

# Peace Newsletter

Central New York Voices for Peace and Social Justice September 2009 #787



Check out candidate responses to the Progressive Platform for the New Mayor, including police/criminal justice issues, pages 5-11.

## Worse Than You May Think: Police Misconduct in Syracuse

Sara Watrous

When discussing police brutality in Syracuse, three major problems exist: first, the mere existence of police brutality; second, public ignorance/denial of the issue; and third, the lack of political will to ensure police accountability.

Police brutality—the intentional use of excessive force, usually physical, but also in the form of verbal attacks and psychological intimidation, by a police officer—can take many forms. Patterns of brutality have long plagued most US cities, including Syracuse. Occasionally the public is made aware of more dramatic incidents, like the beating of Rodney King and the murders of Jonny Gammage and Amadou Diallo.

Yet many of us are ignorant of the daily incidents—experienced most often by African-American males, according to Felicia Davis, administrator of the Citizen Review Board (CRB). The abuse occurs primarily in disadvantaged neighborhoods, such as Syracuse's Southside. The racial and economic backgrounds

of victims make it easy for the overwhelmingly white Syracuse Police Department (SPD) police to brush aside these incidents and for society to ignore the stories. Despite decades of work on this issue, little progress has been made in Syracuse. Shouldn't independent oversight of the police be a given in a democracy, where the police should be "policing by consent?"

The power of the police must be put in check in order to ensure that human rights are respected. Procedures must provide safety for victims who come forward with complaints, without fear of retaliation. All complaints must be fully investigated by an independent body and receive the appropriate response by officials.

Unfortunately, there is limited data on police abuse in our community. Yet the stories that find their way to people like Bridget Owens of the Syracuse/Onondaga County Human Rights Commission, Cherylene (Twiggy) Billue of American

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# Peace Newsletter

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[www.peacecouncil.net](http://www.peacecouncil.net)

## Syracuse Peace Council Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/ social justice organization. We are community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of our supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. We challenge the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other, nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC seeks to make these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both, we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

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### Back to School!



### Vegetables Coloring Poster

On the back is "What's the REAL Story On Recycled paper? And Bleaching Too!"



Broccoli, lettuce, collards, cabbage, beets, potatoes, carrots and onions. From green veggies to root crops, this poster is fun and educational too! Color the 16 vegetables realistically or wildly, then have some for dinner! Ages 3 - 100. 18x24. \$6.95, 5+@ \$4.20

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# Educate, Agitate, Organize: SPC IN ACTION

compiled by Carol Baum

## Hiroshima Day

The Hiroshima Day events, held August 5-6, brought the community together to commemorate horrors of the past and work toward a nuclear-free future. The Interfaith Service and Lantern Launch at the Everson Plaza downtown was a moving evening of reflection led by members and leaders of various faith organizations. The sight of children wading in the pool heightened the meaningfulness of the lantern launch. There couldn't have been a more beautiful day for the Dramatic Procession, which began on the sidewalk but soon took to the streets. Observers shouted questions to the marchers along the way, and they were very receptive to the leaflets and paper cranes that were handed out.



About 100 people came out for this year's Hiroshima Day Procession. Photo: Mike Greenlar

## Birthday Dinner

Energy is building for SPC's 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday celebration on **Saturday, October 3** at St. Lucy's Auditorium. Dinner will feature a bounty of local foods (vegetarian with vegan options). After dinner, this year's program features Jerry Levy performing Howard Zinn's one act play *Marx in Soho*. We're excited to announce that we will have a sign language interpreter for the performance.

Dinner is at 6:30 pm, with the program starting at 7:30 pm. We ask for a sliding scale donation of \$15-73 (73 being SPC's age this year). Make your reservations by September 25 by contacting Joe Marusa at 877-3432 or completing the form at [peacecouncil.net/bday](http://peacecouncil.net/bday).

## SPC's February Retreat Bears Fall Program Fruit

One outcome of SPC's strategic planning retreat last February was to increase our locally-focused work, with an eye toward working with more diverse communities. To

this end we set four goals for ourselves:

**1) Re-vision SPC's antiwar work** so that it has a more local focus and reaches out to diverse groups. Over the last year, general education/ protest has been primary and youth and militarism /counter recruitment work has been secondary. We will reverse that, so that significantly more staff time will go into youth and militarism work and less into general education. We'll focus on the drones at Hancock Field's Air National Guard Base as a secondary issue. The effectiveness of these projects depends on YOU – with more activists/volunteers much more can be done.

**2) Identify a new issue area** for SPC to work on that is within our priorities and has potential for increasing the diversity of whom we work with. To this end SPC has joined the Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse. ACTS is an inter-faith, multi-racial, urban-suburban coalition of mostly faith communities that organizes to address local social, economic, educational

and political concerns.

**3) Identify areas to cut** so that we have the resources (particularly staff time) to carry out new program priorities. Since the staff are so heavily involved in the

continued on next page

## SPC MONTHLY PROGRAM

### Report Back from Palestine

**Tuesday, September 22 at 7 pm**  
Artrage Gallery (505 Hawley Ave.)

*Jessica Maxwell and Ann Tiffany returned in early August from a delegation to Palestine and Israel. Spending most of their time in Jerusalem and the Hebron area of the West Bank, they met with Israeli and Palestinian organizations nonviolently working for a just peace. They also accompanied Palestinian children in the South Hebron Hills on a peace march and learned about the daily resistance to injustice.*

*Free program. Refreshments provided. Contact Jessica. 472-5478.*

2013 East Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13210 • (315) 472-5478 • [spc@peacecouncil.net](mailto:spc@peacecouncil.net)  
[www.peacecouncil.net](http://www.peacecouncil.net) • **OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Friday, 10am – 5pm

### STAFF & INTERN EMAIL ADDRESSES

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**Jessica Maxwell:** [jessica@peacecouncil.net](mailto:jessica@peacecouncil.net) • **Aly Wane:** [aly@peacecouncil.net](mailto:aly@peacecouncil.net)



## SPC in Action / from previous page

*Peace Newsletter*, we will reduce it to eight pages, with the option of one 16 page issue each quarter (the page number must be a multiple of eight). An additional 16 page issue is possible if a sympathetic group is responsible for eight of those pages (or if the editorial committee gets a massive influx of energy).

**4) Better integrate and improve synergies** between SPC programs. This is still being worked on.

These changes will be evaluated at the December Steering Committee meeting. Please contact Carol with any thoughts or feelings you have on this ... or to get more involved.

best when he told us that it would be a long road ahead of us as activists, and we may question why we have chosen that road. "Because you just can't help it. Because there's something about how the society functions that you just don't agree with and that you feel you need to do something to change it."

SPC is a way of life. I could go on and on about the projects I worked on but the things that really marked me and will stay with me even after I go back to college are the little things: our Thursday communal lunches, the way we start every meeting by going around and saying how we are, our democratic process, open-mindedness...  
– *Thoughts from Staci Schweitzer, Tivona Renoni and Sara Watrous*



SPC intern Sara Watrous and longtime SPC activist Rae Kramer helped create SPC's display for the Downtown Arts & Crafts Festival this year. Photo: Carol Baum

## Summer Intern Reflections

Peace is not just a bunch of hippies singing and dancing in fields. Peace can only be achieved through hard work and focus of dedicated individuals. Peace, as I've learned at SPC, involves so much more than the word can seem on the surface. That the people here have devoted their lives to this ideal brings me a renewed outlook on humankind and view for my own future.

My summer at SPC has awakened me to the movements combating the plethora of social justice issues that linger in our world. With this has come amazing learning experiences with the staff, fellow interns and active SPC members. Ed Kinane said it

## NOON Continues Pressing Common Council

Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation (NOON) continues to press the Syracuse Common Council to pass a "Resolution of Respect for and Reconciliation with the Onondaga Nation." We're hopeful that continued public pressure (they've received scores of phone calls, letters and postcards) will convince the Council to pass the resolution, which commits the city to partner more actively with the Onondaga Nation and recognizes the injustices inflicted on the Onondaga.

Please contact your Common Councilor and the at-large councilors. See [peacecouncil.org](http://peacecouncil.org).

## Weekly Peace Outreach

**Stop the Drones:** After Labor Day, Peace Outreach will focus for the month on declaring our outrage at plans to base Drone bombers at Hancock Field. Pilots in front of computers will direct planes conducting surveillance and bombing missions in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Please join us.

**Tuesdays: 4:45 - 5:30 pm**

- Sept. 1** Adams St. & Rt. 81 (Downtown)
- Sept. 8** Townline Rd. and E. Molloy Rd. (Mattydale, near Marine and Navy Stations)
- Sept. 15** Hancock Air Base Entrance (East Molloy Rd., just west of Thompson Rd., Mattydale)
- Sept. 22** Thompson Rd. and E. Molloy Rd. (Mattydale)
- Sept. 29** Rt. 11, Northern Lights Shopping Center (Mattydale)

*Every Saturday 9-10 am we're also at the Farmers' Market (Park St.).*

net/noon for councilors' contact information and the resolution text. Contact Andy.

## Palestine-Israel Working Group

CNY Working for a Just Peace in Palestine and Israel had a very successful weekend at the Middle Eastern Festival, getting 150 petition signatures, giving out lots of thoughtful literature and selling books, t-shirts, etc.

We're now selling tickets and encouraging people to check out the play "My Name is Rachel Corrie," being performed by the Simply New Theater on **Saturdays, September 5 and 12** at the Civic Center. Tickets are available from SPC for \$10-20 (sliding scale). The group is focused on using *The Lemon Tree* (see July-August *PNL*) as an educational tool. We hope to start a study group in September. Book discussions will be held at four libraries in October, leading up to a presentation by author Sandy Tolan at 7 pm on **Thursday, October 22** at LeMoyné. Contact Andy.

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# Progressive Platform for the Next Mayor

The Greater Syracuse Progressive Coalition, representing over 20 community organizations and thousands of individuals committed to the betterment of Syracuse, has been working tirelessly to create a more just, sustainable, inclusive and peaceful community. Below you will find our proposals for concrete steps the next mayor can take to carry out such reforms. Four candidates: Alfonso Davis, Carmen Harlow, Stephanie Miner and Joe Nicoletti submitted their responses on deadline (Otis Jennings and Steve Kimatian are also included). We seek to publicize the candidate responses widely and use them as the basis for a series of educational forums in September and October to provide Syracuse residents an opportunity to question the candidates (see back page calendar). “Y” denotes a “yes” response, “N” a “no” and “C” reports a comment entered. **For more information and to read candidate comments, see [www.peacecouncil.net/coalition](http://www.peacecouncil.net/coalition) or call (315) 472-5478.**

*As Mayor, I will:*

## Building Democracy/Electoral Reform

1. Reduce the role of money in elections and support increased participatory democracy, including the development of publicly funded, clean elections for the City.
2. Reform the Tomorrow’s Neighborhood Today (TNT) system to model it after the Neighborhood Assemblies (as developed in Binghamton). Give them a meaningful role and provide funding for the growth and development of grassroots leadership.
3. Support charter reform to increase democracy:
  - a. Replace the winner-take-all system in Common Council voting with proportional representation in order to give all political viewpoints representation,
  - b. Institute instant runoff voting for mayor and other citywide offices; voters list their preferred candidates to eliminate the problem of spoilers and voting for the lesser evil,
  - c. Eliminate the Council President, a vestigial organ unneeded since elimination of Board of Estimate.

## Criminal Justice and Policing

1. Instruct the Chief of Police to develop a renewed emphasis on community policing—working with members of the community to adopt problem-solving techniques to reduce crime. The key to any community policing initiative is developing relationships of trust and respect between the police and the community. As Mayor, I will direct the Chief of Police to conduct a meeting in each of the city’s 26 neighborhoods during the first year of my administration. The meetings will introduce the chiefs and heads of key divisions—such as patrol, special investigations and crime reduction team—to the neighbors, as well as enable the police to begin to hear of the specific crime concerns in each neighborhood.
2. Instruct the police department to prepare a study on the feasibility of adopting some of the most promising community policing strategies from other cities, such as San Antonio’s Fear Free Environment Unit, Wichita’s neighborhood mediation initiative and New Haven’s officer training program that supplements traditional policing skills with a dynamic roster of additional skills and knowledge.
3. Establish a commission to analyze the findings of studies showing racial disparities through the system and recommend remedies.

	Alfonso Davis			Carmen Harlow			Stephanie Miner			Joe Nicoletti			Otis Jennings			Steve Kimatian		
	Y	N	C	Y	N	C	Y	N	C	Y	N	C	Y	N	C	Y	N	C
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a. Replace the winner-take-all system in Common Council voting with proportional representation in order to give all political viewpoints representation,	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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c. Eliminate the Council President, a vestigial organ unneeded since elimination of Board of Estimate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3. Establish a commission to analyze the findings of studies showing racial disparities through the system and recommend remedies.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Progressive Platform for the Next Mayor – 2

	Alfonso Davis		Carmen Harlow		Stephanie Miner		Joe Nicoletti		Otis Jennings		Steve Kimatian	
	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
4. Oversee and fund a major initiative to recruit, support and place officers of color on the police force.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Institute meaningful racial justice training for law enforcement personnel.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Develop a system of true police accountability (when they are wrong, call them to account). It's ultimately up to the mayor to rein them in and force professional conduct and respect for citizen dignity to be the norm. This should include police respect for traffic laws.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. Strengthen the effectiveness of Civilian Review Board by enhancing investigative powers and restoring subpoena power, as per legal case precedent in NYS courts that moot issues that have weakened our CRB.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Dedicate all stimulus funds for COPS program to fully staffing (and even increasing) patrol units—especially those on weekends.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Ensure that all city neighborhoods are effectively and fairly served by the SPD.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Clarify the role of SPD's School Resource Officers (SROs) to address safety and crime issues in the schools, not enforce school rules. Create alternative and non-punitive methods for responding to defiant student behavior in schools, like voluntary programs, vocational education or apprenticeships in the community.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Instruct the Chief of Police to decline assistance to federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency to identify, seek or detain non-citizens for alleged non-criminal immigration violations. Develop policy for all requests from the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency or cooperation or coordination with the Syracuse Police Department be personally assessed by the Chief of Police or designee.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Work with the County to ensure that a bail fund is available to indigent people such as Jail Ministry's Bail Expediter Program.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Make enforcement of laws on possession and use of illegal drugs the lowest priority for law enforcement. Prioritize enforcement of crimes against people and property, including those involving illegal substances.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Do not commit resources of the Syracuse Police Department to participation in Drug Task Force activities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Provide leadership to urge the US Congress to initiate a comprehensive review of the federal War on Drugs, specifically the racist way that it is implemented, with the goal of ending this failing war in favor of a harm-reduction model.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Instruct the police that protecting free speech-related activities is an important part of their job and therefore community organizations should not be charged for police services for such events.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Maintain a clear distinction between the Syracuse Police Department and the military. The SPD should focus on community policing and not evolve into a military force using military equipment, military tactics and a military mindset.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Progressive Platform for the Next Mayor – 3

### Economic Development/Jobs

1. Stipulate that any project which uses public funds for development, including CaruselDestiNY, guarantee to institute the least restrictive “time, place, manner” regulations possible for any free speech related activity.
2. Create a “one-stop shop” attitude in the city’s Economic Development assistance operations. Information on all economic development funds and other county and regional agencies will be made available.
3. Focus the attention of the Economic Development Department on helping to create local businesses and helping existing local businesses expand. I will direct the Economic Development Department to work with SBDC, SSIC, Tech Garden and others to provide the kind of support that will grow our area’s small locally owned businesses.
4. Require that all financial assistance from the city of Syracuse for development projects be contingent upon the following actions of the developer: a) all jobs created pay a Living Wage, b) all development projects incorporate environmentally responsible and energy conservation design principles, c) all common space in the developments will be areas that respect constitutional free speech and assembly rights, and d) the developer will negotiate in good faith on a community benefits agreement.
5. Prepare a city department-wide report on procurement needs, detailing the costs and opportunities on purchasing from local businesses.
6. Use federal and state stimulus money to create a public job training corps to focus on such “green collar” jobs as environmental remediation, renewable energy manufacturing, deconstruction, weatherization and urban forestry.
7. Commit the city to the goal of using deconstruction on 50% of its home demolitions by the end of my first four-year term and 100% deconstruction at the end of my second term. Support the training and education infrastructure for this sustainable building practice.
8. Pledge that all of my administration’s planning activities will reflect the priorities of the SDAT comprehensive plan for a sustainable Syracuse.
9. Direct the city’s Senior Planner to work with SMTC and Centro to develop a long-range plan for transit-oriented development and the growth of the city.
10. Work toward pay equity in the public and private sector.

### Education/Youth Development

1. Recognize that good schools providing a quality education are crucial to a thriving city and are the responsibility of the whole community.
2. Mobilize the common council and the community to support our schools.
3. Provide leadership in working together with the Common Council, the School Board and the Superintendent of Schools to achieve the above goals.
4. Support “Say Yes to Education” funding as a permanent line in the budget.
5. Continue the push for city-wide all-day pre-k for all children.

	Alfonso Davis		Carmen Harlow		Stephanie Miner		Joe Nicoletti		Otis Jennings		Steve Kimatian	
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## Progressive Platform for the Next Mayor – 4

	Alfonso Davis			Carmen Harlow			Stephanie Miner			Joe Nicoletti			Otis Jennings			Steve Kimatian		
	Y	N	C	Y	N	C	Y	N	C	Y	N	C	Y	N	C	Y	N	C
6. Work with the School Board and Superintendent's office to assure that Syracuse high school students have full access to balanced information regarding war and military service, recognizing that participation in war is a life-changing decision and that low-income youth are particularly targeted by military recruiters. Work to ensure that no Syracuse youth feels forced to join the military for economic reasons.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Expand quality and quantity of after school programming.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Lead the Joint Schools Construction Board to move ahead expeditiously on school renovation projects. Engage the whole community by providing accurate information and honestly responding to the community's concerns and suggestions.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. Support the Go Green Initiative in the schools, including gardens at schools.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Work with the business and labor communities to provide more vocational and hands-on education for young people, including summer jobs, internships, and job shadowing opportunities. Expand and support programs such as Syracuse as School (active at Nottingham High School).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Strengthen Parks and Recreation programming for youth and add additional family-friendly programming and activities in the parks.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Keep parks open later in the evenings, extend open times for pools and encourage use as a way to encourage positive park usage, bring people into the parks; maintain safety.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Increase programs to provide transition from incarceration.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sustainability/Environment</b>																		
1. Support the creation of a municipal public power authority to provide affordable power to city residents and businesses.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Prioritize and implement a property tax rebate for renewable energy generation for homeowners and businesses. Revamp Codes & Zoning, and their enforcement policies, to become friendly to urban-scale energy generation (sun, wind, geothermal).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Direct Stimulus money to maximize the use of Green and Renewable Energy (sun, wind, geothermal) in Syracuse.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Provide leadership on Green Jobs for All programs which employ local and low income people. Use case studies like Green for All, the city of Chicago, and Sustainable South Bronx to incubate and launch green job training programs in collaboration with area community colleges, BOCES, CNY Works, and community-based workforce development groups in the following areas: a) deconstructions & green building practices, b) recycling, c) renewable energy installation, d) urban agriculture, e) landscaping and green infrastructure development.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Develop new efforts to reduce litter, including a public relations campaign.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Retrofit school buses with diesel filters.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Develop a campaign to stop engine idling of buses and cars in front of schools.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Progressive Platform for the Next Mayor – 5

	Alfonso Davis		Carmen Harlow		Stephanie Miner		Joe Nicoletti		Otis Jennings		Steve Kimatian	
	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
8. Push for a full and thorough cleanup of Onondaga Lake with the Onondaga Nation being a full partner in that process.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Create a public access waterfront from the city-side with development agencies and community partners. Use public land access and public good as development tool.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Appoint environmental and social justice advocates to the OCCRA Board in order to expand recycling and composting initiatives.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Prioritize recycling in all City offices and facilities, including SCSD. Provide recycling opportunities in all key public transit, park, and business development zones. Mandate commercial/industrial sector to report recycling/disposal figures.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Work with New York State to restrict sales of products that a) can't be recycled or safely disposed of by OCCRA, and b) pull excessive amounts of energy and overburden our power grid.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Create a high-level Sustainability Coordinator to lead and coordinate the City's efforts to a) reduce energy consumption, b) improve our environment, c) explore profitable avenues for carbon-neutral and zero-waste City initiatives, and d) reach the standards of sustainability envisioned in the Emerald City ideal.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Require landlords to repair lead paint hazards in rental properties using lead safe work practices and trained/certified contractors.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15. Work to secure funding, train, and employ youth and local job seekers as workers to eliminate environmental hazards from homes and businesses. Childhood lead poisoning is an entirely preventable environmental illness.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Retrofit the least energy efficient and/or poor Indoor Air Quality city-owned buildings. Syracuse should clean house, take care of public employees, and craft healthy public buildings.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Mandate the assessment of existing space and facilities for potential reuse before issuing permits or licenses for Greenfield or new development. Syracuse needs a vibrant urban core and to mitigate sprawl in order to preserve our quality of life.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Eliminate use of pesticides in all City Parks, including the Mills Rose Garden.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Support the establishment of a Park Conservancy that creates a partnership between the City and residents wanting to support city parks and green spaces.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20. Require groups using city parks to aim for zero waste resulting from their events.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Prioritize funding and space use for urban forestry and community gardens. Green space studies have demonstrated a correlation between increased green space and lowered crime. These spaces can generate revenue (carbon trading on the Chicago exchange), improve the air quality of our city, create beautiful public space, and fresh, local food sources.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Revamp Codes & Zoning regulations to become friendly to small-scale food producers, community garden produce sales and neighborhood farmer market development, and other entrepreneurial urban agriculture.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For more information and to see candidate comments, see [www.peacecouncil.net/coalition](http://www.peacecouncil.net/coalition) or call (315) 472-5478



## Progressive Platform for the Next Mayor – 7

	Alfonso Davis		Carmen Harlow		Stephanie Miner		Joe Nicoletti		Otis Jennings		Steve Kimatian	
	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
5. Insist that prevailing wages be paid for all city projects.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Establish a non-partisan citizen panel to assess the dangers associated with the use of drones at Hancock Field including the effect on the safety in the civilian airspace and their related effect of making Syracuse a direct player in the US Wars in the Middle East, and follow up on the findings of that panel.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Transportation and Infrastructure</b>												
1. Assist Centro to develop stronger and broader bus service with input from businesses and workforce development.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Prioritize funding and assist Centro to receive State/Federal funds for the installation of covered bus shelters throughout most bus routes. This will include a rain/snow shelter, seating and LED signpost providing up-to-date information on arrival/departure times for each bus route.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Explore the use of light rail to expand public transportation options.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Work with local biking advocates, City, County, and State agencies to make biking around Syracuse easy and safe.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Extend the creek walk into the Southside.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Create pedestrian friendly streets and slow down traffic, particularly near schools, parks and in business districts.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Initiate a comprehensive City Plan in an open, inclusive, community-based format, including long-term analysis of infrastructure needs and problems.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Authorize funds for a technical and financial feasibility study to create a municipal broadband service, including a full audit of the Time Warner Cable system, as authorized by federal law, in order to determine its value (for possible purchase). If purchasing the system is not possible, re-negotiate the cable franchise agreement to provide increased Public, Educational and Government programming (with updated facilities/equipment for community organizations to use), and free wifi in public spaces.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Welfare of Animals</b>												
1. Support a proactive low-cost spay and neuter program to address the overpopulation crisis among cats and dogs. Seek additional funding for these programs, in conjunction with local clinics, veterinarians and animal welfare organizations, as a humane and cost-saving alternative to euthanasia of homeless cats and dogs.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>If elected, will you commit to coming back to meet with us one year after the election to assess progress on carrying this agenda forward?</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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There are many ways to provide long-term support for SPC. These include: Life Insurance or Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trust, Charitable Lead Trust, Bequest, Donor Advised Fund and Gifts. To learn more, see [peacecouncil.net/bequest](http://peacecouncil.net/bequest) or look for details in future *PNLs*. I have offered to provide free consultation for people wishing to discuss long-term donations to SPC. Contact me at 637-5153 or [sue@hansensadvisory.com](mailto:sue@hansensadvisory.com).

– Susan S. Hansen, CFP,CLU,AEP,AIF

## Syracuse East Neighborhood

Farmer's Market

Every Wednesday

2pm - 7pm (through October)

**Where:** Loguen Park (formerly Lexington Park at the intersection of E. Genesee & Columbus)

Come and support your local farmers and community!

Food Stamps, Farmers' Market Coupons, Debit/Credit Accepted

For More Info: [EastsideNFM@gmail.com](mailto:EastsideNFM@gmail.com)

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## Police Misconduct / from Cover

Friends Service Committee or Sam Donnelly of Jail Ministry—participants in the Law Enforcement Accountability coalition—leave little doubt that such abuse is all too common.

### Creation of the CRB

Until the 1990s victims of police abuse had no recourse other than the Internal Affairs Department of the SPD. Following a lengthy grassroots organizing effort, the CRB was established here in 1993. The CRB aspired to be an independent oversight body that would ensure police accountability and “build bridges” between the police and the community.

The Board’s original design gave it authority to fully investigate allegations of police misconduct, including sufficient staff, subpoena power to interview police officers and access to all police documents. Soon after its creation,

however, it was gutted and a lawsuit by the Police Benevolent Association (PBA), the police union, ended with the removal of this power, leaving the CRB “fatally flawed” as described by Syracuse United Neighbors organizer Phil Prehn.

While past police chiefs have ignored the issue of police brutality, Prehn notes, “at least the current police chief addresses the issue.” The CRB’s Felicia Davis explains, “we have encountered police chiefs who did not believe that we should exist because they had an Internal Affairs department. . . . Chief Miguel has opened a limited process for the Board to ask questions to Internal Affairs on cases but does not allow for the Board to be able to get direct responses from officers or to be able to judge credibility.”

As early as 1995, notes from the Task Force on Community and Police Relations state that the CRB was “not what [they] envisioned; not what [they] intended;

*Sara, a graduate student at the University of Quebec at Montreal, is completing a summer internship at SPC.*

not seeking justice; not building better community and police relations.” Yet 14 years later, it still exists. But what has it accomplished? Not much, Phil Prehn and others will tell you.

At the very least, the CRB could be a “safe-haven” where people make complaints, turning anecdotal stories into testimonies that could provide data to understand the scope of the problem and emerging trends. But it has even failed to do that.

The inability of the CRB to do more

ment, humiliation, etc.” It appears that few victims of police misconduct seek out the CRB. Excessive force was the most widely cited complaint for 12 of those 14 years. Harassment, threat of arrest, improper procedure, refusal to take a complaint, verbal abuse, improper /false arrest, and improper investigator were also common complaints. The lack of complete data makes understanding this issue problematic and addressing it even more difficult.

Members of the Law Enforcement Accountability Task Force have many stories from victims: individuals who had guns put to their heads, who were threatened with arrest and/or arrested for questioning an officer, experienced retaliation for complaints in the form of tickets, were verbally intimidated, had their identification confiscated and never returned, were beaten even after being disarmed, and the list goes on. (See [www.peacecouncil.net](http://www.peacecouncil.net) for more detailed accounts.)

Even without full data, it is clear that some officers overstep their authority and abuse power. Yet it is clearly not accurate to

make blanket statements that all police do so. It is equally inaccurate to describe the situation as ‘simply the doing of a few bad apples,’ as past mayors have stated. Based on the available information and the lack of accountability, the problems seem systemic.

### Need for Dialogue and Action

Most people in Syracuse are unaware of the CRB. According to Felicia Davis, the CRB held community meetings in the five Common Council Districts for many years, but stopped the practice in 2002 when it began to work on proposals to revise the CRB ordinance. Meetings between the CRB and the mayor began in 2003 to discuss differing proposals—one from the CRB and another from the mayor and police chief. The Board pledged to keep the discussions about changes to the ordinance confidential until an agreement was reached. However, an impasse occurred in March 2007. The CRB has not restarted these community

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As this June 17 Post-Standard article illustrates, community members who do complain of police abuse may face media scrutiny and police counter-accusations. Fear, embarrassment and other factors dissuade many from reporting their experiences.

than collect testimonies leaves many to wonder whether it is worth the time and energy to file a complaint. The mayor has the potential to play an important role in empowering the CRB and that is why the November mayoral election is so important. Davis explains, “We submitted our proposed changes to the ordinance years ago, and there has been no action on the changes by the mayor or his corporation counsel.”

### Statistics and Stories

The CRB’s data is only the tip of the iceberg. The average number of complaints from 1994 to 2007 is about 40 per year. In 1997 and 1998, the CRB received almost double the average number of claims (75 and 60 respectively). Davis believes that this was due to increased publicity the CRB received from the PBA’s challenge to its process. Otherwise the number of complaints is quite low. Davis explains, “I have found that complainants act very similar to rape victims in that they have a lot of trepidation about filing for a variety of reasons including retaliation, embarrass-

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### Khaled Hosseini

AUTHOR, *THE KITE RUNNER* AND *A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS* INTERVIEWED BY  
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#### ***AN EVENING WITH KHALED HOSSEINI***

October 5, 2009

7:30 pm, Hendricks Chapel

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### John S. Hendricks

FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF DISCOVERY COMMUNICATIONS

#### ***MODERN MEDIA AND DEMANDING CONSUMERS***

October 20, 2009

4:00 pm, Hendricks Chapel

### Marian Wright Edelman

FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF THE CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND

#### ***A VOICE FOR CHILDREN***

November 3, 2009

7:30 pm, Hendricks Chapel

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### Ira Glass

PRODUCER AND HOST OF CHICAGO PUBLIC RADIO'S *THIS AMERICAN LIFE*

#### ***THIS AMERICAN LIFE***

November 17, 2009

7:30 pm, Hendricks Chapel

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### Alex Steffen

FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF WORLDCHANGING WEBSITE ON SUSTAINABILITY

#### ***WORLDCHANGING: A USER'S GUIDE***

March 2, 2010

4:00 pm, Hendricks Chapel

### Scott Simon

HOST OF NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO'S *WEEKEND EDITION SATURDAY*,  
WRITER AND NOVELIST

#### ***COVERING THE WORLD***

March 9, 2010

7:30 pm, Hendricks Chapel

### Seamus Heaney

NOBEL LAUREATE IN LITERATURE, POET, TRANSLATOR AND ESSAYIST

#### ***SELECTED POEMS AND PREOCCUPATIONS***

April 13, 2010

7:30 pm, Hendricks Chapel

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## Progressive Mayoral Platform

Responses from all six mayoral candidates to the Progressive Platform for the New Mayor are being publicized widely (see pages 5-11). Mark your calendar for upcoming candidate forums on Racial and Social Justice, **Wednesday, September 9**, 7pm, Hopps Memorial CME Church and Education, **Thursday, September 10**, 6:30 pm, Nottingham High School.

## Donate and Shop at SPC's Fall Sale

SPC's annual garage sale is set for **Saturday, September 12**, 9 am-5 pm and **Sunday, September 13**, 9 am-1 pm at 401 Scottholm Blvd., Syracuse. This is a great opportunity to pass on things you no longer need or to pick up great bargains. To drop off donations contact Rae Kramer 445-2840. Last year we had an amazing selection of items and raised over \$1,000 to support SPC's work.

## Redesigning SPC's Website

For several years there has been talk of redesigning SPC's website. Through a fortunate juxtaposition of events, that talk is about to become reality – we will soon hire WebRoot Solutions (Jessica Azulay and Brian Dominick) and Richard Vallejo, all of whom have strong connections to SPC.

The new website will use a content management system, making website updates simpler, so that more people will be able to participate and allowing for more dynamic content (i.e., greater ability for interactivity).

Special thanks to Paul Melnikow for guiding the process in the beginning, and to an anonymous donor who is matching \$2 for every \$1 contributed for website redesign (if you contribute \$10, the donor will contribute \$20). For more information or to make a contribution, contact Carol.

## Activist Appreciation: Chris Riley

A former operations manager of Cooperative Federal, Chris Riley has gone where few activists dare go – into organizing and analyzing SPC's finances. Chris has been a mainstay of the finance committee for over

five years, doing financial analysis, budget creation, SPC's taxes and bookkeeper support (and was our bookkeeper for a while herself). Her patience is boundless as she works to make SPC finances understandable to the numerically challenged. A proud detail person, Chris attends to the nitty gritty paperwork and careful reading that goes with finances.

Recently she was the support person for SPC phonathon callers, providing party blowers and encouragement – and is doing the follow-up analysis. She is level-headed, clear-thinking, extremely reliable and a pleasure to work with. We are so grateful that she has chosen to share her many talents with SPC. Thank you, Chris.



SPC's antiwar tableau outside the State Fair in 2008 attracted the attention of thousands - including a lively debate in the Post-Standard. Photo: Carol Baum

## Join SPC at the NYS Fair

SPC will once again have a highly visible antiwar presence outside the main gate of the NYS Fair. This year's tableau, titled "Get our Priorities Straight: Fund Human Needs," focuses on the connection between our bloated military budget and the economic crisis in our communities. You can join the tableau – either as a silent character or to hand out educational leaflets. Contact Carol or Jess or check SPC's website.

## Pedal On

Bikes 4 Peace has wrapped up another successful summer. Among this season's highlights: several new energetic volunteers got involved; at our oldest site – Northeast Community Center – we have many youth who have participated for enough years that they are now teaching newer youth basic tasks like removing wheels and adjusting seats; a dedicated grandmother living across from Lexington Park brought four of her grandchildren to our clinic and we were able to successfully fix their two

bikes along with two donated bikes so they can all ride together (we also gave each a free helmet).

This fall and winter we will explore the feasibility of a more permanent community bike shop that would promote long-term youth mentoring and low-cost services. If you're interested, contact Jessica.

## Phonathon Closes SPC's Budget Gap

Over the past month nearly 20 activists called SPC members to seek financial support and get their input on SPC's recent work. We had hundreds of interesting conversations and left many messages. Despite the difficult economic times, the response was extremely positive both financially and emotionally. We expect to raise a total of over \$7,000 that will close SPC's projected budget gap for the year. Thanks to all who participated, made donations and shared your thoughts with us. If you haven't responded yet, please do so if you're able.

## Police Misconduct / from page 13

meetings since, though Davis agrees that they "would be helpful."

Most parties agree that a dialogue between the police and the community must be reestablished. Many agree with Prehn that this breakdown of dialogue and understanding between the two camps has contributed to the problem. There needs to be a renewed attempt to "build bridges" because "you can't arrest your way out of this problem, as Prehn has said. This "fight violence with violence" mentality only breeds further violence.

Davis remains hopeful, stating: "We've survived!" But is survival as a toothless entity that can't accomplish its goal of police accountability worth it? The coming mayoral election in November is important for the future of the CRB. (See pages 5-11) for responses of the six mayoral candidates to the Progressive Platform for the New Mayor, including a section on "Criminal Justice and Policing."

Just as the creation of the CRB required concerted grassroots organizing, similar efforts are needed to restore its power to play a meaningful role in the broader effort to eliminate police misconduct and create accountability.

