



## Peace Alliance National Department of Peacebuilding Campaign

### Third Wednesday Calls - All calls - 5pm PT/6pm MT/7pm CT/8pm ET

**July 15, 2026 – The Nature and Creation of Peace – with Bob Koehler, Peace Journalist**



**Bob Koehler is an award-winning journalist** now living in Appleton, Wisconsin, but based for most of his life in Chicago. He was an editor and nationally syndicated columnist for many years at the Chicago Tribune and considers himself a peace journalist, focusing on the deep issues that underlie current events. He has received many awards for his work, from organizations including the National Newspaper Association, Suburban Newspapers of America and the Chicago Headline Club; and has been honored by the website Americans Who

Tell the Truth. Koehler is a regular contributor to websites such as Common Dreams and launched his current column in 1999. He is the author of the book *Courage Grows Strong at the Wound*. He has also taught writing over the years at the college, high school and elementary school level, always beginning with the belief that everyone has a voice. He is a widower with a daughter named Alison who is a poet and stained-glass artist living in Paris, France.

Koehler often writes about war. He also writes about peace and even a Department of Peace(building) (DoP). In his column of May 14, 2026 “The Department of Peace Will Live Again,” Koehler talks about a DoP and **wanting the level of sanity in our government where we hold peace as an organizing principle of our government**. In a recent column he wrote, “What if I had just learned that my daughter is 12 years old again and the girls’ school she attended in Iran – in Minab – had just been bombed by an American plane?” “All I can do, right now, is reach deeper into my soul, to bless every human I encounter, and to publicly share the largest cry I can make for change.”

To receive Bob’s column, send your name and email address to: [koehlercw@gmail.com](mailto:koehlercw@gmail.com) . Here are some of his columns and a link to Common Dreams:

- <https://www.commondreams.org/opinion/department-of-peace>
- <https://www.commondreams.org/opinion/reclaim-our-future-from-war>
- <https://www.commondreams.org/opinion/lessons-in-equality>
- <https://www.commondreams.org/opinion/act-like-on-one-planet>
- <https://www.commondreams.org/newsletter>

**[CLICK HERE](#)** to join the zoom call.

Meeting ID: 464 735 321

One tap mobile

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We generally alternate guest speakers (with Q&A/discussion) and themed expanded grassroots discussions, subject to guest availability and current events.

Audio recordings for all Third Wednesday and other Peace Alliance calls can be found [here](#).