



THE INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

September 7, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

Acceptance, Belonging and Community LGBTQ+ Issues: Tongues Untied, Tuesday, September 9, 7:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan) or online via Zoom. Join us as we watch and discuss the 1989 documentary film *Tongues Untied: Giving a Voice to Black Gay Men*. This landmark documentary film essay explores communities of black gay men, their cultures and perspectives on the world. Its artistic mix of poetry, music, and performance broke new ground and opened up many opportunities for dialogue across communities. Attend in person at St. Mark's Church, 179 Main St., Penn Yan, or virtually by registering here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5zr73zh>. Hosted by Keuka Compass, Finger Lakes Justice Partnership and Saint Mark's Church.

Keuka Compass Game Day, Sunday, September 14, 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 grub 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. Presented by Keuka Compass, Yates County's LGBTQ+ social and advocacy group.

Keuka Compass Book Club, Tuesday, September 16, 7:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan) or online via Zoom. Our September pick is *Queer Little Nightmares: An Anthology of Monstrous Fiction and Poetry*. There is a copy available through Southern Tier Library System, and we will have five additional copies available thanks to a generous donation. Please email us at flxjustice21@gmail.com to request one or to register for the Zoom link. Presented by Keuka Compass, Yates County's LGBTQ+ social and advocacy group.

FLXJP Justice Study Hall, Friday, September 19, 6 p.m. at Penn Yan Public Library (214 Main St., Penn Yan). Bring any social justice-related task currently on your to-do list, whether it's in partnership with the FLXJP, a personal or work project, or anything else, and work on it alongside others with similar goals and values. Network with like-minded justice seekers while carving out time for what matters to you. Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

No Bunkers Required Community Resilience, Saturday, September 20, 12 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/tmJcVxQ8MAyIwe947>. Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

Monthly Fightback: Standing Up for Educators, Saturday, September 20, 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, as students head back to school, we honor the educators who dedicate their lives to them, as those public servants come under increasing attack from reactionary anti-"woke" forces. Hosted by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

MORE LOCAL EVENTS ON PAGE 3

TAKE ACTION

Take action to fight the Trump regime's efforts to turn America into a whites-only police state. It's happening in a community near you.

On Thursday, Sept 4, ICE agents used crowbars and dogs to force their way into Nutrition Bar Confectioners in Cato, north of Syracuse. According to the terrified, heartbroken company owners, they targeted Hispanic workers, detained about 60 employees, and took company files. One owner described the raid as inhumane, indecent and "almost theatrical." According to Cayuga Co sheriff, Brian Schenck, the local sheriff's office was conscripted into providing peripheral support for the judicially-warranted raid and acted to ensure public safety and to support families impacted by the raid. He insisted that his office did not act to "enforce civil immigration laws under New York State statutes and did not enforce such laws during the operation. He said the office's role was strictly to support public safety and assist the federal investigation."

ICE raids traumatize ALL residents of a municipality, in their performative execution and in the aftermath. They separate family members and leave children without one or both parents in the home. They terrorize and isolate immigrant communities, and leave neighbors mourning the loss of friends, co-workers and classmates. They promote distrust in local law enforcement which is caught in a tangle of mandates: to investigate criminal behavior, to ensure public safety, to protect civil rights, and to follow state and federal law. They hurt businesses that lose valued employees, and damage local economies as a result. Most importantly, they are racist, xenophobic actions intended not to reduce crime, but to remove immigrants of color from the US and fulfill White House Chief of Staff Stephen Miller's white supremacist dream.

5 Calls provides contact information and a phone script for you to use to call your elected representatives, including Governor Hochul, Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and your House Member, to express your opposition to ICE raids and detentions. Use the Nutrition Bar Confectioners ICE raid as an example in your call. Cato, NY is in NY-24, Rep Claudia Tenney's district, so it's especially important for her constituents to take action on this issue. See 5 Calls information here:

<https://tinyurl.com/ydv6us2j>



We were so thankful to host the Chain Reaction Project at the Workers Over Billionaires Rally

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

"The Trans Teen Refusing to Join the IDF." matt bernstein on YouTube. A profile in the kind of moral courage sadly lacking from most. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/4hvcpijbc>

"How Democrats Passed North Carolina's New Anti-Trans Laws." *It Could Happen Here* podcast. Note to Democrats: good intentions do nothing to protect the oppressed. Do better, now. Access part one: <https://tinyurl.com/3tnt79e3>; access part two: <https://tinyurl.com/4dxz334>

"How Trump's DC Takeover Criminalizes Homelessness." *Code Switch* podcast. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/bntcvfpf>

"Don't be fooled by Trump's dictatorship jokes: The president believes he has unlimited power — and he plans to seize the moment." Heather Digby Parton, *Salon*. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/5n7s56ar>

GOOD NEWS

It was a tough week for the Trump regime, and that's good news for us!

- After facing calls for his resignation all week, "Health" Secretary RFK, Jr, had a rough visit to the Senate trying to defend his risky vaccine policy.
- Bipartisanship is back: AOC is working with Republicans on a bill to prevent Congress members from owning or trading stocks; five Rs helped kill a measure to censure Rep LaMonica McIver; Reps Massie (R-Ky) and Khanna (D-CA) are forcing a vote to release the Epstein files. Encouraging!
- About 100 survivors of Epstein abuse spoke out and threatened to release their own list of abusers.
- A federal judge ruled that Trump's deployment of the National Guard in L.A. was illegal.
- Several federal judges anonymously criticized the Supreme Court's use of the shadow docket—aka "snap judgement" without explanation— while talking to an NBC reporter.

And Trump is NOT dead after all— so there's still hope he'll be held accountable for his crimes someday.

MAGA ATTACKS ON PUBLIC BROADCASTING A GRIM SIGNAL FOR COMMUNITY

Written By Alex Andrasik

Amid the rest of the terrible news in recent months, the MAGA Republicans' shutdown of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), and through it their targeting of PBS, NPR, and countless local public media stations, is almost uniquely indefensible, even considering this administration's many other reckless efforts to destroy good governance and the American civic spirit.

Set aside for the moment the reality that the CPB makes possible the broadcast of crucial local information to small, underserved communities, which should be of obvious interest in Yates County and the rest of rural central New York.

Set aside that it's not "lefty fake news," but local government information, paywall-free journalism, and, terrifyingly, public safety infrastructure like weather alerts and evacuation announcements that are victims of the Republican Party's obsession with "clawing back" funds — a commonly used image for their legislative priorities, which puts one very accurately in mind of ghouls tearing at the throat of the body politic

Set aside even the cascading consequences of this one thoughtless act, described best in the public media publication *Current*: "CPB ties together a sprawling, diverse network of stations, serving communities red and blue, rural and urban, rich and poor. Through its grants and projects, it connected media organizations that otherwise may have little in common. The problem isn't just the loss of money. The danger is that the system will fracture. Stations and networks will go into survival mode, trying to preserve what they have and ignoring everyone else — or even cannibalizing them." More ghoulish imagery, still apt.

All that aside, it should be enough that we recognize that the Trump movement is attacking the foundation of *Big Bird*, *Reading Rainbow*, Mr. Rogers, and their equally worthy successors. These shows and their stars are paragons of empathy who taught generations that differences should be celebrated, that books light runways to the future, and that, in hard times, there are always helpers to be found. If these values are what MAGA conservatives want to pass off as dangerous, then the divide between them and the rest of us who rightly admire *Sesame Street* and the others is too wide to be bridged.

If some of those cheering for MAGA in the past agree that enough is enough, we welcome your return to reason. Regardless, we hold that these attacks on made-up "wokeness" have gone too far. The MAGA Right has tipped its hand once and for all: it wants an uneducated populace, lacking in empathy and community spirit, to ensure its supremacy over future generations. The crushing of CPB is from the same cheater's manual as their undemocratic power-grabs in Texas and DC, and displays the same casual cruelty that continues to deliver cutesy-branded concentration camps holding all the people indiscriminately rounded up by ICE in more and more red states across the country.

FLXJP will follow Mr. Rogers' advice and keep looking for the helpers: the people who embrace diversity, value learning, defend democracy, and treat others with humanity. If it's harder to find those things on the coming Trump State TV, we will just have to find each other in our communities.

UPCOMING EVENTS-LOCAL

Community Skillshare: Baking Gluten-Free Quickbreads, Saturday, September 20, 4 p.m.; location provided upon registration. 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! This month: Kelley Walker returns for another entry in her popular ongoing series of gluten-free skillshares! Join us as she shares the secrets of baking delicious gluten-free quickbreads. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/yc53vse5>. Have a skill to share? Let us know at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4965v9>! Hosted by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

Community Skillbuilding Salons, Sunday, September 21, 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 these 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.

Keuka Compass Social Gathering, Saturday, September 27, 12:30 p.m. at Milly's Pantry (19 Main St., Penn Yan). These informal coffee hours are intended for LGBTQ+ folks and their allies to come together in community and friendship. Very casual; no agenda - just coffee, food, chat and company. Please note our new location! Hosted by Keuka Compass.

Keuka Compass Pathways, Saturday, September 27, 4:00 p.m. at the Stanley Trailhead of the Ontario Pathways Rail Trail. This event for members of the LGBTQ+ community and allies, friends, and family is a chance to enjoy our local trails and nature as well as each other's company. This month's destination in Stanley is about a twenty minute drive away from Penn Yan, so please get in touch with us if you'd like to carpool. Please plan to dress appropriately for whatever weather is forecast. For questions, contact us at flxjustice21@gmail.com.

Penn Yan Action Coalition Classic Movie Night, Tuesday, September 30, 6:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main Street, Penn Yan). Penn Yan Action Coalition continues its series offering viewings of classic films with a lot to say about current injustices. This month: *Storm Center*, the story of a dedicated librarian who is demonized for resisting a book ban. Released in 1956; 1 hour and 25 minutes; starring the incomparable Bette Davis.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS- OTHER

[NYSLGBTQ.org](https://nyslgbtq.org) invites you to take the [2025 New York State LGBTQ+ Health and Human Services Needs Assessment](#) provided by the New York State Department of Health to inform policy and to sustain and enhance services available to LGBTQ+ community members. This survey will take about 20 to 30 minutes to answer. You must be at least 13 years of age to participate. The survey is anonymous and will not record any personal information that can identify you. It will include questions about your experiences of health and service needs. Some questions may ask about difficult experiences, or they may spark your interest in seeking services.

As a resource, the bottom of every screen of this survey will provide a link to the New York State Department of Health Crisis contact website. You may use this link to contact counselors or receive immediate assistance. At the conclusion of the survey, we will provide you with a link to the New York State Network for LGBTQ+ Health and Human Services. "The Network" includes over 60 agencies around the state that serve and support LGBTQ+ community members.

Take the survey here: <https://tinyurl.com/38wrm6sz>

UPCOMING EVENTS- ROCHESTER

[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>

Red Wings Pride Night, Tuesday, September 9th, 5:00 p.m. at Innovative Field (1 Morrie Silver Way). [Rochester LGBTQ+ Together](#) and [Rochester Red Wings](#) are partnering to present Red Wings Pride Night versus the Buffalo Bisons! Gates open at 5:00pm, first pitch at 6:05pm. The evening will include many special features: a full-size all-gender restroom; Pride Flag courtesy of Rochester LGBTQ+ Together; half-priced tickets, courtesy of M&T Bank; jersey giveaway for the first 1,000 fans, courtesy of St. Ann's Community; and post game fireworks presented by Ellenwood Electric & Rochester Nissan Dealers.

2025 State of the Latino Community, Wednesday, Oct 15, 12PM - 1:30PM, virtual. Join [Ibero-American Action League, Inc.](#) as we unveil a powerful, data-driven look at how Hispanic and Latino communities are doing across Upstate New York: [2025 State of the Latino Community](#). Be part of the conversation on this webinar available to anyone on or off Facebook as we present a broad overview and deep-dive on insights into key socioeconomic indicators like education, employment, health, and housing throughout our service areas. <https://tinyurl.com/4nbebvfr>





Rochester LGBTQ+ Together
www.Rochester.lgbt | roclgbtqtogether@gmail.com

September 2025

Program & Events Calendar

Calendar Icon Key:

- Accessible Venue
- Interpreted
- Captioned
- Cost to Attend
- Advance/Limited Tickets
- Reservation Required
- Face Mask Encouraged

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Sign Up for Our Email List!</p>	<p>1 Labor Day</p> <p>★ LABOR DAY ★</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Activity & Social Clubs: Movie Lovers Club: Discussion Group 1st Tuesdays, 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only CC</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Walk & Roll 1st Weds., 6:00pm The Wetland Walk & Erie Canalway Trail Fairport, NY All Ages</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Pride Outside: Saturday Stroll 1st Saturdays, 1:00pm El Camino Trail Rochester, NY All Ages</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Rochester Fringe Festival September 9-20</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Lesbian & Queer Women 2nd Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only CC</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Pride 2025: Rochester Red Wings Pride Night 5:00pm Gates, 6:00pm Game Innovative Field Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Gardening Together 2nd & 4th Weds., 6:00pm 490 Farmers Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Sip & Social: Picnic in the Park 2nd Thurs., 6:00pm Highland Park Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Rochester Black Pride September 12-14</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pop-Up Pride: Day at the Orchard 2nd Saturdays, 1:00pm Whittier Fruit Farm Rochester, NY, All Ages</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Pride Outside: Rainbow Hike Crew 2nd & 4th Suns., 1:00pm Gosnell Big Woods Preserve Webster, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>15</p> <p>National Hispanic Heritage Month: 9/15 - 10/15 Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Trans, Non-binary & Intersex+ 3rd Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Bi+ Awareness Week: 9/16-9/23 </p>	<p>17</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Grief Support Group 3rd Weds. Bimonthly, 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only CC</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Sip & Social: Happy Hour 3rd Thursdays, 6:00pm Skylark Lounge Rochester, NY 21+ Only</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Queer Night Out: Rochester Fringe Fest: Drag + Clown 7:00pm MuCCC Rochester, NY</p>	<p>20</p> <p>hello AUTUMN (September 22)</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Last Program of the Season! Ice Cream Sundays 3rd Suns., 3:00pm Abbott's Frozen Custard Greece, NY All Ages</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Autumnal Equinox Rosh Hashanah: 9/22-9/24 Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Gay & Queer Men 4th Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only CC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Activity & Social Clubs: Rainbow Reading & Book Club 4th Tuesdays, 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only CC</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Gardening Together 2nd & 4th Weds., 6:00pm 490 Farmers Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Sip & Social: Coffee Hour 4th Saturdays, 11:00am Fuego Coffee Roasters Rochester, NY 18+ Only</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Pride Outside: Rainbow Hike Crew 2nd & 4th Suns., 1:00pm Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge Seneca Falls, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Bi, Omni, Pan & Poly+ *Special Date*, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only CC</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Activity & Social Clubs: Arts & Crafts Club *Special Date*, 5:00pm Location TBA All Ages</p>	<p>Make a Donation!</p> <p>www.rochester.lgbt/donate</p>			<p>Like and Follow Us Online!</p> <p>RoCLGBTQTogether</p>



The Intersection

Contact Us

Email:

flxjustice21@gmail.com

Facebook:

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



OCTOBERFEST +

5k RACE

Sat. October 18, 2025

American Legion
Spring Street, Dundee

10 am - 3 pm

Race also begins at 10

To register for the race, go to

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/Dundee/Runandhops5k>

Vendors! Food!

Activities for the family!



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.