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TO DEFEND YOURSELF.**

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GUNNEWS

CELEBRATING OUR
30th
ANNIVERSARY



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE

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AFFILIATED WITH ILLINOIS GUN RIGHTS ALLIANCE, JPFO, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES AND OTHERS



THE BEST COURT MONEY CAN BUY

(GSL) - The Illinois Supreme Court has spoken on two high-profile, highly-political cases in the past few weeks. First, in July, the state's high court ruled the "No Cash Bail" law constitutional using some dubious reasoning. Then, in early August, the court vacated a lower court decision striking down Gov. Pritzker's so-called "Protect Illinois Communities Act."

Both cases featured the same four defendants: Gov. JB Pritzker, Senate President Don Harmon, House Speaker Chris Welch in addition to Attorney General Kwame Raoul.

Months earlier, Gov. Pritzker had donated a million dollars to the campaigns of each of the two new Illinois Supreme Court Justices: Elizabeth Rochford and Mary Kay O'Brien. What's more, Harmon and Welch each donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to each of the candidates as well.

Yet despite accepting donations approaching a quarter of their total campaign funds, these two justices failed to recuse themselves in either case involving those donors.



Not only that, but in the gun ban case, Justice Rochford not only refused to recuse herself, she actually wrote the majority opinion upholding the law.

Indeed, State Rep. Dan Caulkins told *The Center Square* that the decision was "the best justice money can buy."

Caulkins also said that he wasn't sure if he'll pursue the case in federal court.

In the meantime, we're saddled with the best court Gov. Pritzker and friends could "buy."



Elizabeth Rochford, right, during last year's campaign for the Illinois Supreme Court. She's holding a cookie with "Moms Demand Action" written on it.

JOIN US

Quincy launches Wed., Aug. 30

GSL proudly announces the launch of our Quincy Chapter on Wednesday evening, August 30th at the Eagles Club (3535 North 5th Street) in Quincy. Dinner and conversation at 6pm. Meeting program begins at 7pm. Mark your calendars for the last Wednesday of every month for a fun and exciting GSL event in Western Illinois.

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Rich Goodall, President
Guns Save Life.com
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Inside

What IL gun & mag ban decision means for you

page 5

Securing your kid's school

page 9

America loses a treasure: Vincent Speranza

page 12

Have a plan for disaster

page 13

Story of the 9mm

page 21

Join GSL.

page 24

September 2023

- **Quincy:** Last Wednesday: **August 30**, September 27, October 25
Eagles Club, 3535 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **August 27**, September 23, October 29
American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **September 4** at **MCL Cafeteria**, Oct. 2
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **September 5**, October 3
Pontiac Sportsman's Club. 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **September 6**, October 4
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **September 7**, October 5
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 April 6. Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
- **Danville:** Second Monday **September 11**, October 9
Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: **September 12**, October 10
KC Hall, 1001 N. Ohio St., Rantoul
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **September 13**, October 11
Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish.
- **Charleston:** Second Thursday: **September 14**, October 12
U Hotel Conference Center, 920 West Lincoln Ave, Charleston
- **LaSalle County:** Second Thursday: **September 14**, October 12
Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St. Utica

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.



Ron B. with a "Big, Fine Revolver" chambered in .45-70 Government.



John Drummond (right) talks custom guns ahead of the Decatur meeting. Below, our NW Chicago meeting.



LaSalle County State's Attorney Joe Navarro: "It's going to be chaos after Sept. 18th."



Lots of laughing from the audience as Joe Tharp dazzled with empty-hand defense at our Danville meeting.



Hunter Brandon with the BFR.



Bill, left, won the gun in Springfield. GSL President Rich Goodall is with him.



Jeremiah Brandon talked African safaris in Rantoul.



Kimmy K. won the LCP II at the LaSalle County meeting.



Our 50/50 winner and Bryan, who won the Taurus 9mm GX4 in Pontiac.



State Rep. Travis Weaver in Peoria.



Bruce, far right, won the gun in Rantoul. Congrats!



Gene won a S&W revolver in Peoria! (Nice hat.)



Chris won the Hellcat in Charleston. Mr. P. won the 50/50.



Ben won the gun in Danville.



'SAFE-T' Act / No Cash Bail kicks in September 18th...

WE'LL BE READY, TOO.

Upcoming schedule changes

September

Sangamon County GSL will meet at the MCL Cafeteria in Springfield due to SCHEELS being unavailable to us that night.

Chicagoland. Our Chicagoland chapter will not meet in November or December because of the holidays.

November

Charleston November 16th: Our Charleston meeting is moving back a week to November 16th. They have a large event planned for the week of our meeting and we've agreed to move back a week to help them out.

December

Sangamon County GSL will take place at the Air Combat Museum, 835 S. Airport Dr. Springfield. Bring your friends and family to see this privately owned museum and its million-dollar vintage aircraft. SCHEELS is unavailable to us in November and December with the holidays.

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UNITED FOR A SAFE SUMMER
 BROUGHT TOGETHER BY NATIVE SONS
PROTECT THE YOUTH NO SLIDING WHILE THE SUN IS OUT

safe summer initiative 9AM-9PM NO SHOOTING THE PEOPLE'S ORDINANCE

CAN THIS BE REAL? Please, gang members: No shooting from 9a.m. - 9p.m.

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — A North Side community group is calling for people to refrain from shooting guns in Chicago between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. to reduce the risk to people "not involved in high risk activities."

Meeting Highlights

Pontiac: For a presentation, **Mr. Boch** brought some of the latest generation in tactical lights. The world has changed a lot from the 1980s. Today, you can carry a pocket-sized light that will sear a bad guy's retinas and signal the space station. At the same time the batteries have gotten bigger and the lights have more features.



Lithium batteries are growing in size along with the brightness of today's high-performance flashlights.

Boch likes the Fenix TK20 (or TK16) as the best "full-size" tactical light present day. Olights earn the runner-up status. All are close to \$100. The deciding difference? The Fenix has a dedicated button to the strobe function (which may disorient a bad guy) and the larger switch really is momentary no matter how briefly to touch it. While the Olights are very nice and super easy to use and charge, if you don't hold that momentary switch on long enough, the light will remain on. In a defensive use, that becomes a liability as lights tend to become bullet magnets.

Decatur. Dan Cooley brought the latest numbers from ISP: 2,415,000 FOID holders and 435,000 carry licenses are active. 26,780 of those FOID cards are out of Macon County (Decatur).



John Drummond joined us and talked about information dissemination. He's a former Marine MP and Mixed Martial Arts guy who did lots of cool training stuff - both taking and giving while in the service.

He brought that training out into the civilian world and worked at two or three departments and did a lot of SWAT stuff there. After kids and a second marriage, he's stepped away from fighting bad guys for a living for something a little safer with saner hours.

Today, in his spare time, he and his wife do shows and he's big on social media (**Wayward Son Custom** YouTube, Instagram and other social media platforms) both promoting pro-gun messaging as well as his own custom gun work.

For a few hundred bucks, he can take a stock gun and turn it into something approaching a barbecue gun. Interested? Contact him at WaywardSonCustomGun@gmail.com.



Old ammo.

"Old Ammo" was the BYO topic of the month and Jeff Olson put everyone to shame with a host of cartridges from the early 1800s including paper and combustible cartridges (google it) along with some pin- and cupfire specimens. And a volleygun cartridge.

Peoria. Rep. Travis Weaver noted how we need more pro-gun members of the General Assembly if we're going to see anything change when it comes to guns. In questions, he addressed the whole "illegals as cops" story that's been in the news of late. He clarified that illegals - including DACA recipients - cannot possess firearms under federal law and as such cannot be cops.

Mr. Parks then introduced our Tech Time speaker **Kevin Moody** to talk about red-dot sights (see inset box). Richard also noted that we'll have a Taurus GX4 with a red-dot for our September drawing gun, so it seemed timely.

Sangamon County.

Col. French MacLean (ret.), a retired War College professor, shared a great presentation on his dad's unit from the Second World War.



French MacLean at SCHEELS.

Company B of the 39th Infantry Regiment in the 9th Infantry Division saw a lot of combat. 93% of the original members in 1941 perished, but they didn't go quietly into the night. They fought bravely and gallantly in North Africa (1942-43), Sicily (1943), Normandy (1944), the Hurtgen Forest (1944), Battle of the Bulge (1944), and ran across the Remagen bridge under enemy fire in 1945.

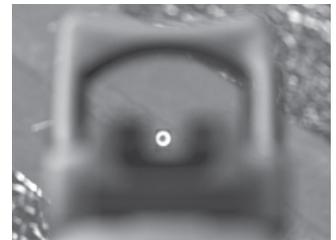
In just the last eleven months of the war, the soldiers in Company B earned 26 Silver Stars for Gallantry in Action and received 453 Purple Hearts. Led in 1943-44 by the legendary Colonel Harry "Paddy" Flint, who was a close friend of General George Patton and General Omar Bradley, the 39th Infantry coined the motto "Anything, Anytime, Anywhere, Bar Nothing," which the troops shortened to that they could kick the ass of anyone, anyplace and anytime, and they painted the symbol representing this, **AAO**, on the side of their helmets and on the bumpers of their vehicles.

The Ninth US Infantry Division as a whole saw 304 days of combat; had 37,525 total losses - the second heaviest of any United States Army division in the war.

Continued on page 19.

Kevin Moody: A primer on 'Red Dot' handgun sights

At the August Peoria meeting, Kevin Moody gave us the quick and dirty of holographic handgun sights. These continue to grow in popularity, but they absolutely take some training and practice to use well. This goes double for those with a life-time of iron sight usage. Once mastered, they can be very fast and effective.



For defensive use, make sure you have an iron-sight backup.



Kevin Moody with a Glock with a red-dot attached.

Moody, the owner of KAM Shooting Sports in Morton, knows what he's talking about from many years as an instructor and from someone in the industry. He recommended a 4-6 minute-of-angle dot for faster acquisition for defensive use. Save the smaller dots for distance shooting.

He also advised retaining iron sights in case of battery or electronic failure on defensive pistols.

First and foremost, he urged folks considering them to try them on a rental gun at a range, or a borrowed gun from a friend before pulling out your wallet. See if you like them and then pick the flavor of one that works best for you. They come in different sizes, reticle colors, how they turn on and so forth.

He admitted that they don't work for everyone. They also don't work if you don't properly secure them to your gun. At his range, they see one or two a month go flying down range after an unplanned rapid disassembly. "Have someone else mount it & sight it in for you," he recommended. He also said nail polish works better than Lock-Tite because of the tiny threads.

The recommended distance for sighting in: 21 feet.

Whether you go with these new sights or stick with iron sights, Kevin noted that you have to practice and train to keep your edge.



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!

Chicago Aug: Taurus 856 3" .38 Spl.
Chicago Sept: Ruger Security 380

Peoria Sept.: Taurus GX4 w/ Red Dot
Peoria Oct: Rock Island Pro Match Ultra 45 ACP 1911A1
Peoria Nov: Para-Ordnance P14-45

Pontiac Sept: Rock Island Pro Match Ultra 45 ACP

Decatur Sept: BlueLine 12 ga pump (Remington 870 clone)

Charleston Sept: Walther PPS M2 9mm
Charleston Oct: Rock Island Pro Match Ultra .45ACP 1911A1

Danville Sept: TenPoint Rampage 360 crossbow
Danville Oct: Iver Johnson 12ga. side-by-side 28" shotgun

Sangamon Co. Sept: 1000 rounds 9mm FMJ

Executive Director's Report



Double plus ungood - but don't lose hope



by John Boch

Guns Save Life Executive Director

First and foremost, Guns Save Life's website has returned! We had fallen victim to malicious hackers who used and abused our server. For those who signed up online, banking and other personal information was not handled on our server, so no worries there.

I wish I had more good news to share. At least if you know what's coming (or rumored to be coming) this allows you more time to consider what's the better course of action for you. So pour your favorite beverage, have a seat and fasten your seatbelt because here we go.



GSL's John Boch.

Our lawsuit challenging the FOIA Act was rejected by the circuit court. We will soon be at the state's appellate court. Regardless who wins at the appellate court, we'll be at the Illinois Supreme Court. If they try something cute, we'll take it on up to the US Supreme Court and let SCOTUS put the IL high court in its place.

I think it's fair to say that Pritzker and his buddies know deep down that the FOIA Act is a dead man walking. We suspect they plan on running against the courts in the next couple of election cycles.

We're still waiting for the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals to rule on **our lawsuit challenging the gun and magazine ban**. Folks, they're gonna rule against us. Just expect it. We'll ask for an en banc review, but given the narrow split among justices for and against gun rights, I'm not optimistic we'll get it. Without going all geeky, suffice it to say we're going to be stuck with this new law and playing defense until 2024 best case, and probably 2025.

Oh, we'll win, eventually. But those advocating for racist, classist and sexist gun control aren't going to give up and roll over.



Racists were wrong in the 1950s and they're wrong today.

They're going to fight to the bitter end, just like the racists who advocated for keeping schools segregated in the 1950s.

What's this mean for us? I see no hope that we'll have this blocked before the registration component of this new law kicks in. In fact, I don't see us gaining relief until well after the registration period has closed.

You have about five months to sort out your collection and decide what you're going to do with it. Are you going to register your guns? Move them out of state? Boating accident or burial? You must wrestle with the pros and cons to find what works for you. At least you have a few months to weigh your options.



An Illinois State Police memo from January suggested the ISP intended to take a hard-line approach to the law, but that was then. We'll see what they're saying in October or November.

Something else to think about: Will Rep. Bob Morgan introduce a new bill in January to **"close the existing owner loophole"** and demand owners surrender all registered guns, mags & parts?

Sources inside the Pritzker administration have hinted that the governor will advocate for just such a "close the existing owner loophole" law immediately after the first mass casualty event after registration closes. Especially if it happens in IL.

Suing to stop the registration?

Yes, that was our first inclination, too. Then we consulted legal experts. We learned that no gun registration scheme has ever been rejected by any court in America. If that wasn't enough, we could easily end up in front of the very same three-judge panel at the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals after spending \$100k on a new lawsuit. So we're taking a pass.

Thomas Maag from Southern Illinois might challenge it under 5th Amendment grounds, but I haven't seen a filing. Don't underestimate Mr. Maag though.

Of course **the Illinois high court ruled against Dan Caulkins** in his lawsuit challenging the state's new gun and magazine ban in state court. Frankly, it's like they listened to attorney Tom DeVore in writing their decision. I'm pretty sure the Illinois Supreme Court will decline to take DeVore's case. Like the US Supreme Court, the IL Supreme Court picks and chooses which cases it accepts.

I'm not going to point fingers at Mr. Caulkins as some have done. Instead, I'm going to focus my energy on attacking the "bought and paid for" justices on the IL Supreme Court along with Pritzker & crew. I'd recommend the rest of us do the same. Eating our own isn't going to get us where we want to go.

Don't lose hope. Don't give up. It seems like we've got more than our fair

Continued on page 20.



Moving the goalposts by regulatory fiat

Biden regime set to reclassify 'gun dealer' as 'anyone' who makes profit from selling guns

(Breitbart) - Breitbart News reported on August 1 that Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) urged the Biden administration to seize on the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act as a means by which to enact further gun controls executively. Under the terms of the Act, the Biden Administration is expected to take action to expand background checks.

The New York Times reported that the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act contained a provision that allows an expansion of background checks via a reclassification of what constitutes a firearms dealer. This provision would shift the definition of firearms dealer so as to include not only those who make their livelihood selling guns, but "anyone who earns a profit from selling firearms" as well.

'SAFE-T' FALLOUT: Local police warn that 'vicious cycle' of trespassing homeless will 'get worse'

(The Center Square) - As Illinois cities grapple with people experiencing homelessness, some law enforcement agencies are concerned with how the state's SAFE-T act will impact their ability to address trespassers.

During Tuesday's Springfield City Council meeting, alderman discussed the issue of addressing the growing problem of homelessness. One question raised was how to deal with some of the homeless

population trespassing in abandoned buildings.

Springfield Police Chief Ken Scarlette warned that police can only do so much when someone trespasses.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

DeWitt County Sportsmans Club

Clinton, IL



FREE ACTION SHOOT: AUG 16th

Action shoot Wed., Aug. 16th 6p - no charge!

Breakfasts return October 1.

>>>> 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

SPOILER: It means enforcement begins now...

What the Illinois Supreme Court ruling on gun & mag ban law means to you

(GSL) - The Illinois Supreme Court upheld Gov. Pritzker's gun and magazine ban. Their case in Rep. Dan Caulkins' case didn't involve Second Amendment considerations, but rather it was argued on "equal protection" grounds.

The outcome matters to gun owners as the earlier decision striking down the law as unconstitutional has now been vacated. As such, the State Police are now free to begin enforcement of the law.

Keeping you out of trouble for now until the law is struck down by the courts...

- Do you have any standard capacity magazines, or "banned" guns in your car? With only very limited exceptions, standard cap rifle mags over 10 rounds or handgun mags over 15 rounds must now remain on your property. They can be used on a public shooting range but they must be transported unloaded and encased to remain legal.
- Like magazines, banned guns (either by features or my magazine capacity) must remain on your property or they can be used on a range. You can transport them to and from the range or a gunsmith.
- All private gun sales must now be reported to (and registered with) the state, and the transfer must either take place at a gun dealer that's willing to keep those records or reported to one of those dealers. Many dealers don't want the hassle for a mere \$25 fee. Failure to run them through the FFL now is a potential felony for both the buyer and seller sides of the sale.
- Registration begins October 1st or shortly thereafter. You've got a few months to decide if you're going to register banned firearms and accessories, move them out of state or if you're going to have one or more boating accidents or rent a post-hole digger. We'll have more on creative alternatives to registering guns with the state in a coming issue.



Barely half of IL police agencies report local crime to FBI

What crime problem?

(The Marshall Project) - In Illinois, only 52% of law enforcement agencies reported crime data to the FBI, and 33% reported a full year of crime data in 2022.

464 out of 885 law enforcement agencies in Illinois successfully submitted data to the FBI through the National

Incident-Based Reporting System in 2022. The agencies that reported any crime stats represent roughly 7 in 10 people in the state.

42 states and the District of Columbia had higher reporting rates than Illinois.



GROSS' BURGERS

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'Militants' like Guns Save Life?

Illinois set to ban firearm 'marketing' to kids, militants, and others who might use guns illegally

(NBC5 Chicago) - Illinois will soon outlaw advertising for firearms that officials determine produces a public safety threat or appeals to children, militants or others who might later use the weapons illegally, as the state continues its quest to curb mass shootings.

Gun-rights advocates say the plan, which Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker has pledged to sign into law, is an unreasonably vague decree that violates not only the constitutionally protected right to own guns, but also free speech...

"They're infringing on your Second Amendment rights by taking away your First Amendment rights," foundation spokesperson Mark Oliva said...

To the suggestion that advertising is geared toward kids or the militia-minded, Oliva, of the shooting sports group, pointed out that no one under 18 may own a gun and a minor's access to one must be controlled by a parent. Advertising a gun's suitability for use in combat makes sense because serious gun owners want the most rugged available, he said.

Oliva and other critics mocked the proposal's "reasonable controls" standard, defined as "reasonable procedures, safeguards and business practices." Democrats who have a poor track record winning legislation to stop gun violence are simply asking the courts for help, said Todd Vandermyde, a former lobbyist in Springfield for gun-rights groups.



"They're coming in the back door, attempting to bankrupt the industry by running up their legal bills while they're playing with free money," Vandermyde said.

[Editor's note: This is just a thinly-veiled attempt to allow states like Illinois to bankrupt gun makers and sellers... and as an added bonus, if they can use the new law to go after those who don't share their world view of civilian disarmament, that's all the better.]



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Country Character



The Remington 870: Now BANNED in Illinois

by Justin Thyme
a GSL member

The Remington 870: Simple, dependable, effective, versatile, plentiful and reasonably priced. Perhaps even venerable.

As such, the 870 has become America's favorite shotgun. With production beginning in 1950, and proceeding into the millions, it has been handed down from generation to generation – many given as a shotgun for the young hunter.

Thanks in part to television and movies, the sound of the racking shotgun to draw the listener's attention is known world-wide. It is a sound that says, "Don't twitch a whisker...or anything else".

The likelihood of surviving a blast from the business end of a shotgun loaded with buckshot or slugs is minimal at best, thus making it an excellent form of protection without being discharged.

We are now told that the 870 and hundreds of other popular "personal protection devices" used for self-defense are now banned in Illinois.

The 870 is not a semi-automatic firearm, yet is on

the banned list because its magazine is "readily convertible" to hold over ten rounds.

What kind of horsepucky is that? Everything can be modified. Ever watch *MacGyver*?

As most of us already know, the 870 and its kin are not the weapons of choice of mass murderers. So what gives?

As I'm forced to consider the reasoning behind this law, I can only think of one thing this law can accomplish: disarming the Illinois citizen, a provision necessary to control the Illinois citizen should the government desire to mistreat the citizens.

According to the law, those of us who possess "banned weapons" are now forced to register them by December 31, 2023 or move them out of state which then deprives the owner of said firearms, of the protection and usefulness which they can provide.

One of my greatest concerns involving this law is the unintentional disobedience thereof. There are, no doubt, many owners of 870's and other "banned" firearms, who have no

idea that their state has orchestrated the pathway for them to become criminals by default.



Therefore I believe it is our responsibility to pass along this information to those we know so that fewer gun owners will be taken by surprise. It isn't hard to imagine a scenario of somebody gets arrested for an unregistered Remington 870 shotgun.

When this reaches the Supreme Court of the United States, it will likely be struck down as unconstitutional. Until then, we must consider that this may come into effect and we will have to work with it.

Perhaps our banned firearms, families and possessions should be moved across state lines where we can again be treated as the citizens and patriots that we are instead of staying and remaining subjects.



SOUND OF FREEDOM

HOLLYWOOD HATES IT

The summer's break-out hit that the pedophile community hates with burning passion

The Sound of Freedom breaks \$150M [now \$172M] in US, about to open globally

(*Ace of Spades HQ*) - The Sound of Freedom has made \$150,000,000 so far, and that is only domestically. It is still pulling in over \$4 million a day without a single overseas screen showing the film.

It was written and directed by Latinos, takes place in Mexico and Colombia, and about half of the dialogue is in Spanish, so it should make a good sum in Latin American countries.

It opens in Mexico August 31.

Sound Of Freedom: FBI finds 200 sex trafficking victims, including children

(*ZeroHedge*) - While the pedo-loving propagandists at the once-great *Rolling Stone* and other major media outlets attacked the anti-child-trafficking film "Sound of Freedom," calling it a "QAnon-tinged thriller about child-trafficking" which is "designed to appeal to the conscience of a conspiracy-addled boomer" -- the FBI announced Tuesday it rescued more than 200 sex trafficking victims during a two-week nationwide operation in July.

126 suspects of child sexual exploitation and human trafficking offenses, and 68 suspects of trafficking were identified or arrested.

been reported missing...

While the operation was underway, Jim Caviezel's anti-child-trafficking Sound of Freedom film was released nationwide on theater screens and became a summer blockbuster. However, a chorus of mainstream hit pieces denounced it as a "QAnon" conspiracy flick.



Known as "Operation Cross Country," nearly every FBI field office was involved in the annual two-week operation that led to the arrest of

The bureau and its local partners found 59 minor victims of child sex trafficking and sexual exploitation and another 59 children who had

We should be grateful for the people who made the film and put a spotlight on the unspoken truth of child sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. We should be asking why the mainstream corporate press made a concerted effort to play down the issue.



WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

Guns Save Life's LIFE MEMBERSHIP!

Guns Save Life is proud to announce our "Life Membership" for those who wish to show an exemplary level of support towards Guns Save Life and our mission defending your right to defend yourself.

Be among the third 100 individuals to step up and help us defend your right to defend yourself with a life membership to Guns Save Life.

The new "Life Membership" is available for \$1000, and for those aged 65 and over, it's available at half-price, \$500.

To sign up for this new Life Membership option, fill out the form on the back page of this issue of *GunNews* and send it in today.



In regione caecorum rex est luscus

In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is King

by Desiderius Erasmus, a GSL member



Edge weapons are 'arms' in the Second Amendment sense too!

Forged in Fire

The 2nd Amendment: we mostly think about it as firearms, but in the American Revolution, swords were also important weapons. American cavalymen carried long sabers, frequently as shock troops who charged at great speeds. Infantrymen were often armed with a short sword measuring around 25 inches in length, known as a "hanger" that served as a secondary weapon to the musket. **As a result, swords were plentiful when the Constitution was written.**

Today, probably no one would choose a sword over a firearm for most self-defense situations they might face, but it is incumbent that we force the opponents of our God-given right of self-defense to defend their entire foolish and naïve would-be bans or limitations on our right. We must demand to own other self-defense weapons, including swords.



You may not have contemplated swords since you were a wee tike running around with a small wooden one playing pirate, so let's quickly look at some characteristics of today's long blades. Swords changed over the last several millennia, primarily because the character and conduct of warfare (the type of enemy – such as mounted versus dismounted and what formations they used; tactics; metallurgy; the armor worn by your opponent, and so forth) constantly changes.

Today, the character and conduct of your fight could be combat inside your home, or outside. The guy probably trying to kill you will likely have neither a sword of his own, nor wearing armor, most-likely be a single opponent, or at most a small group, but not part of a large, packed formation such as a Greek phalanx! If outside your domicile, if he has a gun and you don't, you have a problem – unless you can strike first, while inside the house, you know the terrain which is a huge advantage. But again, this is not an argument to trade in your Browning 12 gauge for a Renaissance-era Zweihänder (two-handed) long sword – not that a blow from the latter won't disable an attacker, but swinging that bad boy inside and you'll find out what collateral damage is!

So here are some general types of swords you could own, and you aren't limited to just one! Just like with firearms, you have to

practice, practice, practice: you and two other buddies just can't saunter out in the backyard one afternoon, swinging your swords expecting to become the Three Musketeers. And these are not wood or dull; they can will cut you if you don't know what you're doing.

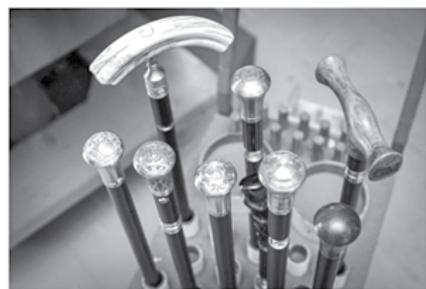
Slasher. The Japanese Katana (sometimes called a Samurai sword in modern culture) is one of the best, if not the best, slashing swords available due to the stability, flexibility, and precision provided by the handle and soft curvature of its single-edge blade. The downside? You're looking at years to get good with it – which is true for many swords! – and it's pretty long for inside-the-house use!



Cutter/Chopper. Cutting strikes are different from slashing, as they look to sever body parts (sword-fighting is bloody; get used to it). The best cutter/choppers have broad, sturdy, blades with a forward center of gravity that focus all of their power on the single-edge blade. A Chinese Dadao is a good choice.

Thruster. While it can slash, the whole point of the thruster is to bury the blade's point deep into the chest/guts of the other guy. Nothing did that better, for a longer period of time, than the Roman Gladius, the sword of the Roman legion. Blade length is about 20 inches; inside the house is doable, because you aren't swinging it, you're stabbing. Remember! Since the blade can be 2.6" in width, the wounds are often fatal.

Jack of All Trades. The above three types were designed for fighting, but a machete can serve many other purposes, cutting bushes, small trees, ropes, and even digging the ground when necessary, and be a slasher if need be. They love getting dirty.



Stealth. Cane Swords provide you with that crucial two seconds of getting it into the fight – because your attacker has probably never encountered one before. But laws concerning them are so nebulous, so often misquoted, that while I feel confident that used inside your house you might be OK, outside – well, we must push lawmakers allow them for self-defense anywhere. Cold Steel makes several economic models, while Burger

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.

What's more, we may be filing another lawsuit to challenge the registration component in Gov. Pritzker's PICA Gun & Magazine ban that he signed into law on January 10th. If funds allow it, we will seek injunctive relief to block the state from demanding a list of your guns under penalty of a felony for failing to register. After all, we all know what follows gun registration.

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

To pay our Illinois litigation team:

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

To help the national firm backstopping our IL team:

2ALC.org
Second Amendment Law Center
284C East Lake Mead Parkway
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Henderson NV 89015
(this one is 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.

Custom Canes produces ones so exquisite that your kids will fight over it in your Will, and let their siblings have the lake house and your beloved 1966 GTO.

Intimidator. Nope, not Dale Earnhardt. It's the Khukuri. Think Gurkha. Think "Ayo Gorkhali!" ("Here come the Gorkhas!") Yes, deterrence will not always work, but if it doesn't, this bad mama-jama looks like it is going to hurt somebody really bad – because it will. I can't say enough about Himalayan Imports, that makes these over in Nepal. I own a bunch. Some are 30" long, but you want one 15-20" as its easier to control. 5160 Straight Carbon Spring Steel leaf-springs off

of large cargo trucks, preferably Mercedes or Saabs, past their operational life, are retooled into blades. The Ang Khola model is almost unbreakable; some can even serve as a prybar. Does what a machete and ax can do. When I bought mine, they provided the name/info of the smith (kami) who forged each; I hope they still do. Even if you never want it as a weapon, you should consider owning one of these.

Throughout history, a quality-made sword spoke of the unique character of its owner; in some cultures, only the bravest could possess one. Be that protector of your own house and family. Find your Excalibur.

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Do you think for a minute that bed-wetting leftists wouldn't demand arrests of these men for 'hate crimes' under Michigan's new law? No doubt those advocating for civilian disarmament felt 'intimidated' and 'threatened' by rally participants like these.

Don't give Pritzker any ideas...

Michigan's new 'hate crime' law opens door to felony arrests of armed persons causing others to 'feel intimidated'

(GSL) - Michigan's charming Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed into law a new "hate crime" law weeks ago. The new law makes it a felony offense to "intimidate" another based upon the perceived feelings of the victim.

While the law supposedly protects transgendered individuals against malicious "mis-gendering," it could very easily be levelled against others. For example, gun owners and gun rights activists open carrying could easily cause someone who fears guns to "feel" intimidated at the sight of a firearm, especially at a political rally.

Pritzker concedes gun ban will likely be struck down

(The Center Square) - Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker appeared to concede that his and Democratic lawmakers' ban on a wide variety of semi-automatic handguns and rifles has a less than 50-50 chance of surviving in the federal court system.

Gun rights group files federal lawsuit against firearm manufacturer liability measure signed by Gov. J.B. Pritzker over weekend

(Chicago Tribune) - A federal lawsuit filed Monday aims to stop the enforcement of a measure signed into law by Gov. J.B. Pritzker two days ago that makes gun retailers or manufacturers subject to civil liabilities if they're found to have engaged in marketing ploys that endanger the public.

The suit was filed on behalf of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which also is one of the main groups behind a federal lawsuit alleging that Illinois' ban on certain high-powered guns and high-capacity ammunition magazines violates the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Some aren't even sure which guns to register, much less parts & accessories...

Some say complying with Illinois' gun, attachments and parts registration 'impossible'

(The Center Square) - With challenges of Illinois' gun and magazine ban pending in state and federal courts, more litigation is possible, especially with the requirement certain gun parts will need to be registered.

Gun rights advocate Todd Vandermyde said registering parts is unworkable.

"For certain people, it's going to be impossible to comply," Vandermyde told WMAV. "I was cleaning off a table the other day and I started finding all kinds of parts that I forgot I had; hammers, triggers, springs."

A memo circulating online confirmed to The Center Square by Illinois State Police said additional requirements of Illinois' Protect Illinois Communities Act, the state's ban on certain semi-automatic firearms and magazines, require people with not just the banned firearms, but "assault weapons attachments," to "have provided an endorsement affidavit signed under oath to the ISP no later than Jan. 1, 2024." Noncompliance could lead to criminal penalties.





Locked doors with controlled access is the single best way to protect kids inside schools

Securing YOUR kid's school

(GSL) - For those of you with kids or grand-kids in school, the school year begins now. Here's *your* homework: evaluate your kid's school for safety and security. Sometimes school administrators aren't up to speed on best practices or aren't aware of their own security shortcomings. You can help them with that. After all, it's your kid who will benefit.

Visit the school. If you as a layperson see obvious security weak points like unlocked or propped open exterior doors during school hours, reach out and let them know about it. Locked doors are inconvenient to staff, but they save lives by slowing down attackers and buy time for a lockdown protocol's implementation.



Pay attention to the little things before school or at dismissal time, too. Aside from unsecured doors, other obvious security failings including allowing random people free access into service entrances or onto school property/playgrounds (especially if they're carrying things like backpacks, or containers that a long gun would fit inside). If you see that, contact the school administration right away to remedy these issues. Ditto if you observe any sort of suspicious behavior. Be polite and courteous, but make that call.

If the school administration isn't responsive to identified shortcomings, contact the superintendent and if that fails, visit the school board.

Want *GunNews* for your business or organization?

If you cannot secure a volunteer to bring your business, range or organization a bundle of *GunNews* from one of our distribution hubs, we can mail a priority mail medium box filled with about 50 copies of *GunNews* to you each month. All we ask is that you reimburse us for postage and printing costs. These will arrive about six days after the third Tuesday of the month. Email jboch@gunssavelife.com for more information.

\$228 for 12 months.

School shootings and mass casualty incidents are on everyone's mind. No sane school district is going to risk the negative publicity and potential liability of ignored requests for security problems to be remedied.

What's more, there may be other issues that you didn't notice. Ask questions about security and "grade" officials' responses. If they don't have a plan or haven't revisited it in years, that needs fixing. We as parents can help nudge school officials towards improving safety if it's lacking.

If your local schools don't have a school resource officer (SRO) - especially high schools and even junior highs in larger communities, take some time to advocate for one to the administrators, the school board and local city government.

By the same token, if your kid's school does have a school resource officer who isn't professional or proactive, or has one foot out the door awaiting retirement, contact the police chief and have a meeting to share your concerns.

Also, visit the NRA's School Shield website to learn more. They have a wealth of resources and videos.

NRASchoolShield.org

The life you save by speaking up and getting involved might be that of your own child.

Next up, federal exemption? Colorado's trying to do just that...

Posturing and double-talk from both sides on authorization for illegals to become police

(WirePoints) - One immigrant group expressly included for eligibility to become police officers under Illinois' new law are DACAs — immigrants who are here under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

However, the law also expressly requires applicants to be authorized under federal law to obtain, carry, purchase or otherwise possess a firearm.

But DACAs cannot possess firearms or ammunition. Federal law prohibits it. Colorado is facing the same obstacle with a law similar to Illinois' so it's trying to get a waiver or amendment to the federal law.

So, what the law gave with one hand it took away with another. It's political posturing through double-talk, stoking political and racial division.

One supposed workaround to the gun obstacle has been reported in Blue Island, where a DACA is a police recruit who would not be allowed to take his gun home, but it's hard to see how that can work out. The federal prohibition includes no exemption for police work and off-duty cops need guns.

Gov. JB Pritzker bristled this week about claims that the law allows "illegal" immigrants to become police. He said the law's "right wing" critics are "saying that we're allowing illegal, illegal immigrants is the word that they would use.... I am tired of the right wing twisting these things. They put it out on Facebook, they tell lies."

In fact, however, DACAs are illegal immigrants. They are protected from deportation for now under a deferred immigration action program, but "the program does not grant them official legal status," as Newsweek explained in a fact check. "Deferred action does not confer any lawful immigration status," according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

And the whole deferred action program is in legal limbo. As Newsweek explained, a U.S. appellate court in October 2022 declared the program "unlawful."



DACAs are those who entered the country as minors. Perhaps you feel they deserve particular compassion and help, as I do, and think what you want about the merits of the new law, but that doesn't change the fact that DACAs are here illegally under immigration law...

It should be noted that some immigrants who clearly are not illegal are covered by the bill. Most importantly, that includes green card holders, who have permanent residency status. There are over 12 million of them in America.

It should also be noted that the new law passed with significant bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate.

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REMINDER: Crime up 36% in Chicago over 2022. Meanwhile in Florida, under Ron DeSantis, violent crime is at 50-year lows

Hear first-hand just how bad things really are in Chicago, with a 30-minute delay:

CrimelsDown.com

'My administration is different'

Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson surrounds himself with 149 police bodyguards while 'Defunding the Police' for the little people

Chicago (GSL) - Chicago's new Mayor Brandon "Big Brain" Johnson has long advocated for defunding the police along with more gun control for law-abiding citizens. With almost two-thousand police officer positions remaining unfilled at the Chicago PD, the department is shrinking *except* for the mayor's protective detail unit.



Johnson's predecessor, Lori Lightfoot, became famous for her failed, feckless leadership that resulted in fewer police and more violent crime. While advocating for gun control for the little people, she also gained fame for her 90-officer armed bodyguard detail.

While advocating for gun control for the little people, she also gained fame for her 90-officer armed bodyguard detail.

Meanwhile, average Chicagoans had to make do with up to 29% fewer cops patrolling their neighborhoods (miraculously, Lightfoot's neighborhood saw an increase of 4%). On average, though, during Lightfoot's miserable tenure, CPD shrank by an average of 19%.

Seeing the staggering reduction in law enforcement and increased crime under Lightfoot, Mayor Johnson seems to be saying, "Hold my beer and watch this."

With crime growing in Chicago, apparently 90 cops apparently aren't enough to keep the new mayor feeling safe and secure, so Johnson has upped the protective detail by 65% to 149 officers. That's more cops than all but about ten biggest entire police agencies in the state.

In fact Big Brain Brandon's protective detail is about five times larger than the governor's.

Armored truck robberies on the rise across Chicago area

Chicago (WGNTV) - Assistant Special Agent in charge of violent crimes Denaris Coleman, who has been with the FBI for nearly 20 years, says armored truck robberies are on the rise.



"It's a crime of opportunity," he said. "(It can happen) really fast. So if there is a large amount of money taken it is a quick payoff for a short amount of time."

ATF agent robbed in Chicago on the Mag Mile

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — An off-duty federal agent is among the latest victims of Chicago's ubiquitous street robbery crews...

On the Mag Mile, a 33-year-old man who identified himself as a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) agent was robbed at gunpoint in the 900 block of North Michigan around 2:22 a.m.

He told police that two men got out of a dark SUV with handguns and took his valuables. They tossed his badge on the ground before fleeing westbound on Delaware, the man reported.



GOOD & HARD: 'Unfortunately, arrests were made'

Johnson defends response to mob violence & illegals: 'My administration is different'

(Chicago Tribune via MSN) - Mayor Brandon Johnson on Wednesday defended his "unique approach" to uplifting Chicago's youth and continuing to welcome migrants, two demographics the new administration has pledged to support amid criticism that the city's response has been lacking.

"That's a unique approach. You know, many people expect us to treat people undignified. My administration is different," Johnson said. "Unfortunately, arrests were made."

FOP's John Catanzara blasts Brandon Johnson for calling teen looting a 'trend'

Chicago (Sun-Times) - Fraternal Order of Police President John Catanzara unloaded on Mayor Brandon Johnson on Friday for referring to the ransacking of a South Loop convenience store as a teen "trend"—and not a "mob action"—and for telling reporters it was inappropriate "to refer to children as, like, baby Al Capones."

"The teen takeover on Roosevelt Road was not a teen takeover. It was looting. It was mob action. It is in the ordinance, Mr. Mayor. Look it up. It's also in the state statute. I would hope you'd be familiar with that," Catanzara said.



John Catanzara, left, and Brandon Johnson.



CWB CHICAGO: It wouldn't be a new day in Chicago if we weren't here to tell you about all of the robberies...

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — It wouldn't be a new day in Chicago if we weren't here to tell you about all of the robberies that have occurred on the Near West Side since yesterday's sunrise.

The victims in today's update include an off-duty Chicago police detective, a high school repair contractor, three bicyclists who were targeted during an overnight spree, and a concealed carry holder who was shot at during a carjacking attempt.

Not bad for a weekday.



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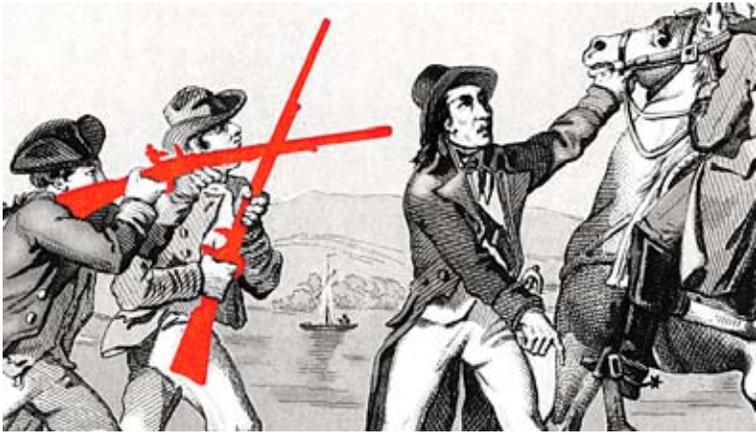
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>> Meeting program at 6pm <<

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Publication finds a gun control law from 1619... They prove the racist roots of gun control and don't even realize it!

The Atlantic: Eureka! We found a gun control law from 1619!

(GSL) - The Atlantic squealed with delight at finding what might have been the very first gun control law in the American colonies, from all the way back in 1619. Writing about it in "America's Original Gun Control" on their website, they can barely contain their glee.

The reason for their giddiness is that under the *Bruen* Supreme Court decision last summer, the only gun control laws permitted today are analogues of those commonly in place in Colonial times - specifically 1791 and before.

America's Original Gun Control

by Robert J. Spitzer

In the summer of 1619, the leaders of the fledgling Jamestown colony came together as the first general assembly to enact "just Laws for the happy guiding and governing of the people there inhabiting." Consisting of the governor, Sir George Yeardley; his four councillors; and 22 elected "burgesses," or representatives, the group approved more than 30 measures. Among them was the nation's first gun law:

That no man do sell or give any Indians any piece, shot, or powder, or any other arms offensive or defensive, upon pain of being held a traitor to the colony and of being hanged as soon as the fact is proved, without all redemption.

After that early example of gun control came many more laws placing restrictions on the ownership and use of firearms. If guns have always been part of American society, so have gun laws.

So there you have it. *The Atlantic* proudly points to what may be the first Colonial period law placed on the books. A law that kept Native Americans disarmed based upon their

race. While the first racist gun control law may have been aimed at keeping Indians disarmed, no doubt plenty more soon followed targeting blacks.

Once more, demonstrating gun control's racist roots. *The Atlantic* simply turns a blind eye at the racist roots of gun control.

And racist gun control has flowed all the way through history to modern times. The FOID cards Illinoisans carry today came about as a direct result of Mayor Richard Daley's bid to keep guns away from blacks in Chicago during the unrest in 1968.

The original purpose of gun control: to protect the Klansmen from their victims.



Gun Control is Racist.

Join Guns Save Life today.



Membership application on back page.

JOIN US!

The GSL group's
Honor Flight Welcome Home
Tuesday, September 19th
9:30pm
Capital Airport in Springfield, IL

MORE PLEASE: Rideshare driver with CCW wounds 2 who robbed him in North Lawndale

Chicago (Sun-Times) - A rideshare driver shot and wounded two people who robbed him early Saturday after he dropped off a passenger in North Lawndale, the police said.

up to him, announced a robbery and took his cellphone, according to the Chicago police.



The man fired shots as

they fled, and the driver, who has a concealed carry license, shot him in a leg and grazed the woman in an arm but wasn't injured himself, according to the police.

The man was taken to Stroger Hospital in good condition, and the woman declined medical attention, police said. No charges have been announced.

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GSLDefenseTraining.com





America loses a treasure RIP Vince Speranza (1925-2023)

Vince Speranza, a World War II American hero and a national treasure, passed away August 2nd. He served with great honor and came home to teach history to some very lucky kids in Central Illinois before retiring. Among his favorite things to do was to speak of America's greatness to audiences young and old.

He spoke at least three times at GSL meetings, dazzling audiences each time with presentations easily among our very best. What an amazing man.

Vincent Speranza's legacy

(Legacy.com) - Vincent Speranza was a paratrooper during World War II who carried beer in his helmet for a wounded friend during the Battle of the Bulge.

Born in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of New York City to a large Italian family who suffered through the Great Depression, Speranza enlisted in the Army right out of high school. He became part of the then-new Parachute Infantry and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division. Speranza first saw combat in one of the most notable campaigns of the European Theater: the siege of Bastogne and the Battle of the Bulge.

During the battle, while checking on wounded comrades, one soldier asked him for a drink. Speranza searched the rubble of nearby buildings, many bombed beyond recognition, and found a working beer tap. Without anything else to use, he filled his helmet with beer and brought it back. His friend was grateful, as were others around him, so Speranza went back for more. Before long, the story became legend.

Speranza would go on to be a history

teacher and was largely oblivious to his fame. However, his story lived on in Bastogne, leading to a local brewery creating Airborne Beer in his honor, served in small ceramic helmets. In later years, he would participate in many events in Europe honoring war anniversaries, and he even made one last parachute jump at the age of 98.



Remember the 13 slain American troops killed in botched Afghanistan pullout

(Marine Times) - A Thursday [August 26, 2021] attack outside the Hamid Karzai International Airport Kabul, Afghanistan, killed 13 U.S. service members supporting Operation Freedom's Sentinel.



President Biden checks his watch as the slain troops return to America.

Eleven Marines, one Navy corpsman and one soldier were "killed as the result of

an enemy attack while supporting non-combatant evacuation operations," according to a Saturday press release from the Department of Defense, which released the names of the U.S. troops.

- Sgt. Johanny Rosario Pichardo, 25
- Sgt. Nicole L. Gee, 23
- Staff Sgt. Darin T. Hoover, 31
- Cpl. Hunter Lopez, 22
- Cpl. Daegan W. Page, 23
- Cpl. Humberto A. Sanchez, 22
- Lance Cpl. David L. Espinoza, 20
- Lance Cpl. Jared M. Schmitz, 20
- Lance Cpl. Rylee J. McCollum, 20
- Lance Cpl. Dylan R. Merola, 20
- Lance Cpl. Kareem M. Nikoui, 20
- Navy Corpsman Maxton W. Soviak, 22
- Staff Sgt. Ryan C. Knauss, 23



The same strategies apply to make your residence less attractive to burglars as well

Layer your defenses to thwart home invasions

The Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network publishes a monthly "journal" online with news and information for their members. The good news is that the journal is available for everyone and has plenty of good information within. Here's an excerpt.

ArmedCitizensNetwork.org

We should learn from the experiences of others and who better to ask about such lessons than retired county sheriff Jim Wilson, who saw and resolved countless instructive situations during his career when called to investigate after homes were broken into. With summer heat tempting folks to open windows and doors to cool down their homes, I thought members would benefit from a reminder that it's a lot better to prevent a break-in

than it is to have a midnight encounter with a burglar, so I asked Wilson for tips on how to increase safety at home.

eJournal: I appreciate the chance to pick your brain about ways to avoid being victims of crime inside our own homes.

Wilson: I think there are two real important things people need to realize. The first is how very dynamic home invasions can be; how quickly they occur. If a person is not prepared, has not done any home improvement or any planning, the door flies open, and those people are in their face immediately and they only have a matter of seconds to react in any manner.

The second thing I think is really important and that people don't realize is that prevention of a home inva-

sion is a layered thing. We can't point at any one thing and say, "If only you had better locks..." It is lighting; it is locks; it is security video; it is having a little dog that will bark to let you know that something is going on. A lot of people don't realize the importance of having a combination of prevention...



The Armed Citizen's Legal Defense Network offers member coverage to pay for attorneys and expert witnesses to defend you in the aftermath of a use-of-force incident. They are one of the three self-defense "insurance" groups GSL endorses. Mention GSL and they'll knock \$25 off your first year's membership.



DACA 'Dreamer' posed with Senator Dick Durbin weeks before murdering Emma Shafer

Wanted poster shared for man suspected in Emma Shafer's murder in Springfield

Springfield, IL (WAND) - The US Marshals Service has released a wanted poster for the man suspected of killing Emma Shafer.

Shafer, 24, of Springfield, was stabbed to death July 11.

Police said, Sangamon County Dispatch took a call from a woman in Bethalto, Illinois around 11:30 p.m. She said her brother had possibly injured his girlfriend who lives in Springfield.

Officers responded to the 1000 block of S. 8th Street to check on the welfare of the female resident.



Upon arrival, police found Shafer dead with multiple stab wounds.

On July 12, Sangamon County State's Attorney Dan Wright issued an arrest warrant for Gabriel P. Calixto, 25, for three counts of first-degree murder and aggravated domestic battery with a bond amount of \$3,000,000.

[Editor: Emma Shafer was the niece of Tom Shafer, the gun rights activist who has led the IGOLD march in Springfield every year. She also worked for Senator Tammy Duckworth.]



I first wrote about Prepping for the Worst two years ago. I'm not alone. An estimated 74 million Americans are preparing for some level of disaster. As before, I still no longer view "preppers" as crazy. Maybe they were right, just early. Better early than late.

Prepping for the Worst 2.0

by William Jacobson

(Legal Insurrection) - It's that time of year. Summer. When I have too much time on my hands and my mind wanders to thinking about what could go wrong. I am, by nature, a 'worst case scenario' person, so time to think is not a good thing.

Thus, it was early August 2021, when I first wrote Prepping for the Worst:

I don't mean to alarm anyone, and I'm not panicked. I'm just concerned, and thinking the unthinkable....

The pandemic made clear we live on a thin line that can be disrupted. It's not unthinkable that our key systems — the electric grid, natural gas supply, gasoline — could fail or be taken down by hacking.

Add to it a federal government bent on weakening the nation as a matter of ideology, and the once-unthinkable is thinkable.

So all in all, I no longer view "preppers" as crazy. Maybe they were right, just early. Better early than late.

I don't plan to be late.

My prepping really hasn't been for the "worst case scenario" — it's been for the most likely bad scenario, mostly focused on energy grids on which we depend, and food. (I know, readers always tell me to focus on home defense, but that's not something we talk about...)

I'm not alone. An estimated 74 million Americans are preparing for some level of disaster:

Prepping is big business, with roughly a third (29%) of the adult population in the US dropping a collective \$11 billion in the last 12 months on emergency preparedness, according to a Finder survey.

The most commonly bought survivalist items are literally the basics: food and water. About one in five (21%) Americans says they bought staples...

Of course, there's the other non-natural disaster to worry about — government and 'woke' corporations. Prepping for that needs to be part of a plan — what if like in Canada your access to your bank accounts and all your financial resources were cut off?

Reason #2,239,345 to own firearms and know how to use them...

International expert: Likely Chinese saboteurs flowing across America's borders

(Gatestone Institute via Epoch Times) - There is now a Chinese invasion of the U.S. homeland.

"The jungle is filled with Chinese marching to America," said war correspondent Michael Yon to Gatestone.



There is no question that China's PLA is inserting saboteurs through Mexico. "At the Darien Gap, I have seen countless packs of Chinese males of military age, unattached to family groups, and pretending not to understand English," said Yon, the war correspondent. "They were all headed to the American border."

"Normally in groups of five to fifteen, they typically emerge from the Darien Gap and spend one night in the U.S.-funded San Vicente Camp, or next door in the Tonosi Hotel, before boarding luxury buses for the trip up Highway 1 toward Costa Rica," Yon reports...

How many of the PLA fighters have slipped into the United States this way? Some estimate 5,000, others 10,000. Those numbers sound high, but whatever the actual figure, more are coming.

These are China's shock troops. The concern is that, on the first day of war in Asia they will take down America's power lines, poison water reservoirs, assassinate officials, start wildfires, spread pathogens, and create terror by bombing shopping malls and supermarkets.

The saboteurs will almost certainly attack American military bases. China has already been probing sensitive installations. Chinese agents posing as tourists have, for instance, intruded into bases, including the Army's Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks, Alaska. There, the suspected Chinese agents drove past a base gate and were later apprehended with a drone inside their car.

Neighbor's house burned down, mine was saved...

Have a plan for disaster.

by Line of Departure
via ar15.com

(edited for readability)
Texas - My wife and I were getting the kiddos ready for bed when we heard a bunch of banging on our front door. I handed the baby off to her and ran downstairs to see what was going on.

When I popped my head outside, one of our local police officers was yelling about a big fire. Glancing over, I saw my neighbor's house fully involved.

I immediately turned around and yelled, "Get the kids in the van and get out of the house, now!"

From there, I ran into the garage and turned on the van and opened all the doors for her. Next, I grabbed the garden house and ran it to the west corner of my house. There I saw my house starting to smoke and the paint bubbling from the radiant heat.

I put the water hose on it and started covering my house as best as one can from a raging inferno 40 feet away. Maybe 45 seconds had elapsed and I saw my wife pull the van out with my children and waved at her to leave with them. A neighbor came and asked what he could do. Told him there was another hose in the back yard and to go get it on the fence line. He did.

That was the hottest thing I've ever felt. I had to keep spraying myself down to stay in the fight. It took at least three more minutes for the fire department to show up and get a line in my side.

By this point the neighbor's



place was a total loss. I stayed on that corner as long as I could stand it. Got a few 1st degree burns here and there before I pulled out and went to my fence line in the back yard. There, I relieved the neighbor and that's where I stayed for the next two hours.

I will be forever grateful for the work my local PD/FD put into saving my house.

We will be replacing all the siding and windows on the western side and repainting. No smoke or water intrusion.

We are incredibly fortunate.



The heat shattered by outboard panes to my dining room windows. Interior panes held until the next day when the track and

frame lost its integrity.

We had a generalized plan and it worked. I'm sharing all of this to encourage all of you to make sure that you have a plan.

The whole incident happened very fast and didn't give a damn about us. Fortunately a good plan mitigates disaster. We will be refining ours in several places. As it was, my wife got our four children ages 6 and under, as well as our dog and cat out of the house in 45 seconds. She did a great job under a lot of stress.

Have a plan folks. Know it. Refine it. But most importantly have one.

Hope isn't a plan and panic only compounds disaster.



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Survivor or bear scat: Which works better for you?

Black bear intruder shot dead in man's living room

Luther, MT (AP) — A Montana couple got a late-night wakeup call from a barking dog alerting them that a black bear had broken into their living room before the man shot and killed the animal with a handgun.

The confrontation with the large bruin happened in the rural community of Luther at the base of the rugged Beartooth Mountains, where Thomas Bolkcom and fiancée Seeley Oblander live with their two dogs.

After staying up late the night before — the couple was scheduled to fly that morning to Arizona for their bachelor and bachelorette parties — they awakened about 3 a.m. to their dog Maizey barking furiously upstairs from the house's main floor, Oblander said.

Bolkcom, 27, a commercial painter and elk hunter, went to investigate and tried to coax the lab-pit bull mix downstairs when he turned around "and there's this black bear standing in the living room five feet away," Oblander said.

Wearing only a t-shirt and underwear, Bolkcom ran back downstairs, got a handgun and returned to the living room where he shot the bear. It ran into another room so he shot the bear several more times.

The animal had broken in through a screened window. Oblander, 26, said it had no other way out and was between Bolkcom and the door.

"I never thought there would be a bear in our house, so that was quite the wakeup

call at three in the morning," she said. "I just stayed downstairs with the dogs, trying to help keep them out of the way and let Tom handle it. He did a great job..."



Last month near West Yellowstone, Montana, a grizzly bear killed a 48-year-old Kansas woman while she was running or hiking on a trail west of Yellowstone National Park.

[Editor: There you have it... The armed American used their firearm to solve a deadly threat, while the 48-year-old Kansas woman, sans firearm, became bear scat. Which outcome would you prefer for you and your family?]



Biden regime defunding schools offering hunting and archery programs

(Forbes) - As America faces a storm of geopolitical threats, endures a flood of fentanyl streaming across a largely open southern border—now killing some 100,000 Americans annually, wrestles with soaring inflation, and experiences unmitigated crime in many of our largest cities, the Biden Administration's recent move to defund schools that offer hunter safety and archery programs has many ques-

tioning President Biden's priorities. The administration seems to be misfiring on many cylinders and, not surprisingly, Joe Biden's approval rating continues to plummet. "It's right up there with jock itch," recently quipped Senator John Kennedy.

The administration is twisting the intent of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) passed last

year—with the help of 15 Republican Senators voting in favor—and the Education Secretary, Miguel Cardona, has moved to block funding from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to schools that offer hunter education and archery programs. BSCA prohibits ESEA funds from being used to provide training in the use of a "dangerous weapon."

School safety plans save lives

Tennessee kook arrested after school massacre thwarted

Memphis (The Reload) - An assailant has been charged, and a coordinated safety plan has been credited with saving students' lives at a Jewish school in Memphis, Tennessee.



Meet the perp Joel Alejandro Bowman. After he left the school, cops caught up with him and ultimately shot him.

Local law enforcement announced charges on Wednesday night against a suspect over an attempted shooting at the Margolin Hebrew Academy. The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation said they have charged a 33-year-old man from Stanton, Tennessee, with five different charges related to the attack on the school and later shootout with

police that left him hospitalized. Memphis Police and the Secure Community Network (SCN), which helped stop the attack and catch the suspect, touted the security measures at the school for effectively stopping whatever the gunman had planned.

"The suspect did try to enter the building armed with a gun," Memphis Police Assistant Chief Don Crowe said during a Monday press conference. "When he could not gain entry, he fired shots outside the school. Thankfully that school had a great safety procedure and process in place and avoided anyone being harmed or injured at the scene."

"We are grateful that everyone is safe and the offender is no longer a threat to the community," Amanda Braswell, SCN's Regional Security Director, said in a statement on Wednesday. "This resolution was not an accident or luck, but the result of a highly coordinated, comprehensive, best practice security effort that we have been working toward since the Memphis Jewish Federation and Secure Community Network (SCN) first partnered in 2018."



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FAFO: He fooled around and found out...

Bullet changes Mr. Wolf abusive attitude towards ex-

Dothan, AL (WDHN) — An Ashford man was shot and killed after officials say he broke into someone's home and began assaulting someone in the home.

The incident took place in the 900 block of McCallister Road in the city limits of Dothan.

Dothan police say the deceased, Charles Kevin Sexton, 55 of Ashford arrived at the home looking for his ex-girlfriend who he believed to be there. Sexton got out of the car and forced his way into the home, knocking down several doors in the process, and even forcing his way past the homeowner, until he got to his ex-girlfriend.

Police say Sexton then pulled the ex-girlfriend from the third room and began assaulting her. The homeowner retrieved a handgun and began demanding the suspect stop assaulting the ex-girlfriend. At that time, the suspect began to charge at the homeowner who then shot him one time in the upper torso. The suspect exited the residence and entered the same vehicle and left. The suspect was dropped off at Southeast Health Emergency Department where he was later pronounced dead.

Customer shoots meth-addled armed robber

Cass County, MI (WWJ) - A suspect who allegedly tried to rob a Southwest Michigan gas station this week wound up in the hospital after a customer with a gun intervened and shot him, police said.

The suspect was taken to the South Bend Memorial Hospital by ambulance where he was admitted for his injuries. The suspect was listed in stable condition as of Friday, July 28.

As detectives worked the scene, Michael said they discovered the suspect's vehicle and arrested a woman for possessing methamphetamine and a warrant for the same.



...Sam Colt made them equal

Woman shoots would-be intruder to her RV

Houston (KHOU) — A woman shot and killed a man Friday she said was trying to break into her home in the Spring Branch area, according to the Houston Police Department.

HPD said the woman, 41, is cooperating with investigators. They believe she fired in self-defense. This happened right after 7 a.m. in the ABA RV Park on Jacquelyn Drive near Long Point Road.

Police said the man, 53, recently moved into the community and he and the woman had just met.

SMART GUY: 21-year-old with a CCW

Pizza delivery driver wounds carjacking suspect

Philadelphia (WPVI) -- A pizza delivery driver shot a suspect during a carjacking and attempted robbery in Philadelphia's Chestnut Hill neighborhood.



Probably sounded like a flash-bang grenade

Elderly CA woman lets her .357 do her talking

Oakland, CA (KTVU) - A 75-year-old woman opened fire on two intruders who broke into her Oakland home and came under fire herself, authorities said.

The home invasion robbery happened around 2 a.m. on July 26 at a residence near the Oakland Zoo in the hills on Ettrick Street in the Chabot Park neighborhood, according to the Oakland Police Department.

Officers said two armed men forced their way into a home and began searching. The elderly resident was the only one at the home when the intruders broke in.

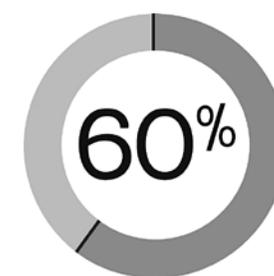
Fearing for her safety, the 75-year-old woman pulled out her .357 Magnum and fired one round toward the suspects, police said. The suspects returned fire at the woman and fled the scene.

Fortunately, the woman was not injured during the shooting, and there were no reports of physical injuries, according to the police.

BOOM: Up to 60% of Americans could own guns, twice earlier estimates

(Washington Examiner) - A surge in "quiet gun owners," much like the so-called "silent majority" in political circles, is leading firearms analysts to believe that far more Americans own weapons than the accepted 30% cited in polls.

in suburban and urban areas...



The study from Rutgers University's New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center is spreading like

wildfire in the industry, which for years has tried to accurately estimate United States gun ownership and determine why polls show support for gun control, but then there is little follow through when legislation is proposed...

Tuccille described those who "fib" as "quiet gun owners" who may be driven to be untruthful to pollsters because they are worried about the government or their neighbors finding out they own guns.

Man exonerated after shooting bully who attacked him

(GSL) - On our website, we reported on a January 2023 defensive gun use from West Pueblo, Colorado. The "victim" in the incident contacted us after seeing our post and sent more information about what happened, and he even shared more video. We shared all that on our website. While we can't bring you the video here in *GunNews*, we can share some details from the incident.



Jack H. (pictured above on the receiving end of a throat strike) was riding in the passenger seat of a "crappy little Honda" with \$4,000 rims on it. A very large man (pictured, left) walked by grinning at the rims.

An innocent comment asking the big guy if he liked the rims set the man off as if Jack had questioned the moral character of the big guy's mother. An incensed Mr. Big Guy got into the face of Jack, trying to bait him to fight. Jack found himself effectively trapped in the open door.

Jack stood his ground, not saying a word. When he didn't cower in the face of the larger man's threats and taunts, that seemed to set off the bully even more. He then struck Jack in the throat.

Jack responded by accessing his firearm from appendix carry. Seeing that, the big guy tried to grab for the gun but he was unsuccessful. He did successfully soak up multiple rounds AND he managed to master the art of unassisted human flight, briefly, while running away in a really big hurry before collapsing.

Jack tells us he is a big fan of the Active Self Protection *YouTube* page and practices some of the techniques he's seen there. One, firing from compressed high ready (in this case while laying on his back across the console inside the car) allowed him to retain the gun and shoot his attacker.

The slide struck him in the chest for those first couple of shots before he could extend. "I had bruises on my chest for a month," Jack wrote in his email.

Fortunately the cops responded quickly because the dead man's brother showed up about five minutes later with an AR-15. About five deputies convinced the brother not to do anything stupid.

In the end, the local prosecutor ruled the case self-defense.

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Freedom's Forum

New challenges will make us all stronger

by John Boch

That which doesn't kill us makes us stronger.

As I mentioned at our meetings, there's no scenario I see where the courts give us relief to Governor Pritzker's new Gun Ban before the registration component kicks in on October 1st. Yes, we will ultimately win, but probably not before 2024 at the soonest.

We're likely not going to challenge it in court for two huge reasons: First, no gun registration scheme has been successfully challenged in any court in America before. Secondly, we would as likely as not end up in front of the same three-judge panel at the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

What should do you do?

A continuum of options exist for each of us, just as there's a continuum of options for how to handle an armed robbery you notice as you emerge from the restroom of a convenience store. No options are particularly good, and everyone's going to handle it a little differently.

What *can* you do? First, inform your friends, neighbors and family about the new law and

its provisions. Let them know about how private gun sales must be registered. Advise them to determine if their guns are covered by the ban and as such must be registered in order to keep them. At the same time, you might also coax them to make sure they vote in 2024, too.

Probably between a quarter and a half of Illinois gun owners are utterly unaware of this new law's onerous provisions and may become felons unwittingly. That's a million or more gun owners out of the 2.4M FOID holders in our state.

Figure out what you're going to do with your impacted firearms. Are you going to move them out of state, store them with an FFL as part of them providing gunsmithing services, or maybe sell them (to an out-of-stater)? Maybe you'll take them out on a boating adventure. Or maybe you'll rent a post-hole digger. Others will opt for the "Molon Labe" option.

No need to decide prematurely. You've got five months to weigh your options. Regardless of which you choose, help educate your fellow Land of Lincoln residents on this new law and its provisions.

Illinois vs. Florida

by John Boch

So we just returned from some time in Florida, specifically Ft. Walton Beach. We saw the sights and had a great time on the Emerald Coast, named for its beautiful green water and white sand.

Some call it the Redneck Riviera. No doubt some in "civilized" Chicago look down their nose at the rednecks on the Emerald Coast. At the same time these cultured Chicago residents don't think twice of the complimentary sound of gunfire in the distance and intrusive police checkpoints at the entrances of *their* beaches.

not only felt safe but we were safe. Nobody got shot, stabbed or killed in Ft. Walton Beach or the bucolic redneck communities near us during our week-plus vacation. Meanwhile on just one of those days, the cosmopolitan and worldly folks in Chicago reported 30 people shot, four fatally.

Serious crime in most of Florida is low. No robbery crews roaring up in stolen cars sticking guns in your face or mobs of hooligans looting stores and trashing private property. People weren't getting shot or killed in road rage incidents outside of famous landmarks - or anywhere else for that matter.

Then again, in Florida, they put violent people behind bars. They don't release people with "affordable" bails and ankle bracelets. Not only that but an average of one in five Floridians packs heat and shoots back at criminals. We surely had ours.

The difference between Florida and Illinois - specifically Chicago - remains as stark as night and day. Remember the woman who stabbed a Chicago Transit Authority employee in the throat a couple of years ago and got charged with a misdemeanor? The same woman later moved to Florida and stabbed another person. Maybe the stabby former Chicago resident thought she would catch another misdemeanor charge. Now she's a long-term guest of Florida and won't be poking anyone else.

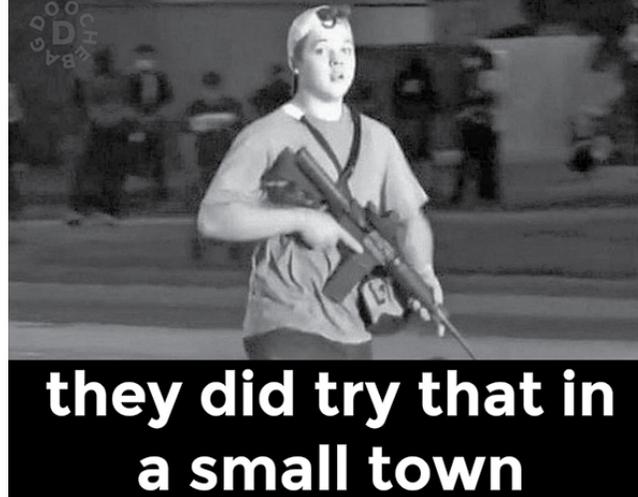
Ron DeSantis didn't bring violent crime rates down to 50-year lows in the Sunshine State all by himself. But unlike Illinois' governor and Chicago's mayor, Florida's Gov. DeSantis saves most of his compassion for the law-abiding as opposed to the criminals.



One day on our trip, we even disarmed to visit the Pensacola Naval Air Station to see the Blue Angels practice along with the magnificent Naval Air Museum.

Disarm? Yep. Unlike the Land of Lincoln, Florida remains the land of law-and-order. With violent crime at 50-year lows there, we

i'm old enough to remember when



MAIL CALL



Body-worn cameras thwart phony 'racist cop' narratives time and time again

Police body cams save lives just like body armor

The Illinois Newsroom [Editor: Government-funded media] has a story captioned: "*Marchers protest killings of two black men in Rantoul*". The focus of the story is a July 29th protest condemning police for the recent shooting deaths of two black men.

This hissy fit was staged by the Urbana chapter of the communist Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL), which advocates overthrowing, dismantling, and replacing the police, prisons, military, and courts. With that as background, you might imagine that facts are completely irrelevant to these nitwits.

In the case of Jordan Richardson, the incident was captured by both the

officer's body camera and nearby private security video. Richardson is shown armed and fleeing when Officer King arrived on the scene to aid another officer.

Richardson is seen disobeying repeated orders to drop his gun. The young scholar eventually turns and aims his stolen pistol at Officer King, who then shot him.

Both the State Police and the State's Attorney found the shooting to be justified. A police search of the car Richardson was riding in turned up 6 pounds of prepackaged pot for sale, \$2,600 in cash, and two more illegal handguns. However, the Illinois "Newsroom" story inten-

tionally omits any mention of the many things Richardson did to get himself shot in the first place. This story is simply an attempt to keep the phony racist cop narrative alive.

Media hyenas and PSL social justice thumb-suckers can learn a valuable life lesson from former New Orleans Saints' head coach Bum Phillips. After viewing a film of the Atlanta Falcons handing his team its ass, Phillips said: "The film looks suspiciously like the game itself." Officer King should be eternally grateful for his own body camera, as it will surely save his butt more often than his body armor.

Gary Hetherington
Springfield, Illinois

GunNews Magazine

The monthly journal of
Guns Save Life

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Letters, including complaints or commendations, to the Editor are welcome. Please, limit your letter to 200 words. We reserve the right to edit or refuse publication of any submission. Anonymous letters are discouraged. Guest columns of 400 words are also welcome on timely issues, particularly those related to firearms, self-defense or similar topics. Letters and guest columns may be sent electronically to: jboch@gunssavelife.com.

Or you can mail your letter to: Guns Save Life, PO Box 51, Savoy, Illinois 61874



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:

a-human-right.com
blog.olegvolk.net



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Should you seek out treatment for mental breakdowns?

Should I stay... or Should I go now?

by Mr. M.
(GSL) - Lyrics from a Clash tune might seem out of place in a journal like *Gun-News*, but if you have experienced depression, suicidal thoughts, or other mental health breakdowns please continue reading a little longer.

19.86% of adults in America experience mental illness of one form or another, or roughly 50 million people. About a quarter of those folks experience severe mental illness. It's not a lot of fun, I'll tell you.

So what's that mean? It means if you suffer from mental illness you're not alone.

However in the Land of Lincoln, seeking out treatment for anything except mild depression carries the risk of the loss of your FOID card and your carry license. That's a big deal for those of us who rely on our firearms to defend ourselves and our families from the threat of the ever-growing criminal element.

I can also confirm first-hand that getting them back (as I've done more than once) has become more and more frustrating, expensive and time-consuming. Today, I've been told that the appeals process is clogged with thousands of applicants for each staffer handling them at ISP headquarters.

Some folks like me have experienced debilitating depression in a cyclical pattern. At times I've needed the help of profes-

sionals and I've experienced "treatment" at all different levels. With that knowledge, I'll share some strategies to help readers navigate the minefield of mental health treatment. And I'll cut to the core of the decision-making process that many of us eventually face.



Hence, "Should I stay (at home) or should I go (seek treatment)?"

First, make a plan. For those with a spouse, an honest discussion of a "best plan" may or may not be all-inclusive.

Should you seek out help of a good friend (who can keep his/her mouth shut)? YES! Talking with one or more friends who understand what you're dealing

with or going through can help a lot.

Should you see your family doctor? YES! They can help you understand the best way to treat your illness.

Should you see a psychiatrist for a consultation? WHY NOT? They are specifically trained relative to the best use of medications to treat your particular mental illness / depression. Your primary care physician can help with a referral.

Should you see a therapist? YES. I've done this with mixed results but it may be worth a try, especially as they have better availability than psychiatrists. Bear in mind that a therapist can't prescribe medication.

Seeing your doctor, a psychiatrist or a therapist on an out-patient basis will probably not trigger a loss of your FOID card with one exception: as "mandated reporters," they are mandated to report when they see someone as a "clear and present danger" to themselves (self-harm) or others.

Those reports will get you branded with the "mentally ill" label and your FOID revoked. In today's world, that means you can pretty much kiss your guns goodbye for years, thousands of dollars in expenses and a whole new helping of frustration.

Should you call a suicide hotline? DEPENDS. Most of these will come with a FOID revocation as the people taking the calls are mandated reporters. You might try the VA's crisis line (988, then press '1') as they may not be state mandated reporters as federal employees.

Should you go to the hospital? NO,

not unless you feel you are an immediate danger to yourself or others. You *will* lose your FOID card on this one. Even worse, in my experience I wasn't impressed by the treatment. I only felt better after I returned home. Then the ISP revocation letter came two days later.

Serious, chronic depression issues... If your depression or other mental health issue is negatively affecting your quality of life then it is not the time to drag your feet. Particularly if it's chronic as opposed to intermittent or acute. Seek help and implement your plan.

It took me 25 years to seek out medication before I finally did it. I now wish I'd acted sooner. Don't let the possibility of seeing you doctor (and/or a psychiatrist) feel like a compromise. You are facing a condition that's treatable. The sooner you act, the sooner you will recover.

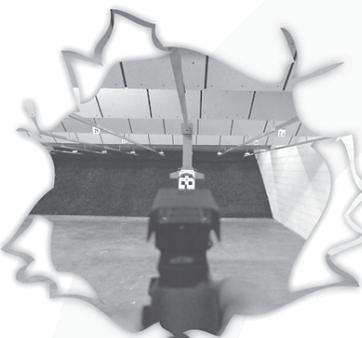
At the same time, if you're in a very dark place where you're seriously contemplating giving up and checking out, reach out to a friend.

If you're ready to take your life to stop the pain, seek help. Talk to a friend until you can talk with your doctor or a therapist. Reach out and make that call. **At the same time if you have a friend who is in crisis mode** and they have guns, ask if you can hold onto those guns for a few days or weeks until they're better.

In most cases, suicide is a permanent solution to a very temporary problem. There are treatments for depression. If it's negatively impacting your life, talk with your doctor.



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Meeting summaries

Continued from page 3.

Interestingly, French's dad had at least one black man serving in their unit. They all fought together and nobody cared about race or where you were born.

Also from his research of the unit, he held part of the blood-stained mattress cover used to wrap one of our highly decorated American hero casualties after we ran out of body bags and caskets. He likened it to holding the Shroud of Turin.

Next month, we're meeting at the MCL Cafeteria in Springfield.

Champaign County. Jeremiah Brandon and his 14-year-old son Hunter discussed their South African safari from this past June, and they brought photos, too!

Safari trips to Africa are surprisingly affordable relatively speaking. In fact, they are cheaper than trips out west domestically. And unlike American hunting trips out west, hunting in Africa isn't "if" you harvest animals but "how many."

It was an experience they'll each treasure for a lifetime and they shared it with the audience.

They raved about the trip and after taking all the trophy animals they wanted, they spent a couple of hundred bucks to go deep sea fishing one day. Another day they enjoyed a local festival. They likened it to small town America. It was very different in Johannesburg though.

Danville. Joe Tharp dazzled the audience and showed what decades of Martial Arts training will get you.

Tharp, a retired police officer with three deadly force incidents in his career, advised using situational awareness and conflict avoidance. It makes life a lot easier. "If they're just going to take your money, let them have it."

If they want more, like your body, then it's time to fight. Don't be afraid to use violence.

He showed a couple of simple techniques to the audience, starting with strategies to counter grabs from bad guys. They involved helping the bad guy hyper-extend his elbow the wrong direction.



Right hand grabs top of slide and pulls down and right. The left hand goes under the barrel and lifts and pushes left.

The fun really started when Joe showed some basic pistol disarms which aren't for novices or the faint of heart. They will result in bad things for you on the business end of the gun if you don't move off the bore's axis as your first part of disarming. Then, if all goes well, you'll either have the bad guy shooting himself or removing his trigger finger. Either way you'll have control of the gun.



Joe Tharp on a (fairly) simple knife disarm.

Joe also showed some counter-knife strategies against a lunging attack which involved catching the inside of the wrist with one hand and vigorously striking the back of the hand with your other hand. That will cause the bad guy's grip to involuntarily open, sending the knife flying.



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Executive Director's Report.

Continued from page 4.

share of rogue judges in our state. However, don't lose hope as gun rights folks have struck down more gun control schemes nationwide in the last year (citing *Bruen*, in particular) than the total number of laws tossed out by the courts in the 40+ years before it.



What else is on the radar? I'm no fan of the new law that criminalizes "marketing" of firearms to youth, "militants" or those inclined to break the law. I just don't trust the Pritzker administration not to use the law against political adversaries like Guns Save Life.

"Marketing" can mean a lot of things and no doubt they consider us "militants" in their fragile minds. With that in mind, I signed up for iDrive to ensure continuity of GSL should Pritzker's goons show up at my house and take all of my computer gear. (I started with Dropbox but bailed on their lousy user interface.)

Radar 2.0: The "No Cash Bail" law was upheld by the state's high court and they set September 18th as the date for implementation. Folks, two things you should do before then: 1) get concealed carry "insurance" of some sort and 2) clean and inspect your guns.

County jails will be releasing 50-75% of those held on pre-trial detention on that date. Protect yourself and your family. It's your duty. After all, people love you and are counting on you.

For those sheriffs trying to figure out what to do with them, I stand by my earlier suggestion to rent a bus and drop them off out front of the home of the nearest politician who voted for the SAFE-T Act.

When democracy turns to tyranny...



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The cartridge that conquered the world

The story of the 9mm Parabellum

by Nick Klementzos

(GSL) - I'm old enough to remember a time in the US when the 9mm was actually frowned upon. If you didn't carry and shoot a .45 Auto, those old fellas from my youth considered you a little less than a manly man.

Fast forward to the present day, where the 9mm dominates the world and shooting sports. Next to the .22 Long Rifle, the prolific 9mm has become the most popular cartridge in the world. So how did this happen?

The 9mm cartridge was developed by a man named Georg Luger, who also designed the world-famous Luger pistol.



The 7.65x25 cartridge aka .30 Borchardt.

Luger derived (borrowed? stole?) both in the late-1800s from the ugly .30 Borchardt pistol and the round that fed it, coincidentally named the .30 Borchardt.



The Borchardt pistol.

Now, only a mother could love the hideous Borchardt pistol, and its wooden furniture was probably derived from the ugly sticks commonly used to beat less attractive children. Not only that, but the Borchardt pistol itself was about as concealable as a PR-24 baton. "Is that a Borchardt in your pocket or are you glad to see me?" But I digress.

Georg simplified the locking mechanism (the toggle) and changed the grip angle. He also tweaked on the Borchardt round and created a .30 Luger round. The Swiss liked the gun enough to buy a bunch, but the Germans wanted a bigger round for more stopping power.

Georg being a smart, resourceful individual wanting to sell a whole lot more of his guns to make more money, quickly redesigned the .30 Luger cartridge by removing the bottleneck and shortening the cartridge case, loading it with a new .355 diameter projectile that weighed in at 115 grains.

To modify his pistol to the new cartridge, George put on a slightly bigger barrel in the new caliber chambered for the new 9mm Parabellum cartridge. Both were relatively simple procedures. And the world-famous, iconic 9mm Luger pistol we all know was born.



The world-famous 9mm Luger.

The Germans adopted the Luger pistol and Parabellum cartridge not only for their military pistol but also used the cartridge for their submachine guns and more. For both World Wars, in fact. And even the Americans flirted with the 9mm for the military but stuck with the mighty .45 ACP.

While America might of won both World Wars with the potent .45 ACP along with the .30-06 Government (to say nothing of the .50 BMG), the Germans ultimately won the cartridge war by speaking metric with the 9mm.

It does a decent enough job in a wide variety of roles in handguns and pistol-caliber carbines. That has made it quite popular.

More police and militaries across the world eventually adopted the 9mm. Eventually the American public discovered it as well.

And before you know it, not only did semi-auto pistols supplant revolvers as the hottest selling handguns in America, but the 9mm knocked off both the .38 Special and the .45ACP as the hottest selling cartridges.

Today, you might be an "old man" if you're still toting that big, heavy .45 1911A1. You're certifiably old if you're carrying a 4" .38 Special in this day and age.

That's because pretty much all the cool kids, including women and other non-traditional gun owners, they are all carrying and shooting the 9mm today.

The fact that pretty much everyone and their dog, including the US military and most police agencies, has adopted the 9mm has made it the king of the hill for cartridges. And that's how in less than 100 years the 9mm has conquered the world.



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Calendar



GUN SHOWS...

August

Aug 26-27: Belleville Gun & Knife Show, Belleville Fairgrounds, Belleville, IL. ECA Jeff Edwards (618) 367-3118.

September

Sep 16-17: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike (630) 363-3131.

Sep 17: McHenry County Gun Show McHenry County Fairgrounds Woodstock, IL Donald Cichoski (815) 385-1982

Sep 23: National Civil War & Collector Arms Show, DuPage Co. Fairgrounds, Wheaton IL. Irene Zurko (715) 526-9769.

Sep 23-24: Chillicothe Sportsman's Club, Chillicothe, IL. Steve Risinger (309) 208-1010.

Sep 30-Oct 1: Central IL Gun Collectors New Berlin. Sangamon County Fairgrounds, New Berlin, IL. Patrick Keen oldcarbines@gmail.com.

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

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Aug 26: Heart of Illinois Countryside Banquet Hall Washington

Sept 12: McHenry County Holiday Inn Crystal Lake

Sept 16: Sauk Valley Rock Falls American Legion

For more info, visit FriendsOfNRA.org.

New York's 'Raise the Age' law helping drive chaos, mayhem and violent crime

New York City (PJ Media) - New York State was inspired to raise the age for a person to be criminally liable under the law to age 18 back in 2018. It's all the rage in progressive jurisdictions to treat violent, juvenile offenders like Father Flanagan's kids ("There's no such thing as a bad boy").



NY Gov. Kathy Hochul.

"The purpose of the Raise the Age law," according to a juvenile justice advocacy website, "was to ensure that more youth would benefit from the Family Court's rehabilitative focus and sealed records policies. The law also barred all minors from adult correctional settings, with few exceptions."

More than "a few," says Albany District Attorney David Soares. He's been calling on Gov. Kathy Hochul and the state legislature to repeal the "Raise the Age" law because of the chaos and mayhem it has caused.

Soares knows that those violent man-children are totally aware that they can commit

almost any kind of violent crime and be tried in juvenile court. Where a young offender may have gotten 7 years for a convenience store holdup if tried as an adult, Family Court would be far more lenient and may not even send the offender to prison.

And because the threat of prison has been all but removed, the recidivism rate among these kids is astronomical.



Family Court wasn't designed to "deal with violent, super, super, violent youth," Soares explains. These are not "children" in any way except age. They are grown-up violent predators who are smart enough to figure out the angles of the Raise the Age law and avoid serious consequences for their actions.

Hot Air's Jazz Shaw nails it: "This falls under the same rule that we've discussed here so many times but liberal Democrats remain deaf to. If you remove the negative incentive for committing crimes, the result will be more of those types of crimes. It applies to retail looting and it applies to attempted homicide."

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The Armed Women of America

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twaw.christiancountyll@yahoo.com

2nd Thursday (6:30-8:30p)
Bloomington-Normal
CI Shooting Sports, Normal, IL

1st Wednesday (6:00-8:00p)
Champaign County
High Caliber Training Center, Urbana, IL

2nd Monday (6:30p-8:30p)
Chicago Western Suburbs
Range at 355, Bolingbrook, IL

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Maxon's Shooters Supply & Indoor Range, Des Plaines, IL

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Kane County
GAT Guns, East Dundee, IL

2nd Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Lake County
5 Star Firearms in Zion, IL

Last Saturday of month
Kankakee County
ISRA Range in Bonfield, IL
twawkankakee@gmail.com

First Thursday (6-8pm)
Macon County
The Bullet Trap, Macon, IL
email twaw.maconco1@yahoo.com

Last Sunday (3:00-5:00p)
Metro East St. Louis
Town and Country Gun Club, Maryville, IL

First Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Metro Peoria / River City
TacShack, Peoria, IL

3rd Monday (6:00-8:00p)
Sangamon - Menard
MTM Arms, Athens, IL

3rd Thursday (6-8pm)
Effingham County
Accuracy Firearms

3rd Thursday (6:00-8:00p)
Pocahontas
Rampart Range, Pocahontas, IL

2nd Sunday (2:00-4:00p)
Little Egypt
Tombstone Gun Range & Training Center, Marion, IL

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McHenry County
On Target Range, Crystal Lake, IL

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McHenry County NORTH
Second Amendment Sports in McHenry, IL
mchenrynorthchapter@yahoo.com

2nd Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Winnebago County
KAP Guns, Lovespark, IL

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Fox Valley
Fox Valley Shooting Range, Elgin, IL
foxvalleytwawsc@gmail.com

4th Friday (6:00-8:00p)
Quad Cities
Milan Rifle Club in Milan



The Empire Strikes Back: NYC issuing fewer carry permits than before Bruen

(NRA-ILA) - The United States Supreme Court ruling striking down New York State's concealed carry permit rules as unconstitutional was big news in June of 2022, but indications are that officials in the Big Apple are still trying to decide how to best pretend it never happened...

Even though the Bruen decision eliminated a key roadblock in the licensing regime, the apparent result is that the process has stalled even more.



48 straight months of million+ gun sales

(TTAG) - Gun Nation just passed a significant milestone. July was the 48th consecutive month with one million or more adjusted background checks, the best measure of retail gun sales. That's a very big deal for a couple of reasons.

First, the NSSF's adjusted number is really a minimum. It doesn't account for sales of multiple firearms in on transaction and it doesn't include sales in states that don't require background checks for carry permit holders...

Second, the line between Gun Nation and the country as a whole grows more blurred by the day. Given the fact that recent research shows the number of gun owners may actually be as high as 60%, America is increasingly becoming Gun Nation.



Gun control is racist, classist and sexist
Dems propose 1000% tax on black guns

(FoxNews) - More than two dozen House Democrats put forward legislation Friday that would slap "assault weapons" and high-capacity magazines with a 1,000% excise tax, a change that would raise the price of a \$500 weapon to \$5,000 in a bid to reduce access to guns across the country.

Another 'Gun Violence Advocate' arrested busted for selling illegal guns

(TTAG/GSL) - The NYPD have arrested yet another "gun violence prevention advocate." Michael Rodriguez, 49, claims he's known as "Love" in the community. He was busted for his role in running a major gun- and drug-running ring brought down by a multi-jurisdiction investigation, Operation in Plain Sight.



Michael Rodriguez, aka 'Mr. Love'

Rodriguez served as the executive director of something called "Bronx Rises Against Gun Violence." When not ostensibly promoting gun control for law-abiding citizens, according to police, Mr. Love was selling guns and slinging drugs.

He must have had a good thing going as when police busted him, they found \$165,000 in cash and another \$50,000 in jewelry.



Baltimore's mayor singing a new tune

"We will reimagine public safety, we can't arrest our way out of it"
-- Baltimore's Mayor Scott in 2021

"We must arrest people and hold them accountable by not allowing them right back out on the streets"
-- Baltimore's Mayor Scott in 2023

David Hogg refuses to debate Colion Noir

(TTAG) - David Hogg backed out of a debate that was scheduled by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute and the Center for the Study of a Liberal Democracy when he found out his opponent would be Colion. The topic of the debate: *Resolved – The Second Amendment was a mistake.*

The challenge of defending the side of gun control — an industry that made him famous and likely pays him a handsome salary — was apparently too much for the Harvard Man.

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Commies aren't your friend and they don't support your right to self-defense...

OP-ED: Communist front group in Central IL demands jail for those practicing self-defense

Rantoul, IL (GSL) - Government-funded media dutifully reported on a couple of dozen malcontents marching in Rantoul, IL on July 26th. A communist front group in Urbana, IL organized the "rally," not to demand the arrest and incarceration of those committing serious crimes and victimizing the innocent, but instead demanding "justice" for two criminals killed trying to deploy firearms against police to evade arrest.

tently shot himself in the femoral while fighting a cop to retain the gun. He ran off and bled out. Meanwhile, Richardson ignored multiple commands to drop his gun and when he pointed it at an officer, that cop punched his ticket in self-defense.



Azaan Lee in better times. Note the self-identifying message on his shirt.

These are the same people, by and large, who would strip you and I of the right to keep and bear arms for self-defense. In fact, they would strip us of the fundamental human right of self-defense altogether.

What the rabble rousers failed to recognize was that justice was served in both instances. Azaan Lee illegally toted a stolen firearm. He tried to deploy it against a Rantoul cop and inadvertently

would still have a lifetime of opportunities to enrich the community in a positive way if they had chosen education and a career path over a life of violent crime.

What's more, if these two perps were willing to kill cops, what do you think they would have done to your family or mine?



Rantoul is lucky to have well-trained law enforcement officers who protect and serve everyone in the community. Sure, they aren't perfect. However the last guy who walked on water died a couple of thousand years ago.

The two young men would both be with us today if they had followed lawful orders by police instead of trying to kill the police. They

A moment of levity



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Membership:

- o \$30 - Annual membership / Renewal
- o \$20 - Sign up a friend (with regular annual membership or renewal)
- o \$90 - Three-year membership / Renewal
- o \$60 - Sign up three friends (with a three-year membership/renewal)
- o \$50 - Family membership
- o \$150 - Family membership three-year
- o \$50 - Business membership
- o \$1000 - Life membership
- o \$500 - Life membership for over age 65

\$_____ Total enclosed. Is this a gift? From whom? _____

Mail this form and payment (checks payable to Guns Save Life) to:

**Guns Save Life
PO Box 51
Savoy, IL 61874**

Contributions or gifts to Guns Save Life are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.