

#1235
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1. Reflections

If you're reading this via Facebook or LinkedIn, please be advised that you will get it quicker if you get it via email. Another advantage: You'll never miss it that way because you may not have logged in for a day or two. And in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, all you need to do is send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Are continuing to honker down in Week 10 of the corona pandemic. ... As can be seen (below), Cynthia is really getting into cooking. Pictured is her latest specialty: Almond butter and bacon sandwich.

And because I hate hearing you beg, here is the recipe for it:
Cynthia's almond butter and bacon sandwich

- Ingredients:
- 1. 2 pieces of bread
 - 2. Glob of almond butter (peanut butter could be substituted)
 - 3. 3 slices of microwaveable bacon

- Directions:
- 1. Toast the bread.
 - 2. Microwave the bacon.
 - 3. Put almond butter and bacon on bread, then squash together.

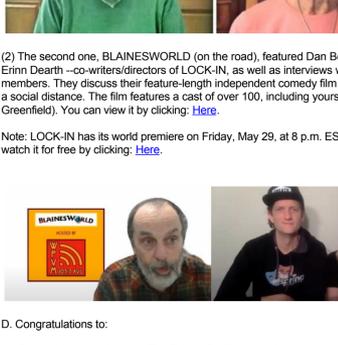
Note: For best results, add Cynthia's "secret" ingredient: lots of love!



(2) Love the flowers outside of our home. Thanks, Walela Dobroski, for taking these pictures.

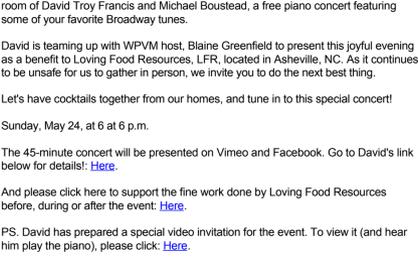


B. During the week, I hosted my friend Ari Paul in a Zoom evening of comedy, mind-reading and sleight of hand. ... Be prepared to be amazed as you watch this show by clicking: [Here](#). ... And if you like it as much as I did, please show him some appreciation—and love—via PayPal. To do so, click [here](#) and then send whatever you want to his email address: Afelber@comcast.net.



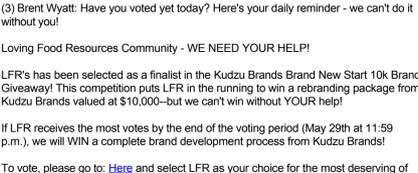
C. And I also hosted two of my BLAINESWORLD radio shows on WPVM:

(1) The first one featured guests: (first half) Tom Chalmers, improv teacher and performer extraordinaire; and (second half) Paul Rollins and Kitty Schaller, both with What If We Give It Away. To view it, please click: [Here](#).



(2) The second one, BLAINESWORLD (on the road), featured Dan Beckmann and Erin Dearth—co-writers/directors of LOCK-IN, as well as interviews with other cast members. They discuss their feature-length independent comedy film that was shot at a social distance. The film features a cast of over 100, including yours truly (Blaine Greenfield). You can view it by clicking: [Here](#).

Note: LOCK-IN has its world premiere on Friday, May 29, at 8 p.m. EST. You can watch it for free by clicking: [Here](#).



D. Congratulations to:

(1) David Hopes on his book, *The Falls of the Wyona*, winning a prize for Red Hen Press in the Eric Hoffer competition for Independent Publishers.

(2) Linda Engel on the publication of the book she wrote with Chris Owens: *What Happens to Second Grade?* For more information about it, please click: [Here](#).

E. Invites:

(1) If you read this before 6 p.m. no Sunday, May 24, please catch this show that I'm hosting:
David Troy Francis: Free Virtual Concert

Please join us for the very best "virtual concert" you'll see all year. Live from the living room of David Troy Francis and Michael Boustead, a free piano concert featuring some of your favorite Broadway tunes.

David is teaming up with WPVM host, Blaine Greenfield to present this joyful evening as a benefit to Loving Food Resources, LFR, located in Asheville, NC. As it continues to be unsafe for us to gather in person, we invite you to do the next best thing.

Let's have cocktails together from our homes, and tune in to this special concert!

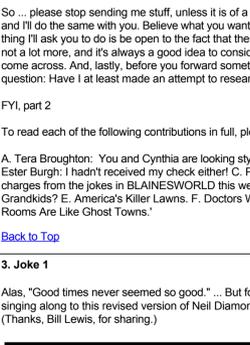
Sunday, May 24, at 6 at 6 p.m.

The 45-minute concert will be presented on Vimeo and Facebook. Go to David's link below for details!: [Here](#).

And please click here to support the fine work done by Loving Food Resources before, during or after the event: [Here](#).

PS. David has prepared a special video invitation for the event. To view it (and hear him play the piano), please click: [Here](#).

Note: If you're reading this after the concert date, please check my Facebook Timeline. I'm also planning to post it there.



(2) There's still time to enter. ...

****** CONTEST #10 ******

One lucky reader will win a copy of THE BIG SHIFT: NAVIGATING THE NEW STAGE BEYOND MIDLIFE by Marc Freedman. ... According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, "[This is] 'an imaginative work with the potential to affect our individual lives and our collective future.' ... THE WALL STREET JOURNAL states the book is 'an invaluable and inspiring read.'"

If you would like to enter the contest, send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #10 in the subject line. In the body of the email, include your name and mailing address. All entries must be received by 9 p.m. on Mon., May 25.

(3) Brent Wyatt: Have you voted yet today? Here's your daily reminder - we can't do it without you!

Loving Food Resources Community - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

LFR's was! Has been selected as a finalist in the Kuzu Brands Brand New Start 10k Brand Giveaway! This competition puts LFR in the running to win a rebranding package from Kuzu Brands valued at \$10,000—but we can't win without YOUR help!

If LFR receives the most votes by the end of the voting period (May 29th at 11:59 p.m.), we will WIN a complete brand development process from Kuzu Brands!

To vote, please go to: [Here](#) and select LFR as your choice for the most deserving of this amazing opportunity!

Each voter is allowed ONE VOTE PER DAY and the deadline for votes is May 29th at 11:59 p.m.! Please VOTE as many times as you can and SHARE this post!

Thank you!

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

This week, it goes to Kris Checca—owner of Chief Landscaping and Handyman Service. His company cuts our grass and takes care of our landscaping and, also, provides handyman services that have made our life much easier. ... Kris is both friendly and talented, and we have found him to be reasonably priced. We are also impressed with the many things that he can do. If you have a problem with respect to the inside or outside of your home, give him a call. ... And kudos, also, to Michael Owensby, the guy who assists him. ... Chief Landscaping can be reached at 828.551.1127.



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2. FYI

I've been coming across many Facebook posts and emails that deal with conspiracy theories, the corona virus, politics, etc. that, quite frankly, I find disturbing.

For some reason, I read and/or view almost all of them, then take the time to research them. When I go to share what I find out, I'm often disappointed that the person who brought this material to my attention doesn't even want to be bothered to read (to quote Paul Harvey) "the rest of the story."

That fact was really bothering me until I went back to review the following material that I had learned from one of my favorite books: Dale Carnegie's HOW TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE. Nine times out of ten, an argument ends with each of the contestants more firmly convinced than ever that he is absolutely right.

You can't win an argument. You can't be against if you lose it, you lose it; and if you win it, you lose it. Why? Well, suppose you triumph over the other man and shoot his argument full of holes and prove that he is non compos mentis. Then what? You will feel fine. But what about him? You have made him feel inferior. You have hurt his pride. He will resent your triumph. And:

"A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still."

In the next chapter, Carnegie quotes Benjamin Franklin saying how he had made it a rule never to contradict anyone. Carnegie approves: he thinks you should never argue with or contradict anyone, because you will not convince them (even if you "hurl at them all the logic of a Plato or an Immanuel Kant"), and you'll just make them mad at you.

Source: [Here](#).

So ... please stop sending me stuff, unless it is of a humorous or inspirational nature, and I'll do the same with you. Believe what you want, and I'll do the same. The only thing I'll ask you to do is be open to the fact that there are two sides to every issue, if not a lot more, and it's always a good idea to consider the source of anything that you come across. And, lastly, before you forward something to other folks, ask yourself this question: Have I at least made an attempt to research the opposing viewpoint?

FYI, part 2

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click: [Here](#).

A. Tera Broughton: You and Cynthia are looking stylish in your new face masks. B. Ester Burgh: I hadn't received my check either! C. Padma Dyvine: We got huge charges from the jokes in BLAINESWORLD this week. D. When Can I See My Grandkids? E. America's Killer Lawns. F. Doctors Without Patients: Our Waiting Rooms Are Like Ghost Towns.

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3. Joke 1

Alas, "Good times never seemed so good." ... But fortunately, you can now join me in singing along to this revised version of Neil Diamond's classic song by clicking: [Here](#). (Thanks, Bill Lewis, for sharing.)



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4. Reviews

A. Saw JOKER, the story behind the start of the career of Batman's arch nemesis. I was blown away by Joaquin Phoenix' performance in the leading role. He earned his Oscar for his work, perhaps the finest of his career to date. In addition, I thought the cinematography was excellent. Rated R.

B. Read THE JOY OF MISSING OUT: LIVE MORE BY DOING LESS (HarperCollins Publishing) by Tonya Dalton and very much enjoyed it, despite the fact that it is directed at women. ... There were many relevant examples that could be applied to either sex, and I especially liked the following point: "We need to create systems that feel attainable and fit the lifestyle we really want-- not the one we think we are supposed to want". ... I also liked her reminder that "Nobody in the history of the universe every accomplished great things by trying to do everything." ... And lastly, I find myself needed to remember the following: "Time management is to about learning how to do things faster; it's choosing where--and how--to spend your time. ... If you constantly find yourself running out of time, this book is one you definitely need.

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5. TV alert

A. DEAD TO ME: Season 2 is now on Netflix
Christina Applegate and Linda Cardellini are both terrific as two women who meet at a support group. ... This quirky comedy is full of surprises each week.

B. I WAS LORENA BOBBITT: Movie premiere on Mon. May 25, at 8 p.m. on Lifetime
The 1993 infamous case, in which a battered woman severed her husband's penis, is revisited in this movie.

C. GRANT: Mon., May 25, to Wed., May 27, at 9 p.m. each night on History
To tell the story of U.S. president Ulysses S. Grant, producers draw primarily from his memoirs.

D. NATALIE WOOD: WHAT REMAINS BEHIND: Wed., May 27, at 11:45 on HBO
This documentary explores actor Natalie Wood's life and career through the unique perspective of her daughter, Natasha Gregson Wagner, and others who knew her best. I enjoyed the clips of her movies, as well as the previously unseen home movies.

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6. Joke 2

These look familiar? (Thanks, Ginger Heskett, for sharing.)

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7. Clips/Websites

A. Video of the week

Elsten Torres with his latest: Waiting for Clouds: [Here](#).

B. Possible new section

Rendition of arguably the rest rock song of all time: "Happy Together" by the Turtles. Thanks, Aaron Ybarra, for kicking this off with your cover: [Here](#).

Mr. Curious here: Should I make this a regular part of each week's edition; i.e. with covers of "Happy Together" and/or any other Turtles song? Please share your thinking.

And if you want to submit something for me to use in a future issue, please send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put URTLES in the subject line. In the body of your email, include both the link and your name.

Note: What you submit doesn't have to have been done by you. It could have been done by a friend and/or just something you found on the internet.

C Also, check out these other clips at your convenience:

(1) Roy Hamilton: When You Walk Through a Storm, one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) David Troy Francis: You Are the Sunshine of My Life: [Here](#).

(3) Bruce Lang: I'm Looking Through You: [Here](#).

(4) Bonnie Raitt, "Something to Talk About": [Here](#).

D. At Big Think, you can share idea and insights from the most successful people around the world by clicking: [Here](#).

In doing so, you can consider the following:
Now you can track vitamin C intake on your skin
Yoga may ease symptoms of depression, according to new research
Board and card games to boost your vocabulary
5 things employers can do to take mental health in the workplace more seriously

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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8. Technology tip

If you run a Zoom meeting (especially if it is the first time you have done it with somebody), run a practice (meeting a day or so beforehand). That way, you can make sure everything is working out properly and correct any problems you may encounter. ... This is such a simple thing to do, yet I'm amazed that how many Zoom meetings waste time in the beginning to resolve difficulties they should have known about beforehand.

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9. Joke 3

Mr. Helpful HERE with today's safety tip ...

So please wear your face mask properly!

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10. A quote I like

Thanks, Phyllis George (1949-2020), for being one of the first women to have a national prominent role in television sports coverage. You were a true role model for women who wanted to pursue careers in sportscasting. For more information about her life that included stints as First Lady of Kentucky and founder of two company, please click: [Here](#).

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11. Thought for the day

A man wrote this letter to a hotel: "I would like to bring my dog with me. He is both well-groomed and well-behaved. Would you let me keep him in my room with me? ... An immediate reply came from the hotel manager: "I've been operating this place for many years. In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware or pictures off the walls. I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly. I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill. Yes, indeed, your dog is welcome at my hotel. And if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here, too." (Thanks, Janeen Ravkin, for sharing.)

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12. Advance planning department

To read about each of the following events in full, please click: [Here](#).

A. LITTLE WOMEN at Asheville Community Theatre. B. A Guide to Theater Now Online.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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