

BLAINES WORLD

#1246
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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) Continued to hunker down in Week 21 of the corona pandemic, but managed to enjoy our outdoor dinner at Pack's Tavern where we had some delicious cheeseburgers.



B. Get a kick on our daily walks when we see these two leaning trees that sit right next to each other. We call the larger one on the left Leaning Mama, and the smaller one on the right Leaning Baby.



C. Catch the latest BLAINESWORLD show from 8.5.2020: (first half) Charles Fink, story teller, as well as storyteller teacher and coach; and (second half) Papillon DeBoer, clinical mental health counselor, To view it, please click: [Here](#).





D. Trip down memory lane: Reviewing some pictures, I came across this one with my brother Ken on the left and my father Bernie in the middle. In case you couldn't recognize me with all the hair, that's me on the right.



E. Condolences to:

- (1) Tom Mock and family on the passing of Tom's wife.
- (2) Athena Sarantis and family on the passing of Athena's Aunt Casan.
- (3) Gil Carlson and family on the passing of Lisa Croteau, Gil's daughter.
- (4) Wanda Taylor and family on the passing of Colleen Robinson Mathews, Wanda's mother.

F. Congratulations to:

- (1) Amber Riddle and Chris Shuler on their engagement.
- (2) Misty Theisen on her promotion to assistant professor at Mars Hill University.
- (3) Michele and Jason Louzon on the marriage of Jesse, their oldest son, to Julia.

G. Invitations to:

- (1) Join Cynthia in either of the two virtual courses she teaches for Arms Around ASD: Meditation on Mondays and Move Your Body on Wednesdays. To attend these and/or any of the others (that are open to the public), scroll down to Calendar when you click: [Here](#).



(2) Enter ...

**** CONTEST #15 ****

One lucky reader will win a copy of my friend Richard Shulman's LIFE SEASONS, his new CD. To quote from one Amazon reviewer: "Life Seasons" is the twenty-eighth album by Richard Shulman, a composer/keyboardist/pianist who creates music intended to be a positive influence for himself, audiences and society. ... The thirteen tracks on "Life Seasons" are a mix of vocal and instrumental pieces that tell stories about each of the annual seasons, often metaphors of the seasons of life. They also express the depth of love possible from sharing life over many years. ... There is great deal of variety in the music of "Life Seasons"--something for just about everyone!

To enter, send an email to: bjinbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #15 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include both your name and mailing address. All entries must be received on or before Mon, August 10, at 9 p.m

**** BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD ****

This week, it goes to Carol Duermit--mortgage broker extraordinaire with Atlantic Bay Mortgage Group.

Carol has helped us refinance our mortgage from what we thought was a good rate (3.65%) to a much better one (2.5%). Over the course of 20 years, this will result in a big savings.

Ordinarily, getting a mortgage and/or refinancing can be a real pain, but Carol has made the process quite easy. She is both friendly and helpful, and I recommend her highly.

If you'd like to contact her, please click for information: [Here](#).

In writing about the above, I'd be remiss if I also didn't mention Cynthia for pointing out an article that I had missed about the decline in mortgage rates. It was written by Ed Kohlhepp, my financial adviser, and can be read by clicking: [Here](#).

And thanks to Patti Miller, transaction coordinator at Atlantic Bay Mortgage Group, for her assistance.

Note: I have also gotten to know Carol through her many performances on stage and even had the pleasure of being in one show with her: YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN. She is one of Asheville's top actors.

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2. FYI

Thanks, Bettina Yiannakourou, for sharing the following:
I highly recommend Vault. It's a saliva test and not nearly as painful as the "shove it up your nose" one [for COVID-19 testing]. Results in 48 hours.

Show below are the results of her son's test.

Vault is not cheap, but especially if time is of the essence and/or you like the idea of a saliva test, it is a product you might want to check out.

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



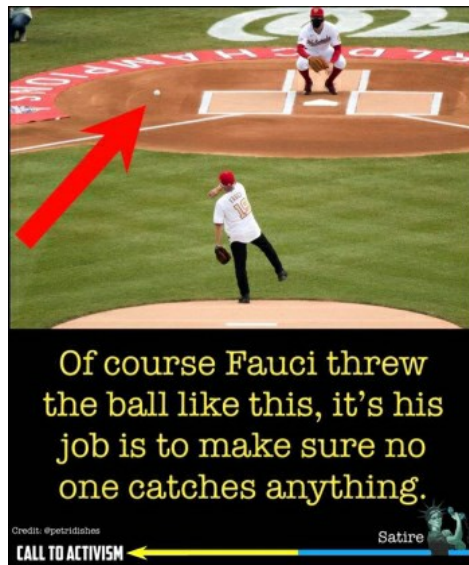
FYI, part 2

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

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3. Joke 1

It's also his job to make sure everyone knows what 6 feet apart looks like. That's the distance between his pitch and the catcher. (Thanks, Robert Thomas, for sharing.)



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4. Reviews

A. Saw A WALK TO REMEMBER on Netflix, the film adaptation of the best seller by novelist Nicholas Sparks. This romantic drama stars a young Mandy Moore as the conservative, religious daughter of the town's Baptist minister. She meets and winds up helping the big man on campus after a hazing incident left another student paralyzed. Watchable, though not great. Rated PG.

B. Revisited FAST FIVE on HBO, the fifth and one of the best in the FAST & FURIOUS franchise. Dwayne Johnson is introduced for the first time, and his performance rocks. His fight with Vin Diesel is epic. The plot isn't bad, either. Rated PG-13.

C. Read THE RACKETEER (Random House) by John Grisham, an engrossing legal thriller about an attorney wrongly imprisoned for money laundering. While in prison, he uncovers information about a federal justice and his mistress who are murdered. In return for this information, he gets released and enters the Witness Protection Program. That's when the plot thickens. Many twists and turns later, well ... let me stop here, in that I don't give away what happened. You'll like this book, especially if you are a fan of the author.

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5. TV alert

A. SURVIVING JEFFREY EPSTEIN: Miniseries premiere on Sunday, Aug. 9, at 8 p.m. on Lifetime
Eight of Epstein's victims speak out, revealing how he preyed upon underage girls and evaded justice for years. Two episodes of the four-parter air on Sunday, and the other two on Monday at 9 p.m.

B. AMERICA'S GOT TALENT: Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 8 p.m. on NBC
The judges welcome back 11 of the top 44 acts, including several introduced online during remote auditions.

C. SUMMER UNDER THE STARS: STEVE MCQUEEN: Friday, Aug. 14, beginning at 8 p.m. on TCM
Four of McQueen's top films can be seen: THE THOMAS CROWN AFFAIR, THE GREAT ESCAPE at 10 p.m., PAPHILLON at 1 a.m. and NEVER SO FEW at 3:45 a.m.

D. BIRDS OF PRAY: Saturday, Aug. 15, at 8 p.m. on HBO
Margot Robbie and Ewan McGregor star in this action comedy about a woman having most of Gotham City's underworld after her.

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6. Joke 2

All my exercising is finally paying off!



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7. Clips/Websites

A. The Turtles are arguably the greatest rock group of all time!

(1) As mentioned previously, this section will feature music by The Turtles—either their recordings and/or covers of their music by others.

I'd especially love to see any recording you may have done of "Happy Together."

Send it to: bginbc@aol.com and put THE TURTLES in the subject line.

Note: Even if you did not do a recording, I welcome anything done by others—not only of "Happy Together," but any other Turtles' song.

(2) For this week, please find the following performance at the 11:15 mark from Love Bubble (Paula Hanke, Peggy Ratusz and Hank Bones): [Here](#).

Note: The above shot a recent house concert at Jim Anderson's home. You're in luck, too, in that if you click the link, you can hear the whole show.

And please join me in showing some appreciation (and love) to Love Bubble by clicking: [Here](#).



B. Video of the week

Sharon Lewis: This is Deep River's 2nd virtual video from our Covid-postponed 2020 show, The Women Of Country: 1973-2019. This is our version of Lucinda Williams' 1988 song, Passionate Kisses, made a #4 hit by Mary Chapin Carpenter in 1993. In 1994 Williams won the Grammy for Best Country Song and Carpenter won the Grammy for Best Female Country Vocal Performance. From our homes to yours, enjoy by clicking: [Here](#).

C. And also check out these other clips at your convenience:

(1) Breakin' Up Is Hard To Do - Neil Sedaka, one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Aaron Ybarra: The Fantasticks, "Try to Remember": [Here](#).

(3) Cynthia Greenfield: Good To Be Alive: [Here](#).

(4) Andy Scarpati: Ragged Old Flag By Johnny Cash: [Here](#).

D. Here's a website that you will also want to check out:

It appears that boredom lies behind the most creative ideas. That's why quarantine has produced some of the most entertaining activities. One of them is the Getty Museum challenge that so many of you have already seen in our previous article here. The challenge, which asks people to recreate famous works of art by using things they find around the home, has gained a lot of traction. Apparently, people love to dress up and compete with each other over who can recreate a well-known painting better. The art enthusiasts can't stop participating in this challenge, so scroll down below for their latest creations!

My favorite one can be seen below. For others, please click: [Here](#).

#4 The Death Of Marat



E. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click: [Here](#).

F. 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

How to use the document scanner on iPhone and iPad
by Lory Gil and Joseph Keller

If you've been using an iPhone for a few years, you probably have tried a number of document scanner apps in your lifetime. I know I have. I have my favorites. I keep a couple of them in my Productivity folder on my iPhone and iPad.

If you're tired of storing extra apps, just for the purposes of scanning a business card, flier, or document every once in a while, you're about to be free of the multi-app grind.

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

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9. Joke 3

Bill Lewis, my comedian friend, was making his sit-down debut. He brought a cup of ice with him, then dumped it on the floor and ran over it with his wheelchair. ... He did this because he was really nervous and needed an icebreaker!





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10. A quote I like

Brian Biro: Whenever you mention your marketing mentor, Murray, it makes me think of Jerry Maguire and Tom Cruise's agent guru! He had one of the greatest lines ever:

Dicky Fox: "Hey, I don't have all the answers. In life, to be honest, I failed as much as I have succeeded. But I love my wife. I love my life. And I wish you my kind of success."

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11. Thought for the day

Roberta Gurwood: May this remind you that the good you are doing is not in vain.

A pilot give great surprise to his teacher on a plane. To view, 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. Different Strokes presents (via Zoom) a live staged reading of "It Can't Happen Here." B. Jason Scholder: Marquee Comedy returns to Guidon Brewing Co. in Hendersonville, NC. C. Steve Jencks: Until the social restrictions are lifted, and we can meet in person, let's take Incredible Business Networking - Asheville, Hendersonville, and all of WNC to our computers.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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