

## Peace Action of MI Proudly Presents Spring/Summer Concert 'Good Day, Sunshine!' Featuring the Return of 'One By One'

**Saturday, June 20, 4 pm** Doors open at 3:30 pm  
Birmingham Unitarian Church 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills



Photo by Jim West

**Tickets: \$28.52**  
Contact PAMI  
Tickets must be purchased by  
credit card at PAMI's website  
[www.peaceactionmich.org](http://www.peaceactionmich.org)

In these dark times, we can all use a lift. So, join PAMI and our longtime friends and supporters, *One By One* — Julie Beutel, Dwight Cendrowski, Charles Green, Susan Newell, Bob O'Brien, and Barbara Sale — for a lively afternoon of song, peace, and community spirit in the beautiful Birmingham Unitarian Church.

Proceeds of this fundraising event will go to PAMI's *Get Out the Vote* efforts.

What if you cannot afford the ticket price? No problem: we want you to come! Contact PAMI for arrangements at [peaceactionfinance@gmail.com](mailto:peaceactionfinance@gmail.com).

### March Is Membership Month

Time to make a donation in any amount to be a member of Peace Action of Michigan in 2026. Use the enclosed response envelope or go to our website: [peaceactionmich.org/donate/](http://peaceactionmich.org/donate/).

We thank you for donating to help us advocate for a sane nuclear weapons policy and lower Pentagon spending.

### Thank You!

The Peace Action of Michigan Board of Directors challenged you to match their donation of \$4,635 by the end of 2025. You donated \$4,856. We appreciate your great support!  
—Linda Darga and Rev. Rich Peacock, Co-Chairs



Image: Kaitlyn Parker, Vecteezy.com

# FLASH!

The Newsletter of  
Peace Action of Michigan  
[peaceactionmich.org](http://peaceactionmich.org)



*The views and opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the position of Peace Action of Michigan*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Butts  
Shirley Chalmers  
Linda Darga, *Co-Chair*  
Jeff Farrah  
Trey Greene  
Keith Gunter  
Kenneth Jenkins  
Bill Meyer  
Frank O'Donnell, *Secretary*  
Rev. Rich Peacock, *Co-Chair*  
Terry Pritchett, *Treasurer*  
Sushma Rao  
Rudy Simons, *Emeritus*  
Prasad Venugopal  
Helen Weber

## FLASH EDITORIAL TEAM

Dan Butts, Rev. Rich Peacock,  
Helen Weber  
Graphic Design: Barbara Barefield  
Website Design: Jeff Kolakowski

## OUR MISSION

Peace Action of Michigan is a democratic, grassroots movement organizing locally to achieve a new foreign policy leading to a just World Without Violence

### We seek:

- A demilitarized, sustainable economy
- The abolition of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction
- Diplomatic resolutions to global conflict

### Your Email Needed

Join our email list to receive Action Alerts and Peace Action FLASH digitally. Email [peaceactionfinance@gmail.com](mailto:peaceactionfinance@gmail.com)



## INSIGHTS & BRIEFS

By Dan Butts

*Dan Butts is a semi-retired psychologist, health educator, and massage therapist. He is a Peace Action of Michigan Board Member.*

### 'Sliding further down a slippery nuclear slope'

*The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists* has moved its Doomsday Clock from 89 to 85 seconds to midnight, the closest it has ever been to catastrophe. Russia, China, the U.S., and other major countries have become increasingly aggressive, adversarial, and nationalistic.

### U.S. Combat Vets Speak Out

Combat veterans tell us what we need to know about war according to photographer Nancy Hill.

"War is the greatest evil in the world. It contains all the other evils within it. The fact it is left to our youth is obscene."

—Fred Kempe

"You should know that joining a service to straighten out your life and get money

for college or vocational training quite possibly will not work out that way."

—Allen Hallmach

"War is not the answer to peace or happiness. Once you enter into war, there is no returning to normalcy. Your life will change forever, and your innocence will be lost."

—James Toler

### Board of Peace or Domination?

A leaked Board of Peace Resolution outlines the plans of President Trump to rule over Gaza. It gives sweeping authority to President Trump. It does not empower Palestinians towards self-determination.

—Drop Site, Jonathan Whittal

### UN Chief Guterres Warns of 'imminent Financial Collapse' as Trump Pulls Funds

—Common Dreams

## 2025: A Year of War

Wars killed more than 240,000 people worldwide in 2025 according to Armed Conflict and Event Data, or ACLED. Armed groups and governments using violence are "less restrained than at any time in recent decades."

The war on Ukraine was the deadliest conflict of 2025 with nearly 78,000 people killed according to ACLED. Violence escalated as Russian forces pushed to capture more territory along Ukraine's eastern front line and stepped-up drone strikes on Ukrainian cities and energy infrastructure.

Important ceasefires went into effect in 2025, but violence has continued. Israel has conducted regular strikes against Hamas in Gaza. Israel attacked Lebanon including Beirut despite the ceasefire with Hezbollah. Violence is unacceptably high in Sudan and Haiti.



U.S. President Donald Trump, a self-described anti-war president, attacked seven countries in 2025 — Venezuela, Iran, Iraq, Nigeria, Somalia, Syria, and Yemen.

"He has an addictive personality. He is addicted to militarism," said Rev. Rich Peacock, Peace Action of Michigan Co-Chair. "But our mission is to seek diplomatic resolutions to global conflict."

## *Many Thanks to 2025 Donors*

PAMI is very grateful for the generous donations from so many of our supporters in 2025. We have made every effort to identify all donors correctly. If your information is incorrect or not shown, please email [peaceactionfinance@gmail.com](mailto:peaceactionfinance@gmail.com), and we will note the correction in the next *FLASH!*

### March Is Membership Month

When you become a 2026 PAMI member, you will be among the 200,000 Americans with Peace Action, the country's largest peace and disarmament organization. PAMI is one of over 70 autonomous affiliates. Check out the campaigns at [peace-action.org](http://peace-action.org). Read the "Membership for 2026" box below to donate and renew your membership for 2026.

**Peace Maker –**

**Donation of \$1,000+**

Linda Darga  
Fund for Equal Justice -  
Buck Dinner  
Cary McGehee  
Jan & Rich Peacock  
Judy & Terry Pritchett

**Peace Activist –**

**Donation of \$250+**

Garo Bakerjian  
Larry Deck  
Kelly & Jeffrey Farrah  
Geraldine & Ken Grunow  
Tada & Keith Gunter  
Mares Hirschert  
David Horner  
Dave Ivers  
Clara Lawrence  
Denise Samuels &  
Jim Lemire  
Lana Pollack  
Felix Rogers  
Allen Salyer  
Roseanne Simons

**Peace Advocate –**

**Donation of \$100+**

Jeffrey Alson  
Eugenia Bajorek  
Barbara Barefield  
Ernest Bauer  
Sylvester Black  
Tracie Dominique Boyd  
John Burkheiser  
Cathy Compton & Dan Butts  
Michael Stenvig &  
Liz Cabot  
Nancy Cameron  
Mary Cotter  
Thomas Dierwa  
Trey & Colleen  
Dolan-Greene

Mary Jo Durivage  
Kathlyn & David Elsla  
Kathleen Fulgenzi  
Sister Dorine Gapczynski  
Ken Garber  
Diana & Bob Goudie  
Hall & Associates  
Peggy & Randy Harp  
Patricia Harris  
William Hickey  
James Hoogstra  
Ann Hungerman  
Mary Johnston  
Anita Jones  
Jay Korinek  
Gregg Krupa  
Robert Large  
Brent McCumons  
Shaun & Wes Nethercott  
Northminster  
Presbyterian Church  
Helen Weber &  
Frank O'Donnell  
Larry Peacock  
Frederic Pearson  
Richard Peterson  
Robert Podzikowski  
Gail Presbey  
Ronald Reosti  
James Rine  
Bonnie Schafer  
Fran Shor  
Michael Steinberg  
Beth & Rev. Tom  
Wachterhauser  
Wetmore's Inc.  
Gail & Mike Whitty  
Harumi Williams

**Peace Supporter –**

**Donation of \$50+**

Charles Altman  
Daniel Berger

Kim Joy Bergier  
Barry Berk  
Kathleen Berkowitz  
Inge Brieger  
Maureen Cermak  
Shirley Chalmers  
Robert Collison  
Lynn & Dave Cottrill  
Laura Dudgeon  
Kathleen Erickson  
Pauline Feltner  
Holly Goudie  
Donald Greenspon  
Jill Greimel  
Maria Grimminger  
Marilyn Grosteffon  
Louise Hartung  
Ann Heller  
Joe Hughes  
Thomas Hulbert  
Julie Hurwitz  
Carol & Ron Jachim  
Patricia Jochim  
Heidi & Marty Kaufman  
Michael Kruger  
Sudhakar Tadepalli &  
Padma Kuppa  
Sister Gemma Legel  
Neil Leighton  
Elizabeth Loria  
Carolyn Ludwig  
Brian Macks  
Linda Mahome  
Deborah Margules  
Karen & Bill McNulty  
Michael Melcher  
Gerald Salczynski &  
Mary Murphy  
Bonnie Nowakowski  
Jeannine Palms  
PAX Christi Michigan  
Mary Ann Pfeifer

Timothy Prentiss  
Tom Regan  
Shirley Sirotkin  
Carole Smith  
Rosemary &  
Dennis Spatafora  
Elaine Sullivan  
Tim Teagan  
Virginia Weingate  
Peter Werbe  
Roger Wykes

**Peace Seeker –**

**Donation Up To \$50**

Janet Affeldt  
Dalal Awad Alzoubi  
Jim Anderson  
Phyllis & Ron Aronson  
Michele Artt  
Sadie Alberta Asmar  
Terry Baumann  
Russ Bellant  
Margaret Boatman  
Joanne & George Braund  
Jim Capizzo  
Lynda Chabot  
Stacie Chaiken  
Nathan Chase  
Margaret Dannemiller  
Frank Delewsky  
Karen Deslierres  
Helene Edwards  
Rochelle Emilia  
Richard Feldman  
Sharon Feldman  
Arlene Frank  
Steven Friday  
Suhair Ghanna  
Jane Goldsmith  
Roberta Halvorson  
Karen Hammer  
Eric Harrington  
Shelia & Fred Hatch

Cathy & Bruce Hazen  
Kenneth Jenkins  
Judith Johnston  
Carole Keller  
Izzy Khapoya  
Christy Klim  
Gloria Krawczyk  
Robert Krzewinski  
Rochelle Lento  
Suzanne Levin  
Carole Lewis  
Rose Marie Lucas  
Robert Makara  
Marvin McCallum  
Susan McDonald  
Michelle 'Mama Jahra'  
McKinney  
Pat Cason-Merenda &  
Doug Merenda  
Bill Meyer  
Hassan Newash  
Tracy Parrish  
Lynne Pfannes  
Kristine Pierce  
Jane & Dennis Ramsden  
William Rittenberg  
Dorothy Ritter  
Robert Roth  
Mary Ann Schwartz  
Phyllis & Steve Senesi  
Kim & Thomas Spencer  
Linda Szyszko  
Therese Terns  
Garie Thomas-Bass  
Steven Walker  
Susan & Scott Warrow  
Elizabeth Wasserman  
Judy Wernette  
Sara Willis  
Anne Wisda  
Barbara Wojtas  
Catherine Zatsick

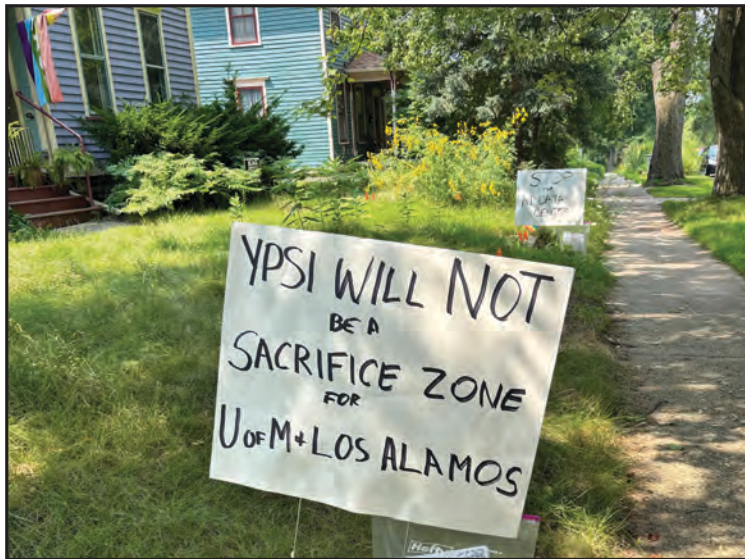
## Membership for 2026

Make a financial contribution of any amount and you will be a member of Peace Action of Michigan (PAMI) for 2026. You will receive the *FLASH!* Newsletter and emails inviting you to events and asking you to advocate for peace. Gifts to PAMI are not tax-deductible. Gifts to PAMI Education Fund are tax-deductible. Here are ways to contribute:

1. Go to our website: [www.peaceactionmich.org](http://www.peaceactionmich.org)
2. Find your Response Envelope in this *FLASH!*, make a check payable to PAMI or PAMI Education Fund, and mail to PAMI, P.O. Box 555, Washington Twp., MI 48094.

# Nuclear Weapons in Michigan?

Citizens in Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor are rallying to stop the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and the University of Michigan (UofM) from building a massive artificial intelligence (AI) data center. The University is trying to construct the largest supercomputer in the world in partnership with LANL, the national laboratory famous for creating the atomic bomb in New Mexico.



LANL has a government directive to modernize the U.S. nuclear weapons arsenal. Modernize actually means upgrading. The secret restricted data research may improve the production of plutonium pits, the cores of nuclear weapons according to a January 30 article in the *Michigan Daily*.

“I fear that the proposed data center connects nuclear weapons, AI weaponization, environmental destruction, and wasted economic resources,” said Rev. Rich Peacock. “When PAMI begins board meetings, we listen to this land acknowledgment:

*We acknowledge that we live on the traditional and contemporary lands of Michigan’s 12 Native Nations. We seek to safeguard this land for generations to come. We, therefore,*

*declare this land to be a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone and pledge to advocate for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.*

“No wonder we oppose the LANL/UofM data center. Watch for information about our opposition in PAMI’s Action Alert email messages.”

## Nuclear Weapons: The Basics Continued from Winter 2025 FLASH!

### 8 Can’t nuclear deterrence — the threat of retaliating with nuclear weapons to a nuclear attack — keep the peace?

Deterrence is an unproven psychological game relying on the enemy to be rational. A threat only works if your opponent believes you have carried or will carry it out. But neither Russia nor the U.S. have actually retaliated with nukes. Nuclear weapons are not a good deterrent unless they are used, sooner or later.

### 9 How about President Trump starting nuclear disarmament because he wants a Nobel Peace Prize since President Obama received one?

President Trump has mentioned denuclearization and no need for new nukes because we have so many, but his actions contradict his words.

He is spending more on modernizing, which is actually the upgrading of nuclear bombs and launchers. By funding an expensive, ineffective Golden Dome at a total of \$175 billion or more, he is inviting Russia and China to build greater numbers of missiles to simply overwhelm the system.

He has let the only treaty capping nuclear weapons, New START, expire. It limited nuclear weapons to 1550 and

launchers to 700. Now the U.S. and Russia are open for an arms race.

### 10 What are the corporations we need to ask to get out of making our nuclear arsenal?

Don’t Bank on the Bomb has a long list including Bechtel (Los Alamos development), Boeing (guidance systems), General Dynamics (submarines), and Northrop Grumman (ICBMs).

### 11 Why talk about the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons instead of nuclear disarmament, arms control, no first use, and other more realistic doable steps?

We must always support preventive steps, but they are insufficient. We must always confront head-on the status quo of building more powerful, accurate, and faster nuclear weapons. If we don’t talk about abolition and change the conversation like the abolitionists of slavery did, no one will keep the disarmament dream alive until it can flourish.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into a hell of thermonuclear destruction.”

# FILM REVIEW: A House of Dynamite

The movie *A House of Dynamite* (2025), directed by Academy Award-winning director Kathryn Bigelow, is a tense and thought-provoking political thriller about how close the world could come to nuclear disaster.

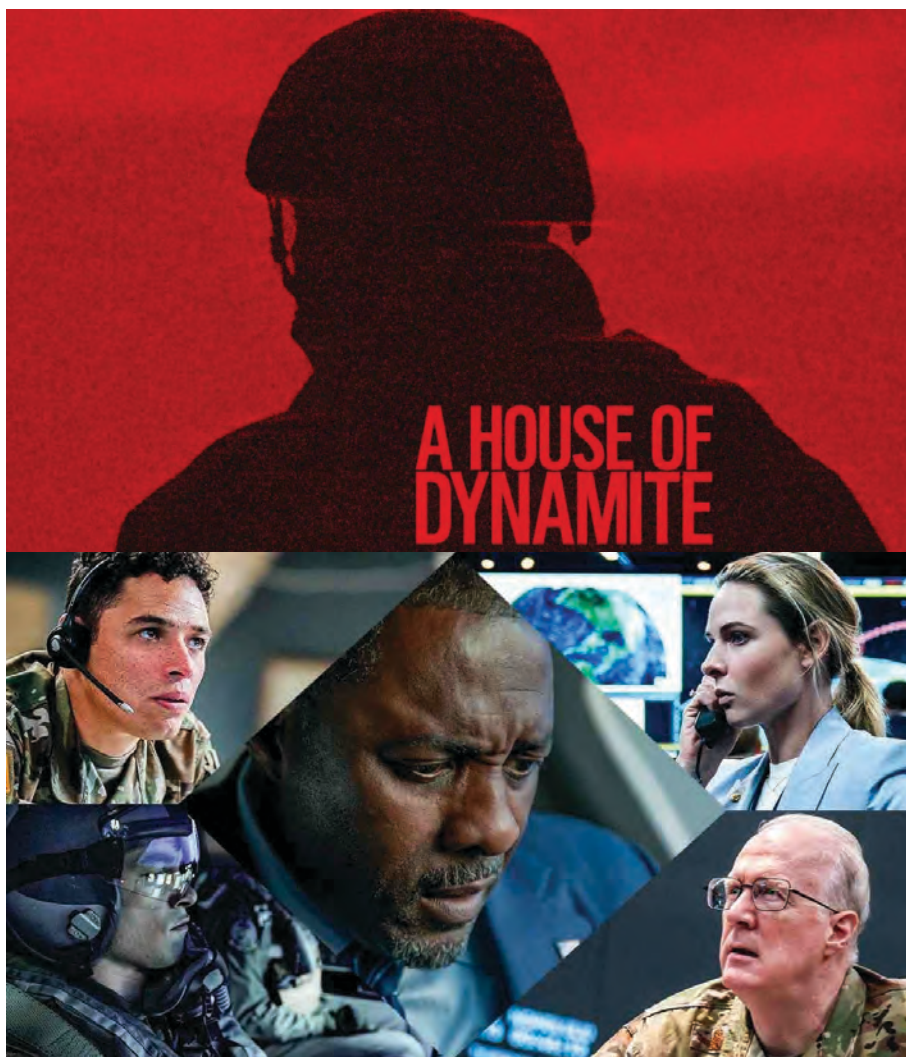
The film begins when an unknown missile is detected heading toward the United States, and the story follows the chaos that unfolds as the government scrambles to respond. It switches between different perspectives, like military officers, radar workers, and White House officials, showing how confusing and stressful the situation becomes when people have only minutes to decide what to do. The movie feels very realistic, and it makes the audience think about how fragile global peace really is when nuclear weapons still exist.

As someone interning for a peace action group, I found *A House of Dynamite* very relevant to the work we do. The movie shows that the idea of “nuclear deterrence,” the belief that having nuclear weapons keeps peace, is actually very risky. It also reminds us that behind every government decision are real people who make mistakes and have emotions. The ending doesn’t clearly say who launched the missile, which makes it even more powerful because it leaves viewers questioning how easily something like this could happen in real life.

What I liked most about the film was how realistic it felt. The characters seemed human, not like typical action movie heroes. They were scared, confused, and unsure, just like anyone would be in that kind of crisis. Some people might find the ending frustrating because it doesn’t wrap everything up neatly, but I think that’s the point. It shows that there are no easy answers when it comes to nuclear weapons and global security.

For peace groups in Michigan, this movie could be a great conversation starter. It connects directly to issues like disarmament, diplomacy, and the need for more education about the dangers of nuclear war.

Showing the film at a community event or using it in peace workshops could help



*A House of Dynamite* stars the actors above, and includes Idris Elba, Rebecca Ferguson, Gabriel Basso, Tracy Letts, Anthony Ramos, Moses Ingram, Jonah Hauer-King, and others.

---

*The movie shows that the idea of “nuclear deterrence,” the belief that having nuclear weapons keeps peace, is actually very risky. It also reminds us that behind every government decision are real people who make mistakes and have emotions.*

---

people understand why reducing nuclear threats matters. Overall, *A House of Dynamite* isn’t just a thriller, it’s a warning about how unstable our world can be and a reminder that peace is something we have to actively pursue and protect.

—Fatima Almayahy, 2025 PAMI Intern



Make a financial contribution of any amount and you will be a 2026 member of Peace Action

of Michigan. Go to our website:  
[www.peaceactionmich.org](http://www.peaceactionmich.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Nonprofit Org  
US Postage  
Paid  
Detroit, MI  
Permit No. 334



**VISIT US ONLINE:**

Michigan: [www.peaceactionmich.org](http://www.peaceactionmich.org)

National: [www.peaceaction.org](http://www.peaceaction.org)

Facebook: [Peace Action of Michigan](https://www.facebook.com/PeaceActionofMichigan)

**FLASH DELIVERY**

Let us know if you prefer receiving our newsletter via email.

**CONTACT US:**

Email: [peaceactionfinance@gmail.com](mailto:peaceactionfinance@gmail.com)

Order "Save America's Postal Service" stickers at [peacebuttons.info](http://peacebuttons.info)

**Donating to Peace is easy!**

Visit [www.peaceactionmich.org](http://www.peaceactionmich.org)

Select "Donate" & click on "Donate Today"

## Bargain or Boondoggle?

A January *Washington Post* editorial pushed President Trump's request for a \$1.5 trillion defense budget in 2027. That 50% increase is a bargain according to the editorial because it will ensure peace through strength.

But Pentagon spending is already over \$1 trillion so another half trillion is a boondoggle. It will cost roughly \$45,000 per household over the next ten years. It is a waste of taxpayers' money, brainpower, and natural resources. It will further curtail spending our taxes on programs of social uplift.

Congress has a habit of funding things that are not requested by the Pentagon; that was over \$52 billion just for 2026. Defense contractors are not job creators. For the same expenditure of our taxes, we could get more teachers, nurses, and clean energy jobs.

We can cut the Golden Dome, a defense that can simply be overwhelmed by hundreds of missiles and decoys. We can cut the F-35 fighter jets that are expensive, overly complex, and often in the repair shop.

We do not need to build the 400 Sentinel ICBMs with nuclear warheads. They are redundant because the submarines with nuclear warheads on its missiles are invulnerable and sufficient for a deterrent.

We need to convert Pentagon spending into investing in education, healthcare, and housing. Too many families have to pay 40 or 50% of their incomes on housing.

We can all do better if we re-prioritize our spending so that



we do not spend more on the Pentagon than on meeting the basic needs of families. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said:

"I have the audacity to believe that people everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits."