

# Big Sunday Review

**By: Yuval Cohen**

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Big Sunday took place. Big Sunday is a community-wide event where people can help out by volunteering and donating items. It took place in many schools in Oak Park, including our own school, Medea Creek.

Many people attended Big Sunday in order to give back to their community. They had jobs such as painting murals, picking up trash, painting curbs, planting flowers, and so much more! Everyone enjoyed their time helping out their school.

Neve Brown, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Medea Creek, helped paint a tolerance mural for the school. She had a really fun experience and she got to meet new people. Neve volunteered with her mom, dad, and sister. She participated in Big Sunday because her mom organized sponsors who donated money to support the cause last year and they had a lot of fun. She got to paint flowerpots last year, replace the dirt, put new stepping-stones in, and clean up the school. Neve also commented that there were a lot more people last year than this year. There were many different groups of people, while this year there was only 10 people. Even in this case, she had a lot of fun and will definitely be going again.

Neve Brown's sister Zoe Brown helped at Oak Hills. She helped paint the curb and when she wasn't capable of helping (because something was too heavy), she handed out water to the people who were working. Zoe also told me that she knew people who went to clean up the trails. In her group, there were about 8 people. Zoe

had a lot of fun because she enjoys helping her community. She will, without a doubt, go again because she went last year and she had tons of fun both times.

Mrs. Lavene, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, also volunteered at Big Sunday. Lavene helped organize and create a “Tolerance” mural for Medea. Volunteers at Medea Creek worked very hard to paint this mural. It has the word “Tolerance” painted in blue, and paw prints all around to represent the Medea Creek Panthers. Inside the letters of tolerance, more words such as “Accountable” and “Honesty” are painted in. This mural represents the monthly character traits Medea has and it will be a beautiful piece to show off to the school.

According to my interviews, everyone “enjoyed helping out their community,” Zoe stated. To them, Big Sunday was “a way to give back” and they “certainly recommend more people to come,” Neve added. This is one of the many pleasurable events Oak Park has where everyone from the community gets to come and meet new people. It’s a way for the community to be together, and more people should certainly consider coming to Big Sunday!