April 2017

**MWPS ~ School Council Report for Raymond**

**West Willow Village Neighbourhood Group Update**

519 826 9930

info@westwillowvillage.ca

**~ Neighbourhood Events**

S.U.P.E.R. Girls! The Neighbourhood Group has been working with a number of high school students who have organized a free Wellness & Resilience day-long event to be held at MWPS, on Friday, April 28th. Girls in grades 6-8 will be referred by their west-end school, approximately 15-20/ school. The activities will use the UGDSB Mental Health awareness themes of: S = social connection, U = uplifting emotions, P= personal health, E = emotional calming and R = resilient thinking, to guide the workshops offered. The day will include a healthy lunch and fun activities. More information will be sent to the schools shortly.

Annual City-wide Clean & Green this will take place Saturday, April 22nd 8:30am – 11:30am with a free appreciation BBQ for volunteers to follow as Riverside Park. The City provides bags and gloves and will come and collect the bags at the end of the day.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Mitchell Woods clean up, call to let us know you are coming 519 826 9930 and show up at the entrance to the woods off Elmira Road.

**~ The Village Commons**

Tax Clinics are underway! The Neighbourhood Group completes taxes all year for families in the community, right now we are running Tax Clinics in the portable behind Westwood PS. We are also working with the Legal Aid Clinic and offer support downtown. These services are free and also provide us with an opportunity to check in with families.

We are in need of canned fruits and vegetables to restock the Neighbourhood Food Pantry. We will be organizing a Spring Food Drive in May and June.

**~ Neighbourhood Programs**

2017 Camp Wilderwood registration is currently underway. Summer Camp will be offered to 4-12 year olds for 7 weeks at MWPS from July 4th – August 18th; this summer will also offer a LIT program. Our Neighbourhood Group will again dedicate a staff to the role of Inclusion Worker to provide extra support. There will be swimming twice weekly, special guests, theme days, afternoon snacks and lots of adventures and fun. Parents can call for more info and to register.

2017 Young Urban Farmers will launch in May with the opportunity to gain a high school credit. The YUF is open to youth entering high school to current high school students. The summer provides hands on experience running a co-op food/farming business, and also community volunteer hours. The second new feature to the program is the addition of a pilot west-end Pocket Food Market, details are still be finalized.

**~ Neighbourhood Recreation Activities**

Red Cross Babysitting Course, Saturday, May 6th

The 2017 babysitting curriculum has more of a First Aid emphasis, we have instructional mannequins and other equipment and will be launching the new course. Youth will learn about safety, basic baby and child care. This course is for ages 11+, the $50 fee includes lunch and all materials. A Certificate is provided at the end of the course.

More information will follow.