

#1071
4.3.2017

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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 me an email](mailto:info@blainesworld.net) and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Attended the party of the year--or at least the year to date. I.e., Tom Gallagher's Surprise 60th Birthday Party. That's us on the left. Picture on the left. I-r in the front row; Sunny Ruble, Marcy Gallagher, Tom Gallagher, Blaine Greenfield, Walea Dobroski and Annetarie Brown, and in the rear row, I-r: Marvin Brown, Bonnie Silner, Cynthia Greenfield, Brian Biro and Carole Biro.

The excellent costumes were provided by Carole. We were all dressed-up for Tom Gallagher's treat, which can best be viewed by clicking:
[Here](#)

Another high spot of the evening was the appearance of Jeff Thompson. He sang, among other tunes, "Tom's Birthday Song (An Attorney's Journey)," which can be viewed by clicking:
[Here](#)

To view other pictures from the evening, as well as to view more songs and video clips, please click:
[Here](#)



(2) Had a blast at ACT's production of PETER AND THE STARCATCHER, a fun, swashbuckling play. Asheville folks are in luck, in that they can still catch it through April 15. For tickets, please click:
[Here](#)

Pictured, left photo, I-r: Bradshaw Call, Mike Yow, Blaine Greenfield and Cynthia Greenfield and right photo, Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield, John Hall, Chanda Callentine and Pat LaCorte, Bradshaw, Mike, John and Pat all were excellent in the play, and Chanda's direction was spot on. I'd be remiss if I also didn't recognize the folks for their stellar efforts: Chris Zaitounian and Alex Daly, among others, in the cast; Brad Curtoff, Music Director; Jill Summers, Technical Design and Scenic Design; Carina Lopez, Costume Design; and Reeni Lindbom Dowd, Properties Design.



(3) Enjoyed our dinner, afterward, at Zen Sushi with I-r: Bradshaw Call, Chandler Smith and Mike Yow.



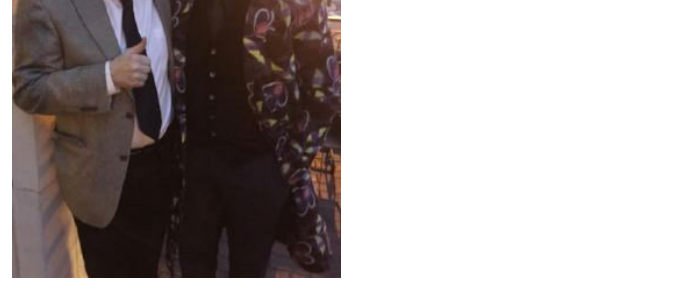
B. During the week, I:

(1) Hosted my BLAINESWORLD radio show on WPVW. It featured Tina Madison White (left photo), Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Prose Center, in the first half and then T.J. Shimek (right photo), President of The Vanishing Wheelchair, in the second half. ... To listen, please click:
[Here](#)

Then scroll down until you get to the 4.5.17 program.



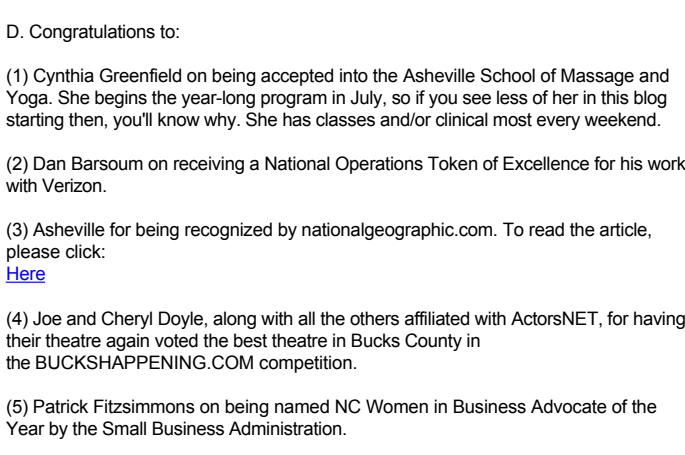
(2) Took a fascinating tour of Apex Brain Centers from my friend Dr. Michael Trayford. He also provided me with information about the VNG testing that his office provides. ... Also, we got to plan out the Dementia Walk that will take place on May 23. (Details to follow.)



(3) Joined my friend Blaine Kern for a delicious lunch at Doc Brown's BBQ. In addition, we discussed the Asheville Society of Podcasters.



(4) Bumped into my friend Caleb Owolabi one night in downtown Asheville and got to admire his jacket that he designed himself. If you'd like him to design one for you, he can be reached via email, caleb@owolabi.com, or by phone, 828-299-0924. To keep up to date what he is doing, check his Facebook page by clicking:
[Here](#)



(5) Met with a SCORE client/friend, Chris Filipiak, for a session that also involved a walk around Biltmore Lake. Tough life, but someone has to live it. ... If you're looking for a guy to help get the sales going for your company, Chris is the person to contact. He can be reached at: cfilipia@hotmail.com or by phone, 828-747-7855.



C. Condolences to Kathleen Callahan, as well as the friends and family of Harry Latham, on Harry's passing.

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Cynthia Greenfield on being accepted into the Asheville School of Massage and Yoga. She begins the year-long program in July, so if you see less of her in this blog starting then, you'll know why. She has classes and/or clinical most every weekend.

(2) Dan Barsoum on receiving a National Operations Token of Excellence for his work with Verizon.

(3) Asheville for being recognized by nationalgeographic.com. To read the article, please click:
[Here](#)

(4) Joe and Cheryl Doyle, along with all the others affiliated with ActorsNET, for having their theatre again voted the best theatre in Bucks County in the BUCKSHAPPENING.COM competition.

(5) Patrick Fitzsimmons on being named NC Women in Business Advocate of the Year by the Small Business Administration.

(6) Andrew Zimnicki on his new job as a junior software developer for Hexagon US Federal.

E. Reminders:

(1) Kindly vote for me in the following competition:

Note: Aside from voting for me in the above category, kindly also feel free to vote for me in this category.
Local Website Other than mountainx.com: www.blainesworld.net

Thanks, Sarah Fowler, for making the above poster for me. And if you're still looking for names to complete the ballot, please consider voting for Sarah in the Kids Section/Private Music Lessons category, along with my other friends including Jeff Thompson, Jeff Messer, Zuzu Winslow, etc. (Contact me if you're in need of suggestions for the 30 categories that must be completed for your ballot to count.)

And in case you still need a ballot, one can be obtained by clicking:
[Here](#)

(2) Please join the BLAINESWORLD team at Walk at Mile Asheville on Sat., May 6. And even if you physically can't join us, you're welcome to make a contribution on our BLAINESWORLD's team behalf to support the efforts of our team. ... For more information, please click:
[Here](#).

(3) There's still time to enter ...
**** CONTEST #7 ****

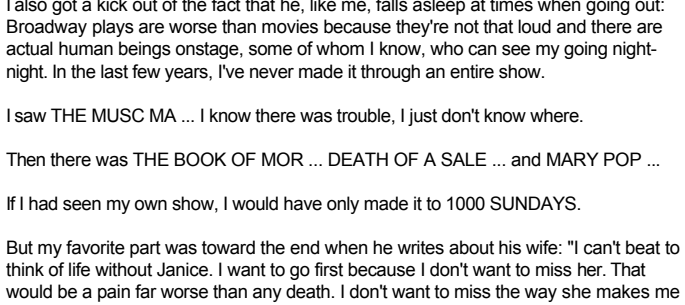
One lucky reader will win a copy of THE CHAMELEON: LIFE-CHANGING WISDOM FROM ANYONE WHO HAS A PERSONALITY OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES. ... This book has 22 entertaining fables. I reviewed it favorably in BLAINESWORLD #1038. ... To enter the contest: Send an email to: hginc@aol.com and put CONTEST #7 in the subject line. In the body of the email, please include your snail mail address. All entries must be received on or before Monday, April 10, at 9 p.m.

**** BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD ****

Thanks, Cynthia Greenfield, for the following nomination: Stephanie and her husband (with My Wonderful Walls) were extremely helpful with helping me with finding fairy wall stickers for a room I was decorating for our cat Loney. They spent a great deal of time changing stencils for the walls and wall stickers. They also changed the size of them as I wanted them smaller. When I received them, and they were not the perfect color, they had me take a picture of my room, and they sent that picture back to me with numbers on it. They then redid the could actually see the colors on the wall I was using them on. And then redid the stickers in the color of my choice at a most reasonable price, and it was Sunday. They were always available for questions and even answered their phone on a weekend. Check out the website:
[Here](#)

They have so many wonderful wall decoration ideas--stencils, stickers, posters, painting ideas, etc. They are wonderful to work with, reasonable and also timely. Their email address is: info@mywonderfulwalls.com.

Note: You can see the outcome by looking at the pictures below. Special kudos to Kim Stimpson (704.806.7300) for doing the beautiful paintings below.



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2. FYI

A Positive Outlook May be Good for Your Health
by Jane E. Brody

"Look on the sunny side of life."
"Turn your face toward the sun, and the shadows will fall behind you."
"Every day may not be good, but there is something good in every day."
"See the glass as half-full, not half-empty."

Researchers are finding that thoughts like these, the hallmarks of people sometimes called "cockeyed optimists," can do far more than raise one's spirits. They may actually improve health and extend life.

For the rest of this terrific column, please click:
[Here](#)

And then, read the following--the second of two columns on positive emotions and health:
Turning Negative Thinkers Into Positive Ones
[Here](#)

FYI, part 2

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

(1) Richard Shulman: Great photo of us at the Jazz for Justice event! (2) Jean Brenner: You are the best self-promoter in the world! (3) Kristi Deville: On dealing with grief. (4) Steve Darter: FYI. I thought that The Shack was pretty good. (5) Ruhnam Lili: Leave a legacy, tell your story! (6) Check This Box if You're a Good Person. (7) Why Authoritarians Attack the Arts. (8) High School Journalists Land a Scoop, the Principal Resigns. (9) Mike Martinelli: GOING IN STYLE ***12.

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3. Joke 1

The teacher asks Joanie, "If you had a million dollars and would give away one quarter and another quarter and then another quarter, how much dollars would you have left?" ... Joanie replies, "A million dollars minus 75 cents."

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4. Reviews

A. Saw THE ZOOKEEPER'S WIFE, the true story of a working wife and mother who runs a successful zoo in Walesaw with her husband! When their country is invaded by the Germans, they covertly begin working with the Resistance to put into action plans that saved hundreds. Jessica Chastain is outstanding in the leading role. The film started a bit slowly, but by the end, it had me hooked. Rated PG-13.

B. Now out on DVD, a film I reviewed in BLAINESWORLD #1060. Here's what I wrote then:
Sara HIDDEN FIGURES, the true story about a trio of brilliant African-American women who provided much of the brainpower that helped launch astronaut John Glenn into orbit. Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer and Janelle Monáe were all excellent in the leading roles. ... The fact that he is almost my age meant that I could relate to much of the book, such as when he eavesdropped on a couple who were 25 in 1973; now they're 65.

1973
Him: Look at you, you're so beautiful.
Her: Awwww

2013
Him: I can't believe these tits.
Her: Stop looking at the mirror and come to bed.

1973
Him: I love to feel your heartbeat through your shirt
Her: Every beat is yours

2013
Her: Maybe it's your pacemaker
Him: Call a kick out of the fact that he, like me, falls asleep at times when going out. Broadway plays are far worse than movies because they're not that loud and there are actual human beings onstage, some of whom I know, who can see my going night-night. In the last few years, I've never made it through an entire show.

I saw THE MUSC MA ... I know there was trouble. I just don't know where.

Then there was THE BOOK OF MOR ... DEATH OF A SALE ... and MARY POP ...
If I had seen my own show, I would have only made it to 1000 SUNDAYS.

But my favorite part was toward the end when he writes about his wife: "I can't beat to think of life without Janice. I want to go first because I don't want to miss her. That would be a pain far worse than any death. I don't want to miss the way she makes me laugh. I don't want to miss waking up and realizing she's holding my hand while she quietly sleeps. I don't want to miss hugging her when nothing else in the world makes sense. I don't want to miss her finishing my sentences because we're thinking the same thing. I would rather be gone than have to miss her. I won't buy the plot right now because I can't. I'm going to just go on and keep living and laughing and loving. I'd like to think there is a heaven and it starts from the happiest day in your life. It'll be eighteen and Janice Goldfinger will walk by in a bikini, and I will follow her and it will start all over again. I'd really like to think that.

Rereading the above passage makes me realize that STILL FOOLIN' EM is one of the best books I've read in quite some time. My hope is that you love it as much as I did.

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5. TV alert

A. LOUIS CK: 2007. Via Netflix
This is the first of the Emmy-winning comedian's two streaming specials, in which he riffs on naps, race, relationships, terrorism baldness, parenthood and a lot more.

B. AMERICAN PLAYBOY: THE HUGH HEFNER STORY. Via Amazon
Hefner was closely involved with this 10-episode biography, which uses archival footage and reenactments.

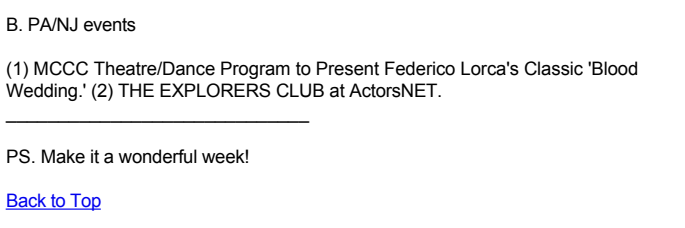
C. THE GREAT WARD: Mon.-Wed., April 13-12 on PBS at 8 p.m. (check local listings at pbs.org)
According to TV GUIDE, "There is value in this often wrenching account of how and why the U.S. entered this terrible and first modern war."

D. WHAR DOGS: Thurs., April 13, at 8 p.m. on HBO
Two pals become arms dealers, but get in over their heads when they land a \$300 million contract with the U.S. government. Jonah Hill and Miles Teller are both quite good in the leading roles.

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6. Joke 2

And if they don't pay for it, their insurance benefits will be gone. Period!
(Thanks Melissa M. Collins-Amder, for sharing.)



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7. Clips/Websites

A. Check out these clips at your convenience:

(1) Herb Spiegel: Mandy Patinkin's Emotional Reunion With A Syrian Family in Germany
[Here](#)

(2) Bonnie Silner: James Corden in Beauty and the Beast
[Here](#)

(3) Gil Calderwood: I speak perfect English
[Here](#)

(4) The Dead South - In Hell I'll Be In Good Company
[Here](#)

(5) This parrot can do the best impressions
[Here](#)

B. Is there an alternative to Amazon? Check this website out:
[Here](#)

I've ordered some things from jet.com and been pleased. Also, I found this article that provides more information on who is cheaper:
[Here](#)

Try it out and see for yourself. Then please let me know what you find out.

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

Crossing the Border? Here's How to Safeguard Your Data From Searches
by Brian X. Chen

Travelers, beware: When you take your gadgets abroad, maintaining the security of the data on your devices is just as important as protecting yourself from muggers.

For whatever reason, foreign and domestic governments may have an interest in your personal data, including your social media accounts.

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

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9. Joke 3

Q: Why do accountants make good lovers? ... A: They're great with figures.

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10. A quote I like

Don Rickles (1026-2017), R.I.P. was an American insult comedian and actor.... For his obituary, please click:
[Here](#)

But to get an even better sense of him, see this clip of some of his greatest moments as a guest on THE TONIGHT SHOW by clicking:
[Here](#)

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11. Thought for the day

Thanks, Ginger Heskett, for sharing this sweet story:
A lovely little girl was holding two apples with both hands.

Her mum came in and softly asked her little daughter with a smile: "My sweetie, could you give your mum one of your two apples?"

The girl looked up at her mum for some seconds, then she suddenly took a quick bite of one apple and then quickly of the other. The mum felt the smile on her face freeze. She tried hard not to reveal her disappointment.

Then the little girl handed one of her bitten apples to her mum and said: "Mummy, here you are. This is the sweeter one."

No matter who you are, how experienced you are, and how knowledgeable you think you are, always delay judgement. Give others the privilege to define themselves.

Source: Author unknown, if you know who wrote this and/or where it came from, please let me know. [Here](#)

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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 NERD at NC Stage. (2) The Art of Listening with Barrie Barton and David LaMott.

B. PA/NJ events

(1) MCCC Theatre/Dance Program to Present Federico Lorca's Classic 'Blood Wedding'. (2) THE EXPLORERS CLUB at ActorsNET.

PS. Make it a wonderful week!
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