



PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING JUNE 2025 AS PRIDE MONTH IN SAN JUAN COUNTY

WHEREAS, in San Juan County residents self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, Two-Spirit, and other identities within the LGBTQIA+ spectrum; and

WHEREAS, June has been selected in the United States as Pride Month because it is a continuation of the gay liberation movement that was spurred during the Stonewall uprising on June 28, 1969. Pride marches began in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Chicago in 1970 – however, it wasn't until 1999 that June was declared as "Gay and Lesbian Pride Month"; and

WHEREAS, we know that LGBTQIA+ folks have lived in the San Juan Islands since time immemorial and continue to be integral to the ongoing growth and wellness of our community in areas such as education, arts, healthcare, small business, government agencies, environmental advocacy, community organizing, and more; and


WHEREAS, members of the LGBTQIA+ community have, and continue to see their civil rights challenged at all levels and San Juan County recognizes that all members of the LGBTQIA+ community are entitled to equal protection under Federal, State and Local laws and their rights shall be actively defended and protected; and

WHEREAS, today, organizations such as Orcas Pride, San Juan Island Pride Foundation, and LGBTQIA+ individuals and allies continue to work to provide awareness, education, acts of solidarity, and resources for the community, building on the foundations of those who have come before including PFLAG and Out on Orcas; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month calls us to affirm and protect LGBTQIA+ people and their interests, including students, families, workers, and elders, with a particular commitment to safeguarding the rights, dignity, and futures of trans youth, which is essential to the cultural and civic wellbeing of all islanders; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the San Juan County Council, in the State of Washington, does hereby proclaim June 2025 as Pride Month and encourages all residents, businesses, and visitors to recognize Pride Month by seeking education and information, acknowledging the broad history and impact of LGBTQIA+ county residents, and engaging in ongoing dialogue with family, friends, and neighbors in an effort to create and sustain an inclusive and welcoming environment for all.

The foregoing proclamation was adopted by the San Juan County Council at a regularly scheduled meeting held on June 3, 2025.


Kari McVeigh, Chair
District 1

EXCUSED
Jane Fuller, Vice-Chair
District 3


Justin Paulsen, Member
District 2