

BLAINES WORLD

#1199
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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) Are in the process of finalizing our move from Biltmore Lake. But things got off to a rocky start as can be seen by this my recent post on Facebook and other social media ...

HELP AND/OR PRAYERS NEEDED ... As you may have heard, we are moving to Joe Jenkins Road in Fairview, NC. ... On Sunday morning, we managed to gather up our two outdoor cats and get them to our new home. They were OK in the day. ... Our plan was to keep them inside for a month, then let them outside in a beautiful catio we had built for them. ... But on Sunday night or Monday morning, they got out through a cat door that had not been properly secured. And we now are desperately searching for them. ... So please keep both Nona (left) and Archangel (right) in your prayers. If y'all do that, our hope is that this will help guide our two cats back to us. Many thanks!... PS. If you share this with others, feel free to include my number: 215.208.0646



(2) Yet life must go on, so I even got around to doing some work around the yard. And no, your eyes are not deceiving you. That's actually me on a tractor ... but as soon as I got on it, I got off it. The picture is just me posing to impress you!



B. We will miss some things from our old neighborhood ... one of them being the many excellent meals we had at Stone Ridge Tavern. On this particular evening, we received excellent service from Katelyn.



C. My recent BLAINESWORLD show on WPVM featured these guests: Guests: (first half) Ellane Chandler and Meta Commerse; and (second half) Joy Resor. To view the show, please click: [Here](#).



D. I was fortunate to catch the last performance of THE HUMANS, a dark comedy at Parkway Playhouse. It made me appreciate my family and the fact that it wasn't all that dysfunctional--at least in comparison with the Burke family featured in the play. ... Kudos to Henry Williamson III for his spot-on direction, as well all those in the cast: Jeff Bachar, Alesa Bryant, Mathew Edwardsen, Kristen Livengood, Paula O'Brien and Josephine Thomas..





E. I also got a big kick out of seeing the opening night of CRAZY BAG, the first of two unique shows starring the amazing Murphy Funkhouser Capps. ... She had the audience laughing out loud at times, but she also touched all those in attendance with stories from her life. ... And kudos to Rodney Smith for his stellar work as director, as well as for handling the sound design.



F. And I had an evening of laughs at my friend Jason Scholder's 50th birthday, at which he did a hilarious 50-minute stand up routine. Barbie Angell did an outstanding job as the emcee, and Randy Robins was just one of several other comedians who helped warm-up the evening for Jason.





G. Congratulations to:

- (1) Norm Kent on his new radio show, The Norm Kent Show, kicking off on wwnradio.com on September 16.
- (2) Andrew Hiller and Whitney Williams on their engagement.
- (3) Michael and Jenni Feldman on the birth of Lilly, their daughter.
- (4) Chelsey Lee Mirheli on the completion of her MFA from Florida Atlantic University.
- (5) Joy Resor on the publication of DESIGNED TO SHINE! READ ALONE RHYMES FOR ANY SIZE HEART, her latest book.
- (6) Judy Chadwick, Karen Gunderson, Donna Marchetti, Maria Porambo and Billie Radosin, all winners of Contest #19: a copy of RAISING HAPPY KIDS ON A REASONABLE BUDGET by my friend Patricia Gallagher. All told, there were five entries and thanks to Patricia who provided two extra books, I was able to make everybody a winner. And that reminds me that it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #20*****

One lucky winner will win a copy of PURPLE GOLDFISH 2.0: 10 WAYS TO ATTRACT RAVING CUSTOMERS by Stan Phelps & Evan Carroll. To quote from the book's description on Amazon:

Purple Goldfish 2.0 is not your ordinary business book. It fundamentally aims to change the paradigm of what we do in business and how we do it. It offers 10 ways to attract raving customers. Purple represents "a little extra" whereas the goldfish stands for "differentiation." A Purple Goldfish is defined as any time a business purposely goes above and beyond to provide a little something extra to differentiate the experience and honor the relationship. It's a marketing investment back into your customer base. It's that unexpected surprise that's thrown in for good measure to achieve product differentiation, drive retention, and promote word of mouth.

To enter contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #20 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., Sept. 23.

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

Thanks, Steve Byas, for the following nomination:
My experience with Jeff Cox from Power Plus:

They are licensed and provide references to the quality of their work.
All of his work is done according to industry standards and local building codes.
Uses quality materials and doesn't try to substitute lower quality goods.
Shows up on time.
Treats your home and property with respect - Booties!
Finishes the job on time.
Warranties his work.
Jeff is honest, has integrity and takes pride in his work.
He and crew are pleasure to work with.
I give them a 5 STAR RATING!!

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2. FYI

What Makes People Charismatic, and How You Can Be, Too
by Bryan Clark

Ask people to name someone they find charming and the answers are often predictable. There's James Bond, the fictional spy with a penchant for shaken martinis. Maybe they'll mention Oprah Winfrey, Bill Clinton or a historical figure, like the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. or Mahatma Gandhi. Now ask the same people to describe, in just a few seconds, what makes these charmers so likable.

It's here, in defining what exactly charisma is, that most hit a wall. Instinctually, we know that we're drawn to certain people more than others. Quantifying why we like them is an entirely different exercise.

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

FYI, part 2

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

(1) Edina Hepguler: Andrey Scherbak Imagines A World Where Humans Live Among Giant Cats. (2) Do You keep a Failure Resume? Here's Why You Should Start. (3) (3) Petitions Are Everywhere Because We Don't Know How Else to Do Politics. (4) Mary Lou Sartoris: Cynthia is always beautiful in your pics. (5) Susan Reinhardt: Love Cynthia's dress! (6) (6) Walela Dobroski: On re-purposing bags of moving materials.

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3. Joke 1

Great advice! (Thanks, Terry Haraz Valine, for sharing.)



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4. Reviews

Many thanks to the following readers who submitted their thoughts on these films:

A. Mike Martinelli: Downton Abbey The Movie ***1/2

Only a brilliant screenwriter like Julian Fellows could follow up an all time great 6 season TV series with an incredible movie. And, for anyone who never followed the series fret not, there is a 10 minute synopsis at the beginning of the movie of the TV series and the characters. Just absolutely brilliant idea.

The movie follows the Crowley's as they await the arrival of the king and queen of England. Many of the characters who didn't have a love interest when the series ended get one in the film.

If Maggie Smith doesn't win SAG or get an Oscar nomination there is no justice in Hollywood. I think the film will follow the 4 SAG wins for best drama series with a best film cast ensemble award next year. I suspect that as far as Oscar goes it will definitely get nominations in costume design, adapted screenplay and best score and hopefully a Maggie Smith nomination. As far as much else with the Academy's history I don't see it getting many more nominations.

I can't wait to see this film again.

B. Carol Duermit: *The Goldfinch*.

So evidently, the critics have not enjoyed this movie. I read the book a couple of years ago. It was a long intense and involved book. There was so much detail and such excellent writing and it was just so flipping deep that I had no idea how they were going to translate that into a film successfully.

However, regardless of what the so-called critics say, I was bowled over. I'm not the easiest person to please when it comes to film, but I thought the translation from book to film and coming in at under three hours with so much material to cover was a complete success. The thing I marveled at most while I sat there reliving what I had read years ago was how I had already felt that I was in all of those places that were in the movie.... the museum, the interim home, the antique shop, Pippa's bedroom, the desolation of a housing development in Nevada. The author had painted such a vivid portrait of all of these places and all of these characters that I knew them even years later as I watch them unfold on the screen.

I spoke to a man who had sat next to me alone after the movie. I asked him if he had read the book as I was curious to see if it only resonated with me since I already knew the story somewhat.... although so much of it came back to me that I had forgotten. He had not read the book, and was able to follow it quite well regardless. (I do feel that if one has read the book it is definitely going to make more sense). I personally think this movie will actually fare better as the years pass and people realize what a great film it is. I'm truly not sure what the critics were talking about but then I'm not a critic.

My recommendation is definitely two thumbs up if you like film, if you like to sink into a film and let it swallow you up and carry you on a journey and you can genuinely allow yourself to escape into the story.... I think you'll find this more than worthwhile.

C. Michael Lilly: One of the most beautiful documentaries I have ever seen. Linda Ronstadt, *The Sound of My Voice*. I suppose I should say ever heard as the narrative is underscored by her heavenly singing. If you are of an age it is the soundtrack of your life. A remarkable talent and a true pioneer for women in Pop and Rock and Country and, well you name it! She could sing it all. I could watch it on a loop.

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5. TV alert

A VERY BRADY RENOVATION: Begins on Monday, Sept. 9, at 9 p.m. on HGTV
This reality series features the Brady residence that has been regutted and refilled with painstaking replicas of the sets the represented the family living quarters. Six original Brady kids will be in the series, along the HGTV stars (including the Property Brothers).

B. UNBELIEVABLE: Now available via Netflix

Notes TV GUIDE: "As gripping as a page-turner but also incredibly moving, this eight-part limited series, based on Pulitzer Prize-winning journalism, stars the remarkable Kaitlyn Dever (*Last Man Standing*, *Booksmart*) as a teenager ostracized as a 'rape liar' after a 2008 sexual assault in a Seattle suburb."

C. UNDONE: Now available via Amazon Prime Video

Live-action actors are traced against painted backgrounds in this adult fantasy about a woman whose temporal reality begins to shred after a car wreck that may have been engineered by her long-dead scientist dad.

D. COUNTRY MUSIC: Sunday, Sept. 15, at 8 p.m. on PBS (check local listing at pbs.org)

Ken Burns delivers his latest magnum opus in a 16-hour history (airing over eight nights and two weeks) of the ever-evolving musical genre, telling soulful stories of gone-too-soon pioneers such as Hank Williams and Patsy Cline, outlaw Willie Nelson and superstars Dolly Parton and Garth Brooks.

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6. Joke 2

The war on drugs brought in more drugs. The war on crime produced more crime. The

war on terror created more terrorists. Soooo ... I'm thinking of starting the war on money. Y'all with me? (Thanks, Rhoda Weaver, for sharing.)



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Davyne Dial: Hauser: Fooling around with my favorite waltz: [Here](#)

(2) Melissa ML Collins-Arnder: Mustang Owners Club: [Here](#)

B. Bored Panda deals with lots of stuff that's funny on the internet. Check it out by clicking: [Here](#)

Among some recent posts:

KitKat Japan Is Ditching Plastic Packaging For Paper Which You Can Fold Into Origami

McDonald's Sweden Is Creating A Buzz With Their Billboards That Double As Bee Hotels

30 Heartbreaking Stories That Show How The Lives Of US Muslims Changed After 9/11

39 Of The Funniest Entries From The 2019 Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards

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 don't want Google Chrome to remember your activity, you can browse the web privately in Incognito mode by following these steps:

1. On your computer, open Chrome.
2. At the top right, click More New Incognito Window.
3. A new window appears. In the top corner, check for the Incognito icon.

You can also use a keyboard shortcut to open an Incognito window:

Windows, Linux, or Chrome OS: Press Ctrl + Shift + n.

Mac: Press ⌘ + Shift + n.

You can switch between Incognito windows and regular Chrome windows. You'll only browse in private when you're using an Incognito window.

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9. Joke 3

Now you know! (Thanks, Tee Gerardi, for sharing.)

THE HORMONE GUIDE

THE HORMONE GUIDE

SURVIVAL TIPS FOR MEN: HOW TO ASK A QUESTION TO A WOMAN

DANGEROUS	SAFER	SAFEST	ULTRA SAFE
What's for dinner?	Can I help you with dinner?	Where would you like to go for dinner?	Here, have some wine.
Are you wearing that?	You sure look good in brown!	WOW! Look at you!	Here, have some wine
What are you so worked up about?	Could we be overreacting?	Here's my paycheck.	Here, have some wine.
Should you be eating that?	You know, there are a lot of apples left.	Can I get you a piece of chocolate with that?	Here, have some wine.
What did you DO all day?	I hope you didn't over-do it today.	I've always loved you in that robe!	Here, have some wine.

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10. A quote I like

"To experience feeling more centered, balanced and a sense of well-being, have zero expectations, yet have high standards and healthy boundaries"-- Annemarie Brown, transformation business and life strategist coach

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11. Thought for the day

Thanks, Roberta Gurwood, for sharing this video clip:
Be Proud of Your Scars

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) Robin Gaiser: Open for Lunch. (2) Rock Legend Concerts.

B. PA/NJ event

Actors' Net of Bucks County: An Ideal Husband

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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