



Ethical Humanist Society  
*of the*  
Triangle

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## *Spotlight News* Volume 5, Issue 6, June 1, 2013

**JUNE 1**

### **ANOTHER POTLUCK!!!**

For members and friends of the Ethical Humanist Society of The Triangle potluck will be held Saturday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the home of Eva Harrington & Ralph Balzac 6609 Huntingridge Rd, Chapel Hill

Come and share good food & good company.  
Please R.S.V.P. to Eva  
by Wednesday, May 29,  
and discuss what food dish you are bringing.  
(919) 493-8441

[Directions](#)

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**JUNE 2**

**“SWAT Teams, Drones, & Checkpoints:  
How Law Enforcement Practices Threaten Civil Liberties”  
Mike Meno, Communications Director  
ACLU of North Carolina**



Before joining the ACLU-NC, Mike worked in Washington, D.C., leading communications for the [Secular Coalition for America](#) and the [Marijuana Policy Project](#). Mike has been published in Web outlets as diverse as *Forbes* and *High Times* and quoted in hundreds of national and international news outlets. Mike managed a recent panel discussion the ACLU-NC hosted on “The State of Surveillance” with privacy experts and a representative from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

Changes in how the government handles security since 9/11 involve a radical reinterpretation of the rights and responsibilities of the executive branch, law enforcement organizations under

its control, and local enforcement agencies. Supporters of increased emphasis on effective crime control have adopted policies that are shocking and profound, not even contemplated at the height of the communist threat during America's Cold War. Law enforcement officials have openly asserted the right to arrest suspects without judicial review and impose incarceration without a trial or access to the courts, asserting criminal activities without evidence of criminal wrongdoing, and privacy rights are now in question.

## **IFC Food Pantry**

We will be collecting food and sundry items this Sunday for IFC. A list of current need is at [IFC Food Pantry](#). The economic recession has resulted in a loss of donations to this important social service agency, and it relies on organizations like ours to help its clients. Please contribute generously.

## **JUNE 9**

### **“Video Surveillance and the Right to Privacy” Group Discussion**

This month EHST held two platforms covering abuses of mass surveillance by law enforcement agencies and the corresponding infringement on privacy rights by making private data transparent. The discussion will cover the issues presented in these programs.

Privacy in the age of video surveillance is a serious concern. With the proliferation of video surveillance equipment in every conceivable situation of our daily lives, concealed video cameras are not a source of amusement but a real restriction on our right to privacy. A new generation of cameras, which can see through clothing and even building materials, is not far off. These devices will be capable of not only revealing if a person has a weapon under their clothing, but can produce a precise image of intimate anatomical details. We do not have to look to the future to find cases of abuse of video surveillance equipment. Serious problems exist today. Most people who have found themselves the unwilling subject of hidden video cameras have found that they have little recourse because there are no federal regulations, no state statutes, and no labor laws covering video surveillance. The same holds true for police surveillance videos.

In the past five decades, the U.S. Supreme Court has also determined that the Constitution's Fourteenth Amendment protects a personal right to privacy that is even broader than that which is guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment. Could this concept of a right to privacy potentially be used to exclude government surveillance programs that might also pass constitutional muster?

## **JUNE 16 - TBD**

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**AMERICAN ETHICAL UNION: 98th Annual Assembly**  
**June 13 - 16, 2013**



*"Inspiring Action: Making a Difference"*  
*Let's together write the next chapter in Ethical Culture's unique history.*

The Chesapeake region Ethical Culture Leaders and the AEU is helping each Ethical Society flourish and explore how each Society can get involved in the issues associated with mass incarceration. You'll find inspiration and education about practical ways to work for more humane criminal justice.

Our Assembly is an important point in our lives as Ethical Culturists. It is an opportunity to immerse ourselves in what it really means to belong to Ethical Culture. During Assembly, we gather with like-minded people and we experience the Movement in a larger context.

**JUNE 23**

**Dennis Gaddy, Executive Director  
Community Success Initiative**



Community Success Initiative (CSI) was founded in 2004 as a non-profit corporation in May 2004 to create communities where people discover their potential and establish positive goals for their lives. The emphasis is on men and women who are transitioning from prison and jail or find themselves entangled in the criminal justice system.

CSI provides participatory community training, gatherings and roundtables for people to network, exchange knowledge and resources, and solve problems. This organization aims to bridge community divisions and enhance learning, collaboration and leadership across these divisions. The individual and community training enables personal growth and leadership development. It promotes social and economic justice by advocating for policies and laws that benefit everyday people. Through relationships with local governments, non-profit organizations and community groups, these communities help shape and influence social and economic policies.

**JUNE 27**

**IFC Cook and Serve**

Our scheduled cook and serve project is this Thursday from 4:00 to 7:15 p.m. Contact Amy Piersma, [amypiersm@yahoo.com](mailto:amypiersm@yahoo.com), to sign up. The food is donated from the community and anyone who is hungry can eat. Our entire membership participates. On the fourth Thursday of each month, January through October, members cook from 4-6 p.m. and serve from 6-7:15 p.m. It's great fun and a worthy endeavor!

Community volunteers and volunteer groups representing congregations, businesses, neighborhoods and the University provide three nutritious, hot meals 365 days a year. The Kitchen Coordinator--the one paid staff member in the Community Kitchen--schedules and trains volunteers to prepare and serve meals. Nearly all of the food that is served is donated by local restaurants, food services, campus groups, farmers, congregations and businesses. The IFC partners with Farmer Foodshare and other local groups to provide fresh, locally-grown produce for the Community Kitchen.

**JUNE 30 – TBD**



**IFC 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
**June 6, 2013**

Thursday evening at the Friday Center the IFC will host its 50th Anniversary Celebration, *A Golden Event: Celebrating IFC's Past, Present and Future*. The celebration will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a reception and the program will begin at 6:00 pm.

At the celebration we will be honoring *50 Heroes/Heroines* from IFC's storied past and 50 organizations who have been instrumental to IFC's success.

We hope you can join us! Please [RSVP online](#) or call Allan Rosen at 919-929-6380 ext 47 if you plan to attend.