



Community News and Opportunities for Action, for the week of December 20th, 2020,

reporting on events & issues of Peace, Justice, and Sustainability affecting us & future generations in Alaska,

broadcasting on Sundays, 8am & 6pm on KWRK-LP 90.9 FM/kwrk.org Radio in Fairbanks, Alaska. Be ready for opportunities to participate!

Day, Date	Time	<u>This Week Opportunities for Action</u>	Where?
Sunday Dec.20	Dead-line	Submit Comments on the West Susitna Access Road. Last week, AIDEA and HDR held their one required public hearing for Phase II of the West Susitna Industrial Access Road Project. We appreciate the opportunity to share our concerns and hope that you will take a moment and send in your comments as well.	Learn more from Susitna River Coalition.
	3:30pm	The Condor and the Eagle: film screening & discussion presented by <u>ALWAYS INIDIGENOUS MEDIA AND DEFEND THE SACRED ALASKA</u>	Register here.
Monday Dec. 21	6 pm	Co-op Market Board of Directors meets on the third Monday of the month. During the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings are virtual, via Zoom. These meetings are open to all Owners. Contact the board for a link to the meeting.	
	7pm	North Pole City Council mtg 1 st & 3 rd Mondays except if a holiday: <u>Agendas & Minutes</u>	
Tuesday Dec. 22	8:9:15a or 3:15-4:45pm	DC Peace Team Online Trainings - Nonviolent Communications (NVC) 12/22 Online practice workshops on Compassionate NVC ~ Creating Peace Treaties	via Zoom REGISTER HERE
	4 pm	"Keep Torture Apologists Out of the Biden Cabinet! Zoom w/a former CIA officer who blew the whistle on waterboarding &...John Kiriakou as he blasts Biden's possible nomination of Mike Morell as CIA Director and nomination of Avril Haines as Dir. of National Intelligence. [Then, be part of a] CODE PINK CALLING PARTY to urge US Senators to reject torture apologists in Biden's cabinet—say #No2Morell for CIA and #NOtoHaines for Intelligence.	Register in advance
	6-7 pm	Food Security in Uncertain Times - Home Food Preservation Overview. Free For more information on the series, please contact the event coordinator Gina Dionne at 907-786-6313 or gddionne@alaska.edu .	http://bit.ly/AKFoodSecurity2020
Thursday Dec. 24	1-2pm	Arab Voices weekly radio show. Last week's excellent edition featuring Dr. Mubarak Awad, "founder and president of <u>Nonviolence International</u> , an organization aimed at promoting peace education and nonviolent action in dealing with political and social issues" can be accessed at arabvoices.net .	KWRK-LP 90.9FM / kwrk.org
		<u>After This Week</u>	

Sunday Dec. 27	10a-12.	DC Peace Team Online Trainings - Nonviolent Communications (NVC) 12/27 ONLINE training in Family Engagement: Transforming Family Dynamics in the Holiday Season	REGISTER HERE	
Tuesday Dec. 29	8-9:15a or 3:15p	Compassionate NVC (Nonviolent Communications) ~ Beginning Anew in Relationships -Online practice workshops	via Zoom REGISTER HERE	
		2021		
Monday January 3	Noon EST	Newly elected Congressional legislators take office.		
January 12, 13, 19, & 27, 2021	noon	Nonviolent Schools Rhode Island Antiracist Book Club - open to anyone interested in antiracism and schools, including school employees, parents, community members, and more. SEE ALL EVENTS HERE	Online via Zoom	

Ongoing Campaigns, Recent Past Events, Issues not specific to Alaska, and/or without specific date

Peace	Justice	Sustainability
<p>"Watch this new video: "<u>Educating About and For the Abolition of War.</u>" 6 minutes from WorldBEYONDWar</p> <p>=====</p> <p>"Senator Schumer voted against the Iran Nuclear Deal in 2015, but he also opposed Trump pulling out of it in 2018. Now that Biden is coming into office, will Schumer support peace with Iran? <u>Send a message now to Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer telling him to publicly support Biden's efforts at diplomacy with Iran and to bring his Democrat colleagues with him.</u>"</p> <p><i>from CodePink</i></p> <p>=====</p> <p>"<u>ENDING U.S. WARS</u> by Honoring Americans Who Work for Peace</p>	<p>"We need to find out and *demand* that the YK Delta, with the State's highest case rate, will be vaccinated FIRST," urges Lou Yuracung.</p> <p>"[Please] encourage listeners to contact DHSS Commissioner Adam Crum and advocate for the prioritization of the YK Delta and other hardest-hit regions, for Phase 2 of distribution."</p> <p>Adam Crum adam.crum@alaska.gov Commissioner 3601 C Street, Suite 902 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 Phone: (907) 269-7800</p> <p>=====</p> <p>#StoptheShutoffs Campaign</p> <p>Earlier this week, Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA) was set to stop accepting COVID-19 Deferred Payment Plans on 12/15, and had already ended their moratorium on utility</p>	<p>"Which vegetables should we trial at UAF? Please <u>take our short survey!</u> Help us decide which vegetables to trial at the UAF Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station by visiting: http://bit.ly/VegSurvey20 Please feel free to share this survey with friends, gardeners, farmers and anyone who is interested in Alaska grown food! To see results from past trials, go to: http://www.uaf.edu/afes/research/variety-trials/... [You can see] new Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station... <u>Extension's YouTube channel</u>... videos about <u>growing beans and squash</u> in the variety trials. " <i>from Cooperative Extension Service. Also:</i></p> <p>"The <u>Fall 2020 Boreal Forest Newsletter</u> has been published. Forester Glen Holt continues to edit the newsletter, which contains articles about what forest managers are doing to restore yellow-cedar in Southeast, suggestions on</p>

[is a new book which] aims to change the U.S. culture to one that celebrates its peacemakers. "In a culture that funds and esteems war-making, respect for peacemaking must be taught and modeled. We can change our cultural mindset so that it will no longer be acceptable to label those who speak out against a U.S. war as disloyal, anti-military, or unpatriotic. Rather," says [author Dr. Michael D.] Knox, "they will be recognized for their dedication to a noble cause and to saving lives." [See more](#)

from Veterans For Peace. [also:]

"Veterans For Peace calls for VA Secretary to Resign - ...Secretary Wilkie's failure to protect women veterans from sexual harassment is cause for his resignation. [Read entire statement](#)

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"Former [British] Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn will launch a **Project for Peace and Justice**, designed to promote research and activism around the causes he has spent his life defending. The project, which has announced a **global conference for January 17**, promises to provide a **platform for campaigns against war and in favor of concerted international action on the climate and soaring inequalities**.

"Ahead of the launch, the veteran socialist spoke to Jacobin's about the crises facing humanity in 2020, the signs of political hope, and how his project will uphold the antiwar message he so stoutly championed as Labour leader. [Read more](#)" *from Jacobin*

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["Constitutional amendment would ban slavery implemented as punishment for a crime, which is still...](#)

Think that America abolished slavery

shutoffs. During an economic and health crisis, it is unethical to turn off our neighbors' heat and power in the middle of sub-Arctic winter.

Thanks to a concentrated effort by FCAC staff, the Renewable Energy Working Group, and partner organization AKPIRG, nearly 80 people attended GVEA's Board Meeting on Monday 12/14.

Several legislator comments and every member comment emphasized the importance of caring for our community during this difficult time. Most comments were in explicit support of extending

GVEA's moratorium on utility shutoffs and COVID-19 Deferred Payment Plans. Due to the outpouring of community support, GVEA has agreed to extend their acceptance of COVID-19 Deferred Payment Plans, and announced that they will be establishing a **Benevolence Fund** which will offer financial assistance for utility bills to those in need.

We have to ensure protections are in place until the fund is fully operational. Over 800 member-owners are facing disconnection now that the moratorium has ended. We will continue advocating for a moratorium on utility shutoffs – stay tuned for ways to get involved!" *from Fairbanks Climate Coalition*

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from Co-op Market: "Lend a Hand & Giving Tree: Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Giving - Lend a Hand two ways: 1. round up your change at the register, and 2. donate items for our Giving Tree. Both will benefit the survivors and their children at the [Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living](#).

Each December, we host a Giving Tree to gather toiletries, diapers, hygiene products, and other items needed at the shelter year-round. [Click here](#) for a list of requested donations."

managing your woodlot for firewood, guidance on thinning trees, a woodcutter's checklist and story (saga) about Fairbanks Arbor Day 2020. [Check out](#) the edition, which is supported by the [Renewable Resources Extension Act program](#)."

"A new publication, ["Invasive Plant Issues: Control of Invasive Chokecherry Trees,"](#) PMC-00345, has been published and is available online. Extension Invasive Plants Instructor Gino Graziano provides information about identification of the trees, their negative impacts and methods of eradicating.

["The role of food sovereignty and food justice in Alaska, News-Miner"](#)

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"Nature-based lessons for Spring! Hands-on lessons and activities, adaptable for Grades K-6. now is the time to jump in and subscribe to our hands-on, at-home curriculum: People & Place! This place-based curriculum offers 4 months of hands-on lessons and activities, adaptable for grades K-6, that involve reading, writing, science, math, social studies, history, and art. Students will learn about Alaskan ecosystems and animals, growing and harvesting food, life in the Far North, and ...[SO MUCH MORE!](#)"

Follow the link from Claypso Farm and Ecology Center

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from kuac.org: "Understanding that it's not easy schooling your youngsters at home, PBS has created new resources for those assisting children ages 3 to 8. Discover innovative, fun lessons available free at <https://www.thirteen.org/programs/lets-learn/>."

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completely? Think again. Dec 10, 2020" [On GovTrack Insider.](#)

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"Puerto Ricans Voted for Statehood (Again). What Happens Now? On election day last month, 52% of Puerto Rican voters answered "yes" to the following question: Should Puerto Rico be admitted immediately into the Union..." Hear more at [Deconstructed — Dec. 18.](#)

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[Job Opportunities](#)

[Alaska Songbird Institute hiring a Creamer's Field Migration Station Project Director.](#) This new, multi-faceted position serves as the project coordinator, lead bander, and daily field operations manager for the [Creamer's Field Migration Station](#), ASI's long-term bird banding station in Fairbanks, Alaska.

[Co-op Market and Deli](#) has job openings. [Learn More](#)

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from newsminer.com 12-18-20:
"Federal judges have already suspended or voided hundreds of leases issued under Trump, finding that the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management made procedural mistakes and violated environmental laws in its haste to increase domestic oil and gas production..." in the article **"First Native American Cabinet member named - Rep. Deb Haaland nominated to Dept**

from AKPIRG Alaska Public Interest Research Grp:

"Unique to this year, the CARES Act had a clause that allows you to deduct up to \$300 in charitable donations for 2020, even if you take the standard deduction. That means that **you can donate up to \$300 to a non-profit of your choice between now and December 31st without having to pay taxes on that income!**

"Statewide: Alaska Housing Relief

This is a new program that compiles all housing assistance programs into one place. Whether you're a renter worried about making rent or a homeowner concerned about covering your mortgage, [this new website](#) shows what opportunities are available to you by community.

Statewide: Utility Payment Relief

Some utilities around the state are offering support to help avoid utility shut offs, as they know many around Alaska are struggling to make ends meet with lost income due to COVID-19. [This list shows relief opportunities available](#) and contact information in order to help you find the relief you need.

"HILCORP DEAL SETS PRECEDENT FOR EXCLUDING PUBLIC OVERSIGHT" [Read the Press Release here.](#) *
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* "...almost 8,000 gallons of oil... spilled... Tuesday... The Hillcorp facility is located ...near the Trading Bay State Game Refuge and the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area..."

from newsminer.com 12-18-20.
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"Dunleavy budget again wipes out public radio, TV grants" *from dermotcole.com 12-18-20*

from Native Movement:- "...Right now, Indigenous-led resistance to stop lease sales in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and pipeline construction is heating up, as the Trump Administration tries to greenlight as much destructive infrastructure as possible in its final days. The urgency for action cannot be understated.

"Without insurance coverage, none of these toxic projects can move forward, which is why this is such a critical window to move Liberty Mutual [Insurance Company]... Liberty Mutual is refusing to meet with Indigenous Leaders...

"Earlier this week, UK insurance marketplace Lloyd's committed to stop insuring and investing in coal, tar sands, and Arctic exploration.

"It's way past time for Liberty Mutual to listen to Indigenous Peoples and take a stand for our collective futures. [Help us make that message reverberate within the company.](#)

"P.S. The Intercept wrote an incredible piece this week on Indigenous-led efforts to demand that insurance companies respect Indigenous rights. Here's the link to [read and share.](#)"

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from Northern Alaska Environmental Center: Comment deadline roundup

February 8: Revised Arctic Rule. On December 9th, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) released a proposed rule that would greatly weaken essential oil spill and safety regulations for offshore drilling in the Arctic Ocean put in place during the Obama Administration.

□ **March 11: Central Yukon Resource**

of the Interior"

Management Plan Draft EIS. The Central Yukon Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) aims to shape how the BLM manages about 13 million acres of public lands, including a utility corridor along the Dalton Highway, for the next few decades. When complete, the Central Yukon RMP would combine three existing management plans and provide decisions for managing unplanned lands west of Fairbanks.

Audio & Songs broadcast with this week's Community News:

"Hello this is Rob Mulford, the Asymmetric Moose, with picks for the week of December 20th, 2020:

I'll apologize up-front if in selecting todays pick of the week, I have somehow disappointed anyone's expectations of hearing a program festooned with jolly renditions of Deck the Halls and Good King Wenceslas. By and large, kings have not been all that good – neither have presidents, for that matter. Instead, and in the spirit of the birth of the Prince of Peace - a realm from which a great joy may take the world, should a considerable number of his followers decide to dwell - I would like to share a couple tunes of love and human solidarity.

First with Barbara Dunn on vocals, Kimmer Morris on violin, and Mark Wahl on percussion, the Open Circle Singers sing Fred Small's song about the people of Billings, Montana standing between hatred and Jewish members of their community in "Not In Our Town".

A little known international display of solidarity demonstrating the human longing for peace happened in 1914, five months into the "War to End All Wars". In the week leading up to the 25th December, French, German, and British soldiers crossed trenches to exchange seasonal greetings and talk. In some areas, men from both sides ventured into no man's land on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to mingle and exchange food and souvenirs. There were games of football, joint burial ceremonies, and prisoner swaps, while several meetings ended in carol-singing. Next John McCutcheon sings "Christmas in the Trenches"

Wage Peace."

Learn about, watch, listen, and reenact the Christmas Truce.

- Peace, Salaam, Shalom, written & performed by Emma's Revolution
- Breaking Down the Walls, written & sung by Susan Grace
- The Preserves - How Excellent And Civilized Are We
- Peace Is, by Fred Small

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. Inclusion in this newsletter does not necessarily constitute endorsement by Alaska Peace Center..

You Can Help Support Alaska Peace Center Activities!

Alaska Peace Center message is on the roads and airwaves! Help us continue to circulate this message! [Donate to APC today!](#)

3% of U.S. military
spending could end
starvation on earth.
alaskapeace.org

Number explained: worldbeyondwar.org/explained

If you shop at Fred Meyer, you can choose for fredmeyer donations equal to 1% of what you spend, to go to Alaska Peace Center;

If you shop from "amazon", you can do so via "AmazonSmile" which likewise donates 0.5% to go to Alaska Peace Center.

And/Or you can...

Mail a check to: **Alaska Peace Center**
3535 College Rd Ste 203
Fairbanks AK 99709-3722

or Donate online: www.alaskapeace.org

THANK YOU!

*The Alaska Peace Center is a non-profit charitable and human rights organization incorporated in Alaska under IRS 501(c)3.

May Peace be with you! Have a good week!

Resources for Taking Action

on events & issues of Peace, Justice, and Sustainability affecting us & future generations in Alaska

(Click on the link for information, links, addresses, times & dates, contact information Air Quality, Voter Information, Veterans/military information, Covid-19 PandemicResources , To Contact your Elected Public Officials, and MILITARY NOISE information)

Active duty service members and reservists out there: Are you experiencing trouble with your enlistment, considering conscientious objector status, or just in need of counseling from professionals trained in the Uniform Code of Military Justice? Call the **GI Rights Hotline** at **877-447-4487**. The call may save you a lot of grief, might even save your life.
