THE INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter November 15, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

Keuka Compass Book Club, Tuesday, November 17, 7:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan) or online via Zoom. Join the Keuka Compass LGBTQ+ Book Club in person or virtually. This month's selection is *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* by Malinda Lo, "a gripping, tender coming-of-age novel exploring identity, queerness, and historical upheaval set in San Francisco's Chinatown during the 1950s." One of the most banned books of the year! A limited number of copies are available for free thanks to a generous grant from the LGBTQ+ Giving Circle of the Rochester Area Community Foundation. To request a copy and/or to request to attend the discussion, write to us at flxjustice21@gmail.com and we'll advise you. Plus: if you can, bring shelf-stable food or hygiene goods to help stock local sharing sheds! Presented by Keuka Compass and supported by a generous grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation.

Trans Day of Remembrance Event, November 20th, 7pm. Trinity Place (78 Castle Street, Geneva). This is an event to honor, and call for justice for trans murder and suicide victims, and all victims of capitalist/imperialist violence. There will be an open mic for speeches, poems, or other art that people would like to share. There will be a ceremony to honor trans murder/suicide victims followed by a live music preference. Refreshments will be served.

Special Date! Keuka Compass Social Gathering, Saturday, November 21, 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. Plus: if you can, bring shelf-stable food or hygiene goods to help stock local sharing sheds! Presented by Keuka Compass.

Monthly Fightback, Saturday, November 21, 3:00 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. These rallies are held to express our collective opposition to or grief about injustices on the local, state, national, or global stage, or to express our support for and solidarity with justice-promoting movements and events. Rallies may include chants, songs, speeches and marches, depending on conditions and recent current events. Plus: if you can, bring shelf-stable food or hygiene goods to help stock local sharing sheds! Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

DIY Herbal Remedies for Winter Ailments, Part 1: Elderberry Syrup, Saturday, November 21, 4 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan). Learn strategies to combat common respiratory bugs and other seasonal illnesses with the natural power of herbs. Grow your way to a healthier new year, hopefully with fewer costly doctor's visits! We'll make elderberry syrup together and discuss its benefits, plus cover a few other effective culinary herbs. Register at https://tinyurl.com/4crx82s4. Presented by the Keuka Resilience Community.

TAKE ACTION

On Monday 11/16 at 9AM Yates Co. residents can take action to pack the room and let their legislators know what they think about the proposed new county public safety building. This is an issue about which the Yates legislature has provided woefully insufficient transparency and communication, despite the fact that it will be be a significant tax burden on county residents and support an inhumane prison-industrial complex. A special session to discuss a second property being considered for the public safety building is scheduled for Monday, 11/16, at 9AM in the legislative chambers of the county office building at 417 Liberty St., Penn Yan. The resolution can be found here: yatescountyny.gov/

Take action to stop the expansion of the ICE detention center in Batavia! The expansion of an ICE concentration camp means that ICE is preparing to terrorize more communities, separate more families, and imprison more of our neighbors in inhumane conditions. Sign Rochester DSA's petition to halt the expansion of the Buffalo Federal Service Processing Center, to show your opposition to Trump's mass deportation effort, and to demand that ICE stop its campaign of fear and brutality within our communities. Sign here: tinyurl.com/5xhdnkz8

Take action to voice your opposition to the harmful provisions included in a bill meant to speed up clean energy projects and put a check on data centers freeloading off the grid at taxpayers' expense, but will also cut environmental protections and prevent the public from weighing in on government projects that impact communities. Read about the Bipartisan Affordability and Jobs Act at 5 Calls and find out how you can call Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and urge them to amend the bill. tinyurl.com/5y9889jn





Many thanks to Kelley Walker and Christine Pyanoe for their fantastic and timely skillshare on Affordable, Upscale Infusions and Extracts.

Photo Credit: A. Andrasik

GOOD NEWS

After whistleblowers indicated the Interior Dept was destroying documents related to Trump's construction projects, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered them to preserve all documents. Rep Jared Huffman, chair, anticipates they could stop some projects from moving forward.

The midterms' "blue tsunami" was a record-breaker for Democratic women at the state and national levels. At least 15 (up 5) will serve as governors; 120 Dem women will serve in the Congress, 16 of them as Senators. Black, Native American, and Latina women established "firsts" across the country from Georgia and South Carolina to Arizona and Nevada.

Mitchell Berman, a registered nurse serving veterans at a VA hospital, flipped Wisconsin's 1at district congressional seat blue for the first time since 1994. He won 52% of the vote in Paul Ryan's long-held district.

Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) announced he will challenge Chuck Schumer for majority leader.

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

America Decided Curiosity Was a Luxury. Jermaine Fowler, *The Humanity Archive.*

The Decline and Fall of the International Workers Movement. *It Could Happen Here* podcast.

Doing Good Journalism with James and Miriam. *Live Like the World is Dying* podcast.

What's Wrong with Human Rights, part 1 and part 2. *Live Like the World is Dying* podcast. "Mick and James discuss the concept of Human Rights and how they sometimes fail to ensure people around the world are treated with dignity."

The opposite of fascism. Anand Giridharadas, *The.Ink.* May have to sign up for Substack to read, but it's worth it.

Urgent: The Bipartisan Effort to Quietly Erode Environmental and Tribal Protections. *It Could Happen Here* podcast.

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF TRASNGENDER DAY OF REMEBRANCE

Written by Anne Keifer and Peter Salva

Content warning: This post discusses suicide and suicide attempts. Please take care of yourself while reading.

This week we celebrate Trans Awareness Week, culminating with Trans Day of Remembrance on November 20th. This day is celebrated to memorialize trans, non-binary, and gender-nonconforming people who have lost their lives to transphobic hatred and violence. This day was established in 1999 by trans activist Gwendolyn Ann Smith to commemorate black trans women Rita Hester and Chanelle Pickett, as well as other victims of anti-trans violence.

Each year adds to the number of trans people who are murdered, assaulted, or die by suicide as a result of transphobia. At time of writing, this year, we remember 60 people nationally and 360 globally. It's important to note that these numbers reflect the instances of violence openly reported as such. This does not account for those who may have been unreported, inaccurately reported, or silenced by media, unsupportive family, or systems of harm.

This is a good reminder that anti-trans hate is systemic in our institutions - government, churches, and political parties. It relies on the promotion of culture war attitudes like nationalism, patriarchy, misogyny, anti-intellectualism, and religious superiority. It hides behind virtuous-sounding names like "parental rights," "fairness in sports," "protection of women and girls," and "community standards." And sometimes it is paraded in the open. We have seen this recently - locally in messaging against a candidate for assemblyman in District 131 and nationally on ballot measures in Washington and Colorado and with legislation which cuts off access to public spaces and gender-affirming care for trans folks. This legislation is directly linked to anti-trans violence and trans suicide risk.

Trans people of color are at significantly higher risk of violence because they live at the intersection of anti-Black racism and hatred of gender-nonconformity. This violence has been present in our community with the torture and murder of Sam Nordquist in 2024-25 being an example.

Some might say, "Yes, but…the states that have enacted these laws are primarily GOP-led states." However, there are also Democratic officials who would limit the rights of trans people, especially trans women athletes. We must push back and be proactive against such people and values, regardless of party. It is not a time to relax our advocacy. We must fight to include and uplift trans voices whenever we get the chance. We must show up at events to learn what the needs of trans folks in our communities are. We must not shy away from uncomfortable conversations for the sake of niceness or "respectability." Saying, "this is a safe space for all," is not good enough.

Safety must be actively fought for, whether by party officials, teachers, business owners, church leaders, or average community members.

Trans folks make our communities more vibrant, diverse, and resilient. We hope you will take a step towards justice this Trans Awareness Week, on Trans Day of Remembrance or otherwise, and make your voice heard in the fight for dignity and justice for our trans family and neighbors, regionally and globally.



INTERESTED IN ADVOCATING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?

NEW YORK TRANSGENDER ADVOCACY GROUP



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

Call for artists!



Friday, November 20, 2026 is the International Transgender Day of Remembrance, honoring those lost to anti-transgender violence in the US in the past year.



This year, GLOW OUT! is asking all who are interested in contributing:

- Physical Artwork (paint, sketch, print)
- Spoken Word
- Performance (vocal, visual)

Contributions can focus on:

- a specific person lost to anti-trans violence (US or international),
- the transgender & non-binary community, or
- overcoming adversity.

**Include any necessary content warnings, and please limit readings and performances to five minutes or less.*

This will follow the vigil at Batavia First Presbyterian Church *(300 East Main Street in Batavia).*

Artists who cannot make the vigil are asked to be at the church by 5:45 p.m. to coordinate set-up and confirm order of events.



Please send any images you'd like to share during the tribute to Timothy at timothy@glowout.org.



GLOW OUT

CALLING ALL

TRANSGENDER, GENDER NON-CONFORMING, NON-BINARY FOLX!



IN OUR OWN VOICES, INC. PRESENTS

GENDER-AFFIRMING GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

SUPPORTING THE TRANSGENDER AND GENDER EXPANSIVE COMMUNITY MEMBERS WITH CLOTHING & GEAR

FILL OUT APPLICATION
NOVEMBER 1, 2026 THROUGH NOVEMBER 23, 2026

50 GIFTS CARDS AVAILABLE
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT IOOV AT 518-432-4188

TRANSGENDER VISIBILITY PROJECT OF ONTARIO COUNTY

You're invited, babe

TRANS GIVING Potluck

10AM-1PM | THANKSGIVING DAY | NOV. 26



The Intersection

Contact Us

Email:
flxjustice21@gmail.com

Facebook:
facebook.com/flxjp

Website:
www.FLXJP.org

Our Creative Team

Peter Salva
Alex Andrasik
Sally White
Anne Kiefer
Charlie Domahidi



FLX JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP Fundraiser



Scan the QR Code to Preorder Today

New Year, New Justice Calendar!

This year's FLXJP justice calendar features many of the regional organizations working to make the Finger Lakes and the world a better place!

Calendars are now available for preorder for a suggested donation of $20 and available for in-person pick up starting December 5th at Starshine in Penn Yan. After the preorder period is over, suggested donation will be $25 per calendar.

Your donation will support our ongoing work to provide community meals, skillshare, advocacy, and more!

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.