

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](#).

#1316
12.6.2021

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I have often passed the sign for Little Pigs Barb-B-Q (bottom left), but had never gotten there until the other night. Our meals were tasty, and we found the prices reasonable--though unfortunately, not like they were in 1955 (bottom right).



D. You can view this week's BLAINESWORLD show by clicking: [Here](#). ... Guests: (first half) Matt Edwardsen and Mike Yow, actors, A Wonderful Life: It's A Live Radio Play at the Black Mountain Center for the Arts; and (second half) Allison DeSalvo, founder, director, performing and teaching artist, Allison DeSalvo's World of Song.



E. There was also a special Facebook Live edition of the BLAINESWORLD show that can be viewed by clicking: [Here](#). ... Guest: John Baldwin--director of EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD (AND THEN SOME) at HART from Dec. 10-19.



F. Condolences to Zuzu Welsh and family on the passing of Chuck Welsh, Zuzu's brother.

G. Congratulations to:

- (1) Tony Earnest Medlin and Linda Leblanc on their marriage.
- (2) Evan and Emily Warren McCurry on the birth of Katherine "Katy" Jane McCurry, their daughter.
- (3) Alexandra Macaskill McPherson on the birth of Alexander William, her grandson.

H. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to T. Clark's Handyman Services, the company that just did such a fine job on our deck that's pictured below. They took up our wood deck, which was in pretty bad shape, and replaced it with new Trex decking.

The work was done in a timely fashion at a reasonable price Owner Tim Clark (left), David Finger (center) and Benny Carver (right) were all hard-working, as well as friendly.

We recommend T. Clark's Handyman Services, not only for work on decks, but for a variety of other handyman projects--including Home Repairs, Remodeling, Specialty Woodworking, Landscaping, Yard Work, Painting, Small Engine Repair and much more. Call Tim at 828.713.0426.

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

We have used them for the last three years and will continue to do so in the future.



2. Invites

A. Reminder: There's still time to enter ...

******* CONTEST #27 *******

One lucky reader will win a copy of ENCOUNTERS by Alana Lorens. Notes one Amazon reviewer: "In this very different novel for Alana Lorens, she tells a chilling tale involving illegal immigrants who escape from their "mules" smuggling them into the U.S. during a violent snowstorm, after their truck crashes. ... Suspense and danger combine to offer a chilling mystery and an exciting read."

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #27 in the subject line. In the body of your email, you MUST include your name and mailing address, so that I can send you the prize if you win. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 13

B. Want to be a guest on my radio/Facebook Live show? 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.

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

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.

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: 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

As you may know, I'm proud to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Dementia Society of America. This volunteer-driven 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity serves the nation for all causes of dementia.

The organization is now offering a free copy of THE BIG UMBRELLA: A BRIEF GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING DEMENTIA, CARE PLANNING & UNDERSTANDING YOUR BRAIN'S HEALTH. This informative publication can be obtained by clicking: [Here](#).

You can also subscribe to the once-a-month email newsletter on Dementia & Brain Health matters by clicking: [Here](#).

FYI, part 2

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

A. George Pappas: Here Are The Facts About Hawaiian Pizza. B. My Not-So-Secret Admirer. C. To Start a New Habit, Make It Easy. D. What Dogs Do and Don't Understand.

4. Joke 1

This is what's known as a sheep shot ...



5. Reviews

A. Cynthia and I both enjoyed PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN, a mystery thriller about a smart, cunning woman who leads a secret double life by night. She gets the chance to right the wrongs in her past when she has an unexpected encounter. Carey Mulligan shines in the leading role. Rated R. On HBO Max.

B. We also liked THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING, a 2019 documentary about gender discrimination in the media and entertainment industry. Geena Davis, Meryl Streep, Rashida Jones, Reese Witherspoon, Sandra Oh, Jessica Chastain, Tiffany Haddish and other top actresses After watching it (and we recommend that you do), you'll never watch film or television in quite the same way. Not rated, but appropriate for any teenager. On Netflix.

C. Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for this review:

The Power Of The Dog ***

Rancher Phil Burbank inspires fear and awe in those around him. When his brother brings home a new wife and her son, Phil torments them until he finds himself exposed to the possibility of love. The story is a bit slow but well written and directed by Jane Campion and excellent acting especially Benedict Cumberbatch and Kirsten Dunst. Both are in the Gold Derby predictions for acting and in the best picture, director and screenplay. The nominations aren't until February 8 and the awards not until March 27, so a lot can change especially with West Side Story opening this Friday.

D. Thanks, Anne Garren, for this review:

I bought the soundtrack for the new "West Side Story" the day it was released. I took a leave day on Friday the 10th so that I could see it on it's opening day. Cheryl, Claudia, and I went to the first showing at Regal, because I had been waiting so long for the movie to be released, and we figured there wouldn't be many people at a morning movie.

The music. The dancing. The songs. Ariana DeBose. Bernstein; Robbins/Peck; Sondheim. Ariana DeBose. The cinematography. The use of Latinx actors. Rita Moreno. And did I mention North Carolinian Ariana DeBose?

I loved. It. Spielberg, Kushner, Peck, and Janusz Kaminski did an amazing job. Perfect? No. It makes a little more sense in Kushner's version that Tony would pick up the switchblade and stab Bernardo, but I'm still not buying it. Ansel Elgort and Rachel Zegler were SO much better than Richard Beymer and Natalie Wood, but both were lacking some fire. Elgort was almost too sweet to be a past gang member, but his loyalty to his friends and fellow Jets was believable. Zegler finally let some heat show with DeBose in "A Boy Like That / I Have a Love," and she nailed the scene with Tony's murder. I loved the costumes, too.

Bottom line — I'm going to see it again. It was well worth the wait.

6. TV alert

A. A CHRISTMAS PROPOSAL: Movie premiere on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 8:30 p.m. on CBS

A Seattle bachelor finds a woman to pose as his girlfriend, so that he may appear a more mature candidate

for a promotion.

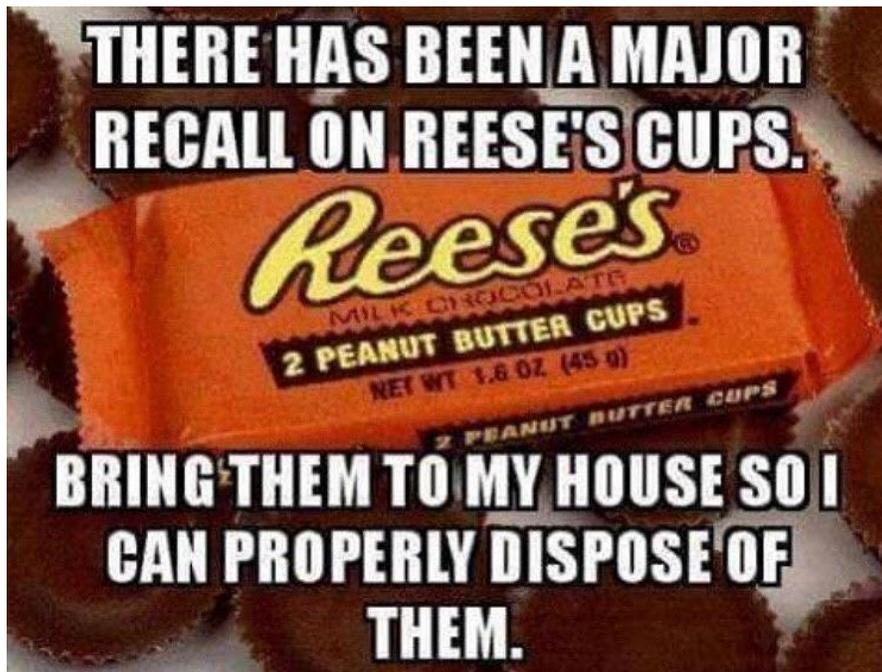
B. THE MURDERS AT STARVED ROCK: Season premiere on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m. on HBO
A photographer--son of the original prosecutor in the 1960 case--seeks to find the truth about the case.

C. 'TIS THE SEASON TO BE MERRY: Movie premiere on Sunday, Dec. 19, at 8 p.m. on Hallmark Channel
A single dating expert has two weeks to find some real-life inspiration for her first book.

D. AND JUST LIKE THAT ...: Series premiere on Sunday, Dec. 19, at 8:30 p.m. on HBO
Tune in to find out what happened to many of the characters in the SEX AND THE CITY series. After these first two episodes, you'll have to switch to HBO Max to watch the rest. (Or you can watch the whole thing there.)

7. Joke 2

Now you know what to do! (Thanks, Jane Heinz, 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 version from Citizen Jane: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing this clip:

Timpanogos High Choir Sings William Tell Overture (Funny): [Here](#).

C. And also check these clips at your convenience:

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

(2) Howard Smith: Christmas carols (12.12.2021): [Here](#).

(3) And thanks, Howard, for this other one: We Three Kings 2020 ... a pandemic parody: [Here](#).

(4) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Today [Dec. 7] would have been the Birthday of singer songwriter Harry Chapin. Harry recorded a total of 11 albums from 1972 until his death in 1981 and all 14 singles that he released became hits on at least one national music chart. Chapin's first formal introduction to music was trumpet lessons at The Greenwich House Music School. Harry's younger brothers Tom and Steve were choirboys at Grace Episcopal Church in Brooklyn Heights, and through them Chapin met "Big" John Wallace, a baritone with a five-octave range, who later became his bassist, backing vocalist, and straight man onstage. Chapin began performing with his brothers while a teenager, with their father occasionally joining them on drums. In 1972, there was a bidding war over Chapin between music business heavyweights Clive Davis at Columbia and Jac Holzman at Elektra. Chapin signed a multi-million dollar recording contract with Elektra Records. The contract was one of the biggest of its time. It granted him free recording time, along with many other perks. ... To hear his recording of "Taxi," click: [Here](#).

(5) Jonathan Berg: The huddle: [Here](#).

(6) Eva Cassidy - Over The Rainbow This was recorded in January 1996. She died 10 months later from melanoma at the age of 33. What a voice! 20+ million views: [Here](#).

(7) The Promise · By Mark Lowry: The Martins: [Here](#).

(8) George Pappas: νικος ξυλουρης μπηκαν στην πολη οι οχτροι (Mpikan Stin Poli Oi Ohtroi): [Here](#).

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

Create beautiful mesmerizing works of art on Weave Silk. In addition to being a website, you can also download this onto your phone or tablet. ... To access it, 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

Those Cute Cats Online? They Help Spread Misinformation.

by Davey Alba

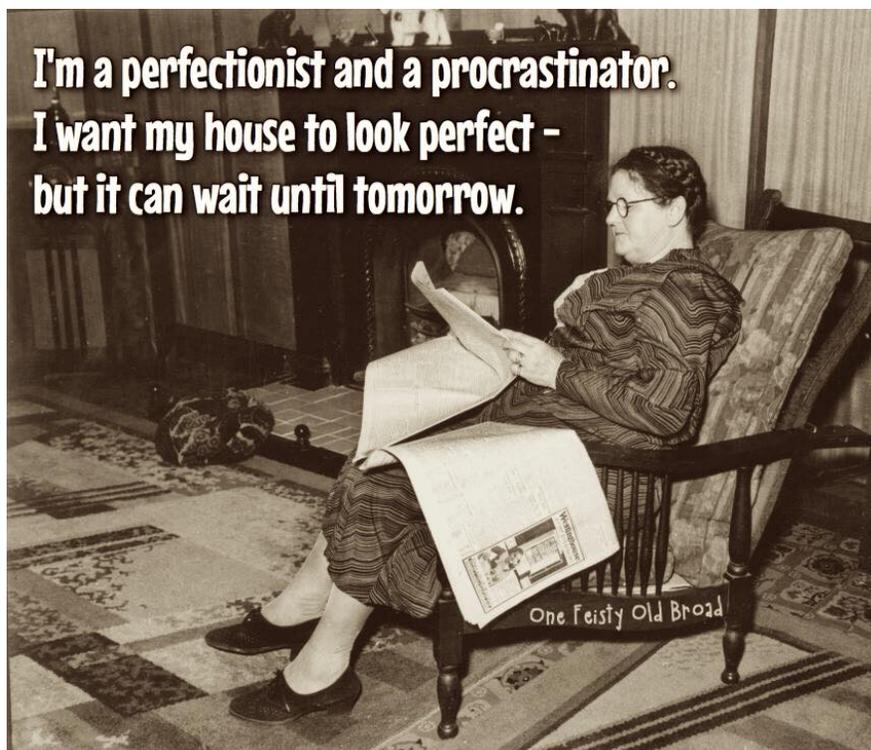
On Oct. 2, New Tang Dynasty Television, a station linked to the Chinese spiritual movement Falun Gong, posted a Facebook video of a woman saving a baby shark stranded on a shore. Next to the video was a link to subscribe to The Epoch Times, a newspaper that is tied to Falun Gong and that spreads anti-China and right-wing conspiracies. The post collected 33,000 likes, comments and shares.

The website of Dr. Joseph Mercola, an osteopathic physician who researchers say is a chief spreader of coronavirus misinformation online, regularly posts about cute animals that generate tens or even hundreds of thousands of interactions on Facebook. The stories include “Kitten and Chick Nap So Sweetly Together” and “Why Orange Cats May Be Different From Other Cats,” written by Dr. Karen Becker, a veterinarian.

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

10. Joke 3

My motto ...



11. Two quotes I like

A. Thanks, Bob Dole (1923-2021), for your lifetime of service to the United States of America--first as a veteran who overcame life-threatening injuries during World War II and then as a longtime shepherd of the Republican Party. ... Though you never achieved your goal to become vice president or president, you served the country with both distinction and humility. And you even made us smile from time to time, as can be seen by the quote below. ... For more information about his remarkable life, read "The goodness of Bob Dole" by clicking: [Here](#).

January 17, 1997 -- White House Medal of Freedom Ceremony: "I, Robert J. Dole, do solemnly swear -- oops, sorry wrong speech. I had a dream that I would be here this historic week receiving something from the president, but I thought it would be the front door key."



B. Thanks, Michael Nesmith (1942-2021), for your career as a musician, songwriter, actor, producer and novelist. And also for being a member of the Monkees and co-star of the TV series by the same name. For more information about his life and some clips of him performing, click: [Here](#).



12. Thought for the day

Thanks, Brian Biro, for permission to run one of your recent LinkedIn posts:

On my flight from Tokyo to LA several years ago I saw several people in dark suits as we waited to board. They all boarded first after a brief delay, and I wondered who they were and what was going on. It turned out they were Secret Service agents and that Jimmy Carter was on the flight. He was returning from a Habitat for Humanity event. Once we were in the air and the fasten seat belt went off, he proceeded to walk the length of the 747 down both aisles and shook every single passenger's hand. He had a kind and gentle word for everyone. He was in his mid-eighties at the time. As I sat there I realized that he could easily have stayed in his seat and had no reason to do what he did other than simple human kindness. Hundreds of people got to shake hands with a former president because he cared about us ... Democrat, Republican, Independent ... to Jimmy Carter, we were all human beings. I couldn't help but feel that HE felt honored to meet us! Humility and kindness are a remarkable combination we could use today more than ever. #kindness

Note: Brian Biro is America's Breakthrough Coach. For more information about him, click:[Here](#).



13. Advance planning department

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

A. MISS BENNET: A CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY. B. Hendersonville Theatre Auditions. C. Scott Mckibben: Looking to film over the winter. D. North Carolina Stage Company: A CHRISTMAS CAROL. E. The Magnetic Theatre: IT'S THE MOST _____ TIME OF THE YEAR: OIL ON CANVAS.

PS. Make it a great week!
