BLAINESWORLD

#971
5.4.2015

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1. Reflections

Note: See Section 10 for some great advice.

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

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A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had a blast at Our Voice's recent Walk a Mile event. Here's my report from it:
As you may have heard, the 2015 event was the most successful Walk a Mile ever for Our Voice. Over $38,000 was raised!

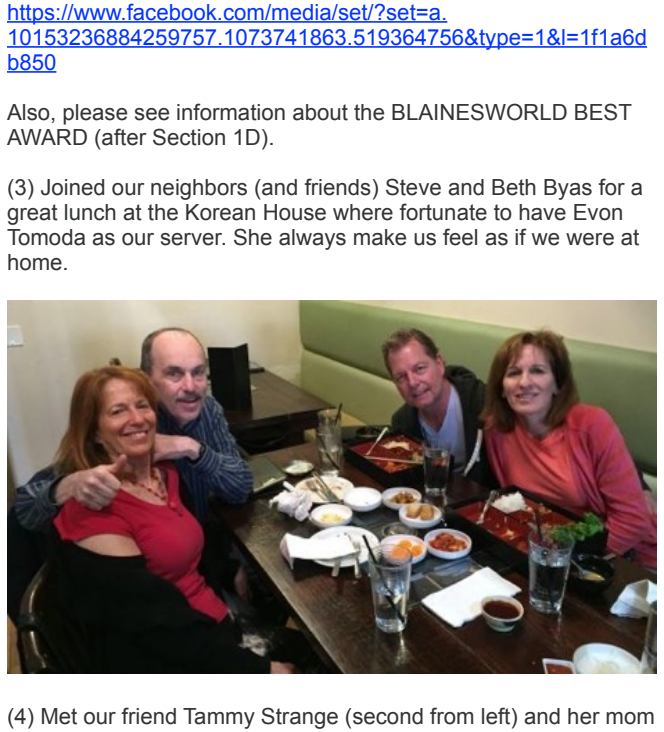
The BLAINESWORLD team also broke its previous record by raising over $1,000. Way to go.

And kudos to Zuzu Welsh for being the top individual fundraiser for the BLAINESWORLD team. (He helped raise $260.)

Thanks to the following individuals who helped raise funds by walking with us on what was a beautiful May day: Blaine Greenfield, Cynthia Greenfield John Kennedy, Jane Kennedy, Susan Dobroski, Tom Heck, Ellen Pappas, George Pappas, Jensen Gelfond, Gary Gaines, Marvin Sadovsky, Marty Steinberg, Zuzu Welsh, DeWitt Robbeloth, BJ Leiderman, Bonnie Sibner and Kaleo Wheeler.

Thanks, also, to these other folks who weren't able to walk this year but made generous donations: The Zaglin Family, Brian Biro, Steven Liebenhaut, Jim and Kim Preish, Chuck and Linda Hollinshead, Amy and Marc Suban, Marilynne Herbert, Rodney Frey, Denise May, Chuck Fink, John and Danielle Dlicher, Anonymous (2), Beverly Wixon, Lucid Elliott (from Cindy), Elizabeth Burgess, Linda Tompson Dewitt, Lisa Killerlane, Laura Schwartz, Ann and Bob, Susan Herman, and Penny and John Barstow.

Pictured: (top left) Us crossing the finish line; (top right) Cynthia congratulating Marvin Sadovsky; (bottom left) the entire BLAINESWORLD team with the exception of Tom Heck; and (bottom right) cooling down, afterward, over great food and beverages at Packs Tavern.



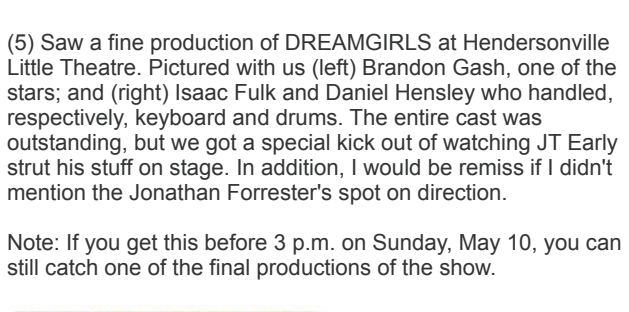
Note: To see other pictures from the event, please click:
https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10153236884259757.1073741863.519364756&type=1&l=1f1a6db850

Also, please see information about the BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD (after Section 1D).

(3) Joined our neighbors (and friends) Steve and Beth Byas for a great lunch at the Korean House where fortunate to have Evon Tomoda as our server. She always make us feel as if we were at home.

(4) Met our friend Tammy Strange (second from left) and her mom Betty Strange for a tasty dinner at Zoes Kitchen.

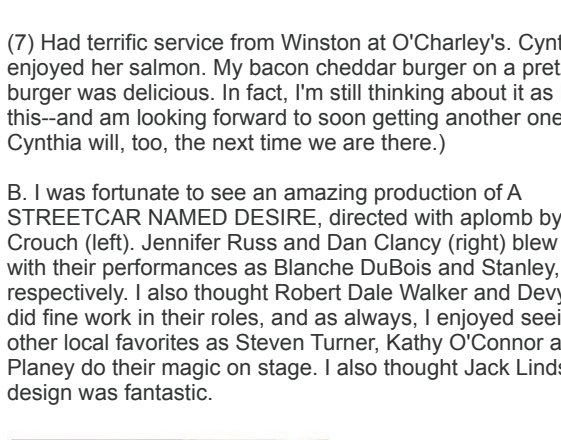
Note: If it is your first time there, tell the person at the register, and you'll get a free appetizer.



(5) Saw a fine production of DREAMGIRLS at Hendersonville Little Theatre. Pictured with us (left) Brandon Gash, one of the stars; and (right) Isaac Fulk and Daniel Hensley who handled, respectively, keyboard and drums. The entire cast was outstanding, but we got a special kick out of watching JT Early strut his stuff on stage. In addition, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the Jonathan Forrester's spot on direction.

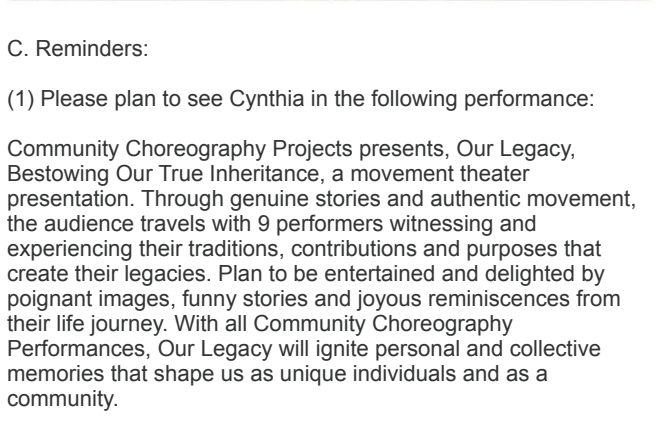
Note: If you get this before 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 10, you can still catch one of the final productions of the show.

(6) Went to the Peaberry Press Coffee & Smoothie Bar for delicious smoothies. Picture with us: Brittony Miller, the owner.



(7) Had terrific service from Winston at O'Charley's. Cynthia enjoyed her salmon. My bacon cheddar burger on a pretzel burger was delicious. In fact, I'm still thinking about it as I write this--and am looking forward to soon getting another one. (I think Cynthia will, too, the next time we are there.)

B. I was fortunate to see an amazing production of A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE, directed with aplomb by Jerry Crouch (left). Jennifer Russ and Dan Clancy (right) blew me away with their performances as Blanche DuBois and Stanley, respectively. I also thought Robert Dale Walker and Devyn Ray did fine work in their roles, and as always, I enjoyed seeing such other local favorites as Steven Turner, Kathy O'Connor and Ruth Planey do their magic on stage. I also thought Jack Lindsay's set design was fantastic.



C. Reminders:

(1) Please plan to see Cynthia in the following performance:

Community Choreography Projects presents, Our Legacy, Bestowing Our True Inheritance, a movement theater presentation. Through genuine stories and authentic movement, the audience travels with 9 performers witnessing and experiencing their traditions, contributions and purposes that create their legacies. Plan to be entertained and delighted by poignant images, funny stories and joyous reminiscences from their life journey. With all Community Choreography Performances, Our Legacy will ignite personal and collective memories that shape us as unique individuals and as a community.

Special Guests include poet and writer, Majo John Madden and dancer, Barrie Barton.

Date: Sunday, May 17, at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Jubilee Community Church, 46 Wall St, Asheville, North Carolina

Tickets: $8, purchased at the door

(2) There's still time to enter:

***** CONTEST #10 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of WISDOM FROM WOMEN IN THE BIBLE: GIANTS OF THE EARTH SPEAK INTO OUR LIVES, a book on CD written by John C. Maxwell and read by Marc Thompson--courtesy of Hachette Audio.

To quote from the description on amazon.com: If you could spend a few minutes with biblical heroines Ruth, Sarah, Mary and others, what valuable lessons would they share with you? In the tradition of Learning from the Giants, John Maxwell shares wisdom on life and leadership inspired by the Bible--this time focusing solely on the stories of nine incredible women.

I reviewed the above in BLAINESWORLD #968 and enjoyed it.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #10" 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, May 11, 2015.

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Trinity Smith and Scott Keel on their engagement.

(2) Jennifer Gatti on landing a recurring role in VICE PRINCIPALS, a new HBO series.

(3) Mary Elizabeth Dura (previously Mary Bobbie) on her recent marriage.

(4) Steven Green on receiving both the Outstanding Performer and
Lunsford Transition Awards at Mars Hill University.

(5) Jennifer Sell on her Summa Cum Laude graduation from Mars Hill University.

(6) Savannah Hayes on winning both the C. Robert Jones Outstanding Student and the 5 T's to Success Awards at Mars Hill University.

(7) Julie Cooper-Fratrik on her upcoming retirement from Bucks County Community College.

(8) Josh Stein on his graduation from High Point University.

E. Condolences to:

(1) Karen Mazza on the passing of her grandmother.

(2) Charlotte Schatz on the passing of Sayre Schatz, her brother-in-law, as well as on the passing of Terri Ivers, her dear friend.

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

This week, it goes to all those on the Walk a Mile Planning Committee (see also Section 1A for more information on the day) who helped make the event the success that it was.

This group, which I was honored to be part of, met almost every week for the past few months.

Special kudos to Lynn Weekes-Karegeannes, Our Voice's Development Coordinator, for heading this group. She did a fantastic job.

And thanks to all the others who served with me, including Angelica Wind, Stefanie Gonzales, Mark Hebbard, Carey Gibson, Dennis Gibson, Emily Balcken, Cynthia Yancey, Heather Nelson, Mel Ciocian, Twyla Ryan, Amie Medina and Lynn Rapp.

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2. FYI

How to Vet a Charity
By LAURA SAUNDERS

Do you scrutinize your charities the way you do your stocks or mutual funds? You should.

"Charitable giving is a form of investment, and people need to perform due diligence on the groups they give to," says Ben Pierce, who heads Vanguard Charitable, the $5.1 billion donor-advised fund affiliated with Vanguard Group, which makes donations on behalf of individual account holders.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:
http://www.wsj.com/articles/how-to-vet-a-charity-1431093430?KEYWORDS=how+to+vet+a+charity

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Bill K. in CA: Joe Cocker (Misheard Lyrics)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xJWxPE8G2c

(2) Annemarie B in NC: Dance to trance with no pants
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=epxqV5CRfTc

(3) Michelle B. in NC: Blind, autistic girl sings National Anthem
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ds9fcZxARLU

(4) Peggy W. in PA: This teacup poodle rides elevators to visit friends
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhP2ssoO4lQ

(5) Lori in GA: Slow Hand-Pointer Sisters
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnVOt2LK2Gg

(6) Unique ice cream
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnOkJS-_Um8#t=16

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click:
http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1TW

(1) Cecile K. in PA: My crush on Juliette Binoche continues. (2) Howard D. in FL: Join with the world's largest Holocaust survivor family organization. (3) Bob H. in FL: I always enjoy Blaine's World. (4) Bill K. in FL: THANKS Blaine! -- enjoyed the newsletter as always. (5) Marie V. in NJ: LOVED Cynthia's "Pablo" story!!!! (6) Tebbe D. in NC: Check out Marry and Tebbe talk art, my blog. (7) As We Age, Keys to Remembering Where the Keys Are. (8) Carole S. in NJ: STANDING FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE RALLY. (9) Dan B. in PA: 10 Banned Foods Americans Should Stop Eating. (11) An Uber for Doctor Housecalls. (11) An Uber for Doctor Housecalls. (12) Corinne G. in PA: Norman Rockwell Magazine Covers. (13) 60 worst mother selfies of all time. (14) Some new math for the 4 per cent retirement rule. (15) How to buy art: a beginner's cheat sheet. (16) Bill G. in NC: Unpaid virus will destroy theatre industry. (17) Lucille E. in VA: I've used this website to find a good but reasonably priced plumber in my area.

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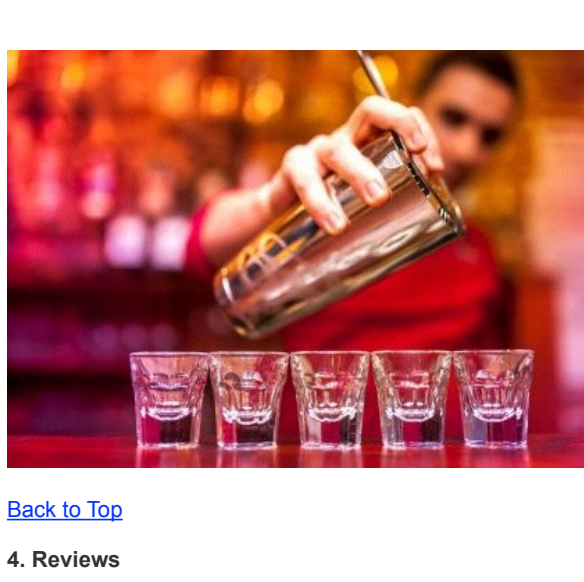
3. Joke 1

A Democrat is in a bar and is about to order a drink when he sees a guy wearing a Bush for President button. So he shouts to the bartender so loudly that everyone can hear: "Drinks for everyone in here, but not for that Republican." ... Soon after the drinks have been handed out, the Republican gives him a big smile and then says "thank you" in an equally loud voice. This infuriates the Democrat, so he once again loudly orders drinks for everyone except the Bush fan. The Republican continues to smile and again yells "thank you." ... The Democrat asks the bartender: "What's the matter with that guy? I've ordered two rounds of drinks for everyone in the bar but him, and all he does is smile and thank me." ...The bartender replies: 'He owns the place."



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4. Reviews

A. THE AGE OF ADALINE is a romantic fantasy about a woman who miraculously has remained 29 years for almost eight decades. During that time, she has refused to allow herself to fall in love. But then she encounters a charming philanthropist, her life changes--and even more so when she spends a weekend with his parents. I thought Adaline Bowman was believable in the leading role, and I liked Harrison Ford's performance as her boyfriend's father. The cinematography was excellent, especially in the flashback scenes. Rated PG-13.

B. Out on DVD is STILL ALICE. My review from BLAINESWORLD #960 follows:
Saw STILL ALICE, a thought-provoking film about a happily married professor who receives a diagnosis of Early-Onset Alzheimer's Disease. Julianne Moore delivers an Oscar-worthy performance in the leading role, and I also thought Kristen Steward was quite good as one of her daughters. If you see it, I'd be curious as to your reaction. Rated PG-13.

C. Read THE CREATIVE PROCESS DIET (Unboxing Press) by Ben G. Adams,

The author, a licensed clinical psychologist, scientific researcher and interdisciplinary narrative construction worker, takes a new approach to the subject. He doesn't give you any meal plans, nor does he tell you what food to avoid.

Instead, he presents a process to help you decide on what foods to eat, and then he has you plan ahead one day. So all you need to do is have the willpower to stick with the decisions you have already made.

It sounds simple because it is.

In particular, I thought what he had to say about treats made a lot of sense:
The process of plotting out one's upcoming indulgences in treats; i.e., the process of making sure one always has something to look forward to, makes it so much easier to set reasonable limits on the self.

D. Heard 10 DAYS THAT UNEXPECTEDLY CHANGED AMERICA (Random House) by Steven M. Gillon and read by Stephen Hoyce.

This book is a companion to The History Channel's series of one-hour documentaries on the same subject. I'm now sorry that I never watched that, if only because this was so informative.

The author, a professor of the University of Oklahoma, makes history come alive.

He doesn't write about such famous events as July 4, 1776, or the day Neil Armstrong set foot on the moon. Rather, he concentrates on some less well-known but historically sihnificant events that changed America.

In doing so, I learned about the significance of January 25, 1787. That was when the men of Shays' rebellion attacked a federal arsenal and started this nation on the path to a strong central government. I also found out about January 24, 1848, which was the beginning of the Gold Rush in this country.

My only regret is that I never had Gillon as my teacher when I was in school. He presents his material in a most engaging manner.

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5. TV alert

A. GRACE AND FRANKIE: Available via streaming on Netflix, starting on Friday, May 8
Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda star in an odd-couple comedy about two strong-willed wives whose lives are rocked when their law-partner hubbies (Sam Waterston and Martin Sheen) announced they're gay and in love. What a cast!

B. CONSUMED; THE REAL RESTAURANT BUSINESS: Wednesdays at 10 p.m. on CNBC
The show focuses on five restaurants and their owners, either trying to get a business going, expand it or keep it alive. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL calls it "great."

C. WAYWARD PINES: Thursdays at 9 p.m. on FOX, starting on May 14
This mini-series has a man waking up in an unfamiliar town where nothing is what it seems. It sounds like a TWILIGHT ZONE episode, and because both Matt Dillon and Terrence Howard are in it, I'll probably watch.

D. BESSIE: Saturday, May 16, at 8 p.m. on HBO
Queen Latifah stars as blues legend Bessie Smith in what looks to be an outstanding biopic.

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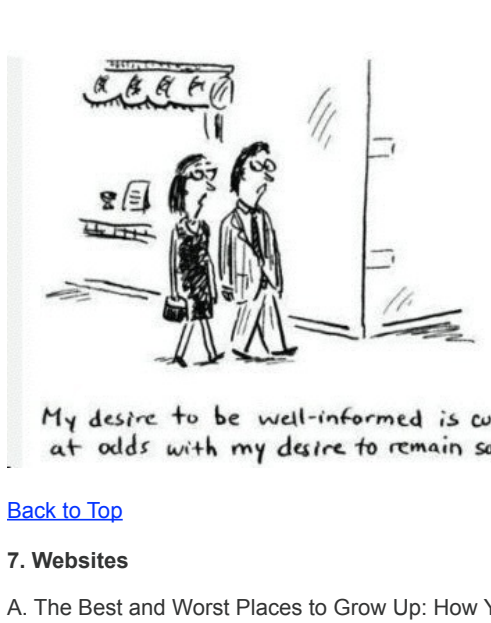
6. Joke 2

Why I take breaks and go on the Internet, so as to get laughs from posts such as this one. And to then share for others to enjoy.


My desire to be well-informed is currently at odds with my desire to remain sane.

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7. Websites

A. The Best and Worst Places to Grow Up: How Your Area Compares
Edited by David Leonhardt

Location matters - enormously. If you're poor and live in the Asheville area, it's better to be in Madison County than in Transylvania County or Buncombe County. Not only that, the younger you are when you move to Madison, the better you will do on average. Children who move at earlier ages are less likely to become single parents, more likely to go to college and more likely to earn more.

Every year a poor child spends in Madison County adds about $20 to his or her annual household income at age 26, compared with a childhood spent in the average American county. Over the course of a full childhood, which is up to age 20 for the purposes of this analysis, the difference adds up to about $300, or 1 percent, more in average income as a young adult.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:
http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/05/03/upshot/the-best-and-worst-places-to-grow-up-how-your-area-compares.html?abt=0002&abg=0

Note: The above article shows Buncombe County, NC (where I live). There's also an option at the top to insert your county or any other one you want to find out more about.

B. Dan B. in PA: Why a man should always let a woman speak first
http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=E3pjq0WAupc

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

To encourage your friends and relatives to subscribe to this missive, and I encourage you to do so, just refer them to "Newsletter" to the left and then "Subscribe."

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

Like us on Facebook

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8. Technology tip

My apologies if you got a recent email from me with this subject line:
From: Blaine Greenfield

Thanks to the folks who brought this to my attention. It was garbage. Here's how you can tell:
1. I would never use an email with the above subject line. As you know if you've ever received something from me, I almost always personalize it in some fashion.

2. It was shown coming from: "Blaine Greenfield" <bginbc@bioxxi.com.br>. That is obviously not my email address.

3. It included "Sup (and then your name)" in the body of the email. I would never include anything like that because it makes no sense.

4. It was signed with my full name. I almost never sign my full name to folks I know.

5. It showed as being sent from my iPhone. I rarely send email from my iPhone and if I do, it wouldn't typically include a link to a website.

Note: If you ever get something from me or anybody else for that matter, ask the person about it before opening.

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9. Joke 3

A boy asks his mother her age. She replies, "Gentlemen don't ask ladies that question." The boy then asks his mother how much she weighs. Again his mother replies, "Gentlemen don't ask ladies that question." The boy then asks, "Why did Daddy leave you?" To this, the mother says, "You shouldn't ask that," and sends him to his room. . . . On the way, the boy trips over his mother's purse. When he picks it up, her driver's license falls out. He runs back into the room yelling, "I know all about you now. You are 36 years old, weigh 127 pounds and Daddy left you because you got an 'F' in sex!"

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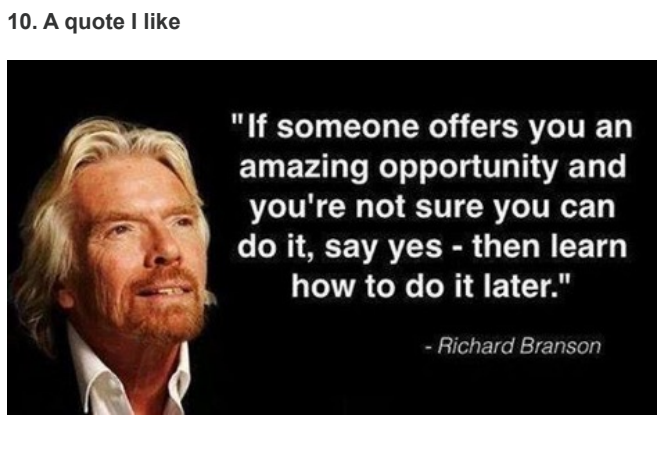
10. A quote I like


"If someone offers you an amazing opportunity and you're not sure you can do it, say yes - then learn how to do it later."
- Richard Branson

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11. Thought for the day

Dave Goldberg (1967-2015), RIP ... Goldberg, an American entrepreneur and Silicon Valley executive, was the founder of LAUNCH Media and the CEO of SurveyMonkey. He died after falling off a treadmill.

I was touched by what his wife Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook, had to say, after his death. Part of her remarks follow: Dave and I did not get nearly enough time together. But as heartbroken as I am today, I am equally grateful. Even in these last few days of completely unexpected hell - the darkest and saddest moments of my life - I know how lucky I have been. If the day I walked down that aisle with Dave someone had told me that this would happen - that he would be taken from us all in just 11 years - I would still have walked down that aisle. Because 11 years of being Dave Goldberg's wife, and 10 years of being a parent with him is perhaps more luck and more happiness than I could have ever imagined. I am grateful for every minute we had.

As we put the love of my life to rest today, we buried only his body. His spirit, his soul, his amazing ability to give is still with it. It lives on in the stories people are sharing of how he touched their lives, in the love that is visible in the eyes of our family and friends, in the spirit and resilience of our children. Things will never be the same - but the world is better for the years my beloved husband lived.

For her full statement that was posted on Facebook, please click:
http://time.com/3847997/sheryl-sandberg-dave-goldberg-tribute/

To learn more about Goldberg, please click:
http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/03/business/dave-goldberg-47-surveymonkey-chief-and-sheryl-sandbergs-husband-dies.html

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12. Advance planning department

To read about each of the following events in full, please click:
http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1TW

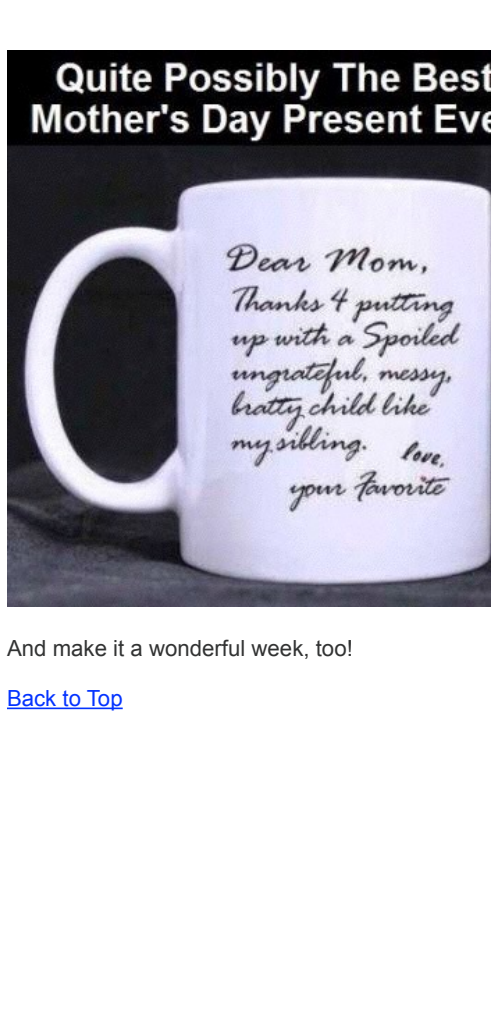
A. NC events

(1) Foot fitness classes. (2) Buzz 2015. (3) Theater and the Press. (4) Springtime Pizza Blast. (5) LETTERS AND NOTES FOUND ON THE WINDSHIELD AT THE PIGGLY WIGGLY. (6) Asheville Jewish Film Festival.

B. PA/NJ events

(1) THE MUSIC MAN. (2) JUNIE B. JONES.

PS. I would have loved to have given this to my Mom, especially because it is soooo true! .... Happy Mother's Day to her and all other mothers--past, present and future.


Quite Possibly The Best Mother's Day Present Ever.
Dear Mom,
Thanks 4 putting up with a Spoiled ungrateful, messy, bratty child like my sibling. Luv, your favorite

And make it a wonderful week, too!

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