



NEWSLETTER



November 2022



Greetings, Friends of PFLAG Leonardtown!

November is Trans Awareness Month, Native American Heritage Month, and National Homeless Youth Awareness Month! The holiday season is ramping up and there is sure to be many events happening throughout the next few months so keep an eye out, especially on social media for all our updates!

November 20th is Transgender Day of Remembrance. Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death, and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance. (Source & More Resources: [GLAAD](#))

Mama Has a Mustache: A #TransgenderAwarenessWeek Screening Opportunity!

Mama Has a Mustache is an award-winning, fully animated doc about gender and family, as seen through children's eyes. The film explores how children experience a world outside of the traditional gender binary—and how we can learn from them as adults. **Now, timed to Transgender Awareness Week, we're thrilled to make the**

10-minute film available to watch at [Mama Has a Mustache + PFLAG National](#) from November 18-20.

Consider hosting an in-person screening or virtual watch party with family and friends. Then, on Thursday November 17th, join us on our social media channels for our weekly *Something to Talk About Live!* with the film's nonbinary Emmy-nominated director, Professor Sally Rubin, just before accessing the film the weekend of November 18th-20th. See below for details.

We invite you to take advantage of this great opportunity to celebrate #TransgenderAwarenessWeek!

Three Steps to Being a Better Trans Ally

Transgender Awareness Week started yesterday, so make sure you're ready to support the Trans and Nonbinary community, not just during #TransgenderAwarenessWeek, but all year long.

1. **Learn:** Check out straightforequality.org/trans to help you learn more about what you can do to be a better ally to individuals who identify as transgender and/or nonbinary, no matter where you are on your ally journey.
2. **Watch:** Re-watch our [Supporting Trans and Nonbinary Loved Ones: What Would You Do?](#) PFLAG Academy Online session to keep your allyship skills sharp and focused. Want to learn more about Nonbinary identities? Be sure to also take a look at [What The +?: Understanding and Supporting Expansive LGBTQ+ Identities](#).
3. **Share:** Use social media to help spread the word about virtual events in your community meant to commemorate [Trans Awareness Week](#) and the [Transgender Day of Remembrance](#).

Holigays & Holiday Shopping Guide

The Holigays are here (ready or not!) and this year's event will be held Sunday, December 4th from 2-5 PM at the Southern Community Center in Lusby! Visit the [event page here](#) for more information and to grab your ticket! We hope to see everyone there! It's such a fun event and we will be adding our entertainment events soon so keep an eye out on social media for updates.

We are also looking for local LGBTQ+ Owned & Ally Owned businesses to promote for the holiday shopping season. If you know of any or own a business, be sure to [fill out this form](#) so we can include it! Questions? Email us!

SOMD Pride

Our local Pride celebration was held on Sunday, October 9th at the Lexington Manor Passive Park- it was a resounding success! It was so wonderful to see so many community members and allies. Be sure to tag us in your photos or send them to us at pflag.leonardtown@gmail.com so we can post them on our social media channels or website! Missed the fun? You can still support SOMD Pride by buying merch! Visit <https://pride-somd.creator-spring.com/> for merchandise to #ShowYourPride all year long!

#AdvocacyCorner

Tell your Senators: Vote to support the Respect for Marriage Act

Tell your Senators TODAY to vote YES on the Respect for Marriage Act.

The Senate may vote on the **Respect for Marriage Act (RMA)** as soon as THIS WEEK. The RMA will repeal DOMA and codify into law the right to same-sex and interracial marriage, rights which could become under threat following the Supreme Court's reversal of *Roe v. Wade*.



No matter WHO your Senators are, don't let them have to wonder what you need them to do: Tell them to vote YES on RMA.

Let your senators know you support the Respect for Marriage Act:
pflagnation.al/RMA2022.

PFLAG National Resources

- **PFLAG National Advocacy:** Looking for advocacy tools and action alerts? This resource is for you!
- **Policy Matters:** Bi-weekly newsletter, sent every other Friday

Back to School Resources

Going back to school can mean different things for every child. For some, it's access to healthy food, a caring adult, and friends; for others it can mean confrontations with a bully, or concern about fitting in. Every child has the right to a safe, supportive, and inclusive education.

If you're looking for LGBTQ inclusive space in your school, but don't know who to reach out to, let us know and we can find out for you! Email us at pflag.leonardtown@gmail.com and we can find the inclusive and safe spaces. Together, we can help students feel safer at school. **If you are interested in a Safe Space sticker, email us your info and we will send you one!**



In need of support? Visit PFLAGLeonardtown.org

Here are some other resources available for students and teachers:

[American Foundation for Suicide Prevention LGBTQ Resources](#)

[PFLAG Resources](#)

[GSA & Student Resources](#)

We are still looking for more board members and committed volunteers! If you or anyone you know is interested in helping us plan our events and keep this organization running please have them email us with a resume or short bio at pflag.leonardtown@gmail.com. We are very interested in family members, friends, and allies of the LGBTQIA+ community as board members, so don't be shy if you're not directly part of the community.

Yearly membership Dues for PFLAG Leonardtown run from October through September which means that it's time to renew your membership with us so you can stay up to date on what's going on and vote in our annual elections. We appreciate all of our members who continue to support our efforts to Educate, Support and Advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community in Southern Maryland. Dues can be easily paid online through our website at:

www.pflagleonardtown.org.



Monthly Peer to Peer Meeting Schedule:

Youth & Adult: Wednesday, November 16th, 6:30 PM

Location: Hybrid @ Waldorf West Library

Link (we will use breakout rooms for separate groups):

<https://pflag-org.zoom.us/j/96792899670?pwd=dWZxVGhkMU1OaVBMZy96TkI1QythZz09>

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, November 16th - **Youth & Adult Peer to Peer - Waldorf West Library**

Friday, November 25th - **Christmas on the Square, Leonardtown**

Sunday, December 4th 2-5pm- **Annual Hologays Party! Southern Community Center, Lusby, MD - [Grab your Tickets HERE!](#)**

Keep an eye on our social media for more upcoming events!

Wishing you a happy and healthy month!

PFLAG Leonardtown

Family of The Heart



Need Help?

<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/resources/>

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255

<https://itgetsbetter.org/get-help/>

Trans Lifeline : 1-877-565-8860