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**“Comments on News”
by
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Comments on some items in the news...

Dateline Norway... At first it seemed the Norwegians were going the way of the Brits by offering up for sale one of their national treasures... in this case Norway's Royal Palace. An advertisement appeared on eBay offering it up for auction, stating, "At the moment, the castle is in Norway but it can be moved to another country whenever. The King and Queen are not included in the price, but I am sure that they would move with the Royal Palace." The ad also mentioned the Palace was "only" 102 years old. It was later found the ad was a hoax but prior to the finding a bid of \$99,999,999 had been offered for the little bauble.

Selling historic national landmarks is nothing new, even in the good old USA. There has been a perennial running joke about someone trying to sell the Brooklyn Bridge to suckers but I don't know of anyone who actually collected any money for it. Our friends in England, however, actually did sell the New London Bridge, which had replaced the original Old London Bridge in 1831. Let's keep in mind we are not talking about the also famous, London Tower Bridge. In April of 1968 the outdated and traffic congested, 928 foot long, 65 foot wide, New London Bridge was sold to American oil man Robert P. McCulloch for close to \$2.5 Million.

Mr. McCulloch disassembled his purchase, numbered each piece, and re-assembled it at Lake Havasu City, AZ where it was re-dedicated in October, 1971. It forms the center piece of a theme park built in English Style with a Tudor Shopping Mall. One wouldn't think a 130 year old bridge would be such a draw for all us street smart Yanks, but according to those who know, the New London Bridge has become Arizona's second largest tourist attraction, after the Grand Canyon. Go figure!

Dateline Ohio... Is there nothing left in this country that hasn't been the object of a legal suit? I thought we had gone too far when a not so young lady was awarded \$1 Million+ from McDonald's for spilling hot coffee in her lap, but that was upstaged by some groups suggesting I should sue various purveyors of hamburgers and french fries because they were contributing to the enlarged paunch around my waist. Now we've got a lady in Ohio who worked for a bank that had been robbed four times from 2002 to 2006. She is suing the bank stating they had not taken proper cautionary measures which would have prevented the bank from being held up. Specifically, she said, they had not hired an armed guard and that encouraged would be robbers, so the bank is liable for endangering her life.

Not to belittle her concern... too much... but isn't her suit the equivalent of suing a golf course because you bought a home on the fairway resulting in your home being hit by errant golf balls? Should the golf course restrict their players to only those who can keep their balls in the fairway? Sorry Tiger, you can't play here, we might get sued. Let's start taking responsibility for our own decisions.

As far as inherent dangers you accept by working at a bank let's all remember what the infamous bank robber Willie Sutton said when asked why he robbed banks... "Cause that's where the money is." C'mon lady, get a different job and don't make the bank out as the bad guy.

Dateline: Indiana- Did you read the National College Sorority Delta Zeta has been banned from the DePauw University campus for discriminating against some of the female students? Seems DZ's national leadership purportedly asked 23 members of the DePauw chapter to voluntarily leave the chapter house and resign their membership because they "were not attractive enough." Wow...talk about wolves eating their own wounded, they must have been losing pledges to the dreaded Zeta, Zeta, Zeta sorority. If my college experience is trustworthy, everyone knows "Triple Z" girls were to die for.

I was a member of a local fraternity that went national when I was in college and some of my best friends today are brothers of that fraternity. Not that we were perfect as a group but this little faux pas by the DZ leaders shows the vanity and inanity of college Greeks and how far their values have fallen. We guys, on the other hand, would only refuse membership because a pledge couldn't burp the entire Greek alphabet, or chug a quart of beer before the sulfur on a match burnt off... you know, really uplifting and life changing traits. Also, our fraternity never had our doors closed by the college administration... well... there was that mooning incident from our balcony by some of our brothers at Homecoming Parade participants, that led to a brief suspension of our participation in Greek activities... but that's another story. How sad it is to see the shallowness of the sorority and fraternity members these days. Maybe the DePauw explosion will bring the Greek community to its senses and get back to the values we held so dear... we can only hope.

Tune in next week for more exciting and vibrant news with expert analysis.

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