

Hello, this is Heather and helpers with Alaska Peace Center Community News and Opportunities for Action, reporting on events and issues of peace, justice, and sustainability affecting us and future generations in Alaska, now broadcasting on **Sundays, 8am & 6pm** on KWRK-LP 90.9 FM Radio in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Be ready for opportunities to participate!

WEEK OF DECEMBER 10th, 2017

BRIEFLY:

Some good news: -- Over 200 Countries Sign Resolution To Stop Plastic Waste In The Ocean

ALASKA-SPECIFIC EVENTS & CALLS TO ACTION - IN THE NEAR FUTURE:

Dec. 1-31, at Noel Wien Library **Drones quilt project** exhibit

SUN, DEC 10: -2.3pm **Human Rights Day Vigil** in Anchorage

MON, DEC 11: -- #youthgov plaintiffs in San Francisco Monday for hearing in landmark climate lawsuit by Our Children's Trust, including Fbks student Nathan Baring
if you have contacts in the SF or Bay area...please let them know they can show up at 10am

TUES, DEC 12: -7:30pm **Salmon for Puerto Rico**

-- 5:30-7pm **City Diversity Council Mtg**

-- 6pm - **Monthly IWW Fairbanks Mtg.**

-- 6pm **Decoding Net Neutrality: Q-&-A Panel Discussion** -livestreamed through Facebook

--6:30-7:45pm - **Fairbanks Activists Forum Facilitators' Mtg**

WED, DEC 13: -- 9am- **Teleconference** Community-Based Participatory Research on Saint Lawrence Island – How Yup'ik Residents are Helping to Identify Persistent Pollutants in Their

Communities

THURS, DEC.14:-- in **Anchorage: Arctic Jingle & Mingle: Celebrate the Arctic Refuge!**

-- 5-7pm **Alaska Peace Center mtg,**

FRI, DEC.15-- 12-1pm - **Stone's Throw Open House**

AFTER THIS WEEK: -- Dec. 21: **FNSB Assembly mtg: Gender Pioneers Ally Training**

-- keep calling Congress

--Healthy Babies Bright Futures and Report on Dangers of Arsenic in Infant Rice Cereal and

-- Podcast Available – Social & Scientific Discovery of a Class of Emerging Contaminants: Per- and Polyfluorinated Chemicals

-- From Northern Alaska Environmental Center: --:: Take the Air Quality Pledge!

:: AK Div of Forestry seeks applications for Tanana Valley State Forest Citizens' Advisory Committee

:: not requiring mining companies to prove they have the financial wherewithal to clean up their pollution

:: largest-ever lease sale in the Western Arctic

- **Arctic Refuge Celebrates 57 Years of Protection**

--Alaska's Congressional delegation contacts

-- **Fbks Symposium on Homelessness; Project Homeless Connect**, event Wed, Jan. 24

-- **Arctic Refuge protectors in DC**

-- Marvin Roberts, one of Fairbanks Four, files civil rights suit against city

-- call for Rep Dean Westlake of Kiana to resign amid sexual harassment allegations.

OUTSIDE ALASKA EVENTS & CALLS TO ACTION - on issues of peace, justice, and sustainability :

-- International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons receives the Nobel Peace Prize

-- make your own origami crane ... hashtag #EndOfNukes?

-- learn about Advocacy Teams...committed activists who are building relationships for peace & justice
... Saudi Arabia is Still Starving Yemen

-- **Stop The Deportation Of U.S. Military Veterans [Resolution]**

-- Over 2.3 million adults are currently in American prisons... the incarceration rate has shot up 500%

-- new short film, Sentencing Reform: Part I – The Power of Fear

-- **Fukushima still a leaking morass**

-- The Supreme Court just allowed unconstitutional Muslim ban to go into full effect while it is being litigated.

Community News and Opportunities for Action **IN MORE DETAIL:**

Starting with a few pleasant reflections and pieces of good news:

-- **Over 200 Countries Sign Resolution To Stop Plastic Waste In The Ocean:** More than 200 countries signed a U.N. resolution in Nairobi on Wednesday to eliminate plastic pollution in the sea, Reuters [reports](#). Approximately 8 million tons of plastic are dumped into the ocean every year, killing marine life and entering the human food chain, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) said. Under the resolution, countries agreed to start monitoring the amount of plastic they put into the ocean. "We now have an agreement to explore a legally binding instrument and other measures and that will be done at the international level over the next 18 months," Norway's environment minister, Vidar Helgesen, told [Reuters](#). China is the biggest producer of plastic waste but has started making efforts to cut down. 39 governments announced new commitments to reduce the amount of plastic going into the sea. Chile, Oman, Sri Lanka and South Africa announced measures including plastic bag bans, new marine reserves and drives to increase recycling. *Sent by RM from <https://www.sunnyskyz.com/good-news/2529/Over-200-Countries-Sign-Resolution-To-Stop-Plastic-Waste-In-The-Ocean#.WizvIE9t6A.email>*

ALASKA-SPECIFIC EVENTS & CALLS TO ACTION - about *issues of peace, justice, and sustainability* - IN THE NEAR FUTURE:

[Drones quilt project exhibit](#) Dec. 1-31, at Noel Wien Library 1215 Cowles st. The Drones Quilt Project (dronesquiltproject.wordpress.com/) was created as a way to remember the thousands of people who have been murdered by missiles launched from American combat drones. Each square of the quilts honors a person killed in a drone strike. Two of the quilts will be displayed in the lobby of the Library throughout the month of December; others are displayed Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks and Chena Ridge Friends Meetinghouse.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10th:

--2 p.m.-3 p.m. **Human Rights Day Vigil in Anchorage** -Town Square. Sponsored by the Alaska Institute for Justice & co-sponsored by a dozen other local organizations. "The [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948, with the support of the United States. At its core is the notion that we are all born free and equal in dignity and rights, and that we are entitled to fairness and justice regardless of our differences. The rights to equal protection, freedom of conscience and religion, freedom of expression, freedom from discrimination, freedom from torture and inhumane treatment, and freedom to seek asylum from persecution are among those embraced by the declaration's terms. These rights are considered inherent and inalienable – neither granted to us by governments nor removable by governments, but integral to being human. I first celebrated Human Rights Day – December 10 – nearly 35 years ago, when I joined a candlelight vigil in the Fairbanks ice fog at 40 below with fellow members of the local chapter of [Amnesty International](#), the human rights organization..." Read the rest of this excellent article by former Fairbanksan Barbara Hood at <https://www.adn.com/opinions/2017/12/04/stand-in-the-cold-for-human-rights/>.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11th:

-- **#youthgov plaintiffs in San Francisco Monday for hearing before the 9th circuit court of appeals in landmark climate lawsuit by Our Children's Trust** (www.ourchildrenstrust.org), including Fbks student Nathan Baring, who writes: "...The 9 court will hear oral arguments on the Writ of Mandamus submitted by the Trump Administration on this day in San Francisco. ...[A]long with 17 of the other plaintiffs, We will all be present with our lawyers, and a panel of 3 judges, as they give argument along with the lawyers from the US Department of Justice. There will be a media event following the trial on the court steps afterward and I will return from SF late Monday night.

The decision of this trial, worst case scenario, has the power to derail our current trial date (still February 5th, 2018) in the Eugene District Court and push us all the way back to the drawing board by circumventing the trial process. It also has the power to greatly improve the likelihood of us being heard in the US Supreme Court, given that the administration will have no other court to turn to.

The Trump administration has been fighting through every step the courts have taken, including the decision to let us go to trial. He recognizes that even letting us go through the discovery process, where we have authority to review decades of government documents on climate change, will be detrimental to his energy agenda. It will show hordes of government documents revealing how willfully the government dismissed the long-standing research of their own scientists in order to collude with fossil fuel interests in advancing an archaic energy system.

On another note, **if you have contacts in the SF or Bay area** that are at all interested in this kind of movement ...**please let them know they can show up at 10am PST** outside the James R Browning US Court of Appeals to rally with us. The rally is organized by a partnership of 350.org, Our Children's Trust, The Sierra Club and Greenpeace along with a mix of others. We hope to make a strong showing and it would be wonderful to have some Quakers there as well. I invite you to send our lawyers prayers for clarity and pray that our judges will have the courage to rule where so many have refused in the past.

Thank you for your continuing support. Nathan Baring"

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12th:

--7:30pm **[Salmon for Puerto Rico](#)** in Anchorage at Identity Inc. to collect donations in dollars & in smoked salmon to directly support several families in Puerto Rico who are continuing to rebuild their lives after the Hurricane. We are **specifically asking for donations of salmon** because there's a shortage of meat and the store shelves are empty. See [alaskarisingtide](#) on Facebook.

-- 5:30-7pm **City Diversity Council Mtg**, Fbks City Hall, 800 Cushman St: Fairbanks Diversity Council (FDC) meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the City Council Chambers .. 15 public members ...come together to discuss and work to improve all areas of diversity within our City and community. The FDC was formed to provide a citizens' forum, serve as a diversity advisory board, and recommend adoption of a Diversity Action Plan for the community. The FDC supports many different cultural and social activities in our community.

-- 6pm - **Monthly IWW Fairbanks Mtg**, 507 Gaffney Rd: Fellow Workers - please join us for the monthly Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) Fbks mtg at the Bread Line Inc.'s Stone Soup Cafe on the second Tuesday of each month. All Wobblies (and recruit prospects) are welcome and encouraged to come. (*FAF calendar*)

-- 6pm **Decoding Net Neutrality: Q-&-A Panel Discussion in Anchorage** -Loussac Library - Beluga Room, 3600 Denali St:
"A free, open, & accessible internet is vital to our modern democracy. Net neutrality rules ensure that all internet traffic is treated equally and enables freedom of the press, expression, and speech in the digital age. Without net neutrality, internet providers can block, speed up, or slow down certain websites, allowing them to privilege some content over others based on profit or political viewpoint and restrict the kind of information Alaskans can access... This is a critical civil liberties issue, but unless you're an IT expert, it can be difficult to understand how high the stakes are. That's why we're hosting a panel discussion with professionals in the field to demystify the issue and discuss how we can keep the internet fair & free. Despite the importance of net neutrality, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) **will vote [Dec 14]** on a proposal that would eliminate net neutrality and change the way Americans access the internet. RSVP on [Facebook](#) or by [email](#) today. The event will be **livestreamed through Facebook Live**: follow our [Facebook](#) page! Can't make the event? You can still [call Congress](#) and tell them you oppose the FCC's plans to eliminate net neutrality. We hope to see you there! Rashika Rakibullah, Lead Organizer, [ACLU* of Alaska](#) [**American Civil Liberties Union*]

--6:30-7:45pm - **Fairbanks Activists Forum Facilitators' Mtg** -FAF is a locally-built social action network, contributing to the growth of Fbks through advocacy & education. Group facilitators meet the second to last Tuesday of each month. Please contact FAF at fairbanksactivistsforum@gmail.com for location details.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13th:

-- 9am - [Community-Based Participatory Research on Saint Lawrence Island – How Yupik Residents are Helping to Identify Persistent Pollutants in Their Communities](#) *CHE-Alaska Teleconference (Alaska Collaborative on Health & the Environment)* -The Yupik People of Saint Lawrence Island, Alaska, report high rates of cancer, thyroid disease, diabetes, heart disease, and birth defects. One cause of these negative health outcomes may be toxic exposure to persistent organic pollutants. Island residents face combined exposures to contaminants at abandoned military installations from the Cold War era and... Sign up for the call at: https://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51290/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=10394.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14th:

-- ::Dec 14 in [Anchorage: Arctic Jingle & Mingle: Celebrate the Arctic Refuge!](#) 6:30-9:30pm, Church of Love Spenard. Join us for a warm, cozy evening of entertainment & advocacy! We'll be showcasing films, art, and performances that celebrate the beauty & importance of the Arctic Refuge and highlighting the work that's being done in Alaska and across the nation to protect it. Learn about how fellow Alaskans are making their voices heard as they stand up for this wild place—and how you can too! This is a free, family-friendly event. Cookies, hot cocoa, and other wintery snacks & warm beverages will be provided. Hosted by Alaska Wilderness League, Trustees for Alaska, & Defenders of Wildlife.

-- 5-7pm **Alaska Peace Center mtg**, at APC office, 3535 College Rd Suite 203. Among agenda items will be whether & where to put up signs from <http://worldbeyondwar.org/billboards/>. All are welcome. email info@alaskapeace.org or call 479-0981 for more information.

-- Dec. 18 - Jan.5: The Tanana District **Co-operative Extension Service Office** will be **[moving, and thus will be] closed** Monday, Dec. 18, through Friday, Jan. 5, while we are settling into our new office space. Please come visit us at our new location when we reopen for business Monday, Jan. 8, at the UAF University Park Building, 1000 University Ave., Room 109. Thank you for your patience while we are in transition. Information: 474-1530 or 474-5211; [E-mail: rlboswell@alaska.edu](mailto:rlboswell@alaska.edu), [Website: www.uaf.edu/ces](http://www.uaf.edu/ces)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th:

-- 12-1pm - **Stone's Throw Open House**, 507 Gaffney Rd, Fbks: Stone's 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/>

SATURDAY- SUNDAY, DEC 16-17th: *No local events of peace, justice, and sustainability are known for these dates.*

ALASKA-SPECIFIC EVENTS AFTER THIS WEEK: [Drones quilt project exhibit](#) Dec. 1-31, at Noel Wien Library

--Thurs., Dec. 21: FNSB regular Assembly mtg; Gender Pioneers Ally Training

ALASKA-SPECIFIC ONGOING ISSUES: *Community News and Opportunities for Action:*

--[Gwich'in Steering Committee](#) needs folks to keep calling Congress: [Dec 5](#) a delegation from the Inupiaq tribe & the Gwich'in Nation flew down to DC. They divided into 3 groups and on Monday alone they visit over 35 congressmen/women. They are dedicated and very committed to putting a STOP to the tax bill that includes the Arctic Refuge. The people of north came to Washington DC as one nation standing in solidarity to protect the calving grounds of the porcupine caribou herd. See ourarcticrefuge.org/ and...:

From FCAC: Call these U.S. Representatives to say "Remove the Arctic Refuge from the tax bill!"

Fitzpatrick (PA) - 215-579-8102

Stefanik (NY) - 202-225-4611

Katko (NY) - 202-225-3701

Meehan (PA) - 202-225-2011

Zeldin (NY) - 202-225-3826

Smith (NJ) - 202-225-3765

MacArthur (NJ) -202-225-4765

LoBiondo (NJ) - 202-225-6572

Lance (NJ) - 202-225-5361

You can also use these sites for easy links to your politicians: Democracy.io

Resistbot.io 5calls.org

--from Alaska Community Action on Toxics (<https://www.akaction.org>):

[Healthy Babies Bright Futures and ACAT Release Report on Dangers of Arsenic in Infant Rice Cereal](#) and

[Podcast Available – The Social and Scientific Discovery of a Class of Emerging Contaminants: Per- and Polyfluorinated Chemicals:](#)

More than 15 million Americans in communities from Maine to Alaska drink water contaminated with toxic chemicals that can be traced to military & industrial sites. There is mounting scientific evidence of the link between exposure to these highly fluorinated compounds known as PFASs, and a wide range of adverse health effects.

-- From Northern Alaska Environmental Center:

---: **[Take the Air Quality Pledge!](#)** By taking the pledge, you are showing your commitment to helping keep our air clean & healthy to breathe for everyone in our community. [[aqfairbankspledge.com](#)] Even the smallest changes will add up to big rewards. [Also see <https://cleanairfairbanks.wordpress.com/> for great links to: air tools (AQI Chart - Health Effects), file smoke reports, officials' email address, laws & rules, local air quality, other websites about our air, speak up!, and even Voter Tools.]

:: **AK Div of Forestry seeks applications for 4 seats on Tanana Valley State Forest Citizens' Advisory Committee**

...This 12-person committee advises the Division on plans & proposals for managing the 1.8 million acre Tanana Valley State Forest & other forested lands managed by the Alaska Dept of Natural Resources in the Tanana Valley. The committee is also a forum for gathering public opinion on management of state forests and helps build a regional consensus about forestry. These are unpaid, volunteer positions. Mtgs are about 4 times/yr... Available seats are: **Forest Industry; Environmental Interests; Native Community; Fish & Wildlife Interests.** If you are interested in one of these positions mail a letter explaining your interests and your qualifications to: Jim Schwarber, Alaska Div of Forestry, 3700 Airport Way, Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699; fax it to (907) 451-2690; or e-mail to james.schwarber@alaska.gov, so that it is received no later than **5pm, Friday, January 5, 2018**. For more information, call a Division of Forestry Office at Fbks: (907) 451-2704 or Tok: (907) 883-5134.

:: Last week, the [Trump administration announced that](#) it will **not require mining companies to prove they have the financial wherewithal to clean up their pollution**, despite an industry legacy of abandoned mines that have fouled waterways across the U.S. with hazardous materials incl. arsenic, mercury, lead, and cadmium. For more background, read [Earthworks' press release](#)

:: [On Dec 6, the Bureau of Land Management](#) conducted its **largest-ever lease sale in the Western Arctic**, and...
[only 7 of the available 900 tracts were bid on.](#)

The **Arctic Refuge Celebrates 57 Years of Protection**: Arctic National Wildlife Range on December 6, 1960, and renamed the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge with the passage of ANILCA on December 2, 1980... The legislation doubled the designated Refuge in size and garnered Wilderness protection for 8 million acres. On the down side, ANILCA created what has come to be known as the "1002 Area" for Section 1002 of the Act, and the battle stage was set, pitting those of us who desire permanent protection of the Coastal Plain against those who want to exploit the oil reserves that may lie beneath... Every year, the Udall Wilderness Bill is introduced to designate the Coastal Plain as Wilderness and every year, the Alaska [Congressional] delegation introduces legislation to open the area to development... [Now,] Legislation introduced by Senator Lisa Murkowski attached a rider to the Senate version of the tax bill to open the Coastal Plain to oil and gas development as a means to raise \$1 billion to help offset the projected \$1 trillion dollar deficit associated with the bill. The Senate passed this version of the tax bill... by a slim 51-49 margin. The House version of the tax bill did not include the Refuge. The next step in the process is about to commence – 9 House Republicans & 5 House Democrats will join 8 Senate Republicans & 7 Senate Democrats will join in conference committee this week to reconcile differences in their respective bills. Rumor is that they hope to emerge with a single bill by the end of the week. We need to remove the Refuge from this ghastly tax bill. The best way is to put unrelenting pressure on those who can make a difference – the legislators. We urge you to join us in calling [those listed by FCAC above.]

--Alaska's Congressional delegation contacts (more contacts at the end of this news brief):

Rep. Don Young in Fbks 456-0210, in D.C. 202-225-5765;

Sen. Lisa Murkowski 456-0233, in D.C. 202-224-6665;

Fbks: Courthouse Square, 250 Cushman Ave., Suite 2D; Phone: (907) 456-0233, Fax: (907) 451-7146

Sen. Dan Sullivan 456-0261, in D.C. 202-224-3004.

ALASKA-SPECIFIC NEWS FROM THE RECENT PAST:

-- Dec. 6 **Fbks Symposium on Homelessness** put on by the Fbks Housing & Homeless Coalition & North Star Community Foundation was attended by 185 people. The theme was *This is What Success Looks Like* and focused on implementing Permanent Supportive Housing & Rapid ReHousing programs. "How can you help? Connect with Project Homeless Connect; ensure your agency/employees are involved; Come out & volunteer! at **Project Homeless Connect, a 1-day, 1-stop event Wed, Jan. 24, 2018, 10am-3pm** at JP Jones Center, 2400 Rickert St., to provide housing services, and hospitality in a convenient 1-stop model directly to people experiencing homelessness in Fbks... The goal is to move from simply managing homelessness toward really ending it. See www.fairbankshomeless.org and/or contact Scott Wiser: swiser@fairbanks.us or Mike Sanders: msanders@fairbanks.us

--Dec. 6 Arctic Refuge protectors in DC: see more at Defend the Sacred AK on Facebook.

--from newsminer.com 12/8/17: **Marvin Roberts, one of Fairbanks Four, files civil rights suit against city**... and 4 Fbks Police Dept officers over what he maintains was his wrongful imprisonment for the 1997 beating death of 15-year-old John Hartman... The suit alleges Roberts has been repeatedly victimized by a criminal justice system that will not hold the city accountable for depriving him of his basic civil rights... Roberts, George Frese, Kevin Pease and Eugene Vent were convicted in 1999 but have long claimed their innocence. Their murder indictments were dismissed 2 yrs ago in an agreement with the state following a claim by another man, Wm Holmes, that it was he & his group of people, not the Fairbanks Four, who killed Hartman... all four men signed an agreement with the state that erased their murder convictions and immediately freed Frese, Pease & Vent. In exchange, all 4 agreed to withdraw their claims of

prosecutorial misconduct and agreed not to sue the state, the city of Fairbanks or any individuals involved in the case. Roberts' lawyer, Michael Kramer, said Thursday that Roberts was effectively coerced into that agreement. "The settlement itself was a violation of civil rights. The state held the keys to the steel cage his three brothers were locked in. The only way they were going to get out for Christmas, or maybe ever, was if Marvin signed that agreement," Kramer said, likening the deal to paying a ransom.

Kramer expects the city of Fairbanks to uphold the status quo and aggressively defend its former police officers who arrested and investigated the four. "They have to admit or deny to every one of the (lawsuit's) allegations, and we made hundreds of them," Kramer said.

The suit alleges police officers "deliberately coerced false testimony... reported information they knew to be false... deprived Marvin of his clearly established rights under the 4th [v Unreasonable Search & Seizure] & 14th [Due Process; Equal Protection] Amendments..."

[The] City [of] Fairbanks had not received any court papers ...& declined to comment on the case.

In a statement..., Kramer describes what he and Roberts believe was the political climate at the city of Fairbanks in 1997, the year the four were charged with murder. The statement cites a corrupt government and an allegedly discriminatory police force, including, "a mayor who was later convicted of stealing from his church, and a police chief who had threatened to frame two innocent men who reported him for lying on time sheets. The police chief was also implicated in the theft of guns, drugs, and \$510,000 in cash from the police evidence room."

Kramer also notes that the Fairbanks Police Department had no Alaska Native officers then and does not now, and alleges police bullied witnesses and manipulated evidence. Three of the men convicted are Alaska Native and one is Native American.

In the statement, Kramer quotes former Alaska Public Safety Commissioner Ron Otte as saying a rush to judgment by police in the case "resulted in sloppy and questionable police conduct." The statement says the Police Department "actively concealed" the confessions of others involved in Hartman's killing and that the department "has refused to charge the real killers."

Contact [FDNM] staff writer Robin Wood at 459-7510. "

--*Alaska News Nightly: Friday, 12/8/17:* The Alaska House Majority Coalition is **calling for (Dem) Rep Dean Westlake of Kiana to resign amid sexual harassment allegations.**

OUTSIDE ALASKA EVENTS & CALLS TO ACTION - on issues of peace, justice, and sustainability :

-- *From Nuclear Age Peace Foundation (NAPF):* On Sunday, the **International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) will receive the Nobel Peace Prize...** The Nobel Committee awarded ICAN "for its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons." *from ICAN:* "In accordance with the Japanese tradition of folding 1000 origami cranes to make a wish, students in Hiroshima have been busy folding these messages of hope. They'll be joined by 468 more cranes — representing one from each ICAN partner organisation. Will you **make your own origami crane** with your message for Oslo, and submit it on social media with the hashtag **#EndOfNukes**? Click here for all the instructions you need: <http://nuclearban.org/1000cranes/> In front of the world's media, the 1000th crane will be laid by Hiroshima survivor Setsuko Thurlow, shortly before she joins ICAN Executive Director Beatrice Fihn on stage to accept the Nobel Peace Prize.

-- *from Friends Committee on National Legislation:* **Monday, Dec 11th** at 4:30 pm (AK time) to **learn about Advocacy Teams...**

committed activists who are building relationships for peace and justice... Quakers and others in local communities who use their power as constituents to foster congressional champions for peace and justice. We have over 80 teams made up of 1300 people in 37 states. To join the call, register at: act.fcni.org/sign/join-advocacy-teams-call/?t=13&referring_akid=7813.114504.IOErdG.

... **Bringing Back Cluster Bombs** – The Trump administration has [reversed an Obama-era decision to ban cluster bombs as of 2019](#).

Much of the international community opposes the use of cluster bombs because they pose a great risk to civilians during & after their use, killing indiscriminately during bombing campaigns & often leaving behind undetonated bomblets that put people at risk for years to come.

... **Saudi Arabia is Still Starving Yemen** – ... Saudi Arabia has been partially blockading Yemen for 3 yrs. Three weeks ago, it implemented a total blockade, but this week it switched back to the same partial blockade that has been starving Yemenis for years. According to the UN, millions of people could starve to death. [Congress needs to immediately end U.S. support for the world's worst humanitarian crisis.](#)

-- *From Veterans For Peace:* recently passed Resolution by VFP - **Stop The Deportation Of U.S. Military Veterans Resolution:**

Whereas, the United States has always and continues to use the services of non-citizens in all branches of its military, and

Whereas, non-citizen U.S. military veterans are subject to deportation, when they have trouble with the law and those troubles are often related to their military service, i.e. PTSD, depression, TBI, drug and alcohol addiction, and

Whereas, deportation separates veterans from their families, prevents them from accessing their earned benefits and places them in countries where they are often unfamiliar with the language and customs;

Therefore Be It Resolved that Veterans For Peace urges its members and chapters to call upon the U.S. Congress to pass laws requiring all branches of the U.S. military to provide to all non-citizen service members, that desire it, complete information,

materials and testing required for naturalization, so that they become fully naturalized citizens by their discharge date.

-- "The U.S. imprisons more people than any other nation, including China & Russia. **Over 2.3 million adults are currently in**

American prisons & jails. Locking up more & more people for longer & longer doesn't make us safer, yet **the incarceration rate has shot up 500%** over the past four decades.

We explore the scope and source of mass incarceration in our new short film, **Sentencing Reform: Part I – The Power of Fear.** It's the first in a forthcoming series that will highlight the symptoms and ultimate solutions to the ongoing mass incarceration epidemic." You can watch it at bravenewfilms.org.

OUTSIDE ALASKA - IN THE RECENT PAST:

-- *from dy:* "AP report: **Fukushima still a leaking morass...** Reporter's Notebook: Fukushima face-lift masks morass inside | The Sacramento Bee <http://www.sacbee.com/news/business/article186441318.html> BY MARI YAMAGUCHI AP

UPDATED NOV. 24, 2017 06:06 PM OKUMA, JAPAN

Above ground, the tsunami-hit Fukushima nuclear power plant has had a major face-lift since the 2011 disaster. Inside and underground remains largely a morass.

While at The Sacramento Bee, one of the largest newspapers in California, I checked its search function. No combination of 'USS Ronald Reagan and/or radiation Fukushima' produced a relevant result. Most entries produced zero results. And yet the story can be found in a German news magazine:

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/navy-sailors-possibly-exposed-to-fukushima-radiation-fight-for-justice-a-1016482.html>

Or Russia Today: <https://www.rt.com/usa/uss-reagan-fukushima-radiation-979/>

Or Enenews.com: <http://enenews.com/?s=uss+ronald+reagan&submit.x=0&submit.y=0&submit=Search>

--from aclu.org: **The Supreme Court just allowed Trump's illegal, unconstitutional Muslim ban to go into full effect while it is being litigated.**

Take action: Add your name to call on Congress to rescind the Muslim ban – immediately. This discriminatory ban prevents people from several Muslim-majority countries from coming to the United States – including individuals with families or jobs here.” Sign the petition at https://action.aclu.org/secure/no-muslim-ban-ever?emsrc=Nat_Appeal_AutologinEnabled&emissue=immigrantrights&emtype=petition&ms=eml_171204_immigrantrights_nomuslimban&_af=.

Alaska Peace Center works for peace, justice, and sustainability - individually, in our community, and globally - with a commitment to nonviolent conflict resolution. 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 us on Facebook.

Feedback to, and Submissions for inclusion in, this weekly news brief are welcome. Please include “for news” in the subject line.

This has been Alaska Peace Center Community News and Opportunities for Action for the week of December 10th, 2017, on KWRK-LP 90.9 FM Radio in Fairbanks, Alaska.

May Peace be with you! Have a good week!
