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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER '16



FROM CRISIS TO REVOLT: THE SANDERS CAMPAIGN

By Brian Escobar

The Sanders campaign came out of a chain of events starting with the financial crisis of 2008 and government bank bailouts. Soon after the bailouts and after eight years of the dismal Bush administration, the election of Obama raised expectations among Left-leaning Democrats. Disappointment grew with Obama's reversals on campaign promises, appointing the same Goldman Sachs crowd to head the powerful Treasury Department and other top posts, championing the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), suggesting cuts in Social Security and allowing Arctic oil drilling (among other issues).

With hopes raised and soon disappointed—a *pattern foreshadowing revolt again and again in history*—Occupy Wall Street (OWS) spread to thousands of cities around the world within weeks. Before it was crushed by police on the orders of mayors, the movement managed to increase awareness of

wealth inequality, introduce a class analysis of *the 99% vs. the 1%* and galvanize popular opinion on questions about capitalism and democracy.

In 2015, Obama worked with Republicans to push “fast track” legislation for trade agreements like the TPP through Congress, over the opposition of the labor movement, public opinion, many Democrats and Greens. A few months later the independent Senator from Vermont, Bernie Sanders, launched his campaign for the Democratic nomination for president.

Sanders employed the language and themes of OWS and, for the first time in recent memory, a presidential nominee violated the cardinal rule of Democrats and Republicans alike. Whereas most Democrats and Republicans refuse to speak of any class but the ill-defined middle class, Sanders acknowledged class conflict, speaking of the “billionaire class” and how their interests diverged from everyone else’s.

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DON'T JUST VOTE...

**educate agitate
organize**

Special Section: Election 2016

During election season, the *Peace Newsletter* often publishes articles on the SPC community's differing perspectives of who to vote for—the slightly more liberal candidate of the two dominant parties (usually a Democrat) or the Green candidate, or abstaining from voting altogether. This election we are faced with the alarming choice of either the continuation of the status quo with the election of Hillary Clinton, or a proto-fascist Trump presidency. The editorial committee could have asked for articles on vote Hillary, Jill (Stein, the Green Party candidate) or neither, but this time decided to publish articles on the future of electoral politics as a viable strategy for progressive change. In this special section, Howie Hawkins explains why there is no working-class party in the US; Brian Escobar analyzes the Bernie Sanders revolution, one of the strongest recent attempts at radicalizing one of the two major parties; and Ursula Rozum examines the Third Parties – the systemic challenges they face and the role they play in pushing towards progressive change.

PopularResistance.org put it well: “The task of the movement for economic, racial and environmental justice is much bigger than the presidential election. Our job is to build people power to ensure that no matter who the next president is, the people’s voices are heard and our demands are part of the political agenda.”

Cover: Sanders delegates protest at the press tent after hundreds of delegates walked out after the roll call and the nomination of Hillary Clinton at the DNC on Tuesday, July 26. Photo: Brian Escobar.

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BIKES for PEACE

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BIKES FOR PEACE

Bikes for Peace volunteer mechanics held a series of seven free pop-up bicycle repair clinics this summer at Skiddy Park and the Brady Faith Center. Thank you to volunteer mechanics Maizy Ludden, Zacqueline Baldwin, Jenna Lacey, Nate McCabe, Vern Coffey, Chris Notarthomas, Dave Kashmer, Dan Moseson, Maurice Crawley and Frank Cetera! Our team fixed about 70 bicycles on the West and Southwest sides of Syracuse. Special thanks to Chris and Dave who helped to move supplies to and from repair clinics. To get involved with Bikes for Peace, contact Nate, mccabe.nathan.c@gmail.com

JUSTICE FOR PALESTINE

On August 25, the Justice for Palestine Committee hosted a regional demonstration outside the New York State Fair. 35 people attended this Governor's Day protest to denounce Governor Cuomo's attacks on the BDS movement. On June 5, the Governor had issued an Executive Order to create a "blacklist" of individuals and organizations that support the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement with the intention of cutting them off from financial resources. This attack on our political free speech harks

back to the McCarthy era. Please contact the Governor's office and ask him to rescind his Executive Order immediately.

The Committee greeted author and activist Miko Peled on September 16 for local discussions. Peled's 2012 book, *The General's Son: Journey of an Israeli in Palestine*, is an account of how he, the son of an Israeli general and a staunch Zionist, came to realize that "the story upon which I was raised... was a lie." Peled was moved to peace activism after a suicide bomber killed his 13-year-old niece.



Regional activists protest at the main entrance to the NYS Fair to denounce Governor Cuomo's attacks on the BDS (Boycott, Sanctions and Divestment) movement. Photo: Ursula Rozum.

BIRTHDAY DINNER

We are excited to welcome Medea Benjamin of CODEPINK: Women for Peace to be the featured speaker at the Peace Council's 81st Annual Birthday Dinner on **Saturday, October 29** at 6:30pm at Bellevue Heights Methodist Church (2112 S. Geddes St.). Dinner will feature local, seasonal fare. Admission has a the sliding scale of \$15-75 with a suggested donation of \$30—more if you can afford it, less if you can't. Medea is currently promoting her newest book, *Kingdom of the Unjust*:

Beyond the US-Saudi Connection. Her book explains the origin of the Saudi state; the internal repression of dissidents, migrant workers, women, non-Sunnis; and the toxic US-Saudi alliance that is based on oil and weapons sales.

Volunteers are needed to make this years birthday dinner a success! Help is needed selling tickets, table hosting (providing table settings), cooking, setup and more. Contact Brian.

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SPC, from previous page

NEIGHBORS OF THE ONONDAGA NATION

New Mural. NOON recently supported the creation of a new mural about the Great Law of Peace at LeMoyné Elementary School in Syracuse. NOON worked with principal Jason Armstrong for nearly a year to bring this new piece to life and funded it. Onondaga Snipe Clan artist Brandon Lazore created the mural in early August. It depicts the founding gathering for the Haudenosaunee Confederacy along the shore of Onondaga Lake and replaces a mural depicting Father LeMoyné. An unveiling will be held in September after the school year begins.

Onondaga Lake. We continue to educate about the pollution remaining in and around Onondaga Lake. We are also watching Onondaga County to make sure they do not go back on their promise to

return some lakeshore to the Onondaga Nation. NOON is developing a presentation about Onondaga Lake to share with other groups in the community. To invite us to speak to your group, please contact Carol.

Dakota Access Pipeline. The Onondaga Nation and NOON are supporting the Standing Rock Sioux resistance to the Dakota Access Pipeline. The pipeline, which is planned to be 1166 miles long (to run through what is now North and South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois), will carry 570,000 gallons of explosive Bakken crude oil per day. This violates treaties, numerous federal environmental and cultural resource protection laws, and there has been no meaningful consultation with the numerous Indigenous Nations whose land and waters will be crossed. See onondagation.org.



Brandon Lazore signing the new Great Law of Peace mural at LeMoyné Elementary School in Syracuse. Photo: Andy Mager.

DRONE PETITION AT THE STATE FAIR

The New York State Fair claims to be a family friendly space. This is flaunted by the exhibit of the 174th "Attack" Wing of the NY Air National Guard (housed at Syracuse's Hancock Air Base). The Upstate Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars petitioned at the State Fair to urge Governor Cuomo and the Fair Advisory Committee to no longer allow the 174th to display weapons and drones (see petition insert). Geoff Oldfield, Julienne Oldfield, Ed Kinane, Leslie Lawrence, Barbara Humphrey, Dave Kashmer, Carol Baum and Zan

Garrity were at the Fair collecting pages of signatures and handing out leaflets.

The 174th's exhibit is chilling. Children flock to a drone pilot simulator. One person "pilots" the drone; another chooses a target. The "pilot" then pushes a button to release a "missile." A few seconds later the target is destroyed, and the "players" are delighted. Assassination by drone is transformed into a game.

Please join us at the next Upstate regional meeting in Buffalo, Sunday, October 16.



As part of Upstate Drone Action, SPC asked fairgoers to sign a petition, asking the Fair to remove the display of the the 174th Attack Wing at Hancock Air Base. The display promotes drones and invites people to "play" in their drone operator simulator (the goal to blow up a building). Photo: Carol Baum.

SPC CO-SPONSORS THE TRUTH TELLERS SPEAKERS SERIES WITH ARTRAGE

ArtRage Gallery's first show this season is "Finding Your Power," portraits from Robert Shetterly's Americans Who Tell the Truth series. We are thrilled to co-sponsor talks throughout the fall by some of his subjects.

October 2 at 4pm – Frida Berrigan, activist and author of *It Runs in the Family: On Being Raised by Radicals and Growing into Rebellious Motherhood*.

October 6 at 7pm – Mara Sapon-Shevin on "What do you say? Challenging people of all ages to confront oppression."

October 16 at 4pm – Vanessa Johnson's one woman show celebrating the "Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement," Fannie Lou Hamer.

November 1 at 7pm – Screening of the documentary *Brother Outsider*, celebrating the life and work of Civil Rights leader Bayard Rustin.

November 12 at 7pm – Oren Lyons, Faithkeeper of the Onondaga Nation and activist for indigenous rights and environmental justice.

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VOTER DISENFRANCHISEMENT IS A WORKING CLASS ISSUE

By Howie Hawkins

A perennial question about US politics is: Why is there no major working-class political party? An important reason is that working-class people have been intentionally discouraged from voting by election laws passed by the two major political parties that represent corporate elites.

Consequently, the major political parties have not had to appeal to working-class people to win elections. With neither major party speaking up for working-class people, they have had little reason to vote. A self-reinforcing cycle of disenfranchisement in law and politics has thus taken root. American workers vote in far lower proportion than any other democracy on Earth.

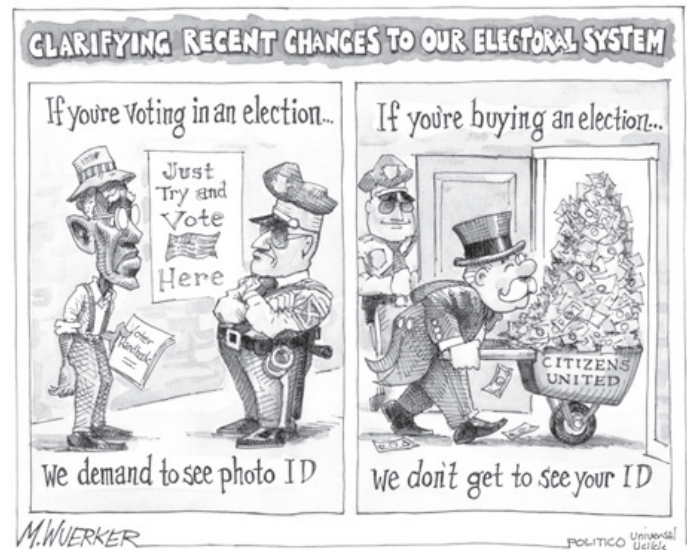
America is currently in the midst of a new wave of disenfranchisement. Since 2000, the number of states requiring voter ID has increased from 14 to 33. A 2013 Supreme Court decision struck down provisions of the 1965 Voting Rights Act that required pre-clearance by the federal government of changes to election laws in jurisdictions that had historically disenfranchised blacks and other people of color. In the wake of that decision, 17 states adopted laws requiring stricter voter ID requirements. Most of these laws require government-issued photo ID, which often requires a birth certificate to obtain. The time and cost of obtaining these documents discourages low-income people from registering to vote.

Republicans have been the driving force behind voter disenfranchisement laws. Although framed as a way to reduce voter fraud, the number of credible incidents of voting under false pretenses is only 31 out of over 1 billion votes cast since 2000. The clear intention of the Republicans is to reduce voting by people of color. Fifty years of white backlash politics by the Republicans have rendered the overwhelming vote of people of color against them. The Republican effort is a rearguard action attempting to maintain political office as the white electorate in the US declines in relation to the people of color electorate.

The federal courts have struck down these laws in Texas, Wisconsin and North Carolina in recent months because they violated the Voting Rights Act. A federal appeals court said the North Carolina law was passed "with almost surgical precision" to disenfranchise African Americans. The US Supreme Court let that ruling stand on September 1 this year.

The political and legal fight to resist and repeal voter disenfranchisement laws continues in the legislatures and the courts. The prospects for continued victories in the courts are good given the precedents of recent court decisions.

But that still leaves the problem that American election laws—before the recent slew of disenfranchisement laws—still create barriers that have kept the working class vote low for more than a century. The Democrats have shown little interest in eliminating these barriers. The post-New Deal Democratic coalition relies on a socially liberal but fiscally conservative



message of equal opportunity in meritocratic competition for increasingly unequal results. But the meritocratic schooling, testing and other processes that sort people out are far from fair and equal, put working-class people at a disadvantage and reproduce the class structure across generations. The Democrats have chosen to rely on corporate funding and priorities and middle class votes, rather than a pro-working class program that would expand the electorate. In recent decades, Jesse Jackson and Bernie Sanders have campaigned as old-fashioned New Deal Democrats to expand the electorate with a pro-working class program. But the party remains firmly in the hands of the corporate New Democrats.

The current wave of disenfranchisement legislation is not the first time that political elites have attempted to reduce voting by working-class people. In response to the growing strength of the class-based biracial populist movement in the late 19th century and the socialist movement in the early 20th century, southern planter and northern business interests sponsored the passage of election laws that disenfranchised almost all black people and the poorer half of white people in the South and much of the immigrant working class in the North.

As the property qualification for voting was progressively eliminated in the antebellum period, the turnout of the voting age population for presidential elections rose steadily until it was consistently around 80 percent in the mid-to-late 19th century. After the passage of election laws that disenfranchised working class voters around the turn of the century, the turnout dropped steadily from 79 percent in 1896 to 49 percent in 1924. Since 1924, the presidential voter turnout has remained between 50 and 60 percent.

continued on next page

Howie Hawkins is a working Teamster at UPS and active in the Green Party.

Disenfranchisement, from previous page

ELECTION 2016

This first wave of disenfranchisement laws included literacy tests, poll taxes, immigrant disenfranchisement, and direct primaries that empowered candidate campaign organizations funded by the wealthy at the expense of party organizations that had organized and mobilized working class voters prior to the direct primary. But perhaps the most consequential change for the long run was the creation of voter registration requirements that required voters to take the initiative to register. Prior to voter-initiated registration, local governments were responsible for registering voters at the precinct level. Almost all democracies in the world make it the government's responsibility to register voters. The uniquely American system of voter-initiated registration reduces the voter rolls considerably, particularly among working class people who tend to move more often and feel less engaged with politics that seem unresponsive to their concerns.

2012 data illustrates an under-registration problem that has persisted since the early 20th century. In 2012, 38 percent of the voting age population of 235 million was not registered to vote, representing 89 million people. 146 million were registered to vote, and 127 million voted. Turnout was 86 percent of registered voters, but only 54 percent of the voting age population. These figures show the crucial importance of voter registration to voter turnout. If people are registered to vote, they are very likely to vote.

So what is to be done about voter disenfranchisement in general and working class voter disenfranchisement in particular? Obviously, the fight against onerous voter ID laws must continue. Restoring the suffrage that resident immigrants tended to have in the 19th century would help. Ending criminal disenfranchisement would also help.

Universal Voter Registration would be the most important reform to include the working class in US elections. The historical data is clear: when people are registered to vote, they are likely to vote. The government should take responsibility for registering voters, which is the international norm.

In the end, however, only a mass-membership party of the left can solve the problem of working class alienation and voter abstention from the two-corporate-party political cartel. A mass-membership party where members are organized into active local chapters and support the party with membership dues can also overcome the problem of working-class voter demobilization caused by the party-disorganizing and wealth-empowering effects of the direct primary. The Socialist Party of America, which ran Eugene Debs as its perennial presidential candidate from 1900 to 1920, was able to maintain its membership party structure and elect hundreds of local, state, and federal officials by operating its party parallel to the primary system as it spread to most states in those years. It can be done again. ☮

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THIRD PARTIES: A CRITICAL PLAYER IN US POLITICS

By Ursula Rozum

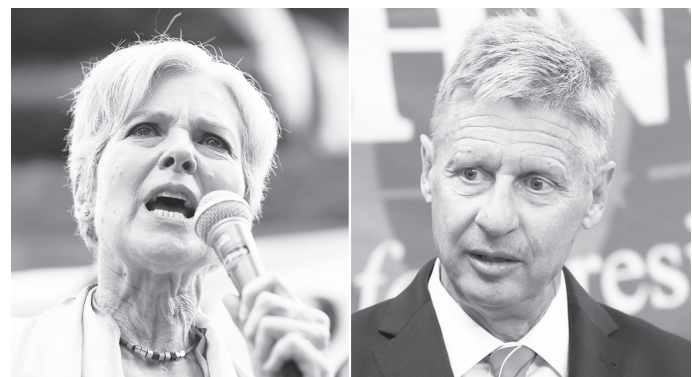
Third parties thrive when the dominant political parties fail to provide solutions to social crises. Throughout US history, insurgent third parties have amplified demands for social change. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the Socialists and the Populist Party advocated for women's suffrage, child labor laws and the notion of a 40-hour work week. The National Woman's Party, formed in 1916, focused on the passage of the national suffrage amendment. Its militant members engaged in direct action at the White House and pressured mainstream politicians to make a national suffrage amendment a national priority until the Nineteenth Amendment passed in 1920. Republican President Abraham Lincoln was elected as a candidate of a third party. Up until 1854, there was no Republican Party. Its origins go back to the anti-slavery Liberty Party and the Free Soil Party. The dominant Democrat and Whig parties were both pro-slavery. By the 1860 election, slavery was the dominant issue facing the country, and Lincoln won with a plurality of the popular vote, 39.8%.

Those curious about the historic role of third parties in US politics and the obstacles we face should read *Third Parties in America* by Dr. Steven J. Rosenstone. Using data from presidential elections between 1840 and 1992, Rosenstone shows the importance of minor parties and independent candidates to social change movements, and outlines the legal and extralegal barriers to their participation and success.

Ballot access laws, which differ from state to state, are the first obstacle to third party candidates. In New York, a party's candidate must receive 50,000 votes for Governor in order to be recognized by the Board of Elections. Once a party has ballot status, candidates can get on the ballot for the general election by collecting signatures from their party's membership, typically about 5% of their party's members in the district they seek to represent. Without ballot access, signature requirements vary by the office being sought. For offices that are voted on statewide—such as President and Governor—an independent nominating petition must be signed by at least fifteen thousand voters (read all about it in NYS Election Law Chapter 6-142).

Another hurdle for third party candidates is access to debates. In the 2016 Presidential race, Green Party candidate Jill Stein and Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson will be on enough state ballots to win the electoral college votes necessary to be elected President. It's not clear, however, whether they will be allowed to participate in televised debates alongside their major party opponents. The League of Women Voters (LWV) sponsored televised Presidential debates until 1984 when the Democratic and Republican national parties came together in a decision to move sponsorship of televised debates under their purview. The League challenged the move, arguing that this would deprive

Ursula was a delegate for Jill Stein to the Green National Convention. She has worked with the Green Party since 2010 when the Green Party won ballot status in New York.



Third party candidates in the 2016 Presidential election race—Green Party Jill Stein (left) and Libertarian Party Gary Johnson.

voters of the chance to see the candidates outside of their controlled campaign environment. In 1987, when the parties announced the creation of the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD), the CPD invited the League to sponsor the last presidential debate of 1988, but placed so many rules on the possible format that the LWV refused to participate. In a press release, Nancy Neuman, then national LWV President, stated that the League had “no intention of becoming an accessory to the hoodwinking of the American public.”

In political science, Duverger's Law holds that plurality-rule elections (such as first past the post) structured within single-member districts tend to favor a two-party system and that proportional representation tends to favor multipartism. So, while US founding documents don't establish our political system as officially “a two party system,” electoral laws and regulations regarding the administration of elections contain significant structural challenges to third parties. Much has been written on the topic (I recommend *Crashing the Party*, the 2002 book by Ralph Nader detailing his experiences running in the 2000 US Presidential election. It is told chronologically, in the first person, and details many of the problems a third party encounters in a two-party system.)

Those who decide to cast a third party vote must endure the virulent criticism of those around them saying their vote is being

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PLATFORM OF THE MOVEMENT FOR BLACK LIVES

Editors' Note: This platform was created by over 50 organizations representing thousands of people, of which the Black Lives Matter network is just one. We highly recommend that our readers read the entire document at <https://policy.m4bl.org/platform>.

END THE WAR ON BLACK PEOPLE

We demand an end to the war against Black people. Since this country's inception there have been named and unnamed wars on our communities. We demand an end to the criminalization, incarceration, and killing of our people. This includes:

1. An immediate end to the criminalization and dehumanization of Black youth across all areas of society including, but not limited to: our nation's justice and education systems, social service agencies, and media and pop culture. This includes an end to zero-tolerance school policies and arrests of students, the removal of police from schools, and the reallocation of funds from police and punitive school discipline practices to restorative services.
2. An end to capital punishment.
3. An end to money bail, mandatory fines, fees, court surcharges and "defendant funded" court proceedings.
4. An end to the use of past criminal history to determine eligibility for housing, education, licenses, voting, loans, employment, and other services and needs.
5. An end to the war on Black immigrants including the repeal of the 1996 crime and immigration bills, an end to all deportations, immigrant detention, and Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) raids, and mandated legal representation in immigration court.
6. An end to the war on Black trans, queer and gender nonconforming people including their addition to anti-discrimination civil rights protections to ensure they have full access to employment, health, housing and education.
7. An end to the mass surveillance of Black communities, and the end to the use of technologies that criminalize and target our communities (including IMSI catchers, drones, body cameras, and predictive policing software).
8. The demilitarization of law enforcement, including law enforcement in schools and on college campuses.
9. An immediate end to the privatization of police, prisons, jails, probation, parole, food, phone and all other criminal justice related services.
10. Until we achieve a world where cages are no longer used against our people we demand an immediate change in conditions and an end to public jails, detention centers, youth facilities and prisons as we know them. This includes the end of solitary confinement, the end of shackling of pregnant people, access to quality healthcare, and effective measures to address the needs of our youth, queer, gender nonconforming and trans families.

REPARATIONS

We demand reparations for past and continuing harms. The government, responsible corporations and other institutions that have profited off of the harm they have inflicted on Black people — from colonialism to slavery through food and housing redlining, mass incarceration, and surveillance — must repair the harm done. This includes:

1. Reparations for the systemic denial of access to high quality educational opportunities in the form of full and free access for all Black people (including undocumented and currently and formerly incarcerated people) to lifetime education including: free access and open admissions to public community colleges and universities, technical education (technology, trade and agricultural), educational support programs, retroactive forgiveness of student loans, and support for lifetime learning programs.
2. Reparations for the continued divestment from, discrimination toward and exploitation of our communities in the form of a guaranteed minimum livable income for all Black people, with clearly articulated corporate regulations.
3. Reparations for the wealth extracted from our communities through environmental racism, slavery, food apartheid, housing discrimination and racialized capitalism in the form of corporate and government reparations focused on healing ongoing physical and mental trauma, and ensuring our access and control of food sources, housing and land.
4. Reparations for the cultural and educational exploitation, erasure, and extraction of our communities in the form of mandated public school curriculums that critically examine the political, economic, and social impacts of colonialism and slavery, and funding to support, build, preserve, and restore cultural assets and sacred sites to ensure the recognition and honoring of our collective struggles and triumphs.
5. Legislation at the federal and state level that requires the United States to acknowledge the lasting impacts of slavery, establish and execute a plan to address those impacts. This includes the immediate passage of H.R.40, the "Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act" or subsequent versions which call for reparations remedies.



#SAYHERNAME

THE

MOVEMENT

FOR BLACK LIVES

INVEST-DIVEST

We demand investments in the education, health and safety of Black people, instead of investments in the criminalizing, caging, and harming of Black people. We want investments in Black communities, determined by Black communities, and divestment from exploitative forces including prisons, fossil fuels, police, surveillance and exploitative corporations. This includes:

1. A reallocation of funds at the federal, state and local level from policing and incarceration (JAG, COPS, VOCA) to long-term safety strategies such as education, local restorative justice services, and employment programs.
2. The retroactive decriminalization, immediate release and record expungement of all drug related offenses and prostitution, and reparations for the devastating impact of the “war on drugs” and criminalization of prostitution, including a reinvestment of the resulting savings and revenue into restorative services, mental health services, job programs and other programs supporting those impacted by the sex and drug trade.
3. Real, meaningful, and equitable universal health care that guarantees: proximity to nearby comprehensive health centers, culturally competent services for all people, specific services for queer, gender nonconforming, and trans people, full bodily autonomy, full reproductive services, mental health services, paid parental leave, and comprehensive quality child and elder care.
4. A constitutional right at the state and federal level to a fully-funded education which includes a clear articulation of the right to: a free education for all, special protections for queer and trans students, wrap around services, social workers, free health services (including reproductive body autonomy), a curriculum that acknowledges and addresses students’ material and cultural needs, physical activity and recreation, high quality food, free daycare, and freedom from unwarranted search, seizure or arrest.
5. A divestment from industrial multinational use of fossil fuels and investment in community-based sustainable energy solutions.
6. A cut in military expenditures and a reallocation of those funds to invest in domestic infrastructure and community well-being.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

We demand economic justice for all and a reconstruction of the economy to ensure Black communities have collective ownership, not merely access. This includes:

1. A progressive restructuring of tax codes at the local, state, and federal levels to ensure a radical and sustainable redistribution of wealth.
2. Federal and state job programs that specifically target the most economically marginalized Black people, and compensation for those involved in the care economy. Job programs must provide a living wage and encourage support for local workers centers, unions, and Black-owned businesses which are accountable to the community.
3. A right to restored land, clean air, clean water and housing and an end to the exploitative privatization of natural resources — including land and water. We seek democratic control over how resources are preserved, used and distributed and do so while honoring and respecting the rights of our Indigenous family.
4. The right for workers to organize in public and private sectors especially in “On Demand Economy” jobs.
5. Restore the Glass-Steagall Act to break up the large banks, and call for the National Credit Union Administration and the US Department of the Treasury to change policies and practices around regulation, reporting and consolidation to allow for the continuation and creation of black banks, small and community development credit unions, insurance companies and other financial institutions.
6. An end to the Trans-Pacific Partnership and a renegotiation of all trade agreements to prioritize the interests of workers and communities.
7. Through tax incentives, loans and other government directed resources, support the development of cooperative or social economy networks to help facilitate trade across and in Black communities globally. All aid in the form of grants, loans or contracts to help facilitate this must go to Black led or Black supported networks and organizations as defined by the communities.

continued on next page

Economic Justice, from previous page

8. Financial support of Black alternative institutions including policy that subsidizes and offers low-interest, interest-free or federally guaranteed low-interest loans to promote the development of cooperatives (food, residential, etc.), land trusts and culturally responsive health infrastructures that serve the collective needs of our communities.
9. Protections for workers in industries that are not appropriately regulated including domestic workers, farm workers, and tipped workers, and for workers—many of whom are Black women and incarcerated people—who have been exploited and remain unprotected. This includes the immediate passage at the Federal and state level of the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights and extension of worker protections to incarcerated people.



POLITICAL POWER

We demand independent Black political power and Black self-determination in all areas of society. We envision a remaking of the current U.S. political system in order to create a real democracy where Black people and all marginalized people can effectively exercise full political power. This includes:

1. An end to the criminalization of Black political activity including the immediate release of all political prisoners and an end to the repression of political parties.
2. Public financing of elections and the end of money controlling politics through ending super PACs and unchecked corporate donations.
3. Election protection, electoral expansion and the right to vote for all people including: full access, guarantees, and protections of the right to vote for all people through universal voter registration, automatic voter registration, pre-registration for 16-year-olds, same day voter registration, voting day holidays, enfranchisement of formerly and presently incarcerated people, local and state resident voting for undocumented people, and a ban on any disenfranchisement laws.
4. Full access to technology including net neutrality and universal access to the internet without discrimination and full representation for all.
5. Protection and increased funding for Black institutions including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's), Black media and cultural, political and social formations. ♯

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A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: DON'T CALL THE POLICE

By Mike Ludwig

Editor's note: This is a reprint of an old article from Truthout.org originally printed in December 2014, but we found it to be currently relevant.

Looking for a New Years resolution? If you haven't already, there's never been a better time to resolve not to call the cops.

This resolution is more than a boycott or a political protest. It's the beginning of a thought process and a dialogue, both internal and external, that challenges us to build new relationships with our friends, family and neighbors. It's a spark in the imagination that leads us to dream about a free world.

For those of us who weren't already aware, the events of 2014 made it clear that the police do more harm than good, especially in communities of color. From the streets of Ferguson, Missouri to Berkley and New York City, people from all walks of life have been loudly resisting the power of police who, all too often, prove themselves to be racist, armed and dangerous. At our rallies, we chant the names of the dead: Mike Brown, Tamir Rice, Eric Garner and countless others.

Some cops just bully people, but others kill, and the justice system lets them get away with it. In 2012, a study by the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement found that police summarily executed more than 313 black people—an average of one every 28 hours.

This is not a new problem. Police routinely target certain people—particularly people of color (especially men) and gender-nonconforming people—for minor crimes such as drug possession or loitering, or for no crime at all, simply stopping them for “driving while black” or “walking while woman.”

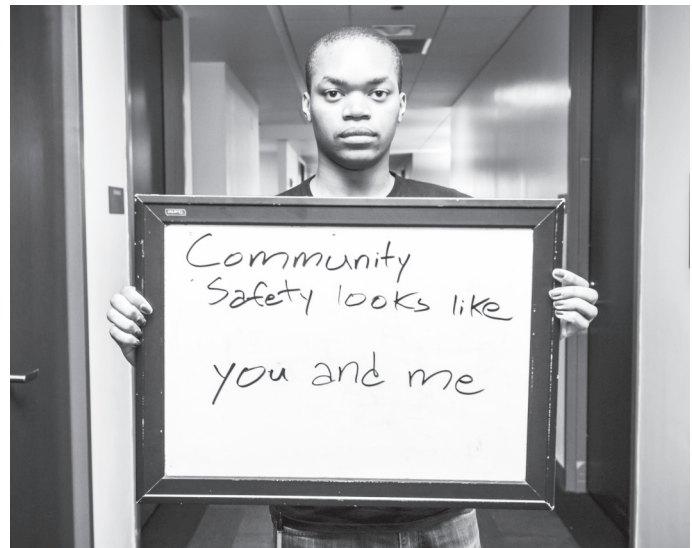
Last year, the American Civil Liberties Union found that blacks were 3.7 times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than whites, despite similar rates of drug use. In some counties, that number reaches 30 times higher.

As a result, people of color and other marginalized people are disproportionately warehoused in our vast prison system, which tears families apart and only exacerbates cycles of poverty, crime and violence.

Police officers are all individuals, and it's impossible to say that they are all bad at their jobs. However, police have all sworn to uphold laws that systemically disenfranchise marginalized and working people for the benefit of the rich and powerful.

Consider Ferguson, where one young man participating in the protests in August told me that local police often harass and even ticket young black men for failing to walk on a sidewalk on a street that doesn't even have sidewalks. If they can't pay that ticket, the court fees add up, and they could end up in jail, separated from their families and livelihoods.

A few days later, the media began citing a report by local public defenders that detailed how racial profiling, along with a local legal system designed to keep people wrapped up in its



Chicago resident participating in the Community Safety Chicago project in May 2015. This project aimed at getting residents to think of safety beyond policing. Photo: Sarah Jane Rhee.

web, fills the coffers of local municipalities in the St. Louis area that pay the wages of the cops who are supposed to protect and serve everyone equally.

This may not be news to you. Perhaps you have already resolved not to call the cops because you are unfairly criminalized by the color of your skin, your personal behavior or your gender presentation. You know from experience that the police are better at escalating than deescalating situations ranging from domestic conflicts to political protests and even the sale of a few loose cigarettes.

If you have not yet made this resolution, consider that not calling the police raises some difficult but important questions. It forces us to consider whom we feel potentially threatened by and why, and how we are defining “safety.” Do we feel unsafe in working-class neighborhoods, or around people with certain styles of dress or colors of skin? What prejudices ground this fear?

Resolving not to call the police inspires us to consider the alternatives. Instead of calling the police to complain about a loud party at your neighbor's house, you could address your neighbors directly with the intent of having a constructive conversation about each other's needs. Talking with our neighbors about taking responsibility for keeping our communities safe and happy helps us learn from each other and establish trust, the first steps toward building relationships that are strong enough to confront more complicated problems such as bullying or domestic violence.

Violence is the most serious challenge. If you feel that your safety is threatened, and the best option to avoid being harmed is calling the police, you should do it. Resolving not to call the

continued on next page

Mike Ludwig is an investigative reporter at Truthout.

Beyond Police, from previous page

police is not a rule, just a way to think outside the box. Rules are for the cops, not for us.

There are proven models for dealing with difficult social issues without the police. One example: Police in cities arrest more people on drug offenses than most other crimes, and a vast majority of all drug arrests are for possession, not sale or manufacturing. The harm reduction movement has effectively implemented many community-based strategies to reduce the harms caused by drug use while empowering drug users and non-drug users alike to work together toward healing and treating addiction.

Throwing people in jail for using drugs causes harm by seriously interrupting their lives, while reinforcing the stigma around drug use that drives people in need of help into the shadows. Harm reduction does the exact opposite.

Across the country and the world, people are using models of “transformative” and “restorative” justice to address offenses such as violence, sexual assault and domestic abuse without involving the police. These models use cooperative processes, with survivors of the offense often directly involved, to repair the harm and trauma caused by the offense, while holding offenders accountable to survivors and working with them to transform their behavior.

Taking responsibility for keeping our communities safe and seeking justice under our own terms is not an easy task. It

may sound radically ideal, like a dream. This dream, however, is already shared by a critical mass of people. It’s a dream of a world without police and prisons, a world where the struggle for true freedom is explicitly connected to our own collective empowerment and mutual compassion.

Keep this world in your heart. Dream beyond the police. ☮

Note: Since the inception of the Black Lives Matter movement, there has been a rigorous national conversation about the role of the police as an institution. This is why the committee felt the need to share this older but still insightful piece. However, there are many other articles which we recommend to our readers on the broad topic of “origins of and alternatives to police.”

“We don’t need nicer cops, we need fewer cops” by Alex S. Vitale

“Alternatives to the police” by Evan Dent, Molly Korab, and Farid Rener

“Policing slaves since the 1,600’s” by Auandaru Nirhu

You can find these articles and many others at Mariame Kaba’s blog: <http://www.usprisonculture.com/blog/2014/12/29/thinking-through-the-end-of-police>.

—Aly Wane, on behalf of the PNL Committee

Third Party Voters, from page 7

wasted or worse. When Susan Sarandon spoke to MSNBC’s Chris Hayes and expressed that she might not be voting for Hillary Clinton in November, critics and Clinton supporters attacked Sarandon for her “privilege.” The attacks ignored the political points Sarandon raised—Clinton’s hawkish foreign policy, militarized policing, and the ruin of the working and middle classes by corporate greed—reasons she was a vocal Bernie Sanders supporter and opposed Clinton. For all the structural challenges facing third parties, perhaps the biggest challenge is breaking through voters’ perception of what is politically possible. In the 2016 election, the national success of the Green Presidential candidate will serve as a litmus test for the degree to which progressives in the US are ready to break up with the two party system and vote for candidates that advocate progressive policies, such as a foreign policy based on human rights, a public sector that guarantees human rights at home for everyone regardless of race or income, and solutions to the climate crisis.

On the 2016 ballot for President, a January 2016 Gallup poll found that nationally, Democratic and Republican party identification is approaching historical lows. According to Gallup’s finding, 42% of those surveyed identify as independents, 29% as Democrats and 26% as Republicans. Let that sink in. The political parties that dominate political institutions at every level of government across the US represent little over half of the population. With Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump proving to be history’s least liked Presidential candidates, 2016 looks like a promising year for third parties.

ELECTION 2016

“It is better to vote for what you want and not get it than to vote for what you don’t want and get it.”

—Eugene V. Debs

Like third parties of the past, the Green Party and its Presidential candidate Jill Stein are surging in popularity largely due to the failure of the corporate-funded parties to address the converging crises of our time—the climate crisis and the economic crisis. On the campaign trail Stein has been visiting the frontlines of the climate justice struggle. In August 2016, she visited Louisiana communities ravaged by the Louisiana flood (the August 11 storm dumped three times as much rain on Louisiana as Hurricane Katrina). Stein is the only national political candidate using her media platform to connect this extreme weather event to climate change. Juxtapose Stein’s Green New Deal agenda of climate jobs and ending fossil fuel extraction to the all-of-the-above energy policy of Hillary Clinton and the Obama administration. The rise in Stein’s popularity, particularly among young voters, should come as no surprise. Third party candidates, like Stein and the Green Party, aren’t in themselves movements. Rather, they offer yet another platform for movements to express our demands, influence public opinion, and force those who hold political power to respond. ☮

Sanders spoke in the distinct agitational rhetorical tradition of US socialists exemplified by his hero, the late Socialist Party presidential candidate Eugene Debs. Sanders' speeches are exercises in agitation, unlike Obama's focus on conciliation or Hillary Clinton's didacticism.

Sanders' success surprised everyone, from Left to Right. With small donation fundraising, averaging \$27 per contribution, a self-described democratic socialist was able to take on the pre-ordained nominee and give her a run for her Wall Street- and Silicon Valley-sourced money. Party insiders who prioritized party loyalty over policy and the will of their base were baffled.

Unions that held member votes on who to endorse in the primary, such as National Nurses United and Communications Workers of America, endorsed Sanders. Unions without membership votes backed Clinton.

But Sanders' message resonated beyond the Democratic Party. In Syracuse, independents and Greens, hitherto unexcited by Democratic candidates, were among the most committed volunteers.

Coordination between the Democratic National Committee, the Clinton campaign, and media, combined with widespread understaffing of polling places, bizarre rules (like the coin tosses to apportion delegates in Iowa), superdelegates, and mysterious voter registration changes such as in Brooklyn, all contributed to Clinton's victory over Sanders. We will never know who would have won a fair primary.

Present

In the wake of Sanders' endorsement of Clinton, the coalition of people he brought together is being tested. Most of the organizations that backed Sanders have now endorsed Clinton. The exceptions, like National Nurses United (NNU), Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) and Socialist Alternative (SAIt), either back no one (NNU and DSA) or back Jill Stein (SAIt).

The same divisions exist among individual Sanders supporters. Many plan to vote for Clinton for fear of Trump. Others plan to vote Green, while a few intend to abstain from the presidential race.

These divisions derive from differences in strategy more than differences on policies. They depend on answers to questions like: Can the Democratic Party be reformed, or at least be a vehicle for insurgent campaigns? Can a third party become a major party (Abe Lincoln was the last time)? Is the difference between Clinton and Trump big enough (and Trump's chances good enough?) to put a hold on working to break the two-party stranglehold that created both bad options?

I believe the answers are uncertain enough not to let them turn us against each other.

Trump must be defeated. Oppressed peoples, from undocumented immigrants to Muslims and all people of color, are endangered by both Trump and Clinton, but most would argue more so by Trump. In addition to the proto-fascist horrors he emboldens, the Left does better defining itself against liberals in power than against the Right in power. When the Right is in power ideological

confusion about the difference between Left and liberal undermines the growth of a distinct Left base, from which a new Left party might form or an existing Left party might grow. Yet opposition to the horrors of Trump cannot be allowed to legitimize neoliberalism, interventionism and other Clinton policies. We cannot betray the social movements that created the opportunity for the Sanders campaign to go so far by selling them out for Clinton.

Most non-elites know the photo-op displays of loyalty and unity behind a coronated candidate at the Democratic National Convention are a sham and not real democratic process. We must reject the anti-democratic processes in the Democratic and Republican Parties. If Trump is the only one pointing out the sham (with his own sham "straight talk"), then people who know it's empty will turn to Trump and the Right. *This is why we must dissent from the erosion of democracy and call out the bullshit. Otherwise we cede that to Trump and future Trumps and, if anything, increase Trump's chances of winning.*

Future

Sanders is forming multiple organizations to run and support "progressive" candidates within the Democratic Party. His own path, dependent on both Vermont's unusual election laws that make independents and third parties viable and also his decades-long experience as an independent in Congress, will not be replicated. No one now in the Democratic Party candidate pipeline calls themselves a democratic socialist or has as strong a history decrying the rightward direction of the party. Any future Sanders-like Democratic candidates are likely only just now considering a run for local office.

The legacy of the Sanders campaign will not be a single effort. Leftists working within and outside the Democratic Party have an odd synergy. Since the Sanders campaign started, new registrations are up for both the Green Party and DSA (who pursue an inside-outside strategy with the Democrats of backing Left candidates within any party).

Now let us gird ourselves for the fights *after* November—learn political skills, educate each other on the policies we need, build (and join) independent organizations and media, and become accustomed to practicing solidarity among all exploited and oppressed people.

No matter who the next president is, whether it's a neoliberal warhawk or a proto-fascist ham, allow "no honeymoon." We must oppose what they represent immediately on the day of the inauguration and set the tone for the next four years on our terms. No tolerance for undemocratic neoliberalism, deportations and military interventions; no tolerance for restoring the old racial, ability, sexual, and gender hierarchies and hateful fear of difference. Enough! ☮

Brian was an organizer with Syracuse 4 Sanders and a Sanders pledged delegate to the DNC. In August he joined SPC's staff collective and, unrelatedly, joined Democratic Socialists of America.

SPC, from page 4

GOODBYE PEACE COUNCIL

It's my second summer here at SPC interning, and, well fed with strawberry popsicles from Ursula, I say goodbye to SPC. I started in the spring of 2015, as the anti-war research and outreach intern, but over time I eventually created my own internship, a combination of organizing and fundraising and media advisories. I'm not ready to say goodbye to the Peace Council yet, not ready to say goodbye to Brian, who used to intern with me, or to Ursula who has become a mentor, or to Carol who always remembers emotional check-ins, or to Maizy Ludden, the Bikes 4 Peace and NOON intern who already left. But I am ready to take the support, knowledge and friendships I've gained back to school and wherever else I end up. And good luck to the fall interns, and any future interns, who will find a home base at SPC the way I did.

—Katie Mouradian

URBAN JOBS TASK FORCE

A plan advocated by the Urban Jobs Task Force for two years has been adopted by the Joint Construction School Board, chaired by Mayor Stephanie Miner. It will ensure that 20% of workers on a \$300M NYS-funded school renovation project must be racial minorities, 20% must be minority and women-owned businesses, and 20% must be city residents. A goal of UJTF is to open up the building trades, which are almost exclusively white, to non-whites. Dozens of trade unions will hire workers who take part in trainings run by the program. SPC is a member organization of UJTF.

PLOWSHARES CRAFTSFAIR DECEMBER 3-4

As fall approaches, we start looking forward to the 46th Annual Plowshares Craftsfair and Peace Festival, the first weekend in December. Plowshares, held at Nottingham High School, features over 120 local craftspeople and organizations, good food, entertainment and warm community spirit. It's not too early to find items to donate for the Plowshares Raffle or the Silent Auction. Contact Carol to contribute. Don't forget to save your holiday shopping for the first weekend in December—see you then!



The intrepid Ursula Rozum speaking at the Freedom to Boycott demonstration in Albany's capitol building on last June 15. Photo: Carol Baum.

THANKS, URSULA!

Staff organizer extraordinaire Ursula Rozum has just left SPC to become a full-time organizer with The Campaign for NY Health, whose goal is to pass the NY Health Act for universal health care in New York State. We're thrilled that with Ursula there, universal health care organizing will go up a notch, but we're very sorry to see her leave SPC's staff.

Ursula started with SPC in December, 2010 as volunteer coordinator. Ursula's unbounded enthusiasm, love of life, fearlessness and genuine interest in people made her a perfect fit. She has organized with Nuclear Free World, Justice for Palestine and Bikes for Peace (where she was first introduced to SPC), as well as being our fundraising maven, membership coordinator, social media queen and all around connector of groups and people.

Ursula's passion for the environment, Latin America, organically grown food and the anti-corporatization of the US (and the world) had her organizing many shorter-term campaigns. As a political analyst, she often inundated the *Peace Newsletter* editors with ideas, and as a strategic thinker, she challenged SPC issue committees to reconsider some of their approaches. Many of the well-designed flyers and leaflets coming out of the office were due to Ursula's creativity, and her love of "doing-it-yourself" had us hand printing t-shirts.

We're going to deeply miss Ursula and the great spirit she brings to everything she does and everyone she meets. But she's not leaving SPC as a member, just changing the focus of her organizing. We look forward to helping her ease into a new role at SPC.

NUCLEAR FREE WORLD

This summer, the Nuclear Free World Committee organized the commemoration of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. On August 6, Hiroshima Day, 40 people attended a Peace Picnic at Thornden Park Lily Pond. On Tuesday August 9, 50 people marched with SPC in the annual procession. Thank you to Kayo Green and Rae Kramer for leading the reflection to conclude

the march. In the coming months, the committee will lobby Congressional representatives and candidates to oppose increases in nuclear weapons spending and to support the Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditures (SANE) Act, legislation that will cut \$100 billion over the next decade. Contact Diane, drswords@gmail.com.

WELCOME TO BRIAN

SPC is delighted to welcome Brian Escobar to SPC's staff collective. He brings previous experience as an SPC activist, having first interned with SPC in early 2015. His initial focus was anti-corporate organizing and education; later he became a mainstay of the *PNL* editorial committee. In the last year he has helped challenge SPC to become a more consciously anti-racist organization, supporting SPC's Anti-Racism and White Privilege Study Group, and the Poverty and Segregation in Syracuse Study Group.

Brian is a brilliant thinker and analyst. He understands systemic oppression from both an intellectual and emotional viewpoint and works carefully against it. This summer Brian was a Sanders delegate to the Democratic National Convention—be sure to read his article on the cover.

STREET HEAT

At least monthly since 2010 we have been demonstrating outside Hancock Air Base to call for an end to the illegal and immoral killing of human beings by the weaponized Reaper drone. In calling for an end to the militarism dominating US foreign policy, we want Hancock base personnel to rethink their role in that killing machine and to remind the public of all the killing in our name. Please join us as often as you can. Contact Ann or Ed, 315-478-4571.

Tuesdays: 4:15-5 pm

Sept. 27 – Adams and Almond (*Rte. 81*)

Oct. 4 – Hancock Air Base entrance (*E. Molloy Rd., btw Thompson & Townline Rds.*)

Oct. 11 – Adams and Almond (*Rte. 81*)

Oct. 18 – Hancock Air Base entrance

Oct. 25 – Adams and Almond (*Rte. 81*)

Saturdays: 9-9:45 am

Regional Market main entrance (*Park St.*)

5+ WAYS TO GET ACTIVE WITH SPC RIGHT NOW

Join a community of activists dedicated to peace and social justice! There are so many ways to connect—both through the issues we're focused on and the "business" of running an organization. Here are but a few (visit SPC's website for more):

- **Put events up on the SPC website (we'll teach you)**
- **Help in the office—with data entry, mailings, phoning**
- **Join SPC's info tabling team**
- **Be on call for making signs**
- **Join the lobbying effort to oppose more expenditures on nuclear weapons**
- **Organize calendar items for the Peace Newsletter** ☮



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OCTOBER 1

2



ORGANIZE!

Call in day to Cuomo to support geo-thermal tax credit bill. Call 518-474-8390. More info at ny-geo.org.

Rally in Support of Low Wage Workers. Noon, Johnson Park, Liverpool. NYS Labor-Religion Coalition & other groups.

Friends of Dorothy Dinner: 5-7pm. Harrison Center, 1342 Lancaster Ave. Sliding scale donation.

CNV Veterans For Peace Mtg. 6pm. daveekash@gmail.com. "Praise Your Voice" Singing Workshop. 7-9pm. Grace Church, 819 Madison St. Syr. Community Choir, 428-8151. FREE.

Opening reception, "Two Sides of James Ransome: Known and Unknown." 6pm. CFAC, 805 E. Genesee St. 442-2230. Film: "The Man Who Saw Too Much". 7pm. Joyce Heiggenhan Auditorium, Newhouse 3. SU. FREE. 9/29-10/1. Syr. Univ. Human Rights Film Festival. Syracuse University. suhrffsyr.edu. FREE.

"Rewiring Place: Community Mapping of the Onon. Lake Watershed", speak w/ the artists: 6-8pm. Ská•nohñ Center, 6680 Onondaga Lake Pkwy, Liverpool. 453-6767. Film: "Trick or Treaty?". 7pm. Sherman Auditorium, Shaffer Art Bldg., SU. Resurgence of indigenous rights movement in Canada. FREE.

Abernaki filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin on filmmaking, art and activism. 11am. Ská•nohñ Center, 6680 Onondaga Lake Pkwy, Liverpool. 453-6767. FREE. Ramsey Clark Documentary. 7pm. ArtRage. 218-5711. \$15 suggested donation.

Truth Tellers Speakers Series, Frida Bergan. 4pm. ArtRage, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. FREE. ★ SPC co-sponsor.

3
ACTS' Pre-K Expansion Task Force. 475-9954 x231. Jowonio School, 3049 E. Genesee St.

4
★ **EVERY TUES. Street Heat** 4:15-5pm, 10/4 & 10/18 Hancock Air Base; 9/27, 10/11, & 10/25 Adams & Almond (Rte. 81).

EVERY TUES. Rough Times Live (Media Unit). 8pm. Time Warner 98, 478-JUNIT.

5
Film: "Disruption: Climate Change". 6:30pm. ArtRage, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. FREE. EVERY WED. Community Choir Rehearsal. 7-9pm. Grace Church, 819 Madison St. 428-8151.

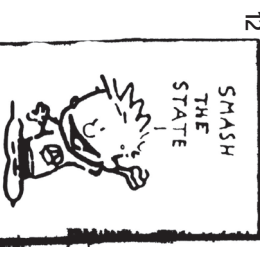
6
Truth Tellers Speakers Series, Mara Sapon-Shevin. 7pm. ArtRage, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. FREE. ★ SPC co-sponsor.

7
10/7-10/10. SOA Watch Converges at the Border. Nogales, Arizona/ Sonora. soaworg. Crystal Bowl Concert, Healing Meditation. 7pm. Women's Info, 601 Allen St. Donation.

8
Haudenosaunee Wooden Stick Festival. 10-4pm. Ská•nohñ Ctr., 6680 Onondaga Lake Pkwy, Liverpool. 443-3861. FREE. Second Sat. Series. Ruddy Well Band. 8pm. Westcott Comm. Ctr., 826 Euclid Ave. 478-8634. \$12.

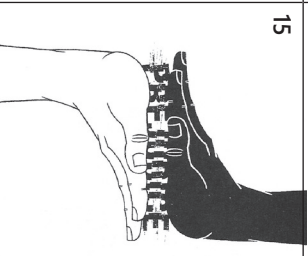


10
11
★ **NOON Steering Comm Mtg.** 7pm. 2013 E. Genesee St., 2nd Floor. Carol, 472-5478.



13
★ **Nuclear Free World Mtg.** 5:30 potluck, 6pm mtg. 114 Milltor Ave. Diane, 391-4484.

14
Last day to register to vote in upcoming election. Alliance for Retired Americans. 10am. 4983 Brittonfield Pkwy #203. E. Syr. Jerry, 243-9823. "Project Unspeakable". 7:30pm. ArtRage, 505 Hawley Ave. 218-5711. projectunspeakable.com, \$5-10 sliding scale.



16
Truth Tellers Speakers Series, Vanessa Johnson's show on Fannie Lou Hamer. 4pm. ArtRage. 218-5711. FREE. ★ SPC co-sponsor.

17
"How to Help Animals Used in Labs" w/ Amber Coon. 7pm. Onondaga Free Library, 4840 W. Seneca Tnkp. People for Animal Rights, 488-PURR. FREE. SUN Westside Coalition. 7pm. Brown Memorial, 228 Davis St. 476-7475.

18
★ **SPC Steering Comm. Mtg.** 6:30-9pm. Open to SPC supporters. Bian, 472-5478. Community Participation Working Grp. Mtg. (Onondaga Lake). Jack for time & place, 424-1454.

19
Shaleshock CNY Mtg. 6:15pm. Onondaga Free Library, 4840 W. Seneca Tnkp. Jack, 424-1454. Skunk City Neighborhood Association. 6:30pm. Mundy Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 476-7475.



22
★ **EVERY SAT. Street Heat** 9-9:45am. Regional Market Main Entrance. Ann or Ed 478-4571. EVERY SAT. National Action Network meeting. 10am. Fountain of Life Church, 700 South Ave.

23
Democratic Socialism: Revolution from Below-Before & After. Bernie. 3pm. ArtRage. Eastside Neighbors Lecture Series, Buzz Roberts on Syr. Water Supply. Threats from Invasive Aquatic Species. 3pm. Westcott Comm. Ctr. 478-8634. \$5 students, \$10 adults.

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SEPT/OCT 2016

26
Friends of Dorothy Dinner: 5-7pm. Harrison Center, 1342 Lancaster Ave. Sliding scale donation \$0-whatever. Artist Talk: James Ransome. 7pm. Community Folk Art Center, 805 E. Genesee St. 442-2230.

27
EVERY THURS. Talk to a Lawyer. 6-8pm. Westcott Community Center, 2nd Flr. 826 Euclid Ave. 471-3409. FREE.



29
★ **SPC's 81st Annual Birthday Dinner** w/ Melea Benjamin. 6:30pm. Balweue Hts. United Methodist Church, 2112 S. Geddes St. 472-5478, see p.3. \$15-75 sliding scale.

30
Events marked with a ★ are Syracuse Peace Council related events. peacecouncil.net 315-472-5478