

# PFLAG

WOODSTOCK, VA



## Woodstock, VA Starbucks Hosts Heartwarming Meet & Greet with PFLAG Woodstock VA

In a heartening show of community support and solidarity, PFLAG Woodstock organized a meet and greet at the Starbucks in Woodstock, VA, on June 25th. Jacob Tellinghuisen, the manager of the local Starbucks, demonstrated his commitment to inclusivity and diversity by proposing a Pride event for both his employees and the

wider community. After coordinating with a PFLAG representative, a date was set, and the event was put into motion.



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## Pride in Beautiful Art

This October, the Valley Educational Center for the Creative Arts (VECCA) is partnering with PFLAG to showcase the vibrant talents of LGBT+ artists from Shenandoah and the surrounding counties. Each month, VECCA highlights a local artist on its front wall, and this special collaboration aims to celebrate LGBT+ History Month with a diverse array of artistic expressions.

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**Pride in Beautiful Art**  
a group show featuring art from LGBTQ+ artists

**PFLAG**  
WOODSTOCK VA

deadline to apply: **Sept 20th**

OPENING RECEPTION: OCTOBER 12, 4-6 P.M. @ VECCA

**VECCA** 123 S Main St  
Woodstock VA  
W-F / 5-7p  
Sat / 10a-4p  
Sun / 12-3p

VALLEY EDUCATIONAL CENTER FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS

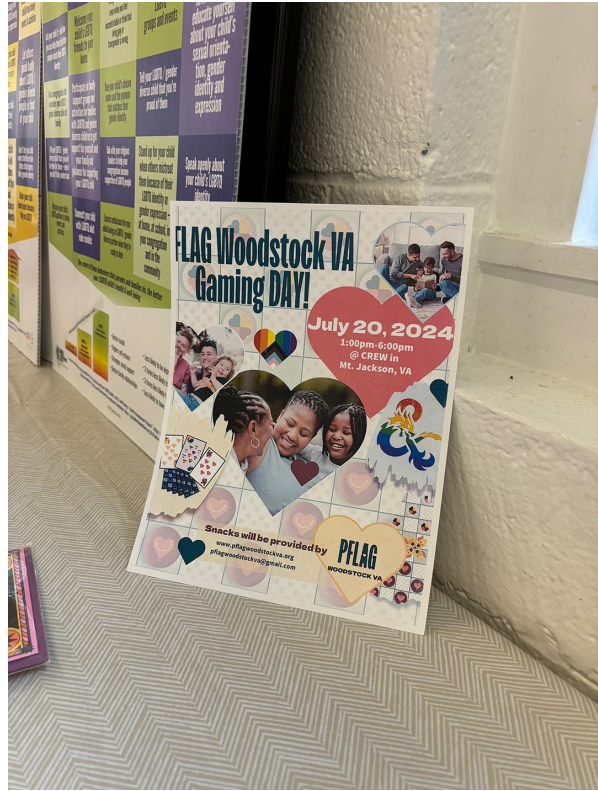
The poster features a vibrant, abstract background with colors like yellow, orange, blue, and purple. It includes a QR code and the text 'PFLAG WOODSTOCK VA' in a white box.



## Community Game Day Brings Fun & Engagement to Mt. Jackson

On July 20th, about 30 folks gathered at the C.R.E.W. facility in Mt. Jackson for a refreshing escape from the summer heat and a day of interactive fun. Starting at 1pm, folks immersed themselves in games, including learning the intricacies of Dungeons and Dragons.

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## Join us as a member!

Members are vital to our work! Your membership dues allow us to run monthly support group meetings, share educational materials with the community, run Safe Zone trainings to help local organizations better support LGBTQ+ folks, build community at events like our recent game day, and

more! Your \$50 membership fee makes you a member of both our chapter and PFLAG National. Please join us today by making a donation by scanning or clicking the QR code!



## We Have Shirts!

We were able to get funding with Grace Episcopal Church in The Plains to have shirts available for our Game Day last month. PFLAG National worked with us to give us a price break so that we could get more shirts for the money that Grace donated to us. We are grateful to both Grace Episcopal in The Plains and to PFLAG National for helping make this happen for us. Our shirts are a butter yellow and gray and we have them for the same price that they are listed on the PFLAG National website at \$30. If you are interested in getting one send us an email and we can set you up with one.



## Rotary of Woodstock VA Learns About PFLAG

The president of PFLAG Woodstock, VA, Susie Wilburn, she/her, spoke to the Woodstock, VA Rotary on July 24th. She spoke about what PFLAG is and why we are here. The presentation was a thought provoking short talk about LGBTQ+ issues,

## LEADING WITH LOVE

### Check Out Our Upcoming Events!

August 4th, 2024 - Support Meeting: 2-4pm @ First Bank in Woodstock

September 1st, 2024 - Support Meeting: 2-4pm @ First Bank in Woodstock

**September 5th, 2024 - Save the date for our annual membership meeting! More details to follow in a separate email.**

our safe zone trainings and our monthly support meetings. You can watch the talk above.

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## Support Meetings Continue to Grow!

For the past several months we have seen our support meetings grow to fill up the space that we use at First Bank in Woodstock, VA. We love that we are able to offer this time with those who are dealing with issues and give them a space to share feelings and get ideas. Last month, we tried to offer ideas about how to apply self care. With so much happening in the news, it can get stressful and overwhelming.

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## Calling All Volunteers!



Thanks to you, PFLAG is becoming a visible, credible resource for a growing number of area families, professionals, and organizations. This Pride season, we've been asked to attend multiple events and we need your help to attend and grow our presence in the community! To learn more about what volunteering entails or to sign up, please click the link below.

[Learn More](#)

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# Time To Say It Again: It's Looking Grim, But There's Still a Place for Hope

by Bob Minor

We read this together at our Support meeting last month and tried to focus on Self Care given the stresses of the news.

When we have a mainstream media that has bought the idea that it will make money by gluing the eyeballs of its viewers and readers to it by hyping violence, controversy, horror, extreme right-wing politicians, and a former president that leads a personality cult, it's easy for anyone who pays attention to feel overwhelmed by it all.

When there's one political party dominated by those who refuse to cooperate with anything that it feels threatens its power and position...

When that party has stacked the courts, gerrymandered elections, promoted a culture of unregulated weaponry, and condones and even calls for violence to protect its stash...

When so many leaders in the other party haven't awakened to how to deal with fanatics and still think one can reason with them...

When so much is under threat — LGBTQ marriage and other LGBTQ rights, voting rights, civil rights protections, the public schools, science that doesn't support their political interests, universities, libraries, and the livability of our planet...

Then these are scary times. And one way to respond is to bury our heads in the sand, turn inward, huddle in bunkers, and give up on attempts to fight for our values.

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**Leading with Love**  
pflagwoodstockva@gmail.com  
www.pflagwoodstockva.org

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PFLAG Woodstock | 3397 Hillcrest Drive | Toms Brook, VA 22660 US

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