

Alaska Peace Center Community News and Opportunities for Action

*on KWRK-LP 90.9 FM radio (or via kwrk.org livestream) in Fairbanks, Alaska, Sundays, 8am & 6pm, reporting on events of **Peace**, **Justice**, and **Sustainability** that affect us and future generations in Alaska.*

Week of February 9th, 2020 Be ready for opportunities to participate!

February is Black History Month - [End Slavery Now](#) encourages us, "In honor of Black History Month educate yourself about what you can do to help address [the scourge of] human trafficking... people of color, particularly women and girls of color, are at higher risk. [Learn More](#) University of Southern California has compiled a resource that explores the global scope of human trafficking. Their guide also includes tips for fighting this system.

[Learn More](#) Interested in learning to shop ethically? Download the most recent version of our [Slave Free Shopping Guide](#) [Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution](#), from Independent Lens, viewable all month.

Alaska State Legislature is in session- For schedules, bills, legislators, etc, go to [akleg.gov](#). *Floor sessions live on Gavel Alaska at www.bit.ly/38twvlo. To send a Public Opinion Message (POM) or sign up to participate in hearings, call your Legislative Information Office (LIO) at 452-4448 (Fairbanks).*

For Floor Sessions and most committee meetings visit <https://www.ktoo.org/gavel/schedule/> or <http://ak1.tv> via computer, a smart tv, or a device such as a Chromecast. You can also use either of those URLs to watch on a television connected to the internet. [How to stay connected to lawmakers and issues during legislative session](#)

IN THE NEAR FUTURE:

Feb. 7-March 23: Public Comment Period for Hilcorp Oil Discharge Prevention & Contingency Plan amendment application. Info available at Dept of Environmental Conservation offices (610 Univ. Ave in Fbks) and at dec.alaska.gov/Applications/SPAR/PublicMVC/IPP/CPlansUnderReview. "The dept will hold a public hearing on the plan application if it determines that good cause exists."

Sunday February 9

4pm AK time—*from 350.org*: "Join us for the launch webinar for the **Stop the Money Pipeline coalitions** call for a National Day of Action during the 3 days of deep strikes and actions during Earth Week in April 2020. Find out how you can host an action in your local community. . Our goal is to stop the funding of climate destruction. That means banks, insurance companies, and investors need to stop funding fossil fuels and deforestation and start respecting human rights and Indigenous sovereignty. [RSVP](#)"

Monday, February 10

Alaska Forum on the Environment Feb. 10-14 at Anchorage's Dena'ina Center... provides an opportunity for State, local, Federal, military, private, and Native leaders and professionals to discuss the latest projects, processes, and issues that affect us in Alaska. akforum.org/afe/

5pm AK time Tracing Roots of Peace Synchronized Global Meditation LIVESTREAM

facebook.com/SheilaApplegate/ [For more information click here](#)

6-7pm Monthly IWW Fairbanks Mtg at Breadline's Stone Soup Cafe, 507 Gaffney Rd. Info: iwwfbx@gmail.com
6:30pm Fbks City Council mtg at City Hall, 800 Cushman St. www.fairbanksalaska.us/calendar/month/
9:30-11pm "Independent Lens: 'Leftover Women'" on KUAC ch. 9 TV

Tuesday, February 11

5pm Peace Alliance podcasts - 'Join our free monthly National Action Call on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, featuring inspiring guest speakers from all areas of Peace building, legislative updates, reports of grassroots victories from around the nation, and coaching on the actions that are advancing this important work in our world. See the Calendar for the link to join the calls. <https://peacealliance.org/national-monthly-calls/>

5:30pm Fbks Diversity Council mtg at City Hall, 800 Cushman St. Contact info cityclerk@fairbanks.us or 479-6702.

After a work session starting at 6pm, **FNSB Planning Commission mtg** includes AP003-20 An appeal by The Conservation Fund, on behalf of UA Land Mngmt, of the Dec. 18 decision to deny a variance from Borough Code to waive the requirement for dedication of trail easements... part of the application to subdivide Fbks Golf & Country Club... into 2 tracts.

6:45pm (6:30 to register & socialize) - 8:30pm -Fairbanks Peace Choir rehearsals re-commence at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fbks (UUFF), 4448 Pikes Landing Rd. Create a culture of Peace through song!

No auditions, no experience necessary. Call 457-8086 for info.

7pm **"Not-So-Permanent Permafrost?"** at Raven Landing Center, 1222 Cowles St, with Louise Farquharson, research associate, UAF. Part of UAF Geophysical Institute's free 2020 Science for Alaska Lecture Series every Tuesday through March 3.

4-5pm **-UAF Intro to Climate Justice & FCAC Meeting at UAF Honors House (Copper Lane)**

9-10pm **"The Fight"** on American Experience TV ch. 9 KUAC

10-11pm **"Frontline - Protestors fight for rights and freedom"** on KUAC TV ch 9.

Wednesday, February 12

8:45-10am Green Star is teaching a five-week course on recycling in Fairbanks at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Alaska Fairbanks this spring. [Sign up now before all spots are filled!](#) The class takes place on Wednesdays (8:45-10am) from February 12-March 11. Learn how to recycle as much as you can in Fairbanks, how to compost your food scraps at home, and what happens to your electronics when you drop them off for recycling. The class includes tours of the FNSB Central Recycling Facility and Green Star's electronics recycling warehouse. The fifth class will focus on creative reuse and repair with local artists!

12noon FNSB/City of Fbks **Chena Riverfront Commission** mtg in Ester Conference Rm, Borough bldg: Agenda includes Dept of Transportation projects, River Front projects, and Title 17 Amendment: Lots Adjacent to River.

12:30pm FNSB **Health & Social Svcs Commission** mtg in Assembly Chambers

5:30pm **Fbks Open Radio mtg/open hours**, 3535 College Rd, suite 203. info@kwrk.org

6:30pm FNSB Sustainability Commission work session in Borough Assembly chambers "Discussion of the **future of recycling in Fairbanks** between Commissioners and Borough staff" Questions? 459-1273.

Thursday, February 13

4pm **50th Earth Day 2020 planning mtg** at Northern Alaska Environmental Center, 830 College Rd.

6pm **FNSB Assembly mtg...** www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/assembly/Pages/Assembly-Calendar

Friday, February 14 - Fairbanks Open Radio, KWRK-LP 90.9FM celebrates 4 years of broadcasting!

This all-volunteer station pays the bills for equipment, utilities, rent, royalties totally from listener donations - no corporate sponsorships nor grants that could attempt to influence broadcast choices. Please help support our ability to continue to provide programming you will not hear anywhere else in Interior Alaska by contributing via kwrk.org or by sending a check to Fairbanks Open Radio, 3535 College Rd, suite 203, Fairbanks, AK 99709; Or consider learning how to help with programming; Leave a message at the bottom of the page at kwrk.org. Local shows *Soulful Sunday Mix* with Motown T, and *Investigations* with Birch have been regular features since the beginning, as have *Encounters with Richard Nelson*, *Counterspin*, *Democracy Now!*, and more. Check out the schedule via a link at our website.

Alaska Peace Center's **Community News and Opportunities for Action** celebrates 3 years of weekly broadcasts. Share your thoughts on these broadcasts by emailing alaskapeacenews@gmail.com.

Saturday February 15

Deadline to apply for ARENA 2020 Program. ARENA 2020 shares Canada, Alaska, Iceland energy expertise through its unique circumpolar knowledge-sharing program focusing on isolated power systems integration. The program is held in partnership with Canada, Gwich'in Council International, the United States and Iceland. It's endorsed by the Sustainable Development Working Group of the Arctic Council.

Combining visits to communities and participant knowledge exchanges with presentations and laboratory demonstrations, ARENA connects current and emerging energy professionals with hands-on learning experiences, mentors and project development leaders from throughout the circumpolar North. [Learn more about the program and apply here.](#)" from NAEC newsletter

11:30am - Greater Fairbanks Branch Local 1001 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) **mtg** at Fbks Neighborhood Bldg, 1427 Gillam Way. Membership forms are available. Office 456-2227; P.O. Box 84437, Fbks, AK 99708.

12 noon - 11pm **Fairbanks Winter Folk Fest 2020** will feature family-friendly live music all day, with local vendors selling a variety of crafts, food, art, beverages, and more. At Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4448 Pikes Landing Rd. For more info visit fairbanksfolkfest.org or email FairbanksFolkFest@gmail.com.

5:30-9pm **Chinese New Year Celebration** at Univ of Alaska Fairbanks Wood Center Ballroom. Delicious

Chinese Buffet dinner, colorful entertaining performances, and more. Tickets \$10-20 in advance, \$12-22 at the door. Contact (907) 888-3831 or (907) 474-0928.

NEXT WEEK:

Tuesday February 18

8a-5:30pm, Feb. 18, **Food safety management training via videoconference** in several Alaska communities... State regulations require that all food establishments have at least one certified food protection manager to ensure compliance with food safety regulations... Locations and more information are available at <http://bit.ly/cesCFPM>. To be repeated April 7 and May 20. For additional information or to request another location, contact the instructor, Julie Cascio, at 907-745-3677 or jmcascio@alaska.edu.

Wednesday, February 19

Feb. 19-20: **2020 Alaska Statewide Housing Advocacy Days**: "The Alaska Coalition on Housing & Homelessness will host advocacy days in Juneau... bring[ing] agencies and advocates from communities across the state to share the positive impacts of existing housing and service programs as well as share with elected officials the specific needs in their region. In addition to advocacy efforts, AKCH2 will coordinate several training opportunities... For more information: www.alaskahousing-homeless.org/advocacyday."

Thursday, February 20

Feb. 20-22 Alaska Sustainable Agriculture Conference in Anchorage.

7pm **28th Annual Spelling Bee benefitting Literacy Council of Alaska** at Fbks Westmark Hotel: soup & sandwich buffet, silent auction, raffle, and fun. *From Fairbanks Housing and Homeless Coalition*

7pm **Gender Pack Parents Group** meets in the downstairs room at UUFF (Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fbks) 4448 Pikes Landing Rd. For info: genderpackparents@gmail.com.

Friday, February 21

12-6pm **Used Electronics Garage Sale** at Interior Alaska Green Star, 1101 Well St, the 3rd Friday of every month. Give the gift that gives multiple times over by supporting Green Star's electronics recycling program and keeping electronics out of our landfill... monitors, keyboards, mice, parts for a computer upgrade, antiques, cords of any sort. All proceeds support our non-profit mission to reduce waste and increase recycling in Fbks. Prices are by donation.

AFTER NEXT WEEK, TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

August 5-9, 2020, in Albuquerque, NM: **Veterans For Peace conference**, and Aug. 6-9

Campaign Nonviolence National Conference, which just published

Praise Be Peace -Psalms of Peace and Nonviolence in a Time of War and Climate Change, by John Dear.

“:: February 26: Alaskan Climate Change: What We Can Do to Stop It. 7-8pm, The Folk School cabin, Pioneer Park. Climate is warming twice as fast in Alaska as for the planet as a whole. Terry Chapin will talk briefly about the changes in Alaskan climate and ecosystems, then focus on what we, as Alaskans, can do to reduce rates of climate change.” *from NAEC newsletter*.

“Residents of Anchorage, Fairbanks and other large Alaska cities will **respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone, or mail in mid-March.**” – <https://alaskacounts.org>

International Days of Action against US imposed Sanctions and Economic War on March 13-15

Social Justice Book Club “will discuss *A Yupiaq Worldview: A Pathway to Ecology and Spirit / Edition 2* by Angayuqaq Oscar Kawagley on Monday, **March 23**, 2020 from 7-9 p.m. in the UUFF blue room. This book discusses impacts to the Yupiaq and other Alaska Native communities, implementation of cultural standards in indigenous education, and the emergence of a holistic approach in the sciences. Copies of the book are available and will be sold after Sunday service.”

OTHER News and Opportunities for Action:

From Alaska Community Action on Toxics: “HB 27, the **Toxic-Free Firefighter and Children Act** has passed out of the House Resources Committee! As you might remember, this bill would ban toxic flame retardant chemicals from children’s products and furniture in Alaska. These chemicals are associated with cancer, learning disabilities, and reproductive problems and they are commonly used in these products as fire retardants, despite the fact that they do not provide fire safety benefits. Thank you to Representative Geran Tarr for championing this bill through the committee. Next stop is the House Labor and Commerce committee! With your help, we passed a substantively similar ordinance in Anchorage. [Take action here and let our legislators know that we need HB 27 to pass so we can protect our firefighters and future generations!](#)“

from WinWithoutWar: "... the [US] House passed [a bill that] ...would cut off funding if the president starts an unauthorized war with Iran and clarifies that such **authorization does not currently exist**... would repeal the **2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF)**... now... to the Senate, where **Sen. Kaine's War Powers Resolution will soon be up for a vote.**" *Capitol switchboard: 1-202-224-3121.*

from iagreenstar.org/ “if you have an extra reusable bag or two, bring them in to leave on the Co-Op's reusable bag exchange rack! The Co-Op offers reusable bags for people to bring their groceries home for free, and encourages folks to bring back bags they aren't using. “

from VotersForPeace.US, "... **Congress needs to hear from peace voters every day.** For the next two weeks we are focusing our resources on the **House by pushing them to vote NO on the supplemental, to fully fund a safe withdrawal of our troops, and to establish a deadline for withdrawal from Iraq... Oil is the critical link between war and climate change.** In the coming months, expect to see new actions led by VotersForPeace and the No War No Warming coalition, as well as news and updates from the Peace-Climate Nexus.”

Good News from Organic Consumers Association: "[Amazon](#) and [Walmart](#) will no longer sell paint remover products containing [methylene chloride](#), a chemical linked to cancer, cognitive impairment and other health issues methylene chloride. That's because last year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finally [banned](#) retail sales of the [controversial](#) chemical. But both *will* sell you decaffeinated coffee that tests positive methylene chloride... [Read: 'Is Your Decaf Coffee Organic? If Not, It May Contain a Chemical So Toxic, the EPA Banned It From Paint Removers'](#)”

from ACLU of Alaska: “What we’re **watching in [the current Alaska Legislative] session... Budget:** Without a properly funded budget, Alaskans' rights to competent legal representation, an independent judiciary, swift legal proceedings, and equal protection in healthcare, education, and other government services are at risk. We are actively monitoring issues in several agency budgets to ensure essential services are adequately funded. One key concern is Governor Dunleavy's use of the budget to attack an independent branch of government. Last year, he reduced the Alaska Supreme Court's budget by \$334,700 because of a ruling affirming Alaskans' right to reproductive choice, a position at odds with his own personal and political beliefs. The governor's proposed budget makes this same funding cut for the upcoming fiscal year. No governor has the authority to violate the Alaska and U.S. Constitutions' separation of powers. On April 15, 2020, we'll be back in an Anchorage courtroom fighting to restore this funding. **Alaska's prison crisis:** With last session's passage of **House Bill 49**, which reversed much of Alaska's criminal justice reforms, our state's prisons are dangerously overcrowded... Representative Fields's bill, **HB 187**, would ban the state from putting Alaskans into private prison facilities and prevent this issue from coming up again. We are supporting its passage. The bigger issue is that the Administration hasn't revealed an effective strategy for addressing the causes of the current prison overcrowding crisis. Roughly half the state's prison population is made up of Alaskans who are unsentenced, behind bars without having been convicted of a crime... we hope to see legislators continue to engage the Administration on real and comprehensive solutions. **Equal pay:** Women in Alaska earn 79 cents for every dollar a man makes, and despite a growing economy in recent years, our state's gender pay gap has been widening... Representative Geran Tarr has introduced a bill that could help close the gap, **HB 200...**”

“Community United for Safety and Protection (CUSP) is **asking legislators to disallow the “but your honor, she’s a whore,” defense and to make it an aggravator – a sentence increaser** – if a crime is committed against a person engaged in sex work, if the crime involves a sex work transaction, or if a perpetrator pays the victim. [SIGN THE PETITION HERE](#). (CUSP) is [seeking donations](#) in order to afford the continuation to educate Alaska legislators about the conditions for sex workers and sex trafficking victims. **There are two of us going to Juneau.**”

From fairbanksclimateaction.org: "The Alaska House is considering a resolution **Establishing a House Special Committee on Climate Change.**, [House Resolution 12](#), [Check out this toolkit](#) ... for more guidance!"

Tell Congress: Investigate the Afghanistan Papers NOW and end endless war! more than 2,000 pages of previously unpublished notes of interviews with people who played a direct role in the war, from generals and diplomats to aid workers and Afghan officials. *18 years of U.S. occupation.*

At least 160,000 Afghan and U.S. casualties.

At least \$1.8 trillion spent.

from info@defendbristolbay.com: "In the coming weeks the US Army Corps will release a draft of the FINAL Environmental Impact Statement on the Pebble Mine to cooperating agencies and key stakeholders. That's right, it's the **Final**. Ahead of this, Army Corps has made it clear that they are not checking all the boxes necessary to protect Bristol Bay. The Process is failing us. For over a decade our governing bodies have heard from us time and time again. Alaskans continually make it clear that we don't want Pebble Mine. Bristol Bay is far too valuable to risk for the profit of a foreign mining company. We need you to reach out to your congressional delegation and ask them to use their power to send this project back to the drawing board. [Tell your members of Congress to stop Pebble Mine!](#)"

["Pebble Update: Why the Army Corps says Final EIS won't analyze a tailings dam failure >"](#) link via *The Alaska Center*

from Democracy Now! (heard on KWRK-LP M-F 4am, 8-9am, & noon-1pm): "[Risk of Nuclear War Rises as U.S. Deploys a New Nuclear Weapon for the First Time Since the Cold War](#) The Federation of American Scientists revealed in late January that the U.S. Navy had deployed for the first time a submarine armed with a low-yield Trident nuclear ... [Read More →](#)

from info@bravenewfilms.org: "At least [17 million Americans](#) were purged (an intentional form of voter suppression) from U.S. voter rolls between 2016 and 2018, with notably dramatic increases in states with a history of racial and voter discrimination. ... **Make sure you are still registered! It takes less than one minute.** [Sign the petition](#): *I will check my voter registration status and make sure I have access to my right to vote ahead of Election Day. Afterwards, you'll receive the link to check your registration status.* Discover all the tactics used to suppress the vote in our film [Suppressed: The Fight To Vote. Not on Facebook? Watch here.](#) "

"New Jersey just became the seventh state to end [prison gerrymandering!](#) Incarcerated people in New Jersey will be counted as residents of their hometown, rather than where they are confined... With *low-income communities of color* aggressively targeted by the criminal justice system, and prisons primarily hosted in *white communities*, this practice directly robs resources from the former and funnels them into the latter along the colorline. **Ending prison gerrymandering in the Census would help communities change conditions that lead to incarceration.**

[Sign the petition: Urge the U.S. Census Bureau to stop prison gerrymandering in the decennial Census.](#)"

from Daily Kos Liberation League

from *The Alaska Center*: "Alaskan youth have shown that they will no longer tolerate inaction from our leadership by taking to the streets and joining the global climate strike movement. We have accepted an incredible crew of Youth Delegates who will represent 25 different Alaskan communities when they head to the capitol next month. You can help us fly these teens, 68% of whom live off the road system, from across the state by [donating Alaska Airlines Miles](#). At the Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) annual Civics and Conservation Summit... [learn more](#)" "[Ask your legislator to prioritize our climate in 2020 >](#)"

"Avaaz just uncovered a massive scandal: **While our world is burning, YouTube is spreading climate denial videos to millions of people!** Our report is making headlines, but YouTube won't act urgently unless they see their public brand at risk and advertisers speaking up. That's where we come in! **Let's flood them and their advertisers with our report findings**, surround their headquarters with mobile billboards, engage their employees and keep up the pressure until YouTube stops spreading lies to millions [Sign now](#)" from *Stop the War Machine (SWM)*

from SWM blog: "The real American Pie - must see [this] thought provoking, graphic representation how wealth is really distributed in the US. Watch the 4 minute video. https://twitter.com/robdelaney/status/1223577742618300417?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1223627543783198720&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.com"

Internet problems: AC Wireless reports that someone has put up a tower that blocks the internet signal of existing customers. Is this the wave of the future, as folks use more & more bandwidth for more & more "apps" and many computer functions formerly (and more safely) based on our computer hard-drives are put on 'the cloud'? What can be done to reverse this form of spiraling 'air arms race'?

audio & music played with this week's broadcast:

-- **Asymmetric Moose commentary:** " Well the news this past week has not been all that great. Can't really say it's been unexpected, but still it kinda leaves a person with a modicum concern for human rights and dignity with a bit intestinal discomfort. I hear that the Democratic National Committee is gonna try and get to the bottom of the bugs in their apps, so maybe by November we'll be on our way to recovery, "Plop, plop, fizz, fizz".

I hope that this week's tunes provide a little comic relief, a heaping spoonful of inspiration, and possibly a suggestion or three that there just may be paths out there that haven't been charted by those who have been robbing us.

The first tune was performed by Folk Hogan in Salt Lake City's Sugar House Park, near the site where Utah's state prison once stood and where Hill was executed by a firing squad on Nov. 19, 1915. ***There Is Power In A Union.***

Next Robin Hood sings, ***You Ain't Done Nothing If You Ain't Been Called A Red*** ... Huh, I got my red card how bout you.

Next Hazel Dickens sings Joe Hill's love song, written on the eve of his execution, to IWW's powerhouse of an organizer, Elizabeth Gurly Flynn. ***Rebel Girl***

Can't help it, I love this woman. Like the subject of the last song, she has always been the real thing, now she's gone and I miss her. Hazel Dickens sings, ***Are They Gonna Make Us Outlaws Again.***

Next Matts Paulson shows which side he's on, singing Joe Hill's tune, ***Should I Ever Be A Soldier.***

We stand unbowed before their armor
We defy their guns and shields
When we fight provoked by their aggression
Let us be inspired by like and love
For though they offer us concessions
Change will not come from above
Billy Brag sings ***The Internationale***"

RESOURCES FOR PEACE, JUSTICE, AND SUSTAINABILITY; Legislative, congressional, and other contacts are listed at <https://alaskapeace.wordpress.com/links/resources/>

U.S. Senators and Representatives can be called via the Capitol switchboard: 1-202-224-3121.

Fairbanks Legislative Information Office –a non-partisan state office that helps inform citizens and facilitate communication between the Legislature and the public. Visit the LIO Monday through Friday, 8am–5pm, on the 3rd floor Alaska USA Financial Center, located at 1292 Sadler Way Ste 308; or give them a call at 907-452-4448.

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

You can contact Alaska Peace Center volunteers via email 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 with active hyperlinks; also see Alaska Peace Center Facebook.

*Feedback to, and Submissions for inclusion in, this weekly news brief are welcome via
alaskapeacenews@gmail.com.*

Please include "for news" in the subject line.

May Peace be with you! Have a good week!