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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **SALISBURY PFLAG ANNOUNCES ANNUAL AWARDS**

Salisbury PFLAG is a completely volunteer run organization whose success is dependent on the hard work and support of our members and associated community organizations. For the second year, it is our pleasure to recognize those in the community who have gone above and beyond in their support of our organization. While social distancing prevents us from having a formal ceremony, we are proud to announce and acknowledge our award recipients and their efforts in helping Salisbury PFLAG continue to ignite positive change in the community.

The Volunteer Appreciation Award recognizes those individuals who have contributed outstanding service to Salisbury's PFLAG chapter by embodying the finest spirit of volunteerism. For 2020, our Volunteer Appreciation Award recipients are Jessica Vooris, Alison Vooris, and Arlette Bright. These three individuals have all contributed significantly to the development and enhancement of Salisbury PFLAG. Jessica Vooris and Alison Vooris were recognized for their commitment to facilitating our online weekly youth group; Arlette Bright was recognized for her assistance in updating our Articles of Incorporation and willingness to serve as our Resident Agent.

The Community Partner Award is given annually to one, or more, organizations who are not only doing great work in the community, but have also undertaken additional efforts in partnering with Salisbury PFLAG to further our work to uplift LGBTQ+ people in the region. This year we are honoring two community partners, The Wicomico Public Libraries, for their commitment to offering inclusive library programming, and the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, for their work with our youth group and assistance with our need for a physical meeting space during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Salisbury PFLAG was founded in 2015 and is a chapter of the largest Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning/Queer (LGBTQ) ally organization in the nation. PFLAG envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. By meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG realizes its vision by providing support for families, allies, and people who are LGBTQ;

providing education about the unique issues and challenges facing people who are LGBTQ; and providing advocacy in the community to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ.

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