

#1266

12.21.2020

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride and I:

(1) Continued to hunker down in Week 40 of the corona pandemic. Fortunately, that didn't prevent us from going to King Daddy's for some takeout. Our chicken and waffles were fantastic.



(2) Missed getting to see Risa Reavely, my daughter for the holidays. It has been far too long since we last caught up with her and her husband JP (top photo). Nevertheless, e did get a kick out of seeing Elvis on her Christmas tree (bottom left photo), and we were glad that she recently got to Livingston Bagel--one of our favorite eateries--with her friend Honey Woloff.



B. You're in luck, in that you can still catch Hendersonville Community Theatre's virtual performance of A CHRISTMAS CAROL RADIO PLAY through Jan. 2. ... If you do, you'll have a fun time when you see the fine performances of Clay Gaitskill, Bryan Byrd, Mark Lieberman, John D. Adams, Colby Coren, Jessica Garland Lowe and Lynn Morton. ... Kudos to Jonathan Forrester for his spot on direction, as well as to the hard-working members of the crew: Joan Richinsen, Zach Henby, Brendan Henby, Kathleen Henby, Don Schwartz and Dustin Chadee Maxwell. ... For tickets, please click: <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/42685>.



C. You can catch this week's BLAINESWOLD show by clicking: [Here](#). Guests were: (first half), Andrew Gallant, acting teacher/actor/director/playwright, Green Shirt Studio; and (second half) Erinn Dearth, founder/executive director, First Flight Entertainment; and Dan Beckmann, artistic director, Spring Theatre.



D. Condolences to Nick Milillo and family on the passing of Nick's father.

E. Congratulations to:

(1) Edward Edelson on the publication of *LOIS'S STORY: A YOUNG GIRL'S INSPIRATION HELPS STOP HATE AND FEAR*, a book about the events of 1937. To order a copy, please click: [Here](#).

(2) Laura Gregory and Austin Fantana Parker on their engagement.

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

******* CONTEST #25 *******

One lucky reader will win a copy of *EVERYDAY MINDFULNESS: 108 SIMPLE PRACTICES TO EMPOWER YOURSELF AND TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE* by Melissa Steginus, a recent guest on my *BLAINESWORLD* show. ... To quote one reviewer, "This workbook/guide encourages you to be active and engaged in your life and create the changes you want to accomplish. It gives you step-by-step instructions and exercises that are easy to follow and simple to incorporate in your daily life." ... I read it and really enjoyed it--and think you will, too.

To enter, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put **CONTEST #25** 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 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 28.

I. I'm pleased to announce this week's:

BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD WINNERS

They are Erinn Dearth and Dan Beckmann (pictured in top photo), writers and directors of *SEASON'S SCREENINGS*. This satirical holiday sample platter had a cast of 77, most of whom never met and were never even in the same room. ... I was honored to be part of the extravaganza, as can be seen (bottom left photo; yes, that's me with a full head of hair), and I was also glad to share screen time with the talented Heather Nicole Bronson (bottom right photo).

If you'd like to see the film, please click: [Here](#).

Note: If you look closely, you'll see me at least four different times.



2. FYI

2020 Was Bad -- Just Take Our Words for It
by Rob Kyeff (and reprinted with his gracious permission)

With sadness, dear readers, I'm here to review
The words of the year we've all just been through.
The language we used in this time of duress
Reflected our anguish, despair and distress.
The virus infected not only our lungs,
But spread a pandemic of terms on our tongues.
"Corona," "the rona" and "Covid-19"
Brought "face masks" and "lockdown" and "strict quarantine."
Doc Fauci advised us that we should observe
"Abundance of caution" to "flatten the curve."

For the rest of this column, please go to Section 2 when you click:

<https://bginbc.wordpress.com/2020/12/13/blainesworld-1265-please-send-any-comments-to-bginbcaol-com/>.

FYI, part 2

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

A. An Opinion Writer Argued Jill Biden Should Drop the 'Dr.' (Few Were Swayed.) B. William Marshall: Thanks, as always, for your BLAINESWORLD weekly publication. C. Combatting an Epidemic of Loneliness. D. Arlene Ditzler: I too thought "Schitts Creek" was binge worthy. E. You Got a Bicycle, Now You Have to Take Care of

3. Joke 1

Today's consumer tip. (Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)



4. Reviews

A. Revisited MR. WONDERFUL, a delightful 1993 romantic comedy about a New Yorker who would like to quit his job to open a bowling alley. But he can't because of financial obligations to his ex-wife. Matt Dillon and Annabella Sciorra are both terrific in the leading roles, as are supporting actors Mary-Louise Parker, William Hurt, Vincent D'Onofrio and Dan Hedaya. Rated PG-13.

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

B. If you're a library fan, like I am, you will want to read LIBRARIAN TALES: FUNNY, STRANGE, AND INSPIRING DISPATCHES FROM THE STACKS (Skyhorse) by William Ottens. It will make you appreciate both the employees and these institutions even more than you might do already. ... The author, a librarian himself, gives you a behind-the-scenes look at every department of a modern library, including circulation, reference, youth services, tech support and collection services. ... I especially enjoyed the many stories he has collected over the years, such as this excuse: "A patron came in with some books that were about 4 weeks overdue: His excuse: he was Anwar Sadat's wife's bodyguard and had been held over in Egypt when Sadat was assassinated. I waived the files. If he was lying, he deserved to be awarded for excellent imagination." ...And then there was this one: "I once had a patron checkout 50 Disney DVDs across about 6 cards (all family members) for their upcoming trip to Disneyworld. So they come back and have upwards of \$150 in fines across all the cards. They tried to blame it on a hurricane--a hurricane that hit three days after they got home from the trip!" ... My only regret in reading the book now is that I hadn't done so when I was a college undergraduate. I remember thinking, at the time, that I might want to become a librarian. Had I come across LIBRARIAN TALES then, I might well have followed a different career path.

5. TV alert

A. THE MASKED DANCER: Series premiere on Sunday, Dec. 27, on Fox

On this MASKED SINGER spinoff, 10 costumed celebrities bring their best movies to win the Diamond Mask

Trophy.

B. LAURA INGALLS WILDER: PRAIRIE TO PAGE: Tuesday, Dec. 29, at 8 p.m. on PBS (check local listings [Here](#))

This AMERICAN MASTERS documentary presents a portrait of the popular LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE television series.

C. TCM'S NEW YEAR COMEDIES: Beginning at 6 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 1, on TCM

What better way to start 2021 than with comedies that will have you laughing throughout the day and night. The Marx Brothers kick off things with A NIGHT AT THE OPERA. For the full schedule, click: [Here](#).

D. JIMMY CARTER, ROCK & ROLL PRESIDENT: Documentary premiere on Sunday, Jan. 3, at 8 p.m. on CNN

Find out about the 39th president's friendship with such artists as Willie Nelson, Bob Dylan and Aretha Franklin.

Note: Last week, I mentioned MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM that can now be seen on Netflix. I just saw it and urge you to also do so. Viola Davis is excellent as Rainey, the 1920s Mother of the Blues, but it is the late Chadwick Boseman's final performance that makes this film especially poignant.

6. Joke 2

I can relate ...



7. 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 clip from Fallon and Adam: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

BLAINE & CYNTHIA: EYE-OPENING DEMONSTRATION ... You'll never fold a sheet the same way after watching this amazing protip when you click: [Here](#).



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

(1) Diana Ross: "He Lives in You," one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Ashleigh Phillips: "Santa Baby": [Here](#).

(3) Donna Suggs: Rescue: By Lauren Daigle (Official Music Video): [Here](#).

(4) Jonathan Berg: 'All I Want for Christmas' Carpool Karaoke: [Here](#).

0:05 Mariah Carey

0:51 Adele

1:01 Demi Lovato & Nick Jonas

1:07 Elton John

1:13 Selena Gomez

1:17 Lady Gaga

1:31 Chris Martin

1:41 Red Hot Chili Peppers
1:47 Gwen Stefani

(5) Howard Smith (on piano): 12.27.20: [Here](#).

(6) Aaron Ybarra: Digital Church: [Here](#).

D. Here's a website that you will want to check out or revisit if you're already familiar with it: BuzzFeed: [Here](#).

You'll find lots of fun stuff here, but beware ... it can be addictive. See below for some items that I found interesting:

26 Of The Best Grammar Memes And Tweets From 2020

66 Movies Scenes That Were So Perfectly Performed, They May Very Well Be The Greatest Of All Time

Only A True "Harry Potter" Fan Can Pass This Random Knowledge Quiz

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

Do you have a low battery, but you're short on time? If so, turn on Airplane Mode. This will temporarily pause your phone's background noise (such as random notifications and GPS roaming), which tends to drain the battery as it charges. The extra juice won't be much, but it might just help you out of a jam.

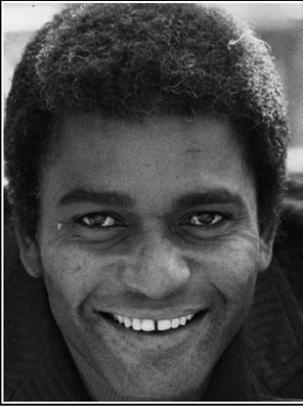
9. Joke 3

Update to story: There was a cover up after he was placed under a vest.



10. Two quotes I like

A. Thanks, Charlie Pride (1934-2020), for your career as a singer, musician and guitarist that led you to become both a member of the Grande Ole Opry and the Country Music Hall of Fame. For more information about his life, please click: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/12/arts/music/charley-pride-dead.html>.

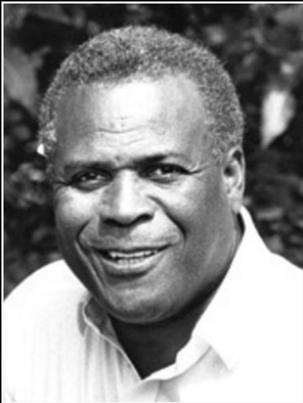


For most entertainers, there is a single experience, one defining moment, when confidence replaces the self-doubt that most of us wrestle with.

— Charley Pride —

AZ QUOTES

B. Thanks, K.C. Jones (1932-2020), for your amazing pro basketball career as a player and coach--mostly with the Boston Celtics. He is just one of eight players to win college basketball and NBA titles as well as Olympic gold, and he is also a member of the Pro Basketball Hall of Fame. For more information about his life, please click: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/25/sports/kc-jones-dead.html>.



A team is a group of players who support one another on court and who think of the group before they think of themselves

— K. C. Jones —

AZ QUOTES

11. Thought for the day

My wish for you ...

**I don't want much for
Christmas.**

**I just want the person
who is reading this to be
healthy, happy & loved.**

12. Advance planning department

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

A. Brian Biro: Kindness Week Conference. B. Chelsey Lee Gaddy: A CHRISTMAS CAROL. C. Joey Novick: New Years Eve Extravaganza.

PS. Make it a great week!
