

Note: 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); 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](#).

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#1294  
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## **1. Reflections**

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had a delightful pre-July 4th celebration at our friend Sunny Ruble's farm. We were joined by several other friends, as well as by Sunny's goats.



B. We discovered a new food truck for us, Appalachian Chic, and very much enjoyed the food. They are located just across the street from us on Sundays, and we will most definitely be back.



C. John Crawley IS George Gershwin in a magnificent performance in 'S WONDERFUL, opening at HART tonight and running on weekends through Aug. 1.

For tickets, please click: [Here](#).

This musical extravaganza takes place at a party at the home of George and Ira Gershwin. It features 52 songs, brilliant tap dancing, dazzling costumes and a terrific set.

Kudos to all those involved, including Glenn Arnette who conceived and directed the show; Crawley for both his starring role and music direction; Shelia Sumpter, additional direction and choreography; costumes by Lyn Donley, Lisa Hoffman, Julie Kinter and Candice Dickinson; choreography, Lara Noelle Hollaway; set design and construction, Michael Rebarchak; sound; Bruce Donley; light design. Steve Lloyd; lighting, Jim Thompson; and stage manager (and page-turner extraordinaire), Nichole Sumpter.

In addition to Crawley, all those in the stellar cast shined in individual and/or group numbers. They all deserve to be recognized, so here goes: Stephen A. Gonya, Lyn Donley, Emily Dake, Matt Edwardsen, Lara Noelle Hollaway, Lauralee Davis Bailey, James Bice, Candice Dickinson, Kristen Hedberg, Grizel Gonzalez-Jeuck, Kathleen Watson, Sydney Lyles, Dakota Benfield, Javan Delozier, Madison Garris, Allison Stinson and Lee Thomas.

I'd also be remiss if I did not recognize these talented members of the orchestra: Sabrina Hood Kumar, David Bruce and Daniel Lannucci.

And lastly, there was a final performance that needs to be acknowledged ... the walk-on role performed so brilliantly by Zazu, the Donley's dog.



D. I loved seeing Love Bubble's Debut Record Release Show at the Grey Eagle. You can now view it yourself by clicking: [Here](#). ... Pictured, l-r: Peggy Ratusz, Paula Hanke and Hank Bones.



E. Catch the BLAINESWORLD show from 7.7.2021 by clicking: [Here](#). Guests: (first half) Milton Crotts, music director & conductor, Blue Ridge Orchestra, and Deborah (Deb) Kenney, president and board chair, Blue Ridge Orchestra; and (second half): Elizabeth Burr, owner, Preferred Pet Partners, and coach, The Pet Business.



E. There was a special Facebook Live edition of the BLAINESWORLD show, featuring director Glenn Arnette. To view it, please click: [Here](#).



F. Condolences to Howard Debs and family on the passing of David Debs, Howard's brother.

G. Congratulations to:

(1) Chuck Beattie on his appointment as Pastor of Hartford United Methodist Church..

(2) Ariel Casale on her new position as supervisor with United States Probation.

(3) Brad and Iva Morris on the marriage of their daughter Katherine to Ryan Citron .

(4) Barrie Barton on being named executive producer and lead coordinator for TEDxAsheville.

H. Announcing this week's ...

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

Thanks, Ilene Logelin, for the following nomination:

This week, it goes to David Robinson at Strictly Wings in Arden. For more information, please click: [Here](#).

I need to share about the good people in this world who help others out of the kindness of their hearts. First, I had gone to Strictly Wings the other day to order some chicken wings. This is a Black-owned business that recently opened up near me. They have the best wings in town. While I was there, I had a dizzy spell. The owner of the restaurant insisted that I sit down and gave me water to drink. Then when I expressed concerned about making a left turn across the busy traffic to get back home, he actually went out to stop the traffic for me. Bless his heart, and I mean that in a good way.

Note: After reading what Ilene wrote, we just had to try out this place. See below for a picture of the three of us. We enjoyed both our food and the friendly service.



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## 2. Invites

Welcome to the newest section of the BLAINESWORLD blog. In it, you'll find information about various contests, as well as about special events that interest me--and possibly you also.

If you have tickets, CDs, books, etc. that you'd like to make available to other readers, please let me know. The best way to do so is by sending an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and putting INVITES in the subject line.

A. Want to have a reading with a professional Psychic Medium? You'll also be part of the BLAINESWORLD radio/Facebook Live show to be taped via Zoom on Monday, July 19, at 6:30 p.m.

If you are seriously interested in volunteering to have a 12-15 minute reading with my friend Anthony Mikolojeski, also known as the Asheville Medium, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put READING in the subject line. I will randomly choose three readers who will also become part of my show. For consideration, your name must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Wed., July 14.

B. FIRST DATE, directed by J. Ethan Henry, opens at SART on July 15 and runs through Aug. 1. The musical involves blind date newbie Aaron who is set up with serial dater Casey for a casual drink at a busy New York restaurant. It turns into a hilarious high-stakes dinner.

ENTER CONTEST #13 and become the lucky reader to win two free tickets. Send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #13 in the subject line. Include your name, email address, mailing address and phone number in the body of your email. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Wed., July 14.

C. 'S WONDERFUL, directed by Glen Arnette, opens at HART on July 9 and runs through Aug. 1. It is a musical that will capture the life and music of George Gershwin--complete with extravagant glitz and glamour, dancing and a 9-foot Steinway grand piano.

ENTER CONTEST #14 and become the lucky reader to win two free tickets. Send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #14 in the subject line. Include your name, email address, mailing address and phone number in the body of your email. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Wed., July 14.

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 click: [Here](#).

E. The Turtles will be in Quakertown, PA, as part of the Happy Together Tour on Wed., July 28, at 5:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$35. Unfortunately, I won't be up North then, but if you want to go to this show, find out more information by clicking: [Here](#).

F. In addition, the Turtles will be in Hiawasse, GA (less than two hours from Asheville) on June 4, 2022. I am planning to go that show. Tickets are \$49 apiece. For more information on that show, click: [Here](#). ... If you'd like to join me, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put TURTLES in the subject line. Do so quickly, in that I'll probably be getting tickets soon.

G. I will be coming up North this coming Aug. 19-22, and I am trying to put together an ice cream get together for Sat., Aug. 21, in Newtown, PA. More details to follow. I will be pretty busy, but if you'd like to possibly catch up some other time when I'm in, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put AUGUST in the subject line.

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

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### 3. FYI

In Maryland, every person who died of Covid-19 in June was unvaccinated. That's not an aberration, experts say  
by Eric Levenson

Last month, 130 people died of Covid-19 in Maryland. None of them were vaccinated, according to Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan.

In addition, unvaccinated people made up 95% of new Covid-19 cases in the state and 93% of new Covid-19 hospitalizations, Hogan said at a news conference Wednesday.

To read the entire article, please click: [Here](#).

Unfortunately, some still don't realize this is serious. And it is happening not only in Maryland, but elsewhere too: [Here](#).

What's especially sad is that there are those who continue to spread myths about COVID-19--including some (former) friends.

**FYI, part 2**

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

A. Americans Are Eating So Much Fudge, Candy Makers Are Building 'Fudge Muscles.' B. There's a Specific King of Joy We've Been Missing. C. Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Reflect on 75 Years of Marriage.

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#### 4. Joke 1

I'd attend if I could remember where the meeting was! (Thanks, Kathy Byers, for sharing.)



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#### 5. Reviews

A. HE GOT GAME is the story about a star basketball prospect who is forced to fend for himself when his father accidentally kills his mother during a violent domestic dispute. Denzel Washington and Ray Allen are both superb in the leading roles, and Spike Lee both wrote and directed this film. It is one of my all-time favorites. Rated R.

Note: If you'd like to get my list of other films I've enjoyed, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

B. Thanks, Cynthia, for the following recommendation:

A lesbian couple escape from their nursing home and drive to Canada to get married in CLOUDBURST . Olympia Dukakis shines in this dramedy that also features a watchable Brenda Frickler. If you can, find this one. You'll enjoy it. Unrated, but I'd give it a PG-13.

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## 6. TV alert

A. ATYPICAL: Fourth and final season is now available on Netflix

This coming of age story is one of our favorites. It follows Sam, an 18-year-old on the autistic spectrum as he searches for love and independence. It is both funny and touching.

B. THE WHITE LOTUS: Debuts on Sunday, July 11, at 9 p.m. on HBO

A six-part satire following vacationing guests and employees at an exclusive Hawaiian resort over the course of a week.

C. HISTORY OF THE SITCOM: Season premiere on Sun., July 11, at 9 p.m. on CNN

According to TV GUIDE, this eight-part series is “a dazzlingly brief survey of the genre’s origins and growing pains.”

D. ICONS: MUSIC THROUGH THE LENS: Series premiere on Fri., July 16, at 9 p.m. on PBS (check for listings at [Here](#))

This six-episode tour of rock photography history is sure to feature some unbelievable yarns.

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## 7. Joke 2

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone. ... I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there. ... I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and co-workers. ... Lastly, I've often found myself in Capable. But for some reason, they keep throwing me out because they say I'm too inept to remain.



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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: [bgjnbcb@aol.com](mailto:bgjnbcb@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 clip from at 2018 concert (at the 10:30 mark): [Here](#).

Unfortunately, only Mark Volman was there that night, and you won't get to hear the whole song. But methinks you'll enjoy the entire clip, in that you'll see performances from other groups that you'll both remember and enjoy.

B. Video of the week

Tom Mabe: Greatest prank call ever: [Here](#).

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

(1) Mary Martin and Robert Preston, "Nobody's Perfect," one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: David Bowie's Space Oddity: [Here](#).

(3) Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing this tidbit: 9 out of 10 urologists agree that regular urinating can save your life: [Here](#).

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

The Wayback Machine enables you to take a peek at some of your favorite sites before they got an ultimate makeover. All you have to do is type in a URL and choose a date. Then, the Wayback Machine will show you a screenshot of the site from that particular day. To give it a try, please click: [Here](#).

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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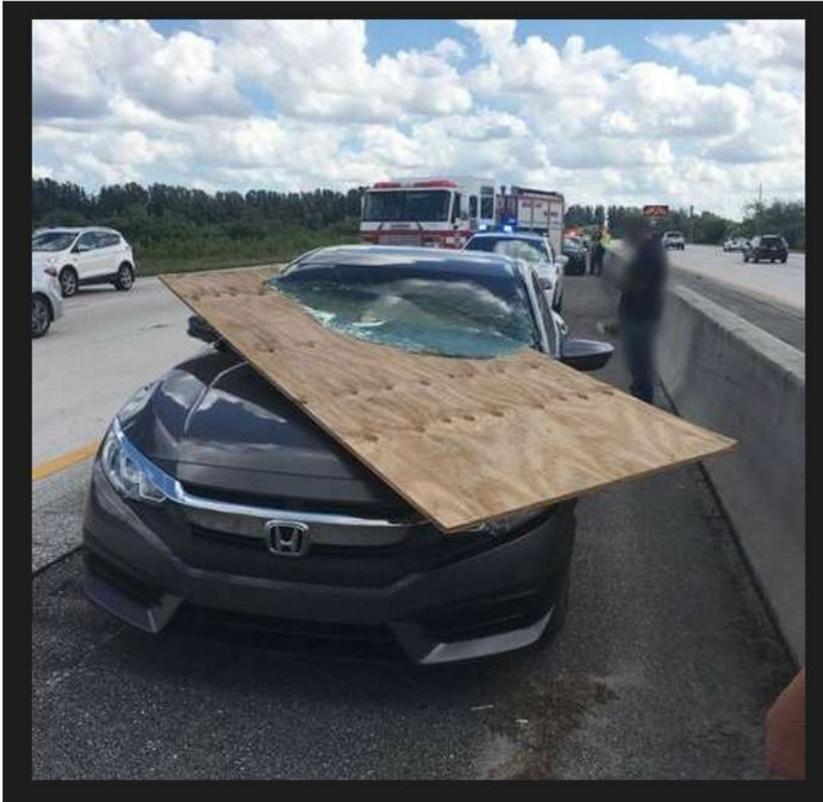
## 9. Technology tip

To hold your cellphone still when taking a picture, try locking your elbows at your side ... or better yet, use a tripod if you have the time and/or location to set one up.

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### 10. Joke 3

Was gonna go through insurance ... but sold the plywood and bought a brand new car. ... Made out better, too, even though prices may have leveled off recently. They are are still 80 percent more than before the pandemic. (Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)

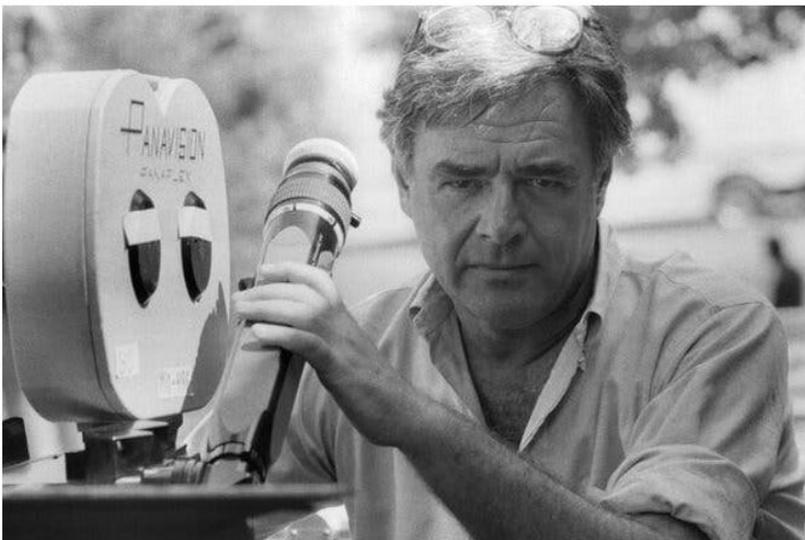


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### 11. A quote I like

Thanks, Richard Donner, for your career as director and producer of both movies and television, including such films as THE OMEN, SUPERMAN, SCROOGED and LETHAL WEAPON. For more information about his life, please click: [Here](#).

**“I realized what you could do in motion pictures by surrounding yourself with geniuses.”--Richard Donner**



## 12. Thought for the day

Such good advice! (Thanks, Rose-Marie Grace Vieira, for sharing.)



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## 13. Advance planning department

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

A. Montford Park Players Presents World Premiere of Grimm's Fairy Tales. B. Ellen Pappas: Auditions at Attic Salt Theatre. C. Jeff Catanese: Rich Shydner Stand-Up Comedy.

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

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