

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 31, 2017

Day, Date	Time	Event Description, Contact information	Where?
Sunday, Dec. 31 2017	12:30-1	Invitation to join a rally - Folks who are disturbed by being dominated by a man who bragged about sexually assaulting, uses bullying in place of diplomacy, acts unilaterally, and has led the race to opening ANWR and a tax bill to greatly increase inequality - join the call for IMPEACHment; also contact our congressional delegation every week calling on them to enact this call. <i>-Adeline K.</i>	at the corner of University Ave & Airport Way
	1-3pm	Last day of Drones Quilt Project display, 1-3pm 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 have been displayed in the lobby of the Library throughout the month of December. info@alaskapeace.org	Noel Wien Library, 1215 Cowles St, Fairbanks
	all day	Fbks - Stage 1 air alert 12/29 through 5pm 1/2. No burning w/o a waiver or NOASH*. North Pole - Stage 2 air alert 12/29 through 5pm Jan 2nd. No burning w/o a NOASH. For more info call 459-1234 or AQFairbanks.com . *“No Other Adequate Source of Heat”	
Monday, Jan. 1, 2018	deadline	“The future of downtown... your chance to offer ideas online for improvements ... to have a say in the future of downtown. Should there be more parks? Retailers? Entertainment venues? A work group will sift through the responses and comments to look for themes. More public mtgs will be held throughout 2018 to discuss downtown's future, and a plan for improving downtown will be submitted in about a year... This is a rare occasion to comment on the future of your city. If you have an idea to make downtown Fairbanks a better place, this is your chance to make your voice heard. Take the survey at goo.gl/Ujq7S9. <i>Fairbanks Daily News-Miner editorial 12-29-17</i>	
Tuesday January 2	6:45- 8:30pm	Fairbanks Activists Forum Mtg - FAF is a locally-built social action network, contributing to the growth of Fairbanks through advocacy and education. More info: fairbanksactivistsforum@gmail.com	the HUB, 410 2nd Ave #100, Fairbanks
Thursday Jan. 4	6-?pm 5:30 pm	Fairbanks North Star Borough Regular Assembly Mtg <i>Under consideration in the 5:30 finance committee mtg will be 2 ordinances dealing with a proposed model biomass gasification unit.</i> FNSB Assembly holds regular mtgs on alternate Thurs of each month unless the presiding officer schedules otherwise. All regular and special mtgs, committee mtgs, & gatherings of more than 3 assembly members are public meetings. All mtgs are streamed live through the borough website and regular Assembly mtgs are aired live on Public Radio	Assembly Chambers, 907 Terminal St

		<p>(KUAc-FM 89.9). Agenda & more info: www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/assembly/Pages/Assembly-Mtg-Documents.aspx</p>	
	7-8:30pm	<p>Alaska Peace Center Monthly Meeting..to plan winter events. All are welcome. For more information: info@alaskapeace.org</p>	<p>Alaska Peace Center office, 3535 College Rd Suite 203, Fbks</p>
		<p>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.</p>	<p>For location details please email genderpioneers@gmail.com</p>
Fri,Sat.	Jan.5,6	No local events of peace, justice, and sustainability known for these dates.	
Sunday, Jan. 7	10:30am	<p><i>from Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks Calendar</i> ...Rev. Shirley Lee will join us this morning with an update on the Tanana Chiefs Conference Sobering Center. During the winter of 2007-2008, six people froze to death on the streets of Fbks due to being intoxicated and having nowhere safe to go. The new Sobering Center offers a place for intoxicated people to sober up for 12 hours in safety and warmth, and a chance to connect with the medical and social services they need." minister@uuff.org</p> <p>Invitation to join a rally - Folks who are disturbed by being dominated by a man who bragged about sexually assaulting, uses bullying in place of diplomacy, acts unilaterally, and has led the race to opening ANWR and a tax bill to greatly increase inequality - join the call for IMPEACHment; also contact our congressional delegation every week calling on them to enact this call. -Adeline K.</p>	<p><i>Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks,</i> 4448 Pikes Landing Rd.</p>
Tues, Jan.9	5:30-7	<p>After This Week</p> <p>City Diversity Council Meeting</p>	<p>Fairbanks City Hall, 800 Cushman St</p>
	6-7pm	<p>Monthly IWW Fairbanks Meeting</p>	<p>507 Gaffney Rd</p>
Fri,Jan 12	12-1pm	<p>Stone's Throw Open House</p>	<p>507 Gaffney Rd</p>
Saturday, Jan 20		<p>Women's March 2018 Annual Women's March since 2017 March On FBX calendar</p>	<p>FAIRBANKS. and Alaska Pl, Anchorage</p>
Tuesday, Jan 23	6:30–7:45pm	<p>Fairbanks Activist Forum Facilitator's Meeting More info: fairbanksactivistsforum@gmail.com</p>	
Fri, Jan.26	6-9pm	<p>APC Potluck, movie Syrian White Helmets, and discussion. info@alaskapeace.org</p>	<p>University Community Presbyterian Church, 3510 College Rd, Fairbanks</p>

Good News category:

New Jersey and Several U.S. Cities Move to Establish Public Banks
<http://btlonline.org/2018/seg/180105bf-btl-brown.html>

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

Peace

How It Could Finally Be Possible to Prosecute War as a Crime

<http://worldbeyondwar.org/prosecute>

By David Swanson: **War is a crime.**

The International Criminal Court has just announced that it will finally treat it as a crime...

World Beyond War is launching [a global petition to the national governments of the world](#) asking for their public commitment to refer any war launched by any nation to the International Criminal Court with or without the Security Council. [Add your name.](#)

(This will be an item on the Alaska Peace Center Jan. 4 mtg agenda.)

China & India are building 26 new nuclear reactors and plan 200+ more, groundwater sampling in Laramie, Wyoming are showing contamination... “These days, prices are too low for most U.S. uranium operations to make any money. But that may be about to change”

Uranium mines oversight... the Natural Resources Defence Council... said it needs more oversight to protect limited western aquifers, which are impacted by the mining. He said he wants more groundwater testing before mining starts, in neighboring aquifers and after mining is done. As western towns reach for out-of-the way aquifers, [NRDC] was concerned that they wouldn’t have usable water to reach for.

The Environmental Protection Agency tried to increase those protections in 2015, but failed. Now, a similar version of those protections is on the table... On Dec. 14, Wyoming Republican Senator John Barrasso [sent a letter](#) to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt to ask that his agency abandon the proposed rule on groundwater and in situ uranium recovery.” *per Marketplace on KUAC.*

U.S. Dept of Homeland Security has agents working in more than 70 other countries, *per Democracy Now! 12-29-17 on KWRK*. Also: 46 journalists have been murdered around the world

Justice

12-30-17 from CodePink:

“It has been almost two weeks now that 16-y.o. Ahed Tamimi has been sitting in an Israeli prison. For the 3rd time since she was arrested, her detention has been extended. Her next chance for release is Monday, Jan 1, 2018... Most of her time has been in a freezing cold isolation cell with a camera monitoring her every move. Israeli journalist Ben Caspit called for her to be sexually assaulted, saying, “we should exact a price at some other opportunity, in the dark, without witnesses and cameras.”

Tomorrow as she appears in court, we are demanding of Netanyahu that she be released immediately.

Read more and sign the petition at <http://www.codepink.org/freeahed>.

from Courage to Resist: “Not every leaker is an ideological combatant like Edward Snowden and Chelsea Manning. Reality Winner may be the unlikeliest of all.”

[New York Magazine published an article](#) on [NSA contractor] Reality Winner this week. For folks that are still wondering who is this person with a quirky name, please do take the time to read Kerry Howley's in-depth article, and [December 2017 Courage to Resist podcast](#)

Reality Winner's family talk about what it's like trying to support their loved one during her Orwellian incarceration.

Bills in House & Senate to siphon off VA to privatize and send VA the bill: listen to 1-hr Veterans For Peace podcast at <https://soundcloud.com/user-55976759/vfp121417-veterans-for-peace-on-counter-recruitment>. from www.nnomy.org (The National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth)

Sustainability

Regarding local water PFOS contamination, from wakeupalaskawater@gmail.com: **“...get the word out not to drink the water that has been hooked up from the city until you have purged the domestic water supply.** That would include the [home] hot water tank which has been collecting toxins for however many years it has been hooked up. There's a very good chance that there is extreme amount of toxin in the sludge in the bottom of the hot water tanks. That can enter the water system either through mixer valves or by drinking warm water which some people do but shouldn't do until they check the hot water tank for contamination.”

Trump rescinds drilling rules for oil, gas.

[Per]rules developed under Pres.Obama ...Companies would have had to disclose the chemicals used in fracking, which pumps pressurized water underground to break open hydrocarbon deposits... The long-awaited change drew praise from industry groups including the Washington, D.C.-based Independent Petroleum Association of America and Denver-based Western Energy Alliance, which sued to block the rules... (NPR/FDNM)

“Considering fossil fuel divestment” FDNM Community Perspective 12-29-17 by Bjorn Olsen,

“...Earlier this month, The Alaska Climate Action Network drafted a petition calling on the Board of Trustees of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation to divest the fund from its fossil fuel assets... In November, the Norwegian Sovereign Wealth Fund — a fund worth \$1 trillion — announced it would consider divesting its holding in fossil fuels... After the Dec. 12 meeting, the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Board of Trustees directed its staff — in a historic move — to prepare an Environmental and Social

<p>this year.</p> <p>from info@airwars.org: "...By any measure, 2017 has been the worst year for civilians in the fight against ISIS, as battles moved deep into Iraqi and Syrian cities. Despite the Coalition's insistence that it was waging "the most precise war in history", Airwars estimates that at least 3,875 non-combatants have been killed by Coalition actions during 2017 to November...."</p> <p><i>"In a statement released by the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) — the organization which filed a lawsuit to protect Bears Ears, Under the Antiquities Act, the president may create national monuments...not diminish or revoke existing monuments—only Congress has that ability... the Antiquities Act does not authorize the President to do so. If this unprecedented and unlawful action is allowed, the 129 national monuments across the United States will be at risk. Sign the petition: Trump's attempts to decommission Bears Ears National Monument is illegal and threatens the existence of every single U.S. national monument if he succeeds."</i></p>	<p>In a new study funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, ...</p> <p>"Objective magnetic field measurements and pregnancy outcomes were obtained for 913 pregnant women... Miscarriage occurred in ... a nearly three times higher relative risk. ... in ... women with the higher measured exposure level... Non-ionizing radiation... can be generated by a number of environmental sources, including electric appliances, power lines and transformers, wireless devices and wireless networks. Humans are exposed to magnetic fields via close proximity to these sources while they are in use.</p> <p>"This study provides evidence from a human population that magnetic field non-ionizing radiation could have adverse biological impacts on human health" <i>from Kaiser Permanente 12-13-17.</i></p>	<p>Governance Investment session for a future board meeting..." Read the rest of the article at newsminer.com.</p> <p>"There's an unsolved fish mystery playing out right now along a rugged, 300-mile stretch of Southeast Alaska coastline: What's killing off the thousands of king salmon that, at an increasing rate, swim out to sea and don't return to spawn?... Alaska fishermen and scientists don't know what, exactly, is causing king salmon returns to plummet across Southeast. But they're trying to adapt to the consequences: closures for certain fisheries and new limits on catches... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game last week released a set of grim salmon forecasts for a half-dozen Southeast rivers, from the Stikine near Wrangell to the Chilkat near Haines..."</p> <p>https://www.adn.com/business-economy/2017/12/28/southeast-alaskas-king-salmon-are-disappearing-and-fishermen-are-grappling-with-the-consequences/.</p> <p><i>More "Sustainability" items at the ends of "Peace" & "Justice" columns...</i></p>
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Spotlight

Throughout the country **military recruiters are increasingly allowed** to casually share lunch in high school cafeterias and interact freely with high school youth in hallways and classrooms. Military recruiters are on campus so frequently in many schools that they get to know kids on a first-name basis. They "chill" in the locker room and hang out in the parking lot and they play one-on-one basketball with kids after school. Meanwhile, college recruiters are typically required to meet with students by appointment in the guidance office. It's not the "same" access called for in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Forget the old adage that familiarity breeds contempt. With vulnerable 16 and 17 year olds, familiarity breeds trust and trust produces enlistment agreements. Read more at <http://nnomy.org/index.php/en/resources/blog/pat-elder-series/item/760-should-recruiters-own-our-schools.html>. See "What we can do" at nnomy.net. (The National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth)

also maintain an office in conjunction with this radio station, KWRK. If you would like to support these activities you can make a donation via PayPal at our website, www.alaskapeace.org, or if you would prefer not to subsidize PayPal you can send a check to the Alaska Peace Center, 3535 College Road Suite 203, Fairbanks, AK 99709.

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. This week: Is this format better than the prior format?

May Peace be with you! Have a good week!

- For a cleanly-formatted version of this newsletter, go to www.alaskapeace.org.
- Please respond via <info@alaskapeace.org>; please do not use "reply".