



INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

March 08, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gentle Chair Yoga. Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17 & 24, 1 – 1:30 p.m., 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: Intro to Asexuality, Tuesday, March 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. Have you ever seen the LGBTQIA+ initialism and wondered what the A stood for? Join us in March to learn more about...Asexuality! We'll cover some basic info, misconceptions, and discuss the ways asexual folks fit into the queer community. Attend in person at St. Mark's Church or virtually by registering here: <https://tinyurl.com/mrpwe3km>. Organized by Keuka Compass, Finger Lakes Justice Partnership, and Saint Mark's Church.

Penn Yan Action Coalition Community Read, Session Two: About the Author, Friday, March 13, 6 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan). The Penn Yan Action Coalition (PYAC) is proud to announce our selection for our seventh annual community read: The Lemon Tree (young readers' edition), by Sandy Tolan. A deeply moving and meaningful book, it offers critical history and context about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, while remaining at its heart a story about friendship and human connection. For this session, we will be watching an interview with the author, as well as a recorded presentation by Dalia Landau, one of the figures in the narrative. Didn't read the book? No problem! We'd still love to welcome you and your thoughtful comments. Copies are available at Long's Cards and Books for purchase and at Penn Yan Public Library for borrowing. Presented by Penn Yan Action Coalition.

Keuka Compass Book Club, Tuesday, March 17, 7 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 two shorter books are The Deep by Rivers Solomon and Psalm for the Wild Built by Becky Chambers. Copies are available for purchase at Long's Cards and Books in Penn Yan and for loan through the Southern Tier Library System. Want to attend the discussion by Zoom? Write to us at flxjustice21@gmail.com and we'll provide the access info. Presented by Keuka Compass.

Penn Yan Action Coalition Community Read, Session Three: Film Screening, Friday, March 20, 6 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan). The Penn Yan Action Coalition (PYAC) is proud to announce our selection for our seventh annual community read: The Lemon Tree (young readers' edition), by Sandy Tolan. A deeply moving and meaningful book, it offers critical history and context about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, while remaining at its heart a story about friendship and human connection. During this final session, we will host a screening of the acclaimed documentary No Other Land, with discussion and reflection to follow. Didn't read the book? No problem! We'd still love to welcome you and your thoughtful comments. Copies are available at Long's Cards and Books for purchase and at Penn Yan Public Library for borrowing. Presented by Penn Yan Action Coalition.

TAKE ACTION

Take action to protect your freedom to read, a first amendment right! Immediately after Trump attacked trans people in his State of the Union address, House Republicans introduced H.R. 7661 which would ban public schools from stocking books or teaching materials containing information or narratives about trans identities. Some sex education programs, clubs and support groups would also be included in the ban.

Go to 5 Calls to contact your House member here: 5calls.org/issue/federal-book-ban-hr7661/
Sign a petition here: action.everylibrary.org/hr_7661

Take action to learn how to organize locally to oppose the massive AI data centers that increase energy costs, threaten water supplies and lower quality of life. Attend the virtual webinar "[Protecting Local Communities from AI Data Center Impacts](#)" from noon to 1:15PM on Wed March 11. Register here: bit.ly/sflxwebinar1

Take action to resist the Trump regime's attacks on democracy. Join We (the People) Dissent's Resistance School starting with "Noncooperation: How to Topple an Authoritarian Regime" on Tuesday, March 10 at 8:00 PM EST. Join the presentation here: <https://tinyurl.com/4k9sybdn>

Take action to end mass incarceration and overhaul New York's racist and unjust sentencing laws by signing the Communities Not Cages petition. This is a grassroots campaign led by impacted people and families across New York State to eliminate mandatory minimums and create the right to a second-look at unfairly long sentences. Sign the petition here: <https://tinyurl.com/4k2xara8>

Concerned Citizens of NY24 Sponsors Public Town Hall & Forum

"What Can We Do Now- Healthcare As We Move Forward"

Thursday March 12th
7pm-8:30pm

Smith Opera House

82 Seneca St, Geneva, NY 14456

*doors open at 6:30pm

Moderated by Diana Kastenbaum
with panelists

- **Alice Carlie**
Metro Justice Advocate for the NY Health Act
- **Scott Comegys**
NYS Citizen Public Health Leader
- **Ankit Dahal, Ph.D.**
advocate for the NY Health Act
- **Julie Miller**
Social Worker



GOOD NEWS

Bethany Yarrow came to Hunt Country in Branchport March 7, where she led a group of more than 60 people in singing protest songs from the old days and introduced new ones from the [Singing Resistance in Minneapolis](#).

Some high-profile [MAGA stalwarts \(Tucker Carlson, Megyn Kelly, Matt Walsh\)](#) are revolting over the Iran war, saying it betrays Trump's America first principles.

The Iran war, aka "Epic Fury," is [polling as unpopular](#) (56% of U.S. adults oppose), with higher opposition among young people (64% of adults under 30 oppose).

[20% of Trump voters now say they regret voting for him](#), based on a poll by Navigator Research. Not nearly enough!

[Truth Social is \(still\) losing money](#), and may get spun off, NY Times writers report. "It serves mainly as a platform for Mr. Trump to communicate policy proposals with the world and air his political grievances."

[Dem Alex Holladay wins AR state house](#), flipping a ninth Republic seat. [Democrats have won 90 special elections](#), each up an average of 13 points over 2024, Downballot reports.

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

"Remembering Jesse Jackson." Code Switch podcast. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/3rbpbwyyu>

"Fascism Isn't Coming — It's Here. Now What?" Movement Memos podcast. The hosts "discuss the severity of our situation and what solidarity and effective organizing will demand of us in these times." Access: <https://tinyurl.com/3s599auy>

"The U.S. men's hockey team made us proud to be Americans. Trump helped them ruin it." Kavitha A. Davidson, MS Now. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/2snk6dt4>

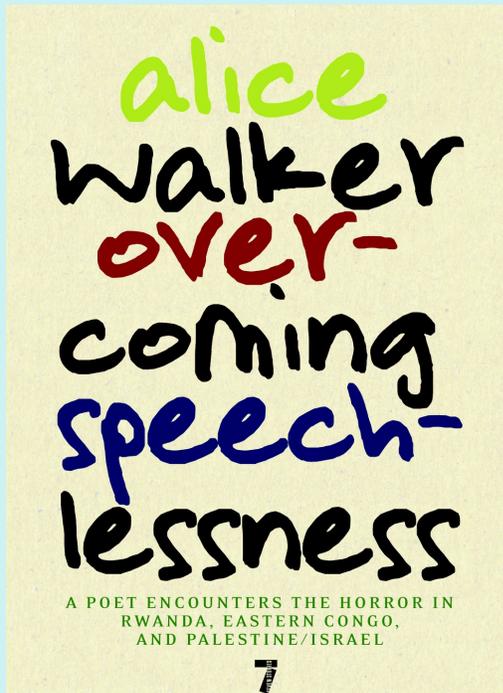
"Manosphere podcasters have second thoughts." Tom Schaller, Public Notice. This is a development that could turn the tide of future elections. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/y57uhf7z>

"Me and the Devil Blues." Unexplained podcast. A folkloric tale that takes a turn towards exploring white supremacy and its assumptions toward the end. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/4a8n2wcs>

BOOK REVIEW: Overcoming Speechlessness

Written By Peter Salva

In such a busy world it's nice to read a book which packs a lot of meaning into a short number of pages. Alice Walker's *Overcoming Speechlessness: A Poet Encounters the Horror of Rwanda, Eastern Congo, and Palestine/Israel* does just that. In 80 pages, Walker tells about her time working with Women for Women International, a nonprofit which provides practical and moral support to female survivors of war.



During her time with this organization she visited Rwanda, Congo, and Palestine and met with individuals who experienced dehumanization, violence, and suffering in many capacities. Though the book is short, Walker is able to distill her experiences meaningfully so that the voices of those who she meets are the focus, the goal being to break through the speechlessness that so often is imposed on those who have experienced this type of trauma.

This is not a book which will offer tons of historical context, fill in details about political nuance, nor offer deep analysis. However, Walker is able to highlight the importance of connection with individuals on a human level as a way to overcome inaction. There is something about her willingness to bear witness, particularly as someone who experienced segregation, racism, and violence in the US, which makes her writing feel more honest than other similar works.

On this International Women's Day, and at the end of a week wherein the US and Israel have begun another war, one in which women and children are already being disproportionately affected, reading a work like this one by Alice Walker may be sobering. Yet, we must remind ourselves that those affected by war and violence are worthy of humanization and dignity. We must fight for humanization and dignity for all. Walker's work is a great reminder of this, as well as a celebration of the reclamation of humanity and dignity in the face of unspeakable pain and trauma.

FLX RAPID RESPONSE TRAINING



HOW DOES RAPID RESPONSE WORK?

THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH
7:00-8:30 | VIRTUAL SESSION

- ✓ Learn how to document ICE arrests
- ✓ Learn more about FLX Rapid Response and how it works
- ✓ Join our network to help keep Cayuga, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne and Yates counties safe from ICE terror

REGISTER TO JOIN AT
bit.ly/flxrrn-training



Wednesday March 18th

PENN YAN VILLEGE ELECTIONS

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

MAYOR'S RACE

Patricia Christensen
Dan Condella (incumbent)
Dan Irwin
Leigh MacKerchar

VILLAGE TRUSTEE RACE

Robert Craig
Ronnie Dailey
Teresa Hoban (incumbent)
Billy Wigsten



More Information:
<https://www.fingerlakesdailynews.com/local/yates-schuyler-steuben-tompkins/penn-yan-village-elections-set-for-march/>



CANDIDATE MEET & GREET

MEET DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE NY-24 CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY



Alissa Ellman



Diana Kastenbaum

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 1-5PM
HUNT COUNTRY VINEYARDS
TASTING ROOM
4021 ITALY HILL RD, BRANCHPORT

PRESENTED BY THE
YATES COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

FREE and open to the public.
RSVPs appreciated to
yatesdems@gmail.com

www.yatesnydemocrats.com



collaborative

ART NIGHT

let's make something wonderful together

March 18th
6-8 PM
Canandaigua, NY

Register at TVPOC.org
for more information!



Rochester LGBTQ+ Together
www.Rochester.lgbt | rocigbtqtogether@gmail.com

March 2026

Program & Events Calendar

Calendar Icon Key:

- Accessible Venue
- Interpreted
- Captioned
- Cost to Attend
- Advance/Limited Tickets
- Reservation Required
- Face Mask Encouraged

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
<p>1 <i>Zero Discrimination Day</i></p> <p>Rescheduled from February!</p> <p>Pride Outside: Rainbow Hike Crew *Special Date*: 1:00pm Goshell Big Woods Preserve Gosnell, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Trans, Non-binary & Intersex+ 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Activity & Hobby Clubs: Movie Lovers Club: Discussion Group 1st Tuesdays, 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Walk & Roll 1st Weds., 6:00pm Eastview Mall Victor, NY All Ages</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Zero Discrimination</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Advance/Limited Tickets</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Pride Outside: Saturday Stroll 1st Saturdays, 1:00pm Highland Park Rochester, NY All Ages</p>			
<p>8 <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i></p> <p>Pride Outside: Rainbow Hike Crew 2nd & 4th Suns. *Special Time*: 10:00am Tinker Nature Park Pittsford, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Lesbian & Queer Women 2nd Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Activity & Hobby Clubs: Arts & Crafts Club 2nd Tuesdays, 6:00pm RSROC Community Center Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Grief Support Group 2nd Weds. Bimonthly 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Trans Community Dinner Eventbrite reservation deadline!</p> <p>Laser Elton John email reservation deadline!</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Advance/Limited Tickets</p>	<p>14 Pop-Up Pride!</p> <p>Pop-Up Pride: Day at Haudenosaunee Winter Games 2nd Saturdays, 1:00pm Ganondagan State Historic Site Rochester, NY All Ages</p>			
<p>15</p> <p>Queer Afternoon Out: Laser Elton John 2:15pm Strasenburgh Planetarium Rochester, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Trans, Non-binary & Intersex+ 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i></p> <p>Activity & Hobby Clubs: Rainbow Reading & Book Club 3rd Tuesdays, 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>18 <i>We're back outdoors!</i></p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Walk & Roll *Special Date*: 6:00pm The Brickyard Trail At The Sandra Frankel Nature Park Brighton, NY All Ages</p>	<p>19 <i>Eid al-Fitr</i></p> <p>Sip & Social: Happy Hour 3rd Thursdays, 6:00pm Flofa Rochester, NY 21+ Only</p>	<p>20 <i>Vernal Equinox</i></p> <p>Activity & Hobby Clubs: Sober Game Night 3rd Fridays, 7:00pm RSROC Community Center Rochester, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>21</p>			
<p>22</p> <p>Pride Outside: Rainbow Hike Crew 2nd & 4th Suns., 1:00pm Northampton Park Brockport, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Gay & Queer Men 4th Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Activity & Hobby Clubs: Fiber Arts Club 4th Tuesdays, 6:00pm RSROC Community Center Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>25</p> <p>March is National Craft Month</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Sip & Social: Trans Community Dinner Select 4th Thurs., 6:30pm RSROC Community Center Rochester, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Women's History Month</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Sip & Social: Coffee Hour 4th Saturdays, 11:00am Boulder Coffee Cafe & Lounge Rochester, NY 18+ Only</p>			
<p>29</p> <p>Community Drop-in 5th Suns., 1:00-5:00pm RSROC Community Center Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 <i>Trans Day of Visibility</i></p>	<p>Sign Up for Our Email List!</p>			<p>Make a Donation!</p> <p>Rochester.lgbt/donate</p>		<p>Like and Follow Us Online!</p> <p>RocLGBTQTogether</p>	

Note: All programs are subject to cancellation or change. Please check our social media for the most up-to-date information.

Last Update: 1/31/2026



The Intersection

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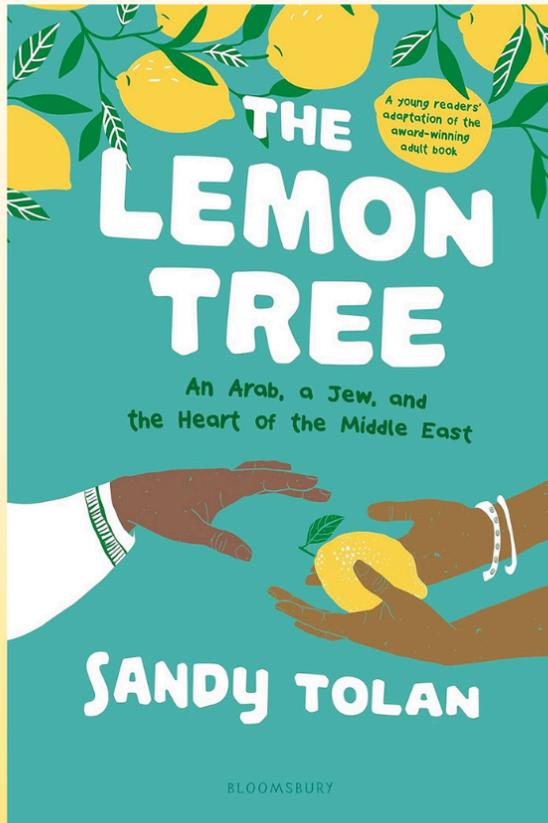
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OUR MISSION

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 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.



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).