

BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Weekly words of wisdom to keep your bucket filled

Week of OCTOBER 25, 2009 • Volume 3, Issue 17

Making a Difference

Two-year-old meets the bucket lady

Several months ago I was pumping gas at Costco when a mother approached me and told me how much she loved our book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?*

She explained that her two-year-old son was a great bucket filler, adding that either she or her husband would read him the book whenever he misbehaved.

Ten minutes later, I saw the family watching the televisions on display. I stopped to say hello and the dad introduced me to his son, who was sitting in their cart.

This little two-year-old looked up and said, "I used to be a bucket dipper, but I'm not any more. Now I am only a bucket filler and I like filling buckets!"

I gave him a wristband.

He went back to watching cartoons.

BUCKET CHUCKLES

Billy's boots

Little Billy was having difficulty putting his boots on and asked his teacher for help.

As she struggled, Billy said, "Miss Smith, these aren't my boots."

After another struggle, the wrong boots were finally off and Billy's boots were found.

However, his own boots didn't seem to fit much better, but with much pushing and pulling they were on.

"Now," said Miss Smith, "Where are your mittens?"

"In my boots," answered Billy.

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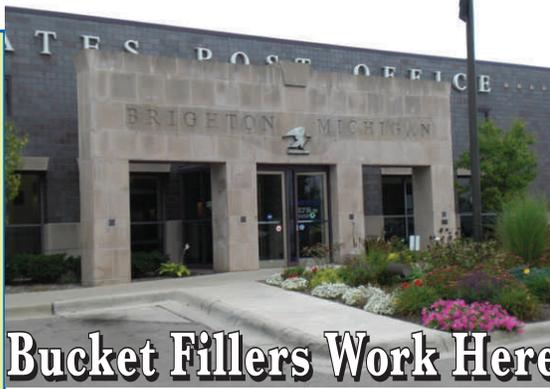
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Bucket Fillers Work Here

Brighton Post Office, Brighton, MI

Bucket Nuggets from Carol McCloud,
The Bucket Lady

Bucket filling at the Post Office

The other day, I walked into my favorite post office in my home town of Brighton, Michigan. It's always a busy place and seems to be getting busier. It's also a very friendly, bucketfilling place, thanks to the people who work there.

When I ship our bucketfilling products, I can always count on having my bucket filled with a smile and a kind word.

Ron, Tammy, Anna, Kathy, June, and Jamie are just a few of the Brighton Post Office's great staff. Their smiles are warm and when they say, "Thank you, have a good day" they mean it. Every customer receives this friendly service and enjoys happy banter as our boxes are weighed, shipping information is recorded, and payment is accepted.

Both my grandfather and my mother worked as post office clerks and I remember how mentally and physically exhausted they were at the end of a hectic day.

Working in a busy post office is challenging, especially when lines are long and customers become frustrated or impatient. These are the times when dippers come out and buckets are emptied.

The other day I had some packages to ship and not only was the parking lot full, there was construction to deal with.

When I approached the counter, Jamie saw me and said, "I don't feel much like being a bucket filler today." I laughed so hard my stomach hurt because I knew exactly what she meant and what she was feeling.

The good thing is ... Jamie laughed too.

I'm sure you've had days when nothing seems to go right, tempers rise, and people start dipping into one another's buckets.

There will always be times when you, like Jamie, are not motivated to fill buckets.

I know that it's difficult to be a bucket filler when your bucket is constantly being attacked by dippers.

It takes extra effort and understanding to keep your bucket full. Realizing this can inspire you to find the humor and energy to survive a difficult day with a smile on your face and a bucket that is still full.

This week's winners

Congratulations!



Jennifer Talley of Lee M. Waid Elementary School, Rocky Mount, Virginia is our bucket filler of the week. Congratulations Jennifer! 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.

Quote of the Week

"It's choice, not chance, that determines your destiny."—Jean Nidetch