



INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

February 15, 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>.

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/tmJcVxQ8MAyIwe947>. Presented by the Yates Resilience Community.

Monthly Fightback. Saturday, February 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. Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

Community Skillshare: Practical Origami. Saturday, February 21, 4:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan). 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, Peter Salva returns for another session on origami - this time, going beyond the basics to share practical ways to use this artform. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/m7yth3hh>. Have a skill to share? Let us know at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4965v9>! Presented by the Yates Resilience Community.

People's Parliament & Community Potluck. Sunday, February 22, 4 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan). The Yates Resilience Community is offering an ongoing way to connect over food and shared values. Gather at 4 p.m. to share a meal together, with an open floor to discuss current events, raise concerns, and propose solutions. All are welcome to attend any portion they wish; there is no obligation to participate beyond your interest or comfort. If you'd like to bring a dish to share, please fill out this form: <https://tinyurl.com/2m544nrk>. Come break bread with us!

TAKE ACTION

Trump and Republicans are terrified about the midterm elections. Trump is posting increasingly deranged posts on Truth Social: "There will be Voter I.D. for the Midterm Elections, whether approved by Congress or not!" Meanwhile, Republicans are trying to pass the SAVE America Act which would disenfranchise millions of voters who do not have access the the documents the law would require for them to vote. Republicans succeeded in passing the SAVE Act in the House on Feb 11 and the bill is now headed for the Senate.

Time Sensitive/Urgent: You can help organizations that will lobby the Senate on our behalf to prevent this attack on our elections. Visit these organizations online and sign their petitions. Let the Senate know that Americans won't stand for this assault on democracy.

Common Cause <https://tinyurl.com/5atkwzfd>

ACLU <https://tinyurl.com/bdhddzx3>

Rock the Vote <https://tinyurl.com/y7b3pbf9>

League of Women Voters www.lwv.org/save-act

Robert Reich, Professor, writer, and former Secretary of Labor, reminds us we have power to wield against major corporations funding ICE's gulag of detention facilities run by CoreCivic. Reclaim your power by reading and acting on one or more of the steps he describes in "[What you can do to stop big corporations from helping ICE](https://tinyurl.com/ye2xx94h)" <https://tinyurl.com/ye2xx94h>

One midsize company helping ICE that has a presence in New York State is Citizens Bank. There are multiple branches in Rochester, one in Victor and one in Ithaca. Visit [Boycott Citizens](http://BoycottCitizens.org) and learn about 7 things you can do to let Citizens Bank know that supporting immigration detention centers is bad for business. boycottcitizens.org/take-action

Wednesday March 18th

PENN YAN VILLAGE ELECTIONS

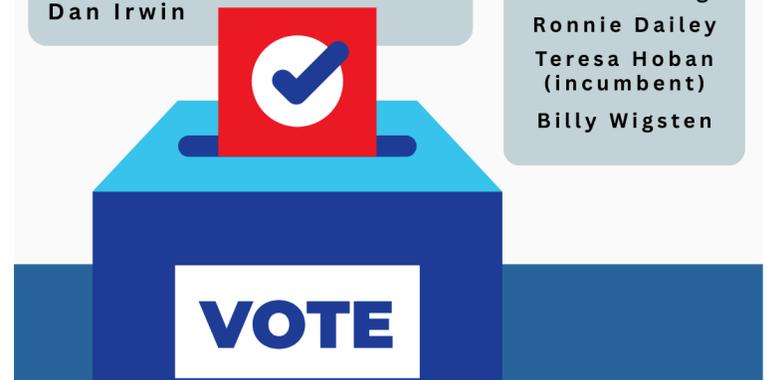
★ VILLAGE HALL COMMUNITY ROOM FROM 12PM-8PM ★

MAYOR'S RACE

Patricia Christensen
Dan Condella (incumbent)
Leigh MacKerchar
Dan Irwin

VILLAGE TRUSTEE RACE

Robert Craig
Ronnie Dailey
Teresa Hoban (incumbent)
Billy Wigsten



GOOD NEWS

Several athletes at the Winter Olympics in Italy have spoken out against the Trump regime or expressed concerns about U.S. policies, inspiring negative responses from the President and VP.

Buddhist monks completed their 2,300-mile Walk for Peace from Fort Worth, Texas, to the DC-area, inspiring millions with hope for peace.

Relief mingled with suspicion over reports that ICE agents will end their surge in Minnesota. Stay tuned.

A federal grand jury refused to indict six Democrats who published a video reminding military not to follow illegal orders.

The San Francisco teachers strike was successfully resolved when the District agreed to fund health care for dependents.

A lengthy DHS shutdown is expected over ICE funding, with Senate Democrats vowing no short-term support. Unfortunately, DHS can still tap into funds appropriated last year.

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

"The Evolution of Blackface in the Age of AI." Code Switch podcast. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/mbtvmksm>

"Revealed: How Big Businesses are Rolling Back Public Support for Pride." Chris Osuh, Raphael Boyd and Geneva Abdul, The Guardian. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/5ft2d5rd>

"The Right Hit Peak Incel in 2025." Amanda Marcotte, Salon. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/3wsdbr9p>

Today in the "Let This Radicalize You" Department: "Normalcy, feat. Andrew." It Could Happen Here podcast. A very banal title obscures an important and provocative discussion. The prosperity most of us were born into between the 1950s and the early 2000s isn't the natural historical baseline; it was an historical anomaly that cannot be replicated without end. What will we do to prepare for its dissolution? Access: <https://tinyurl.com/yey2njs2>

"Gavin Newsom is Much Worse Than You Think." Norman Solomon, Salon. He's become a liberal darling for standing up to Trump, but that doesn't make him the leader we need. Think twice before pegging him as your '28 choice. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/2s4zxw97>

JOIN US ONLINE FOR BLACK HISTORY

We're celebrating Black History Month again this year! Check out our posts on Facebook and Instagram for a look at significant moments and people—from the famous Greensboro, NC, lunch counter to the 2026 Olympics! Look for the colorful striped design and the FLXJP logo. We celebrated Rosa Parks Day on February 4th. It's a new state holiday, designated here in New York in 2025.



Musician Eubie Blake's accomplishments in vaudeville, films, and composing made him a famous figure in the musical world. He received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Ronald Reagan in 1981.



Erin Jackson is the first Black woman to win a Winter Olympic gold medal in an individual sport (in 2022) and the first Black American woman to medal in speed skating. She is one of ten Black athletes on Team USA, and we'll feature more of their stories as events continue this week.

Follow us for more.
Facebook @flxjp

Instagram @flxjusticepartnership

IMMIGRANT TEA TIME

an online
community
discussion group

thursday 2/19/2026 @ 5pm
"the stories we carry"



join us!! sign up at
nyc.me/teatime



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

birth action collaborative



COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS

Have you given birth in the last 5 years?

Your experiences can help improve birth care for families in our community.

Who are we? The Birth Action Collaborative (BAC) brings together families, community organizations, birth workers, and health partners to listen to families and take action to improve birth care based on what our community needs most.

We want to partner with Black mothers and birthing people to share their experiences, help set priorities, and explore ways to stay involved as community partners.

Who Can Participate?

Mothers / Birthing People

Identify as Black

Gave birth within the last 5 years, in Monroe County

Session Details

Session 1:

Saturday, February 21 - 12:30 - 4:00 pm

Session 2:

Saturday, February 28 - 12:30 - 4:00 pm

Session Location:

21 Gorham Street, Rochester, NY 14608



\$100 stipend
Transportation, Meals and Childcare Provided

To register please use the QR Code to go to the form.
Questions? (773) 850-2413

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday

February 21st, 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



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

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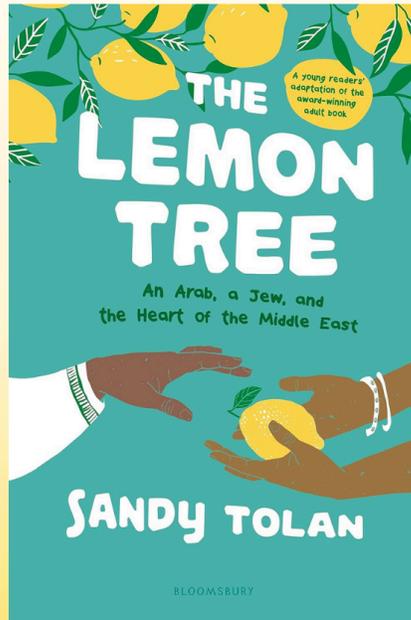


Penn Yan *Action* Coalition

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 6TH 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 13TH 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 20TH 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.