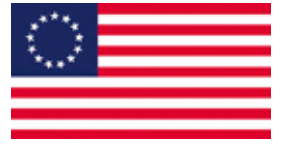


**WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT
TO DEFEND YOURSELF.**

COMPLIMENTARY. TAKE ONE.

GUNNEWS



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE, INC. AFFILIATED WITH ILLINOIS GUN RIGHTS ALLIANCE, JPFO, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES AND OTHERS

VOLUME 31, NUMBER 4

APRIL 2024

Texas AG supports off-duty and retired police. Meanwhile...

IL AG threatens cops with prison

(GSL/Shooting News Weekly) – Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton dropped the hammer on five entities in the Lone Star State that arbitrarily ban cops from carrying in violation of Texas state law. If only all attorneys general shared his good sense and willingness to uphold the law.

Elections have consequences. Your vote counts, folks. Here in the Land of Lincoln, a million-plus gun owning folks stayed home in the 2022 election. Some thought their votes didn't count and others probably thought voting a waste of their time. "Why bother?" As a result, instead of electing renowned civil rights attorney in Tom DeVore as our AG, the Illinoisans who actually voted elected Kwame Raoul.

In an example of how elections matter, Attorney General Raoul's office recently released an "informal" opinion asserting that retired police officers who carry firearms on school property are committing a Class 3 felony. The "informal" opinion suggested that only on-duty police and armed security officers of said schools have an exemption under law to carry on school property.

What sparked this request for an opinion from the AG's office?

Last year, a state cop carried while off-duty at his daughter's high school softball game. At some point

his gun was momentarily exposed. Some Suzy Winebox or her husband Chad saw it, panicked and complained.



The brass reacted by pulling the LEO off the street and putting him on a desk for months while they toyed with firing him and seeking criminal charges. Probably the only thing that saved him was a local prosecutor who looked at the report and said, "Are you kidding me?"

So the state cop was returned to duty with a stern warning that he would (likely) be terminated and potentially prosecuted if he dared pack his gun while off-duty at his kid's school again. Or any other school

Continued on page 20.



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April 2024

- **Quincy:** Last Wednesday: **March 27**, April 24, May 29
Eagles Club, 3535 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: *No March Meeting (Easter)*, **April 28**, *No May Meeting*
American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **April 1**, May 6
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **April 2**, May 7
Pontiac Sportsman's Club, 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **April 3**, May 1
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion (*Program at 6:45pm*)
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **April 4**, May 2
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
- **Danville:** Second Monday **March 11**, April 8
Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: **April 9**, May 14
KC Hall, 1001 N. Ohio St., Rantoul
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **April 10**, May 8
Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish.
- **Charleston:** Second Thursday: **April 11**, May 9
U Hotel Conference Center, 920 West Lincoln Ave, Charleston
- **LaSalle County:** **NEW! THIRD Thursday: April 18**, May 16
Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St. Utica
- **Geneseo:** *Coming in June*

Dinner, conversation, exhibits at 6 p.m. Program starts at 7 p.m.
Come on out and join us. Good food, good fun and good friends.
Dinner is optional but we encourage attendees to eat to support the venue.

Meetings are free and open to all.

Sights across Illinois at GSL events...



Fritz Fitzgerald, the NRA-ILA Frontlines Activist Leader, addresses the audience at our Chicagoland meeting.



Our own Kelvin Coburn served as our main speaker at the Sangamon County meeting.



Col. Mark Hurley (retired) delivered a great presentation on Artificial Intelligence to a full house in Decatur.



GunNews racks available

For our volunteers who distribute *GunNews*, we have a limited number of wire racks available. If you have a high-traffic venue that could benefit from one of these, and permission from the location to place it, contact Rich Goodall, Tim Weir or John Boch (see *Directory on page 22*). Ditto if you own a gun shop and would like one of these racks to put *GunNews* out for customers to see. We can deliver as volunteer travels permit.

GunNews Magazine - 2 - April 2024



Happy Birthday!
Our Chicagoland Regional Director Alfreda Keith-Keller had a birthday in February and we celebrated with some yummy treats!



Coming in June 2024: **GSL Geneseo!**

Gun Valley is the home to multiple gun manufacturers, including Springfield Armory and Rock River Arms. Coming in June, it will be the newest regional chapter of Guns Save Life!

Yes, Guns Save Life is coming to Gun Valley with a new monthly meeting in Geneseo, Illinois.

Look for more details in next month's issue of *GunNews*. We've got a team of great people eager to share the fun and excitement of GSL meetings with people in Northwestern Illinois. We've also worked out some technical issues with holding chapters in far-flung corners of the state, so it should be a great time with great people. Stay tuned!



Post Office delivers our December 2023 issue of *GunNews* 96 days after we mailed it...

We suspect something on the cover of our December 2023 issue of *GunNews* triggered someone working at the Peoria, IL Post Office. Because we delivered a pallet of *GunNews* the day before Thanksgiving.

the right political reasons, or the person committing the crime is a member of the protected class.

This includes everything right up to and including bringing cocaine into the White House.

If we had to guess, it was probably the graphic on the left side of the front page that triggered a special snowflake.



Someone there "misplaced" that pallet of *GunNews* weighing several hundred pounds for about three months because they started arriving in mailboxes 96 days later.

Willfully "misplacing" US Mail is a federal crime, at least in normal times. Today under the Biden Administration's Department of Justice, things that would put people in prison in years past are sometimes overlooked if they were done for



No Chicagoland Meeting in March.

The last Sunday meeting for the Chicagoland GSL Chapter in March has been cancelled because of the Easter holiday. Happy Easter!

Crete F-Men Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30th

1962 West Exchange Street, Crete, IL 60417

Special needs event at 11am. Traditional event starts at noon.

The Crete F-Men Easter Egg Hunt returns this spring on March 30th, 2024 with our first annual special needs Easter Egg Hunt!



This event is **TOTALLY FREE** for kids! The hunt starts at 11:00 AM, weather dependent. We strive to host a sensory friendly,

subdued and welcoming environment for children with special needs and their families. This event will be held an hour before our general egg hunt and away from the large crowds. We'll have wheelchair accessibility and the option to participate in a single hunt or group hunt with other children.

YOU MUST REGISTER EACH CHILD WHO WILL BE ATTENDING. You do not need to register adults who will accompany your child. Do not use this registration

page to register children who will be attending the general Easter Egg Hunt at noon. This ticket is for the Special Needs hunt only at 11am only. We'll do our best to accommodate each child. This event takes place in a grassy area. Please let us know in advance if there is anything we can do to help your child feel more comfortable.

Each child in attendance will receive a free Easter basket! (While supplies last)



Chris Balkema addressed the audience in Pontiac. He's in a four-way race for State Senate to replace Sen. Tom Bennett who is retiring.



State Rep. Adam Niemerg, running a write-in race for re-election, spoke at Charleston. He shared why he got tossed off the primary ballot and who was behind that.



Congrats to Owen on winning the Girsan-branded Beretta clone!



Peoria Regional Director Richard Parks with our Peoria gun winner Tom who took home a Browning HiPower clone.



Judge Joe McGraw spoke in Peoria. He's running for the Republican nomination for Congress in the 17th District.



Our winners in Rantoul, from left, Greg Worrell won the 50/50, Terry won the .22 ammo and on the right, our Champaign County Regional Director Dick Brandt.



Chris Miller gave one of his stump speeches off the cuff, lambasting the "Bad idea factory" that's the Illinois General Assembly under today's so-called "leadership."

Fritz Fitzgerald: The NRA is still in Illinois!

The rumors of the NRA abandoning Illinois are greatly exaggerated. So says Fritz Fitzgerald, the NRA-ILA Frontlines Activist leader who joined us at our GSL Chicagoland meeting on the last Sunday of February.



Fritz Fitzgerald.

Fitzgerald works alongside Kelvin Curtis, also of the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action. They specialize in grassroots work, with a special emphasis on non-traditional demographics of gun owners. The NRA-ILA differ from the NRA proper as ILA are the people who do the lobbying work and the political advocacy, including grassroots activism like GSL does so well across Illinois.

Yes, he noted how Wayne LaPierre is completely gone from NRA leadership. Currently they're trying to put together a new leadership team, but everyone is watching the courts there in New York following the civil corruption trial against LaPierre and some others.

Fitzgerald explained that the NRA headquarters building is for sale and most of the current headquarters will be moving down to Dallas in the coming months. The move should be concluded within two or three years, tops.

COOLEY: Making a difference in local politics

Ken Cooley delivered a great presentation on local politics at our Danville chapter, sharing his passion for making a difference at the local level. He reminded folks that all politics is local and local political organizers, like Precinct Committeemen, have a big say in local leadership of both parties.

requires a little more time but it comes with rewards, including meeting a lot of good people. Become a precinct committeeman.

If you're really gung ho, meet the local party leaders in the party of your choice, get to know them and then run for office. Even if you don't run for office, once you get to know them you can help influence their position on certain high-profile issues (such as the illegal invasion, for instance...)



Ken Cooley.

Ken shared how he was dissatisfied with local politics and worked from within at the local level to become one of the informal local "leaders." From there he's implemented changes.

Looking to the future, he talked of some of his successes and how they're working to improve voter outreach to target some of those folks who have been sitting out elections for whatever reason. We all need to vote. If you don't vote then you get the government you deserve. 9000 gun owners sat out the 2022 election in Champaign County and pro-gun candidates lost in several local races. Go go vote every time in every election.

We can't stress that enough. Go vote.

Some things we can all do to start having an impact in local government? First, go vote in every election - and make sure like-minded friends go vote as well. Secondly, if you can carve out some time on election day, sign up as a poll watcher or an election judge. This will go a long way to ensuring election integrity. From there it

Mark Hurley: Artificial Intelligence

Col. Mark Hurley shared a great presentation on AI at our Decatur meeting. AI, like firearms, can be used for good or evil. The problem is that it is increasingly being weaponized against everyday Americans for political purposes to help control people and what they read. Remarkably it can even create speech and video in a person's own voice (and is already being used by Joe Biden's campaign). It's also used by Big Tech to harvest as much personal information as possible for them to sell for big bucks. And Democrats are using it to "profile" potential voters too.

Can't make it to a meeting? Still want to win a gun?
Tickets are available!



You can't make it to a meeting, but you want a chance to win a gun for as little as \$4? Here's your chance!
And yes, we've had several mail-in ticket winners in the past few months.

Indicate how many tickets you want for the gun you want (and city of drawing). Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20. Or 25 (plus a bonus) for \$100.

GSL's Treasurer Joanne Chandler will electronically notify the Regional Directors of the mail-in tickets sold for their meetings so they can get them into the drawing. If you're late, we'll return your check.

**Attn: Drawings
Guns Save Life
PO Box 8
Clinton, IL 61727**

GSL Monthly Gun Lineup!

See the "Great Guns 2024"

M1A Scout Squad on page 12.

Chicago April: Walther CCP .380

Chicago June: Tisas 1911 .45

Chicago July: Taurus TX22 compact

Peoria April: Taurus 605 .357

Peoria May: S & W 442 /38+P

Peoria June: Canik subcompact 9mm

Pontiac April: Tisas 1911 Carry B45

Decatur April: Henry Golden Eagle .22 Lever gun (NICE NICE!)



Decatur May: Walther 1911A1 .22

Rantoul April: Ruger P89

Charleston April: Charles Daly Camo 12ga bird gun

Danville April: Rock Island 1911 A1

Sangamon Co. April: S&W M&Pc .22

LaSalle April: 1000 rounds .223 FMJ

Quincy March: Sig P365 9mm



Executive Director's Report

Sigh.

by John Boch
Executive Director

GSL Internal.

Yeah, at my house, we got our December issue of *GunNews* around the first of March. Judging by the number of texts and emails, I'm guessing everyone else did too, starting 96 days after we mailed it. It's the second time in about three years that someone at the Peoria Post Office has "misplaced" a *pal-let* full of our monthly journal for about three months.



GSL's John Boch.

Ordinarily, maliciously "losing" mail is a federal felony, but under Biden's Department of Justice, you can get away with a lot if you're a Team Puddin' Brain supporter, up to and including bringing cocaine into the White House.

In other news, we're excited to announce a **new GSL chapter coming in Geneseo, IL!** Launch will probably happen in June. More details including a preliminary date and location will come next month and on the website.

Elections & Voting.

GunNews goes to press as polls close in this year's Illinois Primary Election. Hence why you don't see any encouragement for folks to get out and vote, nor any results. It's been a busy season with a *lot of good candidates* at GSL meetings across the state.

Will we as freedom-loving gun owners flip some districts to pro-gun representation and improve our situation in state and federal government in November? That will wholly depend on whether or not gun owners get off the couch and vote this November, or if they stay home for a litany of reasons as too many did in 2022.

I've heard from military types that the maximum effective range of an excuse is zero meters. Indeed. If you don't go vote for fill-in-the-blank reason, then you're ceding your choice of who represents you to people who probably don't have your best interests at heart.

Legislative Update.

Candidly, we don't have the votes to block gun control measures this year. "Moderates" on guns are largely an endangered species and the few remaining that privately hold pro-gun beliefs typically won't vote those for fear of getting primaried by bat-poop crazy gun hating lunatics. Remember how Kathleen Willis, the gun control doyenne of the Illinois House, got primaried and lost? Such is Illinois politics at the moment.

Frankly, witness slips are much the same. If it makes you feel better to file them, then by all means, have at it. However, they aren't like votes on election day. No bill will ever pass or fail in committee because you did or

didn't file a witness slip. Again, if you feel like you need to "do" something, then have at it.

We're looking at a boatload of just horrendous legislation that's been filed in the past few weeks, none of which would ultimately survive court challenges. But those are expensive and we have but limited resources. If you win a Mega Millions super jackpot and want to donate a hundred million to our litigation fund, we could no doubt push back.

The most insane proposals? An 8-hour training requirement just to apply for a FOID card. Another would require all FOID holders to take that training within one year or have their FOID cards revoked. That's the tip of the iceberg and they've put on their tyrant creative caps (which look like Dunce caps, only more dangerous) to come up with some of these ideas.

As much as I hate losing high quality friends and acquaintances packing the moving truck and leaving our state because of the Crazy Idea Factory in Springfield (hat tip to Chris Miller for the term of endearment), I really can't blame them. If it weren't for our remaining friends and some family, we might have done the same.



Honor Flight. We're looking for a new batch of Vietnam and older vets to go on an Honor Flight out of Springfield late this year or next Spring. Download your applications from Land of Lincoln Honor Flight and write GSL at the top then mail them into the Honor Flight peeps.



Free Teacher CCW Class! Also, all of you educators or those working in education: Take us up on our *free* teacher concealed carry class on the third weekend in June (22 & 23). Guns Save Life, GSL Defense Training and DeWitt County Sportsman's Club are partnering up for this. Already got a license? This will give you a chance to learn what you missed in your first class and shoot 250 rounds picking up defensive skill sets. As an added bonus, it will satisfy your "renewal" training hours (and then some.) For more information, visit GSLDefenseTraining.com.

Dem politicians in Illinois care more about protecting bags of chips than children in schools

(GSL) - Most Democrat leadership in the Land of Lincoln hate the idea of you or me having guns. These same politicians who run our state seem just as hostile to the idea of incarcerating violent offenders. It's a combination that leads to bad things like victim disarmament and subsequently, higher crime.

And now, it surely seems as though our Democrat elected "leaders" are more concerned about protecting bags of chips than protecting school children.



How so, you ask?

Last month, the Chicago School Board UNANIMOUSLY passed a resolution to remove Chicago Police School Resource Officers (SROs) from the Chicago Public Schools next school year.

Yep, despite all the data from across the nation of the positive impact of SROs, CPS will have none next school year.

At the same time Rep. Thaddeus Jones, a member of the Illinois Democrat Black Caucus (they pretty much run the Illinois General Assembly) introduced a bill titled the Armed Security Protection Act.

What do you think that his Armed Security Protection Act would require? Do you think it might armed security in public schools state-wide?

Because nothing bad happens ever in the CPS, right?



Two Innovations High School students were shot to death at high noon in the entrance to their school in downtown Chicago.

No. Instead, Rep. Thaddeus Jones' HB-1231 would require every bank, pawn shop, grocery store, and gas station in Chicago to hire armed security. Because Thaddeus Jones and his fellow gun control jihadists care more about protecting bags of chips, bottles of liquor and packs of smokes than our school kids in school.

So to sum up, Democrats leading Chicago have ordered armed good guys out of the schools and are proposing that every stop-n-rob has gun-toting security on hand.

And Chicago wonders why they have a crime problem.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

DeWitt County Sportsmans Club

Clinton, IL



BREAKFAST! First and Third Sunday. 8:30a.m.
JOIN US! Open to all.
See Calendar for Shoots & Events (p. 22)

>>>> Memberships Available. <<<<

Come join a growing, ever-improving club, with three independent ranges and permissive rules which allow shooters to practice from holsters, double-taps, movement and so forth. Centrally located on Route 10, six miles east of Clinton, IL (15423 State Highway 10). Great people and a warm atmosphere. Facilities include *three* ranges, clubhouse, a *real* publicly-accessible restroom and more. **Dues are currently \$60/year plus two work days (\$45 each on deposit, prepayment required). Over 65 dues are \$45 and no workdays.**

Download an application at dewittcountysc.com or by mailing a request to DCSC, PO Box 322, Clinton, IL 61727.



Illinois News

One step closer to illegals gaining the ability to become police officers

Federal judge rules gun prohibition on illegals unconstitutional... in this case

(The Reload) - The Second Amendment protects people's ability to own a gun even if they've entered the country illegally.

That's the ruling handed down by US District Judge Sharon Johnson Coleman on Friday. She found the federal prohibition on illegal immigrants owning guns is unconstitutional, at least as applied to Heriberto Carbajal-Flores. She ruled the ban did not fit with America's historical tradition of gun regulation as required under the Supreme Court's landmark New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen ruling.

"The noncitizen possession statute, 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(5), violates the Second Amendment as applied to Carbajal-Flores," Judge Colman wrote in US v. Carbajal-Flores. "Thus, the Court grants Carbajal-Flores' motion to dismiss."

The ruling is the latest fallout from the new standard for Second Amendment cases set in Bruen. Since the landmark case was decided in 2022, a wide swath of state and federal gun restrictions have come under increased scrutiny in the courts. Among the most commonly recurring questions raised by the new standard is who can be barred from owning guns, and the Carbajal-Flores case is among the first to examine whether people who entered the country illegally are among them.

Judge Coleman, a Barack Obama appointee, initially found the gun ban for illegal immigrants was constitutional back in April 2022. However, she agreed to reconsider the case in light of rulings from the federal appeals courts in the Third and Seventh Circuit that questioned whether those convicted of non-violent crimes could be permanently

disarmed after the High Court handed down Bruen in June 2022. She concluded breaking misdemeanor immigration laws alone is not enough justification to strip somebody of their gun rights under the new test.

"[C]arbajal-Flores has never been convicted of a felony, a violent crime, or a crime involving the use of a weapon. Even in the present case, Carbajal-Flores contends that he received and used the handgun solely for self-protection and protection of property during a time of documented civil unrest in the Spring of 2020," Judge Coleman wrote. "Additionally, Pretrial Service has confirmed that Carbajal-Flores has consistently adhered to and fulfilled all the stipulated conditions of his release, is gainfully employed, and has no new arrests or outstanding warrants."

GOOD NEWS!

ISP rules now allow private transfers to be completed without going to a dealer for those who use the online Firearm Transfer portal

(GSL) - Effective January 1, 2024, those wishing to complete a private sale of a firearm in Illinois no longer have to go to a federally licensed gun dealer to complete the transaction. Instead of going to a gun shop, private parties can now use the Illinois State Police Firearm Services Bureau website to enter the required data.



While it has been rumored that the ISP Firearm Services Bureau website's private gun transfer webpage satisfied ISP rules, we still wanted to see that in writing, preferably more than once. Well, thanks to Nate (last name withheld) we now have it in writing. Twice.

430 ILCS 65/3 (a-10) Notwithstanding item (2) of subsection (a) of this Section, any person who is not a federally licensed firearm dealer and who desires to transfer or sell a firearm or firearms to any person who is not a federally licensed firearm dealer shall, before selling or transferring the firearms, contact a federal

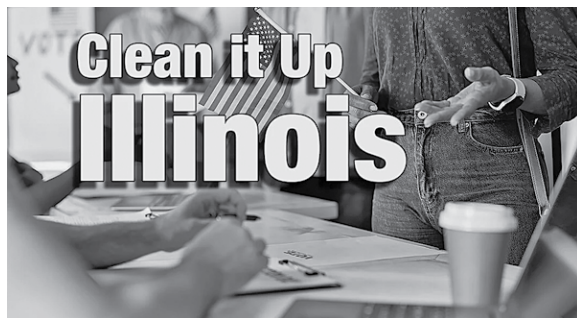
firearm license dealer under paragraph (1) of subsection (a-15) of this Section to conduct the transfer or the Illinois Department of State Police with the transferee's or purchaser's Firearm Owner's Identification Card number to determine the validity of the transferee's or purchaser's Firearm Owner's Identification Card under State and federal law including the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. This subsection shall not be effective until January 1, 2024.

[Emphasis added.]

Furthermore, when contacted via email, the ISP Firearm Services Bureau affirms that is correct.

RE: [External] Person to Person transfer

As long as both parties have valid FOID cards and are both Illinois residents, you may use the person-to-person transfer on our website.
Illinois State Police
Firearm Services Bureau
Customer Service Department
Call Center Phone: (217)782-7980
Fax: (217) 782-4257
R400



'Dirty voter rolls, dirty elections': Illinois sued to clean up 'mess'

(ZeroHedge) - Illinois is being sued over its failure to clean up the state's voter rolls and produce election-related records as required under federal law.

Legal watchdog organization Judicial Watch announced on Wednesday that they want Illinois to "develop and implement a general program that makes a reasonable effort to remove the registrations of ineligible registrants from the voter rolls."

According to JW, the National Voter Registration Act requires states to "conduct a general program that makes a reasonable effort to remove" from the official voter rolls "the names of ineligible voters" who have either died or changed residence - and that registrations must be cancelled when voters fail to respond to address confirmation notices, followed by subsequent no-shows in the next two general elections.

Pas efforts by Judicial Watch have led to the removal of up to four million ineligible voters from rolls in New York, California, Pennsylvania, Colorado, North Carolina and several other states.

Judicial Watch points out:

- Illinois' own reported data show that more than one fifth of its counties removed few or no registrations under a crucial NVRA provision concerning voters who have moved.
- Illinois informed the federal Election Assistance Commission (EAC) that 34 counties simply failed to report any data about removals under that key NVRA provision
- Nineteen of these counties also failed to report any data regarding registrations removed because of the death of the voter.
- Dozens of other counties failed to report other kinds of important NVRA data to the EAC.

"Illinois' voting rolls are a mess. Dirty voter rolls can mean dirty elections," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. "Illinois should take immediate steps to clean its rolls to both prevent fraud and increase voter confidence in the elections."



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Shop: 217-849-3353

Gift Certificates Available!



VOTE-BY-MAIL: Lost in the Chain-Of-Custody

by Nancy Hayes
Illinois Freedom Alliance Election Integrity Chair

Federalist Editor-in-Chief and best-selling author, Mollie Hemingway recently summed up the main problems with our elections with a focus on mail-in ballots in her testimony before the House Administration Committee when she stated, "Instead of having full security and a verifiable chain of custody for ballots being issued, cast, and counted, we flooded addresses across the country with tens of millions of unsupervised mail-in ballots months ahead of the elections frequently to locations from which voters, if they're even alive, have long since moved, instead of having election administration that is rigorously nonpartisan and impartial under the law."

voter rolls than eligible citizens who could vote.

In 2020, a lawsuit was filed in Illinois by the Chicago GOP against the Secretary of State, State Board of Elections and Governor Pritzker claiming, "by promoting the use of mail-in voting, (you) are attempting to put as many ballots into play...in order to sway the election."

The suit went on to add, "Illinois is one of the most inept states in the Union and the public has no reason to expect vote-by-mail system to work any more smoothly than a variety of other projects... More than any other state in our nation, Illinois has a record of both corruption and incompetence and its residents have no reason to believe that the government can conduct an honest and accurate vote-by-mail in the upcoming election."



Hemingway is absolutely correct in her statement and testimony.

In 2017, Judicial Watch a national leader in voter integrity, found 11 states where the number of registered voters exceeded the number of voting age citizens. Illinois was one of those states in which 24 counties had this issue.



In 2018, to add to this problem, Governor Rauner added automatic vote my mail which added more chaos to the problem. Then, Pritzker added more chaos to Illinois with "permanent vote-by-mail."

Then came the 2020 election which was claimed by the liberals and the mainstream media to be "the most secure and honest election in history". What a bunch of crock that was.

From the 2020 election, 90 million citizens cast their vote by mail. Of those, 1.1 million ballots were undeliverable, 560,814 ballots were rejected, and 14.7 million ballots were listed as "unknown", meaning, we don't know what happened to those ballots.

In 2020, Judicial Watch found 15 counties in Illinois had more registered voters on the

To say the 2020 election was "the most secure and honest election in history" was a lie. The truth is:

- In Pennsylvania, 440K mail ballots went missing; the margin of vote was 81K in 2020.
- In Georgia, 27K mail ballots bounced back with bad addresses; Biden won by 11K in 2020.
- In Wisconsin, 83K ballots went missing or were undeliverable; Biden's margin was 20K in 2020.
- Mass vote-by-mail requires accurate voter rolls. Many states including Illinois have dead voters, duplicate registrants and hundreds of thousands of voters who have moved over the last year.

Mass mailing leads to errors and uncertainty in our elections. The best way to vote is IN PERSON, AT THE POLLING PLACE, and ON ELECTION DAY!

You can learn more about the IL Freedom Alliance by visiting their website at IllinoisFreedomAlliance.us. They have regular opportunities to learn how to be a better informed citizen and they teach folks how to make a difference at the local level. Their Wednesday evening zoom training classes include topics including election integrity, basic poll-watcher training, vulnerabilities of voting machines, and discussing vulnerable voters such as those in nursing homes. You'll meet good people and learn new things to make yourself a better, more informed citizen.

LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

Legal Defense Fund Donations...

Folks, it looks like we're going to the US Supreme Court to fight for our right to purchase, possess and transport the most effective firearms for personal defense.

We're urging people to donate directly to our legal teams to help make all of this possible.

To fund our Illinois litigation team:

SADEC.org
2nd Amendment Defense and Education Coalition (SADEC)
P.O. Box 300
Waterman, IL 60556
(tax deductible)

To help the national firm backstopping our IL team:

2ALC.org
Second Amendment Law Center
284C East Lake Mead Parkway
Suite 530
Henderson NV 89015
(tax deductible)

We still absolutely endorse and support FFL-IL and their fund for our Illinois attorneys, however donations to them are not tax deductible. Aurora Sportsmen's Club's SADEC gets 100% of donations to the same place only in a tax deductible fashion.

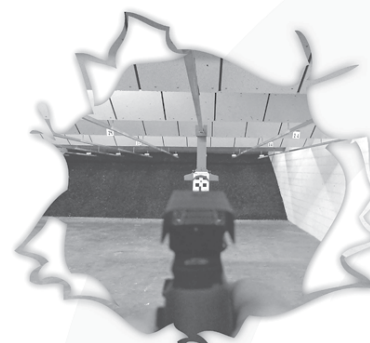
We would prefer folks send donations directly to the above funds. The easiest way for everyone involved is to make the donations online, but we've included mail addresses here for the non-computer savvy.



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In regione caecorum rex est luscus

In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is King by Desiderius Erasmus, a GSL member



Welcome to Murder City USA. The bad guy is in the front, left center, kneeling, is shooting at you. In the time it took you to read this description, he would have "killed" you.

Drills, practice can help make you harder to kill.

Use what works for you

So, you've got a self-defense firearm that has your confidence: it's accurate; you can handle the recoil; and its fun to shoot so you'll practice enough to get really proficient with it.

Except that you might not. Your schedule is busy, you have a lot of other responsibilities and demands on your time. And while most ammunition is now relatively available, it is still expensive with some calibers being over a buck a round.

You may want to consider supplementing live-fire with simulation training. It may not replicate recoil or noise, but something like a laser trainer, maybe a SIRT (Shot Indicating Resetting Trigger) Training Pistol. You've seen them: red and black, looks, weighs and feels like a Glock (one model replicates a Smith & Wesson M&P). Fits in most holsters designed for live fire pistols. The weighted simulated magazine is removable in the same manner as in a livefire pistol. Front and rear sights closely replicate sights on a Glock or an M&P.



The M&P version of SIRT.

SIRT pistols have two lasers. The first is a take-up indicator, which illuminates by pressure on the trigger. This feature reinforces proper trigger prep and reset. The second laser illuminates when the trigger breaks, and it represents where the shot would have impacted. That will tell you what you are doing incorrectly, like

dropping the muzzle as you shoot (often the result of anticipating recoil), or "pulling" a shot because of what your trigger finger does.

Another great feature is obviously safety. Its not a firearm; it doesn't hold ammunition. You can practice drawing the SIRT from your concealed carry without worrying about touching off a round. But it is a laser, so don't point it at someone's eyes (they provide shaded safety glasses for you to wear).

To be sure, it is an expense. With many of these laser trainers, you can also buy targets that keep score and provide more detailed feedback, some even sounding like a steel plate being hit (but check for compatibility before you buy). You can set these targets up almost anywhere, even at home. Add up the cost of the ammunition you would have shot with your firearm at the range, and gas costs in transportation, and I think that I'll make up the cost in half a year. But of course, I also go to the range as often as I can.

There are effects that a laser trainer cannot provide, but other simulators can. In a separate building to the range, The Bullet Trap in Macon, Illinois has a computer simulator that projects real-life situations up on a large screen for you to encounter with a laser trainer, which they can provide. You can "shoot" at ten-ring targets, but the best experience is engaging bad guys in realistic situations. These are not cartoon figures; they look like real punks trying to do you harm. For example, have a nice time when a gang-banger with a tire iron appears right behind you at an ATM machine. Or when you are walking to your car

at what appears to be the top floor of a parking garage, you come across two guys trying to break in to your vehicle and one pulls out a pistol really fast.

Your heart will race, and by the second scene you will not be thinking that this is training: my breathing became much quicker; and after a few minutes my hand started throbbing because I was squeezing the pistol grip so tightly, pulling very hard on the trigger, and firing so many "shots." Regardless of the situation, I found myself firing three rounds per perp, even in some instances when the first shot hit him, but my instinct was to keep shooting till he was almost on the ground.

The simulator also provided an unintended blinding flash of the obvious. In one instance, I was walking down a very dark alley and perhaps about five attackers appeared at various locations, but to borrow a phrase from Harry Callahan, "Well, to tell you the truth, in all this excitement I kinda lost track myself." The whole time I was thinking: "This is a really bad place; what the Hell am I doing even being here?" That conclusion is worth its weight in gold; one of the first rules in self-defense is situational awareness, i.e., avoiding dangerous environments.

In any situation in life, when you can learn by yourself, without having to rely on the observations and opinions of others, you will remember that much better and use what you learn for a very long time. Use whatever learning technique works for you, and in self-defense shooting that just might include training simulators like laser trainers.

GSL Sponsored & Endorsed!

IDNR Introductory Wingshooting Clinic set for June 22 and 23, 2024 near Collison, IL

Persons who would like to learn the art of shooting clay targets are invited to attend an Introductory Wingshooting Clinic on Saturday and Sunday, June 22 and 23 at Middle Fork State Fish and Wildlife Area near Collison, Ill. (about 20 miles northwest of Danville). The clinic is open to male and female shooters who are beginner or novice level and 10 years of age and older.

Attendance is limited to 24 shooters each day and pre-registration is required. The clinic is sponsored by IDNR, the Illinois Conservation Foundation, Champaign County Pheasants Forever, Vermilion County Pheasants Forever, Guns Save Life and Gordon Farms Seed Company of Penfield, Ill.



Instructors certified by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and/or the National Sporting Clays Association will teach attendees the basics of safe shotgun handling and how to hit flying targets, skills that can be applied in the sports of hunting, skeet, trap and sporting clays shooting. Shotguns, shells, eye and ear protection and lunch will be provided.

For information about the clinic, contact IDNR Lead Instructor Terry Doyle at 815-258-8474; tdoyle2@msn.com. To access a list of all the IDNR wingshooting clinics, and online registration materials, visit <https://dnr2.illinois.gov/WingshootingClinics>.

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Defending your right to self-defense - in the courts

Illinois Litigation Update

by John Boch

We continue with a two-pronged attack on Gov. Pritzker's so-called "Protect Illinois Communities Act" gun and magazine ban.

In federal court, we've have joined with the NSSF and the NRA to file an appeal to the US Supreme Court to hear our case.

decision by July 4th. With what's happened in the last six weeks, I don't think he can pull that off, but we'll see.



Tom DeVore.

Tom DeVore.
God bless Tom DeVore. He's making all the right people mad.

There's not been a lot of movement in his case to establish that we're all exempt from the PICA gun ban as we all share powers similar to sworn law enforcement officers - specifically the power to arrest.

Tom informed me in recent days that the Illinois Attorney's Registration and Disciplinary Commission has opened investigations of both him and Thomas Maag.

Both DeVore and Maag have successfully challenged firearm-related laws and policies in the last year or so. In doing to, they made themselves royal pains to Pritzker and his merry band of gun control jihadists.

It sure seems as though the timing of this issue with ARDC is suspicious at best and more likely politically vexatious. But it's Illinois where we have bought and paid for judges.

If I had to guess, Mr. DeVore won't wave any white flags of surrender anytime soon.

I also know that Mr. DeVore has a surprise or two left for our carnival barker governor just in time for the Democrat National Convention in August.



Statistically speaking, SCOTUS turns down all but about 3% of appeals. We feel we have about a 20% chance of getting accepted, and having them take a look at the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals decision in the *Bevis* case from last fall.

It's a longshot, but NSSF is doing the heavy lifting.

At the same time we're arguing the case on its merits in federal district court in Southern Illinois. The judge there gave us a preconference memorandum a few weeks ago that would seem to be a roadmap on how to argue our case.

McGlynn suggested we argue both the new Seventh Circuit standard of review that I call the "kissin' cousins" test (which is basically if it kinda looks like a military gun, the government can regulate or ban it) and also argue under the *Bruen/Heller* standard put forth by SCOTUS.

While Kwame Raoul is working hard to drag this out, McGlynn is working at the legal equivalent of light speed keeping a schedule for proceedings. Originally he pledged a

Gary, IN nuisance lawsuit set for dismissal

(NSSF) - NSSF, The Firearm Industry Trade Association, praises Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb's signing of House Bill 1235, legislation that "provides that only the state of Indiana may bring or maintain an action by or on behalf of a political subdivision against a firearm or ammunition manufacturer, trade association, seller, or dealer concerning certain matters." The bill "prohibits a political subdivision from otherwise independently bringing or maintaining such an action."

The industry members the City of Gary sued are expected to promptly file a motion to dismiss the case based on this new law that became effective immediately upon the Governor's signature. Lawyers representing the city acknowledged in their testimony opposing the bill that if it were to be enacted it would mean the City of Gary's lawsuit will be dismissed. The City of Gary's nearly quarter-century old frivolous lawsuit against firearm manufacturers seeks to hold them responsible for the criminal actions of unrelated and remote third parties.

IGOLD

Thursday, April 18
Bank of Springfield Center
1 Convention Center Plaza
Springfield, IL

Doors open at 10. Speakers begin at 11:15

How the literacy crisis in Illinois public schools impacts us all

by John Boch

(GSL) - Let's talk public education in Illinois. Too many of our public schools are failing to educate children. There's plenty of blame to go around... bad schools and poor administrators, teachers who don't teach and parents who don't care. Then there's teacher's unions more interested in money than teaching and politicians who use education unions as a voting block and reliable campaign donors.

Where does that leave our school kids? In short, too often they graduate with diplomas they can't read.

12,000 students are trapped in public schools in our state where *not a single student can read or do math* at grade level (yet they graduate 70+% of students).



Graduation day in Chicago.

Not a single child tested proficient in math at 53 IL schools in 2022... in 2023, that number grew to 67. When it comes to reading, 30 IL schools had zero students proficient in reading in '22. In 2023, it's now 32.

"What the heck does this have to do with guns, John?"

Think about it.

Illiterate young people have little hope of getting a decent job, not even in government service. Without decent employment, they'll never be able to have their own place, get married and raise a family. They won't work a career and become productive members of society.

So what do these young people see as their only path to some semblance of "success" when traditional avenues aren't available to them?

They see the glamorous "gang culture" and the "hip hop" lifestyle of money, guns and drugs as their best way to achieve some measure of success. In other words: "success" through criminal enterprises.



Chicago's gang culture is everywhere.

These young people see countless social media posts and pop culture messages celebrating this "success" and they seek to emulate that.



Moreover, they can also garner prestige among their peers by their willingness to inflict violence upon others.

Here are examples of how this all works, from right here in Chicago:

* A 14- and 15-year-old boys, armed with guns and knives, robbed at least ten stores (mostly Walgreens) in their neighborhood over a two week period earlier this year.

* The Chicago Transit Authority believes one of the robbery rings working the CTA trains has members as young as 13.

* A 16-year-old and a slightly older drug dealer were caught in a stolen Maserati in downtown Chicago... with two full-auto micro AK pistols, two switch-equipped Glocks and drugs.

Tell me, where is your average 16-year-old ever going to see the inside of a Maserati unless it's either dad's ride or it's stolen. Given the guns and drugs, I'm pretty sure this isn't Uncle Michael's Maserati.

Lousy schools breed criminals and help gangs flourish.

These criminals often victimize their peers in their neighborhoods, but they also victimize other innocent people who are just trying to live their lives. Even worse, sometimes those innocent people get shot, either intentionally or accidentally.

Either way, we solve this problem and help reduce violent crime by educating our young people, not by pretending the problem doesn't exist by simply graduating illiterate people from Illinois schools.

NRA Elections & Annual Meeting

The 2024 NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits will take place at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center on May 17-19, 2024 in Dallas, Texas. The Exhibit Hall is open all three days and will showcase over 14 acres of the latest guns and gear from the most popular companies in the Industry. From entertainment to special events, it's all happening in Dallas! Make plans now to join fellow Second Amendment patriots for a freedom-filled weekend for the entire family!

The Elections.

If you've been an annual member for 5+ years or are a Life Member or above you are eligible to vote for the Board of Directors. Ballots must be received by April 28, 2024.

Here are a list of very strong reform-minded candidates for the NRA Board of Directors that we can recommend voting for. The fewer the positions you vote for in this "Bullet Voting" the more weight your votes carry.

Phil Journey
Rocky Marshall
Dennis Fusaro
Jeff Knox

Furthermore, while he's not listed as a "reform" candidate, **Jim Tomes** is also running for the board. We would certainly recommend him as well based upon his proven track record on the leadership team at the Second Amendment Patriots in Southeast Indiana prior to winning a seat in the Indiana legislature. I'm confident Jim Tomes will stand alongside the reform guys, not the LaPierre cronies on their way out.

Lastly, **vote YES on the bylaw proposal.**



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WE'RE #1!

Chicago ranks #1 in corruption

(WTTW) - For the fourth year in a row, Chicago is America's most corrupt city, and Illinois is the third-most corrupt state, according to a new report from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Chicago Board of Ed. unanimously votes to remove school resource officers next year

CHICAGO (WLS) - Chicago's Board of Education made a decision Thursday on CPS school resource officers. In a unanimous vote, Chicago's Board of Education approved a plan to remove police officers from Chicago Public Schools, starting next school year.

Prosecutors release 14-YO suspect in fatal shooting without charges

Chicago (Sun-Times) - A 14-year-old suspect in a South Loop shooting that killed one teen and injured another during a large gathering was released from police custody without being charged, Chicago police confirmed.

The 14-year-old boy was arrested after a chase shortly following the 8 p.m. Saturday shooting in the 500 block of West Roosevelt Road, but as of Monday, he has been released from custody without being charged with anything, police said.

Second City Cop's take:

Crimesha doesn't care about dead black people, because at the end of the end of the day, she can tell her ignorant voters that she kept an accused black criminal out of jail.

She only cares about one end of the criminal justice equation, and it's not the one where Chicago has 1,513 straight days of shootings with over 3,000 dead, nearly 13,000 maimed, 85% of them black. No, it's how many accused shooters and killers she kept out of prison.

Second City Cop: Rumors of cancelled Chicago Police academy class

(GSL) - Despite serious efforts at recruiting from non-traditional demographics to fill open police spots, Second City Cop shared a report that this month's recruit class was cancelled because there aren't enough bodies to fill the seats.



Feb. 28th: First day in four years without someone getting shot and/or a homicide

Chicago (GSL) - HeyJackass.com reported that February 28th was the first day in four years Chicago hasn't had a homicide and/or a shooting. The fact that actually made the news should concern everyone in America's Murder City. Or maybe not.

Chicago Contrarian poll on crime

92.9% say crime is at 'crisis' level, Chicago is not a safe city!

Chicago (Contrarian) - Chicago is not a safe city.

Three weeks ago, Contrarian published a poll on crime in Chicago. Our survey drew over 2,200 responses and the results were stunning.

When asked if Chicago was in the throes of a crime "crisis," nearly everyone agreed. This was, in fact, the most polarizing question we asked. While 92.9 percent of respondents agreed crime had reached crisis level, an astounding 81.5 percent said they strongly agreed. Only 5.8 percent believed that crime in Chicago was not a crisis. Only 1 percent of respondents said they neither disagreed nor agreed. That was the lowest group of agnostics we had in the survey.

Beyond being a crisis, a solid majority — 60 percent — of respondents said that they "strongly disagreed" with the statement "I feel safe in Chicago." Another 25 percent "somewhat disagreed." Less than 10 percent (9.5) indicated that they felt safe in the city.

Perhaps the most incredible revelation was that a majority of respondents (54 percent) admitted they or a family member of been the victim of crime. This proves what we already know: Crime is so far reaching, it is affecting everyone in



Chicago. No neighborhood is safe. Only 25 percent of respondents said they (or their family) had not been the victim of Chicago's crime crisis.

A small minority (11 percent) indicated that they disagreed with the statement that illegal migrants are greatly contributing to crime in Chicago. 77 percent agreed with the statement. 41 percent strongly agreed.

The public, it seems, is not inclined to believe more gun laws would help reduce crime. Only 12 percent of respondents agreed, while 78 percent disagreed with the statement "more gun laws would reduce crime in Chicago."

Unsurprisingly, there appears to be near universal agreement, 92 percent, that cashless bail — also known as the SAFE-T Act — is greatly contributing to the crime situation in Chicago. The same number of re-

spondents (5.8 percent) who thought that the situation was not a crisis, disagreed here as well. Interestingly enough, however, it was not the same group of people. Several respondents agreed that crime was a "crisis" but disagreed that cashless bail was a significant contributing factor.

Regarding the hiring of more police officers an astounding 92 percent agreed that doing so would reduce crime. Less than 3 percent disagreed, which was the lowest amount of agreement or disagreement in the survey. Regardless of all other opinion, respondents to the survey overwhelmingly want more police officers on the street.

Just under 4 percent of respondents said that they're not curtailing the amount of time or money that they spend in the city. Compare that to over 86 percent who say they are.



JOIN US! Chicagoland GSL meeting

Last Sunday of the Month.
Dinner & conversation at 4:30ish.
Meeting program at 5:30.

Park Forest
American Legion Post
Chicago Heights, IL

NEXT MEETING:
No March meeting (Easter)
Sun., April 28th



Wed., April 10th

>> Meeting program at 6pm <<

**GSL
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GSL, GSL Defense Training and the DeWitt County Sportsman's Club partner to offer

FREE gun safety training for Education Professionals

June 22 & 23 at the DeWitt Co. Sportsman's Club

GSL Defense Training is offering a FREE 16-hour, ISP-approved Illinois Concealed Carry Class (Essential Carry) to faculty and staff of public and private schools in Illinois. This offer is available for everyone from the superintendent to educators to support staff. If you work for any school (even daycares) in any capacity, you're eligible. This is a one-time offer, and subject to availability.

This class is for educators and those working in education - especially those who aren't sure about guns or who are maybe afraid of guns or certainly anxious around guns.



Our instructor team will patiently work with you to make you an expert at gun safety. We'll help ease your concerns and anxieties concerning guns. Should you choose to become a gun owner afterwards, we'll empower you with the knowledge and skill sets to use that firearm ethically and legally in self-defense.

Why do we do this?

In short, we are once more making this offer to share our passion for empowering good people and to potentially help them save the lives of innocents. The life they save may not only be their own, but maybe ours too.

After successfully completing this class, you'll be an expert at making a gun safe should you or one of your kids or students encounter a gun.

You'll understand the legal, moral and ethical consider-

ations about using force, and deadly force.



You'll also understand some of the unpleasant things that happen should you be forced to use force to defend your life of that of another innocent person.



To help you form a decision of whether or not to invest a weekend of your life, we encourage you to read additional information at the GSLDefenseTraining.com "Essential Carry" page.

Loaner guns and gear available at NO CHARGE. Don't have a gun? No problem. We'll have plenty of loaners.

NO FOID Card? Again, no problem. Illinois law allows non-FOID holders to receive training under the supervision of a FOID holder.



Participants will need to bring 250 rounds of either 9mm or .38 Special practice ammunition. Don't have a FOID card? Class sponsors will have limited quantities of ammo available for roughly our replacement cost (about \$90 to \$180 depending on caliber).

Whether you're a new gun owner or an experienced shooter, GSL Defense Training can help. We help build the skills and mindset to use a handgun safely and effectively. We want you to stay safe!

Our 18-plus expert, extensively-trained instructors, both male and female, bring diverse backgrounds and experiences to your benefit. They'll give you a solid foundation so that you can safely and confidently use your firearm for recreation or to defend yourself and your family.

With practiced lawyers presenting lethal force discussions, you can get answers to your legal questions and clarification of the laws on the use of deadly force. Not only that, but GSL Defense Training is also one of the few companies that excels at working with people with disabilities.



Over the past 20+ years, we've trained well over 4000 people to shoot and carry firearms safely and efficiently. Our classes are for anyone who wants to feel safe at home or out in public. Ordinarily, tuition for this class is \$180 per person.

Nervous about attending by yourself? You can bring a friend or family member to the class, but they'll have to pay the normal tuition, subject to space limitations. School staffers get priority.

For more information, visit GSLDefenseTraining.com.



Former ICE Director Tom Homan to Speak in Springfield on May 9th

The Sangamon County Republican Party is gearing up to host the 120th annual Lincoln Day Dinner on May 9, 2024. The event is scheduled for 6:00 pm at the Bank Of Springfield Center, featuring former U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Director Tom Homan as the keynote speaker.

"We're honored to have Tom Homan join us as our keynote speaker for our annual dinner," said Mark A. Hurley, Lincoln Day Dinner Chair. "His expertise and perspective will help our community and elected leaders better understand the current border security and illegal immigration issues, and the broader agenda to fix the border."

Tom Homan has a long career in Law Enforcement, first serving as a police officer before becoming a Border Patrol Agent. He served as an Investigator, Supervi-

sor, and Special Agent in Charge prior to becoming an Associate ICE Director and later the Director of ICE. Homan is the CEO of Border911, a nonprofit. He and his team of border experts are touring the country and educating people on the importance of border security.

Also speaking at the dinner is Illinois Senate Republican Leader John Curran. Senator Curran has criticized Governor Pritzker's handling of the Illinois migrant crisis. The Governor invited illegal immigrants to Illinois, spent hundreds of millions of dollars to expand programs and cash assistance for noncitizens, and is now requesting \$1 billion in tax increases to cover the costs of his programs. In essence, Pritzker has used your tax dollars to make Illinois a noncitizen welfare state.

Tickets for the event are available at sangamonrepublicans.com.

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To register, or for more information, visit

GSLDefenseTraining.com





GSL GREAT GUNS 2024

Win an M1A Scout Squad rifle

(GSL) - Guns Save Life announces our "Great Guns 2024" drawing. Yes, Virginia, we'll be giving away a Springfield Armory M1A Scout Squad on the second Thursday in June at the Charleston GSL meeting.

Our thanks to Zancha's Guns & Ammo in Lovington, IL for furnishing this outstanding rifle to GSL.



This firearm is (obviously) Illinois legal. It's basically a carbine-length M1A with

a muzzle brake instead of a flash suppressor making it a "nice gun" under the PICA gun and magazine ban law.

And this one can be yours. Tickets are \$10 each or 5/\$40. You can pick them up at meetings.

Can't make it to a meeting, but want to win this gun for as little as \$10?

Send a check to the address below and GSL's Treasurer Joanne Chandler will send you back your stubs if you include a SASE. If you're late, we'll return your check.

Attn: Great Guns 2024
Guns Save Life
PO Box 8
Clinton, IL 61727

Sign up NOW!

JOIN US: Honor Flight

Land of Lincoln Honor Flight's mission is to provide round trip transportation from Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport in Springfield, Illinois for veterans in order of their service (WWII, Korean Era and Vietnam Era) who wish to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C. This one day trip includes air and ground transportation, meals and snacks, t-shirt and cap, and other items provided completely free of charge to the veteran in honor of his/her service to our country.

If you are a Vietnam-era veteran or older you are eligible to go free of charge. If you know any veterans who served during Vietnam or earlier, they are welcome to go at no charge as well.

If you or your veteran live outside the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight's Central Illinois region, you/they can still go with the "GSL" group if you/they can travel to Springfield.



Download the application at the Land of Lincoln Honor Flight web site.

LandofLincolnHonorFlight.org

Each of the veterans can request a specific guardian (spouses excluded). If the veterans don't have a friend or family member to accompany them, Honor Flight does have some "free agent" guardians.

Guardians will have to pay their own ticket for the trip (about \$550), but the memories you will bring home from your role helping a veteran will last you forever and they are priceless.

This is for more than just GSL members... it's for our friends, our family members, our neighbors and others too. Land of Lincoln Honor Flight is basically using GSL to fill this flight.

Things that don't suck...

Work Sharp Sharpener kicks butt and shaves names



by John Boch

(GSL) - When it comes to manly arts, I eschew the "work" behind them. I'd rather enjoy a fine cigar or play with the kids than clean a gun or sharpen a knife for a half-hour.

Sure, it feels good when I've cleaned my gun. Or honed my blades to something approaching near razor sharpness. It's just that I don't really have spare time to do this stuff. So I'm always on the hunt for new and better ways to get as good or better results with limited time. Like with an ultrasonic gun cleaner (oh, baby!). Or now, with the Work Sharp knife sharpener.

Last fall, Santa brought me one of these Work Sharp units, specifically the Mk

2. Actually, I think it was on Amazon Prime Days for about \$70 (regularly about \$89). It arrived when my garage was cold enough to hang beef, so I left it alone until we had a warm day recently and I had some time while the kiddos played.

Even learning the ropes from a *YouTube* video, and set up and tear down time, I took ten blades from varying levels of dull to stupid sharp in less than a half-hour. Three passes on each side of the blade with the brownish 220-grit belt, then change to the purplish "honing" belt. Three more passes on each side and it's done. If you line your blades up and do all of the redish belt passes, then change belts to hit them again for the

finishing pass, it goes very quickly. The belt swaps take a couple of minutes.

Half of the blades were kitchen knives, returned to as good or better than a brand new edge. The other half were a mix of utility and self-defense blades, both plain and serrated edges. All came out wicked ready to slice and dice flesh as needed. Hannibal Lecter would be pleased.

I couldn't believe how easy this device made the formerly onerous task of sharpening. Gone (for me now) are the days of guessing the angle and using a whetstone. For knife sharpening, this thing is the best thing since sliced bread and karambits.



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Cowboy Action Shooting: Isn't That Just a Game for Fudds & Boomers?

By Damon Williams

(GSL) - Cowboy Action Shooting: Isn't that a game for Fudds and Boomers? Many younger shooters assume yes, but it is not.

I'd like to start off by quoting one of modern history's most respected personal defense consultants, Massad Ayoob. In his YouTube video, "Competition Shooting Translate to Real World Shooting?" he ended with this quote, "All of the Honchos will tell you that going to a shooting match is not a gun fight. Well, no crap, Sherlock. If we thought it was a gun-fight we wouldn't have registered to go. But everybody misses the flip-side of that statement and that is the gun-fight is a shooting match! Think about it! Do you think the person with experience running a gun under pressure might have the advantage?"

I found this statement so profound that it changed my outlook on our game and now I see it as much more than cowboy cosplay with live ammunition.

As of late there is an undeniable overt discrimination that the crown now wants to place on otherwise law-abiding citizens. The Land of Lincoln's state leaders do their level best day in and day out to discourage and impede our Second Amendment. They want to restrict our right to own firearms, as well as the right to repair them and to practice and become proficient with them.

Given the regulations imposed by Illinois gun and magazine ban, it makes it a risky venture to practice your proficiency with naughty guns that we not registered before the first of the year.

Now I can hear some of you scoffing at the idea of training with 19th century technology. Will practice with these guns make you a better shooter? ABSOLUTELY!

Ask yourself, what skills do cowboy action shooting and modern three-gun or IDPA/IPSC have in common? How about sight acquisition, firearm transitions, rapid reloading, follow-up shot placement, fine motor skills while under the constraints of time?



Unlike many other competitive shooting venues, the cowboy action events are a community. As a community, we welcome participants of all ages capable of safely handling firearms. And no, we are not all Fudds and Boomers.

The Single Action Shooting Society cowboy action shoots put entertainment first. Our events take place in an atmosphere un-

like almost any other shooting event you may come across. It is a throw-back to the laid-back atmosphere of the Old West as depicted in Hollywood's western films. History comes to life at these cowboy action shoots. There are no strangers, only new friends that we have not yet met. Come to observe a match and stand in the back, I guarantee you that you will be approached, with a smile and a handshake. Many clubs even offer a chance to try it out.



Admittedly, we don't run through mazes of orange plastic fencing or shoot at long ranges. Our movements are limited and stages ten to run about 22 to 26 rounds, so you can leave your 50-round magazines at home. Typically the better shooters will run one of these stages in about 30 seconds, while those with champion-level skill sets run them in about half that.

Do you mean that an experienced shooter cannot shoot better than an average of one shot per second? Why yes, but actually, no.

The typical stage involves two holstered pistols with five rounds each, a lever-action rifle with ten rounds, and a double-barrel shotgun. With four firearm transitions and loading and unloading the shotgun, all done on the clock, it picks up the pace just a bit...



Missouri Lefty.

If you want to see how some of the best local shooters in the down-state Illinois region can run, just look up Billy Houchens or Missouri Lefty on YouTube.

The sport requires four firearms, gun belt and holsters, boots, hat, and jeans at the bare minimum. Carts are a significant convenience, but not a deal breaker to get you started. Some clubs have loaner carts, just for the new comers.

Leather: for a beginner, hand made holsters and belts can be found on Etsy, used and functional inexpensive leather can be found on Ebay or ordered from Cabela's or Sportsman's Guide.



Revolver: Yes, you need two single-action revolvers in a center fire caliber. Colt clones are the most popular.

Rife: Center fire pistol-caliber lever or pump action. A good beginner model is the Rossi 92. The Marlin '94 is a bit more spendy. Tricked out Italian clones of the Winchester 1866 or 1873 are at the higher end of the spectrum and price.

Shotgun: Double barrel or Winchester model 1987 pump or an imported '97 clone; 20 to 10 gauge, with 12 gauge being the most popular. Stoeger Coach models are most popular for doubles.

Total to get you started is about \$3000.

Ammunition: 38 Special and 45 Long Colt are, by far, the most popular calibers. Reloading is the most prudent course of action as these calibers can be expensive to

buy retail, plus you can load light loads for competitions.

As for shotshells, trap and target loads suffice. Many participants do not reload shotshells.

So there you have it, a fun and exciting shooting sport that celebrates the unique history of our American culture.

It also enjoys greater acceptance for some than those dreaded semi-autos that the less informed members of society have been indoctrinated to fear. Even better, it's a sport that allows you to hone your tactical marksmanship skills without running afoul of Lord Pritzker and his brown-shirt minions.

If you care to look into more details or wish to find a match in your region of the Prairie State, try visiting SASSnet.com.



Damon Williams lives in South Fillmore Township, IL. He is a former columnist for the SASS Cowboy Chronicle and is currently the Match Director for the Litchfield Cowboys.

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Self-improvement

Testosterone Replacement Therapy: My experience

Unhappy with loss of muscle, a pear-shaped upper body, trouble concentrating, inability to lose weight or gain muscle mass made me seek help. I'm so glad I did. I feel better now than when I was in my 20s.

by John Boch

When I find something that really works, I like to share the news. After all, not everything works.

Last year, I'll admit to feeling the effects of age and I'm not talking about the hair loss. I didn't care for the loss of existing muscle tone and inability to gain new muscle while my weight inched past 220 pounds. Even after I went to the gym, got more sleep and ate better, I didn't see changes except more weight.

The increasingly pear-shaped upper body and an inability to lose weight really bothered me. I felt old and tired and increasingly looked the same.

So, like the pharma ads to TV tell us to do, I talked to my doctor.

Guys peak in their testosterone production in their late teens and it's all downhill from there. My insurance wouldn't cover Testosterone Replacement Therapy (TRT). Unless you're super low (as in sub-200, mine was just over 400) or a girl who wants to become a boy, health insurance won't pay for this.

So I went private pay and dove in head first. Doing my research, I settled on Life Plus MD in Bloomington. I've been pleased.

The week before Halloween, I started TRT with a shot a week in the butt. Within weeks I saw changes. Now 20 weeks into taking the shots, working out 3-5 times per week and eating better, here are my results.



Not me (I don't have hair or a "before" photo), but this guy's transformation is very similar to mine.

*** I have lost 32 pounds and counting** (15% of my body weight).

* I'm going to need to carry a bigger gun or buy a smaller belt soon.

* **No more man boobs.** I now have pecs.

* I've never had a physique this good in my entire life, even admittedly losing some muscle as part of weight loss.

* In short, **I no longer feel like an old man.** I look and feel better now than when I was in my 20s.

By summer, I expect my weight to settle into the high 170s. At that point, my long-term goal will switch into dedicated muscle building. For that, I'll have a personal trainer to help me use good technique to avoid injuries while training. I'll have her help me maintain and improve my flexibility and range of motion too. After all, nobody wants to look like a knuckle-dragging Neanderthal.

I've got some protein powder from Transparent Labs that has zero soy to help facilitate muscle growth. Why my dislike of soy? That soy in cheap protein powders metabolizes into estrogen. If you're a guy, the last thing you want is a lot of extra estrogen unless you want to kill your sperm, grow boobs and get all weepy watching the *Hallmark Channel*.



I try to visit Crunch in Bloomington for roughly hour-long workouts. The music and the vibe run positive there but I still take my earbuds in case someone puts on music I don't like. (I recommend a subscription to "Fit Radio" for the win!) In share space with more than a few "seasoned citizens" so I'm not the Lone Ranger with salt and pepper hair among the countless young people.

Is this TRT for you?

If you're a guy in your 40s or older and you feel chronically fatigued, or unable to lose weight or gain muscle tone, or have other "male" issues, talk with your health care provider about TRT. Get tested and see if it's for you. You may have to go private pay and spend a couple hundred bucks a month but if you get even half the results I've gotten out of it, you'll love the payoff.

A stronger and healthier you will make you happier. It will allow you to better navigate the world with greater confidence and productivity. It'll also help you live longer and make you harder to kill.

Ladies, they also do microdosing for women. It helps with physique building if you hit the gym along with a gentle boost to your libido. Just tossing that out there...

What are you waiting for?

How did I lose 15% of my body weight?

by John Boch

Yes, I've lost weight. Thanks for noticing.

In less than 20 weeks, I've lost 32 pounds as of this writing, weighing in at 192 pounds, down from 224 last September - even with holiday feasts and a wife that likes to bake yummy stuff.



First, I knew I couldn't just starve myself and still build muscle. And I wasn't up for radical diets or eating turkey and kale all day, everyday.

For me, I started by eliminating all fast foods, soft drinks and juices. I love my orange Mountain Dew, but I love healthy more. Booze consumption has fallen significantly as well. My apologies to ATF about

the decline in excise tax receipts.

Next, I cut way back on candy, cookies, and other junk calories. Yeah, I'll have a chocolate chip cookie with the boys when we would make them as an afternoon project, but just one. I also cut my carbs back to about half of what I would previously eat at a meal. So yes, I still enjoy pasta, pizza and pancakes - just a lot less of them.

At the same time I'll freely gorge myself on proteins (meats, eggs) without an ounce of guilt.



If I'm not really hungry at a meal sometimes I'll fast through it or have some fruit. Our bodies don't need

1000-1500 calorie meals three times a day.

On the other hand, it's not just about cutting calorie intake. To really shine at this, it requires physical movement. Good news! You don't have to run or do burpees. Even if it's just walking, that helps the pounds melt away and helps curtail craving.

Despite knowing that the first rule of the *Zombie apocalypse* is "Cardio," I'll be the first to admit I don't run. So I shoot well instead. Nevertheless I do some non-running cardio during my gym visits. It's as much about training to keep up with my twin boys this summer more than burning calories.

I drink lots of water, too.

Am I taking Ozempic or similar drugs? No. The only medication change I've made is with the TRT regimen.

How much / what kind of meds are you taking for TRT?

by John Boch

My provider prescribed a 200mg blend of Testosterone Cypionate and Testosterone Enanthate, that I administer weekly by an IM shot in the butt.

In February, she upped me to 240mg after looking at my labs. I also take an estrogen antagonist (anastrozole tablet, 1mg) the day after my shot to counteract the body's natural reaction to unexpected testosterone. After all, I wanted to get rid of my man-boobs, not grow new ones.

Costs, I've learned, can vary widely between providers. At Life Plus MD, the initial lab testing and consults were about \$300 if memory serves. I'm paying \$95/month for the meds and another \$75/month for access to the doc. Doc access includes "convenient care" type visits unrelated to the TRT at no charge.



Side effects? I expected acne and maybe some other nuisance side effects but those have not materialized. My provider asked me to contact her if I have nipple tenderness or headaches. That hasn't happened. My bloodwork seems stable so those shouldn't become an issue.

Sure, there's no "cure" for low-T. This is potentially a life-long medical treatment to maintain a much improved quality of life. Yes, I can quit anytime I want to go back to the "old" me. But just like those who need thyroid medications or other similar drug treatment regimens to get the

most out of life, going back doesn't interest me in the least. (CPAP machines fall into this category as well...)

Between the much improved strength, mental clarity and elevated happiness, the treatment has made a big, positive transformation in my life. For less than a couple hundred bucks a month, the results speak volumes for money well spent.

It really came together a couple of months ago when my son Owen asked me to let him touch the ceiling as a special reward for doing something awesome.

Hoisting him up, I remember thinking to myself, "Hey this is a lot easier now!" Gone were the times when it required real effort on my behalf to lift him into the air over my head. But that's what happens when you wait until you're 51 to change your first diapers.



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Best wishes for a full recovery for the victim

Early morning armed robber picks wrong victim

Chicago (CBS) – A man attempting a robbery was killed during a shootout with a concealed carry license holder in the Auburn Gresham neighborhood Friday morning.

Chicago police said just before 5:30 a.m., a man, 60, was at a nearby ATM in the 1500 block of West 82nd Street when another man on a bike approached, displayed a firearm, and demanded his property.

The victim, a valid FOID card and CCL holder, pulled out a firearm, and the two exchanged gunfire, police said.

The would-be robber was shot multiple times, and was taken to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, where he was pronounced dead.



Chicago thug brings knife to gunfight

Chicago (WBBM) - Police are investigating a shooting that left a man dead on a CTA bus Tuesday night.

It was just after 11 pm. The bus was on Division Street near Kostner.

According to Chicago Police, a witness said a man was waving a knife around on the bus. He approached another man. That man pulled out a gun and shot the man with the knife multiple times.

He was dead at the scene. The man was 53-years-old, police said. The man who fired the shots got off the bus and ran.



Young man had the heart of a lion...

11-year-old grabbed pregnant mom's gun and shot intruder who was strangling her

Charlotte, NC (Queen City News) — Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police say an 11-year-old boy shot a man to defend his pregnant mother against an attack from a hotel room intruder.

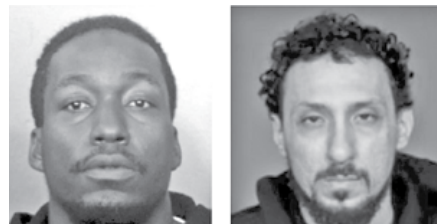
Police have warrants out for the suspect.

Investigators said he broke into a hotel room and started attacking a pregnant mother when her young son stepped in and shot him...

NYC subway rider disarms, shoots racist black attacker

NYC (GSL) - National Guard troops in the NYC subway system failed to stop a bad actor named Dajuan Robinson from bringing a gun onto the subway trains and threatening passengers.

Robinson's anti-migrant tirade reportedly went something like this: "I'll beat you up...f*ck you...f*ck your kind...f*ck your race...do something about it..." His intended victim accepted the challenge.



Dajuan Robinson (left) was shot with his own gun by Younece Obuad.

Yunece Obuad took Robinson's gun and shot him with it. Prosecutors are declining to charge Mr. Obuad.

Big, Bad Wolf meets armed homeowner Homeowner shoots violent intruder

Egelston Twp, MI (Fox17) — A homeowner fatally shot an intruder Monday morning after they assaulted a tenant in an attached apartment, then tried to get into the house.

The homeowner shot the suspect, who died of their injuries.

Wyoming set to enact pre-emption, ban on 'gun free' zones

(ZeroHedge) - Whether the state of Wyoming gets rid of its gun-free zones is in Gov. Mark Gordon's hands.

On March 8, the Legislature passed and sent to Mr. Gordon HB 125.

The bill repeals the designation for most places currently listed as gun-free zones, including public schools, colleges, and public buildings. This includes the state capitol, legislature, and

other government buildings. It also makes it a crime to prevent a legal gun owner from carrying a concealed weapon anywhere but in areas that remain off-limits.

Those off-limits areas include hospitals, mental health facilities, and jails.

The law allows private property owners to prohibit weapons on their property and prohibits students of elementary and secondary

schools from carrying weapons in their schools.

School administrators can set policies for employees to carry on school property. This includes required training, certification, and annual recertification.

The law also vests all authority for regulating firearms in the state, taking that authority away from county and municipal governments.



Home carry would fix this problem... and not opening the door to strangers!

'She thought she was going to die' – French stars and wealthy terrorized in wave of violent 'home-jackings'

(ZeroHedge) - Celebrities are being targeted across France in an unprecedented wave of "home-jackings," which are burglaries accompanied by violence and kidnapping. The cases often involve "youths" recruited by experienced ringleaders, such as Kamel Z., who keep their distance from their criminal underlings to insulate themselves from any prosecution.

The country has a history of these violent home invasions, but recent months have seen an explosion of such cases, including

well-known French figures, such as Vitaa, Bruno Guillon, Jean-François Piège, Anne-Sophie Lapix, and Nikos Aliagas.

"They are known for having money and property," said Laurent Nuñez, the Paris police chief. "You just have to follow certain Facebook or Instagram profiles. We find a lot of information, both about the property held by future victims, and then obviously on their addresses and lifestyle."

Once the information has been collected, the crimi-

nals can take action. In most cases, they "pose as a fake deliveryman, from La Poste or Amazon (...)" with a parcel in hand," explains Djassim Belkourchia, a delegate of the Alliance Police Nationale union.

"Committing a home-jacking in the presence of the occupants often allows them to ask for information on the whereabouts of the goods that are sought, jewelry, luxury watches or computer equipment," estimates Laurent Nuñez.

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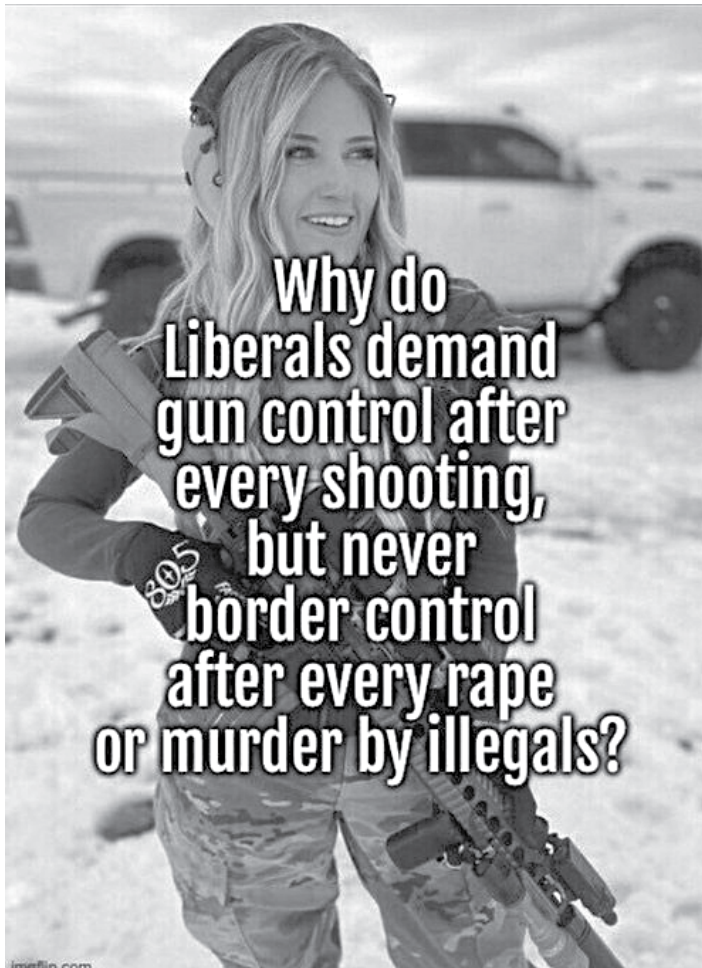
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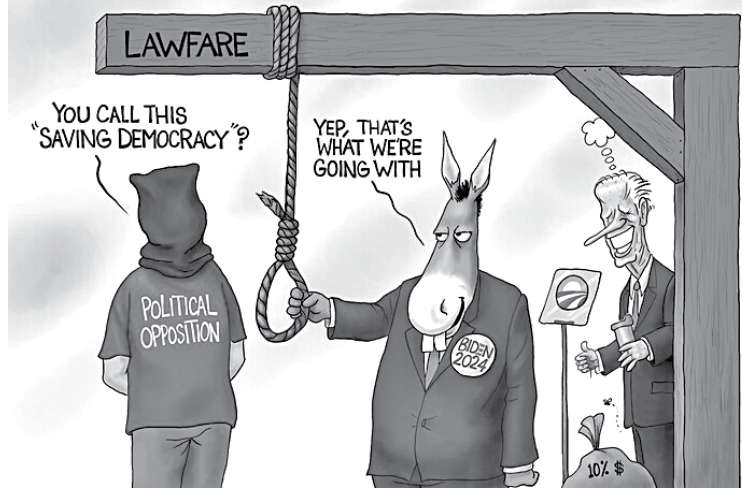
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"Our democracy" is new codespeak for Democrat Party control of government

A storm is brewing

(GSL) - If you follow the news a lot - the real news, not the political narrative news found on CNN and FoxNews - one can easily become a little depressed and pessimistic. Yes there is good news here and there, but good news is buried by propaganda from the mainstream media, news of the illegal alien invasion and the hard Left's growing radicalization of urban centers.

One of the radical Left's new favorite code words is "democracy." Joe Biden has repeatedly suggested his political opponent, as well as his supporters, are a direct threat to democracy. As if "our democracy" is Democratic Party rule at all levels of government.

Other Lefty operatives with by-lines up and down the line are repeating those thoughts as well.

First, America is not a democracy. Democracy is mob rule. Or put another way, it's three wolves and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.

America is a constitutional republic. If we can keep it.

And some of the rhetoric from the Left, even the not so radical individuals suggests that President Trump isn't just

an "enemy" to "our democracy" but he and his supports are evil that must be removed (vanquished?) to "save our democracy."

For years, the Left's efforts have all ultimately failed, some sooner than others. The only option remaining for them is to physically remove Donald Trump. And there are more than enough unbalanced folks out there who would try. Especially with all this crazy talk about "saving our democracy."

If they can't assassinate Trump or his inner circle, will they turn their ire and anger towards Trump's supporters?

The rhetoric today directed at Trump and any institution that doesn't toe the progressive line often includes a call for violence, either directly or through subtle suggestion. You can't accuse individuals or groups of being an existential threat to "our democracy" and not expect unstable people to not act on those words.

Prepare for emergencies. Stay aware of your surroundings. Do what you can, where you can, to help educate and inform those around you. A big storm is coming. Enjoy life in the meantime, but be prudent and prepared for bad things to happen as the election nears.

MAIL CALL



Good people push back on nitwittery from Biden admin

To the Editor:
When Joe Biden arrived at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Stephan Kruser captured the essence of what this fool is all about: "He was a blithering idiot even before this blank-eyed, empty-headed Biden incarnation we're being subjected to, came on the scene. America is now suffering under a lethal combination of Biden's natural stupidity and the fact that his diminished capacity makes him so easily manipulated by the false narrative pimps."

Indeed!

One of those false narrative pimps is the VA's Assist. Under Secretary for Health for Operations, RimaAnn Nelson.

On 2/29/2024, she declared one of America's most famous and beloved photographs must be removed from public view in all VA facilities.

Ms. Nelson declared: "This action reflects our dedication to creating a safe and respectful workplace and is in keeping with our broader efforts to promote a culture of inclusivity and awareness".

The 1945 photo, V-J Day in Times Square (aka The Kiss) by Alfred Eisenstaedt simply captured a sailor and a nurse sharing a spontaneous jubilant moment upon learning of Japan's surrender and the end of WWII.



According to Ms. Nelson, what we are witnessing is a sexual assault in progress.

Strange none of us knew this was a sexual assault for nearly 80 years, including the two people in the photo, but then a genius like Ms. Nelson comes along but once in a lifetime.

However, after the VA and the Biden White House were both mercilessly ridiculed by the public for this nitwittery, the VA Sec. McDonough boldly decreed that the offending photo can stay. What a guy! The fate of Ms. Nelson was not disclosed.

Gary Hetherington
Springfield, Illinois

GunNews Magazine

The monthly journal of
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Our thanks goes out to Oleg Volk for his continued permission to use his creative work to help us in our gun rights advocacy work. You can see more of them at his websites:

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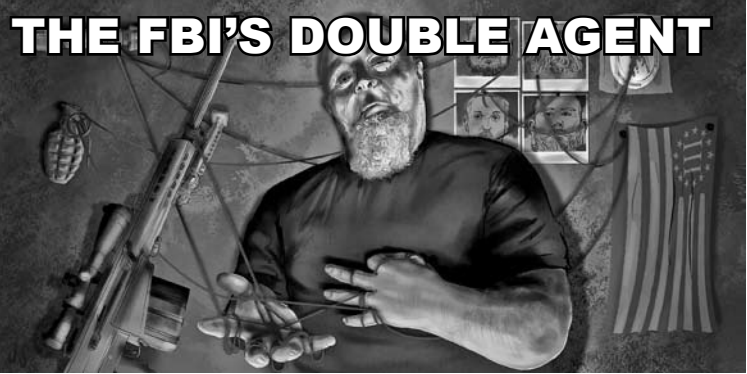
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THE FBI'S DOUBLE AGENT

The Informant at the heart of the Gretchen Whitmer kidnapping plot was a liability. So federal agents shut him up.

(The Intercept) - A month before the 2020 presidential election, the Justice Department announced that the FBI had foiled a plot to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, whose pandemic lockdown measures drew harsh criticism from President Donald Trump and his supporters.

The alleged plot coincided with growing concern about far-right political violence in America. But the FBI quickly realized it had a problem: A key informant in the case, a career snitch with a long rap sheet, had helped to orchestrate the kidnapping plot. During the undercover sting, the FBI ignored crimes that the informant, **Stephen Robeson**, appeared to have committed, including fraud and illegal possession of a sniper rifle.

The Whitmer kidnapping case followed a pattern familiar from hundreds of previous FBI counterterrorism stings that have targeted Muslims in the post-9/11 era. Those cases too raised questions about whether the crimes could have happened at all without the prodding of undercover agents and informants.

- Thousands of pages of internal FBI reports and hundreds of hours of undercover recordings obtained by *The Intercept* offer an extraordinary view into the alleged conspiracy to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.
- The *Intercept* exclusively obtained a five-hour recording of the FBI's interrogation of Stephen Robeson, a paid informant central to the alleged kidnapping plot.
- The reports and recordings reveal how the FBI has adapted abusive war-on-terror sting tactics to target perceived domestic extremists and raise questions about whether the FBI pursued a larger effort to encourage political violence ahead of the 2020 election.
- Federal agents running the Whitmer kidnapping investigation put the public in danger to avoid undermining their operation, the files show.
- When FBI agents feared their informant might reveal the investigation's flaws, they sought to coerce him into silence, at one point telling him: "A saying we have in my office is, 'Don't let the facts get in the way of a good story,' right?"
- For the FBI, the stakes in the Whitmer case were high. If defense lawyers learned of Robeson's role in the kidnap-

ping plot, the FBI agents feared, they'd be accused of entrapment. The collapse of the case, built over nearly a year using as many as a dozen informants, two undercover agents, and bureau field offices in at least four states, would have been a public relations coup for right-wing politicians and news media. Both groups have used the problematic investigation as evidence that the Justice Department has been "weaponized" against conservatives — despite a decadeslong public record proving the opposite — and as fuel for conspiracy theories that the January 6 Capitol riot was engineered by the FBI.



But the truth about the Whitmer kidnapping case is far more complicated... The files also suggest that federal agents have become reckless, turning a blind eye to public safety risks that, if addressed, could disrupt the government's cases.

The FBI documents and recordings reveal that federal agents at times put Americans in danger as the Whitmer plot metastasized. **In one instance, the FBI knew that Wolverine Watchmen militia members would enter the Michigan Capitol with firearms — and agents suspected that one man might even have had a live grenade — but did not stop them.** (The grenade turned out to be nonfunctional.) **Another time, federal agents intervened when local police officers in Michigan were about to confiscate firearms from two of the FBI's targets, who were on a terrorist watchlist.** Local law enforcement had received reports from concerned citizens who saw the men loading their guns before entering a hardware store.



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Bitter Harvest: The True Roots of Rural 'Rage'

(HotAir) - The Protection Racket Media has spent the last few weeks running with a new narrative of panic pornography: "white rural rage." Along with "Christian nationalism," these media explanations of the current dysfunction in American politics start and end with Donald Trump and his alleged "threat to democracy."

The general gist of these narratives is that Trump spent 2015-16 blowing dog whistles to bigots and transformed them through misinformation into angry conservo-populists. Trump and his cult have essentially hoodwinked voters, especially in the rural South and Midwest, by feeding them on xenophobia and anger over true progress in America. Trump and his "white rural rage-ists" will undermine the institutions of the republic — not to mention the institutions of the cultural elite.

To put it mildly, this overlooks a very long stretch of political, cultural, and economic history. The collapse of confidence in these American systems began long before Trump — decades before, in fact, and had nothing to do with race. The signs of this betrayal began in the rural and industrial Midwest not long after the launch of

the Great Society and the Vietnam War warped American fiscal policy, destroyed agricultural markets, forced farmers and small bankers into retreat, and left massive destruction in our once-dominant manufacturing base.

Salena Zito has written about these issues for years, but she's not alone. . . .



The issue driving populists on both sides of the political aisle isn't "rage," either inchoate or focused. It's the betrayal of the ethos that governed rural America: Take care of the land, and the land will take care of you. Its origins go back to the massive redistribution of capital to the urban centers in the 1960s, the deficit spending that forced the US off the gold standard and triggered ruinous inflation rates for a decade, and the abandon-

ment of American manufacturing to the enticements of deregulation and free trade — which may have produced benefits for the US overall, but laid waste to the rural and industrial heartlands.

The experts thought they knew better. The elites wanted "progress." Is it any wonder that their failures and the damage they caused have alienated the people who paid the price of those failures — especially when the experts and elites kept failing, right through the pandemic and the changes they imposed to deal with it, which turned out to be largely unnecessary?...

Just recall why the Protection Racket Media needs to gin up slanderous narratives like "Christian nationalism" and "white rural rage." The US establishment media now entirely come from the elite institutions that created this massive destruction and betrayal and want to desperately distract from it now by pretending the anger just materialized out of Trump's wizardry. They want to rewrite history as well as the present and sneer at tens of millions of Americans who have waited decades for someone to address their decline and despair.



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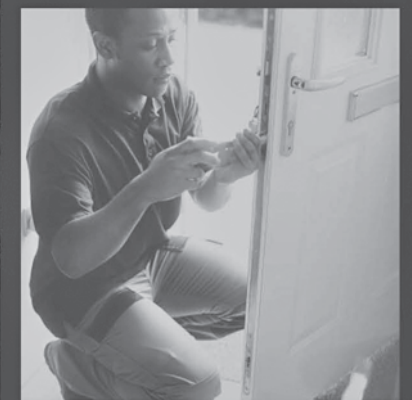
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IL AG threatens cops with prison

Continued from cover.

for that matter.

The Republican leader of the Illinois House asked for an opinion relating to off-duty and retired officer carry in schools. What she got back shocked plenty of folks.

Interestingly, the informal opinion lumps in "qualified law enforcement" with retired officers at least twice. And plenty of legal beagles are reading that to suggest that if it's not "on duty" law enforcement or special armed security for the school, they be treated the same as retired cops.

The Land of Lincoln's criminal-friendly (and cop-hating) Attorney General goes on to opine that off-duty cops and retired cops risk a

felony conviction that carries a sentence of 5 to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$25,000 should they carry on school property.

Nothing says "I support the police" like threatening felony charges for retired or off-duty cops packing heat in or around schools, right?

Thank heavens local prosecutors can stand as a check and balance against this radical, anti-police stance of the zealots working in Kwame Raoul's office.

So go vote. Every single time. If you don't vote, you aren't doing your part to keep a Soros-style prosecutor, district attorney, or state attorney general out of office where you live.

The good news? A bill has been filed to fix this problem. The bad news? HB2416 remedies some of these issues, but doesn't have many sponsors and appears to be bogged down in committee.

Hopefully common sense will prevail. However, without the support of the Illinois Democrat Black Caucus, the bill's future remains iffy at best. And frankly, given the bill one of them filed to protect bags of chips more than our school kids, getting that support seems... unlikely.

You can read the entire document at the Guns Save Life website. (Search "Ken Paxton").

Addressing ISRA concern over 'Where's the NRA' op-ed

by John Boch

In the "Where's the NRA" editorial from the February 2024 issue of *GunNews*, we took the Illinois State Rifle Association to task for throwing the NRA under the bus. As one might imagine, the ISRA wasn't happy with it. One line in particular they assert wasn't true.

The NRA doesn't support ISRA? So when ISRA asks NRA to solicit its NRA members in Illinois to join the ISRA every year, that's not "support"? What's more, NRA does that at its own expense.

I relied on past statements from three people I trusted either currently or formerly at NRA-ILA headquarters in Waples Mill, VA in writing that the NRA paid for those mailings.

From the ISRA's perspective, Mike Huber presented a woman from NRA publications who claimed, *in writing*, that the ISRA paid for the mailings for the most part.

While I'm not going to retract what I believe is credible and correct information from three people who earned my trust over the years, I will share with readers that their statements *may* have been incorrect. Fair enough. Mike and ISRA leadership asked me to share that information and so I did.

You can read the whole editorial at the GSL website (click the search icon and type in "Where's the NRA").

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 AFFILIATED WITH JPFO, CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES, ISRA, AND OTHERS

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Illegal Alien INVASION



Biden uses Laken Riley murder to pimp gun control

(Breitbart) - Less than a week after Laken Riley was reportedly killed via blunt force trauma by a non-U.S. citizen, President Joe Biden spoke to reporters about his efforts to fight crime and pushed more gun control.

Biden said, "I've taken more executive actions to stop the flow of illegal guns than any other administration in history. And we beat the NRA when I signed the most significant gun safety law in nearly 30 years."

He continued, "We're going to finish the job. We're going to ban 'assault weapons' and 'high-capacity' magazines' next time around because it has to be done."



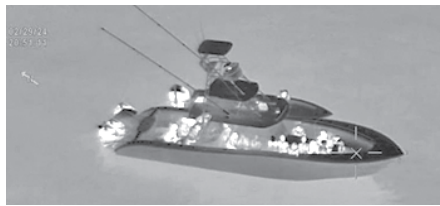
Coming to Chicagoland?

Organized home invaders use wifi/cell phone jammers

Los Angeles (KABC) -- After homes in the LAPD's Wilshire Division were recently targeted by burglars using WiFi jammers, police on Monday issued a community alert urging the public to be vigilant.

Residences in the area have been burglarized by a group of three or four suspects who use the WiFi jammers to interrupt the internet capabilities for burglar alarms and cameras as they enter the victims' homes, the Los Angeles Police Department said in a statement.

The intruders "are known to enter via 2nd-story balconies and seek high-end jewelry, purses, U.S. currency and other fine valuables," the statement said. "They tend to ransack and target primary bedrooms."



Headline says it all...

Haiti migrants carrying guns, night vision tech and drugs arrested off Florida coast

Meanwhile, in Venezuela...

Venezuela's violent deaths fall to 22-year low on migration

(Bloomberg) - Venezuela's rate of violent deaths dropped to its lowest level in more than two decades following years of massive migration as both criminals and victims fled the nation's economic crisis.

The Venezuelan Violence Observatory registered 26.8 violent deaths per 100,000 inhabitants this year from a rate of 35.3 for every 100,000 habitants in 2022, Roberto Briceño León, director of the Observatory, said in a webcast Thursday. That's its lowest since 2001 and is one-third of what it was in 2016, he added.

Turns out he's also a member of Hezbollah

Nabbed illegal admits coming 'To Make a Bomb.'

(National Pulse) - Lebanese national Basel Bassel Ebbadi admitted to being a member of the Hezbollah terror group after he was apprehended by border patrol near El Paso, Texas, last week. Caught in possession of no legitimate documents, Ebbadi, 22, admitted he intended to create a bomb once in the United States, with New York as his target destination.



Bassel Ebbadi.

While in custody, Ebbadi explained his background with Hezbollah, according to the New York Post. Over 11 years, he trained under them, committing seven of those years to learning "jihad," and serving an active role in safeguarding weaponry in the remaining four.

Haitian illegal charged with raping 14-year-old girl at Massachusetts hotel

(ZeroHedge) - A 26-year-old Haitian national has been charged with raping a 14-year-old girl at a Massachusetts hotel being used to house illegal immigrants under the Gov. Maura Healey administration.



Cory Alvarez was arraigned on the charges of child rape on Thursday, March 14, at the Hingham District Court. The alleged assault took place at the Comfort Inn in Rockland, according to a press release issued by police. Rockland is located about 22 miles south of Boston...

In just a one-week sweep conducted nationwide in January, ERO agents report that they arrested 171 "noncitizens" with pending charges or convictions for murder, homicide, and assault of children. A similar one-week sweep conducted last month turned up 275 migrants with sex convictions living illegally in the country.

Mexican drug cartel drones swarm across US border

(Epoch Times) - A large number of drone incursions are happening at the U.S.-Mexico border, a U.S. Department of Defense official said on March 14.

"It's my understanding, there's been a lot of drone incursions along our southern border. How many drone incursions have we had and what are they doing?" Sen. Ted Budd (R-N.C.) asked Air Force Gen. Gregory Guillot during a Senate hearing.

"I don't know the actual number—I don't think anybody does—but it's in the thousands," Gen. Guillot said.

Cartel members operating drones nearby when Guard helicopter crashed in Texas

(FoxNews) - Cartel members were seen laughing after a National Guard helicopter carrying three soldiers and a Border Patrol agent crashed near the southern border in Texas.

In video footage from a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agent, obtained by Fox News, cartel members were seen watching the National Guard helicopter plummet to the ground with their drone.



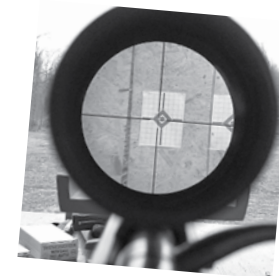
Sullivan Gun Club

2024 Events... Open to public



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Apr 6th, May 4th,
Jun 8th, July 13th, Aug 10th,
Sept 7th, Oct 12th, Nov 2nd



Rimfire Shoots

Apr 20th, May 18th,
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Sept 21st, Oct 26th, Nov 16th

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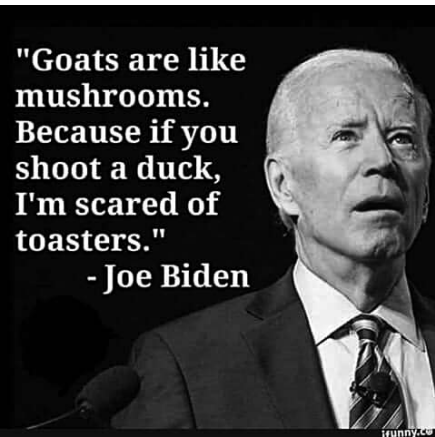
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Calendar



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April 6-7: Crown Point (IN), Lake County Fairgrounds, Crown Point, IN. (765) 855-3836

April 13-14: Chillicothe Sportsman's Club, Chillicothe, IL. Steve Risinger (309) 208-1010.

April 14: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles, IL. Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

April 20: National Civil War & Collector Arms Show, DuPage Co. Fairgrounds, Wheaton IL. Irene Zurko (715) 526-9769.

April 20-21: Will County Gun Show. Will County Fairgrounds. Peotone, IL. Mike 630 254-0221.

May

May 3-5: Pecatonica Gun Show. Winnebago County Fairgrounds. Marv Kraus 563 608-4401

May 18-19: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike (630) 254-0221.

May 18-19: Crown Point (IN), Lake County Fairgrounds, Crown Point, IN. (765) 855-3836

May 19: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles, IL. Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

May 31-June 2: Indy 1500 Gun & Blade Show (IN). Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis. 405-408-6197

June

June 29-30: Crown Point (IN), Lake County Fairgrounds, Crown Point, IN. (765) 855-3836

GUN CLUBS

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Shooting opportunities open to the public at the Foosland Sportsman's Club.

Second Tuesdays: 6p Tuesday night trap shoots

Fourth Saturday: Trapshoot starting at 10 AM. All open to the public.

Second Sunday: Annie Shoot/.22 steel plate shoot.

DeWitt County Sportsman's Club

First & Third Sundays: Breakfast at 8:30a.m. Turkey shoots afterwards. Open to public!

Saturday, April 6: Bunny Blast. 10am.

Wednesday, June 12: Action Shoot. 6pm.

Saturday, July 6: Patriot Shoot. 10am.

Wednesday, August 14: Rifle Shoot. 6:30pm.

Sullivan Gun Club LLC.

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Oak Park Sportsmen's Club.

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Crete Gun Club.

Monthly meetings at 7pm on the **First Monday**. 1962 W. Exchange, Crete, IL. Open to all. Contact Howard Kaye at fxt1984@gmail.com or 708 921-6768.



Thursday, March 28: Lake County FNRA. Gurnee American Legion Post 771.

Thursday, March 28: Little Egypt FNRA. The Pavilion, Marion.

Saturday, April 6: Perry/Randolph. Steel-ville American Legion

Thursday, April 11: East Central Illinois. DoubleTree by Hilton in Bloomington.

Saturday, April 13: Gem City. Knights of Columbus in Quincy.

Wednesday, April 17: Kankakee River Valley. Kankakee County Fairgrounds.

Saturday, April 20: Bluff City. Alton Wood River Sportsman's Club in Godfrey.

Saturday, May 4: Fox Valley. Tom Hartung American Legion Post 1977 in New Lenox.

Wednesday, May 8: Northern IL. Plug & Pellet Sportsman's Club in Rockford.

Saturday, May 18: US Grant. Elizabeth Community Building in Elizabeth, IL.

Saturday, June 8: Illinois Valley. The Auditorium Ballroom in LaSalle, IL.

Sunday, July 28: Illini Country. Tuscola Community Building.

Saturday, August 3: Two Rivers. Rushville Fitness & Community Center.

Saturday, August 10: South Central IL. DoubleTree in Mt. Vernon.

Monday, August 19: Tristate. The Pink Tavern in Lomax, IL.

For more info, visit FriendsOfNRA.org.

The coming police state in America?

(Epoch Times) - The National Guard and the State Police are now patrolling the New York City subway system in an attempt to do something about the explosion of crime.

As part of this, there are bag checks and new surveillance of all passengers. No legislation, no debate, just an edict from the mayor.

Many citizens who rely on this system for transportation might welcome this. It's a city of strict gun control, and no one knows for sure if they have the right to defend themselves. Merchants have been harassed and even arrested for trying to stop looting and pillaging in their own shops.

The message has been sent: Only the police can do this job. Whether they do it or not is another matter...

In actual fact, it's guaranteed that this will only end in confiscating knives and other things that people carry in order to protect themselves while leaving the actual criminals even more free to prey on citizens.

The law-abiding will suffer and the criminals will grow more numerous. It will not end well.

When you step back from the details, what

we have is the dawning of a genuine police state in the United States. It only starts in New York City. Where is the Guard going to be deployed next? Anywhere is possible.



If the crime is bad enough, citizens will welcome it. It must have been this way in most times and places that when the police state arrives, the people cheer...

What's the next step? It's probably already here: mass surveillance and censorship, plus

ever-expanding police power. This will be accompanied by further population movements, as those with the means to do so flee the city and even the country and leave it for everyone else to suffer...

The government grows ever bigger and civil society ever less capable of managing itself in large urban centers...

Are we at the middle stages of total collapse, or at the point where the population and people in leadership positions wise up and decide to put an end to the downward slide? It's hard to know. But this much we do know: There is a growing pocket of resistance out there that is fed up and refuses to sit by and watch this great country be sacked and taken over by everything it was set up to prevent.

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YOU FIRST: Pope Francis proclaims that disarmament is a 'Moral Obligation'

Rome (Breitbart) — Pope Francis said Sunday that military disarmament is not optional but constitutes a "moral obligation" for all nations.

Following his weekly Angelus address in Saint Peter's Square, the pontiff recalled that March 5 marks the second International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness.



It's almost like they're trying to kill our elders...

CDC says get more clot shots!

(Epoch Times) - The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended that adults aged 65 and above get an additional dose of the updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine following a heated debate by an advisory panel on the issue.



'Journalist' who demanded concentration camps for the unvaccinated dies suddenly at age 33

(Slay News) - A corporate media journalist, who controversially demanded that unvaccinated members of the public be taken away to concentration camps, has died at just 33 years old.

Ian Vandaele died after being hospitalized and "declared neurologically dead," his family revealed.

Oh Canada!

Canadian government wants power to arrest someone who 'might' commit a hate crime

(MSN) - Justin Trudeau's government has proposed a law giving judges the power to put someone under house arrest if they fear they could commit a hate crime.



TN senator calls for riots

(GSL) - Tennessee State Senator Charlane Oliver called for riots in public statements after the Volunteer State passed legislation to pre-empt local ordinances that banned most traffic stops by police.

Memphis passed just such an ordinance in recent months.

"It is a slap in the face, and you might as well stomp on the grave of Tyree Nichols for bringing this bill," Oliver said.

"Dr. King said the riots are the language of the unheard. You ain't seen nothing yet. If you keep silencing us like this, what do you think our district's gonna do? We have had it up here, gloves off. Like, we got to fight like hell. You don't expect us to respond?"



Illinois was one of those states

Supreme Court rules states cannot keep Trump off ballot

(Spectator) - In a big victory for democracy, but a big blow to the partisans of "Our Democracy™," the Supreme Court of the United States just reversed the decision of the Colorado Supreme Court, which had determined that Donald Trump could not appear on the ballot for president in that state.

A coven of anti-Trump activists, desperate to stop the juggernaut that is the Trump train, argued that Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment, authorized them to remove Trump from the ballot because he had engaged in "insurrection" on January 6, 2021...

The bottom line? "The judgment of the Colorado Supreme Court therefore cannot stand." The cherry on top: it was a unanimous decision. "All nine Members of the Court agree with that result." Ergo: "The judgment of the Colorado Supreme Court is reversed," quod erat faciendum, or, in the words of the document, It is so ordered.



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by Chuck Michel, Esq.
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Those on the sidelines: Are you awake now?

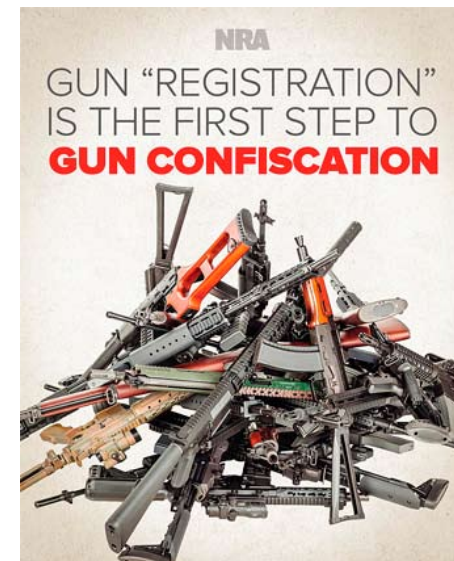
EVERY. SINGLE. GUN OWNER. Taxed annually for each and every gun.

Those of you who thought gun control didn't matter because they weren't going after you or your gun, we told you this was always part of their plan. They want to know about every single gun in the state and every single gun owner. And they are going to charge you a fee on each and every gun you have, every single year.

Your plinker? Registered and taxed annually. Your hunting shotgun? Registered and taxed annually.

We warned you. Now here it is in black and white: the California legislature is moving to pass Senate Bill 1160.

No one is safe from this. Every gun owner in California will be affected and will have to pay the state for the "privilege" of



Hartford, CT: Armed citizen walks spur opposition... Is it racist fears of blacks who legally carry guns?

Hartford, CT (GSL/Shooting News Weekly) - When police can't or won't enforce the rule of law, armed Americans will do it for them. It happened in Ferguson, Missouri a decade ago with Oathkeepers standing on rooftops to end the Michael Brown riots. It happened in Kenosha, Wisconsin courtesy of Kyle Rittenhouse. And today, in Hartford, Connecticut, some civic-minded, mostly black gun owners have stepped up to help keep their community safe and to help clean up the neighborhoods of trash.

You may wonder who could possibly be opposed to

picking up trash and helping to make sure criminals steer clear? The answer: anti-gun politicians and local social justice types, of course.

Led by a local minister, the citizens pack heat legally, carrying concealed firearms. In other words, bad guys better beware as the brigade members won't make good victims from a criminal's perspective.

The reality of local residents keeping their neighborhoods safe is simply intolerable to those who want to keep the little people disarmed victims instead of empowered citizens.

The mayor, deeply opposed to the neighborhood walks, told the local media that the city did not need people being trained to walk the streets with guns and trying to take the law into their own hands.

Who said anything about anyone "trying to take the law into their own hands," Mr. Mayor?

Is that psychological projection? Or is the mayor just afraid of local black men who legally and responsibly own and carry firearms? There are some pretty strong racist roots of gun control, after all.



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CIVILIZATION'S THIN VENEER: Haiti has fallen. Cannibal 'Barbeque' now in charge.

(GSL) - Haiti hasn't always been a completely disorganized crap-hole. For now though, the Caribbean island nation shows us in real-time just how the veneer of civilization is thinner than most people think.

With a bona fide cannibal gang leader now in charge, thugs with guns are the law.



A scene from Port-au-Prince, Haiti in recent days. Mr. Motorcyclist didn't make it.

Given the very unstable nature of daily life, how long will it take for a massive flotilla of boats full of illiterate Haitians to head for America?

No doubt the criminal class in Haiti, not wanting to get cross with the new Head Cannibal in Charge, will be first to leave. The noble concept of women and children first? Not among those thugs.

Unlike the Haitians who live a largely a hand-to-mouth existence (median income about \$1,600) in their third-world hell hole, America has a Constitution that recognizes our God-given right to keep and bear arms. Having an armed populace tends to act as a check and balance against tyrannical leaders who dine on their enemies and thugs with guns running the streets.

Doubt that? Just look at those Oath Keepers who put an end to rioting in Ferguson, Missouri not so long ago. Or Google some

guy by the name of Kyle Rittenhouse.

Moreover, for those Americans who own firearms and know how to use them, we don't have to worry so much about becoming unarmed victims of illegal alien bad guys bringing their criminal gang habits with them. Instead of cowering on our knees and begging for mercy from criminals, most of us gun owners would simply shoot them.

Those who don't own guns in America? Now might be time to reconsider their affinity for gun control and embrace personal defense, and personal responsibility, instead. After all, a stern word goes a lot further when it's backed up by deadly force.

For those who only trust the science: it's scientifically proven that criminals commit fewer crimes after they've been shot.



Our message to the non-gunowners of America: you don't have to live and die as a defenseless victim. Empower yourself. Get informed. Become a gun owner.

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