

# The New Jersey PEACE Maker

Publication of NJ Peace Action and NJ Peace Action Education Fund



Founded 1957—51 Years of Citizen Action

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## TEANECK VOTES TO BRING NATIONAL GUARD HOME



**Vigil in Front of Teaneck Armory**

The Teaneck Town Council voted Oct. 7, in favor of state resolutions to bring the New Jersey National Guard home from Iraq. *SJR-55* and *AJR-104* provide that since the 2002 Congressional Authorization, which allowed National Guard troops to be sent to Iraq, has expired and there is no new authorization, continued deployment is illegal.

The resolution was brought forward by the Bergen chapter of Military Families Speak Out, the Teaneck Peace and Justice

Coalition and Veterans for Peace Chapter 21. They told the council about the toll of repeated deployments on Guard members' families and the danger to the people of New Jersey when half of our state Guard and their equipment are in Iraq and unavailable to assist with emergencies here.

The effort to de-federalize the NJ Guard is part of a statewide and national effort. Gov. Jon Corzine has thus far not responded to the more than 4,000 people who signed a petition asking him to bring the Guard home.

## JUHASZ TO SPEAK ON BIG OIL AT SOUP LUNCH

NJ Peace Action's 51st Annual Soup Lunch on Saturday, Nov. 15 promises to be an informative and timely, not to mention, appetizing event.

Along with our usual delicious variety of homemade soups, bread, cheese, and desserts, as well as good company, items for sale, and books to buy, we are also excited to have oil industry expert, international trade and finance policy specialist, award-winning author, and activist, Antonia Juhasz as our guest speaker. Her new book, *The Tyranny of Oil*, re-

leased Oct. 1, has been described as "the hardest-hitting expose of the oil industry in decades."



The Soup Lunch runs from 11:45 until 4 pm at Columbia High School in Maplewood. Please visit our website at [www.njpeaceaction.org](http://www.njpeaceaction.org) to make reservations or call us at 973-259-1126.

## SAVE THE DATE!

**Saturday, December 6, Noon**

Join Us for the Last Ride of Peace Train 2008  
Peter Francisco Park, Newark

**SAY "NO!" to WAR  
"YES!" TO JOBS, JUSTICE, HEALTHCARE,  
HOUSING AND EDUCATION**

For more information, call 973-259-1126

New Jersey Peace Action and the New Jersey Peace Action Education Fund—founded in 1957—are committed to working through grassroots citizen action to abolish nuclear weapons, end domestic and international weapons trafficking, demilitarize the federal budget and teach non-violent conflict resolution.



### Officers and Staff

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## A CALL TO ACTION AT AUGUST FORUM ON NUCLEAR ABOLITION

On Aug. 9, 63 years after the U.S. dropped atomic bombs on two Japanese cities, a coalition of 25 faith-based, interfaith, and secular organizations came together to develop a Call to Action to rid the world of these terrible weapons. They participated in a peace conference public forum, "Saving Lives through Nuclear Weapons Control and Disarmament" and a remembrance of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the First Memorial Presbyterian Church in Dover.

The event, organized by NJ Peace Action, the American Joint Multifaith/Multicultural Association and the Newton Presbytery, was meant to inspire work for nuclear abolition and to shift the billions allocated for nuclear weapons to social, humanitarian, and environmental needs, and also increase awareness of the serious health risks caused by depleted uranium.

Speakers included Dr. Abbas Abdul-Rahman of the Islamic Center of Boonton; Robert Donaldson, Elder of Rockaway Presbyterian Church; Iman Dr. Mohamad Qatanani from the Islamic Center of Passaic-Islam and Global Peace; Madelyn Hoffman, Director, NJ Peace Action; Rev. Dave Muyskens, Chair, Newton Presbytery Peacemaking Committee; Dave Mortensen, Coordinator, American Joint Multifaith Association/People of Peace and Justice; Mary Jane Milway, NJ Community Coordinator—Focolare Movement; Rev. David Myers, Pastor, First Memorial Presbyterian Church; and Leonor Tomero, Director for Nuclear Non-Proliferation at the Center for Arms Control and Non Proliferation. Afterwards, there were break-out sessions, followed by a fellowship dinner and evening entertainment by Theatre in the Flesh, Spook Handy, the Solidarity Singers, and Kate and Paul.

The forum's organizers are planning future events in support of the Call to Action. Look for upcoming e-mails and check the NJPA website for updates on these plans. The next meeting of the August 9th Saving Lives Committee is Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Rockaway.

### ~ LEAVE A LEGACY ~

*Help perpetuate your commitment to peace and justice by remembering New Jersey Peace Action in your will. Bequests and life insurance to the NJPA Education Fund are tax-deductible. For more information on including us in your will or life insurance policy, or to learn more about other planned giving options, please contact us.*

### ~ IN MEMORIAM ~

### Fr. JOHN NICKAS



*It is with tremendous sadness that we report the death on Oct. 9, of Father John Nickas, champion for peace and justice. Fr. Nickas was pastor of St. Peter Claver Church in Montclair from December 1996 to October 2004, when he retired for health reasons. Before that he served as pastor of St. Rocco's Church in Newark for 19 years.*

*Father Nickas took up the challenge to truly follow Christ throughout his priesthood, helping those in need and standing up for what was right. In December 2002, when the Bush Administration was pushing for war over WMDs, Fr. Nickas responded by establishing a peace ministry. NJPA recognized his devotion to peace by presenting him with the Bread & Roses Award at our 2003 Soup Luncheon.*

*For Fr. Nickas' parishioners and all who knew him, the world seems less without him. He will be greatly missed.*

### NJ Peace Action Office Phone Service Is Back!!



Our office now has two new phone numbers and a new fax number: Our main phone number is 973-259-1126 and a second number is 973-259-1128. Our new fax number is 973-259-1139. You can still reach us on our office cell phone: 973-851-2136, or e-mail us at:

[nj\\_peaceaction@yahoo.com](mailto:nj_peaceaction@yahoo.com). Thank you for your patience. We look forward to hearing from you!

To assist NJPA in informing appropriate agencies, like the Better Business Bureau and the Board of Public Utilities, about the challenges of getting our phone service restored, please contact us.



# Legislative Action Alert



Below is information about how to find where the candidates stand on peace and justice issues. After the election, you can use the Voter Guides and Report Cards to hold the winners accountable by making sure they live up to what they promised on these important issues.

## NJ PEACE ACTION'S NON-PARTISAN PEACE VOTER CAMPAIGN FOR 2008 How You Can Participate in Making Peace and Justice Issues Part of the Discussion Leading Up to the Elections

1. Download and distribute Peace Action's presidential Voter Guides that show where John McCain (R), Barack Obama (D), Ralph Nader (I), Cynthia McKinney (Green) and Bob Barr (Libertarian) stand on issues of importance to the peace and justice movement. Find them at <http://peace-action.org/PV08/prezvoterguide.pdf>.

You can also download a Voter Guide for District 11 (Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen (R) incumbent v. Tom Wyka) and a Voter Guide for District 7 (Leonard Lance R v. Linda Stender D) by visiting NJ Peace Action's website at [www.njpeaceaction.org](http://www.njpeaceaction.org).

2. Download and distribute Scorecards for Senator Frank Lautenberg and Representative Steve Rothman. Visit <http://unitedforpeace.org/article.php?id=3940> and scroll down to New Jersey, then click on the link to Senator Frank Lautenberg and Senator Robert Menendez or the link to Representative Steve Rothman. A scorecard for Representative Garrett is posted on the NJPA website.

3. Arrange for a "Tools for Democracy" Workshop on using the media, including new Internet-based technologies, positive one-on-one conversations, and grassroots organizing.

**PLEASE URGE YOUR STATE REPS TO SUPPORT Senate Bill SJR-55**--It would require Gov. Jon Corzine and the NJ Legislature to refuse to deploy NJ's National Guard to Iraq. (Read p. 1 article.) The Peace and Justice Coalition (which includes NJ Peace Action), worked with a national coalition, "Bring the Guard Home (It's the Law!)" to develop this state-level initiative to end the Iraq War. A first hearing in the NJ Senate took place Oct. 20. A hearing in the NJ Assembly is tentatively set for Nov. 16. Please contact NJPA for more information.

### Please return coupon with check/credit card info to NJPA, 673 Bloomfield Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003

I am not yet a member and would like to join. Enclosed is my check or credit card number for:  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 35 Regular dues \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 52 Dollar-a-week for Peace \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Supporter  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$250 Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Patron \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000 Benefactor

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a special contribution to NJPA's 2008 Peace Voter campaign.  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For a contribution of \$75 or more, choose one of these premiums or any two for \$125 (please check which one):

DVD Ann Wright and Medea Benjamin at NJPA 2008 Dinner \_\_\_\_\_  
BOOK Ann Wright's *Dissent:Voices of Conscience* \_\_\_\_\_ OR *Peace Action: Past, Present, and Future* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please add me to the e-mail legislative action alert.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

To make a tax-deductible contribution, please make your check payable to NJ Peace Action Education Fund (NJPAEF).



New Jersey Peace Action  
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Bloomfield, NJ 07003

Non-Profit Org.  
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Bloomfield, NJ



Carol Gay writes to Rep. Frank Pallone urging him to oppose military action against Iran at recent house party and fundraiser for NJPA.

Contact NJPA for info on how to have your own event.

**SOCIALIZE & ORGANIZE!**

**\*NEW\* Contact Information:**

Tel: 973-259-1126  
Office cell: 973-851-2136  
Fax: 973-259-1139  
nj\_peaceaction@yahoo.com  
www.njpeaceaction.org

*\*A 10/08 below your name on the mailing label means you are NOT YET a Peace Action member. Please look inside for a way to join.*

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### Quote for the Season . . .

*"[Antonia] Juhasz lifts the veil covering Big Oil to uncover an orgy of speculation, mergers, collusion, deregulation, tax evasion, and unprecedented profits."*

Medea Benjamin, co-founder of  
Global Exchange and CODEPINK

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 28, Tues. **Forum and Speakout: "How Can We Survive and Turn Around The Economic Crisis?"**  
7 to 9 PM Speakers include People's Organization for Progress President Larry Hamm, labor journalist Michael Hirsch; William Paterson University Political Science Prof. Stephen Shalom, followed by an open mic for questions and comment on the deepening economic crisis. Admission free; donations accepted. Light refreshments will be provided. Sponsored by Essex County Greens, NJ Peace Action and POP. At the Bloomfield Children's Library, 90 Broad St. For more info, call 973-338-5398 or e-mail: [indpol@igc.org](mailto:indpol@igc.org)
- Nov. 6, Thurs. **Highland Park Town Meeting to discuss bringing the New Jersey National Guard Home from Iraq.** Sponsored by: NJPA, The Peace and Justice Coalition, Military Families Speak Out-Bergen County, Veterans for Peace Chapter 21, People's Organization for Progress, NJ Labor Against the War, Bergen Peace and Justice Coalition, Union County Peace Council, and Bring the Guard Home, It's the Law! At the Highland Park Senior Youth Center, 220 So. 6th Ave. For more information, contact Bruno Oriti, 732-763-1134 or Highland Park Council President Elsie Foster-Dublin at 732-777-2179. For more information on the **Bring the Guards Home** campaign, please visit [www.bringtheguard.org](http://www.bringtheguard.org) or [www.bringtheguardhome.org](http://www.bringtheguardhome.org).
- Nov. 15, Sat. **NJPA's 51st Annual Soup Lunch** on "The Tyranny of Oil," featuring Antonia Juhasz, author of *The Bush Agenda: Invading the World One Economy At a Time* and the recently released *The Tyranny of Oil: The World's Most Powerful Industry and What You Can Do To Stop It*. For reservations, call 973-259-1126 or visit [www.njpeaceaction.org](http://www.njpeaceaction.org) to register on line.
- Dec. 6, Sat. **Last Ride of the 2008 Peace Train.** Join us for a Rally and March in Newark. Details to be announced. Call 973-259-1126 for more information.