

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 and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Caught the NC regional premiere of INDECENT at The Magnetic Theatre Company and was blown away by the acting of (top photo) Lara Hollaway, Shelley Lieberman and Doug Savitt; (bottom left photo) Mary Katherine O'Donnell and Daniel Moore; (bottom right photo) Daniel Sandoval; and (not pictured) Stan Baranowski. ... This provocative drama also featured Andrew Gall's spot on direction and Victoria Smith's outstanding costume design, along with fine instrumental performances from Jim Anthony, Claire Eliss and Vance Reese. ... The show runs through Aug. 25 and should not be missed. For tickets, please click: [Here](#).





(2) Joined Beth Byas, our friend and neighbor, for a tasty meal at 12 Bones River.



(3) Joined our friends Grant Randall and Ginny Plaisted for a delicious dinner at 131 Main.



(4) Celebrated our upcoming move to Fairview with great sandwiches at The Local Joint, which is rapidly becoming one of our favorite eateries.



familiar with it, you'll enjoy this tuneful one-woman revue starring the effervescent Karen Covington-Yow as Mrs. Cole Porter. ... Karen is superb in the role, and Bob Strain is equally outstanding as head of the one-man orchestra that somehow makes it sound like there are a lot more musicians with him. ... And kudos to Misty Theisen for serving as both producer and director of this show that runs through Aug. 25 at 35below. ... For tickets, please click: [Here](#).



C. I had a productive meeting with Jennifer Alvarado, a SCORE client, at Zoe's Kitchen,. We discussed her new business: Peace of Mind Errands. For more information about this terrific new business, please click: [Here](#).



D. View this week's BLAINESWORLD show on WPVM by clicking: [Here](#). ... My guests were: (first half) Marc Cameron; and (second half) Jamie Knox and Stephanie Hickling Beckman.

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





E. Thanks, Vickie Gaddy, for helping spread the thumbs up movement. That's her grandson Peyton with his mother Cassie Gaddy.



F. Condolences to Lisa Snyder and family on the passing of Lisa's sister.

G. Congratulations to:

- (1) Frank Goldsmith on his appearance on WLOS. To view it, please click: [Here](#).
- (2) Maximilian Koger on his gig singing the National Anthem at an Asheville Tourists game. To view it, please click: [Here](#).
- (3) Edie Weinstein-Moser on being featured in Woman's World. The issue is now on newsstands. Or you can view it by clicking: [Here](#).
- (4) Marco Cucchi on the opening of his newest Thomas Sweet store in Windsor Plaza in West Windsor, NJ. For more information, please click: [Here](#).
- (5) Anthony Cerrato and Jennie Nolan on their marriage.
- (6) Lilly Mills on her new job at Alamo Draffhouse in Raleigh.
- (7) Howard Debs on being published in POETS READING THE NEWS. To reach what he wrote, please click: [Here](#).
- (8) Dominic Michael Aquilino on re-joining the the Voice Faculty of Western Carolina University.
- (9) Sue Russeck, winner of Contest #17: a copy of THE INTROVERT'S EDGE: HOW THE QUIET AND SHY CAN OUTSELL ANYONE by Matthew Pollard with Derek Lewis.

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

***** CONTEST #18 *****

One lucky winner will win a copy of COMBO PROSPECTING: THE POWERFUL ONE-TWO PUNCH THAT FILLS YOUR PIPELINE AND WINS SALES. To quote Jonathan Farrington, CEO, Top Sales World: "Tony Hughes is one of the most respected writers and speakers on the topic of business-to-business selling. COMBO PROSPECTING is a absolute must-read for anyone interested in delivering consistently high sales results in the real world of ferocious competition and difficult-to-win clients."

To enter contest , send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #18 in the subject line. Include your name and mailing address in the body of the email. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon., August 26.

This week, it goes to a bunch of folks pictured below: Brent Russell (far left), Phillip Price (second to left), Rob and Jan Akers (third and fourth from left) and Dan Clancy (far right). They have all been involved in helping us purchase our new home in Fairview, NC, and have made it go in a remarkably smooth fashion. ... Brent, affiliated with Beverly-Hanks, is our realtor. He is both friendly and knowledgeable, and he helped us find our new location in less than a week. He can be reached via email: brussell@beverly-hanks.com or by phone at 828.528.1829. ... Phillip and his firm, Phillip C. Price, Attorney at Law, handled the closing of this sale and also, some 10 years ago, the sale of our home in Biltmore Lake. He really knows his stuff. His contact information is as follows: phillip@phillippricelaw.com; 828.633.2374. ... We bought our beautiful new home from Rob and Jan. They have already become our friends. We're also grateful for the fact that they are two very handy individuals who have made themselves available to make some changes that we requested. ... And, lastly, we used my friend Dan with GoPrime Mortgage for our mortgage. He not only got us a good rate, but he also helped us deal with the paperwork that seemed never ending. He can be reached via email: dan@goprime.com or by phone at 828.279.1288.

Update: We were so impressed with Brent that we also asked him to help sell our current home. It will officially be on the market around September 19, but feel free to contact him now for more information. Naturally, you can also feel free to contact Cynthia or me.



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2. FYI

I'm often asked: How do Cynthia and I stay so slim when you eat out so much?

One thing we do is rarely take the bread the server brings us. Instead, we have started to offer it back to the server. Several times, it has been gladly accepted. Either it was put away for later use or given to another restaurant staffer.

One time recently, a dish was not served the way we liked it; i.e., it included mayonnaise despite the fact that we ordered it plain. As the server was taking it off our table, I asked him if he would like it for himself. His response was an enthusiastic "yes."

Lastly, you've probably seen some warnings that you should never eat complementary bread at a restaurant. I don't feel that way, but if you'd like to get a second opinion on that subject, please click: [Here](#).

In particular, I agree with the thought expressed by the author in the last paragraph: I will not eat in a restaurant with a filthy bathroom. If the bathroom is bad, you can bet the kitchen is unbelievable.

FYI, part 2

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

(1) Lynda Shuler: So glad to find out about the L. Cohen exhibit! (2) Susan Dobroski: COMPASSIONATE RESPITE SERVICE. (3) Ariel Robinson: Our adoption story!!! (4) Things People Say to Their Dogs.

3. Joke 1

A man walked into a lawyer's office and inquired about the lawyer's rates. "\$200 for three questions", replied the lawyer. ... "Isn't that awfully steep?" asked the man. ... "Yes," the lawyer answered, "and what was your third question?"



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4. Reviews

A. Saw THE ART OF RACING IN THE RAIN, a tearjerker about a man and his dog. Forget the reviews on this one. Most critics weren't crazy about it, but just about all those who saw it loved it. (Critics on Rotten Tomatoes gave it 42%, but audiences rated it 96%.) ... Milo Ventimiglia and Amanda Seyfried were both excellent in the leading roles, as was Kevin Costner as the voice of Enzo. I also liked the work of Martin Donovan as a guy you'll very quickly love to hate. ... Rated PG.

B. Mike Martinelli: If you haven't seen this movie (THE FAREWELL), do so. It is my favorite movie of 2019. A must see.

C. Heard EVERY BREATH (Grand Central Publishing), written by Nicholas Sparks and narrated by Sean Cameron Michael and Vanessa Johansson. ... Based on a true story, it is a beautifully written romance about a chance encounter that becomes a love story that stretches over decades and continents. ... You won't be able to put it down. ... I now finding myself looking forward to what will surely become a movie. ... I've enjoyed many books by Sparks. This is one of my favorites.

Kudos to the excellent job done by the narrators. Methinks you'll like reading EVERY BREATH, but if you get the chance to listen to it, you'll find that Michael and Johansson make the words in the book come alive.

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5. TV alert

A. DOWNTON ABBEY LIVE!: Sunday, Aug. 18, at 9 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at [pbs.org](https://www.pbs.org))

Stars and producers of the beloved series gather before a live audience in New York City to preview clips and reflect on six seasons of the addictive Masterpiece phenom.

B. AMERICAN FACTORY: Starting on Wednesday, Aug. 21, on Netflix
This documentary depicts a culture clash in Dayton, Ohio, when a Chinese billionaire reopens an abandoned auto plant, bringing hundreds of experienced Chinese employees to work alongside 2,000 local residents in the repurposed Fuyao Glass America factory.

C. THE UNEXPLAINED: Thursday, Aug. 22, at 10 p.m. on History
William Shatner and a team of scientists, historians and other experts look at near-death experiences and claims of reincarnation.

D. TCM: SUMMER UNDER THE STARS: SHIRLEY MACLAINE: Thursday, Aug. 24, movie marathon starting at 6 a.m on TCM
See such classics as TERMS OF ENDEARMENT at 8 p.m. , STEEL MAGNOLIAS

Note: The latter film was only fair, in my opinion, but catch it because of the great songs. And the dance scenes staged by director Bob Fosse.

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6. Joke 2

On her wedding night, the bride was looking out the window. Her husband asks, "When are you going to come to bed?" ... "Not now," she says, continuing to look out the window. ... An hour passes and the husband again asks, "When are you going to come to bed?" ... "Not now" once more is the answer, and she continues to look outside. ... The husband is frankly getting a bit annoyed. Finally, after another hour, he asks, "Are you going to come to bed now?" ... She replies, "Not now." ... The husband responds, "This is ridiculous. It is our wedding night. How come you can't come to bed?" ... Continuing to look out the window, she answers, "Because my mother always said this would be the most beautiful night of my life!"



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Simone Biles Stuns With New Triple Double on Floor: [Here](#)

For more information on the above, please click: [Here](#).

Then there was this routine: [Here](#).

And also: [Here](#).

(2) Linda Williams: Motown Sings the Debates: [Here](#).

(3) George Pappas: ICE Agreements With Local Law Enforcement Are Wrong: [Here](#).

(4) BJ Leiderman performs NPR Themes with Orchestra Nova in San Diego: [Here](#).

(5) Paul Marks: Louis Armstrong - What a wonderful world: [Here](#).

B. Last week, I mentioned A Good Movie To Watch. Here's another film website for you: MUBI, which can be viewed by clicking: [Here](#).

it features only 30 movies at a time, and there's a single one added and removed daily. You can even watch the film by clicking a link.

I was especially impressed with one of the choices: THE THIN BLUE LINE, which is one of my all-time favorite documentaries.

Note: To view movies, you can get a one week free trial and then they hit you for a \$10.99/month fee. Or you can take down the name of the film you want to see, then try to find it on Netflix or Amazon Prime.

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

If you have difficulty reading something you see in this blog (or elsewhere), here are some tips to consider:

1. If reading it on your cellphone, save it for later when you can read it on your PC or iPad. Almost always, you'll be able to read it more easily that way.
2. But if you can't wait and you are on your cellphone, zoom up by double tapping the area you need a closer look at. For more information on how to do that, please click: [Here](#).
3. You can also change your settings to adjust the type size. If you don't know how to do that, please click: [Here](#).
4. If you're using the PC to read something, open up the page to full size. You can do that by clicking the icon in the upper right hand of your screen.
5. And lastly, if on your PC and you can't read the whole screen, slide the bar that's probably at the bottom of the page to the right.

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9. Joke 3

Sometimes it's all about the angle ...



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10. A quote I like

"Middle age is when you go to bed at night and hope you feel better in the morning. Old age is when you go to bed at night and hope you wake up in the morning."-- Groucho Marx (1890-1977), American comedian, writer, stage, film, radio and television star

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11. Thought for the day

Thanks, Joyce Litchman, for sharing this:
And then it is winter

You know time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems like yesterday that I was young, just married, and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all those years went.

I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. But, here it is... the winter of my life, and it catches me by surprise... How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go? I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those "older people" were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like.

But, here it is...my friends are retired and getting gray... they move slower and I see an older person in myself now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me... but, I see the great change... Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant...but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be.

Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore... it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will... I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so... now I enter this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!! But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last... this I know, that when it's over on this earth... it's over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done... things I should have done, but indeed, there are also many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet... let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life, please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!! Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can TODAY, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not!

Source: Author unknown. If you know who wrote this and/or where it came from, please let me know.

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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) Edie Weinstein: Karyn Oliver CD Release. (2) RED at Attic Salt Theatre. (3) RABBIT HOLE at Asheville Community Theatre.

B. PA/NJ event

At Actors' Net of Bucks County: AN IDEAL HUSBAND.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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