

#1063
2.6.2017

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1. Reflections

Note: 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: bjgibbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Made sure that our we will be always holding our hands together as a result of having the very talented Walter Beals (left with Sophie the Wonder Dog) cast them for us in plaster that's designed to last forever (right).

It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that we strongly recommend for others. You're in luck, too, because Walter is having casting parties this coming Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. For complete information, please click: [Here](#)

Note: Even if you can't make it that day, contact Walter to arrange a date and time that is convenient for you. He'll even extend the 20% off deal if you mention that you read about it in BLAINESWORLD.

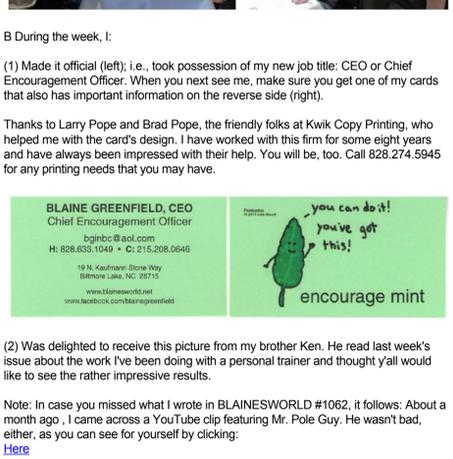


(2) Had the pleasure of joining my brother Ken Greenfield and his wife Lavelle Olexa for a delicious dinner at Strada Asheville where we received fine service from Peter.



(3) Then went to see NC Stage Company's hilarious production of JEEVES IN BLOOM that starred, clockwise: Charlie Flynn-Melver, Scott Treadway, Strother Stingley, Michael MacCauley, John Hall and Trinity Smith Keel. Not pictured: Callan White. Kudos to Angie Flynn-McGiver for her spot on direction.

Good news: The run has been extended until Feb. 26. For tickets, please click: [Here](#)



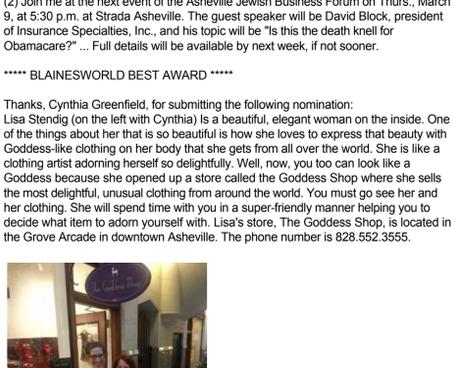
(4) Attended the 60th birthday party of Mike Martinelli (left) at Longhorn Steakhouse. Great food and friends (right), as well as Mark Jones' outstanding service ... nothing could be finer!

For more pictures, please click: [Here](#)

And lest I forget, special thanks to Trissa King for the Coconut Poke Cake that she made for the occasion. It was soooo good. For her recipe, please go to Section 1 when you click: [Here](#)



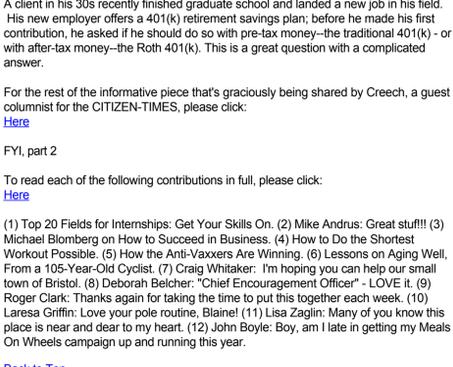
(5) Met our friends Tom and Marcy Gallagher for a dinner at Bonefish Grill that was just perfect. Things started out well when we received an enthusiastic greeting from Daniel Hopey, the maitre d'. Randall Keaton (left) provided attentive service throughout the meal. And special thanks to Brian Wess (right), the assistant food manager. He made a "special" dish for me, coconut-crusted tilapia, then came over to see how it came out.



B During the week, I:

(1) Made it official (left); i.e., took possession of my new job title: CEO or Chief Encouragement Officer. When you next see me, make sure you get one of my cards that also has important information on the reverse side (right).

Thanks to Larry Pope and Brad Pope, the friendly folks at Kwik Copy Printing, who helped me with the card's design. I have worked with this firm for some eight years and have always been impressed with their help. You will be, too. Call 828.274.5945 for any printing needs that you may have.

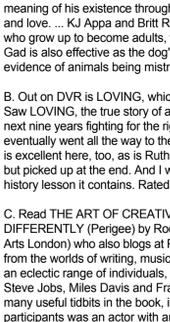


(2) Was delighted to receive this picture from my brother Ken. He read last week's issue about the work I've been doing with a personal trainer and thought y'all would like to see the rather impressive results.

Note: In case you missed what I wrote in BLAINESWORLD #1062, it follows: About a month ago, I came across a YouTube clip featuring Mr. Pole Guy. He wasn't bad, either, as you can see for yourself by clicking: [Here](#)

It got me thinking to myself: "Self, I can do that." So I started working with Jhan [my trainer] on a similar routine. We began with the hard part, i.e., the last 7 seconds. You can view how far I've come in just a few weeks by clicking: [Here](#)

Now all I have to do is go back and perfect the ease part of the routine; i.e., the first 4 minutes and 19 seconds. I figure at the rate I'm going, you should be prepared to see that video clip sometime before 2031 rolls around.



C. Condolences to Sheila Croucher and family on the passing of Samuel Lee Croucher, Sheila's father.

D. Congratulations to:

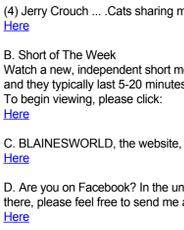
- (1) Mitch Kelly on his new job as an Account Manager at Critico.
- (2) Michelle Baker on having one of her paintings accepted into the NC Artists Exhibition in Raleigh and, also, on the fact that her paintings are going up at Studio Chavarria.
- (3) Chuck Greenberg on the launch of his new business, My Vehicle Partner. If you want expert advice on leasing or purchasing a car, please click: [Here](#)
- (4) Jared Mattson for scaring away a thief from his Carolina Mountain Pharmacy store. To see more about it, please click: [Here](#)
- (5) Dan Clancy and Natasha Skidds on their marriage.

E. Invitations to:

- (1) Still enter ...
 - ***** CONTEST #3 *****
- One lucky reader will win a copy of the official Game Program for Super Bowl LI (New England vs. Atlanta) ... To enter the contest: Send an email to: bjgibbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #3 in the subject line. In the body of the email, please include your snail mail address. All entries must be received on or before Monday, Feb. 13, at 9 p.m.
- (2) Join me at the next event of the Asheville Jewish Business Forum on Thurs., March 9, at 5:30 p.m. at Strada Asheville. The guest speaker will be David Block, president of Insurance Specialties, INC., and his topic will be "Is this the death knell for Obamacare?" ... Full details will be available by next week, if not sooner.

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

Thanks, Cynthia Greenfield, for submitting the following nomination: Lisa Stendig (on the left with Cynthia) is a beautiful, elegant woman on the inside. One of the things about her that is so beautiful is how she loves to express that beauty with Goddess-like clothing on her body that she gets from all over the world. She is like a clothing artist adorning herself so delightfully. Well, now, you too can look like a Goddess because she opened up a store called the Goddess Shop where she sells the most delightful, unusual clothing from around the world. You must go see her and her clothing. She will spend time with you in a super-friendly manner helping you to decide what item to adorn yourself with. Lisa's store, the Goddess Shop, is located in the Grove Arcade in downtown Asheville. The phone number is 828.552.3555.



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2. FYI

Diversify your retirement tax burden
by Bray Creech

There is a lot of buzz about upcoming changes to the tax code. Lowering federal income tax rates is a known priority for congress and the incoming president. Whatever happens, it's a reminder that the federal and state tax rates are largely out of our control. But you can control your potential exposure to those taxes. Let me share a recent example.

A client in his 30s recently finished graduate school and landed a new job in his field. His new employer offers a 401(k) retirement savings plan; before he made his first contribution, he asked if he should do so with pre-tax money—the traditional 401(k) - or with after-tax money—the Roth 401(k). This is a great question with a complicated answer.

For the rest of the informative piece that's graciously being shared by Creech, a guest columnist for the CITIZEN-TIMES, please click: [Here](#)

FYI, part 2

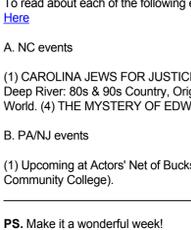
To read each of the following contributions in full, please click: [Here](#)

- (1) Top 20 Fields for Internships: Get Your Skills On. (2) Mike Andrus: Great stuff!!! (3) Michael Blomberg on How to Succeed in Business. (4) How to Do the Shortest Workout Possible. (5) How the Anti-Vaxxers Are Winning. (6) Lessons on Aging Well, From a 105-Year-Old Cyclist. (7) Craig Whitaker: I'm hoping you can help our small town of Bristol. (8) Deborah Belcher: "Chief Encouragement Officer" - LOVE it. (9) Rogers Clark: Thanks again for taking the time to put this together each week. (10) Laresa Griffin: Love your pole routine, Blaine! (11) Lisa Zaglin: Many of you know this place is near and dear to my heart. (12) John Boyle: Boy, am I late in getting my Meals on Wheels campaign up and running this year.

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3. Joke 1

Just the sign I need for my driveway! (Thanks, Terri Crosby, for sharing.)



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4. Reviews

A. Saw A DOG'S PURPOSE, the sweet story of one devoted dog who finds the meaning of his existence through the lives of several humans he had taught to laugh and love. ... KJ Appa and Britt Robertson do nicely as teen Ethan and teen Hannah who grow up to become adults, well played by Dennis Quaid and Peggy Lipton. Josh Gad is also effective as the dog's voice. ... I enjoyed this film and didn't see any visible evidence of animals being mistreated. Rated PG.

B. Out on DVR is LOVING, which I reviewed in BLAINESWORLD #1052 as follows: Saw LOVING, the true story of an interracial couple who married and then spent the next nine years fighting for the right to live as a family in their hometown. The case eventually went all the way to the Supreme Court. Joel Edgerton (so fine in THE GIFT) is excellent here. too, as is Ruth Negga. The film dragged, especially in the beginning, but picked up at the end. And I would recommend it, if for no other reason than the history lesson it contains. Rated PG-13.

C. READ THE ART OF CREATIVE THINKING: 89 WAYS TO SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY (Perigee) by Rod Jinkins. ... The author, a lecturer at University of the Arts London) who also blogs at PSYCHOLOGY TODAY, looks at creative thinkers from the worlds of writing, music, painting, technology and more. In doing so, he cites an eclectic range of individuals, ranging from Sondeheim to the Beatles and including Steve Jobs, Miles Davis and Francis Ford Coppola, among others. ... There were many useful tidbits in the book, including this one: "One of my creativity workshop participants was an actor with an interest in Shakespeare. He was attending endless auditions but wasn't getting any roles. We analyzed his predicament. He needed the approval of theater directors to pass the auditions. Why not become your own theater director? I suggested. Put on the play yourself. No money for other actors? Play all the roles yourself. No props? Make them out of cardboard boxes. He became a one-man Shakespeare company. ... Why go back to being at the mercy of others' decisions? ... I also liked how Jinkins concluded each section with a quote and a suggestion for what else to read; e.g.: A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and goes to bed at night and in between does what he wants to do.—Bob Dylan. More? Follow Robert DeNiro and create your own opportunities on page 19. ... Lastly, there was a very useful final section, "Try this at home." I especially liked the advice on making a mark. ... I tell them [my students] to make a mark on a canvas with paint. It might be a slashing stroke. Then make another mark in response. Then another. A conversation begins. Soon they have a painting. The same is true of writing or any field of creativity. Write one word, then another in response. ... I enjoyed this film and didn't see any visible evidence of animals being mistreated. Rated PG-13.

D. Heard THE HOUSE HUSBAND, part of the Bookshots series (Hachette Audio), written by James Patterson with Duane Swierczynski and read by Fred Bertram. ... The story about a detective trying to discover the truth about a case starts off great, then founders. For such a short book, I found there were both too many characters and unanswered questions. In addition, I could have done with less violence. ... I've enjoyed some of these Bookshots, but not this one.

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5. TV alert

A. GRAMMY AWARDS: Sunday, Feb. 12, at 8 p.m. on CBS
James Corden hosts the 59th annual music celebration that is slated to have John Legend, Metallica, Carrie Underwood and Keith Urban perform.

B. MARCY & TOM GALLAGHER TO BE ON TV... Monday, Feb. 13, on the 5:30 p.m. news show on WLOS, Channel 13 out of Asheville. ... They are slated to be on sometime after 6 p.m. to talk about both Kilwins and their romance novels. ... You won't want to miss this show!

C. BRITNEY EVER AFTER: Saturday, Feb. 18, at 8 p.m. on Lifetime
Though only two hours in length, this TV biopic about Britney Spears covers all the key details of one of the world's biggest pop stars.

D. CRASHING: Series premiere on Sunday, Feb. 19, at 10:30 p.m. on HBO
The show, starring Pete Holmes, will revolve around a young comedian whose wife leaves him for an Italian boxer named Rocco. Holmes claims his new series is to the world of stand-up what BREAKING BAD was to selling meth.

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6. Joke 2

Methinks I won't hire George if I need a sign printed. (Thanks, Chris Field-Funk, for sharing.)

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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

- (1) Gil Calderwood ... LTH Crowd Favorite - Make America Great Again [Here](#)
- (2) Benny The Bull Kiss Cam Steals Celtic's Fan Girlfriend [Here](#)
- (3) Scott Treadway ... Teacher has unique handshakes for her students [Here](#)
- (4) Jerry Crouch ... Cats sharing milk [Here](#)

B. Short of The Week
Watch a new, independent short movie each week. They can be on virtually any topic, and they typically last 5-20 minutes. Best of all is the price: Free!
To begin viewing, please click: [Here](#)

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

Uninstalling Software You Don't Need
by Leo A Notenboom

It's not at all uncommon for a computer to accumulate quite a collection of software over time. Applications, utilities, Windows features, and who knows what else all accumulate over time to take up space and resources from our machines.

It's also not uncommon for much of the software installed on our machine to go unused and unneeded. Perhaps we stopped using a specific application. Perhaps a trial version of some software remains. Perhaps some software was installed as part of some other installation.

For the rest of this informative article, please click: [Here](#)

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9. Joke 3

On a couple's 50th anniversary, the minister asked Ralph to share some insight into how he managed to live with the same woman all these years. The husband shyly stood and turned to the audience: "Well, I treated her with respect, spent money on her, but mostly I took her traveling on special occasions." ... The minister inquired, "Trips to where?" ... "Well," the man says, "for our 25th anniversary, I took her to Beijing, China." An appreciative murmur went up in the congregation. ... The minister then said, "What a terrific example you are to all husbands, Ralph. Please tell the brethren what you're going to do for your wife on your 50th anniversary?" ... "Big plans!" he said with a smile. "I'm headin' back to Beijing to pick her up!"

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10. A quote I like

"People always say: 'You're a comedian, tell us a joke.' They don't say: 'You're a politician, tell us a lie.' "-Bob Monkhouse (1928-2003), English writer, comedian and actor who was also well known on television as a presenter and game show host. For more of his one-liners, please click: [Here](#)

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11. Thought for the day

Bummer that WiFi wasn't around 30 years ago when my daughter was younger! (Thanks, Kathy Byets, for sharing.)

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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) CAROLINA JEWS FOR JUSTICE/WEST TO HOLD POVERTY SIMULATION. (2) Deep River: 80s & 90s Country, Originals, Eagles and Ronstadt. (3) Songs for a New World. (4) THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD.

B. PA/NJ events

- (1) Upcoming at Actors' Net of Bucks County. (2) At Kelsey Theatre (Mercer County Community College).

PS. Make it a wonderful week!

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