

## **My Two Cents Worth**

By: Joseph Andalina

### **We have no answer to evil**

Well, Turkey Day has passed. So has Black Friday and Saturday shopping. Then came Cyber Monday and the money grab that ends with Giving Tuesday.

All parts of Americana. That's where our hearts and wallets go on these time-honored traditions.

Another time-honored tradition is the fact that we see spikes in suicides and murder. Any cop can tell you over the years some folks will off themselves over the holidays.

The depression becomes too much; expectations too high; and the "desire" to go on is too low. Others among us are monsters. They kill, maim, and assault for no other reason than they are selfish, rotten, bastards.

Lost in the never ending media interest of people in shopping malls and commercials telling us to buy a Lexus are a variety of stories on gang murders, domestic assaults, and the tragedies of dead people on an international basis.

But last in the world is a little known story of an 8-year old girl abducted off her porch downstate in Olney, Illinois.

Sabrina Stauffenberg was waiting on her porch as her church bus was late. She called her grandmother to tell her this and Gram told her to hang tight, that she was coming. When Gram arrived, Sabrina was gone.

Police later located her by her cellphone where she was found dead by a vinegar plant. She was sexually assaulted. As I said, she was eight. Eight years old and tortured by 53-year old Glen Ramsey, who was charged with predatory sexual assault and murder. Apparently he was dating a relative of Sabrina's, which illustrates that most of the time horrible crimes are perpetrated by someone we are familiar with.

Look up this miserable excuse of a human being. He looks scary. He is what you fear. But we all know killers come in many forms.

No ultimate penalty here, so he will live; her parents and relatives will mourn and never be the same.

It's a further reminder to hold on to those you love. Protect them and take nothing for granted. Evil is ever busy and the holidays don't make a bit of difference.

An unhappy story? Yes. Another reason to reinstall old Sparky? Sure. A tale that needs to be told so this little girl is not forgotten? Of course. A reminder to be aware and alert? Most certainly.

Be safe.