BLAINES WORLD

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1. Reflections

Note: I'm in Pennsylvania as I write this, so I don't have access to all the files on my home PC, so this week's issue won't have all the regular sections. They will be back next week.

Also, 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 receiving it at all anymore, all you have to do is send an email to bgrass@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

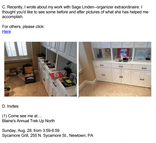
(1) Saw an amazing evening of storytelling at our Biltmore Lake clubhouse, featuring Adam Booth (far left) and David Joe Miller (to Adam's right). Also pictured in the middle: Robin Sanchez.

(2) Enjoyed Asheville Community Theatre's production of COMEDY OF THE HEART, by Michael Pisaro-winning play about three young adult singles who have reunited to await news of their dying grandfather. Pictured with us: Riana Lindblom. Dowd and David Dixon, two members of the talented cast that also included Julianne Hough, Sarah Billings, William Stanley and Alex Foote. Eric Mitki direction was spot-on!

Grant Randall and Ginny Plaisted, our friends, joined us at the above and for a tasty dinner afterward at Paolo Tuscn where we received excellent service from Eden.

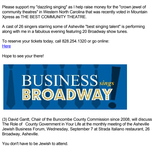
B. During the week, I:

(1) Saw the world premiere of Comedy Insight's RED FILL DIAMES at NC Stage, a comedy-drama about a Jewish family in Asheville. Pictured with us: Jeffrey Scott and Kusha Ia (the other talented performers in the show. Darren Marshall (center in the top photo). Dianne Chapman (bottom left photo), Jenni Robinson (bottom right photo in the red dress) and Ashley Wilson (bottom left photo) directed the show. Kim Ellis as well as Chelsea Lee Cashly for her work as assistant director/stage manager. Also pictured: Carol Anders (bottom right photo on the left), my friend and fellow theatre affectionado.



(2) Attended the going away party for Tristan Cameron who will soon be leaving for Hampshire College. Asheville will just not be the same without him, though hopefully he will return. . . Special thanks to Charlie Burchill and Candice Owen for hosting the event.

For other pictures from the day, please click:
Here



C. Recently, I wrote about my work with Sage Linden organizer extraordinaire. I thought you'd like to see some before and after pictures of what she has helped me accomplish.

For others, please click:
Here

D. Invites:

(1) Come see me at:
Blaine's Annual Trek Up North

Sunday, Aug. 28, from 3:59-6:59
Sycamore Grill, 205 N. Sycamore St., Newtown, PA

Stop by to say "hello," greet old friends and meet new ones. There will be plenty of great food and drink that will be available on a cash basis.

In addition, Rich Orth (left photo) and Jerry Cross (right photo) will be performing. Others slated to entertain you include Jim Freeman, Bill Kormos, Bill Lewis, Todd Silben, John Strauss, Rick Pine and Kevin Jameson.

There's also the possibility that you will get to see the recent short play that was written about me: MR. POSITIVITY.

And as a special bonus: All those in attendance will learn the difference between a left and right-hand pencil in the unlikely event you don't already know this.

(2) I am performing in a wonderful annual fundraiser for the Asheville Community Theatre and I am asking for your support to purchase your tickets to attend and cheer me on.

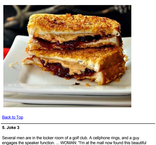
BUSINESS SINGS BROADWAY on Saturday evening, September 10th at 7:30 p.m. at ACT. The address is 35 E. Walnut Street in downtown Asheville (across from the Brazilian Steakhouse and behind the Renaissance Hotel).

Please support my "dazzling singing" as I help raise money for the "crown jewel of community theatres" in Western North Carolina that was recently voted in Mountain Xpress as THE BEST COMMUNITY THEATRE.

A cast of 26 singers starring some of Asheville "best singing talent" is performing along with me in a fabulous evening featuring 20 Broadway show tunes.

To reserve your tickets today, call 828.254.1201 or go online:
Here

Hope to see your there!



(3) David Gantt, Chair of the Buncombe County Commission since 2006, will discuss The Role of County Government in Your Life at the monthly meeting of the Asheville Rotary Club on Wednesday, September 7 at Strada Italiano restaurant, 26 Broadway, Asheville.

You don't have to be Jewish to attend.

For more information, please click:
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2. FYI

Thanks, Peter R. in PA, for this email on something Ram last week's issue, i.e., using lemons or restaurant to make lemonade:
Hopefully everyone will see this and take some advice this . . . WHAT A CONCEPTION!!! To read it, please click:
Here

It is very accurate. Here's to good health and happiness.

I then wrote him back for more information, given that he has a great deal of experience in the food industry. I also sent him this response from Snopes:
Here

He replied as follows:
Many things in restaurants are or should be washed: Vegetables, salad greens, etc. However, it is very common that bar garnishes and fruit for drinks are not. So because I alone in general, I stay away. I don't care what someone with a morcick doing a study says.

Mr. Curious here: What's your opinion on this subject? I'm especially interested in feedback from anybody who has ever worked in a bar or restaurant.

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3. Joke 1

The old lady was standing at the railing of the cruise ship, holding her hat on tight so it wouldn't blow away. As the ship slowly pulled away from the pier, she turned to her, maiden, I do not intend to be forward, but did you know that your dress is blowing up in this high wind?" . . . "Yes, I know," said the lady. "I need both hands to hold onto my hat." . . . "But, I can see your bloomers!" . . . "Young man, I'm aware of that and the gentleman in earnest. . . The woman looked down, then back up at the man and replied, "Sir, anything you see down there is 85 years old. I just bought this hat yesterday!"

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4. Joke 2

I have become hooked on the Food Network. . . Consequently, I now make a pulned nut spread with a grape relish reduction paired with brioche bread. . . Contact me if you want the recipe.

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5. Joke 3

Several men are in the locker room of a golf club. A cellphone rings, and a guy engages the speaker function. . . WOMAN: "I'm at the mall now found this beautiful coat. It's only $1,000. Is it OK if I buy it?" MAN: "Sure, go ahead if you like it." . . . WOMAN: "I'm also at the shoe store and there are some great shoes." . . . MAN: "Have mercy!" WOMAN: "$85.00." MAN: "OK, but for that price I want it with all the options." . . . WOMAN: "Great! I'll see you later! I love you!" MAN: "Bye, I love you, too." . . . The guy hangs up. The other men in the locker room are staring at him in entertainment. Then he smiles and asks: "Anyone know whose cellphone this is?"

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6. A quote I like

After being called two-faced in a debate, Abe Lincoln replied: "I leave it to my audience. If I had another face, do you think I would wear this one?"

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7. Thought for the day

A frog was hopping around a farmyard, when it decided to investigate the barn. Being somewhat careless, and maybe a little too curious, he ended up falling into a pail half filled with fresh milk.

As he swam about attempting to reach the top of the pail, he found that the sides of the pail were too high and steep to reach. He tried to stretch his back legs to push off against the sides of the pail, but it was too deep. But this frog was determined not to give up, and he continued to struggle.

He kicked and squirmed and kicked and squirmed, until at last, all his churning about in the milk had turned the milk into a big hunk of butter. The butter was now solid enough for him to climb onto and get out of the pail.

The moral of the story? Never give up!

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PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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