



# INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

February 10, 2026

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Gentle Chair Yoga. Tuesdays, February 10, 17 & 24, 1 - 1:30 p.m., at Penn Yan Public Library (214 Main St.).**

Free, low-impact beginners' yoga practice.

Registration is requested but we can welcome a few walk-ins too. Register: <https://tinyurl.com/4az68me7>.

**Acceptance, Belonging and Community LGBTQ+ Issues: Queer Poetry Exchange, Tuesday, February 10, 7:00 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 night of queer poetry. This is a low-stakes no pressure poetry event. Bring a poem written by a queer author to share out to the group or enjoy the selections of others. We'll take turns reading aloud, enjoying the sounds of language, discussing, and casually reflecting. Please send poems in advance to [flxjustice21@gmail.com](mailto:flxjustice21@gmail.com) so that we can share them with the group ahead of time. Attend in person at St. Mark's Church, 179 Main St., Penn Yan, or virtually by registering here:

<https://tinyurl.com/yfpdb7e4>. Organized by Keuka Compass, Finger Lakes Justice Partnership, and Saint Mark's Church.

**Mend n' Chat, Thursday, February 12, 3 - 4 p.m. at Penn Yan Public Library (214 Main St.).** Have an

interest in fiber arts? Or maybe you just have things that need mending? The library has you covered. Join a group of experienced menders for a relaxing afternoon of practice, complete with coffee and tea. If you're less experienced, our menders can show you a thing or two. Also feel free to bring any kind of knitting, crochet, or other fiber art projects and enjoy the company. At this first session, we're hoping to meet new people who might be willing to attend regularly to answer questions and help with people's projects, so if that sounds like you, please join us!

**Progressive Prepping in Practice. Saturday, February 21, 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 the Yates Resilience Community.

## TAKE ACTION

On Sunday, Feb 15, at 4:00PM join organizations including Finger Lakes Makers Collective, People's Action, We Dissent, Canandaigua Coalition, 5 & 20 Alliance, Veterans For Peace, FLX Rapid Response, and Hemlock Rising in a peaceful candle vigil and die-in at Rep. Claudia Tenney's office, 2375 Rochester Rd, Canandaigua, NY 14424. Parking is available on nearby side streets Kepner Rd. and Aroline Rd. Information and registration for this event: [mobilize.us/mobilize/event/893817/](https://mobilize.us/mobilize/event/893817/)

Time Sensitive Action—Congress must reach a bipartisan deal on funding for the Department of Homeland Security THIS WEEK or that funding will lapse. Democrats are demanding significant, necessary changes to the way ICE operates before agreeing to fund DHS. Call Rep Claudia Tenney this week and urge her to agree to the much-needed changes to ICE that Americans are demanding. They include bans on masks, racial profiling, and warrantless arrests among others. Head to 5 Calls for information, a detailed script and phone numbers to tell her specifically what needs to happen to rein in this rogue agency. [5calls.org/issue/dhs-budget-ice-defund/](https://5calls.org/issue/dhs-budget-ice-defund/)

Time Sensitive Action—The House is scheduled to vote THIS WEEK on the wildly undemocratic, Republican sponsored SAVE America Act which would require proof of citizenship, proof of identity and photo ID to register to vote and cast a ballot, as well as prohibit universal mail-in voting. Millions of Americans do not have access to these documents or have documents that show legitimate discrepancies. Millions of elderly and disabled Americans depend on the ability to mail in their ballots instead of visiting a polling place. Head to 5 Calls to call Rep Claudia Tenney and urge her to vote NO on the Save America Act which is a non-solution to a made-up voter fraud problem. [5calls.org/issue/save-act-voter-suppression/](https://5calls.org/issue/save-act-voter-suppression/)

Join Rochester Rapid Response Network in their Tuesday Zoom "phone zaps" as part of the Dignity Not Detention (DND) Act campaign to end ICE detention contracts in NYS. Phone zaps are a community effort that get positive results. The DND phone zaps targeting key NYS legislators take place on Tuesdays from 1PM - 2PM through the end of the legislative session. Register here for the Zoom link: <https://tinyurl.com/y77euy9m>



## GOOD NEWS

Protests against ICE erupted at the Winter Olympics in Italy this week, in support of protesters in MN and elsewhere in the U.S. VP Vance was soundly booed during a women's hockey match.

Dem Sen. Ruben Gallego (AZ) called for a general strike if Tyrant Trump and his regime try to sabotage the midterm elections. "Grind the country to a halt," he said.

NYC Mayor Zohran Mamdani signed an executive order to protect New Yorkers from "abusive immigration enforcement." He also launched a "Know Your Rights" campaign to aid residents.

Federal judge Royce Lamberth issued a preliminary injunction against the regime's efforts to stop construction on a wind farm off the coast of New York State. It marked the 5th time Trump's effort to stall wind developments were blocked, at least temporarily.

Republican Rep Andrew Garbarino (NY) will lead House oversight hearings on the surge in immigration enforcement in MN and elsewhere. He is reported to be a moderate willing to break with his party when necessary.

Trump's attempt to block funds for NY's Gateway Tunnel was temporarily blocked by Judge Jeannette Vargas.

Judge Vernon S. Broderick of the Southern District of New York ordered that the regime cannot withhold funding for child care to 5 blue states, including NY, IL, CA, CO, and MN.

## MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

"If You Are Not Alarmed, You Aren't Paying Attention." Charlie Sykes, *To the Contrary*. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/msjrf72k>

"How Local Police Extend ICE's Reach, Even in Sanctuary Cities." *Code Switch* podcast. A must-listen to understand the complex environment of legal arrangements around immigration. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/yeyfcn9u>

"Trump's ICE Occupation of Minnesota Broke the Justice Department." And the Supreme Court broke the rest of the legal system. Ian Milhiser, *Vox*. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/4uuw2yk9>

"Kamala Harris' Return Fits a Degraded Media Moment." Sophia Tesfaye, *Salon*. Rather than glomming on to the Right's embrace of provocative social media slop, "[the] real innovation this moment demands is the rebuilding of our civic infrastructure." Alas, that does not seem to be the plan. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/y3nxv5z>

"There Are Four Lights: *Star Trek's* Unwitting Allegory for Domestic Abuse." Arthur Quinatlino, *Reactor*. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/2csnkury>

## BOOKS FOR JUSTICE: BOOK LIST

Written By Peter Salva

One of my favorite blogs is called David's Lists. The premise is that author David Long collates lists of books which fall under a theme or which fit some special criteria. A recent list was "Novels About Old Books," for example. Inspired by this style of book recommendation, I have decided to present some books in a list of my own. I'm calling it Books for Justice! Who knows? Maybe it can be a new feature.

### **Common Sense by Thomas Paine**

This short pamphlet was published in the month of January, 250 years ago. The main message in Paine's writing is that kings and hereditary kingship, as well as the aristocracy, should be left behind, with personal freedoms adopted. Even if you don't read through fully, do some research on the background of this historic document and reflect on how topical it feels today.

### **Arms: The Culture and Credo of the Gun by A.J. Somerset**

In this book, Somerset outlines the rise of the culture of guns that exists in the U.S., its roots in frontier myths and the gun culture of Canada, the NRA and its confusing contradictory ups and downs, the role of guns in race relations, and many other facets of the issue. I found this eye opening and balanced, and I learned a ton!

### **The Crucible by Arthur Miller**

A classic play about the Salem Witch Trials with parallels to the Red Scare in the 50s and many other eras of history when group delusions of self-righteousness have led to suspicion, fear, and violence.

### **The Black Panther Party: A Graphic Novel History by David F. Walker**

Just what it says on the tin. Read about the impact of the Panthers, a group that often gets skipped over in modern discussions of the Civil Rights Movement, and learn how they pushed back against police brutality, their social welfare work, and the visions and philosophies of the individuals involved.

### **Mother Night by Kurt Vonnegut**

I "discovered" Vonnegut's work in high school and have been a fan ever since. Reading him as an adult, I notice how terrible he is at writing women, how flippant his tone might seem to a modern audience, and many other "imperfections," to put it lightly. Still, while I don't forgive his flaws, I hold a soft spot in my heart for Vonnegut's core sense of humanism and his eye for pointing out contradictions in human nature. This novel about a spy who is posing as a Nazi radio broadcaster during WWII strikes a warning tone. "We are what we pretend to be, so we must be careful what we pretend to be."

# SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday  
February 21<sup>st</sup>, 1-3 pm**

**Anti-ICE Action in Downtown Rochester**

**Hosted By:**

Indivisible Outreach  
Intersectional Rochester  
People's Action  
50501 RocNY

ROC DSA  
Finger Lakes Maker's Collective  
Party for Socialism and Liberation  
Indivisible Westside Monroe County

## EVENTS-Canandaigua

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE

# JUSTICE TABLE

SHARING JOY & BUILDING COMMUNITY MONTHLY

ON THE 3RD FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH, WE WILL BUILD COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS OVER SHARED MEALS, FEELINGS & IDEAS, PROJECTS & ART. THIS IS A SPACE FOR ALL - FAMILIES & CHILDREN ARE WELCOME. WHETHER YOU ARE ALREADY INVOLVED IN ONGOING JUSTICE WORK OR WONDERING WHERE YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP, WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20 | 6-8 PM**

PLEASE BRING: A DISH TO SHARE

*Also welcome: non-perishable food items to donate to blessing boxes & sharing sheds, non-stretch cotton fabric to cut for Farmington Friends quilt squares*

**20  
FEB**

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF CANANDAIGUA**

3024 COOLEY RD, CANANDAIGUA, NY 14424

**FEBRUARY TOPICS:**

PLANNING FOR PRIDE EVENTS ACROSS  
FLX REGION & RAINBOW FRIENDSHIP  
BRACELET MAKING

## VIGIL AND PROTEST

IN EVERY COMMUNITY ACROSS  
THE UNITED STATES



To remember those who lost their lives and those in mourning. To unite together in an act of resistance and courage against the normalization of the actions or inactions of these agencies and the Federal Government.

Sunday February 15th,  
4PM

Rep. Claudia Tenney's  
Office, 2375

Rochester Rd, Canandaigua

Learn More:



The demonstration, which will include, a candlelight vigil, reading of a list of names, and a die-in. Those in attendance are encouraged to lie down (or remain still in their chair/walker, etc) and remain still for 36 mins, 1 min for each name.



**We Dissent 5&20 Alliance**

## SECOND ANNUAL OPEN MIC

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
OF CANANDAIGUA



3024 Cooley Rd  
Canandaigua



Join friends at UUCC for a cozy Open Mic Night. All are invited to participate! Free to perform and attend, donations welcome. Mocktails and lite bites will be available for purchase.



Friday  
**FEB 13**



seven to nine-ish

[Click here](#) or scan below to sign up





## The Intersection Contact Us

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

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

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[www.FLXJP.org](http://www.FLXJP.org)

## Our Creative Team

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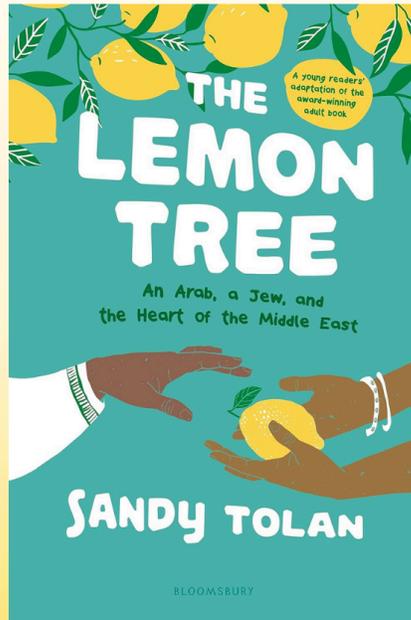


## Penn Yan *Action* Coalition

Supporting immigrants in the local and wider community



# SEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNITY READ



COPIES AVAILABLE AT LONG'S  
CARDS & BOOKS AND AT THE PENN  
YAN PUBLIC LIBRARY. AUDIO BOOK  
VERSIONS CAN BE FOUND ON  
LIBBY.

## JOIN US FOR THREE IN- PERSON COMMUNITY EVENTS BASED ON THE AMAZING TRUE STORY!

“In 1967, a twenty-five-year-old refugee named Bashir Khairi traveled from the Palestinian hill town of Ramallah to Ramla, Israel, with a goal: to see the beloved stone house with the lemon tree in its backyard that he and his family had been forced to leave nineteen years earlier. When he arrived, he was greeted by one of its new residents: Dalia Eshkenazi Landau, a nineteen-year-old Israeli college student whose family had fled Europe following the Holocaust. She had lived in that house since she was eleven months old.”

**“On the stoop of this shared house, Dalia and Bashir began a surprising friendship...”**

### FRIDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup> BOOK DISCUSSION

A book-club style conversation about the book. The conversation will be guided by reflection questions and facilitated by one of our members.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> AUTHOR SESSION

We will be watching a YouTube interview with author Sandy Tolan and a Ted Talk with Dalia Landau, one of the characters in the book.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> FILM VIEWING

During our last session, we will be screening the acclaimed documentary, *No Other Land*. A reflection & discussion will follow.

**All Sessions start at 6:00 PM, EST and will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St, Penn Yan, NY).**

## 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.



# HOW TO TALK TO KIDS ABOUT ICE

## WHY THESE CONVERASTIONS MATTER

Kids hear things. Without guidance, they feel anxious. Be present and honest.

## WHAT NOT TO SAY

- Don't worry about it. (Feels dismissive)
- That won't happen to us. (Create false security)
- Constant News/Replays (Increases anxiety)

## WHAT TO SAY INSTEAD

Focus on safety and validation.

- You aren't alone. Look for the helpers—I am one of them.
- It's okay to feel scared. Let's talk about it together.

## AGES 3-6

- Focus on comfort
- Stick to routines and offer extra hugs.
- What to say: Some families aren't being treated nicely because of where they were born.
- Reassure them: Remind them they are safe and loved.



## AGES 7 TO 11

- Explain the situation: Some families are being separated because of how they came here. That isn't right.
- Open dialogue: Let them ask questions.
- Safety first: Remind them to only discuss this with trusted adults.

## AGES 12-18

- Be direct: It is unfair that people are treated differently based on where they are from.
- Listen: Encourage them to share their feelings.
- Empower them: Support them if they want to take positive action

**SOURCE: CHILDREN'S NETWORK**