You are cordially invited to the
Albuquerque Center for Peace & Justice
Annual Membership Meeting
Friday, April 6, 5:30-7:30pm
at the Peace Center
202 Harvard Dr. SE, Albuquerque, NM

- Affirm incoming Coordinating Council members **Heather Ailes** and **Peaches Blackbird** as full members
- Hear **financial** updates and **highlights** from the past year
- Get updates from three of our PAJOLA groups about their work: **ABQ Friends Meeting** about sanctuary; **Common Ground Rising** about fracking; and the **Nuclear Issues Study Group** about dangerous nuclear waste coming to NM
- Enjoy **delicious Greek food** from Olympia Café!

Thank you for your membership and support! See you at the P&J on Friday, April 6.

**CC Bios**

My name is **Peaches Blackbird** and I'm from Zia Pueblo, and of Oglala Sioux descent. I joined the Albuquerque Peace Center in January 2017, with the knowledge of what the center does for our community, of it being a hub for social justice groups. I've been an interim on the CC for over 6 months, and during this time my work for my community has grown substantially. I've helped organize the 2017 and 2018 Women's March, I've visited Standing Rock, helped local marches in being a safety member and many more events. More importantly for the center, I helped organize the 2017 International Peace Day block party, 2017 Holiday Gala, and my organization, Power Through Peace, is a PAJOLA, through which we gain from the resources provided by the center. I'm looking forward to being a full-fledged CC member for our PAJOLA and members of the center, where I will act in the best for our community and organization, and future generations. When not voicing the atrocities committed against Native Communities, I'm a full-time student at UNM studying Environmental Archaeology, fight MMA, and raise two beautiful dogs.

I'm **Heather Ailes** and I have served as an interim member of the Coordinating Council since spring 2017. I also act as the Council’s secretary. I’m a founding organizer for Albuquerque’s chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ ABQ) and my organizing focus is racial justice, particularly in public schools. I’m a high school teacher and live with my family in southeast Albuquerque.

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 Coordinator at **abqpeaceandjusticecenter@gmail.com**.
## Regularly Scheduled Events—held at the Peace Center unless otherwise noted

**MONDAYS**

350NM.org 1st & 3rd Monday, 5-7pm, 350-6000  
Veterans for Peace ABQ 2nd Monday, 5:30-8pm, 271-9274.

**TUESDAYS**

Swing Dance weekly, 7-10:30pm, Heights Community Center, 823 Buena Vista SE. 256-0668  
12 Steps for Everyone & Everything weekly, 7-8:30pm, Trinity House, 1925 Five Pts. Rd. SW. revswamiom@gmail.com  
ABQ NOW 4th Tuesday, 6-8pm, 228-0918  
Race Dialogue 4th Tuesday, 5pm, 917 Vassar NE, 272-5085

**WEDNESDAYS**

Chair Yoga weekly, 1:30-2:30pm, lisbethcarlisle@aol.com  
Nuclear Issues Study Group 1st Wednesday, 7-9pm, 879-8547  
Grassroots New Mexico Community Radio Action Calendar, weekly, 3:57pm on KUNM 89.9FM.  
Bhagavad Gita Class weekly 7-8:45pm, Trinity House, 1925 Five Points Road SW. 842-5697  
The Water Groups 1st Wednesday, 3pm @ SRIC, 243-6174  
Notable Healing Third Wednesday, 6-5pm, 717-2402

**THURSDAYS**

Americans United for Separated Church & State-NM 1st Thursday, 6pm, 296-8073  
Peace Center Coordinating Council 2nd Thursdays, 5:30-7:30pm. All are welcome, 208-9557  
Biotecture Planet Earth 3rd Thursdays, 5:30pm, jewalker@swcp.com  
ABQ Move to Amend 4th Thursdays, 6-7:15pm, 867-6539

**FRIDAYS**

Sierra Club & Root Beer 1st Friday on odd months, 6:30-8pm, 243-7767  
Transformative Communication (NVC) 2nd and 4th Fridays, 11:30am-1pm, 400-2709  
Peace Center Admin. Committee Last Friday, 2-3:30pm

**SATURDAYS**

Food Distribution Weekly, 9am, 315-4167  
Sitting for Peace Weekly, 9-10am, Bataan Park NE corner, 3407 Lomas NE, all welcome in silence, 265-2178  
Tulane St. Peace Rally Weekly, Noon-1:30pm at Central & Tulane, 440-7372  
St. Mary Magdalene Community Mass, Weekly, 5-7pm, First Congregational UCC, 2801 Lomas NE, 345-3677, 977-4661.  
SURJ-ABQ 1st Saturday, 10:30-Noon, surjabq@gmail.com  
Grandmother’s Council of NM 2nd Saturday, 1:30-3:30pm, 610-8258  
ABQ IWW 4th Saturday, 11am-1pm, abqiww@gmail.com  
Economic Reform Advocacy Group 3rd Sat., 10:30am - 2:30pm, 1st Unitarian Church, Carlisle/Comanche. 323-3064.  
Gray Panthers 4th Saturday, 1-2:30pm at Highland Senior Center, 131 Monroe NE. Contact: 266-8823.  
Peña Cultural / Coffee House Monthly, 7-10pm, Bandido Hideout, 2128 Central SE, 385-3670.

**SUNDAYS**

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Weekly, 11am-noon.  
Potluck on 3rd Sunday, 11am-2:30pm. 440-6688.  
Blessed Oscar Romero Catholic Community Weekly, 11am at St. Paul’s ELCA, 1100 Indian School NE, 352-4061.  
Generation Justice weekly, 7-8pm on KUNM 89.9FM

Global One to One Looking For Host Families!

Global One to One is bringing a group of 15 Iraqi teenagers to **Albuquerque July 11-25** for peacebuilding training, and needs 8 homestay families with young people and/or folks experienced in/with Iraq. Host families spend evenings and weekends, provide a bedroom and meals for student participants. For more details, email info@global1to1.org.

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### People of the Peace Center

**Coordinating Council**
- Samia Assed, President  
- Frank Quintana, Vice President  
- Janice Devereaux, Treasurer  
- Heather Ailes, Secretary (interim)  
- Charles Klinhenn,  
- Peaches Blackbird (interim)  
- Administrative Committee  
- Maureen Wright, Kent Zook  
- Charles Klinhenn, Mollie Wilkie  
- David Dreznner  
- Finance Committee  
- John Ellig, Jim Mackenzie,  
- Charles Klinhenn  
- Newsletter Mailing  
- Susan McKinstry, Ellen Robinson  
- Mandy Pino, Lisa Garduño  
- Sally-Alice Thompson, Pam Harris  
- Dorie Bunting, Meredith Bunting

**Web Design:** Melody Mock  
**Social Media:** Ilse Biel  
**Grassroots New Mexico (KUNM)**  
- Cal McManus, David Lopez, Iris Keltz, Jiva Manske  
**Staff**  
- Susan Schuurman, Outreach Coord.  
- Katherine Ceja, Administrative Coord.  
- Derek Caudwell, Newsletter  
- Rick Keeney, Cleaning Services  
**Website:** Derek Caudwell  
**Information Technology**  
- Jim Mackenzie, Steve Mills  
**Web Calendar:**  
- Michelle Meaders, David Dreznner  
**Art Exhibit Coordinator:** Amy Sedillo  
**Building helpers:**  
- Don Meaders, John Walker

**Front Desk Volunteers**
- France Daniels-Thompson,  
- Maureen Wright, Michelle Meaders,  
- Kent Zook, Matt John, Eliza Schmid,  
- Saraha Carruthers, David Dreznner,  
- Cyrus Moses, Sharyn Kaye,  
- Azatli Jose Garza, Danny Kesner,  
- Lauren Brown, Charlie Klinhenn,  
- Canines: Sasha, Pepie

**Swing Dance Door Volunteers**
- John Ellig, Renee Wolters,  
- Kent Zook, Michael Gallagher,  
- Megan Cohen, Peggy Singh,  
- Katherine Ceja

**Students/Interns:**
- Elise Marquez, South Valley Academy  
- Cody Slama, UNM P&J Studies  
- Alexandra Kesich, UNM  
- Eva Duboff, CNM
Calendar of Special Events

Tuesday, Apr. 3, 6-8pm
Universidad Sin Fronteras lecture by Dr. Alyosha Goldstein - “Capitalism: A Decolonial Perspective” at SWOP offices, 211 10th St. SW. Info: “University Sin Fronteras - Burque Campus” on Facebook or call 246-8832.

Tuesday, Apr. 3, 6:30-8:30pm

Wednesday, Apr. 4, 3pm/5pm/7pm
At The River I Stand (1993, 58m), a documentary on the 1968 Memphis Sanitation Workers strike & Dr. MLK’s murder, on the 50th anniversary of his death. Co-sponsored by MLK Multicultural Council and others, panel discussion with guest speakers after 7pm show. At Guild Cinema, 3405 Central Ave. NE, guildcinema.com

Thursday Apr. 5, 7-9pm
Trinity House Spring Fundraiser: Stories, Songs and Spirit. An evening of community singing and storytelling, with popular song leaders Seth Hoffman and Eileen Shaughnessy, and guest storytellers. At First Unitarian Church, 3701 Carlisle Blvd NE. More info: 842-5697.

Friday, Apr. 6, 5:30-7:30pm
Peace Center Annual Membership Meeting: affirm incoming CC members, hear highlights from the past year, financial info, plus reports from three PAJOLA groups. Food from Olympia Café provided. For more info, see Front Page.

Friday, Apr. 6, 6-8pm
The Sierra Club (2215 Lead Ave SE) is hosting the First Friday art show, “Selected Black & White Photographs by Peter Kelling.” Refreshments provided. Contact: Heather Kline, 577-2798. Work is up through May, shown by appointment.

Saturday, Apr. 7, 9am-noon

Saturday, Apr. 7, 10am-4pm
Cesar Chavez March & Rally. The Peace Center will be marching and tabling at this; if you’d like to get involved, call 268-9557. See also Noticias, pg. 5.

Saturday, Apr. 7, 6:30-9:30pm
Stand with Immigrants! fundraiser for NM Faith Coalition for Immigrant Justice, featuring music, poetry, food and more. At First Unitarian Church, 3701 Carlisle NE. Donations welcome: nmimigrantjustice.org. Info: internmfnfc4jij@gmail.com or 504-0463

Saturday, Apr. 7, 6pm
Alternative Radio presents a lecture by Bobby Seale on “The Real Black Panther” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org.

Saturday, Apr. 7, 7pm and Sunday, Apr. 8, 3pm
We Are One - NM Peace Choir concert at Central United Methodist Church, 201 University Blvd NE. Tickets: $20/general, $15/seniors (62+), children under 10 free; online at nmpeacechoir.org. Info: ltweedledee@gmail.com, facebook.com/nmpeacechoir. Twitter: @NMPeaceChoir.

Sunday, Apr. 8, 9am
The Organ Transplant Awareness Program of NM (OTAPNM) is sponsoring a 5K walk/run for OTAPNM’s scholarship funds and other programs. Starts at Vista Del Norte Park (1005 Osuna Rd. NE); $10/participant, register at otapnm.com. Info: Robert, 934-0418 or Feliz, 659-1977.

Wednesday, Apr. 11, 6:30-8pm
Report Back by Renee Wolters: “Observing Elections in El Salvador” with Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES). Update of current activism, elections, country conditions and challenges of the FMLN. At the Peace Center, open to all. Info: Renee, 504-0463.

Thursday, April 12, 10am-2pm
UNM International Festival on Cornell Mall; food and culture from around the globe; the P&J will be tabling at this event. Call 268-9557 if you can help.

Friday, Apr. 13, 4-6pm
SWOP’s NM Con Mujeres Circles presentation: “Intervention in the Houseless Community” by Ilse Biel. Details: beva@swop.net.

Friday, Apr. 13, 6:30-9:30pm
Conscious Eating and Hip Hop Vol. 2: Vegan Outreach hosts an evening of local hip-hop, a short talk and a delicious meal at the Peace Center. Free and open to all; please RSVP, as space is limited, to: ConsciousEatingandHipHopVol2.eventbrite.com. Info: VictorF@VeganOutreach.org, (575) 937-4859.

Saturday, Apr. 14-Sunday, Apr. 22
Faith Climate Action Week, an annual call to prayer and action to address climate justice, promoted locally by NM Interfaith Power & Light. Sign up to post events and receive resources: faithclimateactionweek.org.
Saturday, Apr. 14, 8:30am-12:30pm
10-15 volunteers needed to come for a work morning at the Peace Center to do yard work, organize the closets & cleaning. Dress in work clothes, bring gloves. RSVP to Kent: 933-1558 or koz66@swcp.com.

Saturday, Apr. 14, 11am-3pm
**Plant Sale** in front of Mineshaft Tavern in Madrid, NM – organically raised, rainwater fed, heirloom varieties of kale, chard, cabbage, lettuce, broccoli, herbs, onions, etc. Info: ampersandproject.org, 780-0535.

Saturday, Apr. 14, 4pm
Authors Peter Malmgren and Kay Matthews, will read from their new book on LANL, *Los Alamos Revisited: A Workers' History*, at the Peace Center. Info: Noticias, pg. 5.

Saturday, Apr. 14, 6pm
Alternative Radio presents **David Swanson & Pete Kilner**: “Debate on War” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org.

Sunday, April 15, 1:30-4:30pm
Journalist **Chris Hedges**: “Reclaiming & Restoring NM from Sacrifice Zone to Land of Enchantment” at Central United Methodist Church, 201 University Blvd. NE. $10 donation, registration via eventbrite.com. More info: see Noticias, pg. 5.

Tuesday, Apr. 17, 6-8pm
Universidad Sin Fronteras presents “Agroecology” by Project Feed the Hood, at SWOP offices, 211 10th St. SW. More info: “University Sin Fronteras - Burque Campus” on Facebook or call 246-8832.

Wednesday, Apr. 18, 6-8pm
**Flashmob Rehearsal** for a Jewish Voice for Peace-ABQ action in May (date TBA). Sing and dance the Hora at the P&J. Info: shejofox@gmail.com, also Noticias, pg. 5.

Thursday, Apr. 19, 10:30am-2:30pm
UNM Sustainability Studies Program presents the **UNM Sustainability Expo** at UNM on Cornell Mall, featuring local farmers markets and more; the P&J will be tabling at this event, call 268-9557 if you can help.

Friday, Apr. 20, 6-8pm
Presented by Caterwaul & Birdnoise, **P&J Movie Night** returns with a colorized version of *Reefer Madness* (1936, 65m), an exploitation film that became a cult classic of drug war hysteria. Come prepared if you like, but please no indulgence on Peace Center property. Free to all; for more info: deek@unm.edu.

Saturday, Apr. 21, 10:30am
Author **Diann Kissel** shares a story of surviving severe abuse and trauma, and the subsequent healing journey, from her published memoir, *A Turquoise Life*, at the Peace Center. Light refreshments available, free but due to the subject matter, this is an adults-only event. More info: 352-4061, and Noticias, pg. 6.

Saturday Apr. 21, 6-8pm
“The Challenge of the 2018 **Mexican Presidential Election**” Rebecca Jasso-Aguilar gives a lecture on electoral fraud and hopes for true democracy in Mexico. Info: 306-9742, r.jasso.aguilar@gmail.com, and see also Noticias, pg. 6.

Saturday, Apr. 21, 6pm
Alternative Radio presents **Ramzy Baroud**, speaking on “Palestine: After the Last Sky” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org.

Sunday, Apr. 22, 10am-4pm
The Peace Center will be tabling at the **28th Annual Earthfest**, at La Montanita Coop in Nob Hill. To help out, call the P&J office at 268-9557.

Saturday, Apr. 28, 1-4pm
**High Desert Gardening Class** at Ampersand Sustainable Learning Center near Cerrillos/Madrid, NM. Rainwater and greywater, shade and mulch, soil prep and Permaculture strategies. Register: amanda@ampersandproject.org; $45 discounts available. Info: ampersandproject.org, 780-0535.

Saturday, Apr. 28, 1-5pm
The Peace Center presents **Nonviolence Direct Action Training by Judy Bierbaum** at the P&J. Free, but donations accepted for the trainer.

Sunday, May 20, 1pm ONLY
**Charlie vs. Goliath**, a documentary about a 75-year-old with no money or political experience mounting a formidable campaign while also standing against money in politics. At Guild Cinema, 3405 Central NE, $7 donation suggested, 50% of the proceeds go to the P&J. For more info: 865-4648, charlievsgoliath.com, guildcinema.com.
25th Annual César Chávez Marcha and Fiesta

25th Annual César Chávez Day Festival on Saturday, April 7 at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St. SW. Join in La Marcha de Justicia to honor the life and legacy of César Chávez and farm workers. After the march, celebrate at the annual Fiesta with a Kid’s Corner, food, music by local favorite Baracutanga, dancing, information booths, and lots of fun! We’ll be honoring the 2018 César Chávez and the Dolores Huerta ¡Sí Se Puede! awardees. The National Hispanic Cultural Center welcomes the legendary Dolores Huerta as the guest of honor and keynote speaker. They are also proud to welcome actor/composer/musician/activist Danny Valdez, a founding member of El Teatro Campesino, to share his experiences as a member of the United Farm Workers (UFW). March is from 10:30am to noon, followed by the Fiesta til 3:30pm. For more info, rcccabq@gmail.com.

Book Talk about Los Alamos National Lab Workers

Peter Malmgren and Kay Matthews, authors of a new book on LANL called Los Alamos Revisited: A Workers’ History, will read from the book at the Peace Center on Saturday, April 14 at 4pm.

In 2000, El Rio Arriba Environmental Health Association at Northern New Mexico College initiated an oral history project to tell the story of the creation of Los Alamos from the point of view of the people who helped build it into the behemoth it is today: the technicians, engineers, welders, machinists, truck drivers, secretaries, and contractors. Chimayó resident Peter Malmgren volunteered for the project and ended up interviewing over 150 people throughout northern NM. The interviews were transcribed and placed in the NM State Records Center and Archive (along with a photo exhibit), but Peter always wanted to turn this archive into a book that the workers and their families could hold in their hands and leave as a legacy for their children.

Local writer Kay Matthews (editor of La Jicarita, an online journal of environmental politics) helped Peter turn the oral histories into a story that is as complex as the Lab itself: the desire to help the war effort of the early recruits; the dangers of the bomb tests in the Pacific and Nevada test site; the near-fatal accidents they helped prevent onsite; the horrible illnesses they contracted as a result of their exposure to radiation and toxins; the financial ability to send their kids to college; and the retaliation they endured to expose mismanagement and corruption. Please come and listen to their stories. Info: petermalmgrennm@gmail.com, kmatthews1018@gmail.com.

Journalist Chris Hedges to Speak in Albuquerque

There are corners of this country (like New Mexico) where Americans are trapped in endless cycles of poverty, powerlessness and despair, a direct result of capitalistic greed. Chris Hedges calls these places “Sacrifice Zones.”

A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and activist, graduate of Harvard Divinity School, ordained Presbyterian minister, former professor at Princeton, and author of 11 books including the New York Times’ best seller Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt, Hedges will speak on “Reclaiming and Restoring New Mexico, from Sacrifice Zone to the Land of Enchantment,” Sunday, April 15, 1:30-4:30pm at Central United Methodist Church, University and Central Ave.

This is a strategy event for Faith Leaders, Advocates, Activists and Community Organizers. Space is limited, reservations required via eventbrite.com, $10 donation requested. Co-sponsored by NM Interfaith Worker Justice, NM Interfaith Power and Light, MASE (Multicultural Alliance of a Safe Environment), NM Voices of Children, Health Action NM, NM Coalition to End Homelessness, Nuclear Watch NM, Veterans for Peace Santa Fe Chapter, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety, and more. More info: 660-5018, hb Beaumont@iwj.org, or visit iwj.org.

JVP Flashmob Rehearsal

Sing and dance the Hora for a Jewish Voice for Peace ABQ action in May (date TBA), supporting HR-4391, the Promoting Human Rights By Ending Israeli Military Detention of Palestinian Children Act. Practice for this event on Wednesday, April 18, 6-8pm (and May 16) at the Peace Center.

An estimated 10,000 Palestinian children have been detained by Israeli security forces and prosecuted in the Israeli military court system since 2000. Independent monitors such as Human Rights Watch have documented that these children are subject to abuse and, in some cases, torture — specifically citing the use of chokeholds, beatings, and coercive interrogation on children between the ages of 11 and 15. Researched by UNICEF, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and B’Tselem, they found that Palestinian children are frequently held for extended periods without access to either their parents or attorneys. More info on the legislation of HR-4391 raised by Congresswoman Betty McCollum (DFL-Minn.) can be found at mccollum.house.gov/palestinianchildrensrights.

Flashmobs are a creative and fun way to raise awareness! You can choose your role, i.e. be a singer, a dancer, a leafletter, or a monitor that claps your hands! We are also looking for co-sponsors for this event; email shejofox@gmail.com.
Author of *A Turquoise Life* to Speak on Healing at the P&J

A father's crimes of sexual abuse and murder form the backdrop of a story of trauma and redemption. Author Diann Kissel will share her compelling story of survival from severe abuse and trauma, as well as her subsequent healing journey, which led to her being the peaceful, joyful person she is today. Diann's published memoir, *A Turquoise Life*, written with counselor Kathy Bird, details her eight-year incestuous relationship with her father, and his murders of his pregnant wife and three of his ten children. On **Saturday, April 21, 2018, 10:30am at the Peace Center**, Diann will share her remarkable story of healing and hope for all victims of abuse. There is no charge for this event. Light refreshments will be available. Due to the subject matter, this is an adults-only event. For information, call 352-4061.

**Rebeca Jasso-Aguilar to Speak about Mexican Presidential Election**

This election represents challenges for Mexico (and the US) at a time of dire political, social, and economic conditions. Rebeca Jasso-Aguilar, PhD, will discuss the controversies surrounding the 2006 and 2012 elections, the political career of leftist candidate Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, the popular movement that emerged in 2005, its transformation into a political party (the Movement for National Regeneration, MORENA), and its political platform. She will discuss the ways in which electoral fraud is committed, and the ways in which MORENA is preparing to prevent it. The various presidential candidates, the coalitions that have nominated them, and their standing in the polls will also be discussed. **Saturday, April 21, from 6-8pm at the Peace Center**. For more info, email r.jasso.aguilar@gmail.com.

**Special Ask from 350NM on Methane**

You may have heard that the Trump Administration has finally proposed its new BLM methane rule that rolls back and guts the rule that you helped to get on the books. I hope you know how much of a difference your ongoing participation on methane issues has made. So now we need your help again. The BLM has opened a 60-day comment period, ending **April 23**. If each of you would comment, it will make a big difference! You can comment at cutmethane.com. It takes only a couple of minutes.

**Donations Needed for Albuquerque’s Refugee Community!**

Hey everyone, happy Spring! My name is Danny Kesner and I am one of the front desk volunteers at the Peace Center. I also recently started volunteering at the Lutheran Family Services Refugee and Asylee Program, which helps ABQ’s refugee and asylee community smoothly transition into new lives here in the US. This includes seeking apartments for the families and individuals who come to Albuquerque and furnishing these apartments with items required by the State Dept. All items used to furnish the apartments are donated, so I thought it would be a good idea to get the Peace Center community involved since you all have humongous hearts and know how to get things done. Please drop off all items at the LFS office, 4105 Silver Ave. SE, or you may leave SMALL items in the box at the office at the Peace Center and I will transport them. For more info: lfsrm.org, or Sandi Bertholomey, 933-7032. You may also contact me at 934-8743 or email: kesnerjude@gmail.com.

**Work Morning at the Peace Center**

We need 10-15 volunteers to join us at the Peace Center, **Saturday, April 14, 8:30am-12:30pm** for yard work, organizing the closets, & cleaning. Dress in work clothes and bring gloves. RSVP to Kent: 933-1558 or koz66@swcp.com.

**P&J Receives Generous Gift from The Verdes Foundation**

By Sue Schuurman

The Peace Center thanks The Verdes Foundation for selecting us as the local nonprofit for their monthly Community Giving Program. The Verdes Foundation is a licensed nonprofit medical cannabis producer that is dedicated to giving back to the community they serve. Once each month, The Verdes Foundation donates 10% of their store proceeds from that day to a local nonprofit. We are very grateful for the generous support we received from their program. For more info about The Verdes Foundation and/or their Community Giving Program, please visit verdesfoundation.org or call them at 280-2814.
Teach Peace for Issa

Issa Merrill was a young peacemaker who died too soon of a rare neurological disease. Before his death at age 31, Issa attended UNM, majoring in Political Science and exploring Peace Studies. In his memory, his family and friends have created a scholarship in his name for young adults studying Political Science and Peace Studies at UNM. The endowment for the Issa Merrill Peacemaker Scholarship has reached the $36,000 base amount which means that funds are available to offer a $1,000 scholarship to one eligible student for his or her work. To make the scholarship more substantial, Issa’s mother, Carol Merrill has opened a GoFundMe campaign, called “Teach Peace for Issa” to raise the base endowment to $100,000—gofundme.com/peacemakers-scholarship. For more info, contact Issa’s mom: C. S. Merrill, PO Box 1746, Corrales, NM 87048, email merrill.carol7@gmail.com or call 898-8507.
Help Sue and Peaches Go to Palestine!

By Rita Erickson and Iris Keltz, Friends of Sabeel ABQ

We invite your help to send Sue Schuurman and Peaches Blackbird to Palestine April 13-22 on a Sabeel Witness Trip. The trip costs about $4,000 each (including airfare and the delegation fee); we have raised more than half of our goal but need to raise a bit more. Can you help us raise the rest to enable these local activists to go to Palestine and be witnesses to the occupation and popular resistance? Any amount is appreciated. If you prefer donating by check, please make it out to Rita Erickson, put “Sue/Peaches Palestine Trip” in the memo line, and mail to: 1557 Summit Hills Dr. NE, ABQ, NM 87112. To be tax deductible, make the check out to FOSNA, mail it to Rita's address and she will forward to Friends of Sabeel North America. Or donate online at https://www.gofundme.com/sue-and-peaches-palestine-trip.

Peaches Jaylynn Blackbird is a young, Native American woman from Zia Pueblo and of Oglala Sioux descent from Pine Ridge, South Dakota. She is studying archaeology and historical preservation at UNM and is an interim Coordinating Council member at the Peace Center. She says, “The struggle in Pueblo communities reflects the struggle in Palestine. Learning about the suffering of Palestinians living under a military occupation deepens my understanding of what my ancestors faced.”

Sue Schuurman has dreamed of traveling to Palestine for many years. In 2008, she got a master’s degree in the history of the Middle East from UNM. Empowered with the facts, she joined the Middle East Peace & Justice Alliance and cofounded the Coalition to Stop $30 Billion to Israel, which put up billboards against military aid to Israel in 15 cities across the U.S. As Outreach Coordinator at the Peace Center, she helped formulate a statement in support of human rights including Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS). Donations of any size are much appreciated! For more info, call 828-0546.