BLAINESWORLD

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1. Reflections

Note: See Section 1E for a Special Invite you won't want to miss.

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:
Here

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Joined Tammy Strange, our Charlotte friend, and several of her friends for a delicious dinner at the downtown Tupelo Honey where we received excellent service from Heather. Pictured, l-r: Sherry Dell Page, Tammy Strange, Gayla Sandifer Jackson, Kathryn Hack, Blaine Greenfield and Cynthia Greenfield.

(2) Had a lovely day at the 1st Annual LEAF Downtown festival where we joined by our friend Stuart Kraner (left photo). Afterward, we went to our favorite Korean restaurant, Korean House (right photo) where owner Kristina Im stopped by to say "hello." That's us eating the Korean-style potato pancakes, which are the absolute best. We again received excellent service--this time from Joshua.

(3) Saw a fine production of ALL SHOOK UP at Parkway Playhouse, directed with aplomb by Andrew Gall. Kudos, also, to Dominic Aquilino and Roberta Whiteside for the music direction, Amanda Pisano for the choreography and to Victoria Smith for costume design. All the principal members of the cast were outstanding: Myra McCoury, Robby Taylor, Rob Storrs, Roberta Whiteside, Julia Miller, Bobby Abrahmson, Mary Katherine Smith-Gall, Kristen Donelle Livengood, Dale Russ and Will Storrs (pictured below), as were the members of the energetic ensemble.

(4) We then went to Little Tokyo in Burnsville for dinner. The food was good, and we enjoyed the friendly service we received from Anna.

B. During the week, I:

(1) Finally got to go the Miami Restaurant that I've long heard about. One day, I went there for breakfast with my friend Steve Byas (left photo), and I had lunch with Bill McMannis, another friend (right photo) the next day. Both times, the food was tasty and very reasonably priced.

Restaurant

(2) Heard Paual Hanke sing, accompanied by James Vandenberg, at the Artisan Cafe & Coffee House. What a treat! To learn more about her (and if you also want to be blown away by her singing), please click:
Here

(3) Met Jim Daubert, still another friend, for a tasty lunch at the Tiger Bay Cafe--a West Asheville eatery that fuses Southeast Style BBQ, West Indian and Latin foods. For more information, please click:
Here

TIGER BAY CAFE
TIGER Smoothie
Hey! ASK About our Gluten Free & Vegan options
FIRE EXIT

C. Condolences to Greg Franks and family on the passing of Greg's father.

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Lisa Klepzig, local choclatier, on the opening of The Chocolate Lab in Woodfin. For more information, please click:
Here

(2) Ryan Patrick and Tina Roccia on their marriage.

(3) Howard Debs on being named artist and guest editor for the August "Ekphrastic Challenge" online feature in Rattle magazine. His work, "Ice House, Rose Hill Manor," is there. For more information, please click:
Here

And, also, to Howard on the fact that his his latest published poem, "The Changing Face Of Beauty, " has recently appeared in Yellow Chair Review. To read it, please click:
Here

(4) Carol Fishman-Bufano and family on the birth of Emma Katherine, her latest grandchild.

(5) Julie Laybourn on being asked to direct and film a segment for a Nat Geo TV show.

(6) Pam W. in SC, winner of Contest #16: a copy of BILLY MARTIN: BASEBALL'S FLAWED GENIUS by Bill Pennington. All told, there were 9 entries. And that reminds me that it's now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #17 *****

One lucky winner will receive a copy of WORD PLAY: HOW WORDS CAPTIVATE, ILLUMINATE, INTIMIDATE, INFORM AND IMBUE US WITH INTELLIGENCE by Glenn Bassett. The book shows how words can and are used to shape behavior in such diverse fields as politics, advertising, economics, science and philosophy.

I reviewed it in BLAINESWORLD #977 and enjoyed it.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #17" 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, August 17.

E. Special congratulations to the Asheville Jewish Business Forum on being chosen by Charlotte Street Computers to participate in a fundraising (or as I call it, fun-raising) program with Asheville Community Theatre.

***** SPECIAL INVITE *****

As you may have heard, I'll be making a "special guest appearance" in the show that follows.

Thanks to Charlotte Street Computers, I have obtained 50 tickets for a special Thursday night performance of YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN on Oct. 15, at 7:30 p.m. This is a special fun-raiser for the Asheville Jewish Business Forum. Cost of tickets: Just $18, which saves you $13.39 from the regular ticket cost of $28.39 (including handling and tax). To obtain tickets for just this one date, please send a check, payable to "Asheville Jewish Business Forum" for $18/each one ticket you want. Send it to: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715 AND include a postpaid return envelope, so I can send you back your tickets. Kindly include with your check: Your name, email address, snail mail address and phone number.

I'm honored to have been chosen by Jerry Crouch, director extraordinaire, as one of the "alternating" stars--rotating weeks with the very talented Mike Martinelli ... the show runs from Oct. 1-25 at Asheville Community Theatre, and I hope y'all can catch me during the aforementioned performance on Oct. 15. You'll save some money and help out the Asheville Jewish Business Forum, too. If you can't make it on the 15th, try to come during either of my two weeks: Oct. 1-4 or Oct. 15-18 ... for tickets for those and/or any of the other show dates, please click:
Here

F. Reminder: My annual trek "up North" takes place at the end of this month. ... I'll be at Zebra Striped Whale (12 S State St, Newtown, PA) on Saturday, Aug. 29, from 2-4 p.m. for some great music featuring John Strauss and others, fantastic ice cream, etc. Just stop by. ... That Saturday night, I'll be going to Poco's (625 N Main St, Doylestown, PA) at 7 p.m. for dinner. The Mexican and American food is good, and the prices are very reasonable. ... From there, we'll go upstairs for a fun night of comedy at Comedy Cabaret, beginning at 8:30 p.m. If you join us, mention that you're from the "Blaine Greenfield party," and you'll pay just $10 for your ticket. (The usual price of a ticket is $20.)

Note: So I can get an idea of how many will be coming to dinner and/or the comedy show, please send an RSVP to:
bginbc@aol.com and put August 29 in the subject line. Then in the body of the email, put down your name, how many will be coming and if you'll be joining me at dinner, the comedy show or both.

If either of those two dates don't work for you and/or you want to get together some other time, please get in touch with me.

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

This week, it goes to Charlotte Street Computers--located at 252 Charlotte St, Asheville.

I remember being impressed by this company when I heard Jen Mayer, founder and CEO, present at Lessons in Leadership a few years ago.

Thereafter, I was even more impressed whenever I heard about how it sponsored some local theatre production or supported the work of other non-profit groups.

And I just became a customer when I recently purchased my first iPad. That's me (below) with Sean Gates, the salesperson who did a fine job of answering all my many questions.

I then enrolled in the various free iPad courses that Charlotte Street Computers offers to all its customers. So far, I have taken two--both taught by Tom Quinlan--and now can't wait to learn more. He makes learning easy.

Lastly, thanks to Lee Ann Bubrowski, CFO, for her role in helping me become even a greater fan of Charlotte Street Computers (if that's possible). She has notified me that the Asheville Jewish Business Forum, the group I currently head as president, has been chosen as one of the area non-profits to participate in a unique fundraising partnership with the Asheville Community Theatre.

Note: To read more about this, please see Section 1E (above). And to find out more about Charlotte Street Computers, please click:
Here

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2. FYI

My Dinner With Longevity Expert Dan Buettner (No Kale Required)
by Jeff Gornier

Dan Buettner and I were off to a good start. He approved of coffee.

"It's one of the biggest sources of antioxidants in the American diet," he said with chipper confidence, folding up his black Brompton bike.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:
Here

And see also:

12 Tips for Living a Longer Life
by Tiffany Frasier

In this weekend's article "My Dinner With Longevity Expert Dan Buettner (No Kale Required)," the author of "The Blue Zones Solution" cooked a meal of broccoli soup and Icarian stew (served with a few glasses of red wine) for the writer Jeff Gordinier. Since we can't all have such a hands-on experience, here's a round-up of Mr. Buettner's advice for living a longer life.

For these 12 tips, please click:
Here

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Mexico Tiene Talento 2014 - Pablo "Old Time Rock and Roll"
Here

Note: The best part of this starts when homeless guy starts singing at the 1:55 mark. Prior to that, the clip is in Spanish.

(2) 13 Awkward Photos Of Families In Matching Outfits
Here

(3) Dylan Winter and the Starling Murmurations
Here

(4) Jay Johnson, ventriloquist, on SOAP
Here

(5) Annemarie B. in NC: Three year old kid explains why he doesn´t want to eat meat
Here

B. Other

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

(1) 6 Strategies to Extend Savings Without Working Longer. (2) Picky eating in children linked to anxiety, depression and a.d.h.d. (3) How to Live Wisely. (4) Eating Spicy Food Linked to a Longer Life. (5) Michael L. in PA: If you charged for hugs, you would find out your true friends. (6) Mike M. in NC: Ricki and the Flash ** 1/2.

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3. Joke 1

I'm from tech support. I'm here to delete your cookies.

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4. Reviews

A. Saw RICKI AND THE FLASH, a dramedy about a female rocker who gives up her family for a shot at stardom. Meryl Streep, who learned to play guitar and does her own vocals, is outstanding in the title role. I also liked the performances of Rick Springfield, Kevin Kline and Mamie Gummer (Streep's real-life daughter). The very talented Audra McDonald is somewhat wasted in a smaller role that didn't even involve her singing. There's a great soundtrack, as well as an excellent ending. Rated PG-13.

B. Nothing is currently out on DVD that catches my attention, so instead I'll recommend something from 2002: STOLEN SUMMER ... it's a sweet film about an 8-year-old Catholic boy, Pete, who befriends another boy, Danny, his same age who is seriously ill ... he is also Jewish ... so Pete devises a mini-decathaon to help Danny reshape his spiritual thinking, so that he can get into heaven ... Pete's parents (Bonnie Hunt and Aidan Quinn) don't know what to make of his summer project, nor can Danny's (including his rabbi-father Kevin Pollack) ... see if you can find this one; you'll find it charming ... rated PG.

C. Read IPAD FOR SENIORS FOR DUMMIES, 7TH EDITION (John Wiley & Sons) by Nancy C. Muir.

The author has written over 100 books on business technology and business topics. It shows, too, in that she has included a wealth of information here in a format that's both easy to understand and to put right into practice.

I just purchased my first iPad, so I was especially interested in learning more about it. And within just a few short hours of reading, I became much more familiar with such topics as FaceTime, buying and reading iBooks, and how to setup a Touch ID.

In addition, I liked the section on how to save links and web pages to the Safari Reading List for reading later. This process involves just four simple steps:
1. With a site you want to add to your Reading List displayed, tap the Share button.
2. On the popover that appears, tap Add to Reading List.
3. To view your Reading List, tap the Bookmarks button and then tap the Reading List tab (the tab sports a pair of reading glasses).
4. On the Reading List that appears, tap the content you want to revisit and resume reading.

This particular Dummies book did not have the humor that can be found in other Dummies' books--and that's not a bad thing. Rather, the author instead devotes just about every page of IPAD FOR SENIORS to pointers that might not make you laugh, but will make you a better user of the product.

D. Heard ZILLOW TALK: THE NEW RULES OF REAL ESTATE (Hachette Audio), written and read by Spencer Rascoff and Stan Humphries.

The authors, respectively CEO and chief economist of Zillow, present a fascinating account of how their company became the nation's #1 real estate and mobile app.

But of even more interest were their many observations (all based on data) that included such tidbits as the following:
It is better to remodel your bathroom than your kitchen.
Putting the word "cute" in your listing could cost you thousands of dollars.
You shouldn't list your house for sale before March Madness or after the Masters.
Houses within 0.25 miles of a Starbucks appreciate more quickly than houses farther from a Starbucks
Street names with suffixes like "Way", "Place" or "Court" correspond to higher home values than if you live on a "Street" or "Road."

And this one that surprised me:
You shouldn't buy the worst house in the best neighborhood.

Even if you're not "into" real estate, you'll find ZILLOW TALK a fun, eye-opening book to read.

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5. TV alert

A. I AM CHRIS FARLEY: Monday, Aug. 10, at 10 p.m. on SPIKE TV
Bo Derek, David Spade, Mike Meyers and others talk about the iconic SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE star who died from an accidental drug overdose in 1997.

B. KEN BURNS: THE CIVIL WAR: Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 9 p.m. (Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.) This special promises to be a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the 9-part documentary that aired 25 years ago.

C. MAKE ME A MILLIONAIRE INVENTOR: Series premiere on Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 10 p.m. on CNBC
Engineers travel across America on a hunt for the best inventions not yet produced.

D. A Marx Brothers' Marathon begins on Friday, Aug. 14 at 8 a.m. and continues through 4 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 15, on TCM. For more information, please click:
Here

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6. Joke 2

MY TWO CENTS: I really think that tossing and turning at night should be counted as exercise!

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7. Websites

A. In case you missed the Republican debate on Thursday and/or if you just want to review the highlights, please view this very funny clip: 'We Need Brain: Songify the G.O.P. Debate'
Here

B. Madison Fiedler--"In His Eyes" (Jekyll and Hyde)
Here

Note: To actually see this talented singer in person, see below. (Section 12A, item #2 ... you won't be disappointed!)

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

If you've ever wondered that this blog is all about, click "Newsletter" to the left and then read the section at the top.

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

Place Emails in Primary Tab in Gmail

The desktop version of Gmail includes a feature called inbox tabs. This feature uses different tabs to organize your mail into categories.

This new organization may cause your newsletters to end up on the Promotions tab, rather than in the Primary mailbox. While we have a blog post that outlines the change and the effects it can have on your sending, we'll share some tips we've learned to help ensure your email is delivered to the Primary tab.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:
Here

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9. Joke 3

Three old women are sitting in a park bench, chatting about various things. One lady says, "You know, I'm getting really forgetful. This morning, I was standing at the top of the stairs, and I couldn't remember whether I had just come up or was about to go down." ... The second lady says, "You think that's bad? The other day, I was sitting on the edge of my bed, and I couldn't remember whether I was going to bed or had just woken up!" ... The third lady smiles smugly. "Well, my memory's just as good as it's always been, knock on wood." She raps the bench. With a startled look on her face, she asks, "Who's there?"

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10. A quote I like

"Spending time with children is more important than spending money on children."--Anthony Douglas Williams, author of INSIDE THE DIVINE PATTERN

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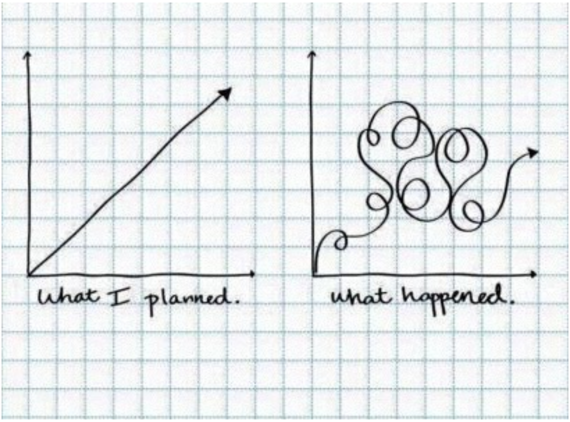
11. Thought for the day

This reminds me of the line from "Beautiful Boy," the John Lennon song: "Life is what happens to us while we are making other plans." To listen to it, please click:
Here


what I planned.
what happened.

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12. Advance planning department

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

A. NC events

(1) COMPANY! at HART. (2) Songs of the Stage: An Evening of Wine, Cheese, and Musical Theatre. (3) Howard D. in FL: I have recently found a terrific "new" group The Devil Makes Three (TDM3). (4) LOCAL MOVEMENT THEATER COMPANY ANNOUNCES FALL WORKSHOP. (5) Recruiting standardized patients (SPs) for our objective structured clinical examinations. Paid position.

B. PA/NJ event

Joey Novick at Catch A Rising Star-Princeton.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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