

SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL'S

Peace Newsletter

Central New York Voices for Peace and Social Justice January 2010 #790



PNL graphic: Karen Kerney

Obama's "Yes We Can" a Year Later – Are We?

Barack Obama's campaign slogan while running for President was "Yes we can." After a year in office, the question we must ask ourselves is, "Are we?" And if we aren't, what will each of us do to push for change?

The New War President

President Obama's December 10 acceptance speech at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony seemed eerily ironic. The previous week, he'd announced adding 30,000 military personnel to the ongoing occupation of Afghanistan. He was dragging his feet on withdrawal from Iraq. He'd even refused to sign the international treaty banning the most problematic land mines. That same president was not only accepting the most prestigious (if tarnished) award of its kind, but a substantial portion of the speech involved a rhetorical defense of waging war to solve problems and a rallying cry for international participation in US wars.

On Afghanistan, Obama is just fulfilling a campaign promise to shift the Pentagon's focus from Iraq (still in ruins thanks to two decades of US policy) to Afghanistan (in even worse shape). And while many believed setbacks in Afghanistan during 2009 should have jarred Obama into questioning his campaign promise, his commitment to escalation barely wavered. His liberal use of drones against Pakistanis was also no surprise, since he'd pledged willingness to ignore that border.

Still, there had been reason to hope Obama would make more than nominal efforts to halt some of the most egregious military and intelligence practices, like extraordinary rendition, torture, the Guantanamo Bay prison, and the employment of mercenary firms. But even on those fronts, Obama has largely failed. He continues to permit the kidnapping of foreign nationals while doing his best to shield former officials and military or intelligence personnel from prosecution for brutal interrogations. He has moved slowly on migrating the Gitmo detainees to US soil. And brutal war profiteers continue to get big-ticket contracts to use private forces in place of more-accountable US personnel overseas.

The president deserves kudos for taking steps to curb some of the Pentagon's craziest weapons programs. He is also scaling down the National Missile Defense project. And speaking of ICBMs, Obama has made some under-recognized efforts to curb nuclear proliferation and reduce massive stockpiles. Furthermore, as the Nobel Committee noted, Obama has at least verbally reemphasized the primacy of negotiations over brinkmanship and war-making in world affairs. Over the next three years, it's our job to pressure him to walk that talk.

– Brian Dominick is a news analyst based in Syracuse.

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Peace Newsletter Committee

Gabe Angelone, Sofia Angelone, Carol Baum, Amelia Ramsey-Lefevre, Donna Mühs-McCarten, Aly Wane. Layout: Jessica Maxwell. Calendar: Richard Vallejo. Proofing: Rae Kramer, Andy Molloy.

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Jessica Azulay, Carol Baum, Jake Eichten, Andy Mager, Jessica Maxwell, Carole Resnick, Ursula Rozum, Peter Sinatra, Richard Vallejo, Rose Viviano, Wendy Yost

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Peace Newsletter Information

Please contact the Editorial Committee with articles, graphics or ideas: pnl@peacecouncil.net or 472-5478. We welcome paid advertising – see peacecouncil.net/pnl/ads.htm for details. Please contact us a month in advance. The February *PNL* will be a 16 page issue mailed January 28. Deadline for calendar items is January 15.

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Educate, Agitate, Organize: SPC IN ACTION

compiled by Andy Mager

Make a New Year's Resolution: Get Involved

As you ponder the coming year, consider making a commitment to join SPC's work. Work with a caring, passionate community of people to help bring just peace to the world. Here's a sampling of opportunities:

- staff information tables in local high schools (2+ hours/month)
- run daytime errands (2+ hours/month)
- coordinate the monthly Peace Newsletter mailing party (4+ hours/month)
- help develop SPC's program to end the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and remove the Reaper Drones from our community
- gather and edit items for the monthly PNL community calendar (2-4 hours/month)
- join an SPC committee or partnership—fundraising, outreach, youth & militarism, anti-wars, Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation, ACTS core team, CNY Working for a Just Peace in Palestine & Israel, Caribbean/Latin America Coalition... (2+ hours/month)
- take photographs and/or video at SPC events (2+ hours/month)



SPC's giant peace dove Olivia graced this year's entrance to Plowshares. Photo: Andy Mager

Plowshares #39: It's a Wrap

The SPC Plowshares Craftsfair committee works for months on craftsfair applications, jurying crafts, doing everything to make it a go. The office lines up volunteers for the



SPC's Plowshare's Craftsfair attracted more people than ever to its socially and environmentally conscious marketplace. Photo: Andy Mager

many, many hands it takes. The folders and staplers finish the program and they're in a pile, waiting. It always goes so fast!

We set up on Friday night, building our own community of commerce and activism. Honest craftspeople and eager buyers prepare to meet and make business. Everyone prepares to see friends, old and new. Saturday morning comes, the doors open. We remark on how many folks are walking around the cafeteria or how warm it is in the gym. Someone orders a breakfast burrito; it's delicious. Someone eyes a new booth. The singers and dancers make us smile. The television cameras come, the reporters ask questions, the Syracuse Peace Council makes the news for something different than its usual activities.

Then before we can blink an eye, it's Sunday evening and we're cleaning up. We'll tell stories about the weekend, be delighted over our purchases and be grateful to be part of such an adventure as Plowshares. And next year we'll do it all over again. See you there!

PS: This year's December 5-6 craftsfair at Nottingham High School was the most successful ever financially, raising \$25,000 to support SPC's work.

-Marie Summerwood

End the Siege of Gaza

CNY Working for a Just Peace in Palestine & Israel is organizing a March to Protest the Israeli Siege of Gaza on **Monday, December 28 at 4 pm** at the Syracuse Federal Building, corner of Washington and Clinton Streets in downtown Syracuse. Come out to demand human rights for the Palestinian people and support the International Gaza Freedom March. Contact Debra George, 345-8118, or Pat Carmeli, 546-4514.

Syracuse Youth Opt-Out

On December 11, we turned in over 100 opt-out forms collected by our Youth and

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SPC MONTHLY PROGRAM

Nonviolent Direct Action *What We Really Learned from MLK*

Wednesday, January 20 at 7 pm
Artrage Gallery (505 Hawley Ave.)

Join us for an introduction to some of the uses of nonviolent direct action in movements for peace and social justice. This will be a participatory event: following brief presentations, we will practice some of the skills and tactics used successfully by activists to achieve their goals. Contact Jessica.

Free refreshments. Handicapped accessible.

January 2010 Peace Newsletter 3

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

STAFF & INTERN EMAIL ADDRESSES

Carol Baum: carol@peacecouncil.net • **Andy Mager:** andy@peacecouncil.net
Jessica Maxwell: jessica@peacecouncil.net • **Aly Wane:** aly@peacecouncil.net



SPC in Action / from previous page

Militarism Committee to the Syracuse City School District. These forms, filled out by city high school students, will prevent the district from sending their contact information to military recruiters (as otherwise required by the No Child Left Behind Act – see November/December *PNL*). That total represents a semester of our staffing information tables monthly during lunch periods at local high schools.

Each time we staff a table at least a couple of students stop by who are thinking about joining the military. Last month at Henninger High School one student was shocked to learn that you can't just quit like any other job. A Corcoran student said she was planning to join the National Guard to pay for college by working one weekend a month for the military without going overseas. After a conversation and looking



A Henninger student picks up free peace stickers at SPC's youth and militarism table. Photo: Andy Mager

at some of our information, she changed her mind and signed an opt-out form.

In January, we hope to step up our work by supplying display materials to local community centers, staffing tables in two rural schools and engaging students in a more hands-on project such as a peace poster contest or classroom presentations. We need additional people to join us in this exciting work. Our next organizing meeting is **Wednesday, January 20, 4 pm** at SPC. Contact Andy or Jessica.

Anti-Wars Organizing

On Wednesday, December 3, Syracuse joined at least six other upstate NY communities in saying "No US Escalation in

Afghanistan: Troops Out Now!" About 35 activists protested outside the Federal Building in downtown Syracuse the day after Obama's announcement to increase US troops.

Recently, Hancock Air National Guard Base announced that hunter-killer Reaper drone missions "piloted" from nearby Hancock airbase are now being flown over Afghanistan, bringing the Syracuse area into the frontline of the war. The base's public relations campaign is in full swing and on December 17, activists braved the weather to protest the drones during a base media event.

Much more needs to be done. Keep warm this winter with some hot organizing! The first organizing meeting of the new year will be **Wednesday January 13, 7-8:30 pm** at SPC. Contact Carol.

Supporting our Onondaga Neighbors

Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation (NOON) has been active on multiple fronts this fall.

Our work to ban hydrofracking (a dangerous new method for extracting natural gas) in NYS continues at a feverish pitch. We've collaborated to organize educational/action meetings, spent scores of hours researching gas leases in Onondaga County and sent hundreds of postcards to the Governor and state representatives. We've also begun connecting with newly-elected Syracuse

Common Councilors to seek their support for our Resolution of Respect for and Reconciliation with the Onondaga Nation.

See www.peacecouncil.net/noon or contact Andy.

Onondaga Land Rights & Our Common Future II

In 2006, many hundreds of Syracuse residents, students and folks from afar flocked to Syracuse Stage for the ground-breaking educational series "Onondaga Land Rights and Our Common Future." A revived collaboration is planning a follow up series beginning on **Monday, February 8 at 7 pm** at Syracuse Stage. The series is coor-



Barb Kobritz helps with SPC's 2008 move. Photo: Carol Baum

inated by NOON with co-sponsorship from various parts of Syracuse University, SUNY ESF, Le Moyne College, SUNY Empire State College and other area colleges. See www.peacecouncil.net/noon or contact Andy.

Activist Appreciation: Barb Kobritz

Barb Kobritz, an SPC volunteer for over 30 years, is always thinking about SPC – about creative ways for us to raise funds and encourage more people to donate. But she's also a doer – Barb has been on the finance and fundraising committee (you may have received a fund appeal letter from her), helped organize a pledge campaign (and pledges herself) and for the last two years was an integral part of creating and managing SPC's Marketplace at Plowshares (which raises a lot of money). Barb is always available to consult on improving SPC tabling/merchandising displays. Thanks to Barb, the look and utility of our office entry area is vastly improved.

Barb does this all with great thoroughness, creativity and persistence.

Help Organize Our Strike for Peace Bowlathon

An energetic committee of Joan Conley, Ruth Florey, Rae Kramer, Jessica Maxwell and Wendy Yost has organized the SPC Bowlathon for the past two years. With the Bowlathon set for **Sunday, February 28** at Flamingo Bowl in Liverpool, our first

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Health Care Reform 2009: Oxymoron or the Road to Health Care for All?

During his run for the White House, Barack Obama committed to fixing America's broken health system declaring, "The question isn't how we can afford to focus on healthcare. The question is how we can afford not to." In March 2009, the President convened a Health Care Reform Forum in Washington. Citing the threat of skyrocketing health costs to the US economy, 46 million uninsured Americans and large numbers of bankruptcies caused by health care costs causing Americans to lose their homes, he urged enactment of comprehensive health care reform by the end of 2009.

There was hope for a strong public option (and advocacy for a single payer system) as the debate started; Obama himself supported a public option. However, after several months of debate in five Congressional committees and demonizing untruths in the media, Obama addressed a joint session of Congress. Acknowledging extreme positions on the Left and Right, he urged Congress to enact reform legislation built on what works and fix what doesn't, rather than try to build an entirely new system. Obama in effect turned the debate over to Congress, letting them battle it out, and did not seem to actively push an agenda himself.

As 2009 closes, the House of Representatives passed their version of health care reform, HR 3962, and the Senate is aiming to pass its own before the holiday break. Both bills will leave millions uninsured; reforms to increase coverage don't take effect for 3-4 years after a bill is signed into law; women's reproductive rights are restricted; and high premiums and inadequate subsidies will price many out of the market, despite a requirement to purchase health insurance and a financial penalty for not doing so.

Meanwhile, thousands of advocates of a single-payer system, displeased with being excluded from the Congressional deliberations, have taken to the streets, as well as the lobbies and the offices of health insurance corporations, in protest.

Will this latest health care reform effort result in real reform, or is health care reform an oxymoron in America?

—Barb Humphrey is a former member of SPC's Steering Committee and active with health care issues.

The Economy – Be Bold

In assessing President Obama's first year, we have to understand where we were when he took office. Not only did we face the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, but we had just finished eight years of unbridled crony capitalism, where war was used as economic development for politically connected companies and



SPC activists staged a tableau outside the NY State Fair calling on Congress and the President to fund human needs not war. Photo: Mike Miller

deregulation was accelerated from the go-go Clinton Presidency. It was a Presidency that nakedly and brazenly benefited corporate interests over the interests of working families. So what has the Obama administration done to alleviate the effects of the worst Presidency that working families have ever faced? What we have found is a cautious, go slow President who has made some good efforts, but needs to go much further in order to create an economy that works for everyone.

His administration started with the stimulus package, also known as the Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which provided over \$790 billion dollars in aid to communities, states and infrastructure. Though necessary to avoid a complete economic disaster, the stimulus did not go far enough. Hence, you now have the President at the end of this year asking for another stimulus package under the guise of a "jobs" package.

Focusing only on short-term and emergency job creation, year after year, ignores the long-term investments we need to get our economy back on track.

A combination of short- and long-term strategies will begin to ease the burden on the 16 million people now out of work and on our economy, and will allow this country to move forward on a more stable and sustainable economic path. We need to see a President not cautious or overly concerned with working with the other side of the political aisle. It is time for bold leadership – be bold Mr. President!

—Mark Spadafore is an organizer for the Healthcare Education Project, which is a project of 1199 SEIU.

Obama on Immigration: Year One

President Obama's record on immigration is not great, but shows signs of promise. There were some concrete improvements. Within the first hundred days of his inauguration, Obama signed the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) legislation, which repealed the 5-year waiting period for legal immigrant children.

However, progress has been more one of tone than of legislative change. Under Janet Napolitano, the Department of Homeland Security has started to question the usefulness of "287 g" programs which mandate local law enforcement to participate in federal immigration enforcement. In practice, these laws have often encouraged racial profiling, xenophobia, and the needless prosecution of undocumented workers, as opposed to dangerous criminals. However, to immigrants' rights advocates' great dismay, Homeland Security has renewed most of these programs with weak language that "suggests" that law enforcement only pursue actual criminals, instead of workers.

As for immigration raids, it seems like the administration is trying to walk a fine line. Previous workplace raids focused on low-level workers and were followed up by deportation, causing tremendous hardship and dislocation. Now, however, raids have slowed down and have emphasized the firing of workers (without deportation) and slapping employers with fines. This is still painful and far from recognizing the injustice

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Obama / from previous page

of punishing low-wage workers, but it is a small sign that the administration recognizes that until there is humane, comprehensive immigration reform, deporting individuals is not a holistic solution. Let's hope that Obama will not give in to the Conservative pressure which doomed immigration reform in the Bush administration.

— *Aly Wane is an immigrant rights activist and long-term intern at SPC.*

Higher Education in America— A State of Crisis

It is safe to say that all of us situated somewhere on the Left had high expectations of what Obama's "Change" campaign promised. With the overwhelming ma-

jority of the student vote, Obama cradled our trust. Over a year has passed since the election and higher education in this country is still a privilege rather than a right. Like most Americans, students are in debt. On average, a student attending a four-year private university will graduate with \$22,000 to pay back in student loans. And with a 10.6% unemployment rate for people between the ages of 20-24, graduation is less appealing than ever. This debt puts us at a preemptive disadvantage before we even enter the workplace, or lack thereof. Students in college are feeling the sting of an economic recession that they had no part in creating, yet college tuition—in both private and public institutions—is steadily on the rise.

We understand the current higher education system as a marketplace—not for ideas,

but for corporate profit. Why else would JP Morgan Chase and IBM have a presence on our campus at Syracuse University? We should not have to compromise our right to an affordable higher education—this right extends to all citizens of the state.

Barack Obama campaigned for change but like a true politician he has not delivered to the student populace. Recent protests and demonstrations on college campuses around the country are expressions of the contestation of current domestic policy that holds individual citizens fiscally responsible for a governmental failure. As students, and citizens, we are calling on our government for a reallocation of our federal tax dollars: more money for books, not bombs.

— *Mackenzie Studebaker and Ryan Hickey wrote this for Students for a Democratic Society at Syracuse University.*

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meeting is set for **Tuesday, January 5 at 6 pm** at 401 Scottholm Blvd. We would love a couple of more outgoing people to join us in recruiting teams, gathering prizes and promoting this fun-filled fundraiser. Contact Jessica.

SPC Retreat: January 30-31

We are now accepting RSVPs for our 2010 weekend overnite retreat on January 30-31 at Alverna Heights Retreat and Conference Center outside of Fayetteville. Active SPC supporters are welcome to attend part or all of the weekend. An agenda with specific times for activities will be available in January.

Even if you don't want to join us for the retreat, come out on **Saturday night at 7 pm** to Boogie with us for Peace. Contact Jessica for any questions and to RSVP.

Mothers Against Gun Violence

Since last winter SPC activists have attended the Mothers Against Gun Violence vigils (5 pm on the Sunday after a killing at the homicide site). As we go to press, there have been 21 homicides in Syracuse (mostly of young black men). As survivors themselves of murdered family members, the Mothers are uniquely positioned to provide empathy and support to the murder victim's family.

However, the Mothers do much more

than vigil to stem violence. They offer timely support to the victim's family and are expanding their efforts to prevent violence, working in schools and community settings.

Contact Helen Hudson, 345-8674, ladyinreddur@yahoo.com, or Tiffany Moore at tiffanymoore_d@yahoo.com to get on the vigil alert list or otherwise support the essential work of these remarkable women.

— *Ann Tiffany*

Local anti-SOA activist Nancy Gwin heads to trial

Central New York's rich tradition of civil disobedience to close the US Army's School of the Americas at Ft. Benning, Georgia continued on November 22, 2009 as Nancy Gwin, a long-time CNY Caribbean/Latin America activist, and three others from around the country were arrested for trespass. SOA grads perpetrated last year's overthrow of Honduras' elected president as well as hundreds of other crimes throughout Latin America.

Nancy's trial will be on **January 25** in federal court in Columbus, Georgia. The "SOA 4" may get up to six months in federal prison. Several Syracusans will go to Columbus to support Nancy. Contact Ann Tiffany, 478-4571 or check www.soaw.org. Kudos Nancy!

— *Ed Kinane*

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Upcoming Shows at May Memorial UU Society . . .

Lucy Kaplansky

Jan. 15 / *Cry Cry Cry alumna emerges as the "troubadour laureate of modern city folk" (Boston Globe).*

Emma's Revolution

Feb. 5 / *Pat Humphries & Sandy O duo of award-winning, activist musicians.*

Tracy Grammer

Feb. 19 / *The songs of Dave Carter and much more from this Falcon Ridge fest favorite.*

Girlyman

Mar. 5 / *Clever, catchy tunes and unforgettable harmonies from this pop-folk trio, making their Folkus debut!*

Joe Crookston

Apr. 2 / *A Folkus favorite — charming tunes and showmanship from right down Ithaca-way.*

Cheryl Wheeler

Apr. 16 / *Major star of the modern-folk circuit makes her Folkus debut. Alternately hilarious and heart-breaking.*

Long Time Courting

May 7 / *Traditional ballads, jigs, and reels, with strings and four-part harmonies.*

Andrew and Noah VanNorstrand

May 21 / *The stringed-instrument wunderkinds from Fulton return!*

All shows above start at 8 p.m.
Full details at www.folkus.org

Also, Second Saturday Series at the Westcott Community Center:
Loren Barrigar (Jan. 9), **Tony Trischka** (Feb. 13), **John Cadley and the Lost Boys** (Mar. 13), **Chuck Brodsky** (Apr. 10), **Amy Gallatin & Stillwaters** (May 8)

Words and Music Songwriter Series at Jazz Central: **Lisa Gentile** (Jan. 23), **Isreal Hagan** (Mar. 25), **Ryan Fitzsimmons** (Apr. 22)



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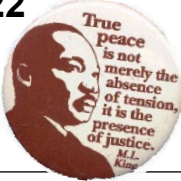


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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p>27</p> <p>EVERY SUN: "Top of the World" music. 10pm-12am, 88.3 FM.</p> <p>EVERY SUN: People's 60 Minutes. Time Warner Cable Channel 98. 8pm. Produced by SPC. Tape it, share it!</p>	<p>28</p> <p>March to Protest the Israeli Siege of Gaza. 4 pm. Syracuse Federal Building, Washington and Clinton Sts. Debra, 345-8118 or Pat 546-4514. See p. 3.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>EVERYTUES: Rough Times Live (Media Unit). 8pm. Time Warner 98. 478-UNIT.</p>	<p>30</p> 	<p>31</p> <p>EVERYTHURS: Talk to a lawyer. 6-8pm. Westcott Comm. Ctr. 826 Euclid Ave. Steve, 478-8634.</p>	<p>JAN 1</p> <p>Happy New Year!</p>	<p>2</p> <p>EVERY SAT: Food Not Bombs. 3pm. Hanover Sq. Meal prep. 12:30pm. 113 W Borden Ave. Matt, 209-7425.</p> <p>EVERY SAT: Sharing the Earth (PAR). 10 pm. Time Warner 98.</p>
<p>Syracuse Peace Council Community Calendar JANUARY 2010</p>		<p>5</p> <p>SPC Bowlathon Organizing Mtg. 6 pm. 401 Scotchholm Blvd. Jessica, 472-5478. See p. 4.</p> <p>Partnership for Onondaga Creek Mtg. 6pm. Brady Faith Center, 404 South Ave., Aggie 478-4571. onondagacreek.org.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>EVERYWED: Open Figure Drawing. 7-10pm. Westcott Comm. Ctr. Fee. 478-8634.</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>Music Evening at ArtRage, Jesse Collins and John Heard. 7pm. \$5 donation, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711.</p>	<p>8</p> 	<p>9</p> <p>Breach of Peace opening reception: photos of the Freedom Riders. 7pm. ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. artragegallery.org.</p> <p>Second Saturday Series Concert Program: Loren Barrigar. 8pm. Westcott Community Center. 478-8634 for tickets.</p>
<p>10</p> <p>CLAC/CNY SOA Abolitionists Meeting. 4-6pm. Syracuse Center for Peace and Social Justice, 2013 E. Genesee St. Ann, 478-4571.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Report Back from Gaza Freedom March. Tim Rodriguez will talk about his participation in this historic international action. 7pm. ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. FREE. CNY Working for a Just Peace in Palestine & Israel. Andy, 472-5478.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Syracuse United Neighbors (SUN) Southside Coalition. 6:30pm. Beauchamp Library, 2111 S. Salina St. 476-7475.</p> <p>Eyes on the Prize screening, Vol. 1 (1954-62). 7pm. ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. FREE.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Eyes on the Prize screening Vol. 2 (1960-63). 7pm, ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. FREE.</p> <p>Stop the Drones organizing meeting. 7-8:30pm, SPC office, 2013 E. Genesee St. 2nd floor. Carol, 472-5478.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Hotel Housekeeper Appreciation Night. 6-8pm. Beauchamp Library, 2111 S. Salina. Thank hotel housekeeper workers for their hard work. 657-6799.</p> <p>Eyes on the Prize screening, Vol. 3 (1962-65). 7pm, ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. FREE.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Youth and Militarism Info Table. 10:45-12:30. Henninger HS. Andy, 472-5478.</p> <p>Eyes on the Prize screening Vol. 4 (1964-68). 7pm, ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. FREE.</p> <p>Folkus Project presents Lucy Kaplanski. 8pm. May Memorial Unitarian Society, 3800 E. Genesee St. www.folkus.org.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>EVERY SAT: Democracy Now! Time Warner Cable Channel 98, 9-11am.</p> <p>Saturday SCREENINGS: Citizen King. 8pm. \$5 donation. ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711.</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Third Sunday Salon: A New Way to Move Forward in Your Life, with Heidi Kuhl-Thompson. For women. 3pm. Pre-registration needed. Women's Information Center, 601 Allen St. 478-4636.</p> <p>Gay and Lesbian Catholics. 5pm. All Saints Church, 1304 Lancaster Ave. 770-2155. (also Jan. 3)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>SUN Westside Coalition, 7pm, Brown Memorial, 228 Davis St. 476-7475.</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>SPC Steering Committee Meeting. 7 pm. SPC office, 2013 E. Genesee St., 2nd floor, Carol, 472-5478.</p> <p>Peaceable Assembly Nonviolent Direct Action Campaign to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Washington, DC. Jan. 19-Feb. 2. vcnv.org.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Youth and Militarism Committee Mtg. 4 pm. SPC, 2013 E. Genesee St. Jessica, 472-5478.</p> <p>Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation Mtg. 7 pm. SPC, 2013 E. Genesee St. Andy, 472-5478.</p> <p>SPC MONTHLY PROGRAM</p> <p>Nonviolent Direct Action: What We Really Learned from MLK</p> <p>7 pm, ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. Jessica, 472-5478.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Third Thursday - Citywide Arts Night. 5-8pm. Various Locations. www.th3syracuse.com.</p> <p>Syracuse United Neighbors (SUN) Southwest Action Committee. 7pm. Brady Faith, 404 South Ave. 476-7475.</p> <p>Run for Your Wife. Preview & Fundraiser, 8pm, \$10 donation, ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave., 218-5711.</p>	<p>22</p>  <p>Feb. PNL Calendar deadline. Items to pnl@peacecouncil.net or 472-5478.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>25th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. 2-4 pm. Seymour Dual Language Academy, 108 Shonnard St. FREE.</p> <p>Treasure to the People: The Folk Art of Mexico, art opening. Community Folk Art Center, 805 E. Genesee St. 442-2230, cfac@syr.edu.</p> <p>Saturday SCREENINGS: Four Little Girls. 8pm. \$5 donation. ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711.</p>
<p>24</p> <p>A Conversation with Gwen Ifill, author of The Breakthrough: Politics and Race in the Age of Obama. 3-4 pm. Maxwell Auditorium, Syracuse University. Free.</p> <p>MLK Celebration. Dinner 5pm, \$25, for tickets 443-5044. Program 6:30, free. Syracuse University Carrier Dome.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Greater Syracuse Progressive Coalition, 5:30 pm. SEIU 1199, 404 Oak St. Food provided. Andy, 472-5478.</p> <p>Nancy Gwin's trial for civil disobedience to close the School of Americas. See p. 6. SPC supports you!!</p>	<p>26</p> <p>PFLAG monthly meeting. 7:30 pm, 1st UU Church, 250 Waring Rd.</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>Friends of Dorothy Dinner. 5:30-7pm. St. Vincent's Parish Center - enter on Winton. friendsofdorothy@twcny.rr.com. Donation.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>PNL Mailing Party. 4pm, SPC office, 2013 E. Genesee St, 2nd floor. Andy, 472-5478.</p> <p>Breach of Peace, photo exhibit of Freedom Riders. Jan. 9-Feb. 27. ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. www.artragegallery.org</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Boxed Items are Syracuse Peace Council related events. Info: peacecouncil.net, 472-5478, spc@peacecouncil.net.</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>Pax Christi Meeting. 9:30am, 208 Slocum Ave. Frank, 446-1693.</p> <p>SPC Retreat. Also 1-31. Alverna Heights, Fayetteville. Jessica, 472-5478. See page 6.</p> <p>Boogie for Peace, 7 pm. Alverna Heights. Dancers of all ages and styles welcome. Donation. Jessica, 472-5478.</p> <p>Saturday SCREENINGS: Let Freedom Sing. 8pm, \$5 donation. ArtRage Gallery, 505 Hawley Ave., 218-5711.</p>
<p>UPCOMING EVENTS</p> <p>Monday, Feb. 8: Onondaga Land Rights and Our Common Future Opening Event. 7 pm. Syracuse Stage. The first of 12 events spanning all of 2010. peacecouncil.net/noon or Andy, 472-5478.</p> <p>Sunday, Feb. 28: SPC's Annual Bowlathon. Get your team together now! Flamingo Bowl in Liverpool. Jessica, 472-5478.</p>						