The Insiders Guide FOR GUN DWNERS

Issue 144 December, 2006

Dear Subscriber,

What impact will the 2006 congressional election have on Second Amendment rights? That's the question gun owners all over America are asking.

The most troubling thing about the election is that, while it may have been a referendum on some easily recognizable political issues (the President, the war in Iraq, JACK ABRAMOFF, and MARK FOLEY, for example), gun rights and gun control were both non-issues.

We may have missed a few, but found no congressional candidate websites with any stated position on gun issues at all.

Because Democrats have traditionally been

the political vanguard for gun control zealots, it would be natural to assume that the anti-gun agenda will win the support of newly elected members.

We know that the Democrat congressional leadership is completely beholden to the far left anti-gun extreme of its party.

Here's who to watch out for: **Speaker of the House-elect NANCY PELOSI** belongs to the most extreme far left wing of her party. She will control what bills come to the floor. It's doubtful she'll be able to say "no" to **anti-gun fanatics like SARAH BRADY** and her congressional allies.

Watch out for JOHN CONYERS, the likely chairman of the Judiciary Committee and PELOSI's strongest House ally in the push for more gun control.

Nearly every bill relating to the Second Amendment must pass through CONYERS' committee. **He is a rabid extremist who advocates a total handgun ban.** He will control the schedule of the committee and determine which bills come up for committee vote.

The Senate is worse. The new probable incoming chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee would be PAT LEAHY of Vermont. He is a total anti-gun ideologue. PAT LEAHY will do all he can to attack the rights of gun owners.

Other anti-gun radicals on the Senate Judiciary Committee are: **TED KENNEDY** (MA), echo-chamber for SARAH BRADY; **JOE BIDEN** (DE), who was committee chairman when the Brady bill passed in 1993; **HERB KOHL** (WI), "Gun Free Zone" author; **DIANNE FEINSTEIN** (CA), author of the ban on so-called "assault weapons;" **RUSS FEINGOLD** (WI), Democrat lead sponsor of the campaign finance reform that gave 527s so much power in the 2004 election; **CHARLES SCHUMER** (NY), lead sponsor of the 1993 Brady Act; **DICK DURBIN** (IL) one of the noisiest anti-gun voices in the Senate.

Gun rights defender DAVE KOPEL is **optimistic about the new pro-gun Democrats** who will be joining the House and Senate. He feels **they will help move the Democratic party back towards its traditional position of respect for the civil liberties of the American people**.

The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms (CCRKBA) has called on the Federal Elections Commission to investigate whether **the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun violence has violated FEC regulations and campaign laws** by advocating the election of federal candidates in communications to the general public. **The Brady Campaign had made endorsements that amount to paid ads.**

Gun rights defenders everywhere are on guard, watching carefully for a clear indication where Congress is going and what to do about it.

Also in this issue: ● Libraries blocking gun sites ● Foundations pushing U.N. gun control ● Idaho town ordinance: a gun in every household ● Bloomberg won't boot gun criminal from anti-gun mayors group ● More "Guns Save Lives" stories ● Armed Senator in our Page Eight "Parting Shot"



SAF SUES LIBRARIES FOR BLOCKING PUBLIC ACCESS TO GUN WEBSITES

The Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and three local plaintiffs have filed a lawsuit in federal court against the North Central Regional Library District in Washington State for refusing to unblock public library computer filters that deny requesting adults access to the SAF website and others with content about guns, including *Women & Guns* magazine, which is owned by SAF.

The library system is being challenged for unconstitutionally censoring protected speech and seeks a permanent injunction against the blocking.

SAF and the local plaintiffs are represented by a Seattle law firm and the American Civil Liberties Union.

CHALLENGE TO U.S. GUN CONTROL LAWS

Maxwell Hodgkins, a U.S. citizen living in London, England, has filed a lawsuit asking for a legal injunction to prevent federal officials from enforcing gun control laws that unfairly stop nonresident citizens from buying guns for selfdefense if they re-enter the United States.

The laws put him at risk, Hodgkins claims, if he attempts to access his guns in the U.S. The Second Amendment Foundation is a co-plaintiff in the suit.

GUN MAKERS APPEAL INDIANA COUNTY COURT'S ANTI-GUN RULING

In October, Lake County Superior Court Judge Robert A. Pete ruled that the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act of 2005 was unconstitutional, writing that it violates the due process and separation of powers clauses, and commented that it "is clearly an act which was passed in response to pressure from the gun industry."

As a result of the ruling, the City of Gary, Indiana, may continue its suit against 16 gun makers and six northern Indiana gun dealers.

Lawrence G. Keane, senior vice president and general counsel of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, an industry trade association, said Congress has the right to ban the lawsuits, and that Judge Pete's decision was flawed "as a matter of law and constitutional analysis."

"We think we are clearly going to win on appeal," said Keane.

COURT LETS MINNESOTA CHURCHES KEEP BAN ON GUNS

Hennepin County District Judge William Howard has issued a permanent injunction allowing churches in Minnesota continue to ban firearms from most of their property, including parking lots and spaces leased to tenants under a religious freedom exception to the state's handgun law.

Judge Howard's ruling has no effect on the other provisions of the law, which allows Minnesotans 21 and older who get required training and pass a background check to carry concealed handguns. Churches still have to give notice to ban guns.

NEW HAMPSHIRE TO FIGHT CONCEALED CARRY

New Hampshire Attorney General Kelly A. Ayotte is intervening in a state Supreme Court appeal by Edward Bleiler of Dover who claims his rights were violated when Concord police Chief William Fenniman revoked his concealed carry permit last March after Bleiler pulled out his handgun in a City Hall office and laid it on the city attorney's desk.

A Dover District Court judge upheld the chief's decision to revoke Bleiler's permit.

		nly by the Second Amendment Foundation, Liberty Park, 12500 N.E. 10th Place,	
I	Bellevue, WA 98005. Phone (425)454-7012. FAX (425)451-3959. P	lease call or write if you have a question regarding your subscription.	
I	Publishers: Alan M. Gottlieb and Joseph P. Tartaro	Editor: Ron Arnold	
I	Subscriptions: Eva Hart	Published by:	
I	Design: Northwoods Studio	Second Amendment Foundation	
I	Subscriptions \$60 per year USA, \$70 elsewhere. Single issues \$5.00.	. Copyright © 2006 by Alan M. Gottlieb and Joseph P. Tartaro. Photocopying,	
I	reproduction or quotation strictly prohibited without written permission	of the publishers. Bulk rates on request. Postage paid at Bellevue, WA.	
I	POSTMASTER: send address changes to The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report , 12500 N.E. 10th Place, Bellevue, WA 98005.		
I	Dein	and in the UCA	

Printed in the USA.



U.S. AND CANADA TO EXCHANGE GUN DATA TO FIGHT CRIMINALS

U.S. Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales and Canadian Minister of Public Safety Stockwell Day have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the electronic exchange of gun ballistics information between the two countries.

The agreement will allow law enforcement agencies in both countries to trace crime evidence such as bullets and cartridge cases recovered from crime scenes to catch cross-border criminals.

The two nations will now be able to coordinate the investigation, arrest and prosecution of gun smugglers, murderers, robbers, and others who use guns in crime.

PHILIPPINES TO ARM CIVILIANS AGAINST COMMUNISTS AND MUSLIMS

The Philippine government has announced plans to recruit and arm civilians to help maintain peace and order in the face of escalating hostilities from communist

rebels and Muslim insurgents in the south. The government called the armed civilian militias "force multipliers" in the fight against insurgency, terrorism and common crimes such as murder and kidnapping.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said, "The authorities are on top of the situation, but they need the active support of the community to safeguard the perimeters of peace and order."

Security officials said the plan would plug a deficit in the 120,000-strong military and 110,000-strong police force in the country. The southern region of Mindinao, plagued by a communist insurgency, Islamic extremism and terrorism, is the pilot area for the civilian militia program.

CRIMINOLOGISTS SAY AUSTRALIA'S GUN CONTROL LAW DOES NO GOOD

An article in the respected British Journal of Criminology titled, "Gun Laws and Sudden Death," concludes that Australia's tough gun control laws passed in the wake of a shooting spree in Port Arthur and the \$600 million gun buyback have had no effect on the gun death rate.

The report generated significant controversy when the Australian Broadcasting Company recently presented the authors on its program, "The Law Report," which embarrassed the government for wasting money and throttling the nation's civil rights for nothing.

WEALTHY FOUNDATIONS PUSHING GLOBAL GUN CONTROL GROUP

The United Nations vote to continue study of "Towards an Arms Trade Treaty," was 139 (every left-wing country in the world) to 1 (U.S.).

You could just about see the group called "Reaching Critical Will" dancing with glee when they reported, "The crowded room of delegates and onlookers witnessed the official beginning of a process that could regulate the trade in conventional weapons from tanks to shotguns for the first time."

Who is this Reaching Critical Will? It's a front for a front for big liberal foundations who want world gun control. It seems that Reaching Critical Will is actually a "project" of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), which isn't even a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit in the United States (it was formed in Belgium).

WILPF has to use a U.S. front, the Jane Addams Peace Association, which is funded by the Ford Foundation, the Carnegie money, and Samuel Rubin Foundation, one of the most far-left donors in America. So don't be fooled.

It's really U.S. "charities" pushing for U.N. global gun control.

SCOTLAND WORRIES THAT KNIFE CONTROL COULD BOOST "GUN CRIME"

A high-profile crackdown on knives in Scotland has prompted a justice department advisor to warn that eliminating knives could lead to a rise in the use of guns by criminals, especially in gang-plagued areas. A five-week knife-amnesty netted 13,000 knives this summer. Inspector Andy McKay said, "our activity on knives may be a catalyst for this to take place and we must be alive to this."



ARKANSAS BILL FILED TO ESTABLISH "CASTLE DOCTRINE"

Arkansas state Senator Jerry Taylor, Democrat from Pine Bluff, has prefiled the first Senate bill for next year's legislative session, which would remove the requirement that a person who is under attack has a

"duty to retreat" before turning to deadly force. Taylor's Senate Bill Two would expand the existing law that

allows the use of deadly force if the person is attacked in their home and they're not the aggressor.

Rep. Shirley Walters, the bill's House sponsor, says she signed onto the bill after constituents became concerned they could be charged for defending themselves.

TOWN'S "PLEASE OWN" GUN ORDINANCE DRAWS MEDIA ATTENTION

Jay Leno thought it was worth mention in his monologue and Comedy Central wanted an interview, but the 862 residents of Greenleaf, Idaho hardly batted an eye when their city council passed Ordinance 208, asking everyone who does not object on religious or other grounds to keep a gun in the home. Eighty percent of the population already owns a gun anyway, so it was no big deal.

KANSAS HAS RULES FOR SIGNS PROHIBITING CONCEALED CARRY

When Kansas legislators overrode Governor Kathleen Sebelius's veto in March to enact the state's concealed carry law, they allowed certain businesses and organizations to prohibit handguns on their property.

The signs that serve as public notice of the prohibition became a contentious point, but now regulations tell everyone what they have to look like: at least 8 by 8 inches, with a white background and black handgun silhouette with a red international circle-and-bar "no" symbol. Even people who don't speak English understand that sign.

NEBRASKA GOVERNOR APPROVES GUN SAFETY COURSE CURRICULUM

Gov. Dave Heineman has signed off on the course content for classes on how to safely carry a concealed handgun. Now those who want to teach the class must apply to the Nebraska State Patrol, according to the new concealed carry law.

Residents who pass the course must visit one of six State Patrol offices to apply for concealed carry permits, which cost \$100. Training courses will start as soon as the patrol approves trainers.

NEW YORK PASSES MANDATORY SENTENCING FOR ILLEGAL GUN POSSESSION

Gov. George Pataki has signed into law a bill that makes New York the toughest state in punishing anyone with a loaded illegal handgun: it's now a felony with a minimum term of three and a half years in prison.

Rabidly anti-gun New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg stole the show from Pataki at the signing ceremony, trashing the whole idea of concealed carry and even the right to own a gun. To his credit, Gov. Pataki refused to endorse Bloomberg's statements to the press at the ceremony.

SOUTH DAKOTA SIGNS ANOTHER RECIPROCITY DEAL

South Dakota has added Pennsylvania to its list of reciprocity agreements for concealed firearms permit holders from other states. That means the two states will honor each other's concealed weapons permits.

South Dakota now has reciprocity with 20 states, Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah and Wyoming.

UTAH LAWMAKERS WANT TO BOOST FUNDING AND STAFF FOR GUN PERMITS

Legislators are calling for the fees collected for concealed gun permits to go directly to the Bureau of Criminal Identification, rather than to the general fund.

Though business is booming because Utah's concealed carry permit is popular nationwide, only a fraction of the fees collected, \$650,000 this year, are returned to pay for administration. Rep. Curt Ode (R-Roy) has proposed a bill to change that.



MY GUN CRIMINAL IS OKAY, YOURS IS A JERK

This month's Don't Bother Me With Facts Award goes to raving anti-gun New York City Mayor Michael "Blooming Idiot" Bloomberg, whose good buddy, the mayor of



Jackson, Mississippi, entered a guilty plea last month on weapons charges after carrying a handgun on church and school property.

Jackson Mayor Frank Melton, a Democrat like Bloomberg used to be, is a member of the Blooming Idiot's national coalition of Mayors Against Illegal Guns.

But will The Bloomer give Melton the boot? Not a chance. Anti-gun gun criminals are okay with Bloomberg. His spokeswoman, Virginia Lam, told the *New York Daily News*, "Mayor Melton has been an important member since the beginning and we look forward to his continued contribution to the coalition."

Besides, it was just a misdemeanor, a lower degree of crime than a felony. Melton, who pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor gun charge to avoid felony charges that would have cost him his job, got off with a \$1,500 fine and a year's probation instead of jail time. If it was you instead of the mayor, would the penalty have been the same?

So what does this champion bit of hypocrisy give us? A new name for the Blooming Idiot's group: Convicted Mayors Against (Your) Illegal Guns?

FEDERAL JUDGE IN CAHOOTS WITH BLOOMBERG?

If convicted mayors in Bloomberg's anti-gun group make you feel contempt, this one will make you feel outrage: federal court judge Jack B. Weinstein has appointed a lawyer handpicked by Mayor Michael Bloomberg to monitor several small out-of-state "mom and pop" gun stores that had been sued by Bloomberg earlier this year.

The gun dealers did not admit to any wrongdoing, but settled with the city to avoid financial ruin from legal fees. The lawyer picked to do the monitoring, Andrew Weissman, is a partner in the Chicago-based law firm of Jenner and Block. The firm represents the Violence Policy Center, a Washington, D.C.-based gun control group known for its extreme position that civilian ownership of handguns should be banned.

As part of the dealer settlement agreements, Weissman was appointed "special master" to oversee and monitor three of the five settling dealers' business practices. The two remaining settling dealers will have their special master appointed by a Georgia court, but Bloomberg intends to request that Weissman be appointed to oversee them as well.

Lawrence G. Keane of the National Shooting Sports Foundation said, "I doubt these small business owners had any knowledge of Weissman and his firm's ties to the radically anti-gun Violence Policy Center. They clearly have a basis to go back to court and demand that a truly neutral party be appointed as a special master.

Is Judge Weinstein making secret off-the-record deals with Mayor Bloomberg to bias this case? It's worth an investigation.

NOW LET'S GET RID OF THE LEGAL GUNS

Mayor Bloomberg recently announced his newest outrage, a push to end the legal ownership of guns in New York City. He told his radio show audience, "If you tell me you need a gun permit, you're telling me you don't think the NYPD can do a good job in protecting you. Most people, I don't see any reason why they need it."

With the recent NYPD killing of an innocent black man on his wedding day in a hail of 50 or more police bullets, why should anybody think the NYPD won't kill them, not protect them? The city obviously needs lots more gun permits, not less.

But the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms reminded the Blooming Idiot that "self defense isn't a privilege, it's a right."

Bloomberg said the Founding Fathers didn't have handguns in big cities in mind. They didn't have in mind big city cops killing innocent citizens, either.

TEXAS HOMEOWNER KILLS INTRUDER

It is a normally quiet neighborhood in the East Texas town of Tyler, but one recent Saturday morning at 4:30 a.m., 22-year-old Justin Herrera kicked in the front door of the home of Robert Delk, a respected businessman who runs a photography studio in Tyler.

Delk was awakened by the noise and grabbed his handgun for protection.

When he got to the front room, Delk saw the door cave in and Herrera lunge through it.

Delk shot the man and called police, who responded to the scene, said Tyler Police Department Sergeant Bill Goeckinghen. Herrera died at a local hospital.

GUNS SAVE LIVES

Police said Herrera just recently moved to East Texas from Fort Worth. Herrera had been in jail a number of times. His 14-page criminal background includes aggravated assault, car burglary and two D.W.I. charges.

Police did not file charges against Delk.

RETIRED COLONEL SHOOTS INTRUDER IN ALBUQUERQUE

Dr. Kerry Herron, a retired Air Force Colonel and former nuclear arms expert at Sandia Laboratories, called 911 about 11:30 on a recent Saturday night to report that he shot an intruder in his Albuquerque home.

Albuquerque Police Department spokesperson Trish Hoffman said Dr. Herron woke up to sounds inside his house and discovered a burglar. When Dr. Herron confronted the man, a struggle for the gun ensued, and he shot the intruder, 27-year-old Ernest Gonzales, who died at the scene.

Detectives are investigating the incident as a homicide, but say it's possible Dr. Herron won't be charged because it may be a justifiable homicide.

SAN DIEGO TRIO OF ROBBERS THWARTED

Three robbers after a homeowner's money and air conditioning unit surrounded the man, who then ran to his bedroom and retrieved a rifle. One the intruders grabbed the rifle barrel and the homeowner fired, hitting the robber in the chest.

San Diego, California police said the wounded robber will survive. All three intruders fled, but were captured later. The three were acquaintances of the homeowner's stepson. No names were released by police.

Police said the homeowner will not face charges.

MISSISSIPPI THUGS FAIL PAWN SHOP ROBBERY ATTEMPT

Clifton Lashon Jackson, 19, and two other men with their faces covered approached Old South Pawn Shop in Natchez at about 10:30 a.m. with a handgun in each hand and told employees to give them money and get down on the floor.

A clerk got the store gun and shot Jackson in the head, said Natchez Police Chief Mike Mullins. Officers responding to a 911 call found a store employee holding two men at gunpoint in the parking lot, took over the suspects and had Jackson taken by ambulance to Natchez Regional Medical Center, where he died.

No charges have been filed against the unnamed person who shot Jackson.

SOUTH PHILLY BARBER SHOP OWNER SHOOTS THIEF

A would-be thief tried to rob a barbershop in South Philadelphia, but the owner shot him. The thug was taken to University of Pennsylvania Hospital. There was no word whether the shop owner would face charges.

CINCINNATI PROSECUTOR WON'T CHARGE MAN WHO KILLED CAR THIEF

Hamilton County Prosecutor Joe Deters said Bernie Hall, 61, feared for his life when 14-year-old Qualvale Finnell headed straight for him, driving Hall's own car, which had been left idling while Hall got his gym bag and handgun. Hall said he didn't know it was a teenager, and wouldn't have shot had he known, but it happened too fast. Hall is properly licensed for concealed carry.

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GUN NEWS TICKER - QUICK TAKES ON THE NEWS

•Sagamore Hill, New York: Sixteen years after the theft of a priceless pistol used by Teddy Roosevelt while leading the Rough Riders at the Battle of San Juan Hill, FBI agents recovered it from Anthony Tulino, 55, a postal worker. Federal prosecutors charged Tulino with pilfering the weapon in April 1990 from the Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. The .38-caliber Colt was recovered in 1898 from the sunken Battleship Maine by a salvage crew led by William Cowles, Roosevelt's brother-in-law. Months later, Roosevelt carried the 1895 Colt in the charge up Cuba's San Juan Hill.

●Las Vegas: Ed Roman Guitars has designed and constructed a one-of-a-kind guitar for world famous rocker, hunter, and gun rights icon Ted Nugent: it not only plays hard hitting rock 'n' roll, but it is also a precision firearm, with a magnetic, quick-deployment Derringer handgun built into the guitar itself. It will be on display at the Cobra Derringer booth at the 2007 SHOT Show in January at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida.

•Springfield, Massachusetts: Smith & Wesson is entering the shotgun market, and will unveil two new shotgun lines at a trade show next month. Chief executive Michael Golden said, "We have entered into an agreement with a team of industry veterans who have formed a partnership and constructed manufacturing facilities with the sole purpose of producing our innovative line of Smith & Wesson shotguns."

•Philadelphia: Urban Outfitters Inc., based in Philadelphia, is offering a 5-inch-long, Chinese-made glittery black handgun Christmas tree ornament for \$6, complete with a satin ribbon for hanging. Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell has no sense of humor. An office flack said, "The governor doesn't find it humorous or clever to display weapons that are responsible for taking hundreds of lives each year as if they are decorations." Urban Outfitters also sells cheeseburgers and light-up Jesuses for your tree. Oh, and if you want one of the handguns, forget it, they're sold out.

•Atlanta: Plainclothes Atlanta police kicked down the door of 92-year-old Kathryn Johnston's home in a drug bust. She got her handgun and shot each of the narcotics officers before they killed her. They will recover. The woman's niece, Sarah Dozier, said there were never any drugs at the home. "There was no reason they had to go in there and shoot her down like a dog." The police informant who said he bought drugs there came forward and admitted he was told to lie. The FBI is investigating the Atlanta police involved in the incident. Maybe Atlanta is hiring rejects from the NYPD.

●London: A selection of guns used in the James Bond films over the last 40 years are set to go under the hammer at an auction of film memorabilia. The star weapon, used by Sean Connery in the 1962 film, *Dr. No*, is expected to fetch up to \$50,000. The robe costume of Obi-Wan Kenobi from the 1977 sci-fi hit *Star Wars* is also up for auction, but none of the movie's blaster guns are.

•Kingston, Rhode Island: A student group at the University of Rhode Island called the Second Amendment Society is raising money to help purchase guns for women at risk who can't afford them. But at a recent fundraiser on campus promoting its rape prevention kit, which contains a handgun, other students donated practically nothing. Some students even objected to the idea, but the students who created the group stood their ground, insisting that "stop, or I'll shoot" would dissuade most rapists.

•Manchester, England: The anti-gun campaign group Mothers Against Violence is demanding that sportswear giant Puma withdraw a shoe which "glamorizes guns." The company sells a limited edition \$120 fashion-trainer called "Bonnie and Clyde," notorious American criminals from the 1930s, which has a picture of a sub-machine gun on the heel instead of the Puma motif, and the words "I steal for a living" on the sock liner. The company scoffed at the group's complaint, saying the shoe was a tribute to the ground-breaking 1967 movie of the same name, which ushered in an era of realism in film.

STATE SENATOR IS ARMED AND FED UP WITH CRIME

Senator Tim Burchett had served in the state General Assembly for eight years. Last month he was re-elected to the state Senate without opposition.

But it didn't make him immune from thieves.

He keeps his old motorcycles and parts in a local warehouse and got tired of repeated break-ins that cost him three dirt bikes and a security camera.

He figured it was teenagers from nearby Karns High School.

When he heard the school would be closed for a day to repair burst plumbing, he staked out the woods beside the warehouse.

As he told the Knoxville News Sentinel later, "I'm sick of crime. I'm sick of being a victim. I've been staying up at night trying to catch these guys."

He also holds a concealed handgun permit and owns two pistols, a 9 mm Glock and a .25-caliber Keltec. Of course: he sponsored the concealed carry legislation.

Then, like clockwork, four teenage suspects showed up about noon the day Karns High was closed. They broke the lock off the warehouse door.

They were entering his warehouse when Burchett called 911 to report that he was armed and planned to confront the four suspects.

"I'm going to jump them. I'm going to pop them," he said.

The tape of the lady at the Knox County 911 dispatcher's desk shows that she said, "You're talking about shooting them?"

"No, no, I'm not an idiot. I know the law. I mean pop them--catch them," the tape shows Burchett saying.

"I'm not going to shoot some kid over a dad-gum motorcycle," he told a reporter. "But you never know if they've got a gun or knife or what."

Burchett followed the teens into the warehouse and confronted them with his Glock, then marched them out to the parking lot and fed them chocolate-chip cookies until sheriff's deputies arrived.

One of his stolen dirt bikes was found as a shop class project at Karns High. Another was found at the home of one of the teens. The third is still missing.

Three of the teens were charged with burglary from the previous break-ins and thefts and the fourth was released as not having taken part in the crimes.

So Burchett got two of his bikes back and some teens learned about justice. With no shots fired.

Alan M. Hotthiel Says a Valour

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