

BLAINESWORLD

#1103
11.13.2017

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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) Found a new place that we really liked for a quick, tasty meal: Chicken Salad Chick. We liked both the chicken salad and the accompanying grape salad, along with the friendly service we received from Rachel Brelsford and the rest of the staff.



(2) Returned, as we often do, for a fine meal at Stone Ridge Tavern. Our server, Tabitha, was most accommodating.



B. WPVM/FM invites you to listen to the BLAINESWORLD show from Wed., November 15, 2017. ... Guest (first half): Boomer Sassmann, Internet Consultant; for more information: [Here...](#) Guest (second half): Nelson Sartoris, Poet & Author of BRAIN SLIVERS; for more information: nelsonsartoris@charter.net. ... Pictured, l-r:

Boomer Sassmann, Blaine Greenfield and Nelson Sartoris.

To listen to the show, please click:

[Here](#)



C. I was fortunate to be able to catch two terrific shows recently.

(1) OTHELLO, the magnificent joint production of Montford Park Players and Different Strokes! That's me, third from the right, along with many of those who were so fine in the show, I-r: Sonia D'Andrea, Phillippe Andre Coquet, Stephanie Hickling-Beckman, Jason Williams, Daniel Henry and Jon Stockdale. Not pictured, but also excellent were Trinity Smith-Keel, Ian Patrick Mendes, Devyn Ray and John Preston Mendnhall. Kudos, also, to Scott Keel for his spot-on direction, Nathan Singer for his work as stage manager, Kristi DeVille for being the movement director and Victoria Smith for both costumes and makeup design.



(2) URANIUM 235, the world premiere of David Brendan Hopes' fantasy about Truman and the bomb at The Magnetic Theatre. Pictured with me (left photo) Jim Meyer and Dan Clancy and (right photo) Bia Homes, Eugene Jones and Mike Yow. They were all excellent, as were the following performers not pictured: Mary Katherine O'Donnell, Lily Bartleson, Kiran Bursenos, Samuel Quinn Morris and Hannah Williams-Beaver. Hopes has a winner here in this show that's part history lesson, part musical. He couldn't have done it without the stellar support he received from Andrew Gall, director; Marissa Wilson, state manager; Kayren McKnight, scenic and costume design; Ginger Haselden, music and vocal coach; and Kristi DeVille, choreographer.



D. Look for me (pictured with the very talented Connie Hurst) in a small part in Andrew Shearer's GIVE AND TAKE, a hilarious film that will hopefully be released in the near future. For more information, please click:

[Here](#)





E. Join us at the Hendersonville Community Theatre MAIN STAGE on Sunday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. The show starts at 7:30, but latecomers are welcome throughout the show!

Emcee: Coy Theobalt
Accompanist: Bob Strain

With performances by:
Bradshaw Call
Jorja Ursin
Tasha Pepi Sullivan
Phillipe Andre Coquet
Lora Ristau
Blaine Greenfield
Alex Guazzo
Allison Stinson
Jim Walker
Liz Aiello
Trissa King

Cost: No tickets necessary. Suggested donation at the door is \$10 for the show and \$5 per plate of food.

All proceeds from this event will go to Carole Saich to help pay for repairs in her home due to an accidental flood. Donations are suggested, please feel free to give as much as you are able.

Come on out and enjoy a cup of joe or cocoa and homemade treats with friends while celebrating the start of the holiday season and our friend Carole Saich. Several Hendersonville/Asheville actors will be performing in their own styles in an open mic style cabaret for your enjoyment. Come on in for a half hour or the whole show. Hope to see you all there!



F. There's still time to enter ...

***** CONTEST #23 *****

Three lucky readers will win an autographed copy of REQUESTS, my friend Bruce Lang's CD. There are 25 great songs on it, including "Carolina On My Mind" that can be heard by clicking:

[Here](#)

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

G. Congratulations to:

- (1) Lynn and Jacob Blass on the birth of Addison Grace, their granddaughter.
- (2) Howard Debs new book, Gallery: A Collection of Pictures and Words, being named a Best Book Awards Finalist out of thousands of entries from around the world.
- (3) Coy Austin Theobalt on the start of his new business, Bit of Everything, specializing in Handyman, Home Repair, Maintenance, Landscaping and Consultation services. Currently serving Buncombe, Madison and Henderson counties.
- (4) Bruce Martin on his reunion with his birth mother. It was featured on WLOS. To view it, please click:
[Here](#)
- (5) Daniel Edward and family on the birth of Lucas Isaac Hamilton.

(6) Clara Ray Burrus and Dominic Michael Aquilino on their engagement.

(7) Maya K. van Rossum on being asked on NJ Governor Murphy's transition team focused on environment and energy issues.

(8) Carole Reese and family on the arrival of Madison Leigh, her new granddaughter.

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

This week, it goes Dave and Judy Blumlo--our dear friends who passed away recently. ... They were among the first folks we met when we moved to Asheville, and over the years, we had many fun times with them. In particular, we always enjoyed hearing about their 73 year love story. ... Pictured (left) is them at one of our parties and (right) are their hands cast together. For an obituary, as well as for information on how to make a contribution in their honor, please click:

[Here](#)



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2. FYI

Why You Should Hang Up Immediately When You Get a Robocall
by Alan Henry

In the past, you could press pound to escape Robocall hell, but that's not so much the case anymore. These days robocalls are like spam: If you press anything, even the number they say you should press to be removed from the list, you'll get more calls. The solution? Hang up immediately.

If you're like me, you probably just don't answer the phone at all unless you recognize the number (if it's important, they'll leave a message, right?) but if you're hoping for a call back from a potential employer or a company you've recently called, you may be more likely to pick up the phone anyway. Well, The Consumerist reports that even robocalls that pretend to give you an opt-out ("Press 1 to speak to a customer service rep, press 2 to be removed from our list") may sound nice, but it's not a good idea.

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) Kiesa Kay: I do not know if this might be a topic for BLAINESWORLD, but I sure hope this wonderful musician, Patrick Sky, gets the support he needs. (2) Bonnie Sibner: Another Actress Steps Forward Accusing Tom Hanks of Being Nice. (3) Tee Gerardi: Good read... Thanks for your effort :). (4) Chloe Lipman: Well, it's official - I'm running in the 2018 NYC Half Marathon! (5) Mike Martinelli: LADYBIRD *** 1/2. (6) Evelyn Blau: Neuroscientists finally revealed number one exercise for slowing down the aging process.

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3. Joke 1

To paraphrase the words of fight manager Joe Jacobs: "I wuz robbed." Jacobs actually said, "We wuz robbed" when Max Schmeling, his client, had clearly outboxed Jack Sharkey--only to have the heavyweight title awarded to Sharkey.

Blaine Greenfield@BLAINESWORLD:

Peeved that I was beat out by Blake Shelton as People Magazine's [#SexiestManAlive](#). Has me wanting to learn about his ties with the Russians. Congress MUST investigate ... now!

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4. Reviews

A. Saw WONDER, a heartwarming drama about a boy born with facial differences that kept him home schooled until he entered the fifth grade. Then, as everybody struggles to find their acceptance of him, he becomes the most unlikely of heroes. Jacob Tremblay is outstanding in the leading role, and I also liked the performances of both Owen Wilson and Julia Roberts as his parents. Rated PG.

B. Heard CREATIVITY, INC: OVERCOMING THE UNSEEN FORCES THAT STAND IN THE WAY OF TRUE INSPIRATION (Random House Audio), written by Ed Catmull with Amy Wallace and narrated by Peter Altschuler. It is the fascinating tale of how the author and his colleagues helped Pixar dominate the world of animation, producing such beloved films as the TOY STORY trilogy, INSIDE OUT, FINDING NEMO and a whole host of others. ... My favorite part of the book was at the end. It is here that there's a great summary, entitled "Thoughts for Managing a Creative Culture."

Among the 20+ ideas were these that I thought could work in virtually any situation were the following:

- * Give a good idea to a mediocre team, and they will screw it up. Give a mediocre idea to a great team, and they will either fix it or come up with something better. If you get the team right, chances are that they'll get the ideas right.
- * When looking to hire people, give their potential to grow more weight than their current skill level. What they will be capable of tomorrow is more important than what they can do today.
- * Always try to hire people who are smarter than you. Always take a chance on better even if it seems like a potential threat.
- * Excellence, quality and good should be earned words attributed by others to us, not proclaimed by us about ourselves.

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5. TV alert

A. MUDBOUND: Now available via streaming on Netflix. This is the tale of two families, one black and one white, whose lives become tragically intertwined in the years after World War II. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, "The movie's scope and beauty are breathtaking; its story is heartbreaking."

B. DAVID LETTERMAN: THE KENNEDY CENTER MARK TWAIN PRIZE: Monday, Nov. 20, at 8 p.m. on PBS. Among those leading the praise: Steve Martin, Bill Murray, Martin Short and former bandleader/sidekick Paul Shaffer. Check local listings [Here](#)

C. Mike Martinelli: Irving Berlins HOLIDAY INN will be on PBS on Friday, Nov. 24 at 9 p.m. He told me, "It was wonderful." Check local listings [Here](#)

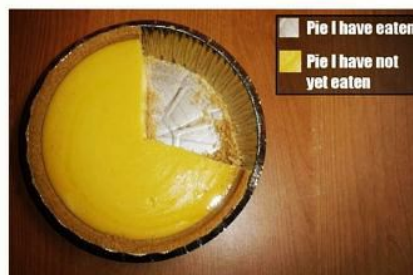
D. THE FAB FOUR-THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE: A Beatles tribute band offers live performances of the group's hits on PBS on both Saturday, Nov. 25 and repeated on Wednesday, Nov. 29, at 8:30 p.m. Check local listings [Here](#)

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6. Joke 2

Methinks that I would have done a lot better in math had my teacher actually brought in a pie to demonstrate this concept--and then allowed us to eat it! (Thanks, Terri Crosby, for sharing.)

World's Most Accurate Pie Chart



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Bruce Lang: She Left Me Standing On A Mountain
[Here](#)

(2) Jean Ryserbach: Cannabis actually kills cancer cells!
[Here](#)

(3) Ed Hackett: Kids React to Led Zeppelin
[Here](#)

(4) Isaac Fulk: Pantyhose Bowling
[Here](#)

B. Don't be put off by this website name: Fatherly ... There are some great ideas for parenting here--regardless of sex:

[Here](#)

For example, here's just a small sampling of recent articles:
Does Efficiency Lead to Happiness? My Daughter Taught Me No
The Best Way to Respond to Passive Aggressive Relatives
The Best Black Friday Deals on Toys and Games
Best Running Gadgets Every Dad Jogger Needs

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 New Phone Comes Out. Yours Slows Down. A Conspiracy? No.
by Brian X. Chen

It happens every year: Apple releases new iPhones, and then hordes of people groan about their older iPhones slowing to a crawl.

Just look at the recent data. Between September and early November - when Apple made the iPhone 8 available, followed by the iPhone X - Google searches for the keywords "iPhone slow" jumped about 50 percent.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:

[Here](#)

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9. Joke 3

Barbara Walters once did a story on 20/20 about the oppressive treatment of women in Afghanistan. She noted that they walked five paces behind their husbands. ... She recently returned to see if things had improved and observed that women still walked behind their husbands. Despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women actually seemed happy to maintain the old custom. ... Ms. Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked, "Why do you now seem joyous with a practice that you once tried so desperately to change?" ... The woman looked Ms Walters straight in her face and without hesitation said, "Land mines." (Thanks, Dan Becker, for sharing.)



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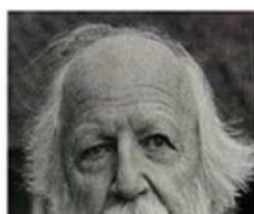
10. A quote I like

"Aim for the moon. If you miss, you may hit a star."--Og Mandino (1923-1996), American author who wrote the bestselling book, THE GREATEST SALESMAN IN THE WORLD

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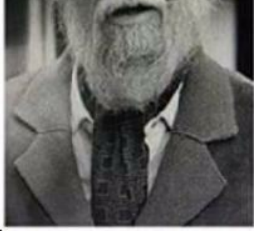
11. Thought for the day

Golding, best known for LORD OF THE FLIES, did actually say this ... or at least the first sentence. For more information, please click: [Here](#). (Thanks, Janeen Ravkin, for sharing.)



William Golding
British Novelist, Playwright & Poet
1911 --1993

I think women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men. They are far superior and always have been. Whatever you give a



woman, she will make greater. If you give her sperm, she will give you a baby. If you give her a house, she will give you a home. If you give her groceries, she will give you a meal. If you give her a smile, she will give you her heart. She multiplies and enlarges what is given to her. So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of shit!

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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) Barrie Barton: PechaKucha Night AVL is BACK! (2) Strother Stingley: The Golden Age of Radio is alive and well, as WVU Radio Theater brings this classic story to life.

B. PA/NJ events

(1) Tom Orr: Tom Orr & Meagan Hill: "It's a Fruitcake." (2) Actos' Net of Bucks County: THE CHARITABLE SISTERHOOD CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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