



# THE INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

August 4, 2025

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Plant-Based People Group, Wednesday, August 6, 6 p.m., Modeste Bedient Library (Branchport).** Contact the Library for details. The Plant Based People Group strives to promote education, fellowship and food creativity to those community members interested in exploring vegetarian and vegan lifestyles.

**Pride March in the Finger Lakes, August 9<sup>th</sup>! Full details on page 4 and Your paragraph text.**

**Sam Nordquist Memorial BBQ Fundraiser, Sunday, August 10, 11 AM Advance Auto Parts (202 Hamilton St, Geneva).** Alex's Kitchen will hold a fundraiser chicken bbq in memory of Sam Nordquist on August 10 (rain date Sunday, August 17). Proceeds will benefit the family of Sam Nordquist. Buy tickets in advance online or in person that day. Purchase online here: <https://tinyurl.com/2e3r89mf>

**Keuka Compass Game Day, Sunday, August 10, 1 p.m., Lyonsmith Brewing Company (2597 Assembly Avenue, Keuka Park).** If you wish to learn some new games, or play an old favorite with a new group of people; if you are looking for other queer folk and/or allies to hang out with; if you just want some free chili and an interesting conversation on a Sunday afternoon, this event is for you. Feel free to bring a game, bring a friend, or bring snacks if you wish; we will have a wonderful selection of each present. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be available, as well as a voluntary potluck.

**DATE CHANGE! Keuka Compass Movie Night, Wednesday, August 13, 6 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan).** Featuring LGBTQ+-themed movies for queer folks and allies. This month: The Birdcage, an uproarious comedy of errors starring Nathan Lane and Robin Williams, all about the importance of being proud of who you are. Bring snacks and drinks to share. To learn about upcoming selections, write to [flxjustice21@gmail.com](mailto:flxjustice21@gmail.com) and request to join our email update list. Presented by Keuka Compass.

**DATE CHANGE! Acceptance, Belonging and Community LGBTQ+ Issues: The Queer Right, Thursday, August 14, 7 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan) or online via Zoom.** Acceptance, Belonging & Community (ABC) sessions afford LGBTQ+ people and allies alike an opportunity to learn more about aspects of our community they may have questions about. Join us for a conversation about far right and conservative voices within the queer community. We will cover trans and queer media influencers who have been embraced by far right news media, Log Cabin Republicans, "LGB without the T" goons, and more. Attend in person at St. Mark's Church, 179 Main St., Penn Yan, or virtually by registering here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5zr73zh>. Organized by Keuka Compass, Finger Lakes Justice Partnership, and Saint Mark's Church.

**MORE LOCAL EVENTS ON PAGE 3**

## TAKE ACTION

Take action to end the war and humanitarian crisis in Gaza! The people of Gaza are enduring the most horrific of wartime atrocities. Starving people are being shot as they attempt to get food at aid distribution sites. 5 Calls can help you connect with your elected officials to urge them to take several specific steps to end the war and get desperately needed aid to starving Palestinians. Visit 5 Calls for updated information on the state of the war, phone numbers for your member of Congress and our NY Senators, and a phone script for you to use when you make your call. Visit 5 Calls here: <https://tinyurl.com/3wxxk2bf>

Please also donate what you can to relief organizations still working on the ground in Palestine to fight famine. World Central Kitchen is one, and they can be found at <https://wck.org/donate>.



We're very excited for the new subscribers who signed up for our mailing list at Fairy Night at the Community Garden!

(Photo Credit: C. Domahidi)

## SOCIAL JUSTICE SPOTLIGHT

We're kicking off a new occasional item this week by spotlighting an awesome local organization really doing the good work: Called to Care Canandaigua, a nonprofit "working toward the goal of welcoming refugees into our community." According to their website, they "provide housing, transportation, clothing, food, medical care, and household items during their first months and assist families with school or language class enrollment and work authorization applications," and since 2022 have assisted families from Ukraine, Haiti, Venezuela and Guatemala. Would you like to help them in their mission?

Donate at <https://donate.stripe.com/5kAbKOdhF1lrakgaEE>.

## GOOD NEWS

The ACLU filed a lawsuit challenging ICE's "unlawful policy of arresting people who attend mandated court hearings." This move could put an end to immigrants being ambushed by ICE at courthouses.

Hundreds of "Rage Against the Regime" protests took place across the U.S. on August 2, including 20 in NY State. Pressure on!

Trump continues to attack America's cultural institutions. Lonnie Bunch, secretary of the Smithsonian, is working to protect its integrity. The Smithsonian said its Impeachment display will be updated to include ALL impeachment proceedings in U.S. history, including Trump's unprecedented two impeachments.

Robert Reich's Sunday Thoughts addressed sources of HOPE, including young people, pendulum swings, and the "profound decency in the sinews of America. Most Americans are generous and kind," he wrote, and reject Trump's cruel policies like detention camps and attacking judges. Show it by fighting back!

Speaking of swinging pendulums, leaders and the general public seem to be getting the message that Israel's actions in Gaza go way beyond protecting themselves! See Take Action Column.

## MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

"How We Saved Trans Medicaid Healthcare Coverage." It Could Happen Here podcast. Key takeaway: The way to convince Democrats to do anything worthwhile is not by being nice and waiting to be recognized. It's by getting loud and telling them how it's going to be. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/3w59rwhx>

"What powers do immigration officers have? Is Trump's ICE going too far?" Nolan Rappaport, The Hill. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/ym8z47fw>

"Immigration courts hiding the names of ICE lawyers goes against centuries of precedent and legal ethics requiring transparency in courts." Cassandra Burke Robinson, The Conversation. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/5azfr7c5>

"Classics of Pagan Cinema: Rosemary's Baby." Meg Elison, The Wild Hunt. On how and why we choose to come together - or not - especially in light of the horrors made possible by the society we live in. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/5n9yzwem>

## Your Healthcare and the "Big Beautiful Bill"

By Diana Martens

The news is not good these days, and it just keeps coming. The man who ran on the platform of releasing the Epstein List is now desperately spinning, declaring not just that the List doesn't exist, but also that it was something Obama created. This would presumably be before Epstein went to jail and Trump used it as an electoral prop, but who's even keeping track of timelines anymore? (Not the current administration, judging by the missing 3 minutes on the security tape they released.) While Trump continues to bluster past signed birthday cards and decades of photos, and his cronies in Congress go into an early recess rather than even vote on releasing this list that he campaigned so strongly on, there is, unfortunately, something far more pressing and immediate to address with our newspaper real estate this month.

With passage in both houses of Congress, the so-called "Big Beautiful Bill's" implementation is imminent, bringing with it massive cuts to Medicaid and the many state-based systems funded by it. Personally, I have had a number of friends receive notices from their providers telling them that when this bill goes into effect they will lose coverage. Most of them have chronic conditions that not only require regular care, but also interfere with their ability to get the kinds of jobs that provide healthcare through employment. Without insurance they will not be able to afford their medicine and doctor's bills, and without Medicaid they will not be able to afford insurance. Part of this situation is the callous and inhumane creation of this bill; part is just the dysfunctional system we already have and which needs actual reform.

Even if what happens to poor and disabled people does not concern you, even if you can relegate their fear, pain, and suffering to a part of your brain that you can just lock away under cover of a 'they must've earned this somehow' outlook, even if you can look away from the 1.5 million people within our state who, like my friends, will lose their insurance - this will affect you, too.

Our state has 156 hospitals, 70 of which receive more than 20% of their revenue from Medicaid. Any substantial cuts to Medicaid funding would have catastrophic effects; hospitals will close, and even when they do not, they will experience cuts to staffing and services. The Greater New York Hospital Association and the Healthcare Association of New York estimate that hospitals across our state will end up laying off at least 34,000 people. Wait times for procedures can already stretch over half a year. Can you imagine how long wait times will be when your practice has fewer people on staff and is absorbing patients from other hospitals that have either closed or severely cut back?

People will suffer and people will die as a result of this bill, but it will not only be the disabled, sick and poor who lose coverage directly, it will also be folks that still have insurance but cannot access care because of poor staffing and even more devastating wait times.



## UPCOMING EVENTS- LOCAL

**No Bunkers Required Community Resilience, Saturday, August 16, 12:00 p.m.** Since the start of the pandemic, the number of self-described “progressive preppers” has soared: people who see value in community building, skill sharing, and mutual aid to counterbalance economic uncertainty, climate change, and social upheaval. If that sounds like your kind of prepping, please join us to learn, discuss, and organize together at these ongoing meetings. To receive invites, updates, and location details, please sign up at <https://forms.gle/tmJcVxQ8MAylwe947>. Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

**Monthly Fightback: Pride is Revolutionary, Saturday, August 16, 3 p.m. on the Yates County Courthouse lawn (Main & Court St., Penn Yan).** All are welcome to join us in lifting their voices about the issues and causes that impact our world and the people in it. Bring signs and good will. This month, we continue to celebrate Pride at a time when our LGBTQ+ loved ones and neighbors are facing record levels of hate and discrimination. We will take the opportunity this day to remind one and all that Pride is not just a celebration; it is a revolution in support of personal, social, creative, and collective liberation! We welcome all newcomers to join us in support and good faith. Hosted by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

**Community Skillshare: Car Maintenance for Beginners, Saturday, August 16, 4 p.m. in the Penn Yan Public Library parking lot (214 Main St.).** Rescheduled from June! When neighbors choose to freely share their skills, and others choose to make time to learn them, our communities grow stronger, more resilient, and better prepared for potential disruption. Do you wish you could get a little more out of your vehicle? Join amateur car enthusiast Charlie Domahidi for an information-filled, hands-on session on basic vehicle maintenance. We will address a variety of common vehicle repairs and ways to extend the life of your vehicle. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/44jzvjbz>. Have a skill to share? Let us know at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4965v9>! Hosted by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

**Community Skillbuilding Salons, Sunday, August 17, 2 - 4 p.m. (fiber arts) and 3 - 5 p.m. (cooking) at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan).** Finger Lakes Justice Partnership invites you to new, ongoing opportunities to practice skills, build connections, and increase community resilience! Practice fiber arts of all kinds - knitting, crochet, needlepoint, sewing, and more - starting at 2 p.m. upstairs in the Knapp Room, and at 3 p.m., try your hand at all things food-related, from growing to cooking to preserving, downstairs in the kitchen. Experienced coaches will be on hand at each to offer instruction and tips, but otherwise, these sessions are designed to be casual and fun. These are two overlapping events; all are welcome to attend either or both as you wish. No registration required.

**Regional Justice Summit, Friday, August 22, 7 p.m., online via Zoom.** Finger Lakes Justice Partnership hosts a bi-monthly, virtual gathering of leaders representing justice-seeking groups of all kinds from across the FLX region to share ideas, update on events, and seek connection. Let's bust out of our siloes, signal-boost each other's projects, and support each other in this difficult and important work! Do you represent a group that belongs in this conversation? Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/4n7z7mrc>

## UPCOMING EVENTS- ROCHESTER

**Abolition: A Practice of Resistance & Resilience, Saturday, September 6, 10 a.m. at Visual Studies Workshop (36 King St, Rochester).** Free The People Roc will celebrate its 5 year anniversary with an inaugural conference. Keynote speaker will be Philip V, McHarris, author of Beyond Policing. This conference for dreamers, organizers, impacted individuals, and allies will feature workshops that foreground abolition as a site of struggle and imagination as it pertains to policing, immigration, solidarity, and safety. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/mv54ruvd>

Rise Up Rochester, Inc. and Teens Under Construction will host a free Teen Summit for ages 13 - 18 on Tues, Aug 19, 6PM at East High School Collaboratorium, 1801 E Main St. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/ypm467sw>

Rochester LGBTQ+ Together announces its “LGBTQ+ Fringe Guide” to the 2025 Rochester Fringe Festival which runs September 9-20. See the guide here: <https://tinyurl.com/38vpbv5m>



## Community Alert

DHS recently canceled the parole status of people who came to the U.S. through a CBP One appointment or under the Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, & Venezuela (CHNV) parole program. If you came under either of those two, your parole status and work permit are no longer valid. The New York Immigration Coalition recommends those impacted talk to an immigration attorney as soon as possible to explore options.

# SAVE NEW YORK'S RURAL ECONOMY: A JOURNEY OF EMPATHY CARAVAN

## HONORING IMMIGRANT WORKERS

**AUGUST 2-9**

Join Rural & Migrant Ministry on a caravan across New York State, from the South Fork of Long Island to Buffalo, to foster an appreciation of immigrants by highlighting their humanity and emphasizing their positive impact on New York's rural economy and agriculture. Along the way, we'll support local businesses, hold vigils at significant locations, have gatherings, music and more. Help us change the narrative surrounding immigration!

### ROUTE:

- LONG ISLAND
- CHESTER
- NEW PALTZ
- ALBANY
- CHAMPLAIN
- OGDENSBURG
- OSWEGO
- ROCHESTER
- BUFFALO

## JOIN US FOR SOME OR ALL OF THE JOURNEY!

A critical conversation is taking place right now in Washington, D.C., and across the country about the treatment of immigrants, and specifically, farmworkers. Our Caravan will draw attention to this debate, not as a form of protest, but as a public witnessing that is carried out as much in the traveling between places as in the vigils themselves. We encourage you to drive along with us!

**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to support the local economy at each of our stops, participants will be responsible for their own food, lodging and other expenses. We will be avoiding chains in favor of locally owned businesses.



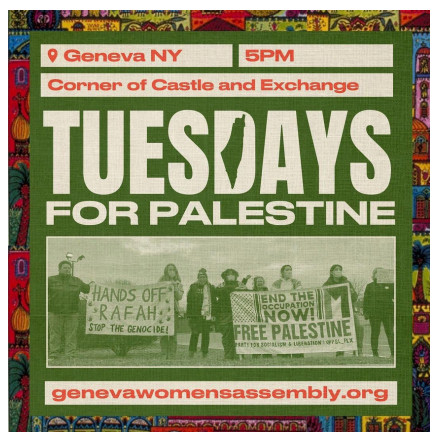
For complete details and to register, scan the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/4jQSiE8>!



Questions? Reach out by email:

- [caravan@rmmny.org](mailto:caravan@rmmny.org)
- [gittel@rmmny.org](mailto:gittel@rmmny.org)

RMM IS JOINED BY A NUMBER OF CO-SPONSORS: NEW YORK STATE CATHOLIC CONFERENCE, EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEW YORK, EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF LONG ISLAND, EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, SARATOGA IMMIGRATION COALITION, INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK, INTERFAITH PUBLIC HEALTH NETWORK, THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND HUDSON VALLEY AREA LABOR FEDERATION.



### Peer Support & Discussion Groups Gay & Queer Men



**4th Mondays Monthly**  
**6:30pm, Via Zoom**  
**18+ only, Free**

<https://linktr.ee/roclgbtqttogether>

## Donate your returns today!

**Family Counseling Service**  
of the Finger Lakes, Inc.



Ontario, Wayne, Monroe, Seneca & Yates Counties

A fundraiser for the Domestic Violence Advocacy Program at Family Counseling Service of the Finger Lakes.

Find our donation cans at:

EZ Bottle & Can Retrieval Center  
1167 E Union Street, Newark

Geneva Returnables  
140 N Exchange Street, Geneva

Upstate Bottle Return  
4406 Route 5&20 120, Canandaigua



**Domestic Violence Crisis Hotline**



The proceeds will support survivors and their families with domestic violence education, safety planning tailored to the perpetrator patterns of power and control, connection to internal and external resources, transportation to necessary services related to victimization, support group, assistance with family court petitions, accompaniment and information about rights, options and resources.



## The Intersection

### Contact Us

Email: [flxjustice21@gmail.com](mailto:flxjustice21@gmail.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/flxjp](https://facebook.com/flxjp)

### Our Creative Team

#### Writing

Peter Salva  
Alex Andrasik  
Sally White  
Anne Kiefer  
Diana Martens

#### Graphics

Charlie Domahidi  
Angela Proietti-Nelson  
Bethany Snyder  
Siri Wilder

## OUR MISSION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership will help weave together the efforts of the region's diverse justice-seeking individuals, organizations, and institutions. Rooted in the humble knowledge that we are continually learning, we will seek to coordinate resources and knowledge, respond to acts of injustice, and raise awareness around local threats and opportunities. Through advocacy for members of historically marginalized groups of all kinds, we will help move the Finger Lakes away from passive acquiescence to injustice, and toward an active embrace of anti-racism, community-building, mutual aid, and understanding.





**Worker  
Justice Center**  
of New York

**CITIZEN  
ACTION!**  
OF NEW YORK

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH FORUM

Discussions with local leadership  
& Addressing Economic Justice

## PANELISTS



**Stanley Martin**  
City Council Member



**Rachel Barnhart**  
County Legislature



**Melissa Marquez**  
Former CEO of the Genesee Co-op



**Roxanna Siaca**  
Campaign Organizer  
Worker Justice Center



**Mary Lupien**  
City Council Member

**TUESDAY, 5 August, 2025**

Start At 07:00PM – 9:00PM



## Discussions & Insights



### Establishing a Living Wage

Covering Rochester's ongoing issues with poverty and addressing cost of living. Making sure that our workers are able to meet their basic needs.



### Public Banking in Rochester

Learning what it means. Discussing the benefits of creating a local public bank for impoverished neighborhoods. Explaining how it benefits Rochester Businesses & Residents.



### Housing Security

Explaining the differences between Area Median Income (AMI) and City Median Income (CMI) and how they impact housing affordability. Discussing the expansion of the housing voucher program.

**HOSTED AT IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH 815  
PARK AVE. (MAIN SANCTUARY)**

Please join us for refreshments and light snacks



Visit Our Website  
[citizenactionny.org](https://citizenactionny.org)



Connect with US:  
[Jmuntaqim@citizenactionny.org](mailto:Jmuntaqim@citizenactionny.org)

