

BLAINES WORLD

#1185
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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: bjinbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Are pleased to report that SART is back, make that way back! ... BRIGHT STAR, its first play of the 45th season, is as good as anything I've ever seen at Owen Theatre. Methinks you'll love this Steve Martin and Edie Brickell musical as much as I did. ... Kudos to Amanda 'Mandy' Sayles for her her spot on direction, Anthony Romeo-Adcock for the enthusiastic dancing he choreographed and Brad Curtioff for the 7-piece band he both led and played in. ... All members of the 14-person cast were outstanding: Chelsey Lee Mirheli, Maximilian Koger, Lyn Nihart, Natalie Brouwer, Calum Kramer, Amelia Wilds, Mario Pando-Harmon, Kathleen Watson, Jason Watson, Liz Aiello, John Hall, Timothy Wilds, Tony Earnest Medlin and Doug Hauschild. ... I got a special kick out of seeing some longtime SART regulars, as well as those making their fist appearance. ... All the seats for the regular performances have been sold out, thought you could try calling the box office at 828.689.1232 to inquire about overflow seating. ... PS. GREAT NEWS FOR Y'ALL. SART has just added two extra shows: Sun., June 9, and Sun., June 16--both shows at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for those are already going fast, but you can get them by either calling the box office at the aforementioned number or going online at: [Here](#).



After this fantastic show, we went to the nearby Stack House for a tasty dinner where we received fine service from Mia.



B. During the week, I:

(1) Saw AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY. It will make you appreciate your family, no matter how dysfunctional you may think it is. ... Hendersonville Community Theatre does this award-winning dark comedy justice in its production that runs through June 9. ... All those pictured shine: (top photo) Jennifer Memolo, Victoria Lamberth and Tate Albert; (bottom left): Shawna Owens Shook and Matilyn Hull; and (bottom right) Beth Norris, director. ... Thumbs up, also, to Carole Smith Saich, assistant director, as well as to Jonathan Forrester and all the other actors who made this production the success that it was. ... For tickets, please click: [Here](#).



(2) Solved all the world's problems over a delicious lunch at Ziggy's with my friend Bill McMannis.



C. There were two BLAINESWORLD radio shows on WPVM this past week. The first one (at the top) featured Jill Sparks and Jasmine Hanks in the first half; and Josephine Thomas and Erin McCarson in the second half. To catch it, please click: [Here](#). The second one (at the bottom) featured Bill Carson and Kiesa Kay in the first half; and Patrick Armitage and Jonathan Cole in the second. To catch that one, please click: [Here](#).

THANKS to Grail Movie House for sponsoring the BLAINESWORLD show. To find out what movies are currently playing there, please click: [Here](#).



D. Condolences to Julia Holladay and family on the passing of Julia's mom.

E. Congratulations to:

(1) Donna Wilkoski, Director of Financial Aid at Bucks Community College, for winning the Alumni Association Centurion Award.

(2) Marcy Gallagher, winner of Contest #11: two tickets to the Rotary Foundation's concert, featuring David LaMotte and Friends; and to Rock Eblen and Jimmy Ferraro, both winners of Contest #12: two tickets each to HANDS ON A HARDBODY. All told, there were nine entries for the two contests. And that reminds me, it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #13 *****

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of my friend Terri Crosby's book, 100 WORDS: SMALL SERVINGS OF WHIMSY AND WISDOM TO CALM THE MIND AND NOURISH THE HEART. To quote from the book jacket, "100 WORDS is a collection of thoughtful and thought-provoking writings accompanied beautiful photography."

To enter the contest, send an email to: bjinbc@aol.com and put CONTEST 13 in the subject line In the body of the email, make sure you include both your name and snail mail address. All entries must be received before 9 p.m. on Monday, June 17.

F. Invites:

(1) Please do catch me and the rest of a very talented cast in the following production.

Note: Sorry to disappoint you, but I am not the hardbody! The hardbody is a truck.

Opening this weekend at
Asheville Community Theatre!
HANDS ON A HARDBODY
" ... is a fun ride! "
says the LA Times

One truck and ten big-hearted folks banking on a single lifetime dream just within their grasp!

" You can hear America singing in this daring new musical! "
says the NY Times

" Refreshing emotional simplicity to this story blending rock, gospel, folk and country music..."
says the LA Times

Playing weekends June 7 - 30
Directed by Jerry Crouch with Musical Direction by Lynda Ferrell Shuler and Choreography by Shari Azar
For tickets Call 828-254-1320 / www.ashevilletheatre.org

Starring Jay Mitchell and Blaine Greenfield as "Frank and Dr Stokes"

(2) See the world premiere of MR. POSITIVITY, PART 2 (the continued saga of the life of yours truly) on Saturday, June 15, at Yao Buffet at 2:07 p.m. If you'd like to attend, send an email to: bjinbc@aol.com and put DETAILS in the subject line.

Pictured, l-r with me: Ellen Pappas, playing Sunny in the show; Dan Clancy, playing me; and Sunny Cook, the playwright. We were finalizing the play and enjoying our lunch at Fatz in Asheville where the food was excellent, as was the service we received from Terry.





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

Thanks, Jean Dolan, for submitting this week's nomination:

Jo Ciavaglia and I worked together at the Collegian, the student newspaper at Bucks County Community College, when we were studying journalism under the inimitable Tom Cunningham. Jo earned her Associate of Arts from Bucks in 1989, transferred to Trenton State College (The College of New Jersey) where she earned a Bachelor of Arts, and has been working as a journalist since then for the Bucks County Courier Times. She's been awarded more than 80 local, state and national awards for her reporting. Her investigations have resulted in lawmakers introducing at least four pieces of legislation, three of which became laws. Her investigation into the 2017 death of a toddler at what turned out to be an illegal home daycare resulted in the district attorney's office re-opening its investigation and charging the operator. Her scrutiny of department records in one municipality under a federal corruption probe has led to two state investigations and an investigation by the county district attorney. After Ciavaglia uncovered at least \$60,000 in uncollected developer fees over five years, the municipality undertook its own review in an attempt to recoup the costs, using her findings as its guide.

For these accomplishments, I nominated Jo for the Bucks County Community College Alumni Association Professional Achievement Award, which she received May 23 at the college's 53rd annual commencement.

Pictured: Jo, battling for citizens of Bucks County!



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2. FYI

Keep a record of all your passwords in a location other than on your computer; e.g., if you ever have a computer crash. Share this list with a spouse or significant other, so if anything ever happens to you, life would be much easier for the person having to take care of everything.

When my father passed, I had most of his passwords, except for his AOL one. It took me 18 months and a protracted battle to cancel his account (for which I was also paying a monthly fee).

FYI, part 2

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

(1) Intermittent Fasting Made My Life Easier and Happier. (2) Maximilian Koger: Cheetahs Are So Shy That Zoos Give Them Their Own Emotional "Support Dogs." (3) Trissa King: Nike introduces mannequins of all shapes, sizes and abilities in new store. (4) Practical Ways to Improve Your Confidence (and Why You Should).

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3. Joke 1



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4. Reviews

A. Saw ROCKETMAN, the biopic about the highs and lows of Elton John's life. Taron Egerton is outstanding in the leading role, and I also liked the work of an unrecognizable Bryce Dallas Howard as his mother. The music is fantastic, as are both the costumes and choreography. ...Yet overall, I was a bit disappointed in the film. I didn't particularly like the John character, and I would have liked to have seen more about what happened to him after he turned his life around. Maybe that will be the basis of a second film? ... I was glad to see in the credits that he has been sober for 28 years and counting (but still has a problem with shopping), and that he has established a successful AIDS charity that has raised over \$400 million. ... Rated R.

Note: For an interesting article about John, read "5 Daily Habits to Steal from Elton John, Including Knowing When to Stop" by clicking: [Here](#).

B. Here was Dana Kagan's take on the above: Just saw this [ROCKETMAN] today! WOW!!! Fantastic!

My two cents:What's really needed is a biopic about The Turtles, arguably the greatest rock group of all time!

C. See if you can find LILI, a sweet 1953 film about a 16-year old waif who runs off to join a carnival. Leslie Caron and Mel Ferrer team up to make this a romance you'll enjoy. And find yourself not being able to get the hit song, "Hi Lili, Hi Lo," out of your mind. Rated G.

Note: If you don't believe me about that song, click: [Here](#).

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5. TV alert

A. DESIGNATED SURVIVOR: Now on Netflix
The political drama survives to a third season, despite ABC's canceling it. President Tom Kirkman (Kiefer Sutherland) runs for reelection--as an independent this time.

B. TALES OF THE CITY: Now on Netflix
Armistead Maupin's comic fable of life in San Francisco returns after nearly 20 years for a 10-episode season, reuniting Laura Linney with her family to celebrate the 90th birthday of Olympia Dukakis.

C. THE 73RD ANNUAL TONY AWARDS: Sunday, June 9, at 8 p.m. on CBS
Late-night host James Corden returns to the footlights of Radio City Music Hall to host the celebration of Broadway's best with production numbers from new and revived musicals. I'll be watching to see how OKLAHOMA! has been re-imagined.

D. BIG LITTLE LIES: Returns on Sunday, June 9, at 9 p.m. on HBO
Meryl Streep joins the Emmy-winning soap for its second season.

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6. Joke 2

This has me writing a note to myself: "Self, next time up North, stay away from parking here!" (Thanks, Risa Reavely, for sharing.)



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Linda Pannullo: Be our very own Lau [Ren]: [Here](#).

(2) Keep in Dancing - The Gentrys: [Here](#).

Note: Even if you're not a fan of the song, watch for the dancing in the video.

(3) Worst first pitch ever: [Here](#).

(4) Linda Williams: Uber in Florida: [Here](#).

(5) Gary James: What the world map sounds like on a piano: [Here](#).

B. If you want to find out how to do almost anything, check out wikiHow to do anything by clicking: [Here](#).

You'll find out such things as:
How to tell if gold is real
How to cover acne scars with makeup
How to do an elevator pitch
How to stretch new shoes
How to record Skype calls

The only problem: There are so many interesting topics that you'll find it difficult to stop looking around.

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

Ever try to find your lost cellphone after you set the ringer to silent? If so, methinks you will be able to relate to the following video clip. (Thanks, Drew Emanuele, for sharing.)

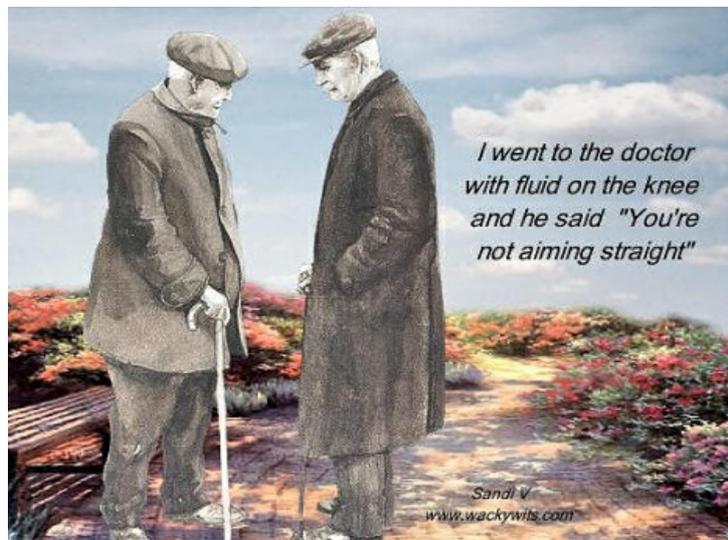
To view it, please click: [Here](#).

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9. Joke 3

Soooo glad the internet enabled me to find the solution to this problem I've been having

...



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10. A quote I like

"Love, whether newly born or aroused from a deathlike slumber, must always create sunshine, filling the heart so full of radiance that it overflows upon the outward world."-- Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864), American novelist, dark romantic and short story writer

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11. Thought for the day

What a great idea ...

Share A Post	0.00
Like A Post	0.00
Repost	0.00
Tag A Friend	0.00
Comment A Nice Word	0.00
Comment An Emoji	0.00
Post A Pic	0.00
Shout Them Out	0.00
Refrain From Negativity	0.00

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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 Parkway Playhouse through June 15: THE DIXIE SWIM CLUB. (2) Jazz & Blues with Paula Hanke & Peggy Ratusz.

B. PA/NJ event

THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE at Kelsey Theatre.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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