

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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## 1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I hosted a Block Party for our neighbors on Joe Jenkins Road. 12 families attended with both their children and grandchildren, and a fun time was had by all. Pictured below us are our new friends Bobbie and Karen Allison (left) who graciously allowed us the use of their driveway, as well as Larry and Nancy Turner (right).



B. Everybody who attended brought desserts. The only problem was that we didn't have enough to serve everybody. (JUST KIDDING!)



C. Another of the week's high spots was the fact that we got to take care of Rigby for a few days when our friends Brian and Andi Jefferis were out of town. He was a delight.



D. A food truck, Tin Can Pizzeria, visits across the street every Monday. We are becoming big fans of this eatery. The white pizza is outstanding.



E. Another food truck, Mountain View, comes on Mondays. The hamburgers are delicious. as are the sides.



F. This week's BLAINESWORLD show can be viewed by clicking: [Here](#). ... Guests: (first half) Betty Baker and Tanya Fletcher--both with Sterling Transitions; and (second half) Steven Samuels, producing artistic director and publisher, The Sublime Theater & Press; and David Hopes, playwright and author.



G. Catch this special Facebook Live edition BLAINESWORLD show, featuring Anthony Mikolojeski (the Asheville Medium) doing a reading with three different volunteers by clicking [Here](#).



H. Congratulations to:

- (1) Stacey Anne and Michael Horan on the birth of Owen Michael Vandling, their son.
- (2) D.J. Svodboda on receiving a Certificate of Recognition in honor of his creative contribution to the National Milestones National Autism Conference
- (3) Carol Duermit on being named one of the top 5 Mortgage Brokers in the Carolinas for June by the Atlantic Bay Mortgage Group.
- (4) Meredith Switzer for her appearance on WLOS. To view it, click: [Here](#).
- (5) Scott Burnette for his appearance on WLOS. To view it, please click: [Here](#).

I. Correction:

Thanks, Robert Correll, for pointing out this mistake in last week's issue:  
Jokes 2 and 3 have the same prose. Looks like a cut and paste error that you might want to fix.

Here is the corrected version:

I was ahead of my time ... the car I used to draw in kindergarten actually exists!



J. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to a company called NuGo Nutrition. To quote from the website:  
It started with a simple belief: great taste and great nutrition don't have to be mutually exclusive. Twenty years ago, this inspired NuGo Nutrition to create the only nutrition bars with decadent taste, wholesome nutrition, and quality ingredients. Since those early days, our core values have not wavered, but our ambition has grown. What began as a vision to create great-tasting, nutritious snacks has evolved into a mission to pioneer unique, delectable nutrition bars and cookies for many lifestyles. We've transformed what it means to be convenient and delicious, and we honestly can't wait to keep bringing you more!

Cynthia and I both love many of their fine products. They all have great taste with a good amount of protein.

My favorite flavors are the dark chocolate pretzel and chocolate coconut, while Cynthia likes the peanut butter crunch and chocolate black cherry.

They constantly come out with new products and flavors, and we are in the process of ordering them.

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

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## 2. Invites

A. Congratulations to Linda Orcutt, winner of a copy of NAPALM & SILLY PUTTY (courtesy of my friend Mike Lazanski). All told, there were six entries. And that reminds me it is time to introduce ....

**\*\*\*\*\* CONTEST #16 \*\*\*\*\***

One lucky reader will win a copy of QUOTABLE JOE: WORDS OF WISDOM BY AND ABOUT JOE PATERNO, COLLEGE FOOTBALL'S COACHING ICON by L. Budd Thalman. (Thanks, Mike Lazanski, for making this prize available.)

Paterno coached Penn State to a remarkable 409 victories. Although his career was tarnished at the end because of a child sex scandal involving one of his coaches, it should be noted that Paterno was never charged with a crime--and the prosecutors who led the Sandusky investigation repeatedly have said they did not believe Paterno participated in any coverup.

What Paterno did do was leave us with many notable quotes, including this one:

I always remember what Winston Churchill once said: "Success is never final, final never fatal." I think maybe that explains my philosophy of football as well as life in general.

To enter, send an email to: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com) and put CONTEST #16 in the subject line. Include BOTH your name and mailing address in the body of your email.

B. 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](#).

C . I will be coming up North this coming Aug. 19-22, and I am putting together an ice cream get together for Sat., Aug. 21, at Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown, PA, at 2 p.m. Come to also participate in a "Happy Together" singalong that will be led by the amazing John Strauss.

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.

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](#).

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### 3. FYI

The Most Influential Spreader of Coronavirus Misinformation Online  
by Sheera Frenkel

SAN FRANCISCO — The article that appeared online on Feb. 9 began with a seemingly innocuous question about the legal definition of vaccines. Then over its next 3,400 words, it declared coronavirus vaccines were “a medical fraud” and said the injections did not prevent infections, provide immunity or stop transmission of the disease.

Instead, the article claimed, the shots “alter your genetic coding, turning you into a viral protein factory that has no off-switch.” ...

Over the last decade, Dr. Mercola has built a vast operation to push natural health cures, disseminate anti-vaccination content and profit from all of it, said researchers who have studied his network. In 2017, he filed an affidavit claiming his net worth was “in excess of \$100 million.”

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

### FYI, part 2

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

Note: When you click any of these 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](mailto: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.

A. Texas Senate passes bill that removes requirement to teach Klu Klux Klan as 'morally wrong.' B. Why Need to Write P.S. in Your Marketing Emails. C. Why You Should Stop Yelling at Your Kids. D. Matt Damon's Disappearing Acts. E. Broadway Audiences Will Need Proof of Vaccination and Masks.

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#### 4. Joke 1

PRO TIP ... Keep cake moist by eating it all in one sitting. (Thanks, Carol Duermit, for posting.)



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#### 5. Reviews

A. Saw JOE BELL, the true story of an Oregonian father who pays tribute to his gay teenage son by embarking on a self-reflective walk across America to speak his heart to citizens about the terrifying costs of bullying. Mark Wahlberg is fine as the father, but it is newcomer Reid Miller as his son who steals just about every scene he is in. The film was OK, but it dragged in spots. And I would have liked to have seen more about the father's speeches and reactions of those who heard him speak. Rated R.

B. I revisited KICKING & SCREAMING, a 2005 comedy about a son who was never able to live up to the demands of his overbearing father. Even when he becomes a father himself, he still has trouble dealing with the competitive nature of his dad. Will Ferrell and Robert Duvall are perfectly cast, and I also liked the performing of Mike Ditka playing himself. This film had me laughing in many spots. Rated PG.

C. Have you ever been bullied at work? Or do you know somebody who has been?

If so, get a copy of STAND-UP TO WORKPLACE BULLYING AND DISCRIMINATION: SOLUTIONS, TOOLS, & GUIDELINES (Lystra Books & Literary Services) by Dawn Westmoreland.

This informative workbook starts off with an empowerment pledge to yourself that will get you thinking about the fact that bullying is not something you have to accept.

The author then builds upon this pledge, sharing invaluable resources that will provide you with the information you need to move forward.

I especially liked Chapter 8, in which the importance of self-care is discussed. And numerous modalities are presented that can be utilized to help your well-being.

Lastly, I'd recommend this book for employers. They could use it to train bullies in their workplace that their

behavior has to stop.

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## 6. TV alert

### A. CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: Streaming on Netflix

Frank Abagnale, Jr. (Leonardo DiCaprio) worked as a doctor, a lawyer, and as a co-pilot for a major airline -- all before his 18th birthday. He also became the most successful bank robber in the history of the U.S. You'll enjoy this film. Rated PG-13.

### B. MONEYBALL: Streaming on Amazon Prime

Baseball's conventional wisdom is proven all wrong in this fact-based drama starring Pitt and Jonah Hill. Sport fans will especially like this one. Rated PG-13.

### C. BEST IN SHOW: Streaming on HBO Max

A behind-the-scenes mockumentary about the highly competitive and cut-throat world of dog shows through the eyes of a group of ruthless dog owners. Eugene Levy, Fred Willard, Catherine O'Hara and the rest of the ensemble cast will have you laughing throughout the film. Rated PG-13.

### D/. THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN ARM: Tues., August 3, at 4 p.m. on TCM

A junkie must face his true self to kick his drug addiction in this powerful drama starring Frank Sinatra. He was nominated for an Oscar for his performance, but lost to Ernest Borgnine (in MARTY). Not rated when it released in 1955, it would not get an R rating.

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## 7. Joke 2

History I wish I had been taught as a child ...



*"Thus, the Yardbirds begat Cream, Spencer Davis Group begat Traffic, Cream and Traffic begat Blind Faith, and Blind Faith begat Derek and the Dominos and Ginger Baker's Air Force ..."*

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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, thanks to Peggy Ratusz for sharing this version from Allen Stone that I've never heard before: [Here](#). ... I hope you enjoy it as much as I do!

B. Video of the week

Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for this clip:

Who sang it better ... the opera singer or the parrot? [Here](#).

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

(1) Bobby Darin, "Dream Lover." one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Scott Treadway: Curb Your Enthusiasm ... Larry Goes to Hamilton and Falls Sleep Again: [Here](#).

(3) Howard Smith and Hope Hamby: Piano and violin duet: [Here](#)/

(4) And thanks, Howard Smith, for a second clip of hymns this week: [Here](#).

(5) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Mick Jagger celebrated his Birthday this past week! [Here](#)

(6) Flashmob Moscow (Russia) : Putting on the Ritz: [Here](#).

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

Just the title of it grabs my attention: Shut Up and Take My Money. .. Check it out to find cool gadgets and gizmos. Among them:

Doorballs Door Knockers

Offensive Crayons

Garlic Bulb Cat Bed

To see these and more, 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 put your USB drive the right way the first time, grab any USB cable sitting around your house. Notice the symbol on one side? It's not just branding purposes. That symbol will point up if you're plugging in horizontally and if you're plugging a cable vertically, the USB symbol will face you.

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## 10. Joke 3

Instead of calling it "the John," I prefer to call my bathroom "the Jim." That way, it sounds better when I say, "I went to the Jim this morning." (Thanks, JoAnn Calabria Johnson, for sharing.)



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## 11. A quote I like

Thanks, Ron Popeil (1935-2021), for your career as an inventor and marketing personality. ... Among the better known and more successful are the Chop-O-Matic hand food processor ("Ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to show you the greatest kitchen appliance ever made ... All your onions chopped to perfection without shedding a single tear."), the Dial-O-Matic successor to the Veg-O-Matic ("Slice a tomato so thin it only has one side.") and the Ronco Pocket Fisherman. ... For more information about his life, click: [Here](#).



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## 12. Thought for the day

Simone Biles Was 100% Right To Drop Out And Dominique Moceanu Just Illustrated Why  
By Andy Golder

If you've been following the Olympics at all, you're probably aware that Simone Biles chose to drop out of the women's gymnastics team final and the all-around final citing mental health concerns.

Biles had performed one vault in the team final but ended up almost botching her skill. Instead of doing her usual 2.5 twists in the air, she did just 1.5 and had a rough landing.

For the rest of this article and a video you won't want to miss, click: [Here](#).

Note: What's especially said is how right-wing media has launched an attack on her. To read about this, click: [Here](#).

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## 13. Advance planning department

To read more about the following events, click: [Here](#).

A. Stephen Gonya: THE LAST ROMANCE at HART. B. David Troy Francis: A Sunday Cabaret. C. Devan Bryant Stevens: SKETCHES! OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN: A TMT COMEDY REVUE. D. Victoria Lamberth: THE SPARROW AND THE WHIPPOORWILL: A BLUEGRASS MUSICAL.

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

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