

# BLAINES WORLD

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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) Were joined by our friend Beth Byas at AMELIE. As can be seen by the smiles, it was an absolute delight. ... This enchanting musical had outstanding performances from all 13 members of the cast, along with stellar direction from Dwight Chiles (who also did a fine job of acting). Sarah Fowler's music direction was spot on, as was Shari Azar's choreography and Samantha Lebrocq's costume design. ... Get your tickets for the North Carolina premiere of this show at Parkway Playhouse that runs through Aug. 10 by clicking: [Here](#)



We then went for tasty hamburgers at Hwy 55 Burgers Shakes & Fries, a new eatery in Burnsville.



(2) We also went with Beth and our friend Grant Randall for a delicious lunch at Rejavanation Cafe in Candler.



B. It's now official ... as can be seen by the caps below, I am now a member of the Romeo (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Club. That's me in the background, along with, l-r: Brian Biro, Marvin Sadovsky and Tom Gallagher. Our thumbs are up for the fact that we made it to still another breakfast at Rise 'n Shine Cafe, our favorite place for such meals, and that we were served by the always effervescent Louisa Daniel.



C. It's always a treat when I get to catch up with out-of-town friends, and that was the case when I met Fred and Cynthia Weiss for breakfast at Cafe 64. The food was great, as was the conversation.



D. Thanks, David Troy Francis, for inviting me to tour the Haywood Street Congregation and to then join you for lunch there. It was a special thrill to see you perform at the service afterward. To see the two numbers he played, please click: [Here](#) and [Here](#)

Note: David is putting together a terrific benefit show for the above on Sunday, Aug. 4. For more information about that, as well as information about how to get a ticket, please click: [Here](#)



E. Catch my two BLAINESWORLD shows on WPVM from this past week. Madeline Delp (top picture) was my guest on the first one. To view it, please click: [Here](#) ... David Troy Francis (bottom picture in the back) was my guest on the first half hour of the second one, followed by, l-r: Michael Harney, Devin Lipford and Michael Pandl. To view it, please click: [Here](#)

Note: Special thanks to Grail Moviehouse for sponsoring the above. To find out what's currently playing, please click: [Here](#)





F. Condolences to Carol Dietrich Mikulski and family on the passing of Mary Ellen Dietrich Warren, Carol's sister.

G. Congratulations to:

- (1) Elsten Torres on the release of his new song/video, "Hey Corazón, " that he wrote with Canadian artist Amanda Martinez. To view it , please click: [Here](#)
- (2) Stephanie Moore on her appearance on WLOS. To view it, please click: [Here](#)
- (3) Marc Cameron for winning two awards in the 48-Hour Film Competition.
- (4) Tom Girdali and family on the birth of Scarlett Rae, Tom's new grandbaby.
- (5) Jeff Sneider on the retirement from his medical practice.
- (6) Tom Kilby and Joy Hughes on their engagement.
- (7) Kristy Wilson, winner of Contest #16: a copy of my friend James Nave's book, LOOKING AT LIGHT: 100 POEMS IN 100 DAYS AFTER CANCER. es for every year of my life.

All told, there were three entries. And that reminds me that it is now time to introduce:

\*\*\*\*\* CONTEST #17 \*\*\*\*\*

One lucky reader will win a copy of THE INTROVERT'S EDGE: HOW THE QUIET AND SHY CAN OUTSELL ANYONE by Matthew Pollard with Derek Lewis. To quote Marshall Goldsmith, international bestselling author, "If you've ever felt that your introversion is an obstacle to your success, worry no more."

Note: Don't be put off by the title. This helpful book would be of value to folks in just about any field, as well as to folks currently dating. To enter contest , send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #17 in the subject line. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon., August 12.

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

This week, it goes to Kilwins Chocolates, Fudge & Ice Cream--our go-to place for something sweet when in downtown Asheville. We also bring our friends and neighbors there. (That's us pictured below with Beth Byas.) ... My favorite item is the toasted coconut ice cream, while Cynthia loves the cappuccino chip. Beth that day had the chocolate salted caramel, and she said it was amazing. ... But going to Kilwins is much more than getting something great to eat. We always get a special kick out of being greeted by the friendliest workers in town. This particular visit, Seth Greenberg helped us and both his smile and enthusiasm were infectious. Marcy Gallagher, the co-owner, also makes us feel like part of her extended family whenever we see her. ... Kudos to Marcy and Tom Gallagher, her husband and co-owner, for all the good that they have Kilwins do in the community. Whenever I ask them to have Kilwins help out on something, their answer is an automatic "yes." I appreciate that they have had the store assist me in several endeavors I've been involved with, including programs for Asheville SCORE, The Mediation Center and Attic Salt Theatre. In addition, they have generously had Kilwins support other programs for diverse groups such as Pisgah Legal Services, Asheville Lyric Opera and several local schools, among others. ... But don't just take my word for it. See Kilwins for

yourself by going to the store at 26 Battery Park Ave. And when you enter, make sure you accept the delicious fudge sample you'll be asked to try.



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## 2. FYI

Last week, I mentioned an easy way to develop a shopping list that will help minimize your ever running out of anything. Here's something else you can do ... when you order more than one item of any product (e.g., salad dressing), take a magic marker and put a big X on the last bottle. That way, when you start to use that last bottle, you'll know that it is your last one and that it's time to buy some more. ... This can be used with almost any product, as well as with paper goods.

FYI, part 2

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

(1) Amy Przynosch: 24 Best & Worst Low-Sugar Protein Bars. (2) How Normal Is Peeing In The Middle Of The Night?. (3) Annemarie Brown: Dear Abby: This is a message about our senior population. (4) Risk for Dementia May Increase With Long-Term Use of Certain Medicines.

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## 3. Joke 1

For heaven's sake ... will someone tell her it's a mushroom? (Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for sharing.)



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## 4. Reviews

With our upcoming move and lots of other stuff going on, we are finding ourselves with less time to go to the movies and/or to see them online. I mention this because, as always, your recommendations on what to see are always welcome. By the same token, if you read something that you think I'd like, please also share that information. In the meantime, here are two films that are worth your attention that you might be able to find on cable, TCM, Netflix or Amazon Prime:

A. Very much enjoyed THE DRESSER, a 2004 film about backstage theatre life in WWII England. It featured superb Oscar-nominated performances by Albert Finney and Tom Courtenay. Rated PG, but I don't think young children would like it very much.

If you get STARZ, it can be seen on that channel until Jan. 31.

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

B. STEVE JOBS took me behind the scenes at three product launches that ended in 1988 with the unveiling of the iMac. Adam Sorkin's dialogue was the highlight of the film, and I also admired Michael Fassbender's portrayal of the brilliant icon that will have you thinking differently about him. Rated R.

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## 5. TV alert

A. SERENGETI: Sunday, Aug. 4, at 8 p.m. on Discovery

This visually striking 6-part series follows several wildlife families over the course of an eventful year of survival. You'll get to meet Kali the lioness, Shani the zebra, Zalika the hyena, Tembo the young male elephant and Bakari the baboon.

B. WOODSTOCK; THREE DAYS THAT DEFINED A GENERATION: Thursday, Aug. 6, at 9 p.m. on PBS (check local listings [Here](#))

First-person accounts vividly capture a fleeting moment of harmony in a time of political discord.

C. BH90210: Wednesday, Aug. 7, at 9 p.m. on Fox

In this reboot about a proposed reboot, the surviving case members of BEVERLY HILLS 9021 play versions of themselves--and their now "mature" characters.

D. HYPNOTIZE ME: Season premiere on Wednesday, Aug. 7, at 9 p.m. on The CW  
Hypnotist Keith Barry has strangers do such things as act out the movie GHOST after hearing a song cue and think they're on a roller coaster before they then have to complete a task as a team to win money. Host Taye Diggs calls this redo of the U.K.'s YOU'RE BACK IN THE ROOM something "the States have never seen before."

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## 6. Joke 2

TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE ... When Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I began planning our move to Western NC over a decade over, we discussed Hendersonville as one possibility. We then visited that city, saw one store on Main Street that featured items for women in their 70s and 80s and decided that we didn't want to move to such an elderly area. ... That discussion came up the other day when a friend asked us about what kind of community we were seeking for our upcoming move. I quickly responded, "Definitely not a place where there are only old folks." .. And that's when Cynthia gently reminded me that I'm now 70.



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## 7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Ginny Plaisted: Have you ever seen the comedian, Robert Dubac? He has a new one man play. [Here](#)

Response: I hadn't, but just checked him out. Here was one of his routines. (Be forewarned: Don't click if religious jokes offend you.)

(2) Edina Hegguler: Momentum Gallery in Asheville. [Here](#)

(3) Elsten Torres: Lawless Sessions Ep. 3 - Bryant Del Toro - When in Doubt. [Here](#)

(4) Glenn Sable: This kid is too funny. (Be forewarned: Don't click if vulgar language offends you.) [Here](#)

B. Bill Kormos: It looks like they have a game about you and Cynthia! ... See picture below. ... Mr. Curious here: You think it looks like us? ... Regardless, if you want to play the game, 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

Not everyone wants to watch a full YouTube video, so here's way to link to the exact location you found most entertaining instead of making your friends or family watch the full video. To do this, get to the location you want and pause the video. Once paused, right-click the video and select Get video URL at current time and then copy the link created.

For example, take this clip from THE HAPPY TIME--one of my favorite musicals: [Here](#)

If I wanted you to hear it from just the beginning of the first song, I could have you click: [Here](#)

Or if I instead wanted you to hear the beginning of the second song, I could have you click: [Here](#)

Pretty cool, isn't it?

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### 9. Joke 3

A woman takes her 16-year old daughter to the doctor and tells him, "It's my daughter Darla. She keeps getting these cravings, she's putting on weight and is sick most mornings." ... The doctor examines Darla and says, "Your daughter is about four months pregnant."... The mother replies, "She can't be pregnant. She has never been alone with a man." ... Darla adds, "No, mother! I've never even kissed a man." ... The doctor walks over to the window to stare out of it. Five minutes pass and the mother asks, "Is there something wrong out there doctor?" ... The doctor answers, "No. It's just that the last time anything like this happened, a star appeared in the East and three wise men came over the hill. I'll be damned if I'm going to miss it this time!" (Thanks, Janeen Ravkin, for sharing.)



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### 10. A quote I like

Thanks, Kevin Jameson, for sharing:

"Most people do not listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply."--Stephen R. Covey (1932-2012), American leadership authority and author of several international bestsellers, including THE 7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PEOPLE, which has sold over 20 millions copies.

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### 11. Thought for the day

Thanks, Douglas Snipes, for sharing:

Rich Man Kicks Out Poor Man, Instantly Regrets His Decision

To view it, 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) BYE BYE BIRDIE at Hendersonville Theatre. (2) INDECENT at The Magnetic Theatre. (3) ROMEO AND JULIET, hosted by Montford Park Players. (4) Edie Weinstein: My friend Karyn Oliver will be performing in Asheville in August.

#### B. PA/NJ event

The 2019 Kelsey Theatre Awards at Mercer County Community College.

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

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