



PEACE

A PUBLICATION OF THE PEACE EDUCATION CENTER

NOTES

SPRING 2019

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*Peace Notes is a publication of the
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Peacemakers honored at PEC annual meeting

By Tom Oswald

The Peace Education Center of Greater Lansing honored seven individuals, including an East Lansing man who co-founded the national Sunrise Movement, with its annual Peacemaker Awards. The awards were presented April 27 during the center's annual membership meeting.

Peacemaker of the Year Award

Will Lawrence, a 2008 graduate of East Lansing High School, is one of the co-founders of the national Sunrise Movement, one of the driving forces helping to bring the Green New Deal to national attention.



As a student at Swarthmore College, Lawrence was involved in many pro-environment projects, including the development of the Fossil Fuel Divestment Student Network, which helped to coordinate protests on dozens of college campuses. Last year Lawrence helped direct the "Sunrise Semester," a full-time fellowship program that supported 75 young people to organize around the midterm election in five politically critical states.



The other recipient of the center's Peacemaker of the Year Award is Anna Fisher. A long-time activist in the greater Lansing area, Fisher was among the group that began the weekly protests at the state capitol, calling attention to the Iraq war. Since then she has devoted much of her time to environmental issues, including founding the Lansing Environmental Action Team and being involved with the Sunrise Movement. Very active in the Indivisible movement, Fisher was recently elected to the State Central Committee of the Michigan Democratic Party.

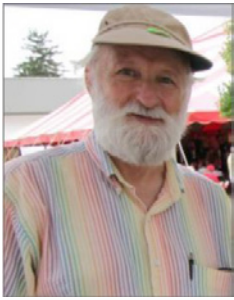


Anna Fisher received the Peacemaker of the Year Award from the Peace Education Center's Becky Payne.

Peacemakers honored (cont.)

Photos by
Jim Detjen

The Tom Schneider Peacemaker Award



In honor of former PEC board member, Tom Schneider, this scholarship is for graduating high school seniors from Ingham, Eaton or Clinton counties who apply or are nominated. Recipients are selected based on their passion and commitment toward building a more peaceful and just world. This year's nominees were:

Eleanor Carr, East Lansing High School, who was involved in Students for Gender Equality as well as leading anti-gun violence protests.

Reilly Farr, Waverly High School, who, among other things, organized and participated in a school walkout to protest gun violence.

Graham Diedrich, Haslett High School, who committed himself to social change by actively participating in public actions against gun violence, for women's rights, and for encouraging public participation in the privilege of voting.



Becky Schwartz (left) honored this year's recipients of the Tom Schneider Award: Reilly Farr, Waverly High School; Eleanor Carr, East Lansing High School; and Graham Diedrich, Haslett High School.

The Lifetime Peacemaker Award

Recipients of this year's Lifetime Peacemaker Award were Laura Sager and Terry Link.



Peace Education Center board member Nelson Brown presents Laura Sager with a Lifetime Peacemaker Award.

A fighter for social justice for more than 50 years, Sager has supported women's, poor people's and workers' rights; challenged police abuses in minority communities; and, above all, helped reform Michigan's public defender system, improving its parole procedures and eliminating its mandatory-minimum criminal sentences. Sager has worked with the Peace Education Center, helped organize the "Welfare Rights Group" in Lansing, and from 2012 until 2018, she worked to reduce harsh sentencing and to reform the parole system as the director of "Citizens Alliance on Prisons And Public Spending." In retirement, she is working on issues of climate change and immigration reform.



Peace Education Center co-chair Terry Link was the recipient a Lifetime Peacemaker Award.

Link has been an activist for more than 50 years, starting with anti-Vietnam war work, including three of the big D.C. marches, draft counseling, and traffic blocking. He was an original member of the Michigan State University Peace and Justice faculty, and has worked on anti-nuclear issues, leading efforts for MSU to divest from nuclear weapons makers. His work has been on environmental issues as well. He is founder and director of MSU's Office of Campus Sustainability and was board member and chair of Urban Options (now Michigan Energy Options). He is a board member of the Peace Education Center, serving as co-chair the past five years. He also is a board member of GLUNA, Greater Laingsburg Recyclers, and the U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development.

Calendar

Regularly Scheduled Events:

Every Friday, noon to 1 p.m.: Peace Vigil in front of the State Capitol Bldg., Lansing

1st Thursdays: Peace Education Center Board Meeting, 7 p.m., at University United Methodist Church, 1120 Harrison Road, East Lansing

1st Sundays: Islam 101, Islamic Center, 920 S. Harrison Rd., East Lansing

3rd Mondays: Greater Lansing Network Against War & Injustice (GLNAWI) planning meeting, 7 p.m., at University United Methodist Church, 1120 Harrison Road, East Lansing

1st and 3rd Tuesdays: Plant Justice, Grow Peace. 5:30-7 p.m. A faith-based study and action group for peace and justice. Grand Traverse Pie Co., Orchard Room, 1403 E. Grand River, East Lansing

3rd Thursdays: Mid-Michigan Immigration Coalition (MMIC), 5:45-7:15 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing, 5509 S. Pennsylvania, Lansing. For information contact Judy Olson at olsonj@msu.edu.

2nd Tuesdays: Civil Rights for Immigrants (CRI) Task Force, 5:30-7 p.m. Cristo Rey Church, 201 W. Miller, Lansing. For information contact Oscar Castaneda at oscar@actionofgreaterlansing.org

Check the PEC website:

<http://www.peaceedcenter.org/>
for calendar updates

Upcoming Events:

Sat.-Sun, May 18-19. 56th Annual East Lansing Arts Festival. Downtown East Lansing, Michigan State University campus. Featuring hundreds of artists, craftspeople and musicians. For information visit <http://www.elartfest.com/#intro>

Mon., May 20, 1:30 p.m. PeaceQuest organizational meeting. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Rd., Okemos. For information, visit <https://peacequestgreaterlansing.org/>.

Tues. June 18, 7-8:30 p.m. Java Café Global Conversations: World Refugee Crisis and the United Nations. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. For more information visit <https://www.gluna.org/event-3359138>.

Contact your Representatives

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202-224 4822
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 731,
Washington, DC 20510-2204
www.stabenow.senate.gov/?p=contact

Rep. Elissa Slotkin
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1531 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
www.slotkin.house.gov

Senator Gary Peters
202-224-6221
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite
724, Washington, DC 20510
[www.peters.senate.gov/content/
contact-gary](http://www.peters.senate.gov/content/contact-gary)

Rep. John Moolenaar
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Representative Tim Walberg
202-225-6276
2266 Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20515
<http://walberg.house.gov/contact/>



Image Credit: worldbeyonddwar.org/

PEC Board elects officers, welcomes new members

At its May 2 meeting, the Peace Education Center Board of Directors reelected its current slate of officers.

Becky Payne and Terry Link were reelected co-chairs; John Masterson was reelected treasurer; and Jim Detjen as recording secretary.

In addition, the board welcomed two new members – Marie Spike and Cyn Brown. More information on them is to the right.



Marie Spike is a former high school English teacher, licensed psychotherapist and avid anti-war activist with a number of different organizations including: War vs. Human Needs & The Truth Project in South Florida; the Green and Democratic parties' national peace action committees; and is currently with the 9/11 Truth Action Project. . Marie published Outcry: American Voices of Conscience, Post 9/11 and Truth-digging the Hottest, Most Hidden News Story - That has the Power to Stop the U.S. & NATO Lords of War.



Cyn Brown is a senior at Michigan State University studying neuroscience.

Photo by: Becky Payne



The PEC board meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the PEC offices, located in the University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Rd., East Lansing. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Research: Government had \$20 trillion in unauthorized spending



Photo by Nelson Brown

It was more than two years ago that a team headed by Michigan State University professor Mark Skidmore discovered more \$20 trillion in unauthorized spending had taken place within the U.S. departments of Defense and Housing and Urban Development, covering a span of 17 years.

Earlier this year, Skidmore gave a presentation on the work to about 30 people gathered at the East Lansing Public Library. The event was sponsored by the Peace Education Center.

Skidmore is a professor of Economics and Agriculture, Food and Resource Economics at MSU. He also holds the Morris Chair in State and Local Government Finance and Policy.

Members of his research team included several graduate students, as well as Catherine Austin Fitts, a former assistant secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

It was Fitts who originally detected the spending irregularities. Working with Skidmore and his students, the team dug through a wealth of government websites and documents to come up with their findings.

The work, naturally, garnered national attention. For more information visit <https://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2017/msu-scholars-find-21-trillion-in-unauthorized-government-spending-defense-department-to-conduct/>.

Peace Ed Center meets with Slotkin, Peters, Stabenow reps

By Nelson Brown

During March and early April, representatives from the Peace Education Center (PEC) and the Greater Lansing Network Against War & Injustice (GLNAWI) met with local staff of Sens. Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, and of Eighth Congressional District Rep. Elissa Slotkin, to discuss their positions on issues of national security, military spending and foreign policy.



Photo 1: (l-r) Paul Brun Del Re, Sen. Peters' aide Griffin Working, David Wiley

The PEC had many issues that it wanted to explore with our three representatives, but these were winnowed down to four. For Peters, Stabenow and Slotkin, we mostly raised the same issues. We first thanked them all for supporting a successful Congressional resolution to end American military support for Saudi Arabia's war in Yemen. While we were not surprised about President Trump's subsequent veto of this resolution, we hope that they will support any effort to override it.

Trump's attempt to overthrow the Maduro government in Venezuela also was raised. The PEC asked the three to oppose Trump's attempt to overthrow the Maduro government and, instead, support having a neutral party, like the United Nations or the Mexican government, mediate a political end to the conflict.

We specifically requested that Slotkin support and sponsor a resolution (HR 1004) opposing any U.S. direct military intervention in Venezuela without prior Congressional approval. Both senators were also asked to support any comparable Senate resolution. We reminded them of how disastrous previous attempts to overthrow foreign governments had been, such as in Libya, Iraq and Afghanistan. Both Senators were asked to withdraw support for federal legislation that either allows or encourages states and local governments to adopt legislation either penalizing or criminalizing groups and individuals supporting the Boycott Divestment Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israeli institutions because of the right-wing Israeli government's repression of Palestinians on the West Bank and in Gaza. The PEC pointed out that Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) had withdrawn her previous support for federal anti-BDS measures.

Slotkin was encouraged not to support anti-BDS legislation. We also urged Peters, Slotkin and Stabenow to speak out against Israeli's killing of at least 189 and wounding of over 6,000 non-threatening Palestinian protesters in Gaza over the last year. We asked that all three oppose Trump's proposed increase in the military budget and that even the current budget should certainly not be supported until Congressional hearings have shown that previous increases were utilized, were accounted for, and were truly needed. We specifically hoped that they would oppose cuts to the United Nations and the State Department.



Photo 2: (l-r) David Wiley, Stabenow staffer Kali Fox, Christine Root, Nelson Brown

The PEC hoped that it would be able to convey the responses of our three legislators at its annual meeting on April 27th, but so far, even after following up messages, the PEC and GLNAWI have not received responses. Regardless, the PEC and GLNAWI will persist seeking responses and continue to advocate for issues important to people concerned about peace, social justice, foreign policy and military spending.

Trump's interference will create a disaster for the Venezuelan people

By Nelson Brown

Trump and his uber hawks are now engaged in a brazen, and so far failing, attempt to overthrow President Maduro's government in Venezuela and to anoint their unelected choice, Juan Guaido, as the new president.

But as the coup falters, they are now threatening U.S. military intervention. And of course, the mainstream media and the foreign-policy establishment, which properly criticize Trump's betrayals of our Constitution and of democratic norms, either support this coup attempt or have not said a peep in opposition.

Their outrage over Russian election interference compared to their easy acceptance of foreign regime change reveals their glaring double standard. While they may challenge him in some areas, like on the Mueller report, they are perfectly happy to support him when he exercises unilateral imperial overreach – or what Sen. J. William Fulbright during the Vietnam War called the “arrogance of power” – to decide which non-compliant foreign governments live and which die.

Thus, the problem of regime change extends beyond the erratic foreign policy twists of Trump to the entire foreign-policy establishment's support for regime change as a routine practice of American foreign policy. And the rub here remains that this policy of regime change either has failed while inflicting harm on many innocent people or has succeeded with unanticipated blowback, like in Iraq and in Afghanistan. Trump's attempt to overthrow the Maduro government is likely to produce one of these alternatives.



The oft-cited definition of insanity is to do the same thing over and over, and to expect a different, more positive, result. This, in a nutshell, stands as the foreign-policy elites' imperial-hubris approach to foreign governments that it does not like. Since the end of World War II, the United States has attempted 68 regime change-operations around the world. This has ranged from “low-intensity conflicts,” like supporting the Contras in Nicaragua and rebel forces in Libya, to complete imperial overreach, like the Vietnam War and the invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan. And how have these regime-change attempts worked out? The Vietnam War was a catastrophic defeat and the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq have given us endless wars and the rise of ISIS.

This brings us back to Trump's and his uber hawks' attempt to overthrow the Maduro government. It seems likely that this made-in-the-U.S. effort has been in the works for several months, but the roots of this intrusion go back for years. When President Nicholas Maduro's predecessor, Hugo Chavez, was elected in 1998, he initiated social programs that raised millions out of poverty using Venezuela's oil revenues even in the face of U.S. sanctions. Since Chavez died and Maduro's election as president in 2013, Venezuela has fallen into economic crisis stemming from a combination of mismanagement, sabotage and a precipitous drop in oil prices, as well as escalating U.S. siege “economic warfare” through sanctions.

Although Maduro's presidential term was to run into 2019, he called an early election in May of 2018. Even though Maduro faced opposition from four other candidates, several major opposition parties, including that of Juan Guaido, boycotted the election at the urging of Trump's administration. After Maduro won this election, both the U.S. and the opposition have cried fraud and Trump increased sanctions. Now Trump is openly pushing for regime change.

On Jan. 23, opposition leader and president of the elected National Assembly, Juan Guaido, in coordination with the Trump administration, made his move declaring that the Maduro government was illegitimate and that he was the interim president. Since then, Guaido has organized street demonstrations and Trump has increased sanctions and has strong-armed some international support for him. But after four months of demonstrations and a mini-coup attempt by Guaido, Maduro remains in power because he retains support from significant sectors of the populace and from the military. It appears that the U.S. and Guaido have overestimated their strength meaning that regime change may fail and that the standoff may continue for the indefinite future with horrible economic and social consequences for the people. Now Trump may feel compelled to invade to save face for his earlier failure.

Disaster for the Venezuelan people (Continued)

Yet the danger of supporting this slow-motion coup d'état, especially by invasion, resides not just in a moral rejection of imperialism, but also in the consequences either if it succeeds or if it initially fails. This coup attempt has now been going on for several months but has not yet succeeded and may not succeed at all without American military intervention. If the coup attempt succeeds without U.S. intervention, any new government will still have the imprimatur of being “made-in-the-USA” hung around its neck, which will likely provoke resistance and turmoil from the significant number of Maduro supporters who reject Yankee imperialism. If the current coup attempt initially fails, as it now looks like it will, the only further action would be an American military invasion with untold casualties and disastrous political consequences.

The only way out of this likely morass stands as a negotiated settlement with the assistance of neutral parties, like the United Nations or Mexico, and then a withdrawal of sanctions combined with true humanitarian aid, not aid as a Trojan Horse supporting any coup d'état. We must ask that our elected representatives oppose this regime change and, at a minimum, oppose U.S. military intervention.

Urge representatives to oppose military intervention in Venezuela

As it becomes increasingly obvious that President Trump's attempt to impose regime change in Venezuela has faltered, his uber hawks are increasingly threatening military intervention. Whether this stands as a bluff to intimidate President Maduro or not, peace activists must take this threat seriously and tell our representatives to oppose Trump's attempt at regime change in Venezuela.

Instead, our representatives should call for negotiations between the warring parties in Venezuela assisted by mediation by neutral parties, perhaps the United Nations or Mexico. But above all, we must urge our representatives to oppose U.S. military intervention – and some in Congress are prepared to act.

Currently pending in the United States House of Representatives is a resolution calling for no U.S. military intervention in Venezuela unless Congress gives approval (H.R. 1004). This resolution, introduced by Rep. David Cicilline (D-RI) has 69 House sponsors, but so far Eighth Congressional District Rep. Elissa Slotkin has neither expressed support for this resolution nor sponsored it. Peace activists should urge her to support this resolution or any comparable resolution.

In the Senate, Sen. Jeff Merkley (D.-Ore.) has introduced a joint House and Senate resolution that would prohibit the use of U.S. military forces into Venezuela without Congressional approval. So far, this joint resolution has not received a vote. Peace activists should urge Sens. Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters to support the Merkley resolution or any comparable resolution.



Continuing Crises in Palestine

Water: For the 2 million people in Gaza, access to water has reached a crisis point – about 97 percent of Gaza's aquifer is contaminated and not suitable for drinking, and 12 percent of deaths of children under the age of four were linked to gastrointestinal disorders caused by water pollution. In addition, 140,000 children in Gaza under the age of five are suffering from chronic malnutrition and stunting.

Despite critical humanitarian needs, the Trump administration has cut off all funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and is withholding bilateral Economic Support Funds for the West Bank and Gaza. These funds are intended for food assistance, health care services, education, and clean water. As a result of the cut-off of these funds, aid agencies report that classrooms are more crowded, food assistance has been reduced, and some medical services such as dialysis treatments have been suspended or are no longer available. And the lack of clean water has become even more dire.

Only a negotiated solution between Palestine and Israel that leads to the end of the occupation will end this crisis. Until that happens, support for humanitarian assistance is crucial.

What to do:

Urge your senators to cosponsor S.R. 271 to urge that appropriations agreed to by the Congress will be disbursed as intended in the FY 2018 and FY 2019 budgets and that these funds will be included in the FY 2020 appropriations process.

Human Rights for Children: About 500 to 700 Palestinian children are prosecuted in Israeli military courts each year. About 10,000 Palestinian children have been detained since 2000. It is a terrible violation of human rights for children as young as nine years old to be detained and arrive at interrogation bound, blindfolded, frightened, sleep deprived and alone.

Palestinian adults and children are subject to Israeli military law, unlike Israeli citizens living in the West Bank who are subject to civilian law. Palestinians are considered adults at the age of 12, unlike Israelis who are considered adults at the age of 18. Palestinian children even younger than 12 are being arrested and detained as well. Testimony from 739 Palestinian children who were detained by Israeli Defense Force personnel between 2013 and 2018, collected by Defense of Children International – Palestine, found that:

- 49 percent were detained in their homes in the middle of the night
- 73 percent experienced physical violence following arrest
- 64 percent faced verbal abuse, humiliation, or intimidation
- 96 percent were interrogated without any family member present
- 20 percent were subjected to stress positions
- 49 percent signed documents in Hebrew, a language which most Palestinian children don't understand.

What to do:

Ask that your congressperson cosponsor H.R. 2407, the Promoting Human Rights for Palestinian Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation Act, introduced by Rep. Betty McCollum on April 30. This act also establishes the Human Rights Monitoring and Palestinian Child Victims of Israeli Military Detention Fund. It authorizes \$19 million annually for qualified non-governmental organizations to monitor human rights abuses associated with Israel's military detention of children and to provide physical, psychological and emotional treatment and support for Palestinian child victims of Israeli military detention, abuse and torture.

Want to learn more? The Peace Education Center is partnering with Edgewood United Church on a series of educational sessions on Palestine/Israel issues starting this fall. If you would like to participate, email the PEC at peaceedcenter@gmail.com.

Thanks to Chris Root for the material in this article.

News from Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence

Since Jan. 1, there have been 17,038 gun violence incidents; 4,506 deaths, including 186 children age 0-11 killed or injured; teens ages 12-17 killed; 104 mass shootings; and 473 unintentional shootings. These numbers do not include suicides. These numbers are as of today! This must STOP.

We have also had an increase in hate crimes, the most recent of which was yet another attack on a synagogue, Chabad of Poway near San Diego. It occurred six months to the day since Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh and six weeks since the massacre in New Zealand. Hate + Weapons = Death. This must STOP.

However, there is some good news. For the first time in since 1994, for the first time since Sandy Hook, the House of Representatives passed HR 8 which calls for universal background checks and HR 1112 which calls for enhanced background checks. Both now have been referred to the Senate.

The last gun sense bill of any substance that was made into law was the Brady Background check bill in 1994. There's exciting news in Michigan as well. Both Extreme Risk Protection Order legislation and Child Access Prevention legislation have been introduced in both the house and senate.

Our EPIC MRA poll shows that 71 percent of Michiganders support ERPO and 78 percent support Child Access Prevention. Please contact Rep. Graham Filler, Chair of Judiciary, and tell him to hold a hearing on these life-saving bills.

Contact Filler at (517) 373-1778 or GrahamFiller@house.mi.gov.



Peace People... Can We Talk?

By Becky Payne

As we come up on our 50th year, we are reminiscing about all the important work the Peace Education Center has done over the years. Help us remember!

We are soliciting stories and materials for a collection that we hope to publish as a book sometime in the next year. If you have been involved with the PEC any time over the last 50 years and you have an idea that you think would make a good story for our project, please contact us.

You could tell us about what inspired you to be active in a cause or how you felt the first time you stepped up to a task, or just relate an activity or a person that impressed you. If you like to write, then go ahead and write it up. If you'd like us to write it up for you, give us a call or email and we will arrange to talk with you and write your stories for you.

If you really like to write, we could use help in compiling and editing. We will need to write out the background of the incidents over the years to give perspective to the stories we receive. That may involve trips to the Michigan State University archives, where our historical materials are stored, or just a few hours of searching online.

The work we do is sometimes difficult and unpopular, but it is always, always very important. The more we can remember and honor the work that we've accomplished, the more courage we get to go forth and continue to fight against injustice. Here's an easy way to step up and contribute one more time.

Contact us at peaceedcenter@gmail.com, or call Becky Payne at (517) 862-5921 after 5p.m. or weekends.



Move to new office space



This past April, the Peace Education Center moved into new headquarters, literally across the hall from the old headquarters, located in the lower level of the University United Methodist Church in East Lansing. The move doubles the amount of space we have and even includes a window.

In the first picture, Nate Jemison does some heavy lifting while Tom Oswald supervises. In the second picture, John Masterson stands in the middle of the nearly empty old office space.

Photos by Jim Detjen



UUMC now a PEC-sponsoring organization

We are pleased to announce that the University United Methodist Church has become a sponsoring organization of the Peace Education Center of Greater Lansing.

The UUMC has long been a partner with the center, allowing us to use office space in the church's lower level as our headquarters.

At the board's retreat earlier this year, it was agreed to a rent reduction as a sponsorship contribution to the center from UUMC.

The church joins Red Cedar Friends Meeting, Edgewood Community Church, Church of the Brethren, and MSU Mennonite Fellowship as a sponsoring organization. UUMC is now eligible to have a seat on the PEC board. That representative will be appointed at a later date.

The Peace Education Center welcomes UUMC as a sponsoring organization as we continue in our work to build a more peaceful, just and sustainable world.

The UUMC is located at 1120 S Harrison Road in East Lansing. Visit its website at <http://universitychurchhome.org/>.



AHS set for Nov. 15-16



The date has been set for one of the Peace Education Center's most popular events.

The annual Alternative Holiday Sale will be held Friday, Nov. 15, and Saturday, Nov. 16, at the Edgewood United Church, 469 Hagadorn, East Lansing. The Friday hours are 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The sale will provide holiday shoppers with an outstanding range of alternative gifts. It's also a great way to support local vendors and promote economic growth in our area.

As in the past, the Friday night sale will coincide with a Ten Pound Fiddle concert. The featured band this year is Windborne, an internationally acclaimed folk group that specializes in close-harmony singing.

Proceeds from the sale will go toward assisting the PEC in its yearly programming and organizing around peace and justice issues. For more information, including how to secure a spot for your business, please call the PEC office at (517) 515-5634 or email peaceedcenter@gmail.com

Tell our reps: No more war

By Terry Link

Congress long ago surrendered its constitutional power to declare war.

Since the passage of the “Authorization for the Use of Military Force” after the 9/11 attacks, there has been little debate as presidents, Republican and Democrat alike, have sent troops wherever they wished. With the untethered fool in the cockpit now, we’re on the edge of at least two more interventions – Venezuela and Iran.

However, there are some Congressional supporters of the Constitution trying to reassert the Congressional power. The Peace Education Center is striving to push our Congressional delegation to join them. Sens. Peters and Stabenow and Reps. Slotkin, Moolenaar and Walberg need to hear from all of us immediately. Here are the legislative items to urge them to support:

H.R. 1004 “Prohibiting Unauthorized Military Action in Venezuela Act” has 70 co-sponsors, but only Andy Levin and Rashida Tlaib from Michigan have signed on. We need to urge Slotkin, Moolenaar and Walberg to join them.

H.R 1274 “Repeal the Authorization for the Use of Military Force” is a step to pull the plug on endless war and restore Congressional authority. This has some bipartisan support as both Justin Amash and Rashida Tlaib from Michigan are co-sponsors. What’s holding up the rest of those in Congress who have sworn to uphold the constitution? The Senate version is **SJ Resolution 13**. Neither Peters nor Stabenow have weighed in. It’s time for them to stand up. Unless they support blank checks for the White House they need to fight for Congressional authority.

The next one to weigh in on is **S 1039** “Prevention of Unconstitutional War with Iran.” With recent moves by the White House to heighten tensions, this is imperative.

For more on pending legislation to watch see

<https://livableworld.org/key-national-security-legislation-from-2019-2020/> .

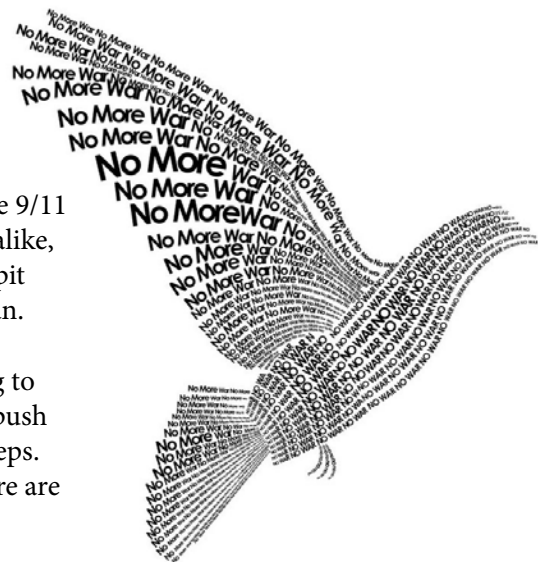
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The Peace Education Center would not exist without the generous donations of its supporters. We’d like to thank some of our most recent donors.

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