

#1135  
6.25.2018

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**1. Reflections**

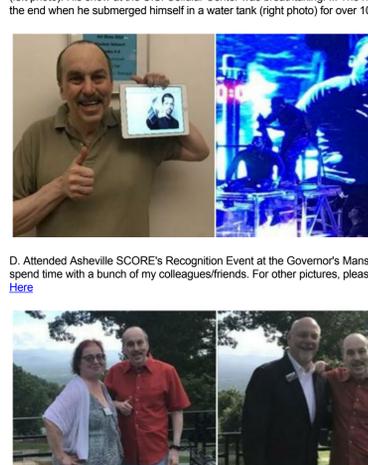
If you're reading this via Facebook or LinkedIn, please be advised that you will get it quicker if you get it via email. Another advantage: You'll never miss it that way because you may not have logged in for a day or two. And in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, all you need to do is send an email to: [bjnbc@aol.com](mailto:bjnbc@aol.com) and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Gave a big thumbs up to Mark Jones and Corey Link for their performances in THE FULL MONTY at Asheville Community Theatre. We thoroughly enjoyed the show, though Cynthia was a bit disappointed that she only got to sit in the fourth row—and she forgot her opera glasses. ... We also got a kick out of seeing all the others who helped make the show the success that it was, including Jerry Crochet for his direction, Jacob Waiias for his choreography, Bill Summers for her technical direction and scenic design, and cast members (to name just a few) Michael Crossa, Andy Thompson Nick Biggs, Adam Lentini, Karyn Panek, Scott Cameron, Eugene Jones and Tina Pisano-Foor.



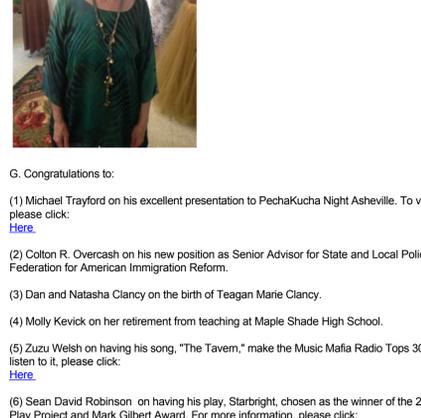
Went with a bunch of our family member to the show and afterward, we enjoyed a great meal at Pack's Tavern.



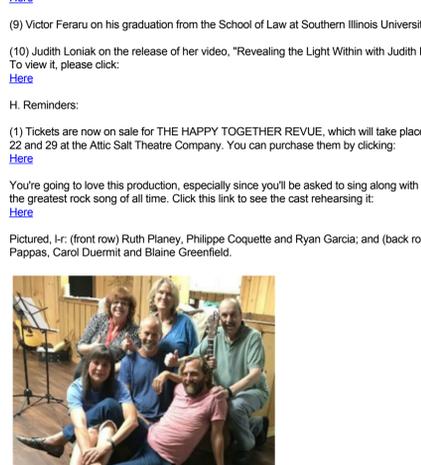
B. WPMV/FM invites you to listen to the BLAINESWORLD show from Wed., June 27, 2018 ... Guests (first half): Kleesa Kay, fiddler (Love Makes a Home: The Life of Rebecca Boone); Patti Smith, actor; and William Ritter, fiddler; for more information: [wildjns.theale@gmail.com](mailto:wildjns.theale@gmail.com) ... Guest (second half): Zuzu Welsh, owner/frontman/songwriter for the Zuzu Welsh Band, for more information: [bob.welsh\\_jr@gmail.com](mailto:bob.welsh_jr@gmail.com) ... Pictured, l-r: Patti Smith, Blaine Greenfield, William Ritter, Zuzu Welsh and Patti Smith ... To listen to the show, click: <https://tinyurl.com/yaseoy33>



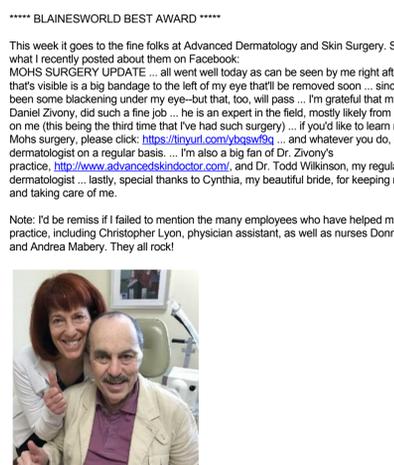
C. DAVID BLAINE, the magician, was in Asheville, and I got to have a picture taken with him (left photo). His show at the U.S. Cellular Center was breathtaking. ... The highlight was toward the end when he submerged himself in a water tank (right photo) for over 10 minutes!



D. Attended Asheville SCORE's Recognition Event at the Governor's Mansion and got to spend time with a bunch of my colleagues/friends. For other pictures, please click: [Here](#)

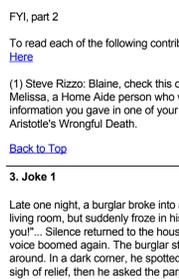


E. Are you a fan of GONE WITH THE WIND? Do you like learning about the making of old movies? Or are you just in the mood for a laugh-out-loud farce? ... if you answered "yes" to any of those questions, see MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—now at Hendersonville Community Theatre through July 1. ... John B. Nichols, Jr., Jonathan Forrester, Clay Gaitskill and Victoria Lamberth all excel in their respective roles, and Beth David Bristol's direction is spot on. I also liked the work of John Annett who handled both the set and lighting design.... For tickets, please click: <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=80485>



F. Thanks, Lisa Stendig, my new goddess: beautiful Cynthia in her new goddess wear (hand dyed silk top by a local artist and necklace by a Turkish artist)!

Note: Lisa runs The Goddess Shop, Cynthia's favorite clothing store in Asheville. The place also has some neat items for men. For more information, please click: [Here](#)



G. Congratulations to:

- (1) Michael Trayford on his excellent presentation to PechaKucha Night Asheville. To view it, please click: [Here](#)
- (2) Colton R. Overcash on his new position as Senior Advisor for State and Local Policy at the Federation for American Immigration Reform.
- (3) Dan and Natasha Clancy on the birth of Teagan Marie Clancy.
- (4) Molly Keavick on her retirement from teaching at Maple Shade High School.
- (5) Zuzu Welsh on having his song, "The Tavern," make the Music: Mafia Radio Tops 30 list. To able to relate to in your own life. ... To enter the contest, send an email to: [bjnbc@aol.com](mailto:bjnbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #14 in the subject, then include your name, snail mail address in the body of the email.... All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon. July 2, 2018.
- (6) Sean David Robinson on having his play, Starbright, chosen as the winner of the 2019 New Play Project and Mark Gilbert Award. For more information, please click: [Here](#)
- (7) Kat Williams on her marriage to Patrice Boudreaux.
- (8) George Pappas on sounding off on separating children and parents at the border-and having WLOS share his views. To read them, please click: [Here](#)
- (9) Victor Feraru on his graduation from the School of Law at Southern Illinois University.
- (10) Judith Loniak on the release of her video, "Revealing the Light Within with Judith Loniak." To view it, click: [Here](#)

**H. Reminders:**

(1) Tickets are now on sale for THE HAPPY TOGETHER REVUE, which will take place on July 22 and 29 at the Attic Salt Theatre Company. You can purchase them by clicking: [Here](#)

You're going to love this production, especially since you'll be sitting along with arguably the greatest rock song of all time. Click this link to see the cast rehearsing it: [Here](#)

Pictured, l-r: (front row) Ruth Planey, Philippe Coquette and Ryan Garcia; and (back row), Ellen Pappas, Carol Duemmit and Blaine Greenfield.



(2) There's still time to enter:

\*\*\*\* CONTEST #14 \*\*\*\*

Steve Darter, my friend and high school classmate, is offering one lucky reader a copy of his latest book: LESSONS FROM LIFE: FOUR KEYS TO LIVING WITH MORE MEANING, PURPOSE, AND SUCCESS. ... I recently read this and really enjoyed it. (See my review in BLAINESWORLD #1132.) ... You will, too, especially if you lived in the Five Towns, went to school sometime between 1960 and 1980 or want to hear a bunch of stories that you will be able to relate to in your own life. ... To enter the contest, send an email to: [bjnbc@aol.com](mailto:bjnbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #14 in the subject, then include your name, snail mail address in the body of the email.... All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon. July 2, 2018.

Note: For an excerpt from Steven's book that you'll enjoy, please go to Section 11.

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

This week it goes to the fine folks at Advanced Dermatology and Skin Surgery. See below for what I recently posted about them on Facebook: MOHS SURGERY UPDATE ... all went well today as can be seen by me right afterward. ... all that's visible is a big bandage to the left of my eye that'll be removed soon ... since then, there's been some blacking under my eye—but that, too, will pass. ... I'm grateful that my surgeon, Dr. Daniel Zivony, did such a fine job ... he is an expert in the field, mostly likely from having worked on me (this being the third time that I've had such surgery) ... if you'd like to learn more about Mohs surgery, please click: <http://www.youyube.com/ybqswf9q> ... and whatever you do, get thee to a dermatologist on a regular basis ... I'm also a big fan of Dr. Zivony's practice: <http://www.advancedskin.com>; and Dr. Todd Wilkinson, my regular dermatologist. ... Lastly, special thanks to Cynthia, my beautiful bride, for keeping me company and taking care of me.

Note: I'd be remiss if I failed to mention the many employees who have helped me at this fine practice, including Christopher Lyon, physician assistant, as well as nurses Donna Radford and Andrea Mabery. They all rock!



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**2. FYI**

Bonnie Sibner, my friend, recently taught me a lesson; i.e., I need to read my texts messages before I send them out. ... I usually just talk to me on my iPhone when sending such a message, then quickly press send. I don't bother reading it first, figuring that an occasional typo or misspelling is no big deal.

Recently, Bonnie and I were texting back and forth on the tickets for THE FULL MONTY. (See Section 1.) She asked me a question and I used the word also in my answer. However, it didn't come out that way, rather, the word that was used was a "shole." I definitely did not mean to call Bonnie that, but she immediately called me and asked, "Why are you calling me a "shole?" I stammered a response, then apologized and hopefully learned my lesson!

FYI, part 2

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

- (1) Steve Rizzo: Blaine, check this one out. It's fast & fun. (2) Penny Gray: Check her to support Melissa, a Home Aide person who works for me. (3) John Dilcher: BTW, made good use of the information you gave in one of your previous newsletters. (4) How to pose for a photograph. (5) Aristotle's Wrongful Death.

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**3. Joke 1**

Late one night, a burglar broke into a house when he thought was empty. He tiptoed through the living room, but suddenly froze in his tracks when he heard a loud voice say, "Jesus is watching you!" ... Silence returned to the house, so the burglar crept forward, "Jesus is watching you," the voice boomed again. The burglar stopped once more. Frightened, he frantically looked all around. In a dark corner, he spotted a bird cage with a parrot in it. ... The burglar breathed a sigh of relief, then he asked the parrot, "What's your name?" ... "Clarence," said the bird. ... "That's a dumb name for a parrot!" sneered the burglar, "What idiot named you Clarence?" ... The parrot replied, "The same idiot who gave his Rottweiler the name Jesus." (Thanks, Carol Seufert, for sharing.)



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**4. Reviews**

Is it me ... or are you also finding that there just aren't all that many movies that you want to see in theatres? Some I've tried and even watched on, e.g., OCEAN11. (The first five minutes were fantastic, but then it just fell apart for me, and I didn't even make it to the half hour mark.)

A. Fortunately, there are lots of good things to watch on TCM, Netflix, etc.—such as BORN FREE. It is the true story about a British couple who teach their pet lioness to survive in the wilds on the African jungle. The story is heartwarming, and you'll be amazed by the cinematography. Both the title song and film song won Academy Awards. Rated PG, though I would not recommend it for young children because it is violent in parts.

B. Heard OLD JEWS TELLING JOKES: 5,000 YEARS OF FUNNY BITS AND NOT-SO-KOSHER LAUGHS (HighBridge, a division of Recorded Books), written by Sam Hoffman with Eric Spiegelman and narrated by a bunch of old Jews. ... The book originated when Hoffman, a Hollywood director and producer, launched a website with the same title back in 2008. He sought Jewish men and women over 60 who wanted to share their favorite stories, tales, and anecdotes and punched. Many of these then showed up as YouTube videos. ... So though I've already heard just about everything that was in this book, I nevertheless got a big kick out of it. And actually found myself laughing out loud many times. ... Methinks you'll enjoy it, too, though be forewarned: Some of the language might be considered offensive by some.

However, here's a clean one:  
Harry Macklowe, real-estate developer  
Born: 1937

A couple is in a supermarket. She has a problem, though she's stealing. She's a kleptomaniac. She steals a can of fruit.

She's taken before the magistrate. The magistrate says, "Sarah, how could you do something like that? What did you take?"

She says, "Well, I just took one can of peaches."

"Peaches you took! How many peaches?"

"There were six peaches in the can."

He says, "Sarah, you are going to jail for six nights. That's it, it's final!"

She says, "Oh, my God!"

Her husband stands up and says, "Your honor! She also stole a can of peas."

Note: If you got a kick out of the above, OLD JEWS TELLING JOKES is a book you'll want to read.

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**5. TV alert**

A. A VERY ENGLISH SCANDAL: Now available via Amazon Prime  
Hugh Grant stars in this three-part fact-based series about a politician of monstrous hypocrisy who led the Parliament's Liberal Party from 1967 to 1976. TV GUIDE says it has been "adapted with rare economy and wit."

B. SET IT UP: Now available via Netflix  
Two assistants to relentlessly busy Manhattan hot shots plot to have their bosses fall in love and (in theory) spend less time making demands on their staff in this romantic comedy.

C. NATHAN'S FAMOUS HOT DOG EATING CONTEST: Wed., July 4, at Noon on EPSN 2  
Twenty competitive eaters gather to determine one winner—oops, typo—winner!

D. A CAPITAL FOURTH: Wed., July 4, at 8 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at [pbs.org](http://pbs.org))  
The traditional TV celebration returns for the 38th year with John Stamos as host, playing with the Beach Boys, and is joined by Andy Grammer, VOICE finalist Kyla Jade Broadway icon Chita Rivera and violinist Joshua Bell.

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**6. Joke 2**

This egccelent joke has me yoking away. And wondering: Am I now becoming like my Dad who would always tell such jokes to others ... and then sit around laughing by himself?



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**7. Clips/Websites**

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) My friend Edie Weinstein for sharing this video from Nimo:  
Thanks to I We Shall Overcome: Love Will Rise Again  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6FN0Emk87c&features=share&list=PLx7l9WcMKOLZ19ADweJE5lWfMKeqTeR1&index=3>

I liked it so much that I looked to find more songs from him:  
(2) Grateful: A Love Song to the World  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2098Zp2g8&index=5&list=PLx7l9WcMKOLZ19ADweJE5lWfMKeqTeR1>

(3) BEING KIND: The Music Video that Cirled the World  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ubZ946v7vU&index=6&list=PLx7l9WcMKOLZ19ADweJE5lWfMKeqTeR1>

(4) PLANTING SEEDS: A Song of Life | Empty Hands Music  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5AmqYcVlBmc&list=PLx7l9WcMKOLZ19ADweJE5lWfMKeqTeR1&index=7>

(5) KEEP LOVING: A Universal Love Song  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WAVlUDY2OQ&index=8&list=PLx7l9WcMKOLZ19ADweJE5lWfMKeqTeR1>

(6) TO MY PEOPLE: An Ode to Humanity | Empty Hands Music  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBFGX54mpE&index=9&list=PLx7l9WcMKOLZ19ADweJE5lWfMKeqTeR1>

Note: To get a free download of the above and/or more of his music, please click:  
<http://www.emptyhandsmusic.org/album-gift-for-all/>

(7) I then wanted to find out more about him, his music, etc. So I came across this:  
Nimo's Ted Talk:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0gmRwimYg>

(8) And about his pilgrimage:  
Empty Hands Pilgrimage  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zrVfHarNcAYa>

For more information about Nimo, please click:  
[https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/05/06/finding-nimo-a-rap-stars\\_n\\_1490643.htm](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/05/06/finding-nimo-a-rap-stars_n_1490643.htm)

Also, to find out more about his organization:  
About Empty Hands Music:  
<http://www.emptyhandsmusic.org/about/>

B. Jean Dolan: AP Stylebook Online Tutorial Guides offer help covering news events such as the royal wedding and World Cup. ... We share our most recent guide with everyone, no subscription required. We posted our new polls and surveys guidance in the guides for the summer. ... To view these, please click:  
[Here](#)

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**

What is Google Assistant and what can it do?  
by Elyse Betters and Dan Grabham

Google is taking on Alexa, Siri and Cortana with its own voice assistant: Google Assistant. It has made incredible progress thus far and it's probably the most advanced of the assistants out there.

Google first unveiled Assistant at Google I/O in May 2016, launched it on the Google Pixel and Pixel XL phones, brought it to Google Home and then Wear OS, before it started it rolling it out to other phones running Android.

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

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**9. Joke 3**

A businessman at a convention in Vegas is at the bar when a rather attractive woman sidles up to him and whispers in his ear, "I'll do anything you want for \$200." ... The businessman thinks about this offer, looks her right in the eye and says, "Anything?" ... She promptly rises to the challenge and sexily purrs back, "Anything." ... The businessman pulls out his wallet, takes out two crisp hundred dollar bills, slaps them on the bar and says, "Paint my house." (Thanks, Dave Earnhardt, for sharing.)



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**10. A quote I like**

"An internet user and his leisure time are soon parted."—Source: Author unknown. If you know who wrote this and/or where it came from, please let me know.

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**11. Thought for the day**

A Father's Loving Gift  
by Steve Darter

Out of the ashes of sadness from my father's death, I began thinking about the value of a human life and what gives it meaning and purpose. I thought how despite the ups and downs of a relationship, if love and caring are felt and passed on, then there is development of the soul—the soul of the giver and the soul of the receiver. I thought how important it is to give to others. How when you give, you will experience more meaning and purpose in your life. How the act of giving brings you closer to realizing your intended destiny.

What follows is a guest editorial I wrote that was originally published on January 11, 2003, in the Hartford Courant, shortly after my father died, under the title "Reflections of an Unsung Hero."

For the rest of this touching editorial, please go to Section 11 when you click:  
[Here](#)

\* Reprinted with Steve's gracious permission from his latest book: LESSONS FROM LIFE: FOUR KEYS TO LIVING WITH MORE MEANING, PURPOSE, AND SUCCESS. (See above, Section 1H, for information on this week's contest and the chance to win a copy of the book.)

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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) Montford Park Players, an Asheville theatrical tradition, is proud announcing their upcoming production of the locally-penned Robin Hood, the Legend of Sherwood. (2) Bray Crouch: Please consider joining us for a very fun evening on Friday, July 6th, at 7:30 pm for Asheville Community Theatre's annual fundraiser, Costume Drama: A Fashion Show.

**B. PA/NJ events**

(1) ACTORS IN THE STAGES: SHAKESPEARE'S IMMORTAL STORY OF YOUNG LOVE, ROMEO & JULIET. (2) Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Kelsey Theatre for Yardley Players' "Wizard of Oz" July 13 to 22.

**PS.** Make it a wonderful week!

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