" asks the sergeant. "No, this guy's bigger than Trump." ... "Bigger than Trump?" asks the sergeant. "Who's bigger than Trump?" ... "I don't know, but he's got the Pope driving him." (Thanks, Brad Morris, for sharing.)

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10. A quote I like

"Every situation in life is temporary. So, when life is good, make sure you enjoy and receive it fully. And when life is not so good, remember that it will not last forever and better days are on the way."—Jenni Young, American film producer and photographer. (Thanks, Annemarie Brown, for sharing.)

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11. Thought for the day

Jon Gordon, the man who created The Positive Pledge, is passionate about developing positive people, organizations and teams. For more information about both him and his training/consulting company, please click: <http://www.jongordon.com>.

The Positive Pledge

I pledge to be a positive person and positive influence on my family, friends, co-workers and community.

I promise to be positively contagious and show more smiles, laughter, encouragement and joy with those around me.

I vow to stay positive in the face of negativity.

When I am surrounded by pessimism I will choose optimism.

When I feel fear I will choose faith.

When I want to hate I will choose love.

When I want to be bitter I will choose to get better.

When I experience a challenge I will look for opportunity to learn and grow.

When faced with adversity I will find strength.

When I experience a set-back I will be resilient.

When I meet failure I will fall forward towards future success.

With vision, hope, and faith, I will never give up and will always move forward towards my destiny.

I believe my best days are ahead of me, not behind me.

I believe I'm here for a reason and my purpose is greater than my challenges.

I believe that being positive not only makes me better, it makes everyone around me better.

So today and every day I will be positive and strive to make a positive impact on the world.

www.ThePositivePledge.com

by Jon Gordon

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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) At Asheville Community Theatre: ALICE IN WONDERLAND. (2) At Magnetite Theatre: FAIR.

B. PANJ event

Joni Dowburd: MY FAIR LADY.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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