**Alaska Peace Center Community News and Actions** (and KWRK-LP 90.9 FM Radio Report on Mondays, 10am)

**Week of April 3rd, 2017**

Have your pens ready for opportunities to participate!

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**Briefly**: (keep track of the numbers of items you are interested in; I will return to them by number in more detail.)

**In the recent past:**
1. “IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT [UAF] DRINKING WATER
   **Ongoing:**
2. Hilcorp natural gas line leak in Cook Inlet continues.
4. Marine & Army high explosive Live-Fire exercises…spread depleted uranium
5. Boycott Amazon.com

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6. Re SB 72: Expand Civil Rights to the LGBT Community

**In the near future:**

**Monday, April 3rd:**
7. Fairbanks City Council Mtg, 800 Cushman St:

**Tuesday, April 4th:**
8. Fairbanks Activists Forum Mtg
9. Queer Trivia
10. FCAC Council mtg

**Wednesday, April 5th:**
11. Friends of Fox Spring Bd mtg.

**Thursday, April 6th:**
12. Alaska Peace Center meeting & board elections
13. Arbor Day Committee mtg
14. FbksNorthStarBorough Assembly Mtg
15. Safe City Planning Mtg,
16. Gender Pioneers Support Group

**Friday, April 7th:**
17. New Economy Working Group Mtg

18. Alaska Native Studies Conference
19. Stone's Throw Open House
20. All That Glitters Is Gold Pride Night!

**Saturday, April 8th:**
21. “The Right to be Cold: One Woman's Story of Protecting Her Culture, the Arctic and the Planet”
22. Fabulous Feminist Fundraiser

**Sunday, April 9th:**
23. Young Leaders Panel

**After next week:**
Tell President Trump not to approve another $390 million in arms sales to Saudi Arabia!

Policy & Politics Working Group Special mtg
Three things you can do before April 13.

UAF Peace Club mtg
Tax March
Gender Pioneers Ally Training
Sign Making Party
League of Women Voters Annual Convention
March for Science,
Earth Day

**Outside Alaska**

Resources for Peace, Justice, and Sustainability

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**In more detail:**
**Ongoing:**

1. **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT [UAF] DRINKING WATER**

   “Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) MCL Exceeded at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)

   “Our water system recently exceeded a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation.

   “We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results show that our system exceeded the Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) standard (Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule) maximum contaminant level (MCL) for TTHM in the 1st quarter of 2017. The LRAA is determined by averaging the sample analytical results for samples taken, according to a compliance monitoring plan, at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. The standard/MCL for TTHM is 0.080 mg/L. The level of TTHM at the Museum sampling location in the 1st quarter of 2017 averaged 0.101 mg/L.

   “WHAT SHOULD I DO?

   “-- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.

   “-- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

   “WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

   “This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

   “TTHM are four volatile organic chemicals which form when disinfectants react with natural organic matter in the water.

   “People who drink water containing excess trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

   “WHAT IS BEING DONE?

   “On April 8, 2016 UAF’s treated drinking water (TDW) source became College Utilities Corporation (CUC) TDW. To reduce TTHM levels in our distribution system, UAF is taking additional actions: 1) Lowering the amount of disinfection added to the distribution system after it is received from CUC while monitoring to ensure we meet the EPA’s disinfection residual requirements; and 2) In March 2017, UAF will be bypassing the water storage tank to reduce residence time of the disinfection product. This action should reduce the formation of TTHM. The connection was delayed from the January timeline mentioned in the prior notice due to a delay in receiving parts that were integral to the operation of the system.

   “An operation evaluation report for our distribution system is available upon request. For more information about the TTHM exceedance, including links to resources discussing TTHM, please visit the UAF Facilities Services website (www.uaf.edu/fs/), or contact Associate Vice Chancellor Scott Bell at 474-7000.

   “***Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.***

   “This notice is being sent to you by the University of Alaska Fairbanks Public Water System ID#: 310683

   Date posted/distributed: March 6, 2017”

2. Hilcorp natural gas line leak in Cook Inlet continues.

3. From Eyak Preservation Council & the Summer is for Salmon team: “the U.S. Navy is planning to conduct Northern Edge 2017, a live fire war game training exercise in the Gulf of Alaska, from 1 to 12 May…This is a time sensitive issue – [your Senators] need to hear from YOU…about this now! If conducted as planned, the Navy could disperse up to 352,000 pounds of expended materials from bombs, [etc] into Essential Fish Habitat…10,500 lbs are hazardous (e.g. lead, cyanide, cadmium).” For more, go to www.SummerIsForSalmon.org. And more at: www.seashepherdglobal.org/, https://inletkeeper.org/issues/gulf-of-alaska-bombing-range, http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/39846-naval-exercises-add-trillions-of-pieces-of-plastic-debris-to-oceans & http://www.truth-out.org/author/itemlist/user/44706.

4. From LM, now in Hawai’i: Series of Marine & Army high explosive Live-Fire exercises…spread depleted uranium oxide particles in the winds. “Pohakuloa is what they wanted to put in Salcha, [Alaska,] only bigger and on a smaller piece of land. They expanded it and are really ramping up everything they can. Locals not allowed near the area. Many sacred places being desecrated…http://malu-aina.org/”

5. From marchonfbx.com/2017/03/29/goodbye-amazon/ “Leas Boycott Amazon.com! So I did it! I pulled the plug on my Amazon prime account…My bottom line is that I can NOT support a company that supports bigotry and hate speech that is Breitbart news. From now on I’ll be purchasing my reading materials from Gulliver’s Books, online from… Powell’s Books Store or Better World Books.

   Huffington Post has a whole series of articles on the subject of the Amazon boycott [and the] As I read up on the subject prior to cancelling I came across amazon’s profile on the Ethical Consumer and it confirmed there were lots of good reasons to break away. I implore you all to flex your fiscal activism along with me…–Jeannine Haney”

6. From Anchorage Sen. Berta Gardner: SB 72: It's Past Time to Expand Civil Rights to the LGBT Community
Here are some common misconceptions about our LGBT community, and about the rights which this legislation would provide to them.

1. The LGBT community in Alaska does not experience much discrimination, so they don’t need additional protection.

**False.** Unfortunately, the reported rates of discrimination in Alaska are reflective of national trends, which are incredibly poor. According to a 2011 survey, 21% of the LGBT community in Anchorage report being denied a job, 18% report being denied a promotion, and 15% report being fired because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Sadly, 73% of respondents reported hiding their sexual orientation or gender identity at work in order to avoid discrimination or harassment.

2. Giving the LGBT community additional protections is bad for business, and in turn is bad for Alaska.

**False.** 53% of top companies in the U.S. have already adopted LGBT-supportive policies for economic reasons. Many businesses in Alaska have adopted these policies, as they help local business as well. Academic research suggests that such policies expand talent pools and help businesses retain good employees. A 2006 national poll found that 89% of LGBT respondents and 72% of non-LGBT respondents consider these policies when deciding where to work. Additionally, in 2015 the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation unanimously supported the Anchorage equal rights ordinance, (which added the same language to the city’s non-discrimination ordinance), as good for business in Anchorage.

3. Including the LGBT community in civil rights law infringes on our constitutional right to freely practice our religious beliefs.

**False.** We have a protected constitutional right to freely practice religion. Additionally, the Supreme Court found that anti-discrimination law does not fully apply to religious institutions. Religious institutions are free to discriminate in their employment and hiring practices.

4. Alaskans do not support such legislation. The ordinance which passed in Anchorage does not reflect the popular vote. Giving the LGBT community equal protections under the law is not what Alaskans want.

**False.** A poll in 2011 showed that 79% of Alaska residents believed Congress should pass a federal law to prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The LGBT community is an important part of our state as a whole, and one of the fastest-growing communities. LGBT households grew by 57% from 2000-2010, and currently make up approximately 4% of our total population. They are equally deserving of the civil rights and protections given to every other man, woman, and child, regardless of race, sex, marital status, pregnancy status, or disability. I hope to have your support for this bill which writes the LGBT community in to the Anti-Discrimination Act.

Testimony on the bill takes place Friday, March 31, at 1:30pm. You can participate in any of these ways:

- Participate in person at the Capitol Building Room 205,
- Testify at the Legislative Information Office on the 2nd floor of the Wells Fargo Building, on the corner of Minnesota and Benson in Anchorage, or at your local LIO.
- Give your testimony by phone at 1-844-586-9085.
- Email written testimony to me, or members of the committee whose contact information can be found here. Call or write the senators now to participate in this acknowledgment of human rights!

I'm Berta and I'm Listening, 907-269-0174 Sen.Berta.Gardner@akleg.gov
Send a letter to the Alaska Dispatch News

**In the near future:**

**Monday, April 3rd:** Legislative committee hearings and public testimony for the week not available on the website.

7. (From FAF:) 7-8:30pm, **Fairbanks City Council Mtg**, 800 Cushman St: at City Hall twice per month on Monday evenings. Citizen comments on items not up for public hearing take place at the beginning of the meeting, and are limited to five minutes; to complete the register located in the hallway. Remarks should be directed to the City Council as a body rather than to any particular Council Member or member of the staff. More information: www.fairbanksalaska.us/council-meeting/

(From War Resisters League calendar:) On April 3rd, 1946: 1st meeting of International Court of Justice, The Hague

**Tuesday, April 4th:**

8. (From FAF:) 6:45-8:30pm **Fairbanks Activists Forum (FAF) Mtg**, at the HUB, 410 2nd Ave #100, Fairbanks:(FAF) is a locally-built social action network.

9. (From FAF:) 8-11pm **Queer Trivia** at the Pub, UA Wood Center, 505 S Chandalar, Fairbanks: We’re here. We’re queer. And that’s right, my dear -- we’re hosting Trivia at the Pub! Unravel your inner queer genius, and let loose. Get smart. Slay. All are welcome to participate, only if you’re 21 or over. See you there!
   More information: contact the UA Nanook Diversity and Action Center at (907) 474-6311 or uaf-ndac@alaska.edu

10. (from FCAC:) 1-3pm **FCAC Council mtg** at CCHRC

On April 4th, 1968: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., assassinated in Memphis, TN, at age 39.

**Wednesday, April 5th:**

11. 6:30-8:30pm, **Friends of Fox Spring Bd mtg** at Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District office, 590 University Ave. Suite 2 (basement, use east door). For more information visit www.mscfundalaska.org or call 479-1213 ext 107

On April 5th, 1992: Over 500,000 march women’s reproductive rights, Washington, DC.
Thursday, April 6th:
12. 7pm Alaska Peace Center meeting & board elections: New/more board members needed! Help plan upcoming environmental costs of militarism education &/or actions, Safe City, Peace Feast, concert, Fair booth…College Mall ste 203, 3535 College Rd, above Fuji, by Gulliver’s Books. Questions? info@alaskapeace.org.

13. 4pm Arbor Day Committee mtg: “This is the time of year when life starts emerging from the snow, trees start to bud, and the Fairbanks Arbor Day Committee rises up with the rest!” Arbor Day this year will be on May 15th, and school will still be in session but on half days. Our first meeting will be the first week in April on Thursday, April 6 in the middle conference room at Dept of Natural Resources…Be thinking of public planting possibilities, teachers you may know, youth groups who might want to participate. See you all soon. Bring a friend or two, or send a replacement if you are no longer available.” For more information: ritchiemisick@gei.net.

14. (From FAF:) 6-9pm, FbsNorthStarBorough Assembly Mtg, Assembly Chambers, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks DescriptionFNSB welcome brochure: http://www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/assembly/Documents/Welcomes%20Brochure.pdf

15. (From FAF:) 6:30-8:30pm Safe City Planning Mtg, Sesame Place, 3535 College Rd. Fbs: The Safe City Fairbanks group is working to engage in a dialogue with community leaders regarding under-represented members in our community who are feeling disconnected and afraid due to the current national rhetoric and incendiary political climate. Sesame Place is located on the lower floor of College Mall, by Gulliver's Books. For more info: engibegave@gmail.com.

16. (From FAF:) 7-9pm Gender Pioneers Support Group: a peer-to-peer support group for all transgender, genderqueer, genderquestioning or otherwise gender-bending folks in Alaska's interior. Meetings are also open to friends, family members and supporters. We meet the first Thursday of each month. For location details please email genderpioneers@gmail.com

On April 6th, 1994: Rwandan & Burundian presidents killed in plane crash; ethnic warfare & genocide follow.

Friday, April 7th:
17. (from FCAC:) 11:00am-12:30pm New Economy Working Group Mtg at Native Movement Conference Rm. 1327 Hayes Ave, located upstairs of the Nomadic Stars shop. This is the building located across the street from Pad Thai and the former Radio Shack just off of College Rd, near the University. There is plenty of parking just across Hayes from our building, that is the Fun Time park parking lot, behind the radio shack building. fairbanksclimateaction@gmail.com


19. (From FAF:) 12-1pm, Stone's Throw Open House, 507 Gaffney Rd, Fairbanks: Throw Culinary Job Training Program is a hands-on job and culinary training program run by local non-profit Breadline. Students are taught by professional chefs in a hands-on environment for six hours per day. Join us at our monthly open house to learn more! Eat food. Learn about financial aid. Tour our kitchen. Meet current students. Ask questions. More information: https://breadlineak.org/project/stones-throw/

20. (From FAF:) 9pm-1am All That Glitters Is Gold Pride Night! at The Pub, UAF Wood Center. Come dressed in gold and celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride at The Pub, featuring DJ Pika! This event is hosted by the UAF Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) in anticipation of the 5th Annual GSA Drag Show on April 23rd. Come dance at Pride Night and receive a Pub sticker. Then bring that sticker to the GSA table; get $1 off Drag Show tickets! door prizes, costume contestants, & preview of the Drag Show! More info: email uafgsa@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/gsa.uaf/

On April 7th, 1991: 5,000 rally against police brutality a month after African-American Rodney King beaten by police.

Saturday, April 8th:
21. Alaska Native Studies Conference continues. See Friday note, plus:10- 11:30a “The Right to be Cold: One Women's Story of Protecting Her Culture, the Arctic and the Planet” by Nobel Prize Nominee Sheila Watt-Cloutier.

22. (From FAF:) 6-10pm, Fabulous Feminist Fundraiser, at Fairbanks Hotel & Conference Center, 813 Noble St: Annual Fairbanks fundraiser and celebration! Funds raised support the Alaska Women's Lobby, which supports women's and children's issues in the Legislature. Funds also support local community organizations that support the health and welfare of women and children in Alaska. This is a ticketed event. For more information contact FabFemFundraiser@gmail.com or visit www.akwomenslobby.org/fft.html

On April 8th, 563 BCE: Supreme Buddha Siddhartha Gautama born.

Sunday, April 9th:
23. (From FAF:) 2:15-4:15pm, Alaska Native Studies Conference: Young Leaders Panel, UAF, See Friday’s note.

On April 9th, 1898: birth of Paul Robeson, football star, lawyer, actor, singer, equal rights activist.

After next week:
--Tell President Trump not to approve another $390 million in arms sales to Saudi Arabia!
--From NAEC: Policy & Politics Working Group Special mtg, April 11, 5:30-7pm, Location TBD
Outside Alaska
From WorldBeyondWar.org  April 4, 2017, marks 100 years since the U.S. Senate voted to enter World War I, and 50 years since Martin Luther King Jr. spoke against war on Vietnam. Treaty negotiations are underway in New York to ban nuclear weapons. watch the live video from anywhere.

Legislative Action
https://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/legislative-action/

Trainings, Speakers, other activities:

--(from dy): “N.M. hit by ‘flash drought’ weather phenomenon… Coming from Los Alamos, the heart of USG nuke research, it's more than ironic that there's not an iota of concern about the nuke waste that's blowing in the wind. Spoils of radiation warfare litter the NM landscape. Winds that scour valleys deposit rad dust on mountain snowpacks. When it melts, down come the rads. Water captured for domestic utility and the needs of agriculture and animal stock is a Trojan Horse. Water keeps the stuff in suspension, forever moving through the ecosystem. Wildfires that burn for days liberate rads bound in the vegetation…”

--Ann Wright: Massive Civilian Casualties Continue in Iraq, 14 Years After I Resigned In Opposition to the Iraq War. To view the new Article, please click here: https://www.opednews.com/articles/Massive-Civilian-Casualty-by-Ann-Wright-Government_Iraq_Iraq-War_Resignation-170330-436.html

from http://www.paceebene.org/event/  Nonviolent Witness at Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab  4-14-17 Livermore, CA

--From Veterans For Peace: Beyond Vietnam Speech: Sign Up for the ThunderClap! April 4, 2017, will be the 50th anniv of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s speech Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence. [Also:] Pivot Toward War: US Missile Defense & the Weaponization of Space: Organizing Conference & Protest April 7-9, 2017, in Alabama. Learn more about this conference at the Global Network Website Watch the Video! At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oahqi_X9tw

…[and] April 15 - Kellogg-Briand Pact Contest Final Deadline

April 23 - Earth Day: Exposing the Environmental Costs of War
April 23-29 - 3rd Annual Shut Down Creech in Las Vegas, NV [where assassin drones are controlled]
The Golden Rule Sails Again for a Nuclear-Free World 3-31-17 by H.Jaccard: VFP will again play a big role in the voyage of the Golden Rule Anti-Nuclear Protest Boat as she sails to most California Ports this summer - ... “To end the arms race and to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons”. www.veteransforpeace.org

Climate Change, War, and the U.S. Military
3-31-17 by Jim Driscoll with modifications by Tarak Kauff
The U.S. military is more dangerous to the climate than is Donald Trump.
The U.S. military generates more greenhouse emissions than any other organization on earth.
The U.S. military wastes money that could be used to shift our nation to a green economy.
War itself generates emissions and destroys the environment as does rebuilding after war.
Military reports on climate as a threat to national security merely make a new list of wars they are ready to fight.
Psychologically, the military prevents people from taking action on climate.
Sociologically, …
The military and militarized police… give protection to… environmentally destructive corporate interests.
A militarized species will simply not survive…

No Haul Campaign
This campaign strives to prevent operations related to Canyon Mine, a reactivated uranium mine just east of Hwy 64 that leads to Grand Canyon Village; Canyon Mine is located approximately 2 miles from the south rim of the Grand Canyon. The intent of Energy Fuels mining company is to run up to 25 trucks per day, each one carrying up to 32 tons of uranium ore a total of 300 miles, the bulk of which will travel through Dine’ and Hopi land to a processing site called White Mesa Mill, in Utah. These trucks will not only create more danger for other highway users (including Dine’ and Hopi) but also a constant possibility of radioactive contamination along the route. Because of trucking rules, any load like this that’s less than 32 tons only needs a plastic tarp covering it, with fasteners every 6 feet along the trailer sides.  

Peace Pirate Camps  This is a chance for veterans, youth, women and others to join together to learn to sail, learn the principles of non-violent direct action, participate in an action planned during the camp, and learn about nuclear issues today…
April 4 – 28 in San Francisco Bay and…San Diego…  Santa Barbara, Aug 4-5:
Contact poolees@hotmail.com.

April 7-9 - 50th Anniversary of MLK Jr.’s “Beyond Vietnam” Speech
Global Network Conference; "Pivot Toward War: U.S. Missile Defense & the Weaponization of Space"
May 5-7 National War Tax Resistance Gathering: Raising the Stakes: Resistance and Community Survival in Troubled Times

April 23-29 - 3rd Annual Shut Down Creech in Las Vegas, NV

Apr 15 - Kellogg-Briand Pact Essay Contest Final Deadline

April 29 - Peoples Climate Movement March in Washington D.C.

May 1 - May Day

Peoples Climate Movement March

May 5-7 National War Tax Resistance Gathering: Raising the Stakes: Resistance and Community Survival in Troubled Times

Aug 9-13 - VFP Annual Convention, "Education Not Militarization," Chicago

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Resources for Peace, Justice, and Sustainability:

Alaska Peace Center Open Hours  Fridays 5-7pm: Come browse our library of literature & media relevant to peace, justice, and sustainability, have a cup of tea or coffee; discuss what’s going on, or watch a movie.

Email Alaska Peace Center at info@alaskapeace.org. The website is alaskapeace.org; also Facebook.

We have many local, state, national, and international events and resources listed and available: please contact us at info@alaskapeace.org for more information and details, or to get on our email list, to which the expanded news brief is sent.

Northern Alaska Environmental Center http://northern.org/
Fairbanks Climate Action Coalition calendar: http://fairbanksclimateaction.org/index.php/events-and-meetings/
Fairbanks Activist Forum calendar: https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=fairbanksactivistsforum%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Anchorage
MarchOnFBX: https://marchonfbx.com/alerts/
Rapid Response Alerts Hashtag #FBXaction for spur of the moment actions.

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Fairbanks North Star Borough assembly meets alternate Thursday evenings:
http://www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/cp/Documents/FNSB%20MEETING%20DATES%20AND%20DEADLINES.pdf

2017 Alaska State Legislature... http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/start.asp

Legislative information office [LIO]: 452-4448, in AlaskaUSA bldg. on Sadler Way just south of HomeDepot

Alaska’s Congressional delegation: Capitol switchboard 1-202-224-3121;

Email via web site: donyoung.house.gov; AK offices in Fbks 100 Cushman St ste 307; Anch: 4241 B st, ste 203

Wasilla-376-7665/F. 376-8526; Kenai-283-5808/F.283-4363  Email via: murkowski.senate.gov;
AK offices in Fbks-Federal Bldg101- 12th Ave ste 329; in Anch-510 L St, ste 600; JNU-800 Glacier Ave, ste 101; Kenai-805 Frontage Rd ste 105;
Ketchikan-1900 First Ave,ste 225.

Kenai-283-4000/f.4401; Ketchikan-225-6880/f.0390  Email via: sullivan.senate.gov/contact; AK offices in Fbks-Fed Bldg 101 12th ave ste 328;
Anch-510 L St ste 750; JNU-800 Glacier ave ste 101; Wasilla-851 E.Westpt Dr.ste309; Kenai-805 Frontage Rd ste 101; Ketchikan-1900 1"ave ste 225.

A reminder! Today and every day: visit, call, email, write your legislators, congresspersons and city and borough assemblies and write letters to the editor about issues being acted on and affecting peace, justice, and sustainability.

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May Peace be with you!    Have a good week!