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The Duck Race to End Racism Is Coming!

InterFaith Works Celebrates the Annual Event's 10th Anniversary

On Saturday, June 9, from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m., the Community Wide Dialogue Program, and presenting sponsors National Grid and Syracuse University, will host the 10th Annual Duck Race to End Racism at the Syracuse Inner Harbor.

“The Community Wide Dialogue to End Racism has been creating opportunities for our community to openly discuss racism for the last 14 years, and over 8,000 people have participated in this important conversation,” said Beth Broadway, Executive Director of InterFaith Works. “The Duck Race to End Racism helps us bring this work into the spotlight of our community, and this year’s race will

showcase some of the corporations that have joined with us in this courageous work.”

The Duck Race annually draws a diverse audience of 3,500 individuals in the community - including corporate leaders, third grade teachers and students from city and county schools, nonprofit organizations and community members.

The event features a huge line-up of family entertainment and games, face painting, community information booths, local food vendors and free Byrne Dairy Ice Cream. Proceeds benefit Community Wide Dialogue to End Racism Program.



Join us on Saturday
June 9th at the
Syracuse Inner Harbor
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Burn Rubber 10th ANNUAL Duck Race to End Racism

Presented by Community Wide Dialogue, program of InterFaith Works of CNY



The Power of Dialogue

Dear Friends,

We are in the midst of our “event” season, having just completed our InterFaith Leadership Award Dinner, and making final preparations for both our 10th annual Duck Race to End Racism and our 3rd annual World Refugee Day. In addition to raising needed funds for our operations, these events put

us on the map in Syracuse, letting people know about our purpose and our work. Thank you for joining us in these endeavors!

At the Leadership Award dinner, we honored five individuals whose lives and work mirror the mission of InterFaith Works. They have all engaged in a courageous dialogue about the Middle East, growing in their understanding of the issues, and their appreciation for each other.

We are continuing that work with several new projects this year. Partnering with Syracuse City School District and Say Yes to Education, our Seeds of Peace program is made up of area teens who create bridges of understanding among the different ethnicities in their schools. 29 of them went to camp together last weekend to further their leadership skills and practice cooperative problem solving. This summer, 40 Seeds will travel up to Maine for their two week camping trip that will broaden the program in all city high schools. There will be American-born and refugee teens who will dialogue daily to build bridges of understanding. Follow this link to the Seeds of Peace page on our website: <http://interfaithworkscny.org/blog/programs/community-wide-dialogue-to-end-racism/seeds-of-peace/>

Over the last few years, the population in Central Village has shifted from being predominantly African American to being 52% Somali and Somali Bantu. Misunderstanding and tensions between these communities has led the Syracuse Housing Authority to partner with us to create a sustained dialogue for changing strained community relationships. Using a Kettering Foundation model, along with our own dialogue process, we are probing the misperceptions, fear, mistrust and suspicions that lie at the heart of the tensions. This creates the space for the groups to talk openly and listen carefully to each other in order to work out a scenario of interdependent steps THEY think can begin to change the foundations of their groups’ relationships.

In our Center for New Americans, we are working to assist ethnic community groups to become viable neighborhood associations and to understand the democratic process inherent in developing these associations that is so critical to success in the U.S. Follow this link to the Center for New Americans page on our website: <http://interfaithworkscny.org/blog/programs/center-for-new-americans/>

In true, fruitful dialogue, the conversation creates an opening to new ways of thinking. Dialogue involves a willingness to be moved and changed by what we hear. A dialogue arcs and loops, changing directions, and often comes back around on itself. Ultimately, when the conversation is courageous enough, it creates new understanding, new relationships, and often, life changing experiences.

Sincerely,

Beth A. Broadway
Executive Director

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2012 • ROUND TABLE OF FAITH LEADERS

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 Rev. Jon Werner
 Rev. Victor Wilson

Emeritus Members:

Rabbi Daniel Jezer
 Dr. James B. Wiggins

InterFaith Works Leadership Award Dinner Recognizes “Courageous Conversations” Ambassadors

Many thanks to the ILAD sponsors:

Presenting

Crouse Hospital
Syracuse University

Leadership

L. & J.G. Stickley, Inc.

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Bowers & Company CPAs, PLLC
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Ahmad and Elizabeth El-Hindi
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LLC

A special thank you to Media
Partner WSYR News Channel 9



Over 500 people gathered to honor Anis Obeid, M.D.; Mr. Ahmad El-Hindi; The Reverend Thomas V. Wolfe, Ph.D.; Louis Kriesberg, Ph.D.; and The Honorable Minna Buck at the 30th Annual InterFaith Leadership Award Dinner (ILAD). The event was held on May 15th at the SRC Arena & Event Center on the Onondaga Community College campus. The ILAD event honors community leaders on the basis of “Devotion to Faith, Dedication to Community and Distinction in Career.”

ILAD event Co-Chairs, Chancellor Nancy Cantor, of Syracuse University and Dr. Paul Kronenberg, President and CEO of Crouse Hospital, spoke passionately of the honorees’ extraordinary leadership and commitment to transforming lives through “Courageous Conversations.”

The evening was a celebration of building bridges of understanding. “Courageous Conversations” which involves a willingness to be moved and changed by what we hear is a primary component of community dialogue. The evening also featured a Middle Eastern dance performance by the Saint Elias Dabkeh Dancers, and multimedia displays documenting the honorees in various stages and moments of their lives and accomplished careers.

InterFaith Works and Media Partner WSYR News Channel 9 produced a tribute video telling the story of how the honorees came together and formed relation-



InterFaith Leadership Award Dinner Honorees (Left to right):
Anis Obeid, M.D., Mr. Ahmad El-Hindi, The Reverend Thomas V. Wolfe, Ph.D.,
Louis Kriesberg, Ph.D., and The Honorable Minna Buck

ships with one another, as well as portraying how they apply the notion of “Courageous Conversations” in their their daily lives and to their many community relationships. Humble in acceptance of praise from one another, but resolute in their recognition of the importance of meaningful interpersonal dialogue, the honorees’ affinity and respect for one another across such diverse professional and personal qualities was apparent in their natural and like-minded interaction throughout the documentary.

The ILAD event also focused on the programs and growth of InterFaith Works as an important community agency in Central New York. The event raised over \$90,000 to support the Community Wide Dialogue to End Racism Program, the Center for New Americans Refugee Resettlement Program, the Housing and Community Initiative Program, the Interfaith Education and Engagement Program, the Senior Companion Program, and Spiritual Care Program.

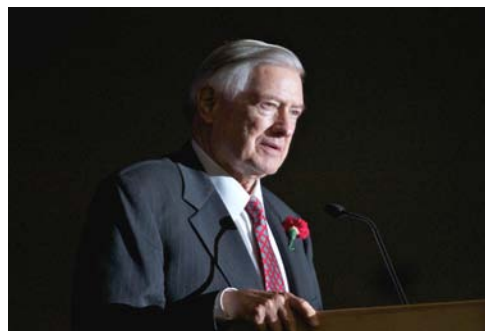
(See pages 4-5 for ILAD event photos)

Building Bridges Through Photography

Photography can tell the story of InterFaith Works' programs and events through powerful images. Here is a small sampling of the exceptional images captured at the InterFaith Works Leadership Award Dinner.

Photos by Chuck Wainwright





World Refugee Day Brings Communities Together



2011 World Refugee Day parade concluded on the steps of Syracuse City Hall

Refugees, asylum seekers, stateless people, internally displaced people...every year on June 20th the United Nations and the world recognize these people, who number in the tens of millions, on World Refugee Day. Syracuse will observe the event on Saturday, June 23rd with a recognition of the tragic plight of millions of families worldwide, and a celebration of the diverse communities we welcome as neighbors in Central New York.

The event will begin with a parade of representatives from all the refugee communities resettled in Central New York. The route through the city will begin on the North side of Syracuse at 10:00 a.m. and end at City Hall where the United Nations flag will be raised. After the flag raising, the refugee communities and participants will move to Hanover Square for a multicultural festival of music, dance and food from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Participants and attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about our refugee communities as food stalls will offer various cuisine samples from Bosnia, Burma, Bhutan, Iraq, Somalia and Vietnam.

InterFaith Works would like to thank the following event coordinating organizations: Catholic Charities of Onondaga County, Syracuse City School District, Northside Up, Hopeprint Inc., the Onondaga County Public Library and the Butternut Police Center.

The coordinating organizations would like to thank the following major sponsors: Burns Matteson Capital Management, The Gifford Foundation, Marquardt Switches, Empower Federal Credit Union and United Healthcare.

For more information, or to volunteer, visit "World Refugee Day in Syracuse" on Facebook, or email wrdvolunteer@gmail.com.

Senior Companion Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

The 26th Annual Senior Companion Recognition Luncheon will be held on Friday, September 14, 2012 at the Holiday Inn on Electronics Parkaway in Liverpool, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Luncheon is an event that gives the Senior Companion Program the opportunity to recognize the many Companions for the valuable work they do throughout the year. The program annually provides over 60,000 hours of compassionate care by over 60 companions in Onondaga, Cayuga, and Madison counties.

These volunteers, who are seniors themselves, provide assistance, caring, and friendship to other seniors who have difficulty with daily living tasks. They help clients to live independently, aging in place, delaying the move to expensive institutional care. Each Companion typically serves two to four clients weekly. The program also provides lower income Companions with a meaningful service opportunity and a source of income to supplement their modest fixed incomes. The Companions are a diverse group, many bilingual, serving elders of different backgrounds and cultures. There is no charge to clients for their services, which allows many elderly people to receive assistance they would otherwise not be able to afford.



(Left to right) Senior Companion Program Volunteer Coordinator Barbara Blok, Program Director Larry Crinnin and Advisory Board Chairperson Sandy Spitzer honor Lilian Taras and Lyubov Vakhutinsky with 15-year service awards at the 2011 Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

In addition to providing the Companions with meaningful work - and their clients contact with the outside world to make their lives less lonely and more socially stimulating - this program helps to provide the clients' families with peace of mind. Knowing their loved one is not alone and is with someone who cares can make each day a little easier for families who may have primary care responsibilities.

The Senior Companion Program has received a generous grant from United Way for the next three years. This will help the program close the gap between grant funding and annual expenses for services provided to the senior companions. Additionally, the United Way of Central New York produced a

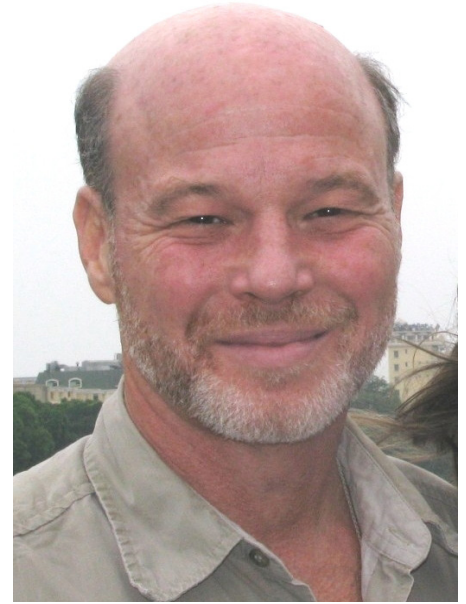
video featuring the Senior Companion Program that was distributed to companies and organizations throughout Central New York during their annual appeal, which reaches out to over 300,000 people.

Spiritual Care Day Features Dr. Edward Tick

Key note speaker will address military veterans' issues and needs

The InterFaith Works 22nd Annual Spiritual Care Day event will assist clergy, chaplains, pastoral care visitors and medical professionals in responding more effectively to the emotional and spiritual needs of returning soldiers and their families. As thousands of men and women return to their communities from conflicts overseas, their need for support to successfully reintegrate into civilian life requires knowledgeable understanding by those in the helping professions.

The internationally recognized educator and psychologist, Edward Tick, Ph.D. will deliver the keynote address titled, *Healing the Soldier's Heart: Ministering to Veterans and their Families*. Dr. Tick, an expert on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other combat related injuries, has lectured and trained staff at West Point, Walter Reed Medical Center, Fort Hood, Fort Knox, Altus Air Force Base and other Department of Defense facilities. He is a U.S. Army trainer for the 2012 Chaplain Sustainment Training in PTSD and the author of the book, *War and the Soul*.



Dr. Edward Tick

Dr. Tick will be joined by his partner, Kate Dahlstedt, LMHC, co-founder of Soldier's Heart (www.soldiersheart.net), a comprehensive program for addressing the emotional, moral and spiritual wounds of veterans. Soldier's Heart provides direct services to veterans and their families by facilitating return retreats, clinical consultations, veteran to veteran mentoring and a national and international support group network. Soldier's Heart also works to educate families and communities in how to support the healing of veterans of current and past wars in the belief that caring means sharing the burden. Please plan to join us for this informative and inspirational event at the InterFaith Works 22nd Annual Spiritual Care Day.

Save the date: Thursday, October 25th; 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (includes breakfast), 22nd Annual Spiritual Care Day, Crouse Hospital–Marley Education Center, Syracuse. For preregistration (\$30 fee) contact Reverend Roberta Yackel, Director of Spiritual Care, (315) 449-3552, ext.111; ryackel@interfaithworkscny.org.

The Jumpstart! Reading Program Receives Literacy Grant

The InterFaith Works Center for New Americans Refugee Resettlement Program's Jumpstart! Story Circles reading program has been awarded a Literacy Champions Grant of \$9,500 from the Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County. The Jumpstart! program increases the readiness of recently settled Burmese pre-K children and their parents by providing facilitated, bi-lingual story hours promoting parent-child reading time in a fun, interactive environment that honors and supports the cultural and linguistic traditions of refugees.

The project will capitalize on the existing educational and linguistic resources of the Refugee Resettlement Program currently providing services to the Syracuse Burmese Community. The project will also reinforce the primary role of parents as their children's first teacher, by providing them with instructional techniques that stimulate children's linguistic and cognitive development.



The Blehsay family engaged in parent-child interactive reading time

Welcoming New Staff

InterFaith Works welcomes Patty Radell as she joins the administrative staff in a key position as Deputy Director and Chief Financial Officer. The 30-year Camden, NY resident comes by way of the Huntington Family Center where she served as the Director of Finance. Patty's human service experience is extensive, as she has also held positions at Liberty Resources and Transitional Living Services.



Patty Radell

"This is a very exciting opportunity to work for such a well respected organization doing amazing work in this community," says Patty. She has two children, and serves as a member and Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park in Cazenovia.

The Community Wide Dialogue to End Racism Program (CWD) also welcomes a new staff member, Kathy Ferro, who has been named the program's new Administrative Assistant. Kathy is a 20-year resident of Syracuse, and brings 12 years of similar experience from her previous position at the Open Hand Theater, a background she says will help her tackle the responsibilities of her first Duck Race!



Kathy Ferro

Kathy, a mother of two Syracuse City School District graduates, feels a strong sense of commitment to the City of Syracuse, and the greater Syracuse community. "I look forward to supporting the important work of CWD," she explains. "It's important to the community that more people experience the power of dialogue as a tool to bridge differences in our diverse society."

THE PROGRAMS OF INTERFAITH WORKS

OUR MISSION: InterFaith Works, through education, service, and dialogue, affirms the dignity of each person and every faith community and works to create relationships and understanding among us.

Center for New Americans - Assisting refugee individuals and families in beginning new lives in America and serving as a resource and cultural center.

Community Wide Dialogue to End Racism - Stimulating dialogue on racism to bring about racial justice and healing.

InterFaith Housing and Community Initiatives - Providing low income housing options and stabilizing neighborhoods.

InterFaith Education & Engagement Program - Linking city and suburban congregations to promote interfaith relationships and citizen participation.

Senior Companion Program - Providing friendship and compassionate care to the homebound elderly.

Spiritual Care Program - Offering spiritual care for hospital patients, nursing home residents, inmates, and troubled youth.

If you would like to get involved in any of these programs, visit www.interfaithworksny.org for more information.

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday, June 9, 2012
 Duck Race to End Racism
 Syracuse Inner Harbor
 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 23, 2012
 World Refugee Day
 Northside Parade, Hanover Square Festival
 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday, September 14, 2012
 Senior Companion Volunteer Recognition Luncheon
 Electronics Parkway Holiday Inn
 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 25, 2012
 Spiritual Care Day
 Crouse Hospital - Marley Education Center
 8:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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