

A Wisconsin Guy, eCurrency, eScams, Rememberences

All, today I received a very interesting e-mail from APT Group member, Cidnie Johnson Richards, whom I have known since junior high. She passed along her thoughts regarding the discomfort encountered in air travel. She also wondered why Sean Duffy; Secretary of Transportation, was decrying the fact that the flying public was not getting dressed up while traveling.

Quick Check of Secretary of Transportation's Responsibilities...

I was surprised to read that Sec. Duffy seems to want to be a fashion consultant. That is surprising as well as inappropriate. If he were to consult his agency's website he would learn that he is the head of the Department of Transportation. He reports to Trump. And is principal advisor on federal transportation matters. His responsibilities include developing and overseeing national transportation policy, preparing transportation legislation, and overseeing funding for infrastructure projects. The Secretary also handles international agreements, promotes intermodal transportation, and ensures the safety and efficiency of various transportation systems, including aviation, highways, and railroads. It is remarkable that he has the time to even think about what we should be wearing while traveling by airplane.

A Wisconsin Guy...

Duffy is from Hayward, Wisconsin. A town smaller than Black River Falls. If you are an outdoorsy type there is plenty to do. Hayward is famous for great fishing, miles of ATV trails, and for hosting two of the world's top racing events – the American Birkebeiner cross-country ski race and the Chequamegon Fat Tire bicycle race. But, something that cannot be over emphasized is the fact that it is one of the great places to go Muskie fishing. That inedible fish is honored in Hayward by this sculpture:



This big muskie is made of concrete, steel, and fiberglass was painstakingly hand-sculpted into the likeness of a leaping muskie.

Duffy's roots are pure Wisconsin. That facet of the man had me hoping that his emphasis would be on air traffic controllers' lives, the people whose vigilance is important for our lives when we travel by air. He is also able to shape railroad policy. Maybe he will catch on to the fact that we need better trains for passengers. One can only hope.

Crypto Currency...

It would take me a lot of effort to think of something that I know less about the crypto currency. A friend of mine, Rafael Pastor, a very successful investor and money manager, based in Peru has suggested in no uncertain terms that I not mess around with it. I'm going to follow the advice.

So far, my impression of crypto currency is that it is the king's new clothes of financial instruments. In this situation it is entirely possible that, while everybody is admiring crypto currency (the modern version of the king's new clothes) they might be the ones who find themselves naked, having lost the shirts off their backs.

Hiding on the Internet...

For the past couple of months I have been getting a flood of calls about Medicaid and Medicare. All of these calls are from people who are trying to sell me something. My cellular telephone service does have a rudimentary screening process. Sometimes I will get a message telling me that it is a spam call. Those, I sent right to voicemail. I have noticed that when I do that no message is left.

But, there is a problem. There is always the chance that I am going to ignore a call that is actually important or otherwise meaningful. Suppose that the call is from someone who really wants me to get a message, are they are going to use the voicemail? I hope so.

To address the problem I have subscribed to an entity called CLOAKED. Their function is to search the web and discover what information of mine is floating around in places where it should not be, then remove it. This appears to be a genuinely universal problem. If anyone in the APT Group is using CLOAKED, please share your observations and experience with everybody. And if you found something you think is superior/more effective based on your experience, please share it, too.

We Can Remember Being 20 Years Old..

Specialist Sarah Beckstrom, was killed in the line of duty while serving in the National Guard in Washington DC was only 20 years old. The New York Times wrote about her death and its impact on her hometown of Martinsburg West Virginia, population slightly less than 20,000.

She was a young woman motivated to serve. She had been planning her life with great care. She was hard-working and ambitious to succeed. Her death was needless. She was in the wrong place at the wrong time, but for the right reason. She was willing to stand in for someone and be on duty so that person could enjoy Thanksgiving.

We all remember being 20 years old, imagining the life that we would have ahead of us. But none of us imagined what happened to Ms. Beckstrom, happening to us. Neither could any of us have imagined what happened at Kent State.

First yawn...

Until tomorrow...

Ken
Black River Falls, WI

+

