

# BLAINESWORLD

#1186  
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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](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

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A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Got our picture taken outside Asheville Community Theatre where I had just performed in HANDS ON A HARDBODY. You'll love this tuneful musical, and I strongly encourage you to see it before its run ends on June 30. For tickets, please click: [Here](#).



She had seen the show with her friends Sunny Ruble and Judy Ray. Afterward, Judy, Cynthia and I went to Wasabi where we received a warm greeting from the owner, Joanna Chen, and great service from Reza Fierezawat. As always, the food was excellent.





B. We had tasty sandwiches at Sand Hill Kitchen, which to our delight is not open on Thursday-Saturday evening.



C. And we were bummed that this sign prevented us from shopping at the Asheville Outlets ...



D. I got to solve all the world's problems with my friend Brian Biro over the best cheesesteaks in town at Ziggy's.



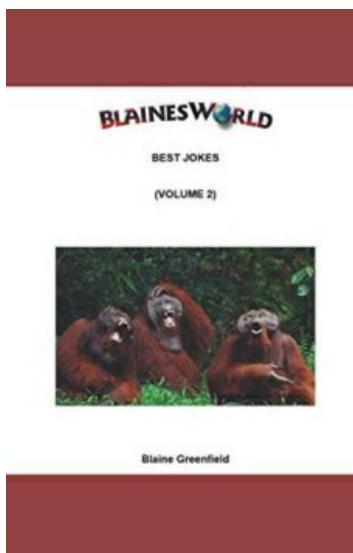


E. Catch this week's BLAINESWORLD show on WPVM, featuring the Land of Sky Chorus in the first half (Steve Anderson, Randy Hagan, Pete Kirchner and Richard Douglass); and Ron Greenberg, photographer, in the second half. To view it, please click: [Here](#).



F. Hot off the press is my second collection of jokes. To purchase a copy, please click: [Here](#).

Note: If you attended my recent birthday parties in Pennsylvania or North Carolina, please don't get the above unless you want a second copy. As promised, I'll be mailing one to those I caught up with in Pennsylvania and those in North Carolina already received a copy.



G. Congratulations to:

- (1) Jessica and Chris Johnson on the birth of Aksel Johnson, their son.
- (2) Jerry Gross on having his article on Social Security posted in FORBES. To read the article, please click: [Here](#).
- (3) Liz Miller and Gabe Hopkins on the birth of Naomi Opal Miller-Hopkins, their daughter.
- (4) Christine Breininger on being chosen by Kristin Shelly, owner and operator of Asheville Explore Tours, to write a blog that will feature news about local musical happenings.

(5) George Pappas on his column, "Push-button politics are a trap for us all," published in the CITIZEN TIMES. To read it, please click: [Here](#).

H. Reminder: There's still time to enter ...

\*\*\*\*\* 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: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@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.

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

Thanks, Tony Medlin, for submitting this week's nomination:  
It is my great privilege to nominate Amanda "Mandy" Sayles for a BLAINESWORLD Best of the Week honor. Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre (SART) was always a home-away-from home for a band of theatre gypsies that stretches back 40 years. The theatre company has been our the meeting place for our collaborations, our friends, our family, and our tribe.

It broke our hearts when it appeared to be closing down for good; however, due to the ceaseless efforts and unparalleled vision of Amanda Sayles this mountain collective for the theatrical arts rebounded and is soaring again. For the many SART veterans returning to this beloved community, it feels as though our chests will burst to see this phoenix rise.

SART lives and breathes again purely due to her energy and unwavering commitment. It is difficult to stand on the stage at any moment and not be swept away by the ghosts of past performances and memories of shared creative joy. Some of those brilliant lights have flickered out over the years, leaving us with glistening eyes and halting breath.

We are still here and proud of our mountain home and that is solely due to "Mandy's" indomitable spirit and shared vision of who we are as a community. I've told her, every director should run a theatre company once, you were just fool enough to do it twice. We are blessed with fools like her.

Pictured: Mandy (center) and Anthony Romeo-Adcock, guests on a recent BLAINESWORLD radio show. To view it, please go to the second half when you click: [Here](#).



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## 2. FYI

Thanks, Sunny Cook, for sharing the following:  
What I Learned About Life at My 30th College Reunion  
by Deborah Copaken

I especially liked these two:  
"Every classmate who became a teacher or doctor seemed happy."

"Our strongest desire, in that same pre-reunion class survey--over more sex and more

money--was to get more sleep."

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

FYI, part 2

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

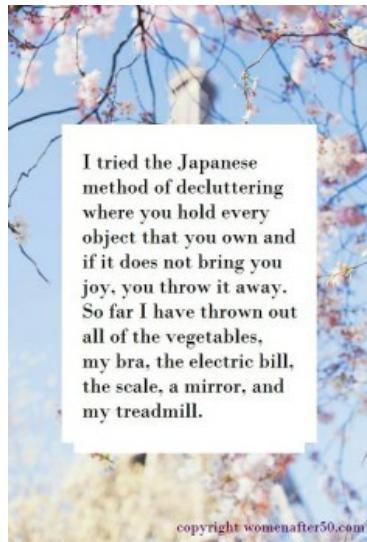
(1) Smash the Wellness Industry. (2) Dawn Westmoreland: Former school janitor begins new job as school principal. 3. Carole Biro: Arguing with people.

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### 3. Joke 1

I'd add to that list: Ex-spouses and/or significant others! (Thanks, Marjorie Lefkowitz, for sharing.)



I tried the Japanese method of decluttering where you hold every object that you own and if it does not bring you joy, you throw it away. So far I have thrown out all of the vegetables, my bra, the electric bill, the scale, a mirror, and my treadmill.

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### 4. Reviews

A. See if you can find ODD MAN OUT, a 1947 film about a botched hold-up. James Mason is outstanding in the leading role as the guy who takes shelter in the back alleys of Belfast, opting to hide from a vast police manhunt. Not rated, but appropriate for teenagers.

B. Enjoyed MONEY, MURDER, AND DOMINIC DUNNE: A LIFE IN SEVERAL ACTS (University of Wisconsin Press) by Robert Hofler. This engrossing biography tells the story of a conflicted man who reinvented himself several times: first as television and film producer, then as a journalist who covered murder cases of O.J. Simpson, the Menendez Brothers and Phil Spector, among others. He also had his own television show, as well as give best-selling novels.... Dunne liked gossip and he held the ear of some of the world's most famous women, including Princess Diana, Liz Smith, Barbara Walters and Elizabeth Taylor.... If you want to hear more about the trials he covered, as well as about the many celebrities he encountered, you'll like this book.

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### 5. TV alert

A. THE GOOD FIGHT: Sundays at 9 p.m. on CBS, beginning on June 16  
After three years on the CBS All Access streaming service, "the politically charged and dynamically entertaining spinoff of The Good Wife," according to TV GUIDE, "brings its terrific first season to CBS (edited for broadcast standards)."

B. GRAND HOTEL: Premieres on Mon., June 17, at 10 p.m. on ABC  
This drama is about well-heeled owners of a hotel, the wily staff and their crisscrossing lives.

C. THE LATE LATE SHOW WITH JAMES CORDEN: Mon, June 17, at 12:37 a.m.  
The late-night comedian heads back to his home turf of London. The highlight is an epic dodgeball game, featuring Melissa McCarthy, Benedict Cumberbatch, Harry Styles, Kate Hudson, Allison Janney, Mila Kunis, Lena Waithe, John Bradley and

bandleader Reggie Watts/

D. HIGHWIRE LIVE IN TIMES SQUARE WITH NIK WALLENDA: Sunday, June 23, at 8 p.m. on ABC

Daredevils Nik and Lijana Wallenda will start at opposite ends of a 1,300-foot tightrope hoisted 25 stories over the hearts of New York City, cross each other in the middle and keep walking.

E. Roberta Gurwood: I saw a very interesting movie on Saturday night on HBO called "Bad Times At El Royal." Starring Jeff Daniels and someone I have never seen before . Her name: Cynthia Ervo. Great performance and beautiful voice. I loved it. Mystery and great ending. Try On Demand.

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## 6. Joke 2

Did you hear that Kraft is going to open a new plant in Israel? They are going to call it Cheeses of Nazareth.(Thanks, Channah Mohler, for sharing.)



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## 7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Sue Hinkle: Brighten your life by helping others: [Here](#).

(2) Roberta Gurwood: Kodi Lee on AMERICA'S GOT TALENT: [Here](#).

(3) Lucille Eckert: Guy biking across world with kitten: [Here](#).

B. Are you a history buff? If so, check out the Ancient History Encyclopedia by clicking: [Here](#).

You can find out about such things as:

The Japanese Invasion of Korea, 1592-8 CE

The Ruilua Castles of Okinawa

Celtic Warfare

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

Thanks, Davyne Dial, for recommending this app:

Toon Camera. It makes cartoons and has lot of other options. When I asked Davyne about it, she replied, "I just tried it on my iPad ... much easier."

To find out more about it, please click:

[Here](#)

Note: You can also use the above on your iPhone.

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### 9. Joke 3

I have just one question! (Thanks, Zuzu Welsh, for sharing.)

**Where did they put the rest of him?**



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### 10. A quote I like

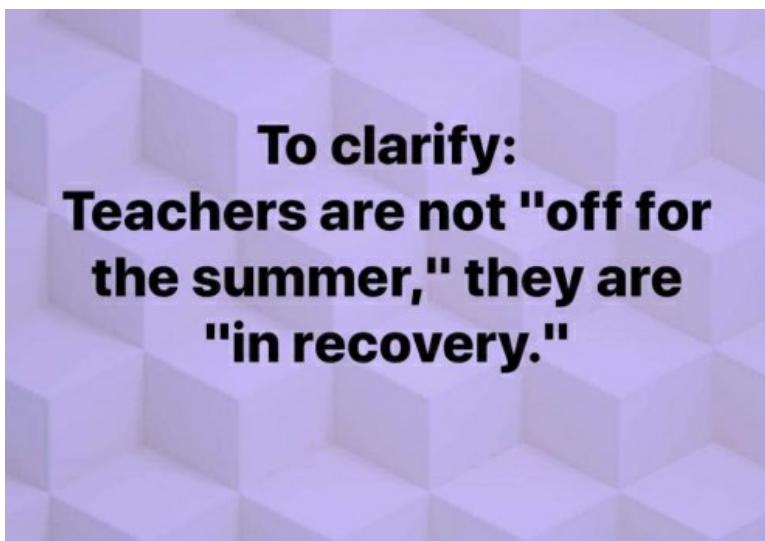
"Don't be sorry that it's over, be happy that it happened."-Jane Shuster, beloved wife of Clark Shuster, who recently passed away. To read her obituary, please click: [Here](#).

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### 11. Thought for the day

To quote Paul Harvey, here's "rest of the story" ... Teachers: (1) Need to find a job to supplement their meager salaries; (2) Take classes that they need to pay for; (3) Attend workshops and in-service meetings; (4) Plan for next year; (5) Get their classrooms ready; etc. ... Also: Teachers make a yearly salary, which is divided over 12 months. They don't get paid holidays or vacations, nor do they get any overtime. ... Hats off to all teachers who have made a difference in my life! (Thanks, Amber Riddle, for sharing.)



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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) Stu Helms: Punk Rock Hot Dogs. (2) Katie Jones: IN THE ASSASSINS' GARDEN.

B. PA/NJ event

MACBETH at Kelsey Theatre at Mercer County Community College.

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PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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