

Peace Newsletter

Central New York Voices for Peace and Social Justice

March 2007 762

A CALL FOR IMMEDIATE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON IRAQ

The people of the United States spoke clearly in the November 2006 elections.

We call upon Sen. Charles Schumer, Sen. Hillary Clinton and Rep. James Walsh to work for an immediate end to the war and occupation in Iraq by:

1. Voting "NO" on appropriations that would continue or escalate U.S. military operations in Iraq.
2. Passing resolutions and bills calling for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq.
3. Fully funding programs that support Iraq veterans and their families.
4. Supporting and funding an Iraqi-led reconstruction and peace process.

Name (please print)	Street		Phone	Organization/Affiliation (optional)
Signature	City, State	Zip	Email	
Name (please print)	Street		Phone	Organization/Affiliation (optional)
Signature	City, State	Zip	Email	
Name (please print)	Street		Phone	Organization/Affiliation (optional)
Signature	City, State	Zip	Email	

Return by **March 15, 2007** to: Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave., Syracuse, NY 13203

Download additional petitions at www.peacecouncil.net/iraq and circulate them!



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.

Subscribe to SPC's Weekly E-Newsletter

SPC Announcements is the Peace Council's low-volume email list. Subscribe at the bottom of our webpage, www.peacecouncil.net.

SPC STEERING COMMITTEE

Carol Baum, Gary Bonaparte, Nick Cavanaugh, Hari Chathrattil, Joan Conley, Dik Cool, Barbara Humphrey, Andy Mager, Jessica Maxwell, Kim McCoy, Shirley Novak, Ann Tiffany, Rose Viviano.



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Email: _____

- Enclosed is \$15 for a one year subscription to the PNL.
- Enclosed is an additional donation of \$ _____ for all your great work!
- Please contact me about getting involved.
- Add me to SPC's email announcements list (email address needed).
 - New Subscription Renewal Address Change



924 Burnet Ave., Syracuse, NY 13203
 (315) 472-5478, spc@peacecouncil.net
www.peacecouncil.net

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The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council (SPC). The PNL is the SPC's newsletter and a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace and social justice movement. Submissions are welcome. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC.

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PEACE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE (pnl@peacecouncil.net)

Andy Mager (coordinator and layout), Gabe Angelone, Rae Kramer, Donna Muhs-McCarten, Julie Norman, Aly Wane. Calendar: Eric Benner, Hilairean Hall.



*A Fun,
Fundraising
Bowl-a-thon*

STRIKE FOR PEACE

Sunday, April 1, 2007

Two sessions, 12:30-2:30 or 3-5 pm
Bowlmor Lanes, 201 Highland Ave., East Syracuse

Entry Fee - \$15 adults, \$12 children 12 & under
 includes 2 games of bowling plus shoes

*Participants are strongly encouraged to get sponsors to
pledge money for the Peace Council's work.*

PRIZES GALORE!

Organize a Team or Come Alone

Registration and Pledge forms are available on the web
 at www.peacecouncil.net/bowl or the SPC office

Information: Joan, (315) 471-0269, mccconley@gmail.com

Educate, Agitate, Organize

SPC IN ACTION

compiled by Carol Baum

924 Burnet Ave., Syracuse, NY 13203 * (315) 472-5478
spc@peacecouncil.net * www.peacecouncil.net

OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 10 am - 5 pm

STAFF AND INTERN EMAIL ADDRESSES

Carol Baum: carol@peacecouncil.net * Andy Mager: andy@peacecouncil.net

Jessica Maxwell: jessica@peacecouncil.net * Aly Wane: aly@peacecouncil.net * Eric Benner: eric@peacecouncil.net

SPC is Taking ACTION on IRAQ. Join Us!

March 19 Demo and March

March 17 marks the start of the 5th year of the US war on Iraq.

Bring yourself, your anger, your pots and pans, and your voice to Clinton Square on **Monday March 19 at 5 pm, for a 5:30** march to the Federal Building to express our outrage. More details on the spc announcements listserv, the website or contact Jessica.

Let there be no year six.

Local Cost of the War Committee (LCW)

LCW has grown in size equal to our outrage. With over 30 active members, we have developed three active working groups:

- **Petitions:** This group is responsible for gathering individual signatures, conducting presentations to organizations to obtain their support, and delivering the petitions to our congresspeople.
- **Truth Sheets:** This group is working on the production and distribution of more editions of *The Shared Times*. All are available at peacecouncil.net/sharedtimes or at the SPC office. The latest issue is "The Human Cost of the War."
- **Direct Action:** This group is developing creative ways to get our message out, in addition to our already active Weekly Peace Outreach.

New members are welcome. For meeting information, contact Jessica.

Petitions to Stop the Funding

LCW's petition calls for immediate congressional action to stop funding the war in Iraq (see *PNL* cover). We are distributing two versions of the petition – one for individuals and one for organizational endorsements. You can download the petition for individuals from www.peacecouncil.net/iraq. Instructions included.

We are happy to conduct a presentation

for your organization. Contact John Burdick at jsburdic@maxwell.syr.edu.

Talking Points

We have written a straightforward guide to make talking about the war in Iraq easier. The pamphlet counters five commonly accepted myths about why the US needs to "stay the course." It also contains action suggestions (see excerpts on pages 5-6). To obtain a copy of both *There's a Better Way to Leave Iraq* and its sources, visit the office or www.peacecouncil.net/iraq.



The human cost of this immoral war comes home. January 26, 2007, Washington, DC. Photo: Michael Greenlar

The Shared Times

Following the success of our past publications relating the economic cost of the Iraq war to the decline in money available for community services at home, we have created a new edition of *The Shared Times* focusing on the human cost of war (see www.peacecouncil.net/sharedtimes). It graphically illustrates the physical and emotional destruction the US presence has

on both Iraqi civilians and US soldiers.

You Can Do Something!

Be Informed: Learn why a total and immediate end of the occupation in Iraq is necessary.

Petition: Add your name and gather petition signatures urging our lawmakers to stop funding the war. Ask an organization you are a member of to sign onto it.

Take Action: Voice your feelings by joining SPC's weekly Peace Outreach, come to local demonstrations, attend LCW planning meetings, train for civil disobedience, recruit friends to join you in an action group, download and distribute *The Shared Times*.

Educate: Write letters to the editor of your local newspaper, talk with neighbors, friends and co-workers, host an Iraq film screening or speaker at your home or work.

continued on next page

Weekly Peace Outreach

Come greet thousands of rush hour drivers and remind them that we are the deciders – we can stop the Iraq War.

**Back to Tuesday Afternoons:
4:45-5:30 pm**

Carpooling available from SPC.

March 6: Rt. 257 (Fayette St.) and Rt. 173 (E. Seneca Tpk.), Manlius

March 13: James St. and Thompson Rd. (Northside)

March 20: E. Genesee St. and Erie Blvd. (Dewitt)

March 22: Rt. 11 Northern Lights Shopping Center (Mattydale)

April 3: Teall Ave. and Rt. 690 (Eastside)

SPC / continued from previous page

Contact Congress:

Call Sen. Chuck Schumer (202) 224-6542 or 423-5471; Sen. Hillary Clinton (202) 224-4451 or 448-0470; and Rep. James Walsh (202) 225-3701 or 423-5657.

Strike for Peace

Don't be an April Fool, sign up now for Strike for Peace, a fun, fundraising bowl-a-thon to benefit SPC. The bowl-a-thon will be held on **Sunday, April 1** at Bowlmor Lanes in East Syracuse. Teams and individuals can register for one of two sessions, 12:30-2:30 or 3-5 pm. Individual and team prizes will be awarded for the most money raised, top scores and most extreme levels of foolishness attained. See page 2 or www.peacecouncil.net/bowl for more information.

**A Great Play, A Great Price
A Great Cause!**

**Support SPC By Enjoying
Syracuse Stage!**

Gem of the Ocean

Syracuse Stage
3 pm on Saturday, March 10
\$28.00

It doesn't get any better than this. **Great theatre:** *Gem of the Ocean*, the last play in August Wilson's 10-play cycle of twentieth-century African-American life, is poetic and infused with spiritualism. The year is 1904, when slavery was a palpable memory. A young man seeks atonement for an unforgivable crime. His only hope is 285-year-old Aunt Esther, who guides him on a journey through a past he must learn to embrace. **Great price:** SPC has reserved a block of seats for \$28 each. Your admission includes a reception after the show in the Sutton Pavilion. **Great cause:** Your ticket purchase supports SPC.

To reserve your ticket:
call Barb Kobritz at 476-1588
or send a check, made out to SPC, to
Barb Kobritz
149 Huntley St., Syracuse, NY 13208

**Supporting the
Onondaga Nation**

Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation (NOON) is preparing for the initial court hearing in the Onondaga Land Rights Action, set for **Wednesday, March 28** at 1 pm in Federal Court in Albany. Judge Lawrence Kahn is holding oral arguments in response to repeated requests from the Onondagas for this opportunity to present their case – that they have not waited too long to file – in court (see "Onondagas Make the Case" in January 2007 *PNL* for background information). The Judge has yet to rule on New York State's motion to dismiss the case.

Carpooling from Syracuse is being organized by NOON, with vehicles leaving at 9 am and returning that evening.

A follow-up program to the Onondaga Land Rights and Our Common Future series is being held on **Tuesday March 20** at 7 pm at Syracuse Stage, 820 E. Genesee St., to inform people about the current status of the Onondaga legal situation. See page 14 for more information.

In addition, NOON is organizing an International Women's Day event: Our Voices in Our Communities: A Women's Talking Circle on **Thursday, March 8** at 6 pm at The Warehouse, 350 West Fayette St.

**MAEP Retreat
Generates Energy**

Sixteen people attended the Military Alternatives Education Project's counter recruitment retreat on February 19. The retreat generated some great energy and ideas for the upcoming year.

Along with the current projects MAEP is working on – tabling in high schools, creating an alternatives to the military booklet and more – we decided to emphasize coalition building and getting college students more involved. MAEP also will train high school students to table in their own schools. Another exciting idea is to have a concert in September to celebrate the publication of the alternatives to the military booklet and to raise funds for its distribution.

Check www.peacecouncil.net/MAEP or contact Eric for updates.

**SPC Film Premiere at
Birthday Dinner**

SPC's 71st birthday celebration will be held Saturday, April 14, place TBA, and will

feature the premiere of a locally filmed and produced documentary on SPC's 71 year history (approximately 30 minutes).

Doors will open at 6 pm, and a scrumptious dinner featuring local foods will be served at 6:30. Reservations for dinner are strongly encouraged, as we can only seat 175 people for the dinner. The program will begin at 7:30 pm (those who wish to only attend the program may do so without a reservation). After the screening, several local activists who participated in the making of the film will share remarks and answer questions. Suggested donation at the door is sliding scale \$10-70.

Contact Jessica for information or to help with the event.

No More Broken Front Door

The SPC office was broken into in late January. Fortunately, there is little of material value in the building, so we did not lose much. The front door had been kicked in and the glass pane broken. The team of Lanny Freshman and Jim Brown sprang to action, first securing the door and then, over the next several days, laboring in the frigid cold to repair the door.

Thank you so much, Jim and Lanny. Your thoughtfulness, attentiveness and skill helped the office function well in an otherwise trying situation.

Thanks Credit Union Members

SPC recently received a Common Cents award of \$586 from the Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union. A special

continued on page 9

SPC MONTHLY PROGRAM

**IS IRAN OUR ENEMY?
A RARE EYEWITNESS REPORT**

Thursday, March 22

7 pm

University Methodist Church
1085 E. Genesee St.

Long-time activist Ed Kinane will report on his recent 14-day civilian diplomacy delegation to Iran, organized by the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

Followed by refreshments & discussion.

FREE

THE SURGE FOR PEACE: A CALL FOR IMMEDIATE US WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ

Response to 5 Common Myths

MYTH#1: Immediate US withdrawal would be destructive

REALITY: The US presence fuels the insurgency. Phased withdrawal will delay transition to Iraqi control. There is no reason to believe that any continued US presence can accomplish the goals it has failed to achieve in the last four years. Soldiers and advisors left behind face greater risks, and no amount of training can force Iraqis to carry out US goals. The Iraqi people know best how to run their country.

MYTH#2: A temporary US escalation can stabilize Iraq

REALITY: The "surge" plan would send 17,000 troops into Baghdad. In summer 2006, an additional 12,000 US and Iraqi troops were sent to secure Baghdad. By October the strategy had failed dramatically as violence escalated.

MYTH#3: The US presence is preventing a civil war and benefiting Iraqi civilians

REALITY: As a result of the US invasion, Iraq is *already* in the middle of a brutal civil war. Innocent Iraqi civilians are caught in the crossfire while security and many necessary services are worse now than before the invasion - clean water and electricity are less available, many hospitals and schools remain closed, poverty is 35% higher and unemployment is over 60%.

MYTH#4: Withdrawal damages US credibility and will encourage terrorists

REALITY: The State Department admits that US actions in Iraq have actually aided terrorist recruiting efforts. Terrorist actions globally have increased since the US invasion.

MYTH#5: Deaths of US soldiers will have been in vain

REALITY: US military victory is not possible. More deaths in Iraq only increase the tragedy. We must bring the troops home and provide full physical and emotional care.

Who Supports Immediate Withdrawal?

Iraqi Citizens

An estimated 70-85% of Iraqi citizens want the US to leave.

US troops

March '06 - 72% of US soldiers advocated withdrawal by Dec. 2006.

Iraqi Leaders

Sept. '06 - 104 Iraqi parliamentarians signed a petition for US withdrawal.

US & Global Public

A majority in the US support withdrawal immediately or within a year. Global public opinion never supported the invasion.

US Officials & Experts

Including retired general William Odom, former CIA director John Deutsch, former State Dept. official William Polk, conservative military historian Andrew J. Bacevich

Resources:

United for Peace and Justice
www.unitedforpeace.org

Lie by Lie: The Mother Jones Iraq War Timeline

www.motherjones.com/bush_war_timeline/

National Priorities Project
www.nationalpriorities.org

Institute for Policy Studies
www.ips-dc.org/iraq

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A Strategy for Peace

The US invasion of Iraq was a crime. The US had no legal or moral right to occupy Iraq and has no right to determine its future. US withdrawal is the first step in a real peace process.

Reduce the violence

Over 30% of violent Iraqi deaths post-US invasion are due to US/Coalition forces. Much of the insurgent violence targets US military or Iraqi civilians working with the US (such as police). A US withdrawal would reduce these causes of violence.

End the economic, moral and human costs

- over 600,000 Iraqi civilian deaths, over 3,000 US soldier deaths and tens of thousands seriously wounded
- \$350 billion US tax dollars spent, with a total cost estimated to grow to \$1.2 trillion dollars
- loss of civil liberties at home and a foreign policy endorsing torture endanger the security and humanity of our nation

Create a space for peace and negotiations

Factions in Iraq cannot begin to negotiate a future for their country as long as the US imposes its own agenda and intervenes militarily. A US withdrawal would also show other countries that it is serious about peace in the Middle East.

We call for:

- an immediate withdrawal of all US troops and US private contractors from Iraq and an end to the US air war
- no funds for new troop deployment
- no US bases in Iraq; no US control of Iraqi resources
- US support and funding for Iraqi-led reconstruction
- real diplomacy with all factions in Iraq and regionally, including Iran and Syria
- support for a 2-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict

UPDATE ON THE SYRACUSE CENTER FOR PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Month by month, the reality of the Syracuse Center for Peace and Social Justice comes closer. While much work remains on all aspects of the project – organizational structure, fundraising, plans for renovation, accessibility and green-building initiatives – steady progress continues. We expect the Center to begin operations within the next month.

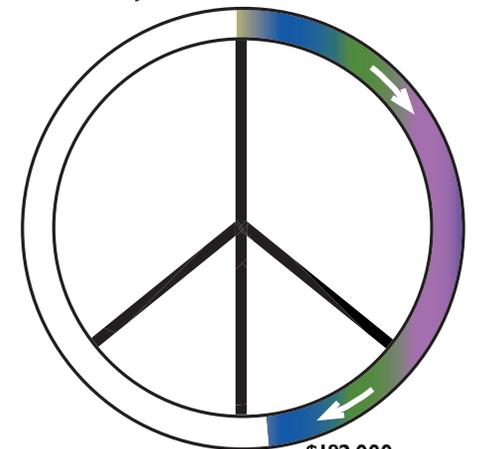
Since last month, the building inspection was completed, turning up some concerns, but primarily declaring the building sound. In addition, the Center’s Board of Directors decided to plan for a full-service elevator which will make the building truly accessible, but also drives the projected price tag of the whole project to about \$380,000. \$182,000 is currently committed.

To be located at 2013 E. Genesee St. (just east of Westcott St.), the Center will house a variety of local peace and social justice organizations, hoping to spawn increased networking and collaboration in our work.

To make a donation or learn more, see www.alliance4peace.org or call (315) 478-4571.

-Karen Hall

\$382,000+ Needed



\$182,000 (2-23-07)

ACT TO END THE WAR	INDIVIDUAL	COLLECTIVE	LEGISLATIVE
	Contact Rep. Walsh to support legislation to stop funding the war.	Participate in Weekly Peace Outreach (every Tuesday 4:45-5:30 pm) and the mass demonstration on Monday, March 19 at 5 pm (see page 3 for details).	Sign SPC’s “A Call for Immediate Congressional Action in Iraq” petition (cover). Circulate it to others and return it to us.

We Came Upon Bolivar...

Nancy Gwin and Doug Igelsrud

... I came upon Bolivar one long morning, in Madrid, at the entrance to the Fifth Regiment.

Father, I said to him, are you, or are you not, or who are you?

And, looking at the Mountain Barrack, he said: 'I awake every hundred years when the people awake.'

From Pablo Neruda,
"A Song for Bolivar – Un Canto Para Bolivar"

Nancy's Report:

We came upon Bolivar in the month of January – Doug and I – journeying with a Witness for Peace (WFP) delegation to that country now so often in the crosshairs of the current US administration. Our delegation focus: "Venezuela – Another Way! Allocation of Natural Resources and U.S. Foreign Policy."

What is Witness for Peace (WFP)?

WFP is a politically independent grassroots organization. We are people committed to nonviolence and led by faith and conscience. Our mission is to support peace, justice and sustainable economies in the Americas by changing US policies and corporate practices which contribute to poverty and oppression in Latin America and the Caribbean. We stand with people who seek justice.

With six delegations to Venezuela since February 2006, and several more scheduled, Witness for Peace seeks to help curb further overt and covert US intervention there. Following in-country nonviolence and cultural awareness re-training and a refresher course on Venezuelan history and current politics, our intense eight days of meetings and interviews began.

We "came upon Bolivar one long morning" in meetings with Marino Alvarado, Director of Provea, a progressive human rights organization, and with Luis Lander, an oil expert, engineer and professor at the Universidad Central de Venezuela. They framed our time in Venezuela with the oft-recurring themes of national sovereignty, the internationally-recognized fair and

Nancy and Doug are long-time local Latin America solidarity activists. They can be reached at ngwin@twcny.rr.com and digelsrud@twcny.rr.com.

free election, the need for open space for discussion and the quest for new ways to address old issues.

We "came upon Bolivar" – his image and words were everywhere – in the Venezuela government's use of petrodollars during this opportune window of booming oil profits to creatively address the needs of the marginalized and poor. Critics warn these Petrodollar programs are paternalistic – and that oil prices will tumble again. But in the meantime, we saw "another way" for Venezuela.

Micro-economics: We learned that over 100,000 cooperatives have been formed in the last two years, part of the government's determination to narrow the huge gap between the rich and the poor while creating jobs. We spoke to a bakery-owner, a taxi-business entrepreneur, workers in a clothing factory, owners of small stores, a daycare center and soup kitchens.

Housing: We saw newly-built apartments in Charallave for those displaced from a landslide and small houses in La Magdalena and Vargas, complete with running water and baths. Critics say the housing projects are not enough – not fast enough – but in the meantime, "another way."

Education: We visited a Bolivarian school and learned from educators and students of three levels of literacy programs, Misiones Ribas, Robinson, and Sucre.

Healthcare: We witnessed healthcare programs and facilities funded by nationalized oil money, new approaches and attempts to reach those who've never had healthcare before. We had discussions with Venezuelan and Cuban *medicos*/doctors about the absolute need for the basics everywhere – clean water, nutritious food, and immunizations already available to others.

Program for homeless and displaced: At Mision Negra Hipolita, named in honor of the African-Venezuelan woman



Paul Driver, a retired firefighter from NYC and a woman from CODEHVA, a local community organizing and human rights organization in La Guirida. CODEHVA was one of a number of grassroots organizations that met with the WFP delegation. Photo: Tom Driver

who raised Simon Bolivar, we observed public information inviting participants to a program which includes job training, healthcare and housing.

We "came upon Bolivar" as people talked of food sovereignty. Venezuela currently imports 60% of its food. The Chavez government is developing new markets, new trade partners, and some unused government land is being redistributed for cultivation of food crops.

Seeking independent analysis, we met with the labor party CTV/Venezuelan Workers Central (a union responsible for the nationalization of the oil industry) and with *Primero Justicia*/First Justice, an opposition political party. CTV is backed by the AFL-CIO, but we learned some US branches support the Chavez government and the reorganization of Venezuelan labor.

On January 19, the final day of our delegation, we met with Islena Medina, Director of Multi-lateral Affairs of Venezuela, and with Robert Downes, Political Counselor of the US Embassy. That very morning a Venezuelan newspaper carried the story that the Bush administration would be increasing funding for covert CIA intervention in Venezuela.

As returned Witness for Peace delegates we seek to remind ourselves and others to

continued on next page

Venezuela / continued from previous page

research the “rest of the story.” We must alert others that Colombia, Venezuela’s next door neighbor, is a US foothold in South America – a potential base for violating the sovereignty of the current Venezuela government. We must retell the long history of US intervention in Latin America and share sources of where the “people awaken.” We in the United States must awaken!

Doug’s Report:

This past December, 63% of the voters re-elected Hugo Chavez President of Venezuela. Prior to the election, the Bush administration was prepared to discredit the election as fraudulent. Because of the margin of victory and the fact that the election was certified by over 700 international observers, the results have been widely accepted.

The Bush administration’s hard line on Venezuela is motivated in part by the fact that Venezuela has good relations with Cuba and is supplying it with much needed oil. Cuba, in turn, is providing thousands of doctors for free clinics in poor neighborhoods in Venezuela. By trying to change the leadership in Venezuela, the Bush administration is pleasing anti-Castro elements in Florida who make significant campaign contributions. Anti-Chavez activity is rife in Miami.

For me, a highlight of our trip was meeting with members of the Presbyterian Church in Caracas. For more than 30 years, the Presbyterian Church USA has been advocating for social justice in Latin America and for a humane US foreign policy.

About 15 people from the Church community spoke passionately about the current situation in Venezuela. Some expressed concern

If you buy your gas at CITGO, you’ll know that rather than enriching oil profiteers and kings, much of it will help people in Venezuela.

about Chavez and his intentions, but most strongly supported what Chavez was doing for the poor. Although the Church itself had remained neutral, many of these people felt it was important for the Church to come out in support. One woman, a retired doctor and church leader said if this didn’t happen she might have to leave the church – but she wouldn’t be leaving Christ.

One person stated that just because Chavez was supporting the indigenous, people of African descent and the poor didn’t mean that this was a struggle between whites (Spanish) and indigenous/African, or between rich and poor. This encounter was deeply emotional. The community clearly stated that the last thing they wanted was for the US to invade or intervene in their internal debate and struggle for a better Venezuela. They, as Venezuelans, had to work this out among themselves.

A very important aspect of the Chavez administration has been its strong effort to unite the countries of Latin America in their struggle to be more independent of the United States and to construct economies that meet the needs of the majority. Venezuela has helped Argentina and Brazil with loans that have freed them from the draconian policies of the World Bank and IMF. The presidents of numerous South American countries recently met under the leadership of Hugo Chavez and Evo Morales to discuss the idea of a South American parliament modeled after the European parliament.

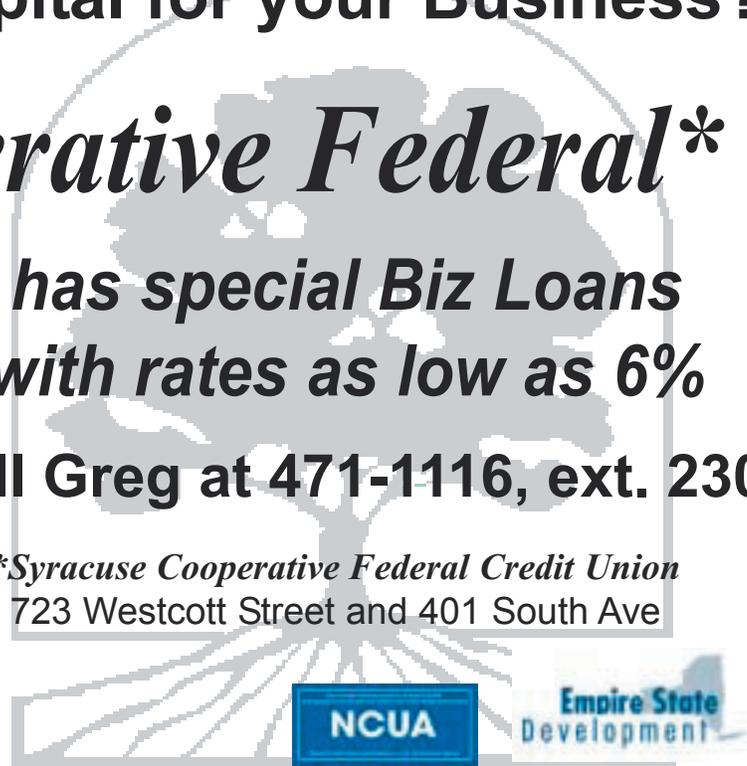
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with rates as low as 6%*

Call Greg at 471-1116, ext. 230

**Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union
723 Westcott Street and 401 South Ave*



WTO Protestors Win Class Action Suit

Steven Penn

From November 30 – December 4, 1999 a coalition of global justice and environmental activists shut down the World Trade Organization (WTO) meeting in Seattle. Protestors from around the country, including Syracuse, took action to prevent the barons of capitalism from expanding their control over the world's workers and resources.

Under the banner of the Direct Action Network, protestors engaged in a nonviolent direct action blockade that cancelled the first day of the WTO meeting. The protest shifted the meeting's subsequent debate to the concerns of developing nations, and it is widely credited for the failure of the WTO Millennium agreement.

The city responded to the mass action by declaring martial law and banning all forms of protest in the city center. It called in the riot police and National Guard, who cleared the streets using batons, tear gas, pepper spray, rubber bullets, concussion grenades and tanks. Police arrested anyone in the city center wearing buttons, holding signs, or marching peacefully. In all, about 600 people were arrested and held.

The largest arrest was in Westlake Park on December 1. That morning 200 people marched through downtown repeatedly announcing their peaceful intentions. Mounted police surrounded them, corralled them into the park, and arrested them as they sat singing and chanting. Protestors who engaged in nonviolent noncooperation were beaten and peppersprayed. They were held in prison in for five days, and denied contact with lawyers until the fourth day.

Steve Penn, a physics professor at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, is part of the Westlake Park class action suit.

SPC in Action / continued from page 4

feature of SCFCU's VISA check card is that purchases made with it generate "small change" for the Credit Union, which is then awarded to community organizations. Thanks to Credit Union members for nominating and voting for SPC, and to the Credit Union for its support.

Activist Appreciation: Linda Perla

When SPC reinvigorated itself in 2002, Linda Perla came forward to join SPC's new Steering Committee. She was on the Finance and Fundraising Committee from its inception, playing a major role in organizing SPC's Birthday events and Syracuse Stage benefits. Linda is the ideal committee member – reliable, organized, creative and fun to work with. She's now taking a well-deserved break from the Finance Committee ... and we hope she'll be back. The committee will miss our regular meetings at Linda's kitchen table where there were always treats and good company waiting.



Since 1999, every city hosting a pro-globalization meeting has used similar police-state tactics. Governments now routinely use police and military force to suppress people's right to protest. The public is barred from meetings of global economic policy.

This January, seven years after "Seattle," a jury ruled in favor of the Westlake Park protestors' class action suit for wrongful arrest. Barring an appeal by the city, the trial will now proceed to the awards stage. The 200 protestors may well be awarded millions of dollars in damages.

The Seattle protest was a brief vision of the liberation that is possible through collective action. But in the current culture of fear and surveillance in the US, it is disturbing that the jury in the Westlake Park case ruled that Seattle's ban on protest did not violate the protestors' freedom of speech. While the Westlake Park case is an important victory, it is also a sobering reminder of the challenges that remain. ♻️

Empowering Farmers

When you choose Equal Exchange fairly traded coffee, tea or chocolate, you join a network that empowers farmers in Latin America, Africa, and Asia to:

- Stay on their land
- Care for the environment
- Farm organically
- Support their family
- Plan for the future



Equal Exchange products are available at the Syracuse Real Foods Co-op.



Velvra Shad, Mwika Mrimbo
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Making Your Vote Count: A Voting Machine Update

Last year it appeared that Onondaga County voters would be stuck voting on dubious touch screen voting machines for years to come. Due to the hard work of the Greater Syracuse Progressive Coalition and the League of Women Voters, the County Executive and Legislature are taking a closer look at this foundation of democracy.

Given the chaos and delays in selecting new voting technology for New York State, many voters wonder why we can't just keep the mechanical lever machines which have served us well for generations. Because these machines cannot be made accessible for people with disabilities, using these machines isn't legal.

Since New York State has not yet chosen its new voting system, we have the opportunity to avoid the expensive mistakes made by other states which have invested millions in failed touch screen voting technology.

A coalition of the state's leading election reform groups called on Governor Spitzer to follow Florida Governor Charlie Crist's lead and rule out the use of computerized Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines in New York.

Bo Lipari, Executive Director of New Yorkers for Verified Voting says, "Governor Spitzer should join the governors from New Mexico, Maryland, and Florida in calling for adoption of paper ballots and optical scanners. It is the only choice that makes sense for New Yorkers."

Like any technology, Paper Ballot Optical Scanners (PBOSs) may have problems, but they pale in comparison to the magnitude

of problems experienced and threatened by DREs.

On November 20, 2006, the Onondaga County Office of Management and Budget invited the Progressive Coalition's Voting Integrity Committee and Bo Lipari to discuss the Committee's refutation of voting technology cost comparisons prepared by the Election Commissioners. The Voting Integrity Committee demonstrated that the Optical Scan system would cost \$5,730,600 less than the DRE system. Combined with the fact that the PBOS system is more accurate, reliable and secure (and with a ballot marking device, accessible to people with disabilities) this decision should be easy.



This is your vote on Diebold...



Diebold, one of the main manufacturers of Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines, has close ties with the Republican Party.

The Voting Integrity Committee urges you to stay up-to-date on this issue by accessing the nyvv.org and lwvny.org websites. A ten-minute clip from the DVD "Bought and Sold - Electronic Voting in New York" further clarifies the issues.

Please contact the County Executive, the County Legislators (especially your own) and the Elections Commissioners to let them know you support paper ballots, not black box machines with questionable results. Let's keep up the momentum. See the Onondaga County website: ongov.net for specific addresses.

For further information, please contact me at lrpalski@verizon.net or call the League of Women Voters at 652-9112.

*-Lenore Rapalski, Director of Local Issues,
League of Women Voters of Syracuse Metropolitan Area*

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Bill Griffen:

A Life Lived Passionately Pursuing Justice and Peace

On February 16, 2007, educator/activist and Peace Council stalwart Bill Griffen passed away following an 11-year battle with cancer. Bill's commitment, clarity of thought and willingness to stand up for his beliefs will be sorely missed here in Syracuse, in Cortland, where he taught for 50 years, and far beyond.

Bill served in the Army stateside during the Korean War after which he completed college and began teaching. His life/teaching took a dramatic turn in 1963 after one of his graduate students, Bill Moore, was murdered in Alabama while supporting civil rights. Inspired by his student's conviction, Bill became active in the civil rights movement, working in dangerous conditions in Tennessee during the summers of 1964 and 1965.

His work in the south began a lifelong commitment to peace, a protected environment and social justice. Bill worked for progressive change in many ways – through teaching, writing, community education, pressuring elected officials, legal demonstrations, running for Congress (1968 and 1990) and engaging in non-violent civil disobedience (approximately 40 arrests).

Being a peace and social justice activist as long as Bill had been can make a person tired and cynical. But Bill never stopped and never lost hope. For me he was the personification of positive life force. His zest for music, baseball, family and peace and

social justice were infectious. He was an agent of change, a teacher, and always ready to speak, write and act. Being with him made me feel like anything was possible.

It is hard to imagine someone so vital being gone. But his spirit lives on in us and pushes us to continue the joyful, challenging, maddening work of making peace instead of war, protecting the environment and creating a world where human need is placed above monetary profit. Thank you, Bill, for what you've done, who you were, and the good you've left behind.

-Carol Baum

It really is shocking to learn of Bill's death. What a loss not only for his family but also for us. I knew him from back in the Viet Nam days, and what a powerful and straight thinker he was. He was a great leader as far as I am concerned and I valued his opinions and thoughts whenever we spoke. I sorely miss him.

-John D. Brule

Bill and I were classmates at Cortland so many years ago. Bill was always a free spirit. He was a great musician and drummer and always there where he could do good. While the Iraq Peace Team was in Baghdad, Bill took the time and effort to gather many parts for musical instruments that were badly needed by the musicians of the Iraq National Symphony Orchestra. Bill knew well that music is our international language and that it cannot be sanctioned.

-Cynthia Banas

I had the privilege of working with Bill over a 25 year period. I've seen Bill educating Air Force police as they arrested us at Griffiss Air Force Base. I've heard Bill's efforts to educate fellow activists about the importance of nonviolence – both morally and



Bill (front left) rarely missed the annual Hiroshima Day commemoration, often inspiring us with his words at the vigil. August 6, 2004. Photo: Paul Pearce

practically. I've watched Bill respectfully interact with counterprotesters, listening to their perspectives while gently encouraging them to see things differently. I've experienced Bill's attempts to edify Judges about the applicability of international law to us as citizens of the most powerful nation in the history of the planet.

One particular memory of Bill was during a public hearing in the early 1990s as part of the movement to prevent the creation of a low level radioactive waste dump in rural Cortland County. While others spoke passionately about the way such a dump would disrupt our lives, as always, Bill looked at the larger picture and told Governor Mario Cuomo: "when the bathtub is overflowing the first thing you need to do is shut off the tap, not look for additional places to move the water."

-Andy Mager



On June 21, 2005, Bill was set to throw out the first ball at a Syracuse SkyChiefs baseball game as part of SPC's participation in United Methodist Night at the ballpark. In the face of right-wing pressure, the SkyChiefs pulled the plug. Bill (with glove), his daughter Amy, Carol Baum of SPC (with sign) and wife Judy participated in a news conference outside the stadium condemning this abridgement of free speech. Photo: Andy Mager

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Saturday, March 31 at 1 pm

Center for the Arts, 72 Main St.,
Homer, NY

Contact SPC for carpooling from Syracuse

Bill's family asks that monetary memorials in his honor be made to SPC, 924 Burnet Ave., Syracuse, NY 13203.

Central New Yorkers have a responsibility to seek full restoration of Onondaga Lake, supporting the Onondagas' goal "to make the water drinkable and the fish edible."



Onondaga Lake: We Stand at a Fork in the Road

Many thousands of years before present-late 1700s: Pure air, water, soil and food were maintained under the stewardship of the Onondaga people whose relationship with the natural world was one of gratitude, cooperative coexistence and spiritual connection. Surrounded by wetlands, Onondaga Lake and its tributaries were home to abundant salmon, whitefish, eel, trout, lake sturgeon and more.

1142: Earliest date established by non-Indian scholars for the founding of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy on the shore of Onondaga Lake.

THE LONG DECLINE...

1779: Sullivan-Clinton Campaign (under orders from George Washington) destroyed Onondaga homes, villages, storehouses and cornfields, weakening the Haudenosaunee and paving the way for European settlement.

1788-1822: NYS unjustly obtains all but 7300 acres of the Onondagas' original two million acre aboriginal territory.

1790s: Commercial lakeside salt production begins, along with extensive deforestation resulting in nearly complete upland habitat loss.

Early 1800s: Large-scale extractive and manufacturing industries established in the lake watershed. Commercial fishing begins, lasting through the 1800s.

1800s: Lake level lowered and wetlands drained and filled, resulting in loss of unique salt marsh habitat.

1870s: Salmon disappear.

1880s: Onondaga Lake is a popular resort area.

Late 1800s: Solvay Process Company begins industrial scale mining to produce soda ash, dumping industrial waste into lake, wetlands and wastebeds (until 1986).

1890s: Lake whitefish disappears.

1896: Untreated sewage emptied directly into creeks and lake (until 1979).

1901: Ice harvesting banned due to polluted water (still in effect).

Late 1800s-late 1900s: Millions of tons of untreated municipal and industrial wastes dumped directly into lake, tributaries, wetlands, and surrounding lands.

1918-1988: Tens of tons of highly toxic and persistent industrial chemicals (mercury, PCBs, dioxins, chlorobenzenes, etc.) released into lake, tributaries and surrounding lands.

1940: Swimming ban due to bacterial pollution (still in effect).

RECOGNIZING THE PROBLEMS...

1970: US Attorney General forces Allied Chemical to stop dumping mercury into the lake.

1970-1999: Fish consumption banned due to high mercury.

1970s-present: Many scientific studies conducted to understand the state of the lake and complex ecological interactions.

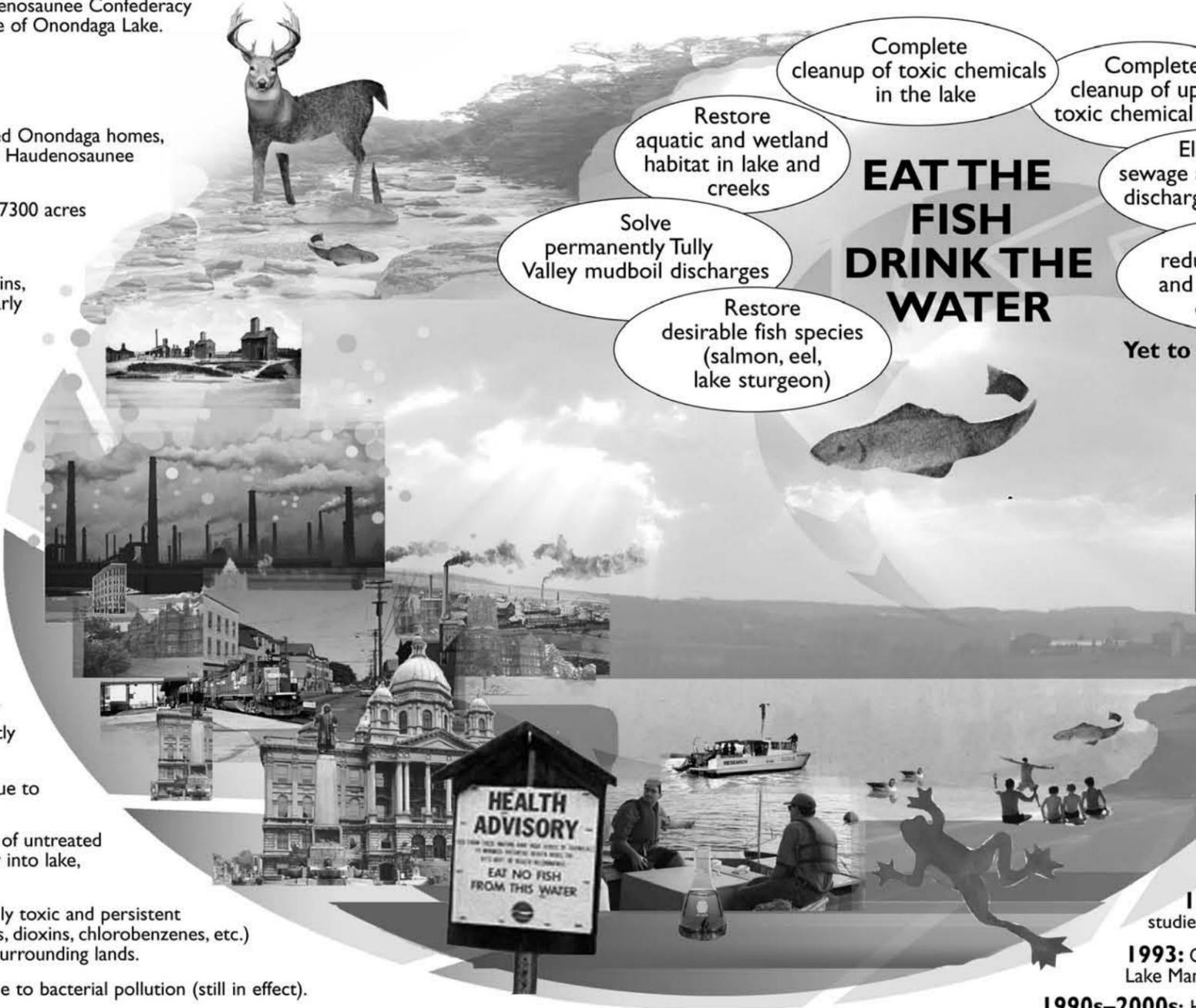
1987: Onondaga County reduces combined sewer discharges to creeks by 90%.

1988: Atlantic States Legal Foundation and New York State file complaint against Onondaga County, alleging violation of its state discharge permit.

1990s-2000s: Honeywell studies toxic pollution in the lake; New York State DEC and Honeywell negotiate toxic waste cleanup through the Superfund process.

1990-present: Many millions of dollars spent under the Onondaga Lake Management Conference and the Onondaga Lake Partnership studying the lake watershed, implementing pollution control measures and planning for further recovery.

Piece created by Dan Gefell, Karen Kerney and Andy Mager



Complete cleanup of toxic chemicals in the lake

Complete cleanup of upland toxic chemical sites

Restore aquatic and wetland habitat in lake and creeks

Eliminate sewage and industrial discharges to creeks

Solve permanently Tully Valley mudboil discharges

Complete reductions of nutrient and bacteria discharge directly to lake

Restore desirable fish species (salmon, eel, lake sturgeon)

Yet to come...

WE ARE HERE

2006: Honeywell reaches agreement with NY DEC for lake bottom "cleanup".

2005: Onondaga County begins building controversial "regional treatment plants" to partially treat combined sewer discharges to tributaries.

2000s: Honeywell releases plans for partial cleanup of toxic chemicals in lake sediments and certain upland sites.

CORPORATE CLEAN-UP

2000: Onondaga Lake Partnership created to develop and improve projects specified in the Lake Management Plan.

1990s-2000s: Reductions in ammonia discharge from sewage treatment plant improves conditions for aquatic life.

1999-present: Fish consumption advisory.

1998: Federal court orders Onondaga County to improve wastewater treatment.

1995: Onondaga Lake declared a Superfund site.

1994-present: Remediation of Tully Valley mudboils, aquatic habitat studies and reductions in agricultural runoff.

1993: Onondaga Lake Management Plan drafted by the Onondaga Lake Management Conference.

The Case for Justice: An Onondaga Land Rights Update

Tuesday, March 20, 7 pm
Syracuse Stage, 820 E. Genesee St.



A follow-on program to the series "Onondaga Land Rights and Our Common Future"

Come Hear:

- **An update on progression of the legal action**
- **The Onondaga Case for Justice** – An overview of the historical information demonstrating that the Onondagas have consistently sought redress for the illegal taking of their land and that their action is not "disruptive"
- **Onondaga concerns about the fairness of the US Court System**

Joe Heath has been the Onondaga Nation General Counsel for over 20 years. His legal work has included civil rights issues (famously the Attica trial), criminal defense, child abuse and environmental protection.

Chief Bradley Powless of the Onondaga Nation, eel clan. After graduating from Nazareth College and Penn State University, Brad returned to the Onondaga Nation School where he has taught for the past 13 years. He has also benefited from the teachings of his grandfather and father, Chiefs Irving Powless Sr. and Jr.

For more information, contact NOON 472-5478, www.peacecouncil.net/noon

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CROSSING BORDERS

Cheryl Spear and elana levy

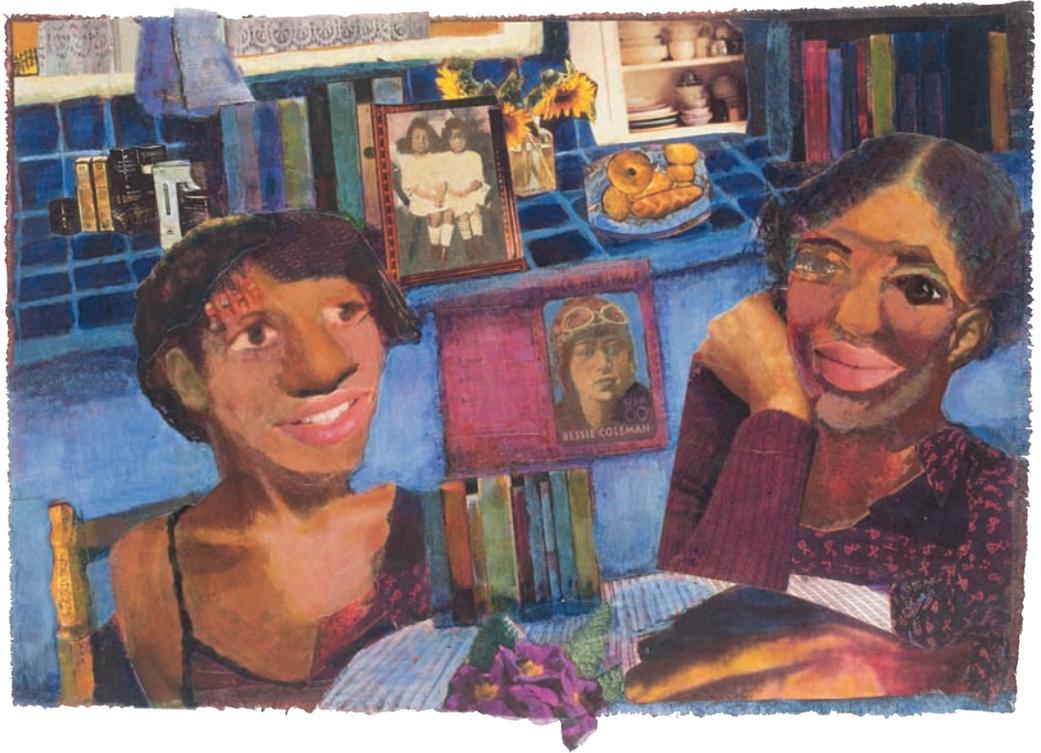
Editor's Note: Because elana feels strongly about not capitalizing her name or "i" we are not forcing our style upon her.

elana: Both Cheryl and i are finding it hard to write this article. We've both tried writing something on our own: Cheryl in a narrative style and elana in a third person voice. Neither style gets at the real meaning of crossing borders or how we ourselves have maneuvered across boundaries. i haven't wanted to opportunistically use my friendships and lifelong commitments to prove points. Cheryl has made assumptions that within her circle most everyone practices border crossings, inclusions and therefore what we have learned in our lives doesn't necessarily require repeating, though that may sound naive and arrogant. It's also that i come from a place of firmly believing that we already have the knowledge within us of how to cross

borders. It's not really about someone else having to give us new information. What it IS about is making choices. In every life choice we make we are also deciding how important crossing borders is to us individually. Reading an article can't do that, though perhaps what we can do is point our finger at the moon.

There is no substitute for "time in" and "showing up." You have to "show up" and "show up" again and then "show up," and that's not enough.

Cheryl is a doctoral candidate concentrating on disability studies at Syracuse University. elana is a longtime community activist whose words appear in the PNL from time to time.



Homage To Kitchen Table Press, Elizabeth Barakah Hodges ©1997, Mixed Acrylic and Collage. From Carry It On Peace Calendar, www.syracuseculturalworkers.com

Cheryl: Yet, when I remember back to the place where I made the choice to move beyond prescribed barriers of race, gender and ability, I was actually pretty young and those choices became adult practices. As a child around the age of eight I made two secret "crossings" in my mind. The first of these crossings involved the physical. At that time, I was prohibited to move around freely outside our 13th floor apartment as my siblings were allowed. Although I was born with significant disabilities, I had a strong resolve to do what I wished. Looking out across the Manhattan skyline one evening, I promised myself to move as far as I could beyond the apartment. And, that I did! Traveling to the Midwest and West Coast to live among people who were quite different from the people I knew back home helped to expand my crossings of boundaries and borders.

The second of these crossings also happened around the age of eight. During this time, I remained home to receive my elementary education until I was allowed to attend regular sixth grade classes. While at home with my mom day in and day out, I witnessed her struggles to make a living for the family, many times doing

this alone. Watching her make ends meet, I promised to take care of her better than any man could. And, this I have attempted to do as I challenged, as a young woman, sexism, racism, ableism, homophobia and classism.

elana: i feel that my location historically predisposed me to aligning with those seen as "other." First, i was born in New York City only two years after my parents had escaped from the Nazi regime in Germany. And secondly, i lived on the Lower East Side of Manhattan in my twenties, during the height of the Civil Rights Movement in the North. And so i was nourished and thrust towards "getting" it, and joined up in the march of the times against oppression and injustice. As i write and listen to my earlier words i recognize that i didn't feel it as making a "choice" to join. Yet, also as i write this, i know that in fact i did internally make a choice, then in the 1960s and many times since. Though explaining how or why doesn't come through words.

continued on next page

Crossing Borders / continued from previous page

Cheryl: Interestingly, “getting” oppression did not come to me until quite late in my political development. Partially this is so because, like my mom, I wanted to love anybody who would accept me. The awareness of oppression came through connecting with those people who cared enough to tell truths about America’s inequalities. It was groups of women who fought on the frontlines for lesbian rights, immigration rights and reproductive rights. It was their example that helped to teach me about crossing political borders for each other. One of many lessons that stayed with me is how undocumented women taught me that women as a collective group are all struggling to have “citizenship” within this country. In other words, whether one was indigenous or first generation born within the US, her citizenship in too many important ways was always up for question.

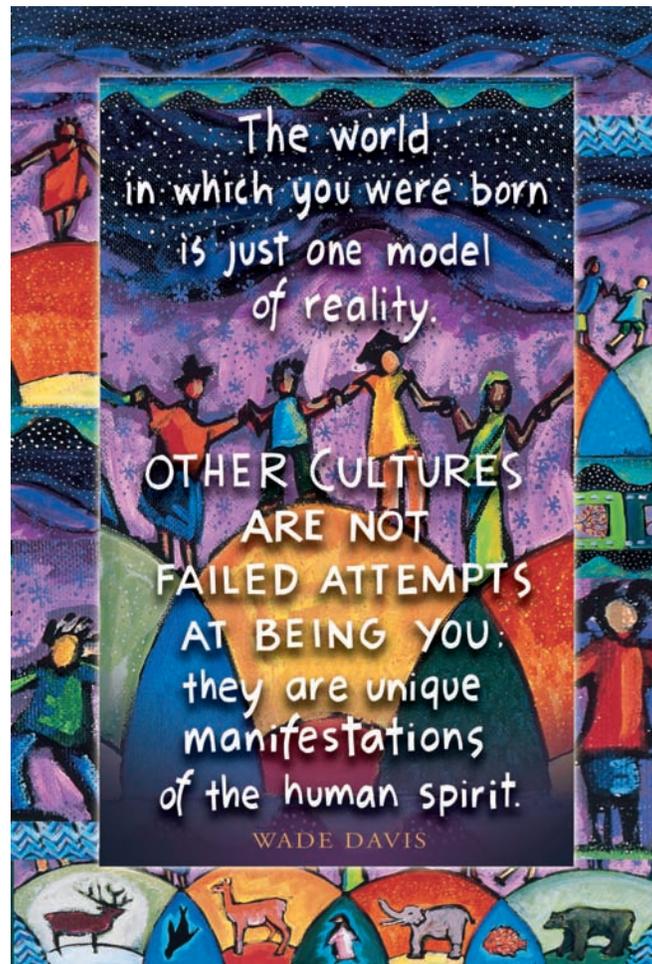
When I am real honest with myself, I know too that I have seen oppressions happen right in front of me. Yet, I witnessed unfairnesses, particularly against my mom, and had no way to fight against them. It was not until I met up with warrior women and a couple of warrior men that I learned I could bend absurd rules and make choices to force justice.

elana: It’s hard for me to talk about specific events of crossing boundaries. The glass seems cracked. Activities i am at times lauded for are simply what keep me alive. Perhaps more honest than talking about “choosing” to cross boundaries is to repeat what i say to myself as i drive to the barbed wire surrounding the concrete walls, surrounded by wire, surrounded by taller thicker walls: “how privileged i am to have as friends, teachers and compañera/os the ones who i visit, and then have the nerve to leave behind the walls and wire as i walk out through the doors.” How little i understand after all these years of visits, yet how much more i know than i could ever have imagined or known to wish for.

Cheryl: Crossings of any kind are never easy. Barriers, language, lifestyle, politics,

economics, social location, ability threaten relationships between and among those who are different from each other. Yet what I have come to understand about connecting with difference is that what matters most is the human spirit. What I am thinking

There is no way around, below or above it. You have to “show up” and “show up” again and then “show up,” and that’s not enough. Your tears show up, your rage, your stupidity, your self-centeredness and your brilliance, it all shows up. i guess what i want to say is that in fact you/i do decide. i do openly and inside make a lifelong commitment which i can never turn aside.



Other Cultures. Syracuse Cultural Workers ©2004. Quote: Wade Davis. Art: Ann Altman ©2004. This piece is available as a poster and a postcard from (www.syracuseculturalworkers.com).

about are all the many reasons I could say “no” to widening my social and political circle. Rather, including difference for me is about survival.

The task of boundary and border crossing is awkward and awesome all at the same time. Even as I tell myself this truth, even as I feel I am capable of the task of connecting with fellow humans there is another knowing that alerts me to the fact that too many connections will never be made.

elana: In conversing on how to write this article, Cheryl and i have talked about what Cheryl calls: “time in.” There is no substitute. Once again, i don’t know quite how to get it across in this fast-paced, instantaneous, expectative culture we inhabit.

Cheryl: Indeed, there is no substitute for “time in” and “showing up.” However these two conditions for crossing borders might mean different things for different people. That is to say, some of us are able to make or create alliances across communities of difference on a regular consistent and deliberate basis because we have resources to do so. Others of us may have the likely possibility of holding a space within us, within our caring tone of voice, within our hearts, for the other who we cannot physically touch.

What I think we mean by “having time in” and “showing up” is creating the time, the space and the energy to ask who is missing from our circles. And more important to ask: how do we find the way to include them. Certainly for us this cannot be a one-time effort. Rather, crossings are lifetime practices which we bring into our circles of difference. In these circles we can be taught and teach how to respect, listen, accept, negotiate, laugh, muse, cry, criticize and critique.

Certainly, in the absence of diversity/difference or the recognition of these human dimensions I/we will not and cannot extend warmth, compassion and material resources nor talk with one another.

Cheryl and elana: We’re sitting here at a dining room table listening to the midnight owl as we pensively taste the thoughts and mold them into words which become black marks on white bark. We will forever be ruminating and musing over what it means for us individually as well as collectively to consciously widen our current circles.

It’s hard to leave the words alone, as they never quite say what’s most deeply felt. For sure this conversation begun, will continue beyond the awkwardly written words on this page.

CHALLENGING MISREPRESENTATIONS OF AFRICA

AN INTERVIEW WITH LOCAL PAN AFRICAN ACTIVISTS PART III

Interview by Aly Wane and Christiana Kaiser

On November 11 the *PNL* sat down with members of the **Pan African Community of Central New York (PACCNY)** for a discussion about the stereotypes and misrepresentations of Africa that exist in our community. This is the final segment of our three-part conversation.

Kwame Otieku (KO), Mícere Gíthae Mũgo (MGM) and Emmanuel Awuah (EA) are members of the local non-profit organization, PACCNY, which seeks, among other goals, to foster unity among people of African descent. Refer to the January and February 2007 issues of the *PNL* for more information on PACCNY and the participants and to read their comments from Parts I and II of this interview on the impact of misrepresentations of Africa.

PNL: The media often represent the future of African countries as hopeless. What is your vision for Africa's future?

MGM: I am one of those people who has never and will never lose hope for Africa. The reason is that our continent has survived. We have survived the pillage of the slave trade and so many years of colonialism, and what those years have done to destroy and to siphon out natural resources and the wealth of the countries, and beyond that, to maim people psychologically through dominating ideas through education, through religion, through so many things – to have survived this shows that we are dealing with a site that can endure and not just endure but resist.

I think that the liberation movements and the independence struggles and what they have left as a lesson historically show us that all this can be overcome because who would have thought that apartheid South Africa would go? But, here we are

Aly, a native of Senegal, is an SPC intern. Christiana studied International Relations at the University of Ghana at Legon and Syracuse University.



This demonstration against debt took place at the World Social Forum in Nairobi, Kenya, January 2007. Photo: Jubilee USA Network

in a new era. It's a difficult time. In terms of global experiences it's a tough time not just for Africa but for other countries that are affected by systems such as structural adjustment programs, the World Bank, IMF and the so called global economy which is very corporate. Yes, we will be affected by that for many years.

I really have a lot of hope and I see it from time to time when, for instance, I attend a conference in Africa and I see what scholars in Africa have produced in a situation where there are no libraries, no books, no facilities for research, nothing. And it's top-notch scholarship. I see it when I see members of the youth and their determination, especially in some of the programs that they have at home. I see it in the big strides that women have made to change the way we look at gender and society. I believe that it is a question of time. It will take a long time. It may not even happen in our lifetime, but Africa will rise.

KO: I echo that. There is always hope. Someone once said that if you get up in

the morning, look up in the sky and you see the sun rising from the east, that means there is hope. If it rises from the west, you're dead. You never live to see that. Civilization started in Africa, and truly, if it did start in Africa, I believe in the cycle of human revolution. We were on top. We've been tramped on and walked on, but there is hope. I look at some of the leaders, especially the leadership of women coming in Africa. I was at SU when Nobel Prize laureate Wangari Maathai came to speak – very articulate. People are out there doing things. I think the hope comes from those people working, sweating and making sure that we come back on top. I'm certainly sure that we will come back on top!

EA: I think the future of Africa is more than a hope. It has more to do with the resilience of African people. This is evident in the fact that historically they have resisted oppression. Now they're overcoming

continued on next page

Interview / from previous page

underdevelopment, colonialism and the exploitation that has taken place. Also, the future of Africa will depend upon Africa's relationship with the rest of the world. If the world continues to treat Africa as a repository of all the ills and all the fears that we have as humans, then Africa will never change and Africa will not develop. But, if the world begins to see Africa in terms of the assets that it contributes to the rest of the world, if it looks at all the minerals, if it looks at the natural resources that are in Africa, Africa shouldn't be in such a situation. So Africa's relationship to the global system has to be re-examined in terms of the fact that Africans don't get their due share of the resources that they contribute to the global system.

Africa is asking for justice. It's asking for fair trade. It's asking for a better understanding of the past contributions of Africans and Africans' role in the new global community that we want to create in the 21st century. If that recognition is not given, and taken seriously, then just

hoping that Africa will change and become better than it is today might not materialize. There are some structural issues. There are some historical issues that have to be addressed as to the rightful place of Africa within the community of nations. I believe that within the United Nations, within the global bodies that we have, a serious discussion is necessary so that Africa will be recognized and respected the way it's due. Otherwise, I think the world might continue to trample on Africa as the last place for human civilization, and that will not be consistent with what Africans hope for. Our thought patterns and our approach towards Africa have to change.

MGM: We really do want to express our appreciation for this conversation. It is very important. It's going to the Peace Council, and I know that this is an organization that really believes in fighting for justice. It is very important for us to acknowledge that in all these struggles right through history, each struggling entity, like Africa right now – and this goes way back to the times of

the independence struggle – each struggler, each person who is fighting for justice will always require solidarity from other people who have a sense of justice, who have a sense that humanity and human rights should be protected. So, we appreciate this solidarity from the Peace Council and from other progressive organizations. In Africa, those people who are working for a change are working together in solidarity with other groups from all over the world, groups who understand a sense of justice, in order to move forward.

One of the other reasons that I have so much hope is to think that today people are already seeing Ubuntu and the notion of peace and reconciliation as a way forward. For Africa to have spearheaded that from way back (right through to Mandela with whom it is now associated, but it's a notion and a concept that we have always had), that really speaks to a people who have a sense of humanity that has been shared with the rest of the world. I really hope in the 21st century we are moving toward that recognition of each other as human beings, as a part of humanity. ☪

Central New York Organizations Connecting with Africa

Africa Bound

Africa Bound brings youth to Africa for cultural programs that explore the languages, history and cultures of the countries they visit. The group will travel to Senegal in the summer of 2008. An informational meeting will be held April 21.

Contact: Vanessa Johnson 516-2216, griotchic@hotmail.com

Beyond Boundaries

Beyond Boundaries is a grassroots Syracuse group which encourages cross-cultural understanding and self-awareness through trips that create lasting relationships with communities in Ghana, the US and other countries.

Contact: Mardea Warner 479-5757 or Aggie Lane 478-4571, www.beyond-boundariescny.org

EJEDA (Congolese organization)

An organization for the development of young and abandoned people, EJEDA seeks to send medicine and clothes back to Congo in order to alleviate the sufferings of those displaced by the war.

Contact: Cyprien Mihigo 475-7692,

cymihigo@syr.edu, <http://home.twny.rr.com/annmayes/ejeda.html>

Ghana Society of Central New York (GSCNY)

GSCNY seeks to promote the interests and general welfare of the Ghanaian and the African Diaspora community in Central New York. They work for the peace, progress, and prosperity of Africa and to promote good will and exchange between the people of Ghana, the African Diaspora, and the US. See page 21 for upcoming events.

Contact: Emmanuel Awuah 487-7522 or 498-2565, awuahe@sunyocc.edu or Kwame Otiaku 622-4260 or 278-4750, kotieku@twny.rr.com, www.ghanasocietyncy.org

Okyeame Dankwa Memorial Library / Ghana Vision

Kofi Addai, a Le Moyne College graduate from Ghana, helped build a community library in his home town of Worawora in 2004. Ghana Vision is working to maintain the library and provide additional educational materials. Assistance is welcomed.

Contact: Kofi Addai 218-5724, ghanavision@yahoo.com, www.ghanavision.org

Pan African Society of Central New York (PACCNY)

PACCNY seeks to create a platform for the promotion of debate, ideas, and activities that strengthen the historical bonds that have united people of African origin on the continent and in the Diaspora through years of political, cultural, and economic struggles against dehumanization by slavery, imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism. PACCNY promotes and celebrates the efforts of people of African origin towards self-assertion, human dignity and self-determination and engages in activities that promote understanding among all global communities.

Contact: Kwame Otiaku 622-4260 or 278-4750, kotieku@twny.rr.com

Sudanese Speakers

Dut Deng is part of a group of so-called "Lost Boys" that fled Sudan due to war. The group seeks venues to speak about their experiences and also to raise funds for a school and clinic back home.

Contact: Dut Deng 315-491-2033, dut134@yahoo.com

-Aly Wane and Christiana Kaiser

Ghana's Golden Jubilee: *Celebrating the Dawn of African Independence*

Emmanuel Awuah

March 6, 2007 marks the golden jubilee of Ghana's freedom from British colonial rule. While jubilees have been celebrated since time immemorial, the golden jubilee celebration of Ghana's independence is particularly significant for the Pan-African world and for all who love freedom.

At the time of its independence 50 years ago, Ghana was the first country south of the Sahara to break away from over two centuries of British colonial rule. Until then, Ghana and other African countries were under the tight grip of European colonization. Resistance to colonial rule in Ghana took several forms, but what stands out is the long-standing Ashanti military campaign against British invasion and extension of its territorial powers. Although the Ashanti people ultimately suffered defeat at the hands of the British in 1900, the latter nevertheless succumbed in a couple of battles, which led to a memorable statement by one of the Ashanti Kings: "the whiteman brought his cannon to the bush, but the bush was stronger than the cannon."

Ghana's independence provided impetus for the total liberation of the African continent. At one minute past midnight, March 6, 1957, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the first Prime Minister, delivered a famous speech in which he said, "My fellow Ghanaians, at long last, Ghana your beloved country, is free forever." He continued, "the independence of Ghana is meaningless unless it is linked up with the total liberation of Africa." Well, the rest is history! Namibia's attainment of independence in 1990 marked the end of direct political control of Africa by any foreign country or power, thereby fulfilling the dream of the pioneers of Pan-Africanism.

Ghana's role as a pace-setter for the decolonization of Africa was solidified by Kwame Nkrumah's willingness to train and equip other African leaders to take up the task of leading their respective countries to freedom. Young African

leaders whom Kwame Nkrumah had met in his sojourn in Europe and the United States came to stay in Ghana under Nkrumah's tutelage and mentoring, including Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia.

Ghana's independence also bolstered confidence in black leadership in the United States in their struggle for freedom, equality and civil rights. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. represented the United States at Ghana's Independence celebration in 1957 and witnessed the hoisting of the Ghana flag in place of the Union Jack (of Britain).

He commented that this picturesque image of a black African country's triumph (re)affirmed his belief that with perseverance black people in the United States could also secure their rights as citizens.

Nkrumah's success in decolonizing Ghana from the grip of imperialism could not have been achieved without the influence of other Pan-Africanists; both those he met in his sojourn and those whose works shaped his thinking about Pan-Africanism. The Pan-African philosophy stresses the fact that Africa is one; Africa's people on the continent and in the diaspora must unite and help Africa to free itself from colonialism, neo-colonialism, imperialism, racism and economic exploitation.

The Pan-African philosophy is geared for unification, liberation, cultural and economic independence of Africa and African people everywhere. This philosophical stance influenced the works of Marcus Mosiah Garvey, Edward Wilmot Blyden, Patrice Lumumba and many others. Kwame Nkrumah's Ghana became the very embodiment of what the pioneers had dreamed, a concrete physical space, managed and controlled by black people, and used as a platform to promote African unity, United States of Africa, African High



Ghana's Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah addressing delegates at the All African People's Conference in Accra, December 1958. At the conference more than 300 leaders from across the continent met to organize and demand the immediate end of colonialism and imperialism in Africa. In the decade that followed more than 30 African countries regained independence.

Photo: African Activist Archive, Michigan State University

Command and decolonization of other African countries and people.

Ghana's journey as a free country for the past 50 years has been characterized by progress, growing pains, bumps and bruises. While Ghanaians may be blamed for being their worst enemies, for the most part, the odds were stacked against this new-born country right from the beginning. Overcoming the residual effects of colonialism and learning to direct the energies of a diverse group of people towards national development in a modern era was no mean task. However, there are definite signs that Ghanaians have learned from their mistakes, wrong starts and difficulties.

The significance of Ghana's independence and pioneering role still looms large. The state of the union in Ghana is a healthy one: peace through reconciliation, strong macro-economic foundation, and democratic ethos have once again brought Ghana to the world's attention. The Black Star is poised to lead other African countries in the search for possibilities and progress, and maximizing her full potential in a global community.

However, Ghana is still plagued with

Emmanuel is the president of Ghana Society of Central New York and Director of Multicultural and International Services at Onondaga Community College.

continued on next page

Ghana Jubilee / continued from previous page

several challenges: its people largely consume what they do not produce, and produce what they do not consume. Although it is endowed with rich and precious mineral resources such as gold, diamond, bauxite, and manganese, it is at the mercy of its lenders in London, Paris, New York, Washington, D.C, Tokyo, and Beijing. Whether in the next 50 years Ghana will overcome such dislocations in its economy and reduce its dependence on neo-colonial global institutions will be a test of coming of age in the 21st century.

Finally, the celebration of Ghana's golden jubilee anniversary is not only for Ghanaians, but for everyone who loves freedom, liberty, equality and justice. Therefore, I invite you to celebrate these lofty and noble ideas and ideals with Ghanaians in Central New York on such a momentous occasion.

Long live Ghana! Long live Ghana-U.S. friendship!

Upcoming Programs and Events

For a list of programs and events commemorating the golden jubilee of Ghana's independence, please see page 21 or go to www.ghanasocietyncy.org

Applicants Sought for Peace Action's Youth Peace Award

Peace Action of Central New York will present its Peace Action Youth Award in June. The \$500 award, funded by Stephanie A. Miner and John F. X. Mannion, will be given to an Onondaga County high school senior who has shown a devotion and commitment to peace, justice and conflict resolution. The student should have engaged in activities – in school, place of worship, or community – which indicate his or her passion to work on the underlying causes of war, violence and injustice.

Peace Action of CNY, part of the largest peace organization in the country, began locally as the Nuclear Weapons Freeze in the early 1980s. It has presented awards to local peace activists for many years, but six years ago began offering an award exclusively for high school students.

Applications for the award have been sent to all the high schools in the county and are also available from Peace Action (478-7442). A description of the student's peace-making activities is required, plus a short personal statement and a reference. There is one award winner each year. The application deadline is March 24.

—Helen Stabler

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The Truth About the White House's Plans for Regime Change
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One of the top UN weapons inspectors, Scott Ritter (who said prior to invasion Saddam had no WMDs) considers how the Bush administration, its British and Israeli allies, and the International Atomic Energy Agency view Iran.

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THE GHANA SOCIETY OF CENTRAL NEW YORK INVITES YOU TO

GHANA'S 50TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THEME:

"THE NEW GHANA: CHAMPIONING EXCELLENCE IN
PAN-AFRICANISM AND GLOBAL HUMANISM"

FEATURING A KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY
AWARD-WINNING POET, AUTHOR & PAN-AFRICANIST

JAYNE CORTEZ

PERFORMANCES BY:

BLACK REIGN (SU), ADANFO CULTURAL TROUPE, & DANFORTH IN MOTION

MARCH 31, 2007

6:00 PM - MIDNIGHT

DRUMLINS COUNTRY CLUB, 800 NOTTINGHAM ROAD, SYRACUSE

FOR TICKETS OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: EMMANUEL AWUAH (315) 487-7522
OR 498-2565, KWAME OTIEKU (315) 622-4260 OR 278-4750, OR VISIT WWW.GHANASOCIETYCNY.ORG

JOIN US AT CITY HALL ON GHANA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY MARCH 6, 2007

"GHANA FLAG RAISING DAY"

10:00AM - 11:00AM
THE FRONT STEPS OF CITY HALL

A JOINT PROCLAMATION OF "GHANA DAY" WILL BE
PRESENTED BY MAYOR DRISCOLL AND COUNTY
EXECUTIVE PIRRO AND GHANA'S FLAG WILL BE
RAISED AT CITY HALL. RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW.

"GHANA INDEPENDENCE & ABOLITION OF SLAVERY" COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

MARCH 11, 2007
5:00 PM

EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
4325 SOUTH SALINA STREET, SYRACUSE

SPONSORED BY INTERDENOMINATIONAL MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

"RECLAIMING OUR PAN AFRICAN ROOTS"

FILM, DISCUSSION AND SOCIAL HOUR

MARCH 24, 2007
2:00 - 5:00PM
DUNBAR CENTER

GHANA: A PHOTO- JOURNALISTIC PRESENTATION

BY PROF. PAULA JOHNSON

MARCH 28, 2007
DETAILS: TBA

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY AFRICA INITIATIVE SYMPOSIUM ON PAN AFRICANISM

MARCH 29, 2007
10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
COMMUNITY FOLK ART CENTER
805 EAST GENESEE ST, SYRACUSE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

WWW.GHANASOCIETYCNY.ORG

GHANA'S 50TH INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS SPONSORED BY: GHANA SOCIETY OF CNY; SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY DIVISION OF
STUDENT AFFAIRS KALEIDOSCOPE PROJECT FOR DIVERSITY INITIATIVES; OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS, SU; AFRICA
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PRESENTING WORLD CLASS PERFORMERS

Saturday March 3 at 1pm
Dave Ruch Presents:
"World Communities"

"World Communities" is a 40 minute concert program for ages 5-12, which uses songs, humor and interactive dialogue to excite children in their studies of the various cultures around the world.

This event is FREE and open to the public.

Sunday March 4 at 3pm
Jack Gladstone
www.jackgladstone.com

Jack is masterful at blending legend, history and metaphor into song. From his touching and uplifting songs to his epic ballads of historical events and biographical profiles, Jack presents a clear picture in our mind of what has transpired.

Tickets \$12, Seniors \$8

Saturday March 10 at 8pm
Ola Onabule
www.olamusic.com

Ola Onabule is probably one of the best kept secrets in the British music world. Ola's voice is exceptional, powerful and recognizably unique, and his songwriting soulful, funky and jazzy. He is one of the most charismatic performers in the UK.

Tickets \$20, Seniors \$16

Saturday March 24 at 8pm
Barra MacNeils
www.barramacneils.com

Multi-award winners, the Barra MacNeils are one of Canada's premier Celtic groups. They wow audiences around the world with their captivating vocals, harmonies and extraordinary musicianship.

Tickets \$25, Seniors \$20

Tickets can be purchased online at www.center4art.org, (607) 749-4900 or (877) 749-ARTS or at the door. Children under 12 and students with ID FREE. Seating is limited to 400.

Beer, wine and great desserts start at 7PM for Saturday evening performances.

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– Sam Hamill



POETS AGAINST WAR

If you've been moved by this unjust war to write a poem, please consider submitting by email to thorleyp1@yahoo.com, or mail to SPC. Work on themes of war, the war economy, oppression and political injustice, and/or which celebrates more positive hopes and visions, will be considered.

Uniform Shrinkage

Viola Ransel

The U.S. makes threats.

The World laughs behind its back.

"You and what army?"

Viola Ransel's poetry is available at DissidentVoice.org, OpEdNews.com and poemhunter.com. She currently conducts "Speakeasy: Poetry in the Back Room," a workshop for Hamilton Library in Hamilton, NY, and "Bards at the Barge," a series of poetry presentations for the Barge Canal Coffeehouse, also in Hamilton.

The Spa at 500 - Sneak Peak

March 17. After the St. Patrick's Day Parade, stop by the new location of The Art of Massage, at 500 West Onondaga Street (corner of Midland) for a sneak peak look at "The Spa at 500" - a brand new health and wellness center in a restored 19th century home, just minutes from downtown.

Free Yoga classes, free massage, refreshments and music. Register to win a day at the Spa. Learn about the new, not-for-profit *Center for Compassionate Touch.*

Licensed Massage Therapists

Ed Griffin-Nolan, Tim Bryant, Diana Sponsler, Meg Gorman, Sarah Coco, and Adriane Angarano invite you to visit us.

Saturday March 17, 2 - 4 PM



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
MAR 4 EVERY SUN: People's 60 Minutes. Time Warner Cable Channel 98. 8pm. Produced by SPC. Tape it, share it! Exhibition: Environmental Injustice and the Artist Response to Hurricane Katrina. Through April 21. Community Folk Art Center, 805 East Genesee St. 442-2230.	5 SUN Southside Coalition. 7pm, Payton Temple. 476-7475. Future of Minority Studies. Speaker: Leslie Feinberg. 5 pm, Gifford Auditorium. HBC, SU. Free.	6 Weekly Peace Outreach: 4:45-5:30 pm. Rt 257 (Fayette St.) and Rt 173 (E. Seneca Tpk) Manlius 472-5478. Every Other Tues. Partnership for Onondaga Creek Mtg. 6pm, Brady Faith, Lionel 395-3103. Call to confirm time & place. Grand Avenue. Indigenous Film in N. America. 7pm. 102 Hall of Languages, SU. Free. Ghana Flag Raising Day. 10-11am. Front Steps of City Hall. Emmanuel Awuah 487-7522. See page 21.	7 EVERY WED: Open Figure Drawing. 7-10pm. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid Ave. Free. 478-8634. Financial Education Workshop: Economics 101. Westcott Day Habilitation Center, 522 Westcott St. Nick: 471-1116 x223.	8 Our Voices in Our Communities: A Women's Talking Circle: Celebration of International Women's Day 6-8 pm. The Warehouse, 350 West Fayette St. Colleen, 607-743-6137. Free. Afghanistan Unveiled, Film 2pm and 7pm Storer Auditorium, OCC www.pbs.org/independentslens/afghanistanunveiled/ SUN Southwest Action Committee. 7pm, Brady Faith. 404 South Ave.	9 League of Women Voters' Legislative Breakfast. 8-9:30am. Ramada Inn, N. Syracuse. 448-4199. Program free. Breakfast \$15. LeftForum 2007: March 9-11 Cooper Union, NYC 7 East 7th St. leftforum@leftforum.org Folkus Project Concert: April Verch @ Westcott Comm. Center, 826 Euclid Ave. \$15/\$12 WCC/others. Energetic fiddle playing, singing www.folkus.org	10 Gem of the Ocean, 3 pm, Syracuse Stage, \$28. Barb Kobritz 476-1588. Proceeds go to SPC! The Mysterious Messenger, Open Hand Theater, 11am. 518 Prospect Ave. 476-0466 www.openhandtheater.org Every Sat: Food Not Bombs, 3pm Hanover Square, www.foodnotbombs.net 218-5481.
11 CNY SOA Abolitionists and Caribbean Latin America Coalition. Monthly potluck meeting. 4-7pm, 209 Slocum Ave. Syr., 478-4571. Annual Meeting & Dinner: Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union. 3 pm - 7 pm. WCC. 471-1116. Ghana Independence & Abolition of Slavery: Community Thanksgiving Service. 5 pm. Evangelical Church of God in Christ, 4325 S. Salina St. Emmanuel Awuah. 487-7552. See page 21.	12 SPC Study Group. 7-8:30 pm, Friends Meeting House, 821 Euclid Ave. Aly, 472-5478. Westcott East Neighborhood Meeting 7pm, Petit Library, 105 Victoria Place. www.wenanation.org. SGLC Pre-Season celebration Planning. 7 pm. Plymouth Congregational Church, 232 East Onondaga Street. 476-4329.	13 Weekly Peace Outreach: 4:45-5:30 pm., James St. and Thompson Rd. (Northside) 472-5478.	14 EVERY WED: Military & Draft Counseling. 1-3pm. SPC, 924 Burnet Ave. 472-5478. Financial Education Workshop: Home Ownership. 6-8pm. SUN, 1540 S Salina St. Nick, 471-1116 x223.	15 SPC Steering Committee Meeting 7pm, contact office for location 472-5478. EveryThurs: Women's Voices Radio. WAER - 88 FM. 8pm.	16 Deadline for PNL Calendar, Send to 924 Burnet Ave., Syracuse, NY 13202 or PNL@peacecouncil.net Much is Blue About Nothing, Open Hand Theater, Fridays 16,23&30 8pm. 518 Prospect Ave. 476-0466 Tickets \$12, www.openhandtheater.org	17 Karan Casey and her band: Ithaca Catholic Worker Benefit. 7:30 pm. The State Theater. Fee. 256-0428.
18 Demonstration-Remember the Fallen: Stop the Wars. 2pm. Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY. Northeast Peace and Justice Action Coalition. www.rememberingthefallen.org	19 PROTEST the 5th Anniversary of the US War on Iraq Meet at Clinton Square at 5 pm and march to the federal building. 472-5478. Bring your energy and commitment to end the war!	20 Climate Crisis Action Day: Cool the Planet, Save the Arctic. Bus to rally and lobby in Washington, DC. Dave Reckess. 472-1339. See Page 14. Weekly Peace Outreach: 4:45-5:30 pm. E. Genesee St. and Erie Blvd. (Dewitt), 472-5478. The Case for Justice: Onondaga Land Rights Update. 7pm. Syracuse Stage. 472-5478. See page 14. Free.	21 SPC Meet-Up 6:45-8:30pm, Recess Cafe, 110 Harvard Pl. (off Westcott St.) 472-5478. (www.peacecouncil.net) Come Get Involved!	22 Financial Education Workshop: QuickBooks Payroll. 6-8pm. SW Economic Business Resource Ctr, 506 W. Onondaga St. Lori, 471-2720. SPC MONTHLY PROGRAM Is Iran Our Enemy? A Rare Eyewitness Report. 7 pm. University Methodist Church, 1085 E. Genesee St., 472-5478. Free. See page 3 for details.	23 EVERY FRIDAY: Talent Search/ Open Mic Nite: Different Drummer Cafe, 6-10pm. 1 Public Square, Watertown. 782-0595.	24 Folkus Project: Bealach @ May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. \$15, Mix of Cape Breton, Scottish & Irish tunes. www.folkus.org Film: Reclaiming our Pan African Roots. 2-5pm. Dunbar Center. See page 21.
25 EVERY SUN: "Top of the World" world music. 10pm-midnight, WAER 88.3 FM Socialist Forum: Protest Politics and Iraq. Is the peace movement being co-opted? 5pm. WCC. 475-2395. Free.	26 Progressive Coalition Meeting, 5:30-7pm. CNY Labor Fed., 404 Oak St. Andy, 472-5478. SPC Study Group. 7-8:30 pm, Friends Meeting House, 821 Euclid Ave. Aly, 472-5478.	27 Weekly Peace Outreach: 4:45-5:30 pm. Rt. 11 (in front of Northern Lights Shopping Center, Mattydale) 472-5478. 13th Annual White Ribbon Campaign Breakfast. 7:30 am. The Holiday Inn Liverpool. 441 Electronics Parkway. \$20. RSVP to 425-0818 Honey Moccasin Indigenous Film in N. America 7pm, 102 Hall of Languages, SU. Free.	28 Onondaga Land Rights Action Court Hearing. 1 pm in Federal Court, Albany. NOON is organizing carpooling from Syracuse, vehicles leave at 9 am and return that evening. 472-5478 or noon@peacecouncil.net. Ghana: A Photo-Journalistic Presentation. Details TBA. See page 21. Friends of Dorothy Benefit Dinner. 5:30-7pm. St. Vincent's Parish Ctr - enter on Winton St. friendsofdorothy@twcny.rr.com. Fee	29 PNL Mailing Party. 4pm. 924 Burnet Ave. 472-5478. Free Pizza! Born into the Brothels, Film 2pm and 7pm Storer Auditorium, OCC www.thinkfilmcompany.com/brothels/ Symposium on Pan Africanism. 10am-7pm. Community Folk Art Center, 805 E. Genesee St. Emmanuel Awuah 487-7522. See page 21.	30  Memorial Service for Bill Griffen. 1 pm. Center for the Arts, Homer, NY. 472-5478 for carpooling. Pax Christi, 9:30am. Slocum House, 208 Slocum Ave. Frank Woolever, 446-1693. EVERY SAT: Sharing the Earth. 10 pm. TW Ch. 98. People for Animal Rights. Ghana's 50th Independence Anniversary Celebration, "The New Ghana." 6pm. Drumlins Country Club, 800 Nottingham Road. Fee. 487-7522. See page 21.	
APRIL 1  Annual Benefit Bowl-a-thon. A fun, fundraiser. 12:30-5pm, (2 sessions) Bowlmor Lanes. 201 Highland Ave., E. Syracuse. Joan 471-0269. \$15 adults, \$12 children. See page 2.	2 	3 Weekly Peace Outreach: 4:45-5:30 pm. Teall Ave. and Rt. 690 (Eastside) 472-5478. The Fast Runner Indigenous Films in N. America. 7pm, 102 Hall of Languages, SU. Free.	4 Peace Action Film: Dr. Strangelove: Or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb, 7 pm. Palace Theater. Fee. 478-7442.	Mark Your Calendar: SPC's 71st Birthday Celebration Dinner APRIL 14 at 6 pm: Featuring the premiere of a locally filmed and produced documentary on SPC's 71 year history (approximately 30 minutes). Location TBA. See page 4 for details.	Syracuse Peace Council Community Calendar March 2007	

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