



BLAINES WORLD

Past Issues 2013:

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Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINESWORLD

Teaching

**Dispute
Resolution**

Speaking

Consulting

Radio Show

Newsletter

Blaine's Best

About Cynthia

Welcome to **BLAINESWORLD**, the only official guide to the workings of the mind of yours truly, Blaine Greenfield. **BLAINESWORLD** is the first and only complete work known to modern man that addresses the burning question of what it is, exactly, that I do with my every waking hour. It is also a treasure box of selected gems that I hope will enlighten, enhance and inspire you, my esteemed guest.

Best,
Blaine

What's New at
BLAINESWORLD.NET

What's new? EVERYTHING is new! **BLAINESWORLD** is now officially on the Internet, and your opinion really matters. Whether you're a student, client, coworker, radio fan, loyal newsletter follower, or even a family member, I hope you let me know what you think. Your opinion really matters!

While you're getting your thoughts and notes together, please note our email address, should you wish to contact us: bginbc@aol.com. Please change your contact manager, address book and palm pilot to reflect that address.

If you are a new visitor to our site, please take a few seconds to let us know how you discovered our place. Just click [here](#) and your own email program will be set up to send us your comments. Thank you, in advance.

Upcoming Events

Please see weekly newsletter, Section 12, for events you might want to attend. In the unlikely event you're not already getting this missive, see below (for the "Special Offer").

Special Offer

Sign up for free to receive the infamous **BLAINESWORLD** Newsletter. To get this weekly missive, please [click here](#).



073537⁵ 735⁵ 53

(You may have seen other counters, but I bet none are as impressive as mine.)

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BLAINES WORLD

#901
12.30.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Enjoyed a tasty dinner at The Green Sage. I'm including a picture so you can see the progress that I've made since you saw how I looked after Mohs surgery. My bandaid is now finally off, and the healing is going well.



Reminder: Please get thee to a dermatologist, especially if you haven't been to one lately. Catching something early, as I did, is definitely the way to go!

(2) Were glad to see our longtime friend from New Jersey--Gary Marks (along with his friend Ann Tendler)--on his recent visit to Asheville. We all had a delicious dinner at Champa.



B. Thanks to:

(1) Jean Dolan for the following clarification: FYI . . . the Magical Piano video you posted (in BLAINESWORLD #900) used actors.

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/ryanhatesthis/watch-what-happens-when-a-remote-controlled-piano-is-set-up>

There was a "casting call" for actors that was posted on another page, then quickly removed when it was revealed on reddit.

Note: In case you missed the original clip, it can be found by clicking:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=679509288760097&set=vb.166337376743960&type=2&theater>

Though I somewhat thought his might be the case (i.e., that some of the clip was staged), I nevertheless got a kick out of it.

(2) Janet Harnash for making the absolutely best chocolate-covered macaroons. They were beyond delicious if that's possible.

She was then gracious enough to provide me with the recipe. To view it, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1q1>.

(3) Steve Byas for allowing me to share this magnificent photo of a nearby bridge that we see every time we walk around the lake in our neighborhood.



(4) All those who had nice words to say about the picture I ran last week that featured Cynthia--and her bike that is still available for sale. In the unlikely event you missed either the picture or information . . .

FOR SALE: Specialized Expedition Sport Low Entry - women's bicycle. That's Cynthia (below), shortly after she purchased it.



Turns out that she only used the bicycle for some 19 short rides. She is now working with a trainer and doing other exercises, so has no longer has any real need for it.

For more information about the bike, please click:
<http://tinyurl.com/pog5dv2>

Note: The above describes the most current model, which is very similar to the one Cynthia bought--but more expensive.

Cynthia paid over \$630 for this bike, including a helmet, bell, water bottle and pump. She is looking for half that amount, and she will also include--at no extra charge--a mounting rack that we used to store it in the garage. If interested, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put BIKE in the subject line.

(5) Paul Spiel for providing the following information: Author: Mahatma Gandhi [of recent Thought for the Day on Buddha in BLAINESWORLD #900].

***** PLEASE HELP *****

If you know of anybody who might be interested in this bike, please feel free to share the above with them. And if you can share this on Facebook, as well as with your 437 closest friends and relatives, it would be much appreciated!

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Micah Solomon for his recent appearance on NPR Radio. To listen to this informative interview on the subject of customer service, please click:

<http://www.wpr.org/listen/399751>

(2) Bill Munoz on his new position as Production Manager and Equity Stage Manager at the Warehouse Theatre in Greenville, SC. He'll also be on stage, from time to time, which for that fact alone would make a trip there worthwhile.

(3) Susan Gambrell Reinhardt for having her terrific novel, CHIMES FROM A CRACKED SOUTHERN BELL, make the following Top 10 list:

<http://wnba-sfchapter.org/book-club-cheerleaders-top-10-book-club-books-2013/>

(4) Eric Martinez for his appearance in the new Golden Corral commercial. You can view it by clicking:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhzlO6lxGD4&list=UUaS_ecfuiPF19fuLDGt14yg

(5) C. Robert Jones for a great article about him that appeared in the ASHEVILLE SCENE. To read it, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013312310013>

(6) Donna M. in NJ, winner of CONTEST #49: a copy of THE SECRETS OF BUSINESS by Ehab Atalla. All told, there were 7 entries. And that reminds me that's it is now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #1 (for 2014) *****

One lucky winner will receive an autographed copy of Laurey Masterton's THE FRESH HONEY COOKBOOK: 84 RECIPES FROM A BEEKEEPER'S KITCHEN.

These 84 recipes celebrate the luscious flavors of honey. Each of 12 chapters focuses on a month of the year and a specific honey variety (such as tupelo, orange blossom, sourwood or sage) and offers a complete seasonal menu showcasing that variety.

Note: I favorably reviewed this book in BLAINESWORLD #898. My hope is that you'll enjoy it as much as I did.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #1 in the subject 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, Jan. 13.

D. Condolences to Debra Boudreaux and family on the passing of Debra's brother.

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

This week, it goes to Tom Gallagher--an attorney at Pisgah Legal Services.

This organization provides free legal services to its low-income clients.

One such person who Tom helped was 85-year-old Mildred Hart (pictured below with Tom). She was at risk of losing her house as the result of a mortgage refinancing scam.



Fortunately, there's a happy ending to the story. To read about it, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2014301030022>.

When not at Pisgah or in court, Tom manages to find time to assist his wife Marcy in the running of their Kilwin's stores in Asheville and Black Mountain. And he is also a woodworker extraordinaire, as well as one of the nicest guys you'll ever meet.

Note: For more information about the fine work done by Pisgah Legal Services, please click:

<http://www.pisgahlegal.org/>

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2. FYI

Twerking the Language in 2013
by Rob Kyff

Throughout the past, annoying year,

These pesky buzzwords chewed our ear.

The pols and pundits always rapped

About the "growing income gap."

The health care website brought travail;

And was, no doubt, an "epic fail."

For the rest of this lighthearted review, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1q1>.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Highlights from SECRETS, the Community Choreography project that Cynthia was in:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tufdi6lJ1MA&feature=youtu.be>

Note: View it to see Cynthia, as well as Marcy Gallagher, Barrie Barton, Tiffany Hall, etc.

(2) Dr. Scarpati hypnotizes a newsman to forget his last name:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCrlswBYTc>

Note: TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR DR. SCARPATI'S HILARIOUS COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW! SATURDAY, FEB. 8th AT 7 PM In BUCKS COUNTY

<http://comedycabaret.com/>

(3) Here Comes the Sun - Beatles, BJ Leiderman Band

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=592332707505167&set=vb.100001853304734&type=2&theater>

(4) Natalie K. in PA: On Demand! YouTube Channel is live

www.youtube.com/ondemandprograms

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1q1>.

(1) Win H. in NJ: You're retiring in 17 years? (2) Esther B. in NJ: I think I may have received your first edition! If not the first, close to it. (3) Michael F. in NV: I got all of your new letters back to #1 . . . and continue to read! (4) Rich W. in NJ: I received your first issue and am still reading. (5) Warren F. in NJ: I took the dialect test. The responses were Philadelphia (born & raised), Newark/Paterson & Jersey City. (6) Maggie Z. in NC: To be Maryl Streep, it takes work. (7) Carole B. in NC: I think I should buy the bike to add to my collection and so I'll have an extra bike when I want Cynthia to go riding w/ me. (8) Ron F. in PA: Blaine, Thanks for the Iphone apps they are great and very helpful. (9) Elizabeth P. in NC: I took the NYT regional accent test and they hit my hometown with one of the three cities (Winston Salem). (10) Donna G. in NJ: I'm not sure if I received the first issue, but I certainly go pretty far back! (11) How Theaters Can Combat the Stay-at-Home Mindset. (12) Gary G. in NC: Is there a reward; if so, is money or food involved for the first issue? (13) Bill M. in NC: THE WOLF OF WALL STREET. (14) Natalie K. in PA: JUMPIN' JACK FLASH. (15) Steph B. in NC: Which Downton Abbey character are you? (16) Richard S. in NC: I also enjoyed the jokes, especially Chinese food on Christmas! (17) Linda K. in PA: Congratulations on #900! (18) Peter R. in PA: Nicely done BG:)

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3. Joke 1

Be forewarned . . . I just don't want to see you get burned!



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4. Reviews

To read the following reviews, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1q1>

A. NEBRASKA (and a brief comment about SAVING MR. BANKS)

B. THANKS FOR SHARING

C. WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY: THE REAL SKINNY (Obesity Resources Publishing) by Dr. Nick Nicholson and B. A. Blackwood

D. A THOUSAND NAMES FOR JOY: LIVING IN HARMONY WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE (Random House Audio), written and read by Byron Katie with Stephen Mitchell

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5. TV alert

A. Annemarie B in NC: MARCH OF THE PENGUINS . . . amazing, heartwarming, unbelievable, inspiring, fascinating!!!! Ever feel defeated or life is tough or hard, or I can't do it or not good enough? Watch this and bring tissues.....such an amazing story of perseverance, dedication, commitment, life, determination, overcoming obstacles, teamwork, never ever giving up, family and love, love, love, love, love, love & more love. One of my favorites. Had no idea what amazing beings these penguins truly are.

Watch it with your kids, grandkids, by yourself, with your animals . . . and record it to show others. Sunday, Jan. 5, at 5 p.m. on CNN.

B. MIND OF A MAN features stand-up comedian DeRay Davis as both a guide and heckler in this new game show that asks two women (and a panel of celebrities) to get inside the mind of the opposite sex and predict men's answers to a series of poll questions. Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 8 p.m. on GSN.

C. CHASING SHACKLETON: In this extraordinary adventure memoir and tie-in to the PBS documentary, Tim Jarvis, one of the world's leading explorers, describes his modern-day journey to retrace, for the first time ever-and in period clothing and gear-the legendary 1914 expedition of Sir Ernest Shackleton. Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 10:01 p.m. on PBS.

Note: Times and dates on PBS often vary, so check local listings.

D. I'll probably watch THE 71ST ANNUAL GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS if only to catch the return of Tina Fey and Amy Poehler as cohosts. I'll be curious to see if they can top last year's hysterical performance. Sunday, Jan. 12, at 8 p.m. on NBC.

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6. Joke 2

Mrs. Teasdale: Notables from every country are gathered here in your honor. This is a gala day for you.

Rufus T. Firefly: Well, a gal a day is enough for me. I don't think I could handle any more.

Source: DUCK SOUP, the classic Marx Brothers' comedy. To view the above (and many other funny lines), please click:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Tj_hEmrKRA.

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7. Websites

A. This was a recent TV show on CBS that somehow is still on YouTube (though I'm not sure for how long, so view it when you can).

Garth Brooks Live from Las Vegas 2013
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5n-Psu1wnqY>

Brooks rocks . . . he gives a tuneful history of music that affected him, ranging from the

60s to present day . . . and including rock, country and folk. So many great performers are featured!

Note: Click icon in bottom right to view it on your full screen.

B. SOOOO CUTE: These two boys have taken a yearly photo with Santa ever since they were little--and the tradition still lives on. For all the photos, please click:
<http://www.viralnova.com/santa-photos/>.



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

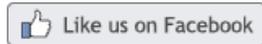
In case you ever wondered about how many others view this website, check the counter in the bottom left hand of the page. These ever-changing figures constantly amaze me!

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>

To get an overview of my past year on Facebook, please click the big blue 2013 in the

upper left hand of this page.



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8. Technology tip

Cleaning the Mobile Germ Warehouse

by Kate Murphy

January 1, 2014 in THE NEW YORK TIMES

TAKE a look at your mobile device. Do you see oily fingerprints and lint on the touch screen? Dust and crumbs forming particulate frost in the corners? Is that a hair stuck at the screen's edge?

Because our electronics are constantly within our grubby grasp, they can get pretty gross. They are taken into public restrooms, handed to runny-nosed toddlers, passed around to share photos and pressed against sweaty skin in gyms. Repeated studies show what accumulates is germier nastiness worse than what is on the bottom of your shoe.

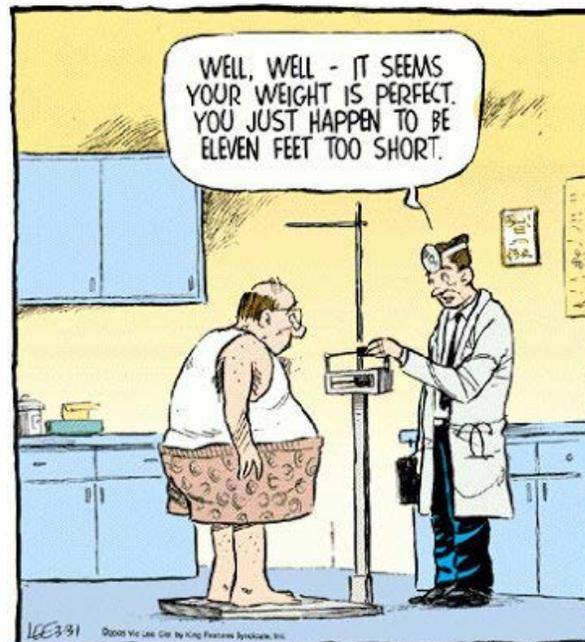
For the rest of this informative article, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/02/technology/personaltech/cleaning-the-mobile-germ-warehouse.html?src=me&ref=general>

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9. Joke 3

HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR to y'all! After hearing what my doctor had to say (see below), I've decided to revisit my previous resolutions . . . 2010: I will get my weight down below 180 pounds. . . . 2011: I will follow my new diet religiously until I get below 200 pounds. . . . 2012: I will develop a realistic attitude about my weight. . . . 2013: I will work out 3 days a week. . . . and for this coming year, being brutally honest with myself, I decided to put down something that is attainable . . . 2014: I will try to drive past a gym at least once a week.



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10. A quote I like

"Be easy to impress, hard to offend."--Brian Biro, America's Breakthrough Coach, in his latest book: LOVING LIFE LESSONS FOR MY DAUGHTERS INCLUDING HEARTFELT LETTERS FROM A DEVOTED DAD. To obtain a copy, please click:

http://www.brianbiro.com/index.php?option=com_virtuemart&page=shop.browse&category_id=6&Itemid=2



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11. Thought for the day

What a great way to welcome home a returning soldier!



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1q1>.

(1) The Clean House. (2) Katherine Sandoval Taylor with Vance Reese. (3) For You My Door is Always Open: A Visit With Golda Meir. (4) There's still time to register for: Simple Steps to Starting A Business - Introduction. (5) Paul & Layne's The Way of Creative Love. (6) Lessons in Leadership.

B. PA/NJ events

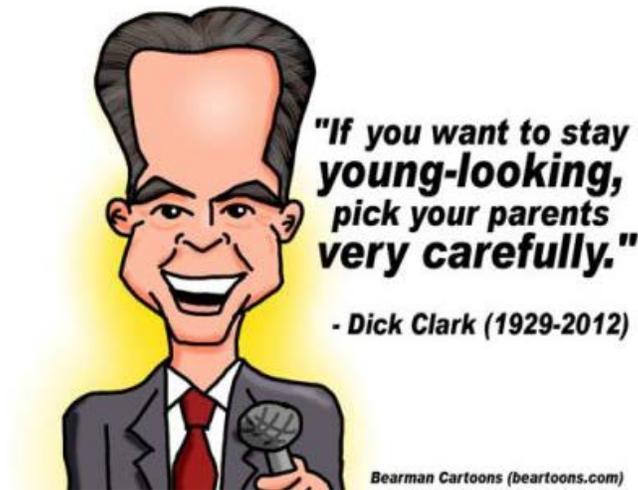
To read about each following events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1q1>.

Music on Demand series.

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PS. Enjoy your New Year's Eve, but also don't forget this advice--or the guy who gave it!
And if you'd like to join me in revisiting his last countdown, please click:
<http://tinyurl.com/lzlrzf>.



Make it a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
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Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com

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#900
12.23.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Are both delighted to share this week's issue with you, in that it is a special one: the 900th! BLAINESWORLD (then called STUFF) first came out on Oct. 13, 1996.

MR. CURIOUS here: Are there any readers out there who got that first issue--and are still reading? If so, do drop me a note.

(2) We also wanted to share the following fortune cookie with you:



(3) This great holiday season has already featured a great party at our community's clubhouse, at which we were joined by Kim and Jim Preish.



(4) Music was provided by the incomparable Heather Masterton (right), backed up by Richard Shulman (left) on keyboard, Michael Filippone on bass, Sonny Thornton on drums and Fred Lemmons on clarinet.



(5) On another night, we participated in our community's Santa Shuffle . . . this involved helping the neighborhood children on a walk around the lake, followed by pizza . . . kudos to Marlene Kwiatkowski for coordinating the event, as well as to her husband Dennis for playing Santa.



(6) We also joined friends to see a fantastic production of ALL IN THE TIMING, presented by the Attic Salt Theatre Company. In the top photo are two of the stars of the show: Garrett Funk and Kirby Gibson. (Not pictured: Scott Fisher, the other performer, and director Jeff Catanese.) Afterward, as can be seen in the bottom photo, we went with Amy and Marc Suben for a tasty dinner at Mellow Mushroom.



B. Also:

(1) FOR SALE: Specialized Expedition Sport Low Entry - women's bicycle. That's Cynthia

(below), shortly after she purchased it.



Turns out that she only used the bicycle for some 19 short rides. She is now working with a trainer and doing other exercises, so has no longer has any real need for it.

For more information about the bike, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/pog5dv2>

Note: The above describes the most current model, which is very similar to the one Cynthia bought--but more expensive.

Cynthia paid over \$630 for this bike, including a helmet, bell, water bottle and pump. She is looking for half that amount, and she will also include--at no extra charge--a mounting rack that we used to store it in the garage. If interested, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put BIKE in the subject line.

(2) Reminder . . .

***** CONTEST #49 *****

I will be giving away one copy of Ehab Atalla's THE SECRETS OF BUSINESS. To quote the author: "You will see firsthand how I went from being a broke, immigrant cashier to establishing 34 businesses in 15 different industries. How I went from having no car to driving throughout all states in depth--visiting almost every major city in America and hustling door to door to sell my products (in one trip, I traveled 30,000 miles in just over two months) with my partner. How I went from working minimum wage to making multi-millions in leveraged income and net worth. How I went from running local businesses to traveling to 61 countries in depth. . . . All you need to do is follow my patterns."

My two cents: I read the above and enjoyed it. Methinks you might, too.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #49 in the subject of an email and send it to: bginbc@aol.com. . . make sure you include your name AND snail mail address . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec.30.

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Kevin Jameson for having gotten the Dementia Society off the ground. To find out more about both his great work and this organization, please click: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8jrcXpMcAU>

Note: For more information about the organization, please click:

<http://www.dementiasociety.org/>

(2) Andy Crespo for his work as cinematographer on JOINT EFFORT, a film that won the 48HR Film Festival. It's now on the Cannes Film Festival in May. For more information (and

to see the JOINT EFFORT), please click:

<http://www.gigspotting.net/national-film-challenge-2013-winner-gorilla-with-a-mustache-with-joint-effort.html>

(3) Michael Feldman on his move to Los Angeles, as well as his on his new job as admin. assistant/college counselor at Arete Prep. New York's loss is California's gain!

(4) Christina McCaffrey on her engagement to Bryan Dorsey Smith.

(5) Mike Andrus on the publication of his book, STAYING IN THE MOMENT! A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE.

(6) Jessica Lewis on her new internship as Editorial Assistant, Assistant Web Master at Philological Association of the Carolinas Journal.

D. Condolences to:

(1) Holly Traub and family on the passing of Charlene Traub, Holly's mother and a colleague of mine when I worked at Bucks County Community College.

(2) Barbara Freire and family on the passing of Diane Edmonds, Barbara's sister.

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

This week, it goes to Advanced Dermatology & Skin Surgery and, in particular, my dermatologist there: Dr. Todd Wilkinson.

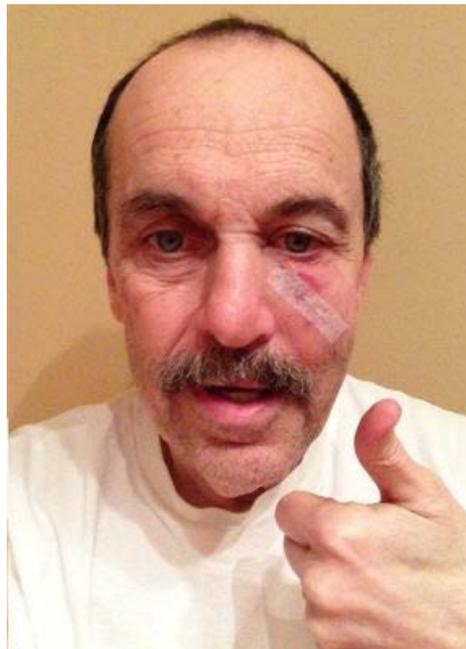
I've been a patient there ever since moving to Asheville over five years ago and have been very impressed by Dr. Wilkinson, as well as all his office staff.

My exams are always quite thorough, and I also like the fact that he rarely keeps you waiting. I don't think I have ever had to wait more than 15 minutes.

I was recently diagnosed with basal cell carcinoma. As such, Dr. Wilkinson recommended Mohs surgery, and he had me see another physician in his practice, Dr. Daniel Zivony, to have this work done. The procedure went smoothly, and to quote Gloria Gaynor, "I Will Survive":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPPqEHj997w>.

See below for a picture me the day after the surgery. (You should have seen the other guy!)



You can get more information about Dr. Wilkinson or Dr. Zivony by clicking:
<http://www.advancedskindoctor.com/>.

Note: Please make it a point to see a dermatologist on a regular basis--even if, like me,

you're never in the sun. For one reason why, I'll tell about what happened to me almost a decade ago. I was diagnosed with melanoma in a spot that only an excellent dermatologist could have noticed; i.e., between my toes. I was treated and now I'm fine. But to this day, I remain grateful to that doctor, too: Dr. Judit Stenn in East Windsor, NJ. For more information about her, please click:

<http://www.windsordermatology.com/about-physicians.asp#Stenn>.

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2. FYI

Livening Up End-of-Life Planning

Planning for Your Own Death Isn't Easy. But It Can Be a Better Experience When Begun Far in Advance.

by Daisy Maxey in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

The end is inevitable, but it helps to start getting ready with some lively conversation.

That's the message from some financial advisers and ordinary people who have participated in organized discussions about death planning. To read the rest of this informative article, please click:

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304607104579214043359252618?KEYWORDS=end-of-life+planning>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Jeannie R. in PA: To bring some cheer to Chicago Union Station

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=679509288760097&set=vb.166337376743960&type=2&theater>

(2) Joe H. in NC: A compilation of the most stunning birds you've ever seen

<http://www.wimp.com/birdsproject/>

(3) Randy M. in NC: Worst accident ever

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sL8k2PzcuFA>

Note: Great reminder to wear seat belts--always!

(4) Natalie K. in PA: This little 5 year old will shock you.

<http://biertijd.com/mediaplayer/?itemid=44336>

(5) Tom H. in NC: Amazing dog!

http://www.youtube.com/embed/5I_QzPLEjM4?rel=0

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

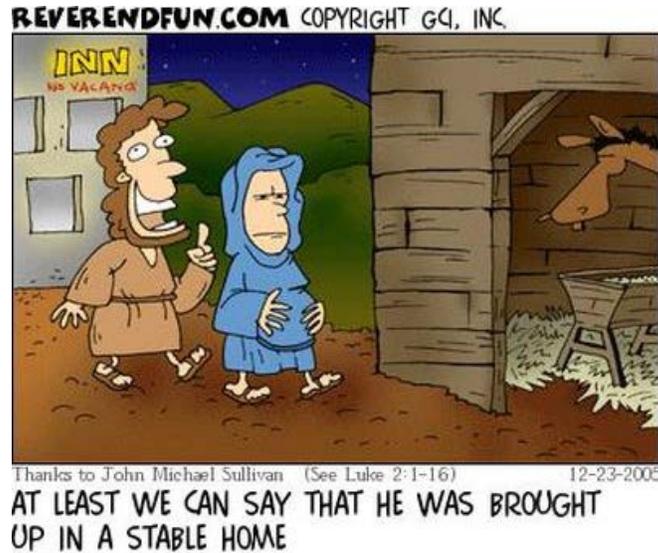
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1pt>

(1) Linda M. in PA: Good tips on keeping the inbox under control. (2) Joe D. in NC: Looks like you are having a great time as always. (3) Evan G. in GA: Saw "American Hustle" tonight. (4) Bruce R. in PA: Please tell all your followers to remember their parents for as long as possible. (5) Susan R. in NC: I so enjoyed this latest installment. (6) Carole B. in NC: Great newsletter as always! Loved those Party pictures and info about enroll me! (7) Henry W. in NY: Why have the critics awarded "Inside Llewyn Davis" such rave reviews? (8) Bruce S. in AZ: "INSIDE LEWELLYN DAVIS" (Stooooopid). The worst movie I've had the misfortune to stumble across. (9) Marilynne H. in NC: The Case Against Multivitamins Grows Stronger. (10) Mel G. in CO: 30 Jewish Movies to watch on Christmas. (11) Natalie K. in PA: I am so moved by this movie [THE BOOK THIEF]. (12) Beth D. in PA: 21 Habits of Happy People. (13) Micah S. in PA: My new article in FORBES. (14) Herb S. in NJ: Hanns and Rudolf: The German Jew and the Hunt for the Kommandant of Auschwitz. (15) John B. in NC: Homeless for the holidays. (16) Della S. in FL: Just shed tears watching "Saving Mr. Banks."

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3. Joke 1

This week's history lesson . . .



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4. Reviews

To read the reviews in this section, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1pt>

- A. AMERICAN HUSTLE (and a brief comment about NEBRASKA)
- B. ELYSIUM and, also, TWIST OF FAITH
- C. TEMPORARY ROSES DIPPED IN LIQUID GOLD by James Andrew Freeman
- D. THIS TIME TOGETHER: LAUGHTER AND REFLECTION, written and read by Carol Burnett

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5. TV alert

- A. NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE PARTY will feature 10 hip-shaking classic films, including Elvis' VIVA LAS VEGAS; GO, JOHNNY, GO!; and JAILHOUSE ROCK. Tuesday, Dec. 31, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on TCM.
- B. 2014 NHL WINTER CLASSIC: Red Wings vs. Maple Leafs, which will be played in front of over 100,000 people in the Big House at the University of Michigan. To quote ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY, "It's worth tuning in if only to see the spectacle of a hundred thousand people trying to sing the 'Star-Spangled Banner' with frozen lips." Wednesday, Jan. 1, at 1 p.m. on NBC.
- C. RIDICULOUSNESS returns with its fourth season of viral videos and web clips that are replayed again and again while celebrity guests make fun of the accident-prone people in them. Thursday, Jan. 2, at 10 p.m. on MTV.
- D. DOWNTON ABBEY begins its new season on Sunday, Jan. 5, on PBS. Join others who remain in the shock over the sudden death of Matthew Crawley--especially the widowed Lady Mary. "The overachieving storyline of this season is the rebuilding of Mary," notes creator Julian Fellowes. "Her gradual emergence from the shock of her widowhood is the kind of the string that holds the pearls." Sunday, Jan. 5, at 9 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS times and dates often vary, so check local listings.

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6. Joke 2

Switch the dog for a second cat, and you'll see what will be happening at our house!



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7. Websites

A. How Y'all, Youse and You Guys Talk

What does the way you speak say about where you're from? Answer all the questions below to see your personal dialect map. To begin, please click:

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2013/12/20/sunday-review/dialect-quiz-map.html?src=ISMR_AP_LO_MST_FB

Note: I took this and came up with Trenton, Philadelphia and Montgomery (AL). Pretty accurate with the possible exception of the last city. Mr. Curious here: What do you show? And do you think your results are accurate?

B. Janeen R. in PA: White Christmas. It is amazing. Try it.

If you have not seen it before, just type in your address or any family addresses and look through the window at the snow falling on your home today. It should work for most addresses unless you live in the middle of the Sahara Desert. See for yourself by clicking: <http://pusher.com.au/clients/pusher-christmas-2012/>

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

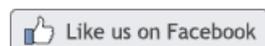
<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

Looking for a recommendation on a business or service to use. Click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Choices."

Note: These are updated, from time to time, so please do check back every so often. Also, feel free to let me know if you have any recommendations that you think I should consider using--especially if they're in Western North Carolina.

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Technology tip

Paul C. in NC: I wanted to be sure to send you the names of the apps we talked about for your iPhone photography.

1. Camera+ - the one I recommend and showed you on my phone.
2. PhotoSync - for transferring images from your iPhone to your computer or other places - you need one for your computer and for your phone.
3. Snapseed - I didn't mention this one, but it is my first choice in editing images.

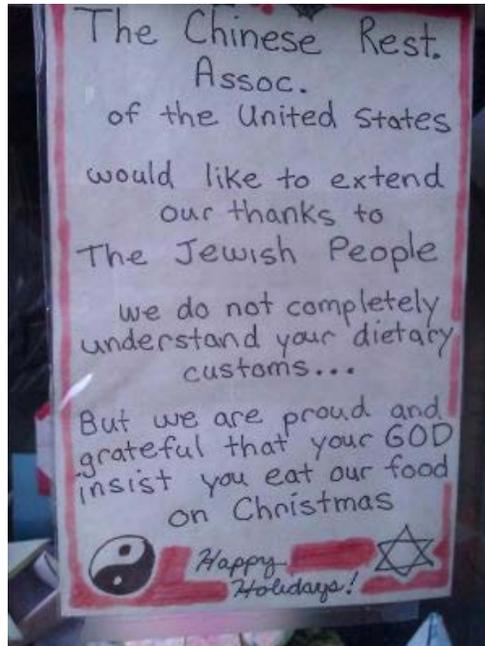
Note: I've already started using PhotoSynce and found it to be very helpful. It enables you to download and work with a whole bunch of pictures at once, as opposed to having to do this one at a time.

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9. Joke 3

My plan for Christmas is to see a film and then get some Chinese food at my favorite restaurant where the sign below is posted. Afterward, I'll listen to this oh-so-touching song, "Chinese Food on Christmas," which you can also hear by clicking:

<http://tinyurl.com/ye2gsbq>.



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10. A quote I like

"You only have to do a very few things right in your life, so long as you don't do too many things wrong."---Warren Buffett (born 1930), American business magnate, investor and philanthropist, widely considered the most successful investor of the 20th century

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11. Thought for the day

Buddha was well known for his ability to respond to evil with good. There was a man who knew about his reputation and he traveled miles and miles and miles to test Buddha. When he arrived and stood before Buddha, he verbally abused him constantly; he insulted him; he challenged him; he did everything he could to offend Buddha. Buddha was unmoved, he simply turned to the man and said, "May I ask you a question?"

The man responded with, "Well, what?"

Buddha said, "If someone offers you a gift and you decline to accept it, to whom then does it belong?"

The man said, "Then it belongs to the person who offered it."

Buddha smiled, "That is correct. So if I decline to accept your abuse, does it not then still belong to you?" The man was speechless and walked away.

Source: Author unknown; if you know who wrote this and/or where it came from, please notify me.

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1pt>

(1) Lessons in Leadership. (2) BJ Leiderman Band on New Year's Eve. (3) Zuzu Welsh on radio. (4) TABLE 6. (5) THE MAN WITH THE BIRDCAGE ON HIS HEAD. (6) TRUSS.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1pt>

(1) DR. SCARPATI'S HILARIOUS COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW! (2) A conversation with author Michael Lavigne.

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PS. If you're like me and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun and friends that way):

A. HAPPY FESTIVUS to the rest of us! Come join us on December 23 around our Fesitvus pole, which as you can see, we spared no expense to decorate.



We'll be listening to grievances, performing feats of strength, making contributions to the Human Fund and singing such classic songs as the following:
<http://tinyurl.com/ky24bom>.

And in the unlikely event you don't know the story behind the holiday or need to be reminded of it, please view the SEINFELD clip that started it all by clicking:
<http://tinyurl.com/brmejte>.

B. MERRY CHRISTMAS on December 25.

Note: Please see also Sections 3, 6 and 9.

C. And HAPPY KWANZAA, beginning on December 26 and running through January 1. Hopefully, this quote from Maya Angelou will get you in the mood to celebrate the holiday: "We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color."

Please then listen to such classics as the late, great Teddy Pendergrass singing "Happy Kwanzaa":

<http://tinyurl.com/k8qz5u9>

and/or Jeff Marx singing one of my all-time favorites, "White Kwanzaa"

<http://tinyurl.com/5jvt65>

D. Make it a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#899
12.16.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had a blast at the Christmas party of our friends (top photo) Brian/Santa and Carole/Elf Biro. Many of those in attendance (bottom photo) also enjoyed the conga neck massage line. From L-R: Blaine Greenfield, Dave Blumlo, Judy Blumlo, Donna Hawks, Tiff Hawks, Annemarie Brown, Marvin Sadovsky, Cynthia Greenfield and Marcy Gallagher.





(2) We also celebrated the tenth anniversary of our first date (and fifth year in Asheville) with an excellent meal at 131 Main. Taryn, one of our favorite local servers, took care of us and added to our enjoyment of the evening.



(3) From there, we went to THE GIFTS OF THE MAGI at Hendersonville Little Theatre. It's a tuneful musical, extremely well performed by the entire cast. We especially enjoyed the work of both Colby Corer on the left and Brandon Gash on the right.

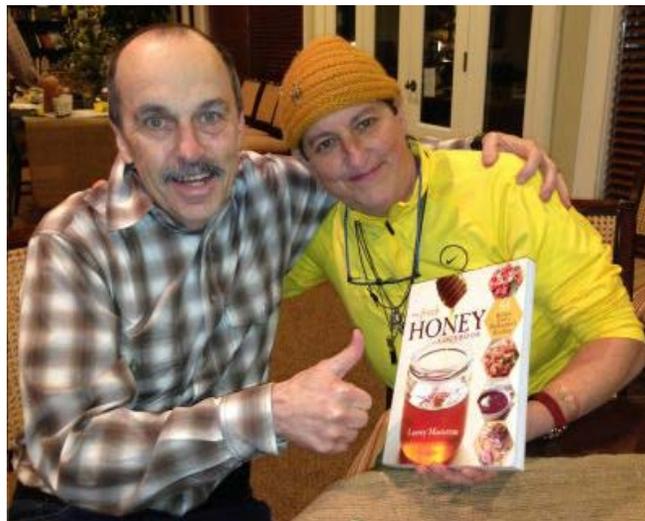
Note: The show runs through December 22. For tickets, please click: <http://hendersonvillelittletheater.org/box-office/>.



B. I got to attend the housewarming party of my friend Walter Beals (center), along with Sophie the Wonder Dog and Jesse Davis.



And on another night, I heard Laurey Masterton give an informative presentation on her new book: THE FRESH HONEY COOKBOOK (reviewed favorably in last week's BLAINESWORLD). Kudos to Suzie Troia who arranged the talk at our Biltmore Lake clubhouse, as well as to her husband John who helped her.



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Zuzu Welsh on his new song, "My Hero." To listen to it, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1NjpvFykaY>

(2) Evan Guilford-Blake for winning third place in "Loose Change" magazine's first fiction contest. His story, "The Row," can be found on p. 31 of the current issue:

<http://www.loosechangemagazine.org/current-issue/>

(3) Courtney Yelle on having completed one year as president of MOAACC (the retired officers association).

(4) Stephanie Barron on her new job as a paralegal at Calle Law, PLLC.

(5) Chall Gray on his new job as vice president at Thirsty Monk.

(6) Linda and Patrick McCann on the birth of their granddaughter Nora.

(7) Maria Armington on her new position as Chair of the Bucks County Human Relations Council.

(8) Walter W. in PA, Allisone W. in NC, Karen G. in PA, Gladys P. in NY and Lucas G. in GA - all winners of Contest #48, a copy of Allen Carr's THE EASY WAY TO STOP SMOKING.

Note: Originally, I had planned to give away only three books. But since there were more than three entries, I added two more to the list of prize winners.

This book works. I have given it to some 30 folks and at least half of them have told me that it has enabled them to become smoke-free.

SPECIAL OFFER: If you'd still like a copy, send an email to bginbc@aol.com and put STOP SMOKING in the subject line. Include your snail mail address in the body of the email. My only request is that you obtain it for yourself--or somebody else who really wants to stop smoking. I've found that if the desire isn't there, then just giving somebody the book won't help.

And that reminds me that it's now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #49 *****

I will be giving away one copy of Ehab Atalla's THE SECRETS OF BUSINESS. To quote the author: "You will see firsthand how I went from being a broke, immigrant cashier to establishing 34 businesses in 15 different industries. How I went from having no car to driving throughout all states in depth-visiting almost every major city in America and hustling door to door to sell my products (in one trip, I traveled 30,000 miles in just over two months) with my partner. How I went from working minimum wage to making multi-millions in leveraged income and net worth. How I went from running local businesses to traveling to 61 countries in depth. . . . All you need to do is follow my patterns."

My two cents: I read the above and enjoyed it. Methinks you might, too.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #49 in the subject of an email and send it to: bginbc@aol.com. . . make sure you include your name AND snail mail address . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec.30.

D. Condolences to Candace Mullett and family on the passing of Candace's partner.

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

This week, it goes to Chuck Taft--pictured below with his daughter Ceili at a recent performance of THE GIFTS OF THE MAGI. (See also Section 1A.)



Chuck is one of the busiest guys I have ever known. He serves as director of worship ministries at Biltmore United Methodist Church, music director and conductor for the Haywood Arts Regional Theater, music director of BioFlyer Productions, and director of the Reuter Center Singers. In addition, he has served as music director and conductor for performances at the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre, as well as music director, chorus master and conductor for various productions of the Asheville Lyric Opera.

Chuck has also performed and/or conducted at many other area theatres, including Highland Repertory Theater, Parkway Playhouse, UNC Asheville, Asheville Community Theatre, Asheville Arts Center, Brevard Music Center and Western Carolina University.

In addition, he was the musical director for the aforementioned THE GIFTS OF THE MAGI.

He always conducts with great enthusiasm, and whenever you see him, he has a great

smile that shows how much he is enjoying what he is doing. And it shows in the great results he gets from the musicians he conducts.

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2. FYI

Skip the Supplements
by PAUL A. OFFIT and SARAH ERUSH
Published: December 14, 2013 in THE NEW YORK TIMES

PHILADELPHIA--Parents whose children are admitted to our hospital occasionally bring along something extra to help with their care: dietary supplements, like St. John's wort to ameliorate mild depression or probiotics for better health.

Here's the problem: The Joint Commission, which is responsible for hospital accreditation in the United States, requires that dietary supplements be treated like drugs. It makes sense: Vitamins, amino acids, herbs, minerals and other botanicals have pharmacological effects. So they are drugs.

For the rest of this eye-opening article, please click:
http://www.nytimes.com/2013/12/15/opinion/sunday/skip-the-supplements.html?smid=fb-share&_r=0

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Lucas Gregg in GA: By My Hand-a Short Film

<http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1460761930/by-my-hand-a-short-film>

Note: Please consider becoming a supporter of this film via Kickstarter.

(2) Bruce Lang: Invitation to the blues

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3kX3b2Guf4>

(3) Edie Weinstein in PA: Pivotal Movements

<http://vimeo.com/82158446>

(4) Amy L. in NC: Because Who is Perfect?

<http://www.realfarmacy.com/because-who-is-perfect/#ZekdzlOo7j2yIAkQ.01>

(5) Carole B. in NC: Marianne Williamson - The Fiery Truth About Spirituality

<http://www.courseinmiraclesvideos.com/teachers/marianne-williamson/marianne-williamson-the-fiery-truth-about-spirituality>

(6) Diane M. in NC: Pissing off a frog

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=3649169309116>

(7) Michael T. in NC: This Family's Viral Christmas Card Makes Your Family Look Lame

<http://elitedaily.com/humor/family-makes-viral-christmas-card/>

(8) Keith C. in NC: Cellphone crashing at the airport

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YA1J-raGinQ#t=19>

(9) Natalie K. in PA: Holiday dinner party

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TX9EAavxrus>

(10) Sifu Cliff and Mike Andrus speaking with Kung-Fu masters

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bh-P546-5nE#t=17>

(11) Bill B. in PA: Tiny Dancer: A video with animation and music I created

<http://youtu.be/LQ2vXcsYBeQ>

(12) Katrina C. in NC: Tag a friend who dances like this

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?>

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1p0>

(1) Mary C. in NC: Wondering if you saw Philomena yet. (2) Sarah F. in NC: A concerned mother's letter to teenage girls. (3) Terry V. in NC: I particularly liked 12 C!!

(4) Colleen D. in PA: Thanks for the Lucy information. (5) Lynn M. in NC: Thank you for your newsletters. (6) Henry W. in NY: Went to "Nebraska" yesterday, the movie not the state, thankfully. (7) Sharee C. in FL: Sometimes your reviews of movies don't always agree with mine. (8) BJ L. in NC: I just successfully obtained health insurance through the website after two unsuccessful attempts. (9) Rabbi Mel Glazer in CO: My newly published book is on sale for a limited time only. (10) James J. Gibson in PA: Firsttrust Bank nominated us as "favorite business" and we need your help to make it happen!

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3. Joke 1

The Minister asked his congregants, "How many of you have forgiven your enemies?" All responded except one man, Al Cox, who attended church only in bad weather. "Mr. Cox, it's obviously not a day for golf. It's good to see you. Are you not willing to forgive your enemies?" . . . "I don't have any," he replied gruffly. . . . "Mr. Cox, that's very unusual. How old are you?" . . . "98" he replied. The congregation stood and clapped

. . . . "Mr. Cox, would you please come to the front and tell us how a person can live that long and not have any enemies?" . . . The old golfer tottered forward, turned and said simply, "I outlived all them a**holes."



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4. Reviews

A. ANCHORMAN 2: THE LEGEND CONTINUES was, for me, a rare sequel that was every bit as good as the first film . . . it takes San Diego's top rated newsman, a very funny Will Ferrell, into the 80s and the chance to become part of the nation's first 24-hour news channel . . . only a long segment just before the ending didn't work for me (it should have been much shorter), but overall, I had a fun time at ANCHORMAN 2 . . . I especially enjoyed the cameos from such other actors as Harrison Ford, Vince Vaughn, Will Smith, Jim Carrey, Sacha Baron Cohen, Kristen Dunst, Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Liam Neeson and John C. Reilly . . . and make sure you stay for the post-credits scene . . . rated PG-13.

Note: This was a rare film that I liked and Cynthia didn't. She only laughed at one scene involving Steve Carell delivering a weather report.

B. PRISONERS is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #891 follows:

PRISONERS, starring Hugh Jackman and Jake Gyllenhaal, is the story about a father whose daughter is missing--together with her young friend . . . as days turn to hours, the desperate father takes matters into his own hands . . . the beginning is very suspenseful, but then I found the film dragged on . . . I also thought it was quite violent, and I could have completely done without one torture scene . . . rated R.

Another option: If looking for something to view from home, you'll do much better locating 1997's THE RAINMAKER . . . this compelling legal drama--adapted from the John Grisham novel--has excellent acting performances from Matt Damon, Danny DeVito and Jon Voight, among others . . . various subplots hold your ending until the film's ending, which proves to be very satisfying . . . rated PG-13.

The following two reviews can be found by clicking:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1p0>

C. A TWIST OF LYME (Archway Publishing) by Andrea H. Caesar

D. WINNING EVERY TIME: HOW TO USE THE SKILLS OF A LAWYER IN THE TRIALS OF LIFE (Random House Audio), written and read by Lis Wiehl

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5. TV alert

A. INSIDE THE ACTORS STUDIO has Bruce Dern and daughter Laura sitting down to answer questions from James Lipton. Thursday, Dec. 26, at 7 p.m. on BRAVO.

B. I'll watch THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY, the 1947 film starring Danny Kaye, to compare it with the 2013 version that I'll soon see it when it is released during Christmas in this area. Thursday, Dec. 26, at 8 p.m. on TCM.

C. SEX SENT ME TO THE ER features real-life couples who have sought medical attention following frisky encounters. Premieres Saturday, Dec. 28, at 10 p.m. on TLC.

D. 36TH ANNUAL KENNEDY HONORS has American treasures Bill Joel, Shirley MacLaine and others getting their due. Sunday, Dec. 29, at 9 p.m. on CBS.

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6. Joke 2

Two minutes is nothing!. . . This reminds me of my first marriage. We were having troubles, so we saw a counselor. He told me to take up running to deal with the stress that I was facing. He said to run five miles a day. . . . I did. . . . At the end of the week, I called the counselor and told him that this running stuff was working, and I definitely had less stress in my life but there was just one problem. . . .Counselor: And that is?
. . . I'm now 35 miles from home, how do I get back???



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7. Websites

A. Natalie K. in PA: George Hearn sings the powerful ballad "I Am What I Am" from the 1984 La Cage aux Folles.

<http://www.GreatShowTunes.com/page/21102.html>

And in this bonus clip, Donald Hodge leads the cast in singing the same tune:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBZLCnF4KC0>

Note: I've included the above to point out several fantastic websites; i.e., if you're into music. By clicking any of the following, you can get a free email each day with a different performance!

If you like show tunes, click:

<http://www.greatshowtunes.com/>

If you like opera, click:

<http://www.GreatOperaVideos.com>

If you like jazz, click:

<http://www.JazzontheTube.com>

If you like 20s era jazz, click:

<http://www.20sJazz.com>

If you like 30s era jazz, click:

<http://www.30sJazz.com>

If you like Latin music, click:

<http://www.greatlatinmusic.com/>

B. Carole B. in NC: What The Holidays Would Be Like If Gender Roles Were Reversed

<http://elitedaily.com/women/holidays-like-gender-roles-reversed-video/>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you ever want to see a listing my films that I've enjoyed, click "Blaine's Best" the left and then "Favorite Films." (Included is THE RAINMAKER; see also Section 4B for my review.)

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>

Facebook has added a neat feature; i.e., a chance for others to view some highlights of your year in review. Though I think the following contains too many newsletters, I still think you might get a kick out of it. See for yourself by clicking:

<https://www.facebook.com/yearinreview/blainegreenfield>

Note: Unfortunately, only those on Facebook can view the above.



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8. Technology tip

Lighten Your Inbox in 10 Minutes with Unroll.Me

by Brian Croxall

With the close of the semester, you're probably doing what you can to get your email inbox under control now that some of your colleagues have left the campus and your students have finished their finals. Email is, of course, the gift that keeps on giving. So it's perhaps appropriate as we approach the end of the year that I make a gift to you of a fabulous new (and free!) service I discovered that will radically reduce the number of emails you receive on a daily basis:

<https://unroll.me/>.

The basic premise of Unroll.Me is that it will take all of the emails that you've subscribed to over the years-whether to get a coupon or when signing up at a site-and funnel them into a single email that you get once per day. Or if you're feeling daring, you can unsubscribe from a particular subscription with a single click.

For the rest of this informative article, please click;

http://chronicle.com/blogs/profhacker/lighten-your-inbox-in-10-minutes-with-unroll-me/54357?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en.

Update (on last paragraph): I wrote the author of this article and have been told that the service now also runs with AOL, Google Apps and iCloud email accounts!

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9. Joke 3

WALMART CALLED: Your Christmas photos are ready! For others than the sweet ones below, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/l266j8m>.





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10. A quote I like

"I don't understand why when we destroy something created by man we call it vandalism, but when we destroy something created by nature we call it progress."--Ed Begley Jr. (born 1949), American actor and environmentalist

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11. Thought for the day

Proposals, Negotiations and Bidding . . . 4 Key Points
by Marvin Sadovsky*

The 4 Keys

Over the last 38 years as a consultant I have worked with many companies who obtain a large percentage of their business through a proposal or bidding process. If you are faced with the challenge of obtaining work or services, selling products based on proposals or bidding and your percentage of "wins" are not what you would like then the following 4 key distinctions are extremely important and if you do not follow them the chances are almost certain you will loss an opportunity to serve a customer or client.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1p0>

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12. Advance planning department

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1p0>

A. NC event: Lessons in Leadership

B. PA/NJ event: Book group lineup at Bucks County Community College

C. National event: Evan Guilford-Blake reading his short story

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PS. Make it a great week and a wonderful winter, too. That season officially begins on Saturday, Dec. 21, and ends on Wednesday, March 19. My hope is that you get whatever your heart desires in terms of snow and cold weather . . . just so long as you keep it away from Western North Carolina!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#898
12.9.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I have been busy celebrating the holidays:

(1) At a festive party at the home of our friends Joyce and Bill Sederburg.



(2) Seeing Scott Treadway, fantastic as always in A CHRISTMAS STORY at Flat Rock Playhouse. It runs through Dec. 22. For more information, please click:
<http://www.flatrockplayhouse.org/>



(3) Dining with friends at Bonefish Grill. L-R: Cynthia Greenfield, Carole Biro, Brian Biro, David (our fine server, minutes before he was to become part of our group hug), Marcy Gallagher, Tom Gallagher and yours truly.



(4) Delivering Chanukah Meals for Jewish Family Services.



B. I also saw a fun production of CLUE: THE MUSICAL, performed by students in the Theatre Arts Department at Mars Hill University. L-R: Melanie Morton, Daniella Van Dreef, Justin Gaylard, Blaine Greenfield, Annie Tesh, Daniel Henry, Heather Bronson and Steven Green. Not pictured: Kolton Collins. Bill Gregg directed with his usual aplomb.



And Cynthia enjoyed a great ending celebration at Mamacitas for her Community Choreography Projects' 9-week workshop: There's No Place Like Home. L-R: Allisone Weiss, Ash Devine, Barrie Barton, Marcy Gallagher, Cappy Toseetti, Cynthia Greenfield, Camille Cushman and Tiffany Hall.

Note: Stay tuned for the next Movement Theater Workshop starting Monday, March 3rd. Or if you can't wait, contact Barrie--the genius who heads this endeavor: barbarton@charter.net.



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Marilynne Herbert and the rest of the Board of Directors of the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation for being awarded the prestigious 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities. This 4-star rating, the highest possible, is based on our financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. Only one quarter of the charities receive the highest rating, indicating that the DMRF outperforms many other charities in America. For more info:

<http://ow.ly/rtI9C>.

(2) Christa Tinari for receiving her first trademark for educational activity cards that she developed.

(3) Donna Giovannetti on the continued great work she does as Director of Consumer Affairs for Mercer County, NJ. Just some of her useful tips appeared in a recent article in US1; to read it (and I encourage you to do so), please click:

http://princetoninfo.com/index.php?option=com_us1more&Itemid=6&key=12-4-13giovannetti

(4) Maura Roth on the birth of her new twin grandsons, Jack and Noah, born on December 6.

(5) Amy Armstrong for receiving notification that she is board-approved as a Licensed Professional Counselor in New Jersey.

D. Reminder . . .

***** CONTEST #48 *****

I will be giving away copies of Allen Carr's THE EASY WAY TO STOP SMOKING to three lucky readers.

Note: Even if you don't smoke, this is a fantastic book that will help any smoker you may know who is a relative and/or friend who is sincerely interested in quitting.

To quote Savannah H. in PA: "Thought I would share with you...that I gave the quit smoking book you sent me to my nephew and he read it and quit smoking . . . says he has no desire to smoke any more . . . he told me yesterday and a 3 people overheard and asked about the book . . . any chance you have any more copies?"

"Just thought I would share the news that you helped another person quit smoking . . . awesome!!!! it's funny because it feels really good right?!!!"

To enter: Put "CONTEST #48 in the subject of an email and send it to: bginbc@aol.com. . . make sure you include your name AND snail mail address . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec.16.

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

This week, it goes to the following three IPM employees at Biltmore Lake: Joe Alisantoni, Community Manager; Kerry Arzberger, Community Administrator; and Karen Foley, Recreation Director.

All three have served our community with distinction and have helped us become the North Carolina Chapter of CAI (Community Association Institute) "Community of the Year."

You can ask any of these three individuals a question, and sometimes within seconds, you'll get an answer. They are extremely friendly, as well as knowledgeable.

Unfortunately, Joe and Kerry will only be with Biltmore Lake for a few more weeks. Their company did not win the new management contract, and they both chose to stay with that firm. Lucky for Biltmore Lake, Karen has decided to go with the new firm, FirstService Residential Carolinas, and thus she'll be staying with us.



L-R: Kerry Arzberger, Joe Aloisantoni, Blaine Greenfield and Cynthia Greenfield at a recent reception, at which both Kerry and Joe were thanked for their service.

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2. FYI

Please, please, please don't believe everything that's forwarded to you on the Internet. Or at least check it out before you start sharing it with others.

For example, a friend recently shared this one: Fwd: US Presidents.

It went on to say: "Interesting verbatim quotes from Secret Service in Ronald Kessler's NY Times best seller. Contains enough documented facts to be very credible."

If you bothered to continue reading, you'd see all sorts of garbage about Democrats--and mostly glowing stuff about Republicans.

The reality, according to the author of the book: "[A]bout a third of the items are wrong and not in the book. In addition, the summaries of Obama, Agnew, and Bill Clinton are completely wrong. Contrary to the email, the book actually says Obama treats the Secret Service with respect and appreciates what the agents do. It does not say he hates the military."

Also: "The book is totally non-partisan and skewers Democrats-JFK, LBJ, Carter, Gary Hart--and Republicans--Nixon, Jenna Bush, Barbara Bush, Dick Cheney's daughter Mary, Agnew, Ford, and Bush's treasury secretary John Snow-alike."

For more information, please click:

<http://www.factcheck.org/2011/06/secret-service-tattletales/>

I even bothered to verify the above at a second source:

http://www.truthorfiction.com/rumors/s/secret-service-presidents.htm#UqzEv_RDuix

Note: I have prepared information on the following topic: "On getting the truth on the Internet." If you'd like to get a copy, please send an email to: bjinbc@aol.com and put TRUTH in the subject line.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Anne Heck in NC: A Road to the Heart

http://anneheck.typepad.com/anne_heck/sexual-assault/

(2) Eric Martinez in NC: Hey everyone, check out the music video I was in. Please support the group Soundtrust. They are an amazing band out of Huntsville, AL.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79aZS1nyAws>

(3) Monica F. in PA: My daughter Helena has been making lots of Santa Lucia music on her viola in Stockholm this month, as well as playing at some Nobel award ceremonies.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLycexat2xk>

(4) Jean D. in PA: S-A-N-T-A! 5-year-old Florida girl signs her kindergarten holiday concert for her deaf parents.

<http://on.today.com/18G0PTT>

(5) Susan R. in NC: Now this is what it's all about. I've cried over and over listening to this. The A Cappella Version Of 'Little Drummer Boy' You've Been Waiting For.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJ_MGWio-vc#t=15

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ol>

(1) Peter R. in PA: Thanks for the reads. (2) Steve G. in PA: I think you heard Courtney & Justin sing "Baby, It's Cold Outside" on the website: www.tinylightschristmas.com. (3) Caren F. in PA: Extending a Hand. (4) Majo M. in NC: Asheville Movement Collective dancer and all-around amazing person Sarah Lovdal Southerland. (5) Andy C. in NC: Hey everyone, I helped shoot a fun little short titled "Joint Effort" for the National 48HR Film Festival. (6) Alyson M. in CO: Can you help one Native American family today? (7) Lee W. in PA: What is your mental age? (8) Liz A. in NC: Hi All-Actually this is for my son, Cameron.

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3. Joke 1

Perhaps the greatest holiday photo--EVER!



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4. Reviews

A. DALLAS BUYERS CLUB is based on the story of real-life Texas cowboy Ron Woodroof who was given 30 days to live in 1985 when he was diagnosed as HIV-positive. He chose to bypass traditional treatments and took matters in his own hands, traveling the world to track down alternative treatments. Matthew McConaughey was fantastic as Woodward, and I was amazed that he lost some 40 pounds to take on the role. However, overall, the film was a downer for me. I also think it could have been shortened by a good 20-25 minutes. Rated R.

B. Out on DVD is THE HEAT, a formulaic comedy about a Boston cop and an FBI special agent who join forces to track down a drug lord. I didn't find it very funny, and I had also seen all the "best" scenes in the coming attractions. Sandra Bullock and Melissa McCarthy have both been better in other films. In addition, the sets left much to be desired. Rated R.

A much better rental: FOR THE BOYS, starring Bette Midler as an big-band singer who is chosen to perform at an overseas USO Christmas show with a famed comedian (played by James Caan). They are together through World War II, the McCarthy era and Vietnam, then have a falling out for many years until they reunite at a television awards show. I liked Midler and Caan in the leading roles, along with George Segal as Caan's manager. There are also some good songs. Rated R, though methinks the film would certainly be appropriate for mature teenagers.

The following two reviews can be found by clicking:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ol>

C. THE FRESH HONEY COOKBOOK (Storey Publishing) by Laurey Masterton

D. BIG THINK STRATEGY: HOW TO LEVERAGE BOLD IDEAS AND LEAVE SMALL THINKING BEHIND (Your Digital Coach), written by Bernd H. Schmitt and narrated by Sean Pratt

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5. TV alert

A. O. HENRY'S FULL HOUSE is an anthology film that assembles five respected directors and a top-notch cast to bring a handful of stories by the great American author O. Henry to the screen. Among the performers are Charles Laughton, Richard Widmark and Marilyn Monroe. Monday, Dec. 16, at 8 p.m. on TCM.

B. INDEPENDENT LENS features two young winners of a 2009 contest to find the next great American playwright as they try to take their visions to the stage. Monday, Dec. 16, at 10 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

C. I LOVE LUCY CHRISTMAS SPECIAL pairs newly colorized versions of the series' seldom-seen Yuletide installment and the classic grape-stomping episode, "Lucy's Italian Movie." Friday, Dec. 20, at 8 p.m. on CBS.

D. CHRISTMAS IN WASHINGTON, hosted by Hugh Jackman, features performances for Sheryl Crow, PITCH PERFECT star Anna Kendrick and the Beachstreet Boys. Friday, Dec. 20, at 8 p.m. on TNT.

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6. Joke 2

How Obesity Was Cured

by Eric Weinberger

The island of Lipidomia enjoyed such a high standard of living that its inhabitants did not have to exert themselves physically and could eat as much food as they wanted. One day scientists in Lipidomia announced that the island was sinking and would be below sea level within a generation if the people didn't lose weight on a massive scale.

For the rest of this satirical piece, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ol>

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7. Websites

A. Ever need a certificate; e.g., to give somebody for a job well done? Or just for the heck of it?

The following two sites provide them for free, and they're very easy to use:

<http://www.123certificates.com/>

<http://www.senteacher.org/worksheet/3/CertificateMaker.html>

B. Arlene D. in PA: Try to watch without crying!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCAwXb9n7EY>

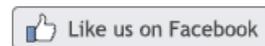
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you've never seen me do stand up comedy, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Video Clips." In particular, see the third and fifth videos.

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Technology tip

Free Online OCR. Use Optical Character Recognition software without installation on your computer. Recognize text and characters from PDF scanned documents (including multipage files), photographs and digital camera captured images. . . .

Free Online OCR service supports 32 recognition languages. Convert scanned PDF to Word, Txt, Rtf. Extract text from image (JPG, JPEG, BMP, TIFF, GIF) and convert into editable Word, Text, Excel, PDF, Html output formats. Converted documents look exactly like the original--tables, columns and graphics. . . . To use, please click:

<http://www.onlineocr.net/>

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9. Joke 3

Hopping y'all aren't tooooo snowbound. But whatever you do, please keep the stuff away from NC!



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10. A quote I like

"There is no such thing as a 'bad omen,' so you don't have to avoid black cats today. Or ladders. Or cracks in the sidewalk. Friday the 13th can be the Best Day of Your Life So Far. And it will be if you choose to see everything in your life today as a miracle. That includes the growing of the grass, the passing of a cloud, the smile on another's face and the beating of your own heart. Live the miracle that is Life today, and do not worry about 'bad omens.' Remember: 'Nothing is evil, lest thinking make it so.'" (Wm. Shakespeare)"--Neale Donald Walsch, American author of the series CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

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11. Thought for the day

Art from an Artist's Perspective

by Bill Abramson

I believe that the only significant difference between painters and photographers are the tools . . . paint brush, camera, sculptor's tools, etc. . . . that they employ to express themselves.

For the rest of this informative piece, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ol>

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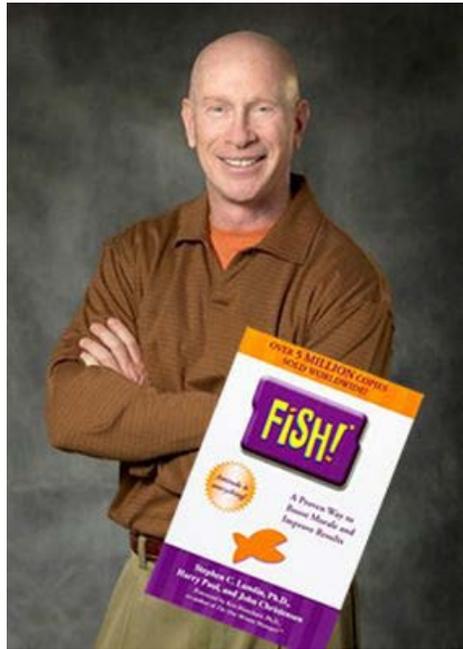
12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) A real "FISH FRENZY" is building among both WNC individuals and businesses!

On January 28th from about 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (with a terrific networking period from 5:30 to 6:30) at the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium in downtown Asheville, an incredible Lessons in Leadership event will fire-up you to dive into 2014 with passion, energy and excellence!

Harry Paul, the author of the ENORMOUS hit best-seller FISH will be here for an event you won't want to miss.



For only \$20 per person, all in attendance will learn, grow and ignite as never before.

Registering is a breeze! Simply go to: www.wncleaders.com today and follow the easy enrollment instructions. Or, if you prefer, send an email directly to Keith Challenger at kccusa@gmail.com and let him know how many participants you would like to register. Keith will take exquisite care of you!

And how exciting that our registration coordinator is ALSO the opening speaker on January 28th. His presentation on "LACK of Time Management" will knock your socks off!



PS. Please also like Lessons in Leadership - Asheville on Facebook by clicking: <http://tinyurl.com/m5nnxhq>. That way, you'll get both the latest information on the event and motivational messages.

To read about each of these other NC events in full, please click: <http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ol>

(2) BJ Leiderman in NC: New Year's Eve Bash. (3) THE GIFTS OF THE MAGGI. (4) Different Strokes! Performing Arts Collective is thrilled to be joining the Asheville Fringe Arts Festival. (5) ALL IN THE TIMING. (6) Please join artists Daryl Slaton, Sasha Osada and Molly Courcelle.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ol>

(1) Newtown, PA programs to honor the lives lost at Sandy Hook Elementary School. (2) Comedy gift certificates.

C. National events

Note: This is a new section that will run when I have material that I want to share that applies to folks throughout the country.

(1) Hopefully, just in time . . . it's amazing how effective this is!



(2) Ziglar Legacy Series. For more information, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ol>

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had a blast at Thanksgiving dinner at the home of our friends Brian and Carole Biro. We started the day with a walk around the neighborhood.



L-R: (Front) Tom Heck, Liza Heck and Roxy. (Back) Lane Cutright, Paul Cutright, Marvin Sadovsky in hat and partially obstructed, Annemarie Brown, Marcy Gallagher in hat and partially obstructed, Tom Gallagher, Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield, Carole Biro and Jenna Biro.

(2) We then had a fantastic feast and followed that with a gratitude circle. That's Cynthia (left), leading me, Marcy Gallagher and everybody else in singing and dancing along to Karen Drucker's song "Gratitude."



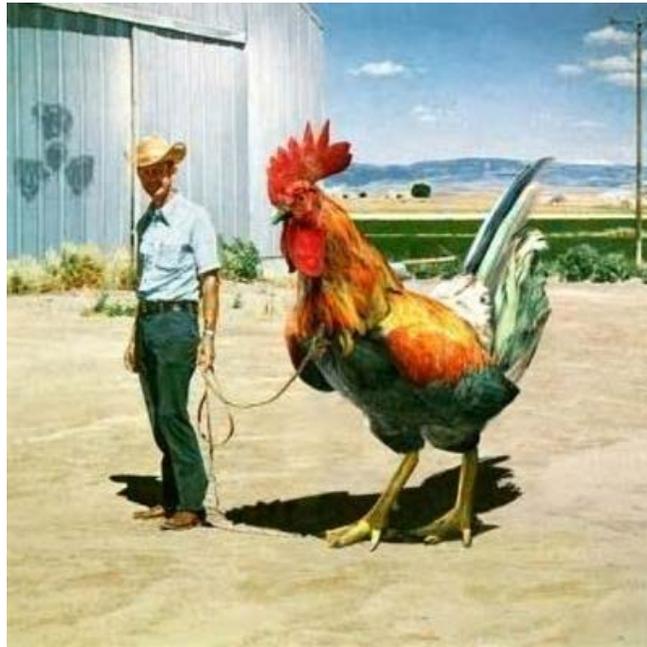
Note: If you'd like to hear the above song, please click:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bzixA2XB3w>.

(3) A highlight of the evening was to see how the Biro's bathroom was magically turned into Tom Gallagher's satellite office away from Pisgah Legal Services. We were as impressed as his wife Marcy was with all the certificates and photos hanging up.



Included were autographed pictures from Presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush, both thanking Tom for his help in their campaigns. . . .an autographed picture of Hillary Clinton inviting Tom and Marcy to visit her the next time they were in town and to make sure they brought some Kilwin's fudge with them . . . Romney's autographed picture, expressing appreciation to Tom for picking up the lunch tab and, also, for coming up with the idea that eventually became known as Romneycare . . . and Harry Truman's autographed picture, giving Tom credit for coming up with the slogan, "The buck stops here."

Perhaps our favorite was this picture that had the following inscription: "Thanks, Tom, for all your work in helping our family raise the world's biggest cock. Love, Uncle Elmer."



B. Over the weekend, my former student Mark Beloyan paid a visit--and I went with his family for a tasty brunch at the Tupelo Honey Cafe in downtown Asheville



Note: If you're an out-of-towner friend, former student or colleague, please let me know in advance if you'll be coming to our fair city. I'd love to meet up with you!

C. Change in next contest!

Last week, I announced Contest #48 that had a prize of tickets to Pisgah Legal Service's special screening of INEQUALITY FOR ALL. That event has been canceled, so please note the following change:

***** CONTEST #48 *****

I will be giving away copies of Allen Carr's THE EASY WAY TO STOP SMOKING to three lucky readers.

Note: Even if you don't smoke, this is a fantastic book that will help any smoker you may know who is a relative and/or friend who is sincerely interested in quitting.

To quote Savannah H. in PA: "Thought I would share with you...that I gave the quit

smoking book you sent me to my nephew and he read it and quit smoking . . . says he has no desire to smoke any more . . . he told me yesterday and a 3 people overheard and asked about the book . . . any chance you have any more copies?

"Just thought I would share the news that you helped another person quit smoking . . . awesome!!!! it's funny because it feels really good right?!!!"

To enter: Put "CONTEST #48 in the subject of an email and send it to: bginbc@aol.com. . . make sure you include your name AND snail mail address . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 16.

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Rodney Smith whose play has been accepted into the Asheville Fringe Arts Festival.

(2) Maggie McMains for being recognized for her volunteer work at the Community School at Enka Middle. To read about it, please click:
<http://www.handsonasheville.org/VolunteerBio>.

(3) Joe Knowles for having received his 35 year NJ State ref award (high school, varsity, college) and, also, for having just completed his 40th year as a USSF soccer ref.

(4) Debbie Hancock on receiving a Notable Networker Award from BNI.

(5) Eric Martinez on being chosen to sing the National Anthem at the NCFCA championship game in Salem, VA.

(6) Lois Fossum on the marriage of her son Peter to his love Connie.

(7) Steven Feldman on the birth of Brandon Werner Doberstein, his grandson.

(8) Marcy and Tom Gallagher, owners of Kilwin's in Asheville (and Black Mountain, too) for having their store window in Asheville named as a winner in the Asheville Downtown Association's holiday window contest. It won in the category of best use of theme.



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

Note: As you may have seem, I'm receptive to getting nominations from BLAINESWORLD for this section. Should you want to submit an individual or company for me to consider, just write a paragraph or two and send it to bginbc@aol.com and put NOMINATION in the subject line. Make sure you also include contact information, so that others could also reach your nominee if so desired.

Thanks Jon Menick for submitting what follows:

Last February 3rd, I suffered a massive headache during my acting class. It was diagnosed as Shingles on the right side of my head. Three months later it settled into my right eye. I had no idea what a life changing event this was going to be for me. It may have very well saved my life as the struggle to remove this plague included removing tons of stress from my life. I divested parts of my company that were causing me frustration and began to do the things that brought me happiness...teaching and guiding actors toward a successful career in the film business.

For months I struggled to get this terror under control. To remove the shingles from the eye and ease the massive swelling before it caused blindness. I was put in the loving care

of Dr. Larry Golston at Envision Eye Care, and together with him, my wonderful staff at SAC, and my nurturing students we fought the shingles together. Today I went for my weekly eye exam and Dr. Golston informed me that not only is the infection out of my eye, but for the first time in many months the eye pressure is normal. Not cured yet, but with vigilant lifestyle change, continued meds and loving support I may have passed through the storm. I humbly thank you all for your helping hands, and to my dear Louisa, my everlasting love.

For more information about Dr. Golston and Envision Eye Care, please click:

<http://www.myenvisioneyecare.com/asheville-optometrist.php>

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2. FYI

I was reminded recently of the fact that cellphones have become a disposable item by the fact that when I cleaned out a closet, I had six old cellphones that were of no value to me.

Rather than just ditch them, I instead donated them to Verizon's HopeLine program. That way, they can be still be used--at no charge--by survivors affiliated with participating domestic violence agencies.

You don't even have to had purchased your phone from Verizon. For more information, please click:

http://www.verizonwireless.com/aboutus/commitment/community_programs/hopeline/

Note: I do recommend that you keep your immediate past cellphone; i.e., the one you were using before any upgrade. That way, if you ever misplace it or if it no longer works, you can then go back to using it--usually at no additional cost.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Tom Giraldi in NJ: Here I Go Again, performed by Jerry Monk. Written by Tom Giraldi

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yc6rK4dvcFo&feature=share>

(2) Jeff Thompson in NC: I've gotten two emails this week asking me for a link to this old video of me doing Cohen's "Hallelujah." So...here ya go.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QaHCaspf4qI>

(3) Chandler S. in NY: Rise and Swim (Welcome to the Grind)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tzm6TEManmQ>

(4) Rock E. in NC: See the highlights of this very fun day (Faerie Fest):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILkxhiboiuw>

(5) Michael M. in NC: Captain Picard sings "Let it Snow!"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiSn2JuDQSc>

(6) Allisone W. in NC: The coolest music in the world

<http://www.snowaddiction.org/2013/11/the-coolest-music-in-the-world-listen-to-siberian-ice-drummers-use-frozen-lake-baikal-as-an-incredible-musical-instrument.html>

(7) Renee B. in NJ: EVOLUTION OF THE FEMALE IMAGE THROUGH THE CENTURIES!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLV3yOQQrpY#t=65>

(8) Bettina Y. in NY: This is going to make your Thanksgiving week a thoughtful one indeed. Incredible!

<http://gopthedailydose.com/2013/11/23/man-rescued-600-jewish-kids-nazi-camps-doesnt-know-yet-hes-sitting/>

(9) Sarah F. in NC: Delta's Holiday In-Flight Safety Video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0P-fqUoHMBc>

(10) Layne C. in NC: Trees Communicate With One Another, Connected by Fungi

<http://www.treehugger.com/natural-sciences/trees-communicate-one-another-connected-fungi->

[video.html](#)

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLV3yOQQrpY#t=65>

(1) Danny B. in NC: Just wanted to give a shoutout to your thumb. (2) Mark B. in NC: I enjoy your newsletter, especially the jokes. (3) BJ L. in NC: Thank you, Blaine for including me in Barrie's write up! (4) Janet C. in NC: Connecticut couple set to celebrate 81st anniversary. (5) Brian B. in NC: Joy to you Facebook Friends! I want to offer you the ultimate stocking-stuffer this year! (6) Gene A. in PA: Family and friends, WE NEED YOUR HELP. (7) Kevin J. in PA: Are you looking for that perfect stocking stuffer? (8) Chris L. in PA: Heard on the news last night about the weight loss properties of honey. (9) Paul C. in NC: Won't you take a second and vote for this image? (10) Beverly T. in NC: 19 Signs You're Doing Better than You Think. (11) Jerry G. in PA: First two radio shows now on the web. (12) Savannah H. in PA: Ten Benefits Of Being Open-Minded.

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3. Joke 1

I finally figured out what I want to be when I get older . . . YOUNGER!



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4. Reviews

A. PHILOMENA is an interesting true story about the mother of a boy conceived out of wedlock who is forced to give away her child for adoption in the United States. Many years later, after she has raised her own family, she decides to discover the whereabouts of her long-lost son with the help of a BBC reporter. Judi Dench gives a powerful performance as the mother, and I also think that Steve Coogan (who typically has caught my attention in comic roles) matches her every step of the way. Rated PG-13.

For more information about the real Philomena, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/30/world/europe/a-forced-adoption-a-lifetime-quest-and-a-longing-that-never-waned.html>

B. Out on DVD is THE LONGSHOTS, a film based on a true story about a former high-school football star who coaches his niece to become the first-ever girl quarterback in the history of Pop Warner football. It is formulaic, but nevertheless fun to watch because of strong performances from Ice Cube and Keke Palmer (so fine in AKEELAH AND THE BEE).

If you're in the mood for something to watch with your kids or grandkids, check this one out. Adults will like it, too. Rated PG-13.

The following two reviews can be found by clicking:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nG>

C. THE SECRETS OF BUSINESS (Ehab's Books and Media Publishing, Inc) by Ehab Atalla

D. HITCH 22: A MEMOIR (Hachette Audio), written and ready by Christopher Hitchens

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5. TV alert

A. BONNIE & CLYDE, a new miniseries, airs on Sunday, Dec. 8, and Monday, Dec. 9, on LIFETIME, A&E and HISTORY at 9 p.m. According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "This film is a new way of telling an old story. . . . The film's soundtrack is excellent, the costumes look authentic (Bonnie's wedding dress gleams like silk satin should) and there is genuine tension in some of the chase scenes."

B. SIX BY SONDHEIM, a documentary, features archival clips of Stephen Sondheim describing how he writes. In it, he is quoted as saying that with song lyrics, as opposed to poetry, "You have to underwrite. You have to lay the sentence out so there's enough air for the ear to take them in." Monday, Dec. 9, at 9 p.m. on HBO.

C. THE SING-OFF, an a cappella competition, returns for Season 4 with the addition of reality guru Mark Burnett as executive producer and singer Jewel as one of the judges. If you dig this kind of music, and I do, be there on Monday, Dec. 9, at 9 p.m. on NBC.

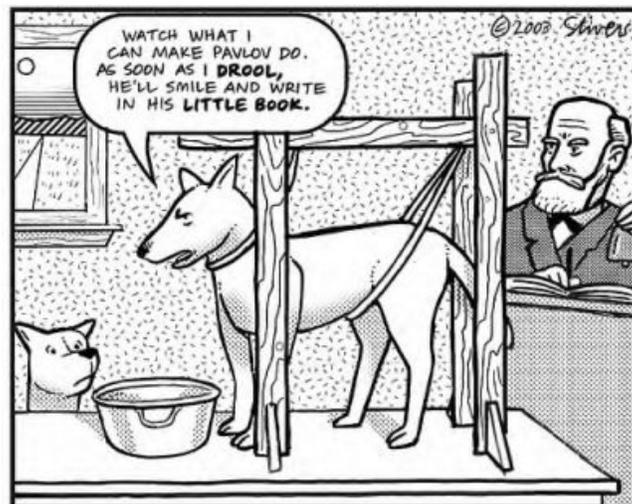
D. SILENT NIGHT is an operatic retelling of the WWII Christmas Eve truce that occurred in 1914. It is based on the Oscar-nominated film JOYEUX NOEL. Friday, Dec. 13, at 9 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

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6. Joke 2

Now I know what really happened!



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7. Websites

A. Before you book your next trip, here's a website methinks you need to check out.

Ken G. in NY: Just bought airfare HALF the price of direct with American Airline or Priceline. Paid \$324 RT to Atlanta 23-27 December. Priceline for the times (or non-stops) wanted over \$750. Give this a try the next time you need air.

<http://www.compete4yourseat.com/Public/FltSrch.php>

B. A YouTube stunt shows how easy it is to collect personal information from social-media posts.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5P_0s1TYpJU

For more information about this topic, please click:

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304017204579226162969047696?>

KEYWORDS=smile+you%27re+on+candid+webcam

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

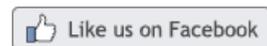
If you ever miss an issue of this newsletter, you can probably find it by clicking "Newsletter" to the left and then "Past Issues."

When you do, you'll then see a neat Search box at the top that can help you find just about anything you may have seen in this missive. For example, I recently wanted to locate a quote from Henry Ford. I knew it had to do with "obstacles." Within seconds, I was able to see that I had run it in BLAINESWORLD #446:

"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goals."-- Henry Ford (1863-1947), founder of Ford Motor company

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Technology tip

Get rid of duplicate photos on your PC by using a free program called Awesome Duplicate Photo Finder . . . to download it, please click:

<http://www.duplicate-finder.com/photo.html>

If you want to read more about this topic, please click:

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/2016553/find-duplicate-photos.html>

For information on how to remove duplicate photos on your Mac, please click:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/photosweeper-lite-remove-duplicate/id506150103?mt=12>

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9. Joke 3

During a flight, an old Marine was seated next to a mother with a babe in arms. When the baby began crying, the woman began discreetly nursing her infant. The Marine pretended not to notice, and upon disembarking, he gallantly helped with the various baby items. . . . When the mother thanked him, the Marine responded, "That's a good-looking child. He sure was hungry!" . . . Embarrassed, the mother explained that her pediatrician said that the time spent on the breast would help relieve pressure in the baby's ears. The Marine, sadly shaking his head, exclaimed, "And all these years I've been chewing gum."



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10. A quote I like

Great way to begin any day with this attitude . . . "Every day, think as you wake up, today I am fortunate to be alive, I have a precious human life, I am not going to waste it. I am going to use all my energies to develop myself, to expand my heart out to others; to achieve enlightenment for the benefit of all beings. I am going to have kind thoughts towards others, I am not going to get angry or think badly about others. I am going to benefit others as much as I can."--14th and current Dalai Lama



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11. Thought for the day

Time Management....NO! Activity Management
by Annemarie Brown*

As we change the clock and go back in time, I am reminded of an answer that Earl Nightingale gave to one of my mentors, Bob Procter, many years ago. Bob asked Earl, who he was working for at the time how on earth he managed his time, with all the projects, businesses, & commitments he juggled each and every day. There didn't seem to be

enough hours in the day to accomplish all that the famously extremely successful Earle Nightingale accomplished or so he thought.

Earl said "No such thing as managing time, impossible to do and this does not exist....cannot do it. What I do is manage my activities.

For the rest of this informative piece, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nG>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nG>

(1) There's something seriously funny happening at 35Below this month. (2) The Sounds of Christmas. (3) Pipapelli. (4) Holiday Celebration Concert. (5) Celebrate the Season concert. (6) Mask Making Workshop. (7) Bradshaw Call returns to the Asheville area! (8) Charley Castex: Holiday Guidance Event.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nG>

(1) Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR). (2) 2013 Riegelsville Fire Company Annual Community Dinner. (3) Irving Berlin's White Christmas at Actors Net.

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PS. It's that time of year again if you're into decorating . . .

My kind of Christmas lights; i.e., those on the left home! The woman who did this used around 600 lights, compared to her neighbor who used around 16,000. For more information, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/oj72pu9>.



And make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#896
11.25.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had a blast, celebrating her performance in "There's No Place Like Home" over dinner and balloons at Early Girl Eatery. The food was excellent and so was our server, Renee.



Note: If the balloons look familiar, that's because you may have seen them before. I first gave them to Cynthia over two years ago after another performance, and since they are still as good as ever, I just keep using them!

(2) Were joined by a whole group of our friends who had also attended the performance:



L-R: Paul Cutright, Stuart Kraner, Ella Kraner, Allison Weiss, Annemarie Brown, Marvin Sadovsky, Emily Shaules, Carole Biro, Brian Biro, Blaine Greenfield, Cynthia Greenfield, Tiffany Hall, David Graham and Layne Cutright.

(3) At the actual performance, that's Cynthia (right) and her friend Allison Weiss--one of the many talented performers in the production.



(4) And that's Barrie Barton (left), director of the event, along with BJ Leiderman (center).



Both Barrie and BJ were then recognized in the Report Grade section of the CITIZEN-TIMES. Their grade follows:

A to Barrie Barton for directing "There's No Place Like Home," a moving production that invited those in attendance into the homes of the 12 cast members for an evening of poignant images, funny stories and joyous reminiscences. This was just one of the many shows Barrie has put together for the Asheville area via Community Choreography Projects, a group she heads as artistic director. Kudos, also, to BJ Leiderman for his music performance and service as sound consultant, as well as to everybody else who made the evening the success that it was.

Blaine Greenfield, Biltmore Lake

B. On another night, we went to Bonefish Grill for dinner with Marvin Sadovsky and his wife Annemarie Brown. We were fortunate to get David V. as our server, and as he has done in the past, he did a fine job bringing us our meals. My order, coconut-encrusted tilapia (a dish they make especially for me), never fails to delight.



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Tunc Hepguler on the opening of the newest SARAR store in Washington, D.C.

(2) Kevin Jameson on a very successful first event for the Dementia Society of America (a group that he formed). It raised nearly \$8,000. For more information, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/qx6ycjk>

(3) George Bruno on getting booked for a national commercial for a mental health treatment center.

(4) Celeste Wynn on her upcoming retirement from Thomas Edison State College.

(5) Leslie Lang, Mark Jones, Rebecca O'Quinn, Jacob Walas and all the others who landed roles in CABARET, which opens at Asheville Community Theatre on Feb. 7, 2014. Jerry Crouch will be directing, which means it is going to be fantastic show!

(6) Rob B. in CA and Steven T. in NC, winners of Contest #47: copies of Jim Donovan's WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR: IT'S YOUR LIFE! Jim was most gracious to donate one book; I'm donating the other one.

All told, there were 10 entries. And that reminds me that's it is now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #48 (probably best for Asheville residents) *****

1 or 2 tickets will be given for the following benefit performance:

Pisgah Legal Services is hosting a special screening of the film "Inequality for All" on Monday, December 9 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:58 p.m. at Cinebarre at Biltmore Square. This film screening is being hosted by Land of the Sky United Church of Christ. "Inequality for All" is a documentary that follows former U.S. Labor Secretary Robert Reich as he looks to raise awareness of the country's widening economic gap.

Note: I saw the above; it's excellent!

All proceeds from this screening will benefit Pisgah Legal Services, which has had a

number of budget cuts this year and will have more cuts next year, thereby reducing the ability of Pisgah to provide legal services for those who really need it.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #48 in the subject of an email and send it to: bjinbc@aol.com. . . make sure you include the following: your name, phone number and whether you would want 1 or 2 tickets in the body of the email . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Sunday, December 8. (Yes, this contest is closing on Sunday night. Although most contests now run through Monday night, I'm having to close this a night before so I can notify the winners.)

If you don't want to wait to see if you're a winner and/or if you wish to purchase additional tickets at \$12 each, please click:

<http://www.tugg.com/events/6602>.

D. Condolences to:

(1) Patty Alexander and family on the loss of Patty's mother, Marie

(2) Sarah Benoit and family on the passing of Sarah's memom, Betty Benoit.

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

Note: As you may have seem, I'm receptive to getting nominations from BLAINESWORLD for this section. Should you want to submit an individual or company for me to consider, just write a paragraph or two and send it to bjinbc@aol.com and put NOMINATION in the subject line. Make sure you also include contact information, so that others could also reach your nominee if so desired.

Thanks Lorre Diamond for submitting the following:

Last week, Erik Nordsell came to my home and put his magical touches on the inside of my beloved, 2004 Hyundai XG350L. He cleaned and polished for 4 hours and OMG what a difference! He also cleaned my headlights and go figure, now I can see at night. Thought I needed new glasses for I just could not see.

He took off the arm rests, and I had them re-upholstered in W. Asheville and am so happy with the way the inside shines. All I need now is new floor mats and a steering wheel cover. I love the way he works for he is a perfectionist and knows his stuff.

Thanks again, Eric, for helping me to clean up my act and keeping me in love with my car.

Eric Nordsell is very special. He loves his work, as well as his dog Bandit that he brings with him.

He can be reached at thundereagleone@gmail.com; 828.242.0267. His Facebook page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/ThunderEagleEnterprises>.

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2. FYI

Please excuse the fact that you won't be receiving any Chanukah, Christmas or Kwanzaa cards from me this current holiday season. The reason is that I prefer taking the money I would spend on cards and postage--and instead donate it to a charity or non-profit group.

This year, I'll be making a contribution (in your honor) to SART--the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre. Because of lightning this past season and several other factors, the theatre is in the hole and can use any help it can get.

Also, like most theatres, it only receives about 50% of operating costs from ticket sales. So if you'd like to join me in helping out, please make a tax deductible contribution by clicking:

<http://tinyurl.com/nkgwdcw>

Note: I'm most interested in SART because I'm active in that organization and currently serve as president of its board of directors. But feel free to contribute to any other charity or non-profit group if you like this idea.

And if you want to do something else that can make a difference, contribute participating in this year's "Holiday Mail for Heroes" program. To find out how to do so, please click:

<http://www.snopes.com/politics/christmas/soldiercards.asp>

Do NOT send cards directly to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. They won't be read

as you can see by reading the material at the above link.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Footprints in the Snow, featuring Bill Monroe and his Bluegrass Boys:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqoeJaGHux4&feature=youtu.be>

(2) Vilasi V. in NJ: The shocking truth about your health: Lissa Rankin at TEDx

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tu9nJmr4Xs&sns=em>

(3) Chuck F. in NC: The Smother's Brothers take to the air & they still got it

<http://offtheedgehumorpics.blogspot.com/2013/04/smothers-brothers-im-pilot.html#.UpXpiZv54Yi>

(4) Natalie K. in PA: Just found out about this beautiful song composed by Keith Baker, the director of the Bristol Riverside Theater after the Sandy Hook Massacre last year.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqY_Eb9_DJ4

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nd>

(1) Michelle B. in NC: I love #11!!! So wonderful :). (2) Maria P. in PA: Last night, I saw the Bill Cosby show on Comedy Central. (3) Eric C. in NC: Glad you were able to meet Sonny [Johnson]. (4) Natalie K. in PA: Saw the Dallas Buyers Club yesterday. (5) Chandler S. in NY: Aundrew's Brief Lament Demo (From Sole Mates the Musical). (6) Aaron M. in NC: Happy Holidays everyone - this is a perfect "short version" read [of THINK & GROW RICH] for you while you are relaxing. (7) Robin S. in PA: I've decided (just earlier today) that the term "selfie" has a far better use.

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3. Joke 1

Great reminder that things could always be worse . . . be grateful that you're not this horse, stuck in the fence--and getting laughed at by a cow.



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4. Reviews

A. THE BOOK THIEF, based on the bestseller by the same title, is the story of an amazing young girl sent to live with a foster family in WWII Germany. She learns to read and with the help of a secret guest being kept under the stairs, she creates a magic world that helps sustain everybody she encounters. Sophie Nelisse is excellent in the leading role, but I was also impressed with the performance of Nico Liersch (in what appears to be his first film) as the boy who befriends her. In addition, Emily Watson was outstanding as the mother, and I'm hoping that Geoffrey Rush receives an Oscar nomination for his work as the father. In addition, I could see John Williams getting a nomination for the haunting musical score that he created. I'm amazed that some critics did not like this film. See it; you won't be disappointed. Rated PG-13.

B. Out on DVD is RETURN TO ME, a romantic comedy about a widower and the waitress who received his dead wife's heart in transplant surgery. I checked this newsletter's archives and found that I had reviewed it back in 2000. My review follows, but please see the note that follows.

Saw RETURN TO ME, a romantic comedy about a widower and the

waitress who received his dead wife's heart in transplant surgery. [It is] a

"nice" movie [that] contains some touching scenes--but overall, they seem somewhat disjointed . . . David Duchovny and Minnie Driver are OK as the couple who you just know are going to get together, and that's another problem I had with the film; i.e., it was very predictable . . . Carole O'Connor, Bonnie Hunt, Robert Loggia, James Belushi, and David Alan Grier are among the colorful supporting cast . . . although rated PG-13, it would be appropriate for even younger children.

Note: This is a feel-good film that came out better the second time around. I just revisited it with Cynthia, and we both liked it very much . . . you will, too, if you give into its charms.

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nd>

C. MATH DOESN'T SUCK: HOW TO SURVIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH WITHOUT LOSING YOUR MAIL OR BREAKING A LEG (Hudson Street Press) by Danica McKellar

D. RUN YOUR OWN CORPORATION: HOW TO LEGALLY OPERATE AND PROPERLY MAINTAIN YOUR COMPANY INTO THE FUTURE (Hachette Audio), written and read by Garrett Sutton

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5. TV alert

A. BETTY WHITE GOES WILD! can be seen on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 9 p.m. on NAT GEO WILD. "Ms. White," notes THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "turns out to be both an informed tour guide and a hilarious one" as she visits the San Diego Zoo's Safari Park.

B. KRISTIE is a sitcom about a Broadway diva, featuring the returns of Kristie Alley, Michael Richards and Rhea Perlman. Premieres Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 10 p.m. on TVLAND.

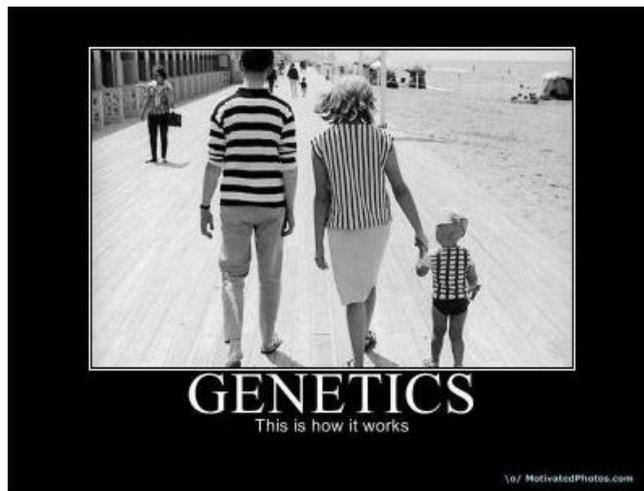
C. MOB CITY, according to TV GUIDE, is a 6-hour crime series with "atmosphere and sharp characterizations. . . . Some nifty tricks along the way keep us off balance regarding who's good or bad and why." Premieres Wednesday, DEC. 4, at 10 p.m. on TNT.

D. THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE! airs on Thursday, Dec. 5, on NBC at 8 p.m. It stars Carrie Underwood, Stephen Moyer and Audra McDonald.

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6. Joke 2

Now I know!



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7. Websites

A. Charlie F. in NC: Why This Macy's Parade Performance Has Some People Outraged

One part of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade wasn't agreeable to America's social conservatives

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/11/29/kinky-boots-macys_n_4360035.html

My two cents: View the clip that's part of the article. It makes me want to see the show more than ever. And methinks it provides a great teaching opportunity for parents; i.e., that there are a lot of folks out there--and they are not all the same.

For some other reactions, go to 11.29.13 (and the picture of people dancing) at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/charles.flynnmciver?fref=ts>

Mr. Curious here: What do you think about this?

B. Chuck S. in PA: Check it out - it's pretty cool and only takes a few minutes.

Grammatically Speaking: Have You Got a Grasp of Grammar?

http://m.staples.ca/sbdca/en_CA/cre/programs/grammarquiz/

Note: My score was 107, but then again, I was never very good in math!

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

Ever wonder how many people view this website? Just view the counter at in the bottom left corner of this homepage . . . and be prepared to be blown away!

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Technology tip

Note: Gmail changes may be affecting what you get from me and others and, also, may explain why you have sometimes missed issues of BLAINESWORLD. Please read the following article, especially if you are a Gmail user and/or know somebody who is.

These New GMail changes hurt you (and me). Do this to fix it
by Derek Halpern

Last week, GMail quietly rolled out some MASSIVE changes to their email inbox.

. . . And if you run an email newsletter, you're probably PISSED (or scared) about what these changes mean to you and your business.

For the rest of this informative piece, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nd>

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9. Joke 3

The other day, my friends and I went to this "Gentlemen's Club." One of my buddies wanted to impress us, so he pulls out a \$10 bill. The dancer came over to us, and my friend licked the \$10 and put it on her right butt cheek. . . . Not to be outdone, my other friend pulls out a \$50 bill. He calls the girl back over, licks the \$50 and puts it on her left butt cheek. . . . Now the attention is focused on me. What could I do to top that? I got out my wallet, thought for a minute and then the pragmatist in me took

over. . . . I got out my ATM card, swiped it down her crack, grabbed the \$60 in bills and went home.



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10. A quote I like

Good plan for today--and every day . . .

Life is like a Camera.
Just focus on what's important
and capture the good times, develop
from the negatives and if things
don't turn out,
Just take
another
shot.



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11. Thought for the day

MINDFULNESS YOUR WAY

by Vilasi Venkatachalam, M.Sc., MS, RD

A softly spoken word which carries on its wings, visions of meditating monks, singing bowls, salt lamps, strains of soothing music, a celestial cubicle, hospitals with harps . . . life without turmoil. All valid. Somewhere. Definitely aspirational.



We have it on good authority, from the wise and sagacious, that it will help us feel equanimity in the face of strain. We hope it is a breath and meditation induced cure, or in the very least an anesthesia.

For the rest of this blog entry that has been reprinted with the gracious permission of Vilasi, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nd>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nd>

(1) A Benefit Concert for Typhoon Victims in the Philippines. (2) Sports History Stories from a Master Documentary Maker--Round 3. (3) Spring Advanced Pain Management Hypnotherapy Training session. (4) A CHRISTMAS STORY at Flat Rock Playhouse. (5) Lessons in Leadership.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1nd>

(1) Newtown Holiday Parade. (2) SUMBEL: An Ancient Nordic Celebration & Feast. (3) Jean D. in PA: My son makes his Kimmel Center debut.

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PS. If you're like me and you celebrate ALL holidays (more fun, food and friends that way), Happy Chanukah to 'yall . . . and what better way to celebrate than with some boneless smoked ham? Oy vey! . . . This was actually one of a series of three signs used by Balducci's, a Greenwich Village gourmet store . . . to read more, please click: <http://tinyurl.com/lhd4tuz>. . . and consider joining me in staying away from this store when you buy matzo ball soup!



Also, I hope y'all make it a terrific Thanksgiving! And as can be seen below, keep in mind that things could always be worse. (Thanks Pat Achilles, my talented cartoonist/illustrator friend, for sharing this from her blog at: <http://tinyurl.com/loi89to>.)



And make it a great rest of the week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINESWORLD

#895
11.18.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Celebrated our friend Carole Biro's birthday with a great dinner at P.F. Chang's in Asheville. Justine, our server, was excellent. The only thing missing was the fact that her husband Brian couldn't join us because he had a speaking gig in Asia.



(2) Picked up our revised wills that had been prepared by Sarah Sparboe Thornburg, our excellent attorney with McGuire, Wood & Bissette, P.A. We added a codicil to them, ensuring that our cats will be cared for by Brother Wolf in case something ever happens to us.

A highlight of our visit was that we again go to see Sonny Johnson, the firm's parking lot attendant extraordinaire (and recipient of the BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD in BLAINESWORLD #889). He gave us his usual smile, as well as a big hug.



Note: When we got there, we saw that he was busy cleaning-off the bumper of somebody who had parked in the lot. Had that person not come out at the same time, she would have never even noticed that he had done this!

B. Also:

(1) Clarification: Last week's newsletter ran a picture of Joey Novick's dad in Section 11 that accompanied a story that I encourage you to read If you have not done so. Two readers thought that picture was one of my dad. See below for one of him, along with my mother, taken when they were both 37 and about to embark on their first cruise. Can you believe how folks got so dressed up before the ship even left port?



(2) Reminder . . .

***** CONTEST #47 *****

Two lucky winners will win their own copy of Jim Donovan's new book, *WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR: IT'S YOUR LIFE?* Jim is graciously donating one copy; I'm donating the other one.

This book contains simple, practical ideas and techniques that anyone can use. I recently reviewed it (*BLAINESWORLD #888*) and enjoyed it very much. Methinks you will, too.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #47 in the subject 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, Nov. 25.

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Kelli Brown Mullinix on her engagement to Jeff Messer.

(2) Devender Narang on his engagement to Vineeta Singh.

(3) Sheryl Shapiro on the birth of her new granddaughter.

(4) Asheville for being named as one of the 10 Best Lovacore Cities in America. For more information, please click:

<http://www.thedailymeal.com/10-best-locavore-cities-america-right-now-slideshow>

Note: A locavore is a person interested in eating food that is locally produced, not moved long distances to market.

(5) Rebecca Phippard on landing a role as a patient in NURSE JACKIE.

(6) Billie Lyons-Super on the opening of her store, "Vintage Fab," on 42 North Main St. in Mars Hill; 828.680.1220. The hours are Noon-8 p.m.

(7) Jerry Gross on his new radio show, "Your Dilemma Matters," on Sunday nights from 5-5:30 p.m. on 920 am. If you miss it, you can also find it at:
www.920thevoice.com

(8) Jim Freeman on being interviewed in PHILADELPHIA STORIES. To read it, please click:
<http://philadelphiastories.org/interview-professor-james-freeman>

(9) Jean Settembrino Dolan on being named to the board of directors of the Newtown Library Company.

(10) Bruce Katsiff for being part of the Olympus InVision Photo Festival. To read more, please click:
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=484802658302620&set=a.168247246624831.35725.116383415144548&type=1&theater>

(11) Karl Carter on being profiled in an article in the BUCKS COUNTY COURIER TIMES.
http://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/local/bccc-teacher-creates-a-community-of-glassblowers/article_c3a9c779-6d7e-5504-b9a1-edbc08714263.html

(12) Joe Guice for his role in DO IT YER'SELF, a dark comedy that recently won the IndieWorks Audience Choice Award.



In addition, you can catch Joe in THINGS WE DON'T KNOW--a dramatic short shot in Philadelphia. To view it, please click:
<http://vimeo.com/78438628>

D. Condolences to Sarah Richardson and family on the passing of Sarah's grandmother.

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

This week, it goes to the Biltmore Lake Board of Directors.

It is the group that helps run the community where I reside.

The Board is hard-working, and it works well together--even with me being a part of it. This is largely due to the tireless efforts of the other members: Brad Galbraith, Lyle Johnson, Hobie Orton and Dennis Kwiatkowski (pictured below at the recent annual meeting of all homeowners).

Special kudos to Lyle, president of the Board for the last several years. Under his leadership, Biltmore Lake has been named Community of the Year by the North Carolina Chapter of CAI (Community Association Institute) for the third time in the last five years.



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2. FYI

The difference between theater vs. theatre has been bugging me for quite some time. In fact, I even wrote columnist Rob Kyff* about this in 2006. His response follows:

Q. What is correct to use . . . "theater" or "theatre" . . . and why?--Blaine Greenfield

A. The simple answer is that "theater" is the American spelling and "theatre" is the British spelling, as in "center/centre" and "meter/metre." Noah Webster's 1806 dictionary reported this American tendency to transpose the British "re" to "er."

Etymologically, the British "theatre" has the better claim to legitimacy, for this word derives from the Greek "theatron" through the Latin "theatrum." Given the recent infiltration of British words ("vet" as a verb), phrases ("suss out") and spellings ("travelling") into American English, it's not surprising to see "theatre" pop up more and more often on this side of the pond. But it still bears a whiff of pretension.

* Rob Kyff, a teacher and writer in West Hartford, CT, invites your language sightings. Send your reports of misuse and abuse, as well as examples of good writing, via e-mail to Wordguy@aol.com or by regular mail to Rob Kyff, Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254.

Note: Since then, it appears that "theatre" is becoming the preferred spelling--or at least that's what I am seeing at colleges, programs of study, names of buildings, etc.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Theresa P. in NC: Jean-Claude Van Damme: The Epic Split
<http://www.forbiddenknowledgetv.com/videos/art/jean-claude-van-damme-the-epic-split.html>

(2) Nancy C. in NC: Susan Werner at Philly Folk Festival (2010) - May I Suggest
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eW1DDSQnEYo>

(3) Mary Lou S. in NC: Comedian Tim Hawkins Found the Secret to His Wife's Power
<http://www.godvine.com/Christian-Comedian-Tim-Hawkins-fb-gv-4260.html>

(4) Sheryl S. in PA: Kmart Goes Balls Out for Christmas Commercial

<http://fashionista.com/2013/11/kmart-jingle-balls-commercial-video/>

(5) John D. in PA: When I viewed this video, you immediately came to mind because you always stress inspirational issues and you always take the optimistic view.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42E2fAWM6rA>

(6) Henry W. in NY: Only in Sweden! (Naked Dance - Sweden's Got Talent)

<http://vitaminl.tv/video/955>

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1mL>

(1) BJ L. in NC: Nice issue. (2) Chris H. in NC: Blaine, thanks is much for your generosity in the great contest. (3) Natalie K. in PA: TWELVE CHAIRS: Finally got to see this tonight. (4) Margie Z. in NC: I read your veterans story, and it reminded me of my dad--a story teller supreme! (5) Bob H. in NJ: If Google ever became a person, it would be you. (6) Mary C. in NC: Thanks for the newsletter, Blaine. (7) Ed B. in NC: Dr. Phi's test. (8) Steve S. in NC: Home wanted for rent for the month of July.

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3. Joke 1

This woman looks shocked, but I wonder if she isn't secretly pleased to be caught in a compromising position with this statue.



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4. Reviews

A. WE'RE THE MILLERS is a funny comedy about a small-time pot dealer who gets robbed when trying to prevent a mugging . . . as a result, he finds himself in major debt to his supplier with only one way out; i.e., to smuggle in a major supply of drugs from Mexico . . . he enlists a cynical stripper and two teenagers to help him out, so that when they get a shiny RUV, they become just an ordinary family--the "Millers"--heading south of the border for a Fourth of July weekend . . . Jason Sudeikis and Jennifer Aniston both shine in the leading roles . . . rated R.

Note: We saw the above at Cinebarre in Asheville on a Sunday, at which time all films are just a buck . . . at other times, they are \$3 . . . you can order food at your seats . . . my Hawaiian Surprise pizza (pineapple with Canadian bacon) was quite good, and Cynthia enjoyed her salad.

B. Out on DVD is 2 GUNS, a crime thriller about two crooked undercover officers who are each lead investigators on the other . . . it somewhat kept my attention, largely because of the interplay between the charismatic stars: Mark Wahlberg and Denzel Washington . . . however, be forewarned that there's a lot of violence . . . rated R.

C. A YEAR TO LIVE: HOW TO LIVE THIS YEAR AS IF IT WERE YOUR LAST (Bell Tower) by Stephen Levine teaches us to live each moment, each hour, each day mindfully--at if it were all that was left.

The author decided to live this way for a whole year, and he shares his experiences in this thought-provoking book.

I liked his many examples of how others have managed to apply this concept, including this one:

* One day in San Francisco, a dentist friend, while working on my teeth, told me that it was his fiftieth birthday. "Well then, just ten more years to live, to really live? I joked through the nitrous oxide. Knowing his delight in physical sport, I floated the possibility that his body might have only another ten years of the energy and stamina necessary for his favorite endeavors, backpacking and wild-river rafting. Though I was only half-kidding, and fifty-five years old myself at the time, he was apparently ripe to hear this, and a few months later changed his office hours to a four-day week, finalized his divorce, and bought a new pair of skis. I have never seen him so lighthearted as when he speaks about how much more time he has to live by giving himself one extra day each week. Now the game is to remind him not to overbook those four days. Clearly we reclaim our lives one step at a time.

Levine also raises many questions that had me reflecting on just what I would do:

*Too many bad movies have left us with a penchant for fantasizing our own famous last words. . . . We have whispered, just loud enough for all those gathered around the bed to hear, magnificent salutations, witty repartee, and poetic conclusions. But what words would you actually utter as you expelled your last breath?

And though I'm not typically a practitioner of meditation, I thought the following makes a lot of sense:

* Sit quietly for a while and bring to mind someone from your past whose kindness touched your heart. Envision yourself speaking to that person. Tell them what they have meant to you. Send your gratitude to them as though your hearts were connected. Thank them, and when the conversation ends, bid them farewell. Say good-bye to them as if you might never see them again, even in memory.

Bring to mind, one by one, and without haste, the friends, teachers, parents, ancestors, comrades, lovers and even pets with whom you feel a kinship, those who have supported the growth of your heart. Tell them how much you appreciate their care and kindness. Send gratitude into their image. When love has filled the space between you and it is time to depart, say good-bye as if you might never be this way again.

I have actually started using the above and that alone has made A YEAR TO LIVE a book that I recommend.

D. Heard BUYING & SELLING A BUSINESS: HOW YOU CAN WIN IN THE BUSINESS QUADRANT (Hachette Audio), written and read by Garrett Sutton.

Sutton, an attorney, bestselling author and member of Robert Kiyosaki's Rich Dad Advisors series, presents useful information that will help you avoid the obstacles that would otherwise prevent you from taking part in a winning transaction.

Among the many tidbits of information I gained from listening were the following:

* It may be prudent to keep two jobs until your income from the new business equals the old job.

* If you sense you're getting in over your head, don't be afraid to consult an attorney.

* Your accountant should be able to explain complex issues in simple terms.

* Make sure any franchise agreement is reviewed by your team of advisers.

* If you're a buyer or seller, be prepared to walk away from negotiations. You can always start again tomorrow.

Perhaps the best part of BUYING & SELLING were the many real life examples that accompanied each chapter.

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5. TV alert

A. AMERICAN MUSIC AWARDS has a star-studded lineup that includes Justin Timberlake, One Direction and Florida Georgia Line. Sunday, Nov. 24, at 8 p.m. on ABC.

B. TOXIC HOT SEAT takes an in-depth look at a nexus of money, politics and power--and a courageous group of firefighters, mothers, journalists, scientists, politicians and activists as they fight to expose what they assert is a shadowy campaign of deception that has left a toxic legacy in America's homes and bodies for nearly 40 years. Monday, Nov. 25, at 9 p.m. on HBO.

C. SNL THANKSGIVING SPECIAL airs on Wednesday, Nov. 27, at 9 p.m. on NBC.

D. Barbara Streissand is featured on GREAT PERFORMANCES, backed by a 60-piece orchestra. Friday, Nov. 29, at 9 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

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6. Joke 2

A little boy is sitting on the toilet. His mother thinks he has been in there too long, so she goes to see what's up and sees her son reading a book. Every 15 seconds, he puts the book down, grips onto the seat with his left hand and hits himself on top of the head with his right hand. . . . His mother says, "Billy, are you all right? You've been in here for a while." . . . He replies, "I'm fine, mommy. I just haven't gone potty yet." . . . His mother says, "OK, you can stay here a few more minutes. But why are you hitting yourself on the head?" . . . Billy replies, "It works for ketchup."



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7. Websites

A. Steven S. in NC: Howard Kaylan (one of the founders of the Turtles, arguably the greatest rock group of all time) interview. Very interesting. To view it, please click:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UUwwkE1Z3SE>

Note: Best part of the above--the music that kicks in at 22:45! It also cites a book that I'm going to have to get; i.e., SHELL SHOCKED: MY LIFE WITH THE TURTLES, FLO AND EDDIE, AND FRANK ZAPPA.

B. Eric Martinez: Hey everyone, I need your help. I shot a commercial for the Doritos Crash the Superbowl contest. I need views and likes for this video to be considered by the judges. Check it out by clicking:

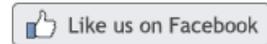
http://youtu.be/_q4ISYhHFvg

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

If you've never see me do standup, you're in for a treat . . . click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Video Clips" . . . the third and fifth clips showcase my talents.

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Technology tip

Twitter Illiterate? Mastering the @BC's

By HANNA INGBER in THE NEW YORK TIMES
October 23, 2013

Using Twitter sounds so simple. Type out no more than 140 characters--the maximum allowed in a single tweet--and hit send. That's all, right?

Not quite. Twitter's interface may look simple, but it is not, and its complexity has turned off many people who tried the service. This is a problem because one of the big questions facing Twitter before it starts trading as a public company, perhaps as early as next month, is whether it can attract enough users to become a robust outlet for advertising dollars. Although Twitter brings in money from advertising, it does not yet sell enough ads to make a profit.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/24/technology/personaltech/twitter-illiterate-mastering-the-bcs.html?src=me&ref=general>

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9. Joke 3

A guy took his blonde girlfriend to her first football game. They had great seats, right behind their team's bench. After the game, he asked her how she liked the experience. . . . "Oh, I really liked it," she replied, "especially the tight pants and all the big muscles, but I just couldn't understand why they were killing each other over 25 cents." . . . Dumbfounded, her date asked, "What do you mean?" . . . "Well, they flipped a coin, one team got it and then for the rest of the game, all they kept screaming was, 'Get the quarterback! Get the quarterback!' And I'm like thinking: Helloooooo? It's only 25 cents."



Tom Gannam / AP

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10. A quote I like

Good reminder!



Talk about your blessings
more than you talk about
your problems. ~A

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11. Thought for the day

Tanzan and Ekido, who were walking along a country road that had become extremely muddy after heavy rains. Near a village, they came upon a young woman who was trying to cross the road, but the mud was so deep it would have ruined the silk kimono she was wearing. Tanzan at once picked her up and carried her to the other side.

The monks walked on in silence. Five hours later, as they were approaching the lodging temple, Ekido couldn't restrain himself any longer.

"Why did you carry that girl across the road?" he asked. "We monks are not supposed to do things like that."

"I put the girl down hours ago," said Tanzan. "Why are you still carrying her?"



Source: Reprinted with the gracious permission of Rabbi Mel Glazer from his book, A GPS FOR GRIEF AND HEALING: 3 POWERFUL STEPS TO HELP YOU MOVE FROM MOURNING TO MORNING

Note: The above is an excellent book, and it currently available from amazon.com . . . but if you can wait until December 15, it will be available for 1/2 price just that day.

For the paperback edition, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/lmouc5z>

For the Kindle edition, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/m645znm>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

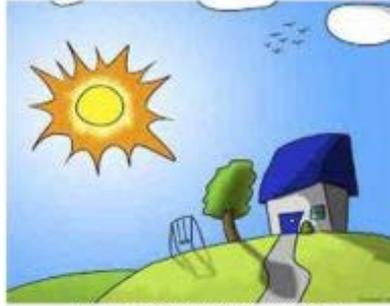
(1) Please come see Cynthia in the following production . . .

Community Choreography Projects
Presents

There's No Place Like Home

A Movement Theater Presentation

Directed by Barrie Barton



Through Story, Movement and Song

We invite you into the homes of 12 cast members.
Be entertained and delighted by poignant images,
funny stories and joyous reminiscences
from their homes, past and present.

Be prepared to be transported to some wonderful memories of your own!

Music Performance by BJ Leiderman
Story Performance by Cappy Tasetti
Special Guest - Leigh Cookley Pattus

Jubilee Community
46 Wall Street, Asheville

Sunday, November 24
5:30 p.m.
\$8.00

For More Information
www.communitychoreography.com
828-633-1049

To read about each of these other events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1mL>

(2) Lessons in Leadership, featuring Harry Paul. (3) Last chance to see THE BOOK CLUB PLAY at NC Stage. (4) Leadership training with Kathleen Osta. (5) An evening with Laurey Masterson. (6) Richard Shulman performances. (7) THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL PASSION. (8) Upcoming Asheville SCORE seminars.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1mL>

1) Garden State Comedy Club. (2) Turtles to Philadelphia area on June 24. (3) Meet the Author, James A. Freeman.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

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11.11.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had a blast at the benefit concert for the MemoryCaregivers network. It featured "The Music of John Denver," as performed by the very talented Tom Donnelly and Friends, Robin Bullock on guitar and the Carolina Day School's 5th Grade Chorus.

Kudos to our friends Linda and Chuck Hollinshead for all the work they do to support this worthwhile organization. For more information, please click:
<http://www.memorycare.org/localsupport.htm>



L-R: Margie Zack, Blaine Greenfield, Chuck Hollinshead, Cynthia Greenfield and Linda Hollinshead.

B. On another night, we got to join our friends Tom and Marcy Gallagher for a tasty dinner at Tupelo Honey in Southside Asheville.



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Liz Aiello on the completion of her Patsy Cline tribute CD and to Bruce Lang for his role in making it a reality.



Here's a movie of the recording session for one of the songs:
<http://www.bigcreekmusic.com/movies/3%20cigarettes.mov>

To order the CD, please click:

<http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/lizaiello>

Note: I already purchased my copy. It's fantastic!

(2) Hilary Greenfield on her upcoming retirement from the East Windsor School District.

(3) Jon Menick for landing a part in an upcoming BOARDWALK EMPIRE. When I get details on when it will be aired, I'll share them with you!

(4) Hobie Orton on his new position as Director of Construction and Residential Development for Biltmore Farms.

(5) Dewitt Robbeloth for having his informative article, "Young at heart" (about Asheville yoga teacher Lillah Schwartz) published in MOUNTAIN XPRESS. To read it, please click:
<http://www.mountainx.com/article/54025/Young-at-heart>

(6) Meredith Elliott Powell on the fact that her book, Winning In The Trust & Value Economy, made finalist in the USA Best Book Awards.

(7) Robert McDaniel on being named full-time Attractions Host in Asia at Disney's Animal Kingdom.

(8) Asheville for being listed as one of " 20 Awesome U.S. Cities You Need To Visit In Your 20s." For more information, please click:
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/11/09/cities-to-visit-your-20s_n_4178993.html?ncid=txtlnkushpmg0000029&ir=Business

(9) Donna G. in NJ and Chris H. in NC, winner of Contest #46: copies of the 2014 Cartoon Calendar, created by Pat Achilles (my very talented cartoonist/illustrator friend). Pat was most gracious to donate one calendar; I'm donating the other one.

Note: If you'd like to get on her free mailing list for occasional cartoons sent to you via email, send an email to: Patachilles@aol.com and put MAILING LIST in the subject line. Also, if you'd like to get your own copy of the above calendar for just \$12, please click: <http://achillesportfolio.wordpress.com/store/>.

All told, there were 9 entries. And that reminds me that's it is now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #47 *****

Two lucky winners will win their own copy of Jim Donovan's new book, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR: IT'S YOUR LIFE? Jim is graciously donating one copy; I'm donating the other one.

This book contains simple, practical ideas and techniques that anyone can use. I recently reviewed it (BLAINESWORLD #888) and enjoyed it very much. Methinks you will, too.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #47 in the subject 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, Nov. 25.

D. Condolences to:

(1) Ruth Ann Foss and family on the passing of Ruth's mother.

(2) Rock Eblen and family on the passing of Margie Eblen, Rock's sister.

(3) Herb Spiegel and family on the passing of his wife Joan's mother.

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

Note: I appreciate getting nominations for this section. This one came from Cynthia G. in NC:

I had a great experience going to my gynecologist's office. Brenda Wright, the nurse for Dr. Lyles began, the good experience. She called me back promptly when I had a question. She listened and was warm and thorough in our appointment.

I then met with the ultrasound tech person, Amy. She did something which I have never experienced before: She actually brought me into the process of what we were seeing on the ultrasound machine. She said, "Well, it is YOUR body!!" It was very helpful and felt like she was treating me like a human person instead of as an object.

Lastly, I met with Dr. Evelyn Lyles. She spent time with me discussing my problem. She was patient and informed me of my options.

I have had so many negative experiences with doctors and their offices. It felt important to acknowledge this positive experience.

For more information about this practice (Western Carolina Women's Specialty Center) , please click:

<http://wcwsc.com/>

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2. FYI

Last week's issue included useful advice on how to eat Chinese food takeout. Now for some

equally important advice; i.e., how to use a ketchup cup properly. To learn how, please click:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoojbLq6Yml&list=TLjmf4mIV1tIMAYQKI9U5b7WSI99IfRk>



Note: For the entire how to series from foodbeastTV, please click:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wjM9tR42Szo&list=SPpeQ1I8poSdv0-KgL7NeFDfi2G-DzaE1e>

You'll learn such other useful skills as How to Eat Cupcake Like a Gentleman, How to Eat Milk and Cookies Like a Boss, Here's How to Eat a Tic Tac Like a Boss and How to Sip Soda.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Kurt L. in NC: Jeff Thompson: Try a little tenderness

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=568756853196086&set=vb.10001853304734&type=2&theater>

(2) Bettina Y: What happens when you've got one chance

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_xloJzZtKg#t=75

(3) Herb S. in NJ: A Sexist Reporter Tried To Box Her In, But She Took Everything And Threw It Right Back In His Face

<http://www.upworthy.com/a-sexist-reporter-tried-to-box-her-in-but-she-took-everything-and-threw-it-right-back>

(4) Bob H. in NJ: All of your readers will run to the market to buy eggs!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aazP6zvJmiQ>

(5) Freedom R. in NC: Two kids play the Beatles Let It Be on the cello and violin

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=1394161520824885>

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1mm>

(1) Marcie F. in PA: I forwarded it [computer tip from last week's issue] to my uncle. (2) Karen M. in NC: 99 Life Hacks That Could Make Your Life Easier. (3) Interesting blog entry from Pat A. in PA on her latest illustration for a client. (4) Natalie K. in PA: I saw "Tosca" last night in the movie theaters. (5) Bob H. in NJ: As always, merci for your endless research on life as we know it.

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3. Joke 1

I hope for her sake that there's a game tomorrow!



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4. Reviews

A. ABOUT TIME is a delightful romantic comedy about a guy who is taught that the men in his family has always had the ability to travel through time . . . though he can't change history, he can change what has happened in his own life . . . so he decides to make it better by getting a girlfriend, and after many cunning uses of time travel, they eventually fall in love and get married . . . Domhnall Gleeson and Rachel McAdams are both perfect in the two leading roles . . . also, as always, the fact that Bill Nighy was in the cast added to my enjoyment of the film . . . rated R, though I think is an appropriate film for any mature teenager.

Note: I've already added the above to my list of favorite films. If you'd like to get a copy of this list, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

B. There's not much new stuff out on DVD to recommend, so instead I'll suggest a film I just found on Netflix: THE ENGLISH TEACHER . . . it's a quirky comedy about a 40-year-old unmarried English teacher whose closest relationships are with her favorite authors and stories . . . only when a disheartened former student moves back into town does she come alive as a result of helping him mount his play with the help of the high school drama teacher . . . Julianne Moore is excellent in the leading role, and I also liked Nathan Lane's work as the teacher . . . rated R.

To read each of the following two reviews, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1mm>

C. HOW TO WIN A PITCH; THE FIVE FUNDAMENTAL THAT WILL DISTINGUISH YOU FROM THE COMPETITION by Joey Asher

D. NARRATIVE OF THE LIFE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS by Frederick Douglass

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5. TV alert

A. WHOOP! GOLDBERG PRESENTS MOMS MABLEY has interviews with comedians such as Bill Cosby and Eddie Murphy paying tribute to pioneering female African-American standup Jackie "Moms" Mabley. Monday, Nov. 18, at 9 p.m. on HBO.

B. DAVID BLAINE: REAL OR MAGIC features the magician entertaining stars and newsmakers, including Will Smith Woody Allen and Stephen Hawkins, to get their reactions to his tricks. Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 9:30 p.m. on ABC.

C. BILL COSBY: FAR FROM FINISHED showcases the comedian in a concert taped in June. Saturday, Nov. 23, at 8 p.m. on COMEDY CENTRAL.

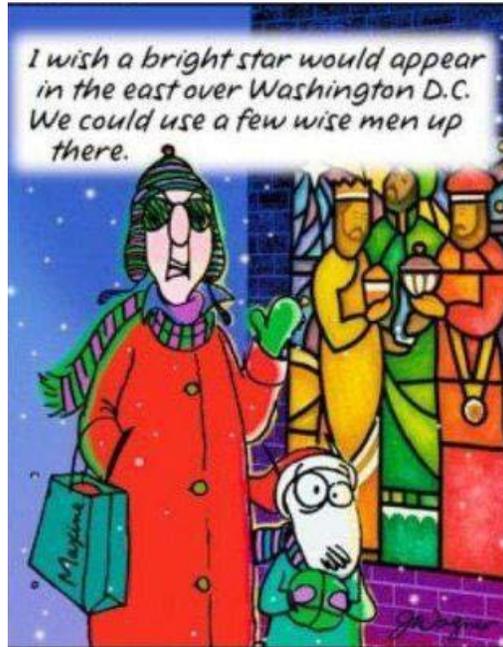
D. CAROL BURNETT: THE MARK TWAIN PRIZE honors Burnett, the 16th recipient of this prestigious award. Sunday, Nov. 24, at 8 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

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6. Joke 2

I'd like to see this, too--along with some wise women!



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7. Websites

A. Alyson M. in CO: 12-yr-old takes on NC Governor re. voting rights
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3CRSK0Hltol>

B. Bill M. in NC: Ellen Terrifies Two Staffers At A Haunted House
<http://www.buzzfeed.com/mattbellassai/ellen-terrifies-two-staffers-at-a-haunted-house-and-their-re>

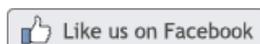
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:
<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you think any of your friends would like subscribing to this newsletter, just refer them to this website and have them click Newsletter to the left and then Subscribe.

Or also feel free to forward the issue you're now reading and invite them to send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line.

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Technology tip

Some programs load automatically every time you start Windows; e.g., this was happening with Skype (a program I rarely use). To prevent this from happening, go to Start bottom (probably in the lower left of your monitor), then type msconfig and click on msconfig icon that appears. When the System Configuration window appears, click on the Startup tab. Then uncheck those programs you wish not to start and click Apply.

Note: Be very careful when doing the above. You'll notice that a lot of programs load; only remove those programs you are absolutely sure about. Otherwise, don't click anything.

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9. Joke 3

Two old guys are talking. One says to the other: "My 85th birthday was yesterday. The wife gave me an SUV." . . . Other guy: "Wow, that's amazing! Imagine, an SUV! What a great gift!" . . . First guy: "Yup. Socks, Underwear and Viagra."



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10. A quote I like

"Remember there's no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end."--Scott Adams (born 1957), American cartoonist

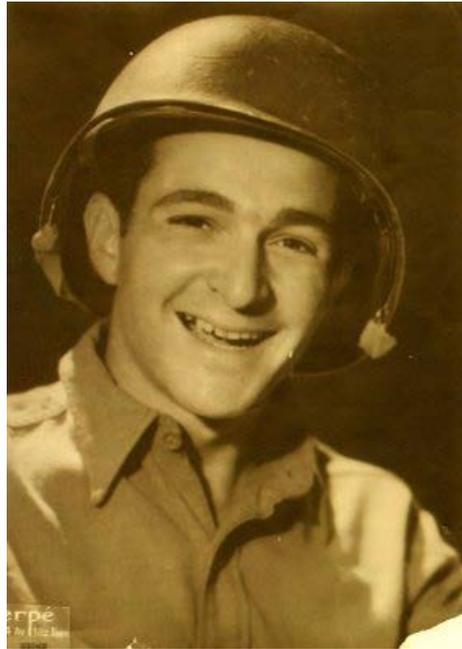


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11. Thought for the day

What did you do in the war, Dad?
by Joey Novick*

(In tribute to my dad--pictured below--on Veterans Day, I repeat one of my favorite columns. Thank a veteran today.)



That was the question that Miss Connor, my 4th grade teacher at PS 277 in Brooklyn, wanted each kid in our class to ask his/her dad. We had an entire sheet of questions that Miss Connor handed out--you know, printed on mimeograph paper that had that rich chemical smell.

"What rank did your father have?" "What was his job in the war?" "What countries did he go to?" were some of the questions we had to ask. We were assigned to do an oral report for the class; this was to be a school project for Veterans Day in early November 1963.

To read the rest of this great story, please click:

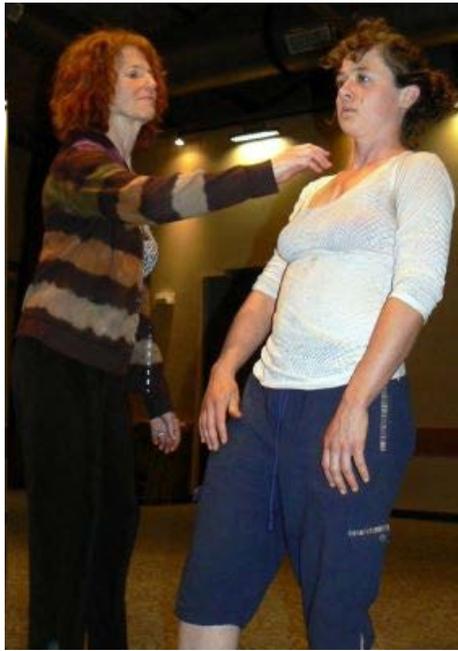
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1mm>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Cynthia joins Ashe Devine (right) in the upcoming performance of *There's No Place Like Home*, A Movement Theater Presentation.--directed by Barrie Barton.



Note: I love Ashe's question about this picture: Is she about to beam me up or what? Come see for yourself . . .

Through story, movement and song, the audience is invited into the homes of 12 cast members. Plan to be entertained and delighted by poignant images, funny stories and joyous reminiscences from their homes, past and present. The performance will ignite personal and collective memories that shape us as unique individuals and as a community.

Featured in the presentation is BJ Leiderman, performing Home by Karl Werne and Cappy Tosetti presenting a story written by Doug Mason.

Join us, Sunday, November 24 at Jubilee! Community. The presentation starts at 5:30 and tickets are \$8.00 and can be purchased at the door.

This presentation is the culmination of a 9-week workshop. Participants embarked on an artistic exploration to recall and discover their relationship with home, past and present. The presentation is the results of a collaborative process that weaves the stories of 12 women.

To read about each of these other events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1mm>

(2) Asheville Party "Grand Opening" Festivities! (3) The Autumn Players rendition of "Hobson's Choice." (4) BJ Leiderman Band on New Year's Eve. (5) Zuzu Welsh and Pipapelli Blues on December 5 to assist those in the Philippines.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1mm>

(1) Live comedy in both Bucks County and South Jersey. (2) The Plumstead Historical Society. (3) Reading and reception for Bucks County Poet Laureate.

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PS. This cartoon (below) has me thinking about my Dad and all the other veterans out there--past and present. Thanks to y'all!



Make it a memorable Veterans Day . . . and also enjoy the rest of your week!

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#893

11.4.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Saw a tuneful production of HANK WILLIAMS: LOST HIGHWAY at Flat Rock Playhouse with our friends Ted and Kimberly Ross. Andy Christopher was perfect as Williams, and we also liked Jasper McGruder as Tee-Tot. Preston Dyar, as always, did a fine job in his role. Vincent Marini's direction was also on target.



From there, we went for dinner at Fortune Asian in Hendersonville, a place that's quickly becoming one of our favorite eateries in that area. I liked my sweet and sour chicken, and Cynthia felt the same way about her hibachi shrimp and lobster. Jessica, our server, was excellent. For more information, please click:

<http://fortuneasianhendersonville.com/>

(2) On another night, we joined a bunch of friends for an excellent dinner at Cork and Crown in Mars Hill. For more information, please click:

<http://www.corkandcrownpub.com>



L-R: Michael Ward, Stuart Kraner, Small-Fire Hawk, Doug Snipes, Lori, Lynn Mullett, Candace Mullett, Cynthia Greenfield and Blaine Greenfield.

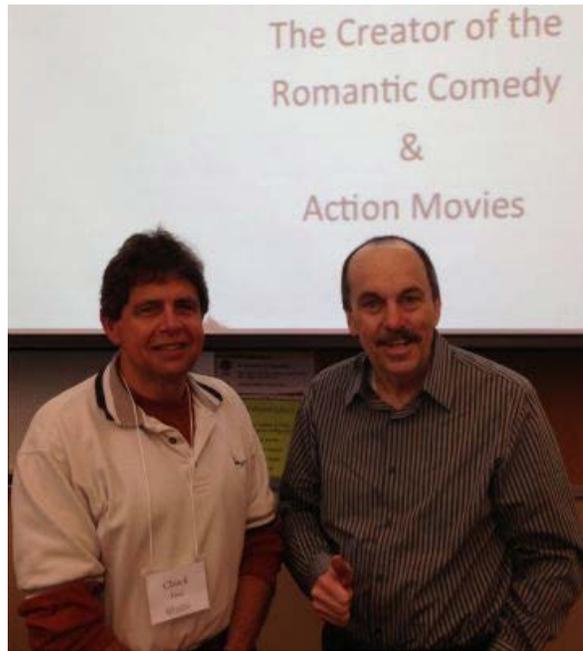
Afterward, we went to the first night of ScriptFEST--SART's annual Playwrights' Conference. There we saw a superb production of Michael Ward's BLOODLINE, directed by Jon Menick and performed with aplomb by students from his Screen Artists Co-op.



L-R: Michael Ward, Emily Shaules (one of the many fine performers in the show), Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield and Jon Menick.

(3) On Saturday, I was fortunate to be able to see readings of two other interesting shows: PRICELESS by Seth Freeman and THE CINDY VARIATIONS by Evan Guilford-Blake, directed respectively by Bill Gregg and Susan Dillard. Kudos to both Bill and Susan, as well as to all the actors and actresses who donated their services to showcase these new plays. I'm just grateful that I am not the one making the determination as to which of these three plays wins this year's competition!

(4) I also managed to complete "Quiet on the Set: Silent Comic Film Actors," an informative course taught by my friend Chuck Fink at the Osher Life Learning Institute. Over four weeks, we studied and laughed at the works of Charlie Chaplin, Harold Lloyd, Buster Keaton and Harry Langdon. I don't know about you, but this is my kind of learning: no exams and no papers, and you also have a fun time. Chuck did one heckuva job teaching the course, and I'm looking forward to others he will be teaching in the future.



(5) Cynthia has also been busy, getting ready for her next performance with Community Choreography Projects. (Please see Section 12A for more information.)



L-R: Cynthia Greenfield, Bonnie Solomon and Marcy Gallagher.

B. Reminder . . .

***** CONTEST #46 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the 2014 Cartoon Calendar, courtesy of Pat Achilles (my very talented cartoonist/illustrator friend). It contains 12 of her best cartoons, and it opens up to 11 by 17 inches--making it a fun wall calendar for your home or office.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #46 in the subject 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, Nov. 11.

Note: If you'd like to get on Pat's free mailing list for occasional cartoons sent to you via email, send an email to: Patachilles@aol.com and put MAILING LIST in subject the line. Also, if you'd like to get the above calendar for just \$12 and not wait until you find out if you win the contest, please click:

<http://achillesportfolio.wordpress.com/store/>

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Linda McLean on being named WLOS Person of the Week. See why by clicking: <https://www.facebook.com/?ref=logo>

(2) Monica and Oliver Flint on the birth of Oliver Panagiotis Borrin, their grandchild.

(3) Diane Allen on being named Best Executive Coach for 2013 by SOUTH JERSEY BIZ MAGAZINE.

(4) Tom Sofield on being chosen as one of the recipients for Bucks County's 40 Under 40 awards.

(5) Asheville for being named one of the Top 100 Best Places to Live by Livability.com, a website that ranks quality of life and travel amenities of America's small and mid-sized cities. The city scored high in the areas of health care and education as well as amenities. For more information, please click:
<http://livability.com/asheville/nc>

And for the entire listing, please click:
<http://livability.com/top-100-best-places-to-live#/palo-alto/ca>

D. Condolences to:

(1) Andrew and Janet Hart on the passing of Andrew's mother.

(2) Honey Woloff and her mother Randi on the passing of Honey's grandmother who was also Randi's mother-in-law.

(3) Jean Fesperman and family on the passing of her husband Bill, a longtime SART officer and Board member. A memorial service for Bill will be held at New Hope Presbyterian Church, 3070 Sweeten Creek Road, Asheville, on November 16 at 3 p.m.

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

This week, it goes to Francisco--an assistant manager at Boston Market, 1644 Hendersonville Rd, Asheville, NC; (828) 274-8955.

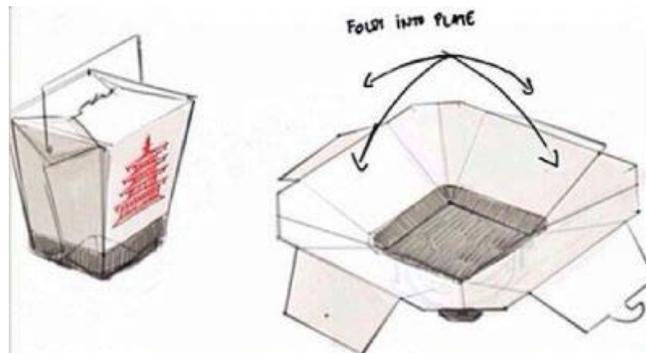
When I see him, I always get an enthusiastic greeting. He is also extremely friendly and very knowledgeable about his store's tasty offerings. In addition, he and the rest of the staff make you feel welcome, and they all make it a point to both thank you for coming and invite you to return.

I especially like two Boston Market products: the chicken pot pie and the turkey pot pie. Cynthia typically orders and enjoys the dark meat chicken, and she says her side of garlicky lemon spinach always hits the spot.

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2. FYI

How to eat Chinese food! If you also need to see a clip of this being done, please click:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5xb1fAHkdc>.



**You're suppose to
unfold the box to turn
it into a plate.**

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Isaac F. in NC: I am Aldalpo

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=631129856937800&set=vb.127886280595496&type=2&theater>

(2) Marilynne H. in NC: Always go to the funeral

<http://www.npr.org/2005/08/08/4785079/always-go-to-the-funeral>

(3) Dana K. in PA: Deb's OR Flash Mob

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPdheFjRm4E#t=19>

(4) Daniel H. in NC: From "Pippin" at Vocal Blast concert

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=630392557011530&set=vb.127886280595496&type=2&theater>

(5) Zuzu W. in NC: Journey Is My Home (the Zoodles)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=afx_OzOz108&feature=youtu.be

(6) Moses Webb Double Fumble Recovery for Touchdown

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QesyKoezPrY>

(7) Here is a German trapeze couple who are somewhat different!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=717211468307619&set=vb.234538950336&type=2&theater>

(8) Karen M. in NC: How I hacked online dating

http://www.ted.com/talks/amy_webb_how_i_hacked_online_dating.html

(9) Bettina Y. in NY: There's A Special Place In Hell For This Lady

http://www.700wlw.com/pages/onair_scottloan.html?article=11683702&fb_comment_id=fbcomment_242114772603027_1022307_247140455433792#f1dd0b0c88

(10) Mark J. in NC: This makes me smile.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=1428774484014976>

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1IJ>

(1) Jessica M. in NY: Blaine, thanks so much for the mention and spreading the word about LLS! (2) Natalie K. in PA: Saw "Twelve Years a Slave" yesterday. Wow. (3) Arlene D. in PA: Blaine, thanks for the congrats in BLANESWORLD. (4) Some readers asked me about Harold Lloyd. (5) Marvin S. in NC: Great Thought of the Day. (6) Ron F. in PA: I love Joke# 2 oh yeah and your new beard. (7) Barbara B. in NC (with a FREE OFFER FOR ALL). (8) Tony Henry in NJ (with an opportunity to host your own radio show). (9) Pat A. in PA: Wedding invitation scam.

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3. Joke 1

Beware unassuming statues with their distinctly old-fashioned views on sexual harassment!



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4. Reviews

A. 12 YEARS A SLAVE is based on the true story of Solomon Northup, a New York State citizen who was kidnapped and made to work on a plantation in New Orleans in the 1800s. Chiwetel Ejiofor is brilliant as Northup, and I also admired the work of Michael Fassbender as the plantation master from hell. Steve McQueen is to be commended for co-writing the script with John Ridley, as well as for directing this film--though I think some of the scenes were a bit long. Be forewarned: This is not an easy film to watch because of the many scenes involving brutality. Rated R.

B. Out on DVD is LOVELACE, the true story of Linda Lovelace--best known as the star of DEEP THROAT, the first pornographic feature film . . . it tells the story of Lovelace from her strict religious upbringing through the time she marries a charismatic hustler and becomes an enthusiastic spokesperson for sexual freedom . . . things shift some six years later when she tells the world that there was another contradictory side to her story . . . Amanda Seyfried and Peter Sarsgaard are both fine in the leading roles; however, overall, the movie was a bit flat despite its scintillating premise . . . rated R.

C. Typically, whenever I upgrade my computer, I'll want to check the accompanying manuals that go along with whatever I have changed or added . . . the only problem: manuals seem to be a thing of the past.

So I now go to a bookstore and look at three different books on the topic, then purchase the one that seems to best answer any specific questions that I may have . . . that's just what I did when buying MICROSOFT WINDOWS 7 & OFFICE 2010 FOR DUMMIES (Wiley Publishing) by Andy Rathbone and Wallace Wang. I also had read other books by Rathbone and had found them helpful.

This latest one was no exception. There were many useful tips in it, including these for Windows:

* To free up disk space, click the Installed On or Size column header [from Uninstall a Program in the Control Panel] to find old or large programs. Then uninstall those forgotten programs you never or rarely use.

* Almost every Windows program includes its own Help system. To summon a program's built-in computer guru, press F1, choose Help from the menu or click the little blue question mark icon.

And this one for Office:

* If you need to share files with people using older versions of Microsoft Office, you need to save your files in a different file format known as 97-2003.

Much of this information is probably available on the Internet, but personally, I like being able to find it in a book such as this one. In addition, by skimming it, I got a quick overview on what to expect with my new software.

D. Heard EDWARD R. MURROW AND THE BIRTH OF BROADCAST JOURNALISM (Tantor Media), written and read by Bob Edwards.

Just reading what the author had to say on the book cover got me interested in the subject: "Most Americans living today never heard Ed Murrow in a live broadcast. This book is for them. I want them to know that broadcast journalism was established by someone with the highest standards. Tabloid crime stories, so much a part of the lust for ratings by today's news broadcasters held no interest for Murrow. He did like Hollywood celebrities; they had no place on his news programs. My book is focused on this life in journalism. I offer it in the hope that more people in and out of the news business will get to know Ed Murrow. Perhaps in time the descent from Murrow's principles can be reversed."

I was fascinated to learn how Murrow reported on the London Blitz, bombing raids over Berlin and the McCarthy hearings. In addition, I enjoyed following the account of his constant battles with CBS. Perhaps my only disappointment with the book had to do with the fact that I wished it had been longer.

Edwards' narration was superb. But best of all were the accompanying clips that featured snippets of Murrow actually broadcasting the news.

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5. TV alert

A. KILLING KENNEDY is an adaptation of the book by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Duggard. Sunday, Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. on NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC. According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "Think of it as a CliffsNotes version of the Warren Commission."

B. GREAT PERFORMANCES features Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic OKLAHOMA. Hugh Jackman stars in the 1998 Royal National Theatre production. Friday, Nov. 15, on PBS at 9 p.m.

Note: PBS times and dates often vary, so check local listings.

C. MIKE TYSON: UNDISPUTED TRUTH is the former heavyweight champ's stage show. Saturday, Nov. 16, on HBO at 8 p.m.

D. THE CHALLENGER DISASTER stars William Hurt as physicist Richard Feynman, the scientist who attempted to uncover the truth behind the space shuttle's 1986 explosion. Sunday, Nov. 17, at 9 p.m. on SCIENCE CHANNEL.

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6. Joke 2

WHY OLD MEN DON'T GET HIRED . . . Human Resources Manager at job interview: "What is your greatest weakness?" . . . Old man: "Honesty." . . . Manager: "I don't think honesty is a weakness." . . . Man: "I don't really give a sh*t what you think."



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7. Websites

A. With a combination of disarming folksiness and passable--though admittedly inexpert--photography skills, Mr. [Brandon] Stanton has achieved one of the most unlikely success stories in a city filled with them. After posting pictures and quotations on his Facebook page, Tumblr blog and website, HumansOfNewYork.com, he has amassed more than one million fans in three years.

To see his amazing work for yourself, please click:
<http://www.humansofnewyork.com/>

Note: The above passage was taken from a piece in THE NEW YORK TIMES. If you'd like to read the whole thing, please click:

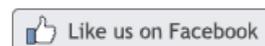
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/11/07/business/media/humans-of-new-york-by-brandon-stanton.html?src=me&ref=general>

B. Jean D. in PA: But you already knew this, I'm sure.
"Happy Together" is better with just the vocals.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dN2fMfRMv8#t=37>

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

If you're relatively new to this website and/or newsletter, you can see some pictures of my friends and family by clicking "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Pictures." Doing so will enable you to again hear The Turtles, arguably the greatest rock group of all time.

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



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8. Technology tip

Thanks Diana M. in NH for sharing the following article that I strongly urge you to read:

Nasty new malware locks your files forever unless you pay ransom

by Herb Weisbaum, NBC News contributor

CryptoLocker, a new and nasty piece of malicious software is infecting computers around the world - encrypting important files and demanding a ransom to unlock them.

According to Sophos, the worldwide digital security company, it's been hitting pretty hard for the past six weeks or so.

For the rest of this eye-opening article, as well as the accompanying clip, please click:

<http://www.today.com/money/nasty-new-malware-locks-your-files-forever-unless-you-pay-8C11511655>

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9. Joke 3

My wife came in one afternoon and said, "You know, I was thinking we could use a new dishwasher." . . . I replied, "Yeah, yeah, I suppose we could." . . . And the doorbell rang. It was a guy delivering a new dishwasher. She thought of it, and it came to the door. That's a power women have. They think of something, and it happens. . . . Men don't have that power. Like the other night, I was alone with my wife, and I thought of something. And she said, "That is not happening mister."--Comedian John Wing on 2013 AMERICA'S GOT TALENT; for the whole routine, click:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vwh7nKGPL4g>.



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10. A quote I like

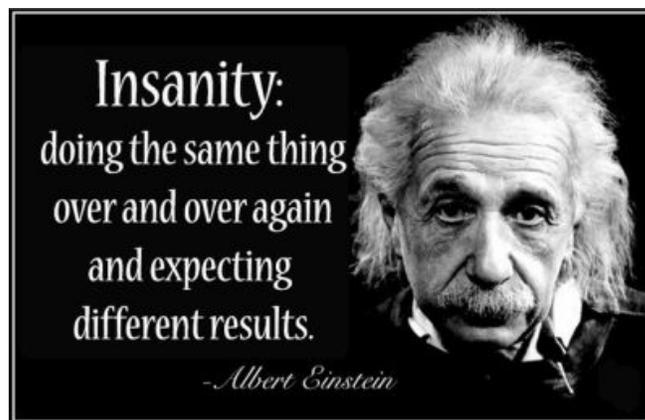
"I think it is just terrible and disgusting how everyone has treated Lance Armstrong, especially after what he achieved, winning seven Tour de France races while on drugs. When I was on drugs, I couldn't even find my bike."--Willie Nelson



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11. Thought for the day

To counter this from happening, methinks we should all work together to find solutions to problems--and not just continue harping on the problems.



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1IJ>

(1) Community Choreography Projects presents There's No Place Like Home. (2) Asheville Faerie Arts Festival. (3) Hobson's Choice. (4) The Hop schedule. (5) Asheville Cinema Festival. (6) Asheville Choral Society. (7) THE BOOK CLUB PLAY. (8) Amy Grant. (9) C. Robert Jones book signing. (10) Asheville Party launch. (11) Lessons in Leadership. (12) An introduction to advanced mask making techniques.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1IJ>

(1) Comedy shows. (2) Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz. (3) Art Exhibition at Bucks

County Community College.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#892
10.28.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I were still apart during the week . . . so I again wound up doing some things myself . . . though I had a good time, it just wasn't the same without her!

(1) I went with my friend Steven Shulman to see a very funny production of THE BOOK CLUB PLAY at NC Stage, starring Bill Munoz (below), Jennifer Gatti, Kyler Griffin, Stephanie O'Rear, Catori Swann and Mark Allen Woodard. Charlie Flynn-McIver's direction was spot on. You're in luck, in that the show runs through November 17. For tickets, please click: <https://northcarolinastagecompany.secure.force.com/ticket>

To read an excellent review of the play by Tony Kiss, please click: <http://www.blackmountainnews.com/article/20131029/ASHEVILLESCENE/310290035/Review-NC-Stage-s-Book-Club-Play-plenty-funny>



We also enjoyed seeing paintings by Jonas Gerard (pictured in the center, along with Luke Arrington--a talented local actor) in NC Stage's newly-renovated lobby.



(2) On another night, I attended a lecture at my community's clubhouse, given by filmmakers Tom and Sandi Anton (AT LAST and THE PARDON) on their love of independent films. They also discussed the Asheville Cinema Society, which they founded: <http://acs2013.com/>

and the upcoming Asheville Cinema Festival: <http://www.acf2013.com/>.



L-R: Blaine Greenfield; Emily Schaules, a talented local actress; and Sandi and Tom Anton.

Kudos to Suzie Troia for taking care of the details to make the evening the success that it was and, also, for heading Biltmore Lake's Lecture Series this past year. She has done a great job.

B. Cynthia, meanwhile, completed a week-long JourneyDance workshop at the Kripalu Center in Stockbridge, MA. That's her (far right), proudly displaying a collage she did.



C. Asheville is again in the news, this time for being named one of the Top Ten Best Weather Cities in the U.S.A. by Suntan.com. To read more, please click:
<http://www.suntan.com/?bestweathercities>

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Micah Solomon on being profiled in CNN MONEY. To read the piece, please click:
<http://money.cnn.com/2013/11/01/smallbusiness/loyal-customers/>

(2) Howard Debs on his latest published piece of poetry in misfitmagazine.net . . . to read it, please click:
<http://misfitmagazine.net/archive/No-5/debs.html>

(3) Arlene Ditzler on the birth of Harry, her latest grandson.

(4) Molly Kervick on her wedding.

(5) Clay MacCormac on his wedding.

(6) Jessica Melore for her great advocacy on behalf of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Here's a clip of her appearance on a morning San Diego show:
<http://www.sandiego6.com/story/closing-in-on-a-cure-20130906>

(7) Suzie T. in NC, winner of Contest #45: a copy of BLIND CURVES: WOMAN'S UNUSUAL JOURNEY TO REINVENT HERSELF AND ANSWER: WHAT NOW? by Linda Crill. In addition, Glenn B. in PA will also receive a copy, thanks to the generosity of another reader (Chris F. in PA) who is sharing her extra copy of this very fine book. Thanks, Chris!

All told, there were 10 entries. And that reminds me that's it is now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #46 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the 2014 Cartoon Calendar, courtesy of Pat Achilles (my very talented cartoonist/illustrator friend). It contains 12 of her best cartoons, and it opens up to 11 by 17 inches--making it a fun wall calendar for your home or office.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #46 in the subject 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, Nov. 11.

Note: See below for one of Pat's cartoons that she has graciously allowed me to reprint here.



If you'd like to get on her free mailing list for occasional cartoons sent to you via email, send an email to: Pat Achilles@aol.com and put MAILING LIST in subject the line. Also, if you'd like to get the above calendar for just \$12 and not wait until you find out if you win the contest, please click:

<http://achillesportfolio.wordpress.com/store/>

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

This week, it goes to Favilla's New York Pizza, 1093 Patton Ave., Asheville; 828.225.3032.

Many local places around here don't serve individual slices. Favilla's does, and they are both very large are oh-so-tasty. The one I had the other day (a stuffed meatball parmigiana) could well have been the best I've ever had.

Andy Favilla, the owner, is always very friendly--as is his wife Jeanette.

Favilla's has also added a separate dining room, which means you can now sit down and enjoy your order.

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2. FYI

Why You Need to Find a Mission

Having a purpose in life, new research shows, could be the key to a successful retirement

by Diane Cole in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

You've heard the phrase: Get a life. Well, better yet: Get a purpose in life.

Studies of 1,500 men and women by the Chicago-based Rush University Medical Center's Alzheimer's Disease Center show that having a purpose in life can help stave off cognitive decline and promote a broadly healthier, longer life.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:

[http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424127887323316804578163501792318298?](http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424127887323316804578163501792318298?KEYWORDS=why+you+need+to+find+a+mission)

KEYWORDS=why+you+need+to+find+a+mission

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Marty D. in PA: Emotional baby! Too cute!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIsCs9_LP8

(2) Carole B. in NC: Talented Little Girl Left the Judges Speechless and Gets a Standing Ovation

<http://www.godvine.com/Talented-Little-Girl-Left-the-Judges-Speechless-and-Gets-a-Standing-Ovation-4163.html>

(3) Charlie Chaplin - Fan Montage / Tribute Video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyymDfwUk>

Note: Background music for the above is the great song cited in last week's issue, Moby's "Run On."

(4) Our set! - with Zuzu Welsh and Matthew Cox.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151980507864776&set=vb.619624775&type=2&theater>

(5) Brittany H. in NY: Ladies, Once This Dude Warms Up, You'll Be Drowning In Goosebumps

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWi5iXnguTU#t=45>

Note: This is a powerful message that should also be heard by guys! And here's a similar message directed at them:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aTAn-tk2pDA>

(6) Robin S. in PA: Million American Jobs Project

http://www.youtube.com/v/4FrGxO2Fn_M#action=share

(7) Melanie B. in NC: Screaming Js at LEAF

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=tWIT1BFfjpA

(8) Walter B. in NC: Acrobatic Juggling Trick Shot on Car

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151953774861963&set=vb.401631936962&type=2&theater>

(9) Arlene D. in PA: You may get choked-up by this one. You gotta view it.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=4655458664237&set=vb.1226435549&type=2&theater>

(10) Lori in GA: Chet Atkins and Friends

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjdUskmbXxE>

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1lr>

(1) Beth B. in AZ: Our favorite joke from THE WEDDING CRASHER. (2) Maria M. in NC (with a REQUEST FOR HELP). (3) Barbara B. in NC: FREE Spiritual Wisdom Coaching Teleconference Call.

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3. Joke 1

Truer words were never written! And when you think about that, make sure you also click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CS9OO0S5w2k>.

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HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE YMCA
(Please check one)

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Radio	_____	Drove By	_____
Ad in paper	_____	Family/Friend	_____
Postcard	_____	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village People
Return Member	_____	Insurance	_____
Email	_____	Billboard	_____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

EFT INFORMATION
Payment Method (please check one)
Checking/Savings*

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4. Reviews

A. **INEQUALITY FOR ALL** is a documentary about the widening income gap in this country . . . some may tell you that this doesn't matter, but after seeing this eye-opening film, you'll feel differently . . . it features Robert Reich, former Secretary of Labor, and he comes across as the economics professor you wish that you always had (in that he makes the subject understandable) . . . rated PG, but definitely not for anybody younger than 13.

Note: It is now playing at the Fine Arts Theatre in Asheville. Elsewhere, you'll probably have to look for it at theatres that play independent films.

B. There's not much out on DVD I'd recommend watching, so instead see if you can find **A MATTER OF SEX** . . . it's a based-on fact TV movie about a group of women in Minnesota who strike because less-qualified men are being promoted over them . . . the job action lasted for some two years. . . Jean Stapleton, showing her dramatic talents, is excellent as the head teller and union organizer . . . not rated, but certainly appropriate for teenagers.

C. **THE JOB SEARCH CHECKLIST: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET BACK TO WORK AFTER A LAYOUT (AMACON)** by Damian Birkel is a comprehensive guide for anybody unemployed, underemployed, changing careers or anxious about losing a job.

The author, a nationally certified career counselor, has developed a job search methodology that has been used by more than 5,000 out-of-work professional to find new employment.

In the book, he shares many useful suggestions; among them:

* I have been told by students and clients that their response rate increased by 60 percent when a strong universal resume was accompanied by a complimentary "T-square" cover letter. It is called T-square cover letter because the letter "T" is formed by the horizontal line that underscores "your requirements" and "my experience" and the vertical line that divides the two columns.

* Take the time to drive to the location of the interview the day before it is scheduled and park your car near enough to observe people as they come in and out of the building. Are they smiling? Or are they hunched over? Are they all wearing \$600 suits or jeans and tennis shoes? Find out as much as you can about the style of the people or company who will be interviewing you so you convey the impression that you are a good fit for their culture.

And this one that provides great advice on how to answer the question, "What are your salary requirements?"

* Be prepared! Know your salary range before the interview begins. A great resource for

salary ranges and other related research is at <http://www.salary.com> or www.careerbuilder.com, which features a salary calculator. Until you have clarified that the interviewer is satisfied with your ability to do the job and offers you the job, try postponing responding to this question. If an employer is genuinely interested in hiring you, the interviewer will not be put off by your reluctance to answer. You can politely skirt the salary issue and shift the dynamics of the interview by stating, "I would like to postpone any salary discussion until I have a better understanding of the job we are talking about. Please tell me more." Or "Once you have decided I'm right for the job, I will be delighted to talk about salary. I am sure your income structure is a fair one, and I will have no trouble fitting in".

Included in THE JOB SEARCH CHECKLIST are many sample letters . . . these cover virtually every situation that a job seeker will face, and they're most helpful.

D. Heard EVERYBODY'S BROTHER (Hachette Audio) by CeeLo Green with Big Gipp and David Wild.

I have seen and enjoyed Green on THE VOICE, but knew little else about this colorful personality.

His story about how he grew up from the tough streets of Atlanta to help turn that city into the center of a major hip-hop/rap revolution was a captivating one. I was also interested to learn more about how he managed to turn the radio-edited version of the song "Forget You" (originally titled "F*ck You!") into such a hit.

In addition, the latter part of the book about THE VOICE held my interest because of my interest in that show.

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5. TV alert

A. Three programs on PBS look especially interesting this week.

(1) AMERICAN MASTERS: A profile of Jimi Hendrix (1942-70), featuring footage from the 1968 Miami Pop Festival, home movies and remarks from family, friends and fellow musicians. Tuesday, Nov. 5, at 9 p.m.

(2) NATURE: LOVE IN THE ANIMAL KINGDOM. It turns out the animals exhibit some human-like behavior when it comes to romance. "You won't want to miss any participant in this bewitching film," notes THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. "Wed., Nov. 6, at 8 p.m.

(3) GREAT PERFORMANCES: A staging of Stephen Sondheim's COMPANY, in which a bachelor marks his 35th birthday with five married-couple friends offer him relationship advice. Friday, Nov. 8, at 9 p.m.

Note: PBS times and dates often vary, so check local listings.

B. Carrie Underwood and Brad Paisley team up for the 6th consecutive time to host the 47th ANNUAL CMA AWARDS. Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 8 p.m. on ABC.

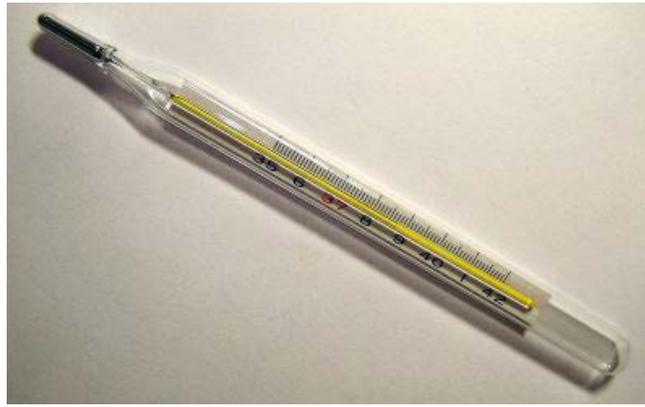
C. THE KILLERS, the Ernest Hemingway story about two hoods who come looking for an ex-boxer, airs on Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 8 p.m. on TCM. It's a top crime film, starring Burt Lancaster, Ava Gardner and Edmond O'Brien.

D. OPRAH: WHERE ARE THEY NOW features Tori Spelling, RuPaul, airplane pilot Chelsey "Miracle on the Hudson" Sullenberger and porn star Jenna Jameson telling Oprah about the changes the accompany midlevel fame. Sunday, Nov. 10, at 10 p.m. on OWN.

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6. Joke 2

When you have an "I Hate My Job Day," do this: 1. Stop at your pharmacy and purchase a rectal thermometer made by Johnson & Johnson. 2. When you get home, change into very comfortable clothing and sit in your favorite chair. Open the package and remove the thermometer. 3. Take out the literature from the box and read it CAREFULLY. You will notice that in small print there is this statement: "Every rectal thermometer made by Johnson & Johnson is personally tested and then sanitized." 4. Now close your eyes and remember there is always someone with a worse job than yours.



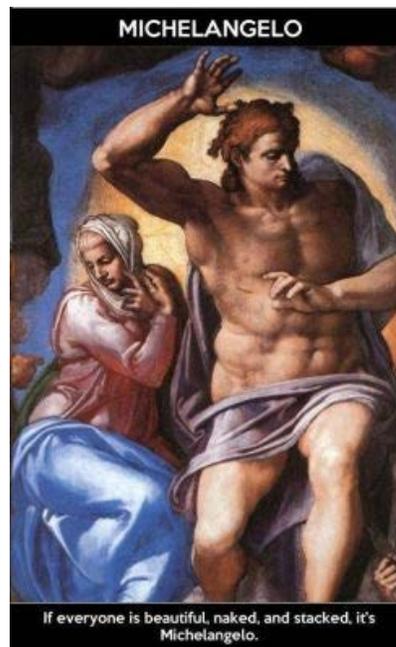
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7. Websites

A. HOW TO RECOGNIZE THE ARTISTS OF PAINTINGS . . . see below for one example . . . for others, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/oh9cro7>.

Thanks Lois H. in NC for sharing. My only regret is that she didn't get this me sooner; it would have really helped me in the Art History course I struggled through as an undergraduate.



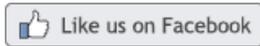
B. Bettina Y. in NY: Crest Gave A Bunch Of Kids Healthy Flavored Halloween Candy And Their Reactions Are Predictably Horrified

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/maycie/crest-gave-a-bunch-of-kids-healthy-flavored-halloween-candy> .

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

Want to know more about what to visit in Asheville? Click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Asheville."

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



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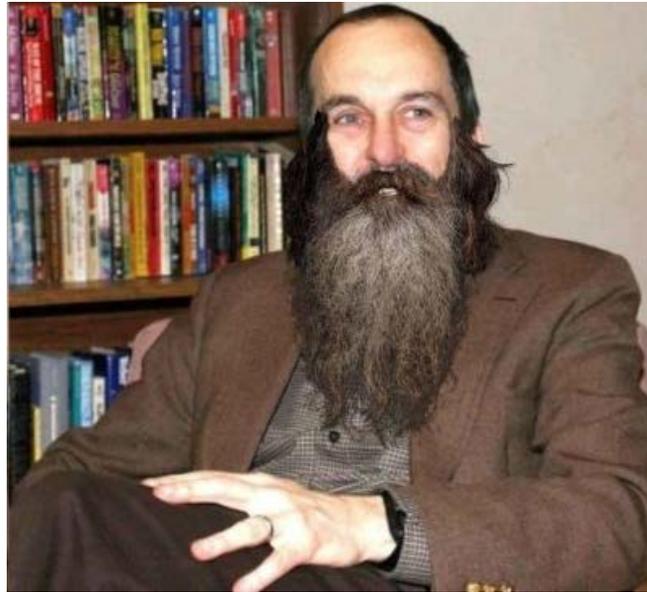
8. Technology tip

Whatcha think? Because Halloween is approaching . . . and In honor of the Red Sox--not to take anything away from the Cardinals--I have decided to go with this new look for the rest of the World Series. If you'd like to join me, you can download the free app for iPhones at:

<http://aetv.us/BeardBooth>

or for Androids at:

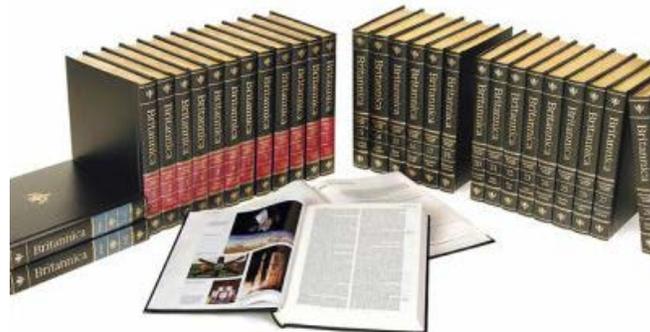
<http://aetv.us/BeardBoothGoogle>.



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9. Joke 3

FOR SALE BY OWNER: Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica. 32 volumes. Excellent condition. \$1,000.00 or best offer. No longer needed. Got married last weekend. Wife knows everything.



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10. A quote I like

Why not have it be you?



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11. Thought for the day

One stormy night many years ago, an elderly man and his wife entered the lobby of a small hotel in Philadelphia. Trying to get out of the rain, the couple approached the front desk hoping to get some shelter for the night. "Could you possibly give us a room here?" the husband asked.

The clerk, a friendly man with a winning smile, looked at the couple and explained that there were three conventions in town. "All of our rooms are taken," the clerk said. "But I can't send a nice couple like you out into the rain at one o'clock in the morning. Would you perhaps be willing to sleep in my room? It's not exactly a suite, but it will be good enough to make you folks comfortable for the night."

When the couple declined, the young man pressed on. "Don't worry about me. I'll make out just fine," the clerk told them.

So the couple agreed. As he paid his bill the next morning, the elderly man said to the clerk, "You are the kind of manager who should be the boss of the best hotel in the United States. Maybe someday I'll build one for you."

The clerk looked at them and smiled. The three of them had a good laugh. As they drove away, the elderly couple agreed that the helpful clerk was indeed exceptional, as finding people who are both friendly and helpful isn't easy.

Two years passed. The clerk had almost forgotten the incident when he received a letter from the old man. It recalled that stormy night and enclosed a round-trip ticket to New York, asking the young man to make a visit. The old man met him in New York, and led him to the corner of Fifth Avenue and 34th Street. He then pointed to a great new building there, a palace of reddish stone, with turrets and watchtowers thrusting up to the sky. "That," said the older man, "is the hotel I have just built for you to manage."

"You must be joking," the young man said.

"I can assure you I am not," said the older man, a sly smile playing around his mouth. The older man's name was William Waldorf Astor, and the magnificent structure was the original Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The young clerk who became its first manager was George C. Boldt. This young clerk never foresaw the turn of events that would lead him to become the manager of one of the world's most glamorous hotels.

And the lesson is . . . treat everyone with love, grace and respect, and you cannot fail!

Note: I checked the above out via snopes.com and found out that it is true, though embellished. If you want to read more, please click:
<http://www.snopes.com/glurge/waldorf.asp>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1lr>

(1) Meet the Beatles. (2) Flat Rock Playhouse presents THE THREE MUSKETEERS. (3) Vocal Blast Fall Concert. (4) DOG SEES GOD. (5) Cornel West.

B. PA/NJ event

To read about the following event in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1lr>

SOUL SHAMANISM with Shaman Janet StraightArrow.

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PS. Reminder: Daylight-saving time ends with a "fall back" to standard time on Sunday, Nov. 3, at 2 a.m., so don't forget set your clocks back an hour. And when you do, you'll be in the good company of silent film comedian Harold Lloyd--pictured below in a scene from 1923's SAFETY LAST that can be viewed by clicking:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEctjhUN_7U.

Thanks Chuck Fink for reminding me of Lloyd's genius in the fantastic course you're teaching at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNC Asheville.



Also, If you're like me and you celebrate all holidays (more food, friends and fun that way), Happy Diwali to you and your yours . . . to learn more about this Hindu Festival of Lights, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrrW3rO51ak>

And make it a great rest of the week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#891
10.21.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I spent a rare week apart. She was at the Kripalu Center in Stockbridge, MA, attending a JourneyDance workshop. Fortunately, they invented cellphones, so we were in constant touch. (See below for the picture on my phone that appears every time she calls.)



B. In Cynthia's absence, I had a hectic but fun-filled week. Among the many things I did, I:

(1) Attended Susan Reinhardt's hilarious, as well as poignant, one-woman show at Asheville Community Theatre. For just a few of the highlights, please click the this great highlight clip put together by Ryan Phillips and Theresa Phillips with Legacy Films:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T91K-kQMImI>



(2) Joined Jim McMains (left) and Kerry Arsberger (right) at my community's Fall Festival. It was a blast. Special thanks to Sheldon and Janet Harsh, hosts for the event, along with the rest of the Community Recreation Committee, for all their work in making the event the success that it was.



(3) Got my annual fix of "real" corned beef at the Hardlox Jewish Food and Heritage Festival in downtown Asheville. I was accompanied Marvin Sadovsky and Annemarie Brown (left) and Stuart Kraner (right). Kudos to Marty Gillen, festival organizer, and the many other volunteers who cooked up a huge spread of homemade goodies, including 40 gallons of chicken soup with 1,200 matzo balls, 150 apple cakes and several thousand rugelach.



(4) Saw an excellent production of THE CHILDREN'S HOUR at Mars Hill University, featuring many talented students from the Theatre Arts Department. Alexis Miller (left)

and Daniel Henry (right) were both excellent, as were Abigail Mansfield, Chelsea St. John, Annie Tesh, Melanie Grace Morton and all the others in the cast. Jessica West's direction was spot on.



(5) Participated in the annual planning retreat for SART (Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre). L-R: Theresa Phillips, Chuck Fink, Blaine Greenfield, Bill Gregg, Louisa Menick, Andy Sorenson, Dr. Dan Lunsford and Patty Higgins.



Note: Special thanks to Vicki Sorenson for providing breakfast for this session. Her overnight coffee cake, in particular, was a big hit. To see a picture of Vicki in front of it and the recipe, too, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1kH>

C. Congratulations to:

(1) David "Doc" Brown on the opening of Doc Brown's food truck that you'll be seeing throughout the Asheville area. For starters, check it out at 1120 Hendersonville Rd. (Corner of Rock Hill Rd. and Hendersonville Rd.) most Fridays from about 11:30 to 2 p.m. For more information, please click:

<https://www.facebook.com/DocBrownBBQ>

(2) Kevin Jameson, president and chairman of the Dementia Society of America, for his efforts in making the 2013 "Dance Against Dementia!" a rousing success. Nearly 100 like-minded supporters joined together to raise awareness and help raise \$8,000 to jump start the DSA mission.

(3) Pat Achilles for winning First Place in Advertising/Institutional Art at Philadelphia Sketch Club's Phillustration show. For more information, please click:

<http://achillesportfolio.wordpress.com/pencilled-in/>

(4) Christa Tinari on her new job as Manager of Professional Development at the National Liberty Museum.

(5) Mars Hill University on its receipt of a loan of more than \$32 million, which will enable it to build two new facilities on the campus-including a building that will host a black box theatre.

(6) David Graham on the marriage of Laura, his daughter.

(7) Biltmore Lake, my community, on its profile in the ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES. Read and see why I love living here by clicking:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013131018013>

(8) Kim Preish and Marilynne Herbert for their great idea for a fundraising calendar that is being sold to support Ladies Night Out, a program that covers the cost of a mammogram for uninsured or underinsured women in Western North Carolina. Yours truly is Mr. March. To see my picture and to find out more about the calendar, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013310230033>

***** TO ORDER YOUR VERY OWN CALENDAR *****

A limited number have been printed. If you'd like one, they cost just \$10. Send me a check for that amount, along with your home address, and I'll cover the cost of mailing it back to you. Make your checks payable to me; send them to: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

Please place your order on or before Monday, November 4. That way, you can get one calendar for yourself and then order 47 others for your closest friends and relatives as ideal gifts just in time for the upcoming Chanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa seasons.

D. Condolences to:

(1) Andrew Lasner and family on the passing of Arnold Lasner, Andrew's father.

(2) Lisa Money and family on the passing of Conrad Money, Lisa's father-in-law.

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

This weeks it goes to Shari Smith--weekend box office manager at ACT (Asheville Community Theatre).

Shari seems to be the person I get when purchasing tickets to this fine theatre, whether by phone or in person. She is both knowledgeable and friendly, and I always enjoy my brief conversations with her.

ACT is fortunate not to only have Shari on board, but also many other dedicated staffers such as Susan Harper, managing director; Jenny Bunn, marketing director; and Deborah Austin, costume manager. And it continually amazes me with the level of community talent that it manages to utilize, including most recently Jerry Crouch, director, and Lenora Thom, musical director, for ANNIE GET YOUR GUN.

I can't wait to see CABARET, SPAMALOT, DRIVING MISS DAISY and the other productions in the upcoming 2013-14 season . . . for more information, please click:

http://www.ashevilletheatre.org/?page_id=72

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2. FYI

As many of you may know, I'm very involved in a Western North Carolina theatre called SART (Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre). Please read the following section for two reasons: 1. If you live anywhere near Mars Hill or will be visiting the area, I'd love to have you be my guest at the upcoming ScriptFEST event on November 1 and 2; and 2. Even if you're not near the area . . .

SART needs your help; please read why

Sometimes, a picture does say a thousand words--and that's certainly the case with the one below.



(Photo courtesy of Ryan Phillips; <http://tinyurl.com/nom9hb6>.)

That's how Mars Hill looked on Friday night, July 12, when lightening struck. Coupled with all the summer rain, SART is now facing . . .

Three major problems:

1. The Green (Dressing) Room where actors change needs work because of mold that has grown.
2. The lighting board was "fried" and needs to be replaced.
3. An off-stage television monitor used by actors to see what was happening was destroyed.

How you can please help:

* Come to ScriptFEST, the reading of new plays, this upcoming Friday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m. and/or Saturday, November 2, at both 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Details to follow.

* Attend SART plays in summer, 2014. There will be four world premieres (including one musical).

And perhaps most importantly:

* Make a tax-deductible contribution to SART to help us raise \$9,133 we now need before November 25. Your generosity will help purchase some of the equipment that needs to be replaced will also be used to fix-up the Green Room. To make such a contribution, all you need to do is click the following link:

<http://sartplays.org/>

Then use the icon that says, "click to DONATE ONLINE."

Note: Help SART even more by not using the above link. Rather, write a check (payable to "SART") and mail it directly to: SART, P.O. Box 1720, Mars Hill, NC 28715. That way, SART pays no processing fees on money you graciously donate.

Many thanks!

Bill Gregg, SART Producing Artistic Director; and
Blaine Greenfield, SART President, Board of Directors

PS. Make a contribution of \$125 or more (before November 2) to get one free ticket to the dinner that will honor the ScriptFEST playwrights on Saturday, November 2, at 5 p.m. Make a contribution of \$250 or more (before November 2) to get two free tickets to this dinner. And make a contribution of \$500 or more to become a producer of the event.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Clay M. in NC: The Daily Show Comes to Asheville
<http://www.today.com/entertainment/daily-show-interview-leads-gop-official-resigning-over-offensive-remarks-8C11463044>

Note: My friend Margie Z. in NC had a one word assessment that best describes the above:

Unbelievable!

(2) Freedom R. in NC: This is really funny . . . good morning laugh!
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=4067189561613&set=vb.1338537372&type=2&theater>

(3) Moby 'Run On' - Official video
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UXpmvu35Fk>

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1kH>

(1) Lana C. in OH: A lovely tribute to your lovely bride. (2) Dewitt R. in NC: My favorite is THE CONVERSATION. (3) Barry S. in PA: You took the words right out of my mouth regarding section 10. (4) Margie Z. in NC: Congrats to BL! And Asheville! (5) Maria P. in PA: Just watched the Jimmy Kimmel video on Obamacare vs. the Affordable Care Act. (6) Ron F. in PA: A quote I like is so true. (7) Mark J. in NC: I saw the remake of CARRIE tonight. (8) Rebecca A. in PA: Company is in need of women with modeling/acting experience who can portray Princess Tiana. (9) Gary G. in NC: The quote says it all. (10) Micah Solomon in forbes.com: The 5 Words You Can Never Speak In Customer Service. (11) Tammy G. in NC (with a REQUEST FOR HELP). (12) Natalie K. in PA: Saw a wonderful film at the County -Wadjda. (13) Monica F. in PA, also on WADJDA. (14) Mary B. in PA: I saw your thought for today n BLAINESWORLD, and I couldn't stop laughing. (15) When There's Too Much Communication with Students. (16) Rob S. in PA: Airplanes in the air in real time. (17) Nevin T. in NC: The Walmart cake joke is a classic.

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3. Joke 1

My mother taught me about the science of osmosis when she told me, "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."



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4. Reviews

A. PRISONERS, starring Hugh Jackman and Jake Gyllenhaal, is the story about a father whose daughter is missing--together with her young friend . . . as days turn to hours, the desperate father takes matters into his own hands . . . the beginning is very suspenseful, but then I found the film dragged on . . . I also thought it was quite violent, and I could have completely done without one torture scene . . . rated R.

B. THE WAY, WAY BACK is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #878 follows:

THE WAY, WAY BACK IS a funny, touching coming-of-age comedy about a 14-year old's summer vacation with his mom, her overbearing boyfriend and his daughter . . . the boy is having a rough time fitting in until he meets an extroverted manager at a nearby water park . . . performances by Liam James, as the boy, and Steve Carell, playing

against type as the boyfriend, were quite good . . . however, it's Sam Rockwell as the manager who makes this film one you'll want to see . . . rated PG-13.

C. LEAP LIFE (KCCUSA) by Keith Challenger is a slim book that promises, via its subtitle, to be YOUR PRACTICAL GUIDE TO LACK OF TIME MANAGEMENT.

The author, a popular speaker and consultant, did not just write another time management book . . . instead, he effectively presents ideas on how we both use and abuse our most previous resource--and what can be done about this.

For example, he notes:

* A good rule of thumb when you encounter a situation that upsets or frustrates you is to begin by asking yourself if there's anything you can do to change it. If the answer is "No" then you have to accept it and move on. This is tough and it takes practice, persistence and self-discipline, none of which is a strong suit for me. Even if the answer is "Yes" you may decide that it's not worth the time and effort to do anything about it. Either way, how you react or feel about it is your choice.

I also liked his use of examples, including this one involving a woman by the name of Mary who was faced with a problem:

*While there might be no foolproof way to adopt the lack of time management strategy keys into your life, there is a good starting point. Instead of focusing on how you feel about the demands on your time, begin instead to focus on what you can do about those demands. In other words, begin to think in terms of solutions rather than problems --in the same way that Mary was challenged to do in the "two solutions" scenario.

And I personally like any book that cites my friend Brian Biro, known as "America's Breakthrough Coach, who uses a mantra that Challenger also uses in his life:

* What you FOCUS on is what you CREATE.

Not what you get, but what you create. The things that you get in life often come as the result of circumstances beyond your control or influence. But the things you create come from your actions (or omissions). This wonderful phrase is a remarkable reminder the next time you feel overwhelmed by deadlines, responsibilities and demands, that the key elements of your lack of time Management strategy are an excellent way to put you back in control.

LEAP LIFE will only take you a few hours, at most, to read . . . but if you're like me, you'll find yourself thinking about it long after you've put it down . . . and also, it is a book you'll want to revisit.

D. Heard DISGRACED: A PLAY (Hachette Audio), written by Ayad Akhtar and narrated by Aasif Mandvi, January LaVoy and Kevin T. Collins.

The story centers on a dinner party that includes an ex-Muslim, an African-American, a Jew and a WASP . . . it quickly becomes explosive as those in attendance exchange opinions about faith and politics in the modern world.

I very much enjoyed this play and kept thinking how I would like to see it performed on stage . . . after listening to it, I found out that the playwright won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Drama . . . that did not surprise me.

E. Reminder . . .

***** CONTEST #45 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of BLIND CURVES: WOMAN'S UNUSUAL JOURNEY TO REINVENT HERSELF AND ANSWER: WHAT NOW? by Linda Crill. To quote from the book description: After 18 months of following one-size-fits-all advice for a 57-year-old widow, Linda Crill was still miserable. In a moment of rebellion, she traded her corporate suits for motorcycle leathers and committed herself to a 2,500-mile road trip down America's Pacific Northwest coast riding a motorcycle. The problem she didn't know how to ride and had only 30 days to learn.

Note: I've read the above book and enjoyed it very much!

To enter: Put "CONTEST #45 in the subject 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, Oct. 28.

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5. TV alert

A. AMERICAN BLACKOUT deals with the chaos that would result if the United States lost all power for several days. It combines real footage from the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy with scripted scenes about a fictional countrywide blackout. Sunday, Oct. 27, at 10 p.m. on NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL.

B. SEDUCED AND ABANDONED features Alec Baldwin in a documentary, trying to get financing for an Iraq-set romance . . . Monday, Oct. 3, at 9 p.m. on HBO.

C. Premiering Tuesday, October 29, at 9 p.m. on PBS: the 75th anniversary of The Panic Broadcast! Shortly after 8 p.m. on the Halloween Eve, 1938, the voice of a panicked radio announcer broke in with a news bulletin reporting strange explosions taking place on the planet Mars, followed minutes later by a report that Martians had landed in the tiny town of Grovers Mill, New Jersey.

Note: PBS times and dates often vary, so check local listings.

D. Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell star in HIS GIRL FRIDAY, a classic screwball romantic comedy. Friday, Nov. 1, at 10 p.m. on TCM.

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6. Joke 2

A man and a woman go into a bakery. The man quickly sneaks 3 cookies into his pocket. The baker doesn't notice. The man says to the woman: "You see how clever we are? You women can never beat that." . . . The woman says to the guy: "Watch this. Any woman is smarter than that, and I'll prove it to 'ya." . . . She says to the baker, "Give me 3 cookies, and I'll show you a magic trick." The baker is suspicious, but he gives the woman the 3 cookies that get eaten right way. . . . The baker, really mad, yells: "So where's the trick? . . . The woman replies, "Look in his pocket."



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7. Websites

A. Annette E. in NC: America's Mood Map: An Interactive Guide [and test] to the United States of Attitude
http://science.time.com/2013/10/22/the-united-states-of-attitude-an-interactive-guide-to-americas-moods/?hpt=hp_c2

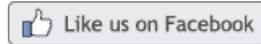
B. Glenn B. in PA: Here's an app [for iPad beer] I can use! I gotta get me one!
http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=6a8Eimr-fm0

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

If you'd like to see books I've reviewed and generally enjoyed, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Websites" . . . under Book and Music Reviews , click Number 2.

Note: To help me move up in the reviewer ratings, click that you "like" one of my past reviews . . . for example, use CHIMES FROM A CRACKED SOUTHERN BELL (see also Section 1B) . . . all you need to do is: 1. Look it up via www.amazon.com. 2. Click "see all customer reviews" on the left. 3. Reviews come up in date order; mine was from October 1, 2013. 4. Read it and when asked if this review was helpful to you, click "Yes." Thanks!

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



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8. Technology tip

Leonard Sax: Blame Parents, Not Kids, for Sexting

If mom and dad installed monitoring software on their middle-schoolers' phones, it would make a big difference.

That's the opinion of Dr. Sax, a family physician and author, who writes in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL:

I go around the country talking about this issue, and I'm always surprised when parents express reluctance about deploying software to monitor all the devices their children use. There are widely available programs, such as My Mobile Watchdog, Mobile Spy and Net Nanny Mobile that send any photo your child takes or receives on her phone immediately to your phone and laptop, even before your child has sent the photo anywhere.

To read the rest of this thought-provoking article (and I encourage you to do so), please click:

[http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303902404579147353596877282?](http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303902404579147353596877282?KEYWORDS=blame+Parents+not+kids)
[KEYWORDS=blame+Parents+not+kids](#)

Note: Should you wish to find out more about the above programs, here are their respective websites:

My Mobile Watchdog
<http://www.mymobilewatchdog.com/>

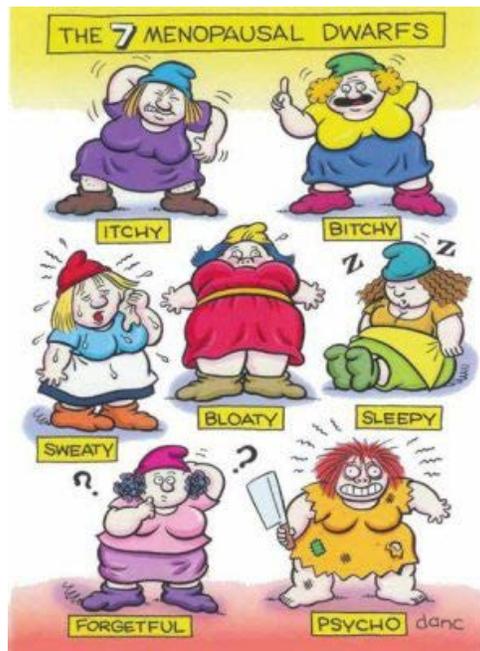
Mobile Spy
<http://www.mobile-spy.com/>

Net Nanny Mobile
<http://www.netnanny.com/mobile>

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9. Joke 3

The fairy tale you were never told when you were a kid . . .



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10. A quote I like

Sooooo profound!



Note: If you are having trouble reading the names of who said each quote, the individuals are (l-r) Socrates, Greek Philosopher; Jean Paul Sartre, French Philosopher; and Frank Sinatra, American Singer.

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11. Thought for the day

The things you learn online . . .



If you can't afford a doctor,
go to an airport - you'll get a
free x-ray and a breast exam,
and; if you mention Al Qaeda,
you'll get a free colonoscopy.

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12. Advance planning department

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1kH>

(1) Your truly invites you to a FREE seminar I'm presenting on Positioning & Marketing. (2) Biltmore Lake launches Outreach Program to Enka Middle School. (3) Annual Taste of Compassion wine tasting and silent auction. (4) Appearances by Zuzu Welsh. (5) Asheville Symphony Chorus. (6) The Music of John Denver. (7) THE BOOK CLUB PLAY. (8) The Bailey Mountain Cloggers.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#890
10.14.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had a blast at a "Fun and Games Night" with 12 of our friends--hosted by Marcy and Tom Gallagher. The evening started off with a fantastic dinner, in which all in attendance brought something to share. I especially liked the sweet corn pudding that Sunny Ruble prepared. If you'd like the recipe for that, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ke>

(2) Among our activities that evening was a very sophisticated game that had teams working together to wrap a chosen representative in toilet paper. Cynthia's team won, and you can see why in the following picture that features her really hot look.



L-R: Marcy Gallagher, Cynthia Greenfield (hot in all that toilet paper) and Layne Cutright.

(3) My team did well, too, but just didn't capture the top prize.



L-R: Paul Cutright, Annemarie Brown and Blaine Greenfield.

(4) We also had fun playing a game called, Do You Have a Dirty Mind? If you'd like to see if you do, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ke>

(5) And here's a picture of the whole gang there that night.



L-R: (front row) Brian Biro; (2nd row) Tom Gallagher, BJ Leiderman and Sunny Ruble; (3rd row) Cynthia Greenfield and Carole Biro; (back row) Marcy Gallagher, Annemarie Brown, Marvin Sadovsky, Blaine Greenfield, Layne Cutright and Paul Cutright. Not pictured: Dave and Judy Blumlo.

B. On another night, we were joined by our friend Julia Rosa for dinner at Green Sage.



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Biltmore Lake, my community, on being chosen as Community of the Year in the medium mixed use category by the North Carolina Chapter of CAI (Community Association Institute). All applications are independently judged by professional community managers outside the state of NC.

(2) Kevin Jameson on his retirement from Honeywell International.

(3) Kat Williams for having October 25 named as Kat Williams Day by Asheville Mayor Terry Bellamy.

(4) Joshua Collier, Executive Director of Opera Brittenica, whose first production, "The Rape of Lucretia," begins a free, three-day run Friday at the Cambridge YMCA. For an interesting interview with Joshua, please click:

<http://www.classical-scene.com/2013/10/15/opera-brittenica-begins-lucretia/>

Note: If you're anywhere near Cambridge, MA, or know anybody who is, please also share this information with them.

(5) Asheville for being named one of the 10 most charitable cities in the nation, according to a new study by California-based NerdWallet--a consumer finance website. A whopping 32 percent of people volunteer their time, and volunteers in Asheville give an average of 37.8 hours a year and donate an average of 6.4 percent of their income. For more information, please click:

<http://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/2013/most-generous-cities/>

(6) Chris S. in PA, winner of Contest #44: a copy of SIMPLE by Alan Siegel and Irene Etzkorn. All told, there were six entries. And that reminds me that's it is now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #45 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of BLIND CURVES: ONE WOMAN'S UNUSUAL JOURNEY TO REINVENT HERSELF AND ANSWER: WHAT NOW? by Linda Crill. To quote from the book description: After 18 months of following one-size-fits-all advice for a 57-year-old widow, Linda Crill was still miserable. In a moment of rebellion, she traded her corporate suits for motorcycle leathers and committed herself to a 2,500-mile road trip down America's Pacific Northwest coast riding a motorcycle. The problem she didn't know how to ride and had only 30 days to learn.

Note: I've read the above book and enjoyed it very much!

To enter: Put "CONTEST #45 in the subject 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, Oct. 28.

D. Condolences to Gary Marks and Sam Marks on the passing of Gary's mother (and Sam's grandmother).

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

Thanks Natalie Kaye in Pennsylvania for submitting the following nomination:

After starting my own company On Demand! Programs and Events at the age of 68 in 2009, I decided this year to commit to taking it to the next level and began working with a communications consultant named Karen Gross. Karen has done an extraordinary job of helping me build my company's buzz and growing my business. She is a master at improving website content and appeal and knows exactly how to attract awareness and interest in the programs and events my company offers. She helped me clarify my company's brand and message through compelling and creative copy and photographs.

She was essential in helping me promote the very successful Rodgers and Hammerstein Sing that I recently presented to over 100 people in Doylestown. At the event, she took amazing photos that I will be able to use for future promotional purposes. I have been so impressed with Karen that I have already referred four friends to her who are extremely pleased and satisfied with the results. Karen can be reached at karenbuildsbuzz@gmail.com and through her LinkedIn page: <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/karen-gross/66/641/685>

Note: If you'd like to reach Natalie for help in booking entertainment, fundraising, she can be reached as follows: Natalie Joy Kaye, On Demand! Programs and Events, 47 Gaylord Court, Newtown, PA 18940; Tel: 215.579.1836; Email: info@ondemandprogramsandevents.com; or Website:

www.ondemandprogramsandevents.com.

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2. FYI

The Customer Experience Initiative: Mobilizing Employees As Customer-Centric Loyalty Consultants

by Micah Solomon*

A customer service/ customer experience initiative, whether it's formally designed by customer service consultants (me, for example), informal (your employees design and execute the initiative entirely on their own), or follows any approach in between, can reap rewards for a company in just about any industry.

The goal--what you can ultimately hope to accomplish--is to learn what your customers appreciate, tolerate, and actively dislike, and to creatively redeploy your attention and resources in ways that help you win customer loyalty and improve your bottom-line success.

For the rest of this informative blog entry, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ke>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Cynthia G. in NC: Life Lesson #12

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vRKs7P2NGmE&feature=youtube_gdata_player

(2) Lori in GA: James Booker Live, parts 1 and 2

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cFY47n3MLHg>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKWAGlp5QX0>

(3) Lee W. in PA: Dad's dying wish is fulfilled

<http://newday.blogs.cnn.com/2013/10/03/dads-dying-wish-is-fulfilled/>

(4) Arlene D. in PA: There Is No Way This Daddy-Daughter Duet Could Be Cuter

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Bpu0TIXzl1w#t=110

(5) Sally B. in NC: Sen. Warren on the Shutdown and Why Government Matters

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=JTxWMkW8s_c#t=67

(6) Jan W. in NJ: Guy sings Build Me Up Buttercup with strangers on the highway!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=567080863341277&set=vb.236486913157711&type=2&theater>

7) Cyd S. in NC: Terrible real estate photographs

<http://terriblerealestateagentphotos.com/?og=1>

(8) Never Neverland/Lost in the Stars - Katherine Sandoval Taylor

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=LpwPJtO54as#t=13

(9) Joe M. in PA: Jimmy Kimmel Asks Pedestrians If They Prefer Obamacare Or The Affordable Care Act

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/10/01/jimmy-kimmel-obamacare-prank_n_4022424.html?utm_hp_ref=fb&src=sp&comm_ref=false#sb=3465425b=facebook

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ke>

(1) Ken G. in NY: Are your thumbs up photos the new way of flipping the bird? (2) Lana C. in OH: The thought for the day today [BLAINESWORLD #889] says it all. (3) Kathy B. in FL: I love this quilt. (4) Kristi M. in NC: With all of the real child abuse taking place, it is hard to see humor in this joke. (5) Julien in MD: I really enjoy reading your Newsletter each week!! (6) Gayle C. in PA: 8 Things You Can Never Say Often Enough To A Woman. (7) Lori H. in PA: 1st film of the Philly Film Festival All is Lost with Robert Redford.

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3. Joke 1

Conversation with a cake decorator: . . . Employee: Hello, you've reached the Walmart bakery. How can I help you? . . . Customer: I would like to order a sheet cake for a going away party this week. . . . Employee: What do you want on it? . . . Customer: "Best Wishes Suzanne" and underneath that "We will miss you." . . . See below for the results.



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4. Reviews

A. DON JON is a dramedy about a strong, handsome guy (a beefed-up Joseph Gordon-Levitt) who can bed any woman he wants, yet who finds more enjoyment out of watching pornography in front of his computer . . . things change when he meets a beautiful, old-fashioned girl (Scarlett Johansson) because she wants him to give up his hobby . . . both the leads were fine, and Gordon-Levitt's directing debut was solid . . . it was the film that lacked something . . . I didn't think it was very funny, nor did I particularly care for any of the characters . . . rated R.

B. THE INTERNSHIP is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #873 follows:

THE INTERNSHIP is a formulaic comedy starring Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson as two salesmen who lose their jobs and then try to talk their way into a coveted internship at Google . . . there are some funny bits; however, too many of them were given away in the trailers I had seen for the film . . . Vaughn and Wilson have good chemistry together, and I also liked seeing Rose Byrne (so fine in ADAM) in a small role . . . every time I saw her on screen, I also kept thinking that she looks so much like a slightly older version of Ellen Page--or maybe it's Page who looks like a slightly younger version of Byrne? . . . rated PG-13.

You'll be much off better trying to find TERMS OF ENDEARMENT on DVD. It's a film about a widow and her daughter that starts out as a comedy, then shifts gears about half way through and become a tearjerker . . . it won Academy Awards for Best Picture, Best Director (James Brooks) and Best Actress (Shirley MacLaine), as well as for Best Supporting Actor (Jack Nicholson who steals virtually every scene he is in) . . . rated PG, though I don't think it would be of any interest to children under 13.

Note: TERMS OF ENDEARMENT is on my list of favorite films. If you'd like to see what else is on it, please send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITE FILMS in the subject line.

C. MAKE THE RIGHT MOVE NOW: YOUR PERSONAL RELOCATION GUIDE (Lulu.com) by Barbara Brady is designed to help you identify what you want in your ideal location and then create a plan to get there.

The author, a life transitions coach, has put together a valuable workbook that includes numerous assessments designed to get you thinking about such things as whether a move is right for you now, what's the vision of your ideal place and coming to grips with your fears.

In particular, I liked Exercise 3-2.

* [It] includes twelve specific topics . . . to help you identify what's most important to you in all areas of your life: 1. Family/Friends/Community. 2. Culture(s). 3. Lifestyle/Temperament. 4. Work/Career. 5. Spiritual Connection/Religion. 6. Leisure/Cultural Activities. 7. Finances. 8. Physical Environment. 9. Health. 10. Transportation. 11. Personal Connection. 12.. Personal Energy/Body.

I also liked how Brady gave specific bits of advice, as well as examples to back up what she was suggesting. For instance:

* Start taking! Tell everyone what you're looking for, especially people who are living in or have traveled to areas you are interested in.

Example: I found Asheville, North Carolina when I described what I was looking for to a few people I met in my travels. After hearing my "list" they said, "That sounds like Asheville, North Carolina!" Talking with people will give you the qualitative information you can't get from a book or website, such as the degree of open-mindedness, values, and temperament of the people in general.

And perhaps my favorite chapter was the last one, in which those she interviewed shared their wisdom. For example:

* I probably would have gotten more familiar with the city first, learning how to find my way around before coming over. I was very young, and never thought about what life would be like coming here. I felt disconnected with the whole moving thing. The only thing I could think of was. Oh, now I can quit my job and go back to China and visit my grandma. After we moved I went to Beijing to stay for three months with my grandma.

My only disappointment in the book has to do with the fact that I didn't have it when I moved to Western North Carolina. It would have made my life a lot simpler.

D. Heard I'M PROUD OF YOU: MY FRIENDSHIP WITH FRED ROGERS (Penguin Audio), written by Tim Madigan and read by Christian Baskous.

It's the touching story of a newspaper journalist, assigned to write a profile of television icon Mr. Rogers. The two quickly become friends, and this book traces not only how that evolved, but also how the author learned about how to have a better life by following the wisdom of the man who always concluded his messages with the phrase:

* "I'm proud of you."

In addition, Rogers had this oh-so-insightful answer to the question, "What's the most important thing right now?"

* "Speaking to you on the phone."

Rogers also told Madigan:

* "I'm glad you're my friend."

I quickly became caught up in this story that gave me insight into the lives of both men. And in what might be called a subplot, I was moved by Madigan's account of the split with his brother and their eventual reconciliation.

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5. TV alert

A. MORNING JOE [Joe Scarborough] is conservative, balanced and not into screaming. I also like the fact that he isn't into name calling. Weekday mornings at 6 a.m. on MSNBC. For more information, please click:
<http://www.mediaite.com/tv/msnbcs-most-influential-show-is-still-run-by-a-staunch-conservative/>

B. MOM, led by Allison Janney as the mother in question and Anna Farris as her daughter, is an up-to-date family comedy about former drug users. According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "For all its talk, the show succeeds largely due to the way it mines the comedy inherent in the sexual preoccupation of its characters while nimbly skirting crudity--and above all, to its plentiful acid wit and improbably warmth." Mondays at 9:30 p.m. on CBS.

C. LIFE ACCORDING TO SAM is a documentary about a young boy afflicted with a disorder that causes progressive rapid aging and generally dooms victims to a life span of roughly 13 or 14 years. According to the LOS ANGELES TIMES: Sam [Berns] hopes audiences will come away with a "positive and uplifting feeling. And, hopefully, they are inspired to help kids with progeria through the Progeria Research Foundation. At the same time, I hope they may be able to take away a couple of life lessons from the film, including the importance of friends and family as well as perseverance." Monday, Oct. 21, at 9 p.m. on HBO.

D. INDEPENDENT LENS; THE WAITING ROOM is a documentary about the ER at Oakland's Highland Hospital where wait times at the facility can be as long as 14 hours. Monday, Oct. 21, at 9 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

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6. Joke 2

Who says you can't believe what you read online?



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7. Websites

A. Finance course for students of all ages . . . free and offered online . . . all about the

secrets to retirement planning, telling you how much to save, where to invest and what to do when the stock market crashes.

To access it, please click:

<http://online.stanford.edu/course/rauh-finance>

For more information about it, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/12/your-money/for-students-of-all-ages-an-online-course-on-retirement-planning.html?pagewanted=2&src=recg&pagewanted=print>

B. Michael T. in NC: Hilarious - makes me want to start digging out some old pics!!!
Recreating ridiculous family pictures

<http://dontpkethebear.com/recreating-ridiculous-family-pictures/>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net>

To see some of my favorite places on the Internet, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Websites."

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



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8. Technology tip

Marty S. in TX: Technology tip. Be careful about installing the Duplicate Cleaner software (mentioned in last week's issue). During installation additional software will be loaded unless you are paying close attention. Use custom install to UNCHECK boxes.

Note: This is true for much other software, too. If you're not careful, you're going to get a lot of other stuff that you don't want/need.

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9. Joke 3

Two old ladies, one somewhat hard of hearing, decided to have their portraits taken. The photographer welcomed them to his studio and said, "Please take a seat, ladies." . . . The deaf lady asked her friend, "What did he say?" . . . "He would like us to sit down." . . . Then the photographer asked, "Can you please sit closer so I can focus the camera?" . . . "What did he say?" . . . "He's going to focus." . . . "What, both of us?!?"



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10. A quote I like

I'm blessed that this happened to me when I met Cynthia, my beautiful bride!



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11. Thought for the day

I'm no longer a doubter!



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12. Advance planning department

I'm presenting a FREE seminar for Asheville SCORE on the following topic:
Positioning & Marketing.

You have done your market research and are ready to open your business. How do you position yourself in the market place and secure that piece of business that you need to survive.

Date: Saturday, November 2

Time: 9 a.m.-Noon

Location: ABTech Enka Campus, Candler, NC

There are only 30 seats available and as of today, 22 folks have registered. So if you'd like to join me, please click:

<http://ashevillescore.org/score-seminars/score-seminars-registration/>

Note: By attending, you'll have a chance to win \$500. Also, you'll learn the difference between a right- and left-handed pencil!

A. Other NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ke>

(2) Vocal Blast's Fall Benefit Concert. (3) BJ Leiderman LIVE at Perelandra. (4) Dr. Cornel West will be in Asheville on Wednesday, November 6th. (5) Asheville Vaudeville. (6) Mobile Apps for Small Business. (7) Sandi and Tom Anton with the Asheville Cinema Society. (8) Susan Reinhardt at ACT.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ke>

(1) Plumstead Historical Society. (2) 6th annual Women's Scholarship Tea.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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#889
10.7.2013

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c1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Joined a bunch of friends for a fun dinner at Strada--one of our favorite eateries in the Asheville area. We got a special kick out of this oh-so-profound question that was discussed. What's the stupidest thing you have ever done? I won't tell you who came up with this response, but methinks it was the clear winner . . . this particular person (who shall remain nameless) broke a toe while putting on his/her underwear.



L-R: Tom Gallagher, Brian Biro, Annemarie Brown, Marvin Sadovsky, Blaine Greenfield, Cynthia Greenfield, Carole Biro and Marcy Gallagher.

(2) That day, we all had seen a fantastic production of ANNIE GET YOUR GUN at Asheville Community Theatre. Jacqueline Collison-Canney and Brandon Kersey were just perfect in the two leading roles, and we also got a kick out of seeing our friends Leslie Lang and Doug Hauschild (below) in the show. In addition, an actor by the name of Pat LaCorte had us laughing--as he does in other shows we've seen him in. Kudos to Jerry Crouch for his direction, as well as to Lenora Thom for her musical direction.



Good news: ANNIE GETS YOUR GUN runs through Sunday, Oct. 13, so you can still get tickets by clicking: https://ashevilletheatre.secure.force.com/ticket#sections_a0Fi0000002kfN4EAI

(3) On another day, we also had a great meal at 131 Main with our friends Terry and Muffie Boswell. My meatloaf was quite tasty, and Cynthia enjoyed her trout--accompanied by coleslaw that she says is the best. Taryn, our server, was excellent.



(4) We've often passed the Jerusalem Cafe, but for some reason hadn't gotten there until we had lunch the other day. Cynthia liked her Moussaka very much, and I felt the same way about my Greek burger (that had a combination of lamb and beef). Alicia, our server, made us feel very welcome. We'll be back--possibly on a Friday or Saturday night when they feature belly dancing.

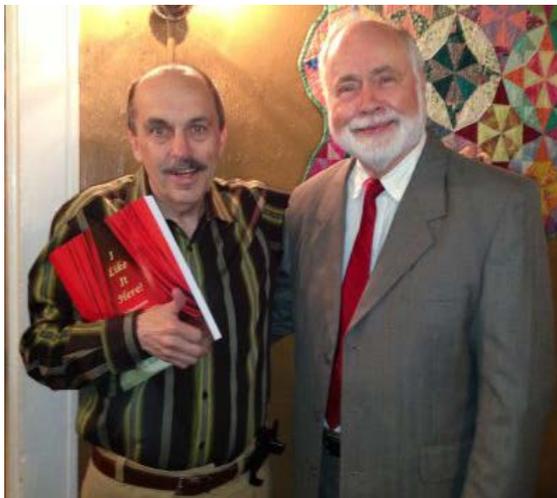


(5) I got to attend a special production of RIVALS, which marked the 40th anniversary of Owen Theatre at Mars Hill University. What made it so special was the fact that many of those who were in the original show made it back for this tuneful production, including Eileen Russell (top photo), Neil St. Clair, Bill Gregg, Earl Leininger and Theresa Phillips as Mrs. Malaprop who had all those in attendance laughing every time she had a line.

C. Robert Jones (bottom photo), who wrote the book, music and lyrics for RIVALS, was in attendance. I'm holding his just-published book, which I reviewed in Section 4C of this week's newsletter.

Jim Thomas, who directed the show back in 1973, also returned to co-direct--this time with Neil. Perhaps the most memorable

part of the evening took place when Jim was called on stage to receive The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, a prestigious award presented by the Governor of North Carolina to individuals who have a proven record of extraordinary service to the state.



(6) And I attended the annual SCORE party at the Governor's Western Residence, along with my colleagues (and friends) Ravi Gaikwad and Randy Malchow. The food, provided by Luella's Bar-B-Que, was great, and so was the event--in large part due to the find job that fellow SCORE member Dane Barrager did in arranging everything.



B. Reminders:

(1) You still have time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #44 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the following book: SIMPLE: CONQUERING THE CRISIS OF COMPLEXITY by Alan Siegel and

Irene Etzkorn. To quote from the book jacket, "In SIMPLE, the culmination of their work together, Siegel and Etzkorn show us how having empathy, striving for clarity, and distilling your message can reduce the distance between company and customer, hospital and patient, government and citizen-and increase your bottom line."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #44 in the subject 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, Oct. 14.

(2) I'm presenting a FREE seminar for Asheville SCORE on the following topic:
Positioning & Marketing.

You have done your market research and are ready to open your business. How do you position yourself in the market place and secure that piece of business that you need to survive.

Date: Saturday, November 2

Time: 9 a.m.-Noon

Location: ABTech Enka Campus, Candler, NC

There are only 30 seats available and as of today, 22 folks have registered. So if you'd like to join me, please click:
<http://ashevillescore.org/score-seminars/score-seminars-registration/>

Note: By attending, you'll have a chance to win \$500. Also, you'll learn the difference between a right- and left-handed pencil!

(3) There's still time to get your 2014 desk calendar, featuring yours truly on the March page--wearing my Mardi Bra. Your purchase will help raise funds for Ladies Night Out, which is a program that helps to cover the cost of a mammogram for women who are faced with a gap in insurance coverage. For more information, please click:
<http://www.buncombecounty.org/governing/depts/health/Lno.aspx>

Note: Your eyes are not deceiving you. That's me (below), the third guy from the left.



***** TO ORDER YOUR VERY OWN CALENDAR *****

A limited number have been printed. If you'd like one, they cost just \$10. Send me a check for that amount, along with your home address, and I'll cover the cost of mailing it back to you. Make your checks payable to me; send them to: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

Please place your order on or before Monday, October 14. That way, you can get one calendar for yourself and then order 47 others for your closest friends and relatives as ideal gifts just in time for the upcoming Chanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa seasons.

C. Congratulations to:

1) Keith Challenger on the publication LEAP LIFE. You can purchase this book by clicking:

<http://www.keithchallenger.com/index.php/leap-life>

(2) Jo Ciavaglia for having won an award in the 34th annual William Schnader Print Media Awards competition. She placed first in the Daily Newspapers Under 49,000 Circulation category.

(3) Rob Anderson, a playwright, for having two premieres in the same weekend. His plays, ALICE LOST IN WONDERLAND and A LITTLE PRINCESS: SARA'S HEART. will open on October 18 (Garden Theatre and Boone High School).

(4) Pat Achilles on having two pieces accepted into the Philadelphia Sketch club's Phillustration 6 show. For more information, please click:

<http://achillesportfolio.wordpress.com/2013/10/09/phillustration-6-at-the-philadelphia-sketch-club/>

(5) Steven Shulman whose memoir, MY UNCLE GLORIA, is now being made into a documentary by two-time Emmy award-winning writer, director and producer Robyn Symon. For more information, please click:

<http://www.myunclegloria.com/>

D. Condolences to Mark Guest and family on the passing of Simon Guest, Mark's son.

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

This week, it goes to Sonny Johnson--a parking lot attendant extraordinaire for McGuire, Wood & Bisette, P.A.

Whenever I go to see my excellent attorney (Sarah Sparboe Thornburg), I park in the lot that the above firm maintains.

Sonny is always the first person that I see, and he never fails to greet me enthusiastically. In addition, he has both a great smile and upbeat attitude that makes me feel better about my day.

I understand that Sonny has been doing this job for over 30 years. My hope is that he continues doing it for just as long as he wants.

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2. FYI

Seek out the Chocolate Coconut Bar that's part of the Atkins Treat Indulge Bar line. It tastes just like a Mounds Bar and is a lot healthier for you.

Each 40g bar has only 3g Net Carbs. In addition, there are 9g Dietary Fiber and 5g Protein.

The company also has a Coconut Almond Delight Bar that supposedly tastes like an Almond Bar. I did not like it as much.

For more information, please click:

<http://www.atkins.com/Products/Product-Overview.aspx>

You can purchase this product at the above website, as well as at many local retailers including CVS. I typically find it cheapest at this company:

<http://www.supplementwarehouse.com/>

And as mentioned previously, I even save a bit more by seeking out a Supplement Warehouse coupon by clicking:

<http://www.coupons.com/coupon-codes/supplement-warehouse/>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Doug H. in NC: Debt limit (a short, very well done comedy skit)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Li0n07O9zmE>

(2) Majo M. in NC: It's Never Too Late To Have A Screwed Up Childhood

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8S2mPZDmBm0&feature=youtu.be>

(3) Barbara B. in NC: Landon Pigg - Falling In Love At A Coffee Shop

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erywPdFORE&oq=falling+in+love+at+a+co&gs_l=youtube..0.5j0l9.212.2594.0.4933.23.19.0.1.1.0.219.1661.11j6j1.18.0.eytns%2Cpt%3D-30%2Cn%3D2%2Cui%3Dt.1.0.0...1ac.1.11.youtube.Y8YZ8iaU2Kc

(4) Walter B. in NC: Third Annual Asheville Juggling Festival

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GAI74X1sTU&feature=youtu.be>

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1jL>

(1) Some feedback on the film GRAVITY (reviewed last week) from Joyce S. in CA, Neil R. in VT, Tom G. in NJ, Bettina Y. in NY, Henry W. in NY, Chuck T. in NC, Lori H. in PA, Sally B. in NC, Doug H. in NC, Ted R. in NC, Kathy R. in CO, David M. in NC, Verna C. in NJ, Carol S. in FL, Della S. in FL, Maura R. in FL, Stephen F. in PA, Alyson M. in CO and Danny B. in NC.

(2) Arlene S. in PA: Beware of people bearing gifts. (3) Suzie T. in NC: I have to ask you how long it takes you to put your weekly BlainesWorld together? 4) Lois H. in NC: Rise and shine: the daily routines of history's most creative minds. (5) Neela M. in NC: I'm sad to hear the news that A-B Tech is cutting its Drama Program, (6) Sylvie D. in NC: I enjoyed your newsletter and take your movie critics very seriously. (7) Howard D. in FL: Cashiers Trump Self-Checkout Machines at the Grocery Store. (8) DeWitt R. in NC: Try www.wordspy.com. (9) Dominic A. in NC: So In Love Duet. (10) Lisa A. in PA: Vote for Tony Angelo and his car. (11) Mary C. in NC: Nice edition this week, my friend.. (12) Bob H. in NJ: Great issue. This [Google email] is a winner.(13) Micah S. in PA: You're getting so old you're repeating your jokes about being old! (14) Bill L. in PA: Loved your photo of you in your Mardi Bra. (15) Julien in MD: Hilarious . . . I laughed out loud [at picture of you in Mardi Bra].

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3. Joke 1

Overheard on an airplane: A mother to her disgruntled teen, "Well, honey, maybe you can talk to the airline, and they'll upgrade you to a better family."

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4. Reviews

Rarely do my reviews of movies get as much feedback as what I had to say about GRAVITY last week. I'm still sticking by my opinion; i.e., I didn't like it--at all. And don't think you will unless you like watching paint dry.

Some of y'all felt the same way; others disagreed. Thanks for all your responses. To read some of them, please see Section 2, part 2. And also take a look at what astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, director of the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, had to say by clicking:

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/adambvary/neil-degrasse-tyson-trolled-gravity-on-twitter>

A. I liked two movies much better.

(1) ENOUGH SAID is a sweet comedy about a divorced and single parent, Julia Louis Dreyfus, who spends her days as a masseuse and much of the rest of the time worrying about her daughter's going away to college. She meets a kind, funny man (James Gandolfini in his second to last film) who is also facing an empty nest, and they hit it off. All is going well until one of Dreyfus' clients reveals that Gandolfini was her ex. Complications ensue that keep you interested until the end. Rated PG-13.

(2) THANKS FOR SHARING is a dramedy about sex addiction that is not at all smug . . . rather, it gives you a real feeling for what addiction is all about--and what needs to be done to deal with it . . . Mark Ruffalo, Gwyneth Paltrow and Tim Robbins head a fantastic cast . . . I also liked the work of Josh Gad as a wisecracking emergency-room doctor . . . and Alecia Moore (aka Pink) did quite well in her first major film

role rated R.

B. PAIN & GAIN is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #866 follows:

PAIN & GAIN is an action comedy about a group of personal trainers in Miami 1990s that's based on a true story . . . in pursuit of the American Dream, they get caught up in a kidnapping enterprise that goes horribly wrong . . . Mark Wahlberg, Dwayne Johnson and Anthony Mackie are all quite good, and though violent in spots, I found the film quite watchable . . . entertaining, too . . . rated R.

C. Full disclosure: I had difficulty in being completely objective about I LIKE IT HERE! ADVENTURES IN THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF THEATRE (Pisgah Press) by C. Robert Jones, in that the author has become a friend of mine over the past several years.

But that said, I should tell you that this is a marvelous collection of stories about C. Robert's many decades in the theatre as a fan, playwright, director, composer and teacher. It reads like a WHO'S WHO of famous stage and screen personalities, including such notables as Peter Sellers, Carol Channing, Ethel Merman and Mickey Rooney.

In reading the book, I felt that I was actually in the presence of the author, having him share his varied experiences--such as this one:

* The first step in my director's preparation on the play was to divide it into beats. This is a term actors use to help them focus on small units of a play as they are building the whole play. My process is to draw a pencil line across the page to determine the end of a beat. In this play, most often the beats were sections where one topic was discussed or one physical or emotional arc might be delineated. I numbered those beats and gave Susan this information. For the actor, this can be indispensable since it's easier to think of learning the lines in a beat, incrementally, rather than trying to learn a whole two-hour script from top to bottom. Also, when setting a rehearsal schedule, I would simply say, "We'll work on beats____,____ and ____ today." Having done all that for the 1984 premiere production, our work on the revised version was much easier.

I also enjoyed reading about Owen Theatre on the Mars Hill University campus because I've seen many enjoyable performances there, but had not heard the following story:

* Restoring the chandeliers meant gently dismantling them for restringing and electrical re-wiring. One of the three was left intact to serve as a model for how to reassemble the complicated arrangement of beads of many different sizes. An assembly-line activity took place in a backstage dressing room in Moore Auditorium. The long make-up table was laden with plastic bowls, and the beads were assorted by size. They were encrusted with layers of grime and dust, so the cleaning was slow and tedious. When the chandeliers were completely restored, two of them found their way ultimately to the lobbies of the Owen Building. In 1973, they were moved to the area over the seating where they are today. There were enough lost beads to decree that the third chandelier would need a modified design. It was hung under the balcony.

And it was fun reading about Pat Hingle (long one of my favorite character actors) and Betsy Palmer:

* Besides being two very nice people. Pat and Betsy lasted in their careers because of the high standards they set for themselves in their work. Beyond that, there was no pretension: they seemed like everyday people. Pat might have been your uncle or your grandpa; Betsy, your favorite cousin or aunt. There was no fake glitz or glamour surrounding them. One of Pat's great gifts was the ability to listen, and it was genuine. Betsy has the same gift along with an ingratiating "innocence." And neither one of them seemed to be in a hurry to get some place better than where they were at the moment. They set wonderful examples of how to be a pro, and even more importantly, they set superb examples of how to be a decent and worthy human being.

My enjoyment of I LIKE IT HERE! was enhanced by the many pictures that accompanied it, along with the very attractive cover designed by Wes Heath.

Note: To learn more about the book, please listen to this informative interview (at the 20 minute mark) that Jeff Messer conducted with C. Robert:

<http://www.880therevolution.com/media/podcast-the-jeff-messer-show-jeffmessenger/jms-101013-hr1-23825346/>

D. Heard SECOND HONEYMOON (Hachette Audio), written by James Patterson and Howard Roughan and narrated by Jay Snyder and Ellen Archer.

It's a thriller about an FBI agent involved in tracking down the person behind a series of honeymoon killers, while at the same time, another special agent is attempting to locate a different serial killer.

Their paths eventually overlap, and the result is an interesting combination of murder, romance and even some humor.

When Patterson writes by himself, the results are almost always page-turners. When he adds a co-author, that's not always the case--but this book is a pleasant surprise.

It certainly held my attention through the many twists and turns. In addition, the two narrators did a fine job.

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5. TV alert

A. RUSSELL PETERS VS. THE WORLD features the Canadian comedian's international tour and his filmed set in Australia. Available starting on Monday, Oct. 14. on NETFLIX.

B. MOM, according to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, has a [character that's] "memorably messy and endearingly resilient--and flat-out funny . . . played with pluck and a veneer of comedy despair by Anna Feris." Mondays at 9:30 p.m. on CBS.

C. SUPERHEROES: A NEVER-ENDING BATTLE is the first documentary to examine the dawn of the comic book genre and its powerful legacy, as well as the evolution of the characters who leapt from the pages over the last 75 years and their ongoing worldwide cultural impact. Hosted and Narrated by Liev Schreiber. Tuesday, Oct. 15, at 8 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

D. TOY STORY OF TERROR! has the folks at Pixar dishing up their first-ever Halloween special . . . it's a take-ff on Agatha Christie's AND THEN THERE WERE NONE . . . Wednesday, Oct. 16, at 8 p.m. on ABC.

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6. Joke 2

I've changed my system for labeling homemade freezer meals. I used to carefully note in large letters: "Meatloaf" or "Pot Roast" or "Steak and Vegetables." However, I used to get frustrated when I'd asked my son what he wanted for dinner because he never asked for any of those things. So I decided to stock the freezer with what he really likes. If you look in my freezer now, you'll see all new labels with neat little tags that say: "Whatever" or "I Don't Know" or "I Don't Care." No matter what my son replies when I ask him what he wants for dinner, I know that it's there--and he can get it himself!



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7. Websites

A. Sally B. in NC: These Are The Hardest-Working People We Never Thank Enough. Some Celebrities Show Us How It's Done. <http://www.upworthy.com/these-are-the-hardest-working-people-we-never-thank-enough-some-celebrities-show-us-how-its-done?g=3&c=upw1>

B. A Funny Mexican Guy with Groucho Marx. This is Ramino G. Gonzalez, and he was on a 50's game show hosted by Groucho Marx. <http://www.chonday.com/Videos/funny-mexican-guy-with-groucho-marx#UfVbmBN44QQ.email>

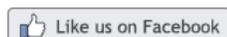
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you've ever wondered what happens to your name and/or email address if you sign up for BLAINESWORLD, the newsletter, all you need to do is click "Newsletter" to the left and then "Privacy Statement."

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



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8. Technology tip

To find and remove duplicate files on your computer, there's a useful free download called Duplicate Cleaner . . . to download it, please click:

<http://www.digitalvolcano.co.uk/index.html>

To read more about this topic, please click:

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/2032515/how-to-find-and-remove-duplicate-files.html>

Note: If you have a Mac, use something called Gemini. To read more about that, please click:

http://chronicle.com/blogs/profhacker/get-rid-of-duplicate-files-on-your-mac-with-gemini/52737?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

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9. Joke 3

I wish I had thought of this useful parenting/grandparenting tip when my daughter was younger . . .



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10. A quote I like

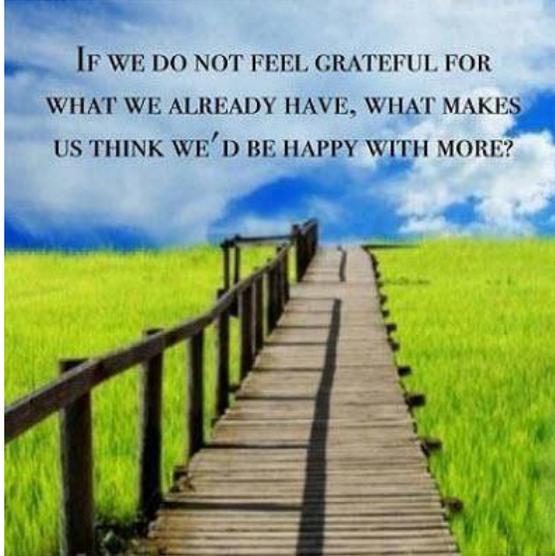
"Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly."--Robert F. Kennedy (1925-1968), American politician who served as a United States Senator for New York from 1965 until his assassination in 1968



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11. Thought for the day

Powerful question that really got me thinking when I saw it one recent morning!



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1jL>

(1) Asheville Vaudeville. (2) BJ Leiderman. (3) The Sounds of the 70s at Flat Rock Playhouse. (4) Advanced Hypnosis Training. (5) Richard Shulman in concert.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1jL>

(1) Amazing comedy shows. (2) 6th annual Women's Scholarship Tea at Bucks CCC.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Were fortunate to be able to attend a concert featuring two of our talented friends: Elaine Silver and Richard Shulman.



(2) Joined another friend, Stuart Kraner (with the very distinguished carrot juice mustache), for dinner at Green Sage.



(3) Joined friends Tom and Marcy Gallagher for dinner at the Grovewood Cafe.



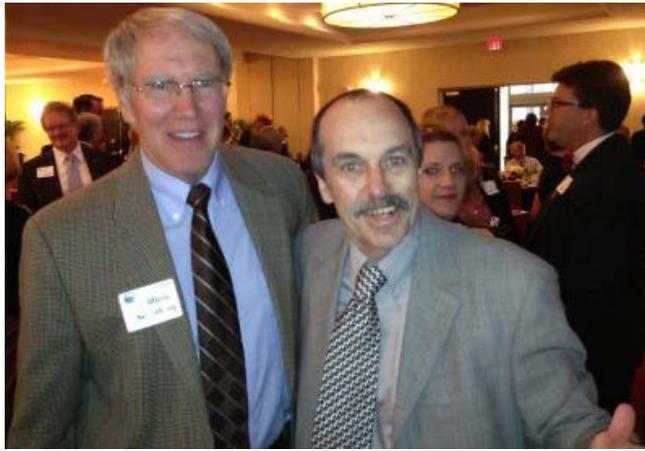
B. During the week:

(1) I got to hear author Ann marie Houghtailing (center) speak. Kudos to Michelle Baker (right) for her fine job organizing the event.

Note: Ann marie is the author of a very fine book, HOW I CREATED A DOLLAR OUT OF THIN AIR, that I reviewed in BLAINESWORLD #882.



(2) Attended Leadership Asheville's Annual Luncheon, at which my neighbor Jim Sederburg (below) did a great job as the graduation speaker for his LA 31 Class. I also enjoyed hearing the keynote remarks by Heath Shuler, my former Congressman.



C. 2 invites to y'all:

(1) There's still time to get your 2014 desk calendar, featuring yours truly on the March page--wearing my Mardi Bra. Your purchase will help raise funds for Ladies Night Out, which is a program that helps to cover the cost of a mammogram for women who are faced with a gap in insurance coverage. For more information, please click: <http://www.buncombecounty.org/governing/depts/health/Lno.aspx>

Thanks to Kim Preish, Linda Hollinshead and Deb Trelaven (below) for creating this particular bra, as well as to both Kim and Marilynne Herbert for heading the overall calendar effort. Special kudos to Deb Scannell for taking not only this picture, but all the actual ones that were used in the calendar. She is a fantastic photographer. For more information about her work, please click: <http://www.DeborahScannellPhotography.com>



***** TO ORDER YOUR VERY OWN CALENDAR *****

A limited number have been printed. If you'd like one, they cost just \$10. Send me a check for that amount, along with your home address, and I'll cover the cost of mailing it back to you. Make your checks payable to me; send them to: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

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Positioning & Marketing.

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position yourself in the market place and secure that piece of business that you need to survive.

Date: Saturday, November 2

Time: 9 a.m.-Noon

Location: ABTech Enka Campus, Candler, NC

There are only 30 seats available and as of today, 22 folks have registered. So if you'd like to join me, please click:

<http://ashevillescore.org/score-seminars/score-seminars-registration/>

Note: By attending, you'll have a chance to win \$500. Also, you'll learn the difference between a right- and left-handed pencil!

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Brian Biro for being named as one of the Top Motivational Speakers in the World in a 2013 poll.

(2) Athena Destiny for being chosen part of the Junior Ambassador program for the Blumenthal Performing Arts program. Also, if you'd like to hear her latest original song, please click:

<http://www.reverbnation.com/athenadestiny/song/18413930-misfit-toys?1336410755>

(3) Kevin Jameson on being featured in the BUCKS COUNTY HERALD. See page 43.

<http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/launch.aspx?eid=340f19b7-40e0-429f-8087-982676cd031a>

(4) Heather Masterson on her July wedding to Fred Lemmons.

(5) Diane Allen on being named Best Executive Coach by South Jersey Biz Magazine, 2013.

(6) Sarah Benoit on incorporating, as well as becoming owner and president of Creative Original, Inc.

(7) Tom and Laura Krivulka-Edinger on the newest addition to their family, Hailey Katherine Edinger, born 10.4.13 . . . 7 lbs. 13 oz. and 20 inches long.

(8) Clay D. in NC, winner of Contest #43: a copy of the book on CD: A CHANGE IN ALTITUDE by Anita Shreve. All told, there were 10 entries.

And that reminds me that it is now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #44 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the following book: SIMPLE: CONQUERING THE CRISIS OF COMPLEXITY by Alan Siegel and Irene Etzkorn. To quote from the book jacket, "In SIMPLE, the culmination of their work together, Siegel and Etzkorn show us how having empathy, striving for clarity, and distilling your message can reduce the distance between company and customer, hospital and patient, government and citizen-and increase your bottom line."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #44 in the subject 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, Oct. 14.

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

This week, it goes to Soba Sushi and Noodles--a new restaurant in Weaverville, NC (76 N. Main St.; 828.484.7557).

Located in a former bank building, this place is one of many new and established eateries that have made Weaverville the ideal location if you're looking for a place to dine with many diverse options. You'll find sushi, along with various Asian dishes.

I ordered chicken fried rice, always one of my favorites, and Cynthia had shrimp with vegetables. We very much enjoyed both of these choices. Jim, our server, was excellent.

However, our most pleasant surprise that evening was being warmly greeted by owner Gina Chen (below). She made us feel like we were long lost friends, which we were in that we had always looked forward to seeing her when she ran Sushi Thai in downtown Asheville. Gina has a great smile, along with a way about her that makes you feel like you

are the most important person in the place.

Note: Sushi Thai is no longer in business. Now at the same location is a restaurant called Champa, which also serves sushi and various Asian dishes. The place continues to be quite good. For more information, please click: <http://champaasheville.com/>



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2. FYI

On the subject of divorce, Robert Redford in THE HORSE WHISPERER was on target when he said, "Knowing [a marriage is over] is the easy part; saying it out loud is the hard part."

The divorce itself isn't easy, either, but it can be made less painful if you take the following advice from my longtime friend--and the guy who also handled my breakup:

Top 10 divorce secrets
by Hanan Isaacs*

1. Most couples could salvage their failing marriage by finding and working with a talented therapist, but some marriages are better off being dissolved.
2. People's chronological ages often do not match their functional or emotional ones. Learn to tell the differences, including with yourself.
3. During divorce, get rid of other entangling relationships. You will be sorry if you don't.
4. Stay in the house together with your estranged spouse as long as possible, for financial and child sharing reasons, but get out (and take the kids) if the situation is violent or persistently threatening.
5. All else depends on economic self dependency, so get there asap.
6. Get a great lawyer as early in the process as possible.
7. It takes a village to get divorced: get yourself a great therapist and a great financial advisor too.
8. Mediation only works if both parties are willing to be fair. For all others, there are arbitration and litigation.
9. Above all, shield the children from emotional harm. They will be eternally grateful to you.
10. During and after divorce, don't fight with each other like you are still married. You no longer need to invest in fixing the other person or the marriage. At the extreme, pretend the other person is dead--and go about your life.

Bonus secret: Say what you mean, mean what you say, and don't say it mean.

* Reprinted with the gracious permission of the author, a mediator, arbitrator and trial

lawyer with an office in Kingston (Central) New Jersey. He is a NJ Supreme Court Certified Family Law Specialist and a plaintiffs' employment lawyer. For further information: Phone: 609.683.7400; Email: hisaacs@hananisaacs.com; Website: www.hananisaacs.com.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Jeff Thompson in NC: One of the songs from the upcoming EP. Release party/my birthday party at The Grey Eagle.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=8XI8kHaOC2Y

Note: RSVP here for above event that will take place on November 7:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/636848039658833/>

(2) Barrie B. in NC: Very sweet 8 minute Youtube - Excerpts from Hand Me Down staged at Diana Wortham Theatre April 2011.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=RH7pJ_9apqM

Note: Cynthia was in this production. You'll see her several times if you watch the above.

(3) Freedom R. in NC: Oh my...barefoot is much more beautiful! This is funny in a tragic sort of way. Is this funny or am I just over tired?

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=452815671498887&set=vb.100003113746474&type=2&theater>

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1jc>

(1) Book on CONQUERING CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME by North Carolina's Sharon Butler. (2) Sandy B. in PA: Great issue! (3) Zuzu W. in NC: Thanks for link to song I posted. (4) Marcie F. in PA: You wear it [the bra] well. (5) Elizabeth P. in NC: Try 5 points if you're looking for a real diner. (6) Lana C. in OH: Excellent issue. (7) Roger C. in PA: Stellar job with recent newsletter. (8) Ryan F. in PA: Check out PRISONERS. (9) Kaleo W. in IN: Looking for housing in NC. (10) Trisha G. in PA: Happy Flower Day project. (11) Patti A. in NJ: Great yoga website. (12) Ann marie H. in CA: Best possible example of how not to do Kickstarter.

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3. Joke 1

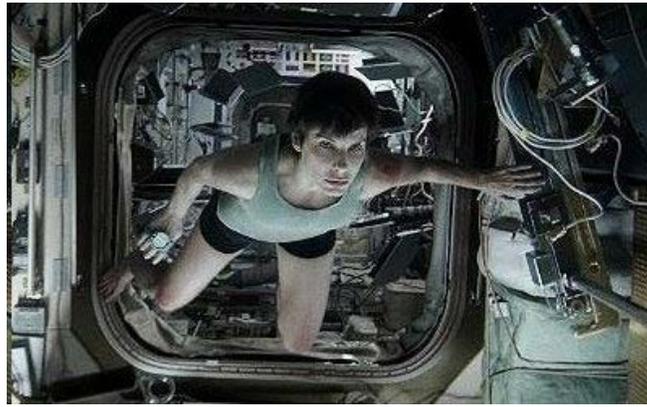
A stodgy man walks into a bar and sits down. "Want a drink?" asks the bartender. . . . "Tried liquor once, didn't like it," says the man. . . . "Care for a pretzel?" . . . "Tried a pretzel once, didn't like it." . . . "Wanna watch the baseball game?" . . . "Tried watching baseball once. Didn't like it. Don't mind me; I'm just waiting for my son." . . . "Let me guess," says the bartender, "your only child?"

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4. Reviews

Cynthia and I have recently enjoyed two films that are currently out now: ENOUGH SAID and THANKS FOR SHARING . . . both will be reviewed next week, but do consider them if you're in the mood for something enjoyable.

A. My two cents on GRAVITY . . . forget the good reviews you may have read . . . I didn't like it; Cynthia didn't like it, either, nor did one of our two friends that went with us . . . it was way too slow for my taste, and there's very little story to it . . . George Clooney, billed as a co-star, is on the screen for way too short a period of time . . . it reminded me of the another movie, CAST AWAY, in which long periods of time go by with nothing happening . . . I also saw it in 3D and didn't think the extra money was worth it . . . perhaps the only thing I enjoyed was seeing Sandra Bullock (below) out of her space garb, and you don't get to see that for very long . . . rated M for "miss it."



B. Out on DVD is ANY DAY NOW, a movie that unfortunately very few people saw when it was first released in 2012 . . . it's the true story about a teenager with Down's syndrome who has been abandoned by his mother in the 1970s . . . a gay couple becomes the family the child never had; however, when the authorities discover the unconventional living arrangement, the biased legal system fights all attempts at adoption . . . Alan Cumming and Garret Dillahunt are superb in the leading roles, and they are matched every step of the way by a young actor named Isaac Leyva . . . please seek this film out on Netflix or anywhere else you can find it . . . I've just added it to my list of all-time favorites . . . rated R.

Note: To find out more, view the following interview with Leyva:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWTHjnoFwks>

C. WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? IT'S YOUR LIFE (Sound Wisdom) by Jim Donovan is a short but powerful book that will help you create the life of your dreams.

The author, a speaker and personal empowerment coach, shares his personal story . In doing so, he presents many ideas that can easily be applied to what you do--or perhaps more importantly, what you could do.

For example:

* When you are considering an activity, ask yourself, Will what I'm planning to do bring me closer to or further away from my major goals? This is a big help in deciding where to invest your time. If you're choosing between watching television and going to a business meeting, this question will help you remember what's most important for your future.

I also liked how Donovan incorporated the work of others, such as:

* Louise Hay, the bestselling author, suggests we work with the affirmation, "I approve of myself." I urge you to try this for yourself, especially if you have a low self-image. If you want to get a quick read on your present level of self-esteem, stand in front of a mirror and say aloud, "I approve of myself." Don't be surprised if it makes you uncomfortable, even scared. I have seen people burst into tears doing this exercise. However, if you continue to do this, over time, you will begin to experience changes in how you feel about yourself and in your life in general. Louise suggests you recite, write and sing these words 300-400 times a day!

And his use of stories helped emphasize the points he was making:

* There is a wonderful story about the opening of Disney World in Orlando, Florida. A reporter who interviewing Roy Disney, Walt Disney's brother, exclaimed. "It's too bad Walt did not live to see this." Roy quickly replied, "Walt saw it first. That's why you're seeing it now."

Perhaps the most valuable part of WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? were the exercises used throughout the book . . . they were quite thought-provoking and covered such topics as Immediate Action, Changing Your Beliefs, Goal-Setting and [the use of] Questions.

D. Heard RISING TIDE: BEAR BRYANT, JOE NAMATH AND DIXIE'S LAST QUARTER (Hachette Audio), written by Randy Roberts and Ed Krzemienski (Author) and narrated by Alan Sklar.

This engrossing story tells how a gruff football coach and a cocky kid from Pennsylvania worked together to help transform Alabama football. What made it so appealing was the fact that the authors tied the story into the desegregation that was happening at that time. So along the way, I received a history lesson that featured such personalities as President

John Kenney, Governor George Wallace and Birmingham's Commissioner of Public Safety, Eugene "Bull" Connor.

RISING TIDE helped me better understand how college sports became such a big business. I also enjoyed learning more about how Bryant went about building his teams, as well as about how Namath became "Broadway Joe."

In addition, the accounts of many of the games made me feel as if I was almost in attendance at them.

This is not just a book for Alabama football fans. Any sports fan will love it, and I wouldn't be surprised if others did as well.

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5. TV alert

A. THE PARADISE premieres on Sunday, Oct. 6, at 9 p.m. on PBS. It is about an ambitious shopgirl who takes one look at her charismatic boss and decides she doesn't want to marry him, "I want to be him." According to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, "Buyer, be warned: You're about to be charmed." It runs through Nov. 17.

Note: PBS time and dates often vary, so check local listings.

B. DREAM SCHOOL is a six-part reality series that creates an ideal school for 15 troubled Los Angeles teens with instructors like Oliver Stone, Jesse Jackson and Suze Orman. Premieres on Monday, Oct. 7, at 10 p.m. on SUNDANCE.

C. REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE, the classic about troubled teenagers wherein James Dean made a lasting impression, airs on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 8 p.m. on TCM.

D. PHOTOGRAPHERS: THE BEST JOB IN THE WORLD is a two-hour special celebrating NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC'S 125th anniversary with the stories behind some of its most iconic images. Friday, Oct. 11, at 8 p.m. on NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL.

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6. Joke 2

I read this on the Internet, so it must be true!



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7. Websites

A. Google Scholar provides a simple way to broadly search for scholarly literature. From one place, you can search across many disciplines and sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts and court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities and other web sites. Google Scholar helps you find relevant work across the world of scholarly research.

<http://scholar.google.com/>

Note: If you're a lawyer or know of one, the above website is especially helpful. Many don't even know it exists. Non-lawyers will also find it helpful if they can't afford the services of an attorney.

B. Sheryl S. in PA: This is what happens when you let random people lead an orchestra.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5_cbnBak8RI#t=21

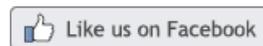
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you're a salesperson and/or business owner, to increase your profits, please read an article I wrote on that topic: "Increase Your Profits by Using the Loyalty Ladder." Find it by clicking Consulting to the left and then Article Samples.

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:

<http://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Technology tip

Useful technical advice!



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9. Joke 3

My beautiful new neighbor knocked on my door. She said, "I just got home from work, and I now have this strong urge to have a good time, get drunk and make love all night long!". . . Doing my best to keep my cool, I replied , "Really.". . . "Yes," she answered. "So are you busy tonight?" . . . I immediately blurted out, "Nope, I'm free. I have no plans at all" . . . "Great," she said. "In that case, could you babysit my kids?" . . . Man, it's just no fun getting old!



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10. A quote I like

"All that is really worth doing is what we do for others."--Lewis Carroll (1832-1898), English writer, mathematician, logician, Anglican deacon and photographer best known for ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND and its sequel, THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

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11. Thought for the day

An elderly woman and her grandchild, whose face was sprinkled with bright freckles, spent the day at the zoo. Lots of children were waiting in line to get their cheeks painted by a local artist. . . . "You've got so many freckles, there's no place to paint!" a boy in the line cried. . . . Embarrassed, the girl dropped her head. Her grandmother knelt down next to her . "I love your freckles. When I was a little girl I always wanted freckles," she said. "Freckles are beautiful!" . . . The girl looked up. "Really?" . . . "Of course," said the grandmother. "Why just name me one thing that's prettier than freckles." . . . The little girl peered intensely into the old woman's smiling face. "Wrinkles, she answered softly.



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1jc>

(1) Donna Summer & the Sounds of the 70s at Flat Rock Playhouse. (2) Psychic Charley Castex. (3) Leadership Asheville Forum. (4) THE BOOK CLUB PLAY at NC Stage. (5) Steve Turner in A PEDDLER KNOCKED at Jewish Community Center. (6) Susan Werner at Diana Wortham Theatre. (7) Asheville Cinema Society lecture at Biltmore Lake Clubhouse. (8) Heather Masterson Quartet at Isles Restaurant. (9) Richard Shulman at the Light Center.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1jc>

(1) 2 great Comedy Hypnosis shows at Comedy Cabaret. (2) Gentle Yoga at Princeton Center for Yoga & Health. (3) 6th Annual Women's Scholarship Tea at Bucks County Community College. (4) Rodgers and Hammerstein SING! on October 6. (5) 1st Annual fundraiser and recognition night to benefit Dementia & Alzheimer's efforts in Bucks County, Pennsylvania and the surrounding Philadelphia region.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#887
9.23.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Joined our friends Linda and Chuck Hollinshead, along with a bunch of our neighbors at the "Walk to End Alzheimer's" in downtown Asheville.



(2) We then had a great breakfast at the Mediterranean Restaurant. This is the closest thing to a "real diner" that we've been able to find since moving to Western North Carolina nearly five years ago.



(3) On another day, we saw Daniel Hensley (center) in a delightful production of AVENUE Q at HART in Waynesville. We were joined by our friends Candace Mullett (far right) and her sister Lori Lynn Mullett who is next to her.



Daniel, as always, was great . . . and we also got a kick out of seeing Kirby Marie Gibson (below), who is growing professionally every time we see her, and the entire rest of the cast: James Meador, Kristen Hedberg, Brad Mercier, Justin Slack, Samantha Alicandri, Strother Stingley, Sean Bruce and Jordanna McMahon. Direction by Charles Mills was crisp, as was the music direction by Chuck Taft.

I'm still shaking my head over how good this production was. The good news is that you can see it through October 6. To read a review of the show, please click:
<http://themountaineer.villagesoup.com/p/hart-brings-avenue-q-to-life/1059082?cid=1242981>

For tickets, please click:
https://secure.sellingticket.com/design22/clients/list/index_byUserListAll.aspx?OrganizationID=82



(4) We recently visited with our friend Kimberly Ross and her cat Trinity.



(5) I had the pleasure of seeing the world premiere production of David Holthouse's STALKING THE BOGEYMAN at NC Stage. This thriller is the one of the best dramas I've seen in quite some time. I urge you to see it before its run ends on October 13.

Chris Allison turns in another amazing performance in the leading role, and Charlie Flynn-McIver shines as his twisted tormentor. Kudos to the rest of the cast, too: Maria Mason (below), Bill Munoz, David Nowak and Callan White, as well as to Markus Potter for his direction.

To read a review of the show, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/article/20130922/ASHEVILLESCENE/309220020/Review-Stalking-Bogeyman-creepy-powerful>

For tickets, please click:

<https://northcarolinastagecompany.secure.force.com/ticket>



(6) Lastly, I had fun getting together for a mini-reunion with several of my Leadership Asheville 28 classmates at Pack's Tavern. L-R: Cathy Kramer, Marcia Whitney, Eileen Hutchison, George Peiffer, Blaine Greenfield, Michael Trayford, Mark Goldstein, Dave Carr and Fielding Lowe.



B. I appreciate comments from readers--and often run them in Section 2, part 2 of this missive. In particular, I wanted to thank Bob H. in NJ and Maria P. in PA for two ideas that I have just implemented.

(1) Bob suggested that I do a better job of highlighting what's in the aforementioned section. He wrote:

The name "other" was not what drew me here . . . it was Rod Richards' name. If A is clips then B might be Quick Quips or Quips of Interest or Nosey Corner or Treasure Trove of Minutiae or My Readers' Hidden Treasure Chest or something magnetic and inviting. . . . The work is already done . . . make it easier for us to find Blaine's Blazing Nuggets.

(By the way, you may be the most open-minded person I know. Congratulations!)

Note: Beginning this week, you'll see that I have taken Bob's advice. I have added to the FYI, part 2 section, now using this to describe B: "Other tidbits from readers." Also, I have included a few words after each entry to better describe what can be found there.

(2) Maria wrote last week: May I make a suggestion? How about extending your contests to Mondays? I would have liked to enter Contest #42, but it's already over. Some of us are not attached to our electronic devices and actually don't read (totally) emails until the weekdays.

Note: Great suggestion! I will extend contest deadlines, starting with the current contest . . . and that reminds me that there's still time to enter:

***** CONTEST #43 *****

One lucky reader will win an unabridged copy of the following book on CD: A CHANGE IN ALTITUDE by Anita Shreve. This novel tells the story of Margaret and Patrick who have been married just a few months when they set off on what they hope will be a great adventure-a year living in Kenya. Margaret quickly realizes there is a great deal she doesn't know about the complex mores of her new home and about her own husband.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #43 in the subject 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, September 30, 2013.

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Ryan Fallon on his acceptance into the Philadelphia Police Academy. He starts training on September 30 and after 30 weeks of training, he will become a Philadelphia police offer. Look for the streets of this city to soon become safer!

(2) Debbie Hancock on successfully competing nutraMetrix Consultant Training.

(3) Avi Dobuler on being honored by the local development shul that he helped found 21 years ago.

(4) Michael Phelan on being accepted into this year's Boston Marathon.

(5) Michelle Baker on her recent engagement.

(6) Hayley Roper Wells and Saran Benoit for both being named to this year's group of Asheville 40 under 40 leaders.

(7) Elizabeth Pou on the nice press she got for Asheville SCORE in MOUNTAIN XPRESS. To read it, please click:

<http://www.mountainx.com/article/52998/In-her-words>

(8) Kat Williams on her October, 2013 profile in BOLD LIFE.

Note: I don't believe it is available yet. But when it is, please click here to view it:

<http://www.boldlife.com/gyrobase/index>

D. Condolences to:

(1) Bill Gregg and family on the passing of Bill's father, Horace Fred "Ted" Gregg. To read the obituary, please click:

http://www.westfamilyfuneralservices.com/new_view.php?id=4948979

(2) Sarah Fowler and family on the passing of Sarah's grandfather.

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

This week, it goes to many of the women in my Biltmore Lake community who worked together to create a desk calendar to help raise funds for a program called Ladies Night Out that covers the cost of a mammogram for women who are faced with a gap in insurance coverage.

Ladies Night Out is offered by Mission Hospital, the Asheville Breast Center and Buncombe County Department of Health's Breast and Cervical Cancer and Wise Woman Programs. For more information, please click:

<http://www.buncombecounty.org/governing/depts/health/Lno.aspx>

More about the calendar: It is designed to make you laugh (or blush) as you turn its pages, "revealing" new faces and fashions each month. It features many of my neighbors and friends who good-naturedly--as well as heroically--agreed to go public in support of this worthwhile program.

I even participated and can be seen on the March page, wearing the Mardi Bra.



Thanks to Linda Hollinshead, Kim Preish and Deb Trelaven for creating this particular bra, as well as to both Kim and Marilynne Herbert for heading the overall calendar effort. Special kudos to Deb Scannell for taking not only the above picture, but all the others that were used. She is a fantastic photographer. For more information about her work, please click:

<http://www.DeborahScannellPhotography.com>

***** TO ORDER YOUR VERY OWN CALENDAR *****

A limited number have printed. If you'd like one, they cost just \$10. Send me a check for that amount, along with your home address, and I'll cover the cost of mailing it back to you. Make your checks payable to me; send them to: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

Please place your order on or before Monday, October 13. That way, you can get one calendar for yourself and then order 47 others for your closest friends and relatives as ideal gifts just in time for the upcoming Chanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa seasons.

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2. FYI

I don't typically get too much into politics in BLAINESWORLD, but when a friend writes something, I do like to spread the word about it--especially when what he or she makes sense. And contains good news, too. Such was the case with this following piece that was written for FORBES, a very conservative publication.

Note: If any reader cares to voice an opposing viewpoint, I'll attempt to run what they write in an upcoming issue. Just email it to me at bginbc@aol.com. Also, send a copy of your opinion to the author of what follows. You can find his email address at the bottom of it.

Obamacare Is An Entrepreneur's Best Friend

by Micah Solomon*

Here's the simple, straight dope:

If we want more entrepreneurship in America, the fastest way to get there is via the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare) that's currently being held hostage in Washington.

I've been an entrepreneur my entire adult life, apart from breaks for sleeping. I've worked with other entrepreneurs, and would-be entrepreneurs, and should-be entrepreneurs, in organizations of varied sizes.

And I'm tired of the health insurance discussion being hijacked on supposed business grounds by propagandists from the chambers of commerce with their inherent conflict of

interest as hawkers of insurance themselves.

For the rest of this informative piece, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1iB>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Zuzu W. in NC: Posted a new song: "Satisfy Susie - 1998"

<http://www.reverbnation.com/c./poni/230591238>

(2) Diane M. in NC: I laughed til I cried! Do yourself a favor and watch this from the Ellen Show.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151288064238245>

(3) Forty Fingers & a Missing Tooth with Runaway Circus & The Loose Caboozes

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=afE3caeWRP0&feature=youtu.be>

And:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=s5r9jTLMqdc#t=19

(4) Nancy C. in NC: This may be the happiest thing every filmed

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SHogg7pJI_M#t=16

(5) Tom H. in NC: Jonathan Stoklosa, Delaware Man With Down Syndrome, Is A Powerlifting Champ

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/24/jonathan-stoklosa-down-syndrome-weight-lifting_n_3977280.html

B. Other tidbits from readers

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1iB>

(1) Clay D. in NC: Every picture of you, you are pulling the Fonzi thumbs up. (2) Andrea S. in PA: Alternatives to iGoogle. (3) Ryan P. in NC: Great video clip on family hosting 200 homeless people after daughter's wedding gets called off. (4) Gary G. in NC: Ditto on THE BOGEYMAN. (5) Liz S. in PA: My photo "San Diego, CA." (6) Wes H. in NC: Look for publication of new book by C. Robert Jones.

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3. Joke 1

Methinks thinks kid is quick learner!



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4. Reviews

A. IN A WORLD . . . is a funny romantic comedy about a struggling vocal coach who hits the big time in the world of movie-trailer voiceovers, only to find herself in direct competition with the industry's top dog--her father. Lake Bell wrote the screenplay, directed the film and stars in it, too, and her work is simply amazing in all three categories. The rest of the cast is also quite good. You'll recognize many of the cast members, but not necessarily by name. Rated PG-13.

B. Now out on DVD is BEHIND THE CANDELABRA, a somewhat depressing yet interesting film that takes a look at the secretive five-year love affair between virtuoso pianist Liberace and a much younger Scott Thorson. Michael Douglass is superb in the former role, and this is one of his best performances ever. Matt Damon and the rest of the cast likewise shine. Unrated, it probably not appropriate for anybody younger than a mature teenager.

C. CHIMES FROM A CRACKED SOUTHERN BELLE (Grateful Steps Foundation) by Susan Reinhardt is a novel about a woman who is nearly murdered by her ex.

Much of it is very funny, but there are parts of it that are also very touching. And I was always left wondering what would happen next to Dee Millings, the main character.

The author's writing style kept me engrossed throughout the book. I found myself writing notes about many of them, thinking that I'd want to include them in this review. Among the more memorable passages were the following:

* "Are you out of your mind? You are going nowhere, Miss Gloom, I've had four people give me directions as I was hunting for you just now. They want me there. Once you make it to the hole in the ground, you are good to go for the covered dish. Only those who watch the dead go down get the buffet afterward. It's the reward for attending, sweet Prude, and probably the only one you'll get, since I couldn't ring that man for you. He canceled at the last minute, damned fool."

* But even with their quirks and misguided priorities, South Carolinians are warm and gracious, typical Southerners who will give neighbors everything out of their cabinets or gardens but won't wince if a time comes that a neighbor must be properly put in her place. Vengeance is as alive as repentance, and quite often the two hold hands.

And this one:

* "You sure can. Now, just tell me how you can advertise fresh homemade food when all I put in my mouth was Campbell's or Stokely's, maybe even the cheaper stuff like Margaret Holme's unseasoned offerings. Explain all this to me," she said as he stood transfixed, eyes darting about to see how many customers were listening to my aunt's rant. "Explain, please, and while you're at it, tell my why you haven't trained these poor waitresses to serve people. This is the most unorganized place I've ever set me size-6 feet in. Why, my husband can cook better than this and he serves hairballs!"

You may think CHIMES is a book just for women, but if you do, you'll be missing a novel that just about anybody will enjoy . . . and I dare you not to laugh out loud when reading about Dee's attempt to provide CPR for a squirrel, as well her aunt's many visits to crash weddings.

D. Heard TEAM CODE OF HONOR: THE SECRETS OF CHAMPIONS IN BUSINESS AND IN LIFE (Hachette Audio) by Blair Singer.

According to the author, if sales is the number one skill in business, number two has to be the ability to bring ordinary people together to build a championship team. He notes:

* Great teams ultimately achieve success in the face of insurmountable challenges. Often, it is because they have an invisible Code of Honor that holds them together under pressure.

TEAM CODE OF HONOR goes on to present many examples of how to create your own Code of Honor, as well as how to implement it. I liked the fact that just about all of them could be applied to my personal life. For example:

* A great team player never says "can't." He or she says, "How can we?"

And:

* Probably the most powerful words in the English language and hardest to say are, "I am sorry."

In addition, I think everybody can immediately start doing what Singer does both in his company and at home; i.e., he commits to regular personal training development training. His thing is that "by doing this, everybody becomes emotionally stronger and better communicators."

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5. TV alert

A. WE ARE MEN is a situation comedy about newly divorced guys. It marks the return of Tony Shalhoub to TV, and he'll be joined by costars Jerry O'Connell and Kal Penn. Premieres Monday, Sept. 30, at 8:30 p.m. on CBS.

B. Rebel Wilson is usually very funny, so I'll give her SUPER FUN NIGHT at least one viewing. Premieres Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 8:30 p.m. on ABC. For the trailer, please click: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nv-Y50xvDoQ>

C. THE MILLERS features Will Arnett inadvertently inspiring his parents (Margo Martindale and Beau Bridges) to split up after announcing his own divorce. Mom then decides to move in with her son Premieres Thursday, October 3, at 8:30 p.m. on CBS.

D. MUHAMMAD ALI'S GREATEST FIGHT reexamines his politically charged battle for a conscientious-objector deferment with a cast that includes Christopher Plummer, Frank Langella and Danny Glover. Ali is played by himself via dazzling archival footage. Saturday, Oct. 5, on HBO at 8 p.m.

Note: Please do share your feelings about any of the new TV shows you might be watching this season. I did see the a few episodes of DEREK on NETFLIX and am finding the series watchable--though I haven't yet been blown away by it.

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6. Joke 2

Beware who you choose for your fishing companion!



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7. Websites

A. Lois H. in NC: Take the Test: How Well Do You See Color?
<http://www.apartmenttherapy.com/how-well-do-you-see-color-173018>

My score was -73, but then again, I was never very good in math. Actually, I got a 353. (No kidding! I'm quite colorblind . . . and am grateful that Cynthia, my beautiful bride,

helps me dress.)

B. Michael F. in NY: Louis C.K. on why he won't get his kids smartphones.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5HbYScItf1c#t=161>

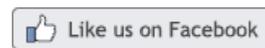
Note: THE NEW TIMES published an excellent article, "Step Away From the Phone," which dealt with much of the same subject matter. To read it, please click:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/22/fashion/step-away-from-the-phone.html?smid=fb-share&r=0>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you're new to this website and have never seen my family and/or friends, make sure you click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Pictures." Make sure you have your sound on when you do so that you can listen to what's arguably the greatest rock song of all time.

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



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8. Technology tip

A friend wrote me, complaining about a prize he had won in a BLAINESWORLD contest; i.e., a free online magazine. He liked the prize. What he did not like: The advertising emails he was receiving from the company.

There are two things you can do to prevent such emails that you don't want:

1. When you sign-up for something, you usually are given the option to receive or not receive other material. Depending on your preference, feel free to choose not to get such stuff.

Note: If you don't do anything, you usually get placed into the category that sends out material

2. If given the option to unsubscribe from a legitimate company, take it. For example, see below:

Zinio is here to help you discover new and interesting magazines.

You are receiving this email at yourname@gmail.com because you have opted in to receive promotions and updates from Zinio. If you do not wish to receive emails from us, please click here to safely unsubscribe.

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9. Joke 3

You had one job!

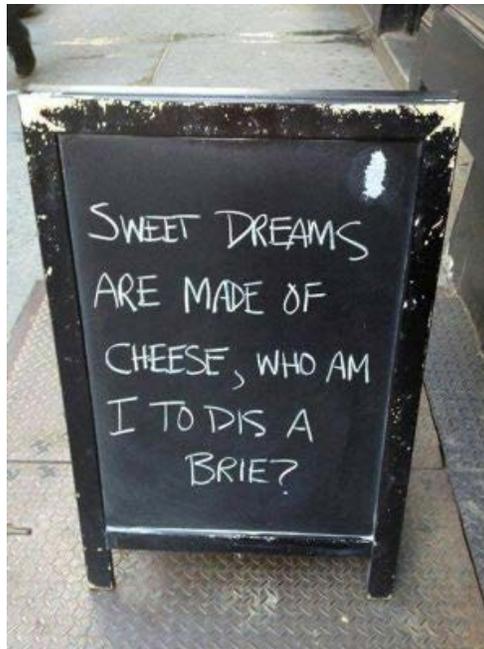


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10. A quote I like

I'm now tempted to travel the world and the seven seas to look for something! To get you in the mood to join me, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeMFqkcPYcg>.



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11. Thought for the day

Money Mantra and for other things also, including when you are really stuck!

by Annemarie Brown*

Happy Awesome Autumn!!!

Autumn is my favorite season and one where I like to begin reflecting on my year, how to complete it and begin to reflect how I want my next year to unfold....beginning to set the groundwork, at least energetically at this juncture.

Here is a powerful process you can begin using to create your vision, dreams, goals.

For the rest of this informative piece, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1iB>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1iB>

(1) SHERLOCK HOLMES RETURNS at Parkway Playhouse. (2) 2nd Annual Asheville Startup Weekend. (3) CHILDREN'S HOUR has been postponed. (4) ANNIE GET YOUR GUN. (5) WOMANSONG concert. (6) RIVALS at Mars Hill University. (7) Asheville Lyric Opera.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1iB>

(1) Ambassador Andrew Young. (2) John Sheridan to continue Jazz Wednesdays at Sycamore Grill. (3) Band Together for Dawn in Lambertville. (4) Town & Country Players. (5) Dementia Society's "Dance Against Dementia! & Alzheimer's."

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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#886
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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

1. Gave a big thumbs up (first picture below) to the wedding of Kelsey and Michael Sanders (second picture), held at the beautiful Highland Lake Inn in Flat Rock and hosted by our good friends Brian and Carole Biro. Everything was perfect: the weather; the outdoor ceremony, officiated with his usual flair by Howard Hanger; the Inn's food; music by The Retreat; and the beautiful decorations put together by Carole. In addition, she and her sisters made a grand total of 18 tasty pies that were devoured by all in attendance.





And we got a kick out of being with so many of our other friends . . . L:R: Marcy and Tom Gallagher, Carole and Brian Biro, Connie Ruble and Bob Bowles, and Marvin Sadovsky and Annemarie Brown. We're in the back row.



B. Cynthia continues to work with Jhan Brannon, her personal trainer, and is making great progress!



She has even gotten me to start working with Jhan (seen taking the picture), but I'm not quite ready for the heavy lifting that Cynthia is doing. So instead, I've been working on some stretches to give me greater flexibility.



C. On another night, I got to attend a social function held outside our neighborhood's Clubhouse. That's yours truly with neighbors Nancy and Chris Pollak.



Kudos to Dr. Mark Knollman, another neighbor, who not only sponsored the event--but also sang at it, along with the band Tuxedo Junction.

B. PLEASE HELP? I've been using something called iGoogle for several years. This is a customizable startpage or personal web portal (along the lines of Netvibes and My Yahoo!) that enables me to get news and sports headlines from the NEW YORK TIMES, a daily quote, a joke for the day, weather for both Asheville and Bucks County, PA, and movie listings--all on one screen. It's very easy to use, and I like it very much.

The bad news: Google for some inexplicable reason is discontinuing the above, as of November 1. Might you have any other web portal that you'd recommend that I should consider using? If so, please tell me what it is and why you like using it. Many thanks for any help you might be able to provide!

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Jim McMains and his co-pilot Maggie on their successful motorcycle ride of 9,885 miles that helped raise some \$6,000 for the 19 "Granite Mountain Hotshot" Firefighters from Prescott, Arizona, who gave their lives on June 30.

(2) John Beatty on his new job as GM at The Dunhill Hotel in Charlotte. Asheville's loss is Charlotte's gain.

(3) Tom Giraldi for writing a great song, "Good Being Alive" for a charity called A Love for Life that is dedicated to raising funds for pancreatic cancer research. To listen to it, please click the following link and see his song at the top:
<http://aloveforlife.us/blog/>

(4) Micah Solomon on the publication of his latest FORBES article, "Smiles Aren't Enough: Great Customer Service Requires Great Systems." To read it, please click:
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/micahsolomon/2013/09/20/not-hiring-jerks-isnt-enough-your-systems-have-to-love-your-customers-too/>

(5) Nancy D. in PA, Marilyn E. in AZ, Karen G. in NJ, Dewitt R. in NC, Carole S. in NJ, Andrea S. in PA, Kathy B. in FL and Maria P. in PA--winners of Contest #42, a copy of RAISING HAPPY KIDS ON A REASONABLE BUDGET by Patricia Gallagher. All told, there were 8 entries and 8 winners.

And that reminds me it is now time to announce . . .

***** CONTEST #43 *****

One lucky reader will win an unabridged copy of the following book on CD: A CHANGE IN ALTITUDE by Anita Shreve. This novel tells the story of Margaret and Patrick who have been married just a few months when they set off on what they hope will be a great adventure-a year living in Kenya. Margaret quickly realizes there is a great deal she doesn't know about the complex mores of her new home and about her own husband.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #43 in the subject 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, September 30, 2013.

D. Condolences to:

- (1) Chelsey Lee Gaddy and family on the passing of Chelsey's cousin Lindsey.
- (2) Rebecca AxeRosa and family on the passing of Rebecca's father-in-law, following a 2-month fight with bile duct cancer.
- (3) Denise Sullivan and family on the passing of Denise's dad Henry.

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

This week, it goes to Charlie Flynn-McGiver--Artistic Director/Co-Founder at North Carolina Stage Company.

Charlie, along with his wife Angie Flynn-McIver, formed NC Stage in 2001, and it remains the only resident professional theatre in downtown Asheville. It is also an outstanding one, recently being named Best Theatre Company by voters in the Mountain Xpress Best of Poll.

I've seen many plays there and have never been disappointed by their quality.

I also look forward to any one that Charlie is in. He's a very talented actor, adept at both comedy and drama. His latest performance in RETURN OF THE BOGEYMAN might well have been his best ever. That's him (left), along with his equally outstanding co-star Chris Allison.



Recently, I saw this thought-provoking drama, and it blew me away. You're in luck, in that

it runs through October 13. Do catch it if you possibly can. For tickets, please click:
https://northcarolinastagecompany.secure.force.com/ticket#details_a0SA000000CnUhJMAV

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2. FYI

Thanks Lori H. in PA for sharing the following:

What Your Taste In Music Says About You On A Date

by Scott Alden

It's one of the quintessential (and sometimes dreaded) first date questions: What kind of music are you into?

There's a reason that most people tend to side-step this question with a deft, "A little bit of everything." It's because your taste in music reveals a lot about you to potential partners.

Here's [part of] the breakdown:

Bruce Springsteen: You're a monster in the sack.

Rod Stewart: You're gross.

David Bowie: You're selective, but slutty.

For the rest of this informative listing, please click:

<http://www.howaboutwe.com/date-report/1610-what-your-taste-in-music-says-about-you-on-a-date/>

And for part 2, please click:

<http://www.howaboutwe.com/date-report/1669-what-else-your-taste-in-music-says-about-you-on-a-date/>

Note: Any date I ever had needed to like the Turtles, arguably the greatest rock group of all time. If they didn't, then it told me all that I needed to know. And to see why I felt that way, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRCe5L1imxg>

FYI, part 2

Did anybody get to participate in the online webcast that I mentioned last week, featuring the amazing Nick Vujicic? If so, please share your reaction(s). But even if you weren't able to participate in this, you can still view him by clicking:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXICeKBWfaA>

A. Clips

(1) BJ L. in NC: Amanda Palmer: The art of asking

http://www.ted.com/talks/amanda_palmer_the_art_of_asking.html

(2) Sheryl S. in PA: I wonder if this is anything like what people with synesthesia experience. If so, I'd love to have that condition!

<http://www.ba-bamail.com/Content.aspx?emailid=5555&memberid=758011#.Ujh1mp7D9D8>

(3) Kristi M. in NC: After waking up from surgery, this husband sees his wife as if for the very first time. He gets to fall in love all over again

<http://www.wimp.com/seeswife/>

(4) Richie Parker: Drive

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/qiLDMBDPCEY?rel=0>

(5) Rapper at Southwest Airlines

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3DMY4suvnl>

(6) Scott T. in NC: An awkward moment

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=j8Bc7eRTdWY

(7) Nelson S. in NC: All faucets run with beer . . . best prank in history?

<http://now.msn.com/mans-house-plumbed-with-tui-beer-in-new-zealand-viral-campaign#scpshrjmd>

(8) Devender N. in CA: 21 Genius Larry David-isms For Dealing With People
<http://thoughtcatalog.com/2013/21-genius-quip-by-larry-david-for-dealing-with-people/>

B. Other

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

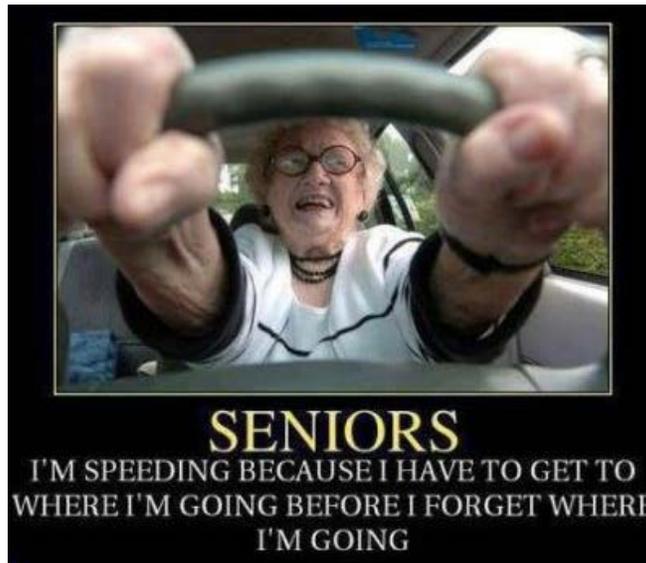
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1hZ>

(1) Rod R. in NJ. (2) Kathy B. in FL (3) Walter B. in NC. (4) Maria P. in PA. (5) Dewitt R. in NC. (6) Michael H. in PA. (7) Suzie T. in NC. (8) Amy L. in NC (9) Kevin J. in PA (10) Tony K. in NC (11) Terry B. in FL. (12) Julien in MD.

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3. Joke 1

I can relate!



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4. Reviews

A. STILL MINE, based on a true story, is a touching love story about a couple in their 80s. She has Alzheimer's, and he only wants to stay with her. So he begins building a home for them to live in, but along the way, he finds that local building codes and bureaucratic officials make this task almost impossible. James Cromwell--previously a fine character in supporting roles--gives the performance of his life as the husband. I'm hoping that he gets an Oscar nomination for his work. Rated PG-13.

B. WEST OF MEMPHIS is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #854 follows:

You may have to look some to find WEST OF MEMPHIS, a powerful documentary about the failure of justice in Arkansas . . . but if you can't find it in a local theater, then seek it out on DVD . . . you'll be dismayed about the story of a terrible crime that was compounded by a grave injustice that's only been somewhat remedied . . . director Amy Berg's film is right up there with THE THIN BLUE LINE, perhaps my all-time favorite true crime story . . . rated R.

C. GIVE YOURSELF A RAISE: HOW TO HAVE MORE MONEY, LESS STRESS, FINANCIAL FREEDOM (McBride & Bennett, Incorporated) by Gordon Bennett is a how-to guide for successfully managing your money.

It starts with a very useful 6-question Financial Freedom Risk Assessment that provide a quick look at your financial health. The author, a consultant and adjunct professor, then

presents his unique Freedom Money Management System.

Parts of the material in this book you may have been before, but I like how Bennett ties it all together.

He also does a good job of highlighting the work of others; for example:

* Richard Jenkins, editor-in-chief of MSN Money, created the widely publicized "60 percent solution," which is an excellent way to get started. His plan calls for you to divide your income into five categories and then stick with the program.

10 Percent investment/retirement-really long term.

10 Percent long-term savings-money needed in 5-plus years (e.g., college fund).

10 Percent short-term savings-irregular and emergency expenses (escrow expenses).

10 Percent fun-dining out, movies, toys, vacations, and sanity essentials.

60 Percent-everything else, including taxes.

In addition, he makes some very valuable recommendations with respect to life insurance:

* The most basic form of life insurance (and the cheapest) is the term policy. A term life insurance policy is for a specific term; for example, 5 or 10 years. The premiums increase as you get older, and at some age you will probably not be able to buy term insurance at all. Term life is the least expensive way to get large amounts of coverage when you are younger and in good health and when you have dependents who would be severely impacted by your untimely demise. Term life insurance has no cash value accumulating.

And he provides this helpful reminder:

* You are allowed by law to receive a free credit report every year from each credit bureau. Plan to order one report every four months from a different credit bureau and review the report carefully. By rotating among the bureaus you will have a current report three times a year. Then start the process over each year. You should obtain credit reports frequently enough to detect any problems, and remember that one of these reports annually from each bureau is free. By requesting copies of your credit report regularly you can detect identity theft, which I will cover in more detail in the following pages.

GIVE YOURSELF A RAISE would be a fine book to read for anybody needing more information on managing your money, which probably is most of us.

D. Heard UNDAUNTED COURAGE (Simon & Schuster), written by Stephen E. Ambrose and narrated by Cotter Smith.

It's the story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, which was the first time the western portion of the United States had been crossed westward throughout the continental divide to the Pacific coast.

The story is breathtaking, and Ambrose makes every bit of it come alive. Even if you are not a history buff, methinks you'll find it interesting.

I also liked the fact that the author can be heard at the beginning in the Introduction and at the end in the Epilogue.

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5. TV alert

A. The 65th PRIMETIME EMMY AWARDS airs on Sunday, 9.22, at 8 p.m. on CBS. I'll watch this show if for no other reason than to watch Neil Patrick Harris host it. He always does a great job.

B. MOM, a comedy about two generations of damaged moms, looks watchable because of stars Ann Faris and Allison Janney. Mondays at 9:30 p.m. on CBS.

C. THE CRAZY ONE is on Thursdays at 9 p.m. on CBS. Robin Williams starts in this one, and it also features Hamish Linklater (so funny on THE NEW ADVENTURES OF OLD CHRISTINE). According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "Mr. Williams is never less than crisp, and sometimes it's crisply hilarious."

D. I'm hoping that THE MICHAEL J. FOX show is a big success. TV GUIDE says "a terrific

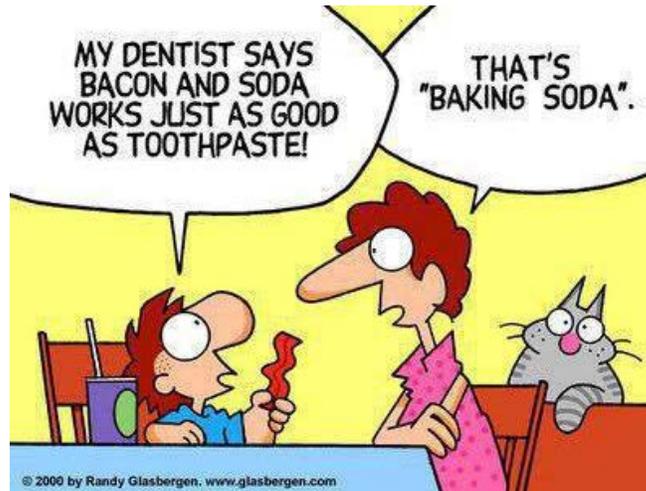
cast keeps Mike Henry's 'triumphs' in sardonic check, but we still marvel at his resilience." Thursdays at 9:30 p.m. on NBC.

Note: Please do share your feelings about of the new TV shows you might be watching this season. I did see the first episode of BROOKLYN NINE-NINE and wasn't blown away by it; however, I will probably give it one more viewing.

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6. Joke 2

So this kid heard it wrong? Bummer!



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7. Websites

A. Joe H. in NC: Rethink Breast Cancer presents: Your Man Reminder

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VsyE2rCW71o>

Note: This is one of the best commercials I have ever seen.

B. Dianne C. in NC: I have no words, nor do I need them. Just watch.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5U0UNKQ08g>

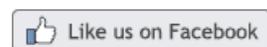
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

In the unlikely event you never saw my comedy debut, please click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Video Clips." If you look at the third one down, you can still catch what you missed!

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



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8. Technology tip

I've recently upgraded to Windows 7. My new Dell computer came with Windows 8, but because of all the problems I've heard with 8, I chose to go with 7--and have been mostly

pleased with the results.

The only thing that doesn't seem to work very well is the Search option. No matter how many times I attempt to configure it, whenever I do a search for a certain word or words in a file, they don't seem to show up.

So instead, I've found a free file search utility called Agent Ransack. I easily downloaded it, then have been using it with great results over the past few weeks. To download a copy, please click:

<http://www.mythicsoft.com/agentransack>

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9. Joke 3

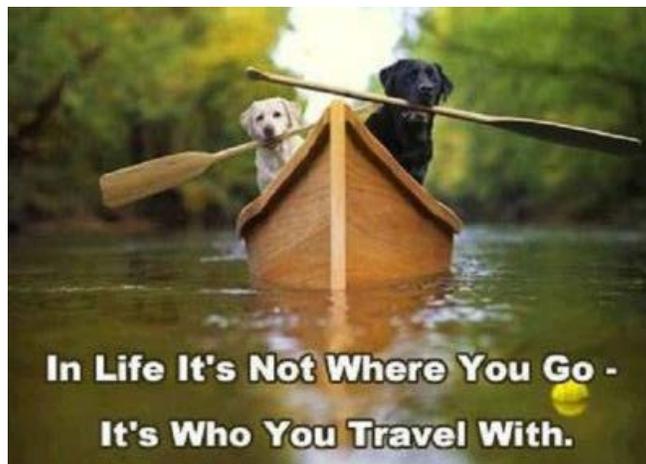
The middle-aged couple had finally learned how to send and receive texts on their cell phones. The wife, being a romantic at heart, decided one day that she'd send her husband a text while she was out of the house having coffee with a friend. . . . She texted: If you are sleeping, send me your dreams. If you are laughing, send me your smile. If you are eating, send me a bite. If you are drinking, send me a sip. If you are crying, send me your tears. I love you. . . . The husband, being a no-nonsense sort of guy, texted back: I'm on the toilet. Please advise.



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10. A quote I like

Sooooo true . . . and I'm lucky to have found Cynthia, my beautiful bride, to be the person to travel with me!



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11. Thought for the day

10 Steps to Living in Flow
by Barbara Brady*

(from a talk I gave at The Asheville Church of the Garden on 8.11.13)

Steps to being in the flow:

1. Meditate and pray. In prayer we talk to God; in meditation we listen. When I meditate consistently, my day will tend to unfold more smoothly.
2. Recognize resistance when it comes up and let go of it. Ways to do this include realizing you always have three choices in any situation. You can either accept the situation as it is, take inspired action to try to change the situation or leave it.
3. Be aware of when you feel that "forcing" energy within yourself and let go of the oars. Let go of trying to force anything.
4. Trust, detach and surrender. Pray "God, please allow this or something better".
5. "Act as if." Ask yourself "What might look differently if I were truly allowing myself to go with the flow right now?" and then do that.
6. Let go of "non-flow" activities and people. Do those things that bring you into flow.
7. Do one new thing every day. Ruts are flow inhibitors. Plan to do something new that's bigger in the longer term: take that belly dancing class; plan the trip to Machu Picchu, start writing that book.
8. Take only inspired action whenever possible. And when you need to do something mundane like wash the dishes, treat it as a meditation.
9. Follow the breadcrumbs of joy and aliveness as your compass.
10. Notice what feedback you're getting from the universe, when you act from inspiration, including signs and synchronicities. Notice what feels good and what flows easily vs. what doesn't. This is God saying "Hi! I see you're following the call of source! Yay!"

I forgot what's perhaps the most important one! Humor! Being able to see the humor in anything will help keep you in flow.

* Reprinted with Barbara's gracious permission. She is a Life Transitions Coach and Interfaith Minister, helping people to heal their hearts and celebrate life. For more information, please click:

www.mycoachbarbara.com

and/or:

www.barbarasceremonies.com

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1hZ>

(1) Susan Reinhardt: "One-Woman Show." (2) How to Become A Certified Hypnotist. (3) HANK WILLIAMS: LOST HIGHWAY. (4) Top rated eBay seller shares tricks for building online biz. (5) Jeff Thompson at The Grey Eagle Tavern & Music Hall. (6) ANNIE GET YOUR GUN. (7) Annual Runaway Circus and the Loose Caboozes Circus Show. (8) "The Children's Hour" a play by Lillian Hellman. (9) Rivals, by C. Robert Jones at Mars Hill University.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1hZ>

(1) Bensalem Band Mattress Sale Fundraiser. (2) Comedy Offer at Comedy Cabaret. (3) Tom Orr: "At the Hop"! (4) Introduction to the Music Business. (5) RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN SING.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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9.9.2013

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10. A quote I like
11. Thought for the day
12. Advance planning department

1. Reflections

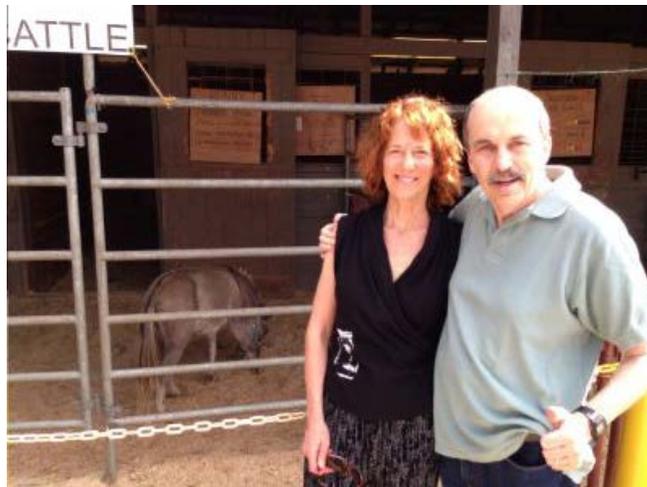
A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I saw a superb performance of A FEW GOOD MEN at Parkway Playhouse . . . all the performers were outstanding, including Jennifer Russ in the top photo and Scott Keel (far left) and Dan Clancy (next to him) in the bottom photo . . . special kudos to Andrew Gall for his crisp direction, as well as for the fact that he did a great job in his part that he had to take at the last minute when one of the actors wasn't available.

As always, we also liked the work of Eric Martinez . . . and we can't wait to see him in SINGLE . . . AGAIN, a new online web series . . . as soon as I have information on when and where it will be available, I'll let you know.





B. The next day, we attended the NC Mountain State Fair in Fletcher and saw the livestock exhibits (top photo) and then took a ride on the Ferris wheel (bottom photo). The Fair runs through Sept. 15 . . . for more information, please click: <http://www.mountainfair.org/>

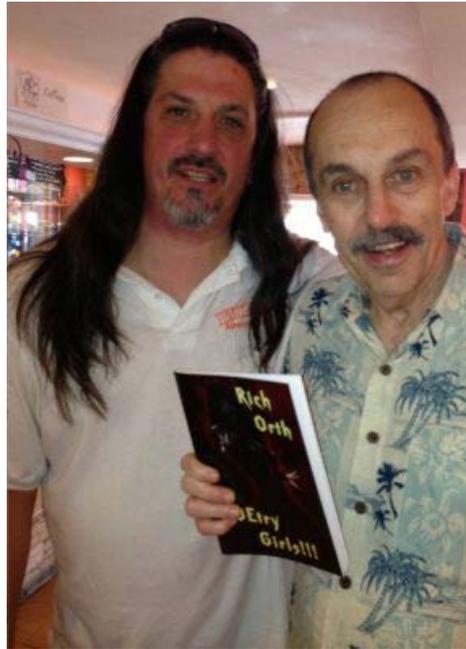


Though severely tempted, we managed to refrain from eating the oh-so-tempting funnel cake and other goodies there . . . instead, we went to BT's Burger Joint in Biltmore Park Town Square for dinner . . . Cynthia ordered a very tasty salad that you make up by choosing your own ingredients . . . I enjoyed my chicken sandwich, along with the an order of sweet potato fries . . . for some reason, the latter item came dripping with honey . . . I had no problem sending it back and getting the fries plain; however, I contend this is how they should be served with folks given the honey as an option . . . for more information, please click: <http://www.yelp.com/biz/bts-burger-joint-asheville>

C. On my recent visit to Bucks County, PA, one of the high spots was getting to meet my

friend Rich Orth and getting a photo with him and the poetry book that he has written: POEtry Girls!!!

You can still get personalized copies of the above by messaging him at Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/richorth>



I'm also grateful to Rich for sharing with me, as well as y'all, the following poem that is slated for inclusion in POEtry Girls 2:

Elsinore!

Elsinore . . . Elsinore
How fluidly . . .
an appellation

. . . streaming from lips
Screaming as I sip
Elsinore . . . Elsinore
Sanctimonious wine

Whines fortuitously
Spoils of war
Fills cavities

Fulfills depravities
Elsinore . . . Elsinore

Of souls eclipsed
Deaths relived
Of captivating delicacy
Of capacitating relevancy
Elsinore . . . Elsinore
Sweetest dreams unfold
Elsinore . . . Elsinore
Sweetest dreams bestowed

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Cara Cotellese whose Electronic Media students at Kutztown University won a 2013 Mid-Atlantic Emmy Award for a piece on the Eastern State

Penitentiary.

(2) Todd Siben on having his article chosen to be run in the latest issue of PLA Inside Out.
To read it, please click:

<http://www.plaio.org/index.php/home>

(3) Rick Wilkes for becoming Certified Cuddle Party Facilitator #0082!
For more information about what this is, please click:
www.cuddlepary.com

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

This week, it goes to Walter Beals--a friend who also happens to be one of the finest jugglers I have ever seen (along with the other members of Asheville's very own Forty Fingers & a Missing Tooth).

But I'm recognizing Walter this week for something else he is currently doing. Since he can tell the story better than I can, please read the following--and consider helping him out.

My name is Walter Beals. I'm a 6'4" tall, 42-year-old man and on January 2nd, 2013, I was weighing in at almost 450 pounds!



I knew it was time for a change. So determined to lose some weight, I started a diet and exercise program that today brings me down almost 125 pounds from where I started. At around 325 pounds, I still need to lose at least another 100 pounds.



Sadly, I was starting to lose my motivation and inspiration. It's not hard to think, "Hey, I've done well, I've lost over 100 pounds, I can afford to eat that pizza." But that attitude

had stopped my weight loss dead in its tracks, and I had even started to gain a little weight back. I knew I needed to do something to re-inspire myself so that I could knock off the last 100 pounds. So I came up with an idea.

My idea revolves around accountability, and I'm calling it "The Glutton's Redemption." I am asking family, friends and even complete strangers to sponsor my weight loss. All I ask is that folks pledge 25 cents or more for every pound that I lose, and if (sorry, "when") I reach my goal, I will ask my sponsors to send their donation to the local "feed the hungry" type charity of their choice. This will be done on the honor system, so I won't be collecting any credit card numbers or anything like that. Sponsors will be responsible for sending the money on their own.

To become a sponsor, please visit this Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/gluttonsredemption and "like" the page and send me a message introducing yourself (if I don't know you), letting me know how much you'd like to pledge. If you're not a Facebook user, you may contact me via email at: gluttonsredemption@gmail.com. I can also be contacted by phone at 828.280.4982.

I'm pleased to say that as of noon, September 12, 2013, I already have received over \$20 per pound in pledges, which means when I lose 100 pounds, there will be over \$2,000 going to feed the hungry. With your help, I hope we can make that go even further.

"Lose the weight, Walter, or children go hungry!" (How's that for motivation?)

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2. FYI

Here's an invitation for an event that I thought you might like to participate in . . .

Hello Blaine,

I have something special for you.

On Thursday, September 19, at 2 p.m. CDT, Nick Vujicic will be joining us for a special Ziglar Legacy Series online webcast.

Imagine getting through your busy day without hands or feet. Picture your life without the ability to walk, care for your basic needs or even embrace those you love. Meet Nick Vujicic. He's an author, musician, actor, and his hobbies include fishing, painting and swimming.



During the webcast, Nick and I are going to explore the keys to success in every part of your life. We're going to drill down to the specific steps you need to take to live an inspired, deliberate, and meaningful life.

The best part is that I'm holding a free spot for you on the webcast. All you have to do is register to let me know that you'll be joining us.

Click here to register and claim your spot:

<http://tinyurl.com/krvx6w4>

This is just the beginning . . .

My webcast with Nick Vujicic is the second of the Ziglar Legacy Series which features today's leading experts who have been influenced by my dad, Zig Ziglar. They will share how Zig impacted their lives, plus the top 5 proven success strategies anyone can use immediately to positively impact their personal and professional lives.

Your registration today reserves you a spot for the upcoming webcast and future webcasts as well.

So, go ahead and register to claim your spot before your day gets too busy.

All the best,

Tom Ziglar

Ziglar.com

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) "The Girls," featuring the great photography of Scott Treadway

<http://vimeo.com/74152017>

(2) Lisa M. in NC: Something Awesome Happens When Animals Use a Trampoline

https://www.facebook.com/lonesomedove.miniatureschnauzers?hc_location=stream

(3) Debbie H. in AK: A useful trend on the Internet (seriously)

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=494748280602313&set=vb.100002014370195&type=2&theater>

(4) John B. in NC: Instead Of Standing By Their Employee, Red Lobster Suspends Waitress Who Received 'None N****r' As A Tip

<http://www.addictinginfo.org/2013/09/12/red-lobster-suspends-waitress-who-received-none-nr-as-a-tip/>

(5) Kristin Chenoweth Calls Up Audience Member For Duet & She Turns Out To Be A Voice Teacher

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/24/kristin-chenoweth-duet-voice-teacher-n_3811373.html

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1h9>

(1) Marty S. in PA. (2) Mary Rita S. in NC. (3) Linda K. in PA. (4) Julien in MD. (5) Ron F. in PA. (6) Edie W. in PA. (7) Terry B. in FL. (8) Margie Z. in NC. (9) Marcie F. in PA. (10) Herb S. in NJ. (11) Natalie K. in PA. (12) Jim F. in PA. (13) Joann C. in PA.

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3. Joke 1

During a science lesson, my sister-in-law picked up a magnet and said to her second-grade class, "My name begins with the letter M, and I pick things up. What am I?"

A little boy answered, "You're a Mommy."

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4. Reviews

A. THE SPECTACULAR NOW is a coming-of-age drama that will have you laughing, in parts,

but also feeling for the main characters . . . Miles Teller, a look-alike of the late Chris Penn (when younger), is extremely likable as the effortless charmer, and he is matched scene-by-scene by Ashilene Woodley as his love interest . . . it starts a bit slow, but you'll soon be drawn into the story that has a great ending . . . rated R, though I think that's unfortunate, in that this is a film that would be both enjoyed and appropriate for most mature teenagers.

B. NOW YOU SEE ME is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #870 follows:

I had great fun watching NOW YOU SEE ME, a film about four magicians who team together to pull a series of daring heists against corrupt business leaders . . . I liked the magic, as well as the many twists and turns . . . I also liked Mark Ruffalo's performance as the detective in constant pursuit of the magicians . . . and Woody Harrelson provided some needed comic relief. . . . rated PG-13.

C. ANCIENT SECRETS OF LEAD GENERATION: YOUR PRIMITIVE GUIDE TO BETTER LEADS WITH LESS EFFORT (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform) by Daryl Urbanski is a slim book packed with lots of useful ideas for growing your business--regardless of field.

He discusses various strategies, such as free samples, banner ads, articles, etc., and then shows you how to test them.

I especially liked this one tidbit from the book:

* How often does price come up when your friends call you to go for lunch, a drink or even to go camping for the weekend? Is the main focus on cost? Not likely.

In addition, I liked this other question he raised:

* "If you have the world's greatest product/service and no one is there to experience it, does it help anyone to live better or make you any money?"

Just make sure you treat people right, deliver on your promises and do everything in your power to keep you customers from leaving.

The author then goes on to explain:

* The money is not in DOING what your business does. It's in SELLING what your business can do for people--and making sure those people walk away happy.

Lastly, Urbanski practices what he writes about as evidenced by the offer he makes for free training videos, audios and forms. I checked some of these out and found that some of the looked quite interesting . . . and coincidentally came with an offer to buy more products from him.

D. Heard SINGIFYING RAPPERS (Hachette Audio), written by David Foster Wallace and Mark Costello and narrated by Robert Petkoff.

It is a rerelease of the same 1990 book by the authors, updated with a new foreword by Costello on his experience writing with Wallace.

The authors based much of their work, which is actually a longish essay, on their experiences hanging out with owners of a small rap company in Boston. They claim to be the first whites to appreciate its political radicalness and artistic value, calling rap "quite possibly the most important stuff happening in American poetry today."

SIGNIFYING RAPPERS might well now be considered to be outdated, but that's not the case if you view it as history lesson of a movement that has survived all these years. If you're a fan of this type music, definitely read this book. Others will probably find it not all that interesting.

E. Reminder: There's still time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #42 *****

25 lucky winners will receive a copy of RAISING HAPPY KIDS ON A REASONABLE BUDGET by Patricia Gallagher. This book is loaded with advice from the experts (meaning parents just like you who are living on a budget and doing their best to make it stretch). It is perfect for parents, as well as grandparents, uncles and aunts, etc.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #42 in the subject 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 Sunday, September 15.

Note: The above prizes are made possible through the generosity of the author. She is a

longtime friend and amazing woman whose latest project involves giving flowers to residents in nursing homes. To read more, please click:

<http://www.patriciausa.com/patricias-blog/15-blog/32-happy-flower-day-makes-the-news>

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5. TV alert

***** Mr. CURIOUS HERE *****

The new season starts on some channels this week (e.g., see Section 5D below) and most others the following week. If you see any new shows that you like, please let me know about them, so that I can view them--and also share this information with other readers.

A. LES MISERABLES, the 2012 musical, is now airing on HBO. I was originally disappointed with it when I saw it at a movie theatre, but I'll give it one more chance. 9:30 a.m. on Sunday on HBO2, repeated at 7 p.m. on HBO2 and at other times throughout the week.

Note: Check HBO listings for other dates and times.

B. I'll probably watch the 17th season opener of DANCING WITH THE STARS on Monday, 9.16 at 8 p.m. ABC if only to see how two contestants do: Bill Nye (The Science Guy) and Valerie Harper. The latter performer was told she had three months to live in March, 2013 because of a rare form of brain cancer, but she has since been in a miraculous remission. She will also be profiled on VALERIE'S STORY: A MEREDITH VIEIRA, a show that airs on Thursday, 9.19, at 10 p.m. on ABC.

C. "The World Before Her" on POV tells the contrasting stories of two women, one who is getting ready to compete in the Miss India pageant and the other who is preaching resistance to Western culture. Monday, 9.16, at 10 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

D. BROOKLYN NINE-NINE, starring Andy Samberg and Andre Braugher, is a comedy about a hotshot New York detective whose workplace antics are disrupted by the arrival of a by-the-book captain. Matt Roush in TV GUIDE calls it "the season's best and most promising new comedy. There's not a weak link in this proudly irreverent product." Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. on FOX, beginning on 9.17.

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6. Joke 2

I can now scratch spearfishing off my bucket list of things to do before I die!



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7. Websites

A. Janeen R. in PA: People come to the rescue of animals.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLMbePMdNOY>

B. Cyd S. in NC: What is Gizoogle?
Gizoogle lets you translate pretty much anything on the Internet into gangsta slang. You can enter a search term, a website address or a Twitter @handle, and boo-ya . . . there it is play!

You can also use the Textilizer to translate anything you feel like typing, or cutting/pasting in.

<http://www.gizoogle.net/>

Note: To check this out, use "Blaine Greenfield." You'll be impressed with the results. I was!

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

Dewitt R. in NC recently wrote me about something he noticed on the above homepage: Your 884 invited a visit to your website, where I had been before, but it did look a little sharper on the home page, and the counter was clicking away at a furious rate, but it seemed to me it was at about the same count as it was--oh, a month ago. What's it counting? One assumes "hits" on your website, but that's impossible with that total. Point is: It would make a good item for the newsletter, especially if it were done as "response to reader interest." Not that I want the credit, but you could say that Uncle UNK wants to know what in the hell is your counter counting? And why?

Response: The counter was put in, years ago, in contrast to all other websites that were using counters. It was and is a joke. You now rarely see such counters; however, I'm keeping mine because the numbers are still pretty impressive . . . at least to me!

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



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8. Technology tip

Last week's issue mentioned one source for "deals" on the Internet that I use:

<http://deallocker.com/coupon/>

Marty D. in PA wrote and told me about:

<http://www.retailmenot.com/>

He said it "is pretty good. Some of the codes don't work, but I've picked up some good deals. Haven't encountered any spam/ phishing from it, but be sure to have up-to-date antivirus protection."

Kathy B. in FL had a similar opinion. She wrote and told me she uses the same website for Internet coupons, and that it's a "great source."

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9. Joke 3

A woman went to her doctor for a follow-up visit after the doctor had prescribed testosterone (a male hormone) for her. She was a little worried about some of the side effects she was experiencing and told him, "Doctor, the hormones you've been giving me

have really helped, but I'm afraid that you're giving me too much. I've started growing hair in places that I've never grown hair before." . . .The doctor reassured her. "A little hair growth is a perfectly normal side effect of testosterone. Just where has this hair appeared?" . . . "On my testicles."



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10. A quote I like

Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.--Oscar Wilde (1854-1900), Irish writer, poet and playwright

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11. Thought for the day

Nobody is born racist.



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1h9>

(1) AVENUE Q. (2) Professor Whizzpop. (3) Auditions for DOG SEES GOD. (4) A Taste of France. (5) FLAT ROCK PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS CATS.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1h9>

(1) Bucks Retiree Fall Get-Together. (2) Dance Against Dementia & Alzheimer's. (3) The Plumstead Historical Society. (4) Jim Roney. (5) Princeton Yoga. (6) 4th Kicks for Clots. (7) Gabrielle L. Strich, Esq. will talk about Wills, Trusts and More. (8) MAN OF LA MANCHA. (9) RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN SING.

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PS. "The Jewish people have observed their 5774 years as a people." the Hebrew teacher informed his class. "Consider that the Chinese have observed only their 4711th. What does this mean to you?" . . . After a reflective pause, one student volunteered, "Well for one thing, the Jews had to do without Chinese food for 1063 years." (If you're like me and celebrate all holidays 'cause you have more family, food and friends that way, Shanah Tovah . . . and don't forget to stop writing 5773 on your checks!)



Make it a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#884
9.2.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I spent a rare week apart . . . she stayed in Asheville, and I went "up North" for an In-Service meeting at Bucks County Community College . . . in addition, I saw my daughter Risa and son-in-law JP, my brother Ken and a whole bunch of friends . . . the only thing I didn't get to do was skydive . . . I had signed-up to do so, but cloudy weather prevented me from going up on three separate days.

What follows is a pictorial summary of most of what I did manage to do.

(1) Enjoyed "world famous" pizza at the Star Tavern in Orange, NJ with JP and Risa.

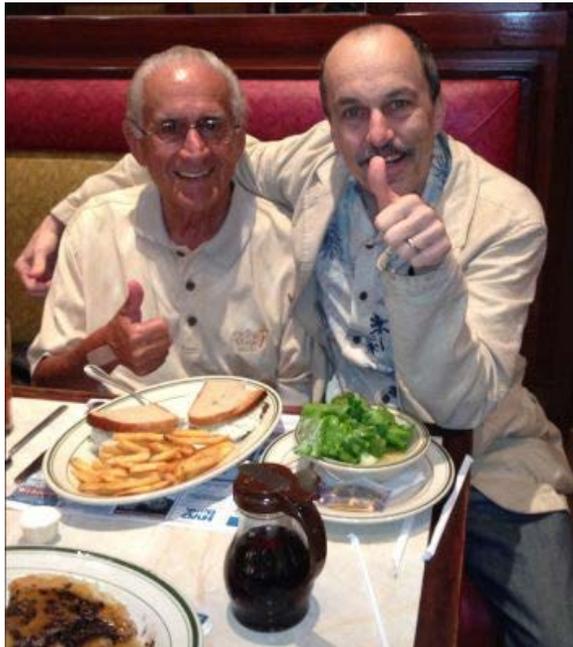


(2) Had pizza again, the very next day, with Herb Spiegel (my beautiful friend) and a bunch of his friends at the new location for De Lorenzo's Tomato Pies in Robbinsville, NJ . . . the pizza was as good as ever, though I miss the ambiance of the previous location . . . L-R: Jennifer Mellen, Herb Spiegel, Joanne Young, Blaine Greenfield and Damon Schmidt.



(3) Met Al Sternberg, my onetime college professor and longtime mentor, for great food at the Ewing Diner. And yes, that's my order of chocolate chip pancakes in the bottom left of the picture. They were sooooo delicious.

Note: A good diner is one of the few things that Asheville doesn't have. In fact, it doesn't have anything that might be even remotely comparable to any of the diners in New Jersey or Pennsylvania.



(4) Met Patricia Gallagher (see also Contest #42 in Section 1C) for tasty salads at Perkins Restaurant & Bakery in Warminster, PA.



(5) Met Jim Freeman for dinner at the Green Parrot in Newtown, PA.



(6) Had dinner at Poco's in Doylestown, PA with L-R: Joey Novick, Blaine Greenfield, Walt Wiesenhutter, Andy Scarpati and Rosalie Efthim.



From there, we went upstairs to Andy's Comedy Cabaret and had a blast at the show that featured not only Joey, but also Simplee Dee, Joe Six-pack "Sudsy," Cynthia Haskins and Amir Gollan. And Mike Thomas did a fine job as the MC.

(7) Met my onetime lawyer and longtime friend Hannan Isaacs for lunch at the Brick Farm Market in Hopewell, NJ.



(8) Discussed the Creativity course that I team teach with Caren Friedman (center) and Mary Bobbie over lunch at Moish and Itzy's Deli in Newtown, PA.

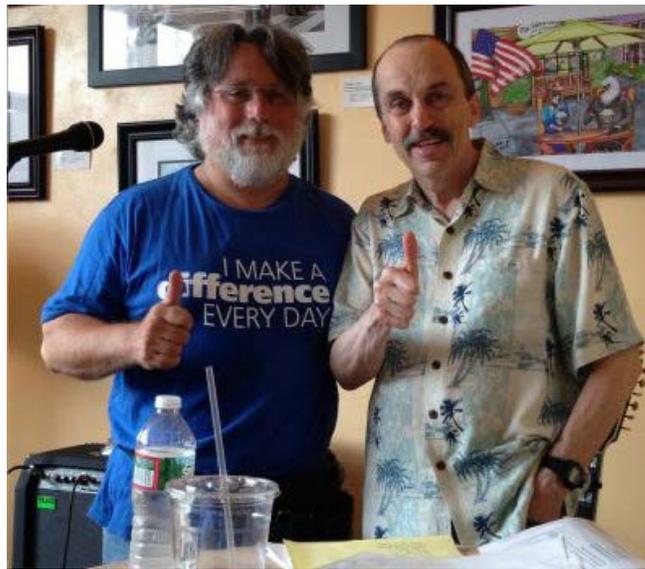


Note: That's another thing I miss in Asheville; i.e., not having a good Jewish-style deli. Moish and Itzy's is one of the best!

(9) Met Natalie Kaye and Ivan Winegar for dinner at the Black Horse Tavern in Newtown, PA. The food was disappointing, but we had a good time afterward listening to a group called Hearts Club Band perform songs by the Beatles.



(10) Had my semi-regular get together for former students and friends at the Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown, PA. The ice cream, as always, was excellent . . . and so was the singing/guitar-playing of John Strauss.



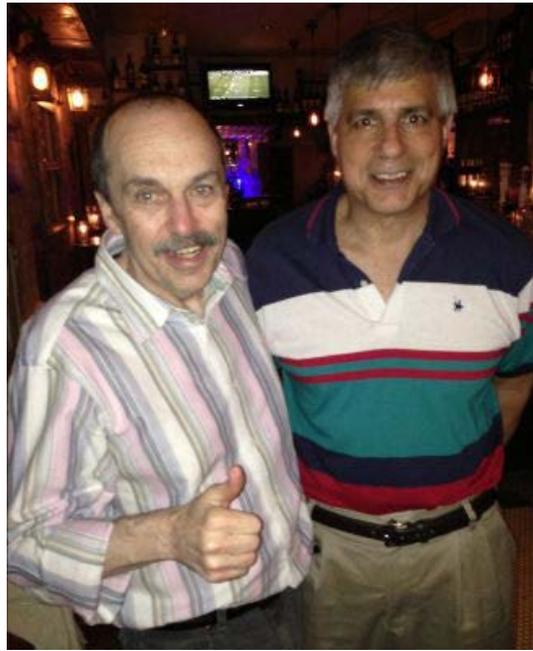
(11) Lastly, I went to New York City to see Chandler Smith in a delightful children's play called PIGGY NATION . . . he was great . . . for more information and/or tickets, please click:

<http://www.piggynationnyc.com/>

From there, we walked a few blocks to The New Theater at 45th Street where Chandler (center) works behind the scenes--along with Bradshaw Call--in the production of AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS. I then got to see that show, too, and thoroughly enjoyed it.



Next, we all went for dinner at La Carafe where we were joined by my brother and my friend (and former high school classmate) Lawrence Poster--pictured below.



(12) About the only thing I don't have a picture to show you involves my visit to Bucks County Playhouse where I saw THE TALE OF THE ALLERGIST'S WIFE. This was a very funny comedy, starring Marsha Mason and Marilu Henner. I also got a kick out of seeing David Garrison in the cast. He had once been in MARRIED WITH CHILDREN, one of my favorite TV shows from many years ago.

Note: Kudos to all those involved in the renovation of the Playhouse. When I last was there, it had seen better days--and closed shortly thereafter. So I was quite pleased to see that it has reopened and judging from the crowd on the Thursday night that I went, doing quite well.

B. A few readers wrote to tell me that they never received BLAINESWORLD #882.

Note: If you ever miss an issue, check your spam folder. Sometimes it goes there. Or if still can't find it, please let me know--and I'll send you a replacement copy.

Please also place both bginbc@aol.com and bginbc@gmail.com on your server's whitelist; i.e., to tell it that email from me is "approved" and should always go through.

Lastly, if you're a gmail user, please pay attention to this Computer Tip from BLAINESWORLD #881:

With the new inbox, this newsletter may get directed to your "Promotions" tab. To ensure you see every issue every week, please drag and drop this missive from the "Promotions" tab into the "Primary" tab. Click YES to: "Do this for future messages from bginbc@aol.com and from bginbc@gmail.com."

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Joe Guice for his work in the short film, THINGS THAT WE DON'T KNOW, that's coming out this fall. To see him in the trailer, please click:
<http://vimeo.com/73730759#>

(2) Karen and Steven Marinoff on the birth of Eva Grace, their first grandchild.

(3) BJ Leiderman for a great article (about him) in OUR STATE . . . to read it, please click:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10151793721277092&set=pcb.10151793721472092&type=1&theater>

(4) Jim Freeman on the publication of his new book, TEMPORARY ROSES DIPPED IN LIQUID GOLD . . . to pre-order a copy, please click:

https://finishinglinepress.com/advanced_search_result.php?keywords=temporary+roses&submit-button=Search&search_in_description=1

(5) Patti A. in PA, winner of Contest #40: a copy of the THE HYPNOSIS TREATMENT OPTION by Scott D. Lewis . . . all told, there were 7 entries . . . and that reminds me that

it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #42 *****

25 lucky winners will receive a copy of RAISING HAPPY KINDS ON A REASONABLE BUDGET by Patricia Gallagher. This book is loaded with advice from the experts (meaning parents just like you who are living on a budget and doing their best to make it stretch). It is perfect for parents, as well as grandparents, uncles and aunts, etc.

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<http://www.patriciausa.com/patricias-blog/15-blog/32-happy-flower-day-makes-the-news>

D. Condolences to Rod Richards and family on the passing of Rod's father.

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

This week, it goes to the person who developed this idea of wheelchair-platform swings. And to the playground in nearby Hendersonville for installing them. For more information, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/lrxlgxr>

Mr. Curious here: If anybody knows the name of the above person, kindly let me know. I'd like to give him/her appropriate credit.



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2. FYI

We have been using various dishwasher detergents and had become increasingly displeased with the results . . . dishes and eating utensils would often come out dirty, and we had to wash them again . . . we thought it might be the fault of our dishwasher; i.e., until we tried something new: Finish Powerball Tabs . . . the difference has been incredible . . . they even scrub away the toughest food residues.

CONSUMER REPORTS agrees with the above assessment . . . for more information, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/afctfdl>

Note: I'm laughing because as I finish this section, Cynthia has come into my office and noticing the large Finish box on my desk (that I had gotten at a discounted price from Sam's), she says it looks like a commercial for the product. We then started reading what I wrote and came to the conclusion that the only thing missing was a video camera to tape our efforts.

FYI, part 2

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1gD>

(1) Marty D. in PA. (2) Margie Z. in NC. (3) Doug H. in NC. (4) Pat L. in CA. (5) Laura B. in NC. (6) Marcie F. in PA. (7) Kevin J. in PA.

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3. Joke 1

My friend's wife was complaining the other day, saying that he never takes her anywhere expensive anymore. So he told her, "Come on, get in the car. We're going to the gas station."

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4. Reviews

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1gD>

A. YOU WILL BE MY SON. B. LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED. C. SIMPLE. (4) THE NEXT BEST THING.

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5. TV alert

A. LAST TANGO IN HALIFAX is the story about childhood friends who reunite after 60 years. According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "There's little that's simple in this busy blockbuster of a series, but there's nothing mysterious about the sources of its power--a high-hearted script awash in flinty wit and two extraordinary performances [from Anne Reid and Derek Jacobi]." Sundays at 8 p.m. on PBS. Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

B. Arsenio Hall returns to late night TV on THE ARSENIO HALL SHOW, starting on Monday, Sept. 9, at 11:05 p.m. in the Asheville area on WYCW. For a station and time near you, please click:

<http://www.arseniohall.com/watch/>

C. HERO DOGS OF 9/11 airs on Tuesday, Sept. 10, at 8 p.m. on ANIMAL PLANET. You'll learn that the dogs needed rubber boots to prevent the burning of the paws, and veterinarians on site to treat them for inflamed eyes and dehydration.

D. AMERICAN MASTERS: BILLY JEAN KING profiles the tennis legend. "At nearly 70, King is frank and funny as she reflects on her triumphs in sport and in the social revolutions of the women's- and gay-rights movements," notes TV GUIDE. "She's a game changer in every sense of the word." Tuesday, Sept. 10, at 9 p.m. on PBS. Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

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6. Joke 2

Got tasered picking up my friend from the airport today. Apparently, security doesn't like it when you shout, "Hi, Jack!"

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7. Websites

A. Werner Herzog directs a documentary about texting and driving. (It's very moving!)

"From One Second To The Next" Documentary - It Can Wait

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_BqFkRwdFZ0&feature=player_embedded#t=20

For an accompanying article about the above, please click:

http://www.benningtonbanner.com/ci_23924073/werner-herzog-directs-documentary-about-texting-and-driving

B. Ed B. in NC: Will bring a tear to your eye . . . sweet!

A letter from Fred

<http://vimeo.com/70426141>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you don't know the YOMBER Principle, methinks you'll find something that's very helpful to use . . . to read an article I wrote on the subject, click Consulting to the left and then Article Samples.

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

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8. Technology tip

Before you finish ordering something online, do an Internet search to see if there is either a "discount code" or "discount coupon" for what you are intending to purchase . . . you very often can find something that will save you a few more bucks and/or get some free item with your purchase . . . for example, I recently saved \$2 from an order of protein bars from Supplement Warehouse by clicking:

<http://deallocker.com/coupon/supplementwarehouse.com/>

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9. Joke 3

Two guys were discussing their past sex lives. Bill said, "I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?" . . . Larry replied, "I'm not sure, what was her maiden name?"

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10. A quote I like

"To guarantee success, act as if it were impossible to fail."--Dorothea Brande

(1893-1948), well-respected writer and editor

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11. Thought for the day

How Long Should a Hug Last?

by Christopher Shea

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (September 8, 2013)

The hug that lasts an awkward half-moment too long is a societal malaise. But who's to say how long is too long?

Social scientists. (Did you think it was a rhetorical question?) A researcher in Britain examined 128 hugs involving athletes at the 2008 Summer Games, and derived some conclusions about the human embrace.

For the answer, please click:

<http://blogs.wsj.com/ideas-market/2011/02/01/how-long-should-a-hug-last/>

And for a beautiful clip on the same topic, please click:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7UK4PifZV0>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1gD>

(1) Come Home to Yourself Through Movement. (2) Jeff Thompson Trio.

B. PA/NJ events

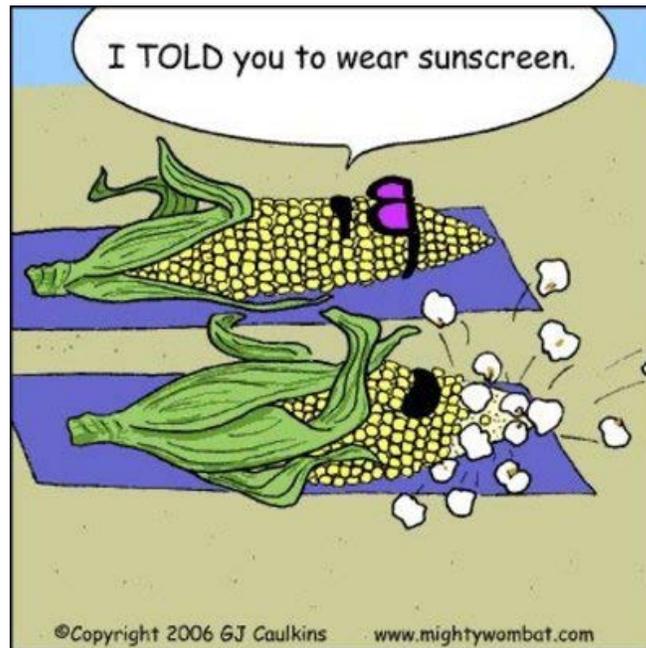
To read about each of the following events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1gD>

(1) DANCE AGAINST DEMENTIA & ALZHEIMER'S. (2) Encore run of MAN OF LA MANCHA.
(3) Special comedy shows coming.

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PS. Please heed this corny advice for Labor Day that has a kernel of truth to it!



And make it a great rest of the week, too!

Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#883
8.26.2013

In this issue

1. Reflections
2. FYI
3. Joke 1
4. Joke 2
5. Joke 3
6. A quote I like
7. Thought for the day

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

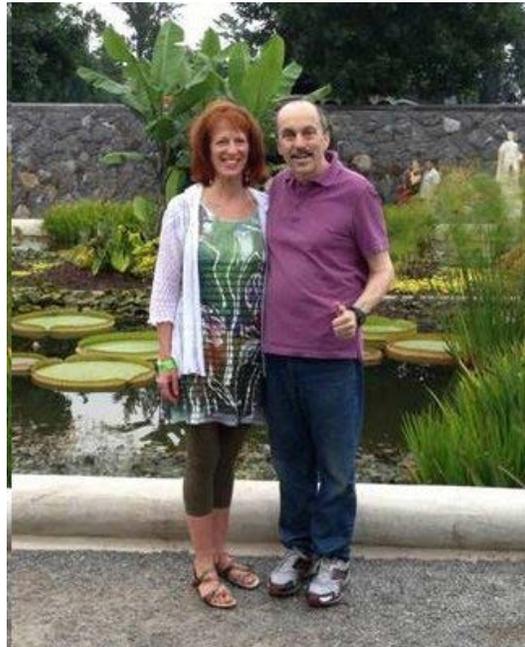
(1) Had a blast at the Four Tops/Temptations concert at the Biltmore Estate. That's us on the grounds before the show and, also, yours truly (with the Four Tops in the background).

To give you an idea of just some of the songs we heard, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ndnINyBPRU>

or:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltRwmgYEUr8>





(2) Saw Liz Aiello (center) in GERSHWIN WITH A TWIST, SART's last performance of the 2013 season. She was fantastic, as always, as was her co-star Brian Gurl. My only regret is that you won't be able to see it this time around because it has ended its limited run, but to give you a flavor of what you missed, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=luERVvYOPVA&feature=youtu.be>

And to find out more about future Gurl and Girl Productions, please click:

<http://gurlandgirlproductions.com/>



B. On another evening, I had the pleasure of joining my former student (and now friend) Glenn Burd for an excellent dinner at Vinnie's.



L-r: Julian Burd, Margo Greb, Jessica Burd, Glenn Burd and yours truly.

For more information about Vinnie's, our favorite Italian restaurant in the area, please click:

<http://www.vinniesitalian.com/>

C. Sorry for the lateness of this issue, but two things happened that made it impossible for

me to get it to you earlier.

(1) I'm in the process of upgrading my computer from Windows XP to Windows 7. Consequently, I don't even have use of my regular desktop and am trying to get it to you via my laptop.

(2) I'm also "up North," finishing a fantastic visit to see my daughter and brother, as well as lots of friends. Both details and pictures to follow in next week's missive.

Note: Any regular BLAINESWORLD sections not included this week will resume next week.

D. Reminder . . .

***** CONTEST #41 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of THE HYPNOSIS TREATMENT OPTION: PROVEN SOLUTIONS FOR PAIN, INSOMNIA, STRESS, OBESITY, AND OTHER COMMENT HEALTH PROBLEMS by Scott D. Lewis . . . according to Dr. Nita Rastogi, assistant professor, Hershey Medical Center, [It is] "beneficial not only for laypeople but also for clinicians who deal with these common health issues daily with their patients." . . . I've read this book, and I agree!

To enter: Put "CONTEST #41" 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 the extended deadline of Thursday, September 5.

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

This week, it goes to Anthony Cymerys. (See below.)

Update on this amazing guy: He was evicted from the park by health officials, but the mayor granted him a special dispensation. To read more, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/mwxv2sd>

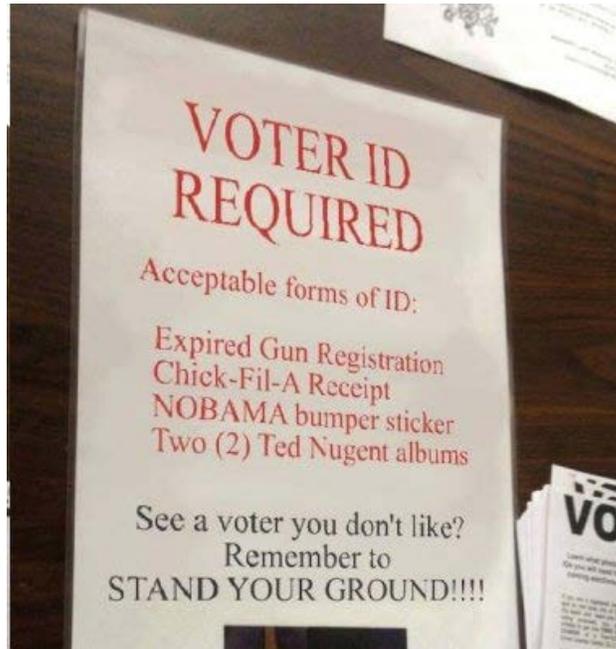


Anthony Cymerys is a barber. He's 82 years old. Every Wednesday, he brings his chair, his clippers, and a car battery to power the clippers to a local park in Hartford. He then gives haircuts to the homeless. He doesn't charge them a dime. All they have to do is give him a hug.

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2. FYI

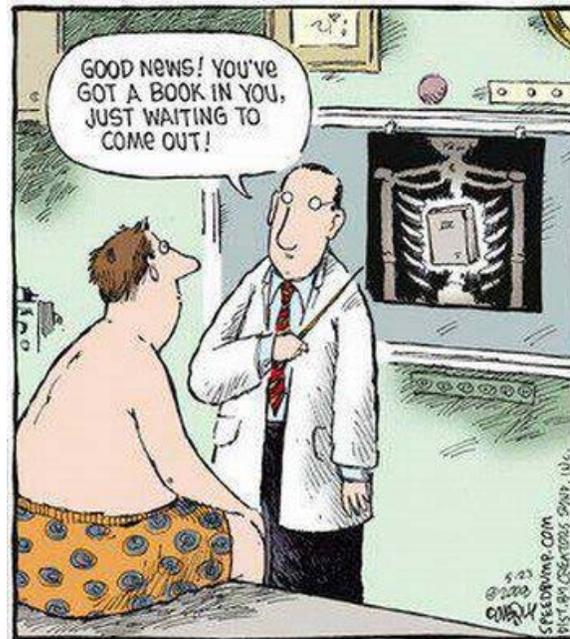
The new NC Voter ID Bill means I'm going to be in trouble when it comes to voting in the next election.



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3. Joke 1

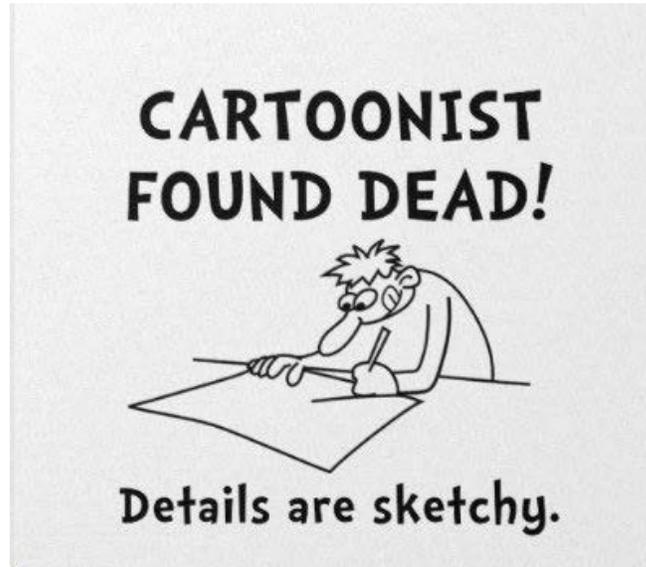
Bad news: You now know how unstylish I look in my boxers!



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4. Joke 2

Sorry to be the bearer of sad tidings . . .



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5. Joke 3

Methinks this is a lot of crop!



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6. A quote I like

How others see you is not important. How you see yourself means everything.



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7. Thought for the day

Good advice. I'd write more of a comment, but I have to get up now.



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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#882
8.19.2013

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11. Thought for the day
12. Advance planning department

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I, love dining out in Asheville. There are so many good restaurants here. Over the past several weeks, we have enjoyed meals at:

(1) Frankie Bones with Marcy and Tom Gallagher. For more information, please click:
<http://fbdining.com/>



(2) Home Grown. For more information, please click:
<http://www.slowfoodrightquick.com/>



(3) Carmel's with Tammy Strange, the birthday girl, on the left in the front row, as well as

with Muffie and Terry Boswell. For more information, please click:
<http://www.carmelsofasheville.com/>



(4) Oriental Pavilion. That's us pictured with Alex Pasaribu, one of our favorite local servers. For more information, please click:
<http://orientalpavilion.com/contents.aspx?menuId=1>



Please Help Department: I'm still getting the hang of my new iPhone 5 camera. Any suggestions on how to take better pictures when part of what you are shooting; e.g., to avoid the long arm "look" above?

B. Reminders:

(1) Do plan to come to the final SART production of the season. It should be a blast. See below for more information.



Note: If you can't read the number to call for tickets, it is 828.689.1239. Or feel free to just stop by and purchase them at the box office.

(2) I'm slated to be "up North" from August 26-September 2 and will be staying in the Bucks County area. One place I know I'll be at: Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown, PA, on Saturday, Aug. 31 from 2-4 p.m. Stop by to say "hello" and get some of that store's oh-so-tasty ice cream and/or chocolate. An added "plus" will be John Strauss (pictured below) playing his guitar. If you can't make it then, if interested, contact me about the possibility of getting together some other time.



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Michael Hennessey for having his article, "Cost of community college education keeps going up," published. You can read it by clicking:

http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/the_intelligencer_news/opinion/guest/cost-of-community-college-education-keeps-going-up/article_aebb3e27-56f6-53e7-ad24-2655ee2b04d7.html

(2) Josh Collier on his marriage to Hilary Strasburger.

(3) Tom Sofield on having his LEVITTOWN NOW placed on Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick's

social media image.

(4) Carole Stiller on her recent radio interview . . . it was very informative . . . to listen to it, starting at 8 minute mark, please click:

<http://prn.fm/2013/08/15/all-together-now-081513/>

(5) Joe B. in PA, winner of Contest #40: a copy of THIS IS HOW TO GET YOUR NEXT JOB: AN INSIDE LOOK AT WHAT EMPLOYERS REALLY WANT by Andrea Kay. All told, there were 8 entries . . . and that reminds me, it's now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #41 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of THE HYPNOSIS TREATMENT OPTION: PROVEN SOLUTIONS FOR PAIN, INSOMNIA, STRESS, OBESITY, AND OTHER COMMENT HEALTH PROBLEMS by Scott D. Lewis . . . according to Dr. Nita Rastogi, assistant professor, Hershey Medical Center, [It is] "beneficial not only for laypeople but also for clinicians who deal with these common health issues daily with their patients." . . . I've read this book, and I agree!

To enter: Put "CONTEST #41" 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 Sunday, September 1.

D. Correction: Last week, I ran this tidbit that contained a typo; i.e., the number for my street address. Sorry 'bout that. The correct information follows:

***** SPECIAL OFFER *****

If you'd like your very own left- and right-handed pencils, send me a postpaid envelope (6" x 9" or larger) with \$2 worth of stamps on the front and your address. Mail this envelope to me: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

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

This week, it goes to Susan Reinhardt--one of the few reasons that I've kept my subscription to the CITIZEN-TIMES.

She had been a columnist with the paper for 27 years, and her pieces were always informative. They also, quite frequently, put a smile on my face.

She was recently laid off. I was very upset by the fact, as were many others as evidenced by the many Facebook posts on the subject. Here's something that I wrote to her former paper that was just published in its Report Card section:

F to the CITIZEN-TIMES for laying off Susan Reinhardt. Her column was one of my favorite things about your paper, and one of the reasons I have kept my subscription. If she is no longer part of your paper, I will have to reconsider how much longer I will stay as a reader. I'm sure that others--make that many others--feel the same way.

Blaine Greenfield, Biltmore Lake

Susan, when not reporting, also has managed to find the time to write five books. Her latest novel, CHIMES FROM A CRACKED SOUTHER BELL, is racing up the Amazon chart and is now #10 in humorous fiction. To purchase a copy from a local independent retailer, please click:

<http://gratefulsteps.org/rapidcart/index.html>

She also does a fantastic Sarah Palin impersonation. You can view it by scrolling down her website:

<http://www.susanreinhardt.com/>

Note: I didn't know when I wrote this that another of my favorites from the paper, Jason Sandford, got a similar notice--or I would have also added him. The result of getting rid of both these talented staffers, as well as several others with the CITIZEN-TIMES: Less readers and, consequently, even less advertising.

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2. FYI

My excellent physician, Dr. Michael Weizman, gives me (and all his patients) the option to

get bloodwork done a week before getting a physical. This makes sense, in that I can then discuss the results with him when I have my regular appointment--rather than having them sent to me a week later with no discussion.

I also like the fact that I now get my results emailed to me via a secure portal message system. so there's no longer a delay in having to wait for mail to arrive.

For more information about this practice, which was recently named "Best of Western NC" by MOUNTAIN EXPRESS, please click:

<http://www.ourfamilydoctorasheville.com/>

Note: I'm pleased to report that my labs "look great," according to Dr. Weizman. And just about all results went down from the previous year: Total cholesterol, 209; Triglycerides, 53; LDL (bad cholesterol), 53; and HDL (good cholesterol), 67. In addition, I intentionally lost some weight, which means that at 146 I'm just a few pounds heavier than my college days.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Natalie K. in PA: Jessie Barth, leading a Rogers and Hammerstein Singalong

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gu8A4gr_np4&feature=player_embedded

Note: You can participate in this event with Jessie on October 6. See Section 12B for details.

(2) How not to run the bases (see clip that's part of article)

http://www.sportingnews.com/mlb/story/2013-08-21/max-stassi-astros-debut-hidden-ball-trick-caught-off-second-rangers?icid=maing-grid7%7Chtmlws-main-bb%7Cdl13%7Csec1_Ink3%26pLid%3D361375

(3) Walter B. in NC: Magic Beard

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=zEYCPc9P-Q0#t=50

(4) Don't You Remember - Adele cover - Rachel Rizzuti

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=PTpJVTS4qPM

(5) Terry V. in NC: Boyle tries out Moffitt's 'joke' on the streets of Asheville

<http://www.citizen-times.com/VideoNetwork/2613830267001/Boyle-tries-out-Moffitt-s-joke-on-the-streets-of-Asheville>

(6) Tom H. in NC: The Simplest, Most Brilliant Way to Save Gas That I Have Ever Seen

<http://www.upworthy.com/the-simplest-most-brilliant-way-to-save-gas-that-i-have-ever-seen-2>

(7) BJ Leiderman Plays NPR's Science Friday Theme Song

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hv-jDXUZmP8>

(8) Jacob Lawrence Walas: Oh, you know...just killing Hungry Eyes at the Dirty Dancing Festival with Fleming

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10200542401947845&set=vb.1392270099&type=2&theater>

(9) Jeff S. in PA:

Jeff S. in PA: Marine guy surprises his brother at basketball training.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=136176783216816&set=vb.109225325911962&type=2&theater>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1fP>

(1) Terry B. in FL. (2) Steve G. in PA. (3) Lori H. in PA. (4) Colleen D. in PA. (5) Joe B. in PA. (6) Walter W. in PA. (7) Barb B. in NC. (8) Robin S. in PA. (9) Henry W. in NY. (10) Ken G. in NY. (11) Jim M. in NC. (12) Steve T. in PA. (13) Kandi D. in IA. (14) Marty S. in PA. (15) Natalie K in PA. (16) Is there danger lurking in your lipstick? (17) Hillary Z. in NJ.

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3. Joke 1

Customer: I'd like to try that dress in the window.

Salesperson: I'm sorry, madam. You'll have to use the fitting room like everyone else.



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4. Reviews

To read each of the following reviews, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1fP>

- (1) BLUE JASMINE
- (2) THE GREAT GATSBY
- (3) HOW I CREATED A DOLLAR OUT OF THIN AIR
- (4) THE FIVE TEMPTATIONS OF A CEO: A LEADERSHIP FABLE

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5. TV alert

A. THE SECRET LIFE OF DOGS is filled with data about the bodies of dogs, reasons dogs drink water the way they do and their extraordinary capacity to serve humans. I've heard that the latter part is especially moving. Sunday at 9 p.m. on NAT GEO WILD.

B. GLICKMAN, a documentary on sportscaster Marty Glickman, "is no ordinary work of tribute," according to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. "What stands out is the extraordinarily intense feelings of love and regards that emerge in these commentaries." Monday, Aug. 26 at 9 p.m. on HBO.

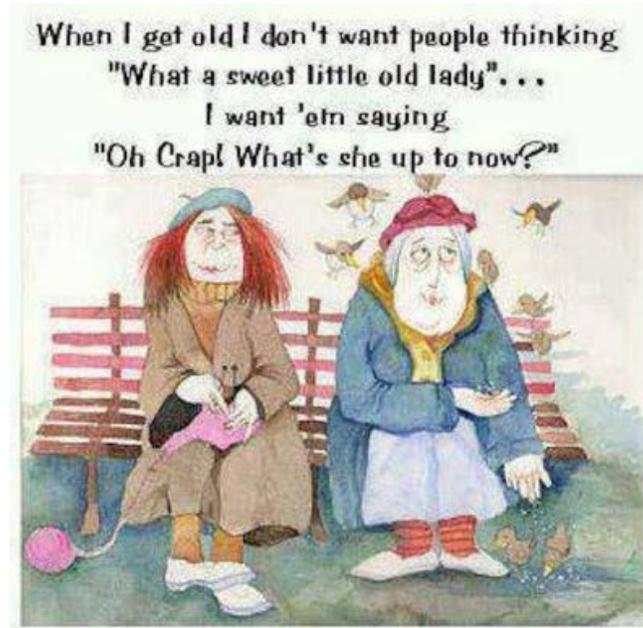
C. SEVEN DAYS IN MAY stars Burt Lancaster as General James M. Scott who, is convinced that liberal President Jordan Lyman (Fredric March) is soft on America's enemies, and so he plots a military takeover of the United States. It's a gripping political tale that also stars Kirk Douglas, Ava Gardner, Edmond O'Brien and Martin Balsam. Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 6 p.m. on TCM.

D. NINE FOR IX-- BRANDED explores the double standard placed on women athletes to be the best players on the field and the sexiest off them Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 8 p.m. on ESPN.

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6. Joke 2

I'm not even old, and this is what folks already say about me!



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7. Websites

A. Thinking of moving to Asheville or anywhere else for that matter, then definitely check out the following:

Cost of living calculator/comparison

<http://money.cnn.com/calculator/pf/cost-of-living/>

B. One-handed Zach Hodskins is one of the most amazing basketball players I have ever seen. To see for yourself, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0kEyJ-tToo>

And an article (and another clip) about the fact that he was offered a spot by Florida coach Billy Donovan as a preferred walk-on, please click:

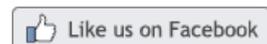
http://espn.go.com/mens-college-basketball/story/_id/9572836/zach-hodskins-one-handed-basketball-prospect-offer-florida-gators-report

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

If you've never been here before and want to find out what it's all about, view the box at the very top of this homepage.

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



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8. Technology tip

The change: As you can see, I've renamed this section "Technology Tip" (instead of "Computer tip"). Doing so will enable me to not only cover computer tips here, but also such other topics as the one that follows dealing with cellphones. I hope you'll be pleased.

The useful tip: Speech recognition has made using my cellphone so much easier. In fact,

as many of y'all know, I no longer mind texting.

David Pogue, the informative columnist for THE NEW YORK TIMES, wrote an interesting article recently on "The Voice-Off: Android vs. Siri."

His bottom line, to quote from the article: "This much is clear: Cellphone speech recognition is getting better fast. Very soon, we'll do less talking through our phones-- and more talking to them.

To read the whole article, as well as to see a brief video clip, please click:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/22/technology/personaltech/android-vs-siri-the-voice-recognition-sequel.html?pagewanted=2&ref=general&src=me>

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9. Joke 3

A 7-11 manager had a big problem with teenagers hanging out in front of her store. They were often unruly, and the loud music they blasted on their boomboxes chased regular customers away. Then she came up with the solution. . . . She had two speakers wired to the front of the store and started playing elevator music whenever the teenagers came around. They couldn't stand it and soon started hanging out on the next block!

To see why this worked, find some nearby teenager and check out this music on him or her:

<http://tinyurl.com/6jmu5un>.



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10. A quote I like

"You can't control the wind, but you can adjust your sails."--Yiddish proverb



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11. Thought for the day

Volunteers form a human wall to guide baby turtles to the sea. I'm just grateful that these turtles will now have a chance at survival, especially given the fact that we humans are the ones who messed up their world!



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1fP>

(1) Alison Young in upcoming opera production. (2) A FEW GOOD MEN. (3) Volunteer at

State Fair. (4) CATS at Flat Rock Playhouse. (6) Jeff Thompson Band. (6) HAMLET.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1fP>

(1) ROGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN SING! (2) Charlotte Schatz exhibit. (3) Do You Know Drones?

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

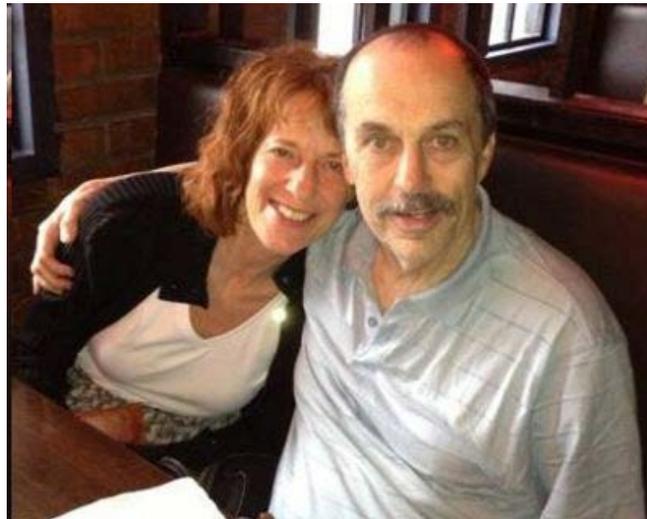
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12. Advance planning department

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I went for our first time to Green Tea Sushi & Japanese Restaurant . . . my Chicken Teriyaki was excellent, and Cynthia felt the same way about her Hibachi Shrimp . . . we also received fine service from Amanda, and we do plan to return . . . for more information, please click:
<http://www.greenteasushi.com/>



B. A few night later, Cynthia had a fun time at the Community Choreography Projects DVD Presentation and Fundraiser.



L-R: Kathy Edwards, Cynthia Greenfield and Tiffany Hall.

C. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend the above because that was also the evening when I had SART's end-of-year cast and crew party at Jack of Hearts in Weaverville. It was a big success, largely because of Janet Hart's efforts in planning the event.



The Blues Crew did a great job with the entertainment. L-R: Ed Chandler, Wally Sturgis and Andrew Hart. Not pictured (in the back): Mike Garvin. For more information, please click:

<http://www.reverbNation.com/BluesCrew>



Richard Seagle (center on stage), production manager, received the well-deserved

"Above and Beyond Award."



And I was glad that friends Marvin Sadovsky and Annamarie Brown, among others, were able to stop by.

D. In addition, I got to attend BLYTHE SPIRIT--SART's last regular play of the 2013 season.



It received a thumbs up rating from me, pictured above with Melanie Morton who was just great in the play. So was the entire rest of the cast: Suzanna Ziko, Randy Noojin, Lyn Nihart April J'Callahan Marshall, Kay Galvin and Beverly Todd. Kudos to Julie Richardson, too, for her direction.

Mary, a neighbor and friend, also liked the show. Here's what she had to say about it: "Excellent. The cast at SART did a fine job with this British script. Their pacing was perfect, and their accents were just enough to make you realize they were British without being overdone. Each of the two acts was 75 minutes but went quickly and you didn't feel squirmy. The second act had lots of surprises, typical of the British writers of the time, and it just flowed along smoothly. Well worth seeing. Also, I liked how the stage crew arranged surprises with the scenery at the close of the play."

BLITHE SPIRIT runs through August 18. For dates and tickets, please click: www.sartplays.org

Note: SART is having a special added event, GERSHWIN WITH A TWIST, on Aug. 23 and 25. For more information, please see Section 12A (below).

E. During the week, I got to participate with Walt and Carole Currie and several thousand folks in an event in downtown Asheville known as Mountain Moral Monday. This was a non-partisan event that highlighted the abuse of power and cruel policies coming out of the NC statehouse. For more information on what's happening that is starting to be noticed by the rest of the nation:

(1) Catch what Bill Maher had to say:

<http://tinyurl.com/lzervfa>

(2) Read the following editorial:

<http://tinyurl.com/lcdlv86>



One of the highlights of this particular event was getting to hear my friend Terry Van Duyn dazzle the crowd with her remarks. To listen to them, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ol6HXXH8mPY>

On another day, I spoke about marketing to the to the NC Senior Center Leadership Symposium.



L-R: Judy Smith, Blaine Greenfield and Janice Tyler.

Question: Judy and Janice are holding left- and right-handed pencils. To those who have never attended one of my seminars or classes: Do you know the difference between the two?

***** SPECIAL OFFER *****

If you'd like your very own left- and right-handed pencils, send me a postpaid envelope (6" x 9" or larger) with \$2 worth of stamps on the front and your address. Mail this envelope to me: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

Lastly, I enjoyed having lunch with Herb Spiegel, my beautiful friend from New Jersey, at West First Wood-Fired Pizza in Hendersonville. The best part: I even won a buck when I took his dare to go up to a big guy wearing a Yankee T-shirt and tell him, "The pizza is much better at Fenway Park [home of Herb's beloved Red Sox]!" Fortunately, the guy

laughed.



F. Congratulations to:

(1) Kelli Brown Mullinix on the opening of Ms. Kelli's Studio of Music, a Voice, Acting, Beginning Piano and Pageantry Studio. For more information, please click:

<http://www.facebook.com/MsKelliStudio>

(2) Asheville for being featured in the HuffPost Travel blog for its many fine restaurants. To read the entry, please click:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/margie-goldsmith/eating-my-way-through-ash_b_3667931.html

(3) Hayley Roper Wells and Sarah Benoit for both being named to the Greater Asheville Area 40 Under Forty Class of 2013.

(4) Chris Funk for her knitted items winning 2 first place ribbons and 2 second place ribbons at her local Grange Fair.

(5) Malik Lanceberg on his recent engagement.

(6) Mars Hill University on its change of name (from Mars Hill College).

(7) Chuck Fink and Jerita Wright on being named to the SART Board of Directors.

(8) Jeremy Jordan on being named Asst. Soccer Coach at UNCA.

(9) Edie Weinstein on becoming a Huffington Post blogger. To read a recent entry, please click:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/edie-weinstein/life-questions_b_3768496.html

(10) Greg and Ashley Garrison on celebrating their 5th year anniversary as owners of The Hop Ice Cream (and to The Hop for its overall 35th birthday).

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

I'm blessed to live in an area where there are so many talented individuals--many of whom I consider friends of mine. This week, I'm pleased to recognize the following folks I personally know who were recently named as part of WNC's Best listings by MOUNTAIN XPRESS: John Boyle, Van Duncan, Alan Dunlap, Charlie Flynn-McIver, Ken Hanke, Tracy Johnston-Crum, Dr. Meredith Polansky, Professor Whizzpop (Tom Hughes), Eric Scheffer, Don Talley, Jeff Thompson, Scott Treadway and Oscar Wong.

In addition, the paper also recognized many organizations and/or companies that I personally like. Among them: Ambiance Interiors, Asheville Community Theatre, Asheville SCORE, Asheville Wine Market, Brother Wolf Animal Rescue, CVS, Flat Rock Playhouse, Haywood Arts Regional Theatre, The Hop Ice Cream Cafe, Ingles, Kilwin's, Lazoom Tours, Mission Hospital, Mountain View Tire & Service, The Never Blue, North Carolina Stage Company, Oriental Pavilion, Our Family Doctor, Strada Asheville, Terminix, Vinnie's, Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, Wasabi, Wall Street Garage and White Horse Black Mountain.

Lastly, kudos to MOUNTAIN XPRESS for not only running this program each year . . . but also for being my favorite weekly publication in the area!

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2. FYI

Two delicious desserts at the aforementioned SART end-of-season party were prepared by Patty Higgins and Vicki Sorenson. Both were gracious enough to share them with me for BLAINESWORLD readers.

To read the following recipes, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1f9>

A. Strawberry Cheesecake Trifle

B. Jam Sandwich Cookies

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Doug H. in NC: Heart - Stairway to Heaven Led Zeppelin - Kennedy Center Honors

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JK_DOJa99oo

(2) Christina Bianco Diva Impressions 'Total Eclipse Of The Heart'

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3DIDPeurRw#at=31>

(3) Robin Thicke - Blurred Lines

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyDUC1LUXSU>

(4) "Blurred Lines" PARODY

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3twwafch4g>

(5) Four Tops: I can't help myself

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dhqJG4qSu0>

(6) Kendra A. in NJ: Diana Ross - Theme From Mahogany

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=12txngwMyA#at=62

(7) Carole B. in NC: And God made a dog

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=285495831594492&set=vb.253525244784808&type=2&theater>

(8) Kathy R. in CT: Best use of a billboard I have ever seen

<http://www.upworthy.com/omg-best-use-of-a-billboard-i-have-ever-seen>

(9) Rachel Rizzuti added a new video: "Rachel Rizzuti - Columbia Update!"

<http://www.reverbnation.com/c./poni/219592997>

(10) Jeff S. in PA: The new Charlie Hustle

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=1398227410392609&set=vb.405710912800319&type=2&theater>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=1398227410392609&set=vb.405710912800319&type=2&theater>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1f9>

(1) Ange in PA. (2) Marcie F. in PA. (3) Elaine B. in PA. (4) Colleen D. in PA. (5) Win H. in NJ. (6) Mary C. in NC. (7) Kim and Bob H. in NC. (8) Dewitt R. in NC. (9) Seth W. in PA. (10) Howard D. in FL.

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3. Joke 1

As a debate arose over a question in our literature class, my professor turned to his iPhone. Scrolling through the search results, he wondered aloud, "What did professors do before Wikipedia?"

A fellow student shouted out, "Know things."

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4. Reviews

To read the following reviews, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1f9>

A. LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER (a film not to be missed!)

B. THE SAPPHIRES

C. THE ANTIDOTE: HAPPINESS FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN'T STAND POSITIVE THINKING (Canongate Books) by Oliver Burkeman

D. BALANCE: A STORY OF FAITH, FAMILY AND LIFE ON THE LINE (Hachette Audio), written by Nik Wallenda with David Ritz and read by Steve Gibbons

E. Reminder . . .

***** CONTEST #40 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of THIS IS HOW TO GET YOUR NEXT JOB: AN INSIDE LOOK AT WHAT EMPLOYERS REALLY WANT by Andrea Kay . . . according to LIBRARY JOURNAL, "Job hunters will want to refer to Kay for solid guidance, particularly concerning interviewing. VERDICT: A concise, handy advice guide that can help job seekers everywhere."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #40 in the subject 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 Sunday, August 18.

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5. TV alert

A. BROADCHURCH answers the question, "Who killed Danny Latmimer?" . . . he was an 11-year-old murdered in a sunny British seaside village. According to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, "I can't recall a mystery series that moved me as frequently and profoundly as this masterful study of poisonous suspicion." Wednesdays at 10 p.m. on BBC AMERICA.

B. CLEAR HISTORY, both written by Larry David and starring him, is about the steps a loser takes to wipe his billion-dollar belly flop from the world's memory . . . THE NEW YORK TIMES calls it "a memorable comedy about a man trying to be forgotten." Sunday at 1:45 on HBO; repeated on Monday, Aug. 19 at 1 a.m.

C. NINE FOR IX--THE '99ERS takes a look at the 1999 U.S. Women's World Cup champions and the event's lasting impact on soccer and women's sports. Tuesday, Aug. 20 at ESPN.

D. When a business magnate dies, his board of directors fights over who should run the company in EXECUTIVE SUITE. There's a great cast including William Holden, June Allyson, Barbara Stanwyck, Fredric March and Walter Pidgeon. Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 11:30 a.m. on TCM.

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6. Joke 2

I can relate--but please don't tell Cynthia that's what I said!



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7. Websites

A. Theresa P. in NC: Smartphone pictures pose privacy risks
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2vARzvWxwY>

B. NPR Composer BJ Leiderman - "History 911"

<http://bjleiderman.buzznet.com/user/video/3745351/npr-composer-bj-leiderman-history/>

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

If you've ever wondered how many other folks have looked at this website, please see the counter in the bottom left of the above homepage. Prepare to be amazed!

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



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8. Computer tip

If you use gmail to get BLAINESWORLD and/or anything else, please note:

With the new inbox, this newsletter may get directed to your "Promotions" tab. To ensure you see every issue every week, please drag and drop this missive from the "Promotions" tab into the "Primary" tab. Click YES to: "Do this for future messages from bginbc@aol.com."

Note: Sometimes, the newsletter is also sent out from bginbc@gmail.com, so if that happens, please do the same for that too.

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9. Joke 3

Just released: New updates of old definitions

Jury (joor-ee)

n. Twelve persons chosen to decide who has the better lawyer.

Opera (op-ruh)

n. When a guy gets stabbed in the back and, instead of bleeding, he sings.

Vegetarian (vej-i-tair-ee-uhn)
n. An old Indian word meaning "lousy hunter."

Yoga (yoh-guh)
n. A Sansrit word that means "Heal your back without health insurance."

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10. A quote I like

"Vrai ou faux, ce qu'on dit des hommes tient souvent autant de place dans leur vie et souvent dans leur destinée que ce qu'ils font."--Victor Hugo in LES MISERABLES, his classic novel

Translated: "Be it true or false, what is said about men often has as much influence upon their lives, and especially upon their destinies, as what they do."

Remember to speak kindly of one another. Our words matter; they not only influence perceptions of others, but affect how others perceive us. A gentle spirit is its own character recommendation.--Alison Young, SART person

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11. Thought for the day

A wise physician said, "The best medicine for humans is LOVE." . . . Someone asked, "What if it doesn't work?" . . . He smiled and answered, "Increase the dose."



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) We're going with friends to see the Temptations and The Four Tops on the South Terrace at Biltmore Estate on Friday, August 23 at 8 p.m. Our tickets are in the front reserved section.

Unfortunately, two of our group can't make it . . . I mention that in case any readers would be interested in purchasing those tickets and joining us. The price is what our friends paid for the tickets; i.e., \$150--or best offer. If interested in purchasing them, call Marcy at 828.989.5423.

(2) Do plan to come to the final SART production of the season. It should be a blast. See below for more information.



Note: If you can't read the number to call for tickets, it is 828.689.1239.

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1f9>

(3) Womansong variety show. (4) Movement Theatre Workshop. (5) The Chuck Beattie Duo. (6) Asheville Wine & Food Festival. (7) Cornel West to speak at UNC Asheville. (8) Chuck Fink course, "Quiet on the Seat: Four Classic Actors From the Classic Silent Film Era."

B. PA/NJ events

(1) I'm slated to be "up North" from August 26-September 2 and will be staying in the Bucks County area. One place I know I'll be at: Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown, PA, on Saturday, Aug. 31 from 2-4 p.m. Stop by to say "hello" and get some of that store's oh-so-tasty ice cream and/or chocolate. An added "plus" will be John Strauss playing his guitar. If you can't make it then, if interested, contact me about the possibility of getting together some other time.

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1f9>

(2) BBQ & Fish Fry. (3) Fly & Ride event.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#880
8.5.2013

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Note: Space limitations have made it necessary to shorten or eliminate some sections this week. They will return in BLAINESWORLD #881.

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

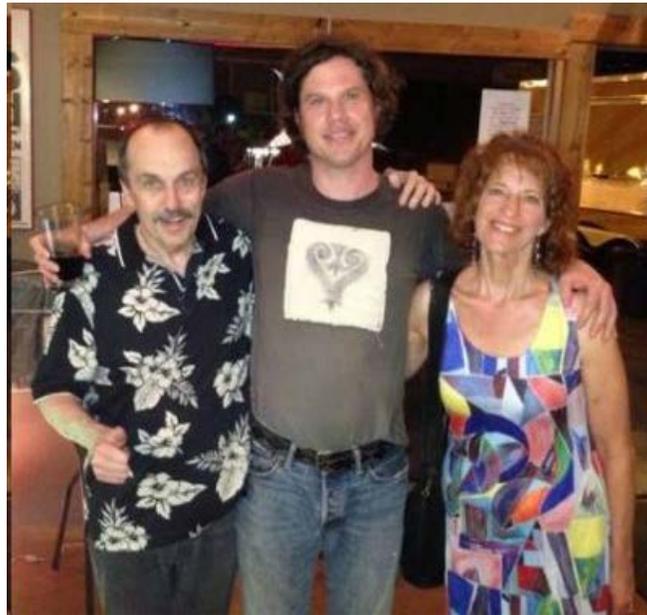
(1) Had fun dining with a bunch of friends at the Black Mountain Bistro . . . the food was excellent, as was the conversation . . . for more information about this eatery, please click:

<http://www.blackmountainbistro.com/>



L-R: Bill Gregg, David Graham, Tiffany Hall, Layne Cutright, Paul Cutright, Carole Biro, Brian Biro, Tom Gallagher, Marcy Gallagher, Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield (partially obstructed), Annamarie Brown, Marvin Sadovsky and Liz Aiello.

(2) From there, we all went to White Horse Black Mountain to see a fantastic concert event honoring the life and music of George Harrison. We saw many talented performers, including BJ Leiderman, Zuzu Welsh, Kat Williams, Liz Aiello and Jeff Thompson, who devoted their time to help raise several thousand dollars for both Manna Food Bank and Homeward Bound. Special kudos to BJ and Zuzu for putting the whole evening together.



L-R: Blaine Greenfield, Jeff Thompson and Cynthia Greenfield.

(3) We also saw an excellent production of STEEL MAGNOLIAS at Asheville Community Theatre. The entire cast was spot on, but in particular, we thought Joan Atwood and Carla Pridgen were outstanding.

The show runs through August 18. For tickets, please click:

<https://www.vendini.com/ticket-software.html?e=64916cadf959f46511a7e4712d59b389&t=tix>

Thanks Mary Coblentz for recommending the above and, also, for the suggestion to be on the lookout for some of the very funny lines. Among them:

- * I'd rather walk on my lips than criticize anybody.
- * An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of manure.
- * The nicest thing I could say about her was that her tattoos were spelled correctly.
- * I'm not crazy. I've just been in a very bad mood for 40 years.
- * I don't see plays because I can nap at home for free.

B. Perhaps the high spot of my week was getting to attend a presentation by Brian Biro, America's Breakthrough Coach.

(1) As you can guess by looking at the picture below, we were all successful in our attempts to chop through the wood boards we are holding.



L-R: Blaine Greenfield, Annamarie Brown, Tom Gallagher, Marcy Gallagher, Judy Blumlo and Dave Blumlo.

(2) Brian is an absolutely amazing speaker. If you want to find out more about him and possibly book him for your company or organization, please click:
<http://www.brianbiro.com/>

(3) He even managed to get me to appear oh-so-menacing!



C. On another day, I attended a presentation by Aaron Means (center) on Social Media Marketing. Also in attendance was Denise Frey (left), my Biltmore Lake neighbor and friend.



Aaron really knows his stuff. This is the second time I've heard him speak, and I look forward to future sessions that he will be running. If you'd like to join me, please click to see his schedule:

<http://activatebiz.com/calendar.html>

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Diane Millikan, Joyce Sederburg and Marilynne Herbert for designing bras that were top vote getters in the recent Asheville Artful Bra Challenge that helped raise money for Mission Hospital.

(2) Jennifer Gatti on her upcoming appearance on DROP DEAD DIVA this coming Sunday, Aug. 11, at 9 p.m. on LIFETIME. She plays an attorney involved in a case about plagiarism of an erotic online novel. To quote her, "I get to say lots of big words!. And a lot of alliteration!!"

(3) Kelda Harrison on the birth of Xavior George Lawrence Rawson, her son. And to Marcy and Tom Gallagher, Xavior's godparents.

(4) Chuck and Cindy Berryman-Fink on the engagement of their son Drew to Andrea.

(5) Avi Doubler on the marriage of his daughter Chaya Batya Dobuler to Wayne Zev Feldman HaKohen.

(6) Asheville for being named as one of the happiest cities in America. Take a look at the map that show happiest cities in America. See that little city in the western part of NC ? Guess where that is!

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/02/happiest-states-_n_3696160.html

(7) Rob L. in NJ, winner of Contest #39: a copy of LESSONS FROM GENERATION X TO GENERATION NEXT by McKenzie MczPherson. All told, there were 9 entries . . .

and that reminds me, it's now time to announce:

***** CONTEST #40 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of THIS IS HOW TO GET YOUR NEXT JOB: AN INSIDE LOOK AT WHAT EMPLOYERS REALLY WANT by Andrea Kay . . . according to LIBRARY JOURNAL, "Job hunters will want to refer to Kay for solid guidance, particularly concerning interviewing. VERDICT: A concise, handy advice guide that can help job seekers everywhere."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #40" 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 Sunday, August 18.

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

Thanks Chuck Fink in NC for submitting this week's winner:

Sometimes, we can take our time and carefully research the options before making a decision. July 4th of this year was marked by rainstorms of epoch proportion, and when

our first floor flooded, I could not entertain the idea of doing patient analysis and research when mold would first appear in our home within 12 hours. One of the companies I contacted for immediate restoration work was Precision Restoration out of Weaverville, NC. Aaron Carey's quote and scope of services far surpassed those of Precision's competition. Aaron and his crew steadfastly worked to dry out our home. They added extra air movers and dehumidifiers and in 8 days, everything was restored and nothing was lost. Our home was better than before. Aaron and his incredible crew at Precision Restoration Services are the best. I hope you don't need their services, but if you do, have need then contact Aaron at Precision Restoration Services.

For more information, please click:

<http://restorewnc.com/RestoreWNC/Welcome.html>

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2. FYI

Keep in mind, also, that servers don't get health benefits, and they make nothing when their restaurant is slow or empty. So please be generous to ALL servers.



FYI, part 2

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1eP>

(1) Bob H. in NJ. (2) Karen M. in NJ. (3) Marty S. in TX. (4) Sharon B. in NC. (5) Jack P. in PA. (6) Zuzu W. in NC. (7) D Anthony in MD. (8) Carol D. in NC. (9) Rock E. in NC.

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3. Joke 1

Kudos to this dad who discovered a lifehack--or technique for making life easier--that leaves everybody happy!



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4. Review

Whatever you do, catch UNFINISHED SONG--a sweet and uplifting film about a grumpy old man whose beloved wife introduces him to a local singing group . . . Terence Stamp and Vanessa Redgrave were outstanding as the couple, and I was also charmed by Gemma Arterton's work as the leader of the group . . . you'll also enjoy the music . . . rated PG-13.

To get you psyched, please view the following three clips:

A. UNFINISHED SONG trailer

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0ucWDzb9jY>

B. Redgrave's rendition of "True Colors"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbBz4tE2lcg>

C. And for a song that will knock your socks off, listen to "Good Night My Angel" sung by Stamp

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CjSix58CXQQ>

Note: UNFINISHED SONG has already been added to my list of favorite films. If you'd like to find out the others, please send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

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5. Joke 2

Just to set the record straight: I'm not that boy's father, either!



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6. Joke 3

After several years of increasing productivity, things finally start turning for the company-- for the worse. Morale started to drop; sales, too. So an efficiency expert is called in. . . . After a few hours, he sees what the problem is. "The solution is very simple," he notes. "All we have to do is get the guys on their toes." . . . So the next day the company raised the urinals two feet! (Work on the one on the left is slated for completion next week.)



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7. A quote I like

People always call it luck when you've acted more sensibly than they have.--Anne Tyler (born 1941), Pulitzer Prize-winning American novelist

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8. Thought for the day

Dads with Daughters . . . Don't Miss It!
by Brian Biro*

Last weekend I experienced a 'moment' with my daughter Kelsey that I will never forget. I'm writing to all of you dads with daughters out there because I don't want you to miss YOUR moment. I want you to have a treasure that will stay with you as long as you live.

My wife Carole and I drove from our home in Asheville last Friday to meet Kelsey in Washington DC. Her best friend Maggie and our younger daughter Jenna were flying in to meet us as well. This trip was for a once-in-a-lifetime event . . . we were coming together to buy Kelsey her wedding dress!

Now, I am a fairly typical male in that shopping is about as high on my list of activities as a root canal! I normally have a lot of energy, but put me in a mall or clothing boutique and I find myself desperately searching for a chair, a sofa, a big box . . . anything I can sit on! When Kelsey first asked me to come and help her find her wedding dress, I pictured myself being a dead weight throughout the day. I know as much about wedding dresses as I do nuclear physics! My initial impulse was to pass on the day and figured that Kelsey had asked me just to be kind, that she really didn't want me there. I called her a week or two before the big weekend and tried to make it easy for her to tell me it really didn't matter to her if I came. But to my surprise, she truly wanted me to be a part of the day. It really mattered to her. I love my daughter more than I can ever adequately express so if it meant something to her that was enough for me! Despite my style and fashion affliction, I was IN!

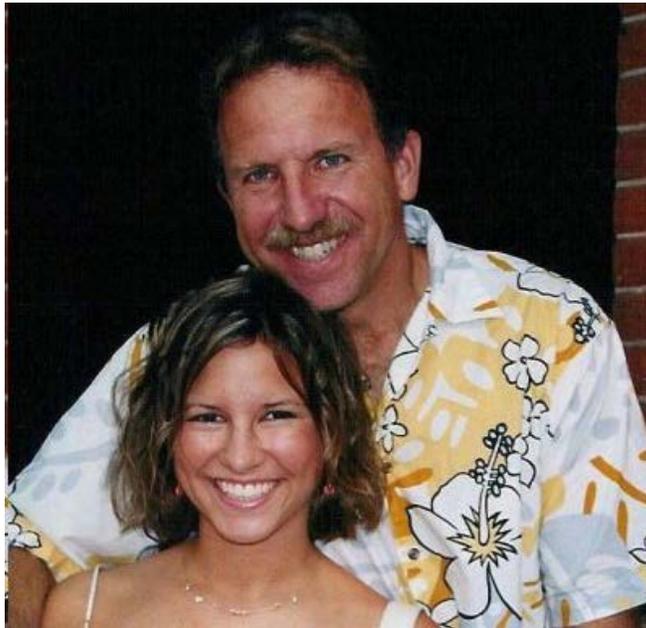
By 5 that Saturday afternoon, I had experienced one of the best days of my life! All day long at three wildly different wedding dress boutiques, I had sat with a huge grin on my face as my gorgeous daughter tried on dozens of lovely wedding dresses. She was radiant and glowing. She took my breath away. Carole, Jenna and Maggie all offered insightful, brilliant observations to help Kelsey with her decision. All I did was grin and kept tumbling out the same critique . . . "You are so beautiful!!" A couple of times I ventured out with things like, "That's really slimming" or "I love the bow in the back" and everyone humored me by pretending there was actual value in what I had to say. But I knew better. I was a complete ignoramus about style, fit, and look. But I didn't care. All that mattered to me were the indelible portraits that were being permanently framed in my heart as I watched my little girl who had grown into such an amazing woman try on dress after dress.

As the day ended, one of those pictures stood above all the rest. In the moment that Kelsey decided on HER dress and we all said, "It's YOURS," I saw the happiness in my daughter that I have wanted her to experience since the day she was born. Joy flew out of her and wrapped us all in its glow as she announced, "I'm really getting married!"

Since that inexpressibly wonderful day, I've tried to figure out why Kelsey actually wanted me there with her. And I think I know. This is what I want all of you dad's with young daughters to get. No one ever told me this when my girls were small. I just lucked into it. But no matter what you've done before, you can get this one right now!

I think the reason Kelsey wanted her goofball dad there to share her day was that I never missed the other moments that mattered to her as she was growing up. I went to every dance performance, every school assembly and awards program, every parade, every college scouting trip. I was there to help her find her high school graduation dress. I was just as inept then as I am now. But here's the key: I didn't just show up at these events, I LOVED them . . . because I loved HER! I was fully present and that communicated beyond words to her that she is important. That's what our children most need to know...that they are significant, that they matter and that they are important.

In that entire day of shopping for Kelsey's wedding dress, I didn't see another father in any of the stores with their daughters. Don't let that be you. Be there, be present and enjoy every precious moment. Though you may think you're doing it for them, the happiness and fulfillment will come back to you tenfold.



Pictured: Brian Biro with Kelsey during her junior year in college in 2008 when the whole family was together for a trip to Bali.

* Reprinted with the gracious permission of Brian Biro from his upcoming book that has this working title: LOVING LIFE LESSONS FOR MY DAUGHTERS.

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9. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) SART's last play for the season is BLITHE SPIRIT, which runs from Aug. 7-18. You can see this comic play's trailer by clicking: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=krE4BWsRn_o

To read a review, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013308090031>

And to order tickets, please click:

https://secure.sellingticket.com/design22/clients/list/index_byUserListAll.aspx?OrganizationID=141



Pictured: Two stars of the play, Randy Noojin (left) and Beverly Todd, along with yours truly.

Note: I've already seen BLITHE SPIRIT and can tell you that it's great. Don't miss it!

(2) SART's cast end-of-year party takes place on Sunday night, Aug. 11 at Jack of Hearts on Main Street in Weaverville. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Music by The Blues Crew begins at 7. Case bar, free dessert. Come early and order dinner.

(3) Gershwin with a Twist will be a HIT and the best part is your SART favorite, Liz Aiello with be co-starring with Brian Gurl and Girl Musical Productions. Aug. 24 at 7:30 p.m. and Aug. 25 at 2:30 p.m. Call the SART Box Office at 828.689.1239 for tickets (\$25).

(4) You are invited . . .

Secrets: Freeing the Hidden Story

DVD Release Celebration, Fundraiser and Community Dialogue

Sunday, August 11

Jubilee! Community, 6:00 p.m.

Have you heard the buzz around town? "Moving beyond words!" "Flawlessly done!" "Invaluable insights!" If you missed Secrets: Freeing the Hidden Story, presented at Diana Wortham Theatre in June or want another chance to see it, join Artistic Director, Barrie Barton, the Secret Cast and supporters for a DVD Release Celebration, Fundraiser and Community Dialogue.

Secrets, explores the universal topic of secrets: why we keep them and what they really hold for us. Expect a powerful showcase of story, comedy, movement, poetry and film that is at once edgy, humorous, heart breaking and heart opening. Proceeds benefit Community Choreography Projects future performances and projects.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.

More Information: (828) 658-1217

www.communitychoreography.com

(5) Triple-header female roller-derby action will be on display Saturday, Aug. 24 at the WNC Ag Center, in nearby Fletcher, NC, (1301 Fanning Bridge Rd.), when Asheville's Blue Ridge Rollergirls meet the Smoky Mountain Roller Girls in three "bouts," starting at 3:00 p.m.; 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 2:30 p.m., and one ticket is good for all three games.

B. PA/NJ events

(1) I'm slated to be "up North" from August 26-September 2 and will be staying in the Bucks County area. One place I know I'll probably be at: Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown, PA, on Saturday, Aug. 31 (stay tuned for details). Stop by to say "hello" and get some of that store's oh-so-tasty ice cream and/or chocolate. An added "plus" will be John Strauss playing his guitar. If you can't make it then, if interested, contact me about the possibility of getting together some other time.

(2) Beth D. in PA: I am hosting an amazing group on August 29 in Huntingdon Valley, PA: One Tribe from Perth Australia in a Sound healing concert. For more information, please click:

<http://www.thehealingconsciousness.com/event/sound-healing-one-tribe/>

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#879

7.29.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Attended the 35th annual Bele Chere event. It's the largest free arts and music street festival in the Southeast--and Asheville has hosted it for 35 years. Regretfully, because of a lack of funding, this may well be the last such extravaganza.



(2) We went with our friend and neighbor Steve Byas who, afterward, joined us for dinner at Wasabi Japanese Restaurant & Sushi Bar Both the company and food were great, as was the service from Joanne. For more information, please click: <http://wasabiasheville.com/>



(3) Saw a fantastic summer concert put on by Multiplicity Music Studio that featured Vocal Blast, Asheville's community choir.



L-R: Daniel Hensley, Morgan Elizabeth St. Clair, Isaac Fulk, Blaine Greenfield and Cynthia Greenfield.

Kudos to Daniel Hensley and Sarah Fowler, directors, as well as to Virginia McKnight, accompanist.

(4) We were joined at the concert by our friend Kimberly Childs who then accompanied us for dinner to Creperie & Cafe of Weaverville. I had a Monte Cristo crepe that was outstanding and shared a tasty Strawberry Branaza sweet crepe. We'll be back! For more information, please click:

<https://www.facebook.com/Creperie.Cafe.Of.Weaverville>



(5) On another day, we saw LES MISERABLES at Flat Rock Playhouse. We almost weren't going to see it (having both been disappointed in the movie version), but that would have been a mistake. Make that a big mistake. This was a great production that might well have been the best show we've ever seen at Flat Rock. Rob Evan and Josh Davis were great as, respectively, Valjean and Javert. Both Preston Dyar as Thenardier and Linda Evans as Madame Thenardier had us laughing whenever they appeared on stage. The scenery blew us away, too. And Vincent Marini's direction was spot-on.

You're in luck, in that the show runs through August 18. For more information, please click:

<http://www.flatrockplayhouse.org/project/les-miserables/>



(6) That same evening, we went to visit our friends and former neighbors (Ed and Donna Goetl) at their beautiful new log cabin in Etowah.



B. SART is also keeping me busy.

(1) The season has been a very good one, to date, and the current play (SUNSHINE BOYS) is another winner. That's yours truly with Chris Allison on the left who was very funny in this Neil Simon comedy, as was the rest of the talented cast: Ralph Redpath, Kermit Brown, Bill Gregg, Joshua Stein, Justin Gaylard, Alison Young, Nita Hardy and Doug Hauschild. Jessica West did a fine job with the direction.



This show runs through Sunday, August 4. For tickets, please click:
www.sartplays.org

(2) You can also use that same website to purchase tickets for our next play, BLITHE SPIRIT, which opens with a 1/2 price preview on Aug. 7 and runs through Aug. 18.

(3) Come join SART on August 11 for the end-of-season party at Jack of Hearts in Weaverville. Liz Aiello will then be in GERSHWIN WITH A TWIST on the Owen Theatre stage on Aug. 24 and 25. Tickets for both events can be obtained by calling the Box Office at 828.689.1239.

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Sam Flippo on her marriage to Will Barnes.

(2) Janet Casperson on her appearance on WLOS, showing you how to cook chicken fajitas. To see it, please click:
http://www.wlos.com/shared/community/features/carolina-kitchen/stories/wlos_chicken-fajitas-chipotle-sauce-556.shtml?wap=0

(3) Asheville for being named #3 on the list of 17 Best US. Cities for Hippies. Though I personally think we should have been at the top of the list, you can read more by clicking: <http://blog.estately.com/2013/07/17-best-u-s-cities-for-hippies/>

D. Condolences to:

(1) Joe Calderwood and Gil Calderwood on the passing of their brother Jerry Calderwood.

(2) The family of Al Selva who was a longtime colleague of mine when he taught in the Social and Behavioral Science Department at Bucks County Community College.

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

This week, it goes to Kim Hughes and Bob Hinkle--co-owners of White Horse Black Mountain in downtown White Horse. They're also married to each other.

Together, they bring top entertainment to the Western North Carolina on a regular basis-- such as this coming Friday and Saturday when the music of George Harrison will be featured in an event called "Give Me Love" that will benefit both MANNA Food Bank and Homeward Bound.

In addition, they've done benefits for Haiti after the huge disaster there, WNCW Black Mountain Pastoral Care Counseling Center, St. James Episcopal Church Charities, Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry and to help pay health costs for local uninsured or underinsured families and musicians.

And just recently, they hosted Moral Sunday--an event that raised awareness about new state legislation. For more information about this, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013307260015>

Kim somehow manages to find the time to be serve as part-time Operations Manager for the Heart of the Healer Foundation, sing in the area and maintain a healing/counseling practice. Bob, a former manager or co-manager for such musicians as the J. Geils Band, Etta James, Kenny Rogers, Dottie West, Naked Eyes, Harry Chapin and Tom Chapin, now does consulting for artists, music business executives and companies, and he produces recordings.

Lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't also mention Don Talley. He serves multiple roles at White Horse, including publicity, promotion, web design and management, and newsletter creation. He also assists behind the bar, in the sound booth and with booking.

For more information about White Horse Black Mountain, please click:

<http://www.whitehorseblackmountain.com/>

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2. FYI

Sustenance: 8 simple things
by Dorisse Aha

When I was a teenager, my family moved to Borneo. "Where's Borneo?", my siblings and I asked in unison. We made front-page news in our local weekly newspaper in rural Virginia.

Now, over 40 years later, I can see how living in that idyllic place as well as other foreign countries shaped the ways that I have lived my life and provided me a stable foundation and belief system that has kept me going when my edges became sharp and uncomfortable. They have become my sustenance.

1. One step at a time. When things get rough around the edges, focus on one thing only. The mind incessantly wants to figure things out or plan ahead, making a difficult decision more complicated in the moment. (To read a little story on how I began noticing this in Borneo as a teen, scroll down to the last past paragraph.)

To read the rest of this informative piece, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ep>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Diane M. in NC: Best flight steward ever

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYA_ivyj3kE

(2) Chuck F. in NC: My first appearance on stage [in GYPSY]

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151554222456658&set=vb.578281657&type=2&theater>

Note: You may have to be Chuck's Facebook "friend" to see this clip.

(3) Freedom R. in NC: Man Dances To Aretha Franklin With A Raccoon!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=1398252333725661>

(4) Sharon B. in NC: The Kind Of Marriage Proposal That Makes You Want To Go Out And Fall In Lesbian Love

<http://www.upworthy.com/the-kind-of-marriage-proposal-that-makes-you-want-to-go-out-and-fall-in-lesbian-love?c=ufb1>

(5) Mahalia Jackson: You'll Never Walk Alone
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xx4vME0d1w8>

(6) Joseph H. in NC: Bruce Springsteen Dedicates 'American Skin (41 Shots)' To The U.S. 'For Justice For Trayvon Martin'

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=aQMqWAIWPMs#at=110

(7) Joey N. in NJ: Nerdy Love Song with Added Kitten Bonus!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=rkWy8nRWPGk

(8) Bob Mankoff: Anatomy of a New Yorker cartoon

http://www.ted.com/talks/bob_mankoff_anatomy_of_a_new_yorker_cartoon.html

(9) 81-year-old sweethearts reunite after 62 years.

<http://www.wimp.com/sweetheartsreunite/>

(10) For lovers of great music (and talent)

<http://tv.liberoquotidiano.it/video/105797/Donna-suona-Beethoven-con-le-chiappe.html#.URpcjefswc>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ep>

(1) Ed B. in NC. (2) James S. in NJ. (3) Eileen B. in NJ. (4) Elizabeth P. in NC. (5) Rob K. in NY.

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3. Joke 1

"Doctor, please help me," says an elderly patient. "I have silent passage of gas every morning. I have silent passage of gas every afternoon, and I suffer from silent passage of gas in the evening. Sometimes I have silent passage of gas at unpredictable times-for instance, just now. Doctor, can you help me?"

"Sure, I can help you," says the doctor. "But first you need your hearing checked."

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4. Reviews

The following reviews can be viewed by going to Sections 4A-4D when you click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ep>

A FRUITVALE STATION

B. MUD

C. BLIND CURVES

D. HOW SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE LEAD

E. Reminder: There's still time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #39 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the book, LESSONS FROM GENERATION X TO GENERATION NEXT by McKenzie McPherson . . . to quote from the author's description, "Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.-- Eleanor Roosevelt. As you read this, take a moment to pontificate about your life, what are some of the lessons you wish the generation that preceded you had left behind in a diary that you could access anytime you needed advice in a non-judgmental way? As you think about that, also think about the lessons you hope to pass on to the generation succeeding you!!! Lessons from Generation X to Generation Next is a compilation of over 3,000 anecdotes that describe some of the lessons the author has learned throughout her life."

To enter: Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #39 in the subject line. Include your mailing address in the body of the email. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Sunday, August 4.

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5. TV alert

A. GLORIA ESTEFAN; THE STANDARDS features the Latin pop superstar in a concert performance of her latest album. Saturday, Aug. 3 on PBS at 8 p.m.; repeated on Tuesday, Aug. 13 at 1 a.m.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

B. Just think about THE GRADUATE without Dustin Hoffman in the title role. If you find that thought intriguing, then watch CASTING--a documentary about the importance of casting directors. Monday, Aug. 5 at 9 p.m. on HBO.

C. "The Diplomat" on the NINE FOR IX series tells the story of figure skater Katarina Witt's rise to stardom for East Germany during the Cold War, which added unique pressure to her performances. Tuesday, Aug. 6 at 8 p.m. on ESPN.

D. DOUBLE INDEMNITY, Billy Wilder's classic noir, airs on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at 10 p.m. on TCM. This is one of my all-time favorite films.

Note: If you'd like my complete listing, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

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6. Joke 2

Truth in advertising!



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7. Websites

A. For a friendly reminder about how life is slipping away, second by second, check out the Death Clock:

<http://deathclock.com/>

If all goes well, I'm slated to be here until March 26, 2023, which means at the time that I'm writing this, I have 304,116,503 seconds left.

To read an interesting blog entry about this topic, please click:

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/08/01/the-tick-tock-of-the-death-clock/?src=me&ref=general>

B. "Raining Leaves" features Bruce Stoller, piano/composer with Akihasa Kominato

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsGf5yCsoQg>

Note: Bruce was a fellow graduate from Lawrence High School, Class of 1967. If you like this piece, please hit "like" and maybe include comment or two.

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you ever miss an issue of this missive or you want to see one you may have missed, click "Newsletter" to the left and then "Past Issues." At the top of that page, you'll find a helpful tool to help you search past issues; e.g., I used it recently when seeking to find a quote I had once used about what happens when we have not laughed on any given day. I found it within seconds:

"The most wasted day of all is that on which we have not laughed."--Sebastine Chamfort (1741-1794), French playwright

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

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8. Computer tip

Picture Resize Genius is a utility that helps change website images, digital photos or pictures to different file types. I find it useful when I try to save something from the Internet, and it only saves as a PNG file (which I then can't use elsewhere; e.g., when posting on Facebook.) The following link easily enables me to convert it to JPEG file: <http://www.pictureresize.org/online-images-converter.html>

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9. Joke 3

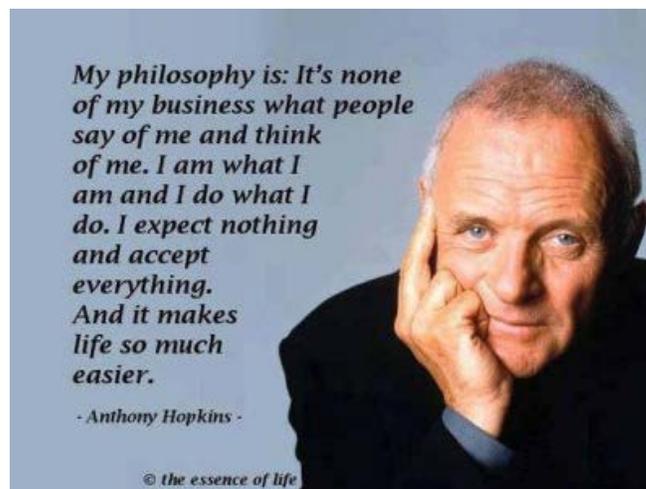
The mother-in-law comes home and finds her son-in-law packing his suitcase. She asks, "What happened?" . . . He replies, "I'll tell you what happened! I sent an email to my wife, your daughter, saying that I was coming home from my trip today. I got home and guess what I found? My Miriam with a naked guy on our marital bed! That's it for our marriage. I will leave forever!" . . . "Calm down!" says the mother-in-law. "There is something odd about this story. Miriam would never do such a thing! Wait a minute while I check what happened." . . . Moments later, she comes back with a big smile. "You see, I knew there must be a simple explanation--Miriam didn't receive your email."



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10. A quote I like

Good way to live!



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11. Thought for the day

George Saunders's Advice to Graduates

by Joel Lovell

It's long past graduation season, but we recently learned that George Saunders delivered the convocation speech at Syracuse University for the class of 2013, and George was kind enough to send it our way and allow us to reprint it here. The speech touches on some of the moments in his life and larger themes (in his life and work) that George spoke about in the profile we ran back in January--the need for kindness and all the things working against our actually achieving it, the risk in focusing too much on "success," the trouble with swimming in a river full of monkey feces.

The entire speech, graduation season or not, is well worth reading, and is included below. To read it, please click:

http://6thfloor.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/07/31/george-saunderss-advice-to-graduates/?src=me&ref=general&pagewanted=print&_r=0

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) I have access to 2 tickets for The Temptations and The Four Tops on the South Terrace at Biltmore Estate on Friday, Aug. 23 at 8 p.m.



Tickets are the best in the house; i.e., in the front reserved section. \$75/ticket. If interested, contact me at: bjinbc@aol.com or call 828.633.1049.

For more than forty years, The Temptations have prospered, and over the course of their career have had 83 charted Billboard U.S. singles and 44 Billboard Top 10 Hits including "My Girl," "Ain't Too Proud," "Papa was a rolling stone," and "I Can't Get Next to You." In 1990, with 24 Top 40 pop hits to their credit, the Four Tops were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame. Some of their biggest hits include: "I Can't Help Myself (Sugar Pie, Honey Bunch)," "It's The Same Old Song," and "Reach Out I'll Be There."

(2) You are invited . . .

Secrets: Freeing the Hidden Story

DVD Release Celebration, Fundraiser and Community Dialogue

Sunday, August 11

Jubilee! Community, 6:00 p.m.

Have you heard the buzz around town? "Moving beyond words!" "Flawlessly done!" "Invaluable insights!" If you missed Secrets: Freeing the Hidden Story, presented at Diana Wortham Theatre in June or want another chance to see it, join Artistic Director, Barrie Barton, the Secret Cast and supporters for a DVD Release Celebration, Fundraiser and Community Dialogue.

Secrets, explores the universal topic of secrets: why we keep them and what they really hold for us. Expect a powerful showcase of story, comedy, movement, poetry and film that is at once edgy, humorous, heart breaking and heart opening. Proceeds benefit Community Choreography Projects future performances and projects.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.

More Information: (828) 658-1217

www.communitychoreography.com



That's Cynthia on the left with her hand outstretched.

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ep>

(3) Mountain Moral Monday. (4) Jeff Thompson Band. (5) THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD. (6) STEEL MAGNOLIAS. (7) Asheville Artful Bra Challenge. (8) Course taught by Larry Griswold.

B. PA/NJ events

(1) I'm slated to be "up North" from August 26-September 2 and staying in the Bucks County area. One place I know I'll probably be at: Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown, PA, on Saturday, Aug. 31 or Sunday, Sept. 1 (stay tuned for details). Stop by to say "hello" and get some of that store's oh-so-tasty ice cream and/or chocolate. An added "plus" will be John Strauss playing his guitar. If you can't make it then, if interested, contact me about the possibility of getting together some other time.

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ep>

(2) Cecile Kandl Acrylic Elegance. (3) Comedy Shows in S.J. & Bucks.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com

BLAINES WORLD

#878

7.22.2013

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1. Reflections

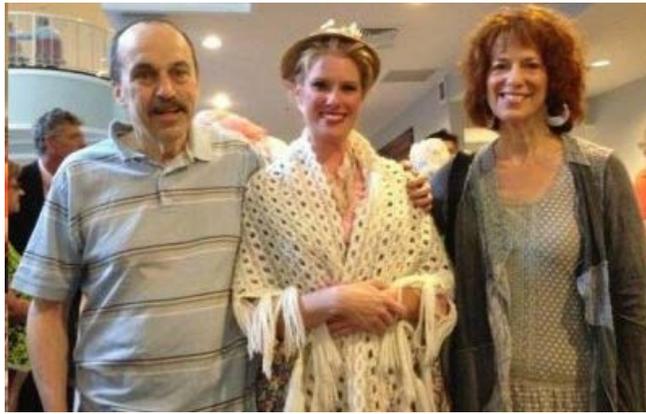
A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I joined our neighbors for great burgers and fries at Farm Burger.



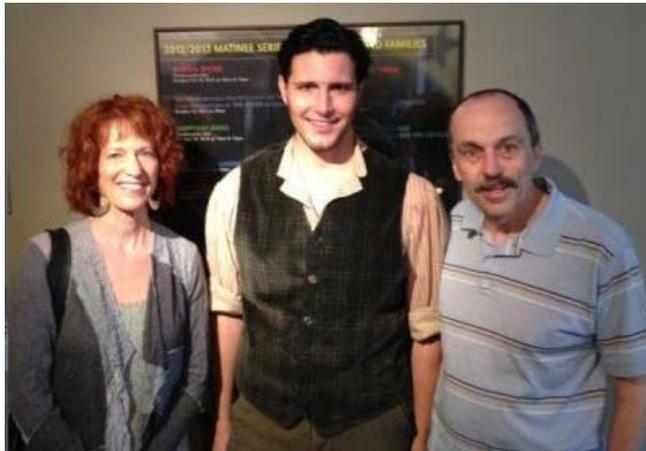
L-R: Steve Byas, Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield, Muffie Boswell and Terry Boswell.

For more information about this eatery in downtown Asheville, please click:
<http://www.farmburger.net/asheville/>

B. In addition, we saw the Asheville Lyric Opera's magnificent production of CAROUSEL. Kelly Brown Mullinix as always, was fantastic. She played Carrie Pipperidge.



Dominic Aquilino was equally outstanding, playing the role of Billy Bigelow.



You can even view four of his numbers:

(1) Highest Judge of All!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=j-DYxcG9LZ0

(2) Soliloquy

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=ctUdRpSzr0Q#at=20

(3) If Loved You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HyKguPoT59g>

(4) If I Loved You (Reprise)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=AEFRY0atLW4

And we got a big kick out of seeing Darren Marshall, one of the area's really funny actors, in Jim Julien's THE CARO SAVANTI EXPERIENCE. It was especially great to see this show because it marked the return of The Magnetic Theatre to Asheville.



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Colleen Dunn on her new, informative blog, "Food, Farms & Farm Markets," and also on the fact that she'll soon be publishing in STREETSCAPES magazine--published in the St. Louis area. To check it out yourself and/or to subscribe, please click:

<http://csajourneysummer2013.blogspot.com/>

(2) Katherine Sandoval Taylor on the birth of Andrew Robert Carson Taylor.

(3) Kendra Arnold for being named 2013 Cycling Advocate of the Year.

(4) Mark Beloyan for being featured in the GAZEBO NEWSLETTER, the alumni publication from Bucks County Community College, about that fact the he and his crew assisted 4 people who lost power of their vessel and were overtaken by a wave and subsequently capsized in Southeast Florida. After notifying the Miami Coast Guard, Mark recognized the need for immediate assistance and eventually pulled the capsized boaters from the water. A letter of appreciation for their heroic actions was presented to Captain Mark and his crew by the Coast Guard.

Mark has spent the past 20 years fishing the waters of Southeast Florida and the Bahamas. For more information, visit"

<http://www.offthechartfishing.com/>

(5) Kelli Brown Mullinix whose daughter, Mary Grace, was just crowned Outstanding Little Miss Asheville.

(6) Holly B. in PA, Traci M. in NC, Warren F. in PA, MarryEllen M. in NJ, Bob H. in NJ, Sandy B. in PA, Paul S. in PA, Kathy B. in FL and Nancy D. in PA--winners of Contest #38, an online magazine subscription of their choice from zinio.com . . . all told, there were 10 entries and though originally there were only going to be 9 winners (with my getting one subscription from the sponsors of the contest), I decided to make everybody a winner and so will forgo my magazine.

Note: Zinio.com is a cool website that lets you:

- * Obtain thousands of top magazines from around the world. You can browse and purchase subscriptions or single issues instantly from your computer or mobile device to read wherever and whenever you like.

- * Explore section lets you read--even without a subscription--thousands of articles from your favorite magazines and share them with friends.

- * Use on iPad, iPhone, Android mobile phones and tablets, laptop or desktop.

For more information, please click:

www.zinio.com

And before I forget, it's now time to announce . . .

***** CONTEST #39 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the book, LESSONS FROM GENERATION X TO GENERATION NEXT by McKenzie McPherson . . . to quote from the author's description, "Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself." -Eleanor Roosevelt As you read this, take a moment to pontificate about your life, what are some of the lessons you wish the generation that preceded you had left behind in a diary that you could access anytime you needed advice in a non-judgmental way? As you think about that, also think about the lessons you hope to pass on to the generation succeeding you!!! Lessons from Generation X to Generation Next is a compilation of over 3,000 anecdotes that describe some of the lessons the author has learned throughout her life."

To enter: Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #39 in the subject line. Include your mailing address in the body of the email. All entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Sunday, August 4.

D. Condolences to:

(1) Eileen Russell on the passing of her father, James Russell. He was a financial columnist who predicted the dot-com bus. To read more about him, please click:

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/07/23/3517136/james-russell-financial-columnist.html#storylink=cpy>

(2) Kathy Bademan and family on the passing of Kathy's sister-in-law Eileen Gallen.

(3) Tiffany Hall on the passing of her mother.

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

This week, it goes to the following women from Biltmore Lake who created artful bras to help raise funds for Mission Hospital: Diane Millikan, Debi Trelaven, Kim Preish, Tena Bien, Joyce Sederburg, Marjorie Zack, Marilynne Herbert, Elaine Scherer, Linda Hollinshead and Katrina Chenevert.

You can help support their efforts and Ladies Night Out at Mission Hospital by voting in the Asheville Artful Bra Challenge. All you need do is click:
<http://ashevilleartfulbra.com/vote/>

Note: You can vote multiple times, so please consider voting for any and/or all of the following bras that were created by the aforementioned women: 23-34 and 36.

I actually did vote for several bras, but must admit to having special bias to the one below because I also got to model it! (Details to follow.)



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2. FYI

Rebekah Bell: It's Possible to Graduate Debt-Free. Here's How

Scout out scholarships, take courses online, use your skills to make money and get a summer job.

Note: She also mentions the wisdom of taking courses at a community college.

For the entire article, please click:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324105204578382561144181552.html?KEYWORDS=it%27s+possible+to+graduate+debt-free>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Jean D. in PA: The artist [her son] explains his process

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10201843722878097&set=vb.1333543301&type=2&theater>

Note: You may have to be on Facebook to view the above.

(2) Carol Shimp: Love from the Other Side

<http://vimeo.com/70659145>

(3) Not A Day Goes By by Bernadette Peters

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5kMIQgyz834>

(4) Come to Me Bend to Me: Brigadoon

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jyeYGeEZ47g>

(5) Amy L. in NC: Think Trayvon's Record Said Something About His Character? Well, Get A Load Of This

<http://www.upworthy.com/think-trayvons-record-said-something-about-his-character-well-get-a-load-of-this?g=2&c=cp2>

(6) Linda J. in WI: This Kid Thinks We Could Save So Many Lives If Only It Was OK To Say 4 Words

<http://www.upworthy.com/this-kid-thinks-we-could-save-so-many-lives-if-only-it-was-okay-to-say-4-words>

(7) Hyeonseo Lee: My escape from North Korea

http://www.ted.com/talks/hyeonseo_lee_my_escape_from_north_korea.html

(8) Lianne La Havas | Is Your Love Big Enough? (Official Video)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TcXI6CDqpvY>

(9) Bruce S. in AZ: Pancho and Lefty by Willie Nelson and Bob Dylan

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=UsR0Y-sWk-E#at=26

(10) Worst slide in baseball history? (Made by Manny Ramirez in his comeback attempt. To see it, fast forward to the 2:17 mark.)

<http://www.latenightwithjimmyfallon.com/video/monologue-manny-ramirezs-slide-jeff-gordons-apartment/n36905/>

And if you'd like to read more about his comeback, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/22/sports/baseball/ramirez-isnt-being-manny-as-he-focuses-on-comeback.html?partner=rss&emc=rss>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1dX>

(1) Sandy B. in PA. (2) Chris F. in PA. (3) Carol S. in FL. (4) Sarah D. in NC. (5) Victor L. in NC. (6) The Magnetic Theatre. (7) Fiora L. in NC. (8) Jean D. in PA. (9) Natalie K. in PA. (10) Ed B. in NC.

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3. Joke 1

"You haven't listened to a word I've said, have you?" always seems like a strange way for my girlfriend to start a conversation with me.

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4. Reviews

A. THE WAY, WAY BACK IS a funny, touching coming-of-age comedy about a 14-year old's summer vacation with his mom, her overbearing boyfriend and his daughter . . . the boy is having a rough time fitting in until he meets an extroverted manager at a nearby water park . . . performances by Liam James, as the boy, and Steve Carell, playing against type as the boyfriend, were quite good . . . however, it's Sam Rockwell as the manager who makes this film one you'll want to see . . . rated PG-13.

B. ADMISSION is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #861 follows:

ADMISSION is a comedy/drama about a Princeton University admissions officer whose life changes when she no longer lives life by the book. Tina Fey and Paul Rudd are extremely likable as the leads, and I also liked Wallace Shawn as the retiring Dean of Admissions . . . it wasn't a perfect film, but I liked it--especially the ending that tugged at my heart strings . . . rated PG-13.

C. THANK YOU FOR LISTENING: GAIN INFLUENCE & IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS, BETTER LISTENING IN 8 STEPS (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform) by Marc Wong contains practical advice that will enable you to be a good audience and contribute to a conversation, as well as show you how to provide support and encouragement.

The author brings in examples from such diverse fields as movies, poker and women's shows, and these help to bring home such points as the following: * When a physician

listens respectfully, and ask questions and picks up on clues, patients tend to be more involved in their care, more open about what's wrong, and better informed and more satisfied with their visit. Satisfied patients also have fewer hospitalizations, doctor visits and lab tests.

* Philosophical questions aside, if you tell a joke and nobody laughs, then you know how it feels not to be heard. Of course, your joke or perhaps your delivery might not have been perfect. Nevertheless, your sentiment was not acknowledged or shared. If you think you have a great sense of humor, but your spouse never laughs at your jokes, then you know how frustrating it is to never to be heard. You feel unappreciated. The other person doesn't "get" you. You don't feel validated.

Wong also provides several insightful exercises, including this one:

* Try to pick an unusual topic. See if you can come up with some good questions about this topic. For starters, choose situations in which you stand to gain by developing rapport. For example, if you're on a first date or with a new client and she mentions kites or bonsai, what questions would you ask to get her to elaborate on the subject?

As a listener, we should also be aware that people exaggerate. Sometimes we exaggerate for comedic effect. All the "Your mother is fat..." jokes are based on exaggeration. We also exaggerate to highlight our frustration. "I'm going to quit this stupid job and go join a circus!" "I'm going to hit the next person who says 'paradigm' or 'think outside the box!'" We're not necessarily going to join the circus or hit anyone. We just feel so frustrated that we want to do those things. If we're allowed to talk freely about the reasons for our frustrations, we'll most likely calm down and forget about the exaggerated threats.

We learn many things in school, but rarely is listening taught. THANK YOU FOR LISTENING may well help you fill that gap in your education.

D. Heard *THE ASTRONAUT WIVES CLUB: A TRUE STORY* (Hachette Audio), written by Lily Koppel and read by Orlagh Cassidy.

It's a fascinating look at the women who stood behind America's Mercury Seven astronauts in both triumph and tragedy. They all started as military spouses and morphed into American royalty, appearing on the cover of LIFE magazine and becoming fashion icons.

Some had picture-perfect marriages; others had to deal with divorce. Yet they all stayed friends for over half a century. This book provides an engaging behind-the-scenes look at women you may only have known by name.

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5. TV alert

A. *INSIDE THE AMERICAN MOB* features first-person reflections both by federal officials and by Mafiosi. "Hard as it may be to imagine, there is still drama in the subject of crime families," notes *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*. Begins Sunday, July 28 at 9 p.m. on NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL.

B. "Swoopes" on the *NINE FOR IX* series tells the story of Sheryl Swoopes--called the female Michael Jordan by many. But that's only part of the story. Tuesday, July 30 at 8 p.m. on ESPN.

C. *THE BIG BRAIN THEORY: PURE GENIUS*, hosted by Karl Penn, features a seemingly impossible engineering challenge to be solved by the contestants each week. Competitors will have just 30 minutes to come up with a solution using their own intellect to complete the challenge. Now in repeats, you can catch it on either of the following dates on DISCOVERY: Wednesday, July 31 at 10 p.m. or Thursday, August 1 at 12 a.m.

D. *OUR NIXON* was put together from some 500 reels of home movies taken by Richard Nixon's chief of staff H.R. Haldeman, domestic security adviser John Ehrlichman and special assistant Dwight Chapin, all of whom would end up doing prison time in the wake of Watergate. Thursday, Aug. 1 at 9 p.m. on CNN.

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6. Joke 2

I was prosecuting a case involving a man charged with driving under the influence. The defense counsel was beginning to lose his cool with the police witnesses and implied that they had gotten their facts wrong. "People do make mistakes, don't they, Officer Lock?" he

demanded of one witness.

"Yes, sir," came the reply. "I'm Officer Webster."

The defense lost.

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7. Websites

A. I miss the original CANDID CAMERA show. If you do, too, please take a look at some and/or all of the following:

(1) Rotating Dessert Buffet (1999)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlDiFnEG3o8>

(2) The Original Candid Camera Bowling Alley

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpB8gy-glS4>

(3) A car without a motor

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yGkMhGqbJhY>

(4) NC pronunciation of all vs. oil

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pHc-Kz9WX4>

(5) Woody Allen Dictates a Letter

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGb_jzaUWOg

(6) The ice cream challenge

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFMzNbjS3R0>

(7) Losing Your Bread

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xaj19dco4Ms>

(8) Rookie Dental Assistant

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeU5ZD9nOco>

B. Ever wonder what your pop star name would be like? What about your name as a rock star, rap star or country star? Find out by clicking:

<http://popstarname.com/>

Note: My names came out as Jordan Shelton, Kane Steele, Jam Spinner and Jeb Smith.

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you're planning to visit Asheville or if you know somebody who is, make sure you click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Asheville." Methinks you'll find a lot of valuable information there.

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



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8. Computer tip

TinEye is a reverse image search engine. It finds out where an image came from, how it is

being used, if modified versions of the image exist or if there is a higher resolution version. It is both easy to use and very useful.
<http://www.tineye.com/>

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9. Joke 3

Woman: Do you drink beer?

Man: Yes.

Woman: How many beers a day?

Man: Usually about 3.

Woman: How much do you pay per beer?

Man: \$5.00 which includes a tip.

Woman: And how long have you been drinking?

Man: About 20 years, I suppose.

Woman: So a beer costs \$5, and you have 3 beers a day which puts your spending each month at \$450. In one year, it would be approximately \$5,400 . . . correct?

Man: Correct.

Woman: If in 1 year you spend \$5400, not accounting for inflation, the past 20 years puts your spending at \$108,000, correct?

Man: Correct

Woman: Do you know that if you didn't drink so much beer, that money could have been put in a step-up interest savings account and after accounting for compound interest for the past 20 years, you could have now bought a Ferrari?

Man: Do you drink beer?

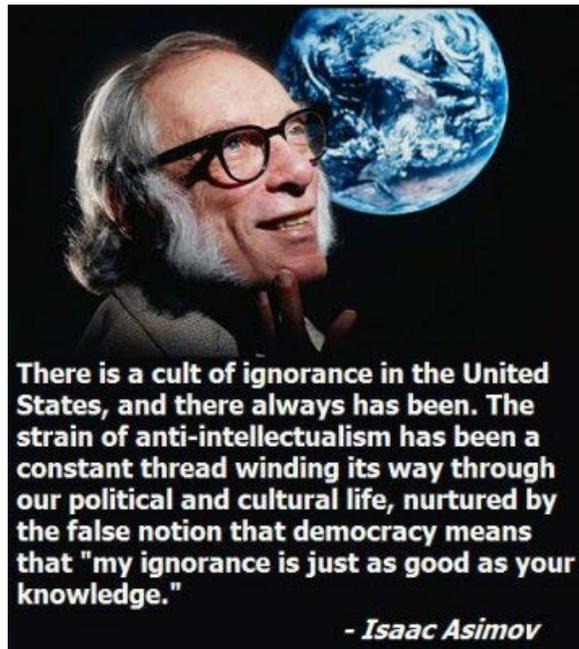
Woman: No.

Man: Where's your Ferrari?

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10. A quote I like

Asimov, best known for his works of science fiction and having written or edited more than 500 books, had it right with this quote--especially the last part.



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11. Thought for the day

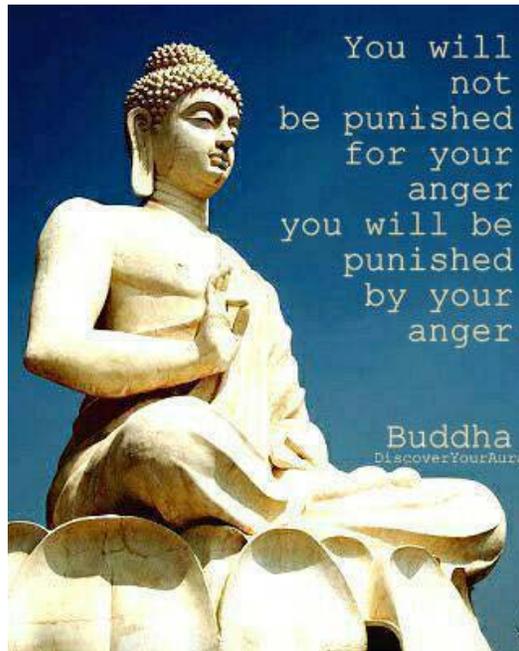
One day the Buddha was walking through a village. A very angry and rude young man came up and began insulting him. "You have no right teaching others," he shouted. "You are as stupid as everyone else. You are nothing but a fake!"

The Buddha was not upset by these insults. Instead he asked the young man, "Tell me, if you buy a gift for someone, and that person does not take it, to whom does the gift belong?" The young man was surprised to be asked such a strange question and answered, "It would belong to me, because I bought the gift."

The Buddha smiled and said, "That is correct. And it is exactly the same with your anger. If you become angry with me and I do not get insulted, then the anger falls back on you. You are then the only one who becomes unhappy, not me. All you have done is hurt yourself."

Note: The illustration (below) does a nice job of summarizing this story that is actually based on the Buddhist scriptures. For more information, please click:

<http://www.fakebuddhaquotes.com/fake-but-not-fake-the-art-of-storytelling/>

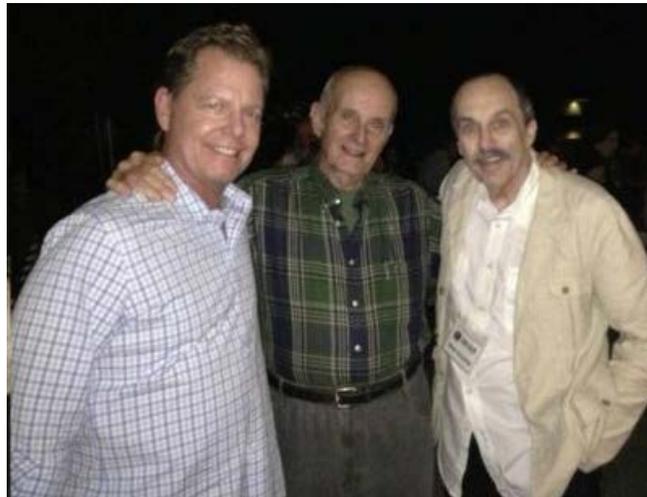


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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Neil Simon's THE SUNSHINE BOYS runs through August 4 at SART. I was able to attend opening night, and I had a fun time.



L-R: Steve Byas, Kermit Brown (one of the stars of the show, along with Ralph Redpath) and yours truly.

You can obtain tickets by clicking:
www.sartplays.org

Also come join SART on August 11 for the end-of-season party at Jack of Hearts in Weaverville and--just announced--Liz Aiello will be in GERSHWIN WITH A TWIST on the Owen Theatre stage, August 24 and 25. Tickets for both events can be obtained by calling the Box Office at 828.689.1239.

(2) You are invited...

Secrets: Freeing the Hidden Story

DVD Release Celebration, Fundraiser and Community Dialogue

Sunday, August 11

Jubilee! Community, 6:00 p.m.

Have you heard the buzz around town?

"Moving beyond words!" "Flawlessly done!" "Invaluable insights!"

If you missed *Secrets: Freeing the Hidden Story*, presented at Diana Wortham Theatre in June or want another chance to see it, join Artistic Director, Barrie Barton, the Secret Cast and supporters for a DVD Release Celebration, Fundraiser and Community Dialogue.

Secrets, explores the universal topic of secrets: why we keep them and what they really hold for us. Expect a powerful showcase of story, comedy, movement, poetry and film that is at once edgy, humorous, heart breaking and heart opening. Proceeds benefit Community Choreography Projects future performances and projects.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.

More Information: (828) 658-1217

www.communitychoreography.com



That's Cynthia, second from the left!

(3) Come join me to hear Brian Biro, my amazing friend, on Monday night, July 29. If you can make it, you'll get to see him give a rare public presentation. See below for more information.

He is as good a speaker as I've ever heard, and his presentation is even better.

To see him "in action," please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ibjJfgM4SSw>

And to find out more about him, please click:

<http://brianbiro.com/>

Note: There is NO CHARGE for this presentation!

Brian Biro
America's Breakthrough Coach

Monday, July 29th
6:30 – 9:15 p.m.

Center for Spiritual Living Asheville

One of the nation's foremost speakers and teachers of Leadership, Possibility Thinking, Thriving on Change, and Team-Building

- Achieve Joy and Success
- Break Through Personal Barriers
- Move From Fear to Freedom

Join the Excitement: Center for Spiritual Living, Two Science of Mind Way, Asheville, NC 28606
828-253-2325 • www.cslasheville.org • Love Offering

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1dX>

(4) Live @ The Boiler Room. (5) 2 mini Golf Tournaments. (6) The Chuck Beattie Band. (7) Moral Sunday. (8) Vocal Blast. (9) Joy Booth and Susan Reinhardt.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1dX>

(1) Joey Novick at Comedy Cabaret. (2) National Night Out. (3) Circle of Miracles Church Service.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#877
7.15.2013

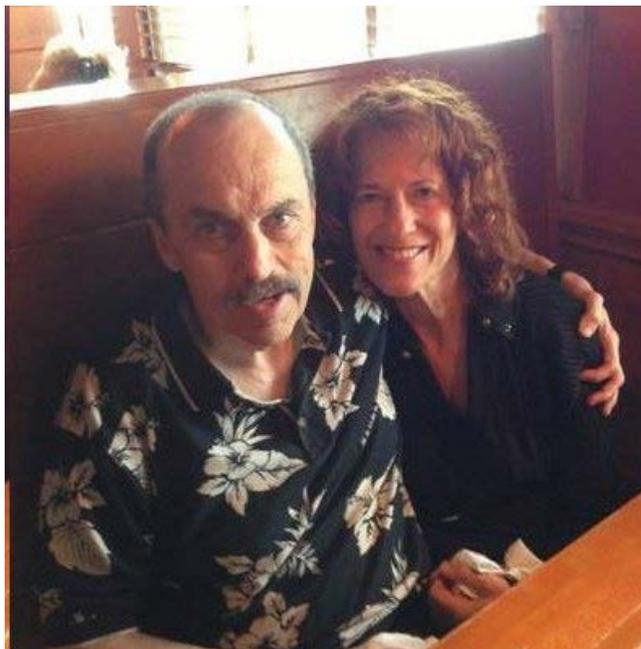
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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Celebrated our wedding anniversary by having dinner at one of our favorite local restaurants: Stone Ridge Tavern.



I don't think we have ever had a bad meal there, and this night was no exception. They always prepare the tilapia just the way I like it (with the coating used from coconut-fried shrimp), and Cynthia enjoyed her salmon. For more information about this eatery, please click:

<http://www.thestoneridgetavern.com/>

As for how long we've been married, my answer still remains: "No long enough!" In terms of years, the total is now eight.

(2) Saw BRIGADOON, perhaps the best production we've ever seen at HART (Haywood Regional Arts Theatre) in Waynesville. That's us with Strother Stingley in the center, one of the many outstanding performers in the cast. Special kudos to Steve Lloyd for his direction, as well as to Dr. Bradley Martin for serving as conductor of the 12-piece orchestra.



The show runs through August 4. For more information, please click:
<http://www.harttheater.com/>

B. GYPSY concludes its run at SART this coming Sunday, July 21. It is a show that has great music and dancing, as well as energetic performances from the entire cast. For tickets, please click:
https://secure.sellingticket.com/design22/clients/list/index_byUserListAll.aspx?OrganizationID=141



L-R: Steven Green, Alexis Miller, Justin Gaylard and yours truly.

Note: SART's next show, THE SUNSHINE BOYS, has a preview on Wednesday night, July 24 (with 1/2 price tickets) and opens on Thursday night, July 25 (with a reception immediately after the show). For tickets, you can again click:
https://secure.sellingticket.com/design22/clients/list/index_byUserListAll.aspx?OrganizationID=141

And see Section 12A for another SART event you won't want to miss.

During the week, I helped host an informative Constant Contact seminar on "Email Marketing" at ABTech that featured Aaron Means. He's the guy in the middle. Special thanks to Ginger Heskett on the left for helping with the registration.



Lastly, I enjoyed speaking at Guilford College's SGA (Student Government Association) retreat, held at the beautiful Laughing Frog Estate in Walnut, NC. On my left is Rita Serotkin; on my right is Cathie Witty.



C. Congratulations to:

- (1) Ed and Betsy Kohlhepp on the newest addition to their family, twin grandchildren.
- (2) Jim Donovan whose new book, "What are you waiting for? It's Your Life" (published by Sound Wisdom) is due out Oct 15th and is on Amazon now for pre-prder.
- (3) Susan Reinhardt for reaching 69 on he Amazon best-seller list with her book CHIMES.

Note: Susan is moving her regular wild blog topics to the following page:
<https://www.facebook.com/SusanReinhardtAuthor>

- (4) Strother Stingley on his recent engagement.
- (5) Bucks County Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick for being recognized as a "Friend of the National Parks" by the nonpartisan National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA).

(6) Claire Amon for taking 2nd Place in the Youth Category in Asheville Night Live!

D. Condolences to Jan Weinstein-Sparta and family on the passing of Jan's husband.

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

This week, it goes to Bryelle Dafeldecker--company manager and marketing assistant for SART this summer.

Bryelle has done a fantastic job in both capacities. She never complains and whenever she is asked to do something, she gets it done (seemingly within seconds). And her smile brightens whatever room she is in.

She is a recent graduate of High Point University, and she previously interned at Triad Stage. In the fall, she will be working with Florida Repertory Theatre.

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2. FYI

Recently, THE NEW YORK TIMES ran and answered a question that I submitted to its ethics column about whether it was OK to ask for your money back or slip into another theatre if you saw a truly terrible movie or one that was very violent. (See BLAINESWORLD #875 for the column.)

I'm still getting feedback on it; in fact, a rabbi who is a friend of mine in Colorado even used it to generate discussion in his temple . . .

Mel G. in CO: I used your question in shul last Saturday morning, I always begin with a teaching session.

They loved it! Most of them agreed with the Ethicist's decision, a substantial minority did not.

But then came The Question: Didn't he research the movie before he went? Look for reviews, trailers, ratings? He should have had a good idea what he was going to be watching before he arrived at the theater. If he did research, he has nothing to complain about. If he didn't do research, he should have!

So, my wise friend, they want to know your response...Hey, they're not so easy here in Colorado Springs!

My response: Yes, I research movies very thoroughly before I see them. Here's my favorite website to do so:

<http://www.rottentomatoes.com/>

It gives you a wide range of reviews from critics, as well as from non-critics.

I'll then typically try to find a movie that is well-received by both critics and non-critics, and I also check the subject matter; i.e., to see if it sounds appealing. Trailers also help, at times, though the problem with them is that they too often show only the best parts of a film--and frequently ruin the suspense of seeing a funny part when at the theatre.

So even after doing that, I'll still catch a clunker or two; e.g., BEFORE MIDNIGHT. It got great reviews and many audience members seemed to like it, but I found it way too talky. THE HEAT is another movie that I recently saw that I just didn't find very funny, and the trailers definitely had all the best spots.

In my opinion, much better current films are the following: (1) 20 FEET FROM STARDOM, a true story about the backup singers who are behind some of the greatest musical legends of the 21st century. Great soundtrack. (2) LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED, a romantic comedy about a stuffy Englishman and a Danish hairdresser who meet each other en route to Italy for the wedding of their his son and her daughter. Breathtaking scenery.

Best,

Blaine (Greenfield)

Biltmore Lake, NC

PS. Special invitation to members of your congregation: If they'd like to see my other movie reviews (and book reviews, too), as well as get some jokes that are hopefully not too risqué, just send an email to: bjinbc@aol.com and put COLORADO SUBSCRIPTION in the subject line. They'll get my weekly newsletter that also contains some consumer

information, computer tips, contests, etc.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Ravi G. in NC: Amazing Invention by Indian Scientist
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shkFDPI6kGE>

(2) Freedom R. in NC: Grandma Drummer
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NRhoHN8x_00#at=41

(3) Andy C. in NC: How to undress for your husband: LIFE publishes step-by-step guide to stripping in the bedroom
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2367710/Life-magazine-LIFE-publishes-step-step-guide-1930s-claims-disrobing-wrong-way-driving-Americas-divorce-rate.html>

(4) Marilynne H. in NC: Trayvon: A Moral Response | William J. Barber, II
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQAJ6lxBh78>

(5) Colleen D. in PA: Centerfield
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=04KQydIJ-qc

(6) Steve Turner Actor Reel
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWVmtlYdM1Q&feature=youtu.be>

(7) Tom Orr: They Can't Take That Away From Me
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Qv9fi-fIPnc

(8) Alyson M. in CO: One year old baby boy can play the drums flawlessly!
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=1393165377567690&set=vb.136336876521150&type=2&theater>

(9) Randy C. in CO: Low bridge
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=6NUTpMNIhrE

(10) Chuck Beattie - Can't Be Satisfied
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=OPHrd6LfzXc

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1do>

(1) Steve G. in PA. (2) Bernadette Y. in PA. (3) David F., in NY. (4) Dewitt R. in NC. (5) Jennifer G. in NC. (6) Natalie K. in PA. (7) Carol S. in FL. (8) Marilynne H. in NC. (9) Henry W. in NY. (10) Gary J. in NC. (11) Marvin S. in NC.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

In case your kids ask if you would like to go on vacation with them. . . BEWARE! (Though I guess it beats being tied to the roof of the car.)



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4. Reviews

To read each of the following reviews in Sections 4A-4D, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1do>

A. IN THE HOUSE (DANS LA MAISON)

B. 42

C. DO IT! MARKETING: 77 INSTANT-ACTION IDEAS TO BOOST SALES, MAXIMIZE PROFITS, AND CRUSH YOUR COMPETITION (Amazon) by David Newman

D. THE SECRET: THE POWER (Simon & Schuster Audio), written and read by Rhonda Byrne.

E. Don't forget: There's still time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #38 (that will have 9 winners) *****

Nine lucky readers will win one free subscription to an online magazine of their choice, including ESQUIRE, READER'S DIGEST, CONSUMER REPORTS, PC MAGAZINE, TV GUIDE, COSMOPOLITAN, CAR AND DRIVER, O, THE OPRAH MAGAZINE and thousands of others . . . for the complete list, please click:

www.zinio.com

To enter: Put "CONTEST #38" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bginbc@aol.com . . . make sure you also include your name, email address and name of the one magazine you'd like to get in the body of the email . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Sunday, July 21.

SPECIAL OFFER (in addition to the above): Read what you want with Z-Pass on any device. Get 3 magazines for \$5/month. No commitment. Try for 1 month free. For more information about this, please click: <http://bit.ly/z-pass-ah>

And please note: Per FTC regulations, I am letting y'all know that I am being compensated for running this contest; i.e., Zinio is letting me subscribe to one magazine of my choice.

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5. TV alert

A. THE BRIDGES, according to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, is "an unusually timely and troubling mystery series set on the volatile border between Texas (sleepy El Paso) and Mexico (dangerous, corrupt Juarez)." Wednesdays at 10 p.m. on FX.

B. BREAKING AMISH is about a group of Amish and Mennonite youths as they live their sheltered lives to see if the outside world is any better. Season premiere on Sunday at 10 p.m. on TLC.

C. "High Tech, Low Life" from the excellent POV series follows two citizen journalists and bloggers in China. Monday, July 22 at 10 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

D. "No Limits" on the NINE FOR IX series is the tragic story of free-diver Audrey Mestre, who was drawn to diving as a therapeutic outlet from scoliosis and later immersed herself in the sport through a relationship with Cuban defector Pipin Ferreras. Tuesday, July 23 at 8 p.m. on ESPN.

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6. Joke 2

BE PREPARED: As we enter the summer storm season, federal disaster officials have warned that Internet outages could force people to interact with other people for the first

time in years. Residents are bracing themselves for the horror of awkward silences and unwanted eye contact. FEMA has advised: Be prepared. Write down possible topics to talk about in advance; for example, sports, the weather, etc. Remember--a conversation is basically a series of Facebook updates strung together.



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7. Websites

A. Susan M. in NJ: Dustin Hoffman Breaks Down Crying Explaining Something That Every Woman Sadly Already Experienced

<http://www.upworthy.com/dustin-hoffman-breaks-down-crying-explaining-something-that-every-woman-sadly-already-experienced-3>

B. Ed B. in NC: This is very, very, very funny. Makes me want to go watch every episode of Seinfeld. I haven't watched them all, but the one's with Michael Richards, Carl Reiner & Mel Brooks, Don Rickles and Alec Baldwin are priceless. The one with Larry David is a slice of what it must have been like to see the Seinfeld shows emerge from their conversations. Unbelievable.

<http://comediansincarsgettingcoffee.com/>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

To see a list of books and CDs that I have reviewed (and enjoyed, for the most part), click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Websites." Look under "Books and Music Reviews" and click the link under #2.

If you find my reviews helpful, please advise amazon.com of that fact. To do so:

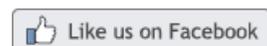
1. Find a recent review; e.g. POetry Girls!!! by Rich Orth.
2. Find name of the book at this website:

www.amazon.com

3. You'll see my review at the top or toward the top.
4. When asked was this review helpful, please say "yes."

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



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8. Computer tip

Karen M. in NC: Check out this browser if you're looking for a browser that protects privacy. Duckduckgo dictates that "it protects searcher privacy and will not record any information." Their tagline is "Search anonymously. Find instantly." It has more instant answers and less spam/clutter.

<https://duckduckgo.com/>

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9. Joke 3

A woman and a baby were in the doctor's examining room. He soon arrived and examined the baby. He checked his weight, found it somewhat below normal and asked if the baby was breast fed or bottle fed. "Breast fed," she replied. . . . "Well strip down to your waist," the doctor ordered. She did. . . . He pressed, kneaded, rolled, cupped and pinched both breasts for a while in a detailed, rigorously thorough examination. Motioning to her to get dressed, he said, "No wonder this baby is underweight. You don't have any milk." . . . "I know," she said, "I'm his Grandma, But I'm sure glad I came."



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10. A quote I like

With all the coverage . . . with all the opinions . . . with all the politics, I'm so tired of it all. And I'm just hoping beyond hope that people can get beyond the obvious tricks of the media and the partisan antics of government. It's time to stop being divided, and it's also time to stop dividing. Look at yourself and honestly evaluate: Are you a divider? Or a unifying force for good on this earth?. I know which one I'm choosing.--Rachel Rizzutti, a talented singer-songwriter in Charleston, SC, on her Facebook Wall.

Note: She can be reached via Twitter @RachelRizzuti or via Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/rachel.rizzuti.5>

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11. Thought for the day

A new game
by Jennifer Howell Gillies*

A new game I have decided to play... "How can it get any better than this?" "How much MORE BLESSED can I possibly be?" I heard this on a video a few days ago, and as a family

we are REALLY ready for things to shift up a gear or two... So we manifested this little game... and WOW... the results. The trick is to ALWAYS keep it positive... I was going to choir practice last night and started playing... usually I keep myself to myself as for me it has been about the singing, and I have felt socially awkward, but I was in the zone... so I was open. I was excited to go so I said, "How does it get any better than this?" And then I was drawn to sit by someone I never really talked to and a few other people came over and we were able to have the MOST awesome vortexy conversations, and one was like "I am SO glad I got to talk to you." and so I said, "WOW... how does it get any better than this..." and then someone offered to buy my juice at the pub... WOW how does it get any better than this... I can't WAIT to see how much more blessed I can be... to the universe it doesn't matter the size of the blessing, but the willingness to see and receive it. If it makes you feel good, then you are calling bigger and bigger things into being.

* Reprinted with the gracious permission of Jennifer, a healer, past life reader and spiritual life coach. To read her informative blog, please click:
<http://www.unlockingthedivinewithin.blogspot.co.uk/>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1)



(2) You are invited...

Secrets: Freeing the Hidden Story

DVD Release Celebration, Fundraiser and Community Dialogue

Sunday, August 11

Jubilee! Community, 6:00 p.m.

Have you heard the buzz around town?

"Moving beyond words!" "Flawlessly done!" "Invaluable insights!"

If you missed Secrets: Freeing the Hidden Story, presented at Diana Wortham Theatre in June or want another chance to see it, join Artistic Director, Barrie Barton, the Secret Cast and supporters for a DVD Release Celebration, Fundraiser and Community Dialogue.

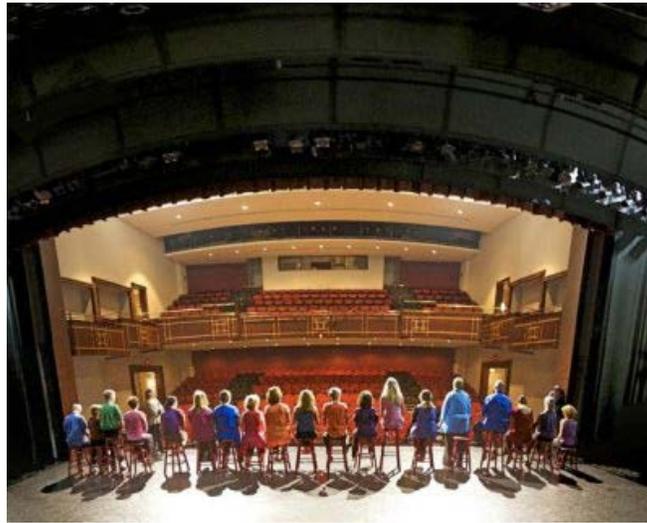
Secrets, explores the universal topic of secrets: why we keep them and what they really hold for us. Expect a powerful showcase of story, comedy, movement, poetry and film that is at once edgy, humorous, heart breaking and heart opening.

Proceeds benefit Community Choreography Projects future performances and projects.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.

More Information: (828) 658-1217

www.communitychoreography.com



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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1do>

(3) Les Mis. (4) The Caro Savanti Experience. (5) LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST. (6) CAROUSEL.
(7) Beatles & British Invasion! (8) Vocal Blast. (9) Give Me Love.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1do>

(1) OLIVER! (2) BBQ Time.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

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7.8.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Loved seeing GYPSY at SART. Kudos to director Pam Atha, as well as the entire cast and crew, for making this one of the theatre's best productions of all time. I'll long remember Liz Aiello's final number, and her co-star Ben Starr Coates is just perfect as the agent who has always loved her.



L-R: Liz Aiello, Blaine Greenfield, Cynthia Greenfield and Ben Starr Coates.

For more information, please see this video preview:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=W1kH9c9MBco

Or read the following review:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013307090003>

GYPSY runs through July 21. For tickets, please click:

<http://www.sartplays.org/>

(2) As we often do, had a blast one night in downtown Asheville one recent night with a bunch of our friends. We began thing with dinner at Farm Burger, a relatively new eatery on Patton Ave. that not only features great hamburgers, but salads, chicken sandwiches and sweet potato fries that are every bit as good . For more information, please click:

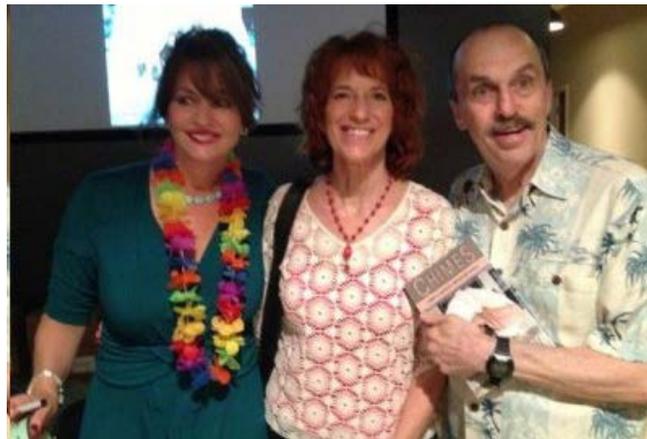
<http://www.farmburger.net/asheville/>

We then saw a street performer named Alex who dazzled us with his juggling skills. He has a wide variety of objects on the sidewalk in front of him, and he lets the audience choose what they'd like him to juggle.



Note: If any reader knows the last name of Alex, as well as his contact information, please share that information with me.

From there, we went to a book signing for Susan Reinhardt's latest novel: CHIMES FROM A SOUTHERN BELL. I'm looking forward to reading it!



To obtain a copy, please click:
<http://gratefulsteps.org/rapidcart/index.html>

We concluded the evening at Pack Square at a Shindig on the Green performance (something that takes place every Saturday night). For more information, please click:
<http://www.folkheritage.org/shindigonthegreen.htm>



L-R: Cynthia Greenfield, Connie Ruble, Carole Biro, Blaine Greenfield, Brian Biro and Bob

Bowles.

B. On another night, I attended the 18th birthday party of Athena Destiny at Hotel Indigo.



Athena is currently doing a great job in GYPSY. She's one of the strippers, and her number with both Beverly Todd and Alison Young, is one of the highlights of the show. (See also Section 1A.)

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Rebecca AxeRosa for landing a part-time gig with Fairytalepartyphilly.com--a company that provides princesses and other characters for parties and other events. She's slated to appear this upcoming weekend as Cinderella and next weekend, she'll be appearing as Snow White.

(2) BJ Leiderman for creating the new theme music for NPR's Science Friday. For more information, please click:

<http://www.sciencefriday.com/segment/07/05/2013/writing-tunes-to-tune-in-to.html>

(3) Dewitt Robbeloth for having the MOUNTAIN EXPRESS run his blog entry, "The charm of baseball (with a dose of Asheville)." To read it, please click:

<http://www.mountainx.com/article/51084/The-charm-of-baseball-with-a-dose-of-Asheville>

(4) Ed Edelson, First Selectman of Southbury, CT, for his role in helping make the documentary "Honoring the Brave" a reality. To see it, please click:

http://www.southbury-ct.org/content/990/109/8719/10241.aspx?utm_source=FSM&utm_medium=post&utm_campaign=Honoring+the+Brave

(5) Sandra R. in VA, winner of Contest #37: a CD copy of THE WOLVES OF ANDOVER by Kathleen Kent. All told, there were 8 entries. And that reminds me that it's now time to introduce . . .

***** CONTEST #38 (that will have 9 winners) *****

Nine lucky readers will win one free subscription to an online magazine of their choice, including ESQUIRE, READER'S DIGEST, CONSUMER REPORTS, PC MAGAZINE, TV GUIDE, COSMOPOLITAN, CAR AND DRIVER, O, THE OPRAH MAGAZINE and thousands of others . . .

. . . for the complete list, please click:

www.zinio.com

To enter: Put "CONTEST #38" in the subject line of an email and send it to:

bginbc@aol.com . . . make sure you also include your name, email address and name of the one magazine you'd like to get in the body of the email . . . all entries must be received on or before 9 p.m. on Sunday, July 21.

SPECIAL OFFER (in addition to the above): Read what you want with Z-Pass on any device. Get 3 magazines for \$5/month. No commitment. Try for 1 month free.

For more information about this, please click:

<http://bit.ly/z-pass-ah>

And please note: Per FTC regulations, I am letting y'all know that I am being compensated for running this contest; i.e., Zinio is letting me subscribe to one magazine of my choice.

D. Condolences to the family and friends of William Carman who passed away on May 30 after a long illness. He taught business and finance courses at Bucks County Community College for more than 25 years (where we were also officemates for several years), and he was co-founder of Bucks County Transport-- the Bucks County paratransit firm for which he served as controller for more than 15 years.

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

This week, it goes to Chuck Fink--a friend who doesn't know the meaning of retirement.

He moved to Asheville in late 2008 and a year later, founded a Special Interest Group at the Osher Learning Institute called Men's Wisdom Works wherein men encourage one another to disclose and to build strong bonds with others engaged in similar transitional experiences such as retirement and other life changes. There are now eight groups with more than 100 men participating. For more information, please click:
www.mwwasheville.com

In addition, Chuck has served on the The Council on Aging of Buncombe County and been a volunteer/facilitator for Asheville SCORE.

And he took a stand-up comedy course with me, becoming a big success in his performance that you can see by clicking:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jShVfDgKHbM>

Lastly, Chuck has somehow managed to find time to act in the local theatre-scene. He can now be seen in GYPSY (see also Section 1A). That's him on the far right with yours truly on the left, along with three other performers from the show: Breanna Gormley and Poopa in front and Doug Hauschild behind her.



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2. FYI

To reduce printer waste and cut costs, reuse much of the paper that goes through your printer. Do so for drafts, misprints and duplicate documents that you would have ordinarily tossed into the recycle bin.

For more information on this topic, please click:
http://www.pcworld.com/article/212073/how_to_reuse_printer_paper.html

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Jennifer S. in NC: James Brown Live - Get up offa that thing
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=0ROzGihgCj8#at=17

(2) Mackenzie K in NY: Best wedding proposal ever
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=487329411357630>

(3) CUPS!! - Pitch Perfect - Sam Tsui, Alex G, Kina Grannis, Kurt Schneider
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=6y1aOg_UO_A

(4) Jean D. in PA: Richardson teacher's retirement ends one last echo of disco fashion
<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/columnists/steve-blow/20130629-richardson-teacher-s-retirement-ends-one-last-echo-of-disco-fashion.ece>

(5) Susan M. in NJ: Turkish dad shows his family how to dance
<http://www.wimp.com/dancingdad/>

(6) Linda G. in NJ: When it's even too hot for a dog to swim outside!
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=287979084681668>

(7) Sleepy animals
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRgQaOOZRo4>

(8) Corinne G. in PA: Laughing Tram Man
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Wk9-gkT2bl8

(9) Magician phases a phone through a bottle
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=jc05eAAzR_w

(10) You are my sunshine
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FafLnokzeNo&feature=share>

(11) Arlene S. in PA: Balance is Everything
<http://www.flixxy.com/the-incredible-power-of-concentration-miyoko-shida.htm#.UZBuYJV9m-K>

B. Other

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

(1) Henry W. in NY. (2) Mel G. in CO. (3) Laura B. in NJ. (4) Pat L. in CA. (5) Rob L., in NJ.
(6) Sharon B. in NC (with a cute joke and picture). (7) Dewitt R. in NC.

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3. Joke 1

During a fire drill at a child-care center, a teacher asked the kids, "What would you do if I accidentally started a fire on the stove and your lunch was burning?" . . . One five-year-old knew: "I wouldn't eat that lunch."

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4. Reviews

A. 20 FEET FROM STARDOM is a true story about the backup singers who are behind some of the greatest musical legends of the 21st century. . . you won't recognize most of their names (with the exception of Darleen Love), but you'll be moved by their stories--many of them heartbreaking . . . featured are interviews with Bruce Springsteen, Stevie Wonder, Mick Jagger and Sting, among others, along with a fantastic soundtrack . . . you might have to dig to find this documentary in mainstream theatres, but your effort will be worth it. . . rated PG-13.

B. Watching 20 FEET, I was reminded of another documentary: STANDING IN THE SHADOWS OF MOTOWN . . . it's available via DVD . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #349 follows:

Catch STANDING IN THE SHADOWS OF MOTOWN if you can, if just to hear Joan Osborne's powerful rendition of some of the songs . . . you'll also get a greater appreciation for how a

tambourine--played by Jack Ashford--can make such a difference in the way a song sounds . . . I was amazed to find out that the music involving the Funk Brothers have sold more records than the Beatles, Beach Boys, Rolling Stones and Elvis--combined! One other thing that made this music unique; i.e., it was colorblind . . . the Funk Brothers did not care whether a member of their group was black or white; all that mattered was whether the musician could jam. Rated PG.

Note: Both the above are part of my list of favorite films . . . if you'd like me to send you this breakdown, please send an email to: bjnbc@aol.com and put FAVORITE FILMS in the subject line.

C. BEYOND OFFICE POLITICS: THE HIDDEN STORY OF POWER, AFFILIATION & ACHIEVEMENT IN THE WORKPLACE (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform) by Linda Sommer is a short parable-type book about a senior manager who is coached through common situations that involve office politics.

The author, head of her own consulting firm, presents an engaging look at a topic that's not covered in schools or many books; i.e., what makes it possible for some to do well in an organization while others fail.

To help make her point, Sommer introduces the work of David McClelland, the Harvard psychologist:

* McClelland found that there are essentially three motivational styles: Power, Affiliation, and achievement. While none of these motives comes in pure form, there is always a natural, preferred motivational expression that underlies a person's motives. However, these motives are mostly hidden agendas since they are more implicit than explicit, and knowing a person's preference will give you great leverage as you adapt your interactions to line up with his or her motivational worldview bias.

She also gave useful advice through the use of actions taken by the manager:

* What Don had found from his data collection was that somewhere from one-third to one-half of all email he received appeared to be the sender's attempts to avoid personal, real-time communications. This often resulted in multiple emails that stretched over several days, thereby slowing down progress on the matter at hand. Many voicemail messages, as well, appeared to be contact-avoidance voicemail. He caught himself at this several times during the course of his data gathering and forced himself to avoid leaving long, explanatory messages in favor of a short request that his call be returned as soon as possible.

I actually liked the fact that BEYOND OFFICE POLITICS didn't have a romantic subplot thrown into it; rather, there's just some practical material that can be used by managers at almost an level . . . in addition, there's an excellent summary at the end of the book (called Coach's Notes) that contains each chapter's conceptual highlights, as well as extra material.

D. Heard THREE NIGHTS IN AUGUST: STRATEGY, HEARTBREAK, AND JOY; INSIDE THE MIND OF A MANGER (HighBridge Company), written by Buzz Bissinger and read by Jeffrey Nordling.

Bissinger, author of the classic FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS, was hired by St. Louis Cardinals manager Tony LaRussa to write this study of a three-game series between his team and the Chicago Cubs in August, 2003.

Ordinarily, you might think that such a narrow focus would be overkill . . . but the author manages to keep your interest on every page by incorporating background stories on such players as Darryl Kile, the star player who died in the middle of a season; Rick Ankiel, the pitcher who lost the ability to throw strikes; and the incomparable Albert Pujols.

If you're a baseball fan, you're going to love THREE NIGHTS IN AUGUST.

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5. TV alert

A. CAMP follows the antics of a group of campers and counselors at a lakeside summer camp named Little Otter Family Camp, run by the always watchable Rachel Griffiths. Wednesdays at 10 p.m. on NBC.

B. PRETTY DANGEROUS is a documentary series that takes up the subject of beautiful con women who seduce successful men of means. Saturdays at 8 p.m. on INVESTIGATION DISCOVERY. Episodes get repeated throughout the week, so if you miss any, you can get

the entire schedule by clicking:

<http://investigation.discovery.com/tv-shows/saturday-night-seduction/tv-schedule.htm>

C. THE CRASH REEL is a documentary about a star athlete (snowboarding champion Kevin Pearce) whose career was cut by a critical brain injury. According to Dorothy Rabinowitz in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "[it] goes flying past all the cliches and treacle-soaked heroics embedded in this theme to a wondrously hard-edge life all its own." Monday, July 15 at 9 p.m. on HBO.

D. "Let Them Wear Towels" tells the story of the national debate about women in men's locker rooms that came about as a result of a female journalist being sexually harassed by players on the New England Patriots. It's part of the excellent NINE FOR IX series on ESPN. Tuesday, July 16 at 9 p.m.

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6. Joke 2

Next home repair project: Who cares? Nobody would ever notice!



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7. Websites

A. Eye-opening video: How Hot Does it Get in a Parked Car? Dr Ernie Ward
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JbOcCQ-y3OY>

For the accompanying article, please click:
http://www.autoblog.com/2013/07/07/vet-finds-out-what-your-dog-experiences-in-a-parked-car-on-a-sun/?a_dgi=aolshare_facebook

B. Please view this beautiful piece, "The Bliss of Healing, performed by my friend Richard Shulman and The Pure Heart Ensemble:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WGuciKENU8&feature=youtu.be>

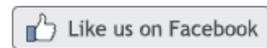
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:
<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

To find out where I go when I need to buy something, please click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Choices."

Note: The above information changes every so often, so make sure you check back.

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



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8. Computer tip

Adobe Photoshop will set you back several hundred dollars. The reality, however, is that it is overkill for most things; e.g., if you want a quick image retouch. Consider Paint.NET instead. It's an open-source freeware editor with all the essentials, including tools to crop, rotate, and resize images, adjust colors, and create collages. To download at no charge, please click:

http://download.cnet.com/Paint-NET/3000-2192_4-10338146.html

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9. Joke 3

Alice and Frank are bungee-jumping one day. Alice says to Frank, "You know, we could make a lot of money running our own bungee-jumping service in Mexico." Frank thinks this is a great idea. So they pool their money and buy everything they need: a tower, an elastic cord, insurance, etc. They travel to Mexico and begin to set up on a square in a small town. . . . As they are constructing the tower, a crowd begins to assemble. Slowly, more and more people gather to watch them at work. When they finish, there's such a crowd they think it would be a good idea to give a demonstration. . . . So, Alice jumps. She bounces at the end of the cord, but when she comes back up, Frank notices that she has a few cuts and scratches. Unfortunately, Frank isn't able to catch her and she falls again, bounces, and comes back up again. This time, she is bruised and bleeding. Again, Frank misses her. Alice falls again and bounces back up. This time she comes back pretty messed up; she has a couple of broken bones and is almost unconscious. . . . Luckily, Frank finally catches her this time and says, "What happened? Was the cord too long?" . . . Barely able to speak, Alice gasps, "No, the bungee cord was fine; it was the crowd. What in the world is a piñata?"



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10. A quote I like

This makes sense to me. And though finishative isn't yet an "official" world, methinks it should be!

**“Initiative is important.
Finishative is vital.**

Harvey Mackay

HarveyMackay.com

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11. Thought for the day

If neither of these suggestions work, that's why they invented jewelry.

If a woman is upset, hold her and
tell her how beautiful she is.
If she starts to growl, retreat
to a safe distance and throw
chocolate at her.

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1cU>

(1) THE CARO SAVANTI EXPERIENCE. (2) GIVE ME LOVE. (3) Community Cafe. (4) I LAND.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1cU>

(1) Richard Shulman & Elaine Silver. (2) One of Doylestown's underground artists: Cecile Kandl. (3) Plumstead Historical Society. (4) Ambassador Andrew Young. (5) OLIVER!

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#875
7.1.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Enjoyed dinner with my cousin Ruth Citrin. I hadn't seen her for some 10 years and Cynthia had never met her, so we were delighted that she had come from Florida to visit her friends (and ours, too) Dave and Judy Blumlo.



L-R: Front row: Dave Blumlo; rear row: Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield, Ruth Citrin and Judy Blumlo.

That evening, we also learned a new word when we found ourselves with one delicious steak left. To quote Tom Gallagher, who joined us with his wife Marcy: "Murraying" something or "to murray" is a verb meaning to take the last piece or two of cake, steak--or whatever is still on the table at the end of a meal--and to cut it into small pieces, placing the plate with the cut up pieces back in the middle of the table. Before long, dinner guests who wouldn't dare take the last full piece are finishing off the smaller pieces from the plate. And soon there are no left overs! The original Murray was a longtime friend of Dave's in Detroit.

(2) Had a blast making homemade pizza at a party hosted by our friends Bob Bowles and Connie Ruble.



It was Bob's birthday, too, so we celebrated with a special birthday pizza that Connie had made.



L-R: Bob Bowles and Connie Ruble.

We even saw an amazing tango demonstration from Susannah and Eric Gebhart, Bob's friends.



For more information about Susannah and Eric, please click:
<http://tangobreath.com/>

(3) And we revisited Cynthia's recent performance in SECRETS when we received the following picture. (Cynthia is far left in the back row.)



B. We also attended the Opening Night performance of SART's production of GYPSY, a play we have co-sponsored with Dr. Doug Hauschild of Weaverville Eye Associates.



I'll provide more details next week; however, I will tell you that this show is one of the

best I have ever seen at SART. You'll love it.

For more information, please see this video preview:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=W1kH9c9MBco

Or read the following review:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013307090003>

GYPSY runs through July 21. For tickets, please click:

www.sartplays.org

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Julian Greenfield, my grandnephew (second from left), for coming in fifth in a recent hot dog eating competition. He didn't quite finish one. To quote his mother Bettina, "There was some pretty heavy competition."



(2) Michelle Baker in NC. Her painting, Remnant 2, sold! It will be hung in a private collection in Manhattan. For more information, here's an email I recently received from Michelle: "I have attached an image of the sister painting, Remnant 1, that is currently hanging at Gallery Asheville. The painting can be bought as a triptych or as separate panels. You can inquire about that painting directly to the gallery:

www.galleryasheville.com

"For more images, please visit my website:

www.michellebakerproductions.com

"Please contact me directly about all others and feel free to spread the word!"

(3) Joe McDermott for having been unanimously approved as a member of the Board of Directors of America On Wheels transportation museum in Allentown for a two-year term. For more information, please click:

<http://www.americaonwheels.org/>

(4) Rodney Altemose and Steve Martin who recently celebrated their Civil Union.

(5) Lois Lytingale Henrickson and Kat Williams for both being named to the following list: One Dozen WNC Women You Should Know in Music & Dance.

(6) Jess Palotas for taking 2nd place in 4 out of the 5 photography categories at the Blue Ribbon Fair.

D. Condolences to:

(1) Walt Wiesenhutter and family on the passing of Anne P. Wiesenhutter, Walt's wife. Viewings will be held from 6 to 8 PM on Sunday, July 7th, and from 8:30 to 9:30 AM Monday, July 8th at Louis Swift Plunkett Funeral Home, 529 N. York Road, Hatboro. Funeral Mass will be held at 10:00 AM Monday, July 8 at St. Cyril of Jerusalem Church, 1410 Almshouse Rd., Jamison. Burial will be in St. John Neumann Cemetery, 3797 County Line Road, Chalfont, Pa. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Anne's name to St. Joseph's Preparatory School, 1733 W. Girard Ave., Philadelphia, 19130.

(2) Family and friends of the 19 firefighters from the Prescott Fire Department who died while battling the Yarnell Hill Fire in Arizona.

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

This week, it goes to Greg Branson and his many fine employees at the Carolina Cinemas in Asheville.

Greg is the general manager, and he always greets us (and everybody else for that matter) with a big smile.

That also seems to be the case with everybody else who works there. They tend to be both enthusiastic and friendly, and that always enhances our movie-going experience.

We further like going here because of wide range of movies that are continually shown (including independent and foreign films), as well as for the sofa-seating that's available in a few of the theatres. There's even food that's pretty good and that you can have delivered to wherever you are sitting.

For more information, please click:

<http://www.carolinacinemas.com/asheville/>

Note: You can save a dollar every time you go to Carolina Cinemas by joining the Asheville Film Society. There are lots of other benefits, too. For more information, please click:

<http://www.ashevillefilm.org/membership/>

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2. FYI

Last week, I told you that my question on movies was slated to be run in THE NEW YORK TIMES this week . . . it follows:

THE ETHICIST
by Chuck Klosterman

MOVIE-NIGHT SWITCHEROO

I go to the movies often. Sometimes I'll see something that is terrible or too violent for my tastes. Is it O.K. to walk out and go into another movie? Or even ask for my money back? BLAINE GREENFIELD, BILTMORE LAKE, NC

In enormous multiplex cinemas, I see patrons doing this quite often, and I assume their logic is this: They feel as if they've paid for a movie, so it's up to them to decide which movie they see. This would be a justifiable argument if theaters sold tickets for three-hour blocks of time, but that's not how the world works. Buying a ticket does not award you 180 minutes inside the walls of the building (which you can use in whatever way you want). Your ticket gives you access to a specific movie in a specific location at a specific time. That's the transaction.

There's an assumed risk with subjective art. When you buy a ticket for an artistic event, there's no guarantee that you'll like it. You can't argue that the ticket buyer is owed a film experience that meets his or her personal criteria for quality entertainment, because the only guarantee is that the advertised movie will be screened at that place at that time. Your critical opinion does not dictate a refund. And by changing theaters, you're hurting the creators of the film you saw without directly paying for it. A film's box-office performance is obviously dictated by box-office sales. If you pay for a bad movie but end up watching a different one, you are rewarding the bad director while taking revenue from the director who made entertainment you liked, in that way incrementally perpetuating the likelihood that more bad movies will be made in the future.

Note: This response is slated to appear in print on July 7, 2013 on p. MM13 of THE NEW YORK TIMES Sunday Magazine. Online, look for it on 7.5.13.

Thanks to those who responded to the Mr. Curious question in last week's issue (on the same topic), including: Carole B. in NC: If you don't find another movie, as for your \$\$ back. . . . Patty A. in PA: I walked out of a movie theater years ago when it was just too gory, but that was my choice for going to that one even if I didn't think it was that bad, so no, I'd just leave. If that happened now, I'd probably go slip in another one. . . . Sandy B. in PA: No on the money back--there is no guarantee that you will LIKE a movie. Marty would change theatres in a NY minute! I don't think anyone cares unless it is a sold-out show or something. (Sneaky: Go to restroom and return to different movie.)

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Dane B. in NC: Drum Circle dancer (in Asheville)

https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10201799855106346&comment_id=76331176&offset=0&total_comments=2¬if_t=video_reply

(2) Janeen R. in PA: Freedom Song

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TSpWbAQCvQ>

(3) Fiora L. in NC: Move Over Barbie--You're Obsolete

<http://yearswww.upworthy.com/move-over-barbie-8212-youre-obsolete?g=4>

(4) Corinne G. in PA: 'Forte' - America's Got Talent

<http://www.flixxy.com/forte-americas-got-talent.htm#.Uc7NP7aBJ8w.email>

(5) Tom Girardi: 4th of July, performed by Carmen Marranco; co-written by Marranco and Girardi.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwyAAGkLT6Y&feature=share>

(6) Arlene S. in PA: Light in Jerusalem 2013

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLipWnHhouY>

(7) Timothy R. in NC: New care model

<http://tinyurl.com/l93orza>

(8) Jerry [Gross] doing stand up for bowling banquet

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=k7lq2j_dkFw#at=633

(9) Pat A. in PA: ESPN Compilation of Soldiers Returning Home is a Tear Jerker

<http://conservativevideos.com/2013/07/espn-compilation-of-soldiers-returning-home-is-a-tear-jerker/>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1cd>

(1) Beverly T. in NC. (2) Kendra A. in NC. (3) Hayley W. in Western NC. (4) Free online Body Mass Index. (5) John W. in NJ. (6) Natalie K. in PA. (7) Linda L. in NC. (8) Carol S. in FL. (9) Kelli M. in NC. (10) Monica F. in PA. (11) Gary J. in NC.

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3. Joke 1

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Tom, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?"

"No," replied Tom. "How could he with just two worms?"

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4. Reviews

A. LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED is a romantic comedy about a stuffy Englishman and a Danish hairdresser who meet each other en route to Italy for the wedding of their his son and her daughter . . . Pierce Brosnan and Trine Dyrholm are both touching in the two leading roles, and this film grew on me as I got into it . . . the scenery is breathtaking . . . rated R.

B. NO is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #869 follows:

You may have to dig some to find NO in a local theatre, but your effort will be worth it.

This drama is based on an actual event; i.e., what happened in 1988 when Chilean military dictator Augusto Pinochet, due to international pressure, was forced to call a plebiscite on his presidency. If the country votes "yes," Pinochet stays on for another eight years; if "no," Chile gets set free. A young advertising executive (the always watchable Gael Garcia Bernal) is brought in to spearhead the latter campaign. Rated R, but certainly appropriate for any mature teenager.

C. WHEN CAN YOU START? ACE THE INTERVIEW AND GET HIRED (Career Upshift Productions) by Paul Freiburger is a comprehensive guide for anybody currently seeking employment.

It covers all the essential parts of the interviewing process in a clear, easy-to-read fashion. Also included are many examples that help expand the author's points.

Some advice is just plain common sense, but I've seen that many people fail to follow it; e.g., with respect to following through after the meeting:

* Post-interview etiquette is extremely important and, properly managed, can lead to good things.

The first order of business is to send a thank-you note within 48 hours of the interview. Send a note to anyone you dealt with, not just the interviewee. Notes may be written by hand and personalized. Mention something specific about the interview. Keep things formal and professional.

If you're tempted to email your thanks, resist. Email, despite its many uses, is not ideal here.

Then there's this useful tidbit about what's basic in all job interviews:

* Every interview is different, but every interview is the same. There may be some unusual questions, even the occasional detour into the bizarre, but three questions are thoroughly predictable. In fact, they are so likely to be raised that, when the conversation turns to life's inevitabilities, they deserve equal billing with death and taxes.

Taking a page from basketball's Miami Heat, with its "big three" of LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, and Chris Bosh, here are the big three of the job interview:

Tell me about yourself.
Tell me about your strengths.
Tell me about your weaknesses.

Lastly, I liked this advice with respect to the question of compensation:

* Unless you are talking to a recruiter, let the interviewer introduce the topic of compensation. If that topic is not covered, there will be ample time to talk about salary and benefits later in the process-provided, of course, that the interview was enough of a success that "later in the process" comes to pass.

The more I think about it, the more I think that WHEN CAN YOU START? is even a good book for those to read who are currently employed because you never know when that situation might change in today's turbulent economy.

D. Heard CAR TALK CLASSICS: FOUR PERFECTLY GOOD HOURS (High Bridge Company), written and read by Ray Magliozzi and Tom Magliozzi.

It features four complete shows from the authors' wacky call-in program on National Public Radio. Now I must confess to not being a "car guy," but that said, I laughed at much of what these real-life brothers (aka Click and Clack, the Tappet Brothers) had to say. In addition, I perhaps even learned a thing or two.

The calls covered a range of topics, ranging from how do you tow 9,000 pounds of barbecue equipment to how do you remove a stench from your car that can't seem to come out, and they almost always included bits of humor that didn't come across as scripted.

My only regret is that original episodes of CAR TALK are no longer on the air, in that the Magliozzi brothers retired in 2012.

E. Reminder: You still have time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #37 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the following book on CD: THE WOLVES OF ANDOVER by Kathleen Kent . . . to quote from the amazon.com book description, "In the harsh wilderness of colonial Massachusetts, Martha Allen works as a servant in her cousin's household, taking charge and locking wills with everyone. Thomas Carrier labors for the family and is known both for his immense strength and size and mysterious past. The two begin a courtship that suits their independent natures, with Thomas slowly revealing the story of his part in the English Civil War. But in the rugged new world they inhabit, danger is ever present, whether it be from the assassins sent from London to kill the executioner of Charles I or the wolves--in many forms--who hunt for blood. A love story and a tale of courage, [it] confirms Kathleen Kent's ability to craft powerful stories of family from colonial history."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #37" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bjinbc@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 Sunday, July 7.

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5. TV alert

A. "Venus vs." on NINE FOR IX profiles Venus Williams, spotlighting the elder Williams sister who helped elevate the quality and stature of women's tennis. Sunday at 7 p.m. on ESPN CLASSIC.

B. BETTY WHITE'S OFF THEIR ROCKERS appears to be worth a watch because Ed Asner, her former MARY TYLER MOORE SHOW, costars in skits about love during various decades. Tuesday, July 9 at 8:30 p.m. on NBC.

C. ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK premieres on Netflix on Thursday, July 11 is a dark comedy about a woman who starts a 15-month incarceration stint on drug-related charges. According to Sohrab Ahmari in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "The performances by the likes of Mr. Biggs, Ms. Mulgrew and, especially, Ms. Schilling are so convincing, and the dialogue so sharp, that one of this feels like prurience for its own sake. That's also because the show doesn't lack for pathos or moments of moral seriousness."

D. HOLLYWOOD GAME NIGHT premieres on Thursday, July 11 at 10 p.m. on NBC . . . funny people in show business, including Matthew Perry, Lisa Kudrow and Martin Short, team up with everyday contestants team in pop culture-inspired party games. Jane Lynch hosts.

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6. Joke 2

Leaving Asheville for Philadelphia, I make a stop at a rest area on the side of the road. The first stall was taken so I went in the second stall. I just sat down when I hear a voice from the next stall: "Hi there, how's it going?" . . . OK, I'm not the type to start conversations with strangers in bathrooms. I didn't know what to say, so finally I say: "Not bad." . . . Then the voice says: "So what are you doing?" . . . I am starting to find that a bit weird, but I say: "Well, I'm going to Philadelphia." . . . Then I hear the person say all flustered: "Look I'll call you back. Every time I ask you a question, this idiot in the next stall keeps answering me."



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7. Websites

A. Warning: If you look at this website, you're going to waste a lot of time--but you'll also have fun. You can watch the openings and hear the theme songs of hundreds of old TV show, going back to the 1950s. You'll find "Happy Days" and "Cheers," but such oldies as "77 Sunset Strip" and "Rawhide." In addition, many of the shows have descriptions that will add to your enjoyment.

<http://www.openingthemes.tv/>

B. Fallon, Crystal, and Seinfeld revisit Abbott & Costello's classic "Who's On First?" routine, where we finally get to meet the team's first-baseman "Who," second-baseman "What," and third-baseman "I Don't Know."

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0Jg7pvVzKk>

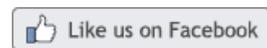
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

In case you've always wanted to know how many others are looking at this website when you do, check out the counter in the lower left-hand side of the home page.

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



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8. Computer tip

Let's hear it for Adblock Plus, an add-on I rely on when using my Chrome browser . . . it makes it possible to bypass anywhere from 1-10 ads, depending on the website I'm looking at . . . to obtain and use it for free, please click:

<http://adblockplus.org/en/chrome>

Note: It is also available for Firefox, IE, Opera and Android. Just do a Google search for whatever browser you are using.

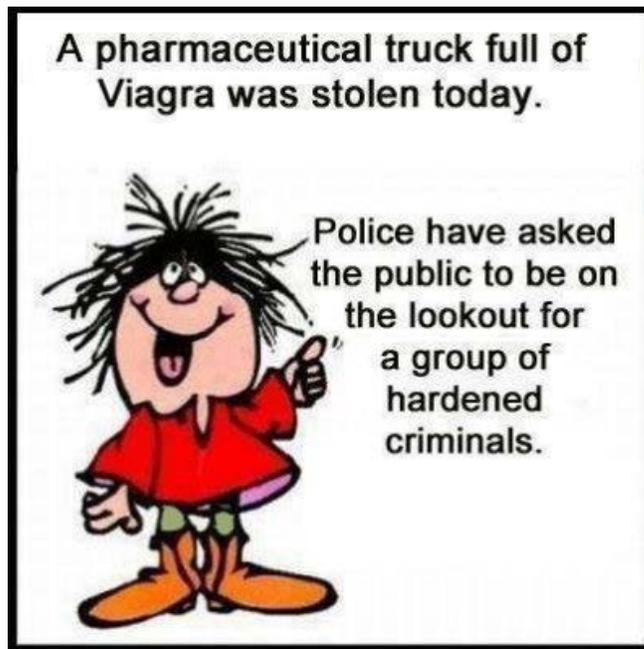
For a review of this amazing download, please click:

http://download.cnet.com/Adblock-for-Chrome/3000-33362_4-75000931.html

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9. Joke 3

Be careful out there because crime is on the rise.



I got a big kick out of some of the many responses I received when I posted the above on Facebook . . . among them: Tom G. in NJ: May be a good time to buy that ice cream from the Mr. Softie guy--maybe. . . . I replied: Reminds me, Tom, of why Dairy Queen never had children. Because she married Mr. Softie! . . . Chuck S. in NJ: I'm sure they'll stick out in a crowd. . . . Pat A. in PA: This time, hope they put out an all-points bulletin lasting longer than four hours. . . . I replied: I hope these guys get a stiff sentence when caught! . . . Ted R. in NC: They're probably defeated politicians who just lost their erections. . . . Natalie K. in PA: A good man is hard to find! . . . Carol S. in PA: If you see them, no need to ask what's up.

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10. A quote I like

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."-- Helen Keller (1880-1968), first blind-deaf person to effectively communicate with the sighted and hearing world

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11. Thought for the day

'It is harder for us to be nice to kids'--departing veteran principal by George Wood

Some 21 years ago I swiped an idea from my friend Dennis Littky and started sending out what I call "TGIFs." The idea was to inform, and perhaps provoke some thought about how we keep school. This will be my last one.

I have grappled with what to say in this for weeks. It is part of who we humans are that 'starts' and 'ends' of things seem to call for profundity. But profundity eludes me. So I'll leave you with this one small thought: Be nice.

For the rest of this thought-provoking article for teachers, as well as for parents and grandparents, please click:
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2013/05/22/what-has-changed-is-that-it-is-harder-for-us-to-be-nice-to-kids-departing-veteran-principal/>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Feel free to join me at an upcoming seminar, "The Power of Email Marketing," that I'm

helping promote . . . it will be presented by Aaron Means on Wednesday July 10 from 10 a.m.-noon at ABTech . . . I've attended this twice, and it has gotten better each time . . . all readers of this newsletter are invited--at no charge . . . very useful if you're involved with churches or synagogues, theatres, other non-profits, etc. . . . for more information, please click:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e7gwfuiqm4686105d&llr=5obehpkab>

To read about each of these other events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1cd>

(2) SUSAN REINHARDT INVITES YOU TO THE LAUNCH OF HER NEW GRATEFUL STEPS BOOK. (3) Leadership Asheville Summer Breakfast Series. (4) Tasha Lief singing. (5) It's Time for DramaRama! (6) Debut of Blaze My Trail. (7) Ariadne Theater Project Workshops. (8) Haywood Arts Regional Theatre. (9) Parkway Playhouse. (10) Asheville Symphony Chorus auditions. (11) Vocal Blast Summer Concert. (12) Announcing GIVE ME LOVE.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1cd>

(1) See Joey Novick. (2) Kevin Jameson: Save the date! (3) Strich Law Firm session on Long Term Care. (4) OLIVER. (5) See Edie Weinstein.

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PS. Happy Fourth of July (Fifth & Sixth, too) to you and your family. I realize that because of sequestration, things may not be quite the same. So if fireworks aren't in the works, consider the approach in the comic below. And crank up the sound as you listen to this Kate Smith classic:

<http://tinyurl.com/qfas9v9>

Make it a great rest of the week, too!



Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I celebrated her fantastic performance in SECRETS: FREEING THE HIDDEN STORY by having friends join us for dinner at Champa--our favorite Thai restaurant in Asheville. For more information about this eatery, please click:
<http://champaasheville.com/>



L-R: Tammy Strange, Marvin Sadovsky, Annamarie Brown, Carole Biro, Brian Biro, Tom Gallagher, Marilynne Herbert and Blaine Greenfield. Not pictured in the above: Cynthia Greenfield and the equally fantastic Marcy Gallagher because they were both busy getting ready for the show.



L-R: Marcy Gallagher and Cynthia Greenfield, dancing up a storm.



L-R: Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield, Marcy Gallagher and Tom Gallagher afterward.



L-R: Cynthia Greenfield with Barrie Barton, the incredible director of this oh-so-moving production. Kudos not only to Barrie, but also to my other Facebook friends who were also in it: Amy LaDeroute, Tiffany Hall, Freedom Rainsford and Flora Lizak. And anybody else I may have inadvertently missed, as well as to the entire cast and crew.

B. We also got to see SART's second play of the season: A TENNESSEE WALK.



L-R: Bill Gregg, director; Rob Anderson, winner of the 2011 Script FEST competition that determined which play would be produced this year; and Blaine Greenfield.

(1) Michael Mattison, as always, was outstanding in his role (as the circus ringmaster). The one scene when he was drunk was the best I've ever seen him in. When Reggie Kelly was crying, he had us in tears too. This is only the second play I've seen him in, and I'm hoping it won't be the last. Chris Allison was as menacing a villain as you'll ever see. Delores McKenzie's SART debut was mighty impressive, as was her beautiful singing. Chelsey Lee Gaddy was outstanding as the acrobat, as was Lyn Nihart as her latest lover. Dianne Chapman and Claire Amon were both just right as the same character viewed some 87 years apart. And rounding out the cast with aplomb were JJ McCarson, Jay Jay Ponton and Justin Gaylard.

For a review of the show, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013306250004>

Good news: There are still performances running through Sunday afternoon. For more information, please click:

www.sartplays.org

(2) I'll remember this particular show because at another performance, I even got to deliver the curtain speech.



(3) Next up for SART is GYPSY, which begins on Wednesday, July 3 with a 1/2-price preview. The show then opens on Thursday, July 4 (reception immediately afterward) and runs through July 21. Come see this tuneful musical that features, among others, my friends Chuck Fink and Steve Turner. For all dates and tickets, please click: www.sartplays.org

C. In addition, we managed to see an impressive performance of EVITA at Flat Rock Playhouse. There were great performances from all, and in particular from Anna Ellinsfeld, Charlie Brown and Ronald Brown as, respectively, Eva, Juan Peron and Che Guevara. And special mention needs to be given to Richard J. Hinds for both his direction and choreography, as well as to George Wilkins Jr. for conducting the 9-piece orchestra.

EVITA runs through June 30. For tickets, please click:

http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/TicketPurchase?organ_val=27967&event_val=EVIT

D. Completing perhaps a record week for me in terms of seeing shows, I saw the Different Strokes! Performing Arts Collective production of INCONGRUENCE at 35below on one night when Cynthia was performing in SECRETS. This is a provocative play from first-time playwright Carla Pridgen about transgendered folks, and it was extremely well-directed by CJ Breland and acted by the entire cast. I especially liked the work of Darren Marshall, Elizabeth Dana-Wunderlich and Garrett Funk (so fine recently in BARK! at ACT).

INCONGRUENCE runs through June 29. For tickets, please click:

<http://dspac-incongruence-zvents.eventbrite.com/>

E. Congratulations to:

(1) Allen Dunlap on his upcoming retirement from the Asheville Police Department.

(2) Lawrence Hines on the move of his massage business to a new location: 494 Hendersonville Rd, Asheville. For more information, please click:

<http://ashevilletherapeuticmassage.com/>

And if you haven't had a session with Lawrence, call 828.779.7135 for a \$25 discount for the first session.

(3) Mission Hospital, our outstanding local hospital, on receiving the Cleverley Five-Star Community Value Award based on financial strength, cost of care, pricing and quality. For Mission, it's the ninth such honor in 10 years.

(4) Bill Gregg (and SART) for the "A" grade it received from the CITIZEN-TIMES. To see why, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013306250012>

(5) Jo M. in NC and Diane P in NY, both winners of #36: a copy of copy of DISCOVER YOUR STRENGTHS: CUTTING EDGE GROWTH STRATEGIES FROM THE INDUSTRY'S TOP EXPERTS. All told, there were 9 entries. And that reminds me that it's now time to introduce . . .

***** CONTEST #37 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the following book on CD: THE WOLVES OF ANDOVER by Kathleen Kent . . . to quote from the amazon.com book description, "In the harsh wilderness of colonial Massachusetts, Martha Allen works as a servant in her cousin's household, taking charge and locking wills with everyone. Thomas Carrier labors for the family and is known both for his immense strength and size and mysterious past. The two begin a courtship that suits their independent natures, with Thomas slowly revealing the story of his part in the English Civil War. But in the rugged new world they inhabit, danger is ever present, whether it be from the assassins sent from London to kill the executioner of Charles I or the wolves--in many forms--who hunt for blood. A love story and a tale of courage, [it] confirms Kathleen Kent's ability to craft powerful stories of family from colonial history."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #37" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bjinbc@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 Sunday, July 7.

F. Condolences to David Greenfield and family on the loss of Sheldon Krubiner, David's grandfather.

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

This week, it goes to Carolyn Schwartz--marketing consultant for an organization that I've become involved in called World Book Night.

To quote from the website: "World Book Night U.S. is a celebration of books and reading held on April 23, when 25,000 passionate volunteers across America give a total of half a million books within their communities to those who don't regularly read."

Ms. Schwartz did an excellent job in keeping me informed about World Book Night, as well as in answering my many questions. She also made it easy for me to volunteer my services and result was that I was able to distribute 20 copies of Tina Fey's BOSSYPANTS to those who might not have read it otherwise.

For more information about World Book Night, please click:

<http://www.us.worldbooknight.org/>

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2. FYI

How to talk to little girls

by Lisa Bloom, author of THINK: STRAIGHT TALK FOR WOMEN TO STAY SMART IN A DUMBED-DOWN WORLD



I went to a dinner party at a friend's home last weekend, and met her five-year-old daughter for the first time.

Little Maya was all curly brown hair, doe-like dark eyes, and adorable in her shiny pink nightgown. I wanted to squeal, "Maya, you're so cute! Look at you! Turn around and model that pretty ruffled gown, you gorgeous thing!"

But I didn't. I squelched myself. As I always bite my tongue when I meet little girls, restraining myself from my first impulse, which is to tell them how darn cute/ pretty/ beautiful/ well-dressed/ well-manicured/ well-coiffed they are.

For the rest of this thought-provoking article, please click:

<http://latinafatale.com/2011/07/21/how-to-talk-to-little-girls/>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Camp Granada by Allan Sherman (with lyrics)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EzErh_s62Wk

(2) Marliasa M. in NC: March of the Penguins (with A Beautiful Mind theme song)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Y1aKpdlANDo

(3) Katherine Q. in NC: All I Want Is You (from JUNO)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20PQBtyfNZY&feature=share>

(4) Michael H. in PA: The Ultimate Golf FAIL Compilation

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=6FMybJkLSM#at=21

(5) Toni L. in NC: Call Your Boyfriend!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=108983879307206&set=vb.139757129522136&type=2&theater>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10201350768273791&set=vb.1311063500&type=2&theater>

(6) "RAINING LEAVES" Bruce Stoller, piano/composer with Akihasa Kominato

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10201350768273791&set=vb.1311063500&type=2&theater>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10201350768273791&set=vb.1311063500&type=2&theater>

Note: Bruce was a fellow graduate from Lawrence High School, Class of 1967.

(7) Donna S. in AL: Lobo - I'd Love You To Want Me

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-pxgUyC_V4&feature=share

(8) Chuck Beattie - Killing Floor

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=sg39MlcZOPc

(9) Clay M. in NC: Marty Brown, 47 - AGT 2013 San Antonio Auditions

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mi8LtKAbEjk&feature=share>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1bH>

(1) Rob L. in NJ. (2) Traci M. in NC. (3) BJL in NC. (4) Pat H. in PA. (5) Julien in MD.

(6) Dave M. in NC. (7) Arlene S. in PA. (8) Marty D. in PA. (9) Tracy G. in NC. (10) Bob P. in NC. (11) Jessica Melore in NY. (12) How to deal with migraines. (13) D Anthony in MD.

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3. Joke 1

Woman stops grizzly attack with 25 caliber pistol. Here's her story: While out hiking in Alberta, Canada with my husband, we were surprised by a huge grizzly bear charging at us from out of nowhere. She must have been protecting her cubs because she was extremely aggressive. If I had not had my little Beretta Jetfire with me, I would not be here today. Just one shot to my husband's knee cap was all it took. The bear got him, and I was able to escape by just walking away at a brisk pace!



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4. Reviews

A. Don't believe the great reviews for BEFORE MIDNIGHT, a sequel to BEFORE SUNRISE and BEFORE SUNSET . . . this latest film is way too talky for my tastes; in fact, I walked out after the first 20 minutes that featured the two main characters (Ethan Hawke and Julie Delp) in a car ride that seemed twice as long . . . rated R.

***** MR. CURIOUS HERE *****

Here's an email that I recently submitted to THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE'S Ethicist, currently Chuck Klosterman:

Dilemma--something I bet a lot of your readers think about

I go to the movies 1-2 times per week. Sometimes, I'll see something that is terrible or too violent for my tastes. Is it OK to walk out and go into another movie? Or even ask for my money back? (And If so, what should I say?)

Note: I'd love to see your thoughts on this subject. In the meantime, I've been informed that Klosterman is slated to address my questions in his column of July 7.

B. THE INCREDIBLE BURT WONDERSTONE is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #860 follows:

If you like magic, you'll like THE INCREDIBLE BURT WONDERSTONE . . . and even if you don't, you'll still have a good time watching this comedy about a team of two superstar magicians who secretly hate each other . . . it's goofy fun, greatly aided by the performances of Steve Carell and Steve Buscemi as the battling duo who must also face competition from a David Blaine-type street performer (Jim Carrey in a very funny role). . . rated PG-13.

C. 17 CENTS AND A DREAM: MY INCREDIBLE JOURNEY FROM USSR TO LIVING THE AMERICAN DREAM (Gold Star Publishing) by Daniel Milstein touched me, in that I really got caught up in his story.

Here's a guy who now heads his own mortgage company, but when he came to this country, he had virtually nothing . . . yet through much hard work, he managed to master English, get a job, earn a college degree and constantly better himself.

The author attributes much of his success to his grandfather who taught him, among other things:

* That you only have two things in this world, your name and your reputation. Also know that you can be anything or anybody you want to be. But don't expect that anyone is going to do this for you. Nor your parents, not me. You will become exactly who you yourself work to become. Nothing more and nothing less.

I also liked how he shared the lessons he learned from his various jobs, including McDonald's:

* "Welcome to the management training program son," one of the men said. He handed me a certificate and a stack of papers about what I was getting into. It didn't matter what the fine print said. At the age of eighteen, I was about to become the shift manager, supervising about 30 employees. To this day, I see that moment as a testament to how important it is to be proud of the work you do, no matter if it's scrubbing toilets or making multi-million dollar sales. I gave my all to everything I did, and it was beginning to pay off.

And this tidbit from his mentor in the mortgage industry:

* She also taught me, figuratively, to take my time and "chew my food;" to slow down in life, enjoy it and take my time.

My only disappointment with 17 CENTS had to do with the fact that it glossed over the details about how he started his own company and built it to the success that it now is. Perhaps the details will be found in a future book that Milstein will hopefully write.

D. Heard THE BOOK OF WHY: A NOVEL (Hachette Audio), written by Nicholas Montemarano and narrated by Brian Troxell.

It's the somber story about a successful author and self-help guru who after the death of his wife, has serious doubts about what he has been espousing to others.

I liked parts of it, especially those that were either supposed portions of his motivational speeches or portions of books that he has written . . . what I wasn't crazy about was how the book skipped back and forth between various story lines, making it somewhat difficult to follow.

In addition, the narration was fine for the author's voice, but not very compelling for the young woman who comes to his door assistance.

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5. TV alert

A. Natalie K. in PA: Fareed Zakaria's news program, which is excellent by the way, is on Sundays at 10 a.m. on CNN. We tape it each week. It's called GLOBAL PUBLIC SQUARE.

B. I don't get SHOWTIME, but a show that premieres on Sunday at 10 p.m. has me thinking about getting it--or at the least, look for this new series on DVD when I can get it: RAY DONOVAN, starring Liev Schreiber . . . according to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, it is "the summer's best and boldest new show" . . . a SCANDAL for the serious-minded." Schreiber plays a character who cleans up the messes of the famous clients of his powerful lawyer bosses.

C. GIDEON'S ARMY is a documentary about three idealistic young Southern public defenders who face huge student loans and tough cases. Monday, July 1 at 9 p.m. on HBO.

D. Six-time champion Joey Chestnut attempts to break his record of eating 68 hot dogs in NATHAN'S FOURTH OF JULY INTERNATIONAL HOT DOG EATING CONTEST . . . Thursday, July 4 at noon on ESPN2.

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6. Joke 2

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17." . . . The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."



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7. Websites

A. My friend Steve Shulman tells an amazing story about his Uncle Gloria in the following clip:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvjiXQLR8SY>

For more information about the above, please also click:

<http://allnewsarticles.blogspot.com/2013/06/my-uncle-gloria-inspires-life-altering.html>

B. Paper is not dead! See for yourself by clicking:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GAH0NhWR5g4>

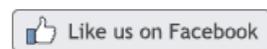
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

In the unlikely event you've never seen my stand-up comedy debut, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Video Clips." The third clip down is the one you'll want to view.

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



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8. Computer tip

Need help on how to do something; e.g. on Facebook? You can try searching Help, but often I find that such assistance is terrible. I often do much better by just searching Google with my specific question.

Recent case in point: For some reason, my "add a friend" button on Facebook had disappeared. I had little luck finding help via Facebook, but within seconds, I found my answer by doing a Google search on "how to add a friend on Facebook."

This same principle applies to getting answers to Windows, Word, your printer, etc.

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9. Joke 3

UPDATE: It was later reported that Jimmy's wife got out safely, and that he did indeed make the putt and par the hole. He says the divorce isn't going to be that bad now that there's no house involved!



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10. A quote I like

"I don't care about 3D. . . . I mean, go to the theatre if you want 3D."--actor Martin Freeman. To view the brief interview when he said that, please click:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=u6QsYUoY1tc

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11. Thought for the day

No Problem
by Zig Ziglar, Author of BORN TO WIN*

Frequently when we ask someone who is in a service capacity or, for that matter, a family member or friend to do something, they will say, "No problem." The request might have been as simple as, "May I have some salsa for my omelet, please?" and the response will be, "No problem."

Let's think about that response. It's universally accepted that we associate the word "problem" with a problem, which most of us don't consider positive. However, the person is really saying they will be pleased to handle the request and they will have "no problem" in complying. The question is, why not respond in a positive way like, "Certainly. I'll be glad to take care of that for you," or, "Yes, indeed, and it will take only a minute." In fact, just this past Sunday Bill Flanagan had a commentary about this very phrase on CBS's Sunday Morning program. Click here to read his opinion:

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-57580598/no-problem-yes-its-a-big-problem/

The English language is truly fascinating and has many twists and turns, including oxymorons. For example, someone might say, "it's the same difference," or another person might talk about "jumbo shrimp." As we reflect on those word turns, it becomes obvious there is a certain amount of confusion in communicating what is really meant. There is an old negative expression which says, "Those things which can be misunderstood will be misunderstood."

When we explore words we realize we're talking about communication, and when we talk about good leadership, we are really talking about the ability to clearly communicate a message. Without the ability to communicate effectively, very few people understand what is expected of them. However, the decisive leader, the one who gets things done, is an effective communicator. Think about it. Study effective communication skills, learn to

apply them and you will have a "leg up" on the leadership ladder. SEE YOU AT THE TOP!

* Reprinted with the gracious permission of Zig Ziglar's company. Thought Zig is no longer with us, his work lives on. You can read about it by clicking:

<http://www.ziglar.com/>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Feel free to join me at an upcoming seminar, "The Power of Email Marketing," that I'm helping promote . . . it will be presented by Aaron Means on July 10 from 10 a.m.-noon at ABTech . . . I've attended this twice, and it has gotten better each time . . . all readers of this newsletter are invited--at no charge . . . for more information, please click:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e7gwfum4686105d&llr=5obehpkab>

(2) The Magnetic Theatre presents Jim Julien's The Caro Savanti Experience, a "skewered" comedy that spills the insides of dining out. Don't miss this riotous spoof on celebrity chefs and foodie culture. Directed by Katie Anne Towner, and starring Darren Marshall. Only 8 performances July 11-13 & 18-20 at the Bebe Theatre. Tickets and info at:

www.themagnetictheatre.org

(3) A special summer edition of Asheville Vaudeville on Saturday, July 6. Smaller, more intimate, but with all the same amazing acts you've grown to love and expect. Special guest emcees Jim Julien and Walter Beals. Tickets available at the door for only \$12. Only one performance at 9:30 p.m. at Toy Boat (101 Fairview Road).

B. PA event

Lionel Bart's classic Broadway musical Oliver! brings to exuberant life Charles Dickens' beloved characters from the novel Oliver Twist onstage in the intimate Heritage Center Theatre in Morrisville, PA. Co-Founder Joe Doyle of Morrisville directs the tale of an orphan boy who falls into the grip of Fagin, the conniving leader of a band of pickpocketing children. Adam Juraga of Morrisville costars as the title character, alongside DeLarme Landes of Doylestown as "Fagin" and Tess Ammerman of Arneytown, NJ as "Nancy," the Cockney wench who befriends the lad. Set, sound and costume design by Artistic Director Cheryl Doyle of Morrisville.

DATES: July 12 - 28, 2013. (Twelve performances over three-weekends only)

TIMES: All three weekends: Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. Also, Thursday July 18 & 25 at 8 p.m. and Saturday July 27 at 2 p.m.

PLACE: The Heritage Center Theatre, 635 North Delmorr Avenue (Route 32), Morrisville, PA - on the Delaware, near the Calhoun Street Bridge.

ADMISSION: \$20 for adults, \$17 for seniors (62+), \$15 for WHYH card members and \$10 for children age 12 and under. Group rates available for ten or more.

TO RESERVE: Call Actors' NET at 215-295-3694. Email actorsnet@aol.com.

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PS. Make it a great week!

19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINESWORLD

#873
6.17.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Celebrated my birthday with a bunch of friends at our favorite restaurant in Mars Hill: El Dorado.

(2) We then went around the corner to SART for its first production of the 2013 season: THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE. It was excellent!

(3) Four of our friends even got called-up on stage to be "guest spellers."



(L-R: The spellers were all in the front row: Barry Axe, Richard Shulman, Annamarie Brown and Carol Biro. That's me in the back row in the middle.)

(4) I got a special kick out of the gift that several of them got me; i.e., a BLAINESWORLD globe that rotates. It's sooooo cool!



Note: There's the globe on my desk. Above it can be seen a picture of me that my father took, probably when I was about four. If memory serves me correctly, that's my favorite stuffed bear--Boopsie--with me.

(5) I further appreciated the many cards, emails, Facebook posts and calls I received on my birthday. Can you believe that I'm now 64? I know . . . you probably don't believe that I'm a day over 63. I attempted to thank everybody for remembering, but if I missed you, please accept my apology. Here's what wanted to say to you:

Thanks for remembering my birthday. I don't think of it as being another year older; rather, I think of it as another year of having a friend like you. And I hope to enjoy many more!

B. Adding to my birthday enjoyment was the fact that Barry Axe, my favorite business professor when I was an undergraduate at Rider University, came to visit. That's us the day before at the Biltmore Estate.



During the week, I also got to hear a neighbor/acting teacher, Peter Savage (on my right in the picture below) present a lecture on "The Craft of Acting" at our community's clubhouse. It was most informative.



Kudos to Suzie Troia, chair of the Lecture Committee, for arranging the above and also providing tasty refreshments. She was ably assisted by her husband John.

And I got to see the opening of the next play at SART: A TENNESSEE WALK by Rob Anderson. It was engrossing. Performances from Reggie Kelly (left) and Michael Mattison (right), along with the rest of the cast, were all excellent.



For a video teaser of this show that you won't want to miss, please click:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=xZoTSSbTCJk

For a review, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013306250004>

And to order tickets for A TENNESSEE WALK or any of the other 2013 play, please click:

www.sartplays.org

C. Cynthia has been hard at work, getting ready for her upcoming performance in SECRETS: FREEING THE HIDDEN STORY. I got to see her on the second night, and she was amazing!



L-R: That's her celebrating afterward with Freedom Rainsford on the right.

For more information about the show, please click:

<http://www.mountainx.com/article/50748/Tell-me-everything>

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Carol D. Fishman-Bufano on the birth of her grandson Mason.

(2) Tom Gallagher on the wedding of his daughter.

(3) John and Danielle Stroffolinio on the "Grand Opening" of the Lakeside Grille,

(4) Connie Ruble for finishing second in her age category in the triathlon that took place at Biltmore Lake, as well as to Kristi Mizen and Linda Hollinshead for also participating. I was tired just from watching everybody run, bike and swim!

(5) Dr. Dan Lunsford, president of Mars Hill College, for his excellent Guest Commentary piece in the ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES. To read it, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013306160006>

(6) Billy McLaughlin who has been awarded an Emmy by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Pacific Southwest Chapter (NATAS PSW) in the category Musical Composition/Arrangement for his performance of "Billy McLaughlin: Starry Night with Orchestra Nova."

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

This week, it goes to Phillip Price--a real estate/mortgage attorney who handled the legal paperwork for us when we purchased our home. At the time, I recall being very impressed with him, in that he had us sign all the forms in what may well have been a record time of less than 30 minutes.

In addition to heading his own firm (The Phillip C. Price Law Firm, PLLC) for the past five years, Phillip serves on the Advisory Board for the State Employees Credit Union, he's a member of Mortgage Bankers of Western NC and is a member of the Candler Business Cooperative.

He is also active in Little League baseball, as well as travel baseball, with his son.

For more information about Phillip Price, please click:

<http://phillipricelaw.com/>

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2. FYI

What a great idea for ALL weddings!



FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Risa R. in NJ: Activists say Goodwill exploits workers with penny wages

<http://www.nbcnews.com/video/rock-center/52280748#52280748>

(2) Howard D. in FL: George Carlin Talks About "Stuff"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=MvgN5gCuLac#at=86

(3) "Don't Laugh at Me" - Peter Yarrow of 'Peter Paul & Mary'

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NaDn3hBERw8>

(4) Alabaster Box - Rachel Rizzuti Sings, Susanne Saunders Dance

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=yrw80e219d8

(5) Mark J. in NC: Sandy's Wine Tasting

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xgqP2uv5IA>

(6) Annamarie B. in NC: The Gipsy Kings - The Very Best Of (Full Album)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jNCa2BVJ6M>

Note: You can hear the whole album by clicking the above!

(7) Dance Like Nobody's Watching: Laundromat

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVVXtknZVf0>

(8) Tom G. in NJ: Renaissance - Carpet of the Sun

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtSQFwjDD0&feature=share>

(9) Rob S. in PA: The Beatles - All You Need Is Love (with Lyrics)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLGWYfGk_LU&feature=youtube_gdata_player

(10) Jean D. in PA: Maurice Sendak Google Doodle

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UgtEDdumbwo&feature=share>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ba>

(1) Jim F. in PA. (2) Ron F. in PA. (3) Ruth Anne in PA. (4) Natalie K. in PA. (5) Mike G. in PA. (6) Lorre D. in NC. (7) Ed B. in NC. (8) Steve T. in NC. (9) Jean D. in PA. (10) Rod R. in NJ. (11) Arta S. in PA. (12) On high school reunions. (13) Debbie H. in PA. (14) Mary Rita S. in NC. (15) Howard D. in FL. (16) Eric C. in NC.

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3. Joke 1

Scene: Car dealership in Hamilton, NJ

Customer: I wanna get it, but I can't afford it.

Car Salesperson: Are you sure?

Customer: If I buy it, I'll probably have to give up my apartment.

Car Salesperson: Can't you live with your parents?

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4. Reviews

A. THE INTERNSHIP is a formulaic comedy starring Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson as two salesmen who lose their jobs and then try to talk their way into a coveted internship at Google . . . there are some funny bits; however, too many of them were given away in the trailers I had seen for the film . . . Vaughn and Wilson have good chemistry together, and I also liked seeing Rose Byrne (so fine in ADAM) in a small role . . . every time I saw her on screen, I also kept thinking that she looks so much like a slightly older version of Ellen Page--or maybe it's Page who looks like a slightly younger version of Byrne? . . . rated PG-13.

B. QUARTET is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #855 follows:

QUARTET [is] a sweet comedy about a home for retired musicians that's about to add a new resident . . . when the new arrival turns out to be a woman who had been a star, all attempts are made to get her to sing in a gala concert . . . you can pretty much predict the ending, but don't let that stop you from enjoying the film . . . the accompanying soundtrack is a winner, too . . . the entire cast was outstanding, but I got a special kick every time Billy Connolly was on screen . . . he stole most every scene with his wisecracks . . . make sure you stay for the credits for an added surprise that I don't want to give away now . . . rated PG-13.

C. GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2013 (Bantam Books) by Guinness World Records is an addictive paperback that will keep you amused for many hours as you skim through the pages and find such fascinating tidbits as the following:

* A small gerbil-related rodent species known as Shaw's jird has been scientifically observed mating 224 times in just two hours.

* Linus Urbanec (Sweden) downed a record 31 Brussels sprouts in one minute in Rottne, Sweden on November 26, 2008.

* The world's largest parking lot for automobiles can hold 20,000 vehicles and is situated in the West Edmonton Mall in Edmonton, Alberta, California. There are overflow facilities in an adjoining parking lot for another 10,000 facilities.

I also liked the pictures, though personally found the font size too small. However, keep in mind that many of the readers of this book might well be children or grandchildren, so they would probably have no problem reading it.

And consider this recommendation: If you're looking to get somebody interested in reading, GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS makes a great gift. I remember it being one of the first books that caught my attention when I was much younger.

D. Heard START YOU OWN CORPORATION: WHY THE RICH OWN THEIR OWN COMPANIES AND EVERYONE ELSE WORKS FOR THEM (Hachette Audio), written and read by Garrett Sutton, Esq.

The author, an attorney and bestselling author, presents the information necessary to save thousands and dollars and more importantly, to protect family assets from the attacks of creditors.

There's lots of useful material in this book--such as:

- * The longer you stay as a sole proprietorship or partnership, the longer you are personally responsible for anything bad that happens to your business.

- * Creditors will go after the easiest target with the biggest pockets.

My favorite chapter was the one dealing with how to protect your business against scams. This oh-so-true bit of advice was particularly on target:

- * I joke that the more expensive the printing, the more likely the scam.

If you're thinking of starting a business or in the process of getting one off the ground, do get hold of START YOUR CORPORATION before you make any costly mistakes that could easily be avoided.

E. Reminder . . .

***** CONTEST #36 *****

Two lucky readers will win a copy of DISCOVER YOUR STRENGTHS: CUTTING EDGE GROWTH STRATEGIES FROM THE INDUSTRY'S TOP EXPERTS . . .this book reveals cutting edge growth strategies from leading experts. Each author offers their own deep insights on how to discover and leverage one's inner strength. Authors include Stephen Covey, Ken Blanchard, Brian Tracy and Asheville's Brian Biro.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #36" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bjinbc@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 Sunday, June 23.

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5. TV alert

A. THE FALL is now available via Netflix. I'll probably watch because I like most anything that starts Gillian Anderson. According to Oliver Franklin, GQ.com's features assistant, "Allan Cubitt's macabre thriller is superbly written and full of brilliant performances--particularly Jamie Dornan as the sadistic serial killer in question--even if the lingering, almost fetishistic approach to the murders occasionally borders on the uncomfortable."

B. UNDER THE DOME, according to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, is "the title of an ingeniously rapped conceit from the fertile mind of Stephen King, who believes that what you can't see most definitely can hurt you.

"The much-missed network miniseries format is making a welcome if tentative comeback with this high concept limited run series--the story will be told in 13 weekly chapters--that feels like a fun summer happening." Premieres Monday, 6.24 at 10 p.m. on CBS.

C. HOMEGOINGS, notes Nancy Dewolf Smith in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "is a tender PBS documentary about an African-American funeral business in Harlem, NY and its owner, Isaac Owens. . . . We know instinctively that his presence on earth is a gift to all who meet him, living or dead." Monday, 6.24 at 10 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS times and dates often vary, so check local listings.

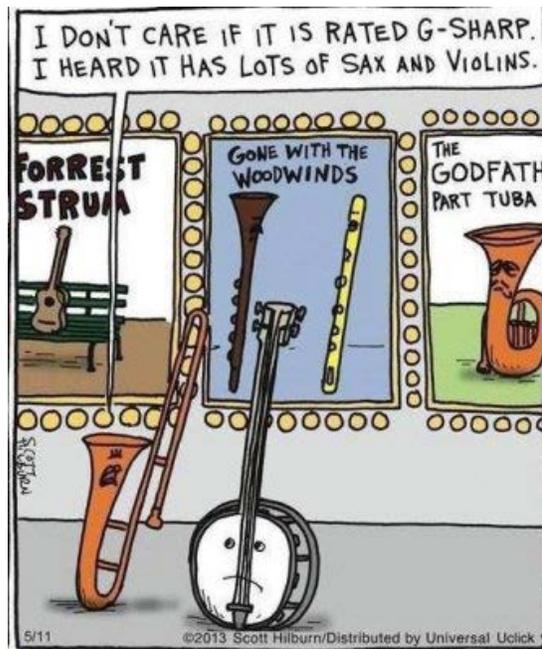
D. LOVE, MARILYN is a glimpse into the film star's life hopes to challenge the misperception of the star as a stereotype, featuring interviews and reading from her own writings . . . Tuesday, June 25 at 1 p.m. on HBO; repeated on Saturday, June 29 at 3 p.m.

Note: I've already seen the above and found it interesting. Methinks you will, too.

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6. Joke 2

Can't wait for this to come to Asheville!



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7. Websites

A. Ambient sounds to boost your workday creativity!
<http://coffitivity.com/>

Check this out yourself to see if it works. For an interesting article that explains the concept, please click:

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/06/21/how-the-hum-of-a-coffee-shop-can-boost-creativity/?src=me&ref=general>

Note: Make sure you see the accompanying clip that's cited.

B. Julie S. in AZ: Paper is not dead
http://www.youtube.com/embed/V_gOZDWQj3Q?rel=0

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

If you've ever wondered what happens to your name and/or email address once you submit it for a FREE subscription to this, missive, click "Newsletter" on the left and then "Privacy Statement."

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

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8. Computer tip

A few issues back (BLAINESWORLD #870), I mentioned a free online cropping tool.

I now believe that I've found an even better one:
<http://crop-pictures.com/>

It seems easier to use and the pictures that I use--e.g., in this week's issue--are better. What do you think?

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9. Joke 3

A guy goes to the supermarket and notices a beautiful woman waving at him. He's rather taken aback because he can't place where he knows her from. So he asks, "Do you know me?" . . . She says, "I think you're the father of one of my kids." . . . Now his mind travels back to the only time he has ever been unfaithful to his wife and asks, "Are you the stripper from my bachelor party that I made love to on the pool table with all my buddies watching while your partner whipped my butt with wet celery?" . . . She looks into his eyes and calmly says, "No, I'm your son's math teacher."



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10. A quote I like

"The only way to allow the gates of heaven to open in your life is to stop hanging out in hell."--Janet StraightArrow who describes herself as "a Woman of Medicine, Wisdom and Grace offering inspiration and simple, clear ways for people to Be The Medicine in their lives and Live the Power of You!" For more information, please click:

<http://www.bethemedicine.com/>

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11. Thought for the day

Today's history lesson . . .



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Feel free to join me at an upcoming seminar, "The Power of Email Marketing," that I'm helping promote . . . it will be presented by Aaron Means on July 10 from 10 a.m.-noon at ABTech . . . I've attended this twice, and it has gotten better each time . . . all readers of this newsletter are invited--at no charge . . . for more information, please click:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e7gwfuqm4686105d&llr=5obehpkab>

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

(2) Day long mediation retreat. (3) NC Stage Company. (4) Dashboard Blue in Hendersonville. (5) Upcoming Zuzu appearances. (6) Jeff Thompson Hanger Hall House Concert. (7) INCONGRUENCE.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ba>

(1) ActorsNET needs your help! (2) Bucks County Illustrators Society Members Show.
(3) Book Group lineup for Fall 2013 (at Bucks County Community College).

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#872

6.10.2013

In this issue

1. Reflections
2. Joke 1
3. Joke 2
4. Joke 3
5. A quote I like
6. Thought for the day
7. Advance planning department

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I joined a bunch of our friends for an enjoyable, tasty dinner at Pomodoro's. For more information about this eatery, please click:
<http://www.pomodoroscafe.com/>



L-R: Annamarie Brown, Tom Gallagher, Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield, Carole Biro, Brian Biro, Marcy Gallagher and Marvin Sadovsky.

From there, we went to see our friend Connie Ruble in a fabulous Womansong concert. This group is Asheville's oldest and largest women's community chorus, and it never fails to put on a great show.

Aside from seeing Connie on stage, another highlight was the song that Lois Lytingale Henrickson sang with her daughter Kathryn O'Shea.

For more information about Womansong, please click:
<http://www.womansong.org/>

B. This view shows you one of the many reasons that we love living in Western NC. It was taken in Swannanoa, looking down at Asheville. (Thanks Zuzu Welsh for sharing.)



C. Here's another reason: the pavilion that's being built at Biltmore Lake, the community where we live. Pictured, L-R: Robert Kunz, electrical contractor with Current Energy LLC, discussing final plans with Dave Starkey while Jerry Hinz can be seen hard at work painting.



Note: I'd be remiss if I didn't extend thanks to the rest of the committee that has worked hard to make the above a reality. Aside from Dave and Jerry, the following individuals have also devoted countless hours of both their time and expertise: Marilynne Herbert, Sheldon Harnash and Dan Steves.

D. My friend Chuck Hollinshead (left) joined me to catch Leslie Lang (center) in a delightful performance of KISS ME KATE at Asheville Community Theatre.



Leslie was great, as always, but so was the rest of the talented cast--including such Facebook friends as Jeff Catanese, Steve Turner and Jacob Walas. Chanda Caletnine's direction was on target, as was Beth Chepke's choreography. And Waylon Wood and Pat LaCorte had us laughing every time they appeared on stage as the two gangsters who were trying to collect a gambling debt.

This show runs through June 30. For tickets, please click:

www.ashevilletheatre.org

Afterward, we went to Mellow Mushroom for what both Chuck and I thought might well be the best pizza in town. For more information, please click:

<http://mellowmushroom.com/store/asheville>

E. Congratulations to:

(1) Ken Greenfield, my brother, on surviving his first jump from the sky. To see it for yourself, please click:

<http://www.mediafire.com/play/z35qp8pjj89qs74/Kenny+Sky+Dlve+part+1.m4v>

(2) Elsten Torres on the release of his latest video, "The Only One."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=taIV-MA5SBw#!

(3) Christina McCaffrey on her engagement to Bryan Dorsey Smith.

(4) Randy and Pam Malchow on the birth of Abigail, their new grandbaby.

(5) Julie Piper on attaining her Ed.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Rider University.

(6) BJ Leiderman on great coverage of his upcoming concert, June 14 and 15, in Black Mountain. Read it yourself by clicking:

http://www.citizen-times.com/article/20130610/ASHEVILLESCENE/306100054/NPR-composer-Leiderman-plays-hits?nclick_check=1

(7) Howard Debs on having his poem published in CALLIOPE. To read it yourself, please click:

http://www.calliopewriters.org/issue_139/PoetryPage04.aspx

(8) Bradshaw Call on his first opening night as an actor in New York City in a play called LAST NIGHT OF BALLYHOO at the Open Tent Theater.

(9) Ryan Fallon who graduated basic combat training with the Pennsylvania National Guard. He had been assigned the position of platoon guide, and he graduated with honors. Next up: Officer Candidate School!

(11) Athena Destiny for landing a part in DO NO HARM. If you look closely, you can even see her in this trailer:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=ei9n3Srxv9U

(12) Berta D. in NJ, winner of #35: a copy of the following book on CD: ADMISSION by Jean Hanff Korelitz (that was the basis for recent movie with the same title). According All told, there were 12 entries. And that reminds me that it's now time to introduce . . .

***** CONTEST #36 *****

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To enter: Put "CONTEST #36" 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 Sunday, June 23.

F. Condolences to Trip Huxley and family on the passing of Trip's mother-in-law.

G. This is a special issue because of all the pictures. Consequently, due to space limitations, some "regular" features from this missive have had to be eliminated--including reviews, websites, thought for the day, etc. They will all resume next week.

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2. Joke 1

Outside England's Bristol Zoo, there is a lot for 150 cars and 8 buses. For 25 years, its parking fees were managed by a very pleasant attendant who collected the equivalent of \$1.40 for cars and \$7 for buses. Then, after 25 years of never missing a day of work, he didn't show up, so the zoo called the city council and asked for a replacement. . . . The

council said, "That's your responsibility." The zoo said, "The attendant was your employee." The council said, "What attendant?" . . . Meanwhile, sitting in his villa in Spain, there's a bloke who had been taking in the fees. He now has over \$7 million--and no one even knows his name.

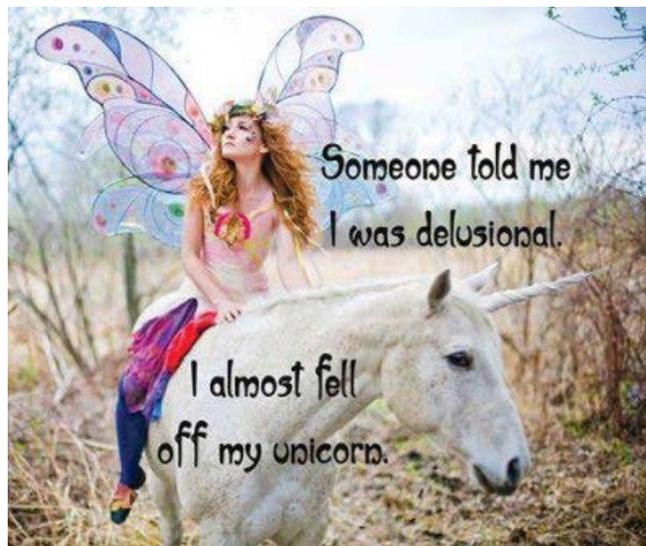


Note: For "the rest of the story," to quote Paul Harvey . . . this was actually an April Fool's prank gone viral . . . for more information, please click:
<http://tinyurl.com/lqc95q>

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3. Joke 2

Same thing almost happened to me recently, but in my case, I was riding my dragon!



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4. Joke 3

This has me wondering: Who has the worse problem--the patient or the physician?

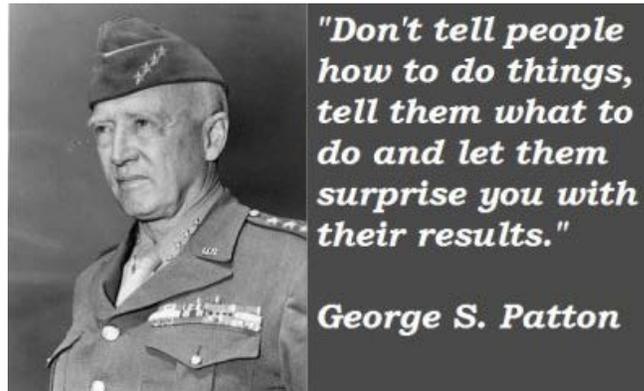


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5. A quote I like

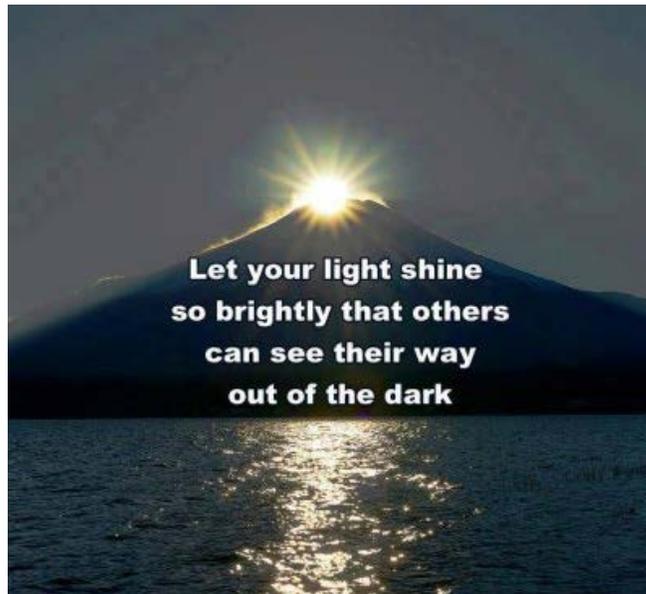
Great advice from General Patton (1885-1945) who was best known for his command of the Seventh United States Army and later the Third United States Army in the European Theater of World War II. If you'd like to actually hear him speak, listen to the following clip that features George C. Scott in the classic film PATTON--but also the real Patton speaking at the 1:15, 3, 3:39 and 4:22-minute marks:

<http://tinyurl.com/ljtz5t7>



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6. Thought for the day



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7. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BELL runs through Sunday, June 16, at SART. You'll love this tuneful musical. For tickets, please click: www.sartplays.org

Pictured below are three of the stars in the show, L-R: Justin Gaylard, Melanie Morton and Heather Bronson. That's yours truly on the far right.



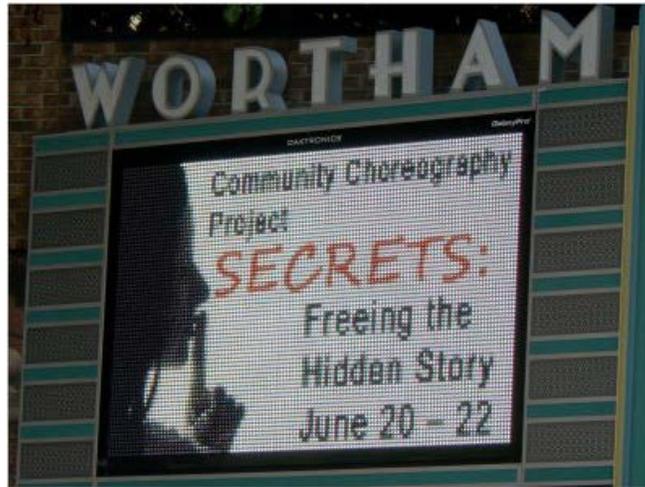
On Wednesday night, June 19, come to SART for the preview of A TENNESSEE WALK. Tickets are just half price that evening.

The show by Rob Anderson is SART's 60th World Premiere. Bobbie Coleman is a young girl of twelve when tragedies surrounding her close friend Willa Fay, and a circus elephant, who seems to be a kindred spirit, play out. She is ninety-nine when a freelance journalist attempts to break her silence and coax the truth from her about that fateful time so long ago. On September 13, 1916, in Erwin, Tennessee, they hung Mary by the neck until she died. She had killed a man, his head splattered along a street in Kingsport, Tennessee. Mary's execution was a media event. Mary's execution was long and drawn out. Mary was an elephant with the Sparks World Famous Circus. Willa Fay, a young African American girl living the best she knows how, finds herself on a parallel path with the infamous Murderous Mary.

Opening night is June 20, and it runs through June 30. For tickets, please click:

www.sartplays.org

(2) Do plan to see Cynthia in the following production:



She's going to be amazing in it, as will be everybody else. For more information, please click:

<http://www.joyusgroove.com/communitychoreo/>

In the unlikely event you haven't yet purchased tickets, you can still do so for \$18 apiece through Diana Wortham Theatre, Malaprop's Bookstore, Enchanted Forest (North and South Store) and Four Seasons Hospice.

(3) Feel free to join me at an upcoming seminar, "The Power of Email Marketing," that I'm helping promote . . . it will be presented by Aaron Means on July 10 from 10 a.m.-noon at ABTech . . . I've attended this twice, and it has gotten better each time . . . all readers of this newsletter are invited--at no charge . . . for more information, please click:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e7gwfum4686105d&llr=5obehpkab>

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ay>

(4) The Asheville Wine & Food Festival. (5) Blue Ridge BBQ & Music Festival. (6) Vocal Blast. (7) Mentoring project for teenage boys. (8) Shakespeare Workshop with Kelly McGillis. (9) INCONGRUENCE. (10) 2013 Buzz Series Tickets. (11) Earth & Sky. (12) EVITA.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ay>

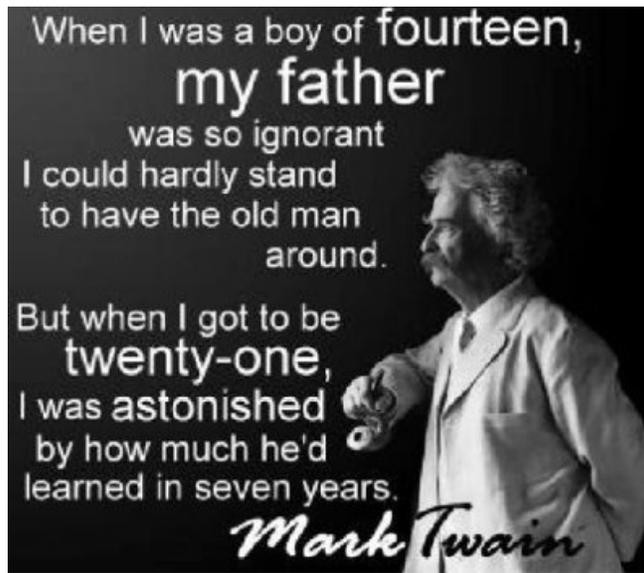
(1) This weekend at Kelsey. (2) Area comedy. (3) Plumstead Historical Society.

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PS. I'm hoping that you enjoy a fantastic Flag Day on Friday, June 14, which just so happens to my favorite day of the year . . . and to help get you in the mood, please play this clip--featuring the incomparable James Cagney:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rxZvDTnlvKM>

Also, please see the following picture. This describes my father, too. To again quote Twain, "The older I got, the smarter he got." When my father died, he was so smart that I almost couldn't believe it. (Happy Father's Day on Sunday, June 16 to y'all, as well as to your fathers and grandfathers if you're fortunate enough to have them alive and/or in your memories.)



Make it a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#871
6.3.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I really enjoy the food at Texas Roadhouse, 230 Hendersonville Road, Asheville . . . we go there fairly often, in large part because Cynthia says they have the best ribeye steaks around . . . she also likes the idea that you can pick out the one you want.



Service is always excellent, too . . . most recently, we were helped by Rachel . . . her enthusiasm, as well as her smile, added to our dining enjoyment.

B. Cynthia has been very busy, as of late, getting ready for her upcoming performance in SECRETS: FREEING THE HIDDEN STORY.

It runs from June 20-22 at Diana Wortham Theatre. In the unlikely event you haven't yet purchased tickets, you can still do so by sending her an email at: cgreenfield1001@aol.com or calling 828.633.1049. Tickets are \$18 each. They can also be purchased through Diana Wortham Theatre, Malaprop's Bookstore, Enchanted Forrest (North and South Store) and Four Seasons Hospice.

You'll not only get the chance to see Cynthia on stage, but her friend Marcy Gallagher will be in the production too.

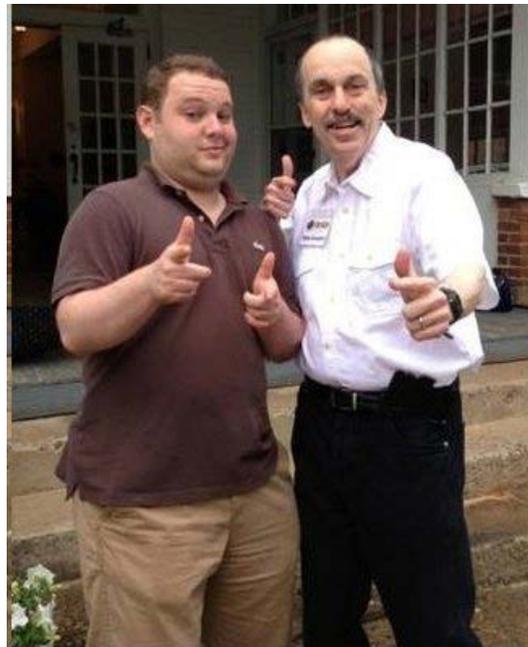


For more information, please click:

<http://www.thelaurelofasheville.com/community-choreography.html>

C. I've kept busy, as well.

(1) The SART season opened with its first production: THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE. Chandler Smith, a longtime SART favorite, stopped by on Opening Night and joined me in giving the show a big thumbs up.



To see a trailer for the show, please click:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=i0C2AxDfvOs

Special thanks to Theresa Phillips and Ryan Phillips, both with Legacy Films, for producing the above. And to Ryan for sharing his beautiful photographs that can be seen on display on the bottom floor of Owen Theatre.

For tickets to PUTNAM or any other show this season, please click:

www.sartplays.org

(2) I also got to see RING OF FIRE at HART in Waynesville . . . the show features the music of Johnny Cash, and it was very well directed by Mark Jones . . . Kelli Brown Mullinix handled both the music direction and keyboard with aplomb. Each cast member was outstanding: Domnic M. Aquilino, Clara Burrus, Matthew Curry, Ed Mathis and Mandy Wildman . . . I'm still humming their last song, "I've Been Everywhere" . . . it's a tough song to sing for any one person, and though I'm sorry I don't have their

version to share, I thought you'd like to hear how Cash sang it:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ov4epAJRPMw>



L-R: Yours truly, Kelli Brown Mulinix, Dominic M. Aquilino and Clara Burrus.

Fortunately, you can still catch RING OF FIRE . . . it runs through June 16 . . . for more information, please click:
<http://www.harttheater.com/>

(3) I got to check out the flavorful yogurt at Blue Ridge Bear Yogurt & Espresso, 1854 Brevard Road, Arden . . . that's me with Janet Casperson, the owner.



(4) And I put the finishing touches on an upcoming seminar, "The Power of Email Marketing," that I'm helping promote . . . it will be presented by Aaron Means on July 10 at ABTech . . . I've attended this twice, and it has gotten better each time . . . y'all are invited--at no charge . . . for more information, please click:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e7gwfum4686105d&llr=5obehpkab>

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Bob and Kristina Aaronson on the recent marriage of their son at the Billmore Lake Clubhouse.

(2) Ron and Helene Peyton on the birth of their new granddaughter.

(3) Cara Cotellese on getting tenure at Kutztown University.

(4) Jeff Thompson on his interview on WNCW. What's really cool about it is that you can hear him perform, too, by clicking:

<http://www.solomines.com/wncw-local-color/>

E. Updates

(1) Correction: Last week's issue incorrectly spelled Brian Biro's name wrong in a caption from a photo taken at his daughter's recent engagement party. I also failed to mention the person on the far right as Marcy Gallagher. Sorry 'bout that.

Please see the picture again, this time with the correct caption:



L-R: Lorre Diamond, Cynthia Greenfield, Annamarie Brown, Jenna Biro and Brian Biro.
Sitting (far right): Marcy Gallagher.

(2) Sharon B. in NC: Thanks as always for your newsletter. I am constantly informed and amused. I was especially pleased with this photo that you had for Joke 1. It is actually a photo of my two rescued Maltese, Tooter (on the left, aka Tooter Lou) and Tink (on the right, aka Tinkus Rosabelle) who passed away a couple of years ago. Just last night I was thinking about them and how much I miss them. I am not sure how it happened, but I got another email from someone who had added the coffee captions. Whoever that was must have copied the photo from my Facebook page. Anyway, I was delighted to see my sweet puppies, even though it made me a little sad and lonely too at the same time. Weren't they adorable? I think they were about 7 and 5 years old at that time. I finally lost them at 15 and 13 years of age. Now I am hoping to find a new fur family before too long. Anyway, thanks again.

Note: Thanks much to Sharon for sharing the above email. It's an amazing coincidence, especially since I've seen this picture plastered all over the Internet. That said, please let me know if you find an error or omission in future issues. I attempt to keep in mind the motto of one of my journalism professors from college: Accuracy, accuracy, accuracy!

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

This week, it goes to Keith McLeod--service manager at Mountain View Tire & Service, 1047 Smokey Park Highway, Candler; 828.633.2530.

I have been a Mountain View customer ever since I moved to the Asheville area

. . .originally, I used the company's store at 990 Patton Ave. and was very pleased with the service I received there.

But when the company added a new location in Candler, less than 10 minutes from my home, I started using that one . . . and continue to enjoy being a customer there.

The work is always done right, the first time, and it is done by the time that it's promised . . . prices are reasonable, too.

Keith runs a fine shop and he is ably assisted by Billy Sutton, service manager, who has also been most helpful.

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2. FYI

One friend recently dropped her phone in water. Another lost her phone. I mention both instances to remind you to keep your old phone (prior to any upgrade). That way, if your phone is not working or you lose it, you can immediately switch back to your old phone. And you can sometimes do this via phone; i.e., without having to go to a store. All you need to do is contact customer service from some other phone.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Cups (Pitch Perfect's "When I'm Gone") (Director's Cut)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=cmSbXsFE3l8#!

(2) Turning the Eiffel Tower Into a Giant Musical Instrument

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=hJvnrITCPGA#!

(3) Steven F. in NY: George Carlin talks about "stuff"

<http://restoring-sanity.org/george-carlin-talks-about-stuff-video/>

(4) Natalie K, on PA: FATHER GUIDO SARDUCCI EXPLAINS THE AFTERLIFE...

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/0AKvRvL5r3A?rel=0>

(5) All in the Family / Archie Bunker's Place Opening Credits

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0d8FTPv955I>

Note: RIP, Jean Stapleton!

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ae>

1. Tom S. in PA. (2) Alyson M. in CO. (3) Kaleo W. in IN. (4) Debbie H. in PA. (5) Marlene N. in NC. (6) Laura B. in NJ. (7) Carol A. in NC.

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3. Joke 1

HOUSEKEEPING TIP: Always keep several get well cards on the mantel. That way, if unexpected guests arrive, they'll think you have been sick and unable to clean.



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4. Reviews

A. Don't miss THE SAPPHIRES, a film inspired by a true story about four Australian Aboriginal girls who get discovered by a talent scout (Chris O'Dowd) who gets them a gig signing for American troops in Vietnam . . . the music is outstanding, and so is O'Dowd--an actor who has been great in just about everything I've ever seen him in . . . rated PG-13.

B. Out on DVD for quite some time is COME SEE THE PARADISE, an underrated film about the tragic story of the interment of Asian-Americans during World War II. Dennis Quaid is outstanding as the union organizer who falls in love with the daughter of his boss. When California law prevents them from getting married, they move to Seattle and soon have a daughter. But soon thereafter, mother and daughter are sent way to a camp with all other Americans of Japanese descent. PARADISE, a romantic drama, will hold your attention from beginning to end. Rated R, though methinks appropriate for any child over the age of 12.

Note: It is also one of my favorite films. If you'd like my complete listing of others in that category, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITE FILMS in the subject line.

C. POETRY GIRLS!!! (James Ward Kirk Publishing) is the first collection of poems by Rich Orth, a Philadelphia poet.

I have been reading and enjoying his poems for well over a decade . . . this book came as a result of the author's revisiting his affection for Poe in 2009 . . . shortly thereafter, he began writing a series of dead/cemetery girl-themed poems.

To quote from his Notes in the beginning of the book, "The primary theme is not merely death, but lost love--or love sometimes revisited from the beyond the grave."

Each poem managed to move me . . . for example, there was the following one that's reprinted with the generous permission of the author:

Lady Nightshade!

Dearest Lady Nightshade
How she poisons the soul
In her beauty I wallow
In my depths I'm cajoled
Queen of deception
Tempest storm
Extreme misconceptions
By love I am torn
Dearest Lady Nightshade
Of she I'm consumed
As destiny's light fades
One day I'll be exhumed
Truth shall be known
Willingly I was victimized
Truth shall be shown
Folly was my demise
In a game well played . . .
With my dearest Lady Nightshade
In a game eternally replayed . . .
With my dearest Lady Nightshade

I also liked the book's layout that was done by Mike Jansen, and I look forward to Orth's next collection of poems.

D. Heard WRITING WINNING BUSINESS PLANS: HOW TO PREPARE A BUSINESS PLAN THAT INVESTORS WILL WANT TO READ--AND INVEST IN (Hachette Audio), written and read by Garrett Sutton.

The author, an attorney, has over thirty years' experience in assisting clients in selecting the appropriate business entity . . . it shows in this book, as Sutton cites countless examples that help make his points come alive.

There were many useful tidbits I gained from listening; among them:

* Plan to run a business that at some point in time can run itself and provide excessive cash flow.

* The executive summary is your calling card. It immediately shows a prospective investor if you have the savvy to run your business.

And this one that I really liked:

* When you develop your business plan, send it to a small group of investors first so you can get feedback to see if you're on the mark.

If you need to develop a business plan, WRITING WINNING BUSINESS PLANS will be worth reading before you begin putting anything down on paper.

E. Don't forget: There's still time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #35 *****

One lucky reader will win an unabridged copy of the following book on CD: ADMISSION by Jean Hanff Korelitz (that was the basis for recent movie with the same title). According to THE NEW YORKER, "Portia Nathan is a thirty-eight-year-old admissions officer at Princeton University, a place so discriminating that it can afford to turn down applicants who are 'excellent in all of the ordinary ways' in favor of the utterly extraordinary--'Olympic athletes, authors of legitimately published books, Siemens prize winners, working film or Broadway actors, International Tchaikovsky Competition violinists.' . . . Although the reader may unravel the mystery of Portia's past before the plot does, the novel gleams with acute insights into what most consider a deeply mysterious process."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #35" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bjinbc@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 Sunday, June 9.

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5. TV alert

A. THE FALL, according to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, is "a riveting British miniseries. . . . This five-part psychological thriller, which has been renewed for a second season, stars THE X-FILES' ravishing Gillian Anderson in a startling performance that reveals an unbridled sexual allure within a cool-, guarded professional armor." Now available via streaming from: www.netflix.com

B. A newlywed fears she's going mad when strange things start happening at the family mansion in GASLIGHT, starring Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer. It's a great thriller. Sunday at 12 p.m. on TCM.

C. Neil Patrick Harris returns to host the THE 67TH TONY AWARDS, the annual salute to Broadway's best, on Sunday at 8 p.m. on CBS.

D. OPRAH'S MASTER CLASS profiles Academy Award winner Susan Sarandon on Sunday at 10 p.m. on OWN.

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6. Joke 2

Times are bad everywhere. In fact, budget cuts to the military have reportedly forced training teams to start doing mock combat using no explosives, guns or basically any equipment whatsoever. . . . Thus the following training scenario: The Sergeant in charge tells his recruits that they are under imaginary fire and asks what to do. All of the recruits but one scatter to get down behind "stuff" in order to get into positions to return fire. The Sergeant notices this one recruit standing out in the open, quite relaxed and unfazed. Yelling, the Sergeant asks "What the devil do you think you're doing? You're under fire!" . . . So the recruit takes one step to the left and remains still. Now the Sergeant's really annoyed. He yells again, "WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING? You're under imaginary fire, take cover!" . . . The recruit turns to him and replies, "I'm taking cover behind this imaginary tree, Sergeant!"



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7. Websites

A. Ed B. in NC: The tweet that saved Delta

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BnCOHoEREz0>

B. Dan B. in PA: National Teacher's Day. (Don't take it seriously or your feelings will get hurt.)

http://www.waltonandjohnson.com/showarchives.html?n_id=2481

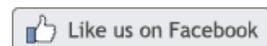
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

What's this website all about? Go to the box at the top of the page, and you'll find out!

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



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8. Computer tip

Thanks to Jensen Gelfond with Asheville Digital Lifestyle for sending me the following for use in this missive:

When was the last time you had spent minutes digging around for one of your online passwords or couldn't find the password at all? Using a password manager can take the headache out of remembering your passwords. These programs securely store your passwords, and can automatically fill them in when you visit a website. They also help you be even more secure online by generating more secure passwords for new websites and warning you if you are using the same password for multiple websites (a security no-no). LastPass is my current choice (free on your computer with a paid option if you want it on your smartphone) and there are other up-and-coming services such as Dashlane as well.

To access the above companies, please click:

<https://lastpass.com/>

or:

<https://www.dashlane.com/>

For more information about Jensen, give him a call at 828.354.0371 or send him an email at jensen@ashevilledigitallifestyle.com. His website is:

www.ashevilledigitallifestyle.com

And to get on the free mailing list for his informative newsletter, please click:

<http://www.ashevilledigitallifestyle.com/newsletter.html>

Note: If you'd like to read more on this topic, THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote an article about it that can be found by clicking:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/06/technology/personaltech/too-many-passwords-and-no-way-to-remember-them-until-now.html?pagewanted=2&ref=general&src=me&pagewanted=print>

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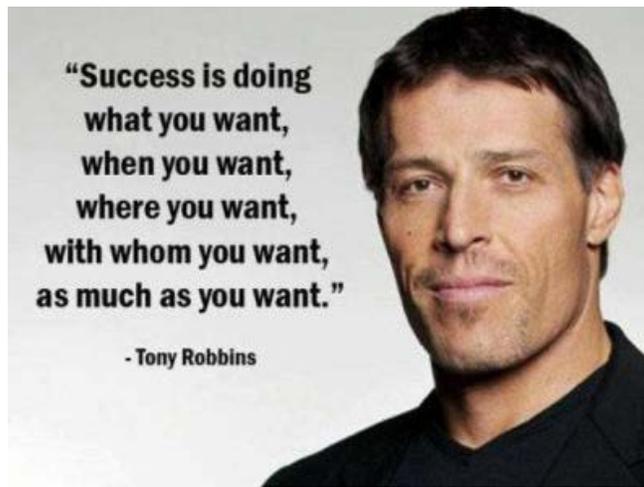
9. Joke 3

I asked my trainer at the gym which machine at the gym I should use to impress this beautiful woman who works out there. He pointed outside and said, "The ATM machine."



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10. A quote I like



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11. Thought for the day

Urgent, please read asap
by Seth Godin*

That's what gets done, of course. The urgent.

Not the article you haven't gotten around to writing, the trip to the gym that will pay off in the long run, the planning for your upcoming birthday party, dinner with your parents (who would love to see you), ten minutes to sit quietly, saying thank you to a friend for no real reason... no, we do the urgent first.

The problem, of course, is that the queue of urgent never ends, it merely changes its volume as it gets longer.

Yes, we've heard it said that it's the important, not the urgent, that deserves attention. But it understates just how much we've been manipulated by those that would make their important into our urgent.

* Reprinted with the gracious permission of Seth Godin, one of my favorite bloggers. To get on his free mailing list, please click:
<http://www.feedblitz.com/ff.fbz?Sub=198516>

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12. Advance planning department/NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-1ae>

(1) KISS ME KATE. (2) Blue Ridge BBQ & Music Festival. (3) The Caro Savanti Experience. (4) The BJ Leiderman Band. (5) The Importance of Being Earnest. (6) WRITING FROM THE TOP OF YOUR HEAD. (7) SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGIES.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#870
5.27.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had a blast at the engagement party of Kelsey Biro and Michael Sanders--the daughter and future son-in-law of our friends Carole and Brian Biro. That's us in the top picture with Kelsey and Michael.



Local entertainer Lorre Diamond put a smile on everybody's face when she delivered a singing telegram--and then stayed to lead some of the partygoers in an impromptu dance.



L-R: Lorre Diamond, Cynthia Greenfield, Annamarie Brown, Jenna Biro and Brian Biro. Sitting (far right): Marcy Gallagher.

For more information about Lorre, please click:
<http://www.thesingingtelegram.com>

B. Cynthia helped welcome our friend Tammy Strange's newest addition to her family, Dewey Moonshine.



C. And I got to enjoy some fantastic chicken and waffles at Rocky's Hot Chicken Shack, one of Asheville's newest independent restaurants. That's me with my friend Steve Byas (left). For more information about Rocky's, please click:
<http://www.rockyshotchickenshack.com/>



I also saw the play THIS at NC Stage Company. It's a contemporary drama about five New Yorkers, four of whom have known each other since their college days. The dialogue was excellent, as was the acting by the entire cast. In particular, Damian Duke Domingue had some of the funniest lines--and he delivered them with aplomb. Angie Flynn-McIver's direction was spot-on.

The good news is that you can still catch this show through June 9. For more information, please click:

<http://www.ncstage.org/>

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Mandy Sayles, producing artistic director at The New Theater in New York City, whose first show (AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS) opened to great reviews, including this one: http://www.nypost.com/p/entertainment/theater/take_this_wild_trip_Av1q3TwC3rdAmIjf9qIUIM

(2) Arlene Smith for being named an "Unsung Heroine" of the Women of Temple Sinai. Her accomplishments will be recognized at the Women of Reform Judaism Biennial in San Diego in December 2014.

(3) Traci Jo Morgan for the great coverage she has gotten for the school that she actually helped conceive. To read more, please click: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2013/05/31/4078492/new-mcclintock-middle-school.html#storylink=cpy>

(4) Majo John Madden on the birth of Aila Skyle, his grandbaby.

(5) Blue Ridge Bear Yogurt & Espresso on getting the frozen yogurt part to its business up and running. Flavors are as follows: Triple Chocolate, Tahitian Vanilla, California Tart and Mango Sorbet. All products by Honey Hill Farms, all natural and delicious. Location: 854 Brevard Road, Arden.

(6) Alyson Miller-Greenfield and Don Greenfield on the birth of Augie, their grandson.

(7) Cyd Smith in NC and the Asheville Homeschool Co-op Odyssey of the Mind group that she advised for finishing 12th (out of 58 teams) at the national finals.

(8) Hayley Wells on her role in forming her firm's alcoholic beverage law practice firm that received nice coverage (and a picture) in the ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES: <http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013305260024>

(9) Janet Hart and her "Hot Flashers" team for competing in the second annual Mud Run in Hendersonville, NC.

(10) Michael Trayford, also, for competing in the same race. In addition, he won a \$500 gift certificate to REI.

(11) Rich Orth on the publication of his first book, POEtry Girls, that can be obtained by clicking: http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0615809863/ref=cm_cr_error

(12) Elsten Torres on the great coverage he received in the Daily Times in Knoxville, a city where he'll be performing on Saturday:

<http://www.thedailytimes.com/Weekend/story/Cuban-born-musician-Elsten-Torres-embraces-two-sides-to-his-heritage-id-036918>

(13) Phyllis U. in NC and Marie V. in NJ, both winners of Contest #34: a copy of IT'S TIME FOR JOY by Brian Biro. Although I originally advertised only one prize for the contest, it just goes to show you that you should continue to enter the various contests because I sometimes can double your chances when I get hold of a second copy. All told, there were 15 entries. And that reminds me that it's now time to introduce . . .

***** CONTEST #35 *****

One lucky reader will win an unabridged copy of the following book on CD: ADMISSION by Jean Hanff Korelitz (that was the basis for recent movie with the same title). According to THE NEW YORKER, "Portia Nathan is a thirty-eight-year-old admissions officer at Princeton University, a place so discriminating that it can afford to turn down applicants who are 'excellent in all of the ordinary ways' in favor of the utterly extraordinary--'Olympic athletes, authors of legitimately published books, Siemens prize winners, working film or Broadway actors, International Tchaikovsky Competition violinists.' . . . Although the reader may unravel the mystery of Portia's past before the plot does, the novel gleams with acute insights into what most consider a deeply mysterious process."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #35" 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 Sunday, June 9.

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

This week, it goes to crumbs and cream nc--a chocolate and confections store (that now also serves ice cream) at 24a S. Main St. in Mars Hill, NC.

Started by Marsha Mason and her daughter Katie Mason, this place serves divine chocolates. My favorite is a chocolate-covered coconut piece with almonds that puts anything from Almond Joy to shame.

The cookies are excellent, too . . . in fact, anything there is. I've never had something that I didn't enjoy. Friends tell me that the coffee is also excellent.

And just recently, Marsha and Katie started serving ice cream manufactured by The Hop . . . so you know that's going to be good too.

Very frequently when I go to the store, I'm helped by Jackie Ballard--and she always greets me and everybody else with a friendly smile.

For more information, please click:

<http://www.crumbsandcreamnc.com/>

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2. FYI

Leaving Behind the Digital Keys to Financial Lives
by Paul Sullivan in THE NEW YORK TIMES

Bob Ginsberg, a retired production manager for an educational publisher, is worried that he does not know any of the logins and passwords for online accounts belonging to his partner or brother and they do not know his.

At 72, he said his concern was not about Facebook or e-mail. It was for their financial lives, which have migrated online, making paper account statements anachronistic. Now, when people die without disclosing their financial affairs to anyone, there is often no paper trail for heirs to follow.

For the rest of this informative article, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/25/your-money/forgotten-in-estate-planning-online-passwords.html?src=me&ref=general&pagewanted=print>

Note: The need to consider this subject first hit me when my father passed away several years ago. He had an AOL account, when folks still paid to do so, and I couldn't cancel it for some 18 months after his death--paying a monthly fee at the same time. I was told that I couldn't cancel it unless I had his password, but unfortunately, he had never given it to me, nor had he left a record of it anywhere.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Patty A. in PA: Prancercise: Joanna Rohrbach's Fitness Program Inspired By Horses
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o-50GjySwew>

(2) Susan M. in NJ: You have to watch this (Ninja cats), especially if you need a laugh!
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=494641413935666&set=vb.154798851253259&type=2&theater>

(3) Janeen R. in PA: My son the waiter
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dm0b56g4yjl>

(4) Debbie H. in PA: This is amazing and rare footage of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan showing how she learned to speak.
<http://www.wimp.com/helenkeller/>

(5) Nelson S. in NC: The future of prosthetic limbs
<http://videos.real.com/v/en/8k7sbq>

(6) The Band Perry's "If I Die Young"
<http://tinyurl.com/qbwo93n>

(7) Jim Gaffigan on birthdays:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=At97qw6H7_s

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-19Y>

(1) Carol S. in FL. (2) Joe D. in NY. (3) Rod R. in NJ. (4) Zuzu W. in NC. (5) Steve T. in NC. (6) Susan Gambrell Reinhardt in NC. (7) Isaac F. in NC. (8) Nelson S. in NC. (9) Natalie K. in PA.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

This has me wondering: What would 2 cups of coffee do?



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4. Reviews

A. I had great fun watching NOW YOU SEE ME, a film about four magicians who team together to pull a series of daring heists against corrupt business leaders . . . I liked the magic, as well as the many twits and turns . . . I also liked Mark Ruffalo's performance as the detective in constant pursuit of the magicians . . . and Woody Harrelson provided some needed comic relief. . . . rated PG-13.

B. PARENTAL GUIDANCE is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #851 follows:

Don't believe the mostly negative reviews you may have read about PARENTAL GUIDANCE . . . it's a family-oriented comedy about grandparents who babysit their grandkids when the parents are away . . . as might be expected, things don't go quite as planned . . . and though the whole film is formulaic, it did have me laughing throughout . . . there's a great, too . . . and the chemistry between Billy Crystal and Bette Midler in the leading parts is terrific . . . rated PG.

C. JEWISH JOCKS: AN UNORTHODOX HALL OF FAME (Twelve), edited by Franklin Foer and Marc Tracy, is a compilation of short essays by a wide range of authors covering an even wider range of athletes, coaches, broadcasters, trainers and even team owners.

Many I had known about; for example, the great fighter Benny Leonard:

* The champ had his own large raft of mama issues. He had so successfully kept his mother, Minnie, in the dark that she didn't discover his career until she saw a bus that bore the sign Benny Leonard, our champion pull up to their building to whisk him off to a fight. It took a moment for the shock to set in, before the self-pity streamed from her: "He's shamming us...and not even with his real name." His father, Gershon, reacted more philosophically. After Benny returned home later that night with thirty-five dollars in winnings, Gershon confronted him. "You got that for the fight?" When Benny didn't answer, his father asked, "When are you going to fight again?"

What made the book so much fun, however, was the fact that it included several I had never heard about, including Don Lerman, the Ben Franklin of Competitive Eating; Tamir Goodman, The Jewish Jordan; and Sidney Franklin, Matador from Flatbush.

I had heard about Bill Goldberg, the wrestler, but never followed his career very closely. This tidbit about him had me laughing:

* It is only marginally possible to suspect a marketing scheme at work in Goldberg's decision to make his actual name his professional name. Goldberg himself has said he never thought twice about it. "The stupidest question I get is, 'Is Goldberg your real name?' he told the Washington Post's Paul Farhi. "I tell people, 'No, my real name is Killer, but I wanted a much more menacing name, so I picked Goldberg.'"

Lastly, I enjoyed reading about Howard Cosell and his attempt at becoming a TV star for something other than sports:

* Cosell settled for lesser spectaculars. He and Barbara Walters sang an off-key duet of "Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better." The head writer, Walter Kempley, said, "This show is so bad not only is no one watching-they are going next door to turn off their neighbors set."

All sports fans will enjoy JEWISH JOCKS, regardless of their religion.

D. Heard MAKING GOOD HABITS, BREAKING BAD HABITS: 14 NEW BEHAVIORS THAT WILL ENERGIZE YOUR LIFE (Hachette Audio), written by Joyce Meyer and read by Sandra McCollom.

The author, one of the world's leading practical Bible teachers, explains how to develop good habits and break the bad ones. She also presents 14 new behaviors that will energize your life.

In addition, Meyer presents many useful ideas that can be both immediately and easily incorporated into anybody's life--including these:

- * Never being a project with doubt and fear that you won't succeed.
- * A good phrase to remember is put it away right away (with respect to disorganization).
- * You can get rid of anything you want just by thinking about something else.

I especially liked MAKING GOOD HABITS because of the fact that while it quoted some

Scriptures, it didn't overwhelm you with that fact . . . so if you're not Christian or even religious, you can still benefit from just about all of the material contained in the book.

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5. TV alert

A. *THE COURT JESTER* stars Danny Kaye in a spoof of medieval England and costumed swashbucklers. I remember it as one of the first films I saw as a child (my mother was a big Kaye fan), and I'll be curious if it holds up for me. Sunday at 8 p.m. on TCM.

B. *STATUE OF LIBERTY* is Ken Burns' history of the landmark. Sunday at 8 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS times and dates often vary, so check local listings.

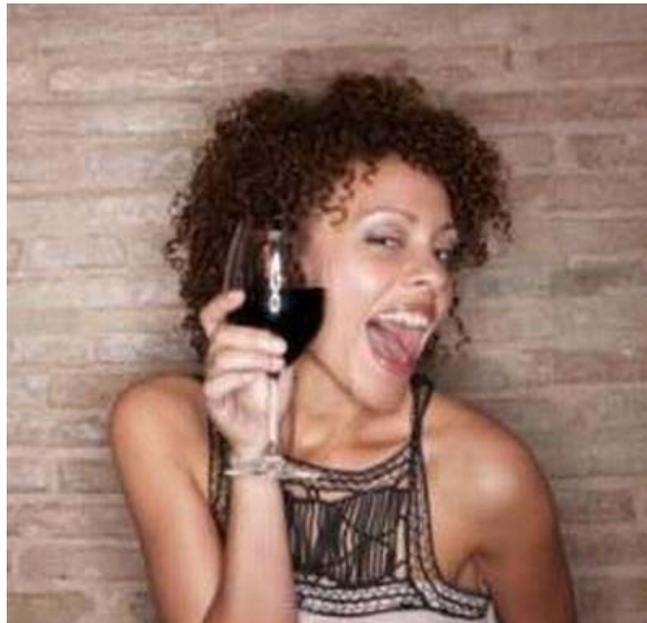
C. *WHITNEY BULGER: THE MAKING OF A MONSTER* profiles a man who was on the FBI's Most Wanted List for 16 years for committing some 19 murders, yet who enjoyed official protection much of this life because of his service as an informant. Monday, June 3 at 10 p.m. on INVESTIGATION DISCOVERY.

D. *IN THE FLESH* is a three-part miniseries about zombies. According to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, "Suspenseful, tragic yet uplifting in its audacious collision of fantasy and emotional realism, this haunting gem reminds us that we shouldn't speak ill of the dead. They sometimes make the best characters." Thursday-Saturday, June 6-8, at 10 p.m. on BBC AMERICA.

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6. Joke 2

Old people at weddings always poke me and say, "You're next." That stopped when I started doing the same to them at funerals.



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7. Websites

A. Barbara F. in PA: This video is great if you grew up in the 50's . . . and if you didn't it's still good!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDc0ID6PJeg&feature=player_embedded

B. Joey N. in NJ: Gas pump prank turns couple into Internet sensation
<http://now.msn.com/leno-gas-station-prank-turns-will-sims-and-monifa-sims-into->

sensation#scpshrjp2

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

Ever wonder how many others are viewing this website at the same time you are? Look at the counter in the bottom left of this page.

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



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8. Computer tip

For a free online cropping tool that's very easy to use, please click:
<http://www.picturemosaics.com/crop/>

When I use it, I find my pictures look much better. Judge for yourself by looking at the pictures in this week's issue. What do you think?

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9. Joke 3

Our employee of the month shows you the level of dedication that we expect from all staff. And now you know why laptop spelled backward is potpal!



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10. A quote I like

"I have noticed even people who claim everything is predestined, and that we can do nothing to change it, look before they cross the road."--Stephen Hawking (born 1942), an English theoretical physicist whose scientific books and public appearances have made him an academic celebrity

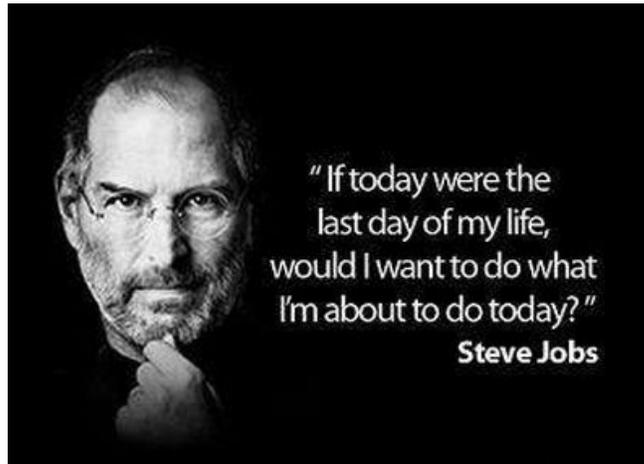


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11. Thought for the day

Powerful question that Jobs raised it in a speech at Stanford University's 114th Commencement in 2005, at which he spoke candidly about his death six years before it actually happened. His response: "And whenever the answer has been 'no' for too many days in a row, I know I need to change something." To view the whole speech, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/cfqy9r>.



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Don't miss PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE. It opens at SART on June 5 and runs through June 16. For more information and/or tickets, please click:

www.sartplays.org.

Note: You can now even get tickets online at the above link!



(2) Zuzu W. in NC:
Saturday, June 1, 2013

Pipapelli live from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Food and fun to celebrate the grand reopening and remodeling.

Cutting Edge Salon, 5591 Hendersonville Rd, Fletcher, NC

Zuzu Welsh solo, opening for Josh Gilbert
Saturday, June 1, 2013
8:00 p.m. at Asheville Radio Cafe
81 Patton Ave, Asheville, NC

(3) Saturday, June 8, 2013 at 6 p.m.
The Zoodles live with the critters, raising money for the WNC Nature Center

(4) The BJ Leiderman Band LIVE at the White Horse
June 14 and 15 at 7:30 p.m. White Horse Black Mountain in Black Mountain, NC

B. PA/NJ event

The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare's celebrated play is being presented by the Actors' NET of Bucks County. The show performs three weekends, May 31 to June 16, at the Heritage Center Theatre in Morrisville, PA; show days and times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$17 for seniors 62 and up, \$10 for children age 12 and under, and \$15 for WHYH members. To reserve, call the nonprofit Actors' NET at 215-295-3694 or email: actorsnet@aol.com. The company's website

www.actorsnetbucks.org.

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PS. Make it a great week!

19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#869

5.20.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I are . . . bang the drums . . . now officially both high-tech wizards, in that Cynthia just got her iPhone 5. (I upgraded a few weeks ago.) That's us with Ryan Gaffney, the sales consultant who was a big help to her.



Cynthia had been previously helped by Stefanie Shuba, another representative who we also found helpful. In general, we've been impressed by all the assistance provided by Verizon

Recommendation: If you're a Verizon customer, attend the one-hour free course for those who purchase an iPhone or Android product. I went to one of these sessions and am encouraging Cynthia to do so, too.

Mine was led by Danielle Edwards. She was assisted by Mary Quigley. Both women provided a lot of useful information about basic features, how to get additional help, etc.

One suggestion was to look online for "101 fun questions to ask Siri." I came up with the following list that's been a great way to get to know Siri, the personal assistant that comes with the phone:

<http://appmodo.com/57164/fun-things-to-ask-siri/>

So wanting to know more, I asked, "What do you look like?" Siri's reply was "Shiny."

I then asked, "Are you male or female?" Siri's reply was "Animals and nouns have genders. I do not."

B. Cynthia has been hard at work, getting ready for the upcoming Community Choreography Projects performance this coming June 20-22 at Diana Wortham Theatre. That's her (below), along with other cast members using their beautiful and expressive voices to make the soundtrack.



L-R, front row: Karen Comitto Beijer and Amy LaDeroute; and L-R, rear row: Cynthia Greenfield, Ellane Chandler, Fiora Lizak, Cappy Tosetti, Tracey Schmidt and Michael Beveridge.

Barrie Barton, artistic director, has been working hard to make sure that this exciting event is going to be one you won't want to miss. For more information, please click: <http://communitychoreography.com/>

C. Next time in downtown Asheville . . . or for still another reason to come visit the city . . . come meet Sister Bad Habit--aka Sister Sin--riding her bike as part of LaZoom Comedy's great bus tour. For more information, click: <http://www.lazoomtours.com/>
. . . or if you want to see her "in action," please click: <http://tinyurl.com/c3qjdj>.

(See also Section 7C.)



D. Congratulations to:

(1) David "Doc" Brown on the launching of his new food truck, Doc Brown's BBQ, which will initially be found in the French Broad Rafting headquarters in Marshall on weekends. For more information and a picture, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013305230027>

(2) Molly Kervick on her recent engagement to Larry.

(3) Tom and Maryanne O'Keefe on the birth of their newest twin grandbabies, Nora and Dean.

(4) Bucks County Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick who was named the recipient of a Legislative Leader Award from the Humane Society.

(5) Caren Friedman, Dept. of the Arts at Bucks County Community College, who exhibited her work in a papermaking exhibit at the Markeim Art Center in Haddonfield, NJ, from April 5-28. She also presented a demonstration of bookbinding techniques there on April 6.

(6) Kathryn Long on having her article published in NCDesignonline.com. You can view it here by clicking:

<http://blog.statedesign.com/welcoming-guests-through-the-design-of-powder-rooms/>

(7) Susan Singer on her retirement from the Nursing Department at Bucks County Community College.

(8) Cameron Gregg on his graduation from Rutgers University

(9) Larry Parr and Bob Bernotus on their recent marriage.

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

This week, it goes to Glenn Mark--a level 2 agent for AOL.

I've been having some trouble with my email, especially in regard to reaching folks at charter.net. (So if you are a Charter subscriber and haven't gotten some stuff from me, you now know why.)

From what I understand, others have also been having this problem.

I repeatedly tried contacting AOL, but was getting nowhere fast. I would often get a form response that had nothing to do with why I had written in the first place. Other representatives, when I reached them on phone, were equally ineffective in helping me.

All I wanted to do was bring this matter to the attention of the AOL Postmaster. I kept asking to do this, but was told that I couldn't do so directly.

Finally, I was somehow patched through to Mr. Mark. He took ownership of my problem, and shortly thereafter, it was resolved.

But what was most impressive about Mr. Mark's help was that he contacted me after everything was working just to make sure that it was. That is something that I rarely encounter, not only with AOL--but with most other companies.

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2. FYI

Laura B. in NJ: They have started to add an option to opt out at the end of the message but that doesn't work on the cellphone. I cannot push "1" or whatever number to be taken off the list. My cellphone doesn't respond to that. Plus they don't call just once but call again immediately afterward if I don't answer the phone.

I even got a call to apply for a local job doing telemarketing. The owner even ignored the "do not call" list.

My two cents: When you get such a call, don't push another number to get on an "off" list. This shows the company that it has reached a live person and the result is that you'll get even more calls.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Jean D. in PA: What about prom, Blaine?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8I7LGK2hnQw>

Note: This is one of the great lines in cinema history from PRETTY IN PINK. Here's the picture of Molly Ringwald, saying it to Andrew McCarthy.



(2) Cyd S. in NC: 2013 Asheville Homeschool Co-op World Finals
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=woAvcxwNok4&feature=youtube_gdata_player

(3) Susan Reinhardt with a great Sarah Palin impression and information on her new book:
<http://www.susanreinhardt.com/>

(4) Monica F. in PA: Edith Piaf - Milord
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=oromrP0iu3E#!

(5) Tom G. in NJ: Teresa Brewer - (Put Another Nickel In) Music, Music, Music
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gUNZAmFfKA&feature=share>

(6) Alex S. in PA: First pitch ends in big surprise for soldier's daughter
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WEFkcLtAdGs>

(7) Eileen Z. in PA: This 86 Year-Old Gymnast Has AMAZING Skills and Strength!
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFZE09YRkiU>

(8) Nelson S. in NC: THE LANDFILLHARMONIC ORCHESTRA - INSPIRING!
http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=UJrSUHK9Luw

(9) Natalie K. in PA: As Time Goes By
<http://www.GreatShowTunes.com/page/9468.html>

(10) Janeen R. in PA: Hairy babe
http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=sls5M5YWIOQ&feature=youtu.be

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-19l>

(1) Margie Z. in NC. (2) Ed G. in NC. (3) Steve G. in PA. (4) Karen M. in NJ. (5) Justin B. in NC. (6) Peter R. in PA. (7) Michael F. in NY. (8) Neil R. in VT. (9) Lori H. in PA. (10) Carol S. in FL. (11) Jim D. in PA. (12) Elsten T. in FL.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

"I found out why cats drink out of the toilet. My mother told me it's because the water is cold in there. And I'm like, how did my mother know that?"--Wendy Liebman (born 1961), American stand-up comedian



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4. Reviews

A. You may have to dig some to find NO in a local theatre, but your effort will be worth it. This drama is based on an actual event; i.e., what happened in 1988 when Chilean military dictator Augusto Pinochet, due to international pressure, was forced to call a plebiscite on his presidency. If the country votes "yes," Pinochet stays on for another eight years; if "no," Chile gets set free. A young advertising executive (the always watchable Gael Garcia Bernal) is brought in to spearhead the latter campaign. Rated R, but certainly appropriate for any mature teenager.

B. SIDE EFFECTS is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #856 follows:

SIDE EFFECTS is an intriguing thriller about a successful New York couple whose world unravels when a new drug prescribed by the woman's psychiatrist--intended to treat anxiety--has unexpected side effects. There are many twists and turns that left me guessing until the very end. Jude Law is quite good in this film, but it was the work of Rooney Mara as his patient that blew me away. I had only seen her briefly in THE SOCIAL NETWORK; however, I'll now be looking forward to whatever she is in next. Rated R.

C. THIS IS HOW TO GET YOUR NEXT JOB: AN INSIDE LOOK AT WHAT EMPLOYERS REALLY WANT (AMACOM) by Andrea Kay is based on answers to a question the author asked hundreds of employers, "Why didn't you hire the last 10 people you interviewed?"

Kay, a career consultant and syndicated columnist, spoke with business owners and hiring managers at companies of all sizes and in diverse sectors across the United States. And therein lies one of the reasons this is such a fine book; i.e., it's based on reality. I especially liked how she used real companies and real names.

In addition, I liked the various lists that were used throughout the book. An excellent one pointed out the five things everyone should avoid talking about in a job interview, including:

* Never say "I have good people skills." Everybody says "I'm a picture person," Kay point out. "The words mean nothing." Consider what it is you do that makes you effective when dealing with others. Are you good at working through difficult issues with co-workers? Do you have a knack for writing and talking to customers in a way that explains things? Tell interviewers that.

The author also points out that:

* An interview is "one setting where it's OK to say nice things about yourself and there are no ramifications," says Peter Harms, assistant professor of management at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a co-author of the study.

"In fact, it's expected," he says. And those who are comfortable doing this tend to do much better than those who aren't.

And she points out that:

* It's not to say that employers don't do things worthy of your wrath. Plenty do. But the past is the past. For your own good, it's best to leave it there before things turn ugly in the interview. In the 2009 Society for Human Resource Management survey, 95% of employers said talking negatively about a previous supervisor was somewhat of a problem or a deal breaker; 95 percent also said that talking negatively about a previous job or internship was somewhat of a problem or deal breaker.

If you're looking for a new job--or even a first one, for that matter--you'll find that there is a lot of useful information contained in THIS IS HOW TO GET YOUR NEXT JOB.

D. I recently enjoyed listening to HEROES FOR MY DAUGHTER by Brad Meltzer, so when I saw he also wrote HEROES FOR MY SON (Hachette Audio), I made it a point to listen to this book that had actually been written first.

The author, a bestselling author of various thrillers, compiled a list of heroes whose virtues and talents he wanted to share with his then newborn son. There were many famous names, such as Abraham Lincoln, Rosa Parks, Jen Henson, Amelia Earhart and Muhammad Ali, among others. But there were others I did not recognize, including Miep Gies, who risked her life to protect Anne Frank and her family from the Nazis during World War II.

Meltzer does not present biographies, per se, about each of the individuals . . . rather, he shares information about what made the person a hero.

I especially loved his concluding statement:

* But know this: We don't get to write our obituaries. They're written by others. And that's OK. All we get to do is live our lives. But in there is your power. And you do write, you help others, you simply say thank you . . . you won't live just a better life, you will live forever.

This is a great book to read and/or listen to by yourself (Meltzer does a fine job with the narration), as well as to share it with both your children and grandchildren.

E. Still time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #34 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the IT'S TIME FOR JOY! by Brian Biro. In his encouraging, easy-to-read style, the author shares touching stories from his own life and the lives of men and women who have truly made an art of creating lasting joy. I loved this book!

To enter: Put "CONTEST #34" 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 Sunday, May 26.

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5. TV alert

A. ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT, after being off the air since 2006, returns on Sunday via NETFLIX . . . you can devour it in half-hour segments or all at once, and--except for the first two exposition-heavy episodes--in any order. To view four teaser clips, please click: <http://www.rollingstone.com/movies/videos/arrested-development-teases-four-new-clips-20130524>

B. BEHIND THE CANDELABRA stars Michael Douglas and Matt Damon is the story of the flamboyant but closeted Liberace and his naive boy toy, Scott Thorson. According to TV GUIDE, "No one saves face in director Steven Soderbergh's ghoulishly entertainingly, opulently produced docudramas--past SUNSET BOULEVARD expose, part NIP/TUCK horror story." Sunday at 9 p.m. on HBO.

C. LIVE FROM LINCOLN CENTER: AUDRA MCDONALD: GO BACK has the five-time Tony winner belting out tunes from her favorite musical and her new album, GO BACK HOME. Monday, May 27, at 3:30 a.m.; repeated on Tuesday at 2:30 a.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

D. LONGMIRE returns. As noted in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "The tough Wyoming sheriff Walt Longmire is finally back on A&E this week, and what a long, hard wait it has been for this wonderful show, where the mysteries are good and the main characters all look and act like adults." Mondays at 10 p.m. on A&E, starting May 27.

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6. Joke 2

Six guys were playing poker when Smith loses \$500 on a single hand, clutches his chest and drops dead at the table. Showing respect for their fallen comrade, the other five complete their playing time standing up. Roberts looks around and asks, "Now, who is going to tell the wife?" . . . They draw straws. Rippington, who is always a loser, picks the short one. They tell him to be discreet, be gentle, don't make a bad situation any worse than it is. "Gentlemen! Discreet? I'm the most discreet man you will ever meet. Discretion is my middle name, leave it to me." . . . Rippington walks over to the Smith house, knocks on the door, the wife answers, asks what he wants. Rippington says, "Your husband just lost \$500 playing cards." . . . She hollers, "TELL HIM TO DROP DEAD!" . . . Rippington says, "I'll tell him."



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7. Websites

A. When did you choose to be straight?

Street interviews conducted by Travis Nuckolls and Chris Baker in Colorado Springs prove that asking the right question can be more important than anything you can tell someone.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=QJtjQLUHYoY

B. Alexis M. in NC: The most beautiful story. Oh my word.

Zach Sobiech, at the age of 14, found out he had a rare form of terminal cancer. So he became a rock star, and millions of people got to see his music before he passed away on May 20, 2013. To learn more about him, please click:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=9NjKgV65fpo

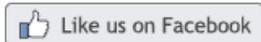
To listen to the song that's mentioned in the above clip, and I encourage you to do so, please click:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDC97j6lfyc>

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

If you'd like to check out Asheville or if you have friends who want more information on the city, please click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Asheville." You'll find a lot of useful location here. (See also Section 1C.)

Note: I continually update this section, so do check back every so often.

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



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8. Computer tip

Want a quick word count total? Click:
<http://www.wordcounttool.com/>

This is great when you are being restricted on the number of words you can write; e.g., on applications. Also, I find it a lot easier to use than to open my word processor and attempt to find where this capability is located.

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9. Joke 3

Welcome to the 21st century

Our Phones--Wireless
Cooking--Fireless
Cars--Keyless
Food--Fatless
Tires--Tubeless
Dress--Sleeveless
Youth--Jobless
Leaders--Shameless
Relationships--Meaningless
Attitude--Careless
Wives--Fearless
Babies--Fatherless
Feelings--Heartless
Education--Valueless
Children--Manner less

Everything is becoming LESS, but still our hopes are Endless.

In fact I am . . . Speechless!

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10. A quote I like

"The most wasted of all days is one without laughter."--E .E. Cummings (1894-1962) ,
American poet



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11. Thought for the day

Best of all: You don't have to battle with your insurance company for the few bucks that you sometimes get back!



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Forget the 3D version of THE GREAT GATSBY . . . get real theater at SART this upcoming season, starting June 5. For dates & ticket information, please click: www.sartplays.org.



Note: You can now even get tickets online at the above link!

(2) The Power of Email Marketing, a free seminar from Asheville SCORE, will be held on Wednesday, July 10 at 10 a.m. For more information and to register, please click: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=50behpkab&oeidk=a07e7gwfum4686105d>

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-19l>

(3) Different Strokes! Performing Arts Collective. (4) BJ Leiderman in NC. (5) Cripps Puppets Show! (6) Jazz in the area. (7) Asheville Buzz (Summer Breakfast Series). (8) Magnetic Theatre returns. (9) CD release concert for Richard Shulman. (10) SART volunteer orientation.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-19l>

(1) Patience, or Bunthorne's Bride. (2) Plumstead Historical Society. (3) Come view & support live comedy. (4) "Dance of the Heart." (5) Mercer County Symphonic Band. (6) Tyler Tasting. (7) A Blessed Life in America, Trenton, NJ. (8) SHAKESPEARE'S MERCHANT OF VENICE. (9) The Turnips!

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PS. On Monday, May 27, keep this in mind . . .



And make it a great week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#868

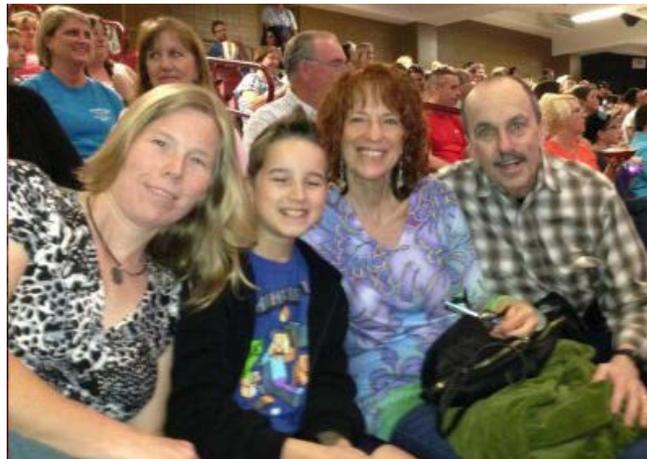
5.13.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I went to the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Fully Charged, Gold Edition Circus at the U.S. Cellular Center and were joined by our friends Julia and Conor Rosa. I think Conor liked it, so that was great.



Personally, I was not amazed. At all. It was just a one-ring event. There were no trapeze artists, lions or tigers. Very few clowns, too. And the guy who threw knives seemed to be two feet away from his target.

Afterward was the best part of the day. We went to Mellow Mushroom for some great food!

B. During the week, Julia and our friend Carole Biro also joined us for a show at Flat Rock Playhouse that we all absolutely loved: SOUVENIR--a tuneful, true story about a wealthy socialite with a famously uncertain sense of pitch and key. It featured superb performances from Linda Edwards and Carl Danielsen. Kudos, also, to Vincent Martini and Bridget Bartlett, respectively, for direction and costume design. It runs through May 26; to purchase tickets, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/bvxrfzp>.



C. Congratulations to:

- (1) Mike Andrus on being inducted into the Legends of Martial Arts Hall of Fame and, also, for having been asked to teach a seminar there.
- (2) Steve Seidner on becoming a grandfather as a result of the recent birth of Jaelyn Marie Seidner.
- (3) Sarah Benoit and all the other graduates of this year's Leadership Asheville 31 class.
- (4) Amber Moore on her new job as Small Business Treasury Specialist with First Citizens Bank.
- (5) Athena Destiny for landing a role in DO NO HARM, an upcoming movie.
- (6) Chandler Smith for appearing in a show, PIGGY NATION, that has just been nominated for 3rd Annual Off Broadway Alliance Awards, honoring commercial and not-for-profit productions that opened Off Broadway during the 2012-2013 season.
- (7) Jennie Giardine-Smith for having a great article about her appear in THE TIMES OF TRENTON:
http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2013/05/robbinsville_mom_explores_the.html
- (8) Asheville on becoming THE destination for outlet shopping in western North Carolina:
<http://www.nedevopment.com/portfolio/asheville/index.html>
- (9) Winifred H. in NJ--winner of Contest #33: the CD version of GIDEON'S SWORD by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child . . . all told, there were 11 entries . . . and that reminds me, it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #34 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the IT'S TIME FOR JOY! by Brian Biro. In his encouraging, easy-to-read style, the author shares touching stories from his own life and the lives of men and women who have truly made an art of creating lasting joy. I loved this book!

To enter: Put "CONTEST #34" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bjinbc@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 Sunday, May 26.

D. Correction to last week's issue: Some readers may have gotten a copy with the name of the BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD winner spelled incorrectly. It should be Jhan Brannon. She is Cynthia's personal trainer, and Cynthia says she is fantastic. Jhan's contact information is as follows: jhanbrannon1@charter.net; 828.231.3155.

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

This week, it goes to Scott Socha--a certified pedorthist and co-owner of Foot RX Running Asheville that Cynthia uses. She wrote the following:

I was recommended to go to Foot RX by two people that I trust completely. Having had issues with my feet for most of my life, I wondered how he could help me. I made my appointment, being told to bring in all of my shoes. Scott spent at least an hour and a half

with me the first time, looking at my feet and how I stand and walk and going over every single shoe that I brought in. (A large number!) He also had a treadmill that videotaped how I walked with particular shoes.

After a minimum payment of \$35 and shoe inserts for \$20 (not expensive orthotics!) and advice on which shoes to wear, I left to try out his suggestions. At no extra charge, at a second appointment, he continued his suggestions and modified some things slightly. Also, he told me that if I ever did not like a pair of sneakers that I bought from him, no matter if I had worn them for awhile or not, he would refund me the money.

He has continued to support my foot health on a continuous basis at no charge. And any modifications, too.

Most importantly, his suggestions are making a world of difference.

In addition, he suggested a website for foot exercises that have been helping me tremendously.

I highly recommend Foot RX and in particular, Scott--though I'm sure others there are just as helpful.

For more information, please click:

<http://footrxasheville.com/index.php>

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2. FYI

Dana K. in PA: On a recent trip to New Orleans, I was subjected to a upper body pat down by a homeland security officer at the airport on my flight back home. They also swabbed my palms, looking for residue from explosives. The reason? While going through the full body scan in the airport, I was wearing a tee shirt with a small metal studs decoration on it. According to the officer, the scanner gets a positive reading from metal trimming such as sequins and studs and glitter. My best advice: Don't wear it! I did not know about the airport scanner in New Orleans, but I will avoid wearing decorated tops when traveling in the future.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Mark J. in NC: A song called, "Mama, a Rainbow" that I recorded a few years ago for my mom.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=426850547601>

(2) Donna S. in AL: The Rascals: It's a beautiful morning

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4qhacXBK3fQ>

(3) Steve T. in NC: Ricky Jay and his 52 Assistants

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQmNuRZU4nQ>

(4) Christina S. in AK (on where she works): Takes waiting tables to a whole new level

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151454665458227>

(5) Corinne G. in PA: Good people caught on camera lending a helping hand.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzBlnt4zljQ&feature=player_embedded

(6) Tony Melendez: Bed by the Window

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=O4xYAkRAW_A

(7) Joe H. in NC: Bobby McFerrin mesmerizes a sold out crowd with his amazing vocal talents. Instruments need not apply.

<http://www.wimp.com/bobbymcferrin/>

(8) Michael F. in NV: The Impossible Dream on Britain's Got Talent

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTmhDyxByBU>

(9) Candice Glover (AMERICAN IDOL winner): I Am Beautiful

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bf18VXI3s5c>

(10) Walter B. in NC: Forty Fingers & a Missing Tooth Present: The Temps (promo video)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=-5qgrvfgpvl

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18X>

(1) Linda S. in NJ. (2) Marty D. in PA. (3) Les E. in CA. (4) Court Y. in FL. (5) Robin S. in PA. (6) Natalie K. in PA. (7) Sherry S. in PA. (8) Jeffrey M. in LA. (9) Art A. in NC. (10) Marilynne H. in NC. (11) Janet H. in NC.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

At long last: a diet that works!



My new low fat diet is really working.
The fat's hanging lower every day!

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4. Reviews

A. THE GREAT GATSBY tells the story of would-be writer Nick Carraway who leaves the Midwest to move to New York City in the spring of 1922. It is there that he encounters a millionaire, Jay Gatsby, and they soon become friends and participants in the lives of the super-rich. I thought the first half was a bit slow, but shortly thereafter, I became drawn into the story. Tobey Maguire was fine as Carraway; Leonardo DeCaprio was outstanding as Gatsby. Rated PG-13.

Mr. Curious here: Did anybody see the 3D version of the film and, if so, did it enhance your viewing pleasure? Intentionally, I chose to see the 2D version and that worked for me.

B. THE GUILT TRIP is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #848 follows:

THE GUILT TRIP is billed as a comedy about an guy and his mom traveling around the country to sell his invention . . . for me, there just weren't many laughs in it (and most of those I had seen in the coming attractions) . . . Seth Rogin, usually very funny, was not

his usually angry self . . . Barbara Streisand was OK, though like Rogin, she was hindered by a lackluster script . . . rated PG-13.

Note: You'll do much better renting THE CAMPAIGN, a very funny political satire about a long-term congressman (Will Ferrell) who commits a major public gaffe before an upcoming election--opening the door for a naive director of the local tourism center (Zach Galifianakis) to become a major threat to his reelection. There are many laugh-out-loud scenes in this comedy, including two of the funniest bits that I have ever seen on screen. I won't tell you about them now . . . but I will encourage you to rent this film, especially if you think it's funny to laugh about politics as opposed to crying about it. Rated PG-13.

C. WHO WILL WIN THE BIG GAME? 50 CHAMPIONSHIP CHARACTERISTICS--A PSYCHOLOGICAL & MATHEMATICAL MODEL FOR IDENTIFYING WINNING PLAYERS, TEAMS & COACHES (World Audience, Inc) by Jay P. Granat and Carlton J. Chin is an interesting attempt to answer question that has long fascinated athletes and their coaches, fans and gamblers.

Granat, a psychotherapist, and Chin, a specialist in quantitative and alternative investment strategies, combine their diverse backgrounds to come up with such conclusions as the following:

* Our statistical and factor analysis uncovered a number of key factors related to sport psychology and winning the World Series. Most notable of these factors include: fielding percentages, leadership (in the form of starting pitchers), consistency (in the form of batting average), and "big game experience." Combining these factors has predicted 15 of 16 (93.8%) World Series winners.

* For pro golfers, birdie information is slightly more useful (in particular, birdie rate or birdies per round) in predicting success. For more mortal golfers, bogey rates (bogeys per round) are crucial. Either way, birdie and bogey data proved to be very similar. That is, the ability to avoid bogeys--and ultimately bad rounds--is what leads to championships and golf titles.

The authors then attempt to show how this information can be applied on the field:

* We cannot underestimate the importance of focus and concentration at key moments in sports--and indeed, in life. Athletes may not be able to "get psyched up" all the time--but it is important to practice this "skill" so that you are able to raise your game to the "next level" as the stakes get higher (for instance, championships!) and especially during key moments in a match.

And therein lies my only criticism of the book; i.e., I would have liked to have seen more specifics as to how the above could be accomplished--or, for that matter, any of the other characteristics cited in WHO WILL WIN THE BIG GAME?

That's perhaps the basis of a follow-up effort from Granat and Chin. If so, I look forward to reading it.

D. Heard ALEX CROSS, RUN (Hachette Audio) by James Patterson and narrated by Michael Boatman and Steven Boyer.

It's the latest in the series of books about a detective that I never tire reading--or listening--about, largely because the author keeps coming up with compelling plot lines.

In this book, a renowned plastic surgeon is arrested by Detective Cross for throwing wild parties that involve both drugs and underage sex. Shortly thereafter, Cross is forced to turn his attention to a series of murders that has Washington, DC believing that there might be a serial killer on the loose. And to top things off, Cross himself is being investigated by a journalist who will stop at nothing to get a story.

There's a great ending, too, that isn't completely happy. However, it did feel very realistic.

Consumer tip: When you see a Patterson book with no co-authors, that's usually a good sign. It implies that he wrote every word, and if that be the case, you can usually anticipate a good read.

Also, if looking for a book to listen to, seek out Boatman as one of the narrators. He's excellent. In ALEX CROSS, RUN and other Cross books, he really has you believing that the detective is the one speaking. Boyer was quite good, too.

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5. TV alert

A. RING OF FIRE, according to TV GUIDE, is a "heartfelt biopic based on John Carter Cash's memoir about his mother, June Carter Cash. She's convincingly played and marvelously sung by Jewel, who conveys a winning combination of country-honed gumption and abiding faith--qualities that serve her well in managing the emotional highs and lows of her marriage to the legendary but drug-troubled Johnny Cash." Monday, May 20 at 9 p.m. on LIFETIME.

Note: A show by the same title (but that's a Broadway-style review, featuring 40 songs by Johnny Cash and telling a little history of his life, runs weekends from May 24-June 16 at Haywood Arts Regional Theatre. Directed by Mark Jones with musical direction by Kelli Brown Mullinix, it promises to be another winner for HART. For tickets, call 828.456.6322 or go online to: www.harttheatre.com.

B. MEL BROOKS: MAKE A NOISE is a chronicle of the talented comedian, screenwriter, actor and producer's career, featuring clips from YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN, BLAZING SADDLES and THE PRODUCERS, among other

films. . . Monday, May 20 at 9 p.m. on PBS.

Note: Times and dates on PBS stations often vary, so check local listings.

C. THE GHOST ARMY profiles a select group of servicemen dispatched to France, equipped with weaponry like tanks made of rubber, sound-effect equipment and as much guile as they could master for their task, which was to deceive the German army into nonexistent American troops were planning to attack from places in which no such action was planned. Tuesday, May 21 at 8 p.m. on PBS.

Note: Times and dates on PBS stations often vary, so check local listings.

D. SAVE ME stars Anne Heche as an Ohio housewife given to drunken rages and in the opening scene, murderous intentions toward her sleeping husband. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL says Heche brings "joyful malignancy" to the role. Thursdays at 8 p.m. on NBC, starting on May 23.

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6. Joke 2

A father and son went fishing one day. While they were out on the water, the boy suddenly became curious about things in general and started asking all sorts of questions. He asked his father, "Why does the boat float? The father replied, "Don't rightly know son." . . . A little later, the boy looked at his father and asked, "How do fish breathe underwater?" Once again the father replied, "Don't rightly know son." . . . A little later the boy asked his father, "Why is the sky blue?" Again, the father replied. "Don't rightly know son." . . . Finally, the boy asked his father, "Dad, do you mind my asking you all of these questions?" The father replied, "Of course not, if you don't ask questions, you never learn nothin'."



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7. Websites

A. On the subject of gun control, methinks this is one of the best commercials I have ever seen:

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/copyranter/the-best-gun-control-commercial-ever-produced>

A friend told me that he thought the above was "100% anti-gun" . . . frankly, I don't see it quite that way . . . rather, I think it is an attempt to point out that times do change.

Even a staunch supporter of the 2nd Amendment, Ronald Reagan, recognized that fact as you can see by taking the following short quiz:

<http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2012/12/reagan-obama-feinstein-gun-quiz.html>



B. Guess your number game

You may have seen this before, but here's perhaps a different version. No matter how many times I view it, I still find it amazing. You will too when you click:

<http://www.quizyourprofile.com/guessyournumber.swf>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

Have you ever wondered what happens when you subscribe to BLAINESWORLD, the newsletter? To find out, please click "Newsletter" to the left and then "Privacy Statement."

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

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8. Computer tip

Les E. in CA (regarding a tip in last week's issue about how to create symbols while typing): My keyboard has no number pad. Now what?

Response: I checked with person who provided me with original information, Ted M. in CA . . . he was very nice to reply, writing: "On my laptop computer, I do not have a numeric keypad, but I do have a function (Fn) key. Also, some of my letter keys have a number on the front. If I press Fn + Alt + number combination, I can make the symbols."

"For people who do not have that option, I guess they're out of luck, unless they can figure out another way to make the symbols. I do not know of another way myself."

Ted has some other interesting information about computers, as well as other neat stuff, at his website:

<http://www.tedmontgomery.com/>

Note: As you may know by now, I don't give up easily. When Les told me that the above didn't solve his problem, I also researched "hidden numeric keyboard" in FOR DUMMIES and found the following:

<http://www.dummies.com/how-to/content/the-hidden-numeric-keypad-on-your-laptop.html>

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9. Joke 3

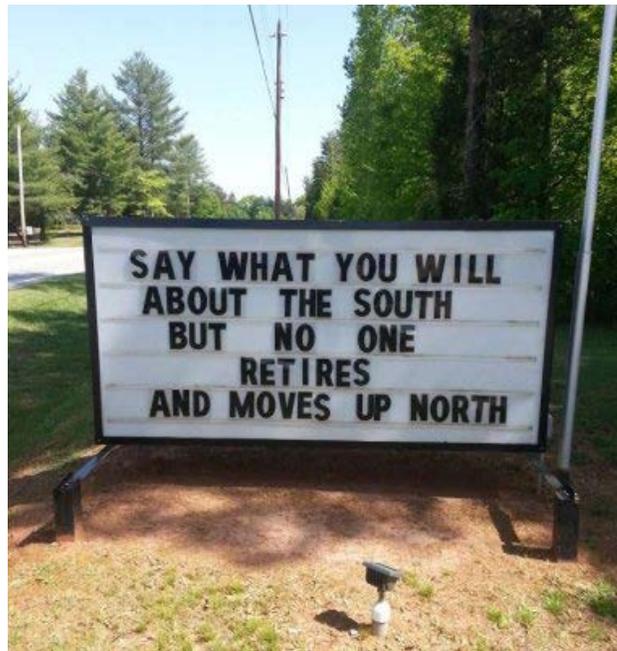
A man lay sprawled across three entire seats in the theatre. When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the man, "Sorry, sir, but you're only allowed one seat." The man groaned but didn't budge. . . . The usher became impatient. "Sir, if you don't get up from there, I'm going to have to call the manager." Again, the man just groaned, which infuriated the usher who turned and marched briskly back up the aisle in search of his manager. . . . In a few moments, both the usher and the manager returned and stood over the man. Together, the two of them tried repeatedly to move him, but with no success. . . . Finally, they summoned the police. The cop surveyed the situation briefly then asked, "All right buddy, what's your name?" "Sam," the man moaned. "Where ya from, Sam?" With pain in his voice Sam replied, "The balcony."



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10. A quote I like

Can I hear an "amen" 'bout this--and an "awomen" too?



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11. Thought for the day

"Healing" in the operating room: What a novel thought!
by Dr. Beth DuPree

I have been performing surgery for over 26 years and the wonder of what takes place in the "operating theatre" as they call it in the UK and Oz never ceases to amaze me. I am not referring to the physical surgery, I am referring to the trust a patient has when they surrender completely to physicians and nurses that they barely know. They trust that we have their best interest in our hands. For many of you who are reading this, if you have been in the OR, you were likely asleep when you were there (frankly I prefer to be awake when I am in the OR having been both the surgeon and the patient).

For the rest of this fascinating blog entry (with pictures) that's reprinted with the gracious permission of Dr. Dupree, please click:

<http://drbethdupree.wordpress.com/2013/05/05/healing-in-the-operating-room-what-a-novel-thought/>



Pictured above: Dr Shashi Kumar, left, and Dr. Beth DuPreee.

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Check out this summer's exciting series of plays at SART by clicking:
www.sartplays.org

You can now even order tickets online!



(2) The Power of Email Marketing, a free seminar from Asheville SCORE, will be held on Wednesday, July 10 at 10 a.m. For more information and to register, please click:
<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=50behpkab&oeidk=a07e7gwfum4686105d>

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18X>

(3) Release party for new Richard Shulman CD. (4) THIS at NC Stage. (5) Women golf pros in Asheville. (6) Different Strokes! presents INCONGRUENCE. (7) Lorre Diamond to speak on "Dying to Look Good."

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18X>

(1) ACTORS' NET STAGES "THE MARCO NEWTON ROAST." (2) Plumstead Historical Society. (3) Charlie Zahm has once again graciously offered to do a benefit concert for BuxMont Coalition for Peace Action.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com

BLAINES WORLD

#867
5.6.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Have been very impressed by the talent level of the students in the Theatre Arts Department at Mars Hill College. We have also enjoyed seeing many of them perform on stage this past year, and we look forward to seeing some of them in SART's upcoming summer season. (See also Section 12A.)

That's me at the recent Awards Night session, joined by the talented Sarah Richardson-- winner of the Lunsford Transition Award--in the center. We were joined by Kathy Richardson, Sarah's mom.



Additional kudos to others who received recognition that evening, including Skylar Elord, Annie Tesh, Justin Gaylard, Steven Green, Tyler Winkler, Heather Bronson, Daniel Henry, Jennifer Sell, Felicia Huffman, Daniella Van Dreeel and Melanie Morton.

(2) Admire the beauty of where we live, as well as the amazing photography of our neighbor and friend Marilynne Herbert. She recently sent me this picture, announcing the birth of her new grandbirds (Eastern Bluebirds). She has a birdhouse for them in the back of her mailbox.



B. Cynthia has gotten busy, getting ready for her upcoming performance in SECRETS: FREEING THE HIDDEN STORY--a multimedia experience presented by the Asheville-based Community Choreography Projects. You can catch her June 20-22 at the Diana Wortham Theatre; in the meantime, please like the group's Facebook page by clicking: <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityChoreographyProjects?fref=ts>



That's her in a picture from the production two years ago. She is in the back in the red blouse.

And I've been meeting with several people, including Patti Cameron, Lead RSVP Coordinator, as we seek to get volunteers for the SART 2013 season. (See also Section 12A.)



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Charlie Beem for winning the Above and Beyond Faculty Service Award at Bucks County Community College.

(2) Ellen Prato Fiorito for being appointed new Assistant Academic Dean of Language and Literature at Bucks.

(3) Susan Darrah on her return to the classroom after many years of dedicated service as the Assistant Academic Dean of Language and Literature at Bucks.

(4) Katherine Quinn on becoming a non-smoker.

***** SPECIAL OFFER *****

If you smoke or know of somebody who smokes, I'm giving away copies of Allen Carr's EASY WAY TO STOP SMOKING . . . this is the absolute best book I've ever read on the subject . . . I've given away dozens of copies of the book over the years, and virtually everyone who has read it says it has helped them stop . . . I kid you NOT!

But just don't believe me; skim just some of 800-plus customer reviews at amazon.com to see for yourself:

http://www.amazon.com/Allen-Carrs-Easyway-Stop-Smoking/dp/0615482155/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1320456559&sr=1-%202

I'll be giving away books until I run out of them, which is unlikely . . . to obtain: just print your name on the outside of an envelope that's larger than 7 x 10 inches . . . put \$2.77 postage on the outside of the envelope and then mail the postpaid envelope (inside another envelop) to me at this address: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

My request: Only ask for the book for yourself or somebody else who is serious about quitting . . . and that there's a commitment to read the book within a month of receiving it. (Naturally, please let me know about the success that follows as a result.)

D. Condolences to Rock Eblen and family on the passing of Rock's father, Joe Paul Eblen.

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

This week, it goes to Jhan Brannon--a personal trainer used by Cynthia. She constantly raves about her, so I asked her to do the following write-up:

Jhan was recommended to me as a physical trainer by someone I really admire. I feel that I was divinely directed to go to her. I have been suffering from joint aches and fatigue, and had been experiencing much difficulty with stairs and started to find myself unbalanced and even falling down at times. We cannot stop the aging process . . . or can we?

I feel that if I had not started on the training plan with Jhan that I would have continued going in the wrong direction. As we age, if we do not work on getting stronger, we naturally get weaker.

I am so grateful as I am doing things in our training sessions with weights, etc. that I never thought possible before. And more importantly, it has taken me in the right direction of more energy, more balance and feeling safer in my everyday life. Nothing is more important. Without our energy, strength and balance, our bodies cannot carry us around to do what we were put here to do.

Jhan is knowledgeable in many other ways. She has referred me to other people who have helped me considerably. Like the sprinkles on ice cream, she is also fun. And she pushes me and creates a safe environment. I am so happy to have found her.

Jhan Brannon can be reached via phone, 828.231.3155, or email:

jhanbrannon1@charter.net.

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2. FYI

We are dying to look good
by Lorre Diamond

In 2003, I became a Florida-licensed aesthetician. While reading an industry magazine, I stumbled upon parabens and other questionable ingredients.

After further research, what I found to be true was that our bottles of beauty contain

toxins and carcinogens in all of their fragrances and textures. I learned that words such as "organic," "natural," "dermatologist-tested," "fragrance-free," "hypoallergenic" and "cruelty-free" on labels are just marketing. This created a large inconvenient truth for me.

For the rest of this informative article by my friend Lorre, an ingredient detective, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013305100017>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Cathy L. in PA: Morrisville Little League finds itself in middle of gun debate

<http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/local&id=9095394>

(2) Bradshaw C. in NY: When Did You Choose to Be Straight?

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=QJtjqLUHYoY

(3) Joe H. in NC: Maria and Eunice Shriver: The Gift My Mother Gave Me

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YjYuj4Bvlsc&feature=youtu.be>

(4) Alex S. in PA: Lip Sync-Off with John Krasinski and Jimmy Fallon

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5EnsjrDsVyl&feature=share>

(5) Marty S. in PA: Golf with the wife

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OxFCnbVjhc>

(6) Michael F. in NV: Taking the hula hoop to a whole new level!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=tb-fLVkfx7c

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18y>

(1) Kathy R. in NC. (2) Roger C. in PA. (3) Les E. in CA. (4) John D. in PA. (5) Herb S. in NJ. (6) Susan R. in NC. (7) Lori H. in PA. (8) Ruth W. in PA. (9) Terri L. in NC. (10) Michael T. in NC.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

"I found out why cats drink out of the toilet. My mother told me it's because the water is cold in there. And I'm like, how did my mother know that?"--Wendy Liebman (born 1961), American stand-up comedian

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4. Reviews

A. MUD is an engaging Southern drama about two boys who find a man hiding on an island on the Mississippi River They hear fantastic tales from him that prove to be mostly true. Matthew McConaughey gives perhaps the best performance of his career, and I also liked the work of both Tye Sheridan and Jacob Lofland as the youngsters. Rated PG-13.

B. SAFE HAVEN is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #857 follows: .

SAFE HAVEN is a romantic thriller based on the novel from Nicholas Sparks with the same title . . . it's about a mysterious young woman who arrives in a small North Carolina town . . . slowly, she begins to find a new life there and starts a relationship with a widowed store owner with two young children . . . the story kept my interest until the ending, which I found both dishonest and disappointing . . . Josh Duhamel, always interesting in whatever film he's in, was fine here . . . Julianne Hough was OK as his romantic interest, but was too

young for the role . . . it would have been much better had it been played by an actress about 10 years older . . . rated PG-13.

C. LESSONS FROM GENERATION X TO GENERATION NEXT (Amazon Digital Services, Inc.) by McKenzie McPherson is a compilation of over 3,000 tidbits that describe some of the lessons the author has learned throughout her life.

The book is divided into 10 categories: family, parents, education, career, health, finances, relationships, pop culture, life and spirituality. Almost every page contained at least one item that made me pause--and think about how useful this would be to share with others.

For example, McPherson notes:

* People have disregarded me because of my age, and I have disregarded others because of their age, but I've found that wisdom doesn't depend on the chronological age of a person. You can learn something new from anyone and at anytime on your journey to your destination.

She also comments on what Eleanor Roosevelt said:

* "Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself." It's not only wise to learn from our mistakes but generationally advantageous to share what we have learned with those who might be heading down the path we are all too familiar with. Eleanor Roosevelt suggested that we won't live long enough to make them all ourselves and realistically why would we want to?

Lastly, the author's inclusion of this simple question really stopped me in my tracks:

* If you were to die today, would you have any regrets?

One I won't have: Failure to recommend LESSONS to my family and friends. My hope is that they'll enjoy the book as much as I did.

D. Heard PETE SEEGER; THE STORM KING (Hachette Audio), narrated by Seeger and presented by Jeff Haynes.

It is a collection of stories, narratives and poems--set to a world of music.

Though Seeger doesn't do any singing, I was captivated by his familiar voice telling such tales of how he first became involved in sharing the rich musical traditions of country folk. In addition, I loved the ending tale that gave the background behind the song "Where Have All the Flowers Gone."

Listening to this book on CD was like having a one-on-one session with one of our country's national treasures.

E. Still time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #33 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the CD version of GIDEON'S SWORD by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child . . . according to David Baldacci, the best selling author, "The authors push all the right buttons for exciting the reader, and know how to knock together a white-knuckle cliffhanger."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #33" 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 Sunday, May 12.

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5. TV alert

A. HONEY DO features a quartet of hot, shirtless handymen stepping in to help frustrated women who can't get their men to help out around the house. Notes TV GUIDE: "You've got to love a how-to-show that sounds like a Cinemax After Dark movie." Saturdays at 10 p.m. on TLC.

B. ULTIMATE SURVIVAL ALASKA will follow eight experienced outdoorsmen from the states on a 10-leg expedition over thousands of miles of unforgiving terrain. They have no tents and electronics and only what they carry on their back to keep them alive. Sunday at 10 p.m. on NGC, then on Sundays at 9 p.m.

C. CROWD RULES is game show where three small business owners compete for \$50,000

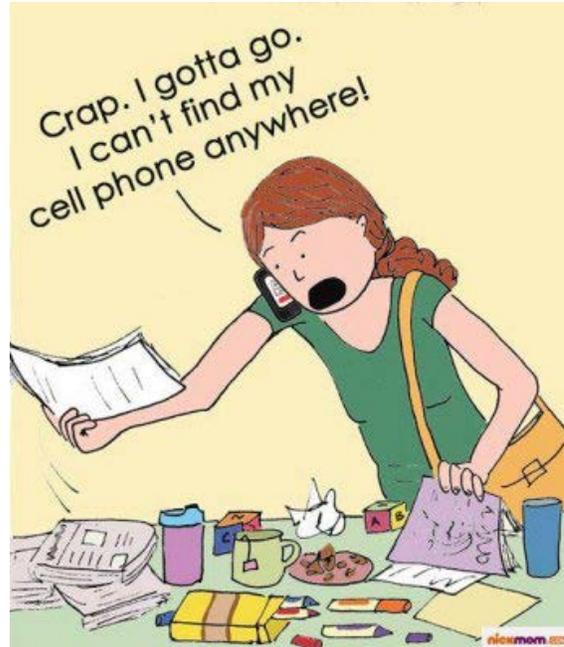
by trying to convince an audience of 100 consumers and entrepreneurs that their little company deserves the injection of cash. One of the businesses in the first show is the Mr. Green Tea family business. It has been selling fancy ice cream to restaurants for decades but now want to expand into points--or ice cream for sale to consumers on market shelves. Premieres Tuesday, May 14 at 9 p.m. on CNBC.

D. I'm hoping that Candice Glover wins this year's AMERICAN IDOL competition. In my opinion, she has been the best singer on almost every show this year. I'll also be watching because it will be Randy Jackson's swam song . . . he will not be returning as a judge. Thursday, May 16 at 8 p.m. on FOX.

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6. Joke 2

Mr. Curious here: You ever do this? Or know anybody who has?



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7. Websites

A. Wayne Dyer's "Wishes Fulfilled: Mastering The Art of Manifesting" at the Wanderlust Festival Speakeasy can be viewed by clicking:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=zNrEFpkgWQo

Though long, it is fantastic. I urge you to view it. (Thanks Lois R. in AK for sharing.)

B. If you're a baseball fan or know of one, this website is a MUST . . .it features actual interviews with Jackie Robinson, Ty Cobb, Mickey Mantle, Babe Ruth and Tris Speaker:

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2013/04/17/sports/baseball/20030417-woff-ruth-cobb-baseball-audio.html?ref=baseball#index>

For a related article on the above, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/17/sports/baseball/bob-woff-a-broadcaster-who-saved-his-work-has-much-to-share.html>

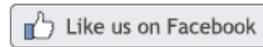
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you're in business, let me show you how to "Climb the Loyalty Ladder" . . . to read an article I once wrote about that topic, click "Consulting" the left and then "Article Samples."

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



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8. Computer tip

How to make great symbols with your keyboard: 1. Make certain that the Num Lock key has been pressed to activate the numeric key section of the keyboard. 2. Depress the Alt key. 3. While the Alt key is depressed, press any number on the link below. 4. Release the Alt key, and the character will appear. . . . you can also type hearts, diamonds, clubs, spades and a whole bunch of other neat stuff doing this; e.g., ♀ ♪ ☼ . . . for more information, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/anhd5o>



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9. Joke 3

A woman is enjoying a good game of bridge with her girlfriends one evening when she cries out, "Oh, no! I have to rush home and fix dinner for my husband! He's going to really be angry if it's not ready on time." When she gets home, she realizes she doesn't have enough time to go to the supermarket, and all she has in the cupboard is a wilted lettuce leaf, an egg and a can of cat food. . . . In a panic, she opens the can of cat food, stirs in the egg and garnishes it with the lettuce leaf just as her husband is pulling up. She greets her husband and serves what she has just made for him. . . . To her surprise, the husband is really enjoying his dinner. "Darling, this is the best dinner you have made for me in 40 years of marriage. You can make this for me any old day." . . . So every bridge night from then on, the woman made her husband the same dish. She told her bridge cronies about it, and they were all horrified. "You're going to kill him!" they exclaimed. . . . Two months later, her husband died. The women were sitting around the card table playing bridge when one of the cronies said, "You killed him! We told you that feeding him that cat food every week would do him in! How can you just sit there so calmly and play bridge knowing you murdered your husband?" . . . The wife calmly replied, "I didn't kill him. He fell off the mantel while he was cleaning himself."



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10. A quote I like

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."--C. S. Lewis (1898-1963), Irish novelist, poet and literary critic

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11. Thought for the day

Herb Spiegel has long been one of my favorite people. Here he is celebrating his 80th birthday, at which time he shared the ideas that follow.



25 THINGS I HAVE LEARNED IN 80 YEARS OF LIVING!
by Herb Spiegel*

1. Newton's 3rd Law is the most important law ever written. Every Action has an Equal and Opposite Reaction. It works with people, places and things.
2. Jokes are not needed about everything in life, but it sure helps.
3. Friendship has no age limit. Some of my best friends in Florida are all under the age of 12!
4. Don't sort whether a person is straight, gay, trans or whatever . . . just whether the person is a good person.
5. Always marry your best friend. I did it twice.
6. Don't overreact. Like Professor Harold Hill says in THE MUSIC MAN, You still can't beat the "THINK" method.
7. Confrontation can be good, but not for me.
8. You will always meet people you don't like . . . SO WHAT?
9. I can't stand two letter words in SCRABBLE.
10. Swallow twice and then speak what you're really thinking.
11. I wish they would perform Wagner without THE singing part.
12. You don't have to know ALL the categories in Jeopardy.
13. Lying isn't good, but embellishment can be beneficial.
14. Puccini may not have written the best operas, but you couldn't tell it by me.
15. If there IS food better than lobster, I haven't found it yet.
16. There is NO music better than Beethoven's 9th.
17. It IS easier to smile than frown.
18. Being a Red Sox fan builds character.
19. Real men like the ballet.
20. Find your soul mate that has PASSION, SPONTANEITY and the WILLINGNESS TO ALWAYS LEARN. The rest will follow.
21. Tell people you love them.
22. The best gift you can give your loved one is working out in the gym.
23. Beautiful design is great, but it should also be easy to use.
24. If I could drive my car into the shower, I would be brilliant.
25. Buy what you want and can afford at a FAIR price. When they lower you into your last resting place, don't have people say "In his lifetime he saved \$2200."

* Reprinted with the gracious permission of Herb, Professor of Business/Marketing at Mercer County Community College and former Director of that school's Small Business Development Center. He was also Founding Manager of the Small Business Development Center in Pushkin, Russia.

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Hot off the press . . . the SART Playbill cover for 21013 . . . we have an amazing season scheduled . . . for more information and tickets, please click:

www.sartplays.org.



Pictured: Liz Aiello, left, and Katherine Sandoval Taylor from last year's production of LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA.

(2) The Power of Email Marketing, a free seminar from Asheville SCORE will be held on Wednesday, July 10 at 10 a.m. For more information and to register, please click:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=50behpkab&oeidk=a07e7gwfumq4686105d>

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18y>

(3) Asheville Vaudeville. (4) Asheville Night Live. (5) SOUVENIR. (6) COTTON PATCH GOSPEL. (7) RSVP, a national service program that assists adults age 55 and better find volunteer opportunities. (8) Jeff Thompson Concert at Hanger Hall.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18y>

(1) "Patience, or Bunthorne's Bride." (2) THE SOUND OF MUSIC. (3) Live comedy!

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PS. Happy Mother's Day to all mothers . . . and if you are in that category and reading this, make sure you share this sign with your children and/or grandchildren:



Make it a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINESWORLD

#866

4.29.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had a super time participating in the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event that you've been reading about for the past several weeks.

She provided moral support for the members of the BLAINESWORLD team and even joined us as we trekked through downtown Asheville.



L-R: Team members Blaine Greenfield, Steven Liebenhaut, Steven Green, Tyler Winkler, John Russo and Justin Gaylard.

Afterward, we adjourned to Pack's Tavern for a tasty lunch of burgers and fries as we celebrated our surviving the walk.

To find out more, please click:

(1) Article:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/article/20130428/NEWS/304280075/Walk-high-heels-raises-awareness-about-sexual-violence>

Note: Clicking the first picture will also take you to an informative video. Pay special attention at the 1:21 mark to see the BLAINESWORLD team.

(2) Pictures:

[http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/gallery?
Avis=B0&Dato=20130427&Kategori=NEWS01&Lopenr=304270034&Ref=PH](http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/gallery?Avis=B0&Dato=20130427&Kategori=NEWS01&Lopenr=304270034&Ref=PH)

Note: In #8, you'll see Steven Liebenhaut (with a partial view of yours truly) and in #31, you'll see most of the BLAINESWORLD team (minus Tyler Winkler).

(3) List of supporters who helped us:

<http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/blainesworld/walk-a-mile-asheville-2013>

Special thanks to all of you!

***** GOOD NEWS *****

You can still make a contribution to help support the efforts of Our VOICE, the outstanding group that works to prevent violence against women in Buncombe County. All you need to do is click the above link. Thanks for your consideration.

B. We went with a whole bunch of friends for an excellent dinner at Avenue M, then attended a Snatam Kaur concert at the Kimmel Center. She's a devotional vocalist with a beautiful voice. For more information about her (and to listen to her, too), please click: <http://snatamkaur.com/web9.html>

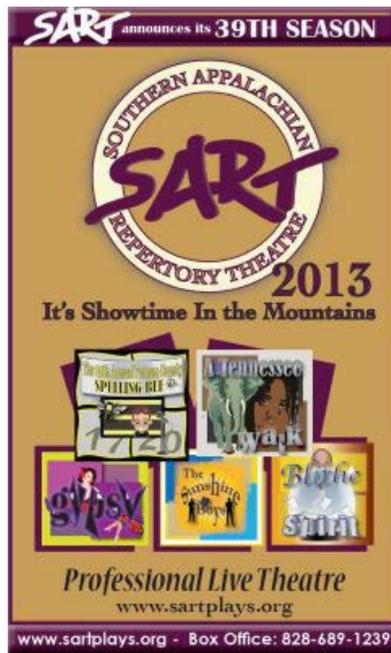


L-R: (front row) Blaine Greenfield, Cynthia Greenfield, Marvin Sadovsky; (second row) Carole Biro, Brian Biro, Connie Ruble, Bob Bowles, Marcy Gallagher, Tom Gallagher and Jane Ryan; and (top row) Shela Anmuth.

I also got to go with my friend Chuck Hollinshead for dinner at my favorite eatery in Mars Hill, El Dorado . . . the food, as always, was delicious . . . from there, we went to student-directed one acts, performed by the Mars Hill College Theatre Arts Department.

Both were very well done . . . the first, BLIND DATE, was directed by Felicia Huffman . . . Justin Gaylard, Ali Walters, Savannah Hayes and Eugene Jones all handled their roles with aplomb . . . the second, WILDWOOD PARK, was directed by Elissa Peragine . . . Annie Tesh and Steven Green both excelled in their parts.

C. SART (Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre) opens its exciting 2013 season on June 5. Tickets for individual performances are now available, and you can also get season tickets, too--at a reduced price. For more information, please click: www.sartplays.org



D. Congratulations to:

- (1) Emily Shaules who just got booked for a role on IT'S SUPERNATURAL.
- (2) Doug Rosentrater on his retirement from Bucks County Community College.
- (3) Mike Andrus on receiving his 3rd Dan in Universal Kempo.
- (4) Tom Orr who will be taking over the role of Lindsay Woolsey from Paul Dake in MAME, starring Andrea McArdle when it moves from the Media Theatre to the Bucks County Playhouse on May 23.

Congratulations to Carole B, Mary C and Hayley R., all in NC, as well as to Savannah in NJ, additional winners of Contest #32--the book BOSSYPANTS by Tina Fey . . . all told, there were 28 entries and 20 winners (including those announced last week) . . . and that reminds me, it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #33 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the CD version of GIDEON'S SWORD by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child . . . according to David Baldacci, the best selling author, "The authors push all the right buttons for exciting the reader, and know how to knock together a white-knuckle cliffhanger."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #33" 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 Sunday, May 12.

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

This week, it goes to Robin Payne--development & marketing coordinator for Our VOICE.

As indicated in Section 1A, this is the organization that put on the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event.

Much of the success was due to Robin's tireless efforts. I got to know her through a series of emails and phone calls . . . she always got back to me right away, and she patiently answered all my questions . . . her encouragement was a large reason behind my putting together a team.

Robin already has me looking forward to April 26, 2014, the date of next year's event!

Note: I'd love to have you participate in the above, either as a member of my BLAINESWORLD team and/or as somebody who could help support us . . . for more information, please send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put WALK A MILE in subject line.

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2. FYI

Free ebook on business that you'll enjoy. (I did!)

1. Go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/compassbooks>

2. Then go to "Welcome" tab and "like" this page. When you do, you can download TOUGH SELLING FOR TOUGH TIMES at no charge.

The authors examine business leaders and entrepreneurs who have shown the courage, will and brainpower to succeed when other companies fail. Their stories illustrate how to experience business success in tough times, experiences that are broken down into nine essential characteristics in this fun, easy-to-read 138 page book by Neil Raphel, Janis Raye and Adrienne Raphel.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Doug H. in NC: Two Kids Sing an Incredible Performance of The Prayer - Simply Amazing

<http://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=WKGPPPNX>

(2) Tom Mabe: Toxic Lake

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKmtV5RPolw&feature=player_embedded

(3) Sara Bareilles - Gravity

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=rEXhAMtbaec

(4) Cynthia G. in NC: Just the way you are

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPiK_yGG8ag

(5) Linda J. in WI: Words Cannot Describe this Routine.. Seriously Unbelievable!!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=109411132595416&set=vb.136336876521150&type=2&theater>

(6) Mary C. in NC: Awesome seat belt ad

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/h-8PBx7isoM>

(7) Arlene S. in PA: A prayer for the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) soldiers

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=24bOclbE_eg

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18c>

(1) Nelson S. in NC. (2) Gladys P. in NY. (3) Seth A. in NJ. (4) Cyd C. in NC. (5) Natalie K. in PA.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

A client bought a new home, and his broker sent flowers for the occasion. When the bouquet arrived, the owner read the card; it said: "Rest in Peace."

The new homeowner was angry and called the florist to complain. After he described the obvious mistake and how angry he was, the florist replied, "I'm really sorry for the mistake, but rather than getting angry you should imagine this: Somewhere there is a funeral taking place today, and they have flowers with a note saying, 'Congratulations on your new home.' "



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4. Reviews

A. PAIN & GAIN is an action comedy about a group of personal trainers in Miami 1990s that's based on a true story . . . in pursuit of the American Dream, they get caught up in a kidnapping enterprise that goes horribly wrong . . . Mark Wahlberg, Dwayne Johnson and Anthony Mackie are all quite good, and though violent in spots, I found the film quite watchable . . . entertaining, too . . . rated R.

B. SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #845 follows:

Imagine a romantic comedy about a guy who is bipolar and hooks up with a woman who has problems of her own . . . that's the story behind SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK, and the result is a film that I strongly recommend . . . the leads, Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence, are both excellent . . . Robert DeNiro had me laughing in just about every scene he's in . . . and the dialogue is just about perfect . . . rated R.

Note: The above was recently added to my list of favorite films. If you'd like to get a copy of this list, just send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITE FILMS in the subject line.

C. If you're a Tina Fey fan, you'll most likely love BOSSYPANTS (Reagan Arthur/Little, Brown)--her somewhat choppy look at her career, coupled with observations about parenting and a whole bunch of other subjects.

Since I have always enjoyed Fey, I got a kick out of much of this book . . . I especially enjoyed her tales of her improv days. . . in addition, I liked reading about her days on the sets of both SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE and 30 ROCK.

Many of her observations had me smiling, including these:

* Anyone who knows me will tell you that I am all about money. I mean, just look how well my line of zodiac-inspired toe rings and homeopathic children's medications are selling on home Shopping Network. Because I am nothing if not an amazing businesswoman, I researched what kind of content makes for bestselling books. It turns out the answer is "one-night stands," drug addictions and recipes. Here, we are out of luck. But I can offer you lurid tales of anxiety and cowardice.

* Politics and prostitution have to be the only jobs where inexperience is considered a virtue. In what other profession would you brag about not knowing stuff? "I'm not one of those fancy Harvard heart surgeons. I'm just an unlicensed plumber with a dream and I'd like to cut your chest open." The crowd cheers.

* There are a lot of different opinions as to how long one should breast-feed. The World Health Organization says six months. The American Association of Pediatrics says one year

is ideal. Mothering magazine suggests you nurse the child until just before his rehearsal dinner. I say you must find what works for you. For my little angel and me the magic number was about seventy-two hours.

My only disappointment with BOSSYPANTS had to do with the fact that I would have liked to have seen more about her work in the many movies that she has managed to find the time to make.

D. Heard HEROES FOR MY DAUGHTER (Hachette Audio), written and read by Bred Meltzer.

This is a collection of short stories about 60 remarkable people, ranging from across time and from all walks of life . . . they featured artists and inventors, scientists and explorers, each who dedicated their life to making the world a better place.

Among those included: Eleanor Roosevelt, Amelia Earhart, Anne Frank, Randy Pausch, Theodore Roosevelt, Lucille Ball and Rosa Parks, to name just a few . . . the author took a lesson from all of them and showed how it could be used to guide our daughters on their journey to adulthood.

Meltzer's advice at the end of the book was something that should be done by all, regardless of sex:

* Think of the first person who told you that you were good at something. Think of someone who helped you in life. Now find that person. Then say thank you to them.

I now am looking forward to reading the book that Metlzer wrote before this one; i.e., HEROES FOR MY SON.

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5. TV alert

A. ROXIE HART stars Ginger Rogers as a publicity-seeking dancer on trial for murder. Adolph Manjoy plays her overdramatic lawyer. If it sounds familiar, it is because it was later remade as a Broadway and the movie musical. Sunday at 8:30 a.m. on TCM.

B. MR. HOCKEY: THE GORDIE HOWE STORY is about the only player in the NHL to suit up in five different decades. Saturday at 9 p.m. on HALLMARK, repeated on Sunday at 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. For a preview, please click:

<http://hallmarkchannel.com/mrhockey/video/Preview/Mr.Hockey>

Note: I'm bummed that AT&T doesn't carry HALLMARK, so I have contacted them about that fact. To see if you can get the station, please click:

<http://hallmarkchannel.com/ChannelLocator/Default.aspx>

C. MARON begins Friday, 5.10 on IFC . . . the show, starring Maarc Maron, comedian and host of the podcast "WTF with Marc Maron," is "short, funny and coherent," notes John Anderson in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL and "also has one of the best opening bits of recent times."

D. FAMILY TREE premieres on Sunday, 5.12 HBO at 10:30 p.m. . . . according to Matt Roush in TV GUIDES, "The droll, occasionally delightful FAMILY TREE follows Tom [Chris O'Dowd] p.m. on offbeat personal odyssey into this cloudy lineage. 'In our clan, family is what disappears when you're not looking at it,' says his retired dad (Michael McKean) who invents useless objects like a fan to cool shoe trees."

***** SPECIAL HEADS-UP *****

On May 26th, a new season of ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT will be released on Netflix, allowing fans of the cult sitcom (which went off the air in 2006) to finally catch up with the nefarious House of Bluth. The new episodes were first announced at the 2011 New Yorker Festival where the cast reunited for a sold-out panel discussion moderated by Nancy Franklin. Watch the full video of the event by clicking:

[http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/culture/2013/05/video-a-bluth-family-reunion.html?mbid=nl_Daily%20\(234\)](http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/culture/2013/05/video-a-bluth-family-reunion.html?mbid=nl_Daily%20(234))

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6. Joke 2

A couple in their nineties are both having problems remembering things. During a check-up, the doctor tells them that they're physically okay, but they might want to start writing things down to help them remember. . . . Later that night, while watching TV, the old man gets up from his chair. "Want anything while I'm in the kitchen?" he asks. . . . "Sure. I want ice cream. Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?" she asks. . . . "No, I can remember it." . . . "Well, I'd like some strawberries on top, too. Maybe you should write it down, so as not to forget it?" . . . He says, "I can remember that. You want a bowl of ice cream with strawberries." . . . "I'd also like whipped cream. I'm certain that you'll forget that. Write it down, please," she suggests. . . . Irritated, he says, "I don't need to write it down. I can remember it! Ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream. I got it, for goodness sake!" . . . Then he toddles into the kitchen. After about 20 minutes, the old man returns from the kitchen and hands his wife a plate of bacon and eggs. She stares at the plate for a moment. . . . "Where's my toast?"



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7. Websites

A. Obama Takes a Turn as Comedian in Chief
by Peter Baker in THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON - Accustomed to the role of target, President Obama exacted a light-hearted revenge on his tormentors in the news media and Congress on Saturday night with a joke-filled riff at the capital's premier star-studded gala.

Mr. Obama took smiling aim at Rush Limbaugh, Representative Michele Bachmann, Senator Marco Rubio, Sheldon Adelson, Senator Rand Paul, President George W. Bush and, of course, his favorite network, Fox News, as he addressed the annual dinner of the White House Correspondents Association.

For the rest of this article, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/28/us/politics/obama-takes-a-turn-as-comedian-in-chief.html?partner=rss&emc=rss>

To see him actually delivering some of this great speech and many funny jokes, please click:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=ON2XWvyePH8#

Note: Whatever you do, make sure you watch Steven Spielberg at the 15:50 mark; it's hysterical . . . for just that part, please click:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=-52sM4DYdBc

And Conan O'Brien also got into the act at the same dinner . . . he can be seen by clicking:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJvS4aTcUyQ>



B. Heroic dog navigates between speeding cars on a busy highway to save a wounded friend. No one gets left behind. Click here for the happy ending:

<http://www.wimp.com/herodog/>



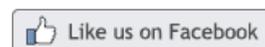
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you're new to the website, to find out what it's all about, please see the box at the very top of the homepage.

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



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8. Computer tip

Facebook finally allows you to edit posts you put on your Wall (at least when you say something about a picture) . . . here's all you need to do: 1. Click on the picture after you post it. 2. You'll be taken to another website where you then have the option to do the edit. . . . 'bout time!

Mr. Curious here: If you know and/or can figure out how to edit posts without pictures,

please let me know.

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9. Joke 3

This is sooooo wrong. I agree with Christopher Walken when he says what's needed is "more cowbell!" To catch him saying that, please click this great clip from SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE:

<http://tinyurl.com/3m82nru>



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10. A quote I like

The four questions to help you open your heart: 1. Is it true? (Yes or no. If no, move to 3.) 2. Can you absolutely know that it's true? (Yes or no.) 3. How do you react, what happens, when you believe that thought? 4. Who would you be without the thought?--Byron Katie (born 1942), an American speaker and author who teaches a method of self-inquiry known as "The Work of Byron Katie" or simply as "The Work." For more information, please click:

<http://www.thework.com/thework-4questions.php>

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11. Thought for the day

Wanted: Andrew Bott for educator of the year.

This principal fired security guards to hire art teachers--and transformed his elementary school as a result. For the amazing story, please click:

http://dailynightly.nbcnews.com/_news/2013/05/01/18005192-principal-fires-security-guards-to-hire-art-teachers-and-transforms-elementary-school



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18c>

(1) Open Poetry Reading! (2) Bike to School Day. (3) (3) Nina's Night of Delight! (4) Heart & Soul Singing Telegrams. (5) Leadership Asheville 32.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-18c>

(1) Tasting for Tyler. (2) John Strauss at Zebra Striped Whale.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#865

4.22.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Saw an excellent production of the comedy JEFFREY at 35below. But if you see it, and we encourage you to do so, be prepared to be touched by its powerful message about how AIDS affected the lives of so many Americans.

James Meador was outstanding in the leading role, and we also enjoyed seeing Allison Young play a variety of characters. We also got a kick out of Luke Arrington's work as one of Meador's cohorts.

Kudos to Steph Hickling Beckman for her job of directing, as well as to Rodney Smith who served as her assistant director. In addition, Rodney had us laughing when he gave the curtain speech on the night we attended.

Note: The play runs through May 4. You can get more information about it by clicking:
www.ashevilletheatre.org

And you can read a review by clicking:
http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013304260041&nclick_check=1



L-R: Blaine Greenfield, Alison Young, Joseph Barcia and Cynthia Greenfield.

(2) Checked out Farm Burger, one of Asheville's newest restaurants . . . the burgers there are all made from 100% grassfed beef . . . we enjoyed them, but found the place a bit noisy. For more information, please click:
www.farmburger.net

(3) Went to a street fair on Lexington Ave.



(4) Finally found a way for Cynthia to enjoy shopping at Sam's Club (ordinarily, not one of her favorite activities).



B. I spoke at a meeting of Asheville SCORE, but first made a special "guest" appearance as the bear from Blue Ridge Bear Yogurt & Espresso. That's me with Richard Newell (left) and Elizabeth Pou (right).



Note: Do check out the aforementioned establishment if you're anywhere near Brevard Road in Arden. There are many excellent beverages available, along with tasty baked goods. Yogurt will be coming in the near future. For more information, please click: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Blue-Ridge-Bear-Yogurt-Espresso/177278882418185?fref=ts>

C. I'm getting psyched for this Saturday, April 27, at which time I'll be participating in the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event in downtown Asheville . . . in fact, I even got to try on my heels last night . . . they're hot, no? . . . the event starts at 11 a.m. at City/County Plaza, so feel free to come cheer me on . . . and if you want to join me in supporting the great work done by Our Voice, the Buncombe County Rape Crisis & Rape Prevention Center, you can do so by making a tax-deductible contribution to my BLAINESWORLD team by clicking:

<http://tinyurl.com/cpml4j8>

Thanks!



D. Congratulations to:

(1) Donna Hoffman for receiving 2 Designer of the Year Awards from the Interior Design Society. She was awarded this high honor for both a sumptuous kitchen renovation and a beautifully refined and functional Home Office/Library for two.

(2) Rachel Rizzuti (belatedly) for being chosen to sing the National Anthem at a Mitt Romney event in Asheville during the past election. I just got to hear her performance and was blown away by it. You will be, too, if you click:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=MRIqoFBO3D8

(3) Renee Brecht for her Op-ed piece that was run in the DAILY JOURNAL:
<http://www.thedailyjournal.com/article/20130427/OPINION03/304270011/V-land-should-revisit-its-Green-Acres-resolution-Disappointed-Christie-s-veto-recovery-oversight>

(4) Andy Crespo for his role as AC (assistant camera) and lighting guy in the "My Universe" video that won best cinematography at Music Video Asheville.

(5) The following winners of Contest #32, a copy of BOSSYPANTS by Tina Fey: (PA) Kathy B., Sandy B., Nancy D., Kathy W., Mary L. and Linda O.; (NJ) Laura B., MaryEllen M. and June Z.; (NC) Tera B., Leonard E., Mary Lou S. and Emily S.; (FL) Kathy B.; (AZ) Marilyn E.; and (NY) Gladys P.

***** GOOD NEWS/CONTEST #32 (extended) *****

I still have books left over, so that means four additional lucky winners will win a copy of BOSSYPANTS by Tina Fey . . . according to one review, the book is: "A masterpiece in comedy writing...I was hooked from the first word Sunday Telegraph Mightily enjoyable ... BOSSYPANTS shows that 30 Rock's voice is very much Fey's voice: pithy, smart and as ironic as being run over by an ambulance ... if she has a point to make, if she feels something deeply, she can make it funny. That's why she is a great comedian The Times My love for the divine Tina Fey is river deep, mountain high ... BOSSYPANTS is as hilarious, candid and self-deprecating as fangirls like me would expect."--Lauren Laverne Grazia Wry, clever, biting and brilliant Daily Telegraph

To enter: Put "CONTEST #32" 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, April 29.

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

This week, it goes to Willie Coleman--manager of the bookstore at Bucks County Community College.

I've long admired his helpfulness, as well his friendly manner. No matter what request I ever made (for books for my students), the answer always seemed be "yes" . . . and he somehow got me what I needed within days.

Willie also helped me recently in getting some software for a new computer that I'm in the process of acquiring. I especially appreciated his efforts, in that I was able to get a significant educational discount as a result.

In addition, I'd like to recognize the efforts of one of his part-time employees--Jeananne Jensen--who helped me with the above purchase.

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2. FYI

I kept getting cellphone calls from 949.286.3974, a number in Irvine, California. A message was never left.

So I eventually found how to block such calls . . . you can, too, by clicking:
http://support.verizonwireless.com/clic/devices/knowledge_base.html?id=20989

Note: Ironically, I found out the calls were from a company making survey calls for Verizon after folks made purchases. My opinion is that Verizon should have indicated that the call was from that company (you couldn't tell by looking at Caller ID) and, also, that the company should have left a message. In addition, I would have liked the calls to have stopped on their own.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Savannah H. in PA: P!nk - Glitter In The Air (GRAMMYS on CBS)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3stsDXki_U

(2) Barbara F. in PA: Here's a bit of little known USMC lore for you.

http://www.youtube.com/embed/8emp0_xDP2Q?feature=player_detailpage

(3) Marilynne H. in NC: Steve Martin & Edie Brickell - When You Get to Asheville - on

Letterman

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=xVFpn_MK0G8

(4) Walter B. in NC: The coolest guy in the world

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVpZXMFX2Sk>

(5) Great Chinese State Circus - Swan Lake

<http://www.nzwide.com/swanlake.htm>

(6) Monica F. in PA: Dancing Queen at the Bus Stop!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hWAU-IJFaM>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-17C>

(1) Steve D. in CT. (2) Cyd S. in NC (with a REQUEST FOR HELP). (3) Rob L. in NJ.
(4) Ingrid S. in PA. (5) Lana C. in OH. (6) Janet S. in NJ. (7) Rod R. in NJ. (8) Laura B. in NJ.
(9) Sandy B. in PA. (10) Marilyn E. in AZ. (11) Maria M. in NC. (12) Marilynne H. in NC.
(13) Ruth in NY.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start.

So far today, I have finished two bags of chips and a chocolate cake.

I feel better already.



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4. Reviews

A. Cynthia and I tied a record the other day . . . we went to see a movie that had looked promising (ILIKE SOMEONE IN LOVE) and after an opening scene that was all talk and

never seemed to end, we walked out on it . . . we then went next door to see another film that had gotten good reviews (THE PLACE BEYOND THE PINES) . . . after about half an hour, we had enough of that one, too . . . it seemed violent, as well as talky, and we just couldn't get into any of the characters . . . so we tried one more flick (GINGER AND ROSA) and again lasted only 30 minutes . . . that also feature characters that we didn't particularly care about, so we left that and went out for dinner.

Note: The record we tied was the fact that we walked out on three movies in one day. We rarely do that; however, that day we did so because we just don't like being stuck in a film that neither of us is enjoying.

Mr. Curious here: You see any of these films? If so, did you enjoy them more than we did?

B. THE IMPOSSIBLE is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #853 follows:

THE IMPOSSIBLE is a real-life story about a family of five and what happens to them when they get separated by a tsunami in Thailand. The opening sequence is amazing. Naomi Watts is outstanding as the wife, and I also liked the work of Tom Holland as her son. If you miss this in the theatres, catch it via DVD. Rated PG-13.

C. EARN MORE TIPS ON OUR VERY NEXT SHIFT . . . EVEN IF YOU'RE A BAD WAITER! (Steve DiGioia) by Steve DiGioia is a book written by somebody who has been in the hotel and restaurant business for over 25 years.

That shows, too, in that virtually every page contains valuable information on how to make guests feel special . . . and according to the author, if you make their enjoyment as your primary concern, your tips will increase. All else is not important.

Some of what I read sounded so basic, yet I'm amazed at how rarely the advice was followed . . . for example:

- * Check back on your guest in two minutes or two bites.
- * Never make a recommendation based on your taste.

And my favorite:

- * Would you treat our grandma that way? Of course you wouldn't. So don't treat your guests that way either.

My only disappointment in reading EARN MORE TIPS is that more servers at places where I frequent haven't read it!

D. Heard 4TH & GOAL: ONE MAN'S QUEST TO RECAPTURE HIS DREAM (Hachette Audio), written by Monte Burke and narrated by George Newbern.

It is the inspiring true story of Joe Moglia, a New York City kid who dreamed of someday becoming the head coach of a college football team. By the time he was in his early 30s, he was well on his way--having risen through the high school and college football ranks to become the defensive coordinator at Harvard. Yet he wasn't making enough money to support his growing family, so he walked away from football and went to Wall Street to find a job that would pay more money.

He became quite successful, eventually becoming CEO of TD Ameritrade. And he did very well in this capacity until some 25 years later, he walked away from his high-paying job to pursue his original goal of becoming a college football head coach.

The only problem: He'd been out of football for three decades, and he was being told that nobody would ever hire him. So at the age of 60, he became an unpaid intern with the University of Nebraska. In 2011, he was named the head coach of the Omaha Nighthawks of the Uninvited Football League--a professional league on the verge of financial collapse.

As to what happens next, you'll just have to read this book yourself. I will tell you that you'll be glad you did--even if you're not a football fan.

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As to what happens next, you'll just have to read this book yourself. I will tell you that you'll be glad you did--even if you're not a football fan.

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5. TV alert

A. OFF PITCH . . . meet the Grand River Singers from La Crosse, Wisconsin, the only Glee-inspired adult show choir in the country! Tensions run high as choir directors Tim and Rob audition singers and dancers for a new cast. Old members worry about being cut and potential new members give it their all in order to be considered for the upcoming GRS season. . . . Wednesdays at 10 p.m. on VH1 and repeated throughout the week.

Thanks Mark J. in NC for sharing this trailer, which got me interested in the show:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqWA_i1kv34&feature=share

B. LOVE AND DEATH, one of Woody Allen's funniest films, is a satire of all things Russian . . . there are many great one-liners in it, including when Boris (Allen) is being congratulated for his lovemaking skills and he comments, "I practice a lot when I'm alone." . . . and also: " Sex without love is an empty experience. But as empty experiences pass, it is one of the best." Monday, April 29, at 4 a.m. on TCM.

C. MANHUNT, according to Nancy Dewolf Smith in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "brings to television for the first time a riveting story of the hunt for Osama bin Laden that ended with his death of the night of May 1-2, 2011. . . . What makes this documentary so fascinating are the narratives by many of the CIA analysts, operatives and other who worked in the shadows over almost two decades." Wednesday, May 1, at 8 p.m. on HBO.

D. THE 80S: THE DECADE THAT MADE US, a retrospective of the people and events that marked the 1980s. Features the following individuals who share their firsthand memories: Jane Fonda, Michael J. Fox, Oliver Stone, Calvin Klein, Ted Turner, Joan Collins, Steve Wozniak and Robin Leach, among others. . . .Friday, May 3 at 3 p.m. on NGC.

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6. Joke 2

What a useful skill to learn--regardless of major!



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7. Websites

A. Cynthia G. in NC: Made me cry. Think other women would appreciate. Note: I think men would appreciate this, too--and should view it. (Please!)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XpaOjMXyJGk&feature=youtu.be>

Also, please see this article on the video that appeared in THE NEW YORK TIMES:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/23/opinion/brooks-the-confidence-questions.html?src=me&ref=general>

B. Herb S. in NJ: Shocking!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_bMcSVXNXY

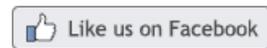
C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:
<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

In the unlikely event you've never paid attention to that good-looking, oh-so-humble guy on the right, put your mouse over his face . . . then drag your mouse to some category on

the far left and pay attention to the eyes!

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



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8. Computer tip

When using Google, you may already know about Search Tools. But let me show you how to make it even more effective.

1. Open a Google search box and type-in "cereal coupons."
2. You then see the option for Search Tools. Click "Past week" to see most up-to-date results.
3. If you prefer a certain brand or store, remember to include those as keywords to see the most specific results; e.g., for example I just added searched for "Fiber One" (one of my favorites) and quickly came up with a coupon that will save me 75 cents.

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9. Joke 3

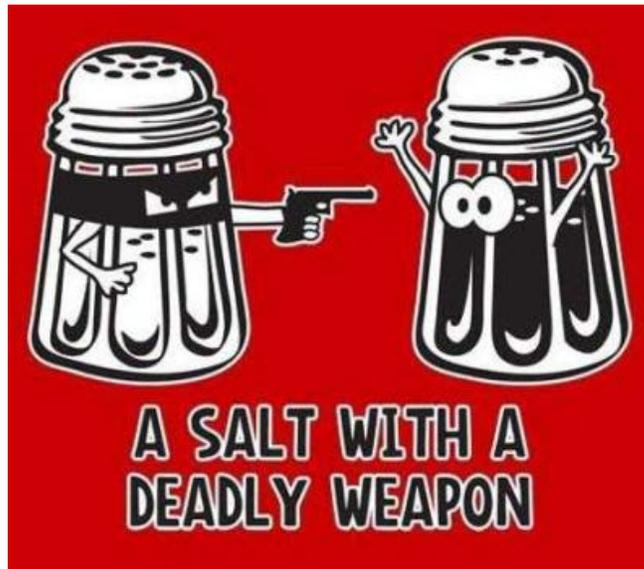
A man goes into a bar and seats himself on a stool. The bartender looks at him and asks, "What'll it be buddy?" . . . The man says, "Set me up with seven whiskey shots and make them doubles." . . . The bartender does this and watches the man slug one down, then the next, then the next and so on until all seven are gone almost as quickly as they were served. Staring in disbelief, the bartender asks why he's doing all this drinking. . . . "You'd drink them this fast, too, if you had what I have." . . . The bartender hastily asks, "What do you have pal?" . . . The man quickly replies, "I have a dollar."



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10. A quote I like

"Let's be careful out there."--Sgt. Esterhus on the TV show HILL STREET BLUES



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11. Thought for the day

The Only Way to be Safe
by Janet Straightarrow*

The year after 911, I traveled by air more than in any other year before. People would ask me, aren't you afraid when you fly? My answer was no, I pay attention to my body and self to feel my safety everyday.

If I do not feel safe, I listen and adjust accordingly. I choose to not live in fear after decades of clearing imprints of fear from my body, mind, emotions and life. Fear is not our friend to be given power to.

* Reprinted with the gracious permission of Janet Straightarrow. For the entire blog entry that methinks you'll find very interesting, please click the link below and go to Section 11:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-17C>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-17C>

(1) The Zoodles. (2) THE GRAPES OF WRATH. (3) Kimberly and Ted Ross. (4) Elsten Torres.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-17C>

(1) Comedy Cabaret. (2) Turnips at Steel City. (3) OPIUM DREAMS.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#863

4.8.2013

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11. Thought for the day
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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Loved the current Flat Rock Playhouse production of THE ODD COUPLE. Charlie Flynn-McGiver (far left in the picture below) and Scott Treadway (next to him) were both outstanding in the leading roles. The good news is that you can still catch the show. It runs through April 21. For more information, please click:

<http://www.flatrockplayhouse.org/project/the-odd-couple/>



(2) From there, we went to Joey's New York Bagels in Hendersonville, a place we had long heard about. My bagel was excellent; however, the corned beef was a bit of a disappointment, in that it was not freshly prepared at the eatery. For more information, please click:

<http://www.joeysnbagels.com/>

(3) On another night, we celebrated our friend Tom Gallagher's birthday over a delightful dinner at Vinnie's. That's him (far left) with his wife Marcy.



For more information about Vinnie's, one of our favorite restaurants in Asheville, please click:

<http://www.vinniesitalian.com/>

(4) Our friend/neighbor Scott Garland invited us to check out his place (BT's Burger Joint) in Biltmore Park before its Grand Opening. I had a great hamburger, and Cynthia said her salad was equally good. We'll be back.

For more information, please click:

http://www.btsburgerjoint.com/home/bts_burgerjoint-home.php



L-R: Scott Garland, Blaine Greenfield, Cynthia Greenfield, Diane Millikan and Jim Millikan.

(5) Lastly, when Cynthia was busy one afternoon, I got to see a production of SHIPWRECKED! at NC Stage. Graham Smith was magnificent as Louis de Rougemont, the person telling all about his amazing adventures, and I also liked the work of the other cast members: Tenaya Cleveland and Andrew Hampton Livingston. This show runs through April 21; for tickets, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/c28sans>

B. YOUR HELP is still needed . . . the BLAINESWORLD team will be wearing high heels on April 27 to help raise funds to support Our VOICE, the Buncombe County Rape Crisis and Prevention Center . . . we're still seeking: 1. Additional team members to join not only me, but also Steven Liebenhaut (second from the far right in picture below) and others. If you'd like to join us, just give me a holler as soon as possible; and 2. Folks who won't be walking with us, but who would be willing to make a pledge to support our efforts. You can do so by clicking:

<http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/blainesworld/walk-a-mile-asheville-2013>



C. Congratulations to:

- (1) Kendra Arnold on being named Cycling Advocate of the Year by TransOptions.
- (2) Rock Eblen and Steve Liebenhaut, co-producers of the recent Asheville Talent Slam! They were both mentioned in the following letter in the 4.4 CITIZEN-TIMES

Reader grade

A to Rock Eblen and Steve Liebenhaut, co-producers of the recent Asheville Talent Slam! The event, which benefited both Eblen Charities and Saute (a nonprofit community cafe), was a huge success, and the level of local talent was amazing. Kudos also to Erika Jane who did a great job as emcee and the three judges: John Hall, Peggy Ratusz and Kathleen Hahn. And congratulations to Sarah Richardson, a Mars Hill College senior and frequent performer on the South Appalachian Repertory Theatre stage, who was the first-place winner with a beautiful rendition of "Gravity" by Sara Bareillis.

Blaine Greenfield, Biltmore Lake

- (3) Larry Parr and Bob Bernotus on their recent marriage.
- (4) Dr. Michael Trayford on his role as president of the Asheville Rotary Club, which recently was named the Best Large Club for 2012-2013.
- (5) Dr. Stephen Sullivan, a faculty member in the Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics Department at Bucks County Community, who was chosen as this year's recipient of the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.
- (6) Lawrence High School (my alma mater) for being named as one of the 5 grand prize winners in the Lowes/SMASH competition. Thanks to all who voted and especially to Helaine Goldberg Fraser and Bob Fischman for helping to get out the vote. For more information, please click:
<http://www.makeamusical.org/smash-make-a-musical/meet-the-schools/>
- (7) Chris Newtown on her retirement from Bucks County Community College.
- (8) Tom Heck (previously recognized in BLAINESWORLD #856) for having won first place for his talk at IGNITE Asheville. His 5-minute video is now available by clicking:
<http://youtu.be/CF39OuY789U>
- (9) LoriLynn M. in NC, winner of Contest #31, the winner of the book ADMISSION by Jean Hanff Korelitz . . . all told, there were 13 entries . . . and that reminds me, it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #32 *****

19 lucky winners will win a copy of BOSSYPANTS by Tina Fey . . . according to one review, the book is: "A masterpiece in comedy writing...I was hooked from the first word Sunday Telegraph Mightily enjoyable ... BOSSYPANTS shows that 30 Rock's voice is very much Fey's voice: pithy, smart and as ironic as being run over by an ambulance ... if she has a point to make, if she feels something deeply, she can make it funny. That's why she is a great comedian The Times My love for the divine Tina Fey is river deep, mountain high ... BOSSYPANTS is as hilarious, candid and self-deprecating as fangirls like me would

expect."--Lauren Laverne Grazia Wry, clever, biting and brilliant Daily Telegraph

To enter: Put "CONTEST #32" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bjinbc@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 Sunday, April 21.

D. Condolences to:

(1) The family of Mitch Bunkin who passed away on Tuesday after battling cancer for a year and a half. He had been a friend and longtime colleague of mine at Bucks County College.

(2) The family of comedian Jonathan Winters, as well as to his many fans. (I was one!) Whenever I would tell my students about him, I would say he was the "Robin Williams of his time." If you're not familiar with his work, please click:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cxhS6wp0MeE&feature=share>

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

This week, it goes to Daniel Hensley--a talented Asheville actor/singer and founder (with Luke Arrington, Brad Curtioff, Sarah Fowler, Isaac Fulk and Morgan St Clair) of Vocal Blast.

Vocal Blast is a community choir, formed in 2012 to bring singers and leaders together to make music and give back to the community by donating concert proceeds to a local performing arts scholarship.

Most recently, it performed--under Daniel's direction--at the Toy Boat Arts Space in Asheville to help raise funds for the JPW Schierhorn Fund. If you missed the show, you can see it online by clicking:
<http://ashevillechannel.com/the-best/avl-vocal-blast/>

And if you'd like to make a contribution to the fund, please make checks payable to the "JPW Schierhorn Fund" and drop it to any Wells Fargo branch. Or you can mail it to: Vocal Blast, 21 Edwards St.. Asheville, NC 28806.

When not involved with the above, Daniel has somehow managed to find time to perform recently in the following shows: SPRING AWAKENING, SANTALAND DIARIES, BARK and PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE.

He also heads DH Studios, his personal teaching studio for voice, brass and percussion. To find out more, please click:

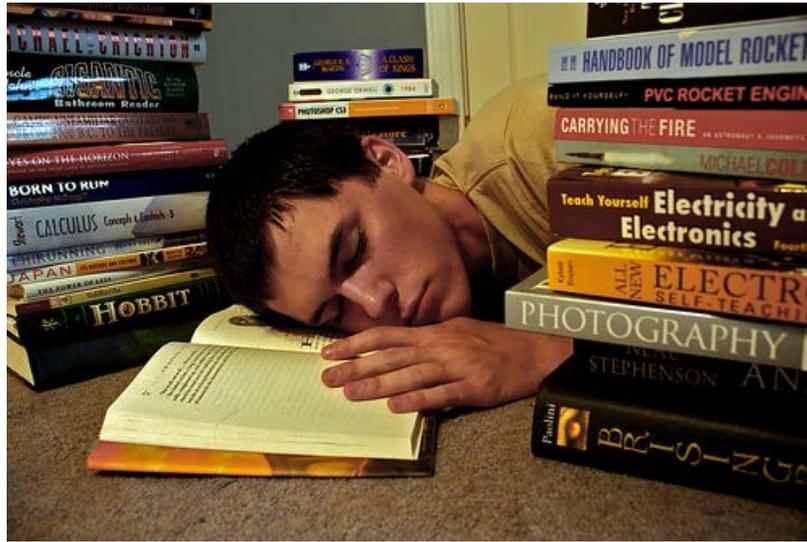
<https://www.facebook.com/DMusicLab>

Or contact him directly at AvlMusicLab@gmail.com; 828.424.0762.

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2. FYI

WHEN YOU CAN'T FALL ASLEEP: 1. Recall most boring subject you took in school. 2. Get text on that subject. 3. Start reading. 4. You'll be out within minutes.



FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Donna S. in AL: She Gets Me--Gary Allan (Lyrics On Screen)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEN2gzSgBRI&feature=share>

(2) MariyInne H. in NC: A pep talk from Kid President to you.

<http://www.wimp.com/peptalk/>

(3) John W. in PA: The most honest three minutes in television history

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=ML3qYHWRIzk

(4) Renee B. in NJ: Speed painter

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9ficvPdpZg>

(5) Tera B. in NC: Dog imitates baby

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGICQnA3IXk>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-16T>

(1) Eileen Z. in PA. (2) David F. in NY. (3) Eileen B. in NJ. (4) Maria P. in PA. (5) Mary C. in NC. (6) Clay M. in NC.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"

"Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life," her mother tried to explain, keeping it simple.

The child thought about this for a moment, then said, "So why's the groom wearing black?"



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4. Reviews

A. Based on Jack Kerouac's beloved American novel, ON THE ROAD is the story of an aspiring New York writer and a devastatingly charming ex-con married to a very liberated woman. The three young people cut ties with their constricted lives and take to the road, in search of the world, other encounters and themselves. Kristen Stewart, Amy Adams, Terrence Howard, Kristen Dunst, Viggo Mortensen and Elisabeth Dunst, among others, are in an impressive cast, but I didn't really care for any of the characters, nor did I care for the film. I can see why it opened to little fanfare. Rated R.

B. Out on DVD is HYDE PARK ON HUDSON, a drama with comic touches--or maybe it's the other way around?--about when President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his wife Eleanor hosted the King and Queen of England . . . the Royals are desperately looking to FDR for support, but he is also busy juggling the complexities of his domestic dealings with wife, mother and mistress . . . Bill Murray is affable in the leading role, and I liked the period touches . . . however, overall, the film left me somewhat flat . . . and I didn't find it very funny . . . rated R.

You'll do much better finding THE MUSIC NEVER STOPPED, a touching drama about a father and his estranged son who become reunited 20 years later when the son needs brain surgery . . . they finally connect through the help of a music therapist and the Grateful Dead . . . J.K. Simmons, a character actor I've always enjoyed, gives a fantastic performance in a rare leading role . . . I'm sorry it did not get more attention when it was released . . . if you can find it, you'll enjoy it . . . rated R.

C. OPIUM DREAMS (Eternal Press) by Jennie Giardine is an exciting debut novel about a woman who escapes each night from her abusive husband to a squalid opium den in a London back alley. While there, she encounters others who take her on an eventual journey to America.

There are many twists and turns in the story, and it kept me guessing as to what would happen until the very end of the book. I also found the conclusion very satisfying.

In addition, I was impressed by the author's description of life in Victorian society.

I'm looking forward to reading Giardine's next book.

Note: Some may know Jennie by her married name; i.e., Jennie Smith. She also teaches English Composition and Literature at both Bucks County Community College and Community College of Philadelphia. Should you want to order the above book, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/c7abljv>

D. Heard AMERICAN TURNAROUND: REINVENTING AT&T AND GM AND THE WAY WE DO BUSINESS IN THE USA (Hachette Audio), written by Ed Whitacre with Leslie Cauley and read by Whitacre.

Whitacre is a rare CEO who has great success running two of America's largest corporations, first AT&T and then GM when he was called out of retirement by President Obama.

Listening to the book was like sitting down with a friend and learning about his life. I liked

the stories that were told. However, I would have also liked some more specifics with respect to the day-to-day details about life at both corporations.

And while Whiteacre comes across as a very affable guy, his narration is OK at best. This is one book that would have been better off with a professional handling the task.

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5. TV alert

A. THE MOMENT, hosted by ex-NFL quarterback Kurt Warner, shows everyday folks in their dream jobs . . . among the episodes: "Sports Illustrated Photographer," "NASCAR driver" and "White House Chef." Thursdays at 10 p.m. on USA and repeated throughout the week. For any of the other times to see this show, please click:

<http://www.tvguide.com/Listings/>

You can also watch online by clicking:

<http://www.usanetwork.com/videos/The%20Moment/Full%20Episodes>

B. LOUIS C.K.: OH MY GOD has the Emmy-winning comedian Louis C.K. performing his new material onstage in Phoenix . . . Saturday at 10 p.m. on HBO.

C. Alyson M. in CO: Anyone else been watching SONG BY SONG on OVATION? Awesome format . . . chooses one singer-songwriter and goes in depth on the story of one song per episode. Watching a few featuring Johnny Cash tonight. COOLER THAN COOL!!!

Apparently you can watch back episodes on demand. I'm going to check out Bob Marley!!!

Note: There are several Dolly Parton songs from 5-8 p.m. on Sunday . . . the only problem: OVATION doesn't seem to allow recording--or at least not with AT&T U-verse. Also, there doesn't seem to be any "set" time for this show. You just have to keep looking for episodes by doing a search on your TV.

D. ORCHESTRA OF EXILES tells the story of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra, which the virtuoso violinist Bronislaw Huberman formed between 1933 and 1936 to provide jobs and a refuge for the best of Europe's Jewish musicians . . . according to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "It is a moving tale--especially because so many of the people interviewed are descendants of the violinists, French horn players, pianists and others who escaped Nazi German and other countries of prewar Europe." Sunday at 10 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

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6. Joke 2

Warning: Don't try this without parental supervision!



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7. Websites

A. One thing that I like about publishing this newsletter is that it pushes me to keep current . . . for example, until today, I had not even heard of Jenn Marbles . . . but now I know that she is one of the most popular Internet personalities, based on such clips as the following:

How to trick people into thinking you're good looking
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYpwAtnywTk>

For more information about her, read this article from THE NEW YORK TIMES that explains her popularity:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/14/fashion/jenna-marbles.html?src=mv>

B. I also recently learned that the term "spitballing," in its Hollywood usage, connotes a form of free-associative brainstorming. Creative types sit in a room and through some fizzy, conversational alchemy, produce ideas that the individual participants might never come up with on their own.

To read more about this, please click:

<http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/culture/2013/03/spitballing-indy.html#ixzz2PPfOfBUI>

What's really funny--the script mentioned in the above article:

<http://maddogmovies.com/almost/scripts/raidersstoryconference1978.pdf>

And for other scrips that you might also find amusing, please click:

<http://maddogmovies.com/almost/>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

In addition, you can catch past issues that you may have missed and/or were published before you became a reader . . . just click "Newsletter" to the left and then "Past Issues."

Doing so will also enable you to use the search engine at the top of that page . . . for example, I did this just recently when I wanted to find the following quote from Erma Bombeck (BLAINESWORLD #831):

"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and I could say, 'I used everything that you gave me.' "

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

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8. Computer tip

Mr. Curious here: What do you think about this email from Laura B. in NJ?

I just would love to hear about how your readers feel about Windows 8.

I had to buy a new laptop around Thanksgiving and went to Staples where you don't have much choice about the operating system.

It seems to be so unstable and hard to use especially with AOL. I am constantly being knocked out and loose whatever I am working on.

If I follow a link in your newsletter or print a page, I don't know how to get back to where I was and have to start the list of emails all over again. And if I don't save the email as "New" before I print it, I have retrieve it again. But it particularly gets aggravating when it decides to reload while I am trying to send an email to a lot of people and take the time to load the email addresses.

The Bank of America customer service rep told me she has it too and the system is constantly going down and needs to be reloaded.

That is not good. So I would like to hear what other people have experienced.

AOL does seem to be the worst.

Note: Another reader, Savannah H. in PA, has reported similar problems with Windows 8. I'm still using Windows XP, but am in the process of upgrading . . . and based on the above feedback, I'll probably just go to Windows 7, which I understand is still available.

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9. Joke 3

Two elderly men were enjoying a friendly conversation on a park bench when one asked the other, "Ed, how was the memory clinic you went to last month?" . . . "Outstanding," Ed replied. "They taught us all the latest psychological techniques: visualization, association, etc. It was great." . . . "Sounds terrific! What was the name of the clinic?" . . . Ed went blank. He thought and thought but couldn't remember. Then a smile broke across his face and he asked, "What do you call that flower with the long stem and thorns?" . . . "You mean a rose?" . . . "Yes, that's it!" He shouted to his wife on the next bench, "Rose, what was the name of that memory clinic?"



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10. A quote I like

Memo to self: "Self, good advice here. Remember it."



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11. Thought for the day

A jazz musician is someone who puts a \$5,000 horn in a \$500 car and drives 50 miles for a \$5 gig. (Methinks this also applies to rock and classical musicians.)



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-16T>

1) GRAPES OF WRATH. (2) TOP GUN star to speak in Asheville. (3) SCORE seminars.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-16T>

(1) ENCHANTED APRIL. (2) Riegelsville Fire Company Breakfast. (3) Plumstead Historical Society.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com

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BLAINES WORLD

#862

4.1.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had a blast attending a performance of the Amazing Acro-Cats. Dakota (center) was fantastic as she "purr-formed" with us. You can still catch her and the other cats in Asheville through April 7; for tickets, please click:

<http://www.circuscats.com/>



We were joined at the above by Brian and Carole Biro, and they too had to get their picture taken with Dakota.



Afterward, we went for dinner at Jack of the Wood. I enjoyed my hamburger, and Cynthia liked her ribeye steak. Natalie our server, was excellent. And we had the best seats in the house: In the back where it was quiet, but where we could also hear the bluegrass music playing in the background. For more information about this eatery, please click:

<http://www.jackofthewood.com/>

B. During the week:

(1) I also attended our community's first annual Passover Seder. It was a huge success, in large part because of all the work done by the woman in the picture: L-R: Elyse Bernstein, Louise Glickman, Marilynne Herbert, Blaine Greenfield and Barbara Gershenson.



(2) And I updated my business card to include the new Pope. (Thanks Kwik Kopy Printing for your usual fine job in helping me get this done.)



C. Congratulations to:

(1) Bruce Stoller, a composer, whose "Open Spaces Suite" will be performed by Tucson's Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra on April 6 and 7. For more information, please click:

<http://www.symphonymnow.org/2013/03/sounds-from-the-red-rocks/>

(2) Professor Chris Bursk, Language and Literature at Bucks County Community College, who was honored at the March 21 VIP Breakfast, receiving the BCCC President's Medal of Honor.

(3) Greg and Ashley Garrison on the birth of Finnegan Walter Garrison.

(4) Steven Liebenhaut on his work in organizing Sauté, a community café that will encourage interaction between strangers and provide healthy meals to the community on a sliding pay scale. For more information about this exciting concept, please click:

<http://www.mountainx.com/article/49110/Help-plan-Saut-community-caf>

(5) Bradshaw Call and Mandy Sayles, featured performers in BILLY, GOAT, GRUFF: THE MUSICAL, which opens on April 19 . . . for more information, please click:

<http://www.billygoatgruffnyc.com/#!about/c1shg>

D. Condolences to:

(1) Linda and Chuck Hollinshead and family on the passing of Linda's mother.

(2) The family of Curt Yeske, a colleague of mine when he was employed at Bucks County Community College. For Curt's obituary, please click:
http://www.phillyburbs.com/obituaries/the_intelligencer/curtis-e-yeske/article_ed374dfc-8a87-5baf-9602-e848b775646f.html#.UVrp6_AoPm4.email

(3) The family of Roger Ebert, my longtime favorite movie critic (and probably the guy who most got me "into" loving films). For more information about his life, please click:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/05/movies/roger-ebert-film-critic-dies.html?src=me&ref=general>

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

This week's award goes to Will Kessler--a security officer at the Deerfield Retirement Community.

Cynthia and I recently delivered holiday meals for the Passover holiday to residents at that facility. We didn't quite know our way around and when looking for an address, we were stopped by Will.

He got out of his vehicle and oh-so-politely apologized to us for stopping our vehicle. He then gave us directions to get to our next destination.

Will also pointed out a stop sign that we had apparently rolled through. In doing so, he again issued an apology . . .this time for the fact that the stop sign was small. (It was.) He explained that a lot of other folks missed it and asked us to be more careful when driving around the next time.

Lastly, he asked us to please also slow down because a lot of residents walk around the campus. He didn't exactly say we were speeding, but we did get his message.

After we finished our deliveries, we saw Will driving around. I had to stop him this time to compliment him on the professional way he interacted with us. I asked him if anybody had ever issued such a compliment (after being stopped), and he replied this was a first.

Deerfield should be proud to have employees such as Will Kessler.

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2. FYI

A. YES, the rumors are true . . . I WILL be wearing high heels on April 27 . . . if you'd like to help me raise funds to support Our VOICE (the Buncombe County Rape Crisis and Prevention Center), please click the link below:
<http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/blainesworld/walk-a-mile-asheville-2013>

Also, let me know if you'd still like to join the BLAINESWORLD team and/or if you could lend us any high heel shoes . . . in particular, we're looking for women's sizes 12-13 and 19-20.



B. I attended Lawrence High School as a teenager. I was saddened to read about what happened to it as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Please read the following paragraph, and if you could help out, it would be much appreciated.

Helaine F. in NY (with a REQUEST FOR HELP): As many of you know, the entire south shore of Long Island was decimated by Hurricane Sandy. Lawrence High School is still closed because of it. While work on it continues, the school is eligible to have its auditorium completely rebuilt by Lowe's. There are 30 schools nationwide in the running, and only the top five schools in voting will win the prize. Currently, Lawrence High School is in fifth place, but other schools are catching up. We can really use this. Please help out a community still struggling to get back on its feet by voting for Lawrence High School at:
<http://www.makeamusical.org/smash-make-a-musical/meet-the-schools/>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Risa R. in NJ: Just for you (His name is Blaine from PRETTY IN PINK.)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=7JKuv1bGbFI

(2) Robert F. in NJ: Our Road to Hatred--How We Raise our Bullies
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKHbapYantc>

(3) Marilynne H. in NC: Tchaikovsky Flashwaltz at Hadassah Hospital

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=tzwWskM4hN8

(4) Arlene S. in PA: Article on the above.

http://www.hadassah.org/site/c.keJNlWovEIH/b.8586835/k.241C/Tchaikovsky_Flashwaltz_at_Hadassah_Hospital.htm

(5) Rodney S. in NC: Dance like nobody is watching

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=S32bgx36G-0#!

(6) Lucian S. in NC: 350 or so interviews [on business topics].

<http://www.therisetothetop.com/>

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-16j>

(1) Mary C. in NC. (2) Eileen Z. in PA. (3) Marty D. in PA. (4) Rodney R. in NJ. (5) Sandy B. in PA. (6) Elizabeth P. in NC. (7) Terry V. in NC. (8) Pam P. in PA. (9) Tera B. in NC. (10) Neil R. in VT. (11) Savannah H. in PA. (12) Ed B. in NC. (13) Gary G. in NC. (14) Carol S. in FL. (15) Natalie K. in PA. (16) Neela M. in NC. (17) Nelson S. in NC.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

The children were gathered on the front pew one Sunday morning for the children's sermon. The minister asked, "Does anyone know what the resurrection is?"

One little boy blurted out, "I'm not quite sure, but I do know that if you have a resurrection that lasts longer than four hours, you have to see a doctor."

It took about ten minutes for the congregation to settle down enough to continue with the worship service.

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4. Reviews

Note: All the following can be found in Section 4 at this link:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-16j>

A. Film: EMPEROR

B. Film: LES MISERABLE (out on DVD)

C. Book: TEN BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF NONPROFIT BOARDS

D. Book on CD: TWEAK IT: MAKE WHAT MATTERS YOU HAPPEN EVERY DAY

***** CONTEST #31 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of ADMISSION by Jean Hanff Korelitz (the book that was the basis of the movie reviewed in Section 4A). According to THE NEW YORKER, "Portia Nathan is a thirty-eight-year-old admissions officer at Princeton University, a place so discriminating that it can afford to turn down applicants who are 'excellent in all of the ordinary ways' in favor of the utterly extraordinary--'Olympic athletes, authors of legitimately published books, Siemens prize winners, working film or Broadway actors, International Tchaikovsky Competition violinists.' . . . Although the reader may unravel the mystery of Portia's past before the plot does, the novel gleams with acute insights into what most consider a deeply mysterious process."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #31" 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 Sunday, April 7.

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5. TV alert

A. SPELLBOUND, Hitchcock's thriller about a shrink trying to help an amnesiac who may be a killer, stars Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck. Watch it for no other reason than to see the visually arresting dream scenes designed by Salvador Dali. Sunday at 8 p.m. on TCM.

B. MAD MEN returns for its sixth season on Sunday at 9 p.m. on AMC. Be there! And to get you psyched, here are the very first photos from the season premiere:

<http://bit.ly/YWYR9p>

C. 50 CHILDREN: THE RESCUE MISSION OF MR & MRS. KRAUS airs on Monday, April 8 at 9 p.m. on HBO. It's a documentary about the attempt of a Philadelphia attorney and his wife to save the lives of Jewish children facing annihilation. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL says the attempt is "intimately and memorably detailed here."

D. VICE is a news magazine whose correspondents report on dangerous places, including a piece in Afghanistan where children report on how they were persuaded to become suicide bombers. Begins Friday, April 5 at 11 p.m. on HBO.

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6. Joke 2

Great gift idea--especially if the recipient doesn't notice the slight misspelling of the designer's last name.



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7. Websites

A. My Way: Andre Rieu on his violin in New York
<http://www.youtube.com/embed/e-y581HdWfY?rel=0>

B. Optical illusion dance
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44mw37d8LQw>

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

In case you've ever wondered what happens to your email address once you've subscribed, there's no need to worry . . . to find out why, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Privacy Statement."

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:
<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>

Like us on Facebook 

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8. Computer tip

To watch a video in full screen mode, click the full screen button located at the far bottom-right corner of the video. There are three different size options--click the one furthest to the right to activate full-screen. Once you click the button, the video will expand so that it covers the majority of your screen.

To exit full screen mode, simply press the Esc button on your keyboard or click the full-screen button again.

For example, take this clip recently sent in by Bettina Y. in NY:
Jorel Rocks his Bar Mitzvah!
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KulHKziEeMc>

Watching it normally is good; however, it's outstanding in full-screen mode. Try it out to see for yourself.

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9. Joke 3

Kudos to my friend Bill Marshall* in NC for the following Facebook post from April 1, the best one I saw that day:

Hey Facebook Friends!

I have some exciting news that I want to share!! This is big! I have been keeping some things under wraps for some time. Two years ago, I started really thinking about being a truck driver. Now would be the opportune time to go to truck driving school. I just got the go ahead to start truck driving school in Chawdrop, Oklahoma. It's an 18 month program, all paid for by the National Right to Haul Association. Well, I would still have to pay for dungarees and to get my name stitched on my shirts. I am going to sell my business to a guy who is calling his business, Uncle Hank's Paws Pet Sitting Propriety. Even bigger news is this: I just got my first poem published in Truck N' Fick Magazine. They have this niche for covering literary truckers. You gotta look for this stuff. Follow your dharma man! Anyway, here is the poem the I submitted. It's under copyright, so don't steal it. Hands off, but please enjoy. I used the forms Trachio/lactabia triple couplets. It's called Flying J Epistle Part Number 2.

Longing for exponential road never more.
More than fruition, travel appears, more in store.
Flat road, flat tire, chicken wire, don't know the way.
Done in Duluth, haul off on St. Lou, head down yonder Flying J.
Leave blue woe behind, life aborted love, change of underwear
watch them staties. They're out there, bleak black don't ya scare.
Gotcha consciousness mister E. Just some longing.
Find golden path, drain your mundane. Beef jerky, the way, masking
longing to take trailer to Monterrey. Take coupla days.
Extinguish voice of knowledge, blow it out your exhaust, expunge haze.
Giving up promise of another false hope of getting it right
in the mountains. Loss deep. Gonna beep beep my horn all night.

I just want to thank all that has cheered me on with my writing, especially the sick and stupid parts of it. Because it is April Fools' Day, and I wanted to bust some balls. This was fun and didn't take long to do.

* When not busy applying to schools and writing oh-so-moving poetry, Bill provides compassionate care for your pet family. He can be reached at 828.280.8954; Bill@ashevillepetsteward.com. For more information, please click:

<http://www.ashevillepetsteward.com/>.

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10. A quote I like

QUOTE OF THE DAY (if not year or decade): "Don't worry about me. I'll be okay, you guys go win this thing."--what Kevin Ware, Louisville's sophomore guard, told his teammates while lying on the court after he broke his leg attempting to block a shot in Louisville's come from behind victor over Duke to advance to the Final Four in the 2013 NCAA March Madness Tournament. For more information, please click: <http://tinyurl.com/c35mqb8>.



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11. Thought for the day

Powerful message that I'd love to see on all such trucks!



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Pictured below is Cynthia, my beautiful bride, in rehearsal for SECRETS: FREEING THE HIDDEN STORY--a multimedia experience presented by the Asheville-based Community Choreography Project and directed by Barrie Barton. It runs from June 20-22 at the Diana Wortham Theatre, and I'm hoping you can see her then. Tickets will go on sale in April. For more information, please click: <http://communitychoreography.com/>.



To read about each of the following events in full, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-16j>

(2) Bike to School. (3) Have you ever wanted to write a memoir? (4) BJ Leiderman. (5) THE ODD COUPLE.

B. PA/NJ events

To read about each of the following events in full, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-16j>

(1) OPIUM DREAMS. (2) Bucks County Illustrators Society.

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PS. The perfect bathroom wallpaper for April Fools' Day--and every day thereafter.



Here's hoping that you don't get toooooo fooled on Monday (April 1) . . . and that you make a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#861

3.25.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I finally found the closest thing to a "real diner" in the area when we had lunch at Five Points Restaurant (258 Broadway, Asheville; 828.252.8030). Cynthia said her order of liver and onions hit the spot, and I enjoyed my hamburger. Amanda, our server, was both friendly and efficient. The only thing missing was the fact that you can't get breakfast all hours of the day; rather, you have to be in by a certain time or you then have to order lunch.



B. I finally got to see The Zoodles, an Asheville-based band who entertained friends and fans at The Hop.



L-R: Zuzu Welsh, Blaine Greenfield and Jennifer Worthen; not pictured: Keith Shauger.

I was really impressed by the group's "sound," as well as by the many songs that they had written themselves. To hear some of them and for more information, please click:
<http://www.reverbnation.com/thezoodles>

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Greg and Ashley Garrison on the birth of their son Finnegan Walter Garrison.

(2) Steven Liebenhaut on his work in organizing Sauté, a community café that will encourage interaction between strangers and provide healthy meals to the community on a sliding pay scale. For more information about this exciting concept, please click:
<http://www.mountainx.com/article/49110/Help-plan-Saut-community-caf>

(3) Bradshaw Call and Mandy Sayles, among others, on the upcoming opening of a play they're in (BILLY, GOAT, GRUFF: THE MUSICAL) that will premiere at the New Theater in New York City on April 6 and run through the 28th. For tickets, please click:
<https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/921917>

(4) Savannah H. in PA, winner of Contest #30, the CD version of THE DAUGHTERS by Joanna Philbin . . . all told, there were 6 entries . . . and that reminds me, it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #31 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of ADMISSION by Jean Hanff Korelitz (the book that was the basis of the movie reviewed in Section 4A). According to THE NEW YORKER, "Portia Nathan is a thirty-eight-year-old admissions officer at Princeton University, a place so discriminating that it can afford to turn down applicants who are 'excellent in all of the ordinary ways' in favor of the utterly extraordinary-'Olympic athletes, authors of legitimately published books, Siemens prize winners, working film or Broadway actors, International Tchaikovsky Competition violinists.' . . . Although the reader may unravel the mystery of Portia's past before the plot does, the novel gleams with acute insights into what most consider a deeply mysterious process."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #31" 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 Sunday, April 7.

D. HELP NEEDED DEPT. from guys who live in the Asheville area or would like to visit on April 27 . . . I'm looking to put together a team to participate in Walk a Mile Asheville--an event that supports Our Voice (a non-profit crisis intervention and prevention agency which serves victims of sexual violence) . . . if interested, please contact me at once. . . I'll even help you locate high heels to wear for the one-mile walk; i.e., unless you already have a favorite pair like Ted E. Tourist does in the picture below.



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

This week, it goes to the Verizon Wireless store--located at 242 Tunnel Road in Asheville; 828.575.7111.

We have gone there ever since moving to Asheville over four years ago for all our cellphone needs and have always been pleased with the service.

Recently, we were due for an upgrade on our phones--and yes, we finally decided to break down and get smartphones.

We first looked at the Samsung Galaxy Note II, in large part because of its screen size. David Woodruff was our sales consultant, and he was most helpful. He spent a good hour with us, answering our many questions, and he got us set up with the above phone.

But within minutes of leaving the store, we both decided that it was too big for our needs . . . make that, way too big.

So we went back the next day, returned the Samsung phone, and I got an iPhone 5 (Cynthia's contract is up next month) . . . this time, we were helped by another sales consultant: Reale Edgerton . . . he, too, was great and made getting the new phone a breeze . . . and he even showed us how to take our first picture with it:



Note: Special thanks to Chuck B. in PA, a B-to-B Verizon representative and longtime friend, who gave me much valuable advice on upgrading my phone. In addition, I'm appreciative of the help provided by two of my NC friends (Tammy S. and Monica H.) who made the transition to the smartphone a virtual snap.

And lest I forget, the virtual assistant that comes with the phone--Siri--deserves special kudos . . . I already love using her for directions and, also, for dialing numbers, recording notes, etc. . . . she is even cool with respect to answering such profound questions as the following:

Can you tell me a joke?

Response: I can't. I always forget the punch line.

Undeterred, I tried another one: Who is Blaine Greenfield?

Response: Let me check on that. (pause) Would you like me to search the web for who is Blaine Greenfield?

She then gave several relevant Internet citations, including the one featuring my standup comedy routine.

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2. FYI

My friend Natalie K. in Pennsylvania doesn't like saying "Break a leg" to wish performers good luck before they appear on stage.

Instead, she likes to tell them to "Knock 'em alive!"

It got me wondering: What do y'all think about the latter expression? I'm especially interested in hearing from anybody who has ever performed on stage: actors, actresses, musicians, jugglers, etc.

Note: To find out more about the origins of "Break a leg," please click:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Break_a_leg

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Annemarie B. in NC: Dr. Joe Dispenza, helping you understand how your brain, mind, feelings, neuro synaptic circuits in your brain, create your reality and how to begin changing them to create what you want in your life.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lbnrRqBjgE>

(2) Roger C. in PA: Americans who tell the truth (models of courageous citizenship)

<http://www.americanswhotellthetruth.org/portrait-galleries>

(3) Tim R. in NC: Chicago : Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2CPC0cCagOE&feature=share>

(4) Pat H. in PA: Something to relax to!

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=ThFCg0tBDck

(5) Bob P. in NC: Antoine Dufour - Spiritual Groove - Guitar

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNw9YaXemIM>

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please read Section 2, part 2 at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-15S>

(1) Jim F. in PA. (2) Mary C. in NC. (3) Natalie K. in PA. (4) Tracy in FL. (5) Walter B. in NC. (6) Jean R in PA. (7) Robyn M. in NC. (8) Savannah H. in PA. (9) Maria M. in NC.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

One summer evening during a violent thunderstorm, a mother was tucking her small boy into bed. She was about to turn off the light when he asked with a tremor in his voice, "Mommy, will you sleep with me tonight?" . . . The mother smiled and gave him a reassuring hug. "I can't dear," she said. "I have to sleep in Daddy's room." . . . A long silence was broken at last by a shaken little voice saying, "The big sissy."



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4. Reviews

A. **ADMISSION** is a comedy/drama about a Princeton University admissions officer whose life changes when she no longer lives life by the book. Tina Fey and Paul Rudd are extremely likable as the leads, and I also liked Wallace Shawn as the retiring Dean of Admissions . . . it wasn't a perfect film, but I liked it--especially the ending that tugged at my heart strings . . . rated PG-13.

B. **LINCOLN** is now out in DVD format . . . my review from **BLAINESWORLD #844** follows:

LINCOLN is not a straight biography of the 16th President's life; rather, it focuses on his final months in office when he sought to end the war, unite the country and abolish slavery . . . it was a bit slow in the beginning, but came alive in the second half as I kept thinking about the parallels with his life and what President Obama has tried to do with getting health insurance coverage for all Americans . . . Daniel Day-Lewis is outstanding as Lincoln; I was less impressed with Sally Field as his wife . . . rated PG-13.

C. **BRANDING PAYS: THE FIVE-STEP SYSTEM TO REINVENT YOUR PERSONAL BRAND** (BrandingPays Media) by Karen Kang is the perfect book to read if you're in the process of attempting to get to the next step of your career.

The author, a well-known brand strategist and founder/CEO of her own personal branding company, shows how to do this by utilizing a step-by-step approach that's very easy to follow. In addition, she uses her own life--along with many other real-life examples--to show how this can be done.

For the rest of this review, please click Section 4C in the following link:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-15S>

D. Heard **THE SOUL OF IT ALL: MY MUSIC, MY LIFE** (Hachette Audio), written and read by Michael Bolton.

The author, the popular singer and songwriter, traces his career from the days of playing guitar for food money on the street corners in Greenwich Village to singing street jingles to keep his family afloat and eventually to the peak of success in his industry.

Along the way, he's encountered a star-studded cast of characters, including Paula Abdul, Cher, Bob Dylan, Barbara Streisand, Kanye West, Jay-Z, Lady Gaga, Ray Charles, Placido Domingo, Renee Fleming, Bon Jovi, Wynonna Judd, Nicolette Sheridan and many others.

It was fun listening to the stories about each of the above. I especially enjoyed learning how he came to perform with Luciano Pavarotti. And I was interested in his spin on the court battle that he eventually lost with the Isley Brothers over the copyright of a song.

Also, I was impressed to learn about his decades of charitable work.

As an added bonus, a song is included in the CD edition: 'Gotta Keep Dreamin'.'

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5. TV alert

A. **MR. SELFRIDGE** revolves around a brash American entrepreneur and the department store he opened in 1909 . . . according to **THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**, "This new PBS Masterpiece series written by Andrew Davis is plenty addicting [without the lords and ladies of **DOWNTON ABBEY**], opening a treasure box of tales about love, loss, ambition and the spirit of a new age." Jeremy Piven, so fine in the HBO series **ENTOURAGE**, stars . . . Sundays at 9 p.m. on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

B. **KRISTEN SCHALL: LIVE AT THE FILLMORE** has the **DAILY SHOW** correspondent and former **30 ROCK** page performing. Monday, April 1, at midnight on **COMEDY CENTRAL**.

C. **BEST INK** spotlights the best tattoo artists, competing for \$100,000 by doing tasks that test their creative abilities outside the normal skin-and-ink scenarios. The second season begins on Wednesday, April 3, at 10 p.m. on **OXYGEN**.

D. **HANNIBAL**, notes Matt Roush in **TV GUIDE**, "is a feverishly twisted psychological procedural" about "the mad Dr. Decker [who] can see gruesome crimes from the killer's POV." Season premier on Thursday, April 4, at 10 p.m. on **NBC**.

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6. Joke 2

Sooooo sad 'bout how this dog is feeling. I'd love to be able to cheer him up.



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7. Websites

A. Ken G. in NY: Banker Saves a Dozen Ducklings From a Ledge

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hnbmml8fOY>

B. Ange M. in PA: It's A Trenton Thing You'll need a few minutes to watch this, and it does have music (for those of you who received this at work just a heads up as you may want to forward it to your home email).

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Nv_rZ8F-7w

This is so neat to see many of the places and events in the Burg, etc. Written by Tom Giraldi and Ernie White, performed by Ernie White, Tom Reock and Mike White.

Note: I spent much of my adult life in the Trenton area, so I found this very cool to watch. In addition, it turns out that Tom Giraldi is the father of another friend of mine (Maria Giraldi).

And when I asked Maria about the connection, she told me about this other song, "Zimmerman," that her father had written . . . you can listen to it by clicking:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Y6mzaYuMtE>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you'd like to see a listing of books I have read and generally enjoyed, go to "Blaine's Best" on the left, then letter "Websites" and click the #2 under "Book and Music Reviews" . . . to help me move up in the rankings, please:

(1) Go to:

www.amazon.com

At the search box at the top, type the name of a book I recently reviewed; e.g., OVER TIME: MY WIFE AS A SPORTSWRITER by Frank Deford.

(2) You will be taken to a screen where you will see more information about the book, along with my review (at the top or close to the top on the right).

(3) Read my review.

(4) If you find it is helpful to you, please click "Yes."

(5) Thanks in advance!

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



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8. Computer tip

Voice search on Google

1. Open the Chrome browser and go to:
<http://www.google.com/>.

You'll see a small gray microphone on the right-hand side of the search box.

2. Click the microphone and you'll see the dialog bubble below indicating that it's time for you to say your search term.

3. When your cursor is in the search box, you can click the microphone. Or you can press Ctrl+Shift+Period (Mac: ?-Shift-Period) to start voice search. You can press ESC to cancel.

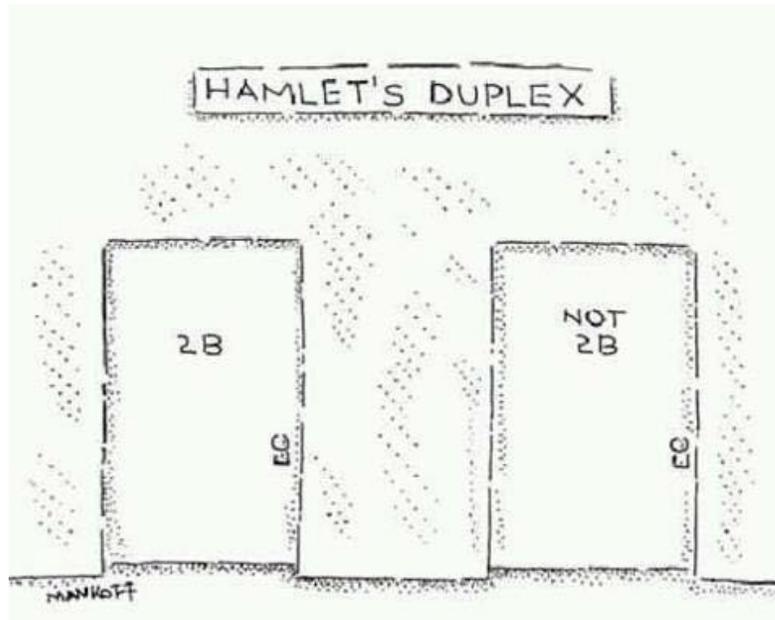
4. Your results show up just as if you had typed the search term.

Note: This works with the Google Chrome browser, which I'm now using just about all the time. It's great. I do not believe that other browsers support this option; that said, if you find other browsers that do this, please let me know.

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9. Joke 3

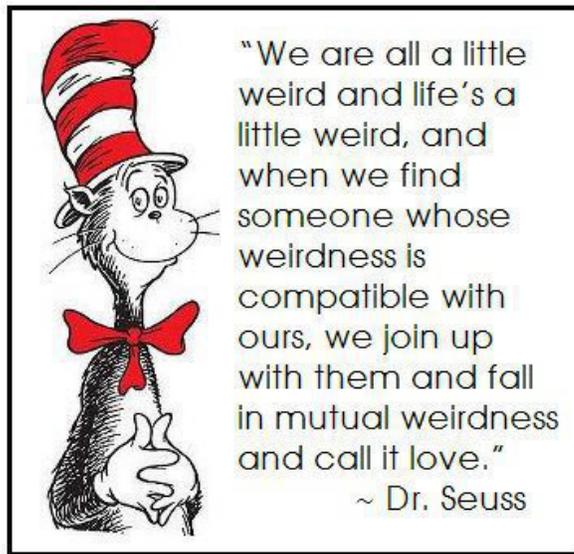
Prime real estate, especially for English lovers . . .



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10. A quote I like

This is exactly what happened when I met Cynthia, my beautiful bride!



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11. Thought for the day

Hugging is good medicine. It transfers energy and gives the person hugged an emotional lift. You need four hugs a day for survival, eight for maintenance and twelve for growth. Scientists say hugging is a form of communication because it can say the things you don't have words for, and the nicest thing about a hug is that you usually can't give one without getting one.



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-15S>

(1) LEGALLY BLONDE: THE MUSICAL. (2) SONGBIRD at White Horse Black Mountain. (3) Vocal Blast Benefit Concert. (4) JEFFREY.

PS. If you're like me and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun, friends and family that way), here's hope you enjoy Easter on Sunday. . . . also, my wish for you is that you get to eat all the chocolate-covered bunnies that your heart desires--as long as you complete the job and don't leave them in pain:



Make it a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#860

3.18.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Had fun celebrating our friend Julia's birthday . . . joined by her son Conor, we first had an excellent dinner at Carmel's and then we all went to Jubilee to the 2nd Annual Asheville Talent Slam!

This event, which benefited both Eblen Charities and Saute (a non-profit community cafe), was a huge success and the level of local talent blew us away . . . kudos to Rock Eblen and Steve Liebenhaut, co-producers of the Slam, as well as to Erika Jane who did a great job as emcee and the three judges: John Hall, Peggy Ratusz and Kathleen Hahn.



L-R: Rock Eblen and Blaine Greenfield.

Sarah Richardson, a Mars Hill College senior and frequent performer on the SART stage, was the first place winner with a beautiful rendition of "Gravity" by Sara Bareillis.



Other prize winners were as follows: Liam Kelley Black, 2nd Place, \$300; Linda Mitchell, 3rd Place, \$200; Tasha Lief, 4th Place, \$50; Jeremy Wood, 5th place, \$50; and Mikalaa Mae Martin, 6th place, \$50.

Our only disappointment was in the fact that two other performers we liked, Daniel Hensley and Rachel Rizzuti, did not get recognition for their efforts.

The good news is that you can hear Rachel sing the song she performed that evening by clicking:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6mAKBhf-r8>

***** CASH REWARD *****

At the Slam, I seem to have lost my digital camera (though it is possible it may have disappeared elsewhere) . . . by chance, if anybody knows where it is, please let me know as soon as possible . . . the camera was in a small pouch . . . if you open the pouch, I believe you'll see my cell phone number on the camera.

(2) We also went to an informative program run by Brother Wolf that dealt with the issue of what to do about your pet(s) if something happens to you . . . Dennis Gibson, a local attorney and Brother Wolf Board member, led the session.

As a result of attending the above, we are in the process of developing a pet trust for our cats to make sure they get the care that they need . . . such a document become necessary if you are incapacitated . . . your will only kicks-in at the time of your death.

B. During the week, I attended an event called "Beyond The Lights" at the North Carolina Stage. There, I got a behind-the-scenes look at all the work that's being done by this outstanding company.



L-R: Elizabeth Pou, Charlie Flynn-McIver, Neela Munoz and Blaine Greenfield.

Check out the wildly entertaining BJ Leiderman (Public Radio theme composer) at the recent "Hearts for SART" fundraiser. You'll also get to see Liz Aiello (Asheville's talented actress/singer) in the first part. Special thanks to Legacy Films (<http://www.legacyfilmsltd.com/>) for producing this clip that can be viewed by clicking the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=b3uy1-rzEIE

And you can still see pictures from the above event by clicking the link below:

<http://www.4dncphoto.com/f825505046>

Thanks to the folks at The 4th Dimension Photography for the great job they did with these . . . by the way, if you order any prints, SART also will benefit as a result of the fact that 4th Dimension will be sharing the proceeds with us . . . so thanks in advance!

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Norm Kent on his work as chairman of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. For more information, please click:

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/fl-kent-norml-mayocol-b031913-20130318,0,7544507.column>

(2) Jennie Giardine Smith for being profiled in the BUCKS COUNTY COURIER TIMES about her new book, OPIUM DREAMS. To read the article, please click:

http://www.phillyburbs.com/entertainment/books/victorian-thriller-dishes-inside-dope/article_e6a3739e-6f4f-5659-886c-6edd2ac41538.html

(3) Larry Parr and Joel Williams, both winners of the ScriptFEST competition held by SART. Their works will be performed in the 2014 season.

(4) Bradshaw Call on being named as Associate Artistic Director by The New Theater in New York City.

(5) Harvey Mackay on the publication of his newest book, THE MACKAY MBA IN THE REAL WORLD. To see him speak about it on THE LARRY KING SHOW, please click:

http://www.ora.tv/larrykingnow/harvey-mackay-0_svunzsbm

(6) Elsten Torres for the excellent review of his "Closer Tonight" video (directed by Milcho Es Milcho. To read it, please click:

<http://alborde.com/music-videos/48334-elsten-torres-waiting-for-clouds-music-video-featuring-gaby-moreno.html>

(7) Linda Kanner and family on the marriage of Linda's daughter Ally last weekend.

(8) John Boyle, a reporter for THE CITIZEN-TIMES, who took first place in profile writing in the N.C. Press Association Awards for a peice on World War II veteran Jim Wood.

(9) Laurie Satran on the good work she is doing for IKEA. She is being sent to Europe for the year, starting with a stint in Amsterdam for the next six months.

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

This week it goes to Bruce Morgan--owner of Courtesy Barber Shop, 9 Asbury Road in Candler; 828.665.9450. The slogan on his card says it all: "If you look good, we look good."

I've been going to his place ever since I moved to the Asheville over four years go. The place is spotless, prices are very reasonable, and you always get a haircut that makes you look better than when you came in the front door.

In addition, you get to either watch TV or listen to some of Bruce's homespun wisdom.

For example, we recently were discussing how long he had lived in Asheville. When I asked him whether it was his whole life, he replied "not yet."

Ably assisting Bruce are two other barbers who do an equally fine job: Chas Hyde and Luke Rogers.

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2. FYI

What's the best way to peel a banana?

One aproach is the one I typically use, as demonstrated by my friend and local actor Sam

Marks:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=326134570842296&set=vb.100003372663933&type=2&theater>

However, it got me wondering: Was there a better way to do this? I came up with the following:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nBJV56WUDng>

Mr. Curious here: Let me know if the second approach works for you and/or you use some other method.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Ed B. in NC: The way we think about charity is dead wrong

http://www.ted.com/talks/dan_pallotta_the_way_we_think_about_charity_is_dead_wrong.html

(2) Dan B. in PA: Half time show.

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid1418565565?bctid=23207933001>

(3) Alyson M. in CO: Girl with a funny talent!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=387309074701239>

(4) Ange M. in PA: Forget Cholesterol, Inflammation's the Real Enemy

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwkBB2Z6914&feature=player_embedded

(5) Corinne G. in PA: Some of these people are NUTS . . . but it is amazing.

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/A6XUVjK9W4o?list=PL9458E0DA29E8E2BA>

(6) Herb S. in NJ: Crazy Street Performer

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6VKA5v7sQ>

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please read Section 2, part 2 at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-158>

(1) Wes. H. in NC. (2) Suzanne S. in NC. (3) Annemarie E. in NJ. (4) Eileen Z. in PA. (5) Dana K. in PA. (6) Betty T. in PA. (7) Pat L. in CA. (8) Catherine O. in MA.

Note: These folks were nice enough to comment on my recent "All Star" designation from Constant Contact.



My two cents: Thanks to all the above, as well as everybody else. If you weren't reading BLAINESWORLD, I wouldn't have gotten this award!

9) Brian H. in NJ. (10) Roger C. in PA. (11) Mary Rita S. in NC. (12) Marty D. in PA. (13) Natalie K. in PA. (14) Eileen R. in GA. (15) Steve G. in PA. (16) Eileen R. in GA. (17) Gary J. in NC.

Thanks to everybody for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

You could have fooled me, given the weather the past few days!



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4. Reviews

A. If you like magic, you'll like THE INCREDIBLE BURT WONDERSTONE . . . and even if you don't, you'll still have a good time watching this comedy about a team of two superstar magicians who secretly hate each other . . . it's goofy fun, greatly aided by the performances of Steve Carell and Steve Buscemi as the battling duo who must also face competition from a David Blaine-type street performer (Jim Carrey in a very funny role) . . . rated PG-13.

B. Out on DVD is SONGCATHER, a moving drama about an uptight musicologist who joins her sister in the mountains of Asheville . . .there, she discovers music that harkens back to traditional English and Scottish folk ballads, and she sets out to collecting the songs . . . I loved Janet McTeer and Aidan Quinn in the leading roles, as well as the work of Emmy Rossum in her first movie . . . rated PG-13.

Note: Another reason to see this film is to catch Asheville's very own Mark Jones dancing in one of the scenes (he is sporting a beard), as well as to see the mountains of the region . . . you can also see them in this one clip by clicking:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBT7DeQ195k>

C. SINGLE EFFORT (Scruffy Olive) by Joe Keller is the book I wished I had at my disposal over 10 years ago when I had gone through a divorce . . it provides clear, practical advice to help any single guy have a dynamic, successful life.

The author, a father of two, came up with the idea for the book as a result of his own divorce . . . though he made many mistakes along the way, Keller eventually came up with an approach to being single that brought him both confidence and an exciting new life.

For the rest of this review, please click Section 4C at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-158>

D. Heard PLUM LOVIN' (Audio Renaissance), written by Janet Evanovich and read by Lorelei King . . . it's advertised as "a Stephanie Plum Between-the Numbers Novel," which means I guess that it is not to be considered as part of the author's regular series of numbered novels.

This one features the sassy New Jersey bounty hunter being asked to find a "relationship expert" . . . she gets involved, as usual, with an eclectic range of characters and some funny subplots . . . one, in particular, had a bunch of unruly kids in need of a babysitter . . . it actually had me laughing out loud.

Yet I think the book would have been better served had it been longer . . . it came on just 3 CDs, which translates to just 176 pages . . . adding more length to the story would have given Evanovich the opportunity to flush it out more thoroughly.

E. In case you missed prior notice of this . . .

***** CONTEST #30 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the book on CD, THE DAUGHTERS by Joanna Philbin--a book that seems perfect for daughters, granddaughters or those who like reading about young girls . . . according to BOOKLIST, "Philbin, the daughter of Regis, knows something about being a celebrity's daughter. But her father's not as famous as the parents of Carina (heir to a multimedia empire), Hudson (daughter of a Madonna-like mother), and Lizzie,

who, like the daughter of Christie Brinkley and Billy Joel, has her father's looks (not so good for the ego). Philbin has an appealing writing style that gets readers into a New York state of mind. Along with the designer names and posh addresses, there's some introspection, too. Grades 7-10."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #30" 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 Sunday, March 24, 2013.

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5. TV alert

HBO has a lot of promising stuff, including:

A. Sari Gilman, a filmmaker, has captured the good and the bad of life for seniors in a gated community in her moving documentary, *KINGS POINT*, which was nominated for an Oscar and can be seen at 6:15 p.m. on Sunday.

B. *ROCK OF AGES* tells the story of small town girl Sherrie and city boy Drew, who meet on the Sunset Strip while pursuing their Hollywood dreams. Their rock 'n' roll romance is told through the heart-pounding hits of Def Leppard, Joan Jett, Journey, Foreigner, Bon Jovi, Night Ranger, REO Speedwagon, Pat Benatar, Twisted Sister, Poison, Whitesnake and more. Sunday at 6:50 p.m.

C. *PHIL SPECTOR* is screenwriter-director David Mamet's fictionalized account of legendary music producer Phil Spector's relationship with defense attorney Linda Kenney Baden during his 2007 trial for the 2003 murder of actor Lana Clarkson. It stars Helen Mirren and Al Pacino. Sunday at 9 p.m.

D. *FALL TO GRACE* profiles former New Jersey governor Jim McGreevey, who resigned from office in 2004 after announcing he was gay, but started a new life by studying to become an Episcopal priest and offering spiritual guidance to women in prison. Thursday, March 28, at 8 p.m.

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6. Joke 2

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst!



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7. Websites

A. Della S. in FL: Enjoy! The Parent Rap!
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_NspDWssIY

B. Nelson S. in NC: Automation gone bad--now this is funny.
<http://www.youtube.com/embed/xWMkOwq2qIU?rel=0>

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

What's the above all about? To find out more, just look to the material in the box at the very top of the home page.

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. Computer tip

Paint.Net is more powerful than Microsoft Paint and not as complex as Photoshop. Best of all: It's free! To download a copy, please click:
<http://paint-net.en.softonic.com/>

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9. Joke 3

Donna is in a movie theatre. Two seats away, there's a guy and his dog. The dog is laughing at the funny lines and growling at the bad guy. The woman whispers to the man, "Excuse me. The way your dog's getting into the movie, that's amazing!" Guy says: "Yeah, it surprises me, too. He hated the book."



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10. A quote I like

A bad attitude is like a flat tire. If you don't change it, you'll never go anywhere.



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11. Thought for the day

From Grieving to Healing: 10 Tips to Comforting Mourners
by Rabbi Mel Glazer

1. Don't talk too much.

Let the mourners set the tone. If they want to talk, talk. And if they just want to sit quietly and not talk, don't intrude on their privacy. Let the mourners control how they respond to their loss.

2. You didn't know the deceased, go to the funeral anyway.

The family will appreciate your presence, and they will know you are there for them, and that will be a comfort.

For the rest of this informative blog entry, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-158>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Cynthia will be performing in SECRETS: FREEING THE HIDDEN STORY, directed by Barrie Barton as part of the Community Choreography Project. Dates will be June 20-22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Diana Wortham Theatre. Admission: \$18. Stay tuned for information on how to get tickets.



Cynthia is the dancer on the far right.

To read about each of these other events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-158>

(2) Upcoming Events - Richard Shulman performances. (3) Mask Making Class (April 3rd to May 8th). (4) The Chuck Beattie Band. (5) Asheville Vocal Blast Concert.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-158>

(1) CURTAINS! (2) Plumstead Historical Society. (3) Join Prof. Hennessey for Lively Book Discussions Each Month. (4) Jennie Giardine Smith on her new book. (5) LAUGH HARD AND FEEL GOOD THIS WEEKEND! (6) Bucks County Illustrators Society. (7) Gun violence in America.

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PS. If you're like me and you celebrate all holidays (more food, fun, friends and family that way), here's hope you enjoy the upcoming Passover season that begins on Monday,

March 25 and ends on Tuesday, April 2 . . . also, my wish for you is that you get to eat all the chocolate-covered macaroons that your heart desires . . . and in case you're invited to a Seder, see below for the ideal gift to bring.



Make it a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#859

3.11.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I, went with our friends Marcy and Tom to see FALSETTOLAND at HART (Haywood Arts Regional Theatre). The productions there seem to keep getting better and better, and this may well have been the best.

Each member of the talented cast excelled. Kudos to Rod Leigh, Eric Martinez, Strother Stingley, Oskar Olszewski, Katie Cilluffo, Jennifer Russ and Kelli Brown Mullinix. Justin Slack, who also played keyboard 2, did a fine job with the direction of this tuneful musical.



L-R: Eric Martinez, Jennifer Russ, Blaine Greenfield and Cynthia Greenfield.

From there, we went to Bogart's for dinner. My hamburger was quite tasty, and I also enjoyed the accompanying sweet potato fries. Cynthia liked her ribeye steak. But Marcy may have had the winner: a stuffed potato with both cheese and pulled pork. It looked delicious. For more information about this eatery, please click:

<http://bogartswaynesville.com/>

B. During the week:

(1) I attended an informative meeting of the Asheville Jewish Business Forum. "How To Market Your Small Business" was discussed, and the two presenters (Bill Merwitzer and Deborah Halpern) shared several useful ideas. For more information about this group, please click:

<http://www.ashevillejewishbusiness.com/>

That's me in the picture below with Brad Morris, the dynamic president of the Forum:



(2) And I spoke to two of Professor Colleen May's marketing classes at Mars Hill College. That's me with her, showing the students the difference between a right- and left-handed pencil.



Note: Do you know the difference? If you'd like to find out . . . or if you would just like to have your very own left- and right-handed pencils, send me a stamped, postpaid return envelope (6 x 9 inches) with \$1 postage on the outside. Mail the envelope to: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Terri Sivertsen for being named a Coldwell Bank award winner. She was named to the 2013 Executive Club.

(2) Mission Health, our outstanding local hospital, for earning a spot among the nation's Top 100 Hospitals by Thomson Reuters for the fifth consecutive year. For more information, please click:

<http://www.mountainx.com/article/48869/Mission-Hospital-named-to-Top-100-Hospitals-list-for-fifth-consecutive-year>

(3) Rodney Smith on his new business, Tempus Fugit Design in Asheville, NC. What it's about, quoting Rodney: "It will focus (no pun intended) on photography, aimed at (still . . . no pun) theater and the greater Asheville entertainment network. I would like to provide photographic services for (but not limited to): Head shots, Group shots, Theater, Band and Event promotional (including press kits and CD photography for print, screen or web), Live theater or performance event shooting, Glamour and theme based photo shoots. TFD will also provide custom graphic design work including (...also not limited to): Posters, Flyers, CD Covers, Logo Design, Business Card design, Advertising design and layout--all for print, screen or web." For more information, please click:

<http://www.modelmayhem.com/2857702>

(4) Steven and Karen Marinoff on the engagement of their son Justin to Susan Honig.

(5) Katherine Sandoval Taylor for a great review in her latest performance: "standouts include . . . Katherine Sandoval Taylor (radiant as vocal student Katherina Cavalieri)" For the full review, please click:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=540308655991627&set=a.277283178960844.65884.140520029303827&type=1&theater>

(6) Michelle Baker in NC: I am happy to announce my latest Huffington Post article, The Yoga of Surgery. Please read, "like" if you like it and share. To read it, please click:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michelle-baker/yoga-benefits_b_2849811.html?utm_hp_ref=fb&src=sp&comm_ref=false#sb=3634017,b=facebook

(7) Elsten Torres for a great review of his recent Asheville concert"

<http://blog.musoscribe.com/?p=3734>

(8) Donna and Mark Allen on becoming grandparents to Lucy Marie Gymnich.

(9) Cynthia Greenfield on being quoted in our local paper about the parking situation in downtown Asheville: "Obviously I'm not pleased," said Biltmore Lake resident Cynthia Greenfield. "I'd rather it be lower. . . . I put a lot of money in these meters." For the entire article, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013302260013>

And also for being oh-so-brave in getting her shingles vaccination! I'm serious here. Only 10 percent of those over 60 were vaccinated in a recent year, and that's a shame because the viral disease can become quite nasty. To find out more, please read:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/12/health/12shingles.html?emc=eta1>

Note: I personally have known three individuals over 60 who came down with shingles. It hasn't been a pleasant time for them. And you can prevent this from happening to you by just getting this vaccination at the time you turn 60--or now, if you're over 60.

D. Condolences to:

(1) Janet Hart and family on the passing of Janet's father.

(2) Christine L. Hess and family on the passing of Christine's grandfather and grandmother.

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

This week, it goes to YOU--my faithful BLAINESWORLD reader.

I am appreciative of the fact that so many of you take the time and effort to read my missive. In addition, I'm grateful for the feedback that you send me, as well as your many items for possible inclusion in other issues.

I'm also glad that you frequently open the links that I provide. This enables you to get still further information that I want to share with you--but can't because of space limitations.

Note: On a regular basis, please check Section 2, part 2 . . . you'll find some interesting video clips, as well as informative emails or posts from other readers.

One last thing I wanted to mention is notification that I recently received form Constant Contact, the company that enables me to mail out this missive.

To quote from the email:

You shine brightly for your customers. And for us too.

Welcome to the All Stars.

Your efforts last year to reach your customers and engage with them were exemplary. Stellar. Your customers noticed and responded positively. And we certainly noticed. That's why we're so proud to name you to our roster of 2012 All Stars.

This status is an annual designation that only 10% of our customers achieve for their use of Constant Contact products!

Constant Contact looked at the following criteria to select this year's All Stars:

Level of engagement with email campaigns and events
Open, bounce, and click-through rates
Event registration rates

Use of social sharing features
Use of mailing list sign-up tools
Use of reporting tools

"We're always delighted when small businesses and nonprofits are successful," said Gail Goodman, CEO of Constant Contact. "We're honored to recognize BLAINESWORLD as an All Star, and to be able to shine the spotlight on its achievements in 2012."



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2. FYI

Dana K. in PA: Beware of fraudulent charges on Verizon Wireless or other cellular servers. I checked my bill closely this month because I saw a charge for \$9.99 under a general charge category and questioned it since it wasn't on my last few bills. On further investigation, I found the charge on Rich's cell number. It was for premium text messaging services. Description: PREM_SMS 22036 CoolCellBids (or Cool Cell Bids).

You may inadvertently have agreed to this in some fine print you didn't read on some Internet site where they ask for your phone number. Be assured that Verizon will take the charge off your bill if you call them, but you must text STOP to the company that is charging your phone. I also asked Verizon to block all premium text messaging on all of my devices.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Wes H. in NC: For some reason, I thought of you and your newsletter when I saw this video about the best way to buy a car. Thought you might like to share it with your readers:

<http://www.wimp.com/buycar/>

(2) Tim B. in NC: My son is so funny! (Click to see commercial that his son made for one of his classes.)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Putilmszmg&feature=share>

(3) Corinne G. in PA: Can you do this?

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=a03pcpSBv6E#!

(4) Mark M. in PA: Pretty amazing. [Drummers!]

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=483109008422240>

(5) D Anthony: Valerie Harper's message to the world

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3RpTd41Qz8>

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please read Section 2, part 2 at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-14p>

(1) Bob P. in NC. (2) Barbara H. in PA. (3) Bruce H. in NJ. 4) Barbara F. in PA. (5) Pat A. in PA. (6) Jeff Schumacher. (7) Ruth W. in PA. (8) Andy C. in NC. (9) John W. in NJ.

(10) Joe H. in NC. (11) Invite from the Zig Ziglar organization. (12) Kay C. in NJ. (13) Anita M. in PA.

Thanks to all the above for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

After being away on business, Tim thought it would be nice to bring his wife a little gift.

"How about some perfume?" he asked the cosmetics clerk. She showed him a bottle costing \$50.00. . . . "That's a bit much," said Tim, so she returned with a smaller bottle for \$30.00. "That's still quite a bit," Tim complained. . . . Growing annoyed, the clerk brought out a tiny \$15.00 bottle. "What I mean," said Tim, "is I'd like to see something really cheap." . . . The clerk handed him a mirror.



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4. Reviews

A. SNITCH is an action thriller about a father whose teenage son is wrongly accused of a drug distribution crime and is facing a minimum prison sentence of 10 years . . . only if the father, quite well played by Dwayne Johnson, can succeed as an undercover informant will the son be let free from jail . . . the first half was very suspenseful. . . things tailed off a bit toward the end, but overall, this film kept my attention . . . it was supposedly based on a true story that I found somewhat hard to believe . . .rated PG-13.

B. LIFE OF PI is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #843 follows:

LIFE OF PI, based on a bestselling book, is the tale of a young man who survives a disaster at sea--only to be thrust into an equally perilous journey with a Bengal tiger . . . I loved the beginning; thereafter, it felt a bit overlong (reminding me of the film CASTAWAY) . . . however, the visual effects were spectacular, and I'd recommend seeing the film if only for that reason. The acting--featuring many unknowns, including Suraj Sharma in his first role--was also excellent. Rated G, though I wouldn't recommend it for young children because of some violence involving the various animals.

Note: No animals were hurt making LIFE OF PI. For more information on this topic, read the following interview with director Ang Lee:

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/life/movies/2012/11/20/ang-lee-life-of-pi/1630425/>

In addition, I found it interesting to read that Tobey Maguire had a small role in the film, but was removed because of his fame:

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/life/movies/2012/11/20/life-of-pi-tobey-maguire/1696157/>

C. If you've ever wondered about hypnosis, you can now find out all you need to know about it--thanks to an excellent new book by Scott D. Lewis called THE HYPNOSIS TREATMENT OPTION (Copper Ridge Press).

Lewis, a licensed chiropractic physician, clinical hypnotherapist and author, has helped thousands of people quit smoking, lose weight and treat common problems through the use of hypnosis.

For the rest of this review, please click Section 4C at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-14p>

***** SPECIAL OFFER *****

If you smoke or know of somebody who smokes, I'm giving away copies of Allen Carr's EASY WAY TO STOP SMOKING . . . this is the absolute best book I've ever read on the subject . . . I've given away dozens of copies of the book over the years, and virtually everyone who has read it says it has helped them stop . . . I kid you NOT!

But just don't believe me; skim just some of 800-plus customer reviews at amazon.com to see for yourself:

http://www.amazon.com/Allen-Carrs-Easyway-Stop-Smoking/dp/0615482155/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1320456559&sr=1-%202

I'll be giving away books until I run out of them, which is unlikely . . . to obtain: just print your name on the outside of an envelope that's larger than 7 x 10 inches . . . put \$2.77 postage on the outside of the envelope and then mail the postpaid envelope (inside another envelop) to me at this address: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

My request: Only ask for the book for yourself or somebody else who is serious about quitting . . . and that there's a commitment to read the book within a month of receipt. (Naturally, please let me know about the success that follows as a result.)
D. Heard SALES DOGS (Hachette Audio), written and read by Blair Singer.

The author has written three bestselling books and is a Rich Dad advisor to Robert Kiyosaki. In this book, he helps you identify your personal "breed" and then shows you how to use it to play to your strengths.

For the rest of this review, please click Section 4D at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-14p>

E. In case you missed this last week . . .

***** CONTEST #30 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the book on CD, THE DAUGHTERS by Joanna Philbin--a book that seems perfect for daughters, granddaughters or those who like reading about young girls . . . according to BOOKLIST, "Philbin, the daughter of Regis, knows something about being a celebrity's daughter. But her father's not as famous as the parents of Carina (heir to a multimedia empire), Hudson (daughter of a Madonna-like mother), and Lizzie, who, like the daughter of Christie Brinkley and Billy Joel, has her father's looks (not so good for the ego). Philbin has an appealing writing style that gets readers into a New York state of mind. Along with the designer names and posh addresses, there's some introspection, too. Grades 7-10."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #30" in the subject line of an email and send it to: bjnbc@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 Sunday, March 24, 2013.

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5. TV alert

A. A nonfiction crime drama airs on DATELINE at 7 p.m. on Sunday. "Intersection" is the story of an unorthodox campaign that began in 2011 to wrest the town of North Charleston, SC, away from the hands of drug dealers.

B. What better way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day than to watch THE QUIET MAN on Sunday at 9:30 p.m. on TCM. The story is about a boxer who returns home to Ireland. Nell Minow in COMMON SENSE MEDIA describes it as an "old-fashioned charmer for the family."

C. TOP OF THE LAKE premieres Monday, March 18 at 9 p.m. and runs through April 15 on SUNDANCE CHANNEL . . . to quote Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, [this is a] "fascinating mystery miniseries" . . . and features "cowriter and codirector Jane Campion's brooding panorama of a rural community unhinged by the disappearance of a 12-year-old girl." It stars MAD MEN'S Elisabeth Moss the Holly Hunter.

D. BATES MOTEL is a prequel of sorts to Alfred Hitchcock's 1960 thriller, PSYCHO . . . Freddie Highmore, so good in FINDING NEVERLAND and then also in AUGUST RUSH (a not very good film), has one of the leading roles . . . but I'm more interested in the mother's part, played by Vera Farmiga who has become one of my favorite actresses . . . according to Nancy Dewolf Smith in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "Vulnerable and malign, Ms. Farmiga pretty much nails it--smiling sweetly as she is introduced to Norman's friend with cystic fibrosis and asking: "What is your life expectancy, Emma?" Mondays at 10 p.m. on A&E.

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6. Joke 2

Y'all should consider retiring to North Carolina where you: 1. Can rent a movie & buy bait in the same store. And then ask the clerk to scoop you out some ice cream with his other hand. (See picture below to help you find the entrance.) 2. Find that everybody has two first names: Billy Bob, Jimmy Bob, Mary Beth, etc. 3. Insult anybody, anywhere, anytime as long as you bless that person afterward. For example: Old lady, "That little girl has a face only a mother could love. Bless her little heart."



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7. Websites

A. A friend recently asked me how much money does she need for retirement . . . here's one useful calculator to compute the answer:

http://cgi.money.cnn.com/tools/retirementneed/retirementneed_plain.html

Another one with more detail can be found by clicking:

<http://cgi.money.cnn.com/tools/retirementplanner/retirementplanner.jsp>

Also, for more information on the topic, please read:

<http://www.wikihow.com/Calculate-How-Much-Money-You-Need-to-Retire>

B. Corinne G. in PA: Paper is not dead! For a good laugh, please click:

<http://vimeo.com/61275290>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

If you've never seen pictures of yours truly, as well as his family and friends, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Pictures" . . . make sure your sound is turned on; that way, you can also listen to what's arguably the greatest rock song of all time!

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



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8. Computer tip

Google images is sooooo cool!

You can go there directly by clicking this link:

<http://images.google.com/>

Or you can do a regular search on Google and then you'll see the images option at the top.

You can use the above to look yourself up and see what pictures are out there that you're on . . . this can best be done by typing your name in quotation marks; e.g., "Blaine Greenfield."

You can also use this to enhance a post in Facebook and/or your regular emails . . . that's what I often do for this newsletter, as can be seen by the joke in Section 3 . . . it's OK without the illustration, but when I added the picture, it was much funnier--at least in my

opinion. (I had searched images for "bait stores.")

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9. Joke 3

A father put his 3 -year-old daughter to bed, told her a story and listened to her prayers, which ended with: "God bless Mommy, God bless Daddy, God bless Grandma and goodbye Grandpa."

The father asked, "Why did you say goodbye Grandpa?"

The little girl said, "I don't know, Daddy, it just seemed like the thing to do."

The next day grandpa died. The father thought it was a strange coincidence.

A few months later the father put his daughter to bed and listened to her prayers, which went like this: "God bless Mommy, God Bless Daddy and goodbye Grandma."

The next day the grandmother died. "Holy cow," thought the father, "this kid is in contact with the other side.

Several weeks later when the girl was going to bed, her father heard her say: "God bless Mommy and goodbye to Daddy." He went into shock. He couldn't sleep all night and got up at the crack of dawn to go to his office. He was nervous as a cat all day, and watched the clock incessantly. He figured if he could get to midnight, he would be okay. He felt safe in the office, so instead of going home at the end of the day, he stayed there, drinking coffee, looking at his watch and jumping at every little sound.

Finally, midnight arrived, and he breathed a sigh of relief and went home. When he got there his wife said, "I've never seen you work so late, what's the matter?"

He said, "I really don't want to talk about it. I've just spent the worst day of my life."

She responded, "Well, you think you had a bad day? You won't believe what happened to me this morning. My golf pro dropped dead in the middle of my lesson."

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10. A quote I like



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11. Thought for the day

Just imagine if this actually happened! Kudos to Mike Adams, the creator of this cartoon. To read his thoughts on it, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/cvah6ha>.



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

To read about each of these other events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-14p>

(1) Hypnosis Training Certification Program. (2) The Zoodles at The Hop. (3) Jeff Thompson at Rootbar #1 (4) Chris Simmons, The Chuck Beattie Band, Big Gene & Danny Lee's Loud Pack Emerald Lounge. (5) Charley Castex is returning to Asheville. (6) Saute' nonprofit Restaurant Organizational Meeting.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-14p>

(1) Laugh for a Cause. (2) Actors NET of Bucks County. (3) BuxMont Coalition For Peace Action. (4) Dr. Helen Caldicott. (5) GYPSY.

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PS. If you like me and you celebrate ALL holidays (more food, fun and friends that way), then here's hope that you get to enjoy St. Patrick's Day on Sunday. And as you do, keep in mind the following . . .



Make it a great rest of the week, too!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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#858

3.4.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I

(1) Had a pleasant surprise when our neighbors (and friends) Ed and Donna called to tell us that they wouldn't be able to attend a concert sponsored by the Asheville Firefighters Association--and inquired if we would like their tickets. We said "sure" and went with our friend Tammy to the ExploreAsheville.com Arena.

(2) Special guest Hey Elsten was the opening act, and the group blew us away. It is the new incarnation of two-time, Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Elsten Torres and features him, along with a violinist and cellist. The outcome has to be heard to be believed.

Please see for yourself by clicking:

<http://vimeo.com/48668754>

Or:

<http://tinyurl.com/bcgl3o4>

And for Elsten's latest that has just been released:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=yPP6e_Zorzc

(3) More information about this amazing artist: Elsten has chosen BOOM to debut his new video "Closer Tonight", the first single from his new album "Waiting For Clouds". Let's SHARE this video from our beloved Miami artist so he can feel the love he deserves by presenting us a great musical - and audiovisual piece directed by multiple award winner director MILCHO. Spread the word and enter the wonderful world of "Closer Tonight", the female voice singing in the video is Guatemalan singer songwriter Gaby Moreno.

Elsten Torres, also known as Fulano, leader of the Latin rock band Fulano de Tal, who was part of the Miami movement of alternative music in the 90s. Elsten then devoted himself to writing songs for other artists, in English and Spanish, reaching reputation and prestige as an author. His songs have been recorded by Alejandra Guzmán, Luis Fonsi, Michael Stuart, Obie Bermudez, Julio Iglesias Jr. and more. In 2007 he was nominated for a Grammy Latino American Alternative Rock category with the album "Individual".

In recent years Elsten has released two albums in English, his native language, "If You Say So" 2008, and "Waiting for Clouds," 2012.

Born in Cuba, raised in New York, he is now living in Miami for nearly two decades.

For more information, please visit his website:

<http://www.elsten.info>

(4) Family Stone (think Sly & The Family Stone minus Sly) was the other group performing that night, and they were quite good too. Some of the songs they sang that evening can be found by clicking:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=PaZ_HtMJznl

(5) Pictures from the evening:



L-R: Blaine Greenfield, Elsten Torres, Tammy Strange holding Elsten's new CD and Cynthia Greenfield.



L-R: Milcho, who directed Elsten's latest video, and Elsten.



L-R: Ilene Logelin and Cynthia Greenfield, groovin' to the sounds of the Family Stone.



Some of the members of Family Stone on stage. In particular, we got a kick out of hearing them cry out "play that trumpet, Cynthia" and then listening to Cynthia Robinson (far left)-one of the original members of the group back when Sly was in it..

B. Saw the talented Allison Young (below) in a performance of THE HOUSE OF YES--a dark comedy done well by Theatre Obscura . . . kudos not only to Allison, but to rest of the talented cast that included Joseph Barcia, Courtney DeGennaro, Greta Trautmann and Sean David Robinson . . . Jeremy Brett Carter's direction was spot on.



Unfortunately, the above show concluded its limited run . . . but stay tuned for other shows from:

<http://theatreobscuraavl.com/>

Lastly, we had a fun time at 9 to 5: THE MUSICAL, presented by Tryon Little Theatre. This community theatre had plenty of enthusiastic performers, and it particularly showed in the several large group numbers. Chris Tinkler did a nice job with the direction, and we laughed whenever Paul Adams was on stage as Hart. Lori C. Lee as Doralee had both a nice voice and deft comedic touch.

This show has also concluded its limited run, but please click this link for more information about what's coming up next:

<http://tlinfo.org/>

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Norm Kent on the success of the paper he publishes, SOUTH FLORIDA GAY NEWS, and especially for this recent article that he wrote that shows how everyone we meet is a link in our life to an unknown path:

<http://www.southfloridagaynews.com/editorial/publishers-editorial/9333-from-the-publisher-our-lives-are-all-linked-on-the-same-pages-to-each-other.html>

(2) Jennie Giardine Smith on a great article about her first book, OPIUM DREAMS, that was in THE SLATE, Shippensburg University's student newspaper. To read it, please click:

<http://www.theslateonline.com/article/2013/03/shippensburg-alumna-jennie-giardine-writes-first-novel>

(3) Joe Aloisantonio on being named as the Biltmore Lake Community's full-time manager. He has done a tremendous job for us in a part-time capacity, and I'm looking forward to his being with us for many years.

(4) Janet Hart for completing her first marathon, which was also first Asheville Marathon at the Biltmore Estate.

(5) Chandler Smith (mentioned last week) who informed me that tickets are now available for his NYC show, PIGGY NATION, by clicking:

http://m.playbill.com/events/event_detail/25363-Piggy-Nation-The-Musical-at-Snapple-Theater-Center

(6) George Bruno on being named as Assistant Director for a new TV show to be called MICRONATION. To quote him, "It's meant to be not PC and be an equal opportunity offender."

George would also love your reaction to this brief clip from the show:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2FyDR-7P58>

Please send any feedback to: george.bruno@facebook.com.

(7) Chuck Fink and his wife on being profiled in the CITIZEN-TIMES:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/article/20130303/LIVING/303030026/In-retirement--the-Finks-are-busier-than-ever-before?source=nletter-news>

(8) Marcy Gallagher on great coverage for Kilwin's, her fantastic ice cream store, in Black Mountain (there's an Asheville location, too):

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013302020040>

That's her (below), helping Governor McCrory.



(9) Leonard E. in NC, winner of Contest #29: a copy of THE AGE OF TURBULENCE: ADVENTURES IN A NEW WORLD by Alan Greenspan . . . all told, there were 7 entries . . . and that reminds me, it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #30 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the book on CD, THE DAUGHTERS by Joanna Philbin--a book that seems perfect for daughters, granddaughters or those who like reading about young girls . . . according to BOOKLIST, "Philbin, the daughter of Regis, knows something about being a celebrity's daughter. But her father's not as famous as the parents of Carina (heir to a multimedia empire), Hudson (daughter of a Madonna-like mother), and Lizzie, who, like the daughter of Christie Brinkley and Billy Joel, has her father's looks (not so good for the ego). Philbin has an appealing writing style that gets readers into a New York state of mind. Along with the designer names and posh addresses, there's some introspection, too. Grades 7-10."

To enter: Put "CONTEST #30" 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 Sunday, March 24, 2013.

D. Condolences to Colleen Capriotti and family on the passing of Colleen's husband Harry--one of my longtime friends at Bucks County Community College. He was a good guy, and he will be missed by many.

The family requests memorial donations in his memory to St. Ann Church, 357 Dorrance St., Bristol, PA 19007. For more information about his life, please

click: http://www.galzeranofuneralhome.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=1997859&fh_id=11876

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

This week's winner is Carol Anders--a community volunteer/activist who I first had the pleasure of meeting several years ago when we both participated in Leadership Asheville Seniors.

Since then, I have been impressed with how she has immersed herself in so many different facets of Asheville life. She is a Board member for MAIN, the Mountain Area Information Network, and she also hosts a popular MAIN radio show: "Asheville and the Arts."

In addition, she is a Board member for the Western North Carolina Historical Association. As such, she is involved in offering educational programs for children and adults that focus on the region's past history. And she is a Board member for NC Stage, Asheville's only equity theatre.

Lastly, she manages to find the time to serve on the Outreach Committee of The Autumn Players--helping to bring plays and readings to Buncombe County schools.

What's so amazing about Carol is that she just doesn't sit on a board or committee. She jumps right in and takes a leadership role, thus helping to make a difference for us all.

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2. FYI

Patti A. in NJ: Banks are on my mind. Whenever a bank tells you that a change to your current status will benefit you, DO NOT believe them. Years ago, I had automatic paycheck deposit with First Fidelity. That gave me free checking. The bank has changed hands to First Union, and then Wachovia and then Wells Fargo. Each time, I was given a new opportunity to save money or get extra benefits but each time I ended up losing a privilege and gaining fees.

When I called customer service today about a \$30 fee, I was told that since I owe them less money (I am paying my mortgage every month and on time), I have to now pay a fee on a "premier" account that I didn't want in the first place. That makes a lot of sense doesn't it? I am being PUNISHED for paying my bills. Is anyone happy with their bank and, if so, tell me why because I am going to get rid of Wells Fargo as soon as possible.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Corinne G. in PA: Test on current events

<http://pewresearch.org/politicalquiz/quiz/index.php>

(2) Susan R. in NC: Random Karaoke Girl At The Mall

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VBbErzAYQw>

(3) Gary J. in NC: 15-Year-Old Bypasses The Awkward Teen Phase And Skips Straight To Genius

<http://www.upworthy.com/15-year-old-bypasses-the-awkward-teen-phase-and-skips-straight-to-genius?g=2&c=upw1>

(4) BJ L. in NC: Steely Dan - Do It Again

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=8uJqoIVC9hI

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please read Section 2, part 2 at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-143>

(1) Ruth in NY. (2) Ingrid S. in PA. (3) John D. in PA. (4) Peter R. in PA. (5) Mark J. in NC.

(6) Natalie K. in PA.

Thanks to all the above for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

My cousin's four-year-old grandson asked his mom why she couldn't drive him to day care. She said, "I have to breast-feed your little sister."

"Why can't grammy do it?" he asked. His mother explained that his grandmother didn't have any milk.

"Then what's she got in there?" he asked. "Juice or something?"

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4. Reviews

A. IDENTIFY THEFT involves a woman, Melissa McCarthy, who lives it up because of the fact that she has stolen Jason Bateman's identity . . . the opening half of the movie was funny, but then it fell apart in the second half after Bateman locates McCarthy and attempts to bring her back to Denver . . . the two main actors were good, and I liked their chemistry together . . . some of the others in the cast seemed to be overacting . . . rated R.

B. THE INTOUCHABLES is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #827 follows:

THE INTOUCHABLES is one of my favorite films of the year . . . it's the true story of the friendship between a handicapped millionaire and his ex-con caretaker . . . Francois Cluzet is excellent in the former role, but it is the work of Omar Sy in the latter role that has already made it to my list of all-time favorites . . . he's funny, brash and engaging and certainly an actor I want to see again . . . there's a great soundtrack, too . . . rated R, though methinks appropriate for mature children over the age of 12.

C. A friend recommended THE METABOLISM MIRACLE: 3 EASY STEPS TO REGAIN CONTROL OF YOUR WEIGHT . . . PERMANENTLY (Da Capo Press) by Diane Kress. She said it helped her gain control of her weight--despite many previous diet efforts.

That caught my attention. I was also impressed by the fact that the author is a registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator with more than thirty years experience specializing in weight reduction, metabolic syndrome, and type 2 diabetes, and that had also personally struggled through weight issues during her life.

To read the rest of this review, please click Section 4C at the following website:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-143>

D. Heard SO GOOD THEY CAN'T IGNORE YOU: WHY SKILLS TRUMP PASSION IN THE QUEST FOR WORK YOU LOVE (Hachette Audio), written by Cal Newport and narrated by Dave Mallow.

The author debunks the popular belief that you should "follow your passion" in seeking out your life's work. Rather, he contends that you first need to put in hard work to become excellent at something valuable--then you will grow to love what you do.

To read the rest of this review, please click Section 4D at the following website:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-143>

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5. TV alert

A. FREAKSHOW presents a weekly peek inside a Venice Beach sideshow, presenting such human oddities as fire-eater Asia Ray and tattooed pincushion Marcus . . . Thursdays at 9:30 p.m. on AMC.

B. Who is the greatest athlete of all time? For an analysis of the question, watch ESPN SPORT SCIENCE: GREATEST ATHLETES OF ALL TIME on Sunday at 3:30 p.m. on ESPN.

C. DALLAS cast members old and new gather to say goodbye to J.R. Ewing (the character played by the late Larry Hagman) on Monday, March 11 on TNT at 9 p.m. Look for many vets from the original run of the show to appear, as well as cameos from Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, Mavericks owner Mark Cuban and Mayor Mike Rawling.

D. One of my all-time favorite movies, RANDOM HARVEST, airs on TCM at 10:30 p.m. on Monday, March 11. According to critic John C. Pucio in MOVIE METROPOLIS, [This is] "a remarkable story of love and devotion, patience and endurance, an original and fascinating motion picture."

Note: If you'd like a complete listing of my other favorites, send an email to bginbc@aol.com and put FAVORITES in the subject line.

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6. Joke 2

I'd like to see this posted in all classrooms . . .



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7. Websites

A. Alyson M. in CO: Vat a way to staht the day. Hang in there to the very last second--you won't be sorry!

Dancing Nana

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PP9b_91PHi8



B. Freedom R. in NC: Find Your Puddle Today!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQUodFgCkC8>

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

To find out more about Asheville (especially if you're thinking of moving or visiting) click "Blaine's Best" to the left . . . on the first screen, you'll find a lot of good information about what's happening 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:

www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield

Like us on Facebook 

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8. Computer tip

Facebook Says Hackers Breached Its Computers
by Nicole Perloth and Nick Bilton in THE NEW YORK TIMES

February 15, 2013

Facebook admitted that it was breached by sophisticated hackers in recent weeks, two weeks after Twitter made a similar admission. Both Facebook and Twitter were breached through a well-publicized vulnerability in Oracle's Java software. . . .

The vulnerability was particularly disconcerting because it let attackers download a malicious program onto its victims' machines without any prompting. Users did not even have to click on a malicious link for their computers to be infected. The program simply downloaded itself. . . .

A common saying among security experts is that there are now only two types of American companies: Those that have been hacked and those that don't know they've been hacked.

For this entire article (and the interesting comments that follow), please click: <http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/02/15/facebook-admits-it-was-hacked/?partner=rss&emc=rss>

My two cents: Please remember the immortal words of Sergeant Phil Esterhaus from the TV show HILL STREET BLUES: "Hey, let's be careful out there."

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9. Joke 3

According to inside contacts, another Japanese banking crisis appears to be imminent.

Following last week's news that Origami Bank had folded, we are hearing that Sumo Bank has gone belly up and Bonsai Bank plans to cut back some of its branches. Karaoke Bank is up for sale and is (you guessed it!) going for a song.

Meanwhile, shares in Kamikaze Bank have nose-dived and 500 back-office staff at Karate Bank got the chop. Analysts report that there is something fishy going on at Sushi Bank and staff there fear they may get a raw deal.

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10. A quote I like

"One of the deep secrets of life is that all that is really worth the doing is what we do for others."--Lewis Carroll (1832-1898), English writer best known for ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND and its sequel, THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS

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11. Thought for the day

Wouldn't it be grand if we all treated each other like the way we treat dogs?



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

To read about each of these other events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-143>

(1) Asheville Vaudeville March Show. (2) Vocal blest, Asheville's community Show Choir.
(3) Memory Cafes in WNC. (4) Biltmore Lake Junior Tennis League.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-143>

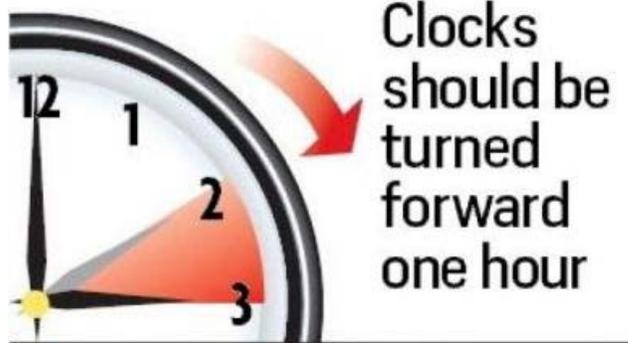
(1) Events, signings and readings for OPIUM DREAMS. (2) Plumstead Historical Society.

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PS. Make it a great week!

And don't forget that on Sunday, March 10 . . .

Daylight saving time starts at 2 a.m.



Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com

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BLAINES WORLD

#857

2.25.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Went with friends to see BARK! at Asheville Community Theatre . . . we had a fantastic time . . . the show is fun, as well, as tuneful . . . and the good news is that it's still running two more weeks . . . for more information, please click:

<http://www.ashevilletheatre.org/>



That's me in the middle, flanked by two of the show's stars: Daniel Hensley on my left and Carol Duermit on my right.

We loved the rest of the entire cast, too: Jeff Catanese, Jaqueline Canney, M.K. Penley and Garrett Funk . . . and Eric Mills is to be commended for his excellent job of directing.

(2) Afterward, we all went for an excellent dinner at Strada . . . the food's always good there, as is the service (that night coming from Joseph). For more information about this Italian eatery, please click:

<http://www.stradaasheville.com/>



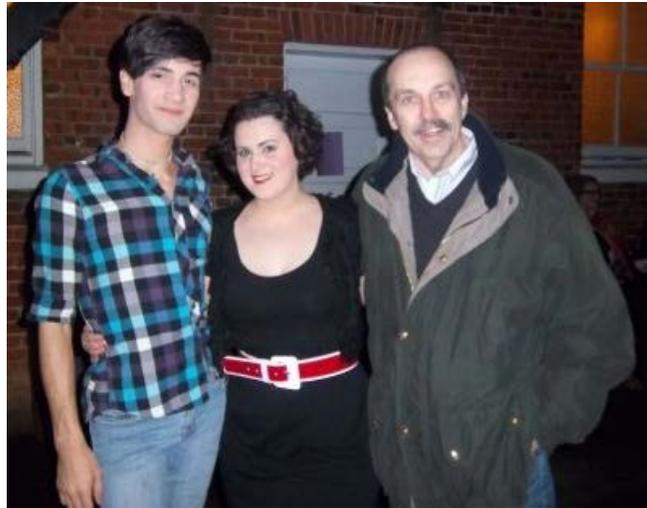
(L-R) Front row: Carole Biro, Brian Biro, Annemarie Brown and Marvin Sandovsky; Back row: Tom Gallagher, Marcy Gallagher, Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield, Melanie Brethauer and BJ Leiderman.

(3) Invite: For those who attended the recent "Hearts for SART" fundraiser, as well as those who weren't there but who want to see what they missed, please click: <http://www.4dncphoto.com/f825505046>

As you can see, the folks at 4th Dimension did a great job . . . by the way, if you order any prints, SART also will benefit as a result of the fact that company will be sharing the proceeds with us . . . so thanks in advance!

B. I also:

(1) Saw the Mars Hill College Theatre Arts production of COMEDY OF ERRORS, ably directed by Jessica Phelps West. All the student performers did a fine job. That's me with two of them, Tyler Winkler and Melanie Grace Morton.



(2) Attended a reading of BENEATH SHETON LAUREL, an engrossing play written by Sean O'Leary. I then stayed for a panel discussion of it. That's me with Sean on my left, along with Steve Turner (who participated in both the reading and discussion) on my right.



Kudos to Carol Anders who produced the very successful event for the WNC Historical Association.

(3) Went to the Unified Auditions with Bill Gregg, SART's artistic director, to see many talented performers--many of whom may well appear on the Owen Theatre stage this summer. I was blown away by the overall level of talent and, in particular, got a special kick out of seeing very fine performances from Luke Arrington, Athena Destiny, Eric Everett, Chuck Fink, Sam Marks, JJ McCarson, Jennifer O'Rear, Stephanie O'Rear and Josh Stein.

(4) And perhaps best of all, got through my second colonoscopy with flying colors. As was the case ten years ago with my first one ten years ago in Pennsylvania, the experience wasn't sooooo bad. I was impressed with the facility where I had it done this time, The Endoscopy Center, and my doctor--Dr. David T. May--seemed nice from what I remember about him. (It was good Cynthia was with me when after the procedure, in that I can't recall one word he said.) For more information about the Center, please click:
<http://ashevillegastro.com/>

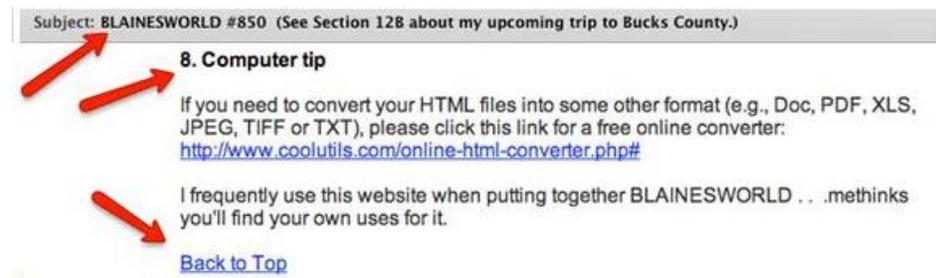
Note: I have intentionally not included the pictures that I received that day. Try not to be too disappointed. As my neighbor Ed wrote me the next day, "I'm sure they show you're the perfect a*shole!" However I will share this part of the results: "The polyp removed during your colonoscopy was a benign, inflammatory polyp. This type of polyp does not have a risk to become cancerous and is harmless." Dr. May also said I don't have to return for another one for another 10 years. Yay!

My two cents: Very few folks die from colonoscopies, but a lot more could be saved by having them. To read more on this important topic, please click:
http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/23/health/colonoscopy-prevents-cancer-deaths-study-finds.html?pagewanted=all&_r=1&
C. Congratulations to:

(1) BLAINESWORLD (shameless blowing of horn here) on being mentioned in a recent blog entry from the Email Critic) . . . see below:

Be educational/informational

Just because people subscribe to your emails, that doesn't mean they read every email in its entirety. They might look forward to a particular aspect of your emails. The weekly Blainesworldemail newsletter isn't fancy (and neither is its subject line), but it includes hyperlinks at the top so you can skip right to the areas that interest you. It also has hyperlinks to take you back to the top quickly. Want the weekly computer tip? One click, and you're there:



To read the whole piece, which I think you'll find very informative, please click:
http://emailcritic.com/2013/02/how-to-over-mail-and-have-your-email-subscribers-thank-you-for-it/?goback=%2Egde_1537747_member_217699426

Note: At the bottom of the above link, you can also find out how to "like" the author on Facebook. I recently did and have already received many valuable tips as a result.

(2) Majo John Madden on his new job at Family Preservation Services in its adult day program

(3) Chandler Smith on joining the cast of Piggy Nation: The Musical off-Broadway at the historic Jerry Orbach Theatre in the Snapple Theatre Complex. For more information, please click:
www.piggynationnyc.com

(4) Cara Cotellese on passing her oral comprehensive exam for her doctorate.

(5) Edie Weinstein on her new radio show, "It's All About Relationships" . . . live Thursdays at 8 p.m. at:
www.vividlife.me

Note: Edie also writes a great blog, "Blissful Happening" . . . to sign-up for that, please click:

<http://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin/ea?v=0014zwGqWUXHhyWK-8KEUKBfw%3D%3D>

D. Condolences to:

(1) Richard Shulman and family on the passing of Ricahrd's father.

(2) Terry Haraz Valin and family on the passing of Terry's cousin.

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

This week, it goes to Trip Huxley--the person who handles the updates on our SART (Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre) website.

As he describes himself, he is a "Swiss army designer" offering decades of experience. He services dozens of other clients with all aspects of their branding, print and web marketing. He has done and can do: website design and development, print design/production, photography and retouching, copywriting, and brand logo and development.

Trip encourages the economy of every project by keeping all stages of a project under one roof: from conceptual to press/launch. Clients include professionals: investors, therapists, consultants; the trades: marble & granite shapers, pour concrete specialists, commercial grading and foundations, pavers; artists: writers, photographers, painters and more. Samples of his websites can be found at:

<http://websitesofasheville.com/>

I've now had the pleasure of working with Trip Huxley for over two years. He has always been a source of many excellent ideas, and I've been particularly impressed with his quick turnaround whenever I need something done--like yesterday!

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2. FYI

Lucian S. in NC: Like all, I look at a ton of blogs and yesterday a friend sent me info about B.J. Fogg who works at Stanford and his free weekly opt-in program, "Tiny Habits."
<http://tinyhabits.com/>

I thought that what Fogg was suggesting, practicing 3 tiny changes daily for a week, was beyond inconsequential and would have no affect whatsoever on my hyper anxious under employed state. I trust my friend's judgement and was impressed by Fogg's presentation so I went ahead and wrote down my 3 tiny habits and sent them to Fogg for email accountability. And believe me, these habits are tiny. The weirdest thing happened after I sent them out, I felt a new calm which slowed down the fear and allowed other good things to come in. One of which was looking at the SCORE email and finding out about you.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Tom O. in NJ: "Eve" (from the Diary of Adam and Eve)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R560A5CbXiE>

Note: That's Tom in the above. He's fantastic!

(2) Arlene S. in PA: You probably haven't seen anything like this.
<http://www.youtube.com/embed/ul2kO4qTi80>

(3) Janet C. in NC: How it hurts to see animals suffering. But this one's got a happy ending.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnYRhanK3XA>

(4) Corinne G. in PA: A golf course like no other (you have to see even if you're not a golfer)
http://www.youtube.com/embed/RoY2ggyIYL4?feature=player_detailpage

(5) Marty S. in TX: The Amazing Story Of The \$300 Glasses That Correct Colorblindness
http://m.popsci.com/science/article/2013-02/amazing-story-300-glasses-can-cure-colorblindness?utm_medium=referral&utm_source=pulsenews

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please read Section 2, part 2 at:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-13x>

(1) Lisa Z. in PA. (2) Jim F. in PA. (3) Steve D. in CT. (4) Brad M. in NC. (5) Ingrid S. in PA. (6) Natalie K. in PA. (7) Roger C. in PA. (8) MaryEllen M. in NJ. (9) Vilasi V. in NJ. (10) Dave Allen Photography in NC. (11) Robin S. in PA.

Thanks to all the above for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

Pope resigns, scientist applies for job
by Dean Burnett

In the wake of all the scandals and controversies, the Catholic Church could do worse than having a scientist as pope. So here's an application from one.

To read the rest of this very funny piece, please click:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/brain-flapping/2013/feb/11/pope-resigns-scientist-applies-job>

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4. Reviews

A. SAFE HAVEN is a romantic thriller based on the novel from Nicholas Sparks with the same title . . . it's about a mysterious young woman who arrives in a small North Carolina town . . . slowly, she begins to find a new life there and starts a relationship with a widowed store owner with two young children . . . the story kept my interest until the ending, which I found both dishonest and disappointing . . . Josh Duhamel, always interesting in whatever film he's in, was fine here . . . Julianne Hough was OK as his romantic interest, but was too young for the role . . . it would have been much better had it been played by an actress about 10 years older . . . rated PG-13.

B. THE SESSIONS is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #842 follows: .

THE SESSIONS is a grown-up drama about sex that's funny, in parts, as well as poignant in others . . . it's based on the autobiographical writings of journalist and poet Mark O'Brien, confined to an iron lung, who decides to lose his virginity at age 38. John Hawkes is sensational as O'Brien, and he is backed by equally strong performances from Helen Hunt as a sexual surrogate and William H. Macy as a friendly priest. Rated R.

Note: Space limitations preclude me from including any reviews of books or books on CD this week . . . look for them to resume next week . . . but in the interim, don't forget that there is still time to enter . . .

***** CONTEST #29 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the book, THE AGE OF TURBULENCE: ADVENTURES IN A NEW WORLD by Alan Greenspan . . . quoting the Amazon.com review:

Dr. Greenspan embarks on a magnificent tour de horizon of the global economy. He reveals the universals of economic growth, delves into the specific facts on the ground in each of the major countries and regions of the world, and explains what the trend-lines of globalization are.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #29" 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 Sunday, March 3, 2013.

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5. TV alert

A. BLACKBOARD WARS is a six-part documentary set in a New Orleans high school were, a mayor once said, students are more likely to die than a soldier in Afghanistan. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL calls it "gripping." Saturdays at 9 p.m. on OWN.

B. SHIFT HAPPENS! LIVE AN INSPRIED LIFE WITH DR. ROBERT HOLDEN.

Best-selling author Dr. Robert Holden shares essential principles and practices at the heart

of his work on happiness, success and loveability. Key themes include: living an authentic life, miracle of self-acceptance; following your joy; forgiveness gives you wings; and live now, procrastinate later. . . . Sunday at 3:30 am on PBS.

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

C. BEYONCE: LIFE IS BUT A DREAM. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, "The documentary may seem like just another publicity way station, but it is as telling about the current temperature of pop music as 'Madonna: Truth or Dare' was about the late 1980s and early 90s. Madonna perfected the art of brazen exhibitionism and arch defiance, turning her cheeky monomania into a manifesto of female empowerment. Beyoncé's self-portrait is also a declaration of independence, but sung in a more pleasing, feminine key, answering the critics rather than scorning them." Saturday at 9 p.m. on HBO. Sunday at 12 noon.

D. KIM NOVAK: LIVE FROM THE TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL features Robert Osborne interviewing the reclusive beauty. Then stay tuned for four of her best films: BELL, BOOK AND CANDLE; PICNIC; THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN ARM; and OF HUMAN BONDAGE. Monday at 8 p.m. on TCM.

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6. Joke 2

Did you hear about the carpenter who won the singing contest? He nailed it!



Thanks Danny Brice in NC for writing this joke that I thought was funny--even if nobody else does.

Thanks, also, to John W. in PA for this reaction to it that he wrote on my Facebook Wall: <<groan>>> Is this on the LEVEL? I guess when the contest was announced, he SAW his opportunity, knew he could CUT it, and just kept HAMMERING away at it until he knew he would not SCREW up the audition. That just shows the success you can BUILD if you are willing to DRILL.

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7. Websites

A. Kelly C. in NC: This will certainly brighten your morning (and, if you are like me, make you tear up just a little . . .). I hope I am raising a little man who would do this same thing.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTaB-hPg0P4>

B. Carol D. in NC: Perhaps One Of The Best Anti-Smoking Ads Ever Created.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CO0qwI5k9R4>

***** SPECIAL OFFER *****

If you smoke or know of somebody who smokes, I'm giving away copies of Allen Carr's EASY WAY TO STOP SMOKING . . . this is the absolute best book I've ever read on the subject . . . I've given away dozens of copies of the book over the years, and virtually everyone who has read it says it has helped them stop . . . I kid you NOT!

But just don't believe me; skim just some of 800-plus customer reviews at amazon.com to see for yourself:

http://www.amazon.com/Allen-Carrs-Easyway-Stop-Smoking/dp/0615482155/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1320456559&sr=1-%202

I'll be giving away books until I run out of them, which is unlikely . . . to obtain: just print your name on the outside of an envelope that's larger than 7 x 10 inches . . . put \$2.77 postage on the outside of the envelope and then mail the postpaid envelope (inside another envelop) to me at this address: Blaine Greenfield, 19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way, Biltmore Lake, NC 28715.

My request: Only ask for the book for yourself or somebody else who is serious about quitting . . . and that there's a commitment to read the book within a month of receipt. (Naturally, please let me know about the success that follows as a result.)

C. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click: <http://blaineworld.net/>.

To see some of my favorite places on the Internet, click "Blaine's Best" on the left and then "Websites."

This list changes continually, so do check back every so often.

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:

<http://facebook.com/blainegreenfield>

Like us on Facebook 

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8. Computer tip

I recently came across a file that ended with the following extension: .png . . . it could not open up for me, nor could I save it to run in BLAINESWORLD . . . so I did an Internet search for free online converters and came across this very useful one that was also very easy to use:

<http://www.coolutils.com/online/image-converter/>

As you can see by the illustration used in Section 1C, this solved my problem!

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9. Joke 3

Depresso: The feeling you get when you've run out of coffee.



Thanks Steve A. in NC for these two additional definitions that he wrote on my Facebook Wall:

Inoculatte : To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

Decafalon (n.): The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.

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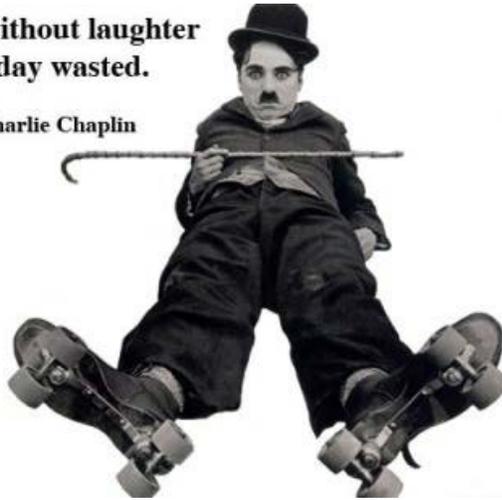
10. A quote I like

Chaplin had it right. To make sure that doesn't happen to you, click to see him in action as Nat King Cole's beautiful rendition of "Smile" (a song that Chaplin wrote) plays in the background:

<http://tinyurl.com/5pub3l>.

**A day without laughter
is a day wasted.**

- Charlie Chaplin



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11. Thought for the day

Great idea here that also applies to cats . . .

PS. Make it a great week!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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#856
2.18.2013

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- 12. Advance planning department**

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I had a fantastic time at the first "Hearts for SART" fundraiser to benefit SART--the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre. It was a huge success.

Everything was perfect, starting with the food prepared by Celine and Company Catering. We also held the event at Celine's beautiful facility at 49 Broadway, Asheville. For more information about this company, please click:
<http://celineandcompany.com/>.

The Silent Auction was a lot of fun. Kudos to the many merchants who graciously donated items, as well as to the entire team of volunteers who worked so hard putting it together: Janet Hart (chair) Gayle Wurthner, Lori Lynn Mullett, Theresa Phillips, Louisa Menick, Patty Higgins, Bill Gregg, Jennifer Ammons, Andy Sorenson and Carole Currie. And special thanks to Walt Currie, auctioneer for the evening, for the outstanding job that he did.

Highlighting the evening was music provided by the wildly entertaining BJ Leiderman. He wowed the nearly 110 folks in attendance with his rendition of the many NPR tunes that he has composed, along with his performance of many classic songs performed by the Beatles and other popular groups from that era. For more information about BJ, please click:
http://www.bjleiderman.com/BJ_Leiderman_Music/Welcome.html.

Some pictures from the event follow. Top to bottom: (1) Cynthia and Blaine Greenfield. (2) Liz Aiello, an equally entertaining performer, singing along with BJ Leiderman. (3) Janet Hart helping BJ Leiderman select a winner for the raffle. (4) SART friends and family joined by BJ Leiderman in front.





Note: Please HOLD Friday, Feb. 14, 2014. That's the date for the second "Hearts for SART" event. You won't want to miss it!

B. We also:

(1) Got to see a tuneful production of I DO! I DO! at the Haywood Arts Regional Theatre. This show has long been one of my musicals, and the good news is that you can still see it through Feb. 24. For more information, please click:
<http://www.harttheater.com/>

That's us with the two stars, Clara Ray Burrus and Dominic M. Aquilino. Kristen Dominquez did a great job on piano and Kristen Donelle Livengood's direction was spot-on.



(2) On another night, I was joined by my friend Tom Gallagher for dinner at the The Beir Garden. The food's always good there, as is the service. For this particular meal, we tried the Japanese Kobe Beef burgers. I got a kick out of Tom's question: "Were they more money because the cows got massaged?" I'm not sure that he ever received an answer, nor was there any real difference between what we got and the regular burger that I'll probably go back to ordering the next time I'm there. For more information about this eatery, please click:

<http://www.ashevillebiergarden.com/>

From there, we went to NC Stage to see Annette Griffin's successful art show opening. It runs through March. That's me with Annette and Keith Campbell (who hosted the gathering afterward).



We then stayed for a production of THE UNDERSTUDY, starring talented actors Matt Lutz, Neela Munoz and Scott Treadway. Charlie Flynn-McIver's is also to be commended for his excellent directing job. This funny, thought-provoking play runs through March 10. For more information, please click:

<http://www.ncstage.org/>

(3) And my event-filled week concluded with my completing a course at The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNC Asheville: Sports History Stories from a Master Documentary Maker (Ross Greenburg). Over the past six weeks, we saw and discussed the following films: Brooklyn Dodgers: The Ghosts of Flatbush, Magic & Bird, Billie Jean King: Portrait of a Pioneer, Do You Believe in Miracles: The Story of the 1980 U.S. Hockey Team, Breaking the Huddle: The Integration of College Football and UCLA Dynasty.

I don't know about you, but this is the way I like to learn . . . study something of interest without having to write papers or take exams. Larry Griswold taught the above and did his usual great job. I've now taken three different courses from him, and I'm already looking forward to the next time that he'll be teaching. To find out more about him, please click this informative article about him written by Carol Gillen:

http://olliasheville.com/sites/olliasheville.com/files/Profile/Larry_Griswold_Profile.pdf

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Clay MacCormac on his engagement to Helen Cady.

(2) Mike Andrus for having his company, Safe Day Security, been chosen again to provide security for the Washington's Crossing Brewfest on Saturday, May 11, 2013 for the third consecutive year. For more information about Mike's company, please click:

<http://www.ustaysafe.com/>

(3) Diane Jennings Knaps and family on the birth of Diane's grandson, Charlie Judge Dubois.

(4) Tom Heck for taking first place at Ignite 2013 (an Asheville competition) for his presentation, "Adventures of a Geek Dad."

(5) Asheville for again receiving national press . . . specifically, see "5 Things To Love About Asheville, North Carolina" by clicking:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/homeaway/5-things-asheville-nc_b_2639118.html

D. Condolences to Rich Farber and family on passing of his Rich's wife Betsy, a longtime friend and teaching colleague of mine at Bucks County Community College. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the American Cancer Society or a charity of choice . For more information, please click:

<http://obits.nj.com/obituaries/trenton/obituary.aspx?pid=163208026#fbLoggedOut>

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

This week, it goes to Mark Sfirri, who has taught fine woodworking at Bucks County Community College for more than 30 years.

He was recently named by the Collectors of Wood Art as its 2012 CWA Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

Previously, Sfirri had been named by the CWA as a James Renwick Alliance Distinguished Educator in 2010.

In addition to his two national awards, Sfirri has received two major grants, each over \$100,000, in support of the Fine Woodworking program at Bucks.

For more information on this outstanding educator, please click:

http://www.buckslocalnews.com/articles/2012/12/07/bucks_news/doc50bf81f1c2172628804876.txt?viewmode=fullstory

And to top things off, he was named as one of the top local entertainers of 2012 . . . for more information on this last accolade, please click:

http://www.phillyburbs.com/entertainment/local_entertainment/music/top-local-entertainers-of/article_e9deba1c-5c61-5d0c-8fea-5f9c296eac0c.html

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2. FYI

There's a scam going around in North Carolina that I am sure is national, too . . . it begins with a recorded message, indicating that a company is offering a free home security system in exchange for the placement of a small sign in the resident's yard . . . you can tell it is a ripoff by these two facts: 1. Companies are not in the business of giving away stuff for free; and 2. The implication that a local police company endorses it. (That won't ever happen!)

One other warning: If you haven't already hung up, you'll be given the option to stay on the line to speak to a representative or to press 9 to be removed from a call list. Do NOT press 9. All that does is confirm to the scammer that you have a valid telephone number, thus insuring more calls in the future.

Source: Based on material in the article, "Police warn of security scam" in the CITIZEN-TIMES. To read the whole thing, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013302180011>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

1) Pat A. in PA: If you saw my Christmas video a few weeks back, you'll recognize my Man of the Globe. You can watch the new one at my new website. I'm still adding things to it, but the video is there. There's fun music with it too.

<http://achillesportfolio.wordpress.com/video/>

(2) Tom O. in NJ: Master of the House (featuring Joe and Cheryl Doyle)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=qnGhZd48tRQ#at=115

(3) Caren F. in PA: Have you seen this hilarious link on conceptual art?

<http://hyperallergic.com/65445/hilarious-portlandia-episode-shows-the-dangers-of-conceptual-art/>

(4) Irene R. in NC: Cat in the news

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2282335/Whisker-away-death-Moment-courageous-cat-battles-zoo-crocodile-WINS.html>

(5) Sam M. in NC: Disney Medley (UMass Amherst Doo Wop Shop A Cappella group)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=IOoMztym1LU

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please read Section 2, part 2 at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-12G>

(1) Monica F. in PA. (2) Bill Y. in PA. (3) Natalie K. in PA. (4) Linda J. in PA. (5) Bob H. in FL. (6) Jennie G. in NJ. (7) Tom H. in NC. (8) Margie Z. in NC. (9) Terry C. in FL. (10) Marty S. in PA. (11) Mary Beth in PA. (12) Annemarie B. in NC. (13) Rock E. in NC. (14) Theresa P. in NC. (15) Les F. in NJ. (16) MAGNETIC THEATRE TO LEAVE GLEN ROCK DEPOT, SEEKS NEW HOME.

Thanks to all the above for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

I knew I was going bald because it was taking longer and longer to wash my face.--Harry Hill (born 1964), English comedian, author and television personality

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4. Reviews

A. SIDE EFFECTS is an intriguing thriller about a successful New York couple whose world unravels when a new drug prescribed by the woman's psychiatrist--intended to treat anxiety--has unexpected side effects. There are many twists and turns that left me guessing until the very end. Jude Law is quite good in this film, but it was the work of Rooney Mara as his patient that blew me away. I had only seen her briefly in THE SOCIAL NETWORK; however, I'll now be looking forward to whatever she is in next. Rated R.

B. ARGO is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #839 follows:

ARGO, based on true events, tells the story of a covert operation to rescue six Americans from Iran in 1979 . . . they all posed as part of a production crew, making a science fiction film . . . Ben Affleck, who also directed, is outstanding in the lead role . . . Alan Arkin and John Goodman added some surprising comic relief to an otherwise taut drama . . . and the first 15 minutes were about as exciting as anything I've ever seen . . . rated R, though I think it would be both appropriate and interesting for any mature teenager.

C. A MEDIATION PRIMER (PublishAmerica) by Anthony A. Tocci is a good book for those not familiar with the subject.

For the entire review, please read Section 7C at:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-12G>.

D. Heard Michael Connelly's THE BLACK BOX (Hachette Audio), read by Michael McConnohie.

This is another in the Harry Bosh series of novels, and that's not a bad thing. Unlike many authors who crank out book after book about a particular character, I haven't gotten tired of Bosh--at least not yet.

In this one, the detective returns to the LAPD after a brief retirement and becomes involved in a case that's nearly 20 years old when a gun that had been involved in the original murder turns up at the scene of another crime.

Bosh never lets up. Neither did I when reading this book. It felt as if I was almost part of Bosh's investigation. I felt for him when his supervisor kept getting on his back. And I was touched by how Connelly depicts the father-daughter relationship that was also a key part to this story.

Methinks this book would be a natural for a movie. As a result of listening to it, I got to wondering why the Bosh character has never appeared on screen. There apparently have been some legal wranglings preventing this from happening, but Connelly is now working on a plan to make these books a TV series.

***** CONTEST #29 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the book, THE AGE OF TURBULENCE: ADVENTURES IN A NEW WORLD by Alan Greenspan . . . quoting the Amazon.com review:

Dr. Greenspan embarks on a magnificent tour de horizon of the global economy. He reveals the universals of economic growth, delves into the specific facts on the ground in each of the major countries and regions of the world, and explains what the trend-lines of globalization are.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #29" 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 Sunday, March 3, 2013.

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5. TV alert

A. GOLDEN BOY begins Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 10 p.m. on CBS. It "looks at first sight, like one of those happy novelties that sometimes comes along in television--in this case, a police series, created by Nicholas Wooten, whose tone and characters aren't instantly predictable," notes Dorothy Rabinowitz in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

B. THE 85TH ACADEMY AWARDS begins on Sunday at 7 p.m. on ABC, followed by the

ceremony at 8:30 . . . I'll be curious how Seth MacFarlane does as host and whether Robert DeNiro captures Best Supporting Actor for his work in SILVER LININGS . . . in addition, I'm rooting for either that film or ARGO to take the Best Picture Oscar . . . for an inside look at the front-runners and back stories, please click this article:

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/22/movies/awardsseason/the-carpetbaggers-2013-oscar-predictions.html?nl=movies&emc=edit_fm_20130222

Note: See also Section 7B.

C. SWITCHED AT BIRTH on Mon., March 4 on ABC Family at 8 p.m. unfolds almost entirely in American Sign Language . . . according to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, "Until hearing people walk a day in our shoes, they will never understand," signs a sympathetic counselor (Marlee Matlin). This stirring episode is an important milestone in bridging that gap.

D. Brian B. in NC shared this email from his mother: "Your grandfather [Ben Harrison Orkow] with his collaborator, Byron Morgan, wrote WINGS FOR THE EAGLE when under contract to Warner Brothers in 1942. It is about the time when the government wanted people to do the jobs that supported the war effort. Ann Sheridan, Jack Carson star." Wed., March 6 on TCM at 10:30 a.m.

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6. Joke 2

Nine months pregnant with twins, I bellied up to the supermarket meat bin in search of the perfect roast. The butcher appeared from the back and asked, "May I help you?"

"No, thank you," I said. "I'm just looking."

A minute later, he returned. "Can I help you?"

"No, I'm just looking," I repeated.

A few minutes later, he appeared yet again, asking the same annoying question.

"I'm just looking!" I said testily.

"In that case, ma'am," he said politely, "would you please step back a bit? Your stomach is pressing our service bell."

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7. Websites

A. Tom H. in NC: Steve Martin is a fine banjo player. This is a beautiful tune.

My two cents: This is a terrific new song. Click link to listen to "When You Get to Asheville" that features Martin on and singer Edie Brickell:

<http://tinyurl.com/bhrd5b7>

It's the first song in an album to be released in April . . . for more information, click:

<http://tinyurl.com/atqpooh>



B. This South Korean blockbuster is a parody of the movie musical LES MISERABLES, featuring members of the air force. After just five days on YouTube, the video had been viewed almost three million times. (It probably did not hurt that one of the stars of the Hollywood movie, Russell Crowe, reposted a tweet with a link to the video.)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=IZunEARBb6I

THE NEW YORK TIMES even wrote an article about it:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/11/world/asia/les-militaribles-south-korean-video-spoof-goes-viral.html?partner=rss&emc=rss>

I also enjoyed this parody of Anne Hathaway, in which Emma Fitzpatrick begs the Academy for an Oscar.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4yxsRRnvkE&feature=player_embedded

To read more about the above, please click:

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatches/globalpost-blogs/hollyworld/anne-hathaway-parody-les-miserables-emma-fitzpatrick>

Note: See also Section 5B.

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

<http://www.blaineworld.net/>

Ever wonder how many others visit this website? Kindly click the above, then check the counter in the bottom left corner of the home page.

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:

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield>



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8. Computer tip

Staying Private on the New Facebook

by Somini Sengupta in THE NEW YORK TIMES (2.6.13)

Facebook is a personal vault that can contain photos of your firstborn, plans to bring down your government and, occasionally, a record of your indiscretions.

It can be scoured by police officers, partners and would-be employers. It can be mined by marketers to show tailored advertisements.

For the rest of this enlightening article, please click:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/07/technology/personaltech/protecting-your-privacy-on-the-new-facebook.html?src=me&ref=general>

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9. Joke 3

During a game of Scrabble, my aunt decided to pass. "I simply can't move my vowels," she complained.

My uncle replied, "Does that mean you're consonated?"

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10. A quote I like

It's good to grow old because it means I didn't die young.--Zuzu Welsh (born 1959), musician and humanitarian

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11. Thought for the day

What it means to dance like nobody is watching you . . .



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

1) I'll be presenting a Marketing seminar for Asheville SCORE on Saturday, March 2 from 9 a.m.-12 noon. I'd love to have you join me. For more information or to register, please click:

<http://ashevillescore.org/score-seminars/score-seminars-survival-marketing/>

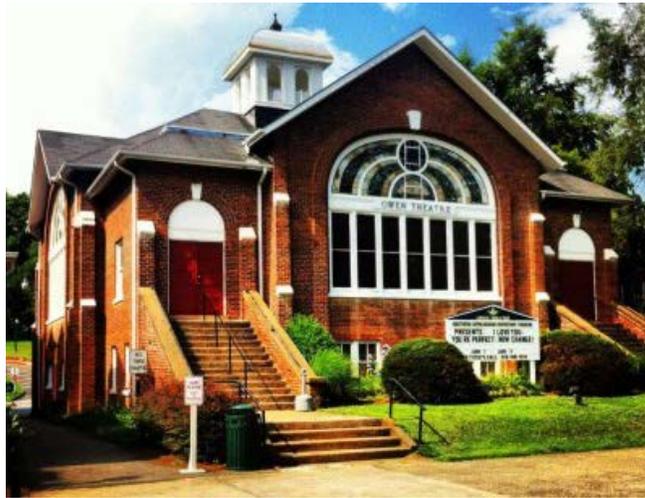
Note: Just for coming, one lucky attendee will have the chance to win \$500. Also, all those present will learn the difference between a right- and left-handed pencil!



(2) Plan now to return to historic Owen Theatre . . . if you act quickly, take advantage of the fact that the Early Bird season deadline has been EXTENDED until February 28 . . . click the following link, and though you'll see a different date on the form, get it to us before the 28th to still save money by taking advantage of the Early Bird rates:

<http://www.sartplays.org/early.htm>

To see a list of the 2013 plays, please click: <http://www.sartplays.org/2013.htm>



To read about each of the following events in full, please read Section 12A at:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-12G>.

(3) Asheville Talent Slam. (4) Beneath Shelton Laurel. (5) Leadership Asheville presents Board-Ready. (6) Asheville Jewish Business Forum. (7) The Zoodles at Straightaway Cafe. (8) Kristen Dominguez and Mark Jones in concert.

B. PA/NJ events

To read about each of the following events in full, please read Section 12B at:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-12G>.

(1) Comedy in Bucks County and South Jersey. (2) AyurYoga Wellness Detox Boot Camp. (3) Two Side of Love at the Villagers Theater. (4) Soul Shamanism 3/2&3 NJ. (5) MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS at Actors' Net.

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PS. Happy President's Day . . . and to get you in the mood, I thought you'd like to hear this "President Day's Song" from Jimmy Fallon:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N7GZUjxu3BE>

Make it a great rest of the week, too!

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bginbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#855

2.11.2013

In this issue

1. Reflections
2. Joke 1
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4. Joke 3
5. A quote I like
6. Thought for the day
7. Advance planning department

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride and I, were apart for much of the week; hence, this split account of some of our activities. In addition, space all the pictures made it necessary for me to eliminate some regular BLAINESWORLD sections. (All will resume in next week's issue.)

(1) Cynthia went up North to visit friends and relatives in New Jersey, and I stayed home to have a bone graft done in preparation for an eventual implant . . . kudos to Dr. William Claiborne, as well as to Cheryl and the rest of his staff, for their fine work so far in getting me through the process . . . if you'd like to find out more about his practice, please click: <http://www.biltmoreperiodontics.com/about-us/>

Note: Do you remember Terry Thomas, the British comedian? He had a big gap in the front of his mouth. I mention that because you may have noticed that I also have a gap--but it's not quite as noticeable. You can notice it in the bottom left portion of my mouth. It will be there for at least several more months. In addition, look closely at some of the pictures of me that follow, and you'll see some bruising in that same direction that has since gone away.

(2) We did manage to get away with our friends Marcy and Tom Gallagher for a quiet dinner at Strada--a restaurant that's fast becoming one of our favorites in Asheville. The food is always excellent, as is the service. For more information about this eatery, please click: <http://www.stradaasheville.com/>



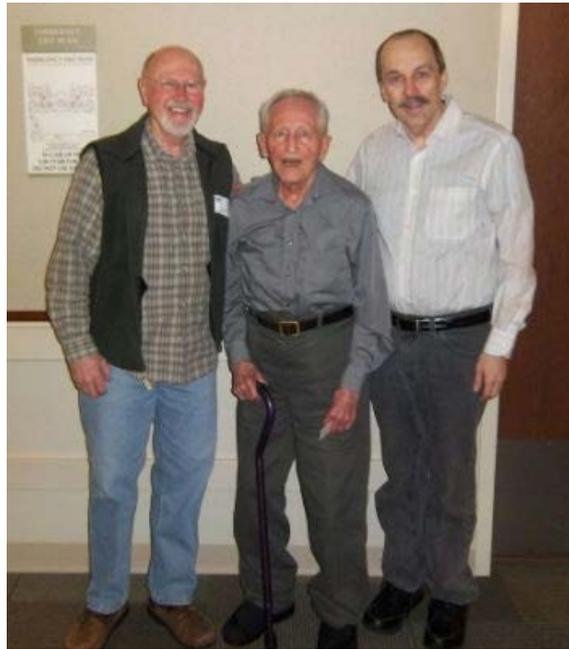
(3) Also, on another day, we managed to find time to see QUARTET . . . it's a sweet comedy about a home for retired musicians that's about to add a new resident . . . when the new arrival turns out to be a woman who had been a star, all attempts are made to get her to sing in a gala concert . . . you can pretty much predict the ending, but don't let that stop you from enjoying the film . . . the accompanying soundtrack is a winner, too . . . the entire cast was outstanding, but I got a special kick every time Billy Connolly was on screen . . . he stole most every scene with his wisecracks . . . make sure you stay for the credits for an added surprise that I don't want to give away now . . . rated PG-13.

B. That's Cynthia in the top photo, helping remove the snow that was in New Jersey when she was there . . . below it, she is at the Spanish Tavern in Newark--playing the game "Where's Blaine?" . . . if you can find me, I'll really be impressed, in that I was in Asheville

at the time . . . also in the picture are several of her cousins, her nephew, her sister, etc.



Though I was pining away while awaiting Cynthia's return, I did manage to spend time with SCORE friends Don Sinclair and Dusty Rhodes (center) at the new NC State Veterans Home in Black Mountain where Dusty now lives. We had a delightful visit.



Lastly , I saw an excellent production of NEIGHBORS--produced by the Different Strokes! Performing Arts Collective at ACT/35below . . . this comedy/drama had me both laughing and thinking about the plot, which involved a liberal white couple who are trying to decide whether to sell their home to an affluent black couple in 1968.

Pictured: yours truly with the four performers in the show (top) Rodney Smith and Cyd Smith; (bottom) Dan Clancy and Anna Fearheiley, all of whom were excellent. And I would be remiss if I failed to mention Steph Hickling Beckman, director, who did a superb job of bringing everything together.





Note: NEIGHBORS runs through February 24 . . . to purchase tickets, please click:
<http://dspac-neighbors.eventbrite.com/?ref=elink>

C. For some more pictures, if you'd like to see a bunch taken when I recently hosted a gathering of friends and former students at the Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown, PA, please click:

[http://share.shutterfly.com/share/received/welcome.sfly?
fid=7488e1c69e3296ee&sid=0Ect2bFoyatnMg](http://share.shutterfly.com/share/received/welcome.sfly?fid=7488e1c69e3296ee&sid=0Ect2bFoyatnMg)

You don't have to register. Just click View album at bottom right. Then at the next screen, click Play slideshow.

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Lorre Diamond for the fantastic article that appeared about her singing-telegram business:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013302110008>

(2) Jo M. in NC, winner of Contest #28: a CD copy of THE BROOM OF THE SYSTEM by David Foster Wallace . . . all told, there were 9 entries . . . and that reminds me, it is now time to introduce:

***** CONTEST #29 *****

One lucky reader will win a copy of the book, THE AGE OF TURBULENCE: ADVENTURES IN A NEW WORLD by Alan Greenspan . . . quoting the Amazon.com review:

Dr. Greenspan embarks on a magnificent tour de horizon of the global economy. He reveals the universals of economic growth, delves into the specific facts on the ground in each of the major countries and regions of the world, and explains what the trend-lines of globalization are.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #29" 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 Sunday, March 3, 2013.

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2. Joke 1

A man speaks frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant, and her contractions are only two minutes apart!"

"Is this her first child?" the doctor asks.

"No, you idiot!" the man shouts. "This is her husband!"



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3. Joke 2

Instead of calling it the John, I call my bathroom the Jim. That way I can say I go to the Jim every morning.



Note: Loved this comment from Jim R. in PA after I posted the above on Facebook: "If my last name was Nasium, I'd be Jim Nasium."

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4. Joke 3

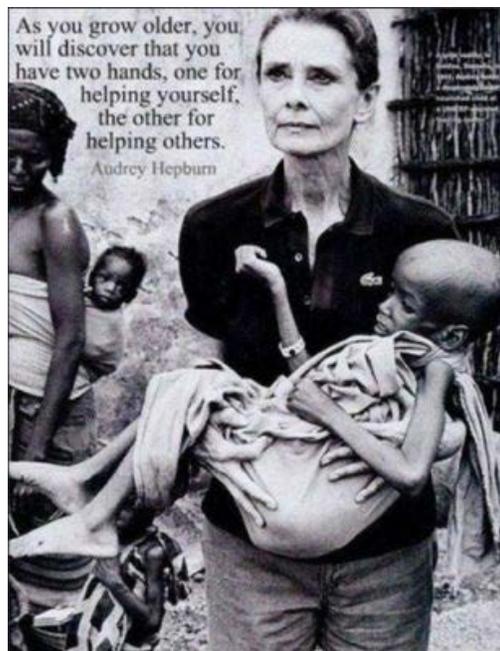
I ordered a new GPS unit, but it got lost in the mail.



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5. A quote I like

Hepburn appeared in fewer films as she got older--instead devoting much of her later life to working on behalf of children in need.



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6. Thought for the day

This is how I feel about Cynthia. I'm so blessed to have had her come into my life. And lest I forget, it also applies to you if you're reading this now!



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7. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) "Hearts for SART," the fundraiser for the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre, takes place this coming Thursday, Feb. 14. Do celebrate Valentine's Day by joining us. For more information, please click:

<http://sartplays.org>

(2) I'll be presenting a Marketing seminar for Asheville SCORE on Saturday, March 2 from 9 a.m.-12 noon. I'd love to have you join me. For more information or to register, please click:

<http://ashevillescore.org/score-seminars/score-seminars-survival-marketing/>

Note: Just for coming, one lucky attendee will have a chance to win \$500. And all those in attendance, will learn the difference between a left-and right-handed pencil.

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-12l>

(3) Free Seminar on what to do about your pet is something happens to you. (4) Eve & Mare Children's Rock Show. (5) Tasha's Early Evening Spotlight Night with Patrick Boland on piano. (6) Opera Creations presents "The Mikado. " (7) The next Ignite Asheville will be the evening of February 19, 2013. (8) THE UNDERSTUDY at NC Stage. (9) BARK THE MUSICAL @ ACT. (10) Asheville Women's Roundtable Event Presented by Asheville SCORE.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-12l>

(1) PLUMSTEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY. (2) Bucks County Illustrators Society.

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PS. Make it a great week!

And Happy Valentine's Day to y'all. Also, don't forget: Love is what makes two people sit in the middle of a bench even if there is plenty of room at both ends. (Pictured: Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman in NOTORIOUS, a serious love story/thriller directed by Alfred Hitchcock.)



[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#854

2.4.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Joined our friends Ileana and Sam for dinner at one of our favorite eateries in Waynesville, the Tipping Point . . . the food is always good there and so is the service . . . and we enjoy the warm greeting we get from Tony Rogers, the manager/bartender . . . for more information, please click:

<http://www.tippingpointavern.com/>

(2) From there, we went to DOG SEES GOD: CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE BLOCKHEAD in the Feichter Studio at the Haywood Arts Regional Theatre. Imagine the Peanuts gang has grown up, and it turns out that life is not a comic strip after all. Dwight Chiles, Art Moore, Sarah Lipham, Stephanie Crane, Sean Bruce, Daniel Wagoner, Caroline Lathrop and Hope Peterson were all excellent in their respective roles, and the direction by Holly Ann Harmon was just right perfect.



L-R: Ileana Alarcon, Sam Marks, Stephanie Crane, Blaine Greenfield and Cynthia Greenfield.

Good news: The play will run through Sunday, Feb. 10 . . . to find out more, please click:

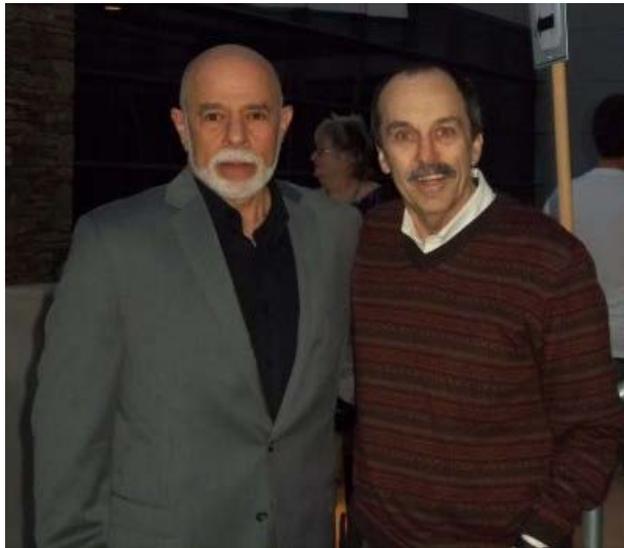
<http://www.harttheater.com/>

(3) During the week, I got to attend a farewell party for Bradshaw Call at Oliver Twist.



Thanks Kelly Christianson for arranging everything and best of luck to Bradshaw who gave us many delightful moments in area shows over the past four years. We're hopeful that he achieves even greater success at his next stop: the Big Apple!

(4) I also attended the annual Lessons in Leadership event and got to help at registration where I met up with my friend Marvin Sadovsky.



(5) The evening began with an informative interview that Meredith Elliott Powell conducted with Jennifer Mayer, the founder and CEO of Charlotte Street Computers. To view it, please click: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=2Jdh1-DjUes

(6) The keynoter was Nido Quebein, president of High Point University and chairman of Great Harvest Bread Company.



I had been told that he was one of the country's top speakers. He was every bit of that--and then some. And he had everybody clapping and laughing throughout his presentation For more information about what he had to say, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013301300038>

(7) Lastly, here's my Report Card grade for the evening that ran in the CITIZEN-TIMES:

A to WNC Lessons in Leadership, the team of volunteers that brings motivational speakers to come to the mountains at low cost to attendees. The Jan. 29 session was particularly outstanding. Jennifer Mayer, the founder and CEO of Charlotte Street Computers, started things off with her inspiring story of how she grew up in poverty to the point where she now heads a multimillion-dollar business. She was followed by Nido Quebein, who wowed the crowd of more than 1,300 with his tale about how he came to the U.S. as a teenager with only \$50 in his pocket and little knowledge of spoken English. He now serves as president of High Point University and is chairman of Great Harvest Bread Co. Special kudos to Brian Biro, Ed Breneger, Keith Challenger, George Fleming, Bill Kelley, Corinne Kelley, John Locke, Meredith Elliott Powell and Dana Stonestreet, the core team of individuals who helped make the evening the success that it was. Their work also helped funds that were turned back into worthy causes in the community for such groups as MANNA FoodBank, the YMCA Healthy Communities program and the UNCA scholarship fund.

B. Please help:

(1) Dave C. in NC: Vote for AshevilleVote for Asheville in Southern Living's Tastiest Town poll. You'll have a chance to win a prize, too, by clicking:

<http://www.southernliving.com/travel/souths-tastiest-towns-00417000076768/>

(2) Pat A. in PA: If you like my cartoons, I'd appreciate your voting for me in a local contest sponsored by Bucks Happening . . . you can click on:

<http://bucks.happeningmag.com/happeninglist/artist-2013/>

and find my name [Pat Achilles] in the list of local artists to vote for me. (You also have to enter your email and a code they give you to vote . It only takes half a minute.) If you can do it, thanks very much!

Note: Pat is my talented illustrator friend who has contributed many cartoons that have delighted BLAINESWORLD readers for years.

C. Congratulations to:

(1) Joey Novick on being named new Executive Director for the New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts. Check out that group's website by clicking:

<http://t.co/moDwqrY1>

(2) Kevin Jameson on being named a member of the President's Club 2012 at Honeywell.

(3) Emily Shaules for landing the part in a short film called ANNA. She will be playing the mother of a girl who was miscarried but comes back in spirit to see the life she missed.

(4) Lorre Diamond for being featured in a video clip in the CITIZEN-TIMES about her singing telegram business, just in time for Valentine's Day. To view it, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/VideoNetwork/2149373403001/Singing-telegram-for-Valentine-s-Day&odyssey=mod%7Cvideo>

(5) Pat Hannigan for being selected for a second time to have his photographs shown in the Byers 27th Art Exhibit in Central Bucks County.

D. Condolences to:

(1) The family of Ruth Frank. She was a friend and longtime teaching colleague of mine at Bucks County Community College.

(2) Joyce Sharpe and family on the passing of Joyce's father.

(3) Annie Tesh and family on the passing of Annie's mother.

(4) The family of Andre Cassagnes, inventor of the Etch A Sketch. If you're like me and you want to sketch something in his honor, please click:

http://www.megafungames.com/games/etch_a_sketch/aff.php

(5) The family of Swami Virato, a careful local Asheville character, who published New Age magazines and hosted his own radio show. His article, "City of Light," was one of the first things we read about the city--and helped influence our decision to move here. To read it, please click:

<http://www.newfrontier.com/aha/ashv0492.htm>

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

Janet Hart, SART's fundraising chair and a member of its board of directors, submitted this week's winner:

I can't say enough great things about Renee Parrish, although I've never met her in person. Renee works an Assistant in the Human Relations Department at Mars Hill College, but she is also a whiz at graphic design on the computer. She designed a new logo with fresh colors for the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre last summer and then modified the logo for our upcoming Feb. 14th fundraiser, "Hearts for SART." We are using that logo everywhere!



Hearts for SART

Renee was fantastic to work with--prompt with her replies to emails (and we exchanged lots of them) and is great at creating what we needed on the computer. She is such an asset to both Mars Hill College and SART.

My two cents: On the subject of people fantastic to work with, that also describes Janet Hart. She has been working virtually non-stop on the upcoming "Hearts for SART" event that will feature the wildly entertaining BJ Leiderman on piano. He can also be seen in the picture below, along with bottles of Troy & Sons moonshine whiskey that will be part of the silent auction that evening.



For additional information and/or tickets, please click:
www.sartplays.org

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2. FYI

Amazing times are coming!

Dr. Eric Topol, director of the Scripps Translational Science Institute, chief academic officer of San Diego-based Scripps Health and digital health's rock star, was featured Jan. 25 on NBC's Rock Center with Brian Williams. In this interview with NBC's Dr. Nancy Snyderman, he showed off a number of technologies and gadgets that can provide better care at lower cost, often using little more than a sensor connected to a smartphone.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=0B-jUOOrtk

For more information, please click:

<http://mobihealthnews.com/20032/topol-goes-prime-time-with-his-message-about-smartphones-smart-monitors/#more-20032>

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Katherine Sandoval Taylor sings "You Oughta Be Here With Me" - Big River

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ZdJ7Mr17n4>

(2) Deborah D. in NM: Ready your ears for something truly remarkable. The castrati had a timbre that we can only imagine thanks to this recording of Alessandro Moreschi at 44 years old, which gives us a glimpse of the magic that could have made music worth the great sacrifice these dear boys made for our entertainment.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=GyodNzbjVkw

(3) Nuggets' Danilo Gallinari hits circus shot vs. Bucks

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=mER2-H1XBmw

B. Other

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-11S>

(1) Alyson in CO (with an offer for those in the Northeast). (2) Rod R. in NJ. (3) Walter B. in NC. (4) Andy C. in NC (with a REQUEST FOR HELP). (5) Pam. (6) Herb S. in NJ. (7) Ruth W. in PA (with a REQUEST FOR HELP from readers anywhere).

Thanks to all the above for taking the time to write!

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3. Joke 1

A man walks into a bar, orders a drink and eats from the dish of peanuts on the counter while he waits. He hears a soft whisper: "You look so nice today." A few minutes later he hears it again: "That's a nice shirt; it suits you." The man asks the bartender, "Did you hear that? I heard someone whisper nice things to me." The

bartender says, "Oh, it's the complimentary peanuts!"



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4. Reviews

A. You may have to look some to find WEST OF MEMPHIS, a powerful documentary about the failure of justice in Arkansas . . . but if you can't find it in a local theater, then seek it out on DVD . . . you'll be dismayed about the story of a terrible crime that was compounded by a grave injustice that's only been somewhat remedied . . . director Amy Berg's film is right up there with THE THIN BLUE LINE, perhaps my all-time favorite true crime story . . . rated R.

B. FLIGHT is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #841 follows:

Enjoyed FLIGHT, a suspenseful thriller about a seasoned airline pilot (Denzel Washington) who miraculously lands his plane after a mid-air catastrophe . . . while just about every soul on board gets saved, the pilot's behavior raises questions about what really happened on the plane . . . Washington's portrayal had me really caring for his character, and I also thought Nadine Velazquez was most watchable . . . in addition, I liked the many ethical questions that the film raises . . . rated R.

C. I started college as a journalism major, wanting to be a sportswriter . . . though I never became one, I got a true appreciation of what life could have been like for me by reading Frank DeFord's OVER TIME: MY LIFE AS A SPORTSWRITER (Atlantic Monthly Press).

The author, a senior contributing editor of SPORTS ILLUSTRATED, a weekly commentator on NPR's MORNING EDITION and a regular correspondent on the HBO show REAL SPORTS WITH BRYANT GUMBEL, tells many fascinating stories in this memoir of his life in sports over the last half-century.

For the rest of this review, please click Section 4C at:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-11S>

D. Heard KITCHEN CONFIDENTIAL: ADVENTURES IN THE CULINARY UNDERBELLY (Random House Audio), written and read by Anthony Bourdain.

The author, a well-known host of TV shows on the TRAVEL CHANNEL, describes his life in the culinary trenches over the past 20 years in this no-holds barred memoir.

For instance, in the opening, he warns that:

"There will be horror stories. Heavy drinking, drugs, screwing in the dry-goods area, unappetizing industry-wide practices. Talking about why you probably shouldn't order fish on a Monday, why those who favor well-done get the scrapings from the bottom of the barrel, and why seafood frittata is not a wise brunch selection. . . But I'm simply not going to deceive anybody about the life as I've seen it."

The author then goes on to say:

* What what you may have thought was prepared by a highly refined executive chef was more likely prepared by a collaborative effort of a team of "wacked-out moral degenerates, dope fiends, refugees, a thuggish assortment of drunks, sneak thieves, sluts, and psychopaths" who in all likelihood are pierced or tattooed and incapable of uttering a sentence without an expletive or a foreign phrase.

I especially liked his tidbits of advice, including this to aspiring chefs:

* "Show up at work on time six months in a row and we'll talk about red curry paste and lemon grass. Until then, I have four words for you: 'Shut the fu*k up.' "

As a result of this gossipy, fun book, I'll also be much more cautious about ever ordering food well done . . . and I'll consider the author's advice that ordering restaurant brunches is a "crapshoot."

***** CONTEST #28 *****

One lucky reader will win an unabridged CD copy of THE BROOM OF THE SYSTEM by David Foster Wallace . . .

to quote from the book description: The "dazzling, exhilarating" (San Francisco Chronicle) debut novel from one of this century's most groundbreaking writers, *The Broom of the System* is an outlandishly funny and fiercely intelligent exploration of the paradoxes of language, storytelling, and reality.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #28" 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 Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013.

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5. TV alert

A. KILLER KARAOKE features contestants attempting to sing in front of a live studio audience while various attempts are made to disrupt their performances. It is hosted by JACKASS star Steve-O and is completely stupid--but fun nevertheless. I even got Cynthia to watch a show, and she laughed.

It reminds me of the GONG SHOW, which used to be one of my favorite programs. To see a segment for yourself, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/show/killerkaraoke>

It usually runs on Fridays at 9 p.m. on TRUTV, but it appears to be off the air (hopefully, on just a temporary basis). For more information about the show and to watch full episodes, please click:

<http://www.trutv.com/trutv2go/index.html#!/325556>

B. When I told my daughter Risa about the show, she replied, "You ever watch WIPEOUT? It's hilarious. There is an obstacle course with big things in the way so contestant fall.

Reruns seem to run on TRUTV, typically on Fridays at 7, 8 and 10 p.m. and if there's to be a next season, original episodes air on ABC. For a clip of some of the best falls, please click:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=i9cHIKq4JZA#

C. THE JOB begins Friday, Feb. 8 at 8 p.m. on CBS . . . according to Dorothy Rabinowitz in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, it "is a strikingly sophisticated [reality] series that regularly delivers valuable information and advice. . . . Sharp-tongued, ambitious, highly seductive--a TV series that has, it can be said, done the job."

D. THE GRAMMY AWARDS, hosted by LL Cool J, has the Black Keys, fun., Mumford and Sons, Rihanna and Taylor Swift as scheduled performers. Sunday, Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. on CBS.

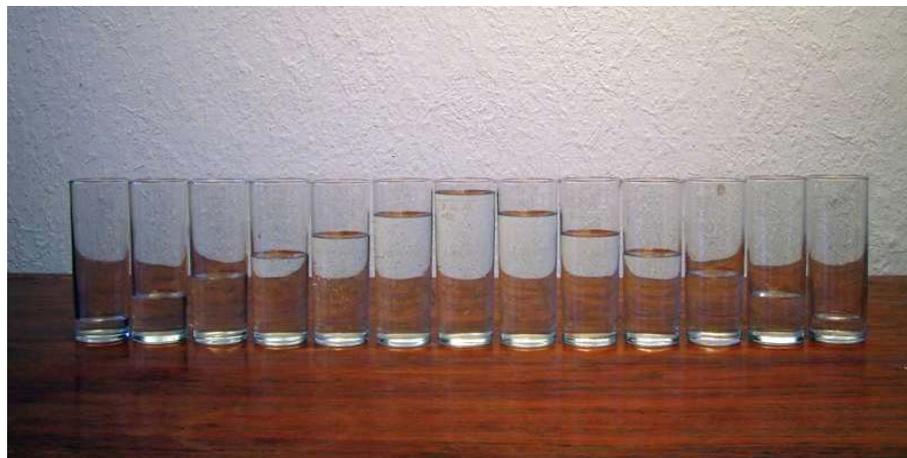
I'll watch, if for no other reason than to try to stay somewhat current on what's happening in the music world . . . for example, fun. (nominated six times, including for Best New Artist) had completely passed me by: i.e., until I heard this clip:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sv6dMFF_yts

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6. Joke 2

Cynthia's excellent chiropractor, Dr. David Graham, told her about the time he advised a patient to drink 6 to 8 glasses of water a day. The patient left the office, intent on following his instructions. A week later, the patient returned and told him there was "no way" she could do as he said. He asked why not. She replied: "That's impossible, Dr. Graham. I tried to drink 68 glasses of water a day, and I couldn't do it!"



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7. Websites

A. Natalie K. in PA: I want to share this website:
<http://www.positivenewsus.org/index.html>

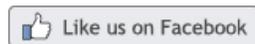
A friend was on a California business trip and brought home an awesome, free newspaper called Positive News. "It brings hope, exemplifies solutions and inspires action." Pass it on!

B. Robin S. in PA: Push beyond your limits: Amy Purdy's story; very inspirational.
http://goodlifezen.com/2013/02/08/draw-inspiration-from-obstacles/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+goodlifezen%2FyQoz+%28Goodlife+Zen%29

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

I say "Down With the Golden Rule!" See why by clicking "Consulting" on the left and then "Article Samples."
Read the one marked E.

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



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8. Computer tip

Amazing times are coming, part 2!

For Second Opinion, Consult a Computer?
by Katie Hafner in THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO--The man on stage had his audience of 600 mesmerized. Over the course of 45 minutes, the tension grew. Finally, the moment of truth arrived, and the room was silent with anticipation.

At last he spoke. "Lymphoma with secondary hemophagocytic syndrome," he said. The crowd erupted in applause.

Please read the rest of this article by clicking:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/04/health/quest-to-eliminate-diagnostic-lapses.html?pagewanted=all>

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9. Joke 3

A teacher asks her students if they're Yankees fans. All of the hands go up except for one student. "Okay, Bobby. What team are you a fan of?" . . . "The Red Sox." . . . "Why's that?" " . . . "Well, my parents are both Red Sox fans, so I'm a Red Sox fan too." . . . "That's not a good answer, Bobby. If your parents were both stupid fools, would you be a stupid fool too?" . . . "No, that would make me a Yankees fan!"



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10. A quote I like

If God had wanted me to touch my toes, he'd have put them on my knees.



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11. Thought for the day

Can't Buy It
by Guy Sayles*

Think of the hours we spend on food and drink: going to the grocery store, perusing cookbooks and magazines for recipes, being sure the kids have lunch money, grabbing a bottle of water on the way to work, and stopping midmorning for a coffee break. We eat and drink in order to live. "Daily bread" is one of the things for which Jesus taught us to pray and about which he urged us not to worry. He made a meal central to the church's life: bread and wine which speak to us of his body and blood, sustain us with mercy, and slake our thirst for joy. In one way, then, we are inescapably consumers. We have to consume to live.

For the rest of this thought-provoking blog entry, please click Section 11 at:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-11S>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) I'll be presenting a Marketing seminar for Asheville SCORE on Saturday, March 2 from 9 a.m.-12 noon. I'd love to have you join me. For more information or to register, please click:
<http://ashevillescore.org/score-seminars/score-seminars-survival-marketing/>

To read about each of the following events in full, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-11S>

(1) FALSETTOLAND at Haywood Arts Regional Theatre. (2) Neighbors at ACT/35below. (3) The Wham Bam Puppet Slam is back. (4) Annette Griffin invites you to the opening of her first solo exhibition. (5) Advanced Training for Your Brain. (6) Asheville Talent Slam at Jubilee Community Church.

B. PA/NJ events

To read about each of the following events in full, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-11S>

(1) Jennie Giardine-Smith has been rescheduled; new date is Feb. 23. (2) DRACULA concludes its run this weekend.

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PS. Make it a great week . . . also, don't forget to join me in celebrating the Chinese New Year on Sunday, Feb. 10 . . . more fun, food and friends that way; i.e., participating in ALL holidays!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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BLAINES WORLD

#853

1.28.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I managed to get through the recent cold spell that fortunately didn't produce much snow . . . we were also lucky that the limited flooding in Asheville escaped our area.

(1) I was also glad to return to North Carolina, though I had a terrific trip up North. In addition to what was reported last week, I got to meet my friends Barry and Jody Sysler for lunch at one of my favorite places: Duck Sauce in Newtown.



As always, the food was great . . . I got a special kick out of getting to say "hello" to Tony Huang, the owner/chef . . . we go back many, many years--even to when this fantastic restaurant was named Chin Chin. For more information, please click:

<http://www.yelp.com/biz/duck-sauce-newtown>

(2) With my friends Natalie Kaye and Ivan Winegar, I went for dinner at Jake's Eatery in Newtown . . . I had a hamburger or as it is billed on the menu, I had one of Jake's "famous" burgers . . . it was quite good . . . for more information, please click:

<http://www.jakeseatery.com/>



From there, we went to the The Off-Broadstreet Theatre in Hopewell . . . this was another place I used to love visiting, so it was great to return . . . before the show, we got to choose a tasty dessert (from several options) and then we saw a funny comedy called MOVING MOUNTAINS . . . it's about a 65-year-old widower-turned Cassanova who spends his days pursuing ladies on a beach in southern California . . . Steve Decker was outstanding in the main role, and Bob Thick's direction was on target . . . you can still catch it through February 9 . . . for more information, please click:
<http://www.off-broadstreet.com/>

(3) Lastly, I had fun at my 2nd annual get-together of colleagues, students and Facebook friends at Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown . . . the ice cream was delicious . . . for more information about this place that also has great chocolates, please click:
<http://www.zebrastripedwhale.com/zsw/HOME.html>



L-R: Blaine Greenfield, Jim Richard, John Bradley, Arta Szathmary and Kathy Rankin.



L-R: Blaine Greenfield, John Strauss, Jim Freeman and Bill Yorke.

Special thanks to both John and Peter Cattaneo for providing music for the afternoon.

B. Congratulations to:

(1) Edie Weinstein on her upcoming radio show . . . here's what she had to say about it:

Christine Arylo will be my first guest on the debut of my radio show called It's All About Relationships on Vivid Life Radio on Valentines Day, Feb. 14, from 8-9 p.m. EST. To listen, please click:

www.madlyinlovewithme.com

(2) Deb Geoghan on publication of second edition of her book, COMPLETE VISUALIZING TECHNOLOGY.

(3) Richard Shulman on his new CD coming out in April. In the meantime, you can hear it by clicking:

http://www.jukeboxalive.com/audio_play_offsite.php?mid=9488471&skin=1143452

(4) Mark Godlstein (belatedly) on the birth of Alden Jacob, his son.

(5) Ron Popeil on his great appearance on ROCK CENTER . . . to see it for yourself, please click:

<http://video.msnbc.msn.com/rock-center/50582790#50582790>

Note: Ron's name might not be familiar to you, but methinks his story will be. . . . From the Chop-O-Matic to a rotisserie oven to hair spray that covers up a bald spot, Ron Popeil has made a name for himself as the best-known salesman of the television era. Rock Center Anchor Brian Williams goes into Popeil's kitchen where the inventor reveals his latest brainstorm and how he journeyed from a rough childhood to become a pioneer pitchman.

(6) Jennie Giardine-Smith on the publication of OPIUM DREAMS, her novel, which launches with Eternal Press on Feb. 1.

The publisher will be having a live chat to meet the debut authors at the Eternal Press site on Friday, February 1 at 2:00 pm and again at 7:00 p.m. EST. You can access the chat site by clicking here:

<http://www.eternalpress.biz/chat.php>

There will be door prizes.

The book will be on sale in print and electronic format at:

<http://www.eternalpress.biz/book.php?isbn=9781615728725>

as well as at www.barnesandnoble.com, www.amazon.com and other outlets listed on the Eternal Press website.

(7) Deb D. in NJ, winner of Contest #27: "That's 72 in Computer Years," a wall calendar from my friend and favorite cartoonist Pat Achilles. All told, there were 15 entries. And that reminds me that it's now time to introduce . . .

***** CONTEST #28 *****

One lucky reader will win an unabridged CD copy of THE BROOM OF THE SYSTEM by David

Foster Wallace . . . to quote from the book description: The "dazzling, exhilarating" (San Francisco Chronicle) debut novel from one of this century's most groundbreaking writers, *The Broom of the System* is an outlandishly funny and fiercely intelligent exploration of the paradoxes of language, storytelling, and reality.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #28" 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 Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013.

C. Condolences to the family of Walt Alvey on his recent passing. He was a well-respected History professor, friend and colleague of mine at Bucks County Community College, and he will be missed. Remembrances in Walter's name may be made to a local SPCA or to the American Cancer Society.

D. Correction, thanks to Chris L. in PA: Normally you'll post the names (from left to right) of who's who in your photos. I noted in the Dracula cast picture you posted, you did not do that this time. I'm having trouble picking you out in the photo. Could you please re-post with names . . . in order?

Chris was joking--or at least I think he was. But that said . . .

I checked with my friend Joe Doyle at Actors' Net, and he provided the information:



L-R: DeLarme Landes, Cat Miller, Kate Skelly, some guy named Blaine and Jaci D'Ulisse.

Note: The show, which I thoroughly enjoyed, runs through Feb. 10. For more information, please click:

http://www.actorsnetbucks.org/on_stage/index.html

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

I recently had breakfast with my friend Jean R. in PA. She has always looked in great shape, but that morning, I had to do a double take (having not seen her for several years). She shared her amazing story and then, at my request, graciously shared it for readers of this newsletter. It follows:

As a 74-year-old with severe osteoporosis, I can flip a 400-pound tire without fear of injury. Brian Reed, BS kinesiology and owner of Volume Intensity Power, is the trainer who educated me--based on the principles of science for intense training. After 5 years, 3 times a week, I still receive new moves every time I go. No boredom for me. This world champion power lifter's studio is located at 204 Floral Vale Blvd in Yardley, PA. His phone is 215.791.4831.

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2. FYI

Cynthia often blinks when her photo is being taken . . . but a photographer recently shared the following secret to prevent that from happening . . . what he suggested: keep your eyes closed as the 1-2-3 count is being given . . . then open your eyes . . . we've been trying this lately, and the results have been most promising.

FYI, part 2

A. Clips

(1) Silent Night (Oíche Chiúin) - Katherine Sandoval Taylor & Ryan Guerra
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=aoWLkIbgMPY

(2) Tom F. in NJ: Ol' Man River - Paul Robeson
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=k2IGxGrYz-0

(3) Isaac F. in NC: Steve Kazee and Cristin Milioti - Falling Slowly
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=KfeRdH4Q_sg

B. Other

To read each of the following contributions in full, please click:
<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-117>

(1) Edina H. in NJ. (2) Rod R. in NJ. (3) Carol A. in NC. (4) Roger C. in PA. (5) Mary C. in NC. (6) Nelson S. in NC. (7) Donna S. in AL. (8) Brenda. (9) Ernest H. in NC. (10) Traci M. in NC. (11) Sandy B. in PA. (12) Robin S. in PA. (13) Pat L. in CA. (14) Arta S. in PA. (15) Renee B. in NJ. (16) Chuck F. in NC.

Thanks to all the above for their contributions this week!

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3. Joke 1

I'm cleaning out my car today in case anyone needs 27 half-empty bottles of water.



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4. Reviews

THE IMPOSSIBLE is a real-life story about a family of five and what happens to them when they get separated by a tsunami in Thailand. The opening sequence is amazing. Naomi Watts is outstanding as the wife, and I also liked the work of Tom Holland as her son. If you miss this in the theatres, catch it via DVD. Rated PG-13.

B. END OF WATCH is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #846 follows:

END OF WATCH is a riveting police thriller about two cops who discover a secret that makes them the target of the country's most dangerous drug cartel. Jake Gyllenhaal and Michael Peña are both outstanding as young LA police officers, and the camera work is thrilling. However, please be forewarned: There is non-stop violence in this film. Also, don't consider it you find profanity upsetting. Rated R.

C. AN INVISIBLE THREAD: THE TRUE STORY OF AN 11-YEAR OLD PANHANDLER, A BUSY SALES EXECUTIVE AND AN UNLIKELY MEETING WITH DESTINY (Howard Books) by Laura Schroff and Alex Tresvowski is a beautiful story that will warm your heart.

To read this entire review, please go to Section 4C at this link:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-117>

D. Heard MERRY CHRISTMAS, ALEX CROSS (Hachette Audio) by James Patterson, the latest thriller involving detective Alex Cross.

In this one, he is enjoying a quiet Christmas at home when a family has been taken hostage at a nearby home. Then, if that wasn't enough, a second horrific situation takes place--one that puts the lives of millions of people at risk.

I liked this book; however, it felt a bit disjointed in that I'm not quite sure of the relationship between the two stories other than the fact that they both took place on a holiday. Either story, by itself, could have been the basis of full-length novel if some additional material was included.

Also, be forewarned: Part of MERRY CHRISTMAS involves a situation involving torture that some might well find harrowing.

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5. TV alert

A. HOUSE OF CARDS, starring Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright, promises to be a reason for checking out streaming via Netflix. You can do so, starting on Friday at 3 a.m. It's an inside-the-beltway drama about a wronged politico's attempt to usurp the president's job by secretly discrediting everyone ranked in between them.

B. SHAKESPEARE UNCOVERED airs on Fridays on PBS at 9 p.m. . . . THE WALL STREET JOURNALS calls it a "royal treat. Only the worst kind of snob would deliberately pass it by."

Note: PBS dates and times often vary, so check local listings.

C. BETTY WHITE'S 2ND ANNUAL BIRTHDAY PARTY features comedy legends, Bill Cosby, Whoopi Goldberg and Lily Tomlin . . . Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 8 p.m.

D. A revamped SMASH begins its second year on Tuesday, Feb. 5 on NBC at 9 p.m. More musical numbers are promised, and Jennifer Hudson is added to the cast--playing the role of a Broadway star.

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6. Joke 2

The only time the world beats a path to your door is when you're in the bathroom.



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7. Websites

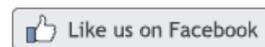
A. Barbara F. in PA: You might almost want one [a dog] after viewing this clip:
<http://www.youtube.com/embed/PztO-OvzRyg>

B. Wes H. in NC: For all of you Les Mis fans out there comes this very funny musical parody of "One Day More." it will knock your hypoallergenic socks off!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=k9QbC41oQRo#!

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

To view a listing of movies I've enjoyed, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Favorite Films."

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



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8. Computer tip

Thanks Jon Richardson in CO for allowing me to share the following:

Let's say you have a hard time remembering your password from one site to another. You usually get three tries and then your account is locked out until the company opens up again Monday morning EST. You try password 1, nope. Oh yeah... now you remember . . . now it's: "xyz . . ." - Wrong Again. Last try . . .

Stop here and click the link that says: "I forgot my password". It will take you to the screen that lets you choose between answering the security question you chose, or send you an email with a link to reset your password. Now the choice is up to you.

Source: A very informative article by Jon about logging into and securing online accounts. To read the whole thing, please click:
<http://richardsonstech.net/secure-online-accounts>

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9. Joke 3

As I approached the supermarket, a woman grabbed the cart near the door and asked,

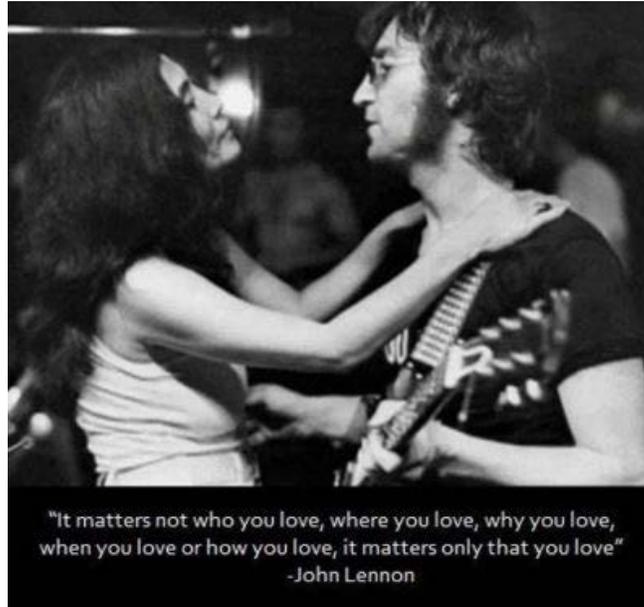
"Do you want this?"

"No," I said. "I'm only here for one thing."

As she walked away, I heard her mutter, "Typical male."

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10. A quote I like



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11. Thought for the day

Five Tips for Making Small Talk
by Diane Allen

Have you ever attended a gathering where you knew you wouldn't know everyone in the room and thought "Yikes, how will I have a conversation with these new people?" Even the most verbal individuals sometimes feel awkward when meeting people for the first time. To make the most of your interactions and have some stimulating conversation, here are five important tips:

To read them and the rest of this thought-provoking piece, please go to Section 11 at this link:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-117>

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

(1) Tickets are going fast for Hearts for SART, the Feb. 14 Valentine's Day fundraiser for the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre . . . BJ Leiderman (pictured below), the wildly entertaining Public Radio theme composer, will be the featured entertainment . . . to hear a sampling of his music, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/ayawfgn>

And for more information or to order tickets, please click:

www.sartplays.org



(2) I'll be presenting a Marketing seminar for Asheville SCORE on Saturday, March 2 from 9 a.m.-12 noon. I'd love to have you join me. For more information or to register, please click:

<http://ashevillescove.org/score-seminars/score-seminars-survival-marketing/>

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-117>

(3) Award Winning Play returns. (4) SEX AND HOW TO HAVE IT! (5) Charlie Castex, International Psychic Consultant. (6) DOG SEES GOD. (7) Asheville Community Content Team.

B. PA/NJ events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-117>

(1) Jennie Giardine-Smith promoting her first novel. (2) Celebrate the Romance of Valentine's Day with "Love Letters" at MCCC's Kelsey Theatre. (3) Laugh for a cause at Comedy Central. (4) BuxMont Coalition for Peace Action is currently trying to reactivate a Central Bucks chapter. (5) 18th World Karate Union Hall of Fame. (6) Danny Olinsky joins Gregory Petronzi on guitar and vocals. 8:30 p.m. on Friday night at Highland Place in Maplewood, NJ.

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PS. Make it a great week!

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com

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BLAINES WORLD

#852

1.21.2013

In this issue

1. Reflections

2. Joke

3. A quote I like

4. Thought for the day

5. Advance planning department

1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I are spending a rare week together. I'm visiting family and friend in the cold Northeast, and she stayed home in the almost as cold Asheville area.

B. Consequently, I had limited access to my computer at home . . . to get in, I typically use something called LogMeIn, but it was acting up on me . . . so what I'll attempt to do here is put out an issue that's almost entirely made up of pictures. Thanks to Roger C. in PA and Pat H. in PA, among others, for having gotten me started doing this several years ago; i.e., use pictures. And if you are a fan of such regular sections as FYI, Reviews, etc. that are not being run this week, look for them to be resumed next week.

C. I miss having great diners in Asheville--in fact, make that any diners--so I got to go to two of them in New Jersey: the Caldwell Diner with my daughter Risa and her husband JP, as well as The New Ewing Diner with Dr. Al Sternberg (my longtime friend/mentor and the individual responsible for my having become a teacher). The food at both was excellent, as was the camaraderie.

D. I was able to get to Bucks County Community College for In-Service Day and actually had a blast, seeing many of my former colleagues. In addition, I was very impressed by the remarks of Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt, the College's new president. I was touched, moved and inspired by what she had to say.

In addition, I finalized plans for the online Creativity course that I'll be teaching this semester with Mary Bobbie and Caren Friedman. (I'm so fortunate to be able to team-teach with these two individuals!)

E. Now for the pictures:

(1) I always loved going to shows put on by The Actors' NET of Bucks County, so I jumped at the opportunity to see DRACULA. This particular production was very well done. The good news is that you can still catch it through Feb. 10. For more information, please click: <http://www.actorsnetbucks.org/>

Kudos to the entire cast. Two performers, in particular, stood out for me: Ken Ammerman as Renfield and Cat Miller as Lucy. Cheryl Doyle's direction was excellent.



That's yours truly with several of the cast members.



L-R: Joe Doyle, Actors' Net general manager; Cheryl Doyle, Actors' Net artistic director; and Blaine Greenfield.

(2) I met Robbie Lieberman, my cousin, for lunch at ZYLO in Hoboken, NJ. We were also joined by my brother Ken, but he was too busy taking the picture.



(3) Jean Ryersbach and I got together for breakfast at Charcoal BYOB in Yardley, PA. (I used to go to this eatery when it was Charcoal Steak's 'n Things. I was glad that they were able to get the place going again--this time having built it up so that floods won't again have an effect.)



(4) Linda Kanner and I had breakfast at Moish and Itzy's, my favorite deli in the Bucks County area. That's one other thing that Asheville could use: a good Jewish deli.



(5) For many years before my night class, I ate dinner at Applebee's with Tom O'Keefe (left) and Bill Magliaro (right). So it was like old times when we all were able to meet up.

And an added surprise was that we were able to get our "regular" server, Karen Bloschichak. She's the best!



(6) Naturally, I had to get to my favorite breakfast place: Jake's Eatery in Newtown.



L-R: Jim Freeman; Steve Jacobs, owner and a former student; and Blaine Greenfield, displaying the special Almond Joy pancakes that Steve made just for us.

(7) And I even managed to get an adjustment from Dr. Wendy Attadgie, my favorite chiropractor shown in the picture below. It was followed by a delightful massage from Chris Williams.



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2. Joke

Our weather forecasters in Asheville could use this!



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3. A quote I like

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."--Wayne Gretzky. Photo below, according to SPORTS ILLUSTRATED, is hockey's finest. It depicts the legendary moment in which Gretzky buried his NHL record 802nd career goal on March 23, 1994 vs. the Vancouver Canucks.



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4. Thought for the day

It seems that these days most Americans think it is improper to spank a child. Recently, the California state legislators introduced proposed action against spanking. Over the

years, a friend of mine has tried other methods to control their kids when they had one of "those moments". . . . One method he found effective is to take the child for a car ride and talk. They usually calm down and stop misbehaving after their car ride together. . . . See below for a photo of one of those sessions with his son, in case anyone would like to use his technique.



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5. Advance planning department

PRESIDENT OBAMA HAS BEEN INVITED to attend the 2nd annual get together for my Northern/Yankee friends . . . Location: Zebra Striped Whale, 12 S State St Newtown, PA . . . Date: Saturday, Jan. 26 . . . Time: 2-4 p.m. . . . The event will give us the chance to say "hello," as well as to purchase some great ice cream and/or chocolate. An added bonus: You'll get to hear John Strauss both sing and play his guitar! . . . And in the unlikely event you did not yet hear about this event, consider this notice as your official invitation.



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PS. Make it a great week!

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Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

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#851

January 14, 2013

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1. Reflections

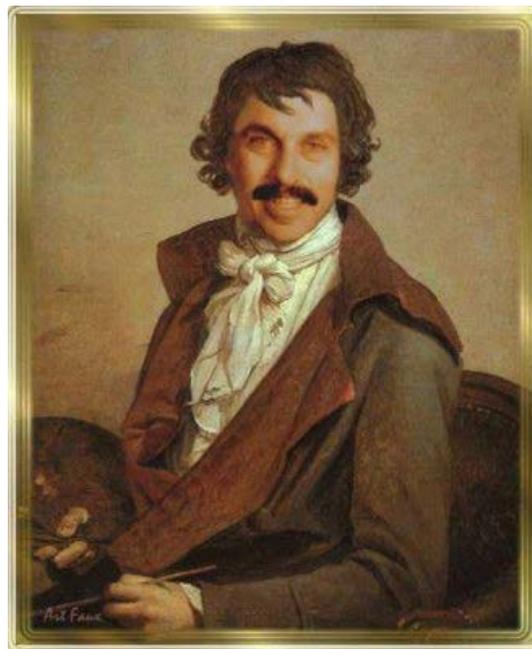
A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I:

(1) Saw SEX AND HOW TO HAVE IT at The Magnetic Theatre. It's a very funny series of sketches, ably directed by Steven Samuels and starring four very talented actors: Brian Clafin, Katie Langwell, Valerie Meiss and Glenn Reed.

We enjoyed it. The good news, too, is that you can as well. It runs through Feb. 2. For tickets, please click:

<http://www.themagnetictheatre.org/events>

(2) Got a kick out of the following picture that we dug up. It's me . . . in another life? As you can see, I had a bit more hair back then. But in reality . . . I'm not losing hair now: rather, I'm gaining face!



B. Congratulations to:

(1) Jim Sell, executive director of the Lower Bucks campus at Bucks County Community College, for being featured as a Comcast Newsmaker . . . to catch his TV appearance, please click:

<http://www.comcastnewsmakers.com/video/art-show/>

(2) Tony Tocci for the publication of his unique book on mediation . . . to find out more about it, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/bxkx7pk>

(3) Rodney Richards for having an article about his passion, writing memoirs, published in the TRENTON TIMES:

http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2013/01/storytelling_seniors_pour_thei.html

Note: I'm also looking forward to Rodney's book, A BLESSED LIFE IN AMERICA, which is due out in March.

(4) Patricia Diesel for being profiled in NEW JERSEY COUNTRYSIDE:

<http://njcountryside.com/visit>

(5) Asheville on being highlighted in FOOD & WINE (Feb., 2013) as "a world-class food scene."

<http://www.foodandwine.com/articles/why-food-lovers-are-loving-asheville>

(Thanks Verna C. in MD for bringing the above to my attention.)

(6) ASHEVILLE IS AGAIN NAMED #1 (or at least by me) . . . this time for the best product warning/disclaimer you'll ever see . . . I dare you not to laugh when you read the illustration below. By the way, High Cotton is a real company with some great doormats and gift items; for more information, please click:

<http://www.highcotton.com/>



*This perfectly fine,
if not certainly adequate*
doormat
is **MADE IN THE USA** from 100% Olefin®
Indoor/Outdoor carpet and printed with
color-fast inks. Wash with hose and brush.
Dry flat. Do not machine wash.

**Important things you should know
about your new doormat**

Warning: Do not use mat as a projectile. Sudden acceleration to dangerous speeds may cause injury. When using mat, follow directions: Put your right foot in, put your right foot out, put your right foot in and shake it all about. This mat is not designed to sustain gross weight exceeding 12,000 lbs. If mat begins to smoke, immediately seek shelter and cover head. Caution: If coffee spills on mat, assume that it is very hot. This mat is not intended to be used as a placemat. Small food particles trapped in fibers may attract rodents and other vermin. Do not glue mat to porous surfaces, such as pregnant women, pets and heavy machinery. When not in use, mat should be kept out of reach of children diagnosed with CFED (Compulsive Fiber Eating Disorder). Do not taunt mat. Failure to comply relieves the makers of this doormat, Simply Precious Home Decor, and its parent company, High Cotton, Inc., of any and all Liability.



Ernest "Bud" Crowley
Chairman of the Board



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(7) And, in advance, to the winner of the following . . .

***** CONTEST #27 *****

Pat Achilles, my friend and favorite cartoonist, has offered to give one of her 2013 cartoon calendars, "That's 72 in Computer Years," as a prize to one lucky BLAINESWORLD subscriber. The wall calendar is 11" x 17" when open and features 12 of her most popular gag cartoons.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #27" 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 Sunday, Jan. 20, 2013.

C. Condolences to the family of Pauline Phillips, a California housewife who nearly 60 years ago, seeking something more meaningful than mahjong, transformed herself into the syndicated columnist Dear Abby--and in so doing became a trusted, tart-tongued adviser to tens of millions. She recently died at the age of 94.

Among her classic bits of advice were the following:

(1) Dear Abby: My wife sleeps in the raw. Then she showers, brushes her teeth and fixes

our breakfast - still in the buff. We're newlyweds and there are just the two of us, so I suppose there's really nothing wrong with it. What do you think? - Ed

Dear Ed: It's O.K. with me. But tell her to put on an apron when she's frying bacon.

(2) Dear Abby: I have always wanted to have my family history traced, but I can't afford to spend a lot of money to do it. Have you any suggestions? - M. J. B. in Oakland, Calif.

Dear M. J. B.: Yes. Run for a public office.

(3) Dear Abby: Are birth control pills deductible? - Bertie

Dear Bertie: Only if they don't work.

(4) Dear Abby: Our son married a girl when he was in the service. They were married in February and she had an 8 1/2-pound baby girl in August. She said the baby was premature. Can an 8 1/2-pound baby be this premature? - Wanting to Know

Dear Wanting: The baby was on time. The wedding was late. Forget it.

(5) Dear Abby: Two men who claim to be father and adopted son just bought an old mansion across the street and fixed it up. We notice a very suspicious mixture of company coming and going at all hours - blacks, whites, Orientals, women who look like men and men who look like women. This has always been considered one of the finest sections of San Francisco, and these weirdos are giving it a bad name. How can we improve the neighborhood? - Nob Hill Residents

Dear Residents: You could move.

D. Correction: I gave the wrong date for this upcoming event. The correct date follows. (Sorry 'bout that.)

Ground Hog Day Afternoon Tea Dance with the Heather Masterton Trio. Sunday, Feb. 3 at 3 p.m. Experience live music with Heather at the Asheville Ballroom. She sings the great standards. Come on out and dance swing, foxtrot, rumba and more. Ballroom deejay Phil Noland will be playing any requests during breaks. Cost is \$10 per person.

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

This week, it goes to Paul Anderson--owner of the four Mountain View Tire & Service stores in Western North Carolina.

Ever since I moved to the Asheville , I have been a customer and big fan of Mountain View . . . until recently, I went to the Patton Ave. location . . . but that was until they opened up a store in Candler, just a blocks from my house . . . that is where I now go.

I've always been impressed with the service that I have been received from this fine company, whether it be for an oil change, to buy tires, etc. The personnel are not only competent, but they're friendly too.

Much of the credit goes to Paul . . . his leadership of Mountain View has made them the go-to place for auto work if you live anywhere near the four locations: 1047 Smoky Park, Candler; 32 Tunnel Road, Asheville; 990 Patton Ave., Asheville; or 1034 North Main St. Waynesville. For more information, please click:

<http://www.mvtire.com/home/>

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2. FYI

Great idea for all couples! (See the last paragraph.)

According to studies by Barbara L. Fredrickson, a social psychologist and professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a flourishing relationship needs three times as many positive emotions as negative ones. In her forthcoming book, "Love 2.0," Dr. Fredrickson says that cultivating positive energy everyday "motivates us to reach out for a hug more often or share and inspiring or silly idea or image."

Dr. Lyubomirsky reports that happily married couples average five positive verbal and emotional expressions toward one another for every negative expression, but "very unhappy couples display ratios of less than one to one."

To help get your relationship on a happier track, the psychologist suggests keeping a diary of positive and negative events that occur between you and your partner, and striving to

increase the ratio of positive to negative.

She suggests asking yourself each morning, "What can I do for five minutes today to make my partner's life better?" The simplest acts, like sharing an amusing event, smiling, or being playful, can enhance marital happiness.

Above comes from "That Loving Feeling Takes a Lot of Work" by Jane E. Brody in THE NEW YORK TIMES . . . for the entire blog entry, please click:

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/01/14/that-loving-feeling-takes-a-lot-of-work/?src=me&ref=general&pagewanted=print>

FYI, part 2

Methinks there are several messages that follow that you'll find of interest. To read them, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-10L>

Thanks to Jim D. in PA, Natalie K. in PA, Mark J. in NC and Verna C. in MD for their contributions to this section.

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3. Joke 1

Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?



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4. Reviews

A. Don't believe the mostly negative reviews you may have read about PARENTAL GUIDANCE . . . it's a family-oriented comedy about grandparents who babysit their grandkids when the parents are away . . . as might be expected, things don't go quite as planned . . . and though the whole film is formulaic, it did have me laughing throughout . . . there's a great, too . . . and the chemistry between Billy Crystal and Bette Midler in the leading parts is terrific . . . rated PG.

B. WON'T BACK DOWN is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD #840 follows:

WON'T BACK DOWN is about two determined mothers who will stop at nothing to change the failing school of their children. . . they must battle the bureaucracy of the school administration, as well as the resistance of the teachers' union . . . many parents are also opposed to their efforts. . . . Maggie Gyllenhaal and Viola Davis were fine in the leading roles . . . what I didn't like were the many unrealistic parts; e.g., the unsympathetic portrayal of many of the teachers, how the union was portrayed as the bad guy, etc. . . .

in addition, I didn't think it would be possible for a grant to be put together as quickly as was shown . . . this is not a true story; rather, an opening screen says it is "based on actual events," and that's a big difference . . . overall, I'd give it a mild recommendation . . . it has a PG rating, but there is no way that small children would find this interesting.

C. Seth Godin is one of my favorites authors, and I'm also a big fan of his blog entries . . . so that is why I rushed to get hold of his latest book, *THE ICARUS DECEPTION: HOW HIGH WILL YOU FLY?* (Portfolio Hardcover).

It did not disappoint!

The author challenges many of the old rules: Play it safe. Stay in your comfort zone. Find an institution, a job, a set of rules to stick to.

Rather, he contends there's a new truth; i.e., it's better to be sorry than safe. To succeed, you need to fly higher than ever.

What makes *THE ICARUS DECEPTION* so worthwhile is the fact that Godin uses lots of real examples in driving home his points . . . for example:

* The value of information became obvious when TV Guide (the magazine with information about when certain shows were on) sold for more money than the networks themselves were worth. Information about the content was worth more than the content.

He also emphasized not only the arts, but a wide variety of other fields:

* A doctor's call or e-mail message can't help the patient with the physical pain, but it can provide information, solace, or just a reminder that everything is going according to plan. Does it change the surgery itself? Of course not. Does it change the outcome of that surgery? Certainly.

Lastly, he gave some specific techniques with dealing with a myriad of problems--including writer's block . . . he even contends that it isn't hard to cure:

* Just write. Write poorly. Continue to write poorly, in public, until you can write better.

Everyone should learn to write in public. Get a blog. Or use Squidoo or Tumblr or a micro blogging site. Use an alias if you like. Turn off comments, certainly--you don't need more criticism; you need more writing.

Do it every day. Every single day. Not a diary, not fiction, but analysis. Clear, crisp, honest writing about what you see in the world. Or want to see. Or teach (in writing). Tell us how to do something.

If you know you have to write something every single day, even a paragraph, you will improve your writing. The resistance, of course, would rather have you write nothing, not speak up in public, keep it under wraps.

If you're concerned only with avoiding error, then not writing is not a problem, because zero is perfect and without defects. Shipping nothing is safe.

My favorite part of the book was in the Appendix . . . it contained true-life stories of 14 artists that showed me it is possible to fly higher than ever.

D. Heard *I HAVE CHOSEN TO STAY AND FIGHT* (Penguin Audio), written and read by comedian Margaret Cho.

But be forewarned: This is not a very funny book. Rather, it is a series of rants about a diverse range of topics, ranging from racism to feminism and including her sexuality, gay marriage, Martha Stewart and war.

I have seen Cho on TV and have enjoyed her. For the most part, though, I found the material here somewhat abrasive--though I agree with much of the author's politics.

And I do wish she had left certain people alone; for example, Andy Rooney. She criticizes him for "his boring ass opinions on the stupid things that white people think about." To me, the opinion she is boring there is equally boring.

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5. TV alert

A. Despite having a much-mocked title, *COUGAR TOWN* is a funny comedy about a woman in her forties (Courteney Cox) and her dysfunctional, but supportive and caring extended family . . . Tuesdays at 10 p.m. on TBS for the first time after being dropped by ABC.

IB. If you're a Danny Kaye fan like me, catch him in a full day and night of movies on Sunday on TCM . . . my favorite perhaps if THE COURT JESTER at 8 p.m. that has him playing a phony jester who finds himself involved in romance, court intrigue and a deadly joust.

C. THE FOLLOWING, starring Kevin Bacon, premieres on Monday, Jan. 21 at 9 p.m. on FOX . . . according to Matt Roush in TV GUIDE, "The twists from creator Kevin Williamson (the SCREAM films, THE VAMPIRE DIARIES) are truly diabolical, especially in the terrifying pilot episode, which introduces a network of psychopathic cut acolytes lying in wait to do their master's bidding."

D. The king of infomercials, Ron Popeil, is profiled on ROCK CENTER WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS on Thursday, Ja. 24 at 19 p.m. on NBC . . . to get you psyched, view the preview by clicking:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9f2wmfe-F4>

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6. Joke 2

There was a guy who went to a yard sale. While he was at the yard sale, he noticed there was a dog there. He asked, "Does your dog bite?"

The man answered, "No."

So the guy reached down to pet the dog. The dog then clamped onto his arm. The guy eventually pried the dog's jaws loose from his arm and looked up at the man and yelled, "You told me your dog did not bite."

To which the man replied, "That's not my dog!"



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7. Websites

A. Alyson M. in CO: If you can only watch one video, make it this one.
Welcome Home
This is the kind of greeting I want next time I come home from a trip!!! What a welcome!!!
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NB3NPNM4xgo>

B. Be sure to watch the royal Klezmer wedding video below:
http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=fG3HDw8W3Jg&feature=player_

Note: The things you learn online! For example, I just learned the following from Todd S. in NJ:

In the family tree of Kate Middleton, wife of Prince William, Kate's mother is Carol Middleton, daughter of Ronald Goldsmith and Dorothy Harrison (both Jews). The parents of

Dorothy Harrison are Robert Harrison and Elizabeth Temple (both Jews), the latter a descendant of the Myers family, English Jews in the 19th century.
Bottom line: Princess Kate is a Jew on her matriarchal side. The future king of England will be a Jew according to Jewish Law and tradition.

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

In case you never saw my comedy debut, click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then Video Clips. My performance is the third one from 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:
www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield



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8. Computer tip

How to Send a Mass Email

A reader asks: "I want to send emails to a list of people on a regular basis. But I don't want to get tagged as a spammer. What software or services do you recommend for sending email to a group of people?"

For the answer, please click Bob Rankin's excellent newsletter:
http://askbobrankin.com/how_to_send_a_mass_email.html#ixzz2IKcm778u

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9. Joke 3

After nearly 50 years of marriage, a couple was lying in bed one evening when the wife felt her husband begin to massage her in ways he hadn't in quite some time. It almost tickled as his fingers started at her neck and then began moving down past the small of her back. He then caressed her shoulders and neck, slowly worked his hand down, stopping just over her stomach. He then proceeded to place his hand on her left inner arm, working down her side, passing gently over her buttock and down her leg to her calf. Then he proceeded up her thigh, stopping just at the uppermost portion of her leg. He continued in the same manner on her right side, then suddenly stopped, rolled over and became silent. As she had become quite aroused by this caressing, she whispered in a loving voice, " Honey, that was wonderful. Why did you stop?"

He mumbled back, "I found the remote."



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10. A quote I like



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11. Thought for the day

"Never postpone love. You can postpone everything else but not love."--Osho, an Indian spiritual teacher . . . he said it to a man whose wife was very ill . . . for the rest of this moving passage, please click:

<http://tinyurl.com/2bqoq3e>



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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-10L>

(1) Dr. Nido Quebein is the featured speaker at Lessons in Leadership. (2) Thursday, Feb. 14 will be SART's first HEARTS FOR SART fundraiser. (3) The Zoodles at Brevard Brewing Company. (4) The House of Yes" by Wendy MacLeod. (5) A Farewell to Bradshaw Call. (6) The Asheville Citizens Police Academy. (7)) The Buncombe County Sheriff's Citizen's Academy.

B. PA/NJ events

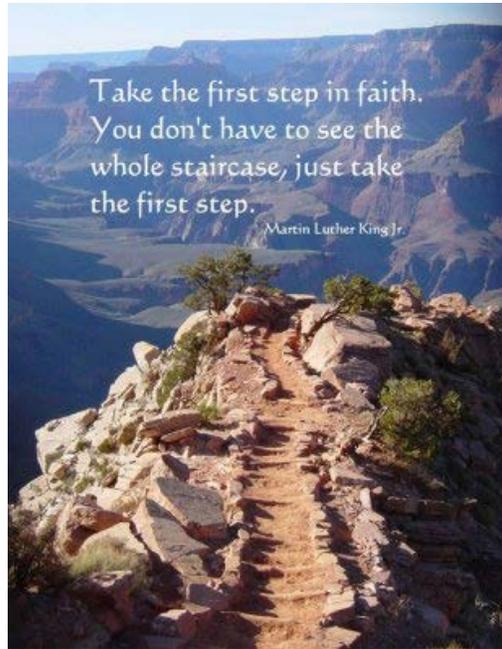
To reach about each of the following events in full, please click:

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-10L>

(1) My trip "up North." (2) Two community dialogues to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (3) The Plumstead Historical Society. (4) BIG FUNDRAISER FOR PENN STATE Pediatric Cancer Charity THON In Bucks County. (5) HEALING MASTERY TO BE THE MEDICINE. (6) DRACULA at The Heritage Center.

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PS. Make it a great week! And don't forget to celebrate Martin Luther King Day on Monday, Jan. 21 by taking time in your day to reflect on this great American.



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Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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BLAINES WORLD

#850

1.7.2013

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I were joined by a bunch of friends for dinner at one of our favorite restaurants: the Village Wayside Grill in Biltmore Village . . . the food is always good there, as is the service . . . most of us had hamburgers, and we enjoyed them . . . also very good were the sweet potato tots . . . for more information, please click:

<http://www.villagewayside.com/>

B. From there, we all went to the Asheville Vaudeville show--emceed by LaZoom Bus Tour's Helena Handbasket.



L-R: Gary Marks, Ileanna Alacorn, Sam Marks, Cynthia Greenfield, Blaine Greenfield and Tammy Strange.

This month's theme was "In Hell!" and it featured, as usual, an eclectic range of jugglers, comedians, magicians and various other performers . . . all were quite good, but our favorite was Daniel Crabtree (Sneaky McFly) who did a neat tongue-piercing trick.

To view just some of what you missed that evening, please click:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/jhowton?feature=watch>

And if you want to see something different (and have some fun, too), catch a future Asheville Vaudeville performance . . . shows are usually monthly . . . for more information, please click:

<https://www.facebook.com/AshevilleVaudeville>

C. As reported last week, we welcomed in the New Year with a movie and dinner with a

bunch of other friends . . . here's a picture of us with of them, Marvin Sadovsky and Annamarie Brown.



Our hope is that your 2013 is off to a spectacular start, and that it's going to be your best year ever!

D. Congratulations to:

(1) Jon Menick for the great write up in the CITIZEN-TIMES about the acting group that he teaches. To read the article, please click:

<http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013301080013>

(2) Jeff Thompson on being rated Number 3 on the ReverbNation Singer Songwriter charts for Asheville . . . for more information about Jeff, please click:

www.reverbnation.com/jeffthompsonmusic

(3) Marie V. in NJ and Vilasi V. in NJ, both winners of Contest #26: autographed copies of THE ART HUNTERS HANDBOOK by Leslie & Sue Fox . . . all told, there were 14 entries, and thanks to the generosity of the authors of this informative book, I was able to get an additional 12 copies . . . so that means the following individuals will also be receiving (non-autographed) copies: Phyllis M. in NJ, Chris H. in NC, Gladys P. in NC, Pam P. in PA, Jean R. in PA, Andrew L. in PA, Jim F. in PA, MaryEllen M. in NJ, Corinne G. in PA, Nancy D. in PA, Kathy B. in FL and Arlene D. in PA . . . and that reminds me that it's now time to introduce . . .

***** CONTEST #27 *****

Pat Achilles (see also Section 6), my friend and favorite cartoonist, has offered to give one of her 2013 cartoon calendars, "That's 72 in Computer Years," as a prize to one lucky BLAINESWORLD subscriber. The wall calendar is 11" x 17" when open and features 12 of her most popular gag cartoons.

To enter: Put "CONTEST #27" 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 Sunday, Jan. 20, 2013.

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

This week, it goes to Jade Landis--manager of the Interstate All Battery Center, 1045 Smokey Park Highway, Candler, NC; 828.633.2660.

I've gone into this store a few times and Jade has always been most helpful. Her welcoming smile also makes the shopping experience more pleasurable.

Another thing I like about the store: They will take your old batteries and recycle them for you.

Overall, the company claims to offer over 16000 different batteries, including those for cars, cell phones, hearing aids, etc. . . . you name it, they seem to have it--or can get it for you.

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2. FYI

Thanks Jim D. in PA for the following tip that he emailed me . . . usually, most of such forwarded information is garbage--but this one has some validity. (See my "additional comments" at the bottom of it.)

Tell your spouse, your children, your neighbors, your parents, your Dr's office, the check-out girl at the market, everyone you run across. Put your car keys beside your bed at night.

If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this: It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage.

If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the burglar/rapist won't stick around. After a few seconds, all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that. And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there. This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or a sexual abuse crime.

PS. I am sending this to everyone I know because I think it is fantastic. Would also be useful for any emergency, such as a heart attack, where you can't reach a phone. My Mom has suggested to my Dad that he carry his car keys with him in case he falls outside and she doesn't hear him. He can activate the car alarm and then she'll know there's a problem.

Additional comments: I checked this out with a friend, Robyn Michalove, who is Deputy Sheriff of the Crime Prevention Unit for the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office . . . here's what she had to say: "This is a great tip that I pass on to folks in both my Personal Safety and Home Security presentations. It's key to conduct tests throughout the house to make certain the key fob panic button will work in different areas of the house. It all depends on the signal strength, so please "TEST the TIP" first before the need arises!"

Also, I wanted to see what Snopes had to say about it . . . the judgment: "mixture of true and false information" . . . to read the whole report, please click: <http://www.snopes.com/crime/prevent/caralarm.asp>

My opinion is that this is at least something you should consider trying. You really have nothing to lose.

FYI, part 2

A. Clip

But Not For Me - Heather Masterson with Richard Shulman, Russ Wilson and Michael Filippone
http://www.reverbnation.com/play_now/15705367

B. Other

My friend BJ Leiderman is looking for a house to rent in the Asheville, Black Mountain or West Asheville area . . . if you can help him out, that would be great . . . to find out more, as well as to read several other messages that I think you'll find of interest, please click: <http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-10g>

Thanks BJ in NC, Allen D. in NC, Kathy W. in PA, Vickie E. in FL, Thomas F. in NJ, Eddie D. in NC, John S. in PA, Ellen C. in PA and Ed G. in PA for your contributions to this section.

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3. Joke 1

Shocking information just released . . .

The T.S.A. disclosed the official Airport Screening Results

October 2012 Statistics On Airport Screening From The Department Of Homeland Security:	
Terrorists Discovered	0
Transvestites	133
Hernias	1,485
Hemorrhoid Cases	3,172
Enlarged Prostates	8,249
Breast Implants	59,350
Natural Blondes	3

It was also discovered that 535 members of Congress had no balls.

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4. Reviews

A. THIS IS 40 is a comedy that expands upon the story of Pete (Paul Rudd) and Debbie (Leslie Mann) from the hit KNOCKED UP . . . it attempts to show how they are dealing with their current lives, and there are some very funny scenes in it that will have you laughing out loud . . . I also liked the fact that Albert Brooks, always one of my favorite actors, is in it . . . however, overall, it is very choppy . . . there are too many scenes that seem to have been just thrown into the film, and it's also way too long at 2 hours and 13 minutes . . . Chris O'Dowd, another actor I like, seems to have gotten cut out of much of the proceedings . . . rated R.

B. HOPE SPRINGS is now out in DVD format . . . my review from BLAINESWORLD # 830 follows:

Saw HOPE SPRINGS, a comedy about a couple who have been married a long time . . . he is happy with the way things are, but she wants to spruce things up so she signs them up for a week of marriage therapy . . . Meryl Streep and Tommy Lee Jones are perfect as the couple, and Steve Carell is effective in a smaller role as their counselor . . . this is definitely a film for mature audiences, not so much because of any sex in it (that's implied but never seen); rather anybody under the age of 50 might just not relate to it much as I did . . . rated PG-13.

C. NOTHING DOWN (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform) by Mike Reuther is a short novel about the life of Homer Newbody, a baseball player who bursts into the Major Leagues by throwing no-hitters in his first two starts.

He then announces to the world that he would play for nothing. Soon teammates, as well as the media, turn on him . . . and he hurts his arm, too.

There's a lot more story packed into the 150 pages, including a subplot involving Homer's attraction for a female reporter.

I really liked how the author described the day-to-day life of a professional ballplayer; for example:

* He placed the cap back upon his head before leaning down to pull at one of his sock stirrups, his hand pausing to rub the knob on the front of his leg just below the knee--a reminder of the fracture he'd suffered more than thirty years before while chasing down a fly ball when the spikes of his baseball show stuck in the outfield fence. Even years later, when replayed on one sports highlight show or another, it was a horrific sight to see Goose dangling from the fence by his leg, as nasty an injury, many sports fan agreed, as when Giants linebacker Lawrence Taylor broke Joe Theismann's leg.

Reuther's use of dialogue was also realistic:

* "That's him," Stash said. "He could shave the whiskers off a jackrabbit with his pitches."

"But never kill the damn rabbit," Goose said, spitting into the urinal as he zipped up his pants and flushed. "Kid's got a ten-cent arm. His fastball, if that's what you would call it,

wouldn't register on the radar gun." He whirled around and threw up his hands. "What's he throw? Maybe eight-five . . . on his best day on God's green Earth?"

He even had me laughing with this passage:

* "Sure. They got the Mets in Queens, but you can pretty much flush them down the toilet." Homer felt himself grinning like an idiot, even if he wasn't. "Flushing, Queens. Get it? Ah . . . okay . . . bad joke." He watched her glance down at her notepad. Heck. He hoped she didn't use that in the story."

The book is a fun read. My only criticism of it has to deal with the ending. I found it very abrupt.

Nevertheless, I recommend NOTHING DOWN--especially if you love baseball.

D. Heard I REMEMBER NOTHING AND OTHER REFLECTIONS (Random House Audio), written and read by Nora Ephron.

The author, a novelist and screenwriter-director, published this collection of essays a year before she died.

Many of them are quite humorous, probably because I could relate well to such topics as lapses in memory:

* I have been forgetting things for years--at least since I was in my thirties. I know this because I wrote something about it at the time. I have proof. Of course, I can't remember exactly where I wrote about it, or when, but I could probably hunt it up if I had to.

She then goes on to discuss the difficulties she has with remembering names:

* Have we met? I think we've met. But I can't be sure. We were introduced, but I didn't catch your name because it's so noisy at the party. I'm going to assume we know each other, and I'm not going to say, "Nice to meet you." If I say, "Nice to meet you," I know what will happen. You'll say, "We've met." You'll say, "We've met in a sort of aggressive, irritable tone. And you won't even tell me your name so I can recover in some way. So I'm not going to say, "Nice to meet you." I'm going to say, "Nice to see you." I'll have a big smile on my face. I won't look desperate. But what I'll be thinking is, Please throw me your name. Please, please, please. Give me a hint. My husband is likely to walk up, and I'll have to introduce you, and I won't be able to, and you'll know that I have no idea who you are.

My favorite part of the book had to do with the reason she chose journalism in a career:

* What I remember is that there was a vocational day during my freshman year in high school, and you had a to choose which vocation you wanted to learn about. I chose journalism. I have no idea why. Part of the reason must have had to do with Lois Lane, and part with a wonderful book I'd been given one Christmas, called A TREASURY OF GOOD REPORTING. The journalist who spoke at the vocational event was a woman sportswriter for the LOS ANGELES TIMES. She was very charming, and she mentioned in the course of her talk that there were very few women in the newspaper business. As I listened to her, I suddenly realized that I desperately wanted to be a journalist and that being a journalist was probably a good way to meet men.

After listening to this book, I felt that I got to know Nora Ephron better . . . and I now want to go back and watch one of the many films she wrote (WHEN HARRY MET SALLY, SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE, JULIE & JULIA, etc.).

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5. TV alert

A. THE ABOLITIONISTS debuts on Tuesday, Jan. 8 at 9 p.m. on PBS and runs for the following two Sundays at the same time . . . but if you missed Part One, no fear; it will be repeated on Sunday, Jan. 13 at 10 p.m. . . . according to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "Their [William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, John Brown and Harriet Beecher Stowe] embattled histories speak for themselves and, as this series shows so well, they do so with ferocious eloquence."

B. LES MISERABLES, the best movie version in my opinion, airs on Sunday at 10 a.m. on TCM . . . there's no music, but don't let that be an excuse for missing this 1935 classic starring Frederic March, Charles Laughton and Sir Cedric Hardwicke . . . according to Leonard Matlin, this is a "Meticulous production of Victor Hugo's classic tale. Minor thief March tries to bury past and become respectable town mayor, but police inspector Javert (Laughton) won't let him. John Carradine has bit part as [a] student radical."

C. THE 70TH ANNUAL GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS should be fun to watch, if for no other reason than to watch the pairing of former "Weekend Update" coanchors Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, both nominated for TV Comedy Actress . . . I'm also hoping that LOUIE's Louis C.K. wins Actor, Comedy . . . Sunday at 8 p.m. on NBC.

D. GIRLS returns Sunday at 9 p.m. on HBO . . . Matt Roush in TV GUIDE calls it "an unnervingly perceptive and fearlessly raw chronicle of an adrift yet judgmental generation." I agree.

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6. Joke 2



Thanks Pat Achilles for graciously permitting me to run the above cartoon. She is my friend and a talented illustrator. If you'd like to reach her for funny greeting cards, illustrations, caricatures, etc., contact her via phone (215.348.4837) or email (patachilles@aol.com). Her website can be viewed by clicking: www.achillesportfolio.com.

Note: See Section 1D for a chance to win Pat's 2013 calendar.

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7. Websites

A. Corinne G. in PA: A tour of the Space Station; worth every minute.

This is one of the most fantastic videos I've ever seen !
<http://www.wimp.com/orbitaltour/>

B. JUST SOMETHING TO ENJOY! You will never see anyone much smoother with his dance steps!

He's 17 and she's only 15. But together, they won the 2012 Junior Division National Carolina Shag Dancing Championships. They're dancing to Joe Turner's "Flip, Flop and Fly."

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NF80SbicjBE&feature=youtu.be>

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

If you're new to BLAINESWORLD . . . or just want to see some older pictures of me, Cynthia, our friends and relatives, etc., click "Blaine's Best" to the left and then "Pictures" . . . Who knows? You may even be there! Also, make sure your sound is on so you can listen to what's arguably the greatest rock song of all time!

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



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8. Computer tip

If you need to convert your HTML files into some other format (e.g., Doc, PDF, XLS, JPEG, TIFF or TXT), please click this link for a free online converter:

<http://www.coolutils.com/online-html-converter.php#>

I frequently use this website when putting together BLAINESWORLD . . . methinks you'll find your own uses for it.

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9. Joke 3

Take This Job And . . .

Copyright 1997 by Greg Bulmash.

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As I was working on re-spinning my resume this past week, I realized that we're never quite truthful on resumes and job applications. We try to make ourselves look as good as possible, usually better than we really are. So today, I thought I'd fill out a job application the way I want to rather than the way I should . . .

NAME: Greg Bulmash

DESIRED POSITION: Reclining. Ha ha. But seriously, whatever's available. If I was in a position to be picky, I wouldn't be applying here in the first place.

DESIRED SALARY: \$185,000 a year plus stock options and a Michael Ovitz style severance package. If that's not possible, make an offer and we can haggle.

EDUCATION: Yes.

LAST POSITION HELD: Target for middle-management hostility.

SALARY: Less than I'm worth.

MOST NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENT: My incredible collection of stolen pens and post-it notes.

REASON FOR LEAVING: It sucked.

HOURS AVAILABLE TO WORK: Any.

PREFERRED HOURS: 1:30-3:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL SKILLS?: Yes, but they're better suited to a more intimate environment.

MAY WE CONTACT YOUR CURRENT EMPLOYER?: If I had one, would I be here?

DO YOU HAVE ANY PHYSICAL CONDITIONS THAT WOULD PROHIBIT YOU FROM LIFTING UP TO 50 LBS?: Of what?

DO YOU HAVE A CAR?: I think the more appropriate question here would be "Do you have a car that runs?"

HAVE YOU RECEIVED ANY SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITION?: I may already be a winner of the Publishers Clearinghouse Sweepstakes.

DO YOU SMOKE?: Only when set on fire.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE DOING IN FIVE YEARS?: Living in Bimini with a fabulously wealthy supermodel who thinks I'm the greatest thing since sliced bread. Actually, I'd like to be doing that now.

DO YOU CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE?: No, but I dare you to prove otherwise.

SIGN HERE: Scorpio with Libra rising.

* For Greg's latest and greatest, please click:

<http://kablowie.com/>

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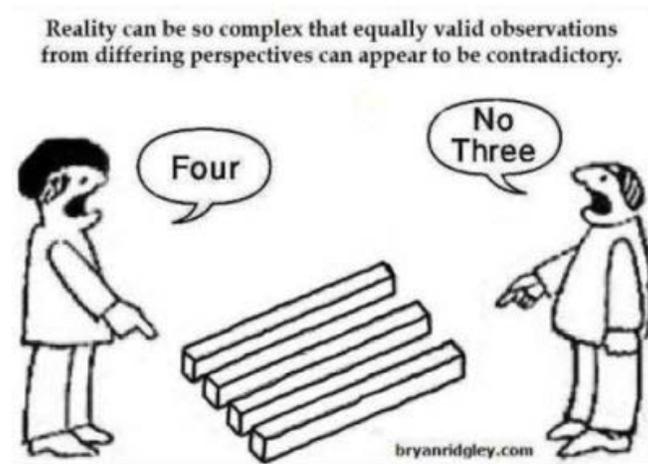
10. A quote I like

"We need a witness to our lives. There's a billion people on the planet . . . I mean, what does any one life really mean? But in a marriage, you're promising to care about everything. The good things, the bad things, the terrible things, the mundane things . . . all of it, all of the time, every day. You're saying 'Your life will not go unnoticed because I will notice it. Your life will not go un-witnessed because I will be your witness.' "- Beverly Clark (played by Susan Sarandon) in the 2004 version of SHALL WE DANCE

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11. Thought for the day

How many do YOU see?



When I posted this on Facebook, I received these responses:

- * Walter B. in NC: If we agree to just count the longer inclined lines, we'll all agree to 9.
- * Jim R. in PA: Seven.
- * Sylvia M. in FL: 8.

My two cents: So far, I've counted 73 . . . but then again, I was never very good in Math!

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12. Advance planning department

A. NC events

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-10g>

(1) Dr. Nido Quebein is the featured speaker at Lessons in Leadership on Tuesday. (2) SART's first HEARTS FOR SART fundraiser. (3) The Zoodles in downtown Asheville. (4) Ground Hog Day Afternoon Tea Dance with the Heather Masterton Trio. (5) The Story of We. (6) SEX AND HOW TO HAVE IT.

B. PA/NJ events

(1) I'm slated to be "up North" from Jan. 21-27, 2013 and staying in the Bucks County area. One place I know I'll be at: Zebra Striped Whale in Newtown, PA, on Saturday, Jan. 26 from 2-4 p.m. Stop by to say "hello" and get some of that store's oh-so-tasty ice cream and/or chocolate. An added "plus" will be John Strauss playing his guitar. If you can't make it then, if interested, contact me about the possibility of getting together some other time.

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

<http://wp.me/p1g9Ev-10g>

(2) Self defense seminar. (3) Exploring New Books at Bucks. (4) Two community dialogues to honor the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King.

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PS. Make it a great week!

Join Our Mailing List!

Blaine Greenfield
19 N. Kaufmann Stone Way
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715
Phone : 828.633.1049

Contact Us at bjinbc@aol.com
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