

# THE PRIMARY IS THE ELECTION

by Annabel Hine Ottis and Elaine Denton

In Central New York and across the county, political candidates from communities most impacted by inequality and racism are stepping up, running for office, and winning. These are candidates who can champion the voices and needs of those suffering under the status quo.

Locally, we've seen the incredible power our community can put behind candidates, and we've celebrated some big wins in our midterm election. Now we must get back to work and actively support these candidates as they run for office. We can't vote for change if we don't help the change makers canvass, fundraise, and get people out to vote in the primary.

Party designees and incumbents have resources other candidates don't, including teams of people to walk neighborhoods. This puts many of our progressive candidates at an immediate disadvantage, as they do not automatically have the same support and infrastructure. If you support fair elections and a robust primary accessible to all people who want to run, volunteer for candidates you support, and bring your friends!

In Central New York, where registered Democrats far outnumber Republicans (4 to 1 in the City of Syracuse, and by 25% in Onondaga County), primary elections afford us the opportunity to hash out nuances between candidates—and support the best progressive policies. Voters are much more likely to vote party line in the November election.

Primary season 2019 is a potential game changer for Central New York, as our movement produces an ever-increasing number of progressive local candidates.

We have compiled some information to encourage you to take action. For more details visit [www.cny solidarity.com](http://www.cny solidarity.com).

## Important Dates:

**Friday, May 31:** Last day to postmark an application or register in person to be eligible to vote in the primary.

You must be registered in a party to vote in a primary election in NYS. If you are not registered in a party, you can still help candidates by donating and volunteering your time.

**Tuesday, June 25: Primary election. Polls open 12pm - 9pm.**



Do you support:		Public Broadband?	Community Grid?	100% Clean Energy?
<b>Onondaga County / 2 year term / \$29,430</b>				
7 <sup>th</sup> District	Joey Chiarenza <input type="checkbox"/>		Did not respond.	Did not respond.
	Mary Kuhn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	✓	Yes, this is an opportunity for us all to work towards, racial, economic and social justice.	I support getting our region to 100% clean energy.
15 <sup>th</sup> District	Misse Ross <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	✓	Yes. The community grid is the best choice from an environmental, social justice and financial perspective.	Yes, by 2035.
	Bill Kinne <input type="checkbox"/>		Did not respond.	Did not respond.
16 <sup>th</sup> District	Charles Garland		Did not respond.	Did not respond.
	Vernon Williams Jr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	✓	Yes, best option that gives the city and county residents the chance for economic growth and development.	Yes, create a bold plan to be 100% clean energy within 5 years.
<b>City of Syracuse / \$21,224</b>				
At-Large 4 year term (vote for 2)	Steven Thompson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	✓	Yes, voted twice for resolutions to the state in support. I believe it will be a bridge to the future for the city.	Yes, but I don't see it occurring in the next 20 years.
	Michael Greene <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	✗	Yes, It is the best quality of life option for those that live immediately adjacent to I-81.	Yes, our best option is to enroll in Community Choice Aggregation.
	Rita Paniagua <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	✓	Yes, The community grid will bring economic development to our area, safety and healthier solution.	Yes, in favor of a program that is progressive, efficient, and realistic.
3 <sup>rd</sup> District 2 year term (vote for 1)	Chol Majok	✓	Yes, it is the better choice for our community's health and economy.	As soon as possible or no later than 2050.
	Emad Rahim <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	✓	Yes, to create an inclusive city, build stronger community, reduce health risk & create opportunities for local residents.	Yes, within a realistic time frame dependent upon many factors.
	Byrn Lovejoy-Grinnell <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	✓	Yes. It will create economic reinvestment opportunities, bridge the divide, better access and reduce air pollution.	Yes
<b>Syracuse City School Board - Commissioner of Education (vote for 4) 4 year term / \$7,500</b>				
Dan Romeo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Twiggy Billue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tamica Chachee Barnett <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Katie Sojewicz <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark Muhammad <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Incumbent  Endorsed by Onondaga County Democratic Committee  Endorsed by Working Families Party

Annabel Hine Ottis and Elaine Denton are members of the CNY Solidarity Coalition.