BLAINESWORLD

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.

#1358
9.26.2022

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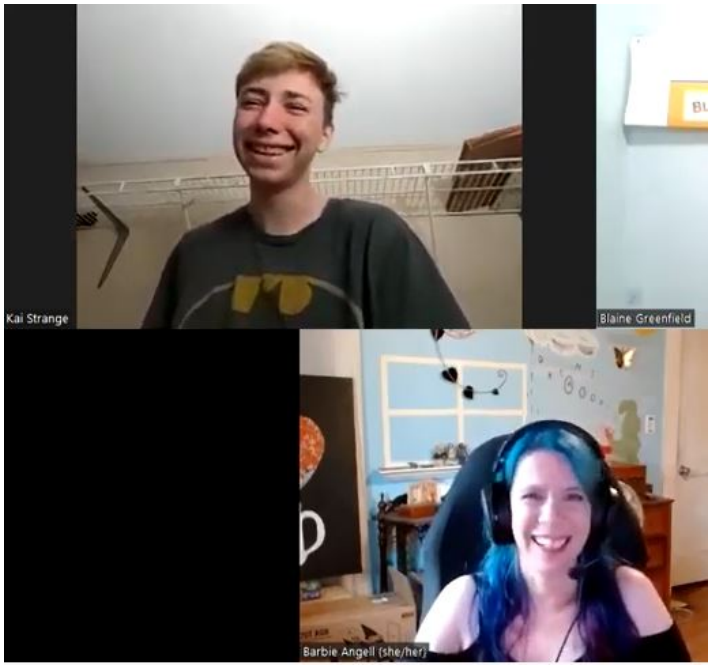
1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I loved Beautiful Cages--a terrific play by Jamie Knox that we saw at The Magnetic Theatre. ... It is a story about love, paying debts and what it means to set yourself free. ... All in the ensemble cast shined: Emily Sansbury, Brandi Andrade, Gaia Eggert, Evan Eckstrom, David Mycoff, CJ Breland, Adam Olson, Scott Bean, Anastasia Sweeney Gordon, Stephanie Nusbaum, Ruth McLoughlin and Emily Tucker. ... And kudos to Mandy Bean for her spot on direction.

B. From there, we went with our friend Jenn Hartzog to Fresh Wood Fired Pizza West for a tasty meal.

C. We had a blast at the Third Oktoberfest at our friends Brian and Andi Jefferis (top photo). We were joined by our neighbors Larry and Nancy Turner and their granddaughter Socorro Turner (bottom photo).

D. Please catch this week's first BLAINESWORLD podcast, featuring Kai Strange, trans actor and special effects makeup artist; and Barbie Angell, writer, artist, actor and social media personality. They discuss Top Kai Off, a fundraiser and live auction that will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 5. ... To view it, click: https://www.blainesworld.net/ and look for the one dated 9.19.22. ... You'll then have the option to view it on YouTube or listen to it on your favorite podcast player.



E. Please catch this week's second BLAINESWORLD podcast, featuring Doug Savitt, director; and Evan Eckstrom, actor, who discuss THE FRANKENSTEIN RUBRICS, the play that will run at The Magnetic Theatre from Oct. 7-22. ... To view it, click: Here and look for the one dated 9.20.2022. ... You'll then have the option to view it on YouTube or listen to it on your favorite podcast player.

F. Please catch this week's third BLAINESWORLD podcast, featuring Daniel Sandoval, actor, who discusses OUR TOWN at Asheville Community Theatre (that will run from Sept. 30-Oct. 16, 2022). ... To view it, click: https://www.blainesworld.net/ and look for the one dated 9.22.2022. ... You'll then have the option to view it on YouTube or listen to it on your favorite podcast player.

G. Condolences to Ash Devine and family on the passing of Norma Devine Windebank, Ash's grandmother.

H. Congratulations to Kathy Bademan on her appearance on YOU BET YOUR LIFE. To view part of it, click: Here.

I. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to Danny Brice--Technology Handyman extraordinaire,

I have known Danny since I moved to North Carolina in 2008. Since then, he has helped me on a variety of projects, including website design and maintenance, TV installation, book publication, patching walls and setting up my podcast, to name just a few.

Whatever he does, he does it well. And quickly, too. In fact, I kid him sometimes that he completes something I ask him to do before I even get to ask him about the status.

He is also a very friendly guy who is very responsive when answering questions. I recommend him highly.

When not helping me out, he is a Supervisory IT Specialist for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

He can be reached at: daniel@danielbrice.com.

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2. Invites

A. Michele Louzon: BLAINESWORLD is as charming and entertaining as the man behind the endeavor. If you haven't heard the podcast or read the blog, you really should. BLAINESWORLD is also a long time sponsor of our Hop to the Movies fundraiser (Oct 1 with a rain date of Oct 15). If you join us, you might just get to meet Blaine Greenfield himself! ❤ Thank you, BLAINESWORLD!

For more information about this fun event, click: Here.

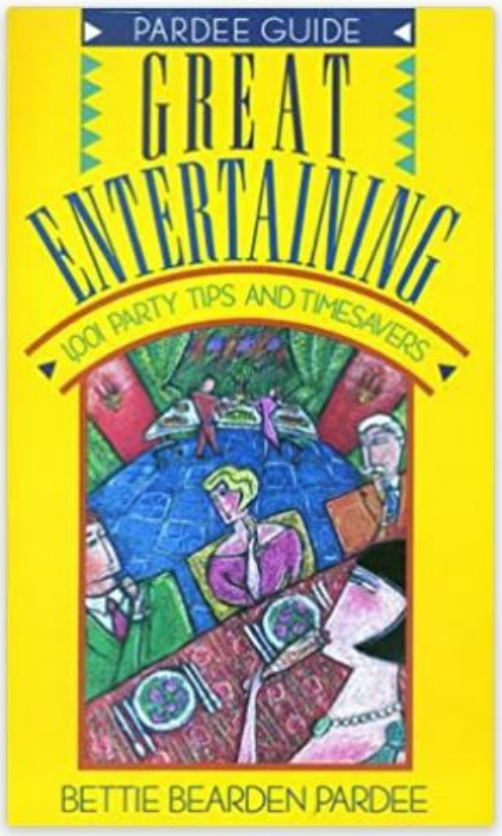
B. Reminder, there's still time to enter ...

***** CONTEST #15 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of GREAT ENTERTAINING: 1,001 PARTY TIPS AND TIMESAVERS by Bettie Bearden Pardee. The author is an accomplished hostess, seasoned lecturer, blogger and author of several books on entertaining and gracious living.

Here was one of the ice breaker tips from the book that I liked: Send out a pre-party questionnaire requesting hobbies, favorite places and foods, most harrowing experience, greatest ambition, etc. Then read the answers and have guests guess who it is.

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #15 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include your name and mailing address. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 26.



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

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 evenings.

For more information about the show, click: Here.

And please click "Like" when you do check out this link.

D. Are you interested in shows, concerts, movies, TV, etc.? ... If so, I encourage you to join a new 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.

E. Come join Cynthia for the one course she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week via Zoom: Meditation on Monday and Move Your Body on Wednesday (that you can also attend in person). To attend this and/or any of the other courses that are offered, scroll down to Calendar when you click: Here.

F. If we're not yet friends on Facebook, click to send me a friend request: Here.

Note: For others, see Sect.13 (at the bottom of this issue).

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3. FYI

I Was Completely Burned Out. Then, a 3-Word Setting on My iPhone Changed Everything. And no, it wasn't 'Do Not Disturb.'
by Bill Murphy Jr.

I had a problem. I was in danger of burnout.

It wasn't a matter of not liking what I do, or no longer finding it sufficiently challenging, or even a matter of not making enough money.

All of those boxes were checked.

But after several years of working diligently through the pandemic, building a small business, and having the satisfaction of reaching millions of people through my work, I'd never really had the chance to unplug completely for any significant amount of time.

A day off here, a day off there, sure. Holiday visits with extended family? Yes, we did that. We even spent a week at the beach a couple of times.

But, even on these trips, I'd always find myself pecking away on my laptop after my family went to bed at night--catching up on just one more thing that had to be done.

Or else, checking my phone 10 times a day to see if things that needed to happen in my various work projects actually had happened.

To paraphrase Ronald Reagan: I wasn't getting a vacation. I was just getting a change of scenery.

For the rest of this informative article, click: Here.

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4. Joke 1

MR. HELPFUL HERE ... with useful advice!

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5. Reviews

A. Cynthia and I saw LIFEMARK at The Carolina Cinemark. It is a true story about adoption that started off well, but got too preachy in the second half. Raphael Ruggero is impressive in his first role, and Justin Sterner steals almost every scene as his best friend. It was also good to see Kirk Cameron (of DIFFERENT STROKES fame) back on screen.
Rated PG-13.

But be forewarned for the following two reasons: 1. There were no coming attractions before the film, so as a result, we missed the first few minutes. When I asked the theater's manager, I was told that this was the case because the film did not come from a regular distributor. So if you plan to see it, make sure you find out if that's the case. 2. We expected a film about adoption. We did not expect it be so strongly pro-life. If you believe in the pro-choice movement, much of LIFEMARK will make you feel uncomfortable.

B. Cynthia and I both liked I USED TO BE FAMOUS, now on Netflix. It is a touching drama about a former popstar (Ed Skrein) who dreams of making a comeback and becomes a street performer, in the hope that someone will listen. An impromptu jam with Stevie (Leo Long), an autistic young drummer with an incredible gift for rhythm, sparks an unexpected friendship between the two. Both leading performances were excellent.
Rated: Not rated, but I'd give it a PG-13.

C. Thanks, Robin Schoen, for this recommendation: This one's pretty intense, but very worthwhile: The American Dream and Other Fairytales: Here.

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6. TV alert

A. COBRA KAI, Season 5: Now on Netflix
I just binge watched this latest season and was amazed that it remains as good as ever. In fact, it has a 100% score on Rotten Tomatoes. To read why, click: Here.

B. A JAZZMAN'S BLUES: Now on Netflix
A shy 1930s Georgia musician falls for a beauty who passes for white. He becomes a hot Chicago musician, and she marries a white racist. When they reunite in their small hometown in the 1940s, murder occurs.

C. BLONDIE: Starts Thursday, Dept. 29, on Netflix
According to AARP's TV for Grownups, "The notoriously over-the-top film of Joyce Carol Oates' Marilyn Monroe novel is arty, tarty, dumb, grim, overlong, far-fetched and worth seeing for its ravishing visual imagination and the sharp performances of Ana de Armas as breathy, endlessly tormented MM, Julianne Nicholson as her scarily mentally ill mom, and Bobby Cannavale and Adrien Brody as her jerky husbands (Joe DiMaggio and Arthur Miller, billed as The Ex-Athlete and The Playwright)."

D. SO HELP ME TODD: Thursday, Sept. 29, at 9 p.m. on CBS
Oscar and Emmy-honored Marcia Gay Harden debuts this partly comic new intergenerational TV show. She plays a straight-arrow attorney who joins forces with her corner-cutting private detective son.

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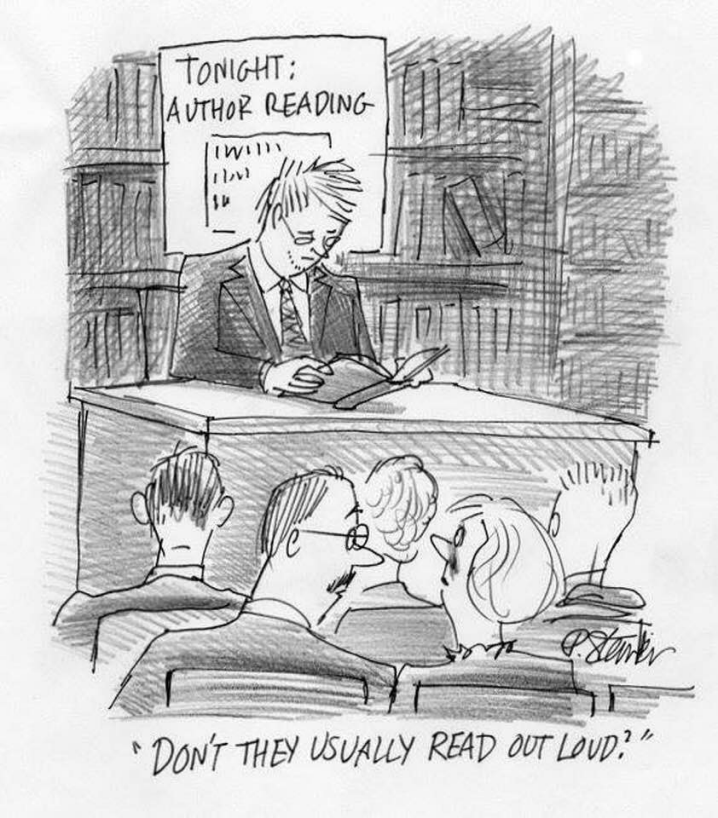
7. Joke 2

In case you've never been to such an event, you now know what to expect! (Thanks, Carole Biro, for sharing.)



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8. Clips/Websites

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 2022 cover from Dóla: Here.

B. Video of the week

If you like dance, you'll love these gold-medal winning French dancers: Thomas Audon and Sophie Allaf. To view them, click: Here. (Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)

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

(1) Bon Jovi: "You Give Love a Bad Name," one of my all-time favorites: Here.

(2) Howard Smith: Hymns (9.25.2022): Here.

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Amy Winehouse: Here.

(4) The above clip mentioned "Back to Black." If you want to hear this song, click: Here.

(5) This is why you should never leave your kids alone!: Here. (Thanks, Patricia Ziebell, for sharing.)

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

The Wayback Machine lets you see what the web looked like in the past. To access it, click: Here.

See how any website looked in years past. For example, I wanted to check out BLAINESWORLD when it first appeared on the internet in 2002 and found it by clicking: Here.

E. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click: Here.

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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.

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9. Technology tip

GOOD NEWS!

The answer to the following question is an emphatic NO: Does a 'New Facebook Rule' About Use of Photos Start Tomorrow?

This viral post has actually been around since 2012, but seems to reappear every few years--and is currently making the rounds again.

To note: I have seen at least two Facebook friends post this. My request is that before you post anything you may get from others, you first check out the source documentation.

And then, if it still seems dubious (as this one does), check it out further; e.g., from another source.

I did for y'all. Snopes gave the claim a False rating. To quote part of what was written there: In sum, no, a "new Facebook rule" does not start "tomorrow" such that Meta "can use your photos," nor are all users' private posts and deleted messages being made public.

To read the entire Fact Check, click: Here.

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10. Joke 3

TODAY'S HISTORY LESSON ... According to the Jewish calendar, the year 5783 begins at sundown on Sunday, Sept. 25.

According to the Chinese calendar, the current year is 4720. This means that the Jews will have gone without Chinese food for 1,063 years--a period in history known as the Dark Ages.

And if you're like me and celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), here's my Rosh Hashanah wish for you: Shannah Tovah, which translated from Hebrew means "[have] a good year."

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11. A quote I like

Thanks, Louise Fletcher (1934-2022), for your career as an American actor. She was best known for her portrayal of Nurse Ratched in ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST, which earned her an Academy Award for Best Actress, a BAFTA Award and a Golden Globe Award. For more information about her life, click: https://apnews.com/article/entertainment-obituaries-fletcher-tv-d886facf89d7c61e796d7800966cc9fa.

“Live television drama was like live theater because you moved without thinking about the camera. It followed you around. In film you have to be more aware of what the camera is doing.”—Louise Fletcher

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12. Thought for the day

It's Never Too Late

The Story:

In the 1940s, there was a man who, at the age of 65, was living off of $99 social security checks in a small house, driving a beat-up car.

He decided it was time to make a change, so he thought about what he had to offer that other people may benefit from. His mind went to his fried chicken recipe, which his friends and family loved.

He left his home state of Kentucky and traveled throughout the country, trying to sell his recipe to restaurants. He even offered the recipe for free, asking for only a small chunk of the money that was earned.

However, most of the restaurants declined his offer. In fact, 1,009 restaurants said no.

But even after all of the rejections, he persisted. He believed in himself and his chicken recipe.

When he visited restaurant #1,010, he got a YES.

His name?

Colonel Harland Sanders.

The Moral:

There are a few lessons that you can take away from this story.

First, it’s never too late in life to find success. In a society that often celebrates young, successful people, it’s easy to start to think you’re never going to be successful after a certain age.

However, Colonel Sanders is an example that proves that argument wrong.

This story also demonstrates the power of persistence. You have to have confidence in yourself and believe in your work for other people to believe it also.

Disregard anyone who tells you “no” and simply move on.

To see a video of this story, click: Here.

Source: Here.

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13. Advance planning department

For more information about the following events, please click: Here.

A. Ellen Pappas: The Autumn Players: Auditions. B. Jeff Catanese: Montford Park Players presents the classic revenge tale, Hamlet. C. Janice Vertucci Schreiber: SHIRLEY VALENTINE. D. Kenneth Davis: THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE ABRIDGED. E. Genia Scarberry: Brenda Rose and Ruben Drewery. F. Steve Samuels: ROBERT RETURNS. G. Jimmy Ferraro: My Big Fat Italian Wedding Murder. H. Rebekkah Hilgraves: Pink Floyd Experience. I. Doug Savitt: The Frankenstein Rubrics.

PS. Make it a great week!

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