



INTERSECTION

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Weekly Newsletter

December 7, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

Acceptance, Belonging and Community LGBTQ+ Issues: Year-End Fest, Tuesday, December 9, 7:00 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan).

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. This month, we will meet in person to enjoy each other's company in a casual, year-end party! Bring snacks and drinks to share; we'll have some too. We'd love to take some time to catch our breath and get ready for the next year together. Organized by Keuka Compass, Finger Lakes Justice Partnership, and Saint Mark's Church.

Community Cafe, Tuesday, December 9, 5 p.m., Penn Yan United Methodist Church (166 Main St, Penn Yan).

Keuka Compass Movie Night, Friday, December 12, 6 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Penn Yan).

Featuring LGBTQ+-themed movies for queer folks and allies. This month: *The Wedding Banquet*, a 2025 remake of the classic Asian comedy of errors touching on identity, sexuality, otherness and belonging. Bring snacks and drinks to share. To learn about upcoming selections, write to flxjustice21@gmail.com and request to join our email update list. Presented by Keuka Compass.

Keuka Compass Game Day, Sunday, December 14, 1 p.m., Lyonsmith Brewing Company (2597 Assembly Avenue, Keuka Park).

If you wish to learn some new games, or play an old favorite with a new group of people; if you are looking for other queer folk and/or allies to hang out with; if you just want some free chili and an interesting conversation on a Sunday afternoon, this event is for you. Feel free to bring a game, bring a friend, or bring snacks if you wish; we will have a wonderful selection of each present. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be available, as well as a voluntary potluck.

FLXJP Justice Study Hall, Friday, December 19, 6 p.m., downstairs at Penn Yan Public Library (214 Main St.).

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.

Regional Justice Summit, Friday, December 19, 7 p.m., online via Zoom.

Finger Lakes Justice Partnership hosts a bi-monthly, virtual gathering of leaders representing justice-seeking groups of all kinds from across the FLX region to share ideas, update on events, and seek connection. Let's bust out of our siloes, signal-boost each other's projects, and support each other in this difficult and important work! Do you represent a group that belongs in this conversation? Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/4n7z7mrc>. Please note this session's special date.

TAKE ACTION

As of December 5, Governor Hochul had not yet signed three bills that would safeguard New Yorkers' bodily autonomy and their access to reproductive and gender-affirming care. The bills are:

- The New York Health Information Privacy Act (S929/A2141): This bill ensures New Yorkers have control over their sensitive health information, like the data included in fitness and period tracker apps. The bill prevents the weaponization of personal health data against people seeking reproductive or gender-affirming care.
- The "Shield Law 2.0" (S4914A/A5480B): This legislation strengthens New York's current shield laws to expand legal protections for patients and providers of gender-affirming and reproductive healthcare from out-of-state investigations and legal actions.
- The Hospital Transparency Bill (S3486/A3862): This bill requires hospitals to be transparent about the types of services they provide, including gender-affirming and reproductive health services, providing New Yorkers with greater access to care.

Call Governor Hochul's office at 518-474-8390 and tell her that every New Yorker should be assured of their bodily autonomy, have access to all needed healthcare including reproductive and gender-affirming care, and know that their personal data is protected from exploitation or weaponization. Tell Governor Hochul to sign the New York Health Information Privacy Act, the "Shield Law 2.0," and the Hospital Transparency Bill.



! CONGRESS MUST ! STOP TRUMP'S HUD MONROE COUNTY AT-RISK OF LOSING 15 MILLION IN HOUSING FUNDING

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) from HUD prioritizes communities that:

- Strip gender-inclusive language from housing policy
- Require sex-segregated or gender-assigned shelter placements
- Prioritize "faith-based" or "service-requirement" models over Housing First models
- Criminalize homelessness
- Ban public camping
- Mandate treatment as a precondition for housing
- Eliminate DEI, disability rights, and gender-inclusive policies

**THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE
WILL BE KICKED OUT OF
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE
HOUSING AND PUT BACK
ON THE STREETS!**



SCAN THE QR CODE TO
EMAIL YOUR REPS.

ACT NOW!

GOOD NEWS

Trump and his regime face increasing challenges of late, with long-time supporters like Marjorie Taylor Greene openly rebelling, Republicans announcing retirement, and plummeting approval ratings. Alina Habba, appointed U.S. attorney by Trump, has been declared ineligible. Court setbacks loom, even as Trump himself seems to be slipping physically and mentally.

District Judge Currie dismissed James Comey and Letitia James cases due to illegal appointment of Lindsey Halligan, but DOJ prosecutors tried again to indict. Last week a grand jury rejected their request to bring charges. They are expected to try yet again.

DOGE ended its reign of terror eight months early, following months of government agency disruption. Unfortunately, the Office of Personnel Management has taken over many of its functions.

The Republican "Party" is fracturing daily; Speaker Mike Johnson is losing his grip on the House as Dems prepare a petition to force a vote on extending healthcare tax credits.

The Washington Post continues to report on "shifting explanations" for the reprehensible "second strike" that killed survivors of the U.S. military's Sept 2 attack in the Caribbean. The regime faces increased scrutiny and censure from Congress members, and the unfolding horror story has added to reasons for Republicans to break free from Trump. Hegseth and team are trying to justify murder.

"Trump's peace plan," selling out Ukraine to Russia's benefit, faced bipartisan criticism from U.S. senators as well as European allies. It is being modified, but so far still likely to be rejected by Russia.

MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

Though it no longer dominates headlines as it did over the summer, the MAGA republican regime's anti-immigrant crackdown continues to terrorize millions of our neighbors, and while the stories that we do see can feel far away, the noose is tightening in our region. As of this writing, there are at least three individuals in custody and at risk of being disappeared who have direct connections to our communities. In light of these developments, this week's recommendations are intended to illustrate the ongoing horror of this racist and manipulative campaign.

- Daisy Ruiz Marin, director of migrant services at Rochester's Ibero-American Action League joins Connections with Evan Dawson and other local advocates to discuss the severe and lasting impact ICE raids have on families and communities. As an immigrant herself, with a family member recently detained, Daisy not only understands this as a service provider but at a personal level. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/msdamk7v>
- "Disappeared to a Foreign Prison." Sarah Stillman, The New Yorker. A critical read. Access: <https://tinyurl.com/38tnvd36>
- "Darien Gap, One Year Later, Part One: After the Jungle." It Could Happen Here podcast. Last year, the podcast's immigration correspondent James Stout presented a series exploring the lives of the people who make the desperate decision to traverse one of the most treacherous routes in human migration. Now he follows up with those few who made it before the MAGA regime closed down our border, following their heartbreaking journey through the cruelties of the American immigration system. Every American of good conscience must listen to it. Here's part one: <https://tinyurl.com/yrskhyfa>

FLX JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP Fundraiser



Legacies of Justice Calendar

The Legacies of Justice calendar makes a great gift for the history buffs, Finger Lakes enthusiasts, or woke social justice warriors in your life! Available by donation only.

Your \$20 (or more) donation will support our ongoing work to provide community meals, skillshare, advocacy, and more!

Pre-Order Yours Here:
<https://tinyurl.com/y75rbk9t>

We are accepting cash, check, or credit card payments.

www.FLXJP.org

We are so happy to announce that our official FLXJP website has gone live!

This has been in the works for many months and we are finally ready to share it with you all. You will now be able to find all FLXJP related information in one place. We will be posting our event calendar, copies of this newsletter, photos of our events, and so much more.

We are still busy constructing all of the various portions of the site, so please be patient while we get the rest of it up and running.

The Finger Lakes Justice Partnership Team

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS- ROCHESTER

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>

UPCOMING EVENTS- LOCAL

No Bunkers Required Community Resilience, Saturday, December 20, 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 Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

Community Skillshare: Crafting Festive Holiday Arrangements, Saturday, December 20, - p.m. at 1:30 p.m. at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (179 Main St., Pen Yan). Note this session's special 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, join us to make table decorations for the December holidays. Anne Meyer-Wilber will show us how to combine holiday greens with fun trimmings to create arrangements to use for gifts or for your own home. Please bring a mug, bowl, or other small waterproof container if you have them. We'll supply some greens, trimmings, and other necessary materials, but you're welcome to bring any other items you wish to incorporate into your creation, such as greens, candles, small ornaments, or ribbons. You'll take home a finished custom-designed arrangement. Anne has been creating her custom arrangements for sale each year at the Modeste Bedient Library in Branchport, where they are always well received. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/u8rn9fuv>. Have a skill to share? Let us know at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4965v9>! Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

Monthly Fightback: Defending Free Speech, Saturday, December 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, we end the year with a defense of an essential American right: the freedom of speech, which, through book bans, court challenges, and more, is increasingly under attack by the MAGA christofascist faction. Show up to demonstrate that we will not let them freeze out one of our true, cherished national values. Presented by Finger Lakes Justice Partnership.

Community Skillbuilding Salons, Sunday, December 21, 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 new, 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.

People's Parliament & Community Potluck, Sunday, December 28, 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/ycc572uc>. Come break bread with us!



December 2025

Calendar Icon Key:

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

Rochester LGBTQ+ Together

www.Rochester.lgbt | roclgbtqtogether@gmail.com

Program & Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Sign Up for Our Email List!</p>	<p>1 World AIDS Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Walk & Roll 1st & 3rd Weds., 6:00pm The Marketplace Mall Henrietta, NY All Ages</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Activity & Social Clubs: Movie Lovers Club: Discussion Group *Special Date*, 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>South Wedge Holiday Festival 11:00am Star Alley Park Rochester, NY, 18+ with Us</p> <p>RGMC Holiday Concert 7:30pm Hochstein Performance Hall Rochester, NY, 18+ with Us</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Lesbian & Queer Women 2nd Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Activity & Social Clubs: Arts & Crafts Club 2nd Tuesdays, 6:00pm RSROC Community Center Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Stress & Anxiety Support Group 2nd Weds. Bimonthly 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pop-Up Pride: Day at the Conservatory 1st Saturdays, 1:00pm Lamberton Conservatory Rochester, NY, All Ages</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Hanukkah Begins</p> <p>Holidays at the Market 10:00am Rochester Public Market Rochester, NY, All Ages</p> <p>Rainbow Hike Crew 2nd & 4th Suns., 1:00pm High Acre Nature Area Perinton, NY, 18+ Only</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Peer Support & Discussion Groups: Trans, Non-binary & Intersex+ 3rd Mondays, 6:30pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>16</p> <p>New Program Date!</p> <p>Activity & Social Clubs: Rainbow Reading & Book Club 3rd Tuesdays, 6:00pm Zoom (Virtual) 18+ Only</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Wellness Wednesday: Walk & Roll 1st & 3rd Weds., 6:00pm Eastview Mall Victor, NY All Ages</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Sip & Social: Sober Game Night & Ugly Sweater Party 3rd Fridays, 7:00pm RSROC Community Center Rochester, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Sip & Social: Coffee Hour *Special Date*, 11:00am Equal Grounds Community Cafe Rochester, NY 18+ Only</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Pride Outside: Rainbow Hike Crew *Special Date*, 1:00pm Mendon Ponds Park Rochester, NY 18+ Only</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Movie Lovers Club: Movie Night Out: The Muppet Christmas Carol 7:30pm (7:00pm Doors) The Little Theatre 1 Rochester, NY All Ages</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Kwanzaa Begins</p>	<p>27</p>

Rochester LGBTQ+ Together will be taking a Holiday Rest Break from December 23 - 31.

The Intersection

Contact Us

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Our Creative Team

Writing

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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.