

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

With apologies for the technical difficulties we have had the past 2 weeks...We are learning though!

Week of May 1st, 2017

Have your pens ready for opportunities to participate!

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:

Fairbanks remains among the most-polluted cities.

executive order seeks new ocean expanses for offshore drilling."

Ongoing:

1. **New Proposed Health Insurance Bill**
2. **709 acres on Gilmore Dome: Comment period; Executive Order Revokes Arctic Protections**
3. **in 2016, 128 drug overdose deaths in Alaska**
4. [publicly call for the Saudis to be removed from the Women's Commission.](#)

In the near future:

Monday, May 1st: Legislative committee hearings and public hearings

5. **MAY DAY; International Workers' Day**
6. **FCAC Council mtg**
7. **PUBLIC HEARING on HB 230: Telecommunications & Internet Privacy**
8. **1886 International Workers Day instituted after 180,000 U.S. workers struck for the 8-hr day.**

Tuesday, May 2nd:

9. **Renewable Energy Working Group**
10. **Fairbanks Activists Forum (FAF) mtg**
11. **2012 Aung San Suu Kyi sworn in to the Burmese parliament**

Wednesday, May 3rd:

12. **HB 238 Repeal Royalty Relief**
13. **"Viking Economics" reading group mtg**
14. **1971 7,500 arrests in the May Day Vietnam war protest**

Thursday, May 4th:

15. **HJR 20 Medicaid Expansion**
16. **FNSB Regular Assembly Meeting**
17. **Alaska Peace Center mtg**
18. **Gender Pioneers Support Group**
19. **1970 : 4 students were killed by National Guardsmen**

Friday, May 5th:

20. **HB 238 Repeal Royalty Relief**

21. **New Economy Working Group mtg**

22. **1944: Gandhi released from prison**

Saturday, May 6th:

23. **Fairbanks Peace Choir Spring concert**
24. **"Benefit for Fox Spring/Well: Keep the water flowing!"**
International Criminal Court.

Sunday, May 7th:

26. **11 million workers held a wildcat general strike supporting student occupations.**

In more detail:

In the recent past:

(from Fbks Daily News-Miner 4-29-17:) Fairbanks remains among the most-polluted cities.

Also, from same source, President Trump signed an **"executive order seeking** to find new ocean expanses in the Atlantic and the **Arctic for offshore drilling."**

Ongoing:

1. **New Proposed Health Insurance Bill** allows states to --decimate key protections for people with pre-existing conditions, --roll back requirements for plans to cover essential health care, and --allow insurance companies to set lifetime caps and annual limits.

Contact our congressional delegation via

http://act.fcni.org/letter/health-care-revised-email/?t=2&utm_campaign=thisweek&utm_source=ak&utm_medium=email&referring_akid=7271.114504.Gj5bIr or
http://act.fcni.org/call/health-care-revised/?t=1&utm_campaign=thisweek&utm_source=ak&utm_medium=email&referring_akid=7271.114504.Gj5bIr or see listings at the bottom of this newsletter.

2. **From Northern Alaska Environmental Center (NAEC):**

709 acres on Gilmore Dome: Comment period open

The Gilmore Satellite Tracking Station is located on 8,855 acres of federally withdrawn lands adjacent to Fort Knox mine. NOAA notified BLM last fall, with an interest to relinquish 709 acres of the withdrawal. This area is top filed by the State of Alaska for mining claims, and Fort Knox has been doing exploration work in area. BLM will determine whether this partial relinquishment is "suitable for return to the public domain" and [is accepting public comments until May 22](#). If you have questions, contact [Julia Mickley](#).

ICYMI: Executive Order Revokes Arctic Protections

A broad coalition of Alaskans reacted with outrage to President Donald J. Trump's impending executive order released Thursday, revoking oil and gas protections in vast swaths of Alaska's Chukchi and Beaufort Seas. Read the Northern Center's press release [here](#), and keep in touch for ways to be involved.

3. During 2016, 128 drug overdose deaths occurred in Alaska; of these, 95 involved any type of opioid

(including prescription opioids, heroin, or other) Subsequent to Governor Bill Walker's declaration of the opioid epidemic as a public health disaster in February 2017, Alaska Project HOPE (Harm reduction, Overdose Prevention, and Education) has been providing overdose reversal kits with prepackaged naloxone nasal spray (4mg/0.1mg dose) to overdose prevention programs...A public information campaign has been launched to call attention to the risk of opioid addiction and to reduce stigma by increasing the understanding of addiction as a chronic health condition rather than a moral failing. (from http://www.epi.alaska.gov/bulletins/docs/b2017_11.pdf)

4. -from CODEPINK: **As Saudi woman living in the United States and campaigning for women's rights**, I was disgusted when I heard that Saudi Arabia, one of the worst human rights and women's rights violators, was just elected to the UN Commission on the Status of Women by a **secret ballot**. The United States is a leading voice on that commission, but the **U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Nikki Haley**, probably voted in favor of the Saudi regime and refuses to speak out against this outrageous hypocrisy.

[Please join me in asking the ambassador how she voted and urging her to publicly call for the Saudis to be removed from the Women's Commission.](#)

Saudi Arabia is notorious for its abysmal treatment of women. Women are forced to be covered in public and are subjected to a **strict guardianship system** that requires a male relative's **permission to travel, attend school, obtain work, or even seek medical attention**. Saudi Arabia is the only country in the world to **ban women from driving**, a practice that severely limits women's independence and autonomy.

Allowing the **most misogynist society in the world** to join a commission designed to empower women is **disgraceful!** It makes me feel personally violated and invisible. It is a slap in the face to heroic women around the world who risk their lives every day to achieve their rights. It jeopardizes the integrity of the United Nations itself.

Please join me by [signing the petition](#) and sharing it on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). **Nikki Haley** needs to feel our anger and hear our demand: Saudi Arabia must be excluded from any international body charged with empowering women. Period.

With gratitude for your support,

A Saudi woman who must remain anonymous

http://www.codepink.org/saudiarabia_women?utm_campaign=nikkihaley_2&utm_medium=email&utm_source=codepink

In the near future:

Monday, May 1st: Legislative committee hearings and public hearings at **LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE [LIO]: 452-4448**, in AlaskaUSA bldg. on Sadler Way just south of HomeDepot
Interior Alaska Legislative contacts are listed near the end of this newsletter.

5. MAY DAY; International Workers' Day. see <http://www.vvaw.org/veteran/article/?id=1644>

6. 1-3pm FCAC Council mtg at CCHRC (from FCAC)

7. 3:15pm, **PUBLIC HEARING on HB 230: Telecommunications & Internet Privacy**, xxx www.

8. (From War Resisters League calendar:) On **May 1st, 1886 International Workers Day** instituted after 180,000 U.S. workers struck for the 8-hr day.

Tuesday, May 2nd:

9. 1-2pm **Renewable Energy Working Group mtg** at CCHRC (from FCAC)

10. 6:45-8:30pm **Fairbanks Activists Forum (FAF) mtg** at the HUB, 410 2nd ave #100) More information: fairbanksactivistsforum@gmail.com (from FAF/NAEC/FCAC/FDNM/KUAC/MarchOnFbx/other)

11. On **May 2nd, 2012: Aung San Suu Kyi** Nobel Peace Prize laureate, was sworn in to the Burmese parliament after nearly 15 total years of house arrest. (See the movie "Beyond Rangoon" for a fictionalized story)

Wednesday, May 3rd:

12. 1pm HB 238 Repeal Royalty Relief: Shale; Cook Inlet - Testimony by Invitation Only.

****Streamed live on AKL.tv****

13. 1-3pm, **"Viking Economics" reading group mtg.** at Gulliver's Books (from FCAC)

14. On **May 3rd, 1971: first 7,500 arrests were made in the May Day Vietnam war protest in D.C..**

Thursday, May 4th:

15. 3pm **HJR 20 Medicaid Expansion:** Testimony by Invitation Only

16. 6pm **FNSB Regular Assembly Meeting**

17. 7pm Alaska Peace Center monthly mtg. All Welcome - Help plan events to promote peace, justice, & sustainability.

Currently: Possible rally early May; Peace Feast and Emma's Revolution concert both June 3rd; other items. 3535 College Rd. www.alaskapeace.org.

18. 7-9pm **Gender Pioneers Support Group**, Gender Pioneers is 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 (from FAF)

19. On **May 4th, 1970 : 4 students were killed by National Guardsmen at Kent State University, OH, in protest of the U.S. invasion of Cambodia.**

Friday, May 5th:

20. 1pm HB 238 Repeal Royalty Relief: Shale; Cook Inlet **PUBLIC TESTIMONY** ****Streamed live on AKL.tv****

21. 11-12:30 **New Economy Working Group mtg.** at Native Movement Conference Rm 1327 Hayes ave. (from FCAC)

22. On **May 5th, 1944: Gandhi released from prison** due to ill health...after demanding an "orderly British withdrawal" from India..

Saturday, May 6th: There may be legislative action on Saturday & Sunday: schedule updates at akleg.gov

23. 7pm **Fairbanks Peace Choir Spring concert at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4448 Pikes Landing Rd.**

Featured is the premiere performance of "Birches in May", with lyrics and music by David Bowen. Director Gianna Drogheo and pianist, Dr. Paul Krejci lead the choir in "helping to create a culture of peace through song". Come, enjoy the spirit and the singing.

Dessert follows the concert. Info at 457-8086.

24. 5pm **"Benefit for Fox Spring/Well: Keep the water flowing! Howling Dawg Saloon in Fox (5 pm-?)**

Theresa Bauer-Burger, Ukelele Russ and Friends, and Larry Raines. Make-your-own-taco bar. By donation, support your beloved water resource." [from Friends of Fox Spring]

25. On **May 6th, 2002: U.S. renounced signature to Rome Statute**, which established the International Criminal Court.

Sunday, May 7th:

26. On **May 7th, 1968: First big demo of Parisian student & worker revolt; eventually 11 million workers held a wildcat general strike supporting student occupations.**

After this week:

May 8th-12th the eyes of the world will be on Fairbanks as the international Arctic Council meets at University of Alaska Fairbanks .

Monday, May 8th, 7-8:30pm Fairbanks City Council mtg, at City Hall, 800 Cushman St. (from FAF)

Tuesday, May 9, City Diversity Council Meeting at City Hall. (from FAF)

Saturday, May 13, 9:30-2 Organizing the Interior - Civics Engagement & Campaign Strategy : RSVP to Jessica Girard (girard@northern.org)

by May 10th if you plan on attending. (from FAF)

Thursday, May 25th New Economy Panel (Public)

Saturday, June 3rd, 12-2 Peace Feast at Pioneer Park (free & public); **8pm Emma's Revolution concert** at UUF. info@alaskapeace.org

Cripple Creek and habitat restoration project will restore Cripple Creek to its historic path. See website interioraklandtrust.org.

Outside Alaska

-- International War Resisters' Day. See www.warresister.org.

-- May 17th: Courageous and principled whistleblower Chelsea Manning will be released from a brutal imprisonment for having released documents and video showing the "Collateral Damage" being done by in our name in the Middle East. See <https://courageto resist.org/>

-- (from Veterans For Peace:)

National Mobilization of Veterans Memorial Day Weekend

Stop Endless War • Build for Peace! May 29 and 30, 2017 Washington DC

In response to President Trump's outrageous budget proposal, including a \$54 billion increase for the Pentagon, VFP and other veterans groups will not be silent. Planning for this was started in response to VFP's [galvanizing statement about Trump's Military Budget](#) and our desire and responsibility as veterans, citizens and human beings to express our strong resistance to his policies and our commitment to find a better way to peace. [Find out Details about the National Mobilization.](#) [RSVP Now for the event!](#)

For more information contact Tarak Kauff, VFP National Board Member, takauff@gmail.com, 845 679-6189 or 845 706-0187

For more information on the Letters to the Wall project contact Doug Rawlings, rawlings@maine.edu, 207 500-0193

The Golden Rule Wants You to Help Sail!

Interested in sailing on the historic anti-nuclear peace boat, the Golden Rule? It's fun!

Some crew will not have sailing experience, but most will have at least some. Our skippers will be very experienced in the area that they sail - on the coast, in San Francisco Bay, up the Sacramento River as far as Sacramento, or San Diego Bay. This year we will offer a modest stipend for licensed captains.

[Fill out the form by May 15](#) - we set sail from Humboldt Bay in northern California June 10 and arrive in San Diego August 22. While in San Diego all winter, we could use crew, too!

Legislative Action

<https://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/legislative-action/>

Trainings, Speakers, other activities:

<http://www.paceebene.org/event/> <http://nonviolencetraininghub.org/>

<http://www.codepink.org>

--From Veterans For Peace: ...

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

Resources for Peace, Justice, and Sustainability;

Alaska Peace Center Winter 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.

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
Interior Alaska Legislative contacts:

State Senators: Senator.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov (R-Fbks district C), toll-free to Juneau 1-800-336-7383;

Senator.John.Coghill@akleg.gov (R-North Pole, distr B) 1-877-465-3709;

Senator.Pete.Kelly@akleg.gov, (R-Fks, district A), 1-877-655-3709;

State Representatives: Representative.David.Guttenberg@akleg.gov (D-Fbks distr 4) 1-800-928-4457;

Representative.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov (D-Fbks distr 1) 1-866-465-3466;

Representative.Dave.Talerico@akleg.gov (R-Healy distr 6) 1-800-491-4527;

Representative.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov (R-Fbks distr 2) 1-877-465-3004;

Representative.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov (R-North Pole distr 3) 1-800-860-4797;

Representative.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov (D-Fbks distr 5) 1-866-465-4976.

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

Rep. Don Young in DC: t.202-225-5765 or toll-free 1-866-990-5979/fax 202-225-0425; in Fbks 456-0210/f.456-0279; in Anch 907-271-5978/f.907-271-5950;
Email via web site: donyoung.house.gov; AK offices in Fbks 100 Cushman St ste 307; Anch: 4241 B st, ste 203

Sen. Lisa Murkowski in DC: t.202-224-6665; Fbks-t.456-0233/fax 451-7146; Anch-907-271-5978/f.877-857-0322; JNU-586-7277/f.(907)586-7201;
Wasilla-376-7665/f. 376-8526; Kenai-283-5808/f.283-4363 Email via: murkowski.senate.gov;
AK offices in Fbks-Federal Bldg 101- 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.

Sen. Dan Sullivan in DC: t.202-224-3004; in Fbks-456-0261/f.451-7290; Anch 907-271-5978/f.258-9305; JNU-586-7277/f.586-7201; Wasilla-357-9956/f.-9964;
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. ste 309; Kenai-805 Frontage Rd ste 101; Ketchikan-1900 1st 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.

May Peace be with you! Have a good week!