

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](#).

#1420

12.4.2023

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. Two quotes I like
 12. Thought for the day
-

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had great burgers at Juicy Lucy's where we also received fine service from Tyler.





B. BE PREPARED TO LOVE ELF THE Musical! ... The show returns to Asheville Community Theatre from Dec. 1-23, and you're in for a treat if you can get any of the remaining tickets. ... Kudos to Mark Jones (top left) for his spot on direction, as well as to actors Scott Cameron (also top left), Jack and Mary Heinen, (top right) Naimah Coleman (bottom left) and Carson Fox and Elly Leidner (bottom right). They all excelled, as did other Facebook friends Greg Austin, Jessica Garland Lowe and Adam Lentini. ... And lest I forget: There were equally outstanding performances from the other nine actors in the talented cast. ... Lastly, credit needs to go to these individuals for their adept work as follows: Kristen Johnson Dominquez, music director; Jessica Garland Lowe, choreographer (and Mrs. Claus in the play); Jill Summers, scenic designer; and Ida, costume designer. ... For tickets, click: [Here](#).



C. i hosted a record five webcasts this past week. All can be found on the indicated dates at this website: www.blainesworld.net.

(1) Top: 11.27.2023 - Mari Hashimoto, Violinist Extraordinaire

(2) Middle: 11.28.2023 - Karen Paly--Owner, Karen's Spice Kitchen

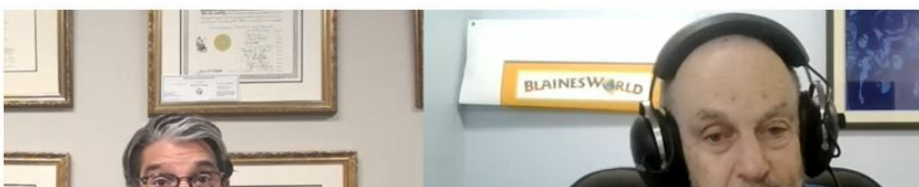
(3) Bottom: 11.29.2023 - Mike Yow and Jennifer Russ



(4) Top: 11.30.2023 - Tod Leaven, Partner at Leaven Law Firm PLLC

Note: As you may know, Tod is running for Asheville City Council. He's going to be one fantastic Council member. If you'd like to join me in supporting his campaign, you can find out how to donate and/or volunteer by clicking this link: [Here](#).

(5) Bottom: 12.2.2023 - Jonathan Forrester, Board President at Hendersonville Theatre





D. Condolences to:

(1) The family of Clark Shuster. Thanks to Bill Lewis, his good friend, for sharing these beautiful thoughts about Clark on Facebook: Please read them by clicking: [Here](#).

To read Clark's obituary, click: [Here](#).

(2) Avi Dobuler and family on the passing of Avi's mother.

E. Congratulations to:

(1) Anthony Romeo-Adcock on attaining his graduate degree in Curriculum and Instruction - Theatre Pedagogy from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

(2) Mark Jones on his new job as Office Manager of the Advancement Office at UNC Asheville.

(3) Dan Beckmann on the publication of his book: DAN BECKMAN'S AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL: VISIONS AND MUSING FROM A FIFTY-STATE TOUR.

(4) Charlie Wilson on returning to the stage for the first time in five years. He has been cast as the Merchant, the Priest and the Ganger in the world premiere of CARITAS at the Diana Wortham Theatre in June 2024.

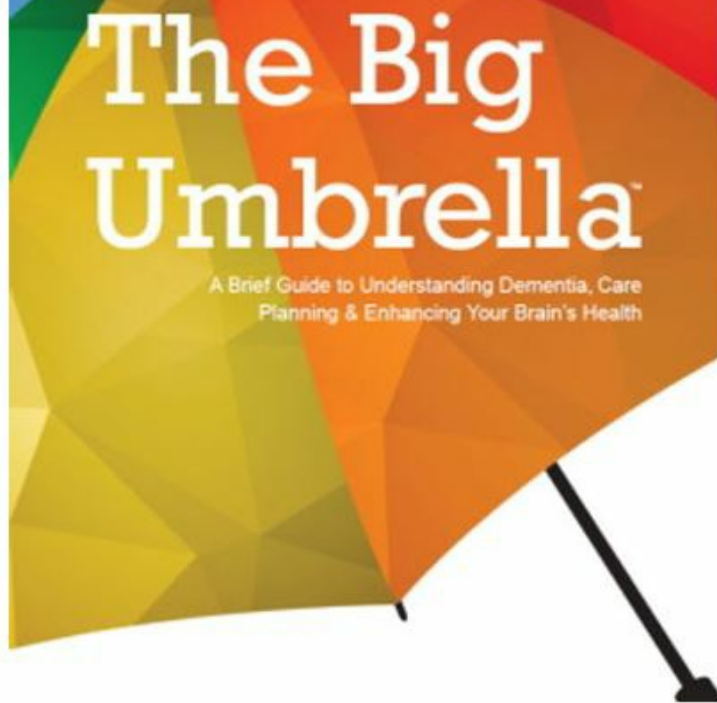
F. Announcing ...

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

It goes to the Dementia Society of America for offering to the public its acclaimed guide to improving brain health. There's also useful information on how to understand dementia.

There is no charge for this informative publication. To obtain it, click: [Here](#).





2. Invites

A. Reminder about ...

***** CONTEST #18 *****

For this latest contest, one lucky reader will win a copy of **THE ROI OF KINDNESS: THE SURPRISING SECRET THAT GENERATES LONG-TERM RESULTS** by my friend Brian Biro and Mac Anderson.

About the book (from the Amazon description):

The curious paradox about the power of kindness, particularly in business is that it doesn't seem to feel powerful at all. In fact, it almost feels too simple to be important. But never forget, simplicity is genius.

As you dive into this empowering little book, you'll soon discover that this simple secret, **KINDNESS**, can transform your brand, your customer loyalty, your success in attracting and retaining fantastic people, and your organization, moving your team from good to great!

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put **CONTEST 18** in the subject line. Include your name and mailing address in the body of the email. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 11.

Brian Biro and Mac Anderson



ROI OF KINDNESS™

**THE SURPRISING SECRET THAT
GENERATES LONG-TERM RESULTS**

B. Please see me reprise my role as a soldier in RETURN TO BETHLEHEM next weekend at Grace United Methodist Church, 954 Tunnel Road in Asheville.

I'll be there on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 10, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

For more information and other hours (it also runs on Thursday and Friday, as well as other times on Saturday and Sunday), click: [Here](#).

Pictured (below) from last year: Me with my friend Cappy Tosetti and Cynthia.



C. Want to be a guest on my BLAINESWORLD webcast? It can now be seen on YouTube or you can listen to it on your favorite webcast player.

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 evening.

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

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.

D. Are you interested in shows, concerts, movies, TV, etc.? ... If so, I encourage you to join a 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](#).

E. Come join Cynthia for the course she'll be teaching for Arms Around ASD this week: Move Your Body on Wednesday via Zoom or in person.

To attend this course and/or any other that is being offered, scroll down to Calendar when you click [Here](#).

3. FYI

A. If you use any of these 6 phrases every day, you're 'genuinely happier' than most: Happiness experts by Leslie Richardson and Neil Pasricha

Happiness is a choice, but that doesn't mean it's easy. When we're stuck in a constant loop of fear and negativity, it can be tough to cultivate a positive mindset.

As leaders at the Institute for Global Happiness, we're constantly thinking about the small, intentional things we can all do to make our communities more positive, content and resilient.

Often, it starts with how we speak to others, and to ourselves. If you use any of these six phrases every day, you're genuinely happier than most.

To find them out, click: [Here](#).

B. Thanks, Navé, for this email:

I open your newsletter each week. Congrats on your consistency. Amazing. You always have your optimistic thumb up, which no doubt encourages people. I like the poetic political stab your liberal thumb sends to Donald Trump, who uses the same thumbs-up sign to communicate his MAGA message. It would be interesting to contrast the meaning of your thumbs-up and Trump's thumbs-up in a blog post.

My response:

I've been using that for a long time, perhaps even longer than he has.

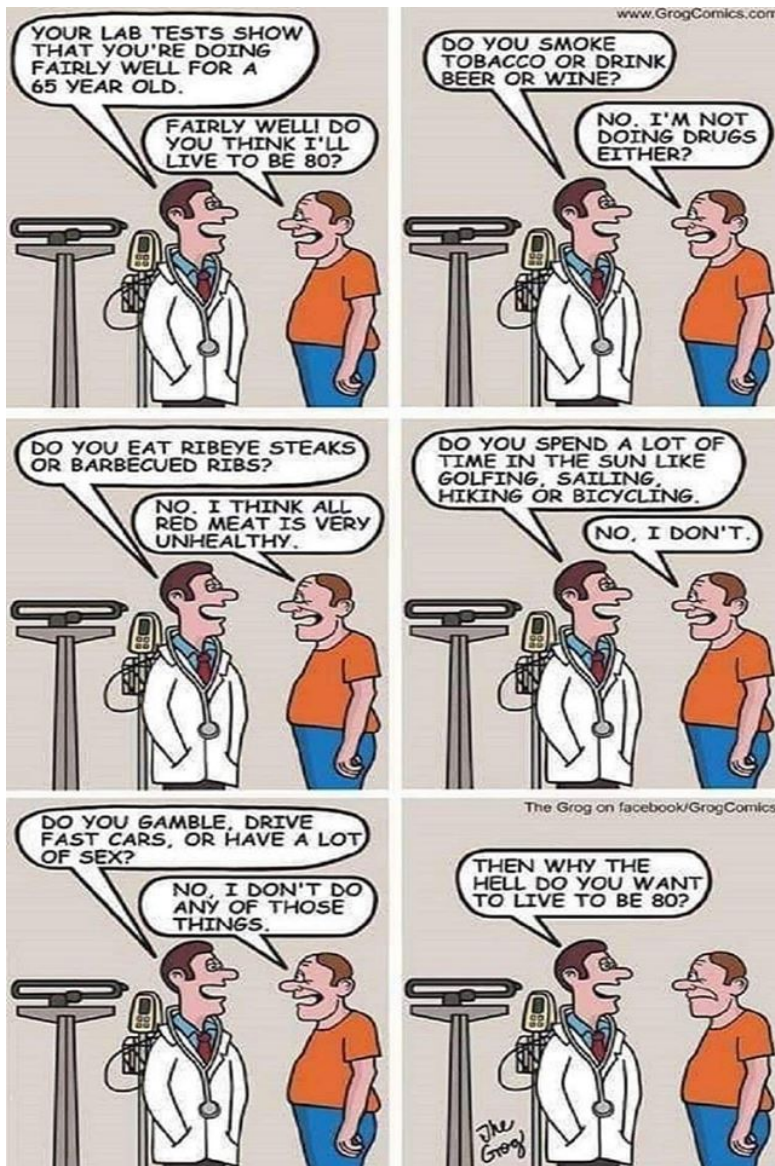
I often do use it to encourage people, which is consistent with the title on my business card: CEO (Chief Encouragement Officer).

In addition, I use it to show that I'm happy in most every situation.

And here's an interesting coincidence between Trump and me: We both have the same birthdays, though he is three years older.

4. Joke 1

Reminds me of a recent visit to my doctor



5. Reviews

A. Cynthia and I enjoyed the premise of *DREAM SCENARIO*: a dark comedy about an obscure evolutionary biology professor who is peeved that nobody wants his scholarly book on ants. But suddenly he finds himself famous because he mysteriously starts to appear in the dreams of people worldwide. ... Soon, though, the strangers' dreams become nightmares. And that's when we lost interest in the film. ... The last part dragged for us as it became a horror film, and we couldn't wait for it to end. ... Nevertheless, Nicholas Cage was fine in the leading role, and we also liked the work of Julianne Nicholson as his wife. Rated R.

B. We both liked *A BILTMORE CHRISTMAS* on the Hallmark Channel. It is a sweet romantic comedy about a magical hourglass that sends a modern-day screenwriter to the set of the 1947 holiday movie classic "His Merry Wife!" Bethany Joy Lenz and Krisoffer Polaha had great chemistry together, and we liked the Biltmore Estate setting. We also liked the fact that several Asheville friends were set as extras, including Robinson Fox, Mary Ann Heinen and Jack Heinen. Rated TVG.

Note: Lenz is a dead ringer for Kay Lenz (of *BREEZY* fame). They look like they could be a mother and daughter. Apparently, many others had the same feeling, but when I researched it, I found they were not related. To read more about this, click: [Here](#).

C. We also liked *DAISIES IN DECEMBER* on Amazon Prime. It's a lovely drama about a grumpy senior citizen who dumped at a retirement home by his vacationing family. While there, he finds love with a new

acquaintance who hides a secret. Joss Ackland and Jean Simmons are both perfect in the leading roles. Rated TVPG.

6. TV alert

A. COME FROM AWAY: Now on Apple TV+

This is the filmed version of the award-winning Broadway musical which tells the story of 7,000 people stranded in the small town of Gander, Newfoundland after all flights into the US are grounded on September 11, 2001. (Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for sharing. He calls it his Number Three favorite Broadway musical.)

B. MAY DECEMBER: Now on Netflix

Like the real Mary Kay Letourneau — jailed for bedding a 12-year-old she later married and had children with — this film's Gracie (Julianne Moore) was jailed for having sex with young Joe (Charles Melton). Natalie Portman also stars.

C. SLOW HORSES, Season 3: Now on Apple TV+

Gary Oldman plays Jackson Lamb, the ill-kempt, flatulent, crapulous, sarcastic old honcho of Slough House, where Britain sends its most downwardly mobile MI5 secret agents. Kristin Scott Thomas and Sophie Okonedo also star. This show has scored a perfect 100 percent on Rotten Tomatoes.

D. CANDY CANE LANE: Now on Prime Video

Eddie Murphy stars in this family comedy as a guy who will stop at nothing (including teaming up with an elf) to win his neighborhood's cutthroat annual house-decorating contest.

7. Joke 2

Little known factoid about this product ... it was endorsed by Hannibal Lecter! (Thanks, Tony Medlin, 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 this ukulele cover from Graham and Roz Hall: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

The Phantom of The Opera - FULL SHOW ... Dive into the magical realm of the Paris Opera House with this amazing rendition of The Phantom of the Opera, captured at the Royal Albert Hall. Experience the brilliance of Andrew Lloyd Webber's iconic score, the exquisite set design, and the spellbinding portrayals of the enigmatic Phantom and Christine. ... To view it, click: [Here](#).

Note: You can, of course, watch this on your phone or computer, but you'll enjoy it even more if you watch it on your TV. ... If you don't know how to do so, click here for instructions: [Here](#).

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

(1) Chordettes, "Lollipop," one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Howard Smith: Hymns (12.3.2023): [Here](#).

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Dr. John: [Here](#).

(4) Thanks, Neil, for motivating me to revisit "Right Place, Wrong Time." If your many fans and friends want to do the same, they can do so by clicking: [Here](#).

(5) Regan Seller: "The Man I Know": [Here](#).

(6) My husband thinks other men are checking me out: [Here](#). (Thanks, Erin McCarson for sharing.)

(7) Beach volleyball: [Here](#). (Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)

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

Thanks, Cyd Dawson, for sharing this one:

Awkward Family Photos. You can check it out by clicking: [Here](#)

As can be seen below, you can joining me in wondering is the guy on the left available for my next family photo? Or is the kind on the right available to clean my home?



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

Did you know you can undo almost any action? Ctrl + Z is the ultimate hotkey, but note that undo doesn't just apply to typing. If you accidentally delete or move a file, you can hit Ctrl + Z to bring it right back to where it was (Ctrl + Y will redo whatever you undid).

Source: [Here](#).

10. Joke 3

This is why you don't leave band kinds alone in the music room for too long by themselves. (Thanks, Susan Markovitz, for sharing.)





11. Two quotes I like

A. Top: Henry Kissinger (1923-2023) passed this past week. He was a controversial American diplomat, political scientist, geopolitical consultant and politician who served as United States secretary of state and national security advisor in the presidential administrations of Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford between 1969 and 1977. He pioneered the policy of détente with the Soviet Union, orchestrated an opening of relations with China, engaged in what became known as shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East to end the Yom Kippur War and negotiated the Paris Peace Accords, which ended American involvement in the Vietnam War. But he has also been associated with controversial policies, such as the U.S. bombing of Cambodia during the Vietnam War, Operation Condor, U.S. involvement in the 1973 Chilean coup d'état, a "green light" to Argentina's military junta for their Dirty War and U.S. support for Pakistan during the Bangladesh Liberation War despite a genocide being perpetrated by Pakistan. For more information about his life, click: [Here](#).

Note: Please don't get on my case for citing Kissinger. He did some good work, but a lot of it was offset by some of his policies as I point out above.

B. Bottom: Thanks, Sandra Day O'Connor (1930-2023), for your career as an American attorney, politician and jurist who served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1981 to 2006. She was the first woman to serve as a U.S. Supreme Court justice. For more information about her life, click: [Here](#).

**It's not a matter of
what is true that
counts but a matter
of what is perceived
to be true
- Henry Kissinger**



"Do the best you can in every task, no matter how unimportant it may seem at the time."—Sandra Day O'Connor





12. Thought for the day

The Value of Money

At the beginning of a new school year, a class teacher stands up in front of her students holding a \$100 bill.

She tells them, "Put your hands up if you want this money".

Every hand in the room goes up, to which the teacher says, "I am going to give this money to someone here, but first, let me do this..."

She takes the bill and crumples it up in her hands, before asking, "Who still wants it?"

The hands stay up.

The teacher then drops the bill on the floor, stomps and grinds it into the ground, and picks it back up. "How about now?" she asks again.

The hands stay up.

"Class, I hope you see the lesson here. It didn't matter what I did to this money, you still wanted it because its value stayed the same. Even with its creases and dirtiness, it's still worth \$100."

She continues, "It's the same with us. There will be similar times in your life when you're dropped, bruised, and muddied. Yet no matter what happens, you never lose your value."

Moral of the story:

Life's hardships are inevitable and we'll all be put through the ringer at some point, often through no fault of our own.

Don't let these challenges alter your feelings of self-worth. You'll always be enough; you have something unique and special to give and offer the world.

Source: <https://www.whatsdannydoing.com/blog/short-inspirational-stories-with-a-moral> (#2)

PS. Make it a great week!

[Unsubscribe bginbc@aol.com](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by bginbc@aol.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!