Winter 2024 Newsletter

Camp Fire

Patuxent Area

Patuxent FLAME

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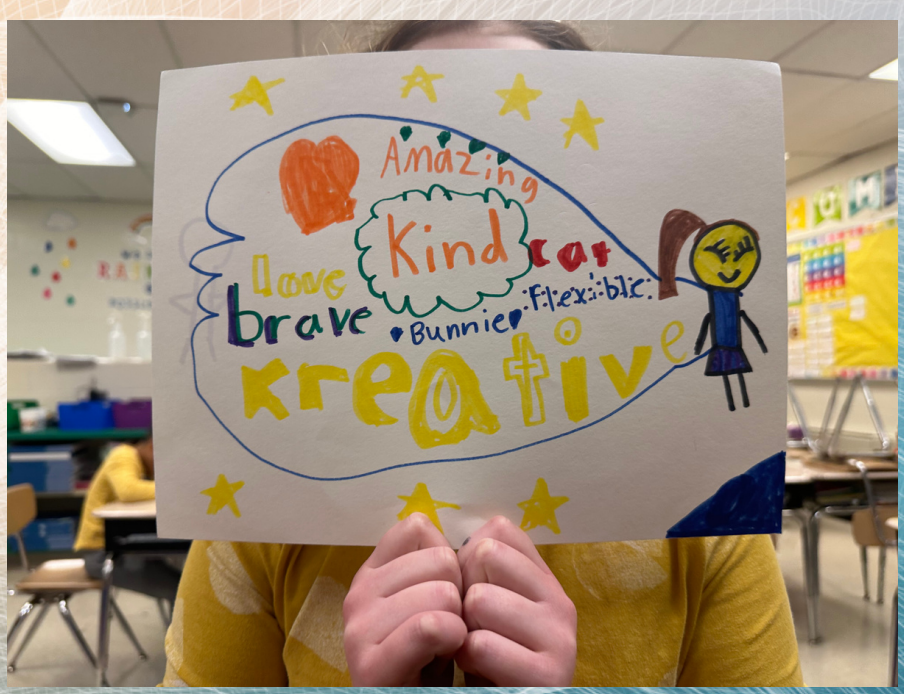


Staff Updates!

Nick

My Spark is spending time and going out with friends.

This month, we are resuming the Excel Beyond the Bell program with the Middle Schoolers. We have a lot of fun, timely events planned for the coming months for both the middle-schoolers as well as the elementary-schoolers, including those centered around Black History Month, Valentine's Day, Women's History Month, St. Patrick's Day, and Earth Day!

Aliza

My Spark is baking for my friends and family.

I am thrilled to be working with first and second-graders twice a week in the Excel Beyond the Bell program! We are having a fantastic time engaging in social-emotional learning lessons and creative activities.

Angela

My Spark is helping others!

I'm excited to be back at New Hampshire Estates and Neelsville! I look forward to working with 1st, 2nd, and middle school students throughout the spring Excel Beyond the Bell session! This month we learned about nutrition and our favorite foods!

Namrah

My Spark is eating.

I am thrilled to work with middle schoolers twice a week in the Excel Beyond the Bell program! This month, we learned about team building.

Staff Updates!

Chief Executive Officer **Rosemary**

My Spark is camping and being in the out of doors

Camp Fire's Motto is Give Service. This year we are putting great emphasis on service to the community. Our teens are serving around homelessness and safety, our youth clubs are working at finding community needs and serving. It is impressive to see what they are accompishing. We recently hosted an MLK Day of Service and completed many different wonderful service projects!

Asssitant Program Intern **Karen**

My Spark is advocating and empowering those around me to reach their goals and find their voice!

I have started a new semester at the University of Kentucky in the advanced MSW program with an emphasis on Trauma. It is challenging but will make a difference to our young people.

I am excited to work on intergenerational programming and various projects at Camp Fire Patuxent this semester!

Program Director **Rachel**

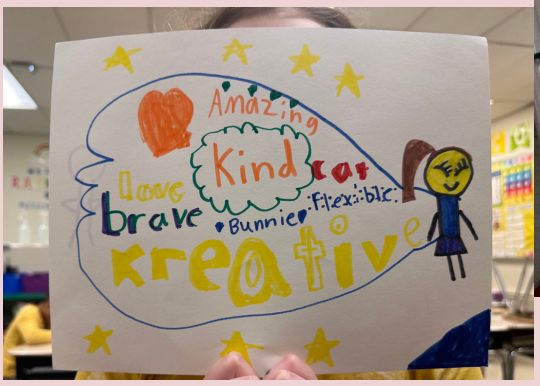
My Spark is working with others to become the best versions of themselves, no matter what stage of their life they are in.

I am thrilled to continue to work with our social work interns. It brings me joy seeing them make connections between what they're learning in their classrooms to real world experiences they have during their internship.

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 OFFICE 9-1 SCHOOL PROGRAMS 3-6	6 BMHS TEENS IN ACTION 3-5	7 SCHOOL PROGRAMS 3-6	8	9
10	11	12 OFFICE 9-1 SCHOOL PROGRAMS 3-6	13	14 SCHOOL PROGRAMS 3-6	15	16 Alumni Reunion 11 – 1 Pm
17 Camp Fire Birthday	18 MHFA-5-9 pm	19 OFFICE 9-1 SCHOOL PROGRAMS 3-6 MHFA 5-9 pm	20 Parents Meeting-Hyattsville Library	21 ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE KIDS DAY SCHOOL PROGRAMS 3-6	22	23
24 SPRING BREAK WEEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS	25 SPRING BREAK CAMP - FP	26 SPRING BREAK CAMP - FP	27 SPRING BREAK CAMP - FP	28 SPRING BREAK CAMP - FP	29 SPRING BREAK CAMP - FP	30
31 SPRING BREAK WEEK ADW SCHOOLS						

This winter, we currently deliver Excel Beyond the Bell (EBB) in partnership with Montgomery County Collaboration Council, MCPS, and Montgomery Department of Recreation. We provide programming at New Hampshire Estates Elementary, Montgomery Village Middle School and Neelsville Middle School in Montgomery County. This program provides students with afterschool programming that enriches their learning and helps them to build assets, have a meal, and the program provides bus transportation home. Students have engaged in activities based on Camp Fire Curriculum and enriched with materials from our partners at ATT, MIZZEN, and CRAYOLA. These have included participating in Crayola Creativity Week, exploration of the out of doors, Nutrition Activities, social emotional learning activities, Career exploration, and Critical thinking activities. The students are excited to engage with Camp Fire programming and continue to look forward to weekly and biweekly afterschool programming.



How Can We Show Love?

To Our Students:

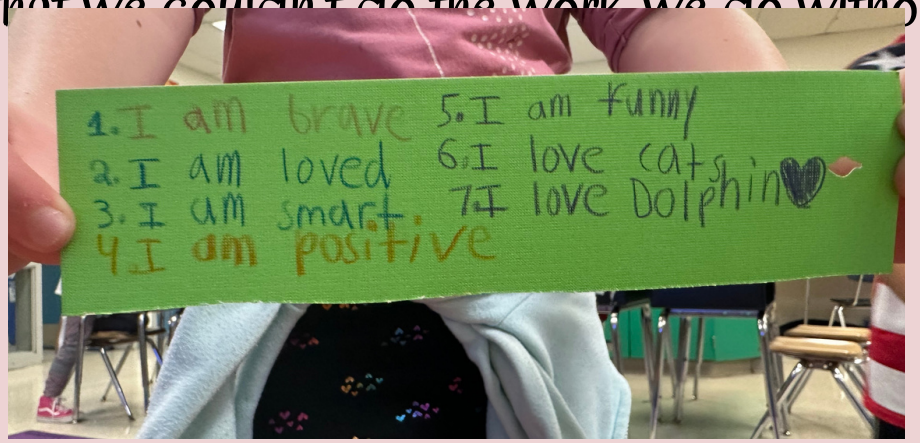
"by providing positive affirmations and supporting them!"
"by making sure we are present and attending to their needs. When students have something to share, we make sure we give them the respect they deserve, as well as ensuring that the rest of the students do the same!"

To Our Teachers:

"by giving them an appreciation letter to let them know how much we appreciate them."
"by ensuring we leave the classrooms looking better than we found it!"

To Our Staff:

"constantly remind them how appreciative we are of them, and that we couldn't do the work we do without them."



Summer Youth Enrichment Program

March 1 starts registration for the program, and it ends March 31. The SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM for youth 14-24 who live in Prince George's County is a great way to get job skills and also earn money. Registration will be online, as noted on this flier. The program runs for 6 weeks and provides some terrific opportunities to youth. Many of these young people work with us at Camp Fire in our summer enrichment programs for low-income youth, outreach to senior citizens, and other leadership activities. There are jobs in government and nonprofits. If you do not apply, you do not have a chance to get a job, so make a difference and apply.

Camp Fire
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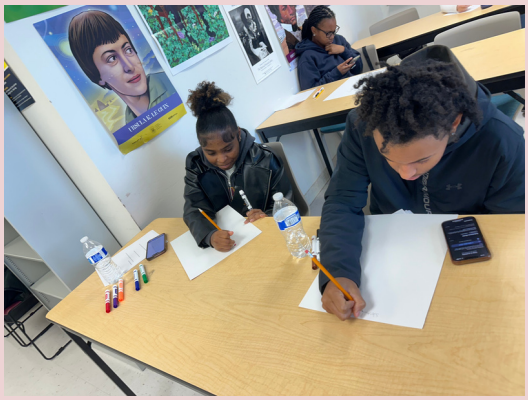
MLK Day of Service

On Saturday, January 13th, we hosted the MLK Day of Service at Bishop McNamara High School! The day was planned by students and exposed the students to educational, advocacy, and hands on activities. Here's what people have to say about the day:

"The MLK Day of Service was an enriching experience, I loved seeing a community come together for a great cause!"



"The MLK Day of Service was an awesome time, it was amazing to see how many people showed up to support the different communities, it was great to be a part of that!"

"The MLK Day of Service was an eye-opening experience because I learned many ways youth can be included in service projects, such as making dog toys for animal shelters."

"The MLK Day of Service could not have been done without the parent volunteers which were beyond helpful and I loved talking to students in the different service projects."

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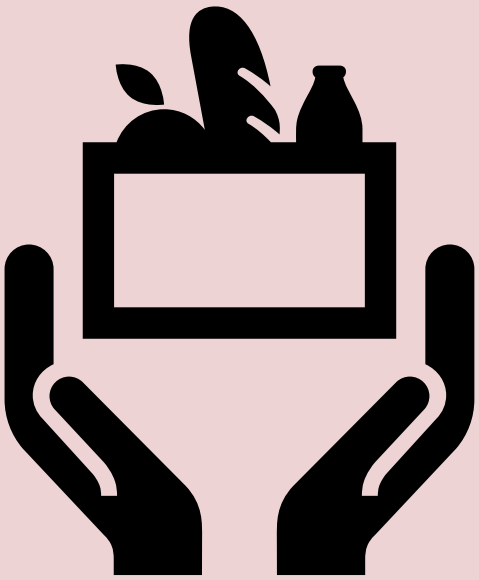
Camp Fire Clubs

Service is in our DNA, and our motto at Camp Fire is GIVE SERVICE! We worked with the Bowie Lions Club and made lunches for the Warm Nights program at CCSIMD!

We are welcoming new members and families to our club. We meet two times a month. Once on Fridays to work on our Ranks and once for a group/Family Activity. If you are interested in more information, contact us at info@campfirepatuxent.org



Camp Fire

Camp Fire USA Birthday

March 17, 2024

In 2024, we will celebrate Camp Fire's 113th birthday. Camp Fire continues to celebrate its birthday on March 17th every year so lets get the party started.

Camp Fire

Join us March 16th at 11:00 AM
for a Zoom
Camp MAWAVI
Virtual Reunion to Celebrate
114 years of Camp Fire

Register to participate and get login information
https://bit.ly/mawavi24
or use the QR code

We will share stories, sing songs--(bring your guitars or banjos if you play), talk about a reunion at MAWAVI in the future and hear about what Camp Fire is doing these days. Look forward to having everyone join us from whatever corner of the country you are now living.

March 17th is our 114th Birthday

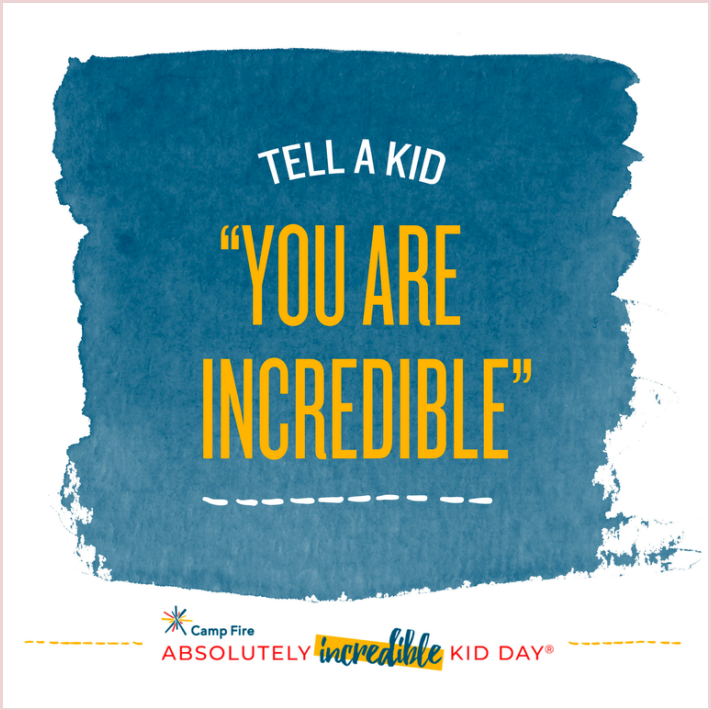
Camp Fire

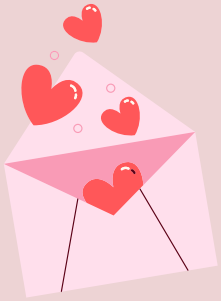
ABSOLUTELY incredible KID DAY®

Absolutely Incredible Kid Day®

March 21, 2024

Every year, millions of people write/tell a young person in their life why they matter and what makes them amazing. Please take time to write a letter to a child in your life. If you need a child to write to, contact us to help us get letters to children in need. #KidDay #AIKD





Find out more and see resources at:

https://campfire.org/kidday/

We have had many requests for information about additional service projects during the next few months. Below are some activities that meet the service-learning requirements and will make an impact on the community. Contact Mrs. Pezzuto at TeensinAction@campfirepatuxent.org

*1. Continuation of the **Driving Safety project:** work on planning other events open to the entire student body to build on the work you did for the MLK day-- New members are welcome. This will include a number of educational activities that are student planned as well as looking at creating a pre-prom and pre-summer activity.*

*2. **GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY** Help plan activities of service during April- Global Youth Service Month. Have an opportunity to make a difference in the Community.*

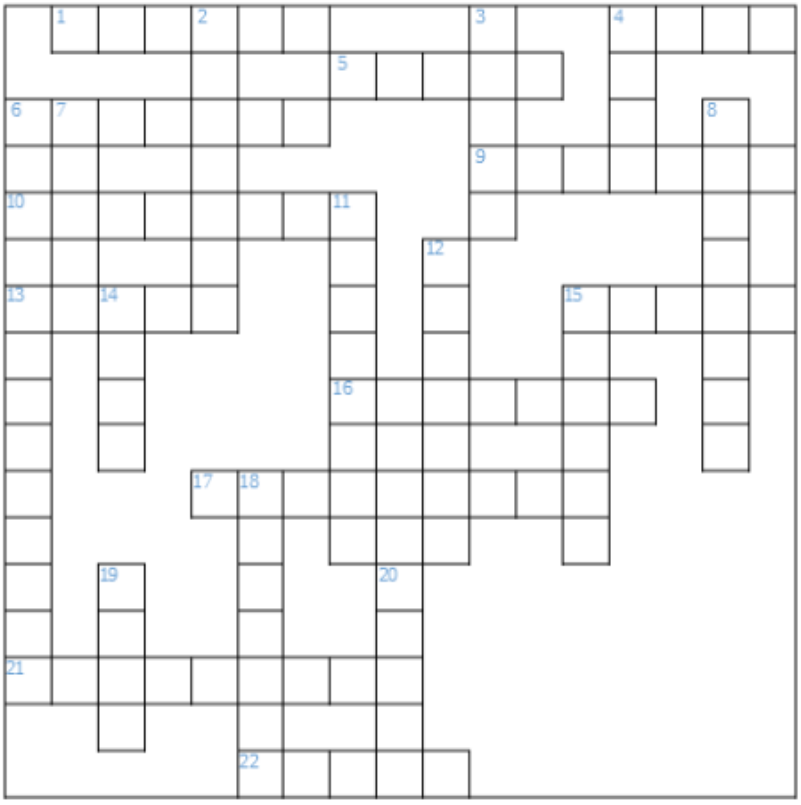
*3. Continued work on **YOUTH VOICE** and looking at increasing youth voter registration and youth voting as well as encouraging voting as a civic responsibility.*

*4. Working on a **CDC Health Initiative** with the Health Department around public health issues in our community including Substance Abuse, Immunizations, Mental Health and more.*

5. Sign up to work on a summer project in anticipation of our 9-11 day of service.

Crossword

Winter



Across

1 Ice sport played with a puck
4 Fun ride down a snowy hill
5 Neck warmer
6 Change habitat seasonally
9 Sometimes has a carrot nose
10 Snowstorm
13 Hot sweet drink
15 The color of snow
16 Keeps your hands warm
17 Sleep through the winter
21 A unique crystal of ice
22 Direction birds fly for the Winter

Down

2 African American holiday
3 Jack _____
4 Frozen rain
7 House made of ice
8 Time off from school or work
11 Christmas month
12 Gliding on ice
13 Holiday of giving
14 Opposite of hot
15 The coldest season
18 Frozen spikes
19 Vehicle that clears snow from streets
20 Mix of snow and rain

ADVANCED

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PLAY

Camp Fire Staff's Winter Playlist

Winter Wonderland by Laufey

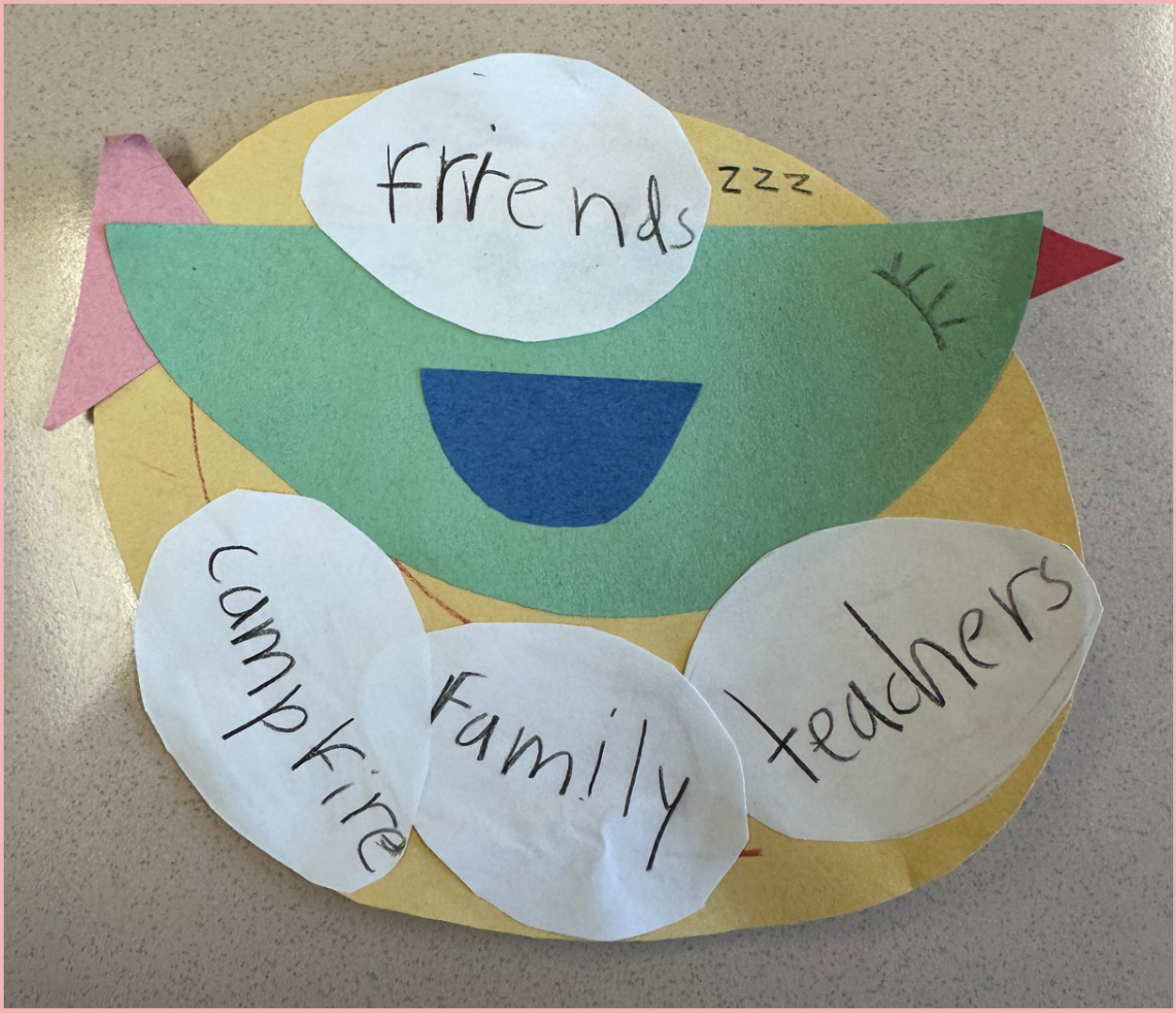
No Choir by Florence & The Machine

Who I Am with You by Chris Young

Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!
by Dean Martin

Lover by Taylor Swift

Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head
by B. J. Thomas



XOXO

Contact

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Congressman Glenn Ivey is recruiting young people to serve on his youth advisory committee. Serving as a youth member of these types of boards, can help you with learning about the operation of government, looks good on a university or scholarship application and teaches you leadership. Info is on flier below.

Opportunities to serve on
Youth Advisory Council for Camp Fire,
Camp Fire Patuxent's Board of Directors
National Youth Leadership Council Youth Advisory Council and other non-profits are available to youth in middle and high school. It you are interested contact us at TeensinAction@campfirepatuxent.org

These opportunities all would meet the service-learning requirements as they will involve opportunities to serve the community. These young people are making an impact on the world around them.

TURN SHOPPING INTO EARNING

Experience the right way to fundraise

Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

How it works

You buy a gift card
You get the full value.

The brand gives back
No extra money comes out of your pocket.

Your organization earns
Impacting what matters most to you.

Shop 750+ popular brands

Getting your morning coffee. Doing DIY projects around the house. Ordering takeout. Conveniently raise money by doing everyday things.

GAP amazon BUFFALO WILD WINGS STARBUCKS THE HOME DEPOT

> "It's super convenient. All I need to go shopping is my phone—I don't even need credit cards or my purse. I'm going to pay for these things anyway, I love being able to use gift cards so we get something in return."
>
> *Jen H., earns for hockey*

Get started by downloading the RaiseRight™ app on your phone or go to RaiseRight.com on your computer.

For step-by-step instructions, visit RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning.

SUPPORT CAMP FIRE PATUXENT BY PURCHASING GIFT CARDS. WE MAKE A SMALL PERCENTAGE ON EACH ORDER AND USE THE FUNDS TO SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS. Contact Rosemary at 301-346-7860

Our Enrollment code LINK is https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=1EAL3DD3153L5

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