



Community News and Opportunities for Action, for the week of March 14th, 2021

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.**

Help with programming, put on a show, or support by emailing info@kwrk.org.

Be ready for opportunities to participate!

Day, Date	Time	<u>This Week Opportunities for Action</u>	Where?
	Mon	(Some) Issues of Peace, Justice, and Sustainability to be brought up This week in the Alaska Legislature*:	"...To reach your legislator, please find Senate contact information here and House of Representatives contact information here ."
	--Tues	HB 26 Conflict of interest; bd Fisheries/game - invited & PUBLIC TESTIMONY on Tues; invit only on Thurs SJR 4 Proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Alaska, "To protect human life, nothing in this constitution may be construed to secure or protect a right to an abortion or require the State to fund an abortion." Invited & PUBLIC TESTIMONY 1:30pm in Senate Health & Social Services [See March 14 calendar below] HB 104 Motor Fuel Tax; Vehicle Reg. Fee - PUBLIC TESTIMONY - " Alaska last updated its motor fuel tax rates in May of 1970, and we have now had the lowest motor fuel tax rate in the US for many years... [some is] designated for use by the Department of Environmental Conservation's Spill Prevention and Response..."	***** Legislators by District Legislative Calendar To see what bills have already been filed: <input type="checkbox"/> 2021 Prefiles, First Release <input type="checkbox"/> 2021 Prefiles, Second Release
	--Wed	SB 39 Ballot Custody/Tampering; Voter Reg; Mail. - Testimony Invitation only - Sen. State Affairs [Compare with HB 66, which has not yet been scheduled for a hearing] sb 15 Open Meetings Act; Penalty March 17 1:30pm in Senate Judiciary SB 10 Free/Reduced Tuition for Essential Worker - Invited & PUBLIC TESTIMONY SB 49 & HB 69 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS - - PUBLIC TESTIMONY - [again Thurs] SB 51 & HB 71 Mental Health Budget - PUBLIC TESTIMONY - [again Thurs] SB 50 Approp: Cap; Reapprop; Supp; Amend - PUBLIC TESTIMONY - [again Thurs]	Track Bills in BTMF Public Testimony Opportunities Public Opinion Messages *****
	-Thurs	SB 97 State Land Sales and Leases; Rivers - Invited & PUBLIC TESTIMONY - See commentary below** HB 125 Military & Family Employment Preference - PUBLIC TESTIMONY	Committee hearings and other legislative-related information... watch live and recorded committee
	-Friday	SB 31 Prohibiting Binding Caucuses - Testimony Invit only SB 72 [requiring] Sec. School Civics Education - Invited & PUBLIC TESTIMONY SB 80 Public Schools: [adding] Mental Health Education - Invited & PUBLIC TESTIMONY HB 98 Forest Land Use Plans; Timber Sales HB 115 Aquatic Farming & Hatchery Site Leases - Invited & PUBLIC TESTIMONY HJR 13 Urge Exemption for Cruise Ships - Invited & PUBLIC TESTIMONY **per Louie Flora of the AKCenter: " The Senate Resources Committee will hear SB 97 next week, legislation that seeks to give the Department of Natural Resources the power to authorize commercial development on any state land regardless of its status - refuge or park or otherwise - and to put a fine point on it, the bill proposes to repeal the Recreational River statutes that protect six popular and anadromous Mat-Su rivers: The Little Susitna River, The Deshka River, The Talkeetna River, Lake Creek, Alexander Creek, and The Talachulitna River..."	

		<p>"Governor Dunleavy's budget proposal includes cutting funding for six DMV offices across Alaska in Haines, Tok, Valdez, Eagle River, Homer, and Delta Junction. <u>Offices in these locations would be taken over by private vendors, which will result in many services shifting to online-only, causing Driver's licenses, IDs, and Real IDs to double in cost.</u> If passed, these changes would take effect this summer and fall. These closures would have significant impacts on rural Alaskans, requiring residents in the towns where offices would be closing to drive several hours to a state-run office that provides full services. For Haines residents, this proposal would mean taking a ferry or plane to Juneau for certain services. <u>This proposal shifts the burden from the state to Alaskans, making it much more costly and difficult for residents in the affected areas to take care of business with the DMV.</u> This is not the right way to cut costs, especially for a division that <i>makes</i> more money than it costs to operate. I will be doing what I can to ensure that these offices stay open." <i>from Sen. Scott Kawasaki</i></p> <p>*****</p> <p>See more of the legislative schedule and links to related info here: <u>3/14-21/21</u></p> <p><i>*Schedules often change. Contact your(LIO) <u>Legislative Information Office</u> In Fbks: 452-4448</i></p> <p>*****</p>	<p>hearings by tuning in to 360N on cable or visiting the <u>Alaska legislative website</u>. For recordings of previous committee hearings, visit <u>Gavel Alaska</u>. To provide a letter of support for any of the bills or providing testimony <i>please contact your legislators and/or the Legislative Information Office.</i></p>
		<p>"COVID Vaccination "On Tuesday, March 9, the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services <u>opened vaccination eligibility to all Alaskans aged 16 and up!</u> To check the availability of appointments in your area, visit <u>covidvax.alaska.gov</u> or call the helpline at 907-646-3322. Please note that there are certain restrictions on which vaccine teenagers can get, so make sure to read over the information online <u>HERE</u> before you schedule an appointment for a teenager in your household."</p>	
<p><u>MARCH 17</u> <u>MARCH 24</u> <u>MARCH 25</u> <u>MARCH 30</u></p>		<p><u>Community COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics NEED VOLUNTEERS!</u> The <u>Fairbanks Area Citizen Corps</u> is the go-to place for information on how to sign up to be a volunteer for the COVID-19 Community Vaccine Clinics. YOUR HELP is NEEDED!</p> <p><u>Register to volunteer to support the COVID-19 Response Effort either from your home or in the community!</u></p> <p><u>Please let us know if you would like to make, distribute or donate materials for community masks.</u></p> <p><u>REQUEST GOODS or SERVICES</u> For businesses or organizations that need to request support for PPE, etc.</p> <p><u>DONATE</u> For individuals and businesses who would like to donate PPE or other requested goods and services.</p>	<p><u>https://www.fairbank.sacc.org/</u></p>
<p>Sat-Sun Mar 13-14</p>	<p>after midnight</p>	<p>"Daylight Savings Time" will begin: Move clocks Forward one hour.</p> <p><u>HB 31: OBSERVE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ALL YEAR</u> was introduced in the Alaska Legislature</p>	<p>Bipartisan bills in Congress, too!</p>
<p>Sunday March 14</p>	<p>until noon +?</p>	<p>North Pole & Fairbanks non-attainment Zones: Stage 2 & 1 Air Quality Alerts -until noon Sunday. And likely again later! When the 24-hr rolling average monitored concentration is 35 micrograms per cubic meter or above, NO use of solid-fuel burning devices w/o a NOASH (No Other Adequate Source of Heat) waiver. For info call 451-2132 or visit <u>dec.alaska.gov/fnsbair</u></p>	<p><u>dec.alaska.gov/fnsbair</u></p>
<p>Monday March 15</p>	<p>3/15-20</p>	<p>Interior Alaska Land Trust Spring Auction - IALT has a lot of projects planned this year! Your participation will help us add more land to the Goldstream Valley Greenbelt and the Chena Flats Greenbelt, improve trails in the Chinook Conservation Park, implement agricultural easements in the Eielson area, and ensure that the properties we steward will be taken care of forever.</p>	<p><u>https://www.32auctions.com/IALT</u></p>

		March 15-19: Making a Difference by Degrees: Climate Week with Alaska Audubon. As the climate changes, so do the places birds need to survive. And in Alaska, change is happening at an accelerated rate. That's why we are dedicating a full week to put a spotlight on the impacts climate change is having in our state, talk about some of the work being done to mitigate those impacts, and give you the ideas, tools, and motivation to make a difference. Join online for a week filled with music, films, conversations, games, and other activities focused on climate change in Alaska.	
		Emergency Rental Assistance first round application period ends. Upt to 12 months of past or future rent and/or utilities due to the Covid-19 pandemic. To check eligibility: t. 907-328-3237 or 833-452-8315 or email IRHAERAP@irha.org	applications at www.irha.org
		Time to reach out to Sen. Murkowski to ask her to cosponsor the bipartisan S.J. Res. 10 bill to repeal the 2002 AUMF (Authorization for Use of Military Force), a joint resolution passed by the United States Congress in October 2002 as Public Law No. 107-243, authorizing the use of the United States Armed Forces against Saddam Hussein's Iraq government in what would be known as Operation Iraqi Freedom, but which has been used in at least 19 countries, sometimes without knowledge of Congress.	Read The 2002 Iraq AUMF: What It Is and Why Congress Should Repeal It from fcnl.org
	5:30-7p	Renewable Energy Working Group Meeting - To get involved, email anne@fbxclimateaction.org	
	6 pm	Co-op Market Board of Directors meets on the third Monday of the month These meetings are open to all Owners. Contact the board for a link to the meeting.	
	6-7pm	North Pole City Council mtg 1 st & 3 rd Mondays except if a holiday: Agendas & Minutes	
Tuesday March 16	1:30pm	"Testify in the Alaska Senate Health and Social Services Committee on... Senator Hughes' SJR 4 [which] would amend the Alaska Constitution to eliminate our constitutional right to an abortion. To testify by phone, call five minutes before the hearing and ask to be redirected to the Senate Health and Social Services Committee teleconferenced hearing so that you can testify on SJR4: Fairbanks (844)-586-9085; other locations in Alaska (844)-586-9085" from Planned Parenthood Votes NW & HI	
	4:30-6pm	Interfaith Working Group meets the 1 st & 3 rd Tuesday of Every Month. Contact kristin@fbxclimateaction.org to get involved	
	5-6:30pm	Regenerative Economy Working Group mtg. "We have a tremendous opportunity now to build a new and regenerative economy in Alaska." If interested and not yet involved, please follow the link to learn more and to sign up. "...we will meet bi-weekly on Tuesdays 5-6:30pm"	email margi@fbxclimateaction.org to join
Wednesday March 17	4-7pm	Goldstream Community Garden will present its First Annual Seed Swap & Information Exchange outdoors at Goldstream Park, next to Ken Kunkel Community Center. Please bring and wear a mask. Pick up empty seed packets early. Email to inquire about early drop off or bring what you have March 17.	goldstreamcommunitygarden@gmail.com .
	5:30 pm	Earth Day 2021 Weekly Planning Mtg - To participate, contact Susan Grace, t. 907-699-0780; blackdog@ptialaska.net	Zoom

	5:30-7p	Policy & Politics Working Group mtg. the 1 st & 3 rd Wed of every month. See: https://fairbanksclimateaction.org/policy-politics	
Thursday March 18	1-2pm	Statewide Fraud Watchdog Team Howl - Join AARP Alaska & FTC for a presentation on the latest scams related to COVID-19.	local.aarp.org/aarp-event/
	6-7 pm	Rhodiola...the Beneficial Adaptogen - free virtual class from UAF Cooperative Extension	bit.ly/RRRreg2021
Friday March 19	comment deadline	Comment by March 19 th on the Fairbanks <u>Draft Non-motorized Plan Update</u> CLICK HERE	
	comment deadline	<u>Tell Governor Dunleavy Not to Roll Back Water Protection Regulations</u> Not surprisingly, the proposed rules maintain the status quo for big outside corporations, who still get to take water OUT of our salmon streams at will. The Alaska Constitution states, "[w]herever occurring in their natural state, fish, wildlife, and waters are reserved to the people for common use..." <i>from NAEC</i>	
		Fridays for Future <i>remobilizing the U.S. climate strike movement!</i> Digital Rally - The international March 19 strike theme is #NoMoreEmptyPromises. Our campaign will hold Biden accountable for the promises he made and mobilize the public support for a Green Recovery. We are demanding U.S. climate action on current, accessible science. We are demanding action from our government - and we are holding our elected officials accountable. Join us to #BuildBackGreen.	register here . visit @fridaysforfuture usa and @fff usa .
Saturday March 20	8 am	Alaska Women in Agriculture. Strong Then, Strong Now. Free· Hosted by Alaska Farmers Market Association, Alaska Farm Bureau and 3 others. Women represent 47% of the farmers in Alaska. There will be discussion on multigenerational farming with an emphasis on collaborating into the future. Hear directly from producers across many different industries and decades...	Facebook event
	8:15am	<u>Juneau Veterans For Peace, chapter 100</u> , mtg. Chapter #100 meets first and third Saturday mornings. All are invited to attend these after-breakfast meetings. Info: chapter president via akwilco@gmail.com	
		<u>After This Week</u>	
Sunday March 21	comment deadline	"PUBLIC NOTICE - <u>Proposed Issuance of an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit</u> to Discharge to Waters of the U.S. AK DEC has tentatively determined to reissue a permit for...AKG370000. Mechanical Placer Miners General Permit... Fact sheet [etc]: contact Nick Dallman at 601 University Ave, Fbks 99709, t. 907-451-2142; nicholas.dallman@alaska.gov..	..Comments must be received before 3/22/21."
Monday March 22	comment deadline	<u>Comment on Environmental Assessment on Cook Inlet Geohazard Survey Permit.</u> In January, BOEM (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) received an application for a geohazards survey permit from Hilcorp, Alaska LLC. The proposed survey would be conducted over four leased blocks and the surrounding area, comprising a total of 138 square kilometers west to southwest of Homer. If approved, activities are expected to be conducted over an approximately 30-day period between April 1 and Oct. 31, 2021.	
Wednesday	4 pm	"Gamers For Peace" in Twitch a new initiative of Veterans For Peace! - kicking off live streaming a	VFP Discord

March 24		Dungeons & Dragons (#DnD) game that will dissect themes of militarism and social justice through the creative lens of tabletop roleplaying (#ttrpg). Every other Wednesday at 4pm AK time.	channel and follow our Twitch page !
	5:30 pm	Earth Day 2021 Weekly Planning Mtg - To participate, contact Susan Grace, t. 907-699-0780; blackdog@ptialaska.net	Zoom
	5:30-7p	Keep It In the Ground working group mtg , 2 nd & 4 th Wednesdays same time. Learn more and join via https://fairbanksclimateaction.org/keep-it-in-the-groundk	
Thursday March 25	6pm	FNSB Assembly Regular mtg. More Details	

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

" Hello this is Rob Mulford, the Asymmetric Moose, with picks for the week of March 14th, 2021,

Karl Marx said, "History repeats itself, first as tragedy, second as farce."

Historian, philosopher, Mennonite pastor, clawhammer banjo picker, Dwight Diller, said, "History repeats itself; has to; nobody listens. Listen!

Elon Musk, says a lot, much of what he says is farcical, much of what he advocates begs tragedy. Take this for instance: He and his company Space X have plans to take control of Mars. Their even hocking tee-shirts that advertise so. One says, "Occupy Mars. Another proclaims, "Nuke Mars". The latter, Musk says will 'Terraform' the dusty red planet to make it green and livable like our Mother Earth.

Tragically he's not alone in his tragically farcical delusion.

Mars Society Founder Robert Zubrin (a Lockheed Martin executive) called the Earth "a rotting, dying, stinking planet" and made a case for the transformation of Mars.

As with most grandiose schemes of imperial colonial endeavor, the cost of such a project would be salaciously gross on an interplanetary level. And, you can bet a years worth of Tesla payments to a box of Krispy Kreme Donuts that the money wont be coming out of Elon's pockets; hasn't yet. But the dollar tag is not the worst of his program's obscenity.

In an article recently posted on CounterPunch, journalism professor Karl Grossman writes: "Elon Musk, founder and CEO of Space X, has been touting the detonation of nuclear bombs on Mars to, he says, "transform it into an Earth-like planet."

As Business Insider explains, Musk "has championed the idea of launching nuclear weapons just over Mars' poles since 2015. He believes it will help

warm the planet and make it more hospitable for human life.”

As space.com says: “The explosions would vaporize a fair chunk of Mars’ ice caps, liberating enough water vapor and carbon dioxide—both potent greenhouse gases—to warm up the planet substantially, the idea goes.”

It’s been projected that it would take more than 10,000 nuclear bombs to carry out the Musk plan. The nuclear bomb explosions would also render Mars radioactive. The nuclear bombs would be carried to Mars on the fleet of 1,000 Starships that Musk wants to build—like the one that blew up recently.

In the end, Musk’s call to ‘Occupy’ and ‘Nuke’ Mars could easily be described as typical ‘American exceptional-ism.’ And supreme arrogance. His ambitions are mega terrestrial, and he seems not to understand how dangerous his ideas (like launching 10,000 nukes to Mars) really are to those of us still trying to survive on Earth and to anyone who would be foolish enough to venture to Mars after such a mad scheme had taken place.

It is time for the adults in the room to sit the out-of-control and spoiled child down and inform him that he does not own the universe. No, Elon, you are not going to be the master of Mars.

The Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space has some terrific material relating to how we can reverse the insanity of our War Economy. I captured the following off their video “Convert the Bath Iron Works” although they are specifically speaking of Bath, Main; the concept rings true for our State and its institutions, say UAF’s addiction to war as an instrument of economic development.

*In a similar vein as Elon Musk’s nightmare but somewhat closer to tongue in cheek David Rovics sings **There’s Water On the Moon***

*Next Sweet Judy Blue Eyes Collins sings about the **Salt of the Earth**.*

*Next, if you please, I would like to share another tune sung by Judy Collins, lyricist Yip Harburg’s and composer Jay Gorney’s immortal song about where the strength resides to do the necessary rebuilding. **Brother Can You Spare A Dime***

Wage Peace.”

--Peace, Salaam, Shalom by Emma's Revolution

--Good Enough by Laura Love

--Who's Next by Tom Lehrer

--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 are linked at www.AlaskaPeace.org

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

*(Once updated: 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.
