From: **Blainesworld** bginbc-aol.com@shared1.ccsend.com
Subject: BLAINESWORLD 1556 I A Favor to Ask. Please See Sec. 1A.
Date: July 5, 2026 at 3:00 PM
To: hank@hankeder.com

B

BLAINESWORLD

You're reading BLAINESWORLD, my weekly blog featuring jokes, usually not too risqué and often in Sections 5, 8, and 11, along with contests, reviews of shows, movies and books, quotes, and whatever else caught my attention during the week. Feel free to share it with 437 of your closest friends and relatives.

To do so, forward or copy this issue. Or get added to the free subscription list by clicking:
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#1556
7.6.2026

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I would like to ask a favor.

For nearly 30 years, BLAINESWORLD has been a labor of love. Now I'd love to hear from you.

Please take just a few minutes to complete the following:
Reader Survey

Your honest feedback will help me decide what to keep, what to change, and how to make this blog even more enjoyable.

It should take less than 3 minutes to complete.

Thank you! (Bodhi and Kismet are grateful, too ... although they probably think BLAINESWORLD is all about them anyway.)

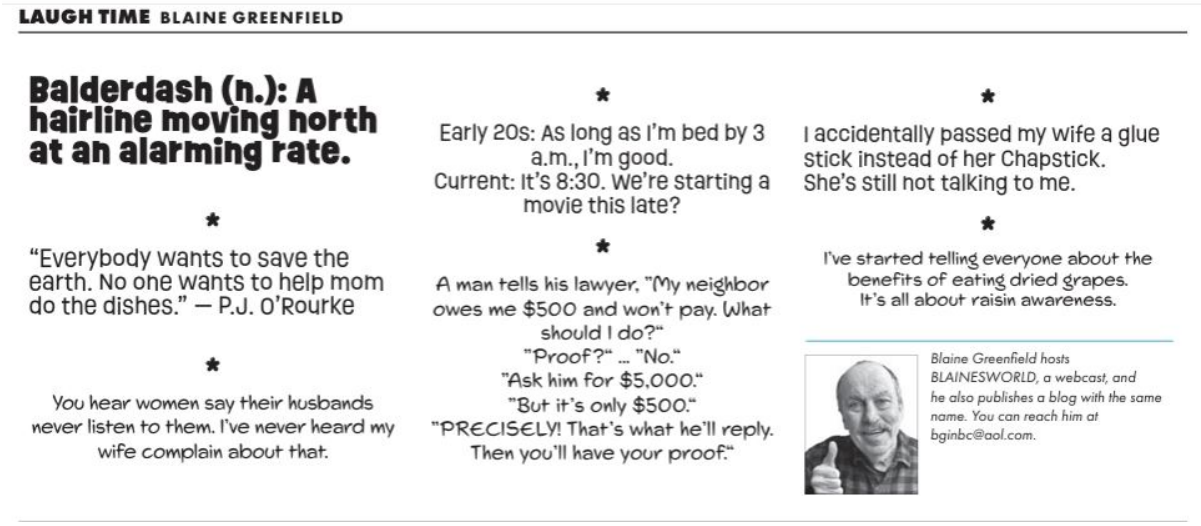
B. We got a kick out of having Bodhi join us for cheeseburgers at Auction House in Fletcher. The food is always good there, and we enjoy being able to eat outdoors.

C. To quote Kismet: "Oh, my. Somebody ate my legs!"

D. Heartfelt condolences to Ed Kohlhepp on the passing of his wife, Betsy; to Ed Kohlhepp Jr. on the loss of his mother; and to Mary Beth on the loss of her mother. For Betsy's obituary, please click:
https://www.lifecelebration.com/obituaries/Elizabeth-A-Kohlhepp?obId=48876464

E. Congratulations to Murphy Funkhouser on her marriage to Mark.

F. HOT OFF THE PRESS! ... This month's humor column I write for "The Fairview Town Crier" ... Click to see it at full size. ... For more jokes, plus reviews and other cool stuff, subscribe to my weekly BLAINESWORLD blog by clicking:
Subscribe to BLAINESWORLD



LAUGH TIME BLAINE GREENFIELD

Balderdash (n.): A hairline moving north at an alarming rate.

*

"Everybody wants to save the earth. No one wants to help mom do the dishes." — P.J. O'Rourke

*

You hear women say their husbands never listen to them. I've never heard my wife complain about that.

*

Early 20s: As long as I'm bed by 3 a.m., I'm good.
Current: It's 8:30. We're starting a movie this late?

*

A man tells his lawyer, "My neighbor owes me $500 and won't pay. What should I do?"
"Proof?" ... "No."
"Ask him for $5,000."
"But it's only $500."
"PRECISELY! That's what he'll reply. Then you'll have your proof."

*

I accidentally passed my wife a glue stick instead of her Chapstick. She's still not talking to me.

*

I've started telling everyone about the benefits of eating dried grapes. It's all about raisin awareness.

Blaine Greenfield hosts BLAINESWORLD, a webcast, and he also publishes a blog with the same name. You can reach him at bginbc@aol.com.

G. Announcing this week's ...

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

It goes to Our Family Doctor.

We've been patients of this practice since moving to the Asheville area in 2009, and they've consistently provided us with outstanding care.

My physician throughout that time has been Dr. Michael Weizman, an excellent physician. Cynthia was fortunate to have Dr. Meredith Polansky until Dr. Polansky's passing, and she is now under the equally excellent care of Dr. Chris Irvine.

Just as important is the wonderful office staff, including Marla, Jeremy, Misty, Ana, and Tiffany, among many others. They are always friendly, caring, and helpful, making every visit a pleasant experience.

Thank you to everyone at Our Family Doctor for your professionalism, compassion, and many years of exceptional care. You've earned this week's BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD!

For more information, click:
Our Family Doctor

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2. Cynthia's Corner

Tiny Surprise at the End

I found the best cough drops in the world: Maunuka Doctor Cough Drops. The outside is pleasantly sweet with a hint of ginger and hidden vitamin C. The cough drop itself is very smooth without feeling harsh. The taste of manuka honey is just wonderfully delicious.

But the surprise is at the end. In the center, at the end, comes a warm burst of liquid honey coating your throat with soothing goodness. Just when you think you have tasted it all, a soft liquid center of rich manuka honey slowly melts across your tongue. It is sweet, silky, comforting and wonderfully soothing. It is as if your sore throat is wrapped in a warm, honey-filled hug.

Tiny surprises. Tiny comforts. Especially when they come as a surprise.

I think of my friend who brought over chicken soup. Meeting an adorable dog at the pet store, and my dog Bodhi played with him. I think of children who give you an unexpected hug for no reason. I think of my husband bringing home a chocolate-covered mint.

Watch this touching video about a child giving a surprise spontaneous hug to the pizza delivery man who just recently lost his daughter.
Surprise Hug

Please share with me one of your tiny surprises.

Warmly,
Cynthia
Cgreenfield1001@aol.com

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3. Invites
A. The following has been EXTENDED one week ...

******* CONTEST #22 *******

One lucky reader will win a copy of "The Road to Character" by David Brooks.

To quote from the Amazon description:
With the wisdom, humor, curiosity, and sharp insights that have brought millions of readers to his New York Times column and his previous bestsellers, David Brooks has consistently illuminated our daily lives in surprising and original ways. In "The Social Animal," he explored the neuroscience of human connection and how we can flourish together. Now, in "The Road to Character," he focuses on the deeper values that should inform our lives.

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #22 in the subject line. Include your name and mailing address in the body of the email, so I can get you the book if you're a winner. Entries must be submitted before 9 p.m. on Monday night, July 6.

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

I typically feature guests involved with theater, non-profit organizations, authors, performers or who are just downright interesting.

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.

If you want to join me, let me know. Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com, if interested, and put PODCAST in the subject line. And for more information, click:
https://www.blainesworld.net/

C. I'm back on Facebook after having been hacked. If we are not currently friends there (or if we lost contact because of the hack), please friend me by looking up: Blaine Greenfield. You'll see a picture of me in a blue shirt with, naturally, my thumb up.

You can also find me by clicking:
https://www.facebook.com/blaine.greenfield.2025/

D. 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:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/245515070390413

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4. FYI

A. Left-Handed People Are Sharing The Honest Struggles Right-Handed People Will Never Understand, And Every Lefty Will Feel This In Their Soul

Jimi Hendrix. Phil Mickelson. Lady Gaga. Rafael Nadal. Barack Obama. Leonardo da Vinci. What do they all have in common? All lefties. So many lefties go through life and get looked at like their fingers are made of worms when they use their left hand to do something. But being left-handed isn't some kind of superpower.

Read the rest of this enlightening article by clicking:
Left-Handed People

David Redfern / Getty Images

B. Is Laughter Truly the Best Medicine? A Clinical Psychologist Breaks Down the Benefits of Cracking Up
Is laughter the best medicine?

C. 10 Things Doctors Want You to Know About Hearing Aids
10 things doctors want you to know

D. 17 Things McDonald's Employees Won't Tell You
17 things

E. The best way to stand out in an AI hiring market may be surprisingly old-fashioned, a recruitment CEO says
The best way to stand out

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5. Joke 1

We used to be young ... I have the receipts to prove it.

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6. Reviews

A. Movies

(1) Starring Taye Diggs and Meagan Good, "Terry McMillan Presents: Forever" is a heartfelt romance about second chances, family, and finding love after heartbreak. Diggs and Good have wonderful chemistry, making this uplifting story both believable and touching. If you're looking for an enjoyable feel-good movie with plenty of heart, this one is well worth your time. MPAA Rating: Not Rated (TV-14). On Netflix.
(2) Starring Robert Ryan, Ida Lupino, and Ward Bond, "On Dangerous Ground" begins as a gritty film noir before evolving into a moving story of redemption and compassion. Ryan delivers one of his finest performances as a hardened detective whose life is changed by a blind woman portrayed with warmth and grace by Lupino. A classic that's both suspenseful and deeply human. Appropriate for: Teens and adults (about 13+) because of crime, violence, and mature themes. On HBO Max.
3) Starring Barry Sullivan, Arlene Dahl, and George Murphy, "No Questions Asked" is an entertaining crime

drama with plenty of twists, romance, and suspense. Sullivan is excellent as a former racketeer trying to go straight, only to find himself pulled back into dangerous situations. Fast-paced and engaging, it's an enjoyable classic that keeps you guessing until the end. Appropriate for: Teens and adults (about 13+) because of crime, violence, and some tense situations. On HBO Max.

B. Book

"Al Franken, Giant of the Senate" is an engaging, funny, and surprisingly insightful memoir that traces Al Franken's journey from "Saturday Night Live" writer and performer to U.S. senator. Narrated by Franken himself, the audiobook is especially enjoyable because his impeccable comic timing and self-deprecating humor bring every story to life while also offering a thoughtful behind-the-scenes look at American politics. Whether or not you agree with his political views, his wit, honesty, and storytelling make this a thoroughly entertaining listen. Published by Twelve and available as an audiobook from Hachette Audio.

Update:
Since this memoir was published, Franken resigned from the U.S. Senate in 2018 following multiple allegations of inappropriate sexual conduct, though he has continued to maintain that he was treated unfairly in the process. More recently, he reinvented himself as host of the outstanding "The Al Franken Podcast," a smart, funny, and thoughtful weekly interview show featuring political leaders, journalists, comedians, and authors. Sadly, he announced just this week that the podcast has come to an end after a successful run that began in 2019.

For the final episode of the above podcast, Franken is joined one last time by his good friend Dahlia Lithwick, Senior Editor at Slate and host of the Amicus podcast! She recaps a bleak judicial term, including the decisions to gut the Voting Rights Act, strip immigrants of their Temporary Protected Status, and expel transgender servicemembers from the military. To listen to it, click:
Al Franken Podcast

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7. TV Alert

A. “Famous Last Words: Dr. Jane Goodall” on Netflix
Jane Goodall’s final words were a rallying cry for hope and action: "You have the power to make a difference. Don’t give up. There is a future for you". She also emphasized: "Even if this is the end of humanity as we know it, let's fight to the very end." We both saw this and liked it a lot.

B. "Enola Holmes 3" (2026, PG-13) reunites Millie Bobby Brown with Henry Cavill, Louis Partridge, and Helena Bonham Carter for another entertaining blend of mystery, action, and humor. This time, Enola's wedding day is interrupted when Sherlock Holmes is kidnapped, sending her on yet another fast-paced adventure. While the outcome is never really in doubt, the fun lies in watching Enola outwit the villains with her intelligence, charm, and determination. Fans of the first two films should have a great time with this one. On Netflix.

C. "Gilmore Girls," Seasons 1-7 on Prime Video
"Gilmore Girls" remains one of TV's most delightful dramedies, thanks to its witty dialogue, lovable characters, and the heartwarming relationship between Lorelai (Lauren Graham) and her daughter Rory (Alexis Bledel). Melissa McCarthy is a scene-stealer in an early role. On Prime Video.

D. "The Searchers" (1956)
One of the greatest Westerns ever made, directed by John Ford and starring John Wayne. A true masterpiece. Thursday, July 9, at 8 p.m. on TCM.

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8. Joke 2

Why they invented AI.

Left. Me now. Right. Me later.

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9. Clips/Websites

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

(1) Their recording of "Happy Together" proves it

(2) As you may know, I welcome clips of them and/or others singing this classic song. For example, this week, you can listen to:
Weezer

Note: Feel free to submit your choices for greatest recording artists, music, etc. I'll try to run what you send me in in section 8C (below).

B. Video of the week

People Are Awesome
See For Yourself!
C. And also check out these other clips at your convenience:

(1) 4 Non Blondes - What's Up (Official Music Video), one of my favorites
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6NXnxTNIWkc&list=RDEPhWR4d3FJQ&index=15

(2) Howard Smith Jr.: Hymns (7.5.2026)
https://www.facebook.com/hs.smith.73/videos/1317749713681880

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Carly Simon
https://www.facebook.com/reel/1020890970582260

(4) Thanks, Neil, for having me revisit "You're So Vain." ... For your many fans and friend who want to listen to it, click:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQZmCJUSC6g

(5) She Tricks The Judges with Her Violin... Then She OPENS Her Mouth!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DK6YvV8UKog&list=RDSYPJjEI8-VY&index=20

(6) You probably wouldn't want to have what this guy is having
https://drive.google.com/file/d/19tjf9TPm9A-7DMDyIPvJN0IOUWjr-ufZ/view?usp=sharing
Thanks to Jonathan Berg for sharing.

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

Morse Code Translator

Just type letters, numbers and punctuation into the top box and the Morse Code Translator

Morse code will appear in the bottom box with a "#" if the character cannot be translated. If you want to learn Morse code, try one of the training tools that are also included.

Very cool. See this for yourself by clicking:
https://morsecode.world/international/translator.html#:~:text=Just type letters%2C numbers and,the character cannot be translated

E. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:
https://www.blainesworld.net/

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10. Technology Tip

Quick fix for a stuck tab in your browser

Have you ever clicked on a tab that just won't load or respond? Here's a handy trick to refresh it without losing your place. On most browsers, just right-click the tab and choose Reload (or press Ctrl+R on Windows or Cmd+R on Mac). Still stuck? Open a new tab, copy the web address from the unresponsive one, and paste it into the fresh tab. It's a simple way to get back on track without breaking a sweat.

Want to go the extra mile? For a more thorough refresh that clears the cache, you can use Ctrl+Shift+R (Windows/Linux) or Cmd+Shift+R (Mac). When might this be helpful? A hard refresh clears the browser's cache for the page, ensuring you see the most up-to-date version of the website without old data interfering.

Source:
https://cyberguy.com/tech-tips-tricks/tech-expert-5-time-saving-tips/ (#3)

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11. Joke 3

In a sea of bad jokes, this one somehow floated to the top.

Thanks to Maria Alicia Medrano Arrington for sharing.

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12. Two Quotes I Like

A. Thanks, Alan Greenspan (192602926), for your career as an American economist who served as the 13th chair of the Federal Reserve from 1987 to 2006. He worked as a private adviser and provided consulting for firms through his company, Greenspan Associates LLC. In 2005, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. For more information about his life, click:

Presidential Medal of Freedom. For more information about his life, click:
https://www.nbcnews.com/news/obituaries/alan-greenspan-economist-longtime-head-federal-reserve-dies-100-rcna42286

"I guess I should warn you, if I turn out to be particularly clear, you've probably misunderstood what I said."--Alan Greenspan

B. Thanks, Victor Willis (1951-2026), for your career as an American singer-songwriter, who co-founded the disco group Village People. Willis performed as their lead singer and was co-songwriter for all of their most successful singles. He also appeared in many musicals and plays, including the original Broadway production of "The Wiz" in 1976, and subsequently, the Australian production. For more information about his life, click:
https://www.aol.com/articles/victor-willis-obituary-163237000.html

"I hope to be remembered as that guy who got out of the music business, but never gave up, and came back — came back successfully — and did something for people to smile about."--Victor Willis

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13. Thought For The Day

RECENTLY UNVEILED ... The artwork below reveals how the Continental Congress looked when it approved the final wording of the Declaration of Independence. ... And if you're like me and celebrate every holiday because there's more food, fun and friendship, make it a safe and happy July 4th weekend!

PS. Make it a great week!

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