BLAINESWORLD

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); 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.

#1347
7.18.2022

In this issue

1. Reflections
2. Invites
3. FYI
4. Joke 1
5. Reviews
6. TV alert
7. Joke 2
8. Clips/Websites
9. Technology tip
10. Joke 3
11. A quote I like
12. Thought for the day
13. Advance planning department

---

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had a terrific wedding anniversary, joined by our good friend Sunny Ruble.

(1) We first saw STARBRIGHT, Sean David Robinson's brilliant play at The Magnetic Theatre. It was directed with aplomb by Ashleigh Millett-Goff and featured an outstanding cast of Courtney DeGennaro Robinson, Janet Robinson, Scott Voloshin and Ivy Rose Voloshin. .. It runs through Sat., July 23. For tickets, click: Here.

(2) We then went down the street to Fresh Wood Fired Pizza West where we had, as is always the case when we go there, some delicious pizza.

(3) Lastly, our day was concluded with some excellent ice cream at a new place in town: Howdy Homemade Ice Cream,, 64 Long Shoals Road in Arden. ... Both the ice cream and staff are terrific--and so is the business. To quote from its website:

We are on a relentless pursuit to create jobs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities using the power of smiles and amazing ice cream. We use the highest quality ingredients and our own recipes to make small-batch homemade ice cream and milk shakes that are absolutely delicious!

We will be back!

For more information, click: Here.

(4) And in case you were wondering how long we've been married, the answer--as you may have heard me say--is "not long enough."

But if you really want to know the actual number of years, the answer is 17 healthy, happy ones that we continue to live with love, joy and ease.

B. As we continue to wait for our home to be repaired from water damage, we are enjoying the long time rental we are staying in that's just around the corner. We often get cool views.

C. [title of show] is a clever, funny one-act musical now running at ACT through Aug. 7. ... Graham Podraza (left photo) and Joby Lavery (right photo) star, along with Carolyn Reeves, Jamie Wilken and Rob Blackwell--and they are all outstanding. ... Kudos to Mark Jones for his spot on direction, as well as to Blackwell for his music direction. ... For tickets, click: Here.

D. Please catch this week's BLAINESWORLD show by clicking: Here. ... Guests: (first half) Barrie Barton with Stand and Deliver Asheville; and (second half) Christa Flores with Asheville Tool Library.

E. Congratulations to Meridith Elliott Powell on her induction into the Speaker Hall of Fame.

F. Announcing this week's ...

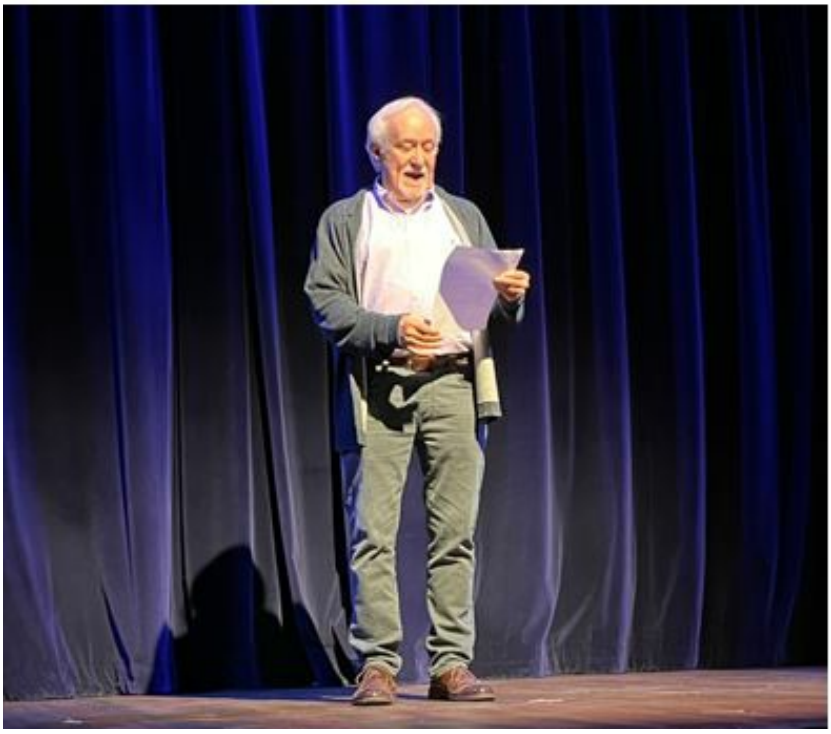
******* BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD *******

It goes to three amazing staffers at Asheville Community Theatre: Susan Harper (top left), Jenny Bunn (top right) and Bob White (bottom).

Susan recently stepped down as Executive Director. During her tenure, ACT produced more than 300 shows, and saw everything from a large scale theatre renovation to a pandemic that shut the world down. She has recently been named to the Board of Directors of the Asheville Area Arts Council.

Jenny had served as Marketing Director where she did an excellent job. Fortunately, she is not leaving ACT right away. but has shifted into a Development position through the summer. After that, she'll be taking baking classes at AB Tech and walking in the woods with her family.

Bob came on board as executive director just a few months ago. His contagious enthusiasm is already evident, as evidenced by the curtain speech I saw him give at [title of show]. He got everybody laughing and clapping before the show even began, and he seemingly gave all those in attendance a personal thank you as they left the theatre. I'm also looking forward to seeing him direct OUR TOWN at ACT, which will run from Sept. 30-Oct. 16.



---

2. Invites

A. Announcing an extension of the deadline for the following ...

***** **Contest #11** *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of THE SECRET THAT'S HOLDING YOU BACK by Vincent Genna, a spiritual teacher and talented psychic, therapist and medium.

Here's what one Amazon reviewer had to say about the book:
“Wow! This is some of the most mind-blowing material I have ever read. Vincent Genna has surpassed all the conventional theories about the human mind and potential. In The Secret That’s Holding You Back he introduces powerful new understandings that will absolutely transform those seeking to change, improve, or heighten the quality of their lives. This book will take you beyond the limits you set for yourself.”-- ~George Noory, Host of Coast to Coast Radio

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #11 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include your name and mailing address. All entries must be received by extended deadline 9 p.m. on Monday, July 18.

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

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.

For more information about the show, click: Here.

And please click "Like" when you do check out this link.

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).

---

3. FYI

How to Follow the News Without Spiraling into Despair
by Jenny Taitz

Following nonstop news in an era of gun violence, war and political divide can become overwhelming. And amid our many ongoing challenges — the pandemic, climate change, economic uncertainty — it's understandable to feel sad, angry and anxious.

As a clinical psychologist who specializes in giving people the tools to cope with intense emotions, I know how difficult it can be to remain positive — or simply balanced — while caring deeply about our world. Some of my clients say they can't stop doomscrolling, others engage in unhealthy behaviors to tune it out and many bounce between the two extremes.

But it is possible to anchor yourself if it feels as though you're slipping into despair about the state of the world. I rely on these seven mindfulness-based strategies for myself and my clients to stay grounded.

To read the rest of this useful article, click: Here.

Or if a paywall prevents you from doing so, you can find it by clicking: Here.

---

4. Joke 1

I can relate. (Thanks, Martinelli, for posting.)

---

5. Reviews

A. MRS. HARRIS GOES TO PARIS tells the story of a widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London who falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress and decides she must have one of her own. After she works and starves to raise the funds to pursue her dream, she embarks on an adventure to Paris to purchase the dress. Lesley Manville is excellent in the leading role.

Overall, I thought it was OK, but Cynthia really liked it. As she told me afterward, "Now you know how I feel when you have me watch films about football." Rate PG, though probably not very interesting for young children.

B. Talking about football, I did find THE REPLACEMENTS on Netflix--a 2000 comedy. It's about a football team that has had its season disrupted by a strike. As a result, a team of replacements is put together in exactly one week.

The entire cast is terrific: Keanu Reeves, Gene Hackman, Orlando Jones, Jon Favreau, Brooke Langton and Rhys Ifans, among others. Rated PG-13.

Mr. Nice Guy: I watched this one myself without Cynthia's company. I enjoyed it a lot, but don't think she would have felt the same way.

6. TV alert

A. HOUSE OF GUCCI: Now on Amazon Prime
Lady Gaga absolutely kills it as the ambitious wife of the quietest member (Adam Driver) of the notoriously noisy fashion plutocrat family. Al Pacino and Jeremy Irons excel as their elders, and an unrecognizable Jared Leto outdoes them in his performance. I liked this film, more than Cynthia.

B. PERSUASION: Now on Netflix
In a an update of Jane Austen's dark last novel, Anne (Dakota Johnson) was persuaded to spurn the love of her life at 19. Now she's a washed-up spinster at 27, her vain dad (Richard E. Grant, 65) has blown their fortune.

C THE CAPTAIN: Series premiere on Mon., July 18, at 10 p.m. on ESPN
All about Derek Jeter's 20 season career with the New York Yankees that featured five World Series titles.

D. THE LAST MOVIE STARS: Coming Thurs., July 21 to HBO Max
George Clooney and Laura Linney play the voices of Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward in a six-part documentary about their 50-year marriage directed by Ethan Hawke and produced by Martin Scorsese.

E. Ilene Logelin: Just wanted to share a TV series on Netflix that I've been watching. It's called Jane, the Virgin. It's like a bunch of tele dramas in one. It's quirky, funny, and mysterious. It reminds me of the soap operas that I used to watch with my mom back in the day. Also, I am a huge fan of Emily in Paris. I have been waiting for the series to continue. Do you have any idea when that will happen or even how to find out about it?

Response to Ilene's question: Good news. The series will be continuing. For more information, click: Here.

7. Joke 2

Would be perfect for her Garden of Eden. (Thanks, Jean Dolan, for posting.)

---

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 this dance (and vocal) version from Abby Happy Together Showstoppers: Here.

B. Video of the week

Grandpa Elliot: Down by the Riverside: "Ain't gonna study war no more": Here. (Thanks Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)

C. And also check out these other clips at your convenience:
(1) Laura Branigan - Gloria (Official Music Video), one of my all-time favorites: Here.

(2) Howard Smith: Hymns (7.17,2022): Here.

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Debbie Harry: Here.

(4) To take Neil's above advice, you can check out Harry by clicking: Here.

(5) Lauren Daigle - You Say: Here. (Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for sharing.)

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

Last week, this section told you how to access The Oregon Trail--an oldies MS-DOS game you may have played back in the 1970s. To access others made available by the Internet Archive, click: Here.

Included are such titles as Duke Nukem," "Street Fighter," "Burger Blaster," "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade," "The Lion King" and "Chuck Yeager's Advanced Flight Trainer."

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

Last week, this section showed you how to unsend an email in Gmail on a computer.

Here's how to do the same thing on an iPhone, iPad or Android device. The two-step process if always the same:

1. After you send an email, a Sent notification will appear at the bottom of the screen alongside an Undo option.

2. Tap Undo. The message will unsend, and you'll be taken to a screen to re-compose the message.

---

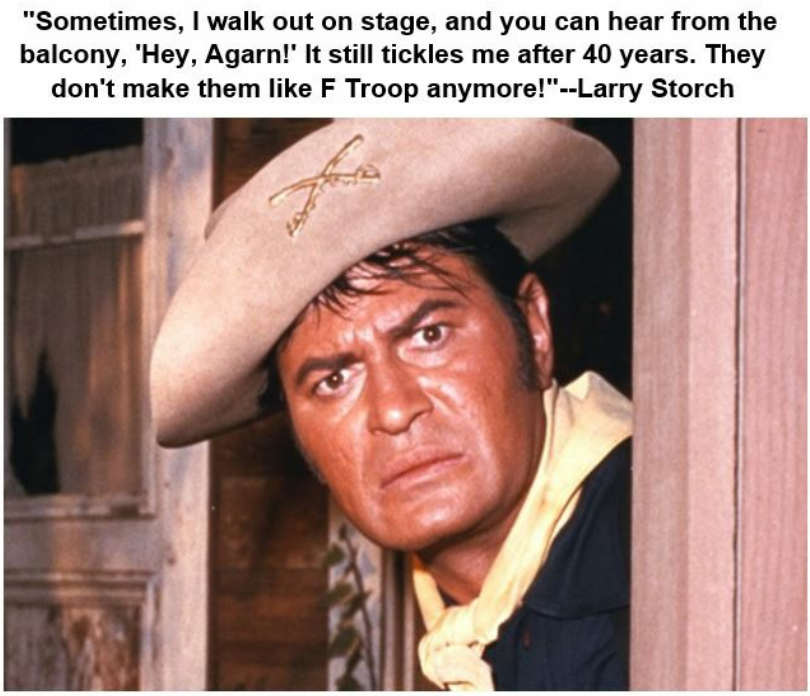
10. Joke 3

A truck loaded with thousands of copies of Roget's Thesaurus crashed as it left a New York publishing house last Thursday, according to the Associated Press. Witnesses were stunned, startled, aghast, taken aback, stupefied, confused, punchy, shocked, rattled, paralyzed, dazed, bewildered, mixed up, surprised, awed, dumbfounded, flabbergasted, astounded, amazed, confounded, astonished, boggled, overwhelmed, horrified, numbed and perplexed. (Thanks Jan Blunt, for sharing.)

---

11. A quote I like

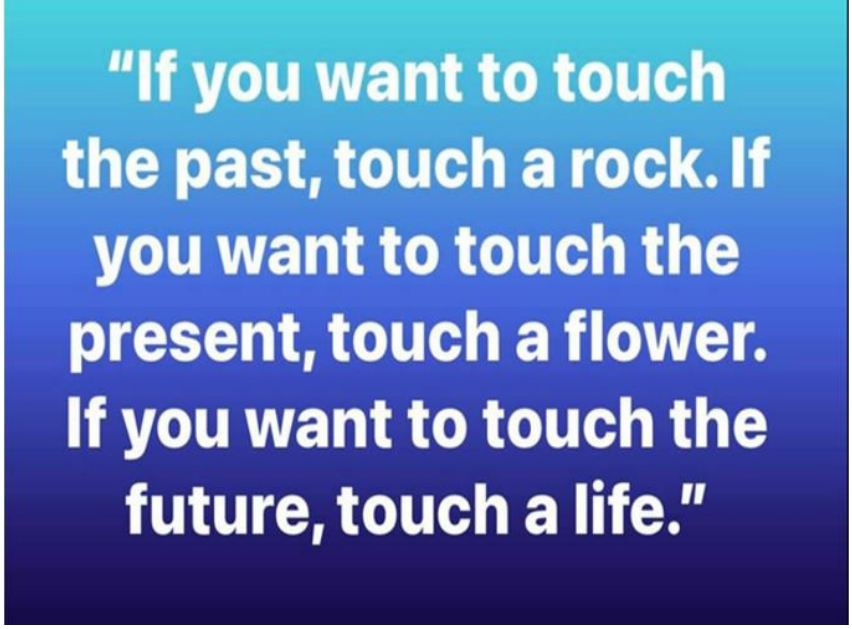
Thanks, Larry Storch (1923-2022), for your career as an American actor, voice artist and comedian best known for comic television roles, including voice-over work for cartoon shows such as Mr. Whoopee on Tennessee Tuxedo and His Tales and his live-action role of the bumbling Corporal Randolph Agarn on F Troop. ... That latter show only ran two seasons, but for his work, Storch won a nomination for an Emmy Award in 1967. ... For more information about his life, click: Here.



---

12. Thought for the day

Soooo true! (Thanks, Debbie Hancock, for sharing.)



---

13. Advance planning department

For more information about the following events, please click: Here.

A. Heather Moore: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. B. Kenneth Davis: Old Colony. C. Heather Fender Denton: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. D. Madison Brightwell: Facebook group about creativity. E. Jeff Catanese: For the whole family.

PS. Make it a great week!