



THE INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

October 18, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

Living Out Loud: The Stories We Carry (Storytelling Workshop), Monday, October 19, 6-7:30p.m., at The ARTS Council (79 West Market St. in Corning, NY). Join The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes (The ARTS Council) in collaboration with Dante Acquavella for Living Out Loud: The Stories We Carry, a storytelling workshop for members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Through simple prompts, theatre-based exercises, and conversation, we'll explore the stories that have followed us, the ones we've inherited, and the ones we may understand differently now. You don't need to prepare anything or consider yourself a storyteller. Come as you are, share what you'd like, and help us see where the stories take us. This event is free and open to all members of the LGBTQIA+ community 16 and older. Questions? Reach out Casey Winston, Director of Public Programs, at casey@eARTS.org.

2nd Annual InterConnect Gala, Tuesday October 20th at 8p.m. (Virtual). Join InterConnect Support Group for their 2nd Annual InterConnect Gala and Membership Meeting! Interconnect is a compassionate community of intersex individuals, family members, and trusted allies working together to promote a better quality of life through connection, support and education. Tickets for the Virtual Gala start at \$15, and no one is turned away for lack of funds. To register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/5n7r8nnh>. For information inquire at info@interconnect.support

Community Cafe, Tuesday, October 27th, 5 p.m., Penn Yan United Methodist Church (166 Main St, Penn Yan).

UUC Trunk or Treat, Saturday, October 24th, 1p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua (3024 Cooley Road, Canandaigua). The UUC FUNdraising committee is excited to host our third annual Trunk or Treat. If you are able to decorate your trunk for the festivities please connect with Pat Mehls. We will also have a pumpkin painting table. Supplies and pumpkins for this can be coordinated with Karen Alvarez. Hot apple cider and coffee and handcrafts will be available for purchase. Bring your friends and neighbors for some spooky & sweet celebrations!

Regional Justice Summit, Friday, October 23, 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>

Keuka Compass Social Gathering, Saturday, October 24, 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. Presented by Keuka Compass.

TAKE ACTION

Take action with Town of Torrey residents who want their elected officials to temporarily ban the new development or expansion of bitcoin and AI data mining so that zoning regulations and the town's comprehensive plan can be reviewed and updated.

Torrey residents are facing off against Vulcan Infrastructure and Power which is transitioning the former Greenidge crypto mining entity to data mining, with Vulcan alleging that the change is just a shift in how the existing facility is used. That claim is belied by the fact that Vulcan, which currently produces 106 megawatts of power for its own use, recently requested to draw an additional 260 megawatts from the external electrical grid to augment that internally generated supply.

Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association President Bill Roeger outlined citizens' concerns at the October 13 community forum in Dresden hosted by Concerned Residents of the Town of Torrey. "The transition from cryptocurrency mining to AI computing raises important questions about cooling, electricity demand, backup power, and future expansion." Citizens are worried about the long term consequences to Seneca Lake water quality, electricity rates, and effects on the agriculture and tourism industries. No Town Board or Planning Board members attended the meeting despite having been invited, according to organizers.

Take action by signing Seneca Lake Guardian's petition to the members of the Town of Torrey Board and Planning Board urging them to adopt a moratorium on any new large scale development or expansion of AI, data centers, or cryptomining in the Town of Torrey. You don't have to live in the town to sign. Sign the petition here: <https://tinyurl.com/yw37fcse>

Take action to promote resilience across the FLX. Your donation of non-perishable food, personal hygiene products, paper products, cleaning products, and women's hygiene products at any FLXJP event will go to the Share Shed at St. Mark's Church, Penn Yan, where items are available on a self-serve basis to anyone who needs them. In addition, individual partner organizations under the FLXJP umbrella hosting their own events may designate specific items they're collecting for a particular organization. By contributing needed items at events you attend you mitigate food insecurity and financial vulnerability in local communities. For information about the Share Shed, including donating or accessing needed items visit <https://tinyurl.com/bdeh8e44>

Penn Yan Public Library (214 Main St.) is participating in Southern Tier Library System's Great Give Back project during the month of October!

This year's efforts go to support senior living facilities around our area, so we're doing a collection of art and recreational items for St. Mark's Terrace. ITEMS NEEDED: Word search books; Large print word search books; Adult coloring books; Playing cards; Markers; Colored pencils; Pens/pencils; Lotion; Small stuffed animals or other small items that can be used as Bingo prizes. If you have any of these to share, please drop them off at the library during open hours between now and Oct. 31!

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

What It Feels Like to Have the Most Banned Book in the Country. Meredith Blake, The Contrarian. The Moms for Liberty, who claim to care about kids' safety, have a record of challenging books that make kids safer by giving them language for dangerous situations they may experience or witness.

The Shady Deals Behind Data Centers. Code Switch podcast.

The French Student Uprising. It Could Happen Here podcast.

Federal agencies decline renewal of water station permits in Arizona desert. Isabella Barron, tucson.com. Absolute, murderous cruelty.

Trump can't trick Americans into loving him. Amanda Marcotte, Salon.

Pete Hegseth's holy war on "weirdos" targets most Americans. Amanda Marcotte, Salon.

Trump's new QAnon press secretary exposes his desperation. Amanda Marcotte, Salon. Aaaaand she's out - in just about .4 of a Scaramucci, and much less than the lifespan of a head of lettuce!

How Hollywood Stole the Zombie from Haiti. Code Switch podcast.

GOOD NEWS

More than 3,000 No Kings: Vote Early rallies took place Saturday, Oct 17, with about 20 in our region. In Penn Yan, about 150 people attended.

Let's talk about wildlife resilience!

- Since 2021, gray wolf populations in Denmark have "snowballed" from 14 to 49 adults (and 62 pups) this year. The adjustment of citizens isn't always going smoothly.
- Since August, 46 Bornean orangutans have been rescued from Indonesian wildfires; eight have been released into a protected area. The others are still being treated.
- A new species of rare giant waterlily has been discovered, via Instagram!, and named *Victoria colombiana*. Leaves can be 10 feet across, and there may be fewer than 50 individuals.
- Signs of hope, according to the World Wildlife Fund's Living Planet Report: Bluefin tuna have returned to British waters in large numbers; green sea turtles have recovered from endangered status; wild tigers number more than 5,000. About half of the 35,000 monitored populations of 5,500 species are stable or increasing.

General Election 2026 Early Voting

Early Voting location County Office Building Lobby						October 24 <i>Saturday</i> 9:00AM to 5:00PM
25 <i>Sunday</i> 9:00AM to 5:00PM	26 <i>Monday</i> 8:30AM to 4:30PM	27 <i>Tuesday</i> 12:00PM to 8:00PM	28 <i>Wednesday</i> 12:00PM to 8:00PM	29 <i>Thursday</i> 8:30AM to 4:30PM	30 <i>Friday</i> 8:30AM to 4:30PM	31 <i>Saturday</i> 9:00AM to 5:00PM
1 <i>Sunday</i> 9:00AM to 5:00PM		3 <i>Tuesday</i> Election Day Vote at your Polling Site 6AM to 9PM	November			

SATURDAY	October 24, 2026	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
SUNDAY	October 25, 2026	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
MONDAY	October 26, 2026	8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
TUESDAY	October 27, 2026	12:00 PM – 8:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	October 28, 2026	12:00 PM – 8:00 PM
THURSDAY	October 29, 2026	8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
FRIDAY	October 30, 2026	8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
SATURDAY	October 31, 2026	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
SUNDAY	November 1, 2026	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

ELECTION DAY – VOTING AT YOUR DESIGNATED POLL SITE

TUESDAY	November 3, 2026	6:00 AM – 9:00 PM
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REPARATIONS, REMEDIATION, AND WEALTH REDISTRIBUTION

THE BIG PAYBACK

film screening & panel discussion with the Redistributing White Wealth Campaign & partners

@ Cinemapolis
October 21st
6 pm

FREE

FEAR AND REPARATIONS IN THE AMERICAN SUBURB

Learn more and reserve your ticket:
tcsurj.org/rww



Debate Watch Party

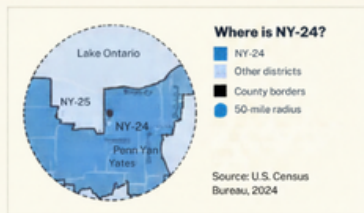


WHEN
Tuesday, Oct. 20
Come early! Debate begins 7:00 PM

WHERE
Lyonsmith Brewing
Penn Yan
2597 Assembly Ave.
Keuka Park, NY



ENJOY
Snack & Dessert Pot Luck!
Bring your favorite to share. (Please no peanuts or peanut ingredients.) Liquid refreshments available for purchase.



Can't join us at Lyonsmith?
The debate airs live at 7 PM on WROC-TV News 8 and streams at rochesterfirst.com.

Nonpartisan and respectful
All are welcome. Please listen while candidates speak and keep it civil during and after the debate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2024

The Corning Street Tree Project is planting this Fall!



- 10/30, 10/31 & 11/1 in Corning 9am-1pm or 1-4pm
- Use QR code at right to volunteer; we email details
- Gloves suggested & shovel appreciated



Volunteers NEEDED!!

www.CorningTrees.org
CorningTrees@gmail.com



Get a Tree 🌳 Volunteer 🌳 Donate 🌳 Follow

Yates County Public Health



Drive-Thru MMR Vaccine Clinic

For adults 18 years and older

This clinic is for you if you:

- ✓ Have not had an MMR shot or have no record of one
 - ✓ Did not have measles as a child
- MMR = measles, mumps, and rubella



October 24, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Yates County Highway Department*

939 Route 14A Penn Yan, NY 14527

*Enter from Havens Corners Road

What to know

- Stay in your car. We will give you your shot there.
- Wear a short-sleeve shirt.
- Please leave pets at home.

Appointments needed for each person

- Scan the QR code to make an appointment, or visit www.yatescountypublichealth.org
- Questions? Call (315) 536-5160



INTERESTED IN ADVOCATING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?



Become A Youth Advocate!

WINTER 2027



The Youth Advocacy Fellowship (YAF) empowers TGNCNB youth ages 16-25 across New York State to build leadership, advocacy, & professional skills through a 3-month fellowship. Participants engage in training modules, learn about government systems, & gain hands-on experience alongside experienced advocates.

MORE INFO

Program Requirements: Applicant must identify as Transgender and/or Gender Non-Conforming/Non-Binary, be between the ages of 16-25, & live in New York State.

Benefits: \$450 Upon Completion, \$1,000 Paid Internship Placement, Round-trip Metro Card, Access to a network of experienced TGNCNB leaders &



APPLY HERE
or use link in our Instagram bio

QUESTIONS?
Contact Eric Nesbitt, Program Coordinator for more information at enesbitt@nytag.org



The Intersection

Contact Us

Email:
flxjustice21@gmail.com

Facebook:
facebook.com/flxjp

Website:
www.FLXJP.org

Our Creative Team

Writing

Peter Salva
Alex Andrasik
Sally White
Anne Kiefer

Graphics

Charlie Domahidi
Siri Wilder
Angela Proietti-
Nelson



Apply for a Neighborhood Mini-Grant!

Seneca and Keuka Watersheds

For Seneca, Schuyler,
and Yates Counties

Have a **project idea** to make our community more **sustainable, resilient, or inclusive**? Mini-Grants support initiatives that aim to build environmental stewardship, economic equity, and social justice.

Individuals, organizations, and neighborhood groups are welcome to apply.



Past Projects

- Trail renovation
- Community gardens
- Pop-up farmers' market
- Motorized wheelchair
- Toy library
- Bike racks

Deadline November 1

Grant awards vary from \$150 - \$750

To request an application form or ask a question,
contact (607) 272-1720 or
sasha@sustainablefingerlakes.org

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.