



# THE INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

September 14, 2025

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Keuka Compass Book Club, Tuesday, September 16, 7:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan) or online via Zoom.** Our September pick is *Queer Little Nightmares: An Anthology of Monstrous Fiction and Poetry*. There is a copy available through Southern Tier Library System, and we will have five additional copies available thanks to a generous donation. Please email us at [flxjustice21@gmail.com](mailto:flxjustice21@gmail.com) to request one or to register for the Zoom link. Presented by Keuka Compass, Yates County's LGBTQ+ social and advocacy group.

**FLXJP Justice Study Hall, Friday, September 19, 6 p.m. at Penn Yan Public Library (214 Main St., Penn Yan).** Bring any social justice-related task currently on your to-do list, whether it's in partnership with the FLXJP, a personal or work project, or anything else, and work on it alongside others with similar goals and values. Network with like-minded justice seekers while carving out time for what matters to you. Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

**No Bunkers Required Community Resilience, Saturday, September 20, 12 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 Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

**Monthly Fightback: Standing Up for Educators, Saturday, September 20, 3 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. This month, as students head back to school, we honor the educators who dedicate their lives to them, as those public servants come under increasing attack from reactionary anti-"woke" forces. Hosted by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

**Community Skillshare: Baking Gluten-Free Quickbreads, Saturday, September 20, 4 p.m.; location provided upon registration.** 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: Kelley Walker returns for another entry in her popular ongoing series of gluten-free skillshares! Join us as she shares the secrets of baking delicious gluten-free quickbreads. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/yc53vse5>. Have a skill to share? Let us know at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4965v9>! Hosted by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

## EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED!

**Community Skillbuilding Salons, Sunday, September 21, 2 - 4 p.m. (fiber arts) and 3 - 5 p.m. (cooking) at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan).**

**MORE LOCAL EVENTS ON PAGE 3**

## TAKE ACTION

Gun violence has convulsed the nation this month. We've continued to endure the horrific scourge of fatal school shootings, and witnessed as well as the public assassination of right wing activist, Charlie Kirk, whose murder immediately triggered an undeserved paroxysm of recrimination from the Trump administration and conservative media toward liberals and the trans community.

The US is awash in gun deaths, but the Trump administration is erasing information and eliminating evidence-based programs that reduce gun homicides. The Dept of Health and Human Services has removed from its website the [Surgeon General's advisory on gun violence](#) and closed down the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention (WHOGVP). The efforts of WHOGVP, established in 2023, [contributed to a nationwide reduction in homicide rates and provided comprehensive support to communities impacted by senseless gun violence](#). Both the advisory and the WHOGVP treated gun violence as the public health crisis it is.

Contact your federal elected officials and demand that they work to reopen the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention and return the Surgeon General's advisory on gun violence to the HHS website. Americans have the right to live free from the fear of gun violence in their homes, in schools, and in public. We deserve to have all the tools in place to make that happen.

Find contact information for our NY Senators here: [senate.gov/states/NY/intro.htm](https://senate.gov/states/NY/intro.htm)

Find contact information for your House member here: [house.gov/representatives](https://house.gov/representatives)



## GOOD NEWS

The alleged leader of the free world went out to eat at a restaurant last week, only to be greeted by boos and protests! Joe Biden ate out in D.C. the next day, but he got applause and handshakes. Trump faced similar negative reactions last week at Yankee Stadium and at the U.S. Open.

Trump has changed his mind on sending troops to Illinois, thanks to pushback from Gov. Pritzker and the rest of Chicago. He's apparently taking his military road show to Memphis TN instead.

Three fired FBI officials have filed a lawsuit against the regime, alleging they were illegally fired as retribution because they investigated Donald Trump. Patel, Bondi, FBI, and DOJ are defendants, along with the President's office.

Two Republicans voted with Democrats when Sen. Chuck Schumer forced a vote on release of the full Epstein files. It narrowly failed, but a House committee released the "birthday book" and other records, providing fuel for continued demands for full disclosure.

## UPCOMING EVENTS-LOCAL

**Community Cafe, Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 5 p.m., Penn Yan United Methodist Church (166 Main St, Penn Yan).**

**Keuka Compass Social Gathering, Saturday, September 27, 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. Please note our new location! Hosted by Keuka Compass.

**Keuka Compass Pathways, Saturday, September 27, 4:00 p.m. at the Stanley Trailhead of the Ontario Pathways Rail Trail.** This event for members of the LGBTQ+ community and allies, friends, and family is a chance to enjoy our local trails and nature as well as each other's company. This month's destination in Stanley is about a twenty minute drive away from Penn Yan, so please get in touch with us if you'd like to carpool. Please plan to dress appropriately for whatever weather is forecast. For questions, contact us at [flxjustice21@gmail.com](mailto:flxjustice21@gmail.com).

**Penn Yan Action Coalition Classic Movie Night, Tuesday, September 30, 6:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main Street, Penn Yan).** Penn Yan Action Coalition continues its series offering viewings of classic films with a lot to say about current injustices. This month: Storm Center, the story of a dedicated librarian who is demonized for resisting a book ban. Released in 1956; 1 hour and 25 minutes; starring the incomparable Bette Davis.

## UPCOMING EVENTS- ROCHESTER

Rochester LGBTQ+ Together announces its "LGBTQ+ Fringe Guide" to the 2025 Rochester Fringe Festival which runs September 9-20. See the guide here: <https://tinyurl.com/38vpbv5m>

**2025 State of the Latino Community, Wednesday, Oct 15, 12PM - 1:30PM, virtual.** Join Ibero-American Action League, Inc. as we unveil a powerful, data-driven look at how Hispanic and Latino communities are doing across Upstate New York: 2025 State of the Latino Community. Be part of the conversation on this webinar available to anyone on or off Facebook as we present a broad overview and deep-dive on insights into key socioeconomic indicators like education, employment, health, and housing throughout our service areas. <https://tinyurl.com/4nbebvfr>

A poster for a weekly event. At the top, it says "Geneva NY" with a location pin icon and "5PM". Below that, it says "Corner of Castle and Exchange". The main text is "TUESDAYS FOR PALESTINE" in large, bold, white letters on a green background. Below the text is a black and white photograph of a group of people holding protest signs. One sign says "HANDS OFF RAFAH STOP THE GENOCIDE!". Another sign says "END THE OCCUPATION NOW! FREE PALESTINE PARTY FOR SOCIALISM & LIBERATION @PSL\_FLX". At the bottom of the poster, it says "genevawomensassembly.org" in a red box.

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

### 2025 New York State LGBTQ+ Health and Human Services Needs Assessment

NYSLGBTQ.org invites you to take the 2025 New York State LGBTQ+ Health and Human Services Needs Assessment provided by the New York State Department of Health to inform policy and to sustain and enhance services available to LGBTQ+ community members. This survey will take about 20 to 30 minutes to answer. You must be at least 13 years of age to participate. The survey is anonymous and will not record any personal information that can identify you. It will include questions about your experiences of health and service needs. Some questions may ask about difficult experiences, or they may spark your interest in seeking services.

*As a resource, the bottom of every screen of this survey will provide a link to the New York State Department of Health Crisis contact website. You may use this link to contact counselors or receive immediate assistance. At the conclusion of the survey, we will provide you with a link to the New York State Network for LGBTQ+ Health and Human Services. "The Network" includes over 60 agencies around the state that serve and support LGBTQ+ community members.*

Take the survey here: <https://tinyurl.com/38wrm6sz>

### Neighborhood Mini-Grants Now Available!

Sustainable Finger Lakes is offering Neighborhood Mini-Grants to stimulate resident-based, grassroots initiatives that improve quality of life and long-term health in local communities, promote environmental stewardship and green practices, generate collaboration between differing groups, and create opportunities for leadership and civic engagement. Applications must be received on or before October 1, 2025 for Tompkins County grants, and October 17, 2025 for Seneca, Schuyler, and Yates County grants. To apply, contact Sasha at [sasha@sustainablefingerlakes.org](mailto:sasha@sustainablefingerlakes.org) or 607-272-1720. To learn more about the mini-grants visit <https://tinyurl.com/y8duejrd>

### Take Action: Support Real BYO (Bring Your Own) Rights in New York!

The current BYO bill (S7408 / A8007) in New York leaves out the most important parts - takeout food and grocery store delis. Zero Waste Ithaca, Columbia County Reduces and allies developed a full set of proposed amendments (upon a legislative aide's request) - and now we're calling on legislators to adopt them. These changes will protect public health, support local businesses, reduce toxic waste, and give New Yorkers the real right to bring their own containers. You can read the full list of proposed common sense amendments in the petition linked below. Sign the Petition Here! (<https://tinyurl.com/yj95nm4b>; for individuals - includes links to bill text, amendment proposals, and all the other relevant information) Organizational and business sign-on form is here! (<https://tinyurl.com/yfmrer78>)

## Community Alert

DHS recently canceled the parole status of people who came to the U.S. through a CBP One appointment or under the Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, & Venezuela (CHNV) parole program. If you came under either of those two, your parole status and work permit are no longer valid. The New York Immigration Coalition recommends those impacted talk to an immigration attorney as soon as possible to explore options.



## The Intersection

Contact Us

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## Our Creative Team

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## OCTOBERFEST +

### 5k RACE

Sat. October 18, 2025

American Legion  
Spring Street, Dundee

10 am - 3 pm

Race also begins at 10

To register for the race, go to

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/Dundee/Runandhops5k>

**Vendors! Food!**

**Activities for the family!**



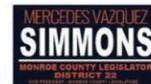
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF

# Hispanic Heritage Celebration Day



Sunday, September 28, 2025

12:00 pm–5:00 pm | FREE!



Memorial Art Gallery  
500 University Ave.  
[mag.rochester.edu](http://mag.rochester.edu)

Scan here  
to learn more!



“I have always believed that my duty is not only to liberate myself from the oppressor, but also to liberate my oppressors from their hatred and fear.”

—Mahmoud Khalil

## 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.