



THE VALLEY CONNECTSHEN

Mission Statement:

The mission of Shenandoah Valley Equality is to build inclusive community for LGBTQ people in the Shenandoah Valley.

Community Events (inside)

- INDIGO Dance Party
- SVE Potlucks
- Pi Day Party
- Trans Day of Visibility
- Dukes Pride Week
- Staunton Pride

**EMPOWER
YOUR
COMMUNITY!**
Join SVE

(Membership pg. 15)

**“The Valley
ConnectShen”
is published quarterly
(March, June, September,
and December)**

**Contact the editor
to advertise and/or
submit event
information:
ShenandoahValley
Equality@gmail.com**

MOVING EQUALITY FORWARD: A Historic Virginia General Assembly Session

Several pro-equality bills have passed both houses of the General Assembly and are expected to be signed by the Governor. Some of these bills include:

- A bill prohibiting discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodations, and credit
- A bill to ban “conversion therapy” on minors
- A bill to add gender identity, sexual orientation, gender, and disability to Virginia’s hate crime law
- A bill to make it easier to change the gender marker on birth certificates
- A bill to repeal Virginia’s statute banning same-sex marriage and other forms of relationship recognition

See more at

www.equalityvirginia.org/equality-virginia-at-the-general-assembly/





SHENANDOAH LGBTQ CENTER

Offering
Peer-to-Peer Support

STAUNTON

2nd Saturdays

4:15 Trans / 5:30 Adult LGBTQ

4th Saturdays

4:15 Families / 5:30 Youth

WAYNESBORO

1st Fridays

Youth 4:15

3rd Fridays

Families 4:15

For more info, visit our website
www.shenlgbtqcenter.org

COMMUNITY CLOTHES CLOSET

Free for Center clients
Shop for business wear, eclectic,
casual, and everything in between!



GYPSY HILL PARK



MARCH 7, 15, 22, 29 & APRIL 5 Financial Fitness

If your goals this year include getting your finances in better shape, join us for a five-week series on financial fitness with instructor Joy Ingram. Learn how to create a budget (and stick to it), secrets of saving, building good credit, and more. Tuition for this series is just \$10.

Register now on our website!

Self-Expression Closet Accepting Donations

Once each semester JMU's SOGIE Programming accepts donations to the clothing closet. Located in the Lavender Lounge (SSC Room 1310 on campus), this is a free closet for JMU students to use. We accept gently-used binders, bras, shirts, pants, skirts, dresses, jackets, sweaters, shoes, purses/bags and other accessories (belts, hats, gloves, scarves, jewelry, etc.). Donations will be accepted between **March 13-March 18**. Drop off items to the labeled box in the Lavender Lounge (SSC 1310).



SOGIE
Programming



Sexual Orientation Gender Identity and Expression



EV is Virginia's state-wide, non-partisan education, outreach, & advocacy organization seeking equality for LGBT Virginians.

EV's 17th annual Commonwealth Dinner

is the state's largest black tie gathering for our community. Enjoy live entertainment, a silent auction, a dance, and network with others. At the dinner, EV also recognizes OUTstanding Virginians who have contributed to the equality movement and represented our community with distinction. We are celebrating a historic year of advocacy in the Commonwealth and hope you can join us for this special event.

For more information and to purchase tickets, go to:
<https://www.equalityvirginia.org/dinner2020/>

MARCH 28, 2020 | GREATER RICHMOND CONVENTION CENTER

A dark purple banner with white text. On the left is a stylized white 'EV' logo. To its right, the text reads: '—17TH ANNUAL—' in a smaller font, followed by 'COMMONWEALTH' and 'DINNER' in a larger, bold, serif font. A thin white horizontal line is positioned below the text.

EV —17TH ANNUAL—
**COMMONWEALTH
DINNER**

INDIGO: A Party for Women



Private Party for Women Only

Must be 21 to enter

ALL Women (21 and older) welcome

Saturday, March 21, 8:00 pm—midnight

\$15 cover to enter (cash only at the door)

Music by DJ Jammin' Jackie

Mill Street Grill (upstairs), Staunton

Bar (cash/credit cards accepted)

Questions? Indigoparty@hotmail.com

The Yoga Room

is now open

66 E Market St Harrisonburg VA 22801

offering private and small group yoga instruction

yogaroomdowntown66 on facebook

Call Matt Batton for an appointment
540.313.0339

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE!

\$15/issue or \$50/year (4 issues): Business Card

\$25 per issue or \$80/year: Quarter Page

\$50/issue or \$175/year: Half Page

\$100 for a Full Page ad per issue

ShenandoahValleyEquality@gmail.com

DEADLINE for **JUNE** newsletter is **May 15**

WAYS TO EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITY

- **JOIN SVE.** Non-voting membership is FREE; voting membership is only \$15/year
- **CONNECT.** SVE organizes a monthly potluck and dinner meet-up, a quarterly breakfast, and an annual equality forum. We also share information about local events.
- **HOST our Friday Potluck** at your home, workplace, local park, house of worship... You provide space, plates, utensils, and soft drinks — guests bring the rest.
- **ADVERTISE** in our quarterly newsletter (see this newsletter for ad prices and sizes)
- **SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS** with your business and referrals.
- **TELL US** about local events of particular relevance to our community; we will include them in our monthly e-calendar and quarterly newsletter FREE.
- **NOMINATE** yourself to serve on SVE's Board of Directors (nominations are due December 1 every year). All nominees must be voting members.
- **READ** our quarterly newsletter, *The Valley ConnectShen*. Share it with a friend.
- **LIKE and FOLLOW** Shenandoah Valley Equality on Facebook.
- **ORGANIZE, EDUCATE, AND ADVOCATE** for equality, justice, and liberation.

Connect with SVE

Voting membership is **\$15** a year.

Non-voting membership is **FREE**.

You must be at least 18 to join.

See pg. 15 for membership information.

-Make a new beginning this Spring-

Now is a great time to explore yoga!

**Call or text the Yoga Room
for a free appointment**

540.313.0339

66 East Market St

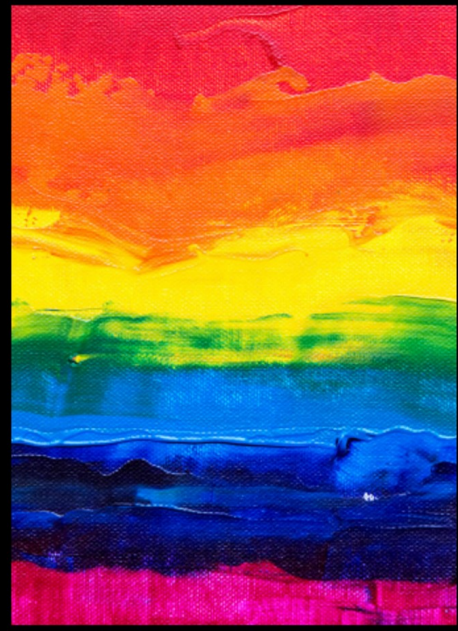
Downtown Harrisonburg

Community Organizations

Alliance for A Progressive Virginia	apvonline.org
American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia	acluva.org/tag/equal-rights/
Bi Gay Lesbian & Allies Against Discrimination (Blue Ridge Community College)	catalog.blueridgectc.edu/
BC Allies (Bridgewater College)	www.bridgewater.edu/student-life/activities-and-organizations/clubs-organizations-and-honor-societies
Coalition for Transgender Rights in Virginia	https://www.facebook.com/michellemarie51/
Equality Virginia	www.equalityvirginia.org
EMU Safe Space	www.emu.edu/studentlife/clubs/safe-space/
Friendly City Transgender Alliance	www.facebook.com/Friendly-City-Transgender-Alliance-100565454864352/
JMU LGBTQ Employee Group	www.jmu.edu/lgbtfacultystaff
JMU SOGIE Programming	beinvolved.jmu.edu/organization/sogie
JMU Madison Caucus for Gender Equality	www.jmu.edu/caucusgenderequality/
LGBT Democrats of Virginia	lgbtvadem.org/
Madison Equality JMU	www.facebook.com/madisonequality
PFLAG Blue Ridge	pflagblueridge.org and pflagbr@gmail.com
Safe Zone JMU	www.jmu.edu/safezone/
Shenandoah LGBTQ Center	www.shenlgbtqcenter.org
Shenandoah Valley Equality	www.svgla.org
Shenandoah Valley Pride Alliance	www.shenandoahvalleypride.org
Staunton Pride	www.stauntonpride.org
Students Out Understanding & Loving Sisters (SOULS) at Mary Baldwin College	www.mbc.edu/student_activities/clubsandorgs/#cultural
Southerners on New Ground—Harrisonburg	southernersonnewground.org/harrisonburg/
Vibrant Menders LGBTQ+ Action Group	vibrantmendersva@gmail.com
Virginia Anti-Violence Project	1.866.356.6998 (helpline) & virginiaavp.org/
Virginia Organizing	www.virginia-organizing.org/issues
Virginia Department of Health—Transgender Health Services and Support	www.vdh.virginia.gov/disease-prevention/disease-prevention/transgender-health-services-support/
Virginia Partisans Gay & Lesbian Democratic Club	www.vapartisans.org/
People of Faith for Equality in Virginia	www.faith4equality.org/

Welcome, Friendly City Transgender Alliance!

Do you know of a local or state-wide organization that should be listed here? Tell us.



**FRIENDLY
CITY
TRANSGENDER
ALLIANCE**



Friendly City Transgender Alliance

Friendly City Transgender Alliance is a collective of individuals, who personally identify as Transgender and/or any form of self-expression that challenges traditional binary gender roles.

As an alliance we do not define or categorize individuals' personal expressions.

www.facebook.com/Friendly-City-Transgender-Alliance-100565454864352/



“Standing on the Side of Love”

**HARRISONBURG
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS**

One Journey, Many Paths

We are a lay-led, religious community offering a unique spiritual and moral witness in the Shenandoah Valley.

We invite all who search for truth and meaning with open hearts and open minds to join us in worship, in mutual support, and in shared ministry to each other and to the world.

For more information, contact us at: <http://huuweb.org> and (540) 867-0073

HUU is a UUA-Certified Welcoming Congregation. We declare our intention to be inclusive and expressive of the concerns of bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender persons at every level of congregational life and to support the rights of bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender people.

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE!

\$15/issue or \$50/year (4 issues): Business Card

\$25 per issue or \$80/year: Quarter Page

\$50/issue or \$175/year: Half Page

\$100 for a Full Page ad per issue

Contact ShenandoahValleyEquality@gmail.com

DEADLINE for June newsletter is **May 15**

Trans Day of Visibility with ALOK: A Political Workshop and Performance

Tuesday, March 31, 5:00-7:00pm

Festival Highlands Room at JMU

Trans Day of Visibility is an annual celebration of trans and non-binary individuals. This year's event will feature Alok Vaid-Menon

<https://www.alokvmenon.com/>

March 31 **INTERNATIONAL**

TRANSGENDER

**DAY OF
VISIBILITY**

SVE's monthly Friday Potluck

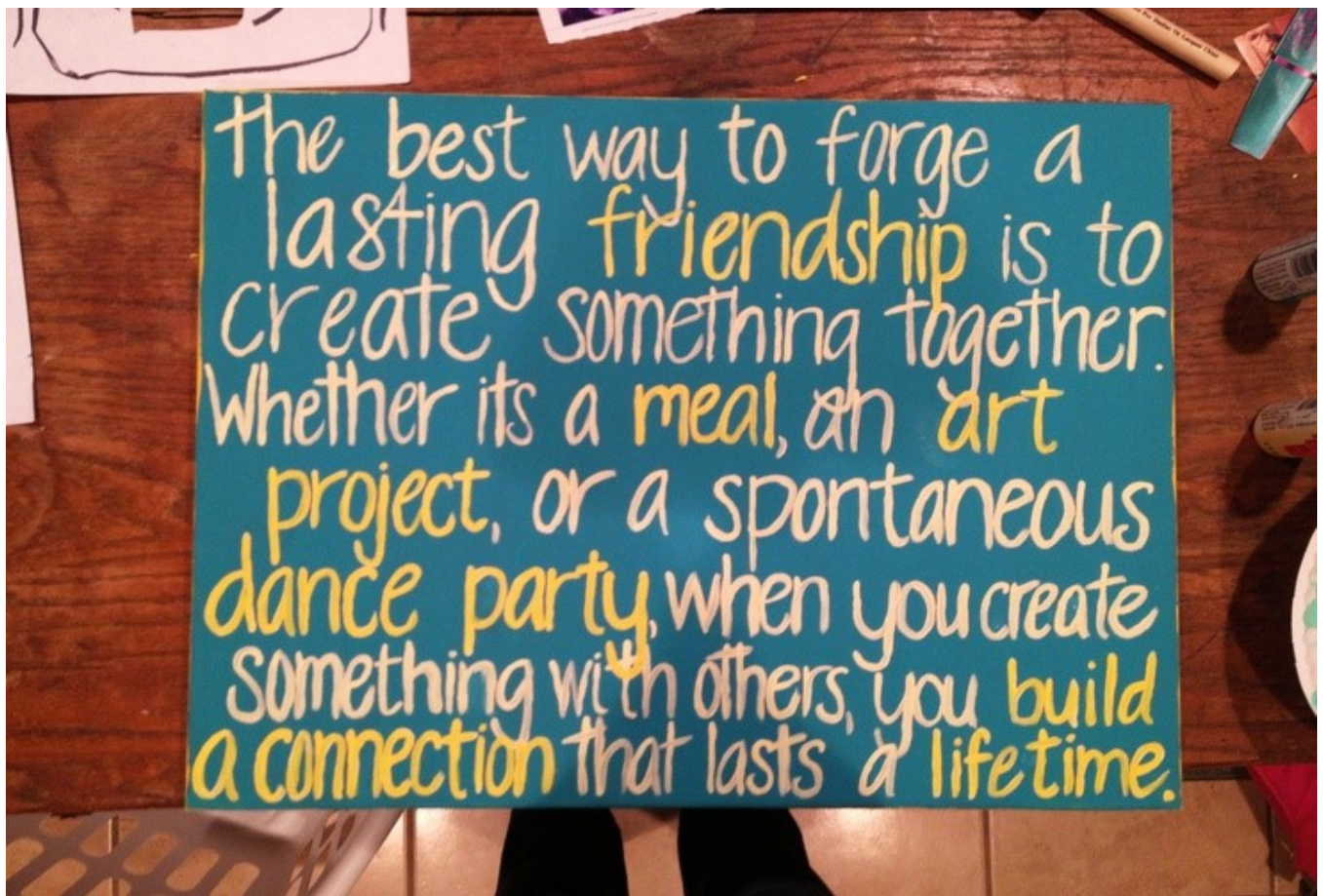
Every month, usually the 1st or 2nd Friday, SVE organizes a potluck in the Valley for the LGBTQA+ community. Volunteer members of SVE rotate hosting the event. **Guests bring a dish to share. No RSVP needed.**

Because the potluck is usually held in private homes or on private property, we e-mail location information to SVE members only and do not publicly share or post it through social media. To receive e-mails about the potluck and other events, join as a non-voting member (FREE) or as a voting member (for \$15). See pg. 15 for information about how to join SVE.

Are you willing to host the potluck in your home, workplace, community center, park, house of worship, or other setting? Hosts provide paper plates, utensils, and soft drinks. Guests bring a dish to share.

Please e-mail David if you are willing to host:

lanedj@jmu.edu



COMMUNITY EVENT SCHEDULE

- ❑ **Monday, March 2 & 16:** **LGBTQ+ Support Group in Harrisonburg** (ages 14 and older). Casual group for LGBTQ+ persons (facilitated by coordinators and mental health professionals). Meets monthly on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00-8:15pm at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 West Market St., H'burg. Sponsored by Vibrant Menders: vibrantmendersva@gmail.com
- ❑ **Friday, March 6:** **Peer-to-Peer Support Group for YOUTH**, 1st Friday of every month, starting at 4:15pm. Held at the Rosenwald Community Center in Waynesboro. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center Center: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Monday, March 9 & 23:** **Family and Friends Support Group** in Harrisonburg. Family members and allies of LGBTQ+ people (all ages) welcome. Sponsored and facilitated by Vibrant Menders' coordinators and two mental health professionals. Meets the 2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:00- 8:15pm at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 W. Market St. vibrantmendersva@gmail.com
- ❑ **Friday, March 13:** **SVE Friday Potluck**, 6:30-8:30 PM, Augusta & Rockingham Counties, Harrisonburg, Staunton, and Waynesboro. Potluck for the LGBTQA community sponsored each month by **Shenandoah Valley Equality**. For information about the location of this and future potlucks, join SVE for free or as a voting member (See www.svgla.org/membership).
- ❑ **Saturday, March 14** **Gender Non-Conforming and Adult LGBTQ Peer-to-Peer Support Group Meetings**, held monthly on the second Saturday, 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Facilitated by the ARROW Project. **4:15 pm** - GNC/Trans and **5:30 pm** - Adult LGBTQ. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Saturday, March 14** **Pi Day Party in Staunton, 6-10pm at Cana Barn, 339 Walnut Hills Road.** A night of fun, dancing, pies! Fundraiser for the **Shenandoah LGBTQ Center**. Take Out 250 is serving a delicious dinner of savory and sweet pies. **Tickets must be pre-purchased at www.canabarn.com** In addition to meal tickets, which include drinks, there will be a cash bar. Wear your dancing boots. **More details here:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/653183508556812/> Hosted by Cana Barn and the Shenandoah LGBT Center.
- ❑ **Sunday, March 15:** **Shenandoah LGBTQ Center's Monthly Potluck**, held from 5:00-7:00pm at 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Contact info:(540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Sunday, March 15:** **Vibrant Menders Action Group** in Harrisonburg. Open to anyone who wants to help us create programming and events under our three pillars - support, visibility, and education. Meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month, 1:00 PM at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 West Market St. in Harrisonburg. Contact information: vibrantmendersva@gmail.com.
- ❑ **Thursday, March 19:** **Conversation & Cuisine, 6:30-8:30pm.** Once a month **Shenandoah Valley Equality** members and friends meet for dinner at a local restaurant (each person pays for their own meal). Join SVE at **Ruby Tuesday in Harrisonburg**. So we can reserve enough space, please RSVP to David at lanedj@jmu.edu by the day before if you plan to attend.
- ❑ **Friday, March 20:** **Peer-to-Peer Support Group for FAMILIES**, 3rd Friday of every month, starting at 4:15pm. Held at the Rosenwald Community Center in Waynesboro. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center.Center:(540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Saturday, March 21:** **Indigo Women's Party.** 8:00-11:59 pm. Private dance party for women only (**ALL** women, at **least 21 to enter**). Upstairs, Mill Street Grill in Staunton, VA. Music by D.J. Jammin' Jackie. **\$15 cover at the door (cash only)**. Private bar (credit cards accepted). <https://www.facebook.com/events/121012419336953/>

COMMUNITY EVENT SCHEDULE

- ❑ **Saturday, March 28:** **17th Annual Equality Virginia Commonwealth Dinner** is EV's signature event and the state's largest black-tie gala gathering for the LGBT community and our supporters. This is our year! Mark your calendar for a celebration of equality. Held in Richmond. For details and to purchase tickets, visit www.equalityvirginia.org/dinner/
- ❑ **Saturday, March 28:** **Support Group meeting for Families (at 4:15pm)** and **Support Group meeting for youth ages 16-25 (at 5:30pm)**, sponsored by and held monthly on the 4th Saturday at the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center, 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Support groups are facilitated by mental health professionals from The ARROW Project. Questions: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **March 30-April 2:** **JMU Dukes Pride Week**, sponsored by Madison Equality, one of JMU's student-led LGBTQ+ organizations. Details of events TBA at www.jmu.edu/events/
- ❑ **Tuesday, March 31** **Trans Day of Visibility with ALOK: A Political Workshop and Performance**, 5:00pm in the Festival Highland Room at JMU. Trans Day of Visibility is an annual celebration of trans and non-binary individuals. This year's event will feature Alok Vaid-Menon (<https://www.alokvmenon.com/>). Sponsored by SOGIE Programming at JMU.
- ❑ **Friday, April 3:** **Peer-to-Peer Support Group for YOUTH**, 1st Friday of every month, starting at 4:15pm. Held at the Rosenwald Community Center in Waynesboro. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center Center: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Friday, April TBA:** **SVE Friday Potluck**, 6:30-8:30 PM, Augusta & Rockingham Counties, Harrisonburg, Staunton, and Waynesboro. Potluck for the LGBTQA community sponsored monthly by **Shenandoah Valley Equality**. For information about the date and location of this and future potlucks, join SVE for free or as a voting member (www.svgla.org/membership).
- ❑ **Monday, April 6 & 20:** **LGBTQ+ Support Group in Harrisonburg** (ages 14 and older). Casual group for LGBTQ+ persons. Sponsored and facilitated by the coordinators of Vibrant Menders and mental health professionals. Meets monthly on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00-8:15pm at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 W. Market St., H'burg. vibrantmendersva@gmail.com
- ❑ **Saturday, April 11:** **Gender Non-Conforming and Adult LGBTQ Peer-to-Peer Support Group Meetings**, held monthly on the second Saturday, 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Facilitated by the ARROW Project. **4:15 pm** - GNC/Trans and **5:30 pm** - Adult LGBTQ. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Monday, April 13 & 27:** **Family and Friends Support Group** in Harrisonburg. Family members and allies of LGBTQ+ people (of all ages) welcome. Sponsored and facilitated by Vibrant Menders' coordinators and two mental health professionals. Meets on the 2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:00-8:15pm at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 W. Market St. H'burg. For more information, contact vibrantmendersva@gmail.com.
- ❑ **Thursday, April TBA:** **Shenandoah Valley Equality's Conversation & Cuisine, 6:30-8:30pm**. Once a month **SVE** members and friends meet for dinner at a local restaurant (each person pays for their own meal). Join SVE for dinner (LOCATION and DATE TBA via email and SVE's Face book group). So we can reserve enough space, please RSVP to David at lanedj@jmu.edu by the day before if you plan to attend.

COMMUNITY EVENT SCHEDULE

- ❑ **Friday, April 17** **Peer-to-Peer Support Group for FAMILIES**, 3rd Friday of every month, starting at 4:15pm. Held at the Rosenwald Community Center in Waynesboro. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center. Center: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Saturday, April 18:** **State-wide S.T.A.R.S. (GSA) Summit**, for LGBTQ+ youth and supportive teachers and adults in Virginia. 9:00am-4:30pm in Richmond. For Details and to register, go to <http://www.sidebysideva.org/stars>
- ❑ **Sunday, April 19:** **Vibrant Menders Action Group** in Harrisonburg. Open to anyone who wants to help us create programming and events under our three pillars - support, visibility, and education. Meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month, 1:00 PM at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 West Market St. in Harrisonburg. Contact information: vibrantmendersva@gmail.com
- ❑ **Sunday, April TBA:** **Shenandoah LGBTQ Center's Monthly Potluck**, usually held from 5:00-7:00pm at 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Contact: (540) 466-3320, hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org or visit <https://www.shenlgbtqcenter.org/calendar>
- ❑ **April 24- April 26:** **Staunton Pride Festival**. Details will be updated at www.stauntonpride.com and <https://www.facebook.com/StauntonPride/>
- ❑ **Saturday, April 25:** **Support Group meeting for Families (at 4:15pm) and Support Group meeting for youth ages 16-25 (at 5:30pm)**, sponsored by and held monthly on the 4th Saturday at the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center, 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Support groups are facilitated by mental health professionals from The ARROW Project. Questions: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Friday, May TBA:** **SVE Friday Potluck**, 6:30-8:30 PM, Augusta & Rockingham Counties, Harrisonburg, Staunton, and Waynesboro. Potluck for the LGBTQA community sponsored each month by **Shenandoah Valley Equality**. For information about the location of this and future potlucks, join SVE for free or as a voting member (See www.svgla.org/membership).
- ❑ **Friday, May 1:** **Peer-to-Peer Support Group for YOUTH**, 1st Friday of every month, starting at 4:15pm. Held at the Rosenwald Community Center in Waynesboro. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center Center: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Monday, May 4 & 18:** **LGBTQ+ Support Group in Harrisonburg** (ages 14 and older). Casual group for LGBTQ+ persons (facilitated by Vibrant Menders' coordinators and mental health professionals). Meets monthly on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00-8:15pm at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 W. Market St., H'burg. Contact info: vibrantmendersva@gmail.com
- ❑ **Saturday, May 9:** **Gender Non-Conforming and Adult LGBTQ Peer-to-Peer Support Group Meetings**, held monthly on the second Saturday, 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Facilitated by the ARROW Project. **4:15 pm** - GNC/Trans and **5:30 pm** - Adult LGBTQ. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Monday, May 11 & 25:** **Family and Friends Support Group** in Harrisonburg. Family members and allies of LGBTQ+ people (of all ages) welcome. Sponsored and facilitated by Vibrant Menders' coordinators and two mental health professionals. Meets the 2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:00-8:15pm at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 West Market St. Contact information: vibrantmendersva@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY EVENTS SCHEDULE

- ❑ **Friday, May 15:** **DEADLINE, SVE newsletter submissions.** Empower your community! Shenandoah Valley Equality invites you to send information for our quarterly (June-August) issue of "The Valley ConnectShen" about local LGBTQA organizations, resources, and free events.
- ❑ **Friday, May 15:** **Peer-to-Peer Support Group for FAMILIES**, 3rd Friday of every month, starting at 4:15pm. Held at the Rosenwald Community Center in Waynesboro. Sponsored by the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center. Center:(540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Sunday, May 17:** **Vibrant Menders Action Group** in Harrisonburg. Open to anyone who wants to help us create programming and events under our three pillars - support, visibility, and education. Meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month, 1:00 PM at RISE United Methodist Church, 60 West Market St. in Harrisonburg. Contact information: vibrantmendersva@gmail.com.
- ❑ **Thursday, May TBA:** **Conversation & Cuisine, 6:30-8:30pm.** Once a month **Shenandoah Valley Equality** members and friends meet for dinner at a local restaurant (each person pays for their own meal). Join SVE for dinner (DATE & LOCATION TBA via email and SVE's Facebook group). So we can reserve enough space, please RSVP to David at lanedj@jmu.edu by the day before if you plan to attend.
- ❑ **Sunday, May (date TBA): Shenandoah LGBTQ Center's Monthly Potluck**, held from 5:00-7:00pm at 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Check the Center's calendar for updates at <https://www.shenlgbtqcenter.org/calendar> or contact the Center at :(540) 466-3320
- ❑ **May 21-25:** **Virginia Women's Music Festival.** Held at Camp Out, a secluded natural getaway for women, located just off I-64, in Kents Store, VA. Music, dancing, games, bonfires, food, and more. Camping, cabin and RV spaces sell out early. Go to campoutva.com for details and ticket information. Note: The business office is not located at the campground.
- ❑ **Saturday, May 23:** **Support Group meeting for Families (at 4:15pm) and Support Group meeting for Youth ages 16-25 (at 5:30pm)**, sponsored by and held monthly on the 4th Saturday at the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center, 13 W. Beverley St., 5th floor, Staunton. Support groups are facilitated by mental health professionals from The ARROW Project. Questions: (540) 466-3320 or hello@shenlgbtqcenter.org
- ❑ **Saturday, June 20:** **Winchester Pride**, noon-5:00pm. Details at <https://www.facebook.com/events/605682566880223/>

Send ads and events for the March issue of our newsletter (covering June-August) by May 15 to Christine at ShenandoahValleyEquality@gmail.com

Send items for the monthly SVE e-mail events schedule and the Facebook calendar by the 25th of each month to David at lanedj@jmu.edu and Christine at ShenandoahValleyEquality@gmail.com

SHENANDOAH VALLEY
EQUALITY

**EMPOWER YOUR
COMMUNITY!**

We need your support to continue as a viable and evolving community presence working on your behalf. The goals of SVE are:

- to gather and communicate important community information;
- to collaborate with allies and LGBTQ-friendly organizations;
- to organize events within the greater Valley area for social and educational networking with LGBTQ people; and
- to advocate for full LGBTQ equality, dignity, and inclusion in the Valley, state, and national communities.

Level 1 (voting) Membership \$15 per person (from July-July)

Your support helps with administrative costs through the year. Members receive:

- An e-mailed version of the newsletter and advance information about SVE events
- A vote for members of the SVE Board of Directors (*MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE BY DECEMBER 1 TO VOTE FOR AND/OR SERVE ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS*).

Level 1 Membership: Please include a check for \$15 for each person and send this form to: **Shenandoah Valley Equality, P.O. Box 1023, Harrisonburg, VA 22803**

Name #1 _____ Name #2 _____

Address #1: _____

Address #2: _____

E-mail #1: _____ E-mail #2: _____

[Check Box] I/we verify that I am/we are at least 18 years of age.

Level 2 (non-voting) Membership— FREE

Level 2 members receive an e-mailed version of the newsletter and advance information about all SVE events. To join as a non-voting member, **email your first and last name and state that you are at least 18 years of age to ShenandoahValleyEquality@gmail.com**

"Out in the Boondocks"

LGBTQ Valley Meet-up Group

If you're a member of the LGBTQ community living in the boondocks in or around the Shenandoah Valley, come meet up with us.

This is a informal group where members get together or in smaller groups for meals, hiking movies, live performances, kayaking, and other events.

If you would like to be on the e-mail list for events, send your name and e-mail address to Claire Hollady at chollady@gmail.com

**Support our Advertisers,
Empower your Community.**

SVE thanks businesses & organizations that advertise in our newsletter.

"EVERY TIME YOU SPEND MONEY, YOU'RE CASTING A VOTE FOR THE KIND OF WORLD YOU WANT."

ANNA LAPPE

**SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY
SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ECONOMY**



EXCEPTIONAL SANDWICHES & MARKET

- housemade sourdough •
- farm-to-table focus; seasonal, local ingredients •
 - pastured meats •
- made from scratch soups, sides, and sweets •
 - coffee & tea •
- live music events with sourdough pizza •
 - special pop-up events •

LOCATION:
1311 S. High St
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

HOURS:
Mon-Fri, 11am-5pm
540.217.2494

INSTAGRAM and
FACEBOOK
@grayjayprovisions
www.grayjayprovisions.com

GROUP CATERING &
PRIVATE EVENTS
contact us for a quote!
info@grayjayprovisions.com

Collins Center
& Child Advocacy Center
Support • Prevent • Treat

The Collins Center strives to eliminate sexual violence and its impact in our community.

Serving Harrisonburg & Rockingham County

Sexual Assault Crisis Services

Prevention & Education

Trauma-Informed Counseling

Child Advocacy Center

217 S. Liberty Street, Suite 205, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
540.432.6430 | www.thecollinscenter.org

24-Hour Hotline: 540.434.2272

We serve all individuals regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, familial status, gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration status, language proficiency, disability, veteran status, political affiliations or beliefs.



Hunt Country Wealth Management
Financial Planning | Investment Management

Chris Merchant, CFP®

46 South Loudoun St. Winchester, VA

540.205.8186 | huntcountryinvestments.com

advisor@huntcountryinvestments.com

*Securities offered through Securities America, Inc., member
FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Securities
America Advisors, Inc. Hunt Country Wealth Management and
Securities America are separate entities.*

SHENANDOAH VALLEY

EQUALITY



Staunton Pride Festival

April 24-26

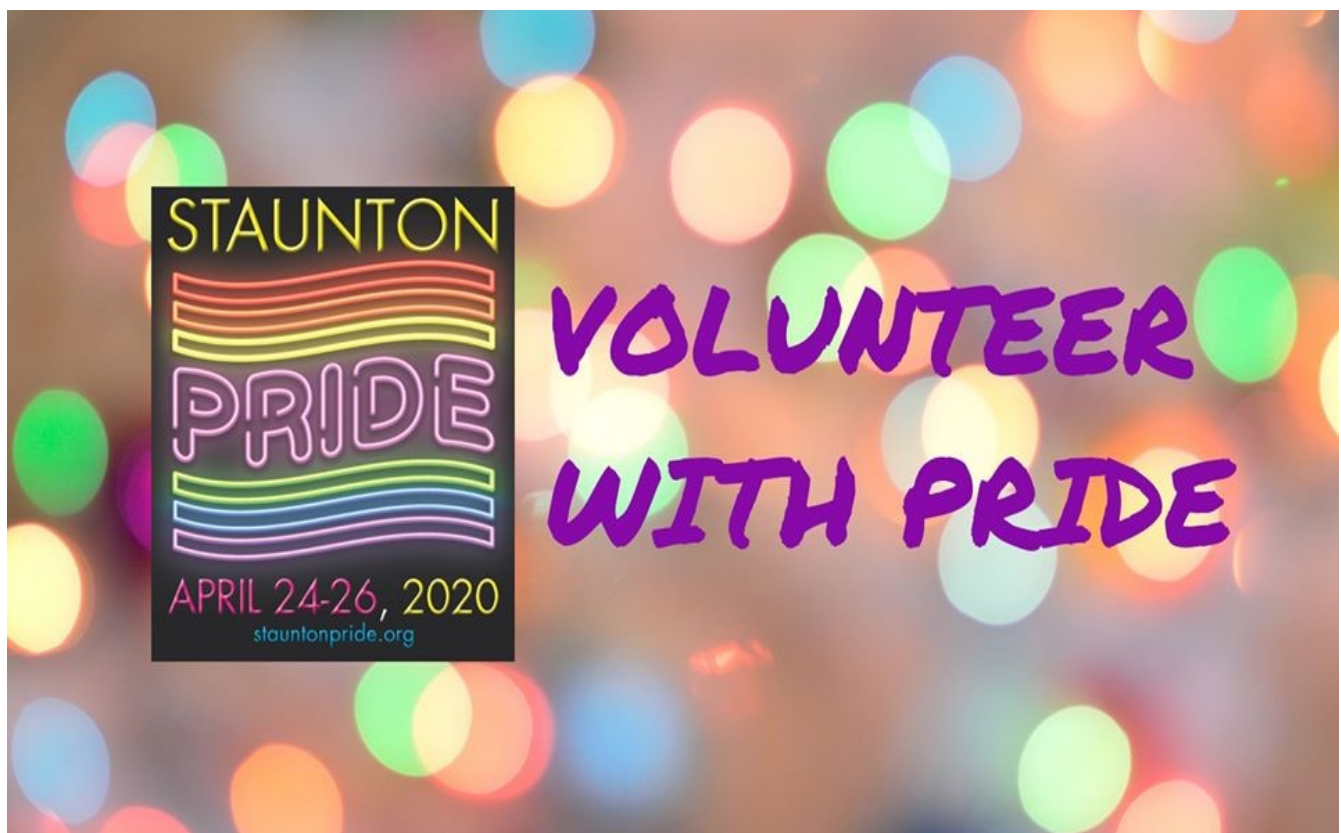
Volunteers needed:

www.stauntonpride.org/volunteer

Details will be updated at

www.facebook.com/StauntonPride/

& www.stauntonpride.org





PFLAG Blue Ridge

We are parents, families, friends, and allies uniting with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender loved ones to promote support, education, and advocacy.

www.pflagblueridge.org

PFLAGBR@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/pflagblueridge>

<https://twitter.com/PFLAGBR>

Charlottesville Trans* Families Group Meetings

When: 3rd Saturday of each month, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Where: ASG, 315 Tenth St. NE, Charlottesville, VA 22902 (corner of 10th & Jefferson)

Contact: Facilitator Karen at 434-882-3453 or karenmeandering@gmail.com

PFLAG Blue Ridge offers free monthly support groups for parents, family, friends, and allies of the LGBT community. If you are a parent, family member, friend, or ally of a gay, lesbian, bisexual, and/or transgender individual looking to increase your support, or if your loved one has recently come out to you and you are struggling to process your own feelings as well as looking for resources to help understand — we are here for you. Join us as we share our experiences, joys, concerns, and resources in a confidential and non-judgmental environment.



SIDE BY SIDE is dedicated to creating supportive communities where Virginia's LGBTQ+ youth can define themselves, belong, and flourish.

See our website for C'ville youth group meetings

<http://www.sidebysideva.org/>

Youth Support Line:
888-644-4390



HCHC offers a wide variety of services, including dental care, behavioral health, care management (**formerly the Valley AIDS Network**), women's health, and primary care (pediatrics through adult). Interpretation services are available for patients in all areas of health and dental services.

Visit hburgchc.org or contact by phone:

SCHEDULING

Main Site: 540-433-4913

Dental: 540-236-3688

AFTER HOURS MEDICAL

540-433-4913

Virginia Women's Music Festival

May 21-25, 2020

Held at Camp Out, a secluded natural getaway for women, located in Kents Store. Music, dancing, bonfires and more. Camping, cabin and RV spaces sell out early.

2020 MUSIC LINEUP

Jamie Anderson • Crys Matthews • Mama's Black Sheep

The Storyweavers • Wicked Jezabel • Christina Havrilla

Bela Bela Rhythm Collective • Red Letter Day • Sister Funk Trio

Indigie Femme • Christy Snow • Heather Mae • SONiA & disappear fear

Gaye Adegbalola • Lana Puckett and Kim Person

See website for information about tickets, map, worker registration & vendor registration

Group campsites are available for groups of 8 or more.

Tent Rentals: Set up and take down provided by CampOut Staff.

<http://www.campoutva.com/music-festival.html>

What is SVE's "Conversation & Cuisine"?

Once a month, Shenandoah Valley Equality members (and friends) are invited to meet at a local Valley restaurant to share a meal. Each person pays for their own meal. Join SVE for free or as a voting member (see page 19) to receive information about C&C events by e-mail.

Nothing- not a conversation, not a handshake or even a hug- establishes friendship so forcefully as eating together.

Jonathan Safran Foer

meetville.com



The Virginia Anti-Violence Project works to address and end violence, with a specific focus on LGBTQ communities across Virginia.

Call our LGBTQ Partner Abuse and Sexual Assault Helpline:

1.866.356.6998 Monday-Friday 8am-8pm

Quotable:

"Asking you to give me equal rights implies that they are yours to give. Instead, I must demand that you stop trying to deny me rights that all people deserve."

— Elizabeth Peratrovich, 1911-1958,
Civil Rights Pioneer for Alaskan First Nations,
*helped pass the first non-discrimination
law in the US*

Need Support?

Trevor Crisis Intervention Line (LGBT+): www.thetrevorproject.org
1-866-488-7386 (available 24/7)

Trans Lifeline:

www.translifeline.org
1-877-565-8860 (staffed by trans* people for trans* people in crisis)

I'm alive support chat:

www.imalive.org
Crisis Text Line: Text START to 741-741

National Suicide Hotline:

1-800-273-8255