

You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not tooo 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](#).

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#1337  
5.2.2022

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## 1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I attended the annual HardLox Jewish Festival and were grateful that the weather held up. Our only regret: The long lines prevented us from getting any corned beef or noodle pudding this year. ... So I'm now writing a note to myself: "Self, get there earlier next year."



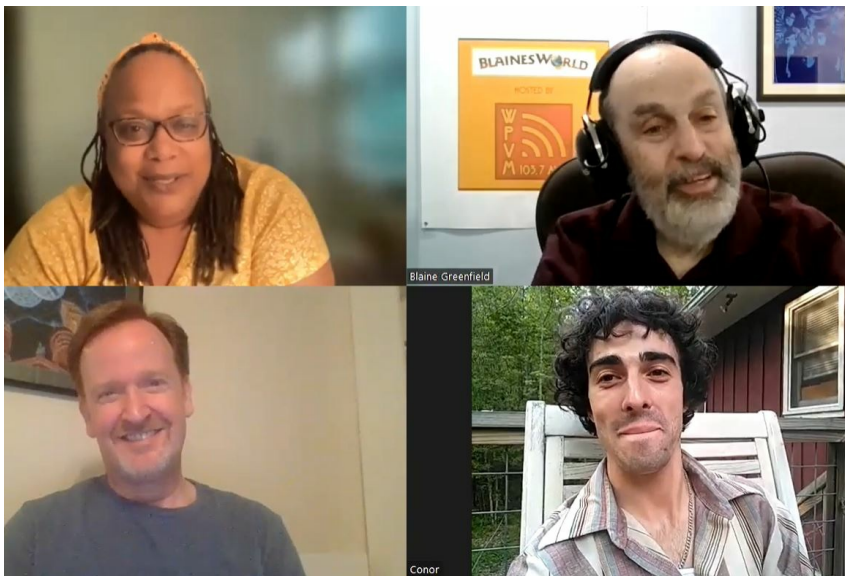
B. If you're in the mood for something different, go see BOOM at Attic Salt before its run ends on May 15. ... Gabby Bailey, Kevin May and Christy Montesdeoca all shine in this end of the world dark comedy that will have you both laughing and thinking. ... And kudos to Jeff Catanese for his spot on direction. ... For tickets, click: [Here](#).



C. TODAY'S FACT OF THE DAY ... You're in for a treat if you get to see THE LIFESPAN OF A FACT, now at NC Stage through May 15. This thought-provoking play details the battle between an innovative essayist and his fact-checker doing battle about the use of truth. ... The performances from Connor Patrick Donahue, Jennifer Gatti and TJ Lancaster are all spot on, as is Candace Taylor's direction. ... For in-person or virtual tickets, click: [Here](#).



D. For more information about the above show, please view this special Facebook Live edition of the BLAINESWORLD show by clicking: [Here](#) ... Guests: Candace Taylor, TJ Lancaster and Conor Patrick Donahue.



E. Please catch this week's BLAINESWORLD show by clicking: [Here](#) ... Guests: (first half) Dr. Nancy Helm-Estabrooks discussing aphasia, a speech and language disorder; and (second half) Meredith Switzer, Executive Director at All Souls Counseling Center.



#### F. SAD NEWS TO REPORT ...

Ziggy's is closing on Saturday, May 14, at 2 p.m.

To quote Robyn Ziegler, the establishment's amazing owner, she wrote in Facebook:  
To Ziggy's fans, the Zigheads and our biggest supporters,

The last 3.5 years of owning Asheville's favorite Philly deli have been very rewarding!

After long deliberation I am ready to close the doors to my beloved bakery & deli.

I want to thank all my employees, family, friends and loyal customers. I am overjoyed at the warmth this community has shown over the years. It was my pleasure to provide a great Philly style deli experience and help you celebrate old and new memories while enjoying our food.

I am sad to be closing the doors, but I am equally excited for my new adventures and to seek out other culinary opportunities.

That being said, the kitchen will officially close at 3 p.m. on Saturday May 14th, 2022. Please come on down and get your favorite bagels, cheesesteaks, sandwiches and more!

If you would like to stay in touch with me, feel free to find me on Facebook or email [robyn@ziggysbakery.com](mailto:robyn@ziggysbakery.com).

Love,  
Ziggy (Robyn Ziegler)

MY TWO CENTS: Robyn did a fantastic job running this place. The cheesesteaks were the absolute best I've had since living in Asheville. I'll miss her--and look forward to her future culinary ventures.

#### G. CONGRATULATIONS to:

(1) Tony Brennan on being honored by CAMCA (County and Municipal Consumer Agencies of New Jersey) for the years he served as Training Officer for the New Jersey Office of Consumer Protection.

(2) Josh Awtry on his new job as SVP/Audience for [The Hill](#), a D.C.-based news outlet providing explanation and context around politics and policy.

(3) Linda McLean and John on their wedding.

(4) Kevin Jameson on his informative interview on Baton Rouge Public Radio. To listen to it, click: [Here](#).

(5) Mark and Shelley Lieberman on the birth of their granddaughter Eliana Rose.

H. CORRECTION: Neil Rather Rock Doc had his name misspelled in last week's edition. It is correct here-- and also in Sect. 8C (below). Sorry 'bout that!

I. Announcing this week's ..

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

This week, it goes to Steam Master Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning in Fairview.

The company recently did a fantastic job on our carpets, tile, grout and some of our rugs.

All the employees were very friendly, and we found the prices to be quite reasonable.

We recommend the company highly and will definitely use it in the future.

Pictured (l-r): James Jackson, Gavin Faulkner and co-owner Daniel Boop (who is also our friend and neighbor, along with his wife and co-owner Liz Boop).

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



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## 2. Invites

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

\*\*\*\*\* **Contest #8** \*\*\*\*\*

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of 94 MAIDENS: A NOVEL INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS by Rhonda Fink-Whitman.

To quote one Amazon reviewer:

I could not put this book down. I found it compelling to read the author's feelings as she traveled to the sites of the concentration camps with her husband and teenage son, and then went back in history to what was actually happening to the Jews during the Holocaust. Everyone must read this book. Very well written.

To enter the contest, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST 8 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include both your name and mailing address. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Mon, May 9.

# 94 Maidens

*a novel inspired by true events*



RHONDA FINK-WHITMAN

B. Want to be a guest on my radio/Facebook Live show? If you have news you'd like to share and/or a story to tell, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put GUEST in the subject line. In the body of the email, include both your name and phone number.

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

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.

C. 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](#).

D. Come join Cynthia for the two courses she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week via Zoom: Meditation on Monday and Move Your Body on Wednesday. To attend these and/or any of the other courses, scroll down to Calendar when you click: [Here](#).

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

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### 3. FYI

Watchdog: Private Medicare plans denied nearly 1 in 5 claims that should have been paid  
by Ken Alltucker

A government watchdog report released Thursday found private Medicare plans routinely rejected claims that should have been paid and denied services that reviewers found to be medically necessary.

The report, completed by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services inspector general investigators, discovered private Medicare plans denied 18% of claims allowed under Medicare coverage rules. The denials often were a result of errors in processing claims, the report found.

To read the rest of this eye-opening article, click: [Here](#).

Note: If your Medicare or any insurance claim is ever denied, file an appeal. (Many Medicare and insurance companies will automatically deny all claims, hoping you won't bother raising a challenge.)

## FYI, part 2

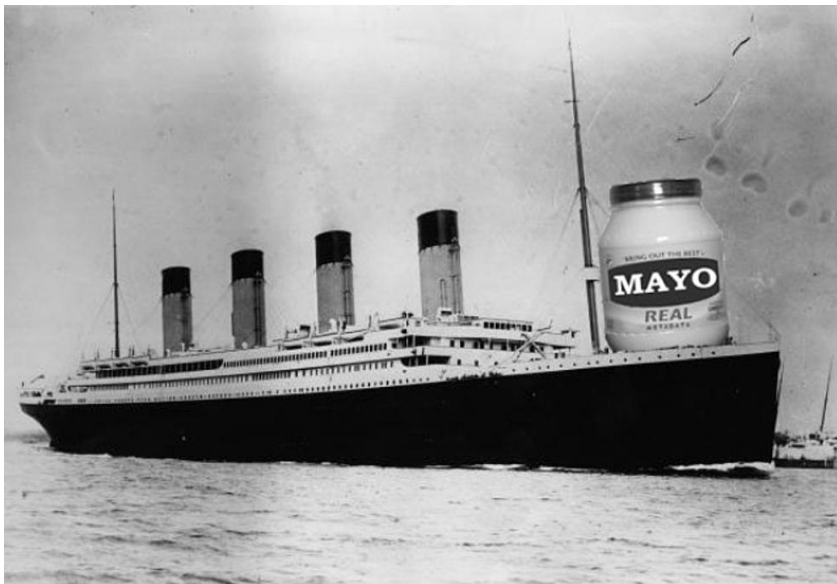
To read the following articles, click: [Here](#).

A. Why You Should Never Take Your Shoes Off on a Flight. B. Henry Winkler Breaks the Curse of Stardom. C. Researchers Reveal Left-Handed People are the Smartest.

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### 4. Joke 1

TODAY'S HISTORY LESSON ... What a lot of people don't know about the Titanic was that it was carrying a large shipment of mayonnaise to Mexico. In fact, the Mexican people were overjoyed to be receiving this fine delicacy. ... Sadly, as we all know, the Titanic tragically sank, sending its many tons of mayonnaise to the bottom of the ocean. The Mexican people were saddened by this event, and dedicated an annual event to the remembrance of the mayonnaise. .... We call it Cinco de Mayo!



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### 5. Reviews

I've been catching up on some movies that I recorded on my DVR (that were originally on TCM or HBO). Among those I enjoyed:

A. *CAST A DARK SHADOW* is a suspenseful 1955 film about a clever fortune-hunter Edward G. Rother (played by Dirk Bogarde) with a penchant for murder, who kills his elderly, supposedly rich wife and manages to get away with it. When he discovers his late wife's "fortune" is not what he thought it was, he discovers that his new bride, a widow, is no fool, and she intends to keep her accounts separate from his. Margaret Lockwood is terrific in the leading role and Margaret Lockwood is equally outstanding.

B. 2013's *GANGSTER SQUAD* is the story about gangster Mickey Cohen and his attempt to control all criminal activity in Los Angeles in 1949. The cast is outstanding: Sean Penn, Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone and Josh Brolin, among others. Rated R for strong violence and language.

C. *FEMALE TROUBLE*, a 1974 crime comedy, is definitely not for everybody .. but then again, that's probably the case for anything written and directed by John Waters. It stars Divine as spoiled schoolgirl who runs away from home, gets pregnant while hitch-hiking, and ends up as a fashion model for a pair of beauticians who like

## 6. TV alert

### A. THE STAIRCASE: On HBO Max

In yet another terrific true-crime series (and the second Colin Firth smash hit this week), Firth plays Michael Peterson, the seemingly doting husband of Kathleen Peterson (Toni Collette), who winds up gorily dead at the foot of their stairs.

B. MY BRILLIANT FRIEND: THOSE WHO LEAVE AND THOSE WHO STAY: On both HBO and HBO Max  
According to AARP's TV for Grownups, this "is the best series ever about female friendship." It returns for a third season.

### C. OPERATION MINCEMEAT: Coming Wed., May 11, to Netflix

John Madden directs Colin Firth, 61, in an adaptation of the true World War II story Operation Mincemeat: How a Dead Man and a Bizarre Plan Fooled the Nazis and Assured an Allied Victory.

### D. HACKS, Season 2: Coming Thurs., May 12, to HBO Max.

Seasoned Vegas standup Deborah (Jean Smart) and her entitled young cowriter Ava (Hannah Einbinder) go on the road in an RV for a comedy tour.

E. Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for these two recommendations:

(1) You need to check out HEARTSTOPPER on Netflix. It is the a sweet coming of age, coming out gay mini series. It has eight 30- minute episodes.

We took Mike's recommendation, as we often do, and are now halfway through the above--and enjoying it a lot.

(2) SPRING AWAKENING: THOSE YOU'VE KNOWN: HBO Max

To quote Mike, "Amazing documentary. Now someone do this show here."

Fifteen years after the smash, Tony-winning Broadway run of "Spring Awakening," the original cast and creative team reunite for a spectacular, one-night only reunion concert to benefit The Actors Fund.

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## 7. Joke 2

Looks like the staff needed by a bunch of mothers I know ...



## 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](mailto: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 version from the Hit Crew Big Band: [Here](#).

(3) And please note: There's still time to join Cynthia and me when we see The Turtles (along with Chuck Negron, formerly of Three Dog Night; The Association; Mark Lindsay, formerly of Paul Revere & the Raiders; The Vogues; and The Cowsills in Hiawassee, Georgia, on June 4. For tickets, click: [Here](#). ... And do let us know if you'll be going.

B. Video of the week

You can watch THE ARISTOCRATS by clicking: [Here](#).

This documentary about the world's funniest dirty joke features over 100 stand-up and performing comedians discussing and telling the joke. Rating: NC-17 (Profanity).

If you are easily offended, please don't watch it.

It is one of my favorite films. If you'd like to get a listing of others I've enjoyed, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

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

(1) The Marcells, "Blue Moon," one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Hotel California: [Here](#).

(3) To hear the Eagles perform the above song at the 1998 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, click: [Here](#).

(4) Howard Smith, Hymns (5.8.2022): [Here](#).

(5) Susan Mann: Brief But Spectacular: Flossie Lewis, back by popular demand: [Here](#).

(6) Cynthia Greenfield: True love: [Here](#).

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

Similar to THE ONION (see this same section in last week's issue), CRACKED is a pseudo magazine for your everyday life--and yes, it will crack you up. To view it, click: [Here](#).

Some recent pieces from the magazine that I enjoyed included the following:

15 More Jokes for the Hall of Fame

7 Hilarious Ways Reality Would Ruin Famous Movie Scenes

5 Random Questions You Didn't Know You Wanted Answered

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](#).

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## 9. Technology tip

The 9 Best Cable Management Tools, Ranked by Level of Neat-Freakiness

by Nina Molina

If you work from home, and are anything like us, your desk may have begun to resemble the looping "Spaghetti Junctions" that bridge our interstates. Managing the sprawl of cables required to connect one's devices can feel as daunting as solving an infrastructure crisis. But with the bevy of handsome organizational tools now available, it doesn't need to be a bleak proposition.

Begin by restoring your desk to a more primordial state. Unplug all your devices and move them to another surface. Then, one by one and before you plug anything into a socket, arrange your items in a way that seems most functional. "When we're setting up a new desk, most of us just want to get straight to work," said Sam Beckman, who makes videos about technology for YouTube. But if you take the time to try several arrangements, he said, you'll eventually find the most efficient, tidiest setup. Once you've landed on a favorite and added the vital cables, consider using these management tools—ranked here by ascending levels of neat-freakiness—to help keep things straight.

For the rest of this informative article, click: [Here](#).

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### 10. Joke 3

Tourists at a natural history museum are marveling at some dinosaur bones. One of them asks a guard, "Can you tell me how old the dinosaur bones are?" ... The replied, "They are 65,000,011 years old." ... "That's an awfully exact number," says the tourist. "How do you know their age so precisely?" ... The guard answers, "Well, the dinosaur bones were 65,000,000 years old when I started here, and that was 11 years ago."



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### 11. A quote I like

Thanks, David Birney (1939-2022) for your career as an American actor and director whose career included performances in both contemporary and classical roles in theatre, film, and television. I'll most remember you for your performance in BRIDGET LOVES BERNIE, an early 1970s TV series about an interfaith marriage, as well as for your roles in both SERPICO and ST. ELSEWHERE. For more information about his life, along with a vintage click of him on TV, click: [Here](#).

“Another reason I took BRIDGET LOVES BERNIE was that it is only a half-hour show with not a lot of work to do, and it only takes six months of the year to film, which I hope will leave me time to come back to New York and play parts I like on stage and in film. I’ll go anywhere at any time to do Romeo — you can print that.”—David Birney



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## 12. Thought for the day

A question to ponder. (Thanks, Paul Marks, for sharing.)

**Why is it that when climate change comes up, the Republican politicians say, "I'm not a scientist," but when women's health is being discussed, they're all gynecologists?**

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## 13. Advance planning department

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

A. Kenneth Davis: Announcing Foothills Community Theatres 50th season! B. Spring Theatre: Presenting “You

Will Be Found" from 'Dear Evan Hansen.' C. Jeff Catanese: AS YOU LIKE IT at Montford Park Players. D. Victoria Lamberth: Auditions at Hendersonville Theatre. E. Kenneth Davis: Auditions for FROM THIS DAY FORWARD. F. Lois Lytingale Henrickson: Spring concert for Womansong.

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**PS.** Make it a great week!

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