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

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

- (1) Are continuing to hunker down in Week 7 of the corona pandemic. That's us in the meditation area of our home, wearing our new masks made by our new friend Stephanie Wilson. ... They are excellent. To order your own, please click: [Here](#).



- (2) Checked out Nothing Bundt Cakes on Hendersonville Road and were delighted with our tasty purchase.

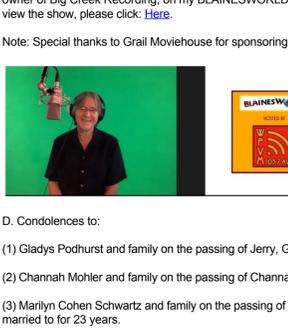


- (3) Back in the day BC (that's Before Coronavirus), we had a great meal at Angelo's where we received friendly service from Tullia. We look forward to some more meals from there, especially when they resume takeout service on May 4.

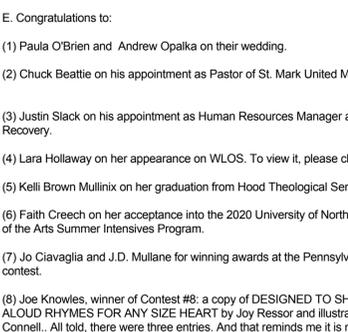


B. During the week, I:

- (1) Ventured out to get us some excellent Mexican food from Nachos and Beer.

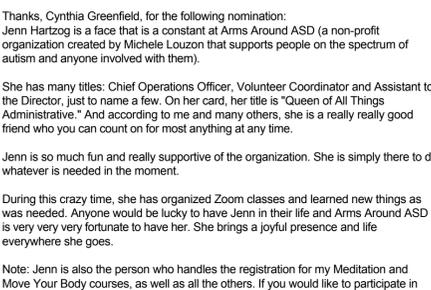


- (2) Saw the release of my friend Elsten Torres' latest video, "Come Back." It rocks! ... To see it yourself, please click: [Here](#).



C. Had the pleasure of hosting Bruce Lang, my talented singer/songwriter friend and owner of Big Creek Recording, on my BLAINESWORLD radio show on WPVM. To view the show, please click: [Here](#).

Note: Special thanks to Grail Moviehouse for sponsoring the above.



D. Condolences to:

- (1) Gladys Podhurst and family on the passing of Jerry, Gladys' husband of 50 years.
- (2) Channah Mohler and family on the passing of Channah's dad.
- (3) Marilyn Cohen Schwartz and family on the passing of Jerry, the man she had been married to for 23 years.
- (4) Vickie Gaddy and family on the passing of Mike Kanipe, Vickie's cousin. For his obituary, please click: [Here](#).
- (5) Toni Sciacchitano Feeback and family on the passing of Lorraine Barney, Toni's cousin.

E. Congratulations to:

- (1) Paula O'Brien and Andrew Opalka on their wedding.
- (2) Chuck Beattie on his appointment as Pastor of St. Mark United Methodist Church.
- (3) Justin Slack on his appointment as Human Resources Manager at Red Oak Recovery.
- (4) Lara Hollaway on her appearance on WLOS. To view it, please click: [Here](#).
- (5) Kelli Brown Mullinix on her graduation from Hood Theological Seminary
- (6) Faith Creech on her acceptance into the 2020 University of North Carolina School of the Arts Summer Intensives Program.
- (7) Jo Ciavaglia and J.D. Mullane for winning awards at the Pennsylvania journalism contest.
- (8) Joe Knowles, winner of Contest #8: a copy of DESIGNED TO SHINE! READ ALOUD RHYMES FOR ANY SIZE HEART by Joy Ressor and illustrated by Lauren Connell. ... All told, there were three entries. And that reminds me it is now time to introduce ...

#### \*\*\*\*\* CONTEST #9 \*\*\*\*\*

One lucky reader will win a copy of THE HYPNOTIST by M.J. Rose. According to one reviewer on Amazon, "I would give this book seven or eight stars! [It is] A gripping, masterfully written mystery woven around one of the country's most important museums and ancient, really ancient history."

If you would like to enter the contest, send an email to: [bjnbc@aol.com](mailto:bjnbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #9 in the subject line. In the body of the email, include your name and mailing address. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Monday, May 11.

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

Thanks, Cynthia Greenfield, for the following nomination: Jenn Hartzog is a face that is a constant at Arms Around ASD (a non-profit organization created by Michele Louzon that supports people on the spectrum of autism and anyone involved with them).

She has many titles: Chief Operations Officer, Volunteer Coordinator and Assistant to the Director, just to name a few. On her card, her title is "Queen of All Things Administrative." And according to me and many others, she is a really really good friend who you can count on for most anything at any time.

Jenn is so much fun and really supportive of the organization. She is simply there to do whatever is needed in the moment.

During this crazy time, she has organized Zoom classes and learned new things as was needed. Anyone would be lucky to have Jenn in their life and Arms Around ASD is very very fortunate to have her. She brings a joyful presence and life everywhere she goes.

Note: Jenn is also the person who handles the registration for my Meditation and Move Your Body courses, as well as all the others. If you would like to participate in any of them, please click this link for more information and go to the bottom of the page to register: [Here](#).

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### 2. FYI

I don't know about you, but to me, it makes no sense to oppose voting by mail--especially since the president does it and the military has long done this. And even if, hopefully, we no longer have to fear the coronavirus come this November, I've already made arrangements to vote by mail. You can also register to do so by clicking this link: [Here](#).

Cool, huh?

FYI, part 2

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

A. Gladys Podhurst: I had my first Zoom video conferencing call last Wednesday. B. Jeanie Linders: [writing about INSIDE THE VATICAN, a TV show mentioned last week] One of my best friends is the Italian producer of my show in Italy. C. Ellen Pappas: You look good in a beard!!!! D. Connor Ray: Love the penis mask idea! E. Sunny Ruble: You have missed your calling! F. Job Interviews Are Broken. There's a Way to Fix Them. G. To Philosophize Is to Learn How to Die. H. You Can Take Care of Yourself in Coronavirus Quarantine or Isolation, Starting Right Now.

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### 3. Joke 1

WHATCHA THINK? ... Since I'm being asked to wear a mask when going outside, here is the one I chose. I can't wait to see the reaction when I go to the bank. (Thanks Bill Lewis, for sharing.)



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### 4. Reviews

A. Saw BAD EDUCATION via HBO, but if you don't have HBO, put it down for a film to see when it appears on Netflix and/or Amazon. Inspired by true events, it tells the story of two administrators who reign over a popular Long Island school district that becomes embroiled in an embezzlement scene. Hugh Jackman and Allison Janney are excellent in the leading roles. I really enjoyed this, and you will too--particularly if you live in the Asheville area where a similar scandal involved individuals in city government. Rated NR, but appropriate for anybody over the age of 12.

Note: I just added this to my list of favorite films. If you'd like to get a copy of this list, send an email to: [bjnbc@aol.com](mailto:bjnbc@aol.com) and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

B. I don't ordinarily include films I dislike, but will make an exception with this one: THE KILLING OF A SACRED DEER. This creepy thriller is about a family whose idyllic existence is threatened by a fatherless teen. It is as bad as anything I've seen in quite some time. It is also ultra violent. Rated R.

Quotes from two reviewers echo my sentiments:  
M. Faust: "I suppose the best thing to be said for The Killing of a Sacred Deer is that it would be even worse if we cared about any of the people in it."  
And Calvin Wilson: "This is the feel-bad film of the year. Recommend it to someone you hate."

Note: The director, Yorgos Lanthimos, is responsible for THE LOBSTER--another film that several others have told me to miss.

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### 5. TV alert

A. HOLLYWOOD: Now on Netflix  
The revisionist fantasy follows the fortunes of young starry-eyed hopefuls whose road to cinematic success is challenged by the sexism, racism and homophobia of the era.

B. ALL RISE: Mon, May 4, on CBS at 9 p.m.  
The freshman legal drama produces a special episode filmed via FaceTime, Zoom, WebEx and other online technologies.

C. NATALIE WOOD: WHAT REMAINS BEHIND: Documentary premiere on Tues., May 5, on HBO at 9 p.m.  
Highlights include never-before-seen home movies, as well as interviews with two friends and costars.

D. I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE: Series premiere on Sun., May 8, at 9 p.m.  
Mark Ruffalo stars in this six-part limited series about identical twins whose lives take them in very different directions.

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### 6. Joke 2

Here is a rare photograph of Abraham Lincoln giving the Getty's bird a dress.



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### 7. Clips/Websites

A. Video of the week

Brian Biro and Meredith Elliott Powell presented an upcoming Zoom seminar, "From Fear to Freedom." If you missed it and/or if you want to view it again, please click: [Here](#).



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

- (1) YVES MONTAND - Les Feuilles Mortes, one of my all-time favorites that starts at the 0:45 mark: [Here](#).
- (2) Bruce Lang: The Dixie Doughboys reunite in the ether to play "She's Already Gone": [Here](#).
- (3) Davyne Dial: The Weight: [Here](#).
- (4) John Crawley: We'll Meet Tomorrow: [Here](#).
- (5) Chelsey Lee Mirhelli : All of Me [Here](#).
- (6) Elsten Torres: Elsten - Les Feuilles (Official Video): [Here](#).
- (7) David Troy Francis: Soon It's Gonna Rain: [Here](#).
- (8) Glenn Yost: A little magical inspiration: [Here](#).
- (9) Hs Smith: Live: [Here](#).

C. If you ever need to find how to do anything, you can find it at WikiHow by clicking: [Here](#).

Some recent articles included:  
Disinfect a Phone  
Date During the Coronavirus Outbreak  
Draw a Self Portrait  
Be Happy

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

If I see something on my computer screen that I want to capture to use in this blog or for some other reason, I typically take a picture of it. But there's another way to accomplish the same goal:  
To capture the entire screen (everything you see on the screen, including all open windows), press the PrintScreen button. This screenshot will be placed on your clipboard for you to paste wherever you want. You can also press Windows Key + Print Screen to save the screenshot to your [User]Pictures\Screenshots folder.

For more information on the above, please click: [Here](#).

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### 9. Joke 3

Methinks that Bob Dylan's classic song, "The Times They Are A Changin'." should be playing during the examination. If you want to join me in singing it, please click: [Here](#). (Thanks, Carole Biro, for sharing.)



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### 10. A quote I like

Mother Teresa (1910-1997) was an Albanian-Indian Roman Catholic nun and missionary.



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### 11. Thought for the day

In case you forgot, history DOES repeat itself. Please read more by clicking: [Here](#). (Thanks, Zakiya Bell-Rogers, for sharing.)

In 1918, Philadelphia prematurely ended its quarantine from the Spanish Flu to throw a parade in order to boost morale for the war effort. Some 200,000 people lined the streets on that late-September day. Within 72 hours, every bed in Philadelphia's 31 hospitals was filled and the city ended up with 4,500 people dying from the flu or its complications within a matter of days. What is that proverb? "Those who cannot learn from the past are condemned to repeat it..."



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### 12. Advance planning department

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

A. Jamie Knox: Join Different Strokes! at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 7 for a reading of "Buried Down Shallow," a brand-new play. B. THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK, the Park Square Theatre's production, is available, free of charge. C. Carole Biro: Join me for the FREE 8th Annual Hay House You Can Heal Your Life Summit, starting April 30.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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