



September 2023 Newsletter



Floods, drought, fires. Mother nature continues to tell us that we need to transition to progressive systems change in a profound way. We need an economy that meets people's needs for decent affordable housing, meaningful employment at living wages, quality education and healthcare. We need to do much more to protect the fragility of all the lifeforms on the planet at risk of extinction.

Many of you are working on these issues. If you would like to get more involved with like-minded people and are not sure how best to plug in, do send me a message and I will be happy to connect you with others.

Below you will find posts of interest that WESPAC members are working on: from climate justice, to youth justice, worker justice and more. Remember to follow us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter for daily updates in between these monthly newsletters.

A luta continua,
Nada



WESPAC hosted an important WCPR planning meeting last night.

Climate Justice March NYC 9.17.23

Photos by Andrew Courtney with more on WESPAC's social media platforms!






Alternatives to Incarceration (ATIC) Coalition

NATIONAL YOUTH JUSTICE ACTION MONTH 2023

ZERO YOUTH DETENTION FROM SEATTLE TO NEW YORK




FRIDAY OCTOBER 20TH 6-8PM

A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL ORGANIZERS

MANHATTANVILLE COLLEGE

RSVP: ATICOALITION914@GMAIL.COM

[@ATICOALITION914](https://www.instagram.com/ATICOALITION914) 

OCTOBER is National Youth Justice Action Month

10/20/23 We are having a hybrid event at Manhattanville College

Zero Youth Detention from Seattle to New York

We will have a dynamic panel of organizers, advocates, and individuals with lived experience to discuss organizing strategies to bring Seattle's model (that achieved 'Zero youth detention by 2025') to New York.

This is imperative to Westchester County/NYS as there are plans and funding for building a new youth detention center in Valhalla, NY.

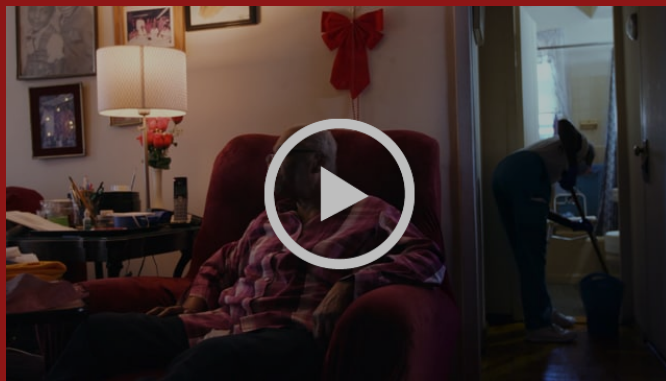
If interested you can e-mail us: atcoalition914@gmail.com for more information and Eventbrite registration link.

IG: [atcoalition914](https://www.instagram.com/atcoalition914)

#YJAM2023

#YouthJusticeActionMonth

NY Caring Majority



Loretta's Story

We are in a crucial period of time in the fight for Fair Pay for Home Care. The Governor is crafting her 2024 budget priorities as we speak and we are hearing rumors of an "austerity budget." We must send a strong message to the Governor - that now is NOT the time for cuts, but investment in the home care workforce New Yorkers rely on.

We are in a drive to reach 500 calls to Governor Hochul by September 29th, **today**, about the need to include Fair Pay for Home Care in her executive budget. Help us reach our goal! See [here](#) for the survey and script

Westchester Cooperative Network

If you are part of a group that is seriously considering forming a worker owned business, the Westchester Cooperative Network can connect you with the necessary training, legal assistance and financial support to make this vision a reality!

All details and the application form are available on our website at <https://www.westchestercooperative.net/>



Israelism



Israelism Trailer

Israel is central to the political and cultural life of the American Jewish community. But it has also become a deeply divisive subject, as painful generational cracks have emerged within the Jewish community over the Israel-Palestine conflict, inspiring argument, protest and even censorship.

Focusing on the stories of two young Americans raised to defend Israel at all costs, *Israelism* traces their awakening to Israel's dehumanization of Palestinians and the ongoing violence of the occupation. The film explores the past, present, and future of the relationship between American Jews and Israel, as growing numbers question whether support for Israel should condition and define their Jewish identity. Featuring a range of American Jewish thinkers, community leaders and activists, *Israelism* asks how and why Israel became the cornerstone of American Judaism, what the consequences have been, and what will happen as divisions continue to grow.

Watch the film for free at your convenience; then join the Q&A Discussion with:

Eric Axelman: filmmaker, co-founder of Tikkun Olam Productions

Simone Zimmerman: Jewish American activist, co-founder of IfNotNow

Lubna Alzaroo: instructor at University of Washington specializing in settler colonialism

Peter Beinart: editor-at-large at Jewish Currents, professor of journalism, CUNY and Publisher, The Beinart Newsletter

You must register to join the discussion & receive access to the film [here](#)

How this will work:

1 - Register here for the Voices from the Holy Land Online Film Salon [here](#)
2 - Once you register, you will get a confirmation email from Zoom with a link to the meeting and a link with to watch the film. (Save this confirmation letter as the meeting link is unique to your email and you must have this to participate.)

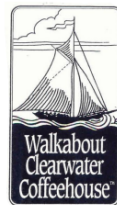
Concerned Families of Westchester (CFOW)



Concerned Families of Westchester is a peace & justice group organized in the wake of the 9/11/2001 events. We are based in the Rivertowns, from Yonkers up to Tarrytown. Each Saturday we have a vigil/demo in Hastings. We also have a weekly newsletter (<https://cfow.blogspot.com/>) and a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/705894016129650>), and we meet frequently via Zoom. This month our vigils focused on Labor Day, the 60th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech, and the climate crisis/March Against Fossil Fuels (as in the picture, "Going to the March!"). Another of our monthly activities is a weekly "Say Their Names" vigil in Yonkers, reading out the names of unarmed civilians who have been killed by police. Please join our vigil any Saturday at noon in Hastings to demand peace & justice! And for more information, email fbrodhead@aol.com.

Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse October Concert

Please see [here](#) to purchase tickets! More information [here](#).



**Our 36th
Season of
Presenting
Fine Music
for Fine
Folks!**

*Refreshments
available*

*Ample
Parking*

*Accessible
to all*



The WALKABOUT CLEARWATER COFFEEHOUSE presents

John McCutcheon



No one remembers when the neighbors started calling the McCutcheons to complain about the loud singing from young John's bedroom. It didn't seem to do much good, though. For, after a shaky, lopsided battle between piano lessons and baseball (he was a mediocre pianist and an all-star catcher), he had "found his voice" thanks to a cheap mail-order guitar and a used book of chords.

From such inauspicious beginnings, **John McCutcheon** has emerged as one of our most respected and loved folksingers. As an instrumentalist, he is a master of a dozen different traditional instruments, most notably the rare and beautiful hammer dulcimer.

His songwriting has been hailed by critics and singers around the globe. His thirty recordings have garnered every imaginable honor including seven Grammy nominations. He has produced over twenty albums of other artists, from traditional fiddlers to contemporary singer-songwriters to educational and documentary works. His books and instructional materials have introduced budding players to the joys of their own musicality. And his commitment to grassroots political organizations has put him on the front lines of many of the issues important to communities and workers.

7:30 p.m., Saturday, October 21, 2023

Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation
468 Rosedale Avenue, White Plains, NY 10608

Tickets: \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door

For more information, visit walkaboutchorus@gmail.com or click on the QR code in the lower left-hand corner of this flyer.

For tickets, visit www.Eventbrite.com and look for "An Evening With John McCutcheon" which might come up on its own. Otherwise, use the Search box.
(Making sure it's the White Plains concert.)

Questions? (914) 946-1625

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. / Audience singalong — our Teachabout — begins at 6:45.

Next month: November 11 — Christine Lavin and Don White