



3535 College Rd, suite 203, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

www.alaskapeace.org info@AlaskaPeace.org

Community News and Opportunities for Action,

*reporting on events and issues of peace, justice, and sustainability affecting us and future generations in Alaska, broadcasting on **Sundays, 8am & 6pm** on KWRK-LP 90.9 FM Radio in Fairbanks, Alaska.*

WEEK of FEBRUARY 4th, 2018

Be ready for opportunities to participate!

Day, Date	Time	Event Description, Contact information	Where?
month of February		The Fairbanks North Star Borough School Board recognizes February as Black History Month : "...and encourages schools and teachers to honor it with performances, readings, guest appearances, displays, lessons, lectures, and cultural celebrations throughout the year."	see the FNSBSB citation
		<u><i>This Week Opportunities for Action in more Detail</i></u>	
		<p>(Some) Issues of Peace, Justice, and Sustainability to be brought up</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This week in the Alaska Legislature:</p> <p>--Mon 12:15 PM Judiciary Budget Overview: follow-up discussion TELECONFERENCED</p> <p>-- HB 322 OIL SPILLS/POLLUTION: PENALTIES; PREVENTION 3:15 SB 64 ADOPT UNIFORM ENVIRONMENTAL COVENANTS -- Public Testimony --</p> <p>--Tues 7am Sexual & Other Workplace Harassment Policy 8am Overviews:- Pretrial Enforcement Div. - Electronic Monitoring Programs-- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- 10am Div. of Wildlife Conservation-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --**Streamed live on AKL.tv**</p> <p>1pm HB 307 MILITARY JUSTICE & MILITIA CIVIL RELIEF "An Act requiring a person who commits certain offenses under the code of military justice to register as a sex offender or child kidnapper; relating to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act; relating to contracts made by a member of the organized militia; relating to nonjudicial punishment of members of the organized militia; relating to offenses subject to court-martial proceedings; and providing for an effective date." <u>See more of the legislative schedule and links at this link.</u></p> <p>2-2-18 from Rep.Kawasaki: "HB 287 would fund our public schools in advance of the full state budget so that education is not put in jeopardy during the contentious end-of-session budget debates...</p> <p>Protecting a Free & Open Internet: HB 277 & HJR 31 [L]egislation to protect net neutrality in Alaska and urge Congress to overturn the Federal Communications Commission order reversing net neutrality protections: HJR 31, HB 277, SJR 12, and SB 160 would ensure the internet remains a free and open place for personal communications and commerce. Click here to submit a letter to the Alaska Legislature... We will be taking [live] public testimony for net neutrality [this] week! HB 277 will be heard in the House Labor & Commerce Committee on Feb. 9 and HJR 31 will be introduced in the State Affairs Committee on Feb. 6 and heard again on Feb. 8 for public testimony...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Go to www.alaskapeace.org "Community News" for a link to Community organizations and contact info for local, state, and federal government representatives.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Contact your Legislative Information Office to be involved as legislation is created & debated. In Fairbanks: 452-4448</i></p>

		<p><i>House Bill 236, which extends the Senior Benefits Program, will be heard in the House Health and Social Services Committee on Tuesday, Feb 6, and heard in the House Finance Committee the next day. The Senior Benefits Program provides nearly 12,000 low-income seniors with modest monthly cash assistance for help with everyday needs like medication, food and housing... Read this Senior Benefits fact sheet for more information on this important program. “</i></p> <p><i>from state Sen. Berta Gartner: Among bills passed out of Senate Labor & Commerce Committee: House Bill (HB) 86: Student Loan Default and Occupational License Renewal Currently, state law makes it possible for boards to take away someone’s professional license due to default on a state education loan. If a nurse’s license to work is revoked, it makes it very difficult for that nurse to pay off his loans! ...revocation ...damages collection efforts and encouraged skilled, qualified workers to leave the state to avoid collection efforts. This bill would repeal the state’s ability to cancel someone’s license for non-payment of a state loan.</i></p>	
Sunday Feb. 4	all day	North Pole and Fairbanks - Stage 2 air alert in effect. No burning w/o a NOASH*. For more info call 459-1234 or AQFairbanks.com . * “No Other Adequate Source of Heat” since 2/2.	North Pole and Fairbanks non-attainment areas
Monday Feb. 5	until 5pm	Fairbanks Stage 1 & North Pole Stage 2 air alert in effect. Expires Feb.5 at 5pm. No burning w/o a NOASH*. For more info call 459-1234 or AQFairbanks.com . * “No Other Adequate Source of Heat”	North Pole and Fairbanks non-attainment areas
Tuesday Feb. 6	6:45-8:30pm	The Spring semester of the Fairbanks Peace Choir practices start, continuing weekly until Apr. 28. Come join us! We gather for snacks at 6:30, then warm up at 6:45. We are done by 8:30. We ask for a \$75 donation to pay for the music, conductor and accompanist. But there are scholarships, so please don't let this discourage anyone for whom that is difficult. Our motto ‘Creating a culture of Peace through song’ finds increasing relevance in today's world. Directed by Flynn Ludington and accompanied by Dr. Paul Krejci. For info call 322-2521.	Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4448 Pikes Landing Rd. (Across from the Princess Hotel).
Thursday Feb. 8	6pm	Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly mtg. Agenda items include a proposed amendment to criteria for No Other Adequate Source of Heat determinations & to borough listed appliances;	Borough Bldg Assembly Chambers
Friday Feb. 9	6-7:30am Alaska Time	Webinar on Sanction's Impact on N. Korean People Please join Women Cross DMZ for a global roundtable discussion with leading experts from a broad range of fields and disciplines: humanitarian aid, medical, legal, political economy, and women’s peace movements. Speakers will provide a comprehensive overview of the extraordinary costs of sanctions on the daily lives of ordinary North Korean civilians, offer lessons learned from US-led sanctions against Iraq, and explore what the international community can do.	online
Saturday Feb. 10	10am-4pm	Multicultural Workshop “Join ... Rev. Jonipher Kuponon-Kwong in exploring culture defined broadly by increasing both our intercultural competency and cultural humility. Lunch will be provided. All are welcome! It is a presentation UU minister geared towards congregations but the information can be used by many different groups seeking to be more inclusive. Please Register ahead of time via admin@uuff.org or call 907-451-8838.”	Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks

After This Week

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Mon, 2/ 12.	12 noon & 6 pm	<p>“Mayor: What should the borough cut?” FNSB Mayor Karl Kassel said he is looking at eliminating borough services and closing facilities. He wants guidance from area residents about what to close and what to cut. A telephone survey started recently in which about 400 residents will be contacted about their priorities on borough services. Two town hall mtgs are planned ...”</p> <p>Read the article at newsminer.com 1-26-18.</p>	Pioneer Park
Fri, 2/16	all Day	<p>Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. See link at https://www.k12northstar.org/cms/lib/AK01901510/Centricity/Domain/1500/Resolution%202018-12%20Honoring%20Elizabeth%20Peratrovich%20Day%20-%20Signed.pdf</p>	
Thurs, 2/22	12-1pm	Fairbanks Housing & Homeless Coalition February Mtg	City Hall Chambers
Fri, 2/23	6-9pm	Alaska Peace Center Potluck and Presentation: Youth Court and Restorative Justice by Jazzanne Fretwell.	location to be decided.
until 3/9		<p>ACTION ALERT: Trump Administration announces "<u>National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program</u>." Public commenting period open until March 9th, 2018. <u>Learn more HERE</u></p>	
Sat, 3/24	10am	<p>Decolonize Your Mind: Untangle History - Building Liberation</p> <p>Save the date for a Native Movement/FCAC training focused on decolonization, details to follow!! In the mean time, this is how we define decolonization: the conscious -- intelligent, calculated, & active – unlearning & resistance to the forces of colonization that perpetuate the subjugation and exploitation of minds, bodies, & lands. And it is engaged for the ultimate purpose of overturning the colonial structure & realizing Indigenous liberation. Training with Native Movement http://www.nativemovement.org/</p>	

Good News category:

via *NAEC*: “ :: [EPA to block controversial Alaska mine](#). The Trump administration is reviving a controversial Obama administration proposal to block a massive gold mine proposed in Alaska after previously saying it would revive the proposal. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) chief [Scott Pruitt](#) announced the surprise reversal late Friday, saying that the EPA now believes that the Pebble Mine project would be unacceptably harmful to Bristol Bay and its tributaries. *The Hill*.”

Ongoing Campaigns, Recent Past Events, and/or Issues not specific to Alaska

Peace

No "Preventive" War on North Korea
from Friends Committee on National Legislation 2-2-18:“The White House has requested more military options on North Korea¹ and has the power to launch a nuclear strike – without provocation, without congressional influence, and without warning. Congress must stop the president from starting (or threatening) a war of choice, with or without nuclear weapons. New legislation would block the president from starting a "preventive" war with North Korea without congressional consent – our best chance to avoid a

Justice

“Fairbanks Four” 2-1-18 update:
“VICE – The Fairbanks Four
 Please join us in watching this short form look at the Fairbanks Four case presented as part of Vice’s Red Right Hand series. We are excited to participate in amplifying the stories of indigenous fights for justice and equality.” Watch the 32-min film at thefairbanksfour You may also want to re-read this page from the site: <https://thefairbanksfour.org/2014/05/07/fairbanks-police-and-district-attorney-hid-a-murder-confession-in-fairbanks-four-case/>.

Sustainability

Northern Alaska Environmental Center:
“Great news for everyone who hunts, fishes, picks berries, hikes, and explores at Tangle Lakes! Representative Andy Josephson has pre-filed [House Bill 272](#) with the Alaska State Legislature to establish a Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge. Send him an email thanking him for hearing the voices of all those who have spoken out over the years for Tangles Lakes' protection at Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov. And contact your own state representative and senator to voice your support, and share why Tangle Lakes is important to you. Please send a copy to Rep. Josephson. [this page](#) shows who represents you.”

catastrophic war. Edit a letter for Rep. Young at [No Unconstitutional Strike](#)

from [divest@codepink.org](#): "As we watch our country invest more of our money in weapons and war, we can take action and send a message to companies like Lockheed Martin that we will not invest in their acts of war.

This week the Divest from the War Machine is hosting a week of action, kicking off our campaign to divest financial institutions, cities, universities, and faith communities from war!

No matter where you are, you can join us and take action every day! [Simply click here to join us](#). We will send you a quick social media action by email each day.. the toll that war takes on human rights, the environment, healthcare, and women... CODEPINK and our friends are hosting actions around the country all week, and we're also sending a message to investors that they need to **stop making a killing on killing**. You can also join our [Thunderclap](#) on Saturday, February 10, and share this email to invite your friends to [divest from war](#)... CODEPINK is a women-led grassroots organization working to end U.S. wars and militarism, support peace and human rights initiatives, and redirect our tax dollars into healthcare, education, green jobs and other life-affirming programs."

from [worldbeyodwar.org](#): "**Allow Parents the Option to Protect Kids from Military Recruiters in High Schools...** to replace a culture of war with one of peace... starts by **ending the militarization of America's children while they attend public schools**. The U.S. military collects the names, addresses, and phone numbers of our children from the local high schools [and later contacts them, often without their parents' knowledge or oversight]. The law says parents have the right to "opt-out" from having their child's information sent to recruiters. High schools are supposed to tell parents they have this right, but many fail to do so. [So] **most parents don't know what's going on**, while the Pentagon collects their child's information. [Click here to easily email your state legislators to](#)

from [info@cpdaction.org 2-1-18](#):

"Tell Congress #HandsOff our social safety net! My name is Sumer Cave-Dill, and I'm a 21-year-old student at Concord University. I'm an active member of Our Children, Our Future and an intern for National Safety Net... I was 14 years old when my mother got cancer but could not access healthcare to get it treated; this was before the Affordable Care Act, and she simply couldn't afford medical insurance despite working at a hospital. Like many working Americans who cannot live on the meager earnings of even full-time work, my mother was not quite making it. This dramatically worsened because of the cancer, which meant working was nearly impossible near the end, so getting a little help from being on disability was all that she had. Since she was the only breadwinner, my siblings and I were also not making it — sometimes going without food, power, or heat. For weeks at a time, we depended on other families to invite us to dinner or offer a place to stay. By the time the Affordable Care Act passed and she was able to get into an insurance plan through it, she was already at stage 4. Five months later, at age 49, she was gone. When they talk on Capitol Hill about cutting "entitlements," I can think of so many people across this country who would be sentenced to homelessness and desperation with a simple vote by millionaires who have no idea what it's like out here. **This is life and death. Join me and hundreds of others today in telling Congress #HandsOff, no cuts!"**

Heard on Ralph Nader Radio Hour Friday 8pm on KWRK-LP 90.9FM: "Investigative journalist Pratap Chatterjee joins us for a deep dive into his graphic non-fiction book **"Verax: The True History of Whistleblowers, Drone Warfare, and Mass Surveillance,"** which reveals the dark underbelly of how the U.S. conducts the so-called War on Terror." The program repeats Sunday 9am, Monday 2pm, Tues 2am, or go to [ralphnaderradiohour.com](#).

:: [Alaska delegation wants Trump administration to reduce offshore drilling plan.](#)

Alaska's congressional delegation wants the Trump administration to sharply reduce its giant offshore drilling strategy in Alaska, leaving only the U.S. Arctic Ocean and Cook Inlet in the plan. Rep. Don Young and Sens. Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan want 11 of 14 basins removed from the five-year leasing program that has been proposed off Alaska coasts, they said [in a letter](#) sent Friday to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. *ADN*.

from [Center for Science in the Public Interest 2-2-18](#): "Over 80% of Americans across all political parties want menu labeling, according to a new Jan 2018 poll released by CSPI. National menu labeling will go into effect in May, **allowing consumers to make their own choices** about how many calories to eat when eating out. While many establishments are already labeling calories or working toward [it, some] are pushing the so-called Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act (HR.772) for a vote in the House of Representatives **next week**. [Please contact your Representative today to oppose the anti-menu-labeling bill](#). Best, M.G. Wootan, Vice Pres. for Nutrition."

"US salmon producer fined \$332K for farmed fish escape ...AP— The largest U.S. producer of farmed Atlantic salmon was fined \$332,000 on Tuesday for alleged violations of Washington state water quality laws after **hundreds of thousands of invasive Atlantic salmon were released last year** into waters famed for their native salmon, state officials said."

Read the article at [newsminer.com 2-2-18](#).

"Delegation wants limit on drilling plan AP: Alaska's all-Republican congressional delegation 3 weeks ago praised Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke after he announced nearly all federal waters off the state's coast could be offered for oil & gas drilling. But after further consideration, U.S. Sens. Murkowski & Sullivan & Rep. Young say they will support lease sales between 2019 - 2024 in just 3 areas: Cook Inlet, where petroleum platforms have extracted oil and natural gas for decades, and the Arctic waters of the Chukchi & Beaufort seas. In a letter Friday to Zinke, the delegation

insist that parents be afforded the right to say they don't want their child's information given to the Pentagon."

from fairbanksclimateaction.org:
Action Alert: Alaska Offshore Ocean & Coastal Drilling public commenting period open until March 9th, 2018!

requested that most Alaska waters from the Panhandle to the Bering Strait be removed from the proposed 5-yr drilling plan."
from newsminer.com 1-29-18

Spotlight

Black History Month:

The [National Underground Railroad Freedom Center](#) in Ohio, where "so many of our citizens put their bodies and freedom on the line to help others escape horrific bondage... - the Ohio River was crossed by many enslaved African Americans seeking liberation." Learn and see **what you can do about modern-day slavery** at <http://www.endslaverynow.org/>; download the Slave-Free Buying Guide there.

Songs that increase our understanding of issues of peace, justice, and sustainability played with today's newscast:

--Breaking Down the Walls by Susan Grace

-- Song For Rachel by Walkin' Jim Stoltz

-- The Blind Men and the Elephant, words by John Godfrey Saxe, music & singing by Natalie Merchant

The Feb. 4th newscast also included audio from a gathering last week at the Noel Wien Public Library at which Sustainability Commission member Jimmy Fox solicited community input on what folks want the commission to work on; and an interview with teacher Alison Wylde about integrating sustainability ideas and practices in schools.

This summary of issues of importance to citizens of Interior Alaska, and information on how, when, and where to take action on those issues, has been brought to you by the Alaska Peace Center.

The Alaska Peace Center works for peace, justice, and sustainability

- individually, in our community, and globally -

with a commitment to nonviolent conflict resolution.

We bring in speakers, sponsor exhibits, and encourage dialogue within our community on these issues.

We also maintain an office in conjunction with this radio station, KWRK.

If you would like to support these activities

and you would prefer not to subsidize PayPal you can send a check to

Alaska Peace Center, 3535 College Road Suite 203, Fairbanks, AK 99709;

or you can make a donation via PayPal at our website, www.alaskapeace.org,

Email us at info@alaskapeace.org

Visit our website: www.alaskapeace.org for more information and details, or to get on our email list, to which the expanded news brief is sent; also see our Facebook page.

Feedback to, and Submissions for inclusion in, this weekly news brief are welcome.

Please include "for news" in the subject line.

May Peace be with you! Have a good week!

Please respond via info@alaskapeace.org; please do not use "reply".

"True peace is not merely the absence of tension. It is the presence of justice." Martin Luther King, Jr.