75th Anniversary Hiroshima Day One-Hour Online Commemoration

Calling for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons

Hosted by the New Mexico 75th Anniversary of Hiroshima/Nagasaki Committee and Pace e Bene

For the last three and a half years, the New Mexico 75th anniversary Committee, with Pace e Bene, has been planning national in-person vigils with great national and local speakers for August 6 and 9, 2020 at Los Alamos, New Mexico. Because of COVID-19, we have moved everything to a one-hour online event to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The online commemoration will begin 6pm MST on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2020. It will be hosted by Rev. John Dear, who has helped lead annual Hiroshima day peace vigils for the last nearly twenty years at Los Alamos. We will begin with an opening blessing from Evelyn Naranjo, of Pueblo de San Ildefonso. Then we will hear from Jay Coghlan of Nukewatch.org on the history of the Los Alamos labs, where the bomb was designed and fabricated, and how it continues to play the leading role in the creation of every US nuclear weapon since then. Then we will hear a reflection of commemoration, remembrance and recommitment by Roshi Joan Halifax, longtime peacemaker and founder of Upaya Zen Center in Santa Fe.

The keynoter speaker will be Dr. Ira Helfand, one of the leaders of ICANW, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (icanw.org), winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, who will explain why we need to work harder then ever to build a global grassroots movement to abolish nuclear weapons. Then Archbishop John Wester, of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, NM, will speak about nuclear weapons and offer a blessing. John will close the call at the end of the hour.

Further details at paceebene.org/hiroshimaday2020. To register your local, regional or national anti-nuclear group as a co-sponsor of the event, fill out this form. The commemoration is free. We will provide access information on our website here as the date approaches. Register here if you’d like us to email you when the event link is available: paceebene.org/hiroshimaday2020. For further information, contact Pace e Bene at info@paceebene.org.

Remembering my Friend and Inspiration, John Lewis

By Jim Harvey

In 1963 I traveled to Atlanta, GA to attend my first ever SNCC conference. It was held at Gammon Theological Seminary and as the newly elected chair of the Chicago High School Chapter of SNCC, I was there for introductions and orientation. It is there that I met John Lewis for the first time. He welcomed me and among the most memorable introductions was when he introduced me to James Baldwin. Another icon shaking my hand and asking me questions about Chicago and what the plans were for growing the SNCC chapter there; I was speechless. John Lewis led my first ever workshop on non-violent direct action and safety methods when demonstrating. Over the years, John and I would have many communications around issues and programs across the south.

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Send your submissions for monthly newsletter to monthlycalendar@abqpeaceandjustice.org by the 20th of the month prior to your event. Send submissions for web calendar to web@abqpeaceandjustice.org. Contact the Executive Director via jim.abqpaj@gmail.com.
Regularly Scheduled Events
Many regular meetings and events at the Peace & Justice Center have taken new forms, and some have returned as they were. Not all of the usual items are accounted for, but here are updates about a few that were communicated to us. Please let us know of any additions, corrections or clarifications by email: monthlycalendar@abqpeaceandjustice.org

The Guild Cinema is still offering home-viewing options for a variety of movies. Visit guildcinema.com for NOW PLAYING streaming options, and look for the link in each listing that will walk you through. More info: 255-1848

Sunday AUUF services take place via Zoom calls. Visit abquuf.org for details. More info: call 440-6688 or email abquuf@gmail.com

St. Oscar Romero Catholic Community hosts mass online Sundays at 1pm via fb.com/bloscaromer0

Generation Justice broadcasts every Sunday, 7-8pm on KUNM 89.9FM & kunm.org

The Don and Sally-Alice Thompson Chapter of Veterans for Peace meet online via Zoom every 2nd Monday at 5:30pm, platform opening 5pm. For details, email vhtiwal@gmail.com

Indivisible Nob Hill meets via Zoom every Monday from 5:30-7pm. More info: indivisiblenobhill.com, fb.com/groups/IndivisibleNobHill

Chair Yoga meets weekly at the P&J, Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30pm. Free, donations accepted. For more info, email lisbethcarlisle@aol.com

Good Food Distribution every Saturday from 8-10am in the P&J parking lot. More info: 315-4167. The Peace Center accepts food donations Friday, 11am-12:30pm

Activist Community Podcast is again produced at the P&J, 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 1-3pm. If you wish to call in for a broadcast, contact Tom Dent: 450-1268 or tnldent4@msn.com.

Open Mind Discussion (NVC/TC) meets 2nd & 4th Fridays, 11:30am-1pm at the P&J. Open to all for conversations about strategies for survival in these times. Please bring a mask, and observe social distancing.

Coming to the Table (CTTT) meets via Zoom on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30pm. For the Zoom Meeting info, email RacialJustice@OurBestTeam.com with “CTTT-ABQ” in the subject line. Info: ComingToTheTable.org

The Peace Center Coordinating Council meets at the P&J, 3rd Wednesday, 5:30pm. For further details call 268-9557 or email jim.abqpaj@gmail.com.

Necessary Conversations is on hiatus. More info: brysondean.iowa@gmail.com, and see also Noticias, pg. 4

350NM meetings on 1st/3rd Mondays are cancelled. Speaker Meetings on 4th Mondays are moved to Zoom for the time being. More info: contact tasolomon6@gmail.com

Gray Panthers meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Building & Grounds Committee meets last Friday, 2pm at the P&J. Contact: mgwright@comcast.net

Calendar of Special Events

Note: Please double-check all events for any changes using the info provided in the listings.

Throughout August:

Guild Cinema is offering John Lewis: Good Trouble, the new documentary by Dawn Porter about the legendary Civil Rights hero and U.S. Congressman, available for at-home viewing via watch.eventive.org/johnlewis/play/5f0636521b448c008ca04cca. Following the feature will be a pre-recorded discussion between Congressman Lewis and Oprah Winfrey filmed last month, a wide-ranging, informal, 16-minute conversation that’s a perfect follow-up, and couldn’t be more relevant. Find other films the Guild has available at guildcinema.com, and for more about John Lewis, see Jim Harvey’s article starting on the Front page.

Saturdays, Aug. 1/8/15/22, 10-11:30am AND 1-3pm

Working for Racial Justice in Solidarity with the Black Community, a 4-week online workshop starting Aug. 1 and every Saturday through Aug. 22, sponsored by the Southwest Conference of United Church of Christ. Details and registration link at ucccogs.org, scroll down to Featured Events and click on the SWC event: ucccogs.org/event/1837302-2020-08-01-working-for-racial-justice-in-solidarity-with-the-black-community. More info: fb.com/UCCCOGS
Calendar of Special Events continued

Saturday, Aug. 1, 2-5pm
Fight for Our Lives hosts a “Protect Our Kids - Don't Reopen APS!” car rally at 6400 Uptown Blvd NE. More info: fb.com/events/2977163719238167 and fb.com/FFOLABQ

Alternative Radio broadcasts every Saturday at 6pm on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. More info at alternativeradio.org. Proposed upcoming schedule:
Aug. 8 - Peter Andreas, “Drugs & War”
Aug. 22 - Haley Pessin, “The Radical Legacy of Fannie Lou Hamer” [Special program replacing the DNC]
Aug. 29 - Martin Luther King/William Barber, “The Time Is Now” [Special program replacing the RNC]

Sunday, Aug. 2 - Sunday, Aug. 9
Veterans for Peace Virtual 2020 Convention. Agenda, Registration and more at vfp2020.attendease.com; also email vhtiwal@gmail.com or visit abqpeaceandjustice.org/index.php/current/feature/item/732-veterans-for-peace-virtual-2020-convention for more info.

Tuesday, Aug. 4, 7-9pm
Sex & Power: The Visual Language of Oppression with Nina Menkes, Hosted by NM Women in Film and Center for Contemporary Arts, sponsored by IATSE Local 480, streaming by the CCA Theater. Visit nmwif.com/events-calendar/2020/8/4/ninamenkesevent to learn more.

Thursday, Aug. 6, 8am to Saturday, Aug. 8, 5pm
2020 Campaign Nonviolence National Conference Online: Join Rev. Richard Rohr, Dr. Erica Chenoweth, Rev. Lennox Yearwood, Jr., Dr. Ira Helfand, Kazu Haga, George Martin, Dr. Kit Evans-Ford, Veronica Pelicaric, Dr. Ken Butigan, Rev. John Dear and others. All info and registration at paceebene.org/cnvconference2020, also fb.com/events/465892020759343

Thursday, Aug. 6, 6-7:15pm
Nuclear Issues Study Group continues We Are Not a Wasteland, a 6-part series of webinars to educate and inspire activism to stop the largest proposed high-level radioactive waste dump on Earth, for transport and burial in NM and TX. Watch it live on Facebook via fb.com/NuclearIssuesStudyGroup. More info: fb.com/events/553528465553385

Thursday, Aug. 6, 6pm MT
Pace e Bene’s 75th Anniversary Hiroshima Day one-hour online Commemoration. More info: paceebene.org/hiroshimaday2020 and see also Front Page.

Thursday, Aug. 6, 8am & Sunday, Aug. 9
#still here: 75 Years of Shared Nuclear Legacy virtual events commemorating the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Aug. 6 is a virtual action at Lawrence Livermore Labs. Details at fb.com/events/203972644055618. Visit hiroshimanagasaki75.org for event info and other ways to get involved.

Tuesday, Aug. 7, 6:30-8 pm
Retake Our Democracy Zoominar, NM State Election Strategies: Who Can Win, Who Needs a Push and What You Can Do. Panelists include: Eric Griego, Working Families Party of NM, Andrea Serrano, Olé and Indivisible Nob Hill. Find out how we can create a Legislature ready to pass a Public Bank, Health Security, Tax Reform, Funding for Early Childhood, and to pave the way for a just transition in NM. This Zoom will fill up early; register at us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5ShaaQrrSUCjqERUfxKIEQ. More info: retakeourdemocracy.org/retake-zoominar-series
Saturday, Aug. 8, 6-8pm
**Fight for Our Lives** demand that the APS Board of Education defund the independent APS Police Dept. starting at APS Headquarters, 6400 Uptown Blvd NE, and marching through uptown. More info: [fb.com/events/907224299790306](https://facebook.com/events/907224299790306)

Saturday, Aug. 8, 7-10pm

Sunday, Aug. 9, 4pm MDT
*The Bomb: Understanding its History and the Hope for a Nuclear-Free Future* webinar with James Nolan, author of Atomic Doctors, at City Lights Bookstore. Info: [citylights.com/info/?fa=event&event_id=3666](https://citylights.com/info/?fa=event&event_id=3666)

Monday, Aug. 10, 5:30-7:30pm
**Scheduled Zoom meeting** for Don and Sally-Alice Thompson Chapter of Veterans for Peace; email vhtiwal@gmail.com for details. The platform opens 5pm so people may gather and converse beforehand. Meeting ID: 974 889 748

**A Sustainable Economy** Wednesday, Aug. 12, 7-8pm
350NM & 350 Santa Fe present **A Sustainable Economy without Fracking**. Zoom link to join: [us02web.zoom.us/j/85078672328](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85078672328), meeting ID: 850 7867 2328 or dial by your location +1 346 248 7799. More info: [fb.com/events/465892020759343](https://facebook.com/events/465892020759343)

Wednesday, Aug. 26, 4-7pm MST
**Honoring 100 Years of Women’s Right to Vote** online celebration, hosted by femcee Jessica Helen Lopez. Via Zoom, Facebook Livestream, and Gov TV Broadcasted. Details can be found at [fb.com/events/2433123916980590](https://facebook.com/events/2433123916980590)

Save the Date:
Monday, Sept. 21
Get ready for all sorts of activity on **International Peace Day**, including the launch of a weekly P&J podcast!
He was a humble but determined man who always had time to talk with you. When northern cities began to divide our attention between what was happening down south and what needed addressing "up south", John traveled to Chicago to ask the Chicago chapter to stay the course. We knew that we could no longer ignore the evil that had gripped our city for far too long but we also struggled with how to stay true to our original mission of support and education for southern struggles. We did as much as we could for as long as we could but the challenges we faced from the likes of the Mayor of Chicago at that time, made it more and more impossible to divide our efforts. As the chapters in many northern cities grew apart from the original mission of SNCC, John remained steadfast and never let go of his friendships and his ties to Chicago in particular. While living in Washington, DC, I would run into John often at the neighborhood Safeway supermarket and we would just stand in the aisles and play catch up on where everybody was and how others were doing. Sometimes we would reminisce about the old days and the painful experience of what we agreed to refer to as the evolution of the movement. I would sometimes share the same stories repeatedly about my international travels as National Co-Chair of the National Black Anti-War, Anti-Draft Union which was an arm of SNCC in the late 60's. I traveled to at least a dozen countries and shared the Black perspective on the Viet Nam war. Lessons I’d learned and experiences I’d had seemed to particularly interest John. I will miss this warm and gentle soul who brought so much passion and dedication to a continuing struggle. I learned so much from John Lewis and I will be eternally grateful for the compass he instilled in my spirit. Rest well with the Ancestors and continue to guide our spirits. Thank you, John.

No Race War
By Bryson Dean, Necessary Conversations

June 10th, I was in a discussion group at the AbqCPJ when someone mentioned the possibility of a race war. Someone else reiterated that possibility. It was near the end of the group and there was little further discussion. I attempted to continue the discussion via email, but received few replies. After pondering the comment for a few days, I have decided that there will likely not be a race war.

I won’t say that there won’t be carnage like we have seen lately, but not a war. And for one reason - the incredible leadership among BIPOC. I have a few favorites and am constantly discovering more as I study the situation. I like the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II who heads the Poor People’s Campaign. He is a unifier and has a platform that rearranges the priorities of the US budget from death (Defense Budget) toward life (Medical Care and Education).

There are also some dynamic young journalists who are worth following. One of my favorites is Kim Brown on The Real News Network. She has a show called “Stir Crazy”. Her guests unpack systemic racism and First Nations Friday features Native American organizers and activists.

In addition to Black Lives Matter, Movement for Black Lives, is a powerful coalition of groups advocating for the interests of the Black population. The Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) is behind the Breathe Act.

As an older white woman, I have been impressed with the emotional intelligence of the young leaders of all colors. This gives me hope.

However, whites have an important role which we MUST play as well. That is the role of an ally. We need to lend whatever asset or talent we may have to undo systemic racism and economic injustice. While we are doing so, we must do our own work to learn the history of the country we live in as well as work to undo the cultural and often subliminal racism that we have absorbed. One way is through education and authentic dialog.

Given the recent increases on COVID-19 cases in Bernalillo County, it is not wise to continue Necessary Conversations in person. Fortunately we have another group in Albuquerque that is doing similar work. I would invite you to join Coming To The Table. There is an Albuquerque Chapter of this national organization which is based in Oakland, CA. They currently meet on Zoom and have other events as well.

Injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere. Even in war torn Syria, youth recognize and speak out against racism in the U.S.

Featured: Artists Aziz Asmar and Anis Hamdoun of Binnish, Syria.
Photo by Omar Haj Kadour/AFP via Getty Images.
A Poetic Statement (Honor the Treaty)

By Elizabeth Beecher

Honor the Treaty. July 4th, 2020, marked a time of significance in the call for great change to emerge on behalf of the Black Hills belonging to the Lakota people in South Dakota, and is long overdue. Then came the groundbreaking decision on behalf of the Muskogee Creek and the land treaty, where nearly half of Oklahoma is now recognized as Muskogee Creek land; in a sense is been returned to the Muskogee Creek Nation.

The treaties created by the Federal Government between tribes must all be honored. Dishonor came when the Federal Government began illegally changing their minds and bending their own laws for reasons of gold, land, coal, oil, gas, uranium, precious metals, stone, and now allowing water bottled in plastic. All at the expense of life: our clean water, clean air, innocent creature nations, the desecration of pure sacred lands (everywhere); and those endless wars for profit at the expense of the innocent lives of too many children and their families.

All the human being tribes in the many nations around Earth are here to protect the land and honor the sacred duty of being guardians of our Earth Mother Living Loving Being. Human tribe beings guard Her Life, She is our Sacred Celestial Mother Being turning slowly through space and time. The human being tribes are a guide for others on how-to live-in harmony with one another, as many of the people of the many nations around Her Celestial Sacred Body know how to do. Her creature nations do their best to teach us all as well in how to be in harmony with Her. Despite those innocent sacrifices of creature nations, many of our creature tribe nations have gone into extinction. We, as Human Beings are to care for the innocent creature nations by honoring their lives in dignity. The cruel and heartless mutilation as a conquest trophy or for greedy profit is not the way to be. Just as the profit of Wall Street playing in the lawless blood bath of greed at the expense of innocent life’s blood spilled so helplessly, is not the way to become. Honor is not in man-made-money being the grand illusion to lust after or the false dream of to obtain. This world on top of Earth has become delusional and blinded by the insanity we are led to believe is the way of being.

The awakening to honor and returns to harmony is happening now. The signs are here for us all to awaken together. We are beginning to speak with great truth and the truth is shattering the illusion, and a global movement is shaking the foundation of all creation built on Love. For without Love there would be nothing. Together we are stronger and as we grow stronger in truth, we become unstoppable.

The time of Honor in Truth is come for All to stand as One Great Earth Nation for Life. The Life of Earth is Life for us All. Protect Her Honorable Soul. Do it for the children. Do it now! Honor the Treaty written upon your Heart of Love for Life.

New Energy Economy calls out State Land Office

On April 3rd the New Mexico State Land Office published their intent to file an emergency amendment of 19.2.100.71 NMAC, to allow oil and gas companies in New Mexico to temporarily shut-in wells without losing their leases. This comes as an environmental disaster unfolds across the United States and the oil and gas industry abandons thousands of unprofitable fracking wells in the face of collapsing profits. Hundreds of failing oil and gas companies are filing for bankruptcy, leaving taxpayers with leaking wells that require costly clean up. Legally required bonding amounts don't even come close to the estimated $300,000 needed to properly shut-in and remediate each of these wells.

In New Mexico alone there are at least 708 abandoned wells, representing hundreds of millions in tax-payer liability for remediation and even worse, continual emissions of tons of climate altering methane pollution while the oil and gas industry cuts and runs. New Energy Economy’s public comments regarding the proposed amendment demand that:
1. The State Land Office must adopt the polluter pays approach, where industry is expected to cover the cost of environmental clean-up at no cost to the taxpayer.
2. Bonding Adequacy must include a comprehensive study to determine and obtain adequate financial assurances from operators to cover the cost of restoring sites.
3. The State Land Office set reasonable time schedules so the Oil and Gas operators don’t take advantage of this opportunity to shut-in a well that actually should be plugged, remediated and restored.
4. Once the bonding regulations are established, require all wells to be fully bonded before any new permits are issued.
5. A time frame for remediation must be established and Operators should apply to the State Land Office for a Certificate of Restoration as the final step in restoration.

Read our full public comments here, and then submit your own at nmstate-lands.org/public-comment.
Trudy Jones, the Face of Racism in Albuquerque’s Local Politics

The Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice is joined by many local organizations in rejecting the racism recently expressed by City Councilor Trudy Jones. During an emergency meeting of the City Council on Monday June 29th during discussion on a bill that will make one million dollars of emergency funding available to local Black businesses, Councilor Jones not only expressed her opposition but offered several clearly racist statements aimed at local Black business.

Jones is recorded as saying, “Black businesses don’t know how to do business”. She also said that “Black entrepreneurs need to be taught how to run a business”, and that Black businesses seeking emergency help is like “a child asking for a loan”. Jones’ insults were not only insensitive and blatantly racist but totally inaccurate as proven by the large and growing number of Black businesses that are thriving in Albuquerque. In fact, Black businesses have grown in such a significant number that we now have a very active and engaged African American Chamber of Commerce.

It is obvious to all conscious observers that Trudy Jones just couldn’t help herself and that in this current environment where many are working to get things right, Trudy just had to waive the proverbial Confederate flag. We are asking the City Council to step up and to at the very least, censure this racist colleague of theirs and demand that she issue a public apology for the vicious and racist comments she made. Ultimately however, we want Trudy Jones gone. Maya Angelou once stated that when someone shows you who they are, believe them. We see who Trudy Jones truly is and we will remember her when election time comes around again. There is simply no room in Albuquerque government for the likes of Trudy Jones. If you’d like to join with us in this effort, please contact your local City Council members, and Mayor Keller, and let them know: Trudy Jones Must Go.

Trudy Jones Must Go.
August 2020: A Resource Guide in progress

More Links in the Chain

Know Your Rights to Public Benefits: nmpovertylaw.org/food-and-income
Rental Assistance: cabq.gov/help/rental-assistance
To apply for Unemployment Insurance, visit Workforce Connections at jobs.state.nm.us or call 877-664-6984
Child Care Resource & Referral line: 1-800-691-9067; also visit NewMexicoKids.org.
The Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) regarding exposure to radiation from Atomic Weapons Testing and Uranium Mining covered only certain areas—fas.org/sgp/cri/misc/R43956.pdf—but not those most directly affected here in NM. Two groups below are working to correct that “oversight”:

Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium: trinitydownwinders.com
Nuclear Issues Study Group: fb.com/NuclearIssuesStudyGroup

Independent Nob Hill’s zoominar New Mexico: A Resource or Sacrifice State? in case you missed it: us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/68stBL_c50pLYoXH4kTSifY8uT5jqX6a8gXUW_fePzR2P0dCCoEkIjlrjyaT8jiO (Password: 5L@Zv5=$)
The New Mexico Threats Maps: wrsc.org/story/new-mexico-maps
Links connected to the flyer below: antirepressionbayarea.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Repress-This-5.5x8.5.pdf, tiltedscalescollective.org/a-tilted-guide and tangledwilderness.org/the-criminal-legal-system-for-radicals.

Dine CARE is helping bring justice to our Diné communities: dine-care.org. To read about their latest legal case regarding oil and gas in northwestern NM, visit westernlaw.org/court-challenge-feds-cut-public-40802-acre-nm-oil-gas-leases
NM Immigration Law Center (NMILC) recorded their important and disturbing webinar on COVID-19 and Detention in New Mexico, link at: drive.google.com/file/d/1o7xM9M3jDb0stAZHVrFbA-JXFeBOyzi/view.
Email the AZ or TX ICE Field Office Directors encouraging them to #FreeThemAll, sample letter here. Contact info: ice.gov/contact/field-offices
Freedom for Immigrants’ COVID-19 resource page: freedom-forimmigrants.org/covid19

Church Rock Uranium Spill and the 500 abandoned uranium mines on the Navajo Lands. nmindepth.com/2014/07/07/rememring-the-largest-radioactive-spill-in-u-s-history
Holtec proposes storage of up to 100,000 metric tons of spent radioactive waste in New Mexico. currentargus.com/story/news/local/2019/11/15/new-mexico-committee-testimony-proposed-holtec-nuclear-waste-facility/4191964002
Sandia Lab’s Nuclear Waste Dump on the southwest edge of ABQ is leaching radionuclides and toxic chemicals into the aquifers. abqjournal.com/381581/sandia-needs-to-clean-up-toxic-dump.htm
New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence: “Gun Violence is and always has been a Civil Rights issue in the United States.” Find out more at newmexicanstopreventgunviolence.org.

Equal Means Equal's Lawsuit to protect ERA: equalmeansequal.org/blog/momentum-continues-build-emes-lawsuit-protect-era
Nukewatch press release on LANL suppression of negative economic data resulting from the Lab’s activity: nukewatch.org/lab-suppresses-economic-data-pr-6-30-20