



Issue 10

Spring 2014

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Dear Friends of Peace, Justice, & Sustainability!

A brief update on events we have organized in the past year

Heather Koponen

Open hours established every Tuesday 5-8pm.
Board meetings first Thursdays, 7pm. All welcome!
Potluck & presentation each last Friday (except April-May 2014 due to other events listed below)
Updated website (www.alaskapeace.org) **and facebook page** (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Alaska-Peace-Center/619715171424944>.)

Past events:

- Jun 2, 13 1st Annual Peace Feast
- Aug 2-11 Booth at Tanana Valley State Fair (hundreds of visitors)
- Aug 14 *Struggle for Justice and Equality in Modern Times* by Roy Bourgeois***
- Ongoing Nonviolent Communication classes - Thursday evenings
- Oct 10 *No Winged Robot Assassins North/Keep Space For Peace* *
- Nov 11 *Ring In Peace* on Armistice Day **
- Nov 12 Fairbanks Open Radio became a project under APC non-profit umbrella for the purposes of applying for a low-power radio station construction permit.
- Nov 29 Potluck movie presentation - *The Internationale*
- Dec 27 Potluck movie presentation - *Ghost of Jeju island*
- Jan 31, 14 Potluck presentation - *Code Pink Summit* recordings from Rob, who also attended the first week of "Collateral Damage" whistleblower PFC Manning's court martial hearing.

- Feb 6 Fairbanks Open Radio/APC granted construction permit by FCC for KWRK-LPFM Fairbanks.
 - Feb 28 Potluck Presentation – Doug Yates presents *Fukushima and Alaska*
 - Mar 27 Fairbanks City Council & North Star Borough passed Resolutions to test radioisotopes in Alaska fish, soon after which testing began.
 - Mar 13 Pete Seeger Sing-Along at Unitarian Fellowship****
 - Mar 17 Call for Moratorium on Militarization of Alaska's Economy Spring Days of Action*
 - Mar 28 Potluck Presentation - Susan Grace presents *BHUTAN: Happiness...a GNP?**
- * In coordination with North Star Veterans for Peace
** In coordination with Chena Ridge Friends Meeting
*** In coordination with Call to Action Alaska
**** In coordination with Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Upcoming events:

- Apr 22 Celebration of Earth Day and 50th Anniversary of Wilderness Act at Pioneer Park
 - Apr 25-27 Alternatives to Violence Program weekend training workshop**
 - May 3 Fairbanks Peace Choir Spring Concert at UUFF
 - May 31 - 2nd Annual Peace Feast and General membership meeting at Pioneer Park NW pavilion
 - Aug 1-9 Booth at Tanana Valley Fair
- TBD - What activities and events would YOU like to see Alaska Peace Center sponsor?**

We hope you find these activities worthy of your continued support. Please consider sending a donation and/or indicating how you would like to volunteer.

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Who's Encroaching on Whom?

Impacts on Interior Alaskans by Preparations for Wars

Heather Koponen

"Tall structures such as radio towers and noise-sensitive buildings such as homes, schools and hospitals aren't good fits for areas that are near airfields or shooting ranges ... community growth is now threatening the

military installations by encroaching on their boundaries and preventing them from making maximum use of their training lands,” say Borough staff.

Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) and military in Interior Alaska have been working on a “*Joint Land Use Study (JLUS): Fostering Compatible Communities.*”

In 2013, the borough held meetings to get public input “because it will likely result in land use changes that affect your property.” At a crowded Sept. 18 meeting, it was presented that many landowners around the bases - and along Airport Way, including the hospital, library, and several schools - are in effect “encroaching” on the expanding military “mission,” by being where a jet might fall on them (“body count”) or by being bothered by military noise (F-35s are 3.5 times louder than F-16s.)

Attendees were given a survey of options to lessen civilian encroachment on the military mission, i.e. re-zoning, plat notes, fee-simple land purchases or eminent domain, transfer or purchase of development rights, advisory noise & height & safety overlays. Proposals to relocate firing ranges or consolidate bases were presented as clearly undesirable because, “... our borough is now dependent on the military for nearly 38 percent of total economic activity.” See the survey via <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/communityplanning/JointLandUseStudy>.

Attendees overwhelmingly expressed that it appears the military is encroaching on them, not the other way around.

Is military encroachment part of the vision you have for our community?
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**KWRK-LPFM 90.9 Fairbanks Public
Announcement**

Flyn Ludington

In a rare opportunity to expand community based media in Fairbanks, the Alaska Peace Center and Fairbanks Open Radio have been granted a construction permit to build and operate a noncommercial, educational, low-power FM radio station.

For the last ten years, media justice activist groups coordinated by the Prometheus Radio Project of New York have been pushing the FCC to allow non-profit community organizations to own and operate radio stations on the FM band. Since the last permits were granted in 2000, Congress has restricted community access to the airwaves and halted the issue of low-power licenses. Despite the tremendous corporate media influence and legislative restrictions, the enactment of the Local Community Radio Act of 2011 forced the FCC to

provide a one-time opportunity for 1000 new low-power noncommercial radio licenses to be granted across the country. The application process opened briefly in the fall of 2013, and Fairbanks Open Radio jumped at the chance to further their mission to bring independent, locally-produced radio to the Fairbanks area.

The new station, KWRK-LP, will begin broadcasting at 90.9 FM early in 2015.

Fairbanks Open Radio will produce open, interactive radio content that emphasizes issues relevant to Fairbanks, Interior Alaska, and the circumpolar north and the local impacts of global events.

FOR will broadcast socially and culturally relevant content which will include locally produced music and drama; interviews with living legends of northern history; children’s shows; book readings; philosophical musings; news analysis; and more. FOR will also broadcast nationally syndicated programs not readily available elsewhere on the local dial.

KWRK will give voice to the underrepresented members of our community such as the homeless and poor, the incarcerated, LGBTQs, Alaska Natives, veterans and military families, peace activists and other social and environmental justice advocates, our elders and youth, students, and the rest of Alaska’s working class.

The 100-watt FM signal will reach a radius of roughly four miles from the intersection of College and University. FOR invites the public to participate in this new, full-time, volunteer-powered community radio station. To get involved, find Fairbanks Open Radio on facebook or call the office at 347-0577.
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Fairbanks Peace Choir Spring Concert

Suzanne Osborn and Flyn Ludington

The Fairbanks Peace Choir has been singing together for nearly ten years! Organized from the beginning by Suzanne Osborn, the choir has been directed by Susan Grace, Gianna Drogheo and David Bowen. The choir was first accompanied on the piano by Suzi Lozo. In 2007, Dr. Paul Krejci was recruited and has since become a mainstay on the ivories. The choir has undergone some minor changes over the years and was called ReJoySing for a few years. In the fall of 2011, Flyn Ludington took over the directorship. Since then, the group has reclaimed their previous name and identity as the Fairbanks Peace Choir, and has established a board of choir members dedicated to furthering the group’s mission: “to promote a culture of peace through song.” Most recently, the Fairbanks Peace Choir has joined with the Alaska Peace Center, making it possible for FPC to

continue promoting peace and social justice in Fairbanks, as part of a larger non-profit organization.

Please join us for a Spring Concert on Saturday, May 3, 7:30 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4448 Pike's Landing Road across from the Princess Hotel. The choir will celebrate the life of Pete Seeger, the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, and feats of other historical figures, such as the Diggers of the 1600's who stood up for human equality in agrarian England. The concert will also feature solo performances by Flynn Ludington, director and Dr. Paul Krejci, pianist. Dessert will follow. A \$10 donation is suggested.

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Alternatives to Violence Workshop Coming to Fairbanks!

Carrie Farr

As you may already know, a beginning AVP workshop is coming to Fairbanks and will take place on April 25-27 at the Stone Soup Café on Gaffney Road. We are excited to offer this workshop in Fairbanks because, although we may not think of ourselves as violent people, we all can learn better ways to handle disputes and disagreements. As it says on the AVP website, conflict is inevitable but violence is not. We have a long-term goal of forming an AVP group in Fairbanks that could work with the general public as well as specific groups that are living in violence, such as those in our jails. In order to get to that point, there are 3 classes that need to be completed and an apprenticeship period. One of AVP's success stories involves a school in Philadelphia with a long history of violence that was transformed after all the adults in the school took a beginning AVP class (<http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2013/07/a-philadelphiaschools-big-bet-on-nonviolence/277893/>). Registration is still open for the workshop! Please contact Carrie Farr at chugny@yahoo.com or 907-750-1049 or Diane Preston at 347-8606.

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Important Public Meetings in April

Rob Mulford

The Fairbanks Borough Economic Development Commission is meeting to garner support for stationing F-35s and Weaponized Drones in the area, Tuesday 22 Apr 2014, 3:30 pm at the Borough Office building: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9Mis7bUkoq9MXEtR29lMGFMTzg/edit?usp=sharing>

Fairbanks Borough Assembly meeting Thursday, 24 Apr 2014, 7 pm (get there early to sign up). The Borough Assembly will discuss and likely vote on Ordinance 20113-20-2k, appropriating \$250,000 toward promoting the expansion of Fort Wainwright and Eielson AFB missions, including F-35s and Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex Weaponized Drones. The agenda is not available yet. The ordinance: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9Mis7bUkoq9VFI4S2ZnMTR4dE0/edit?usp=sharing>

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Agent Orange Bill Introduced in Congress

Alan Batten

This isn't new news, but many Alaskans may not be aware that HR 2519 was introduced by Barbara Lee of California last year and has 7 additional co-sponsors, although Don Young is not among them. The bill provides funds for cleaning up agent orange spill sites in Vietnam and for assistance to Vietnamese victims of exposure (or exposure of their parents) to the dioxins contaminating agent orange. It also provides assistance to children of male American soldiers (children of female soldiers are already covered) suffering from problems caused by a parent's exposure to agent orange, and to Vietnamese-Americans (and their descendents) that were exposed to agent orange during the war. Like most bills that have been introduced to this particularly fractious Congress, this bill is unlikely to come up for a vote during this session. The bill itself can be viewed on the downloads page of <http://www.alaskapeace.org>. More information can be found at <http://www.vn-agentorange.org/>

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Alaska Peace Center Donation Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____ May we add this to the APC's email list? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I am interested in volunteer opportunities---- ☐ Yes ☐ No

My check for ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$_____ is enclosed.

The Alaska Peace Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to APC are tax deductible.

Alaska Peace Center
2535 College Road, Suite 203
Fairbanks, AK 99709-3722

The Alaska Peace Center is committed to nonviolent conflict resolution and to working for peace within ourselves, our communities and our world. APC opened in 2005. It is a nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) status.

Board members and officers:

Heather Koponen, Carrie Farr, Alan
Batten, Rob Mulford, Flynn Ludington,
Suzanne Osborn, Dick Farris



Newsletter published by the Alaska Peace Center, 3535 College Rd., Suite 203.
Fairbanks, AK 99709-3722, email: info@alaskapeace.org

www.alaskapeace.org