



PROCLAMATION

PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, Arlington County is proud to foster a diverse, welcoming, and inclusive community for individuals of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and

WHEREAS, June is recognized as Pride Month, a time to celebrate the resilience, contributions, and history of the LGBTQIA+ community; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month commemorates the Stonewall Uprising of June 1969, a pivotal moment in the movement for LGBTQIA+ equality, and the first Pride marches held in June 1970; and

WHEREAS, while significant progress has been made, LGBTQIA+ individuals continue to face discrimination, violence, social stigma, and efforts to limit rights and access to affirming care; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County has a strong history of supporting LGBTQIA+ rights, including adding sexual orientation to its anti-discrimination policy in 1992, extending domestic partner benefits to County employees in 1997, and supporting protections for transgender students in Arlington Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County continues to strengthen LGBTQIA+ inclusion through efforts such as the County Manager-appointed LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee, which elevates community voices and informs local policies, programs, and practices; and

WHEREAS, community members, local organizations, advocates, and allies continue to advance equality, safety, dignity, and belonging for LGBTQIA+ residents and families; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County remains committed to being a community where LGBTQIA+ individuals can live authentically, free from prejudice and discrimination, and feel supported, affirmed, and valued;

NOW THEREFORE, the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, does hereby proclaim **June 2026** as **PRIDE MONTH** in Arlington County and urges all residents **to** celebrate, learn, and help build a community where everyone belongs.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Matthew de Ferranti".

Matt de Ferranti
Chair, Arlington County Board