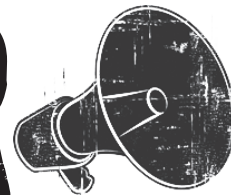


# PEACE NEWSLETTER



CNY VOICES FOR PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE • #859 MARCH/APRIL 2018 • PEACECOUNCIL.NET • FREE



## OVERCOMING RACE AND CLASS DIVIDES

By Barbara Smith

*Barbara is the featured speaker at the Peace Council's 82nd Birthday Dinner on March 24 (see page 3). She will speak on "What's Race Got to do With It: Making All Our Movements a Threat to White Supremacy." If you aren't able to come to the dinner, you're welcome to come just for the talk.*

*She recently participated in a panel discussion on coalition building and the role of identity politics in the US. What follows is her response. To read a transcript of the entire conversation, including the other panelists, see [www.cuslar.org/2017/12/28/panel-discussion-overcoming-race-and-class-divides](http://www.cuslar.org/2017/12/28/panel-discussion-overcoming-race-and-class-divides).*

I was asked to speak about identity politics and the history of the Combahee River Collective. I'm also going to discuss where the concept of intersectionality actually came from, because most people do not know.

The Combahee River Collective was a small group of Black feminists. Usually we were about ten or less, who came together in the mid 1970s in Boston, to do Black feminist organizing at a time when even the white women's movement was not mainstream and was not that well accepted. But certainly, organizing as women of color—and many of us were also lesbians—we were *persona non grata*. We were marginalized, demonized, vilified—you name it. But we persisted.

*continued on page 12*

## In This Issue

- Overcoming Race and Class Divides** . . . . . Cover  
BARBARA SMITH
- SPC in Action** . . . . . 3  
*compiled by* CAROL BAUM
- Healthcare for All: Building Power Through Stories** . . . 5  
BRIAN ESCOBAR
- A Taste of #Metoo** . . . . . 7  
SAMANTHA MCCORMICK
- Gene Sharp Taught Us How and Why Nonviolence Works** . . . . . 8  
ANN TIFFANY AND ED KINANE
- A Manual for a New Era of Direct Action** . . . . . 9  
GEORGE LAKEY
- Two Minutes to Midnight: Preventing a US/North Korea Nuclear Disaster** . . . . . 10  
DIANE SWORDS
- Fundamental Principles of the Poor Peoples Campaign** . 13  
WWW.POORPEOPLES CAMPAIGN.ORG
- Community Calendar** . . . . . 16



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## SPC 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 stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

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

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## 1,000 MORE SIGNATURES TO SCHUMER

The Nuclear Free World Committee has collected 1,000 more signatures for our petition urging legislators to co-sponsor the "Restricting First Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2017." Last October we submitted our first 1,000 signatures and successfully encouraged Sen. Gillibrand's co-sponsorship of the bill. This February we hit 2,000 as we delivered our second set of 1,000 signatures to Senator Schumer's staff, emphasizing the need for him to take leadership on this issue. We will keep up the pressure on Schumer and Rep. Katko to sign on to this.



Nuclear Free World Committee members (l to r: Donna Mühs-McCarten, Margrit Diehl, Diane Swords and Rick Olanoff) with Joe Nehme, Sen. Schumer's regional director, holding the thousand signatures. Photo: Paige Kelly

Our annual Youth Peace Award will be held on **Tuesday, June 5**. We encourage high school students involved in peace and justice activities to apply for the award at [www.peacecouncil.net/youthpeaceaward](http://www.peacecouncil.net/youthpeaceaward).

—Michaela Czerkies

## SPC'S BIRTHDAY DINNER MARCH 24



Happy Birthday SPC! Celebrate 82 years of persistence in resistance to war and injustice on **Saturday, March 24** at University Methodist Church (1085 E. Genesee St., Syracuse) with dinner and a talk by black feminist activist Barbara Smith. The doors open at 5:30pm, with dinner at 6pm and the program at 7:30pm. The vegetarian (with vegan option) meal will be prepared by the Syracuse Cultural Workers cooks. Dinner and program is \$15-\$50 sliding scale (more if you can, less if you can't), with \$30 as the suggested donation. You're welcome to come to the program only—free, donations appreciated. For more details and to RSVP, go to [www.peacecouncil.net](http://www.peacecouncil.net).

Barbara will speak on "What's Race Got to do With It: Making All Our Movements a Threat to White Supremacy." She says, "The majority of people living in the US are under attack by the present administration.... the right wing has an intersectional perspective about who they hold in contempt and who they wish to obliterate. The counter to that is a multi-issued coalition politics to fight and challenge all these attacks that are coming from our government." See the cover article to learn more.

—Diane Swords

## NONVIOLENT DIRECT ACTION TRAININGS

As local movements continue organizing in defense of our communities, many groups have expressed interest in being trained in civil disobedience and nonviolent direct action. In response, SPC is organizing multiple free trainings in Syracuse. The first was held in late February at the Workers Center. Additional trainings will be held on **April 7** at Bishop Harrison Center (1342 Lancaster Ave.) and **May 5** (at Lutheran

Atonement Church (116 W. Glen Ave.). These trainings are also being coordinated with statewide organizing efforts by the Poor People's Campaign, which plans to hold a direct action in Albany on May 14. We expect training sessions to fill up; to register, please contact the office or visit [www.peacecouncil.net](http://www.peacecouncil.net). Learn more about nonviolent direct action on page 9.

—Jessica Maxwell

*continued on next page*

SPC, continued from page 3

## FIVE MORE WAYS TO BE PART OF SPC

*(A continuing series)*

**Help with our Birthday Dinner on March 24.** The week before the dinner, help put together the written program, do last minute outreach and publicity, make signs, and assist with many odds and ends. Please volunteer for a task the day of the event: set up, clean up, staffing the door, hosting a table, etc.

**Come to a Spring Street Heat.** We start our full schedule in April (twice a week). Fellow Street Heaters are friendly, the weather will be nicer, and why not literally take a stand? Try it out. See page 15.

**Provide food for nonviolence trainings.** The trainings are seven hours long, so lunch and snacks are definitely needed. Also, consider attending a training yourself.

**Make signs for demonstrations.** If you can draw neatly, we need you as a sign-maker. Our signs see all sorts of weather, and need to be renewed and replaced regularly. We'll supply the materials.

**Help out at the office an hour a week.** There are many office tasks. We'll provide coffee or tea, as well as gratitude.

Contact Carol to learn more.

—Carol Baum

## BWAM SERIES CONTINUES

The Beyond War and Militarism (BWaM) Committee's alternative educational series just had its fifth monthly event. Syracuse University professor George Kallander provided valuable background information on Korea, emphasizing the peninsula's history and its role in the region and beyond.

The next program is "Puerto Rico: The World's Oldest Colony" on **Monday March 19 at 7pm** at ArtRage Gallery (505 Hawley Ave.). It features Julio Urrutia, attorney and Puerto Rican activist.

BWaM monthly events are free, open to the public and accessible. We welcome suggestions of speakers or topics for future presentations.

—Barry Gordon

## JUSTICE FOR PALESTINE

The Justice for Palestine Committee is supporting a groundbreaking bill in Congress that would prevent US aid to Israel from being used to detain, interrogate, ill-treat, and imprison Palestinian children in



Janna Ayyad has been called the youngest journalist in Palestine. She was nine when the film was made. Photo: [www.radianceofresistance.com](http://www.radianceofresistance.com)

its separate-and-unequal military courts. "The Promoting Human Rights by Ending Israeli Military Detention of Palestinian Children Act" introduced by Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN) is the first bill

of its kind focused specifically on Palestinian human rights. Help build support for this bill by circulating petitions and setting up presentations for us.

On Wednesday, March 21 at 7pm at ArtRage Gallery (505 Hawley Ave., Syracuse), we are hosting an event with the International Solidarity Movement (ISM), a group bringing volunteers from around the world to stand with Palestinians in nonviolent resistance.

We will screen *Radiance of Resistance*, a film featuring Ahed Tamimi, the teenage activist held in Israeli prison since December, and her cousin, Janna Ayyad. We'll also hear from Rana Nazzal, a Palestinian member of ISM who has trained and provided orientation to ISM volunteers in Palestine. Rana will talk about ways to support the nonviolent Palestinian resistance, and how to volunteer in Palestine with the International Solidarity Movement. Refreshments will be served. The event is free; donations welcome.

—Ursula Rozum

## COALITION'S FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

One of the largest and most active committees of CNY Solidarity Coalition is the Federal Legislative Action Committee, which focuses on engaging with (and protesting, when necessary) our elected representatives in Congress. Every Monday over 2,000 supporters receive the weekly Action Alert with a list of recommended calls, letters, demonstrations, and upcoming events. (Sign up at [www.cnysolidarity.org](http://www.cnysolidarity.org).) Together with several other grassroots organizations, we held multiple protests during the February congressional recess outside Katko's Syracuse office. While Katko claimed that he is always happy to meet with concerned constituents (including protesters at his office!), we were once again unable to see him.

Currently we're working with Swing Left, Indivisible

Syracuse, Flip NY24, and others to have weekly anti-Katko protests **every Saturday morning at 11am** on the sidewalk outside Wegmans in Dewitt. They are meant to be quick, convenient, fun and attention-grabbing so we'll be rolling out different props, signs, music, etc. on different weeks. To help, just join us there.

—Tom Keck



Photo: NY Solidarity on flicker. See [www.cnysolidarity.org](http://www.cnysolidarity.org)

continued on page 14

# HEALTHCARE FOR ALL: BUILDING POWER THROUGH STORIES

by Brian Escobar



Earlier today I went to the dentist to fix a cracked tooth. When I arrived the receptionist called me over to tell me their system shows that my dental insurance had been terminated. Over the course of a long phone call the insurance company zigzagged four times between saying I had insurance or I didn't, that they had an error in their system, and that my dental insurance was terminated at the end of the 2017. I received letters in November indicating that my dental insurance would continue in 2018 as I made my payments. I received another letter in February saying that I needed to reauthorize my automated payments but that I was covered until the end of the month because I had autopaid two months ahead the previous year. In the end, the company said they were wrong to charge me for the last few months because I hadn't been on their plan since December, and they would reimburse me.

Now that I need my dental insurance to prevent further damage to my tooth, it isn't here because the insurance company bungled my case between what sounds like multiple unsynched databases, while having charged me all along and sending multiple letters indicating I had coverage. According to the receptionist, this happens all the time.

It sounded familiar to me too. For the last half year volunteers with the Campaign for New York Health (CNYH) have been talking to people all over New York about their experiences with the healthcare system. CNYH is a coalition of groups advocating for the New York Health Act (A4738/S4840), which would make New York the first state in the country to have a universal single-payer

*Brian is a member of Syracuse DSA (Democratic Socialists of America). You can find him on Twitter at @movementdelegat.*

healthcare system. The bill has passed the State Assembly three times and is close to the necessary votes in the State Senate, although Governor Cuomo has not indicated whether he supports it.

In the course of our conversations, we hear stories of delayed or abandoned treatment and resulting complications due to costs, discrimination by age, race, immigration status, and veteran status. Dental and mental health care are frequent problems. One mother told me she had to choose paying for her daughter's needed treatments over paying her rent. The stories mount up.

While I have done outreach around many issues, outreach about healthcare has been the easiest. At "Can I ask you some questions about your experiences with the healthcare system?" many respond, "Ugh. You don't want to hear what I have to say about healthcare." To which I respond, "Yes, I do." And then they passionately tell their stories. A few people at first

had to make horrifying choices or suffer complications from untreated conditions due to inadequate health insurance. It can be difficult to step outside what you know you have and think about what you don't have. But it is necessary to acknowledge the absurdity and injustices in our system. Through conversations we bond over facing many of the same obstacles.

Our conversations end with questions like, "Do you believe healthcare is a human right?" and "What do you think of the idea of a universal health care system?" After a moment for thought, most people come back with a firm, "Yes. I believe that is the right system."

The survey is part data-gathering, part spreading the word, and part movement-building. We believe that the best strategy for winning universal health care is building a chorus of many voices, from all of us in the working class and the disenfranchised, of every race, ability, immigration status, gender, and sex. We ask people if



(Left to right) Dr. Dick Weiskopf, RN Katie Reed, Ursula Rozum and Jerry Lotierzo at an Albany healthcare lobby day and rally in 2016. Photo: Barbara Harrison

say their experiences have been good. But after answering a series of questions about everything from discrimination in the system, costs for vision, dental, and mental health, and more, they find themselves recalling instances when they

they wish to share their voices and their stories.

Our own stories and those we've heard confirm that healthcare touches on many facets of our society—paid and unpaid

*continued next page*

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**Healthcare**, continued from previous page

work, family, stress, markets and profit. This puts healthcare-for-all at the center of our vision for the world. The most recent group to join the Campaign for NY Health in CNY is the new Syracuse local chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), which I belong to. Syracuse DSA members are talking to people at a local health clinic and a local church's weekly free dinner. DSA has identified healthcare-for-all as our top national priority, and Syracuse DSA believes that winning universal health care in NYS is the best way we can contribute to the nationwide movement.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was a tremendous achievement because it ended the inhuman practice of refusing to insure people based on pre-existing conditions, and expanded Medicaid to people who previously didn't qualify, including myself in 2014. After five years without health insurance, I remember thinking, "One of my human rights is now met on some level." The ACA *has* successfully expanded healthcare coverage. But many people still don't have coverage, disproportionately people of color.

The ACA retains the central role insurance corporations play in health care, as intermediaries extracting profit while not performing any necessary role, which is why our healthcare system is among the most inefficient and expensive in the world. Many people we talk to describe lack of choice of providers who accept their insurance and few openings for new patients among those who do. The extra layers of profit-driven bureaucracy between healthcare providers and recipients increase the chance for bungles, as I experienced today, instead of facilitating care when we need it.

We believe providing healthcare is a basic function of society and that the healthcare system must be shaped by those working within it and those it serves. Life, liberty and pursuit of happiness are all dependent on and supported by quality healthcare. We believe freedom cannot be achieved if people cannot get the healthcare they need. The NY Health Act grants us the freedom to choose and access healthcare providers.

One survey question we ask is whether someone in their family has ever stayed in a job only for the health insurance. Many answer yes. When people are dependent on an employer for their family's healthcare, it only increases the employer's power to abuse and exploit their employees, especially when regular treatment is needed. National DSA's second priority is building the power of labor; removing this shackle chaining workers to employers does that.

Similarly, when healthcare is provided through a spouse's job, it can trap a person in an abusive relationship. DSA wants to win universal healthcare because empowerment, freedom and democracy in the workplace, the home and society at large are at the heart of our values.

Do you believe healthcare is a human right?

If you do, we appeal to you to share your story with us by reaching out to [http://nyhcampaign.org/tell\\_your\\_story](http://nyhcampaign.org/tell_your_story); join our outreach efforts to build the movement; call your NY State Senator; and come to Albany on Tuesday, June 5 for the statewide Day of Action for New York Health. ☮



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# A TASTE OF #METOO

by Samantha McCormick

With the #metoo movement so much in the news, it has become hard to overlook victims of sexual assault. As high profile sexual predators lose their jobs and reputations, it's important to recognize that the issue of sexual assault and harassment is prevalent in our own communities, and not just on the TV. Survivors of sexual assault and harassment can also be seen at your local bar, pizza place, or even your family diner.

Restaurant servers have always dealt with sexual harassment from customers, but in our culture, we seem to find this exchange almost acceptable with the idea of tip wages. Working in a restaurant for tip wages can at times feel like unwanted touching or suggestive comments are a price to pay for making a living. The #metoo movement is helping to highlight this injustice, along with an intersectional analysis that it is the marginalized populations whose suffering most often goes unnoticed.

I spoke with Vika Tubolino, a server at a local restaurant. When asked if she had been harassed at this restaurant, her response was, "Of course, a number of times." She went on to talk about people commenting on her outfits, which made her feel uncomfortable. When asked if she told anyone about it, she said "No, I was in fear that I would not be believed." This is sadly a very common answer with a number of victims who end up staying silent.

This is a pattern also seen with another server, Kristen Cerio, who has also been sexually harassed at multiple restaurant jobs. Many of the customers' comments were directed towards the fact that she is a lesbian. She said "The most recent one was a dirty old man talking about the holes in my ears, and telling me he could fit his penis in them, and then he proceeded to harass me." Cerio is thankfully also a SAFE Bars trainer for Vera House and she has been trained on how to handle situations like this.

I myself can relate to this issue. I have been a server for seven years, and just like Cerio, I had my share of harassment for being gay. I have been told by workers in restaurants I am too pretty to be gay, and maybe I just need a good man in my life to change

*Samantha is a recent English and Creative Writing graduate from Le Moyne College who writes poems and same-sex fiction.*

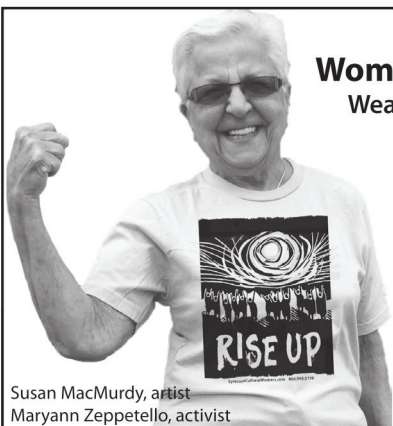
me. I have been verbally harassed, felt up, grabbed—sometimes all three on the same night.

Vera House is and has been addressing the issue of sexual harassment and assault as well. Chris Kosakowski, an educator from Vera house, has seen a spike in survivors coming forward since the #metoo movement went mainstream. He also had this opinion on the movement itself: "I never thought that it would last this long, but I'm so happy it did." Kosakowski also wanted people to know Vera House is here for you. If you are in crisis, you can call their hotline at 315-468-3260. Their office number: 315-425-0818.

It appears that no matter what background a server comes from, they still have to work every day with comments and unwanted touches. The bright side is that survivors do have a safe place to go. Vera House has a 24-hour hotline, and anyone can call to get into therapy. It might be a hard road to drive down, but it is important for everyone to know that they are not alone in this. There are people all around to help. You are not alone. ♡



Photo: Mihai Surdu at Unsplash



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# GENE SHARP TAUGHT US HOW AND WHY NONVIOLENCE WORKS

by Ann Tiffany and Ed Kinane

Activist, author and scholar Gene Sharp died this past January 28. Inspired by Gandhi and deeply informed by history, Sharp (b.1928) founded the Albert Einstein Institution in Boston. Back in the '80s, Ed plowed through Sharp's three-volume, 900-page, *The Politics of Nonviolent Action* (Porter Sargent, 1973).

The tome pivots on Sharp's "198 Methods of Nonviolent Action," for toppling dictators and enlarging liberation. Widely reprinted, the systematic (though somewhat redundant) list examines methods that over the centuries had been successfully used at least one time or another across many cultures.

These methods apply not only to regime change, but also to other causes. Grassroots groups we've been a part of have used dozens of them. Many would be familiar to *Peace Newsletter* readers. For all its breadth, that iconic list still remains, as if in amber, at 198 items. Activists in this age of social media could now cite additional tactics.

Sharp wrote many books. His intellectually exciting *Making Europe Unconquerable* (Harper & Row, 1985) is highly practical. It draws on nonviolent tactics used by the Resistance during the Nazi invasions. At 93 pages, Sharp's more theoretical *From Dictatorship to Democracy: a Conceptual Framework for Liberation* (Bangkok, 1993) is Sharp's most impactful work. It is downloadable for free and, according to the Albert Einstein Institution, has been translated into dozens of languages. Anti-tyranny activists circulated the handbook clandestinely during the East Europe color revolutions and during the Arab Spring. Some commentators claim that the handbook played a significant role in those mostly nonviolent upsurges of grassroots resistance.

Our local Beyond War and Militarism committee's working paper, "Getting Beyond War and Militarism: A To-Do list" (Jan/Feb 2018 *PNL*), complements Sharp's "198 List." Where "198" is rich in examples and documentation, our single-page, 22-item to-do list points out major goals and policy areas for activists to pursue. Sharp provides tools for overthrowing state oppression, while ours seeks to counter the militarism infecting political parties and regimes, "democratic" or authoritarian. Unlike much mainstream media commentary, the to-do list can guide us in resisting US exceptionalism and imperialism.

To resist Mr. Trump, many US activists have recently taken their cues from "The Indivisible Guide," also freely available online. Compiled by former Congressional staffers, the Guide has gone viral in the wake of Trump's election. It promotes Tea Party-type electoral efforts. For a decidedly distinct approach we encourage activists to study Sharp—thereby getting beyond

*Ed and Ann have long been anti-militarism activists. Since 2010 they have worked to expose Reaper drone war crime perpetrated by Hancock Air Base, home of the 174th NYS National Guard Attack Wing. Reach them at edkinane340@gmail.com or anntiffany6236@gmail.com.*

the Democrat/Republican duopoly with its bipartisan, heavily-lobbied, profit-hungry lust for war.

## The New Poor People's Campaign

The Gandhi-inspired PPC is one of any number of domestic US campaigns mobilizing to resist Trump. The new PPC, committed to nonviolence, channels Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1980s Poor People's Campaign. Today's campaign is co-chaired by Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, longtime organizer among the poor, and by Rev. Dr. William Barber, the spark behind North Carolina's Moral Mondays movement. Like MLK's PPC, the new PPC calls out King's three entwined evils: racism, poverty and militarism. Today's PPC adds a fourth: global warming—an existential threat to many species.

Today's PPC is organizing in over 30 states and envisions 40 days of civil resistance from Mother's Day, May 13, to the June 21 summer solstice. We intend those 40 days to be a fresh start on defanging the Trump regime. In New York State, the PPC is preparing for a large civil resistance action in Albany on Monday, May 14, the day after Mothers' Day. Details forthcoming. Here in Syracuse, one or more May 14 affinity groups are forming.



Then 90 year-old Jerry Berrigan was arrested for blocking Salina Street, along with 21 others, in an anti-Iraq occupation demonstration in March 2008. Photo: Mike Greenlar/Syracuse Cultural Workers

Why civil resistance? As Gandhi and Sharp and Poor People's campaigners know, tyrannical regimes can only exist with the compliance of those they rule. We, the ruled, must forsake our fears, our distractions, our addictions, our co-optations and, to keep us free, resist the lure of consumer credit. If enough of us shed our aversion to risk, our habits of obedience and deference to power, and if we do what we can to thwart the complicity of institutions with the power structure, the pillars propping up the regime will give way.

In closing, let us leave you with yet another key resource to read: Erica Chenoweth and Maria J. Stephan's *Why Civil Resistance Works: the Strategic Logic of Nonviolent Conflict* (Columbia U. Press, 2011). These two heirs of Sharp don't lean on either the idealistic or the spiritual. Like Sharp, they provide pragmatic and rigorous—yet accessible—analysis of why nonviolent tactics are usually more successful and always less destructive than militarism. ♪



# A MANUAL FOR A NEW ERA OF DIRECT ACTION

by George Lakey

*Editor's note: Frontline activists know that you don't get what you don't ask for. Now is not the time to be timid in our demands or organizing tactics. Our movements must inspire others—both through our demands and our actions—if we are to grow strong enough to win significant victories. This is an excerpt. Read the full article at <https://wagingnonviolence.org/feature/manual-new-era-direct-action>.*

For the past year I've been book touring to over 60 cities and towns across the United States and have been asked repeatedly for a direct action manual that addresses challenges we face now. The requests come from people concerned about a variety of issues. While each situation is in some ways unique, organizers in multiple movements face some similar problems in both organization and action.

What follows is a different manual from the one we put out over 50 years ago. Then, movements operated in a robust empire that was used to winning its wars. The government was fairly stable and held great legitimacy in the eyes of the majority.

Most organizers chose not to address deeper questions of class conflict and the role of the major parties in doing the will of the 1%. Racial and economic injustice and even the war could be presented mainly as problems to be solved by a government that was willing to solve problems. Now, the US empire is falling and the legitimacy of governing structures is shredding. Economic inequality skyrockets, and both major parties are caught in their own versions of society-wide polarization.

Organizers need movement-building approaches that don't ignore what animated many of the supporters of both Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump: a demand for major rather than incrementalist change. On the other hand, movements will also need the many who still hope against hope that the middle school civics textbooks are right: the American way to change is through movements for very limited reform.

Today's believers in limited reform can be tomorrow's cheerleaders for major change if we craft a relationship with them while the empire continues to unravel and politicians' credibility declines. All this means that to build a movement that seeks to force change requires fancier dancing than "back in the day."

One thing is easier now: to create virtually instant mass protests, as was done by the admirable Women's March the day after Trump's inauguration. If one-off protests could produce major changes in society, we would simply focus on that, but I know of no country that has undergone major change (including ours) through one-off protests. Contesting with opponents to win major demands requires more staying power than protests provide. One-off protests do not comprise a strategy; they are simply a repetitive tactic.

*George co-authored A Manual for Direct Action (1965) and has led 1,500 workshops on five continents and activist projects at all levels.*

Fortunately, we can learn something about strategy from the US civil rights movement. What did work for them in facing an almost overwhelming array of forces was a particular technique known as the escalating nonviolent direct action campaign. Some might call the technique an art form instead, because effective campaigning is more than mechanical.

Since that 1955-65 decade we've learned much more about how powerful campaigns build powerful movements leading to major change. Some of those lessons are:

- Name this political moment.
- Clarify with your co-initiators specifically why you've chosen to build a direct action campaign.
- Assemble the core members of your campaigning group.
- Be aware of the need for a larger vision.
- Choose your issue.
- Double-check to see if this issue is really viable.
- Analyze the target carefully.
- Track your key allies, opponents and "neutrals."
- As your campaign implements its series of actions, make strategic choices that move you forward.
- What if you get attacked?
- Training and leadership development can make your campaign more effective.
- Your organizational culture matters for your short-run success and for the movement's wider goals.
- The big picture will continue to influence your chances for success.

*We highly recommend you read the complete article which elaborates on these lessons and provides numerous resources, including case studies from around the globe. ☮*



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# TWO MINUTES TO MIDNIGHT: PREVENTING A US/ NORTH KOREA NUCLEAR DISASTER

by Diane Swords

## The Danger

Current tensions between the US and North Korea could easily escalate into a civilization-ending nuclear war. The danger is real. *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* confirms this urgency. They have moved the Doomsday Clock to two minutes to midnight, the closest it has been since it was started in 1953 when the US and the USSR first conducted nuclear tests.

The recent false alerts of imminent attack in Hawaii are both a symptom and cause of heightened danger. State officials blamed the error on an employee who “pushed the wrong button.” Blaming an individual covers up an unsustainable system. Former Defense Secretary William Perry warns that the risks of nuclear war through accident and human error are to be taken very seriously.

## Inability to See

Actions of North Korea (DPRK) are clearly problematic. Threats to Guam, test-firing of short-range rockets, and a missile shot over the Japanese island of Hokkaido raise tension. North Korea’s November Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) test showed that their warheads can reach the entire US continent—and most of the rest of the world.

But while US media spreads hysteria over the “hermit kingdom” and its “irrational leader,” we need to understand North Korea’s experience. Merciless devastation by US carpet-bombing during the Korean War, US expectations that Korea hold to treaties while the US violates them, military exercises and public statements from the American president of intentions to attack, are likely to be read as demonstrating that only destructive capability can keep North Koreans safe. Historian Bruce Cummings sees the US as unwilling (or unable) to see the world through North Korean eyes, describing an attitude that “there’s no point trying to understand Pyongyang’s point of view (or even that it might have some valid concerns).”<sup>1</sup>

## Recent US Provocation

Trump’s Nuclear Posture Review (NPR), released in February 2018, would vastly expand the nuclear arsenal. More disturbing still, it calls for “useable” nuclear weapons and extends the criteria for using nuclear weapons, including in response to a cyberattack. Beyond the expected call for “deterrence,” it states that nuclear weapons can be used for “achievement of US objectives if deterrence fails.” Increasing nuclear arsenals is not the solo work

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*Diane works for nuclear abolition with SPC’s Nuclear Free World Committee and facilitates Intergroup Dialogue at Syracuse University and beyond.*

of the executive branch. The 2018 budget proposed by Congress includes more than **\$1.2 trillion** over 10 years to upgrade the nuclear capabilities.

US/South Korean military exercises are another provocation. Last September’s included thousands of US and South Korean soldiers training for a preemptive strike against the North, participating in computerized nuclear war games and simulated “decapitation” operations to eliminate North Korea’s leaders. More exercises are scheduled this spring.

## Diffusing the Crisis

The “Agreed Framework” between President Bill Clinton and Kim Jong-il, father of the current leader, ended the first nuclear crisis with Pyongyang in 1994. The standard US government story is that North Korea violated this agreement. Yet 62



The Korea Collaborative is calling for actions from February 2-March 25 to build on the momentum generated by the Olympic Truce. Graphic: veteransforpeace.org

Democrats recently sent a letter to Secretary of State Tillerson referring to this agreement as a model for future talks.<sup>2</sup> Historian Tim Shorrock traces the history of this agreement, noting that it was in force from 1994 until 2003, and that “blame for its demise should be equally shared by the United States and North Korea.”<sup>3</sup>

China and Russia, late last summer, called for a “freeze for freeze,” in which the North should stop nuclear and missile tests if the US would stop or scale back the provocative US-South Korean military exercises. The US ignored this plan. But in November, both the US and North Korea agreed to an Olympic Truce by accepting the UN resolution to hold off military action during the games. Then in January, the North and South Koreans unexpectedly worked out an agreement to participate together in the games. As Shorrock said in a headline in *The Nation*, in January “US war hawks are alarmed at the prospect of peace.”<sup>4</sup> Days before the Olympics began, South Korea’s President Moon stated, “We must work to make the South-North Korea dialogue

lead to talks between the United States and North Korea. Only then can we peacefully resolve the North Korean nuclear issue.”<sup>5</sup>

Activists, noting that this truce essentially is the “freeze for freeze”, call for an extension. A summit between the two Koreas is possible, and there is some chance that the White House might support such a summit. (*Editors’ note: Recent news suggests this might actually happen.*)

## Building Public Opposition to War in Korea

**Educate Yourself and Others.** Listen to speakers, go to teach ins, and ask questions. There are national telephone teach-ins and conference calls with the Korea Collaborative<sup>6</sup> which SPC members have participated in. People are invited to participate in future calls; for call information, the reference list for this article, and other resources, see [www.peacecouncil.net](http://www.peacecouncil.net).

**Write Letters.** Letters to the editor and to representatives educate the public and elected officials. Letter topics might include support of the 58 retired American military leaders who urged Trump to pursue diplomacy not war.<sup>7</sup> Letters to Senator Schumer about the Markey/Lieu bill (below) are critical. The possibility of a North/South summit is another focal point, and March is a crucial month for pushing this. A sign-on letter to extend the Olympic truce (which continues through March 19) and suspend military exercises is being prepared by supporters in Congress—watch for alerts to support this on SPC’s website and social media.

**Sign and Circulate Petitions.** There are three bills in Congress which could greatly reduce nuclear tensions in the Korean

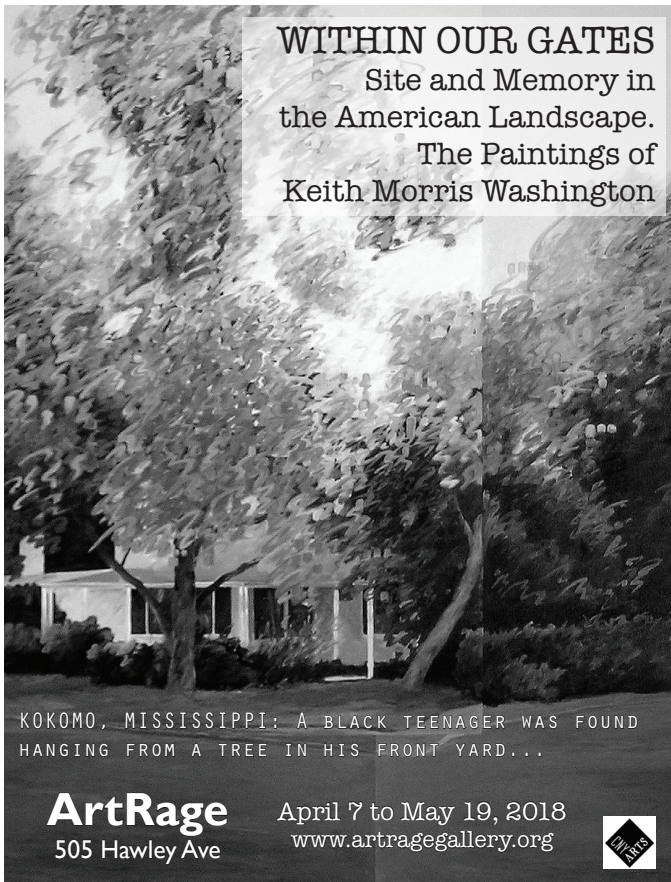
Peninsula. SPC’s Nuclear Free World Committee (NFW) has turned in over 2,000 signatures on petitions for S200/HR669—the Markey/Lieu bill—Restricting First Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2017 (see page 3).

Two other petitions address North Korea directly: No Unconstitutional Strike on North Korea Act of 2017 (HR 4140/S2016); and Preventing Preemptive War in North Korea Act of 2017, (S2047). NFW supports both and will kick off our campaign for the former in March.

The Korea Collaborative is circulating a People’s Peace Treaty. The introduction states, “Inspired by the Vietnam-era People’s Peace Treaty, we have initiated a People’s Peace Treaty with North Korea to raise awareness about the past US policy toward North Korea and to send a clear message that we, the people of the US, do not want another war with North Korea. This is not an actual treaty, but rather a declaration of peace from the people of the United States.” The Korea Collaborative will publish signatures in national media.

**Vote with Your Money.** Don’t Bank on the Bomb! Divest from nuclear investments. This global campaign initiated by the Nobel Prize winning International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons began in Europe and is gaining traction in the US. Look up your bank at [www.dontbankonthebomb.org](http://www.dontbankonthebomb.org). If it invests in nuclear weapons, move your money. Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union and Hansen’s Advisory Service (see page 6 and below) can help you.

Recalling the slogan of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign in the ‘80s, the future is in our hands! Please get involved. ☮




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*Overcoming, continued from page 12*

We named ourselves the Combahee River Collective after the river in South Carolina. Harriet Tubman was a scout with the Union Army during the Civil War, and she planned and led the Combahee River Raid, the only military action in US history, probably even up until now, that was planned and led by a woman. It was an action that freed over 750 enslaved Africans.

We were founded in 1974. In 1977 we wrote the Combahee River Collective Statement, and that statement is still read, taught, talked about and used. It was in the statement that the term “identity politics” first appeared, as far as we know. There were three co-authors of the Combahee River Collective Statement: my sister Beverly Smith, Demita Frazier and me.

The following section of the Combahee River Collective Statement talks about identity politics:

*This focusing upon our own oppression is embodied in the concept of identity politics. We believe that the most profound and potentially most radical politics come directly out of our own identity, as opposed to working to end somebody else's oppression. In the case of Black women this is a particularly repugnant, dangerous, threatening, and therefore revolutionary concept because it is obvious from looking at all the political movements that have preceded us that anyone is more worthy of liberation than ourselves. We reject pedestals, queenhood, and walking ten paces behind. To be recognized as human, levelly human, is enough.*

The reason we asserted that was because we were writing during a period when Black power and Black nationalism were dominant political perspectives. This was also a legacy of the politics of the Civil Rights movement. Although Black women were central to the success of the Civil Rights movement, we got very little credit. During this period of Black nationalism going into the late '60s and early '70s, Black women's roles were more proscribed and constricted. Kwame Ture, whose birth name was Stokeley Carmichael, was asked, “What is the position of the Black woman in the

political Black movement?” His response was, “The position of the Black woman is to be prone.” Now he actually meant supine. But either way you're on the ground, right?

The reason we asserted that identity politics were so important was because we thought it was critical for us as Black women and women of color to define a



Barbara Smith was one of the founders of Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press. “Starting a press for women of color in 1980 may have defied logic, but it was one of those acts of courage which characterize Third World women's lives. From “A Press of Our Own: Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press,” by Barbara Smith, Photo: www.barbarasmithaintgonna.com

political agenda based upon our actual experiences—not just being female, that is, female and white, or being Black and having no gender—we thought it was important to bring all of that to the table, and that's exactly what we did.

We considered ourselves to be revolutionary then, and I think some of us still see our politics that way. You can't really say that you're a revolutionary—someone else has to say it about you. Somebody has to agree besides you.

One of the things that made the Combahee River Collective unique was that we were part of the left. We had been involved in other movements. We had a lot of experience before we began to build our version of Black feminism. We had been involved in the movement to end the war in Vietnam. We had been involved in the Panthers. We had been involved in the Civil Rights struggle. We had been involved in student organizing. We had been involved in a lot of movements that were critical during that period.

What we meant by “identity politics” was not to be exclusionary. We believed in coalition. We were committed to coalition, and we actually worked in coalition with various kinds of people in

Boston during that period. Keep in mind, that period in Boston history was a period of racial warfare, because that was during the school busing crisis of the 1970s—court-ordered school desegregation. Yet we thought it was important to work across our differences. The way identity politics is used now is very different than what we actually intended.

How identity politics is being used now has been reduced at times to a desire only to connect with people who share your exact identity and not necessarily for the purpose of doing political organizing. The right wing has also taken to defining it too. What we had meant was that it was legitimate for us as women of African heritage living in the US to define and create a political theory and practice, a political agenda, that would address the situations and the realities that we faced as Black women and women of color.

For example, the issues of sexual assault, rape and violence were not going to be taken up, at least at that time period, by Black political movements, because those issues were just beginning to be defined and were generally not understood to be the result of gender oppression. When we looked at sexual assault, domestic violence, and violence against women we didn't look at it the same way white women did. Our first thought was not, “Let's call the police. The police will make everything all right,” because we knew that by and large that was never the case. Our communities had never relied on the police for safety. In fact, we had often been targeted by the police in very violent ways.

So, how do you build a movement to address interpersonal violence? And violent rape? Rape is violence—not sex—but violence. How do you build a movement in communities of color that takes that into account? Those are the kind of subtleties, fine tuning, that we pushed to bear in mind. We were very, very committed to coalition-building work, but were also completely committed to toppling white supremacy.

People think that people like us didn't exist. We were stereotyped and called all

kinds of names like “man haters,” “race traitors,” etc. But the thing is, those people didn’t realize that you could actually hold an understanding of all these interlocking oppressions together and build off of that. We defined ourselves as socialists and anti-capitalists.

What has happened with identity politics is that it is seen as, “If you’re not just like me, if you don’t have the same experiences that I do, then I don’t want anything to do with you; and if you say something that I find oppositional, then we have nothing to talk about further.” No one should have to go anywhere and have their humanity decimated and destroyed. If the basis on which you decimate people’s identity is to decimate their value based on their various identities, then you have to bring identity into the conversation. On the other hand, we work with people whose politics we share. So, there are white, cis-gendered, heterosexual men who I may have more in common with politically than with some idealized lesbians of color. We work with people whose politics we share, and that makes for a wonderful and incredibly strong possibility for making deep change.

The politics of intersectionality demonstrates how people with multiple identities are simultaneously targeted by various forms of systemic oppression and that the complexity of interlocking identities and oppressions must be taken into account to develop effective strategies for challenging injustice. In response to the

#metoo movement, for example, women of color, poor and working class women have pointed out how sexual harassment and sexual assault play out quite differently for women working in factories and in fields than it does for Hollywood actors. Some in the movement have listened and are finding strategies for eradicating sexual abuse that do not leave out the majority of women.

In this time of political crisis, the commitment to solidarity and to building inclusive coalitions which characterizes the organizing of feminists of color can provide useful models for bringing about much needed change. ♪

*The Combahee River Collective Statement is available online. It is also in the new book How We Get Free: Black Feminism and the Combahee River Collective. The book, edited by Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor on the 40th anniversary of the Statement, contains interviews with each of its authors. Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor is also the author of From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation.*



*Barbara is this year’s speaker at the Peace Council’s 82nd Birthday Dinner on March 24 (see page 3). She is a Black feminist activist, author, former Albany councilmember, cofounder of Kitchen Table Press and currently an organizer with the Poor People’s Campaign.*

## FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

1. We are rooted in a moral analysis based on our deepest religious and constitutional values that demand justice for all. Moral revival is necessary to save the heart and soul of our democracy.

2. We are committed to lifting up and deepening the leadership of those most affected by systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, and ecological devastation, and to building unity across lines of division.

3. We believe in the dismantling of unjust criminalization systems that exploit poor communities and communities of color, and the transformation of the “War Economy” into a “Peace Economy” that values all humanity.

4. We believe that equal protection under the law is non-negotiable.

5. We believe that people should not live in or die from poverty in the richest nation ever to exist. Blaming the poor and claiming that the United States does not have an abundance of resources to overcome poverty are false narratives used to perpetuate economic exploitation, exclusion, and deep inequality.

6. We recognize that the centrality of systemic racism in maintaining economic oppression must be named, detailed and exposed empirically, morally and spiritually. Poverty and economic inequality cannot be understood apart from a society built on white supremacy.

7. We aim to shift the distorted moral narrative often promoted by religious extremists in the nation from issues like prayer in school, abortion, and gun rights to one that is concerned with how our society treats the poor, those on the margins, the least of these, LGBTQIA folks, workers, immigrants, the disabled and the sick; equality and representation under the law; and the desire for peace, love and harmony within and among nations.

8. We will build up the power of people and state-based movements to serve as a vehicle for a powerful moral movement in the country and to transform the political, economic and moral structures of our society.

9. We recognize the need to organize at the state and local level—many of the

most regressive policies are being passed at the state level, and these policies will have long and lasting effect, past even executive orders. The movement is not from above but below.

10. We will do our work in a non-partisan way—no elected officials or candidates get the stage or serve on the State Organizing Committee of the Campaign. This is not about left and right, Democrat or Republican, but about right and wrong.

11. We uphold the need to do a season of sustained moral direct action as a way to break through the tweets and shift the moral narrative. We are demonstrating the power of people coming together across issues and geography, and putting our bodies on the line to the issues that are affecting us all.

12. The Campaign and all its participants and endorsers embrace nonviolence. Violent tactics or actions will not be tolerated. ♪

*From [www.poorpeoplescampaign.org](http://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org).*

SPC, continued from page 4

## FOOD AT SPC EVENTS

As usual, this year's Birthday Dinner features vegetarian and vegan dishes. However, SPC's Steering Committee has started to discuss the possibility of offering meat (in addition to the vegetarian and vegan options) at future dinners. We know this is likely to be controversial and want an open process, so that all can be heard. If you would like to help create that, let Diane Swords ([drswords@gmail.com](mailto:drswords@gmail.com)) know.

Food is something that people are often passionate about. It is related to health, comfort, family, culture and ethical beliefs. It is rarely seen as merely physical sustenance—what you eat often feels like a part of who you are. It brings the personal and political together in an intimate way.

There are many reasons why SPC has only had vegetarian and vegan food at dinners. The idea of having meat grew from a desire of being more welcoming towards a diversity of people, which can mean a diversity of palates.

It is complex. We welcome your input.

—SPC's Steering Committee

## SC AT WORK

The SPC Steering Committee (SC) wants you to know what we're up to!

At our February meeting, we came to realize that the SC is not particularly accessible or visible and decided to change that. We'll include monthly updates in the *Peace Newsletter*, publish short bios of SC members on the website, and explore ways SC members can have greater contact with project committees. If you have suggestions as to how we can improve, please contact us at [spcsteeringcomm@peacecouncil.net](mailto:spcsteeringcomm@peacecouncil.net).

We renewed SPC's membership in the Urban Jobs Task Force, a coalition working to combat poverty by advocating for job training and job opportunities for Syracuse's unemployed and underemployed workers, especially minorities. We're also planning our annual retreat.

Our meetings are the third Thursday, and are open to SPC supporters. Contact [carol@peacecouncil.net](mailto:carol@peacecouncil.net) for details.

—Amelia Lefevre

## NOON WORKS TO CORRECT FALSE HISTORY

Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation continues our work to transform the false history of celebrating Columbus' "discovery of America" to honoring the Indigenous Peoples who have inhabited these lands since time immemorial. Conversations have begun with Mayor Walsh and the new Syracuse Common Council, but our current focus is the Syracuse City School District.

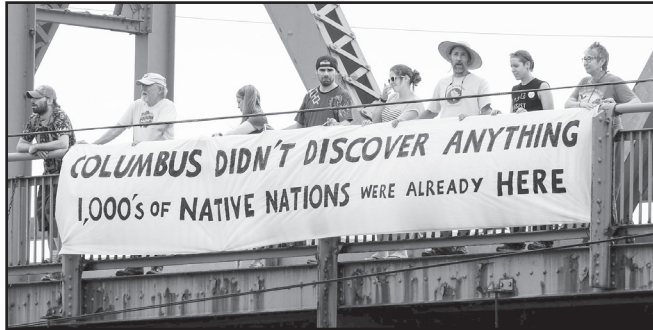


Photo: Mark Rupert

Following appeals by students last spring, the district changed its calendar to identify the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day/Columbus Day. NOON is working with students, teachers and others to push for a complete change. Our efforts resulted in a public forum on March 12. Afterwards we'll follow up with the School Board to seek the full change, using that momentum to approach the city.

To download our petition, go to [www.peacecouncil.net/noon/ipd](http://www.peacecouncil.net/noon/ipd). For more information about initiating a campaign in your community, contact Andy Mager ([andy.mager@gmail.com](mailto:andy.mager@gmail.com)).

—Andy Mager

## THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN: WE ALL NEED IT

Fifty years after the Kerner Report exposed racial inequality and Rev. Dr. King's original Poor People's Campaign began, systemic disparities have increased. To end poverty, racism, the war economy and environmental harm, we need to change US priorities.

Thanks to growing grassroots outrage, the Poor People's Campaign ([www.poorpeoplescampaign.org](http://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org)) is under way in New York State ([www.facebook.com/NYSPPC](http://www.facebook.com/NYSPPC)) and 34 other states. At Syracuse-area coalition-building meet-

ings people from a wide range of groups and experiences are preparing for a Truth Commission on Poverty and direct action this spring.

SPC is strongly supporting the local Poor People's Campaign by hosting Barbara Smith as keynote for the Birthday Dinner, offering nonviolence training, and encouraging connections among local movement groups. The Truth Commission is coming mid-April. Watch for time and location.

—Peter Swords

## BARBARA DE FRANQUEVILLE !PRESENTE!

After a long infirmity, Barb died this past February. We remember her for her *joie de vivre* and her overflowing heart.

Back in the eighties when undocumented Salvadoran refugees Roberto and Gloria and their family lived at Slocum House, sponsored by Syracuse Covenant Sanctuary, she was right there for them. Fluent in French and Spanish, she often was their translator for public speaking events and meetings.

That accompaniment led Barb to undertake three or four trips to remote rural Morazán, El Salvador and to co-found the Syracuse/La Estancia Sister Community that lasted more than 20 years. Although Barb could only go on the early trips, her friends in Estancia continued to ask about her year after year. They recalled her laughter, her engaging spirit and her solidarity. We also remember her outrage at the carnage they suffered in the US-backed civil war. Her memory lives on.

—Shirley Novak

## ANTI-WAR STREET HEAT APRIL-OCTOBER SCHEDULE

With the coming better weather, Street Heat resumes its twice weekly public presence calling for an end to the militarism and racism dominating US foreign and domestic policy, and to the attacks by weaponized drones at Hancock AFB. From April-October Street Heat will be every Tuesday from 4:15-5pm and every Saturday outside the Regional Market from 9-9:45am.

Please join in our visible presence against war and for social justice. Signs provided or bring your own. Contact Ann or Ed, 315-478-4571 (and be sure to read their article on nonviolence on page 8).

### Tuesdays: 4:15-5pm

**April 3** - Hancock Air Base (6000 E. Molloy Rd.)

**April 10** - Adams & Almond (Rte. 81 underpass)

**April 17** - Hancock Air Base



Street Heat activists outside the regional market. From l to r: Herm Bieling, Ed Kinane, Julienne Oldfield, person who dropped by, Peter Sinatra. Photo: AnnTiffany

**April 24** - Adams & Almond (Rte. 81 underpass)

**May 1** - Hancock Air Base

**May 8** - E. Genesee & Erie Blvd. East

**May 15** - Hancock Air Base

**May 22** - E. Genesee & Erie Blvd. East

### Every Saturday 9-9:45am

Regional Market main entrance (Park St. and 81)

## WELCOME NEW STAFF ORGANIZER MICHAELA!

After an arduous and highly competitive process filled with many terrific applicants, SPC is proud to welcome Michaela Czerkies as our new staff organizer. We believe that Michaela possesses the right combination of empathy, skills and analysis to help push us forward.

She first connected with SPC as a member of the Nuclear Free World committee, and her leadership capabilities were apparent from the start. She then

went on to do great work with the CNY Solidarity coalition and is a key member of the Beyond War and Militarism Committee. She is a quick learner, a terrific organizer, and has consistently impressed us with her dependability and ability to connect disparate political issues. We're grateful that she accepted this new position and look forward to a bright future! Drop by the office to meet her.

—Aly Wane

## BILLBOARDS OPPOSING DRONES GOING UP IN SYRACUSE

World Beyond War, an organization dedicated to ending war and establishing a just and sustainable peace, has started a billboard campaign in opposition to war. Syracuse is their third city, and here the billboards will convey anti-weaponized drone messages.

For half of March, the images will be on a billboard truck driving around downtown Syracuse and Syracuse University. Then, in April and May, they will be on billboards around the city. If you see them, be sure to post photos on social media!

Why Syracuse? First, Syracuse hosts Hancock Air National Guard's 174th Attack Wing, which conducts drone assassination and surveillance missions using drones, and second, there is determined, ongoing anti-weaponized drone activism here.

—Carol Baum


## INVITATION FROM THE PNL

It is with appreciation and regret that we say good bye to Aly Wane as a hard-working member of the PNL editorial committee for 12 years. Aly's knowledge and insights caused us on the committee to more deeply analyze issues of social justice and action. We recognized his unfailing kindness and concern for others as he challenged us with his perceptions and understanding of systemic problems and conflict resolution. We are so grateful for your efforts, Aly!

Now we have a wonderful opportunity to invite anyone interested to join our thought-provoking PNL editorial committee. Be part of the decision-making on content—we'd love to have you! Ideas and new folks are always welcome.

**We also invite bloggers to submit pieces** (under 800 words) for SPC's blog. We're looking for reports, analysis and opinion consistent with SPC's Statement of Purpose (page 2). Please contact us at [blog@peacecouncil.net](mailto:blog@peacecouncil.net).

—Donna Mühs-McCarten

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN																														
<p><b>MAR 19</b></p> <p>i Puerto Rico: World's Oldest Colony. 7pm. ArtRage. Pulitzer Carpfire Readings. 6-7:30pm. Northern Onondaga Public Library. Also 4/9, 4/30.</p> <p>SUN Westside Coalition Mtg. 7pm. Brown Memorial.</p> <p>Exhibit: Till March 24: We All Fall Down: The Art of Donaldee Peden Wesley. Plight of animals. ArtRage.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>ACTS Criminal Justice Task Force. 5:15pm. Grace Episcopal, 819 Madison St.</p> <p>ACTS Youth Council. 6pm. Temple Concord, 910 Madison St.</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>i Movie: "Radiance of Resistance": 7pm. By Justice for Palestine. ArtRage. See p. 4.</p> <p>NYS Advocacy Day - Moms Demand Action. 8am-3pm. NY Capitol Bldg in Albany. RSVP required.</p> <p>SUN Skunk City Neighborhood Assoc Mtg. 6:30pm. Mundy Lib.</p> <p>Your Silence Will Not Protect You! 6:30-8pm. SU MLK Jr Memorial Lib. 231 Sims Hall. Also 3/21, 4/11.</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>i Protest for Water in the West Bank and Gaza. 4-5pm. Part of an international day. By Justice for Palestine. E Genesee and Erie Blvd.</p> <p>Energy/ Efficiency/Online Teach-In. 7-8pm. By Alliance for a Green Economy. Citizens for Local Power, and five other groups. Register at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/EconlineTeachin">https://tinyurl.com/EconlineTeachin</a></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>24</b></p> <p>i Syracuse Peace Council's 82nd Birthday Dinner. 6-9pm. Barbara Smith: "What's Race Got to do With It: Making All Our Movements a Threat to White Supremacy." Dinner. Sliding scale. Reservations: Call 472-4578 or <a href="mailto:peacecouncil.net">peacecouncil.net</a>. Univ United Methodist, 1085 E Genesee St.</p> <p>EVERY SAT 10am-11am: National Action Network (NAN) Mtg. 700 South Ave.</p> <p>EVERY SAT 11am-12noon: Central New York Says No To Katko. By Indivisible NY24 &amp; others. Sidewalk at Wegman's in Dewitt.</p> <p>March for Our Lives Syracuse. 12-2pm. Students and supporters march for gun control. Everson Museum of Art.</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Cooperative Federal Credit Union 2018 Annual Meeting &amp; Dinner. 3-7pm. Southwest Comm Ctr. 401 South Ave.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>EVERY Second and Fourth Monday, Syracuse Police Accountability And Reform Coalition (SPARC) Mtg. 5:15 pm. NYCLU Office at 499 S Warren St. Contact: Coran Klaver, 396-7070.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>A Sustainable World of Equality and Peace. 7-8:30pm. Performance, Women's Leadership Conference, women's equality, and influence on early American feminists. Ská-north Great Law of Peace Center, 6680 Onondaga Lake Pkwy, Liverpool, NY.</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Music &amp; Activism: Dream Freedom Resistance/Folk. 2:30-3:30pm. Performance &amp; discussion, open to public. 114 Bird Library, SU. Contact <a href="mailto:shutchi@sy.edu">shutchi@sy.edu</a>.</p> <p>Friends of Dorothy Benefit Dinner. 5-7pm. Bishop Harrison Center, 1342 Lancaster Ave. \$0-whatever.</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Trans Day of Liberation featuring Kat Blaque. 7pm. SU LGBT RC, 750 Ostrom Ave.</p>	<p><b>SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL COMMUNITY CALENDAR MARCH/APRIL 2018</b></p> <p>Events marked with a <b>i</b> are Syracuse Peace Council events. <a href="mailto:peacecouncil.net">peacecouncil.net</a> 315-472-5478</p>		<p><b>APR 2</b></p> <p>i Beyond War and Militarism Mtg. 7pm. 401 Scotholm Blvd. 472-5478.</p> <p>ACTS Pre-K Task Force. 7pm. Temple Concord, 910 Madison St.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>i Street Heat. 4:15-5pm. Hancock Air Base. 6000 E Molloy Rd. 478-4571. Also 4/17.</p> <p>ACTS Community Violence and Youth Task Force. 7pm. Southwest Comm Ctr. 401 South Ave.</p>		<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Citizen Review Board. 5:30-7pm. Civilian investigation of police. Common Council Chambers, third floor. City Hall, 233 E Washington St.</p> <p>Colleen Kattau and Charlie King - Live. 7 pm. Benefit concert for ArtRage. \$20 suggested donation at the door and cash bar. ArtRage.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>i Nonviolent Direct Action Training by SPC. 10am-5pm. For Poor Peoples Campaign actions, etc. Donations appreciated. Bishop Harrison Ctr. 1342 Lancaster Ave. Register at 472-5478 or at <a href="mailto:peacecouncil.net">peacecouncil.net</a>. Also on 5/5.</p> <p>Exhibit: Till May '19: Within Our Gates: Site and Memory in the American Landscape. Reception: April 7, 7-9pm. ArtRage.</p> <p>ACTS Youth Council. 5pm. Temple Concord, 910 Madison St.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>SNY Solidarity Coalition Mtg. 3-5pm. Location TBD. See <a href="https://www.cnysolidarity.org/calendar/">https://www.cnysolidarity.org/calendar/</a></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>i Nuclear Free World Mtg. 6:30pm potluck, 7pm mtg. 114 Milnor Ave. Contact Diane, 391-4484.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>i Street Heat. 4:15-5pm. Rte 81 underpass, Adams &amp; Almond Streets. 478-4571. Also 4/24.</p> <p>i NOON Mtg. 7-8:30pm. SPC.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>i Justice for Palestine Mtg. 7pm. SPC. 472-5478.</p> <p>Vince Sganbati - "Most Precious Blood" Book launch. 7pm. ArtRage.</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>19</b></p> <p>i SPC Steering Comm Mtg. 6:45pm. SPC. Open to SPC supporters. 472-5478.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>i EVERY SAT, April to October: Anti-War Street Heat. 9-9:45am. Regional Market main entrance. 478-4571.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>SUN Westside Coalition Mtg. 7pm. Brown Memorial.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>ACTS Youth Council. 6pm. Temple Concord, 910 Madison St.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>SUN Skunk City Neighborhood Assoc Mtg. 6:30pm. Mundy Lib.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Dismantling Injustice: Syracuse Education &amp; Organizing. 10:30am-4:30pm. Open discussion on racism, incarceration and deportation. 317 E Jefferson St. FB: <a href="http://bit.ly/2p4VTW1">http://bit.ly/2p4VTW1</a></p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Earth Fest. 11:30am yoga session, 12-4pm music, art speakers, food.</p> <p>Thornden Park Amphitheater. FB: <a href="http://bit.ly/2Dhwxvg">http://bit.ly/2Dhwxvg</a></p> <p>CNY Solidarity Coalition Mtg. 3-5pm. Location TBD. See 4/8.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Cuomo: Walk. The Talk On Climate. 12-5pm. Green energy march in Albany. Register for free. Syn bus at <a href="mailto:cuomowalk@thealk.org">cuomowalk@thealk.org</a></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>ACTS 2018 Spring Banquet: Together - We Shall Overcome! 6-9pm. Dinner. \$65. Drumlins Country Club, 800 Nottingham Rd.</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Friends of Dorothy Benefit Dinner. 5-7pm. Support for people affected by HIV/AIDS. Look for Friends of Dorothy on Facebook. Bishop Harrison Center, 1342 Lancaster Ave. \$0-whatever.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>April 27, Friday</b> Workers' Memorial Day 2018. CNY Unity Breakfast. 8-10am. \$25/person, \$160/table of eight. Reserve by 4/11. Holiday Inn, 441 Electronics Pkwy, Liverpool. FB: <a href="http://bit.ly/2FFgc68">http://bit.ly/2FFgc68</a></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>