

Note: You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not toooo risqué (typically in Sections 3, 6 and 9); reviews of shows, movies and books; quotes, etc. ... Please feel free to share it with your friends. ... 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](#).

#1276
3.1.2021

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

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I

(1) Continued to hunker down in Week 49 of the corona pandemic. Fortunately, we were able to visit my brother Ken and his wife Lavelle in Atlanta. ... Ken, who has become quite the chef, even allowed us to order what we wanted from the menu he provides Lavelle (bottom picture) on a daily basis. Our choice was the Chef's Special of the Day, and he prepared a tasty Beef Wellington dish for us.

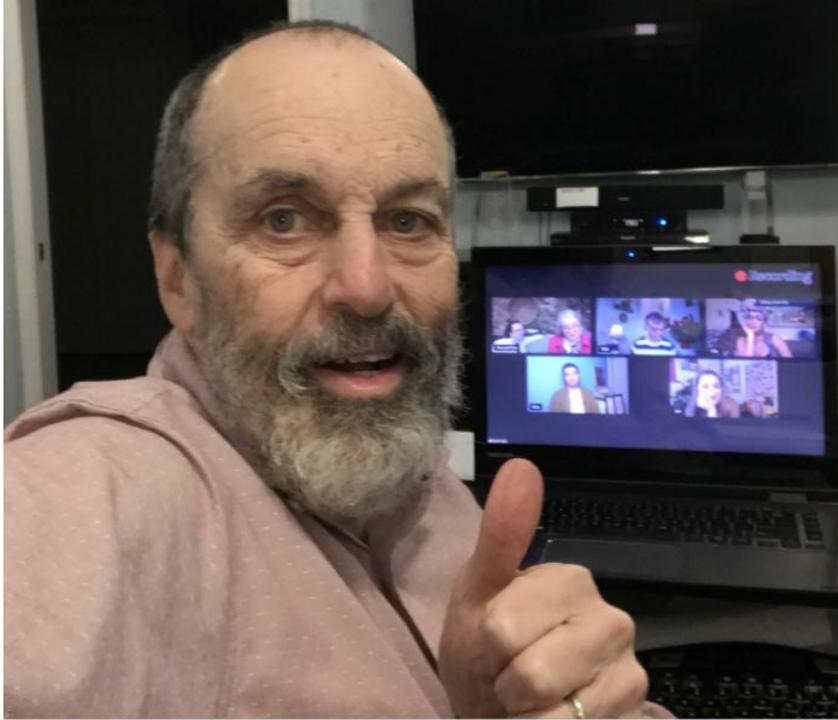


(2) Were able to get our first COVID vaccination at the Leicester Community Health Center. We were both grateful to Adriana Jones, the triage nurse there, who scheduled us and then gave us our shots.



B. Over the past few weeks, I've been fortunate to see several excellent Zoom productions.

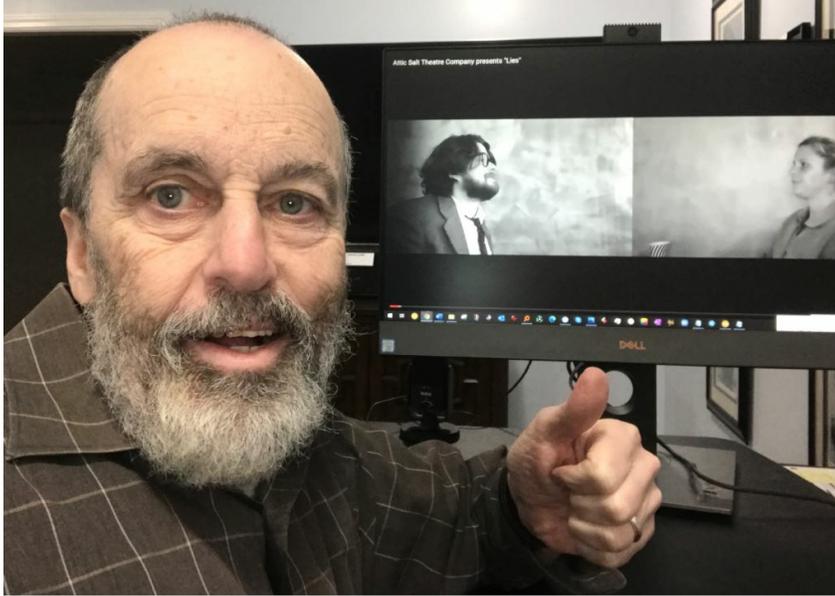
(1) BE FOREWARNED! ... If you get to see THE BOOK CLUB PLAY via NC Stage Company's Zoom production, you're going to laugh--a lot. This comedy features terrific performances from Katelyn Bowman, Derek Garza. Bill Muñoz. Neela Muñoz. Scott Treadway and Marthaluz Velez, as well as Charlie Flynn-Mclver's taut direction. ... It runs through March 21. For tickets, please click: [Here](#).



(2) Saw a filmed reading of a winner of The Rising Artists Playwriting Competition at Attic Salt: CHARLOTTE'S LETTERS. Julie Wharton's direction was outstanding, as were the performances from Amy Cheek, Emma-Leigh Brookshire, Justine Gottschalk, Lara Hollaway, Lindsay Wheeler, Matt Edwardsen and Virginia Riggsbee.



(3) Then saw another filmed reading of a winner of The Rising Artists Playwriting Competition at Attic Salt: LIES. It was directed with aplomb by Jeff Catanese and starred Christy Montesdeoca and Dillon Giles who both gave stellar performances.



C. This week's BLAINESWORLD show on WPVM featured the following guests: (first half) Jessica Johnson, executive director, The Magnetic Theatre along with Jason Phillips, Writer/Director, Magnetic Theatre; and (second half): Nelson Sartoris, poet, author of "On Wings of Words" and "Brain Slivers." ... It can be viewed by clicking: [Here](#).



D. Congratulations to:

(1) John Boyle on the three awards you won from the North Carolina Press Association, as well as to Casey Blake for her one award.

(2) Katherine Morosani on earning her ChFC® designation.

(3) Allison Scott on her appearance on WLOS, in which she discussed discrimination against the LGBTQ community. To see it, please click: [Here](#).

(4) Madeline Delp on her quest for Miss North Carolina USA. To see more about it, please click: [Here](#).

(5) Michael and Judy Chadwick on the birth of Samuel, their newest grandson.

E. Reminders:

(1) 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 click: [Here](#).

(2) Come join Cynthia in either or both of the virtual courses she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week: Meditation on Monday and Move Your Body on Wednesday. To attend this and/or any of the others (that are open to the public), scroll down to Calendar when you click: [Here](#).

(3) There's still to enter ...

***** CONTEST #5 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of UNTIE THE STRONG WOMAN: BLESSED MOTHER'S IMMACULATE LOVE FOR THE WILD SOUL by Clarissa Pinkola Estés, an internationally recognized scholar, award-winning poet, diplomate senior Jungian psychoanalyst, and cantadora (keeper of the old stories in the Latina tradition). To quote one Amazon reviewer: "This wonderful book defies any simple review. It's difficult to confine to any summary or set of words other than the author's own. It is broad, deep, elegantly simple at times and then profoundly complex all on the same page. A totally different experience, ever richer, unpacks on each encounter I've had so far. Its heart-breaking, heart-mending and heart-opening."

To enter this contest. Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #5 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include both your name and email address, as well as your mailing address. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Mon., March 8.

F. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to The Magnetic Theatre. To see why, please read the following item that I posted on Facebook.

THANK YOU, THE MAGNETIC THEATRE ... Loved your production of WANDERING WITH MAGNETIC: SOMETHING I CARED ABOUT, an engaging play about how love changes us. I'm so glad that I got to see it today while also getting in my exercise by walking the Reed Creek Greenway. ... What a treat to finally see my first live show in over a year. ... Kudos to the three playwrights, Jamie Knox, Travis Lowe, and Jason Phillips, as well as to Jason Phillips for his direction. ... And a big thumbs up to (top left) Paula O'Brien and Kay Wise-Denty, (bottom left) Carin Metzger and Katie Jones, (bottom right) Jered Shults and to all the other performers involved in making the show the success that it was: Andy Thompson, Bailey Loundsberry, Brooks Wallace, Christine Eide, Daniel Henry, Daphne Phillips-Sprague, Devin Stevens, Dillon Giles, Hanni Muerdter, Heather Bronson, Kirby Gibson, Lauren Otis, Locksley Blanchard, Marcello de Barba, Reed Horsley, Scott Fisher, Zak Hamrick, Dakota Mann, George Heard and Ryan Dever. ... WANDERING runs on weekends through March 14 with staggered showings from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. For tickets, please click: [Here](#).



2. FYI

How the Anti-Vaxxers Got Red-Pilled

by Tim Dickinson

On Christmas evening,, Steven Brandenburg, a Milwaukee-area pharmacist, attempted to destroy more than 500 doses of coronavirus vaccine, because, he admitted, he feared the Moderna drug would “alter the recipient’s DNA.” Described in law-enforcement documents as a “conspiracy theorist,” Brandenburg, 46, had reportedly warned his wife that “the world is crashing down around us” and that “the government is planning cyberattacks and plans to shut down the power grid,” according to divorce-court documents.

If you’re surprised that a scientifically educated medical professional, trusted with dispensing lifesaving medicine, could suffer a rebellion against reason and give himself over to discredited conspiracy theories, you haven’t been paying attention. In the America of the 2020s, respectable men and women surrender to this kind of unreal thinking every day. (Brandenburg pleaded guilty to federal tampering charges in January; his lawyer would not discuss Brandenburg’s conspiratorial beliefs.) The phenomenon is known as “red-pilling” — a reference to a scene in *The Matrix* where Keanu Reeves’ character chooses to take a red pill and discover the hidden truths of the world — and it affects those whose once-rational skepticism swallows them whole, pulling them into a networked community of like-minded conspiracy theorists. While the public record does not indicate Brandenburg traveled this far, many find a home in the big-tent conspiracy of QAnon, whose members increasingly see vaccination as part of a diabolical plot by the “deep state” to enslave humanity.

To read the rest of this eye-opening article ...

For the best reading experience, open it on a device with Apple News: [Here](#).

and/or if you subscribe to ROLLING STONE, you can read it here by clicking: [Here](#).

Note: If either of the above don't work, send me an email at: bginbc@aol.com and put ROLLING STONE in subject line, and I'll send you a copy. It is definitely worth reading.

FYI, part 2

To read the following articles, please click: [Here](#).

A. Iowa restaurant's pizza with Fruit Loops sparks debate on Twitter. B. Reese's New Peanut Butter Cup Is (Almost) All Butter. C. If you Live to 100, You'll Need More Than Money.

3. Joke 1

Mr. Helpful here for those living in the Northeast ...



4. Reviews

A. Saw THE BOYS IN THE BAND, a drama about a visitor who interrupts a gathering of gay men in New York City in 1968. It is dated by design and very well done. All in the ensemble cast were excellent. Rated R.

B. CAIN AND MABEL is a musical comedy about a chorus girl and a heavyweight boxer who are paired romantically as a publicity stunt. Marion Davis and Clark Gable (almost unrecognizable without a mustache) star, and they have good chemistry together.

Note: Methinks you'll find this trailer for the film interesting: [Here](#).

C. What you always wanted to know ...

50 Of The Best Movie Kisses Of All Time, Ranked: [Here](#).

5. TV alert

A. Thanks, Brian Biro, for your recommendation of ANNE WITH AN E on Netflix. We are now watching it and loving it. The show is a coming-of-age story about a young orphan who is seeking love, acceptance and her place in the world. Amybeth McNulty is terrific as Anne, a 13-year-old who has endured an abusive childhood in orphanages and the homes of strangers in the late 1890s.

B. GAME OF TALENTS: Season premiere on Wed., March 10, at 9 p.m. on Fox

Two teams try to guess people's talents--such as fire dancer or spider wrangling--before they perform them. Wayne Brady hosts.

C. A HOUSE ON FIRE: Movie premiere on Sat., March 13, on Lifetime

The true story of Debora Queen, who was sentenced to thirty years in prison for the fire that burned down her house and caused the death of her son in 1995.

D. THE 63RD ANNUAL GRAMMY AWARDS: Sun., March 14, at 8 p.m.

Trevor Noah hosts the annual music award show. I'll be curious to see how many times Beyoncé wins. (She has nine nominations in eight categories.)

E. Steve Kimmel: I wanted to share what I thought was an exceptional movie – Nomadland. Carla and I really enjoyed it, together. which is unusual for us. I believe it is up for a Golden Globe this evening. We saw it on Hulu, but I think it is on other services as well.

6. Joke 2

What happened to me recently ...



7. 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 one of their earlier songs, "Almost There," by clicking: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

Kitten Zoom Filter Mishap: [Here](#).

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

(1) Jacques Brel, Ne me quitte pas, one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

Note: If you'd like to hear his other sings from Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris, please click to see a filmed version of the actual show: [Here](#).

(2) Howard Smith: 3.7.21 Church music: [Here](#).

(3) [Jonathan Berg](#): The Sound of Silence – Pentatonix: [Here](#).

(4) Aaron Ybarra: Digital Church, 3.7.2021: [Here](#).

D. Here's a website that you might want to check out if you want to see reviews of top-of-the-line products: Wirecutter. To view, please click: [Here](#).

Quoting from the website:

Wirecutter strives to be the most trusted product recommendation service on the internet. We obsessively test and report on thousands of items each year to recommend the best of everything. Our goal is to save you time and eliminate the stress of shopping, whether you're looking for everyday gear or gifts for loved ones. We work with total editorial independence. That means nothing appears on the site as a recommendation unless our writers and editors have deemed it the best through our rigorous reporting and testing. Wirecutter was founded in September 2011 and acquired by The New York Times Company in October 2016.

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](#).

8. Technology tip

If you get the message on your phone or in email that your "mailbox is full," go to your oldest entries and then delete them. You often don't even have to read them; e.g., if any are more than a few months old. My thinking: If I haven't read or used them by then, chances are they aren't needed.

9. Joke 3

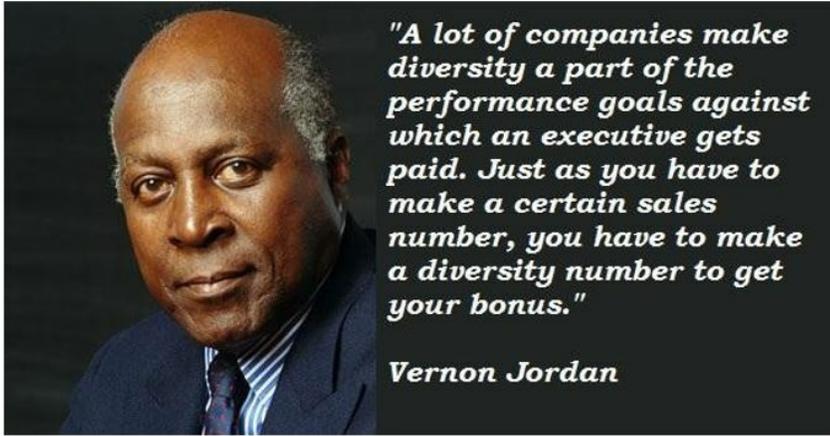
Now y'all know the definition of a male slot! (Thanks, Alyson Miller-Greenfield, for sharing.)



10. A quote I like

Thanks, Vernon Jordan (1935-2021), for your remarkable career as a business executive and civil rights activist who also also provided advice to leading political figures. To read more about his life, please click:

[Here.](#)

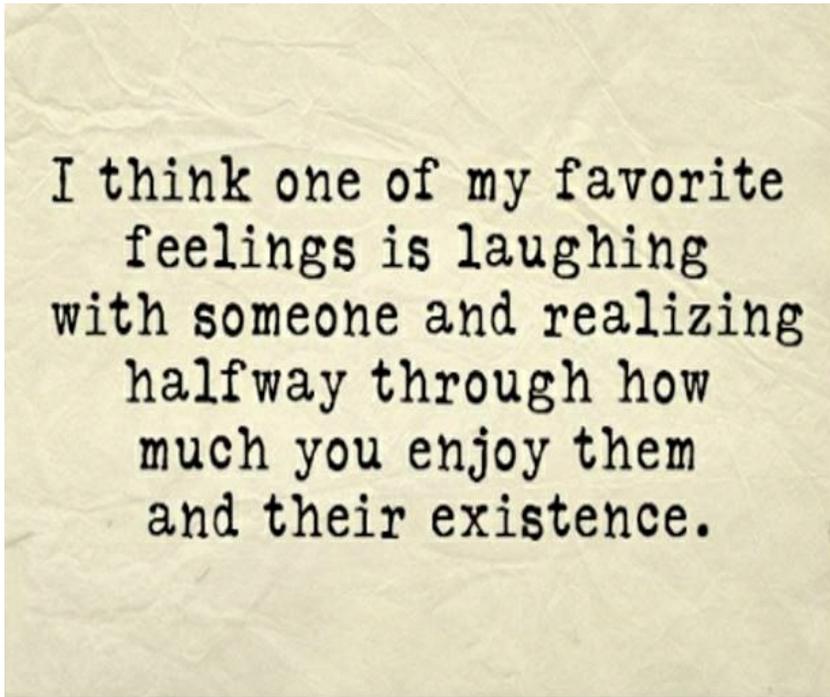


"A lot of companies make diversity a part of the performance goals against which an executive gets paid. Just as you have to make a certain sales number, you have to make a diversity number to get your bonus."

Vernon Jordan

11. Thought for the day

Soooo true ...



12. Advance planning department

For more information about the following events, please click: [Here](#).

A. Mark Jones: Kelli O'Hara, Steven Pasquale, and Bridges of Madison County Cast Set for Reunion Event. B. Hank Eder: The Home Business Success Community Special Zoom Session. C. The Montford Park Players announces open auditions for The Comedy of Errors.

PS. Make it a great week!
