



THE INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

November 09, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

Acceptance, Belonging and Community LGBTQ+ Issues: Queerness in Nature. New link! If you had trouble registering before, try with the new link below. Tuesday, November 11, 7:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan) or online via Zoom. Join us for a presentation by Nat Smith, Founder and Coordinator of Mutual Aid Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc. This is a great opportunity to learn about the diversity of nature from an expert wildlife rehabilitator and master naturalist. Attend in person at St. Mark's Church, 179 Main St., Penn Yan, or virtually by registering here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87292915825>. Presented by Keuka Compass, Finger Lakes Justice Partnership and Saint Mark's Church.

Community Cafe, Tuesday, November 14, 5 p.m., Penn Yan United Methodist Church (166 Main St, Penn Yan).

No Bunkers Required Community Resilience, Saturday, November 15, 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: Honoring Indigenous Peoples. Saturday, November 15, 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, we honor the Indigenous peoples whose ancestral lands we occupy with calls to honor treaties, respect their diverse cultures, and bust myths that have built up around their lives and identities. Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

Community Skillshare: Learn to Crochet. Saturday, November 15, 4 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: Hannah Farley returns to share her expertise in crocheting, a highly sought-after fiber art and skill. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/mr3nj5ux>. Have a skill to share? Let us know at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4965v9>! Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

Community Skillbuilding Salons. Sunday, November 16, 2 - 4 p.m. (fiber arts) and 3 - 5 p.m. (cooking) at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan). Finger Lakes Justice Partnership invites you to these ongoing opportunities to practice skills, build connections, and increase community resilience. Practice fiber arts of all kinds - knitting, crochet, needlepoint, sewing, and more - starting at 2 p.m. upstairs in the Knapp Room, and at 3 p.m., try your hand at all things food-related, from growing to cooking to preserving, downstairs in the kitchen. Experienced coaches will be on hand at each to offer instruction and tips, but otherwise, these sessions are designed to be casual and fun. These are two overlapping events; all are welcome to attend either or both as you wish. No registration required.

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TAKE ACTION

Take action to stop the inhumane treatment of pregnant individuals in ICE detention

Since 2021, ICE has had a [policy guiding detention of pregnant, postpartum and nursing individuals](#) that states that "ICE should not detain, arrest or take into custody for an administrative violation of the immigration laws individuals known to be pregnant, postpartum or nursing" except under extraordinary circumstances. Likewise, except in extraordinary circumstances, ICE policy forbids the use of restraints on pregnant individuals, and never on individuals in active labor or delivery.

And yet pregnant individuals, among the most vulnerable in the immigration detention system, are being harmed by practices that ICE employs in violation of its own policy. It's impossible to know the extent of the violations because, as reported by the [ACLU](#) and [Women's Refugee Commission](#), ICE no longer provides information on the number of pregnant individuals it detains, and DHS has purged its monitors and does not allow advocates and legal counsel to speak to those in ICE detention facilities.

Despite the lack of transparency from ICE and DHS, information about the mistreatment of pregnant individuals in ICE custody has come from the [office of Senator Jon Ossoff](#) and human and immigrant rights groups, including the National Immigration Project, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, Sanctuary of the South, the ACLU, and Women's Refugee Commission. [Interviews with women](#) who have suffered pregnancy crises due to treatment while in ICE custody reveal multiple instances of abuse and neglect severe enough to endanger lives and pregnancies. The violations include transporting pregnant women long distances while shackled, denying adequate nutrition and hydration, forcing pregnant individuals to sleep on the floor in overcrowded facilities, forcing women to miscarry in shackles, and denying adequate postpartum care.

Contact your elected officials and tell them to pressure ICE and DHS to do the following:

- Comply with government policy that disallows detaining pregnant, postpartum and nursing individuals except under extraordinary circumstances
- Monitor the health status of those in ICE facilities, report the number and status of pregnant individuals detained, and provide Congress with that information
- Allow legal counsel access to their clients in detention.
- Allow members of Congress, especially those in oversight roles, to have access to ICE detention facilities
- Provide quality health care, consistent with community standards, to immigrants in ICE facilities, especially to pregnant individuals.
- Investigate and correct lapses in care and failures to provide informed consent and language services for individuals seeking ob/gyn care.

Find contact information for your House representative and our NYS Senators here:

schumer.senate.gov/contact
gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/
house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative

Public Appeal from Keuka Housing Council:

"Hello all, our Point in Time count is coming back up on January 28th. Normally we check all the usual spots; however, I was wondering if anyone knew of any places they have seen or heard of homeless people hanging out or living. The grounds we usually cover are Yates, Dresden, Jerusalem, Dundee, and Starkey. I'm curious if anyone knows of any homeless people residing in Potter, Middlesex, Italy, Benton, Torrey, Barrington and the Tyrone areas? We're also looking for Volunteers again this year. Feel free to email me at asnyder@keukahousingcouncil.org if anyone is interested!"

GOOD NEWS

Last week's election was a huge win for Democrats, not only in the closely watched major races (Mamdani, Sherrill, and Spanberger) but reaching down through all levels of state and local governments.

It's been Good News/Bad News all week for SNAP benefits, as the back-and-forth continues and people go hungry. As of Friday night, Trump appealed to the Supreme Court and they allowed him to pause benefits affecting 42 million people, pending an appeals court ruling. Communities across the U.S. are rallying to feed their people.

Dem Rep. Yassamin Ansari adapted a popular meme to troll the House speaker, setting up a table outside his office with a sign: "Mike Johnson is starving families and gutting healthcare to cover up the Epstein Files. CHANGE MY MIND."

Wed, on the anniversary of the 2024 election, thousands of protesters chanted "Trump must go now" in events across Washington, D.C. The public rallies, organized by Refuse Fascism to protest his second term, continued for days. Veterans are planning protests Nov 11th in conjunction with Veterans' Day.

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

"Democrats' electoral sweep tests Trump's anti-DEI and immigration agenda." David Hood-Nuno, Jonathan Allen, and Bianca Flowers, Reuters. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/3yv4x784>

"Efforts to avenge Charlie Kirk's death have fallen apart everywhere — except where it counts." Russell Payne, Salon. Good news and bad news. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/89hdaupa>

"Elon Musk made his own Wikipedia. What could go wrong?" Adam Clark Estes, Vox. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/35nf22n2>

"Why every website you used to love is getting worse." Sean Illing, Vox. Important piece on the connection between politics, justice, and "enshittification," the strategy of big tech companies to lure in users, lock them in, and then race to the bottom. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/5n8pmv4x>

Book Review: Shirley Jackson Stories

I would like to start off this week's book review by inviting folks to the upcoming Keuka Compass Book Club meeting. Will be gathering on November 18th, at 7:00 p.m., both in person at St. Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main Street, Penn Yan) and on Zoom (<https://tinyurl.com/fc7bpnmt>). We will be discussing All Boys Aren't Blue by George M. Johnson. Copies are available upon request by emailing flxjustice21@gmail.com.

Even if you don't have time to read the book, please come join us. Discussion is always lively, and we will have autumnal snacks! Finally, we will be outlining our reads for next year, so it's a great time to join us if you haven't before. Hope to see familiar and new faces there!

The main topic for this week's review will be several short stories by Shirley Jackson. I shied away from recommending fiction at first when I started doing these reviews, but let's be honest. Fiction can teach us a lot about the world around us by exploring themes and experiences different from our own, as well as representing lived experiences. With that in mind, I'd like to recommend two of Shirley Jackson's stories which are both included in the collection *The Lottery and Other Stories* which was published in 1949.

The first is entitled "After You, My Dear Alphonse"; the second is "Flower Garden." The theme which ties these two stories together is racist micro-aggressions and racism in general. In "Alphonse," two boys, Johnny and his friend Boyd, who is black, go to Johnny's house for lunch. What follows is a depiction of the children's innocence in the face of the stereotypes and assumptions of adults who think they are being accepting when they are really alienating and othering. It gives those Get Out vibes (and if you haven't seen that movie, I recommend it as well!).

In "Flower Garden," the growing relationship between Mrs. Winning and her new neighbor Mrs. MacLane changes when MacLane hires and then befriends a local black man. What was a charming relationship between two women and their two boys morphs into cold distance and ugliness.

Jackson has a way of writing about simple scenarios which charges them with genuine emotion and heightens them from surface level explorations to tense, cringe and discomfort-inducing realities. Both of these stories highlight this skill. They are excellent examples, in my view, of what some people face on a daily basis, and they upend the view that niceness and civility are a be all and end all way of existing. The truth is that "civil" and "nice" people can and still do harm. Not being "overtly" racist is not enough. We must be anti-racist by questioning and engaging with our social systems. If you're up for exploring these ideas, give Shirley Jackson's stories a try and then keep digging.

MORE LOCAL EVENTS

Keuka Compass Book Club. Tuesday, November 18, 7:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan) or online via Zoom. Our November pick is *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson, which happens to be one of the most frequently banned books in the country across the past few years. The best way to oppose bigotry-inspired books bans like this is to read the book and embody its values! There are several copies available through the Southern Tier Library System, and we have several additional copies available thanks to a generous donation. Please email us at 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, November 21, 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.

Justice Table Community Potluck, Friday, November 21st, 6-8 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua (3024 Cooley Rd, Canandaigua). Children are welcome! Bring a friend, a snack or dish to share, your concerns, your plans, and your dreams to make our community more just and joyful for all.

RESCHEDULED! Community Skillshare: Crafting Charcuterie Boards, Saturday, November 22, 3:00 p.m.; location to be shared upon registration. Note this session's special date and time. 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, Morgan Hoke shares her methods for creating charcuterie boards - beautiful, edible tablescapes for any festive occasion - including decorative touches, without breaking the bank. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/mrttwpj9>. Have a skill to share? Let us know at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4965v9>! Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership

Keuka Compass Social Gathering. Saturday, November 22, 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! Presented by Keuka Compass.

People's Parliament & Community Potluck. Sunday, November 23, 4 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan). Following from our series of post-election mass meetings, Finger Lakes Justice Partnership is now offering a new opportunity to connect. Gather at 4 p.m. to share a meal together, with an open floor to discuss current events, raise concerns, and propose solutions. Each session will also feature a guest speaker and tangible progressive action opportunities. 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/yfhv5p8u>. Come break bread with us!



UPCOMING EVENTS- ROCHESTER

Project Unity's November Listen & Learn Segment, Wednesday, Nov 12, 7:00 p.m. This event features a unique story highlighting the intertwining lives and legacies of Booker T. Washington and Frederick Douglass. This story will be shared by Kenneth B. Morris, Jr., a descendant of both historical influencers. He continues his family's legacy of anti-slavery and educational work as co-founder and president of Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives (FDI), a nonprofit organization based in Rochester. Attend the November listening event with Kenneth as he tells the story of family, legacy building through education, and being an activist of social change - then and now. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/3usajhaa>

Family Preparedness Community Presentation, Wednesday, November 12, 5:00-7:30 p.m., (124 Evergreen Street, Rochester). Brought to you by Ibero-American Action League, Inc Learn about essential legal documents like standby guardianship, parental designations, and powers of attorney - and find out how to keep your family safe and secure during emergencies. After the presentation, take part in our Family Preparedness Clinic for personalized guidance and support. Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/4kurhw2r>

From Remembrance to Action: Building Trans Affirming Courts, Thursday, November 13th, 12:15p.m., virtual. The Pride Alliance of the NYS Courts invites you to join us for a virtual panel discussion. This program is open to the public! Additionally, we are offering 1.5 MCLE credits for FREE! Make sure to register by November 11th if you need the MCLE credit! Check out the flyer on our newly updated website and Register today! <https://sites.google.com/view/prideallianceofthenyscourts/upcoming-events?authuser=0>

Action for a Better Community, Inc announces a free program by The ERG, (Exploring, Engaging, Ending Racism Group) that will explore issues of race and racism, and ways to have a positive impact together in our community. These identical half-day, in-person sessions (please register for one session) will share information on the ERG program, the history of racism, bias, prejudice and the various aspects of racism. This is a forum for leaders, influencers, board members, and others interested in bringing about change in the community. Sessions will be held at the Rochester Regional Transit Servicer (RTS) headquarters, 1372 East Main Street, Rochester, NY 14609. Free parking in lot on east side of building. Session 1: Friday, November 7, 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM. Session 2: Thursday, January 15, 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM. Please register for one session here: <https://tinyurl.com/hck298nj>

"Extrajudicial Killings"

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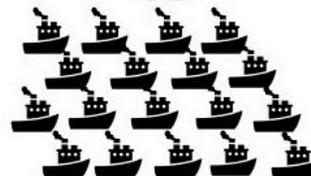
"Illegal Executions"

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MURDER

**Boats
Blasted**

18



**Lives
Lost**

69



As of 11/09/2025

FUNDRAISER

WE STAND WITH IMMIGRANT WORKERS!



<https://gofund.me/ccf415369>

URGENT NEED FOR CATO RAID AFTERMATH SUPPORT



The Finger Lakes Rapid Response Network has launched a GoFundMe fundraiser (<https://tinyurl.com/yexa2rwf>) to support the 60 individuals detained during the Cato Raid at the Nutrition Bar factory several weeks ago.

The impact of this raid on families in Fulton and Auburn is devastating. Individuals were rapidly moved to detention centers in Texas, Louisiana, and California, constitutional rights were ignored, and people were scared and continue to live in fear as they grieve their loved ones being snatched away from their own children, from our beloved communities.

We ask you please to donate what you can and share with your networks. Please feel free to donate as you are able and spread far and wide! If you'd like a tax letter for a larger donation, please send checks directly to Trinity Place, 78 East Castle Street, Geneva, NY, and we will send you a letter for tax record purposes; kindly make a note in the notes section to specify that the donation is for Cato aftermath support.



The Intersection

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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, 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.