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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 11th, 2018

Be ready for opportunities to participate!
Community News and Opportunities for Action,

Day, Date	Time	Event Description, Contact information	Where?
		<u>This Week Opportunities for Action</u>	
	Feb 12 Monday:	(Some) Issues of Peace, Justice, and Sustainability to be brought up This week in the Alaska Legislature: -- The Need to Increase the BSA: Consequences if not Adjusted; -- SB 171 CHILD ABUSE; TRAINING PROGRAMS; BREE'S LAW -- HB 322 OIL SPILLS/POLLUTION; PENALTIES; PREVENTION -- HB 316 RESTRICT ACCESS MARIJUANA CRIME RECORDS -- Presentation: Alaska Children's Justice Act Task Force	Go to www.alaskapeace.org "Community News" for a link to Community organizations and contact info for local, state, and federal government representatives.
	Feb 13 Tuesday:	-- SB 173 LIABILITY: PESTICIDES & UTILITY POLES -- Sexual & Other Workplace Harassment Policy -- HB 264 SHOPPING BAG FEES & RECYCLING -- HJR 30 URGE U.S. SUPPORT OF REFUGEES -- HB 307 MILITARY JUSTICE & MILITIA CIVIL RELIEF -- SB 160 BROADBAND INTERNET: NEUTRALITY/REGULATION -- HB 325 PRISONER COMPUTER USE; REENTRY SERVICES	
	Feb 14 Wed	-- HJR 21 FEDS RESPECT STATE REG OF MARIJUANA -- HB 298 NUMBER OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES -- HB 217 RAW MILK SALES; FOOD EXEMPT FROM REGS -- SB 6 INDUSTRIAL HEMP PRODUCTION -- HB 277 BROADBAND: NEUTRALITY/REGULATION	
	Feb 15 Thurs	-- Update on Ambler Mining District Access Project -- HB 38 WORKERS' COMPENSATION: DEATH BENEFITS -- HB 79 OMNIBUS WORKERS' COMPENSATION -- HB 293 BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR POLICE & TRAINING -- SJR 2 Proposing an amendment to the Alaska Constitution relating to an appropriation limit	
	Feb 16 Friday	-- SB 15 E-CIGS: SALE TO AND POSSESSION BY MINOR -- HB 284, 285, 286, 321 - BUDGETS: Capital, Mental Health, Operating/Loans/Funds, Supplemental Op -- HB 303 "workers' compensation benefits for the rehabilitation and reemployment of injured employees"	
		Many topics are **Streamed live on AKL.tv** and/or allow Public Testimony: Call your LIO to check when & where. See This week's legislative schedule and links to bills at this link.	Contact your Legislative Information Office to be involved as legislation is created & debated. In Fairbanks: 452-4448 KUAC 9.2 TV Airs Gavel Alaska: Live coverage of the Alaska Legislature from the capitol building in Juneau 8am-7pm Mon - Fri throughout the legislative session. from KUAC News & TV/FM Programming Updates 2/5/18

Sunday Feb. 11	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. 12	12 noon & 6 pm	"Mayor: What should the borough cut? Fairbanks North Star Borough (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 ... To learn more about the proposed 2018-2019 school district budget, go to: https://goo.gl/623ceR ." Read the article at newsminer.com 1-26-18. 2-10-18:"We've been digging a hole on our facilities," Kassel said. "...I would prefer that the public give me a little more feedback."...	Pioneer Park An online survey is available on the borough website at fnsb survey
	until 4pm	Fairbanks Stage 2 & North Pole Stage 2 air alert in effect. Expires Feb.12 at 4:30pm. 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. 13	8am	:: February 13: "Air Quality Non-Attainment 101". Nicholas Czarnecki of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Air Quality Division will present on "Air Quality Non-Attainment 101". <i>NAEC</i>	Fairbanks Economic Development Corp, 330 Wendell Ave., Suite E
	6-7 pm	Monthly IWW Fairbanks Mtg: 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 at 6pm on the second Tues of each month. All Wobblies (& recruit prospects) are welcome & encouraged to come.	507 Gaffney Rd, Fbks
Thursday Feb. 15	5:30 pm	FNSB Assembly mtg includes PUBLIC HEARING on air quality test program for electrostatic precipitators	
	7-9pm	Gender Pioneers Ally Training- Gender Pioneers is a peer-to-peer support group for all transgender, genderqueer, genderquestioning or otherwise gender-bending folks in Alaska's interior. In addition to monthly support group meetings we meet the third Thursday of each month to train allies and discuss outreach and activism.	For location details please email genderpioneers@gmail.com .
Friday Feb. 16	6-7pm	-"The Native Student Union (NSU) of the University of Alaska Fbks will celebrate Elizabeth Peratrovich day [with] the theme will be Protecting Indigenous Women within our Communities. The goal is to continue the national conversation of protecting women and with a focus on Indigenous women in Alaska. #Indigenouswomenrising #MMIW Stay tuned for more details. Register at https://orgsync.com/123619/chapter ."	
		<u>After This Week</u>	
Tues, 2/20	9 am daily	<u>Feb 20-21: Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Mtg.</u> to discuss possible proposals to change Federal subsistence fish & shellfish regulations and nonrural determinations, and other issues related to subsistence... The public is invited to attend and participate in this mtg. To teleconference into this meeting, dial toll-free (877) 638-8165 (passcode: 9060609). For more information contact Caron McKee: (907) 786-3880 or (800) 478-1456; caron_mckee@fws.gov . <i>NAEC</i>	Dimond Center Hotel in Anchorage
Tues, 2/20	7 p.m.	"Feb.7 To the editor: ...A force of librarians... because we foster inclusion, inquiry, collaboration, curation, engagement & exploration in the library. We are a force because libraries are the original centers for personalized learning, places where students ask questions and find answers, engage in creativity and collaboration, and harness critical thinking skills as they learn to evaluate sources, synthesize and communicate. But being a force means having sufficient funding and staff and, unfortunately, this year the school district likely will experience a deficit of \$8.2 million. Included in	<i>school district main office, 520 Fifth Ave. between Noble & Lacey streets</i>

		<p>the list of personnel reductions are all nine library assistants in the secondary schools. ...The librarian and library assistant are a team...Both positions are needed in our schools.</p> <p>... If you believe that our schools deserve a force of librarians, please let the school board know that we should keep all nine of our library assistants. <i>You can testify at the next school board mtg Or,</i> email the school board at schoolboard@k12northstar.org. Our students deserve nothing less. Deborah Rinio” See the complete letter at newsminer.com 2/8/2018</p>	
Thurs, 2/22	12-1pm	Fairbanks Housing & Homeless Coalition February Mtg	City Hall Chambers
Fri, 2/23	6-9pm	<p>Alaska Peace Center Potluck and "Resolve: Youth Restorative Justice in Our Community," presented by North Star Youth Court* Executive Director Jazzanne Fretwell. Phone: 907-457-6792 E-mail ednsyc@gsi.net or info@alaskapeace.org</p> <p>* “This is our Mission Statement: Reducing Juvenile Crime While Promoting Restorative Justice and Alternative Dispute Resolutions, Resulting in a Safer Community.”</p>	<p>Sadler's Furniture Store 610 Cushman St., Ste 302 (3rd fl; take the elevator up. Park in Sadler's lot. Fairbanks</p>
Deadline March 15		<p>:: <u>Salmon Shadows: Call for Art and Writing.</u> The Alaska Salmon Fellows, Alaska Humanities Forum, and Island Institute welcome artists and writers to contribute to Salmon Shadows, an experimental public arts and humanities project. The project challenges Alaskans and others engaged in the salmon system to consider how we’ve developed our collective salmon narratives, what these narratives obscure, and how we can bring these shadows into the light. <u>Apply through Submittable here.</u> NAEC</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:

February 16th: Elizabeth Peratrovich Day.

“Elizabeth Peratrovich testified before the Alaska Territorial Legislature as it debated the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945. Her speech helped pass the act into law almost 20 years before the U.S. Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964.” per Juneau Empire.com. See link: [Peratrovich Day in Fairbanks Schools.](#)

- “The Sitka School District announces that all schools will be dismissed early on Elizabeth Peratrovich Day” sitkaschools.org/site

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

Peace

from Veterans For Peace 2/9/18:

-- “Sign Petition to Drop All Charges Against Okinawa Anti-Base Activists

The Conference on U.S. Foreign Military Bases, of which Veterans For Peace is a member, unanimously passed a resolution in support of arrested Okinawa anti-bases activists, Hiroji Yamashiro, and his co-defendants, Hiroshi Inaba and Atsushi Soeda. ...Every signed petition will be immediately sent to the Naha Court in Okinawa, and emailed to Ambassadors of Japan to the United Nations & US. **Sign the petition now!** -- “**#DisarmThePatriarchy: Women Speak Out on Peace, Security and Nuclear War** Women who work in national security and peace movements recently came together for a #DisarmThePatriarchy chat to break down and

Justice

Abortion is a focus of early action in legislative sessions Republicans who control a majority of the nation’s statehouses are considering a wide range of abortion legislation that could test the government’s legal ability to restrict a woman’s right to terminate pregnancy. Read the article at newsminer.com 2-5-18

from ACLU* of Alaska: “[T]he FCC repealed [net neutrality] rules and endangered Alaskans' ability to access information online. Governor Walker has the chance to fix this. He can join Montana and New York in ordering internet service providers with state contracts to respect net neutrality and not interfere with users' ability to access content on the internet. **Call Governor Walker and ask him to protect net neutrality in Alaska.**”

Sustainability

Northern Alaska Environmental Center:

“The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) rescheduled the Anchorage hearing ... on Feb 21, the public can ask questions, share information, & submit comments ... even Governor Walker is asking for more mtgs ... In Fbks, we're planning an event the same night, **Wed, Feb 21, to share information about the process, how to comment, and ...to take public testimony that we will submit to BOEM on your behalf. Details will be announced in this weekly enews & via social media, and **if you'd like to receive email alerts specific to Arctic ocean protections**, please let Erica know at erica@northern.org.**

discuss issues spanning from nuclear war to the unique perspectives women bring to peace-making tables. Hosted by Women Advancing New Directions (WAND), a national organization mobilizing women in the fight against nuclear arms...Check out [the amazing article](#) and be sure to read the conversation on twitter: #DisarmPatriarchy”

--“**Save the Dates: Upcoming Event Feb 2-March 25 - Olympic Truce Call to Action: Diplomacy Not War!**

March 3-8 - Greenpeace Action Camp

March 4-21 - VFP Vietnam Tour

May 14-16 - 2018 UN High Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament, United Nations, NY and many other scheduled events.

from Retired Colonel Ann Wright, via info@codepink.org: “Reflecting the desires of South Korean citizens, the United Nations has asked its member states to observe an Olympic truce during the upcoming February 9-25 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, and for one week afterward, until March 4. Additionally, the government of South Korea has asked the United States to delay its war rehearsal flights over South Korea until after the truce. Vice President Mike Pence will be attending the opening of the Olympics in Seoul. **Send VP Pence a message urging the US to stop provocative war “exercises” during this period, and to continue the truce indefinitely thereafter.**”

You can listen to a well-told history of the Korean War and THAAD (Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense) on making contact Korea” as heard on KWRK on 2/9/19.

from worldbeyodwar.org: “In Trump's State of the Union he proposed building more nuclear weapons to counter "rivals" who "challenge" U.S. "values." The Pentagon's new Nuclear Posture Review proposes nuclear weapons to counter even "cyber warfare" and of course for "deterrence," but also for "achievement of U.S. objectives if deterrence fails."

How do we back Washington away from madness? This might help: This past summer, former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn and former Russian Foreign Minister Igor S. Ivanov were two of the signers of a **letter to presidents Trump and Putin. They recommended these 4 steps:**

- 1) "A new Presidential Joint Declaration by the United States and the Russian Federation declaring that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought."
- 2) "Increase military-to-military communication through a new NATO-

*American Civil Liberties Union

from info@BernieSanders.com: [A]n **issue of grave consequence that affects the lives of millions of Americans and greatly impacts our democracy** - namely the continued federal prohibition on marijuana and the need for reform of our criminal justice system:

As you know, a number of states (including my state of VT) have decriminalized or legalized the possession, use and sale of marijuana in recent years... The criminal justice system is not the answer to drug abuse. Addiction is a health problem and we should start treating it that way. While communities all across the country lack adequate resources for treatment or prevention, we are spending approximately \$50 billion a year on the war on drugs. That's absurd. **Sign my petition if you agree it is long past time for the government to end its failed war on drugs and instead invest in programs that focus on treatment and prevention of drug abuse. This is an important issue that impacts almost everyone and we should all make our voices heard.**

This so-called war on drugs has ... over 2 million people in prison ... the highest rate in the world - higher even than authoritarian countries like China, Saudi Arabia, and Russia. ... People with felony convictions cannot vote in many states. Today, for that reason alone, over 6 million Americans are denied access to the ballot. This has got to change. We need the highest voter turnout in the world, not the highest incarceration rate..."

2-5-18 on kuac: --**UAF Equality task force** led by Sine Anahita, 25/28 top wage earners are men, 5x more than what women earn, requests deans get more sex-discrimination ed... also address fair treatment of disabled people ...

-- from newsminer: **Budget cuts** are imminent: Among the proposed cuts are the reduction of 53.5 full-time teachers and staff... The proposed cuts would increase the student-to-teacher ratio by as much as two students in some classes.

As part of the budget process, **the school district will be taking public comment throughout Feb & March.** Now is the time to learn about the proposed budget and give feedback..." read the rest of the article at newsminer.com 2/4/2018

Last Friday, the Northern Center joined several other environmental organizations in **filing a lawsuit, represented by Anchorage-based firm Trustees for Alaska**, against the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The **lawsuit challenges BLM's December 2017 offering of more than 10 million acres to the oil and gas industry.** Though only a small percentage of that land received bids, BLM did not follow the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in examining the impacts extractive development would have, and this disregard for public process must be corrected before another lease sale occurs.... **Read more here.**

from Fairbanks Climate Coalition calendar via fairbanksclimateaction.org:

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

Cutting energy costs in rural Alaska
JUNEAU — In diesel- powered villages, electric bills can climb to several hundred dollars a month, especially in the winter. So a batch of new energy assessors, who live in those communities, is being trained to spot areas of improvement around the home. 2-9-18 FDNM

from Alaska Community Action on Toxics: **The Toxic Free Children Act would ban the ten worst chemical flame-retardants from toys, children's products, and furniture.** These chemicals are harmful to health and ineffective in preventing fires. We need your help in getting the House Resources committee to schedule a hearing for the bill. **Will you contact the committee to let them know that you support ending the toxic legacy of flame-retardant chemicals in Alaska?** For more information, please visit our **Toxic-Free Children Act page.**”

“State and local officials said they plan to ask for more time from the federal government to deal with smoke pollution in Fairbanks and North Pole. However, leaders of the group Citizens for Clean Air say the time to clean the air is now. ‘The state of Alaska and the borough were notified in 2006 that we had a problem, and the official countdown clock started in

Russia Military Crisis Managemt Group."

3) Collaborate to secure "nuclear and radiological materials" so that they do not fall into the hands of terrorist groups.

4) Create "informal understandings on cyber dangers related to interference in strategic warning systems . . . to prevent war by mistake."

[Click here to email your Representative and Senators to publicly support taking these steps.](#)

Please forward this email to everyone you can, share this on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Background:> [Open Letter to President Donald Trump and President Vladimir Putin](#)"

from Friends Committee on National Legislation: "[2-10-18] the [U.S.]House and Senate reached a 2-yr budget deal that gave a massive raise to the Pentagon & a smaller raise to domestic programs... Congress still failed to give Dreamers a pathway to citizenship -- but there were some key wins for desperately-needed disaster relief and some domestic programs. [Get the details and take action.](#)

Since Alaska Chief Justice Stowers became chief justice in 2015, there has been an **11 % drop in court staff due to budget cuts.***FDNM*

"Group picks Alaska to challenge unlimited campaign donations ...in a bid to get the U.S. Supreme Court to revisit a 2010 decision that upended how campaigns are run in this country. The court decision, "Citizen United" v. FEC, paved the way for corporations and unions to make unlimited independent expenditures, and in Alaska, was viewed by state officials as likely rendering several provisions of law prohibiting or limiting certain contributions unconstitutional.

Washington, D.C.-based Equal Citizens wants to put that interpretation to the test ... supporting complaints ... filed with the Alaska Public Offices Commission over contributions made in the 2016 election to independent groups that backed candidates to the Alaska Legislature. One group supported a Republican and the other leaned toward Democrats during the general election.

The complaints contend that state law would cap contributions of individuals or other groups to \$500 and \$1,000 a year, respectively, but that the law was flouted... with special interest and union organizations contributing about \$50,000 or more, the complaints allege...

Staff for the Alaska Public Offices Commission has concluded the complaints should be rejected. If the commission agrees, the matter can be appealed to state court. Read the complete report at [newsminer.com](#) 2/8/2018

2009, ' Jimmy Fox, co-coordinator for the group, said in a statement.

"The state acknowledged hospitalizations from smoke were going up at the hospital as far back as 2003."

Read the article at [newsminer.com](#) 2-4-18

FDNM LETTER TO THE EDITOR Feb. 4
All of us own air quality problem

To the editor: ... *To add to the mess is the impending impact of the F-35-induced population increase, especially in the North Pole area, which has already exceeded its biological human "carrying capacity." It is extremely disingenuous to ask for a five-year extension, while encouraging more growth and development in the worst air pollution area in the nation, plus to request an extension on the Serious State Implementation Plan, which was due to be submitted to the EPA in December 2017.*

Our children conceived here in 2006 are now fifth- and sixth-graders. With what we know about the health effects, how can a five-year extension on our homework be even conscionable? All of us own this problem and we need to work on the solution together.

Jeanne Olson, NORTH POLE"

Spotlight

"Veterans For Peace completely condemns the Trump Administration's plans for a **military parade later this year.** **We call on all people who believe in our nation's democratic ideals to stand together and say no** to this outrageous, pomp and circumstance parade of military personnel and hardware for no reason other than to feed a pompous ego. The Administration claims that the purpose of the parade is to give, "[a celebration at which all Americans can show their appreciation.](#)" **But there has not been a call by U.S. service members or veterans for a parade.** In fact, Military Times conducted an [informal poll](#) with more than 51,000 respondents. As of the afternoon of February 8th, **89 percent responded, "No.** It's a waste of time and troops are too busy."

If the president wants to show gratitude to the troops, provide real support:

- Develop better programs and services to reduce suicide rates
- Cultivate a culture where asking for help to manage Post Traumatic Stress is not perceived as weak.
- Stop trying to privatize the Veterans Health Administration and provide it with more funding and staff.
- Continue to reduce the number of homeless veterans.
- Increase the pay of service members who must use SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (also known as food stamps) to feed their families.
- Stop Deporting Veterans, separating them from their friends and families including their children. Thank them for their service by bringing them home.

Finally, **stop these endless wars** and turn away from war as the main tool of U.S. foreign policy. Nothing is more sacred to a **soldier than peace.** Countless deployments and a foreign policy that consistently creates new enemies is abusive and immoral. It guarantees a stream of deaths and broken families, bodies and minds..." [Read the entire Statement](#)" "Salon's Alyona Minkovski spoke to three veterans on "Salon Now," who all agreed that the multi-million dollar cost of a parade would be better spent on helping the VA address issues like homelessness, mental health and educational services." [Check out the short video!](#)

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

--We All Need More Kindness In This World, by Guy Davis

-- What Did You Learn In School Today? by Tom Paxton

*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.

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

If you would like to support these activities

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.