



THE INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

March 22, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gentle Chair Yoga. Tuesdays, March 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>.

Connection Collective: Creativity as Resistance. Sunday, March 22, 12 - 2 pm, Chrysalis Center for Integrative Health, Victor.

"We're reaching out to invite you to an upcoming Connection Collective gathering. This meeting is focused on creativity as a form of resistance, connection, and community support. It's hard to know what to do right now. The world feels uncertain, overwhelming, and at times deeply painful. And still, there is resistance, power, healing, and hope in connection and in creative expression. This gathering will center creativity as a form of grounding, processing, and collective care. Together, we'll create space to talk, reflect, and express ourselves through art. You're invited to:

- Create collages
- Work with alcohol ink, acrylic, and other mediums that will be provided
- Bring your own craft or art supplies if you'd like
- Make protest signs for the upcoming No Kings Day on March 28
- Simply sit, connect, and create something that reflects what you're holding—fear, grief, resistance, remembrance, anger, tenderness, or hope for the future

There is no right way to participate. Come as you are. Create what feels true for you. Feel free to bring food or snacks that you enjoy having while creating and connecting." Please RSVP via Eventbrite here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/connection-collective-creativity-connection-community-tickets-1982391793218?aff=oddtcreator>

People's Parliament & Community Potluck: Exploring the Mind/Body Connection for Resiliency, Sunday, March 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. In partnership with Finger Lakes Justice Partnership, we are pleased to offer an open floor to discuss current events, raise local concerns, and propose solutions. At this session, Somatic Therapist, pro-liberation facilitator and fifth-generation healer Asha Gozzelin, LMSW (ze/zir pronouns) helps us explore mind/body practices for building capacity and resiliency within individuals, families, and communities, in connection to the land and more-than-human world. 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!

Sustainability Studio: Upcycling Garden Supplies from Trash to Treasure, Thursday, March 26, 6 p.m. at Penn Yan Public Library.

Adults are invited to learn a variety of ways to reuse or repurpose materials into useful, sustainable new objects and tools. This month, learn to make soda bottle planters for herbs and other small plants, as well as how to use toilet paper rolls for seed starting in your garden. All supplies will be provided.

Keuka Compass Social Gathering, Saturday, March 28, 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. Presented by Keuka Compass.

TAKE ACTION

Take action with [Rochester's Sexual & Reproductive Justice Task Force](#) to call for universal child care in New York State. Visit the RSRJTF facebook page at <https://tinyurl.com/3tejbt2a> Follow the steps to contact Gov. Hochul, Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and tell them to include universal child care in the NYS budget. A phone script is provided.

Take action by posting a comment on the [EPA's public comment page](#) in opposition to the rollback by the EPA of protections against ethylene oxide, a known carcinogen that causes leukemia and breast cancer. This environmental injustice will disproportionately harm communities already burdened by pollution. As explained by [Alt National Park Service](#) on Bluesky, "You don't have to write an essay. You just have to show up. Tell them you oppose weakening these standards, you know what this chemical does to people, and that you're watching. They are legally required to read these. Comments like this have changed outcomes before." The public comment page is here: [regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0178](https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0178) Click the "Open for Comments" button first, and then the "Comment" button in the field that opens up below that, which brings you to the page in which you can start writing.



Many thanks to all who came out for our monthly Fight Back Rally. Photo Credit: A. Andrasik

MARCH 28

NO THRONES. NO CROWNS.

NO KINGS

Time	Location
Saturday, March 28 11am - 12:30pm EDT	415 Liberty St Penn Yan, NY 14527

GOOD NEWS

Judge Paul Friedman blocked the Pentagon's policy revoking press credentials and attempting to limit what could be reported.

Indivisible reports that No Kings 3 next weekend is shaping up to be huge, with more than 3,000 locations committed so far, bringing the number of protests so far this year to more than 20,000 nationwide.

ICE warehouse detention facilities are facing resistance everywhere. In GA, officials in Social Circle turned off water meters; a block on a detention warehouse in Williamsport, MD, was extended till April 16; and NJ and Roxbury Township are suing to stop conversion of a warehouse into an ICE detention facility. In Salt Lake City, UT, protesters gathered to oppose a planned facility.

NYC Mayor Zohran Mamdani appointed Taylor Brown to direct the Office of LGBTQIA+ Affairs, a new agency that will oversee matters of concern and advance anti-discriminatory measures. She is the first transgender person to lead a NYC office.

The Supreme Court kept Temporary Status Protection for 350,000 Haitians in place until the lawsuit is settled, despite the regime's attempt to remove it. The justices will consider the case in late April, perhaps reaching a decision by June.

Childhood vaccine recommendations were reinstated after Judge Brian Murphy sided with American Academy of Pediatrics and other medical groups to issue a preliminary injunction invalidating the votes taken since last June.

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

"Angela Bassett Issues Charge to Entertainment Industry at ABFF Honors." Brande Victorian, The Hollywood Reporter. "Targets are being put on our backs as people by those at the highest heights of power in the world. And the only way to combat such vitriol and racism and misinformation about who we are is to keep telling our own stories, by showing the power of our individual and collective journeys." Access: <https://tinyurl.com/4ch46th6>

"What the success of 'Sinners' does (and doesn't) say about race and Hollywood." Code Switch podcast. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/ym6j2wzv>

"Shipping Security in the Strait of Hormuz." It Could Happen Here podcast. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/ypzbe3>

"Democrats' new middle-class tax cut plans are a big mistake." Eric Levitz, Vox. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/yp6rznm>

"AI Fakes Spread Disinformation. Is the Distrust They Create Even Worse?" Anna Merlan, Mother Jones. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/32uv233y>

STIRRING THE POT

Written by Anne Kiefer

Consider Donald Trump's rhetoric on peace. His supporters describe him as the "President of Peace." He touts an untenable foreign policy mantra, "Peace Through Strength." He claims to have ended eight wars, a statement unsupported by fact. He created an international "Board of Peace," populated by authoritarian figures who foist oppressive measures on their own people. He whines about a Nobel Peace Prize snub and wheedles organizations and heads of state into giving him token awards to curry his favor and avoid his rancor. Most egregiously, he is waging an illegal, immoral war on Iran—sold to the American people in both gamer and white Christian nationalist terms—that has killed thousands, expanded across the Middle East, and generated global repercussions that will reverberate for years.

We can add Trump to Martin Luther King Jr's list of warmongers who talk of peace while promoting violence, who think they can achieve a noble end through ignoble means, who trivialize war's cost in lives and human suffering. In the final analysis they all can be seen to strive not for peace, but for a hierarchical world order, in which a privileged few hoard the planet's wealth and resources.

No justice no peace.

Excerpt from Martin Luther King, Jr's last Christmas speech, "A Christmas Sermon on Peace," December 24, 1967, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia

"It's one of the strangest things that all the great military geniuses of the world have talked about peace. The conquerors of old who came killing in pursuit of peace, Alexander, Julius Caesar, Charlemagne, and Napoleon, were akin in seeking a peaceful world order. If you will read Mein Kampf closely enough, you will discover that Hitler contended that everything he did in Germany was for peace. And the leaders of the world today talk eloquently about peace. Every time we drop our bombs in North Vietnam, President Johnson talks eloquently about peace. What is the problem? They are talking about peace as a distant goal, as an end we seek, but one day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal we seek, but that it is a means by which we arrive at that goal. We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means. All of this is saying that, in the final analysis, means and ends must cohere because the end is preexistent in the means, and ultimately destructive means cannot bring about constructive ends."

POWER OF DIALOGUE WORKSHOP

Register for zoom link



Join a free 2-hour workshop to become a peacemaker by learning to create safe spaces for dialogue and lead courageous conversations with hope and optimism.



CENTER FOR DISPUTE
SETTLEMENT
peace it together



STOP NUCLEAR IN THE FINGER LAKES

Nuclear in the FLX? Presentation and Discussion on the Risks, Cost, and Community Impacts

Thursday, April 9th
@ 6-7:30PM

Saint James Episcopal
Church 112 6th Street,
Watkins Glen, NY 14891

EVENT SPEAKERS:

Tim Judson • Bob Howarth • Yvonne Taylor

Co-sponsored by: NIRS, Seneca Lake Guardian, Sustainable Finger Lakes, Frack Action, Food and Water Watch, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, Sierra Club Finger Lakes Group, Committee to Preserve the Finger Lakes, We Are Seneca Lake, Indivisible Schuyler, Zero Waste Ithaca, People For a Healthy Environment, Citizens for a Better Southern Tier, Veterans for Climate Justice, FLX Strong, Alliance for Nuclear Free NY, Campaign for Renewable Energy



Join the TRAIL SURVEY PROGRAM

Help us survey for terrestrial invasive species across our region!
Survey period will be from: April 1st - September 30th

We are tracking high priority invasive species across the region. We are asking for your help to find these species on our trails! Volunteers will be trained on invasive species identification and trail safety.

How to Participate:

Fill out our interest form by using the QR code to the right and then:

1. Attend our virtual training sessions on April 1st, June 9th, and July 29th or review the training materials available on our website and our YouTube channel (available April 1st)
2. AND/OR Attend an in-person workshop at a trail near you!
3. After either, you're ready to survey on your own or in a group!

Register
Here!



The SAVE ACT exposed:

Voter ID already exists. Thirty-six states already require ID to vote. The remaining states require ID to register to vote.

Republicans are using this bill to claim that voter fraud is a pervasive problem. The truth is that the fraud rate is 0.00006%

The real purpose of the SAVE ACT is to make it harder for people to vote by making registration more difficult.

The SAVE ACT requires in-person registration. This affects the elderly, college students, and those who can't travel to a registration facility in their home state.

Registration requires a passport, which 50% of the country doesn't have, or a birth certificate.

Anyone who changes their last name, as many women do when they get married, could be prevented from registering to vote.

Voter rolls are being purged. Past purges have found that 94% of those removed should not have been purged.

One of the most insidious aspects of the SAVE ACT is that it removes the requirement that voters be informed when their names are removed from the voter rolls. This means you may not know you've been removed until you're prevented from voting.



The Intersection

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INAUGURAL
TRANSGENDER WELLNESS & EQUITY FUND CONVENING

AFFIRMING
New  **York**

Care That Honors Every Body

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

LIMITED EARLY ACCESS

Complimentary gift will be provided to the first 50 registered guests.

Join advocates, providers, organizers, parents, and community leaders from across New York for the inaugural statewide gathering centered on transgender wellness, equity, and collective care.

This convening builds on the launch of Affirming ♥ New York and brings our community together to strengthen connections, elevate lived experience, and advance a shared vision for affirming, accessible care statewide.

DATE & LOCATION:
March 23-24, 2026
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York

    bit.ly/TWEFAffirmingNY 

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.