

Hello Lake Braddock Families,

Please find all the information and resources for this week in our Newsletter below:

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- **Computer CORE** offers <u>FREE</u>, <u>online</u>, basic computer skills classes to adults 18 and over in Virginia. Classes are taught online over Zoom for three 10-week terms per year: Winter (Jan-Mar), Spring (Apr-June) and Fall (Sept-Nov). https://www.computercore.org/
- Fairfax County Parks Spring and Summer Camp Registration Opens January 23

Spring and Summer Camp Registration has begun! FCPA is sharing the full listing of camps, as well as offering multiple ways to search and tools to use that will make enrolling easier. Learn more about the camps and how to register on the <u>website</u>.

• FCPS Summer Camps, Fairfax County Park Authority, and spring sports are now registering. FCPS' IFTA, E-IFTA, Career Technical Education Summer Academy and Tech Adventure Camp web pages are now all updated with location, dates, and costs. Further details for how to register by phone and mail are on the website.

• Summer Programs for Preschoolers and Kindergartners Please see the camps in the links below. <u>https://dmv.kidsoutandabout.com/content/preschool-summer-camps-dc-metro-area</u>

https://dcmoms.com/ages-stages/toddler/toddler-friendly-summer-camps-in-dc/

https://www.brighthorizons.com/programs/summer-camp

https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/camp-programs

• FCPS Summer Learning Page https://www.fcps.edu/academics/summer-learning

• April is the Month of the Military Child and April 17th will be "Purple Up! Day"

This year's **Purple Up**! t-shirts will be available for ordering beginning February 12 – March 8. Please help us turn FCPS Purple on Wednesday, April 17, in honor of our over 13,000 militaryconnected students. Questions? Reach out to Meredith Ayala, mlayala1@fcps.edu, or Katie Server, kaserver@fcps.edu.

Also, it is not too late to apply for the Purple Star Designation! Reach out to Meredith and Katie for more information and support!

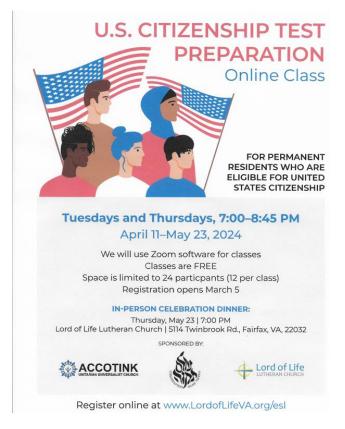
• <u>Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA)</u>

<u>Scholarships Program</u> now open. People who live in affordable housing supported by FCRHA will have the opportunity to apply for a \$5,000 academic scholarship for postsecondary education including technical training. Up to ten applicants will be selected. **Applications are due April 30, 20204.**



• Citizenship Test Preparation Online Class

This free class is sponsored by local churches April 11th - May 23rd. Register online <u>https://lordoflifeva.org/esl</u>



• Fairfax County Fair Housing Event April 2024



TalentUp Fairfax program for job seekers



PROGRAM SERVICES

ELIGIBILITY

- Resume or application that meets basic qualifications for a posted intereship position.

• 2024 VIP Summer Camp

Irving Serving: Frost MS, Irving MS, Lake Braddock SS, Robinson SS, South County MS. 8100 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield, VA 22152 Natalie Duncan • NADuncan@fcps.edu



• Teens In Action 2024 Summer program

Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Service offers Teen in Action Summer program from June 17-August 16, 2024 for rising 9th- 12th graders and from June 17-28 and Aug. 2-16, 2024 for rising 7th- 8th graders.



• Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) - Free Income Tax Preparation:

If you or your family earned less than \$64,000 in 2023, you may qualify for this free service! <u>The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program</u> is a national program sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to help families maximize their tax returns and avoid the fees businesses charge to prepare taxes. What to Bring to a Tax Appointment (Checklist) • Tax Information: Fairfax County Public Library



TAX ASSISTANCE

24/7 Federal Tax Help

Website: https://www.irs.gov/ Forms and Instructions: Phone: 1-800-829-1040

Local IRS Office

7980 Quantum Dr Vienna, VA 22182 (844) 545-5640 Mon-Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm By appointment only

Virginia Returns

Website: https://tax.virginia.gov Individuals: (804) 367-8031 Businesses: (804) 367-8037 Phone: Mon-Fri, 8:30 am - 5 pm

Tax-Processing Websites Approved by Virginia Department of Taxation (Fees may apply)

> eztraxreturn.com OLT.com

AARP TAX AIDE

Opens January 29, 2024

Mason District Government Center 6057 Columbia Pike Annandale, VA 22003

Appointments Mon, Tues & Fri Walk-ins welcome

Call (after Jan 21): (703) 249-9961

For more information and additional locations, visit:

https://taxaide.aarpfoundation.org



VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

You may qualify if you or your family made less than \$64,000 in 2023

Walk-ins Welcome

Locations & Hours

Fairfax Virginia Career Works 7611 Little Turnpike Annandale, VA 22033 Tues & Thurs: 4 - 6:30 pm Sat: 10 am - 4pm Operates Jan 30 - Apr 13, 2024

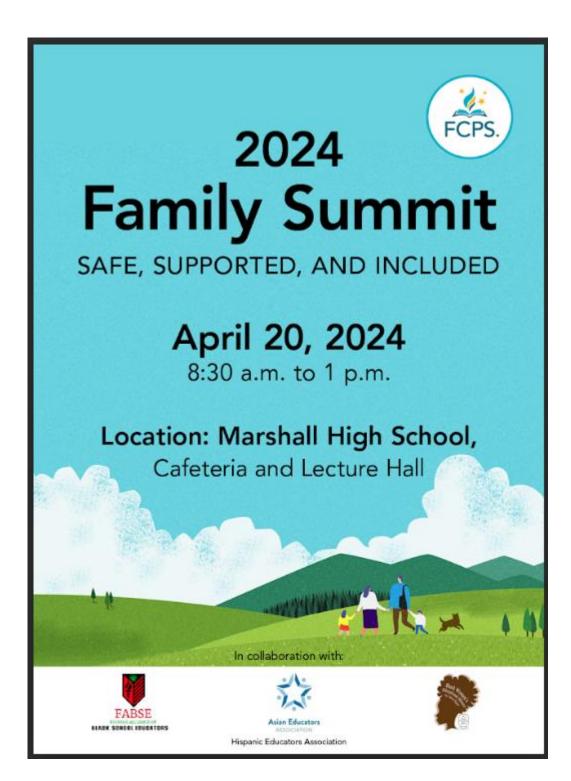
Gerry Hyland Government Center 8350 Richmond Hwy Alexandria, VA 2209 Tues & Weds: 6 - 8pm Sat: 10am - 3pm Operates Feb 3 - Apr 13, 2024

For more information and additional locations, visit:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ familyservices/employment-andtraining/volunteer-income-taxassistance

The 2024 Family Summit will be held on Saturday, April 20 from 8:30am to 1:00pm

FCPS has collaborated with Fairfax Alliance of Black School Educators, Black Women's Educational Alliance - DC Chapter, Asian Educators Association, and Hispanic Educators Association for this event. We aim to provide an in-person opportunity outside of the virtual Special Education Conference to engage diverse families in a learning opportunity together.



• Formed Families Forward (FFF) Events and Learning Opportunities

 11th Annual Spring Forward Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Family Fun Day, Saturday April 13, 2024 from 8:30am-2:00pm at the Science and Technology Campus of George Mason University in Manassas. While parents, caregivers and professionals are enjoying sessions presented by experts in education, children age 4-9 will take part in outdoor activities organized by Camp Sarraka while youth ages 10 and up will engage in GMU's outdoor experiential challenge course "The EDGE". More information on the inclusive programming for children and teens is provided below or can be found by visiting <u>https://edge.gmu.edu</u>.

Tickets and more information available at <u>https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/fb9b90b5-2e3f-4f6a-b3f1-3eaed7ff0a46</u>.

Tickets include admittance to sessions, activities, and a sandwich lunch.

• Workshop: Trauma, the Brain and Hope In-Person Workshop

Workshop with Jessica Sinarski, LPCMH to discover the hopeful side of neuroscience, with plenty of user-friendly applications for all ages. Early bird \$60 registration for the 4-hour workshop ends March 29th.



- The Family Resource Center offers free webinars for adults to support the success of all students, including those with learning challenges, special needs, and disabilities. Upcoming events include:
 - Secondary Webinars:
 - Proactive Strategies for Effective Communication, Friday, April 19
 - o Taming the Teen-Aged Brain, Friday, May 31

https://www.fcps.edu/family-resources/family-engagement/family-resourcecenter/register-free-workshops-family-resource



• NOVA Virtual Sessions for Seniors and Their Families

NOVA is offering virtual information and application sessions. Information sessions will provide an overview of NOVA and the opportunities, services, and resources designed to connect high school seniors to the NOVA Nighthawk Community.

A <u>virtual application workshop</u> will be held Tuesday, April 30th, at 7 p.m.

Sessions are open to all FCPS seniors and their families. For questions, email admissions@nvcc.edu or call 703-323-3000.

- Parenting Education Programs and Workshops
 For more information or to enroll in a class, please email
 buildingstrongfamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov or Parent Support Line at 703-324-7720.
 <u>https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/children-youth/parenting-education-programs</u>
- <u>Parent Encouragement Program</u> "Encouraging Parents, Enriching Families" (webinars, in-person programs, podcasts, videos) <u>https://pepparent.org/</u>

• Military Families Resources

https://www.fcps.edu/registration/military-families

• Check out the Library Events:

Burke Centre

https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/calendar?cid=6524&t=d&d=0000-00-00&cal=6524&cm=3436&inc=0

Kings Park

https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/calendar?cid=6524&t=d&d=0000-00-00&cal=6524&cm=3446&inc=0 • Whitman Family Market hosted by Whitman Middle School where they distribute fresh produce and pantry staples to approximately 200 families in our community. This food is free of charge for all who participate.



LBSS EVENTS:

• Lake Braddock Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)

Join PTSA: <u>https://lbssptsa.org/</u>

Baby Box Express - Sign up to request necessities for babies aged Newborn – 2T
 A middle schooler has initiated a special project designed to support families in need,
 providing essential items such as clothing, formula, books, and other necessities for babies
 aged newborn to 2 years old.
 Please fill out this form to request a baby box.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES:

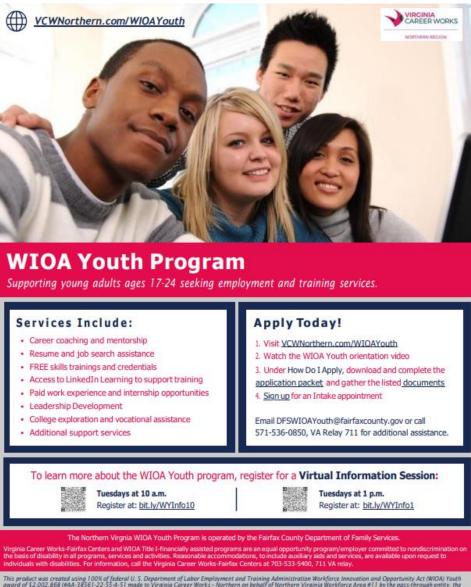
• Work Force Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program

This program support students who are not quite sure what career path they may want to take and usually for those who are going to be staying in the northern Virginia area.

WIOA has information sessions that you are welcome to attend on Tuesdays and the information to attend those are on the flier below.

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https://vcwnorthern.com/wioayouth/



This product was created using 100% of federal U. S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WOA) Youth word of \$2,002,868 (#AA-38561-22-55-A-51 made to Virginia Career Works – Northern on behalf of Northern Virginia Workforce Area #11 by the pass-through entity, the Virginia Community College System. No costs of this product were financed by nongovernmental sources: The information contained herein does not necessarily reflect the official oscilian of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor mokes no guarntees, warraites, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, ncluding any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or Apprenticeship Opportunity for Juniors and Seniors

How to register:

- Online by clicking <u>here</u>
- By calling (703) 658-1201
- By emailing educationalcounseling@fcps.edu



JOB READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Britepaths and <u>the Financial Empowerment Center at South County</u> are offering free virtual consulting services and workshops to help with your personal finances, job search and more.
 - Financial Mentoring: Work with a dedicated trained volunteer virtually for six months or more on your financial goals. The volunteer is there to guide you and teach you skills pertinent to your life! If interested, please email CRogers@Britepaths.org
 - One-on-One, Confidential Coaching: Free and Confidential Coaching and Consulting. To book an appointment call 703.704.6101 or email info@FECSoCo.org, or click here : https://fecsoco.timetap.com/#/
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAPET)

If you are a SNAP recipient, you have access to employment services through the SNAP Employment and Training Program! For additional details, please refer to links below.

Visit the website:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/employment-and-training/supplementalnutrition-assistance-program-employment-and-training

OTHER RESOURCES

 The Fairfax County Health Department offers maternal child health home visiting services through: Nurse-Family Partnership® and Maternal Child Health Field Nurse programs. The Public Health Nurses provide comprehensive, multifaceted care to clients, targeting a multitude of stressors such as low socioeconomic status, history of trauma or abuse, and mental health conditions in order to promote positive health outcomes.
 You can fill out and return the <u>Maternal Child and Family Support Home Visiting Programs</u> <u>Referral Form</u> to have a staff member contact you about home visiting services. https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/maternal-child-health

• Pet Resource Center

Looking for cost-effective pet vaccinations, help with pet food or supplies, details about PetHaven Program, or tips on finding affordable veterinary care? Check flyer below.

Fairfax County Animal Shelter's Pet Resource Center provides community- based resources and support anchored in keeping more pets with the families who love them. By identifying resource gaps experienced by Fairfax County residents, our Pet Resource Center works to prevent the rehoming of companion animals due to inequitable pet assistance services.

Pet Resource Center



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Pet Resource Center Services

Vaccine and Microchip Clinics: These monthly clinics offer Fairfax County residents low-cost core vaccines and microchips.

Pet Pantry: Our pet pantry provides pet food and other supplies for Fairfax County residents facing hardship.



Upcoming 2024 Services

Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Options: Our Pet Resource Center will provide affordable spay and neuter options for low-income Fairfax County residents in 2024. This initiative includes a voucher program where residents can apply for a voucher to have their pet spayed or neutered at a local veterinary clinic.

FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV/ANIMALSHELTER/PETRESOURCECENTER

ENGLISH CLASSES

 FCPS - Adult English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) - Click on the link below for more information about testing locations for classes. <u>https://www.fcps.edu/academics/adult-education-academics/esol-classes</u>

Do you know someone who wanted to register for class with the Empowerment Center but missed the registrations? They can fill out the <u>Information Request Form</u> to hear about upcoming spring classes. The Center also encourages students to study on their own with <u>USA</u> <u>Learns</u>.

English Empowerment Center also offers in-person classes for Spring semester. Registration for their Spring semester classes will begin January 8th. Please follow the <u>link</u> to learn more information.



Intensive English and Workforce Readiness Cla

This course affers three levels of intensive English instruction (Literacy, Beginning, and Intermediate) with a curriculum designed to deliver relevant language and soft skills to help participants improve their employability and advancement potential. The Intermediate course includes preparation for a credential. This training and its associated skills are easily applicable to practically every industry and work setting.

Course Level Details:



Tuesday, December 12 10:30am-12:00pm Mark Center, 6th floor, Workforce Development Ctr (4850 Mark Center Dr., Alexandria, VA 22311) In-person registration is required for all levels.

Class Schedule: January 16-March 7 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday fr 9:30am-1:30pm*

9:30am-1:30pm* (Level 3 will meet Feb 16th and Feb 23rd, instead of Feb 7th and 8th)

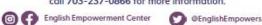
*Additional hours available for VIEW clients

The Literacy Level course will take place IN-PERSON at the City of Alexandria's Workforce Development Center at the Mark Center (4850 Mark Center Dr., Alexandria, VA 22311).

Beginning and Intermediate levels will meet VIRTUALLY.

Laptops will be available for loan for the duration of the course for all students.





703-237-0866 | TTY: 711 | info@EnglishEmpowermentCenter.org | www.EnglishEmpowermentCenter.org

• Fellowship Baptist Church:

https://www.fellowshipbaptistva.org/english-classes