

#1059
1.9.2017

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1. Reflections

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 bjnbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

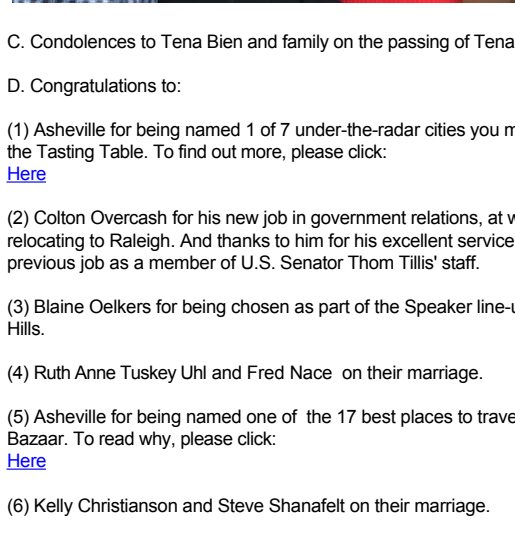
(1) Reviewed our 2016 by emptying the jar we started on January 1, 2016, in which we submitted slips of paper throughout the year that described things we were grateful for and/or wished to remember. It was a lot of fun, and we have already begun doing this for 2017. ... Please feel free to join us by doing the same thing in your home.



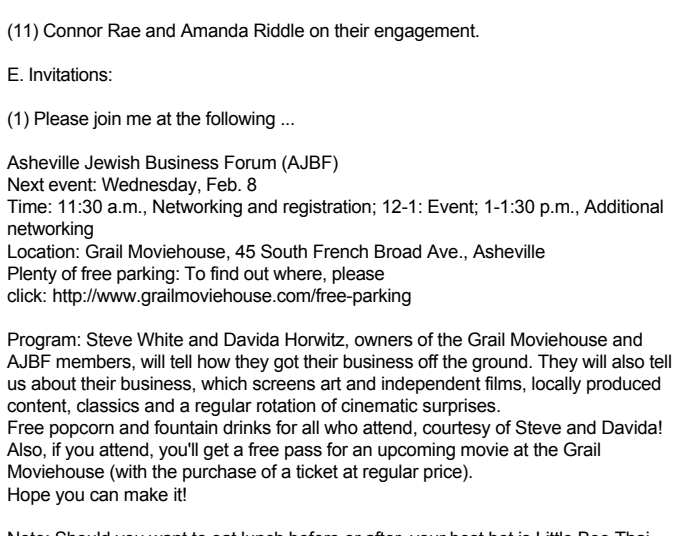
(2) Joined our friends Marvin Sadovsky and Anemarie Brown for a delicious meal at Champa, one of our favorite Thai restaurants. Our excellent server was Alex Pasaribu, and as always, he helped make our dining experience even more enjoyable.



(3) Enjoyed our dinner at P.F. Chang's. The food was great and so was the service we received from Corey Smith.



B. During the week, I got to visit the fine folks at First Service Residential (who help make our Billmore Lake Community as great as it is) and present them a belated holiday thank you from Cynthia and me; i.e., some delicious combread from 131 Main. Picture, I-r next to me: Karen Foley, Kim Maynard and Bill McMannis.



C. Condolences to Tena Blien and family on the passing of Tena's Aunt Faydeen.

D. Congratulations to:

- (1) Asheville for being named 1 of 7 under-the-radar cities you must visit this year by the Tasting Table. To find out more, please click: [Here](#)
- (2) Dalton Overcash for his new job in government relations, at which time he'll also be relocating to Raleigh. And thanks to him for his excellent service to constituents in his previous job as a member of U.S. Senator Thom Tillis' staff.
- (3) Blaine Oelkers for being chosen as part of the Speaker line-up for TEDx Fountain Hills.
- (4) Ruth Anne Tuskey Uhl and Fred Nace on their marriage.
- (5) Asheville for being named one of the 17 best places to travel in 2017 by Harper's Bazaar. To read why, please click: [Here](#)
- (6) Kelly Christianson and Steve Shanafelt on their marriage.
- (7) Chuck Beattie on being chosen as the keynote speaker for the MLK Celebration at St. Peter Church of Christ in Kinston, NC. Kinston, NC. (The public is invited. For more information, please see Section 12A.)
- (8) Jason Sandford on his engagement.
- (9) Dan Bates on his new position as President and CEO of the Greater Hamilton (OH) Chamber of Commerce.
- (10) TJ Shimeld on his recent appearance on WLOS. To view it, please click: [Here](#)
- (11) Connor Rae and Amanda Riddle on their engagement.

E. Invitations:

(1) Please join me at the following ...

Asheville Jewish Business Forum (AJBF)
Next event: Wednesday, Feb. 8
Time: 11:30 a.m., Networking and registration; 12-1: Event; 1-1:30 p.m., Additional networking
Location: Grail Moviehouse, 45 South French Broad Ave., Asheville
Plenty of free parking; To find out where, please click: <http://www.grailmoviehouse.com/free-parking>

Program: Steve White and Davida Horwitz, owners of the Grail Moviehouse and AJBF members, will tell how they got their business off the ground. They will also tell us about their business, which screens art and independent films, locally produced content, classics and a regular rotation of cinematic surprises.
Free popcorn and fountain drinks for all who attend, courtesy of Steve and Davida! Also, if you attend, you'll get a free pass for an upcoming movie at the Grail Moviehouse (with the purchase of a ticket at regular price). Hope you can make it!

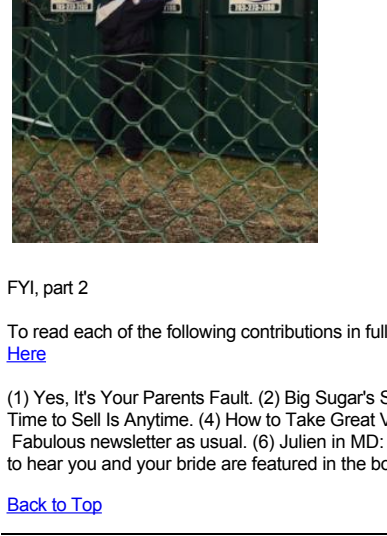
Note: Should you want to eat lunch before or after, your best bet is Little Bee Thai, which is located at the same address. The food is quite good there. Food is NOT permitted in the Grail Moviehouse.

Questions? Contact Blaine Greenfield, AJBF President, at bjnbc@aol.com or call 828.633.1049.

***** PLEASE RSVP, SO WE KNOW HOW MANY TO EXPECT *****

To RSVP, please hit REPLY to this email notice and in the body of your email, kindly include your name, phone number and if you will be bringing any guests. If you are viewing this on Facebook or the AJBF website, please email this address: asheville7@aol.com and put FEBRUARY 8 in the subject line. In the body of the email, kindly include your name, phone number and if you will be bringing any guests.

You don't have to be Jewish to attend.



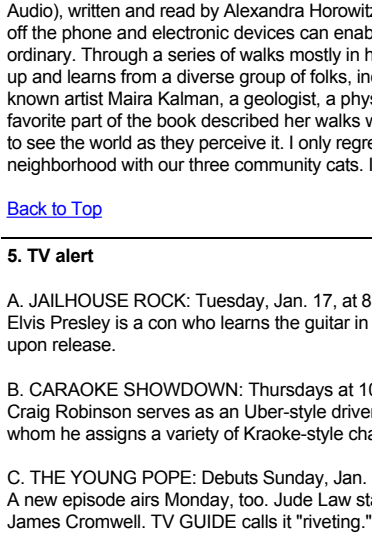
(2) There's still time to enter ...

***** CONTEST #1 (of 2017) *****

One lucky winner will win a copy of LEADERSHIP by Brian Tracy. The author looks at what transforms a person into the kind of individual who inspires others to follow. ... I reviewed it in BLAINESWORLD #1050 and enjoyed it. ... To enter the contest, send an email to bjnbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #1 in the subject line. In the body of the email, please include your small mail address. All entries must be received on or before Monday, January 16, at 9 p.m.

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

This week, it goes to Joel Mazelis--treasurer of the Asheville Jewish Business Forum. He does a terrific job and has not only kept this group's books in order for the last few years, but has also lightened its budgeting procedures. In addition, he is one of the busiest guys I know--being active in the Buncombe County Democratic Party, the Asheville Chamber of Commerce, his temple, serving as an adjunct instructor in political science at Haywood Community College, and he heads the local chapter of fans of the Cleveland Browns. ... What I really like about him is that he never complains about how busy he is and/or how much work he has to do. He just does it. And does it well, too!



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2. FYI

URINAUGURATION NEWS: ... Workers cover up 'Don't Johns' on portable toilets on Capitol Hill. ... This is no joke, by the way. It is really happening, according to FOX NEWS--likely at taxpayer expense. ... My take: Finally, a product that President-Elect Trump doesn't want to put his name on. Nice to see that he has standards, although this is setting the bar really low. ... For more information, please click: [Here](#)



FYI, part 2

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

[Here](#)
(1) Yes, It's Your Parents' Fault, (2) Big Sugar's Secret Ally? Nutritionists, (3) The Right Time to Start to Anytime, (4) How to Take Great Vacation Photos, (5) Carole Biro: Fabulous newsletter as usual, (6) Julien in MD: Loved 4C! (7) Steve DiGirola: Great to hear you and your bride are featured in the book.

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3. Joke 1

A summer visitor asked the farmer how long cows should be milked. ... "Oh," the farmer answered, "I reckon about the same as short ones!"

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4. Reviews

A. Saw FENCES, the adaptation of August Wilson's Pulitzer-winning play about a black garbage collector in Pittsburgh. Denzel Washington was outstanding in the leading role as the man in charge of the household that wasn't yours. Viola Davis as his wife was excellent, too. Washington also directs this film, which doesn't do a great job of opening it up for the screen. I liked it, but didn't love it. Rated PG-13.

B. Now out on DVD is DEEPWATER HORIZON. Here's my review from BLAINESWORLD #1046:
Saw DEEPWATER HORIZON, the true story about the worst oil spill in American history. There's plenty of action and fine performances from all the leading performers: Mark Wahlberg, Kurt Russell, John Malkovich, Gina Rodriguez, Dylan O'Brien and Kate Hudson. I would have liked to have seen a bit more on the hearings that took place afterward--perhaps cutting down on the disaster part. Rated PG-13.

C. Read TODAY I WILL NOURISH MY INNER MARTYR: AFFIRMATIONS FOR CYNICS (Prima Publishing) by Ann Thornhill and Sarah Wells. ... The authors describe themselves as "seasoned victims of the self-help craze." They present 365 daily meditations that, to quote them, are perfect if you are "tired of the self-helpaholics who've been sipping to much chicken soup." ... What I found particularly enjoyable about this book is that you can turn to just about any page and come up with such tidbits as the following: This year I will save money by not buying birthday cards for anyone; I will tell others that I have been best in the mail. ... Today I will buy high-watt light bulbs for my bathroom so I can better obsess over my wrinkles. ... And today I will taunt others until they cry, then tell them they are too sensitive. ... I don't know if I am a better person for having read TODAY I WILL FINISH MY INNER MARTYR; however, I do know that I got a lot of laughs for having done so.

D. Heard on LOOKING: ELEVEN WALKS WITH EXPERT EYES (Simon & Schuster Audio), written and read by Alexandra Horowitz. ... The author shows us how turning off the phone and electronic devices can enable us to see the spectacle of the ordinary. Through a series of walks mostly in her Manhattan neighborhood, she meets up and learns from a diverse group of folks, including an urban sociologist, the well-known artist Maira Kalman, a geologist, a physician and a sound designer. ... My favorite part of the book described her walks with a child and a dog, in which she got to see the world as they perceive it. I only regret that I now can't walk around my neighborhood with our three community cats. It would be so cool to observe them.

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5. TV alert

A. JAILHOUSE ROCK: Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 8 p.m. on TCM
Elvis Presley is a con who learns the guitar in prison and become a singing sensation upon release.

B. CARAKE SHOWDOWN: Thursdays at 10:30 p.m. on Spike
Craig Robinson serves as a Uber-style driver, picking up unsuspecting passengers whom he assigns a variety of Karaoke-style challenges for cash.

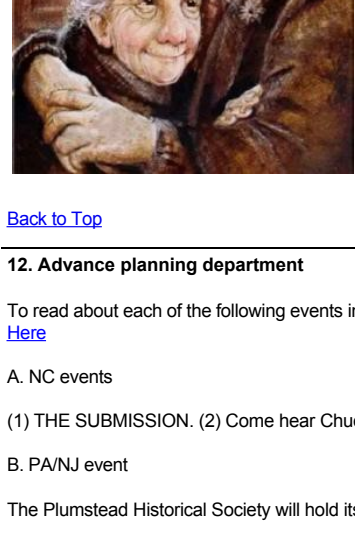
C. THE YOUNG POPE: Debuts Sunday, Jan. 15, on HBO at 9 p.m.
A new episode airs Monday, too. Jude Law stars, along with Diane Keaton and James Cromwell. TV GUIDE calls it "riveting."

D. A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS: Now available via streaming on Netflix.
The extraordinary Baudelaire orphans face trials, tribulations and the evil Count Olaf in their quest to unlock long-held family secrets.

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6. Joke 2

HAPPY FIRST SNOWDAY OF THE WINTER--or at least it was in NC! ... If it's snowing where you are and/or if you know anybody who is snowbound, please share this great idea with them. And if you qualify as being somebody who has hot flashes, just think of all the money you can make; e.g., if you're willing to lend yourself out to help your neighbors.



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

- (1) Penny White: Let it Begin [Here](#)
- (2) Carole Biro ... Meryl Streep powerful speech at the Golden Globes (2017) [Here](#)
- (3) Brian Biro ... Jimmy Fallon's Golden Globes Open [Here](#)

and
Kristen Wieg And Steve Carell funny presentation at the Golden Globes [Here](#)

(4) Vera Brown ... Willie Nelson On Eggs, Martial Arts & Living A Life Without Worry [Here](#)

B. Cute Overload chronicled and celebrated over ten years and thousands of pictures of sweet animals. Their captions were also great. ... Unfortunately, the website shut down in January of 2016, but you can still view it by clicking: [Here](#)

You'll be sure to get a kick out of such pictures as the one below.
"Hey, Honey? Did you get the cat food at the store?" ... Could you bring it here? Quickly?"

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

I'm not a big fan of electronic greeting cards. Methinks you might not be, either, after you read this informative column by Leo Nietenboom (aka Ask Leo!).

He writes:
Electronic greeting cards seem like such a good idea. A quick point-and-click at an e-card service, and you can send a cute virtual "card" via email. Often they're even animated, with sounds or music in the background.

Unfortunately, all too often they also have a hidden agenda.

You may be "giving" more than you think.

To find out more, please click: [Here](#)

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9. Joke 3

My hope is that this guy gets some miracle drug to cure him of this terrible disease--and to help keep the pharmaceutical industry highly profitable!

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10. A quote I like

Jimmy Carter (born 1924) is an American politician who served as the 39th President of the United States from 1977 to 1981. In 2002, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work with the Carter Center.

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11. Thought for the day

An elderly man arrived sharply at 8 a.m. for his doctor's appointment. He stated that he was in a hurry because he had another appointment in an hour. ... The doctor asked him where he was next going, and the man said proudly that at 9 a.m. every morning, he went to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife. When the doctor inquired about her health, the man replied, "She had Alzheimer's disease and hadn't recognized him for the last several years. The doctor was surprised and asked, "And you still go every morning--even though she doesn't know who you are?" ... The man answered, "Yes. She doesn't know me, but I still know who she is."

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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) THE SUBMISSION, (2) Come hear Chuck Beattie as the guest speaker.
- B. PANJ event
The Plumstead Historical Society will hold its monthly meeting.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!
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