BLAINESWORLD

#1014
2.29.2016

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1. Reflections

Note: Please read Section 1A for an important invitation.

Also, if you're reading this via Facebook or Linkedin, please be advised that you will get it quicker if you get it via email. Another advantage: You'll never miss it that way because you may not have logged in for a day or two. And in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, all you need to do is send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I hope you can join us and support this great cause:

Saturday, May 7, is the annual Walk a Mile event in Asheville that benefits Our VOICE--the agency that serves all individuals in Buncombe County affected by sexual assault and abuse through counseling, advocacy and education.

If you can join the BLAINESWORLD team this year for the 1-mile walk that's a lot of fun, please plan on the following time framework:
10:30 a.m.: Meet in Pack Square Park for pictures
11 a.m.: Walk begins
12 Noon: Optional celebratory lunch at Pack's Tavern (Dutch treat)

To register for just the walk and to get a T-shirt if you sign-up before April 1, please click the green REGISTER button at:
Here

If you'd also like to make a donation to support Our VOICE and especially if you can't make the walk, please click the green DONATE button at:
Here

Note: This event is open to both men and women, as well as children. And you don't have to wear heels unless you want to do so. Other options include flats, wearing the shoes around your neck or on you hands, juggling shoes, decorating sneakers or walking in whatever is comfortable just to lend your support.

B. We also:

(1) Got a big kick out of JEEVES INTERVENES, a funny comedy that was expertly directed by Angie Flynn-McIver. All in cast shined, including Scott Treadway (top photo), Michael MacCauley (bottom left photo) and Callan White (bottom right photo). Not pictured, but equally fine were Lauren Fortuna, John Hall and Charlie Flynn-McIver.

Joining us at the show were our friends Ginny Plaisted and Grant Randall (pictured below with a guy on the far left who just wanted to be in the picture). We never met him before. This was taken at The Bier Garden where we went afterward and had a great dinner that was enhanced by fine service from Stefanie.

(2) We also got to join our friends Marcy and Tom Gallagher (left photo) for a fantastic concert at our Biltmore Lake clubhouse that featured Rhoda Weaver & The Soul Mates. Also in our attendance were our friends (right photo, l-r: Robin Sanches, David Joe Miller, Caron Sith and Brian Smith. I had to include this one if for no other reason than David's post of his Facebook page about the photo: "taken by Blaine Greenfield in Blaine's honor ... the THUMBS UP! YAY!"

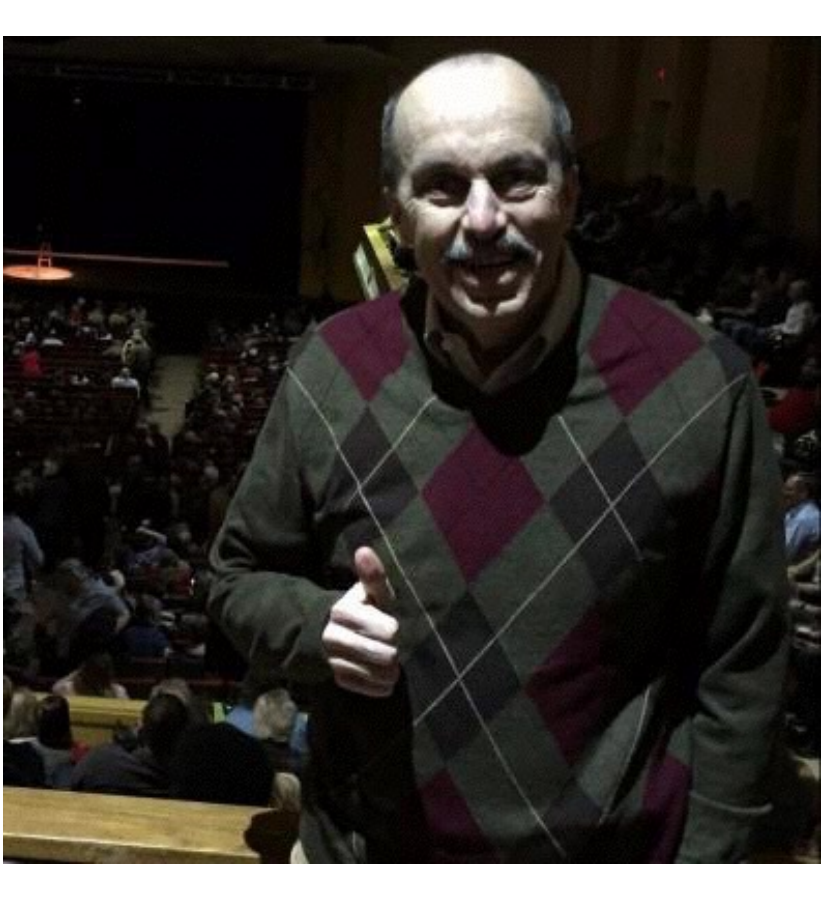
For more pictures from the evening, along with two amazing clips of Rhoda singing, please click:
Here

(3) That's us with Hawaiian pizza from Harris Teeter. It comes with pineapple and Canadian bacon and is topped with apricot sauce. It is a taste sensation that will knock your socks off. (Cynthia had often seen me eat it, but never tried it until this day. She now can't get enough of it!)

(4) Lastly, we're both thumbs up--along with Dr. Todd Wilkinson, our favorite dermatologist--after our recent visit. Everything checked out fine!

For more information about Dr. Wilkinson's excellent practice, please click:
Here

C. I had the pleasure of seeing Bill Maher at the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium. I'm a big fan of his TV show, so because he was in Asheville, I just had to attend his show. He was very funny and, as can be imagined, very political. He was also not in this picture because he hadn't come out yet.



D. Congratulations to:

(1) Kenneth Shinozuka for being featured in a commercial that ran during the Oscars. To view it, please click:
Here

(2) Trish Brown on the publication of her new book, Asheville Trail Running: Taking Bent Creek and the Mountains-to-Sea In Stride. To purchase a copy, please click:
Here

(3) Emily Shaules on her essay being included in the upcoming book, EAT PRAY LOVE MADE ME DO IT: LIVE JOURNEYS INSPIRED BY THE BESTSELLING MEMOIR. It comes out March 29 and is now available for pre-order.

(4) Sharon Fahrer on the great article about her new book, A Home in Shalom'ville: The History of Asheville's Jewish Community, that appeared in the MOUNTAIN XPRESS. To read it, please click:
Here

E. Reminders:

(1) There's still time to enter ...

***** CONTEST #5 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of SALES MANAGEMENT by Brian Tracy.

Tracy, a world-renowned sales expert, has spent decades studying what sets the most successful sales managers and professionals apart from the rest - and now in this pocket-sized guide, he distills these simple but powerful strategies. I reviewed it in BLAINESWORLD #1005 and enjoyed it.

To enter: Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #5 in the subject line. In the body of the email, please include your name and snail mail address. All entries must be received on or before Monday, March 7, at 9 p.m.

(2) The inner workings of a metropolitan newspaper will be explored at the March meeting of the Asheville Jewish Business Forum when members and guests of AJBF sit in on an editorial board meeting of the Asheville Citizen-Times on Monday, March 7, at the newspaper's downtown offices, 14 O'Henry Avenue, beginning at 7:45 a.m.

To pre-register, send an email to: ashevilleJBF@aol.com and put March 7 in the subject line. In the body of the email, include your name and if you'll be bringing any guests. (If so, please advise how many?) Also, please include a contact phone number and email address in case we have to reach you because of inclement weather.

Note: You don't have to be Jewish to attend. All are welcome.

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

This week, if goes to Biltmore Coffee Traders--located in a quaint red house on 518 Hendersonville Road, Asheville.

They have great beverages, including a caramel latte that Cynthia can be seen drinking in the left photo. We got a special kick out of the fact that our favorite barista, Brenda Smits in the right photo, even made it with hearts.

Their cookies are always delicious, and Cynthia reports that their paleo protein bars are outstanding.

For more information, please click:
Here

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2. FYI

When I had to take Cynthia to the emergency room a few months back, I drove her there and had to wait with her some two hours in the emergency room before she even got admitted. She was then seen by a doctor within a half an hour.

Afterward, we discussed whether it would have been better to have called the rescue squad to transport her to the hospital. We wondered whether she would have been admitted as soon as the rescue squad arrived.

Internet research, to date, hasn't been all that clear as to what is the best way to handle such a situation.

Mr. Curious here: What's your thinking on the subject? And if you've had personal experience with it, please do share that as well.

FYI, part 2

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click:
Here

(1) Turning you dogs into a therapy dog. (2) What women find in friends that they may not get from love. (3) Do you really need car rental insurance? 8 things to know. (4) Dana K. in PA. Saw Whiskey Tango Foxtrot. I recommend it.

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3. Joke 1

Had his folks shown me this picture, I would have replied: "I'm speechless." ... Or used some other great advice from this article about what to tell parents if you think their baby is ugly. To read it yourself, please click:
Here

TBT
DONALD TRUMP'S BABY PICTURE

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4. Reviews

A. Saw EDDIE THE EAGLE, a feel-good story inspired by true events about Michael "Eddie" Edwards--a British ski jumper who never stopped believing in himself despite the fact that nobody else did. He eventually made it to the Olympics and even set a record while doing so. Tarron Egerton stars as Eddie, and Hugh Jackman plays his charismatic coach. Catch this film. You'll enjoy it. Rated PG-13, though methinks it would be appropriate for any child over the age of 7 or 8.

B. Out on DVD is ROOM. My review from BLAINESWORLD #1008 follows:
Saw ROOM, a brilliant film about a boy and his mother who are held captive for all the years of the boy's life. When they both escape, the second half of the film shows how they adjust to their new lives. I'm hoping that Brie Larson wins an Oscar for Best Actress, and I was blown away by the performance of Jacob Tremblay as her son. I hadn't rushed out to see this film because I had thought it would be depressing because of the subject matter. What a mistake that would have been. I also liked the score. Rated R.

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

C. Read DIVORCING FACEBOOK? REALLY? (Rural Roads Publishing) by Audrey Wagner.

The author had been a longtime Facebook user. But she gave it up and even dedicated this book "to all those who will be happier without Facebook."

It presents a road map to help you decide if it's time to walk out and then shows you how to do so.

I'm not ready to do so, but nevertheless thought her advice was spot on. I also liked her recommendation on what to do when you file the papers (to quote from one of her chapter subjects):
If you have chosen to leave Facebook, you may want to make the transition easier for yourself by sending a Facebook or email message to those you'd like to stay connected to. Let them know you are leaving the site, that they are important to you, and that you'd like to keep in touch. Give them your contact information, and ask them for their most up-to-date information. You could state that you look forward to spending time with them in person, over the phone and through email.

I also liked her tips to make things easier for you when and if you go this route.

D. Heard HEARD, THANKS, WOW: THE THREE ESSENTIAL PRAYERS (Brilliance Audio), written and read by Anne Lamott.

The author, an American novelist and non-fiction writer, presents her thoughts on spirituality in this short, insightful book that includes tales from her life.

I especially liked what she had to say about being grateful:
Gratitude begins in our hearts and then dovetails into behavior. It almost always makes you willing to be of service, which is where the joy resides. It means that you are willing to stop being such a jerk. When you are aware of all that has been given to you, in your lifetime and the past few days, it is hard not to be humbled, and pleased to give back.

In addition, I also liked her advice to those uncomfortable addressing God. If that be the case, Lamott recommends praying to "the Good." The key is to make contact with "the Real, with Truth, with the Light" and to do so anytime, anywhere and any way.

That makes sense to me!

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5. TV alert

A. UNDERGROUND: Series premiere on Wed., March 9, at 10 p.m. on WGN AMERICA
According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, this "historical escape thriller ... hits all three of those spots. Set in 1857, it drops us into the middle of the agony and the action as slaves from a Georgia plantation run for their lives for 600 miles toward freedom across the Ohio River."

B. THE INTERNET RUINED MY LIFE: Series premiere on Wed., March 9, at 10 p.m. on SYFY
A new docuseries explores how social media can change your world for the worse.

C. BOSCH: Season premiere on Friday, March 11, via Amazon streaming
TV GUIDE calls the show "a proudly old-fashioned, yet deeply absorbing crime drama that honors at it reflects its source material---an acclaimed series of 20 bestselling novels by Michael Connelly."

D. LADY DAY AT EMPEROR'S BAR AND GRILL: Sat., March 12, at 9 p.m. on HBO
Audra McDonald won a record sixth Tony Award for her performance as Lady Day in this musical play on Broadway that's been recreated by HBO to reflect a more intimate New Orleans hot spot.

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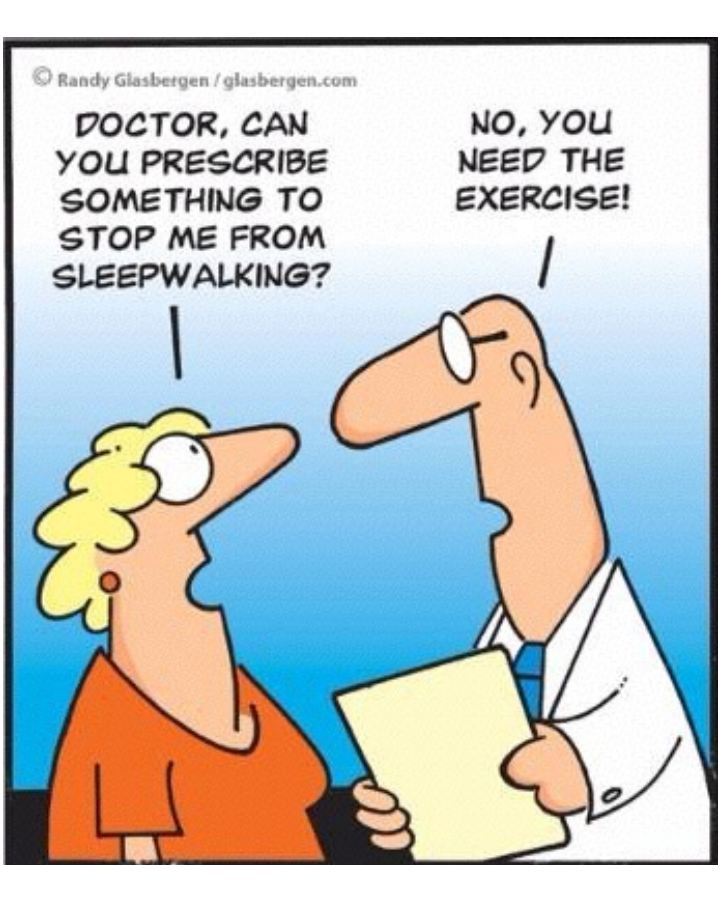
6. Joke 2

Such good advice ...


© Randy Glasbergen / glasbergen.com
DOCTOR, CAN YOU PRESCRIBE SOMETHING TO STOP ME FROM SLEEPWALKING?
NO, YOU NEED THE EXERCISE!

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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Blaine M. in SC: Hand to hand act by Valeriy & Yulia
Here

(2) THE REVENANT: Leo's Lost Outtakes (Oscar Parody)
Here

(3) Kelly Clarkson Performs "Piece by Piece" - AMERICAN IDOL
Here

(4) Linda F. in NJ: Millions Were Left Speechless When Bon Jovi Sang "Hallelujah"
Here

(5) Sneakiest pick-off move you'll ever see
Here

B. Babble, a site that comes courtesy of Disney, is a helpful online magazine targeting parents. To view it, please click:
Here

It provide helpful advice on a variety of topics, including:
How I Finally Got My Kids (and My Husband) to Clean Up After Themselves;
5 Workouts You Can Squeeze in While Cleaning Up Your Kid's Toys; and
The Stress of Raising a Child with Mental Health Challenges

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

D. 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

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8. Technology tip

Tips and Myths About Extending Smartphone Battery Life
by Brian X. Chen

Ashlei Temeña's family trip to Disneyland last Thanksgiving break turned into a nightmare when her smartphone battery hit empty.

Ms. Temeña, a San Francisco support technician, had gotten separated from her family and realized she had no way to find anyone. Instead of riding roller coasters, she wandered around searching for the group--eventually locating them four hours later watching fireworks.

To find out how you can prevent this from happening to you, please click:
Here

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9. Joke 3

I hate it when I think I'm buying ORGANIC vegetables, but when I get home, they're just REGULAR donuts. That's why I now only buy carrot cake donuts, so I can EAT HEALTHY!

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10. A quote I like

"If you can dream it, you can do it."--Walt Disney (1901-1966), American entrepreneur, animator and film producer

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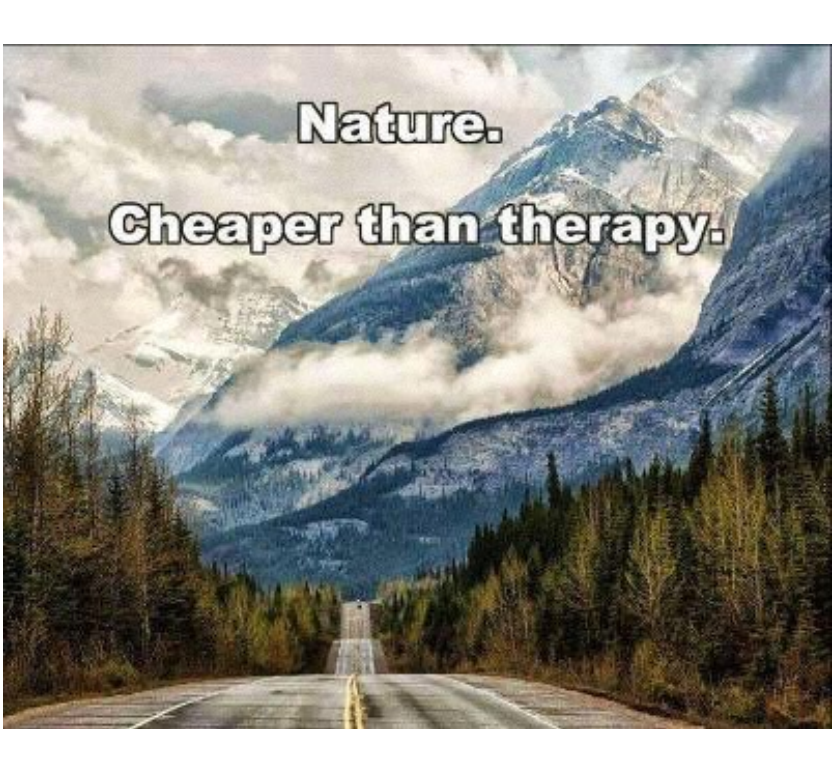
11. Thought for the day

Soooo true ...



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12. Advance planning department (NC events)

To read about each of the following events in full, please click:
Here

(1) All In The Timing Returns In Second Production By Attic Salt Theatre Company. (2) Glengarry Glen Ross by David Mamet. (3) Marilyn Sholin's art showcased at Woolworth Walk. (4) CHEF MICHAEL'S RETURNS TO VINTAGE CAROLINA 2016 CHARITY EVENT: "NOW AND FOREVER: THE HEART OF GIVING." (5) David Joe Miller presents Storytelling and Palliative Care with Regi Carpenter.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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