



Seufert Law Offices, PA

We'll Get You Through It

From the Captain's Log Epic Adventure



My youngest daughter graduated from college on May 24th, my mom is soon turning 90, so as a “2-for” celebration of these life’s achievements, we decided on a 2-week adventure through Europe. Flying out from Boston on 5/20/25 with British Airways (fabulous airline) we flew to London-Heathrow, then on to Paris. Staying in Paris for 3 days, we visited the Cathedral of Notre Dame-Paris, the Louvre, had lunch at the famous Le Train Bleu, sat at a café on the famed Rue Montorgueil while leisurely sipping café au lait, with croissants, and “people watching”. We walked around the Eiffel Tower, then took an evening boat ride along the Seine River, seeing all of Paris light up and come to life at dusk, topped off by the stunning light show of the Eiffel Tower. We visited the Arc de Triomphe, sipping more café au lait, with croissants. Then rented a car, an Opel Sedan with less than 1000 miles on it, and headed to Reims, France and toured the Cathedral Notre Dame-Reims, as majestic as the one in Paris but with less notoriety. The following day we sped along the autobahn, heading east to the Alsace-Lorraine region, passing the famous WWI battlefields of the battle of Verdun, and battle of the Argonne Forest. Arriving in Strasbourg, in the Alsace-Lorraine province that evening, we booked a hotel at the footsteps of the Cathedral Notre Dame-Strasbourg, again equally as impressive as the others. We were at a loss as to how the dioceses can maintain these Cathedrals at what must be enormous annual costs. Down an alley that evening we saw a boat tour operator ready to embark, so spontaneously grabbed some tickets and hopped on for a wonderful ride and history lesson. The next day, being Sunday, my mom wanted to go to mass in the Cathedral. The pomp and circumstance of a mass in a Notre Dame Cathedral is beyond amazing. The Sargent of Armes is dressed in purple regalia, with staff and sword, leading the procession down the aisle and up to the alter, behind him walk 5 priests, behind them an army of assistance, choir boys, etc. The mass goes 90 minutes, in French and Latin. You leave very spiritual.



My family came from the small village of Rougegoutte, just outside of Belfort, Alsace-Lorraine so we drove to and stayed in Belfort overnight and went to the church where my mom’s grandparents were married, and her mother baptized. In the cemetery is one of her uncles who died shortly at birth, and another uncle killed in WWII. My mom had a bittersweet moment standing at the church altar. We toured the bastion at Belfort, with the famous lion statute carved into the side. We

headed to Grenoble, France winding along the back roads through the French Alps and the vistas were stunning at every turn, with an ancient castle along every mountain ridge, some of which we spontaneously visited. In Grenoble another Notre Dame Cathedral and another mass. We were not on any set itinerary, so we just stopped and stayed when and where we chose. Other than the 1st night in Paris we did not book any hotels, instead just booking the next 4 or 5 star hotel the night before, or day of, at ½ the cost of making advance reservations. After Grenoble we jumped over into Germany, and then down into Geneva, Switzerland and visited the original United Nations facility, before it was moved to NYC after WWII, but where they still maintain, and hold occasional assemblies. Then down to Avignon, France at the base of the French Alps, and visiting the ancient walled city of the original Vatican, there for almost a century before being relocated to Rome, and still standing as majestic after all these years. After Avignon down to the Cote d’ Azur and Cannes, Nice, Monaco, Monte Carlo and flying home after 14-days. I have to say all this traveling was exhausting, but are ready to go AGAIN. ●

July 2025 News



The Highest of Highs



On July 20, 1919, Mt. Everest's nemesis was born: famed mountain climber Edmund Hillary of Auckland, New Zealand.

Hillary's first job was beekeeper, the income from which funded his early mountain-climbing excursions — in New Zealand, the Alps, and finally the Himalayas, where he scaled 11 peaks exceeding 20,000 feet in elevation. Between 1920 and 1952, seven major expeditions to conquer Mt. Everest had failed. That changed on May 29, 1953.

Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, a Nepalese sherpa, outlasted the rest of their British-led party and reached Everest's peak. They hung around just long enough to congratulate each other, soak in the view, and bury a crucifix (Hillary) and some chocolates and biscuits for the "mountain gods" (Norgay).

On the eve of Queen Elizabeth II's June 2 coronation, news broke of Hillary's feat, boosting the confidence of a weary nation still recovering from war and postwar shortages. Soon after, Hillary was knighted by Queen Elizabeth and added "sir" to his resume.

Although New Zealand was home, Hillary developed a deep affinity for the Nepalese people. In the 1960s, he was a common presence and helped get new clinics, hospitals, and schools off the ground. He also convinced New Zealand's government to fund environmental maintenance around the base of Everest to help preserve it as a national park.

For his mountain-climbing and humanitarian exploits, Hillary was named one of the "100 Most Influential People of the 20th Century" by *Time* magazine in 1999. On the 50th anniversary of his Everest ascent, he was granted honorary citizenship by Nepal's government — the first foreigner so honored.

Hillary, who passed away in January 2008, summed up his life as follows: "The truth is, I'm just a rough old New Zealander who has enjoyed many challenges in his life." Humility is a wonderful attitude. ●

Don't Underestimate Sparklers!



July 2025 Notable Dates

July 4	Independence Day
July 7	Chocolate Day
July 9	Dimples Day
July 16	Hot Dog Day
July 20	Moon Day
July 22	Hammock Day
July 28	Waterpark Day

Fireworks are 4th of July tradition: colorful, booming, thrilling. When people think of fireworks-related injuries, thoughts often gravitate to high powered, and most likely illegal, fireworks such as M-80s, M-100s, cherry bombs, and silver salutes, among others.

Legal fireworks such as firecrackers, bottle rockets, and roman candles might come to mind, too. (Fireworks laws vary from state to state and municipality to municipality.) And then there's the occasional incident at a professional fireworks display that grabs headlines.

Unfortunately, sparklers are often overlooked or downplayed as potential hazards and are frequently handed out to young children to celebrate. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, sparklers can burn from 1,200°F–2,000°F. That's hot enough to melt a bunch of metals — and bad news for fingers, hands, faces, and eyes.

Over the last decade, 700 to 1,200 kids per year made detours to ERs due to sparkler injuries. Roughly 75% occurred in the July Fourth window: two weeks prior to two weeks after. To cite an extreme case, in 2017 a 4-year-old Wisconsin girl was killed when her dad placed several sparkler-type fireworks in a metal tube in an attempt to create a lawn fountain-like effect of sparks. Instead, the tube exploded, and shrapnel struck the girl.

Be careful with sparklers (FYI: Massachusetts bans sparklers; some municipalities do too):

- Use sparklers as intended; outdoors only.
- Don't allow very young children to hold or get too close to sparklers.
- Closely supervise children up to age 12.
- Hold sparklers away from the body, one at a time, no running around.
- Don't hold sparklers while barefoot or wearing open-toed footwear.
- Douse spent sparklers in water; dispose of them when cooled.

Have a happy and safe Fourth of July! •

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Protect Your Family, Protect Your Rights



Epic Adventure
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A Sneaky, Deadly Menace

Carbon monoxide (CO) is frequently linked to any engine or device that uses gasoline, diesel, kerosene, charcoal, or wood as fuel. These fuels emit CO when they are burned.

While CO is generally harmless in an outdoor environment, it can be lethal when it accumulates in an enclosed setting. CO is even more sinister in that it is colorless and odorless, providing no clues that dangerous levels are present. And, it can strike quickly.

Telltale symptoms of CO poisoning include headache, dizziness, confusion, flu-like symptoms, fatigue, and memory problems, to name a few. Overexposure can lead to death or permanent neurological damage. When diagnosed promptly, CO poisoning can be successfully treated, and permanent harm can be averted. If you suspect that CO exposure is an issue, immediately evacuate everyone (and pets) from the premises and dial 911 for assistance.



A defective product, incorrect use of an appliance, improper maintenance, and absence of working CO detectors are common reasons that people become victims of CO poisoning. And it's not only at home where CO poisoning might be a concern. The workplace, hotels, vacation-home rentals, and vehicles are other potential danger zones.

If you or a family member becomes a victim of CO poisoning due to another's negligence, contact a personal injury attorney to seek appropriate compensation. ●