



TNT Area 7 ~Northside



Grant Middle School **2400 Grant Blvd.**
Wednesday, October 26th, 2016
7pm - 8:30 p.m.

Everyone who lives, works, or owns property in the Northside area is a member of the Northside TNT and is welcome to speak and vote at all meetings of the Northside TNT.

Facilitators:
Gerry Scott
Pat Body
John Meyer

TNT-7 meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7p.m, unless otherwise announced.

For more information:

SyrGov.net/TNT

Tina Zagya
TNT Coordinator
TZagyva@syr.gov.net
(315) 448-8178

Minutes: Meeting Facilitator: John Meyer

I. **Attendees** – Joe Nicoletti, Joe Carni, Colleen Deacon, Scott Delconte, Matt Doran, Ted Limpert, Jeff Leibo, Lt. Shoff, Christine Fix Assemblyman Magnarelli’s office

II. **Meet Your Candidates**

1) **Joe Nicoletti, City Council**

- Focus on Neighborhoods: building houses for seniors, quality public housing
- Policing: Need to recruit officers that reflect the community
Lt. Shoff stated that it benefits both the police and the public to have officers that reflect the community
- Community Benefits: If someone wants to develop in the city, they should hire people from within the city. I-81/I-690 will need to fill 100’s – 1,000’s of jobs. The city should partner with the state to train people for these jobs
Pat Body commented that since Joe has been councilor, he’s been fighting for housing

2) **Colleen Deacon, US Congress**

- Jobs and economy are #1 issue in this district
 - Must invest in Infrastructure, sewers and water pipes that are crumbling. This could create jobs that are needed.
 - Education: more resources need to be provided to help students become more competitive in a global economy. Ms. Deacon’s perspective is unique to congress as she had to utilize programs such as WIC and Foodstamps.
 - There needs to be protection for programs such as Social Security, medicare and keeping guns out of the hands of criminals
- Q. On the school board, Race to the Top caused damage to the district as this is a community with lots of refugees who cannot get the proper resources
A. Ms. Deacon’s son attends Ed Smith, she understands that the schools are working on a shoe string budget. Syracuse is the #1 in concentration of poverty. What is lacking in Congress is empathy and compassion, which is something she will bring.
Q. #1 issue is Drugs in Syracuse. How will you be advocating for funding to deal with these drug issues?
A. First, ask congress to provide Officers with the training they need. Second, work with the medical community to not overmedicate. Thirdly, create more treatment centers that help people get the help they need. Also, provide additional funding to hire more officers.

*Several members requested Yard Signs.

3)John Katko, US Congress

- Mr. Katko was a Federal Organized Crime Prosecutor for 20 years. He came back to Syracuse and saw the trouble with gang issues. He is considered the most independent voter in Congress, demonstrating his ability to work across the aisle. As a freshman in Congress, he helped pass Anti-Terrorism and Heroin Epidemic Bills. He does not endorse Donald Trump and will not vote for him. Big issues Syracuse faces: Poverty, crime on the streets, jobs/economy.

Q. Money and politics are a major problem

A. Mr. Katko is in favor of overturning Citizens United and lessening the campaign length.

Q. Where do you stand with Planned Parenthood?

A. There was evidence of wrongdoing at Planned Parenthood, as there was an investigation that revealed they were selling body parts which is against the law. Mr. Katko supports voting that would shift the funding to community based health clinics, as there are more of these in Syracuse than Planned Parenthood clinics. He is supportive of woman's rights.

Q. Give a story of how you've changed your mind?

A. Mr. Katko voted against repealing Obamacare, as everyone deserves healthcare

Q. With reference to privatizing Social Security, if that happened before the financial collapse, it would have screwed everyone

A. Mr. Katko is Absolutely against privatizing Social Security. He believes in putting the issue on the table and working together to solve problems.

Q. With the heroin epidemic and the police force down in numbers, what will you do to bring federal dollars into Syracuse?

A. Mr. Katko supports the CARA (Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act. Enforcement, treatment and prevention. He would like to see a mandatory minimum sentence for heroin dealers, there is a need to 'punch them'. There needs to be more resources to prosecute people for selling heroin to someone who OD's.

Mr. Katko offered to come back to the Northside TNT to discuss these issues whether he is re-elected or not.

4)Scott DelConte, Supreme Court

- Lawyer in Oswego, NY. In practice for 17 years. Scott grew up in Cicero and went to college at Cornell University. He has a small beef and sheep farm and is a Methodist Sunday school teacher.

Q. What do you hope to accomplish if you win?

A. Mr. DelConte stated that he must be the fairest judge and wants everyone to leave the court thinking they received a fair hearing.

5)Matt Doran, County Court Judge

- Last 19 years worked for the DA office. Since 2010-2011 prosecuted murder cases. Mr. Doran was born and raised in Syracuse. His dad was a steamfitter, hardworking and treated people with respect. Mr. Doran joined the Navy and handled criminal cases for the Navy and Marines.

Q. What do you hope to accomplish if you win?

A. Mr. Doran stated that the system is too slow and cumbersome. Things need to be done more efficiently. His experience from working at the bottom gives him greater insight as to what needs to be addressed.

6)Ted Limpert, Supreme Court

- Syracuse native, raised in Camillus. Mr. Limpert raised his family in Strathmore. His wife is a librarian at Porter Magnet School. He has been a practicing lawyer for 20 years and served in the military for 30 years. Since 2009, he has been a city court judge which has allowed him to have a lot of contact with

the youth in the city. During this time he dealt with human trafficking, criminal, civil and landlord tenant issues.

In terms of the Human Trafficking issue, Mr. Limpert stated that woman should be treated as victims in these cases. They often need help with housing, getting an ID, drug treatment or just someone to talk to. He was recently endorsed by the Syracuse Police Department.

Q. Why run for a different office?

A. Opportunities for a greater impact on the law

Q. What would you do to a kid who broke pumpkins?

A. If they were picked up and put in the compost that would be adequate.

Q. Regarding the heroin epidemic, the communities are also the victims.

A. There is current discussion of implementing the 'Nordic Approach', which would decriminalize prostitution and focus on the 'Johns' and traffickers. Traffickers often get woman hooked on drugs and make them pay them back for using those drugs.

Q. Do you see a change between crack/cocaine and heroin?

A. Joe Cecile is drug court, he would be able to answer that question.

Mr. Limpert stated that even if he is elected to Supreme Court, he would like to continue his role as judge within the human trafficking court.

7) Jeff Leibo, County Court Judge

- Diversity of experience, past work as Assistant District Attorney. Has the perspective of both (victim) prosecutor of victim's as well as criminal defense attorney (accused). He believes he provides a fair decision without bias.

Q. What do you hope to accomplish if you win?

A. Mr. Leibo would like everyone who leaves a trial to feel as if they were treated fairly even if the outcome is not as they had hoped.

III. I-81 Mike Leflair, NEHDA

- What is happening to 81 North of 690

- 1) Flyover connectivity

- 2) Add 4th lane in each direction (no need to add additional lanes with 481 handling traffic)

- 3) Historic Preservation

- 4) Bridge Connection: Butternut street bridge will loose growth

- 5) Recreating Bottleneck issue North of 690

Q. What buildings will be lost

A. See packet of info (24 different buildings)

Whichever choice is picked, the common features will happen: widen highway North of 690, bridges will come down and be replaced with larger bridges

IV. Christine Fix, Assemblyman Magarelli's Office

- Assemblyman Magarelli thanks everyone for their support. He apologizes for not being able to attend as he was dealing with family health issues. The Assemblyman is running unopposed. He brought about \$460,000 just to the Northside for cameras. The places chosen for the cameras were picked by police for areas of high crime and infrastructure (poles to place them on). So far there have been 10 cameras placed in Schiller Park. 9 on Lodi and Union Place. 4 cameras on Mary St. and Lilac St. Grant, Butternut, Highland and Park have about 12 cameras. On the North Salina St. corridor there are 10 cameras. If you want something, ask your politicians. Cameras can exonerate kids who didn't commit a crime. There is a free Recycling event on November 19th, the proceeds go to the Butternut Community Center.

V. **Announcements:**

- Special Project Announcement, please come to the January Meeting with proposals to present to the group, voting in February.
- Hatisha Holmes from CRB (Citizen Review Board) announced a community event to Bridge the Gap between Community and Police for Wednesday, November 9th 6-7pm at White Branch Library.
- John Meyer announced a Washington Square TNT Group meeting December 6th at the Presbyterian Church