
You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not tooo 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](#).

#1319
12.27.2021

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
13. Advance planning department

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I enjoyed our recent dinner at the Blue Spring Cafe in Fletcher.



B. We enjoyed getting together with Tom and Marcy Gallagher when we dined at Pacific Pagoda--one of our

favorite eateries in the area. Service from Jennifer, as always, was excellent.



C. We celebrated "Pizza Monday" with some terrific white pizza from Tin Can Pizzeria, a food truck just down the road from us.



D. You can catch the most recent BLAINESWORLD show by clicking: [Here](#). ... Guests: (first half) Amy Cantrell, co-director, Beloved Asheville; and (second half) Hank Eder, founder, Home Business Success Community.



E. Condolences to:

(1) Dov Hoch and family on the passing of Janet Hoch, Dov's mom.

(2) Matt Zipin and family on the passing of Brenda Zipin, Matt's grandmother.

F. Congratulations to:

(1) Tobi Bruhn on attaining his Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace Certificate from USF Office of Corporate Training and Professional Education

(2) Meridith Elliot Powell on being named 2021 Speaker of the Year by Remarkable! A Speakers Bureau.

G. Announcing this week's ...

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

This week, it goes to Carolyn Beckner (pictured below)--cashier extraordinaire at The Carolina Cinemark Asheville.

Her enthusiasm is infectious, and she always greets you with a smile. She is also the only such employee I've ever met who has her own fan club (in addition to Cynthia and me). We saw this recently when purchasing tickets and noticing that four other customers had left her gifts for the holidays.

Carolina Cinemark is lucky to have her as an employee!

I'd be remiss, though, if I didn't mention the fact that the other employees, as well as the managers, at this location are also both friendly and helpful.

Note: We like all the movie theaters in the Asheville area, but we tend to go to this one most often. There's a reason why: Some two years ago, I entered a contest and won the prize of 50 passes. When the pandemic hit, the place closed down, and I feared that I would never get to use the passes. Fortunately, things have returned somewhat to normal, and we have gotten to see several fine films lately.



2. Invites

A. Announcing ...

***** **CONTEST #1 (the first of 2022)** *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of 50 WAYS TO SOOTHE YOURSELF WITHOUT FOOD by Susan Albers.

This book is a collection of mindfulness skills and practices for relaxing the body in times of stress and ending your dependence on eating as a means of coping with difficult emotions. You'll not only discover easy ways to soothe urges to overeat, you'll also learn how to differentiate emotion-driven hunger from healthy hunger. Reach for this book instead of the refrigerator next time you feel the urge to snack-these alternatives are just as satisfying!

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST 1 in the subject line. In the body of your email, you MUST include your name and 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, Jan. 10.

B. Update on a previous contest: Congratulations to Tom O'Keefe, winner of Contest #28: copy of THE GREAT BRAIN ROBBERY: A COLLECTION OF PROVEN IDEAS TO MAKE YOU MONEY AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE! by Ray Considine & Murray Raphel. All told, there were eight entries.

C. And here's another update: Len Ennis became the newest member of the Suspenders Club. See below for how dapper he looks when displaying his prize.



D. 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.

E. 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](#).

F. 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

Thanks, Wiley Kormorant, for sharing the following obituary. It has me writing a note to myself: "Self, use this as a model for my obituary when it needs to be written." ... Or maybe I should write it now?

Obituary of Renay Manel Cohen that will leave you laughing!

El Paso, TX—A plus-sized Jewish lady redneck died in El Paso on Saturday.

Of itself hardly news, or good news if you're the type that subscribes to the notion that anybody not named you dying in El Paso, Texas is good news. In which case have I got news for you: the bawdy, fertile, redheaded matriarch of a sprawling Jewish-Mexican-Redneck American family has kicked it. This was not good news to Renay Mandel Corren's many surviving children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many of whom she even knew and, in her own way, loved. There will be much mourning in the many glamorous locales she went bankrupt in: McKeesport, PA, Renay's birthplace and where she first fell in love with ham, and atheism; Fayetteville and Kill Devil Hills, NC, where Renay's dreams, credit rating and marriage are all buried; and of course Miami, FL, where Renay's parents, uncles, aunts, and eternal hopes of all Miami Dolphins fans everywhere, are all buried pretty deep. Renay was preceded in death by Don Shula.

To read the rest of it, click: [Here](#).

FYI, part 2

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

A. Declan Sheehy: There's a lot of things I don't know. B. Jeannie Linders: The Center for Art & Entertainment in Hendersonville is being reprogrammed from a performance venue to a production venue. C. On Broadway, Newly Vital Understudies Step Into the Spotlight. D. Jean Dolan: Escape your comfort zone: I have a mortal, lifelong fear of public speaking. Can I be cured? E. These Self-Care Strategies Can Help Caregivers Cope With Burnout. F. Marilynne Herbert: Guitarist duets with piano-playing cat, and a soothing jazz masterpiece unfolds.

4. Joke 1

What I'll be doing on December 31 ...

I'm going to stay up on
New Year's Eve this year.
Not to see the New Year in,
but to make sure this one
leaves.

5. Reviews

A. I loved AMERICAN UNDERDOG, the uplifting true story of Kurt Warner who went from being a stockboy at a grocery store to a two-time NFL MVP, Super Bowl champion and Hall of Fame quarterback. ... Zachary Levi is outstanding as Warner, as is Anna Paquin as his wife. I also liked the performances of both Dennis Quaid and Bruce McGill. ... The football scenes are excellent, but you don't have to be a fan of the sport to enjoy this film--and the fact that anything can be achieved when you have faith, family and determination. ... Rated PG.

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

Thanks, Mike Martinelli, for your always informative reviews. See below for three recent ones:

B. DON'T LOOK UP ***

Two astronomers discover a comet heading to destroy the world and attempt through the news media to alert everyone that this is about to happen.

The film is a very well written and directed by Adam McKay (Oscar winner for The Big Short) and has an amazing talented cast, Meryl Streep, Leonardo DiCaprio, Jennifer Lawrence, Cate Blanchett, Jonah Hill, Mark Rylance, Timothée Chalamet, Ariana Grande and many more.

I think this film is a surprise sleeper of the year. There are so many great cast ensembles it did get a Critics Choice Award for ensemble and for best picture. I would not be surprised if it sneaks in and gets a SAG ensemble nomination. Available on Netflix and in movie theaters.

C SPIDERMAN NO WAY HOME **1/2

I have seen all of the Spiderman movies and this is by far my least favorite. Yes, there is a major surprise that I won't spoil and supposedly the last in the series, but the film is like most nowadays a bit too long.

The surprise towards the end of the film does make it worth seeing and if you are a Marvel fan which I am not then it is a must see for you. In movie theaters.

D. NIGHTMARE ALLEY ***

The newest film from Guillermo DelToro, Oscar winner for The Shape of Water (which I hated) brings us a

really good remake of the story of an evil carny and a just as evil psychiatrist. Both Bradley Cooper and Cate Blanchett give excellent performances as the evil doers. In movie theaters.

6. TV alert

A. COBRA KAI, Season 4: Now on Netflix

I binge-watched all 10 episodes and will tell you that you're in for a treat when you watch them. And you'll like the performance of Thomas Ian Giffith, the new villain that is introduced. ... They left me looking forward to Season 5, which has already been filmed There no official release date yet, but for more information about it, click: [Here](#).

B. DON'T LOOK UP: Now on Netflix

Olivia Coleman plays a divorced woman on holiday, fixated on fellow vacationer Dakota Johnson in this intense psychological drama.

C. CLASSIC TV: Now on Amazon Prime

You can now watch such vintage TV shows as THE JEFFERSONS, SANFORD AND SON, BEWITCHED and BONANAZA.

D. THE PROPOSAL: Now on Amazon Prime

Catch this funny romantic comedy about a pushy executive who forces her assistant, Ryan Reynolds, to pose as her fiancée so she won't be deported to her native Canada. The late Betty White (see also Section 11A) steals almost every scene she is in as Reynold's feisty grandmother.

7. Joke 2

I tried working in a muffler factory, but that was too exhausting.



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 A Bunch Of Lonesome and Very Quarrelsome Heroes by clicking: [Here](#).

B. Video of the week

One of the greatest clips that was ever on TV ...

The Clock (Sid Caesar): [Here](#).

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

(1) Gordon Lightfoot: "If You Could Rad My Mind, one of my all-time favorites: [Here](#).

(2) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Jeff Lyne: [Here](#).

(3) Howard Smith: 1.3.2022 hymns on piano: [Here](#).

(4) Terri Crosby: Highway to Hell · 2CELLOS: [Here](#).

(5) Jonathan Berg: Auld Lang Syne - The Choral Scholars of University College Dublin: [Here](#).

(6) Herb Spiegel: Jackie Evancho - To Believe (from Dream With Me In Concert): [Here](#).

Note: She was just 12 when she performed the above!

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

Flash By Night has a handful of flash games that you can choose from. You're guaranteed to waste some time when you click its site: [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

Crop a screenshot

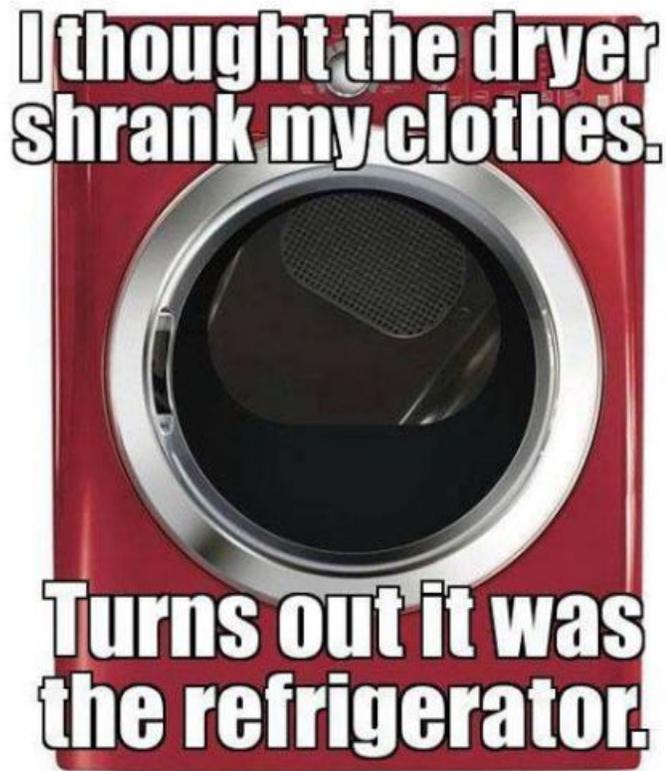
When using a screenshot, you often capture more than you need. Instead, you can take a screenshot with precise cropping, so that you include only what you want.

On Windows, go to Start, enter the Search Bar and type Snipping Tool. This will give you a similar box that you can drag to any shape over your screen.

On a Mac, press Command + Shift + 5, and a rectangle will emerge, which you can manipulate as much as you want.

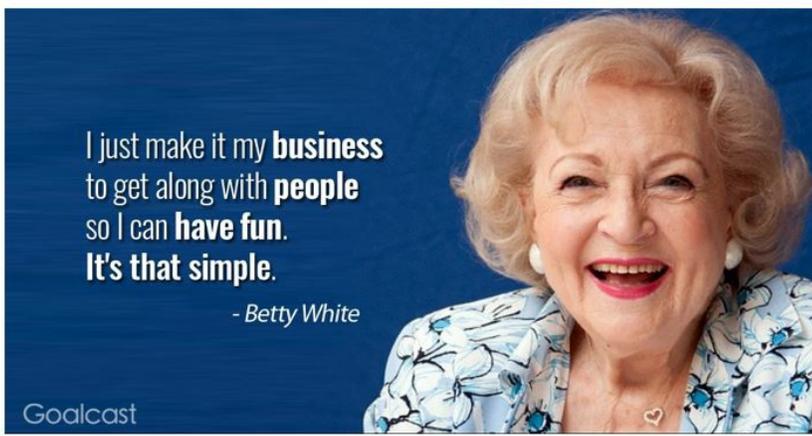
10. Joke 3

Can you relate?



11. Two quotes I like

A. Thanks, Betty White (1922-2021), for your career as an actress and comedian that spanned over nine decades. ... I enjoyed you in just about everything you were in, including TV roles as Sue Ann Nivens The Mary Tyler Moore Show, Rose Nylund in The Golden Girls and Elka Ostrovsky in Cleveland. ... She received eight Emmy Awards in various categories, three American Comedy Awards, three Screen Actors Guild Awards and a Grammy Award. In addition, White has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and she was a 1985 Television Hall of Fame inductee. ... For more information about her life, as well as some clips of her performances, click: [Here](#).



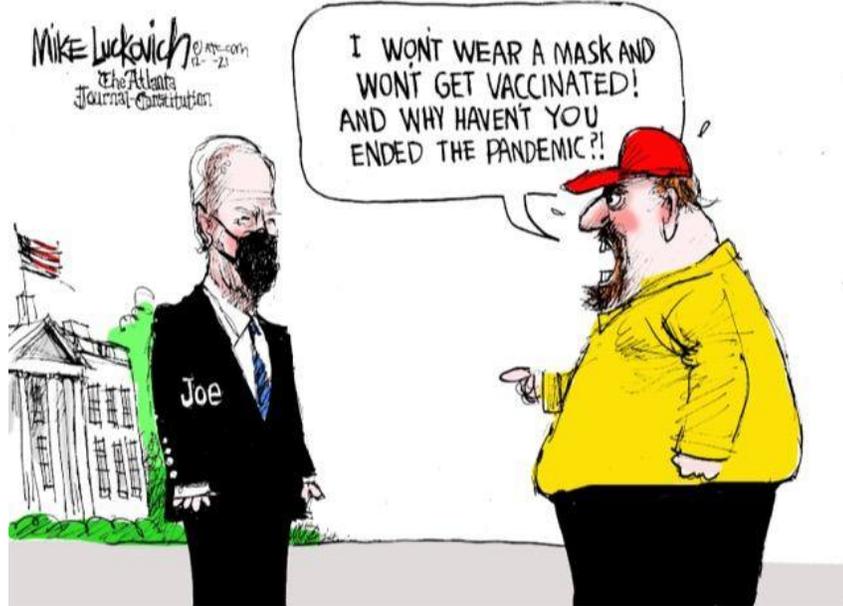
B. Thanks, John Madden (1936-2021) for your career as an American football coach, sportscaster and commercial pitchman for various products and retailers, as well as your commentary on the Madden NFL video game series. His accomplishment's include being named to the NFL Hall of Fame and winning an unprecedented 16 Emmy Awards for sports broadcasting. For more information about his life, click: [Here](#).

“Self-praise is for losers. Be a winner. Stand for something. Always have class and be humble.”—John Madden



12. Thought for the day

IT'S TRUE! ... There are no stupid questions. Just stupid people with questions.



13. Advance planning department

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

A. Victoria Lamberth: Auditions at Hendersonville Theatre. B. TJ Smimel: Ricky D. Boone's Birthday Show Celebration! C. Jeff Hutchins: DENTON THE DRAGON: THE MUSICAL!

PS. Make it a great week!
