

Note: 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); 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](#).

#1295
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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I celebrated our wedding anniversary over a delicious dinner at Nachos & Beer with our friends Tom and Marcy Gallagher. ... For those wanting to know how long we've been married, the answer remains "not long enough." ...And in case you're wondering how I feel about that fact, I quote these oh-so-true words from Dr. Seuss: "You know you are in love when you don't want to fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams."



B. We joined Ryan and Andi Jefferis, our new neighbors (and friends), for some tasty ice cream at Hilltop Ice Cream where we also got to see this impressive rainbow.



C. One night, Betty Boop met us for great sandwiches and fries at French Fryz on Hendersonville Road in Arden. Check this place out if you've never been there. The food is quite good.



D. For all those who have been ever been on a FIRST DATE, you'll want to see this delightful musical with the same name now at SART through Aug. 1. ... Vanessa Nowik as serial dater Casey and Maximillian Koger as blind date newbie Aaron both shined in the leading roles. Also outstanding were their inner critics: Jennifer Poarch, Lauren Nicole Eddings, Dillon Giles, Mathew Harper and William Tyler Ezzell. .. J. Ethan Henry's direction was spot on. .. For tickets, click: [Here](#).



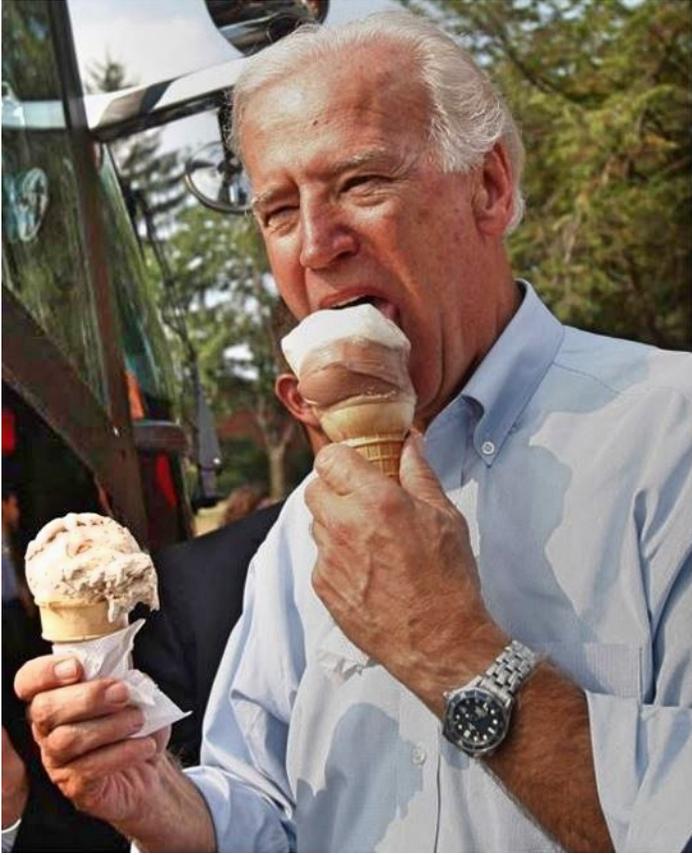
E. I did a special Facebook Live version of the BLAINESWORLD show, featuring Maximilian Koger and Mathew Harper, in which they discussed FIRST DATE. To view it, please click: [Here](#).



F. Catch my regular BLAINESWORLD radio/Facebook Live show by clicking: [Here](#). ... Guests: (first half) Tasha Pepi, singer, actor and realtor, and Phillippe Andre Coquet, executive artistic director for Cauldron Multi Medium; and (second half): Gabrielle Orcha, playwright, choreographer and performer, and Katie Jones, artistic director, The Magnetic Theatre.



G. Any president who can handle two ice cream cones at a time is my kind of guy. ... And if you're like me, and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), HAPPY ICE CREAM DAY! ... PS. To join both Joe and me, click here for a list of deals and freebies for the perfect summer treat on Sun., July 18 (and, in some instances, beyond): [Here](#).



H. Condolences to Beth Mayberry and family on the passing of Beth's uncle.

I. Congratulations to Rodney Richards on the publication of his newest book, *Coffee, Cigarettes, Death & Mania: Existence lives between extremes* Paperback – June 30, 2021.
For more information about it, please click: [Here](#).

F. Correction: Thanks, Sharon Lewis, for this email about what I wrote last week about 'S WONDERFUL, the fantastic show now at HART:

FYI: It's Daniel Iannucci, the bass player. (I had misspelled his last name. Sorry 'bout that.

G. Announcing this week's ...

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

He is Tim Clark, our friendly (and talented) handyman. He has done several small projects for us and has done them all well. We are now looking forward to having him put a new surface on our decks. To reach him, call the number on his truck: 828.713.0426.



2. Invites

A. Thanks, HART and SART, for providing tickets for their respective venues. I'm hoping that the winners of the contests, Jan Anderson and Kathryn Mallon respectively, enjoyed the shows as much as I did.

B. And thanks, Anthony Mikolojeski--the Asheville Medium, for inviting readers to submit their names for an upcoming reading that will be on my BLAINESWORLD radio/Facebook Live show. Winners of that contest were Barbara Karpinski, Angela Maffei and Amy Przynosch.

Keep checking this section for more contests, such as the one that follows.

C. One reader will win a copy of George Carlin's NAPALM & SILLY PUTTY. In this book, the thinking person's comic offers his observation on many topics. Among the ones I liked best:

Just when I discovered the meaning of life, they changed it.

If people climb Mt. Everest because it's hard to do, why do they go up on the easy side?

No one quite knows what's next, but everybody does it.

***** TO ENTER THE CONTEST *****

Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #15 in the subject line. In the bottom of your email, include your name and mailing address, so I can then send you the prize.

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. 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 and put AUGUST in the subject line.

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

3. FYI

Note: When you click any of the following articles, you may see an ad. Click the ad (in the upper right hand), and you should be able to read the article. If you can't, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put NAME OF THE ARTICLE (you saw the link) in the subject line, and I'll be glad to send it to you.

How to Raise Kids Who Won't Be Racist

by Melinda Wenner Moyer

If race is largely a social construct, then teaching children about it will only perpetuate racism — right? Wrong: Studies show precisely the opposite. Open conversations about race and racism can make white children less prejudiced and can increase the self-esteem of children of color.

If states ban the teaching of critical race theory, as conservative lawmakers in many are attempting to do, or if schools don't provide consistent education about racism and discrimination, it's imperative that parents pick up the slack.

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

FYI, part 2

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

A. The Movies Are Back, But What Are Movies Now? B. How Walking Can Build Up the Brain. C. Vocal Anti-Vaccine Chiropractors Split the Profession. D. How to Have a Better Relationship.

4. Joke 1

Do NOT accept friend requests from Hormel Foods. It could be spam! (Thanks, Kathy Bademan, for sharing.)



5. Reviews

A. Saw JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH, a powerful biographical drama about an FBI informant who infiltrates the Illinois Black Panther party and is tasked with keeping tabs on their charismatic leader, Chairman Fred Hampton. Daniel Kaluuya won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor for his portrayal of Hampton, though

personally, I actually liked the work of his co-star (Lakeith Stanfield) even more. Too bad they both couldn't have won. ... Martin Sheen as FBI director J. Edgar Hoover was also excellent. Rated R.

Note: The film a second Oscar for Best Song, "Fight For You," performed by H.E.R. To view it, please click: [Here](#).

B. Loved the premise of THE LONG, LONG TRAILER, a comedy starring Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, about a couple who buy a motor home instead of a house after their wedding. There are some very funny scenes, especially in the first half of the film, but it fell apart toward the end. Nevertheless, if you enjoy this form of travel, you should definitely see this. Not rated, but appropriate for anybody over the age of 9.

6. TV alert

A. WHEN THEY SEE US: Streaming on Netflix

Powerful, though-provoking depiction of the 1989 case involving "The Central Park Five," in which five black and Latino teens were convicted of raping a Central Park jogger. One of the best things I've seen on TV in quite some time.

Note: View it to also get a better understanding about how Donald Trump, even in 1989, was making outrageous statements. At the time, he took out a full-page ad in a number of newspapers calling for the execution of those unjustly accused of the crime. Even when they were exonerated, he still refuses to admit he was wrong. For more information, click: [Here](#).

B. OLYMPIC DREAMS FEATURING JONAS BROTHERS: Wed., July 21, at 8 p.m. on NBC

After training from Team USA athletes, the brothers will battle each other. I've seen coming attractions of this show, and it looks like it will be fun.

MR. CURIOUS HERE: Will you be watching the regular Olympics that begin with the Opening Ceremony on Fri., July 23, at 7 a.m. on NBC? I'm not yet into the event, though I am hoping that both Simone Biles and the basketball team do well. I'm also hoping that things go without a hitch.

C. MUSIC BOX: WOODSTOCK '99: PEACE, LOVE AND RAGE: Documentary premiere on Fri., July 22, at 9 p.m. on HBO

It will not only focus on the musical acts that took to stage throughout the three-day event but also everything that happened off the stage. To quote from an article about the documentary, "The new HBO documentary will premiere not only on the 22nd anniversary of the official start of Woodstock '99 but also around the same time Korn took to the East Stage, setting off a weekend full of music, anger, and violence." To read more about what happened, please click: [Here](#).

D. THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES: Sun., July 25, at 2:45 p.m. on TCM

Three World War II veterans return home to small-town America to discover that they and their families have been irreparably changed.

Note: This is one of my all-time favorite movies. If you'd like to get my list of other films I've enjoyed, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

7. Joke 2

I watched three people jogging outside, and it inspired me to get up and close the curtains. (Thanks, Jane Ellyn Hinz, for sharing.)



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 their entire show from 2016 by clicking: [Here](#).

"Happy Together" is at the 1:22 mark, but if you want to see the entire concert (and I recommend that you do), you'll also see The Cowsills, Gary Puckett, Mark Lindsay and Chuck Negron.

B. Video of the week

Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing the following:

"You Will Be Found" from Dear Evan Hansen

Dear Evan Hansen is a Broadway show that was nominated for 9 Tony Awards, winning 6, including Best Musical, Best Actor and Best Featured Actress. We saw this on Broadway with one of our grandsons and loved it.

The story, which has a huge appeal to young people who drove the show's popularity, is about a teenager (Evan Hansen) with social anxiety disorder who so yearns to make a connection with his peers that he fabricates a relationship with a deceased student (Connor Murphy) to become closer to Connor's family – and Connor's sister. It doesn't end particularly well!

I couldn't find a good video of this song from the actual Broadway show, but this performance by Working with Lemons-- an American family musical group based in Utah--is excellent.

Watch the reaction from the young people in the audience.

To view it, please click: [Here](#).

For another version I enjoyed, click:

Ben Platt & Cast of Dear Evan Hansen Perform 'You Will Be Found': [Here](#).

Note: The movie version of this show is due out September 24. I can't wait. For more information, click: [Here](#).

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

(1) Anthony Quinn dancing in Zorba the Greek, one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

And also catch "The Butterfly" from the musical version of the same show: [Here](#).

(2) Anyone | One Voice Children's Choir Cover: [Here](#).

(3) Aretha Franklin – Think – Blue Brothers: [Here](#).

(4) World's worst sheepdog: [Here](#).

(5) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Stewart Copeland has a unique style of drumming and is on many lists of the greatest drummers of all time: [Here](#).

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

Check out Don't Even Reply and read some real-life emails that are quite funny. So are the answers. To do so, 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](#).

9. Technology tip

I recently asked my friend (and computer guru extraordinaire) Jensen Gelfond about the where I should upgrade my iPhone 7. See below for his response.

Note: If you are ever in need of computer help, I strongly suggest that you consider hiring Jensen. He is the ABSOLUTE BEST. For more information about him, please click: [Here](#).

1. Apple has announced that the next version of iOS, releasing this fall, will continue to support the iPhone 7 (as well as the iPhone 6S, which was release 1 year prior). Looking ahead to Fall 2022, it's likely that Apple will continue supporting the iPhone 7 with at least basic security updates, though it's possible it may not receive the latest features that Apple releases. So, your hand will not be forced anytime soon, but for folks in your situation they may choose to replace the phone instead of replacing the battery as it continues to degrade, or may replace the phone to get a speed boost and access to a nicer or larger screen.
2. Yes, the iPhone 12 Pro Max (known as "Plus" on iPhone 11 and earlier) is quite large! Some folks love the larger screen as it is quite beautiful, though many people have trouble holding the "Plus" model with one hand. It will generally require 2 hands even for basic operation but that may be an acceptable tradeoff depending on how many hours per day you like to use your phone.
3. Beth has the iPhone SE (same size as iPhone 7)
4. If you want the same size and general operation that you already have, purchase the iPhone SE. It is also the least expensive iPhone model. If you like the size of the iPhone SE but are OK paying a bit more and forgoing the "home" button on the face of the phone for the newer Face ID system, then the iPhone 12 mini is a fantastic phone and the one I would have encouraged Beth to get if it had been available when she needed a phone.

iPhone 12 (regular size) and iPhone 12 Pro Max are both like the iPhone 12 mini but with larger screens. The Pro Max distinguishes itself with the highest quality display and camera out of any of the iPhones, since due to its large size they can fit a nicer camera in there.

If I can make a blanket recommendation, I would say that any of the iPhone models that have Face ID instead of Touch ID are going to have the most modern parts in them, be the fastest, and last the longest (the iPhone SE is built on slightly older technology and so would no longer recommend it for you since you expressed that you are getting more comfortable with the idea of getting an iPhone without a home button). iPhone 12/Mini/Pro Max will give you the most advanced tech. iPhone 11 is also an option for a less expensive phone that is 1 year older but still has the advanced Face ID and other features that folks find valuable.

5. I strongly recommend AppleCare. Apple is the best at diagnosing physical problems with your phone, and they have an "Advance replacement" program which means that if your iPhone breaks, they will express mail you a new one. It has saved me quite a few times.

6. One last recommendation...make sure to get plenty of capacity for your new phone. I recommend at least 128GB storage capacity on any new phone that you purchase.

10. Joke 3

Always choose a hospital with a sense of humor. (Thanks, Carol Seufert, for sharing.)



11. A quote I like

“Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much.”--Oscar Wilde (1854-1900), Irish poet and playwright

12. Thought for the day

Soooo true. (Thanks, Paul Marks, for sharing.)

Storage

When I moved from one house to another
there were many things I had no room
for. What does one do? I rented a storage
space. And filled it. Years passed.
Occasionally I went there and looked in
but nothing happened, not a single
twinge of the heart.

As I grew older the things I cared
about grew fewer, but were more
important. So one day I undid the lock
and called the trash man. He took
everything.

I felt like the little donkey when
his burden is finally lifted. Things!
Burn them, burn them! Make a beautiful
fire! More room in your heart for love,
for the trees! For the birds who own
nothing—the reason they can fly.

Mary Oliver

13. Advance planning department

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

A. William Brochinsky: Auditions for CALENDAR GIRLS. B. Jay Hill: PechaKucha Night. C. Peggy Ratusz: Blue in the Night. D. Auditions for DAVID! THE FACES OF LOVE.

PS. Make it a great week!
