



THE INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

January 04, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Finger Lakes Rapid Response Network has launched a GoFundMe fundraiser (<https://tinyurl.com/yexa2rwf>) to support the 60 individuals detained during the Cato Raid at the Nutrition Bar factory several weeks ago. The impact of this raid on families in Fulton and Auburn is devastating. Individuals were rapidly moved to detention centers in Texas, Louisiana, and California, constitutional rights were ignored, and people were scared and continue to live in fear as they grieve their loved ones being snatched away from their own children, from our beloved communities. We ask you please to donate what you can and share with your networks. Please feel free to donate as you are able and spread far and wide! If you'd like a tax letter for a larger donation, please send checks directly to Trinity Place, 78 East Castle Street, Geneva, NY, and we will send you a letter for tax record purposes; kindly make a note in the notes section to specify that the donation is for Cato aftermath support.

Plant-Based People Group. Wednesday, January 7, 6 p.m. Modeste Bedient Library in Branchport, unless there is a field trip. 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.

Keuka Compass Board Game Day. Sunday, January 11, 2 p.m., Lyonsmith Brewing Company (2597 Assembly Avenue, Keuka Park). Beginning a new community event for LGBTQ+ folks and allies who love playing board games and other social activities! We'll get together every other month. Bring your own games or select from what we have on offer. We might play as one big group, or break off for smaller player counts. We'll provide some snacks and drinks, but more to share are always welcome! Hosted by Keuka Compass.

Keuka Compass Social Gathering. Sunday, January 24, 12:30 p.m. at Amity Coffee Co. (3 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. Hosted by Keuka Compass.

TAKE ACTION

Take action against fascism on the first anniversary of President Trump's second term by participating in the nationwide *Free America Walkout* planned by *Women's March*. On Tuesday, January 20 at 2:00PM, join millions across the nation as they leave work, school, and commerce to symbolically, by those actions, walk away from fascism and toward a free America. This event celebrates noncompliance, noncooperation, and resistance to the authoritarian pressures that the MAGA regime is exerting on the public.

In anticipation of the walkout on January 20th, rallies, protests, and demonstrations are also planned for Saturday, January 17th. The FLXJP monthly Fightback Rally at 3:00PM on Saturday, January 17, at the Yates County Courthouse will include the Free America theme.

Rachel O'Leary Carmona, the executive director of Women's March said, "The *Free America Walkout* tests whether people are willing to stop cooperating with a government that causes harm. It is a protest and an assessment about the ways we are prepared to refuse to comply with unjust policies and to act together in different, powerful ways."

For more information and to find a *Free America Walkout* event near you, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/exh5sur3>



Don't lose sight for a moment of the fact that our local representation is supposed to be our first federal line of defense against fascism - but far too many of them are instead complicit.

GOOD NEWS

Zohran Mamdani was sworn in as NYC mayor minutes after midnight in an elegant, historic, abandoned subway station under City Hall. A formal public ceremony took place hours later.

Judge Amy Berman blocked Trump's attempt to defund the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, upholding an earlier injunction while the case continues.

Ten members of Norman Rockwell's family have objected strenuously, after Homeland Security used some of the late artist's images to further racist, anti-immigrant messaging.

The regime says it is ending its attempt to deploy National Guard troops in LA, Chicago, and Portland OR.

On New Year's Eve, the House Judiciary Committee released a transcript and video of Jack Smith's testimony, related to his investigations of Trump.

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

"Trump's War on Democracy is Failing." Zack Beauchamp, Vox. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/4n8cjsrm>. This important article introduced us to the concept of "haphazardism" - a fitting term for Trump's style of rule. Everyone should start their year of resistance reading this article. There is still hope.

"We Can't Change These Hateful People, America. We Have to Outnumber Them." John Pavlovitz, *The Beautiful Mess*. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/5an32jy7>.

"My Encounter with Trump Derangement Syndrome." Yahia Lababidi, *Salon*. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/3kc4r3n7>.

"America's Post-Apocalyptic Maps Reveal Eerily Familiar Fault Lines." Frank Jacobs, *Strange Maps*. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/2hc98v8n>. A case of art imitating life imitating art imitating...

FEATURE: A REVIEW OF NAOMI KLEIN'S *DOPPELGÄNGER*

BY PETER SALVA

As Naomi Klein writes in the introduction, this is a book that she never intended to write. However, when faced with the growing problem of being confused with another public figure named Naomi who had troubling conservative views, she fell down a rabbit hole exploring the ways that reality is blurred and warped in day to day life.

Writing about her mirror world double led Klein to studying Steve Bannon, Covid, QAnon, climate change denial, anti-vaxxers, far-right propaganda, and much more. With insight and clarity, Klein tills the muck of these movements, showing that, despite the promise of a frictionless society, "friction doesn't disappear just because we don't see it - it is simply displaced" onto the lives of the marginalized and those abandoned by corporate and capitalist systems.

This was published in 2023 and there are clearly many things which have escalated beyond the bounds of this work. For instance, Project 2025 continues to be implemented and our country's imperialist history is having a rerun in Venezuela.

However, Klein gets at many of the roots which led us to where we are now. Surely understanding of the decline may have impacts on our efforts to reverse the damages. At least that's my hope in recommending such a book.

And there's also something else to consider. Towards the end of the book, Klein writes, "If our situation seems uniquely challenging (and on bad days, borderline hopeless), it likely has to do with how much we have come to expect from our individual selves combined with the brokenness of structures - trade unions, close-knit neighborhoods, functioning local media, and so on - that once made it easier to do things together. It's our fragmentation that daunts us, as much as the challenges themselves," and later, "It will not be enough to protect 'our people'; we will need to have the stamina of true solidarity, which defines 'our people' as 'all people.'" Easier said than done, perhaps. However, as 2026 begins, please keep in mind that FLXJP couldn't exist without you all. You are our people and we yours. Thank you! Let's continue to build a resilient community for these tough times ahead - together!

FUNDRAISER

WE STAND WITH IMMIGRANT WORKERS!



<https://gofund.me/ccf415369>

URGENT NEED FOR CATO RAID AFTERMATH SUPPORT



NYIC



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UPCOMING EVENTS- ROCHESTER

Action for a Better Community, Inc announces a free program by The ERG, (Exploring, Engaging, Ending Racism Group) that will explore issues of race and racism, and ways to have a positive impact together in our community. These identical half-day, in-person sessions (please register for one session) will share information on the ERG program, the history of racism, bias, prejudice and the various aspects of racism. This is a forum for leaders, influencers, board members, and others interested in bringing about change in the community. Sessions will be held at the Rochester Regional Transit Servicer (RTS) headquarters, 1372 East Main Street, Rochester, NY 14609. Free parking in lot on east side of building. Session 1: Friday, November 7, 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM. Session 2: Thursday, January 15, 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM. Please register for one session here: <https://tinyurl.com/hck298nj>



The Intersection

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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.