

From: Blaineworld bginbc-aol.com@shared1.ccsend.com
Subject: BLAINESWORLD 1526 (See Sec. 13 for a clip you won't want to miss.)
Date: December 7, 2025 at 6:58 PM
To: hank@hankeder.com

B

BLAINESWORLD

You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not toooo risqué (typically in Sections 5, 8 and 11); 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](#)

#1526
12.8.2025

In this issue

1. Reflections
2. Cynthia's Corner
3. Invites
4. FYI
5. Joke 1
6. Reviews
7. TV Alert
8. Joke 2
9. Clips/Websites
10. Technology Tip
11. Joke 3
12. Two Quotes I Like
13. Thought For The Day

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I bought a car this week. See Section 1E (below) for more information.

To celebrate, we went to the Asheville Outlets, and we both enjoyed chair massages. Afterward, we had some tasty pizza at Wicket Pie.





B. Review: Rudolph Rocks ACT With Festive Cheer for All Ages
By Blaine Greenfield — Chief Encouragement Officer (CEO), BLAINESWORLD

RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER: THE MUSICAL at Asheville Community Theatre is bright, cheerful, and irresistibly fun. It's perfect family entertainment—a spirited stage version of the beloved holiday classic that delights kids and adults alike.

This charming production follows Rudolph's journey from misfit to hero, celebrating friendship, courage, and Christmas cheer.

Robert Bruns (Sam the Snowman) narrates the story with warmth and superb comic timing, anchoring the show with an easy, nostalgic charm.

Simon Leonard (Rudolph) brings remarkable sincerity and heart to the role, capturing both the character's vulnerability and triumphant glow.

Lupe Perez (Yukon Cornelius) is a scene-stealing burst of energy, leaning into the character's big personality and adventurous spirit.

Maree Starling (Hermey) is delightful, delivering a quirky, heartfelt performance that makes the aspiring dentist instantly lovable.

Scott Cameron (Santa Claus) offers a gently humorous take on St. Nick.

Shanna Greenlee (Mrs. Claus) brings warmth and welcome touches of charm.

Susan Mengel (Boss Elf) is sharp, commanding, and very funny.

Arizona Hall (Clarice) delivers a sincere and appealing performance in every scene.

And let's not forget the 23 additional cast members who filled the stage as elves, snowflakes, reindeer, and

Island of Misfit Toys characters, each adding charm and enthusiasm. All were excellent across the board.

The show benefits greatly from stellar direction by Zoe Zelonky, who also served as choreographer. Her staging is crisp, joyful, and full of visual surprises. The dance numbers were especially lively, with "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" nearly blowing the roof off the theatre as just about everyone hit the stage in a burst of color and movement.

Kudos also to Taylor Sanders (Music Director) for a polished musical sound, Marilyn Bailey (Costume Designer) for the bright, whimsical look of the show, and Jill Sommers (Set Designer) for a festive world that feels lifted right out of the TV special.

Through December 21. For tickets, click:

<https://tinyurl.com/mvf5j6ks>

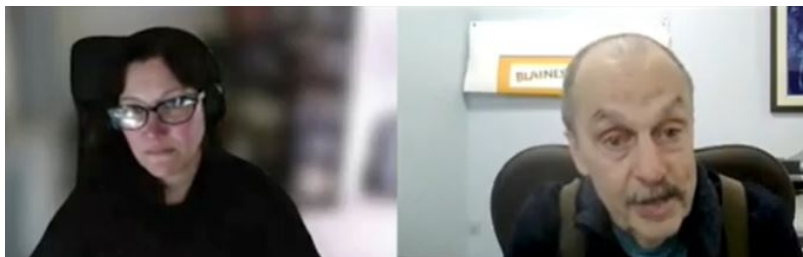


A joyful evening at ACT's Rudolph!

C. This week, I had the pleasure of hosting two BLAINESWORLD webcasts. You can hear or view them by clicking:

www.blaineworld.net

(1) 11.30.2025 - Diana Moore--Co-Owner, Frostwood Gallery



(2) 12.2.2025 - Chandler Carriker--Church Engagement Officer at Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry

Note: He discusses Return to Bethlehem where you can come experience the marketplace as it might have been when Jesus was born. For more information about this exciting event, click: <https://www.abccm.org/return-to-bethlehem/>.

And at that website, you'll can also find out how you can be part of it by volunteering for over 50 roles.



D. Congratulations to The Montford Park Players on having been awarded the 2025 Hardee Rives Award for Dramatic Arts, presented by the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association.

E. Announcing this week's

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

It goes to the friendly and oh-so-helpful folks at Fred Anderson Subaru, where we just purchased our 2026 Subaru Forester. Buying a car can often be a pain, but thanks to their team, it wasn't for us.

Sean Fitzpatrick, senior sales specialist (top photo, left, with our new car), was terrific. He showed us exactly what we needed to see, answered all our many questions with good humor, and has been wonderfully accessible even after the sale.

We then met with Drew Kitchens (one of the business managers), who did a fine job walking us through all the financing details.

While there, we were also impressed by Avery Short, who greeted us when we arrived and checked back in to make sure everything was going smoothly.

And lastly, it was a delight to run into two of my talented theater friends, Delina Hensley and Kim Richardson, who made it a point to stop by.

For more information about Fred Anderson Subaru, click:

[Here](#)





F. Even Bodhi has become a fan of the dealership. He got an “Outback Adventure Pack”—a plush toy shaped like the Subaru Outback (often nicknamed the “Outbark”) that also includes a removable plush adventure water bottle. He’s had a great time playing with it, and it looks like Kismet—waiting at the top of the stairs—is eager for his turn too.



2. Cynthia's Corner

ONE LESS THING

Lately I've noticed how busy my mind can be. What is that drive to do it all? Planning, remembering, organizing, buying, arranging — a constant stream of “what’s next” and “what was before.” My thoughts scatter, leaving little room, little spaciousness where peace lies.

And then a small thought came: What if I did one less thing?

- One less plan.
- One less errand.
- One less worry.
- Even one less thought.

At any moment when feeling overwhelmed or overstimulated, I choose to let go of one thing, and in that moment, I feel free and my nervous system takes a breath. Because if I can let go of this one thing, everything opens for me at that moment. All by saying, "Not this one. I'll let this go."

And in that gentle act, space appears. A space whereas Rumi said, "Out beyond right and wrong, there is a field. I will meet you there."

Please respond with any personal ideas this might have stirred in you.

Warmly,
Cynthia
cgreenfield1001@aol.com



3. Invites

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

***** CONTEST #14 *****

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of my friend Mark Lund's excellent book, **CRITICAL LEADERSHIP PLAYBOOK: 10 HIGH STAKES SKILLS FROM THE ICU TO LEAD BOLDLY, BUILD THRIVING TEAMS, AND ACHIEVE WEALTH.**

To quote from the Amazon description:

Unlock the Secrets of High-Stakes Leadership and Transform Your Team. In a world where uncertainty reigns and pressure mounts, how do exceptional leaders not just survive, but thrive? How do they build teams that perform miracles under fire, innovate in the face of impossible odds, and consistently deliver extraordinary results?

This book is your ultimate guide to mastering the art of leadership in the most demanding environments. Drawing from over three decades of experience leading high-performing, cross-functional teams in life-or-death situations, Dr. Mark E. Lund distills the essence of extraordinary leadership into ten indispensable skills that will revolutionize how you lead.

This isn't just another leadership book—it's a battle-tested playbook for those who dare to lead when the stakes couldn't be higher.

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #14 in the subject line. Include in the body of the email your name and mailing address, so that if you win, I can send you a copy of this book. Entries must be received on or before the 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 15.

**CRITICAL LEADERSHIP
PLAYBOOK:**

10 High-Stakes Skills from the ICU to



B. 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 podcast player.

I typically feature guests involved with theater, non-profit organizations, authors, performers or who are just downright interesting.

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.

If you want to join me, let me know. Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com, if interested, and put WEBCAST in the subject line. Include your email address and phone number. And for more information, click: <https://www.blaineworld.net/>

C. I'm back on Facebook after having been hacked. If we are not currently friends there (or if we lost contact because of the hack), please friend me by looking up: Blaine Greenfield. You'll see a picture of me in a blue shirt with, naturally, my thumb up.

You can also find me by clicking:
<https://www.facebook.com/blaine.greenfield.2025/>

D. Are you interested in shows, 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: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/245515070390413>

4. FYI

A. This is the No. 1 way to be happier, expert says—and it'll only take you 15 minutes
[Here](#)

B. The #1 Mistake You're Making When You Take Vitamin D
[Here](#)

C. 7 Things You Should Never Store in the Garage During Winter
[Here](#)

D. The Important Reason You Should Always Try to Board Your Flight First
[Here](#)

[Here](#)

E. I've studied over 200 kids—the happiest ones have parents who do 9 things with them every morning
[Here](#)

5. Joke 1

Today's history lesson. (Thanks to Joseph Hodgson for sharing.)



6. Reviews

A. Films:

(1) **HAMNET**: Carolina Cinemas

HAMNET is a beautifully filmed but slow-burning drama inspired by Maggie O'Farrell's novel, imagining the life of William Shakespeare and his wife Agnes and the grief surrounding the death of their young son. The film stars Jessie Buckley as Agnes and Paul Mescal as William—both quite good in anchoring the emotional core of the story. Overall, though, we split on this one: Cynthia liked it, while I found it plodding. MPAA rating: PG-13.

(2) **TRAIN DREAMS**: Netflix

This film is a quietly atmospheric frontier drama following a laborer whose life is shaped by love, loss, and the sweeping changes of the early 20th-century American West. It unfolds with a lyrical, dreamlike quality, anchored by Joel Edgerton's excellent performance, which brings depth and emotional weight to the spare storytelling. A contemplative, haunting film that may resonate most with viewers who enjoy slow, character-driven narratives. MPAA rating: PG-13.

B. Book

Heard **WELCOME TO THE CIRCUS OF BASEBALL: A STORY OF THE PERFECT SUMMER AT THE PERFECT BALLPARK AT THE PERFECT TIME** by Ryan McGee (audio edition from Random House Audio). It is a warmly funny and nostalgic memoir of the author's 1994 summer working for the Asheville Tourists in charming McCormick Field. McGee vividly captures the chaos and camaraderie of minor-league baseball, from mascot brawls to late-night concessions, and his excellent storytelling makes the Asheville setting feel like home—especially for someone who lives here. I enjoyed it quite a bit.

7. TV Alert

A. Twelve Dates 'Til Christmas (Hallmark Channel)

Want to stretch out the fun of a Hallmark holiday movie into a six-episode limited series? Now's your chance. Textile designer Kate (Mae Whitman) is pushed by her best friends to join a matchmaking show that requires her to go on 12 holiday-themed dates.

B. Password Holiday Special (NBC at 10 p.m. on Dec. 8)

Keke Palmer hosts a holiday special of the classic celebrity word-game show starring Jimmy Fallon competing against Glee alum and Tony winner Jonathan Groff.

C. The Abandons, Season 1 (Netflix)

Gillian Anderson and Lena Headey head up the cast of this intriguing Western drama series about a pair of very different iron-willed matriarchs in the Washington Territory circa 1854.

D. Oh. What. Fun. (Prime Video)

Imagine if Mrs. Claus went on strike. Every holiday season, Claire Clauster (Michelle Pfeiffer) goes overboard with the most decked-out halls, perfectly frosted cookies and best-wrapped presents. But this year, frustrated by her distracted husband (Denis Leary) and self-absorbed grown kids, she decides to take a break.

8. Joke 2

Good news. My money will arrive the same day pigs fly! (Thanks to Donnie Roland for sharing.)



9. Clips/Sites

A. The Turtles are arguably the greatest rock group of all time!

(1) Their recording of "Happy Together" proves it

(2) As you may know, I welcome clips of them and/or others singing this classic song. Last week, I ran a post featuring Sean Biopcik. Now check this follow-up with him and somebody by the name of Ally:

[Here](#)

B. Video of the week

Think you're too tough to tear up? See if that's the case when you watch this clip:

[Here](#)

[Here](#)

(Thanks to Jonathan Berg for sharing.)

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

(1) The Fleetwoods: Come Softly To Me, one of my favorites

[Here](#)

(2) Howard Smith Jr.: Hymns (12.7.2025):

<https://www.facebook.com/hs.smith.73/videos/786939851044172>

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Greg Lake

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1392817039059094>

(4) Thanks, Neil, for getting me to revisit Lake's "I Believe in Father Christmas." Your many fans and friends can do the same by clicking:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMK6eOueKNk>

(5) Zoe Zelonky singing "Defying Gravity" while eating a habanero pepper!

(Watch video to find out why she is doing this.)

[Here](#)

(6) Booking a flight in 2025

[Here](#)

(Thanks to Jonathan Berg for sharing.)

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

Have you ever wanted to look like a super-spy hacker from a Hollywood movie? Hacker Typer lets you live out that fantasy.

As you randomly mash your keyboard, the site generates lines of authentic-looking code, making it seem like you're hacking into a top-secret government database. You can even trigger an "Access Denied" or "Access Granted" message to complete the illusion.

To see this cool site for yourself, click:

[Here](#)

E. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<https://www.blaineworld.net/>

10. Technology Tip

AI's in the driver's seat, and it's drunk

By Kim Komando

I just read a jaw-dropping research paper out of Cornell University that hasn't hit the headlines anywhere yet. Welcome to our new world. Scammers are using AI photos to create fake car accidents.

I'm talking crash photos, damage reports, even fake driver's licenses all crafted by AI in minutes. Fraudsters are submitting fake claims to insurance companies and getting paid out. The tech is so good, even humans and some AI detectors can't tell what's real and what's not.

For the rest of this eye-opening article, click:

[Here](#)

11. Joke 3

A senior lady was running late for bingo and driving 65 in a 40 mph zone when a cop pulled her over. "Ma'am, may I see your license?" he asked.

She calmly replied, "Sorry, officer, I had it revoked two years ago for drunk driving."

The officer frowned. "Then can I see your registration?"

She said, "I stole this car... and the owner is dead in the trunk."

The officer shouted, "Ma'am, DON'T MOVE!" and called for backup. Minutes later, the Chief of Police arrived with half the squad.

"Ma'am, may I see your license?" the Chief demanded.

"Of course, officer," she smiled sweetly and handed it over. It was perfectly valid.

"Can I see the registration?" he pressed. She reached into the glove box and produced it—also a legitimate document.

Finally, the Chief ordered the trunk opened... and it was completely empty.


The woman turned, pointed her finger at the first cop, and said, "And I'll bet this darn liar told you I was speeding too!"



12. Two Quotes I Like

A. Thanks, Steve Cropper (1941-2025), for your career as an American guitarist, songwriter, and record producer. He was the guitarist of the Stax Records house band, Booker T. & the M.G.'s, which backed artists such as Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, Sam & Dave, and Neil Young. Cropper also acted as the producer of many of these artists' records, and he was later a member of the Blues Brothers band. Rolling Stone magazine ranked him 36th on its list of the 100 greatest guitarists. He won two Grammy Awards out of his seven nominations. For more information about his life, click:

[Here](#)



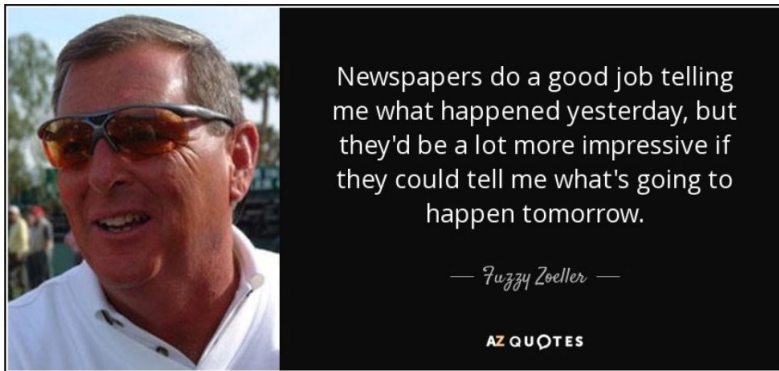
"My best forte, I think, is capturing the feel of a song during its inception, in the studio. That's where I'm best. Even though people fly me in all over to play on their records and overdub, I think they would be better off using me as a building block, rather than as a cherry on the cake."

—STEVE CROPPER



B. Thanks, Fuzzy Zoeller (1951-2025), for your career as an American professional golfer who won 10 PGA Tour events including two major championships. He won the 1979 Masters Tournament, becoming the third golfer to win in his first appearance in the event. He also won the 1984 U.S. Open. For more information about his life, click:

[Here](#)



13. Thought For The Day

BEING A MOM IS NEVER EASY

Any mother will tell you the work never stops. The constant watchfulness, the endless patience, the determination to keep little ones safe even when they're determined to go in every direction but the right one. Watching this bear mom trying to herd her cubs safely across the street is a perfect reminder of the daily challenges all mothers face.

To view the above, click:

[Here](#)

“Children are not a distraction from more important work. They are the most important work.” — C.S. Lewis

It's a small but powerful lesson in perseverance and love. No matter the species, motherhood is about guiding, protecting, and never giving up—even when the task seems impossible or exhausting. Here's to all the moms who make it look easy, even when it's anything but.

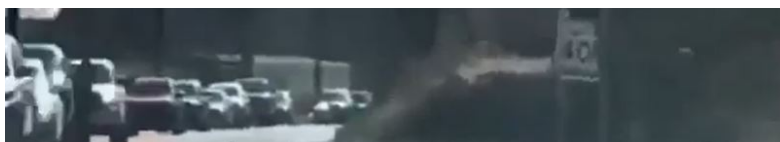
Hopefully you enjoy my posts and will follow me on LinkedIn

Ajay Singhal

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ajaysinghal/>

LinkedIn Life Lessons Series

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/life-lessons-series/>





Being a mom is not so easy 🥺❤️

PS. Make it a great week!

BLAINESWORLD | 98 Joe Jenkins Road | Fairview, NC 28730 US

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