

BLAINES WORLD

#964
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1. Reflections

Note: See Sections 7A and 7B for two websites that will knock your socks off.

Also, if you're reading this via Facebook and/or in the unlikely event you're not already a subscriber, you can make sure you don't miss an issue (and you get it earlier, too) by clicking:

<http://tinyurl.com/ozgmxgs>

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had a somewhat laid-back week, in that Cynthia fell and hurt her back. Fortunately, after a visit to Sisters of Mercy Urgent Care and then to a physical therapist, she is doing much better.

Please see Section 11 for a beautiful Thought for the Day that will provide you with more information about the above.

(2) Were cheered-up by a visit from our friend Susan Dobroski.



Note: In case you're wondering about the shoes we're holding, we also used the visit to discuss the upcoming Walk a Mile event in Asheville that we'll all be participating in on May 2.

This event supports the great work done by Our Voice, the non-profit group that serves all individuals in Buncombe County affected by sexual assault and abuse, through counseling, advocacy and education.

You are invited to participate in one of two ways:

Join the BLAINESWORLD team in the fun walk. To register, please click:
<http://www.firstgiving.com/team/288560>

then click: Join Team
and/or

Make a donation to support our team's efforts by clicking:
<http://www.firstgiving.com/team/288560>

then click: Donate

B. Personally, I had a fun, interesting week, during which I:

(1) Attended an informative session of the Asheville Jewish Business Forum, at which I heard both Rabbi Justin Goldstein of Congregation Beth Israel and Jacob Blass, President of Ethical Advice discuss "Halacha and Business Ethics." Sweetpeas Catering did its usual fine job with the food. Pictured with me (left photo) Brad Morris, AJBF President, and Jacob Blass; and (right photo) Olivia Grant, AJBF Administrative Assistant.

For more pictures, please click:
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10153106430979757.1073741860.519364756&type=1&l=1cf8cc2b09>



(2) Met my friend George Papas for a delicious dinner at Thai Tara in Asheville.



(3) Enjoyed the Eleventh Annual Biltmore Lake Chili Cook-off in my Biltmore Lake community. Congratulations to the winners: Barry Johnson, traditional chili (far left), Leslie Kobik, unique chili (middle) and Janet Harnash, cornbread (far right). Also pictured: Sheldon Harnash (second from left) and yours truly (second from right).

Special thanks to both Sheldon and Janet, who chaired the event, as well as to Karen Foley for helping make the day the success that it was.



(4) Presented on "Marketing and Positioning" to an Asheville SCORE seminar. Pictured with me on the left: My friend Marty Steinberg with the genuine left-and right-handed pencils that he learned about; and on the right, a nice picture I received from Marc Czarnecki--one of the attendees.

***** SPECIAL OFFER *****

Do you know that left-handed people have always been discriminated against; e.g., with respect to writing utensils? Almost all pencils are made for right-handed folks. But if you would like to have a genuine left-handed pencil, along with a separate one for your right hand, send me a self-addressed, self-stamped envelope (large enough to include two pencils). You probably need about 70 cents of postage on the outside envelope and \$1.82 on the inside one. Send your request to: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.



C. Congratulations to:

- (1) Michael Ellenbogen on his recent trip to Geneva to participate in a World Health Organization panel on Dementia. To view it, please click: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/dementia-conference-live/2015/en/>
- (2) Ron Feeback on his upcoming retirement from Bucks County Community College.
- (3) Kier Klepzig and Justin Slack on the Top Five Finish for SuperSonic, their barbershop quartet, in the Carolinas District Spring Competition. The good news: They now qualify for the District Championship.
- (4) Pat Achilles on her new children's book, LET'S VISIT NEW HOPE. To see sketches-to-finished illustrations, please click: <https://achillesportfolio.wordpress.com/pencilled-in/>
- (5) Howard Debs on having his poem series, "Terezin: Trilogy Of Names," printed in CHINA GROVE, issue #3--one of the premier new literary journals.
- (6) Judy Kay Epstein McKnight for having her house profiled in BOLD LIFE. To read the article and see the pictures, please click: <http://www.boldlife.com/blood-sweat-tears-history/>
- (7) Nicholas G. Michael on his engagement to Teresa DeYoung.
- (8) Ryan Fallon on receiving two merit awards from the Philadelphia Police Department for his outstanding work.
- (9) Asheville on landing a space on the new Monopoly board. To find out more, please click: <http://www.wlos.com/news/features/top-stories/stories/asheville-lands-space-new-monopoly-board-20173.shtml#.VQtl4l7F98F>

(10) Trevor Rayshay Perry on now being in the Top 3 of the SING FOR YOUR LIFE competition in Atlanta.

(11) Sue R. in PA, winner of Contest #6, a copy of THE INNOVATORS: HOW A GROUP OF HACKERS, GENIUSES AND GEEKS CREATED THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION by Walter Isaacson.

All told, there were 6 entries. And that reminds me that it's now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #7 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of Kaleo Wheeler's CD: ULANA, THE WAY OF THE HEART.

Kaleo Wheeler is a Musical Storyteller and has created a brilliant hybrid of song and story by fusing her rich and warm voice with her intoxicating gift for storytelling. Kaleo's music covers a range of song styles, and she sometimes accompanies herself with the deeply soothing and relaxing vibrations of her small harp. In concert, she also shares an ancient form of storytelling from the Hawaiian tradition - their traditional hula, Her CD is a musical odyssey of her personal spiritual journey reflected in songs from several different traditions that have impacted her life and with several original songs.



To listen to samples of her delightful music, please click:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/kaleowheeler>

To enter: Put "CONTEST #7" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bginbc@aol.com . . . make sure you include your name AND snail mail address in the body of the email . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 2015.

D. Condolences to Barrie Barton and family on the passing of Joe Barton, Barrie's uncle.

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

This week, it goes to both Zuzu Welsh (left) and BJ Leiderman (right)--two very talented musicians in the Asheville area.



Both recently performed in a fantastic tribute concert to honor Eric Clapton's 70th birthday at a sold-out crowd at White Horse Black Mountain. Kudos, also, to Zuzu for arranging the evening that honored Clapton's legacy and served to benefit MANNA and Homeward Bound.

In addition, Zuzu has been a key to the success of such other fundraisers as Give Me Love 2013, a two night tribute to George Harrison to benefit MANNA and Homeward Bound; Meet The Beatles 2014, a night of Beatles for MANNA and Homeward Bound; and The Fab Four AT Fifty, a tribute to the Beatles at the Cat's Cradle in Chapel Hill, NC to benefit a youth music program called Kidznotes.

And BJ has been involved in co-producing Give Me Love 2013; Cabaret for ArtSpace School; Montessori School Benefit (upcoming); and Hearts for SART, among others.

They will also be participating with me in Walk a Mile Asheville on May 2.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the concert, along with Kim Hughes (top photo), co-founder of White Horse Black Mountain; Rhoda Weaver (bottom left photo), who also performed and wowed the audience with her singing; and my Facebook friend Kurt Loveland (bottom right photo).



In case you weren't lucky enough to be there, here are just two of the songs you missed:

<http://youtu.be/RM6frOaj5PE>

and:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2B-zStqnyR4>

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2. FYI

Carlole B. in NC: This is a profoundly interesting article on addiction!

The Likely Cause of Addiction Has Been Discovered, and It Is Not What You Think
by Johann Hari

It is now one hundred years since drugs were first banned -- and all through this long century of waging war on drugs, we have been told a story about addiction by our teachers and by our governments. This story is so deeply ingrained in our minds that we take it for granted. It seems obvious. It seems manifestly true. Until I set off three and a half years ago on a 30,000-mile journey for my new book, *Chasing The Scream: The*

First And Last Days of the War on Drugs, to figure out what is really driving the drug war, I believed it too. But what I learned on the road is that almost everything we have been told about addiction is wrong--and there is a very different story waiting for us, if only we are ready to hear it.

If we truly absorb this new story, we will have to change a lot more than the drug war. We will have to change ourselves.

To read the rest of this article, please click:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/johann-hari/the-real-cause-of-addicti_b_6506936.html

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Marvin S. in NC: 2014 Final Conference on Aging

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LR2qZ0A8vic>

(2) Judy M. in NC: Cat Owner Instant Karma

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D09FXtpMUew>

(3) Carly Rae Jepsen - I Really Like You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qV5lzRHrGeg>

(4) Why women are different from men and vice versa by Amanda Gore

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/sbF-4LOOC5c>

(5) Beautiful video (of wild life)

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/fdSVp9GFes4?autoplay=1&rel=0>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1R6>

(1) Jean D. in PA: Harley birthday! 89-year old NJ woman still easy riding. (2) Does Stress Make Us Forgetful? (3) Raising Teenagers: The Mother of All Problems. (4) Finding Success, Well Past the Age of Wunderkind.

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3. Joke 1

"Doc, I can't stop singing The Green, Green Grass of Home. " . . . "That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome." . . . "Is it common?" . . . "Well, It's Not Unusual."



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4. Reviews

A. This was one of the rare weeks that I didn't get to see any first-run film, so instead I'll share the following insightful review from Miles R. in NC:

CINDERELLA was full of MAGIC and EXCITEMENT.

I absolutely loved it! I thought Disney did a fantastic job inside and out of telling a story of not just Cinderella, but those that were changed by a secret that Ella kept. A secret given to her by her mother.

"Have courage and be kind."

I believe we all need to be reminded of that on a daily basis. If not hourly. I had tears of joy and sorrow throughout the entire film and there were times I couldn't wipe the smile off of my face. It was such a refreshing new vision of a story that most, if not all of us loved growing up. All of us wanting to be the dashing prince chasing after the one who made his heart skip a beat. Or Cinderella who longed to be happy with the one who swept her off her feet.

The direction, the cinematography, the acting, the costumes... EVERYTHING was pristine. Sure, I bet there is a film maker out there that could tear it apart. Rip it to shreds like Cinderella's loving mother's dress that she worked so hard on, so that she might see a "friend" at the ball. I'm not the best film maker by ANY means but I know a good film when I see one, and this film rocked.

I could go on about the parts I loved but I believe I will just say, go and EXPERIENCE this film. It was a reminder to me of why I love being a part of film making and story telling...

To be reminded of myself and to learn something new.

PS. There's a FROZEN short before this film when you see it.

B. INTO THE WOODS is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #953 follows:

Saw INTO THE WOODS, Disney's adaptation of the Sondheim musical. It takes several fairy tales and gives a modern twist to them and also ties them all together with an original story involving a baker and his wife. Overall, I liked it because of both the story line and the catchy tunes. Chris Pine and Billy Magnussen were particularly funny singing "Agony." Meryl Streep's witch was perfect. And I liked the work of both James Corden and Emily Blunt as the baker and his wife. Rated PG, though because of a certain darkness to the film, I'm not sure that I would recommend taking anybody under the age of 10 to see it.

C. THE BUSINESS BOOK: BIG IDEAS SIMPLY EXPLAINED by DK Publishing (DK)

D. SOMETIMES YOU WIN--SOMETIMES YOU LEARN FOR TEENS: HOW TO TURN A LOSS INTO A WIN (Hachette Audio), written by John Maxwell and narrated by Chris Sorenson

Note: Both of the above reviews can be see by going to Section 4 when you click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1R6>

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5. TV alert

A. BLOODLINE, Season 1: Premieres Friday, March 20, on NETFLIX

According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "BLOODLINE ... is family drama, a genre that now portends a hidden history of dysfunction, of toxic grievances and revelations that break through the surface calm of ordinary life. ... [It is] relentlessly churning but steadily compelling." Stars Kyle Chandler, along with Norbert Leo Butz and Sissy Spacek.

B. LITTLE WHITE LIE: Monday, March 23 at 10 p.m. on PBS. Note: PBS times and dates often vary, so check local listings.

Filmmaker Lacy Schwartz tells her true story about believing that she was born white-- only to later find out that her biological father was black.

C. THE LATE LATE SHOW WITH JAMES CORDEN: Premieres Tuesday, March 24, at 12:37 a.m. on CBS

I enjoyed Corden, a British comic actor, in the film version of INTO THE WOODS, so I'll be curious to see how he comes across in this format.

D. KATY PERRY: THE PRISMATIC WORLD TOUR: Saturday, March 27, at 8 p.m. on EPIX that is part of a free preview weekend available to most cable subscribers

This is a two-hour, big-budget concert special featuring such hits as "I Kissed a Girl" and "Dark Horse."

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6. Joke 2

One of our interns asked another if she was planning to sign up for the company's 401(k). "I'm considering it," replied the second intern.... Later, the first intern approached me looking concerned. "I did the math," she said, "and 401k is almost 250 miles. She'll never make it!"

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7. Websites

A. Jean R. in PA: Inspirational video re: self health and focus and treating her body with the strength. There are a few over 75 at VIP in Newtown, PA with Brian Reed who are powerlifters. We are in awe of this woman's practice.

World's Oldest Female Bodybuilder

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HRhJIVcf2Q>

B. Dan B. in NC: TRY to count the number of times you say "Oh, my God" or "Oh, my goodness", or "!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

Take a few minutes to watch this! You will feel very humble at the end I'm sure!! It's incredible!

www.youtube.com/embed/svzPm8IT36o?feature=player_detailpage

C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:
<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you want to see pictures of my friends and family, please click "Blaine's Best" and then "Pictures." Make sure you keep your sound on, so that you can also listen to what's arguably the greatest rock song of all time.

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:

www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield



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8. Technology tip

When typing, instead of deleting a single letter, pressing CTRL + Backspace will delete the entire word behind the cursor. This makes deleting text quicker if you mess up a whole word.

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9. Joke 3

Four women are playing cards. The first says, "You know, I have known you all a long time and there is something I must confess. I'm a kleptomaniac. But don't worry, I have never stolen from you, and I never will. We have been friends for too long." . . . The second says, "I must get something off my chest too. I'm a nymphomaniac, but I have never hit on your husbands. They don't interest me and never will." . . . "I too must admit something," says the third. "I'm a pyromaniac. But I have not set fires to any of your homes and never will." . . . The fourth gets up and says, "I also have a confession to make I'm a gossip, and I now have a lot of calls to make!"



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10. A quote I like

As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way. ... And if you're like me and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!



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11. Thought for the day

When Cynthia fell, she was blessed to be have been helped by so many angels--

including her cat Tiger.



I wanted to share the beautiful letter that she wrote to all of the above and, also, to recognize them for their efforts. To read it, please go to Section 11 when you click: <http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1R6>

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12. Advance planning department

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1R6>

(1) Jin Shin Do Bodymind Acupressure Neck & Shoulder Release Workshop. (2) ACT Auditions. (3) Lab Ratz is a brand-spanking-new improv comedy troupe.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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