

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) Attended the beautiful wedding of our friends Barrie Barrton and Russ Gowan. For more pictures, as well as a clip of Robert Thomas and James Vanderberg performing at the reception, please click: [Here](#)



(2) Joined our friends Will Redish and Padma Dyvine for a tasty dinner at Zoe's Kitchen.





We then went to see the Different Strokes! Performing Arts Collective's production of BEST OF ENEMIES—one of the best shows from this troupe. ... It is a play based on a real story about C.P. Ellis, a Grand Cyclops of the KKK, and Ann Atwater, an African-American civil rights activist, during the desegregation of the Durham, NC, schools in 1971. ... While watching, I laughed some, cheered some and even cried some and now a day later, I can't stop thinking about it. ... Kudos to, l-r: Ashleigh Millett-Goff for her spot on direction, as well as to Bjorn Goller, Janet Oliver, Sean David Robinson and Molly Graves for their terrific performances. ... Do yourself a favor and catch this moving show before its run ends on Sept. 2. For tickets, please click:

[Here](#)



(3) Checked out a new place near us: JoJo's Corner Grill & Ice Cream Shop. Our sandwiches were good, and we liked the ice cream. We'll be back.



B. During the week, I had some great pizza at Fahrenheit Pizza & Brewhouse in Asheville, thanks to my friend Mike Martinelli who recommended the place. Pictured, l-r: Trissa King, Karen Covington-Yow, Mike, Sue Thornbury and yours truly.



C. Condolences to:

(1) Joe McDermott and family on the passing of Jim Whelan, Joe's cousin.

(2) The family of Dick Gregory. He was a legendary comedian, as well as social justice activist. For those not familiar with his life, please read his obituary by clicking: [Here](#)

(3) Shari and Tom Donahue and family on the passing of Rebecca Faden, Shari's mom.

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Shari Faden Donahue on being named the 2016-2017 Newtown Rotarian of the Year.

(2) Kimberly Childs on the publication of REMEMBER ME AS LOVING YOU: A DAUGHTER'S MEMOIR.

(3) Erin Sternberg on her new position as IT Business Partner at Bristol-Myers.

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

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

One lucky reader will a copy of BUSINESS STRATEGY by Brian Tracy. The author, chairman and CEO of Brian Tracy International, a company specializing in the training and development of individuals and organizations, believes that strategic planning will enable you to develop absolute clarity on priorities organize resources and get better results than ever before. ... I reviewed the book in BLAINESWORLD #142 and enjoyed it. ...To enter the contest, send an email to: bjinbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #17 in the subject line. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 28.

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

This week, it goes to all the "Best of WNC" winners in the MOUNTAIN XPRESS competition--and especially to those I'm honored to have as my friends:

They include the following in no particular order: Scott Treadway, Bradshaw Call, Stephanie Hickling Beckman, Forty Fingers & A Missing Tooth (Walter Beals, Keith Campbell, Ingrid Johnson and Britt Tyler), Barbie Angell, Jeff Thompson, Jonas Gerard, Rodney Smith, Frank Zipperer, Holiday Childress, Professor Whizzpop (To Hughes), Sarah Fowler, Dr. Meredith Polansky, Dr. Michael Weizman, Dr. Mark Knollman, Joe Scully, Jeff Messer and John Boyle.

Also, I greatly appreciate those who voted for my blainesworld.net website, helping it to gain recognition in the above competition ... Do check it, every so often, for the archives of my BLAINESWORLD blog, articles I have written (in the "Consulting" section), etc.

Note: In the unlikely event you didn't vote for it this year, that's why they invented 2018!

And thanks to the fine folks at MOUNTAIN XPRESS for running these Best of WNC awards.



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2. FYI

To get ready for the big event, I baked some solar eclipse cookies. But be forewarned: DO NOT LOOK DIRECTLY AT THEM! (Thanks, Barbie Angell, for sharing.)



And now for what y'all have been waiting for; i.e., the eclipse (as seen in NC) ... I got to view it at the Asheville Airport where I was awaiting a flight for my trip up North. It was cloudy, but the person next to me managed to take the picture that can be seen below on the left. ... Frankly, I was not impressed. I looked up at the same sky and snapped the picture that can be seen below on the right, it came out much clearer.



FYI, part 2

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

[Here](#)

(1) Aging Parents With Lots of Stuff, and Children Who Don't Want it. (2) Hard-Won Advice in Books on Aging and Elderly Care. (3) The Case for a Breakfast Feast. (4) The Worst (and Best) Places to Be Gay in America.

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3. Joke 1

Please, I repeat, please do not use the \$1, \$20, \$50 or the \$100 American dollar bills as they have the images of former slave owners on them! Instead send them all to me, so that I can dispose of them properly. Do not just throw them away. They need to be disposed of properly, and I am a Certified Money Disposer. ... Mail them immediately to me. Rest assured, I will dispose of all your dirty money. ... Message me for the address of where to send these bills. Much obliged for your cooperation. (Thanks, Channah Mohler, for sharing.)



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4. Reviews

A. Available via On Disc/Streaming is YENTL, a 1983 musical that was both written and directed by Barbra Streisand. She also stars in this sweet story about a young Jewish woman who has to disguise herself as a boy in order to receive an education. Streisand is excellent in the leading role (though I would have liked to have seen her male "look" made more realistic), and Mandy Mandy Patinkin and Amy Irving were equally as good. The Michel Legrand and Alan and Marilyn Bergman score won a well-deserved Academy Award. Rated PG-13.

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

B. Heard TWO BY TWO (Hachette Audio), written by Nicholas Sparks and read by Ari Fliakos. The novel features a father of a young girl who seemingly had it all: a beautiful wife and daughter, loving family and successful career. ... Then, within a few months, his life falls apart—and he has to start all over again. ...I found it very believable, and I really felt for the characters. I also liked how it was told from the father's viewpoint. ... The book would be great for reading at the beach or anywhere else you just want to forget about any problems you might be experiencing.

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5. TV alert

A. DISJOINTED: Available now via Netflix
Kathy Bates stars in this comedy about a sixty-something woman who opens her own California cannabis shop.

B. THE TICK: Available now via Amazon
According to TV GUIDE, "For anyone who's wished the latest wave of superhero shows and/or movies would just lighten up, comes a beyond-refreshing respite in the latest incarnation of Ben Edlund's cult comedy about the buffoonish blue-suited Tick (droll Peter Serafinowicz), who enlists mousy accountant Arthur (Griffin Newman) as

his sidekick to combat evil."

C. MANHUNT; UNABOMBER: Tuesday, Aug. 29, AT 10 p.m. on Discovery
Find out how Ted Kaczynski (the always watchable Paul Bettany) warped into the mad bomber who terrorized the nation in the 1990s.

D. Elizabeth Taylor films: Thursday, Aug. 31, starting at 6 a.m. on TCM
See some of her greatest performances, starting with NATIONAL VELVET and continuing with IVANHOLE, CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF and many more.

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6. Joke 2

This has me writing a note to myself: "Self, get a dog who can do this--and clean up with some bets." (Thanks, Leon Russell for sharing.)



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Carol Leslie Duermit: First release of the EP 'To Love.' from my youngest son Connor

[Here](#)

(2) Top Hits of 2016 in 3 minutes - Us The Duo

[Here](#)

(3) THREE DOG NIGHT: Eli's Coming

[Here](#)

B. Want to eat free on your birthday? Check out this listing:

[Here](#)

The good news: Many places give you up two weeks to enjoy your birthday freebie.

This site also has a lot of useful information on credit cards, gift cards, etc. It is definitely worth a look.

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

SCAM ALERT (skip to the second paragraph to see why): ... a lot of folks are getting the following warning on Facebook:

Please tell all the contacts in your messenger list not to accept Jayden K. Smith friendship request. He is a hacker and has the system connected to your Facebook account. If one of your contacts accepts it, you will also be hacked, so make sure that all your friends know it. Thanks. Forwarded as received. Hold your finger down on the message. At the bottom in the middle it will say forward. Hit that then click on the names of those in your list and it will send to them.

Here's why it is a scam: In general, you can tell by the fact that it gets forwarded to you by many other folks and/or you are then asked to send it out to others . . . For more information, please click:

[Here](#)

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9. Joke 3

Bob forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was mad. She hold him, "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 2 seconds flat. And it better be there!" ... The next morning when his wife woke up, she looked

and found a gift-wrapped box in the middle of the driveway. She opened it and inside was a brand new bathroom scale. ... Bob has been missing since Friday. (Thanks, Ginger Heskett, for sharing.)



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10. A quote I like

"I get paid for what most kids get punished for."--Jerry Lewis (1926-2017), R.I.P. He was an American actor, comedian, film producer, director, screenwriter and humanitarian, best known for his slapstick humor in such classic films as THE NUTTY PROFESSOR. ... To see some clips of him in action, please click:

[Here](#)

And to read more about his life, please click:

[Here](#)



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11. Thought for the day

Once, there was an older man who was broke, living in a tiny house and owned a beat up car. He was living off of \$99 social security checks. At 65 years of age, he decide things had to change. So he thought about what he had to offer. His friends raved about his chicken recipe. He decided that this was his best shot at making a change.

He left Kentucky and traveled to different states to try to sell his recipe. He told restaurant owners that he had a mouthwatering chicken recipe. He offered the recipe to them for free, just asking for a small percentage on the items sold. Sounds like a good deal, right?

Unfortunately, not to most of the restaurants. He heard NO over 1000 times. Even after all of those rejections, he didn't give up. He believed his chicken recipe was something special. He got rejected 1009 times before he heard his first yes.

With that one success Colonel Hartland Sanders changed the way Americans eat chicken. Kentucky Fried Chicken, popularly known as KFC, was born.

Remember: Never give up and always believe in yourself.

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

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