

Submitted by:  
Tonya Martin  
Raymond Park Middle School  
8575 E Raymond Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46239  
317-532-8903

### Every Child Deserves Happy Memories!

Such as it is in the book “The Giving Tree” by Shel Silverstein. First published in 1964, this moral tale is about a bond between a young boy and a tree in a forest. The tree loves the boy and helps him throughout his life. On this premise of helpfulness, the Raymond Park Student Council led by Ms. Kelly Patterson and National Junior Honor Society led by Ms. Lindsay Edmondson are embarking on a mission of giving and helpfulness. These two groups are conducting a grade-level contest to see who can raise the most money to give to needy families located right at Raymond Park Middle School. With a poverty rate of 54% at Raymond Park, counselors are very busy attempting to get our local families the help they need. The money collected will be used to purchase Meijer gift cards to be given to various families for the purchase of clothes, toys and food for the holidays. In addition to the satisfaction of helping fellow classmates, the winning grade-level will also get the reward of seeing their grade-level administrator dressed up as “Jack Frost” complete with aluminum foil attire and spiked out hair.

Below is 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Ms. Jina Simmons as she staples a \$25 star to the top of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade tree. Ms. Simmons’ math classes have raised a whopping \$75 so far and are in high hopes of seeing their grade-level administrator, Mr. Jon Amones, dressed up as Jack Frost!

