

BLAINESWORLD

#1262
11.23.20

In this issue

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

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Continued to hunker down in Week 36 of the corona pandemic. Fortunately, that didn't prevent us enjoying our Thanksgiving together. We missed the fact that others weren't with us, but better safe than sorry. And that's why they invented ... next year!



(2) And we're grateful that we were able to get out for a delicious dessert from Ultimate ice Cream.



B. During the week, I was fortunate to attend the The Dementia Society of America's virtual Broadway Alive! concert, featuring baritone vocalist Keith Spencer. He was accompanied by Peter Hilliard on piano in what was an amazing event.

If you missed the performance and/or want to see it again, please click: [Here](#).

And when you do, if you want to share some appreciation (and love) with both Keith and the Dementia Society of America, text "DSA" to 313131 or visit [Here](#).

For more information about the Dementia Society of America, the national volunteer-driven all-Dementias nonprofit serving the community through education, resources, life-enrichment and recognition programs, please click: [Here](#).

For more information about Keith Spencer, please click: [Here](#).



C. I also participated in the virtual annual conference of the Western Women's Business Center. On the first day, Barrie Barton did her usual super job as moderator of one of the sessions, and I also enjoyed hearing from two of that day's panelists: Duane Adams and Laura Wagenknecht.



On the next day, it was great to hear Katherine Morosani deliver the keynote address, and to watch Marilyn Bell do a fine job moderating one of the sessions.

And I'd be remiss if I don't mention other friends for their respective roles in helping make the conference the success that it was, including Johanna Hagarty, Jill Sparks, Jane Hatley and Rosanna Fox.



D. I joined my friend Aaron Ybarra for some tasty peanut butter and jelly sandwiches at P B & Jay's Café, a place that's rapidly becoming one of my favorite eateries in Asheville.



E. Catch this week's BLAINESWORLD show, by clicking: [Here](#). ... Guests: (first half) Sandy Howard, Sharon Lewis, Nita Smith and Alec Fehl, members of Deep River; and (second half) Dr. Kenneth Eggert, professor of Music Composition & Theory, Brevard College.



F. Congratulations to:

(1) David Troy Francis on his newest musical venture. To find out more about it, please see this email he recently sent me:

I have created a new musical gift option to celebrate the holidays, birthdays and other special events with friends and loved ones ... a Piano-Gram by David!

Please visit my new website at: [Here](#) where you will find multiple examples of piano-grams along with order forms and information.

A Piano-Gram is a thoughtful, one-of-a-kind holiday gift! Hope you will consider ordering one today.

(2) Kyle and Katie Wilken on the birth of their son Presley Ryan Wilken.

(3) Jan Weinstein-Sparta on the birth of Sylas James Sparta, her new grandson.

(4) Asheville for being named No. 7 of "The 10 Best Places to Retire in America" by Money.com. For the full article, please click: [Here](#).

Note: Earlier this year, Forbes.com ranked Asheville one of "The Best Place to Retire in 2020." In addition, Livability.com ranked Asheville No. 6 on the "Top 100 Best Places to Live in the U.S.," BestCities.org ranked the city No. 5 in its Top 50 of "America's Best Small Cities" and Travel & Leisure ranked Asheville No. 3 in its "Top 50 Best Places to Travel in 2020."

G. Reminders:

(1) There's still time to enter:

***** CONTEST #23 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of GETTING INTO GUINNESS: ONE MAN'S LONGEST, FASTEST, HIGHEST JOURNEY INSIDE THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS RECORD BOOK by Larry Olmsted. Ken Jennings, all-time JEOPARDY! champion, had this to say about the book: "A funny and revealing look at the reference classic of everyone's childhood. I read it straight through--in exactly 5 hours and 31 minutes, with hourly rest breaks. While balancing a milk bottle on my head. And riding a unicycle."

To enter, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #23 in the subject line. In the body of your email, include both your name and mailing address. All entries must be received on or before Monday, Nov. 30, at 9 p.m.

(2) Join Cynthia in either of the two virtual courses she teaches for Arms Around ASD: Meditation on Mondays and Move Your Body on Wednesdays. To attend these and/or any of the others (that are open to the public), scroll down to Calendar when you click: [Here](#).

H. Thanks, Reggie Kelly (top picture, performing at a virtual concert at the BopStop) for this week's nomination for the the:

BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD WINNER

If you've been tuning in and viewing the wonderfully produced live concerts at the BopStop, you've been watching the finest produced concerts in the city. what some of you may not know is that there is ONE man behind the magic: Gabe Pollack (bottom picture).

He schedules and books the artists, he sets the stage and instrument configurations to accommodate anywhere from three performers to seven or eight, he mics all of the instruments and vocalists, THEN when the performance goes live, he's the precision driven sound engineer, he's the videographer operating four to five camera angles at one time , the bartender, accountant and on line commenting and encouraging and thanking people for their viewership, ALL AT THE SAME TIME !!!! Seamless! What??! thank you brother Gabe for your commitment to excellence in all that you do and have done to make our artistic lives a little brighter.

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



2. FYI

Pandemic-Proof Your Habits

by Kate Murphy

I attended a Thanksgiving dinner several years ago where the hostess, without warning family and friends, broke with tradition and served salmon instead of turkey, roasted potatoes instead of mashed,

raspberry coulis instead of cranberry sauce and ... you get the idea.

While a few guests mustered the politesse to say the meal was “something else,” most reacted with undisguised dismay. Some seethed. Others sulked. One young guest actually cried. No one had seconds.

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

FYI, part 2

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

A. Scott Patrick: Ms. Bliss from Gaffney SC is requesting Educational Kits & Games through DonorsChoose. B. What Mid-Life Eating Disorders Look Like—And How to Get Healthy. C. Your Brain is Not for Thinking.

3. Joke 1

We have two turkeys, so there's still room for you to join us. Hope to see you soon. And if you are like us, and you celebrate all holidays because there's more food, fun and friendship that way, HAPPY THANKSGIVING! (Thanks, Linda Williams, for sharing.)



Daniel Bobinski (find me on MeWe:...)

@NewBookofDaniel

We've been told that only 6
people are allowed to meet for
Thanksgiving, but 30 for a funeral.
With this, I announce that we will
be holding a funeral for our pet
turkey that will pass away on Nov.
26. Refreshments provided.

In lieu of flowers please bring a
side or dessert.



4. Reviews

A. Thoroughly enjoyed POINT BREAK, an action film on HBO about a string of bizarre bank robberies in Southern California where crooks don masks of various former presidents. Keanu Reeves and Patrick Swayze are both outstanding in the leading roles, and you'll also like the work of Lori Petty and Gary Busey. Be forewarned: There's a good deal of violence in the movie. Rated R.

Note: I've added the above to my list of favorite films. If you'd like to get this list, please send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

B. Thanks, Cynthia Greenfield, for sharing the following article:

The 25 Best Films of the 21st Century

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

C. Read CANDY FREAK: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE CHOCOLATE UNDERBELLY OF AMERICA (Algonquin Books) by Steve Almond, a self-titled candy freak who admits to eating a single piece of candy every single day of his entire life. In addition, he thinks about candy at least once an hour, and he has between three and seven pounds of candy in his house at all times. ... In this fun book, the author embarks on a nationwide tour to uncover the truth about the candy business. He does so by visiting candy factories that produce dozens of quirky bars, such as the Twin Bings, the Idaho Spud and the Vaolomilk. ... I'd write more, but methinks I'm going to have to stop here to get some chocolate!

5. TV alert

A. DOLLY PARTON'S CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE: Now on Netflix

This 14-tune musical features Dolly Parton as a guardian angel who gives Scrooge-like Christine Baranski the holiday spirit of forgiveness.

B. LOVER ROCK, UNRATED: Now on Amazon Prime

According to AARP's TV for Grownups, "This Oscar-bound stunner is a buoyant, brash, shaggy, artfully spontaneous film by Steve McQueen (12 Years a Slave) about one day in the life of West Indians in London who are preparing for a reggae house party."

C. UNCLE FRANK: Now on Amazon Prime

This dramedy set in 1973 has a terrific cast, including Paul Bettany, Margo Martindale, Steve Zahn and Judy Greer. It is about about a college professor who has to drive his niece down South for a funeral

D. MANK: Movie premiere on Netflix on Friday, Dec. 4

Gary Oldman stars as Herman J. Mankiewicz, the screenwriter Orson Welles hired to help with CITIZEN KANE.

6. Joke 2

How often do I make chemistry jokes? Periodically.



7. Clip/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 find this performance from Taylor LaValley: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

Paul Marks: Forgot your mask? | 22 Minutes: [Here](#).

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

(1) The Last Time I Felt Like This - Johnny Mathis & Jane Olivor, one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Howard Smith: 11.29.20: [Here](#).

(3) Norm Kent: That Was the President - Phil Ochs: [Here](#)

D. Here's a website that you will want to check out if you have some time to kill: The Useless Web: [Here](#).

For example, I just checked this out and found The Passive Aggressive Password Machine. If you want to see this one, 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](#).

8. Technology tip

BEWARE ... if you get a message such as the following: I think you appear in this VIDEO watch it. IM REALLY IMPRESSED!!! (You'll then be given a YouTube link to click.)

Do NOT click the link. If you do, you will taken to a Facebook phishing scam. For more information, please click: [Here](#).

9. Joke 3

The things you learn online! (Thanks, Joe Hodgson, for sharing.)



It takes 7 seconds for food to pass from mouth to stomach.

A human hair can hold 3 kg.

The length of a man's penis is 3 x the length of his thumb.

The femur is as hard as concrete.

A woman's heart beats faster than a man's.

Women blink 2 x as much as men.

A woman has read this entire post ...

A man is still looking at his thumb...

IngibjörgNFrið

10. A quote I like

Thanks, Tony Hsieh (1973-2020), for your ability to make people feel comfortable and secure shopping on the internet. ... Though you'll be best known for building Zappos into a \$1 billion internet shoes and clothing powerhouse, I'll most remember you for being the author of DELIVERING HAPPINESS: A PATH TO PROFITS, PASSION AND PURPOSE--one of the best business books I have ever read. ... For more information about his life, please click: [Here](#).



"We believe that customer service shouldn't be just a department; it should be the entire company"

- Tony Hsieh

11. Thought for the day

FINALLY, A SECRETARY OF STATE WE CAN BE PROUD OF ... "We need to be working with other countries. We need their cooperation. We need their partnership. But also confidence because America at its best still has a greater ability than any other country on earth to bring others together to meet the challenges of our time."--Anthony Blinken, Secretary of State nominee

Note: if you want to be moved, watch Blinken deliver the above as he also talks about his family's background by clicking: [Here](#).

Or if you just want to read what he had to say, scroll down to the 13:50 minute mark when you click: [Here](#).

12. Advance planning department

To find out about the following, please click: [Here](#).

A. Sunny Ruble: Womansong Reimagined. B. Mark Jones: TOGETHER at HART. C. Natalie Kaye: Rebecca Kay: The Oscar Songbook

PS. Make it a great day!
