

BLAINES WORLD

#1205
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In this issue

- [1. Reflections](#)
- [2. FYI](#)
- [3. Joke 1](#)
- [4. Reviews](#)
- [5. TV alert](#)
- [6. Joke 2](#)
- [7. Clips/Websites](#)
- [8. Technology tip](#)
- [9. Joke 3](#)
- [10. A quote I like](#)
- [11. Thought for the day](#)
- [12. Advance planning department](#)

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) Saw this fabulous one-person show, written by Ellane Chandler who also starred in it. ... Kudos, also, to Meta Commerce for her vocals during the interlude, as well as to Paul Moore who accompanied her on piano. ... And to Barrie Barton, director; Cappy Tosetti, dresser; and Annermarie Hope Gore, stage crew.

Note: To see two other photos, as well as to see them all at full size, please click: [Here](#).



(2) I also got to meet Annemarie, my Facebook friend, who was hard at work on the above production.



(3) Afterward, we got to enjoy a tasty dinner at Green Sage with our friends Judy Ray and Cappy Tosetti.



(4) On another day, we got to visit Trackside Gallery in the River Arts District and even purchased something for our home (but not this particular piece).



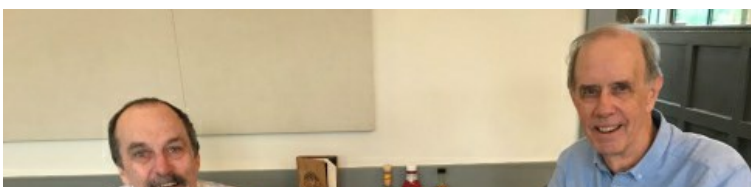
(5) And we had the pleasure of having Connor Ray, our friend, over for dinner.



B. Kudos to HART for its current production of ARSENIC AND OLD LACE, the classic dark comedy about two spinster sisters who have a habit of killing old men and burying them in the cellar. ... It stars Mark Lieberman (top center), Audrey Walls (bottom left), Jane Hallstrom (bottom right), along with my other Facebook friends Shelia Sumpter, Charlie Wilson, and Stephen A. Gonya and eight other talented cast members. ... Wanda Taylor's direction is spot on. ... Fans of the 1944 film will like this production, but so will those having never seen it or the stage version. ... The show runs through Nov. 3. For tickets, please click: [Here](#).



C. I got to solve all the world's problems with my friend Jim Meyer over a tasty lunch at Cornerstone.





D. Catch this past week's BLAINESWORLD show on WPVM with guests Pam Siekman and Christopher Holt (first half) and Sam Uhl (second half) by clicking: [Here](#) and then [Here](#).

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



E. Condolences to Denise Sullivan and family on the passing of Denise's mom.

F. Congratulations to:

(1) Dr. Michael Trayford, Founder and Director of Clinical Operations at APEX Brain Centers, on receiving his Board Certification in Neurofeedback (BCN) from the Biofeedback Certification International Alliance (BCIA).

(2) Anne Reeder Heck on the fact that her book, A FIERCE BELIEF IN MIRACLES, will be published on September 20, 2020.

(3) Victor Feraru on passing the District of Columbia bar exam.

(4) Katherine Morosani for her appearance in a Spicer Greene Jewelers commercial. You can view it by clicking: [Here](#).

(5) Trissa King on finishing first in her division in the Thomas Wolfe 5-mile race.

(6) June Zieder, winner of Contest #22: a copy of EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE, EXCEPTIONAL PROFIT: THE SECRETS OF BUILDING A FIVE-STAR CUSTOMER SERVICE ORGANIZATION by Leonardo Inghilleri and my friend Micah Solomon .

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

*** CONTEST #23 ***

One lucky reader will win a copy of THE COACHING HABIT: SAY LESS, ASK MORE & CHANGE THE WAY YOU LEAD FOREVER by Michael Bungay Stanier.

To quote Nir Eyal, author of HOOKED: "THE COACHING HABIT is a succinct and practical handbook for getting the best from others and yourself."

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #23 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., Nov. 4.

G. If you are interested in moving to Western North Carolina or know somebody who is, please check out our home (pictured below) in Biltmore Lake. For more pictures and/or to arrange a visit, please click: [Here](#).



**** BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD ****

Thanks, Drew Emanuele, for allowing me to use his Facebook post of October 7, 2019, for this week's award:

Another reason I take my vehicles to Firestone on Tunnel Road. Took it in Saturday to have the breaks checked because they were squeaking until I drove a few miles. Figured I might have to replace pads or maybe have rotors turned. Asked them to please check a tire that has been slowly losing air since I bought it at a competitor. Had it back to said competitor three times, and it was still leaking. Well, Firestone did the break check and cleaned the rim of the tire and stopped the leak. Breaks were fine except for a little rust. Total bill, \$21. Can't say enough about their excellent service and honesty. A less reputable garage might have told me I needed a complete redo on the breaks, and the tire needed replacing and charged me a ton more. Firestone Rocks!

For more information about this location, please click: [Here](#).

[Back to Top](#)

2. FYI

Open the cookies
by Seth Godin

Put a bag of cookies in the break room and it might sit for days.

Open the bag and leave it out, and within an hour, all the cookies will be gone.

For the rest of this insightful blog entry, please click: [Here](#).

FYI, part 2

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

(1) Steve Darter: You or someone you know might find useful the information below about a free job fit questionnaire / assessment that I developed. (2) Filming the Show: Pardon the Intrusion? Or Punish It? (3) The Tipping System is Immoral. (4) How Do the New Plan-Based Burgers Stack Up? We Tasted Them.

[Back to Top](#)

3. Joke 1

Amen--and awomen, too! (Thanks, Sylvia Russino Mennelli, for sharing.)





**With my ailing memory, I'm thinking
of changing my password to "incorrect"
That way, when I log in with the wrong
password, the computer will tell me..
"Your password is incorrect"**

[Back to Top](#)

4. Reviews

A. Loved LINDA RONSTADT; THE SOUND OF MY VOICE, a musical documentary about one of the most successful and versatile singers of the 20th century . The music is fantastic, as is the story of this performer who sang rock, American standards, classical opera and traditional Mexican canciones until she was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Rated PG-13, but also appropriate for younger children.

Note: The above has been added to my list of all-time favorite films. If you'd like a copy, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

B. Heard DEAR CARY: MY LIFE WITH CARY GRANT (Harper Audio), written and read by Dyan Cannon. ... It is an engrossing behind-the-scenes tale of Cannon's marriage to Grant, ruined in large part by the latter's use of LSD. What appeared to a fairy-tale romance turned out to be quite different.

[Back to Top](#)

5. TV alert

A. THE KOMINSKY METHOD: Now available via Netflix
This hilarious view on aging, starring Michael Douglas and Alan Arkin, is now back for its second season. I'll look forward to Arkin's rekindling a long-ago relationship with an elegant widow (Jane Seymour) he meets at a funeral: "At our age, it's called having a social life."

B. YOUR FAMILY OR YOUR LIFE: Movie premiere on Friday, Nov. 1, at 8 p.m. on Lifetime Movie Network
Jennie Garth and her real- daughter, Lucia Bella, costar in this tale of a doctor who realizes that both their lives may be in danger after her husband's suspicious suicide.

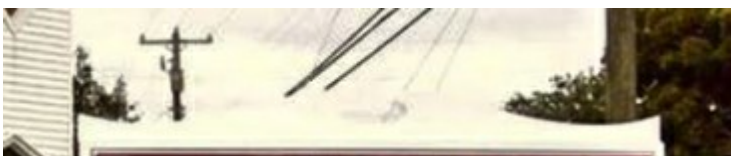
C. 42ND STREET: Friday, Nov. 1, at 9 p.m. on PBS (check local listings [Here](#))
This recent revival of the cornball music comedy is from London's West End. I can't wait to hear director tell his perky ingenue, "You're going out a youngster, but you've got to come back a star!"

D. MERRY & BRIGHT: Movie premier on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 8 p.m. on Hallmark Channel
Hallmark's "Countdown to Christmas" continues with this tale of a new CEO of her grandmother's candy cane company and the corporate recovery expert assigned to help the dated brand.

[Back to Top](#)

6. Joke 2

Amen--and awomen, too! (Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for sharing.)





[Back to Top](#)

7. Clip/Websites

A. The following clip is one of my all-time favorites. Check it out at your convenience.

The doghouse: [Here](#).

B. If you're in the mood for some laughs, check out The Oatmeal This website features comic strips that often delight me. To visit it, please click: [Here](#).

Then click Comics, followed by Most Popular at the top. Some of the ones that I have enjoyed include:

The terrible and wonderful reasons why I run long distances
How to pet a kitty
Why working from home is both awesome and horrible

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](#)

[Back to Top](#)

8. Technology tip

How to Set Your Google Data to Self-Destruct
by Brian X. Chen

Last year you may have been addicted to Beyoncé. But nowadays you're more into Lizzo. You also once went through a phase of being obsessed with houseplants, but have lately gotten into collecting ballpoint pens.

People's tastes and interests change. So why should our Google data histories be eternal?

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

[Back to Top](#)

9. Joke 3

Stress balls really work when you shove them down someone's throat! (Thanks, Jane Elyn Hinz, for sharing.)





[Back to Top](#)

10. A quote I like

"A heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved by others".--L. Frank Baum (1856-1919), author of THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ

[Back to Top](#)

11. Thought for the day

Thanks, Dawn Westmoreland, for allowing me to run the following:
Serving Coca Cola to my Bully in the Legal Office

Michael (not his real name) had no idea I was waiting in my attorney's office ready to witness my attorney depose him and his female bully accomplice. The legal conference was on the second floor and I was already sitting comfortably in the waiting room.

When Michael saw me after he got off the elevator he looked shocked and rivers of perspiration were streaming down his face. I just smiled at him and politely said, "hello". For nearly two years, I was harassed to the point of exhaustion. I had spoken up about perceived nepotism and other prohibited personnel practices that were occurring in my former government agency.

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

[Back to Top](#)

12. Advance planning department

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

A. NC events

(1) Michelle Kuhnen: Grand Opening of Asheville Personal Training. (2) Marquee Comedy presents Comedy Showcase. (3) Attic Salt Theatre: DINNER WITH FRIENDS.

B. PA/NJ event

Actors' Net of Bucks County: THE BIG BAD WOLF.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

[Back to Top](#)

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