

# BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Weekly words of wisdom to keep your bucket filled

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## Making a Difference Pizza-filled buckets

Last January, two members of our Bucket Fillers team, Peggy and Brooke Johncox, presented a parent night session at Lincoln School in Adrian, Michigan.

Laura Langley, one of the parents who attended, emailed Peggy a delightful follow-up story.

When Laura arrived home to find her husband "in the process of burning dinner" they decided to get an emergency pizza.

With the bucketfilling session fresh in her mind, she remembered to "see" the pizza clerk as a person and not just as an employee.

"I used her name and joked about how she was saving us from a burnt dinner. Lo and behold, she gave me a free order of crazy bread!"

Two appetites were satisfied that night, but more importantly, two buckets were filled as well.

## BUCKET CHUCKLES The young artist



A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, the teacher asked what she was drawing.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

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*Bucket Nuggets from Carol McCloud,  
The Bucket Lady*

## Bucketfilling student receives prestigious award

*This month's Bucket Nugget is a great story from team member, Jan Merz.*

Like most clubs of its kind, the Clarkston, Michigan Area Optimist Club is an active and supportive friend of youth. Its *Student of the Month* program recognizes students chosen by the principal of a different Clarkston school each month.

Every year, each school is given an opportunity to honor one student. It is a very difficult task for the principals to narrow their lists of many well-qualified and deserving students and then select a single outstanding boy or girl.

Shawn Ryan, principal at Clarkston Junior High, faced just such a daunting task a few months ago. His staff had sent him nominations and information on many outstanding eighth and ninth grade students.

When he took the list home to make his final decision, his son, Jacob, who is in the fourth grade, asked his father whether he could help in any way. Shawn patiently explained his dilemma, thinking the task would be too much for an eleven-year-old.

However, Jacob, who had learned all about bucket filling at Clarkston Elementary, responded in a very confident voice, "Dad, that's easy! Just pick the biggest bucket filler!"

Upon hearing his son's wisdom, Shawn immediately knew who his selection would be: Rachel!

Rachel is a ninth grade student. She is also a dedicated bucket filler in her school, home, church, and community. This wonderful character trait, combined with her academic accomplishments, brought her to the top of Shawn's list, earning the Clarkston junior the Optimist Club's *Student of the Month* 2008-09 award.

Thank you, Rachel, for being such a bucket filler in your community and thank you, Jacob, for doing such a great job helping your dad remember the positive impact bucket filling has on everyone.

Keep up the good work, kids!



*This week's winners*

## Congratulations!



**Cassie Stephens**, a teacher in Sapulpa, Oklahoma, is our Bucket Filler of the Week. Congratulations, Cassie! You have a book coming your way. Every bucket filler is a winner! Encourage your friends to get their buckets filled every week by signing on for our newsletter at

[www.bucketfillers101.com](http://www.bucketfillers101.com).

*Quote of the Week*

**"Laughter is a tranquilizer with no side effects." — Arnold Glasow**