

# BLAINESWORLD

#1096  
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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: [bjinbc@aol.com](mailto:bjinbc@aol.com) and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Enjoyed joining our friends Ginny Plaisted and Grant Randall for Ed Asner's one-man show, A MAN AND HIS PROSTATE. Asner was both informative and funny.



(2) Had fun delivering meals for the Jewish New Year for Jewish Family Services of Western North Carolina. That's Janet Hoch, a new friend we met that day, on the right.



B. During the week, I:

(1) Had the pleasure of hosting Mark Lieberman, an attorney, on my BLAINESWORLD radio show. He discussed the Mission Health/Blue Cross standoff, and if you're not familiar with what's happening, I encourage you to listen to what he had to say by clicking: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/a788cb7ogkmr3tf/blainesworld-20170927.mp3?dl=0>. (If you see a window inviting you to create a Dropbox account, just click X and go directly to the show.)



(2) Was dazzled by the performers at the Saturday Night Variety Extravaganza, the highlight of this year's Asheville Juggling Festival. Pictured with me, top left: Keith Campbell, Water Beals and Ingrid Johnson; bottom left, Tom Hughes; top right, T.J. Shimeld; and middle right, Bekah Smith. ... For more pictures (as well as two clips from the performance), please click:

[Here](#)



(3) Saw a fantastic performance of THE GLASS MENAGERIE, a memory play that was superbly acted by Pam Eider, Maximilian Koger, Hanni Muerdter and David Anthony Yeates. ... Kudos, also, to Steve Lloyd for his spot-on direction. and to Julie Kinter for her costume design. ... It was a real treat to see this classic (and ALL MY SONS last year) performed locally, and I'm grateful for the fact that HART brings us such productions. And then follows them up with something completely different; e.g., the upcoming ZOMBIE PROM that I can't wait to see. ... Good news: If you haven't yet seen THE GLASS MENAGERIE, you're in luck. It runs through October 8. For tickets, please click:

[Here](#)



(4) Had a delicious coconut milkshake at Kilwins in Asheville.





C. Cynthia was busy, too, attending a workshop entitled "The Miracle of Mediation." It was led by Jeff Carreira, and Cynthia said it was terrific.



D. Condolences to:

- (1) Tom and Berta Ditillo on the passing of Tom's mother.
- (2) Eileen Fetter Zolotorofe and family on the passing of Eileen's mother.

E. Congratulations to:

- (1) Jeff Messer on taking a position as technical director for the Asheville School Theatre Department.
- (2) Andrea Straka on her new position in Supplier Quality Development with Merck & Co.
- (3) Jillian Summers and Colvin Melbourne on their marriage.
- (4) Andrew Gall on being named Interim Artistic Director for The Magnetic Theatre.
- (5) Ryan and Sarah Nali Phillips on their marriage.
- (6) Rochelle Sesbino Mobley on getting her US Citizenship.
- (7) Heather Bronson on being awarded Partner of the Quarter at Starbucks (946 Patton Avenue, Asheville, NC).
- (8) Dean Barlas on the reopening of his Cornerstone Restaurant. To read more about it, please click:  
[Here](#)
- (9) Asheville for being named one of the least stressed cities in the United States. To read more about this recognition, please click:  
[Here](#)
- (10) Andrew Lasner, winner of Contest #19: a copy of NEGOTIATION by Brian Tracy. All told, there were four entries. And that reminds me that it's now time for:

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

Several lucky readers will win a copy of a book on CD (from a list of past books I've reviewed). This is a great way to read while driving, exercising, etc. You can also transfer the book to your iPod, iPad or computer. ...To enter the contest, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #20 in the subject line, then include your snail mail address in the body of the email. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 9.

F. Invites to:

- (1) The Marketing seminar I'm conducting for Asheville SCORE on Saturday, October 28, from 9 a.m.-Noon at ABTech's Candler campus. It's free, but you must pre-register by clicking:  
[Here](#)
- (2) Get together with me when I travel up North to go my high school reunion. Can you believe it will be my 50th? ... I might see SLEUTH on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 8 (see

Section 12B for more information). If you'd like to join me at that and/or possibly some other time from Oct. 7-9, send an email to: [bjinbc@aol.com](mailto:bjinbc@aol.com) and put OCTOBER TRIP in the subject line. If we could meet up, that would be soooo cool!

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

Thanks, Cynthia Greenfield, for the following nomination for this week's award: Connor Arthur Ray has been my massage therapist for the past number of years. I started using him when I had become disillusioned with other therapists who simply did not seem to listen to what I needed, and I did not feel safe as I had a number of areas in my body that needed kind, intuitive attention. Connor provided exactly that, and so I have continued with him. In the process, we have become the best of friends. Connor is gentle yet firm at the same time, listens to what you need and gives it to you. He goes the extra mile in his service. I cannot say enough good things about him. He can be reached at 828.298.7138.



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## 2. FYI

A friend asked me to sign the following petition:  
Send Navy Hospital Ship USNS Comfort to Puerto Rico to Aid Our Fellow Americans

Response: It's a good cause. But that said, I'm reluctant to sign petitions. Here's why:  
[Here](#)

I've found that it is much more useful to call Congress directly; e.g., as I recently urged folks to do on the Graham-Cassidy bill. It's so easy to do .. just call: 202.224.3121

And the best thing: You don't even have to give your email address, so others can't then use it for spam and other purposes.

FYI, part 2

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

(1) Alyson Miller-Greenfield: My friend Melita Kraus is traveling all the way from Croatia for her art opening in Brooklyn! (2) Sharon Lewis: Would you be comfortable encouraging your many BLAINESWORLD fans to "like" Deep River on Facebook? (3) Elizabeth Pou: I enjoyed reading the analysis of the health un-care bill currently proposed. (4) Dan Becker: I would love to see this kind of info [about the MissionBlue Cross standoff] in all your newsletters.(5) Jessica Curry-Ellison: Love the newsletter. (6) Mike Martinelli: [with a review of a film currently in theatres] STRONGER \*\*\* 1/2/. (7) Bill Lewis: Just finished watching a really good movie: Passengers with Anne Hathaway. (8) Herb Spiegl: The most popular restaurants in every state (and Washington, D.C.)

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## 3. Joke 1

In case you missed this on TV ...



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#### 4. Reviews

A. Saw BATTLE OF THE SEXES, a crowd-pleasing dramedy about the 1973 tennis match between the women's #1 player, Billie Jean King, and hustler Bobby Riggs. It dragged a bit in the beginning, but really came alive for me toward the end. Emma Stone and Steve Carrell were both perfect in the respective leading roles. Rated PG-13.

Note: If you'd like to learn more about the match, please click the link that follows (though if you're going to see the film, wait to read this article until you do).

[Here](#)

B. Heard ALL THERE IS: LOVE STORIES FROM STORYCORPS (HighBridge Audio), produced by David Isay and narrated by the various authors. ... This collection stories has been collected and preserved by StoryCorps, and they tell the stories of our lives. The book is divided into sections focused on three common types of love: falling in love, losing love and reconnecting with a lost love. ... I especially liked the middle part and was very moved by it. ...One line, in particular, also had me smiling: "Being married is like having a color TV. Once you have it you never want to go back to black and white." ... If possible, I'd recommend you listen to this book rather than read it. Methinks you'll enjoy it more that way if you do.

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#### 5. TV alert

A. CURB YOUR ENTHUSIASM: Returns on Sunday, Oct. 1, at 10 p.m. on HBO  
After a six-year hiatus, Larry David returns for a ninth season of what's one of the best TV comedies on the air.

B. TEN DAYS IN THE VALLEY: Sunday, Oct. 1, at 10 p.m. on ABC  
Kyra Sedgwick stars in a 10-part thriller about a single-mom TV producer/writer whose crime fiction pales next to the nightmare she finds herself inhabiting after her daughter is abducted.

C. SPIELBERG: Saturday, Oct. 7, at 8 p.m. on HBO  
According to TV GUIDE, this is "a biography with the scope, emotion and entertainment value of a Spielberg film."

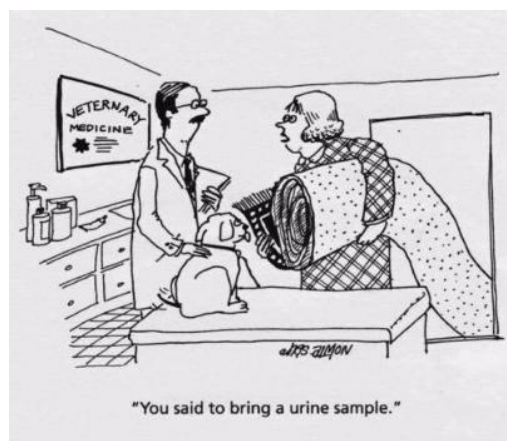
D. FREE REIN: Now on Netflix  
"It's an earnest saga about Zoe (Jaylen Barron), a 15-year-old American who visits her British grandfather for the summer," notes TV GUIDE, "and becomes something of a horse whisperer at the local stables."

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#### 6. Joke 2

I'm hoping that our fantastic vet, Dr. Pickett, will let us do this! (Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for sharing.)



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#### 7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Ed Hackett: Autistic man draws NYC from memory  
[Here](#)

Note: For more information about this amazing artist, please click:  
[Here](#)

(2) Evolution of Music - Pentatonix  
[Here](#)

(3) Mike Martinelli: Lead Me Lord - John Becker  
[Here](#)

(4) Jim Chewning: John Reno - BIG OL' JOHNSON  
[Here](#)

B. For instant recipes based on the ingredients you have laying around, check out a website called Supercook:

[Here](#)

I combined coconut, pineapple and craisins and came up with a lot of neat possibilities. The only thing missing: Somebody to actually make me something with the recipes that show up!

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

A reader recently wrote: Please let me know if this is a hoax. My friend is petrified now.

This is what new Facebook Messenger will do to you

[Here](#)

Response: I'm not concerned about this, nor do I think your friend needs to be. I also use the app and so do many of my friends. If your friends (or you, for that matter) is concerned about privacy, then don't use Facebook. For more information:

Facebook Messenger app isn't evil & it's not about to spy on you

[Here](#)

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### 9. Joke 3

"I was talking to one of my nerdy friends, and he asked me a super nerdy question. He was like, "Hey, what's your favorite element?"... I'm like, "I don't know." ... He's like, "Come on, what's your favorite element?" ... So, I punched him in the face. I was like, "The element of surprise!"--Andy Erikson, finalist in 2015 season of LAST COMIC STANDING



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### 10. A quote I like

Thanks, Carol Duermit, for sharing the following:

"Don't settle. Don't finish crappy books. If you don't like the menu, leave the restaurant. If you're not on the right path, get off it."--Chris Brogan, American author, journalist, marketing consultant and speaker about social media marketing

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### 11. Thought for the day

Hugh Hefner (1926-2017), R.I.P. ... I bet you won't hear anybody say that he's in a better place now. ... For an informative clip about his life, along with his obituary, 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) T.J. Shimeld: In October, Celebrate National Magic Week & Disability Employment Awareness Month. (2) Dean Jones: Pink Pint Night. (3) Tracey Johnston-Crum: THE 2ND ANNUAL BERNSTEIN FAMILY CHRISTMAS Preview and Fund-Raising Party.

### B. PA/NJ event

SLEUTH at Kelsey Theatre at Mercer County Community College.

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**PS.** Make it a wonderful week!

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