Dear friends,

This week has been far from peaceful. We have seen several horrifying examples of the devastation that comes from division and hatred. Despair must be the first thing our minds go to -- despair that we have failed to reign in the awful violence of too many guns; despair that people can be filled with so much hatred; despair that people of color are not safe in our midst; and despair that "isms" such as racism and nationalism seem more important than humanity and compassion. So it is ok to spend some time in despair, but it is not ok to stay there. Joan Baez reminds us what we must do -- we must ACT.

There are lots of actions being circulated, such as

- Text CHECKS to 644-33 to call our senators and tell them it’s time that the Senate pass universal background checks. Or text COMMIT to the same number and fill out a form to volunteer with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.
- Check in with our local Moms group on facebook and find out how you can get involved.
- Everytown For Gun Safety has a petition demanding that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell take HR-8 (Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019) to the Senate floor for a vote
- MoveOn members also started a petition to President Trump asking for strong gun control.
- Better yet, write your own letters and emails and make your own calls to everyone you can think of. Put up a yard sign or a sticker on your car. Talk to your neighbors. Do it today, tomorrow and the day after that.

I love imagining what all of us acting can accomplish...Betsy

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Calendar

Thursday, August 8, 12 noon, UM Stone Hall Seminar, Room 308. Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center Inaugural Brown Bag Presentation: The Death of Journalism, a presentation by Michael Mayer, UM Professor of History. All presentations include a sandwich lunch and soft drink.

Saturday, August 10, 7-10 pm, Western MT Fair. “Rock Your Rodeo Red” MMIWG (Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls) event at the PRCA Rodeo. Show your support for MMIWG families and survivors by purchasing an Indian Taco at the MUIHC booth and a Rock Your Rodeo Red t-shirt at the MUIHC informational booth. The support of the
Western Montana Fair will enable MUIHC and the Missoula Human Trafficking Task Force to reach a broad audience of all Montanans who may be unaware of the severity of the MMIWG issue. [https://www.facebook.com/events/390956038434167/]

**Monday, August 12, 11:30 am-1 pm, Doubletree Hotel. City Club features Senator Steve Daines.** Purchase tickets at [http://www.cityclubmissoula.com/](http://www.cityclubmissoula.com/)

**Thursday, August 15, 5:30 pm, PEAS Farm.** Time for the annual [Garden City Harvest Farm Party](https://www.facebook.com/events/390956038434167/).

**Thursday-Sunday, August 15-18, Spokane WA Doubletree Hotel.** The **2019 National Convention of Veterans For Peace** will be hosted by VFP Chapter 35 in Spokane, Washington, August 15-18. The theme of this year's convention is *Sacred Lands, Sacred Lives: Peace Knows No Borders*. Visit the [Veterans For Peace website](https://www.veteransforpeace.org/) for more information about our Convention. If you'd prefer to mail in your registration you can download a [PDF of the form](https://www.veteransforpeace.org/)

**Sunday, August 18, 5 pm, Red Hen Farm & Orchard.** Join Community Food and Agriculture Coalition for their first **406 Farm Feast**: an evening of delicious local food and beverages in Missoula’s beautiful Target Range. Get to know your local farmers, feast on local delights, and support local food and agriculture. Tickets $60: get them [here](https://www.veteransforpeace.org/)

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**Sunday, August 18, 2 pm, The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula: Building T-1, 2nd Floor.** Vietnam war lecture series #3: **DOC’S RETURN, A COMBAT MEDIC RETURNS TO VIETNAM 50 YEARS LATER.** Alan Johnson will discuss his experiences in the Vietnam War, his role as a combat medic, and what it was like to re-visit the country that he had last seen amid a war. For more information contact the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula: 406-728-3472. [https://www.facebook.com/events/367630454134729/](https://www.facebook.com/events/367630454134729/)

**Saturday, September 7, 9 am-7 pm, Free Cycles.** Join the [Free Cycles Climate Ride](https://www.facebook.com/events/367630454134729/). Choose your ride option and join the festivities in the evening! Details [HERE](https://www.facebook.com/events/367630454134729/).

**Friday-Sunday, September 6-8, Spokane, WA.** Western States Center is hosting the **2019 Activists Mobilizing for Power** conference: [Register now to join us in Spokane for AMP 2019!](https://www.facebook.com/events/367630454134729/)

**Saturday, September 7, 9 am-7 pm, Free Cycles.** Join the [Free Cycles Climate Ride](https://www.facebook.com/events/367630454134729/). Choose your ride option and join the festivities in the evening! Details [HERE](https://www.facebook.com/events/367630454134729/).

**Friday-Sunday, September 13-22. Welcoming Week with Sft Landing and many others.** [https://softlandingmissoula.org/events-calendar/2019/9/13/welcoming-week](https://softlandingmissoula.org/events-calendar/2019/9/13/welcoming-week)

**Saturday, September 21 is the UN International Day of Peace.** The theme this year is climate action for peace. We are planning some things locally and hope you can join in. [https://www.un.org/en/events/peaceaday](https://www.un.org/en/events/peaceaday)

**Sunday, September 22, 1-4 pm, Caras Park. Missoula Together** celebrating all of us coming together with song, speeches and more.
Sunday, September 22, 6-8 pm, Imagine Nation Brewing. POETry for Change. POETS Be the Voice--EmPOWER CommUNITY. Audience be ready to hear and act on the messages to create change for a Better World. Poets text Rita aka “Radska” host 406.544.9026 to learn more or to see about sign-ups!

Saturday, September 28, 10 am-3 pm, Caras Park, Missoula's second annual Clean Energy Expo. Join Climate Smart Missoula, The Montana Renewable Energy Association and many others to learn about and celebrate climate solutions and clean energy. Learn more here and contact Abby at Climate Smart if you’d like to co-sponsor or volunteer.

Friday-Saturday, October 4-5, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Fairmont Hot Springs. Core Skills Training: Mindful Self Compassion, Presenter: Steven Hickman, PsyD, Executive Director, Center for Mindful Self-Compassion. Event sponsored by Montana Center for Compassion Education. Email brochure requests to: mtcenterforcompassioneducation@gmail.com.

Sunday, October 13, 4-8 pm, Missoula County Fairgrounds, Home Arts Building. Get Ready to Celebrate for Peace at our annual Peace Party. Details soon, but let us know if you have ideas or want to volunteer or donate!!!

Friday, October 18, 6-10 pm, Hilton Garden Inn. World Affairs Council invites you to the Global Gauntlet featuring a no-host bar, gourmet sit-down dinner, silent and live auction, wine “pull” and six rounds of very spirited team trivia. PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS HERE! Please email the Council or call (406)728-3328 if you have any questions.

Action Opportunities

The Southern Poverty Law Center has a petition on the anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, calling for it to be restored to its full strength.

There is a local effort to develop a museum exhibit to tell the stories of Jewish Settlers to Missoula and the Salish people they met here. You can help donate to help it develop.

September 10 is Suicide Prevention Day and Unify is asking us to participate in THE PLEDGE FOR LIFE

Sign the Hibakusha Rebellion Campaign calling on all State Governments to join the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

World Beyond War asks us all to sign their Declaration of Peace

Be a host family for the Mansfield Center August 30-September 1: Students and young professionals studying global environmental issues. Host a pair from two of the following countries: Brunei, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Timor Leste

Fair Trade News

Missoula’s only all fair trade store, a program focused on JRPC’s international peacebuilding efforts. Who wouldn’t love a gift that brings more peace and justice to the world!!!

Ongoing Events and Meetings

Women in Black & Veterans For Peace Fridays, North end of the Higgins Bridge, 12:15-12:45 pm. missoulawib@montana.com
Balanced View Clarity Online Call Mondays 5-6 pm. Contact: CheyenneRivers@BalancedView.org. Visit http://www.Bright.how
Veterans For Peace first Monday of each month, 4-6 pm, JRPC. 406-363-6150 or pvaughan184@gmail.com
JRPC Coordinating Council Third Monday of every month, 5:30 pm at JRPC. All are welcome to attend!
Women in Black of Polson Mondays, 12-12:30 pm, Polson courthouse. 211p110@earthlink.net
Knitting For Peace every Tuesday, 1–3 pm, JRPC. 543-3955.
Jewish Reading Group, one Wednesday a month to discuss fiction. Contact us at readingjewsmissoula@gmail.com. Come once or come every time!
Spanish Conversation Group meets monthly at Iron Griz. Contact joann@rockisland.com for more information.

Nonviolent Communication Practice Group. Second and Fourth Wednesdays, 12-1 pm, JRPC info@patrickmarsolek.com

The Cranium creates origami delights every 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday, 1:15-3:15, JRPC. bonnie@bonnietarses.com

Time Bank Orientation Contact info@missoulatimebank.org for individual and group orientation for new members at a location TBD.

Montana Moves To Amend statewide phone calls 4th Tuesday of each month. Contact Sue at 543-3254

Articles Of Interest

Greta Thunberg’s recent speech at the French National Assembly.

The Impact of Climate and Extreme Heat on Mental Health and Violence

Long After Hiroshima, by David Swanson

Have you read a good article that you'd like to share? Send us a link and we'll take a look!

Ways to Help JRPC

- We are looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:
  - Newsletter editor
- We are starting the planning for our fall Peace Party -- and we need you!! Give us a call!

Jeannette Rankin Peace Center has been in Missoula since 1986, working to build non-violence, social justice and sustainability.

We are pleased to be a member of the Montana Shares Network, a partnership of Montana-based nonprofit groups devoted to improving the quality of life in communities throughout the state. Give to JRPC through your workplace. www.montanashares.org

The JRPC e-newsletter is sent to our listserv each Thursday. Deadline for calendar items is noon, Wednesday. We always appreciate your contributions, comments and suggestions. If you would like to be taken off our mailing list, please unsubscribe below. To sign up, click this link.

Sign Up for Our E-NewsLetter

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519 S Higgins Ave.
Missoula, MT 59801
United States