

You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not toooo risqué (typically in Sections 4, 7 and 10); contests; reviews of shows, movies and books; quotes, etc. ... Please feel free to share it with 437 of your closest friends and relatives.. ... And In the unlikely event that you or they are not already a subscriber, just click the following link to be added to the free mailing list: [Here](#).

#1427

1.15.2024

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had delicious chicken and waffles at Rocky's Hot Chicken Shack in West Asheville.



B. It was almost the end of a perfect day. (Earlier, we had seen MEAN GIRLS. See Sect. 5A for our review.)

Unfortunately, after we were done eating, I somehow managed to trip on a chair. And down I went, face down.

I was especially bummed because I had planned to attend a drop-in birthday party for my friends Matilyn Hull and Rowan Bishop, but had to forego that because I was still bleeding.

By the time we got home, I was at least able to smile some. However, by the time this picture was taken, the swelling had not gone down--and if anything, it has gotten worse.

Yet overall, I'm just grateful I didn't break anything. And to quote my father, "I'm 97% great and 3% not so great."



C. Love this picture of Cynthia with her friend Scout Gallagher.



D. I hosted two BLAINESWORLD webcasts this past week. You can listen to and/or view both on the indicated dates at [Here](#).

(1) Top: 1.8.2024 - Dennis Ray--Publisher, Rapid River Magazine Arts & Culture

(2) Bottom: 1.13.2024 -Ellen Pappas, director, and Jennifer Russ, actor



E. Congratulations to Erin McCarson for winning Best Performance of the Year at Haywood Arts Regional Theatre for "Every Brilliant Thing."

F. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to Shelia Radford Sumpter--the person behind the "Kids at HART" program at Haywood Arts Regional Theatre. Thanks, Glenn Arnette, for the following nomination:

THEATRE DREAMS COME ALIVE WITH SHELIA RADFORD SUMPTER!

If you don't know this talented lady, you have missed the "upcoming stars" in community theatre of the "KID'S AT HART" program directed by Shelia Radford Sumpter at the HART Theatre in Waynesville, NC.

She is amazing and makes musicals and drama productions a reality on any stage. She is one of the most talked about Directors in the Southeast and respected by theatre organizations around the United States from Disney, New York to California!

Merry Christmas, Shelia!
Your hard work is always appreciated!

Note: I'm in 100% agreement with Glenn. In particular, Shelia has changed my thinking about youth drama programs. I had not been a big fan of them; i.e., until I started watching those at HART. They are fabulous!



2. Invites

A. Don't forget to enter ...

***** CONTEST #! (for 2024) *****

Four lucky readers will win a copy of my just published joke book: BLAINESWORLD Best Jokes: Volume 3.

To quote the Amazon description:

Step into the uproarious universe of Blaine Greenfield with "BLAINESWORLD Best Jokes Volume 3," a side-splitting anthology curated from the best jokes and memes featured on his blainesworld.net website and social media. This book encapsulates the essence of Blaine's wit and humor, offering readers a delightful journey through a myriad of comedic styles.

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #1 in the subject line. Include your name and mailing address in the body of the email. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 22, 2024.



BEST JOKES (VOLUME 3)

Blaine Greenfield

B. Want to be a guest on my BLAINESWORLD webcast? It can now be seen on YouTube or you can listen to it on your favorite webcast player.

Even if you've been a guest before, I'd welcome the opportunity to speak with you again. I now tape via Zoom, usually in the early evening.

For more information about the webcast, click: [Here](#).

If you have news you'd like to share and/or a story to tell, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put GUEST in the subject line. In the body of the email, include both your name and phone number.

C. Are you interested in shows, movies, TV, etc.? ... If so, I encourage you to join a group I've formed on Facebook that's called Entertainment. To do so, all you need to do is follow the instructions when you click: [Here](#).

D. Come join Cynthia for the course she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week: Move Your Body on Wednesday via Zoom or in person.

To attend this course and/or any other that is being offered, scroll down to Calendar when you click: <https://www.armsaroundasd.org/>.

3. FYI

Note: I often run articles of interest in this section that I think you'd enjoy. This week, I found three. Please do check them out and let me know what you think.

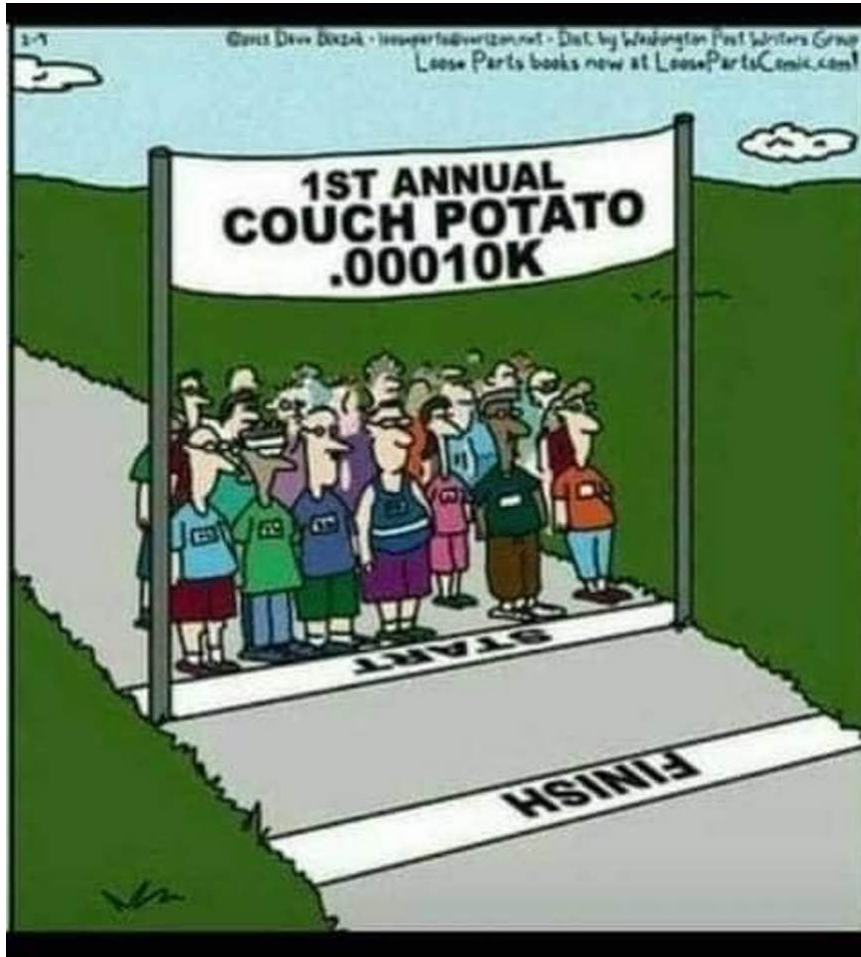
A. The No. 1 job interview phrase that will set you apart from everyone else, says career expert: It's the 'most powerful': [Here](#).

B. Tried the 90/90 Rule and Fully Decluttered My Closet in an Hour: [Here](#).

C. I Finally Got To Date My Crush Years After Middle School. Then The Unthinkable Happened.: [Here](#).

4. Joke 1

Care to join me? (Thanks, Gayle Barsky Rosen, for sharing.)



5. Reviews

A. Cynthia and I saw MEAN GIRLS at Cinemark, and we both found this remake of the original movie to be delightful. We liked the songs from the Tony-nominated 2018 musical, as well as the enthusiastic choreography. Tina Fey (who also wrote the screenplay) and Tim Meadows reprise their roles as frazzled educators, but the real shining spots were Reneé Rapp as alpha mean girl Regina George and Auli'i Cravalho as Cady's artsy outsider confidante. Rated PG-13.

B. We were very disappointed with GOOD GRIEF, now on Netflix. It is billed as a dramedy, but we don't recall laughing even once. Dan Levy stars as an artist whose larger-than-life husband dies. He then goes on a soul-searching trip to Paris with his two best friends, only to discover some hard truths that they all need to face. We loved Levy in SCHITT'S CREEK. He did nothing for us in this film, probably because of the writing, nor did any of the other cast members. Rated R.

6. TV alert

A. LIFT: Now on Netflix

Gugu Mbatha-Raw plays a federal agent who recruits a criminal gang led by Kevin Hart to pull off a daring midair heist of half a billion dollars' worth of gold before it reaches a terrorist organization.

B. TRUE DETECTIVE: NIGHT COUNTRY, Season 4: Now on Max

It's dark 24 hours a day during Arctic winters — but when bodies start piling up in a tiny Alaska town, it gets darker yet. Jodie Foster, boxer-turned-actress Kali Reis and John Hawkes start. According to AARP, "It's a brooding, slow-building drama of exceptional power."

C. 75TH EMMY AWARDS: Jan. 15 on Fox at 8 p.m. on Fox
Anthony Anderson hosts the top TV awards show.

D. FOOL ME ONCE: Now on Netflix

The big Netflix hit show of 2024 so far is this thriller series based on a Harlan Coben bestseller, so of course it has a doozy of a plot.

7. Joke 2

Animals are soooo punny!



8. Clips/Sites

A. The Turtles are arguably the greatest rock group of all time!

(1) As mentioned previously, this section will feature music by The Turtles--either their recordings and/or covers of their music by others.

I'd especially love to see any recording you may have done of "Happy Together."

Send it to: bginbc@aol.com and put THE TURTLES in the subject line.

Note: Even if you did not do a recording, I welcome anything done by others--not only of "Happy Together," but any other Turtles' song.

(2) For this week, please view this cover from Jasmine Xu: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

Kelli O'Hara: "They Don't Let You in the Opera (If You're a Country Star)": [Here](#). (Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)

C. And also check out these other clips at your convenience:

(1) Christina Perri - "A Thousand Years," one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Howard Smith: Hymns (1.14.2024): [Here](#).

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Stephen Stills: [Here](#).

(4) And thanks, Neil, for having me revisit "Suite Judy Blue Eyes." You can also do so by clicking: [Here](#).

(5) Broadway Barbara's latest installment of her famed Fosse tutorials: [Here](#). (Thanks, Preston Dyar, for sharing.)

(6) Gimme Gimme Gimme Abba THC High School Competition: [Here](#). (Thanks, Devan Stevens, for sharing.)

D. Here's a website that you might want to check out:

Looking for new music to spice up your playlists? Take a peek into Taste Dive to see which similar artists match up with your current favorites to find your next favorite bop.

To do so, click: [Here](#).

Naturally, I had to try it out with The Turtles. It said, "You might also like The Zombies, The Box Tops and Herman's Hermits.

So I tried it again with Leonard Cohen. This time, it said, "You might also like Bruce Springsteen, Nick Cave and Cat Stevens.

Not bad recommendations.

E. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click: [Here](#).

F. 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](#).

9. Technology tip

Did you know you can undo almost any action? Ctrl + Z is the ultimate hotkey, but note that undo doesn't just apply to typing. If you accidentally delete or move a file, you can hit Ctrl + Z to bring it right back to where it was

Ctrl + Y will redo whatever you undid.

10. Joke 3

A mew look for me ... whatcha think? (Thanks, Terry Darakjy, for sharing.)

Barber: What do you want?

Him: Just a plain cut

Barber: Say no more



11. Two quotes I like

A. Thanks, Cindy Morgan (1924-2023), for your career as an American actress best known for playing Lora/Yori in Tron and Lacey Underall in Caddyshack. For more information about her life, click: [Here](#).

"To be a good producer, one needs to be able to eat lunch and make ill-informed decisions."--Cindy Morgan



B. Thanks, Leon Wildes (1933-2024) for your career as an American lawyer who specialized in immigration law. He garnered much acclaim for his successful representation of former Beatle John Lennon and his artist wife, Yoko Ono, in their deportation proceedings instituted by the Nixon administration. For more information about his life, click: [Here](#).

"I have no idea who these people are."--Leon Wildes, prior to his first meeting with John Lennon and Yoko Ono (and then later telling his wife he misheard their names as "Jack Lemmon and Yoko Moto")



12. Thought for the day

Opinion: Maybe it's time for me to just accept my geezerhood?
by John Boyle

I try not to get overly personal in this space, sticking mostly to important issues of the day.

But sweet mother of Geritol, I'm old! As in 60! As in the big 6-Oh-my-god-everything-hurts-and-i'm-dying!

OK, officially I'll be 60 Wednesday. How did this happen?

I mean, have you fellow older folks out there read any articles about aging? It's not pretty.

According to the Social Security Administration, a male of age 60 in the United States has a life expectancy of 20.47 more years, a woman 23.67. So, I've got maybe two decades to live, if I stop swilling craft beers on the weekends. Why didn't someone tell me?

For the rest of this insightful opinion piece, click: [Here](#).

And then join me in supporting both John's work and the Asheville Watchdog by clicking: [Here](#).

Pictured (below): John Boyle with his intrepid hiking partner Grace Boyle.



PS. Make it a great week!

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