

BLAINES WORLD

#1128
5.7.2018

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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: bginbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Celebrated my first day out and about after my hernia operation by going to lunch at 828 Pizzeria.



(2) Shortly thereafter, we enjoyed a dinner (and fine service from Stevie) at P.F. Chang's.





B. WPVM/FM invites you to listen to the BLAINESWORLD show from Wed., May 9, 2018 ... Guest (first half): Victoria Lamberth and Phillippe Andre Coquet; for more information: [Here](#) ... Guest (second half): David Block, president, Insurance Specialties, Inc.; for more information: [Here](#) ... Pictured, l-r in the front: Philippe Andre Coquet, Victoria Lamberth and David Block; in the back: Blaine Greenfield ... To listen to the show, please click: [Here](#)



C. I got to participate in the BA Small Business Week Celebration at Goodwill Industries. Special kudos to Sharon Oxendine on receiving the SBA NC Women in Business Advocate of the Year Award, Jane Hatley on receiving the SBA NC Financial Services Advocate of the Year Award and Tina FireWolf for her terrific keynote presentation. For more pictures, please click: [Here](#)





D. DOLL, written by Brenda Lunsford Lilly, is a clever, engrossing update of Henrik Ibsen's A DOLL HOUSE.... I had the pleasure of seeing it and was blown away by the performances of, l-r: Maximilian Koger and Mary Katherine O'Donnell to my left, and Daniel Henry and Hannah Williams-Beaver to my right, as well as by the others in the cast. ... Andrew Gall brought it all together with his taut direction, and the costumes by Victoria Smith were perfect for the 1960s setting of the show.



E. Condolences to:

- (1) Gary Gaines and family on the passing of Victor, Gary's younger brother.
- (2) Daphne Fox-Chinea and family on the passing of Inez Fox, Daphne's aunt.

F. Congratulations to:

- (1) David Hopes on winning 2nd place in the Doris Betts Prize competition this year for "Corin and Dorinda." Look for it to be published by NCLR Online 2019, which comes out in January or early February.
- (2) Jake Deyton on his graduation from NYU.
- (3) Sandi Thompson on being named a Friend of Education by Brevard High School for 16 give or take a couple of years of costuming all the theater productions.
- (4) Rachel Lewis on her graduation from Bloomsburg University.
- (5) Victor Feraru on earning his Juris Doctorate from the Southern Illinois University School of Law.
- (6) Ashley Jennifer Huber, Hunter K. Taylor and Charlie Cannon on their graduations from Western Carolina University.
- (7) Karen Covington-Yow on her appearance on WLOS, discussing the play she is directing (LOVE, LOSS AND WHAT I WORE). To view her appearance, please click: [Here](#)
- (8) Barbara Karpinski, winner of Contest #10: a copy of Richard Shulman's latest CD, "A New Awareness." For more information about it, please click: [Here](#)

All told, there were four entries. And that reminds me that it's now time to introduce ...

***** CONTEST #11 *****

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of Marvin Sadovsky's fantastic book, THE BULLIED, FAT, STUTTERING KID. It's an inspiring true story about how he

changed his life around. (See BLAINESWORLD #1126 for my full review.) ... To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #11 in the subject line, then include your snail mail address in the body of the email. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon., May 21, 2018.

That's Marvin, pictured below on the right. We're holding a copy of his book



G. Invitations

(1) if you get this on Sunday, May 13, please come see Cynthia (pictured below in the back row on the far left) in OUR FRIENDS: LIKING, LAUGHTER, LONGINGS AND LOSS. For more information and tickets, please click [Here](#)



(2) Please join me in voting for Sand Hill Kitchen in Round 2 of the Fried Chicken competition. For more information on how to do so, please click: [Here](#) . . . And FYI: You'll not only love the fried chicken, but everything else on this eatery's menu. In addition, you'll find owner Jamie Wade (pictured on the left) and all her stuff so very friendly!





(3) Come join me at this seminar that I'll be presenting on Sat., May 19, at 9:30 a.m at ABTech: Marketing Your Business

Description: Marketing for the 21st Century small business is more dynamic and challenging than ever. Discover how to effectively and efficiently use marketing tools. Gain insights to understand and reach your customer, analyze your industry and business environment and differentiate between branding, advertising, and grassroots marketing techniques.

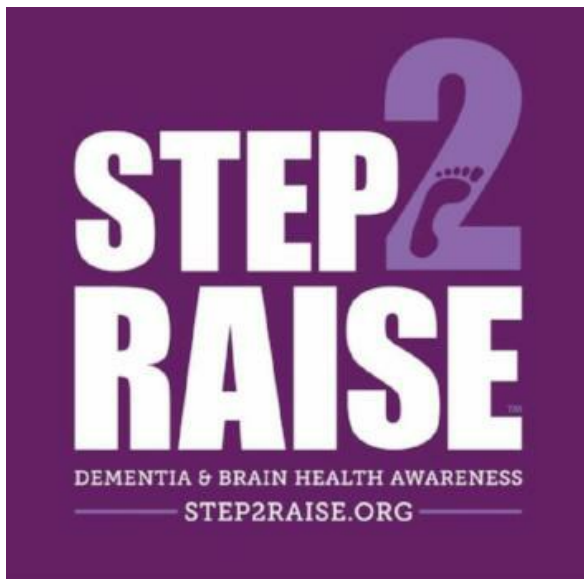
It is free, but you must pre-register. You can do so by clicking:
[Here](#)

(4) Registration begins today for the event (below) that is open to anybody in the country. All you need to do is walk and/or run over the next month.

This is an event sponsored by the Dementia Society of America.

For more information, please click:
[Here](#)

To register for the BLAINESWORLD team (and there is no charge to do so), please click:
[Here](#)



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

Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for making the following nomination:
I had the pleasure of having Mark Jones provide excellent service whenever I dined at LongHorn Steakhouse. Shortly after he left, I met Michelle Coulombe (center), and we immediately bonded. As a server, she always has the most pleasant smile and does a great job. I look forward to seeing her when I go every Tuesday and Thursday for lunch.

Note: I don't go to Texas LongHorn as often a Mike does, but I do share his opinion of both Mark and Michelle.





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2. FYI

I sometimes wear a baseball cap, but I often used to lose it; i.e., until I started clipping it to my belt when I wasn't wearing it. Since I've been doing this, I haven't lost a cap!

FYI, part 2

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click:

[Here](#)

(1) A Surprise Medical Solution: Hypnosis. (2) Even a Little Exercise Might Make Us Happier. (3) Standing Up at Your Desk Could Make You Happier.

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3. Joke 1

Something my mother would say! ... And if you're like me and celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY. ... I hope you get to celebrate it with yours if you are fortunate to still have her in your life or if not, that you get to remember her.



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4. Reviews

A. Saw TULLY, a film advertised as a comedy, about a woman mother of three--including a newborn. I didn't find it particularly funny, but did I enjoy the dramatic aspects of the story, as well as the acting of both Charlize Theron and Mackenzie Davis. It was also good to see Ron Livingston, an actors I've always enjoyed, to have a fairly meaty role. Rated R.

Note; Theron had to gain almost 50 pounds for her part. To read more about how she did so and then lost the weight, please click:

[Here](#)

B. Find, if you can, 1985's THE JOURNEY OF NATTY GANN—a Disney film about a girl who hops a freight train to find her father who has taken a job in a Northwestern lumber camp during the Depression. ... Meredith Salenger is very good in the leading role, but the real star is a dog named Jed who gives a believable performance as the wolf who accompanies Natty. I also enjoyed the great scenery, as well costumes. ... Rated PG, but might be a bit too violent for some children.

C. Correction: Last week, I recommended that you see SHALLOW HAL, a 2001 film. Unfortunately, part of the last line of my review was omitted. See below for the whole review:

SHALLOW HAL, the latest comedy from the Farrelly (THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY) Brothers, amused me when I saw it . . . there were some funny scenes and others that might well be considered politically incorrect . . . yet I now find that the plot has sort of grown on me; it is actually quite touching . . . Jack Black, in his first major starring role, is fine as the average guy who only wants to meet beautiful women . . . that is, until he meets self-help guru Tony Robbins . . . his outlook then changes and no longer does outer appearance matter to him . . . I thought Robbins was great; so was Gwyneth Paltrow as the rotund woman that Black only "sees" as looking like her usual willowy self . . . rated PG-13.

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5. TV alert

A. GENIUS; PICASSO: Tuesdays at 10 p.m. on National Geographic
Alex Rich plays the obsessed artist from age 17 to 40 and Antonio Banderas takes over from there.

B. SCIJINKS: Season premiere on Tuesday, May 16, at 10 p.m. on Science Channel
THE BIG BANG THEORY'S Johnny Galecki hosts this show that uses scientific and technical details to pull off practical jokes on unsuspecting folks.

C. THE CARBONAO EFFECT: Season premiere on Thursday, May 16, at 10 p.m. on truTV
Michael Carbonaro is back with more eye-popping illusions.

D. BOMBSHELL; THE HEDY LAMARR STORY: Friday, May 18, at 8 p.m. on PBS
(check local listings at [Here](#))
You may well know that Lamarr was an actress, but she was also a genius inventor.

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6. Joke 2

In terms of buying a vote in an election, Pinestraw would have had my vote in the one pictured--especially at \$5/bushel. ... But since I didn't have that option this time around in Buncombe County, I voted early for both Catori Swann and Todd Williams. And would have voted for Patrick Fitzsimmons had he been in my district. (Thanks, Jean Dolan, for posting.)

Update: Congratulations to Todd Williams on winning the Democratic primary for District Attorney of Buncombe County. Consequently, he will continue in that position, in the there is no opposition against him in the November election. And congratulations, also, to both Catori Swann and Patrick Fitzsimmons for running very fine campaigns for Buncombe County Commissioner n the aforementioned primary. Though they did not win, they should be proud of the efforts and personally, I'm hopeful that they will again run in 2020.





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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Mark Beloyan: Switch Hitter VS Switch Pitcher
[Here](#)

(2) This gives pole dancing a whole new meaning
[Here](#)

(3) Jorel rocks his Bar Mitzvah
[Here](#)

(4) Lucille Eckert: Grace and Mercy
[Here](#)

B. Light Box features TIME's best photography. What I liked about this website was that it also included some of the stories behind the photos. To see for yourself, please click:

[Here](#)

Among the tidbits that caught my attention were the following:

The Story Behind the Viral Photo of 4 Former Presidents and First Ladies

A Photographer Shares the Final Moments of the Last Male Northern White Rhino

TIME Picks the Best Viral Photos of 2017

After the Crash: How Photography Healed a Mind

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

Want to increase the odds of getting somebody to read your email? Put something specific in the subject line.

For example, if you want me to do something, tell me what it is that you want me to do. Then put your name down.

Like this:

Want this book I wrote? Regards, Micah

Or:

Can we meet this coming Wednesday at 3 p.m.? Best, Ellen

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9. Joke 3

Text from Richard to Fred:

Hi, Fred, this is Richard, next door. I've got a confession to make. I've been riddled with guilt for a few months and have been trying to get up the courage to tell you face-to-face. At least I'm telling you in this text and I can't live with myself a minute longer without you knowing about this. The truth is that when you're not around I've been sharing your wife, day and night. In fact, probably much more than you. I haven't been getting it at home recently and I know that that's no excuse. The temptation was just

too great. I can't live with the guilt and hope you'll accept my sincere apology and forgive me. Please suggest a fee for usage, and I'll pay you. Regards, Richard

Fred's response:

Fred, feeling so angered and betrayed, grabbed his gun and shot Richard, killing him. He went back home and poured himself a stiff drink and sat down on the sofa. Fred then looked at his phone and discovered a second text message from Richard

Second text from Richard to Fred:

Hi, Fred. Richard here again. Sorry about the typo on my last text. I expect you figured it out and noticed that the damned Auto-Correct had changed "wi-fi" to "wife." Technology, huh? It'll be the death of us all. Regards, Richard (Thanks, Vickie Gaddy, for sharing.)

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10. A quote I like

"Children learn how to make good decisions by making decisions, not by following directions."--Alfie Kohn (born 1957), American lecturer and author in the fields of education, psychology and parenting

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11. Thought for the day

My Friend Tom
by Brian Biro*

Simple human dignity... Focus on character rather than reputation. For your character is who you ARE, your reputation only what others THINK you are... Humility... never thinking you know it all and always hungry to learn... Generosity and compassion to everyone in need no matter how tough things may be in your own life... Kindness even to those who treat you unfairly... A smile and irrepressible sense of humor even in the face of the cruelest blow one can receive... Love and joy centered...not self-centered. A lifelong friend who exemplifies the beauty of WE GO over ego...

My friend Tom is all these things and more. From the moment we met on our first day of junior high school more than 50 years ago we have been dear friends. Tom was my hero all through school...the fastest, strongest, and most athletic of all of us and yet without an ounce of arrogance, selfishness, or conceit. Whenever anyone was around Tom they felt energized, happy, and uplifted. He was always fully present and his presence made you feel that you were important and that he truly cared about you.

For the rest of this piece, please go to Section 11 when you click:

[Here](#)

* Thanks, Brian, for your gracious permission to use the above. For more information about Brian Biro, husband, father, grandfather, speaker, author and America's Breakthrough Coach, please click:

[Here](#)

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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) Award-winning Sirens in Concert: Ash Devine with Annette Wasilik. (2) A Night of Poetry and Remembrance.

B. PA/NJ events

(1) Pennington Players Expose Cutthroat Real Estate World in Mamet's 'Glengarry Glen Ross' at MCCC's Kelsey Theatre. (2) Actors' Net: THE SUM OF US.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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