

# The Paw Print

## CARPENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

“At Carpenter,  
We  
BELIEVE...”

Date: November 13, 2016



Welcome to the  
Carpenter PTO  
Amanda Gebhardt

### Upcoming Events

**Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**

Moms & Muffins 8:15 – 9:00  
Conversation with the Principal  
9:00 – 9:30

Picture Retakes

**Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**

No School, Thanksgiving Break  
Begins

**Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**

School Resumes

**Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

Student Craft Fair

Please join the PTO Executive Board in welcoming Amanda to the PTO. She has not only stepped-up to help with our fundraising coordination, but also as our President.

Amanda has a kindergartener this year, whom she is excited to see grow this year. Some of her favorite things include the color purple and chicken gyros. Amanda loves reading, writing, playing video games, and learning how to keep the plants in her yard alone.

Amanda's favorite part of volunteering with the PTO is getting to know the other parents and the issues that are important to our community. She wants our community to know that she is here to support our students and teachers in anyway she can.

Welcome to the PTO Amanda and thank you for your willingness to take on these roles!



### Carpenter Elementary School's Mission

The Carpenter School Community will provide a respectful, responsible, and safe environment in which each student is academically, emotionally, and socially prepared to face the future



## School News You Can Use...

### Meet Mrs. Bathany Tabaka

Mrs. Tabaka is a returning third grade teacher whose passion and dedication can be seen in the smile that greets you in the hall.

She loves the color blue, crafts, music, photography, and Mexican food. Mrs. Tabaka's favorite part of teaching is the joy and excitement that she sees in her student's eyes when they understand a new concept.

She is excited about all the learning and possibilities that this school year will bring.

Thank you Mrs. Tabaka for teaching our students and being a part of the Carpenter Family.

### Meet Mrs. Jill Koepp

Mrs. Koepp is a returning second grade teacher, whose own children are Carpenter Cougars.

She considers herself a foodie and loves food. Some of her favorites are chocolate, fruit, and gourmet cheese. Mrs. Koepp loves gardening, cooking, animals, nature, and the color aqua.

When asked what her favorite part of teaching is she said "I love to build a collaborative learning community. I also love watching my students' grow and learn throughout the year. It's also what is so hard about saying goodbye in the summer. I especially love it when my former students come back to visit"

Mrs. Koepp is very excited about the planting project this spring. She also shared with us that she has a shih Tzu named Oscar.

Thank you for joining us for another exciting year.



## Chief Learner Corner

Today, we celebrate and honor our service men and women who have served in our nation's military. We are grateful for their service, sacrifice, commitment, and willingness to give their last full measure of devotion in order for us to enjoy liberty, freedom, and democracy.

On this Veteran's Day, we commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War and recognize those who served and their families with the highest and fullest respect of our nation.

For all of our parents, grandparents and community members who served in are armed forces... We SALUTE YOU!

## Bottle and Can Drive Success



Written by: Amanda Gebhardt

On November 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>, the Carpenter PTO hosted the first Bottle and Can Drive of the year, accepting nearly 5,000 bottles and cans from Carpenter families and friends! Although there were some non-refundable items as well as some returns that our group couldn't quite find a store to accept them, we were able to raise \$456.20 over the course of those five days! Community members and neighbors filled the bin in front of the school to capacity every day. On Saturday, porches around the neighborhood had boxes and bags full of returns for our school.

Niki Coatney, Glen Timpe, Pete Finnie, and Amanda Gebhardt worked on collecting the returns, safe-keeping them from storms and late-night pillagers, and returning them to local stores. Even Olivia and Owen Finnie, two of our Cougars, pitched in to help make returns!

We're excited to say that bottles and cans are STILL coming in! Some of our neighbors who missed out on Saturday's collection have reached out and Glen has another truckload ready to return. Our next big drive is scheduled for February 6-11, 2017, following this year's Super Bowl and the (hopefully) bottle-and-can-rich parties. Until then, the school and PTO are happy to pick up or coordinate any other donations to keep the proceeds coming in to the school. On behalf of Carpenter PTO and School: THANK YOU, CARPENTER COMMUNITY!! We BELIEVE your support makes a difference!



LEGO® Education  
StoryStarter



## Carpenter 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are Using Lego Story

Written by: Kim Ulrich

Thanks to the dedication and grant work done by Mrs. Tabaka and Ms. Lowe our 3<sup>rd</sup> grader students will have the opportunity to write stories using legos and special software that help them publish a fully illustrated story. Our school currently has 6 software and Lego kits for our students to use.

The students first build a story using Legos and then they photograph them. These photos are then loaded into the software and the students then write a story based on what they built. They are then able to edit the photos and publish the story, photos and all.

This is Ms. Tabaka's third year working with this program and shared that they students really enjoy the process. This looks like an great way to engage our students imaginations while helping them develop their writing skills.

Thank you for bringing this amazing program to our school!





## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp Information

The first payment for camp is due Friday, November 11! We are working hard to plan fundraisers that will help reduce the price!

### Howell Conference and Nature Center April 12-14 3 days and 2 nights

The cost for camp is **\$160.00** per student. We welcome all parents who are able to serve as chaperons and are able to have you join us for **\$80.00** per adult. The following pay schedule has been established:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Payment: **\$40.00/\$20.00**, Due by November 11, 2016
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Payment: **\$40.00/\$20.00**, Due by December 9, 2016
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Payment: **\$40.00/\$20.00**, Due by January 27, 2017
- 4<sup>th</sup> Payment: **\$40.00/\$20.00**, Due by March 10, 2017

All checks should be written out to: **Carpenter PTO**

All payments must be paid by March 10, 2017 so that we can meet our payment deadline with Howell Conference and Nature Center.

## Trunk or Treat

Thank you to all those to came out and supported this event. Our children had a fun and safe afternoon!



## Why Physical Education?

**ENCOURAGES  
PHYSICAL  
ACTIVITY  
FOR LIFE**



**HELPS  
PREVENT  
SICKNESS  
AND DISEASE**



**PROVIDES AN OUTLET FOR  
CREATIVITY AND SELF-EXPRESSION**



**DEVELOPS  
COOPERATION  
& TEAMWORK**



**Builds**   
**Self-Confidence**

**PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
PERSONAL GOAL-SETTING**



**INCREASES PERSONAL FITNESS  
AND MOTOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT**



**HELPS REDUCE  
STRESS & ANXIETY**

**STRENGTHENS RELATIONSHIPS  
WITH OTHERS**



**BOOSTS ACADEMIC LEARNING**

©Photo Courtesy (Carpenter PTO), 2015



Carpenter Elementary School

4250 Central Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI 48108

**Principal:**

Michael Johnson

**Secretary:**

Valerie Bacoat

**Teacher Clerks:**

Pauline Ebrahim &amp; Valerie Munson

**General Office Phone:**

734-997-1214

**Carpenter Elementary PTO Committee****Amanda Gebhardt****Kym Randall****Shannon Dunn****Veronica Shah****Niki Coatney****Amber Beattie****Kathy Owens****Marlena Laugh****Kim Ulrich****Pete Finnie****Additional Ways to Support Your PTO and OUR Students****Box Tops for Education:**

Turn in your clipped Box Tops from participating products to the school office. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents for our school. Want to help our school earn extra box tops? Visit the following website to enter the sweepstakes:

<http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/sweepstakes>

**Coca Cola Product Bottle Caps:**

Bring your bottle caps to the school office and drop them in the GIANT Coke bottle! **Or better yet:** visit the website below to enter your Coke Rewards codes here and donate them to our school. When you donate your points, the points are converted to cash for the school to use: <https://donate.mycokerewards.com/causes/featured>

**Amazonsmile**

**New Amazon Program Enables Shoppers to Easily Donate to Their Favorite Nonprofits**

Did you know that Amazon donates a percentage of each sale when you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)? It's the exact same Amazon products, the same prices, and the same quick shipping, but when you shop Amazon Smile, Carpenter receives a portion of each sale!

1. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)
2. Login with your normal Amazon account info
3. Type Carpenter PTO in the charitable organization search box
4. From now on, do all of your Amazon shopping from [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)!

# Ann Arbor PTO THRIFT SHOP

[a2ptothriftshop.org](http://a2ptothriftshop.org)

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## SHOP DONATE FUNDRAISE

A non-profit resale shop with all proceeds benefitting  
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Sat 9-6 Sun 11-5

### DONATE

Mon-Fri 10-6

Sat 10-5 Sun 12-4

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**Pittsfield Charter Township**  
*Department of Public Safety*

6227 West Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
Phone: (734) 822-4911 • Fax: (734) 944-0744  
Website: [www.pittsfield-mi.gov](http://www.pittsfield-mi.gov)

*Mandy Grewal, Supervisor*



# Operation Beard

The Pittsfield Township Police Department is proud to initiate **“Operation Beard”** for any police officer or dispatcher who wishes to wear a beard and support a worthy cause that’s aimed at fund raising for kids in need. Money collected will be used to purchase hats, gloves and clothing for children during the winter.





# GROUP ORDER



## DEAR PARENTS

Sport stacking with Speed Stacks is practiced in over 50,000 schools around the world and is an official sanctioned sport in the annual AAU Junior Olympic Games. We are a family owned company, dedicated to the health and well-being of students of all ages, athletic abilities, and skill levels.

## WHY PARTICIPATE IN A GROUP ORDER?

For the same reason participating in a Scholastic book order makes sense, ordering Speed Stacks gear through your school is one of the best moves you can make!

- **Low Price Guarantee** - Average total order savings of 25%
- **10% goes to your school** - Your school gets free equipment with your order!
- **Stay Active at Home** - Keep your child's body and brain more active outside of school. Make homework time more fun by warming up the brain with sport stacking.

## EASY ONLINE ORDERING

- 1) Go to [www.speedstacks.com/go](http://www.speedstacks.com/go) and select your items.
- 2) **Pay by credit card or check.** If your school is accepting checks, please give the check to your teacher and note that checks should be made payable to Speed Stacks.
- 3) **When all student orders are in, the entire order ships to your school.** If you are unable to order online, just request a paper Order Form from your teacher. If you prefer to order by phone, you can always call Speed Stacks toll free at 1-877-468-2877.



Go to [SpeedStacks.com/go](http://SpeedStacks.com/go)



## Opportunity for Speed Stacks Group Order



The Leader In Sport Stacking®

Dear Parents,

We are currently doing a sport stacking unit in PE. Sport stacking is an exciting sport where students stack and unstack 12-specially designed cups (Speed Stacks) in predetermined sequences. Students race against the clock for faster times and race against each other in relays.

Sport stacking promotes hand-eye coordination, ambidexterity, quickness, concentration and fitness - plus, students love it! Sport stacking uses both sides of the body and brain developing important skills needed to dribble and shoot a basketball, throw and catch a baseball, play a musical instrument, type on a computer and more. By activating both sides of the brain, students also benefit academically with greater focus and concentration levels.

One of my goals, as a Physical Educator, is to promote activity at home through positive alternatives to computer, television and video game screen time. I believe that sport stacking is a unique, fun and simple activity that motivates kids to get up and move. To help accomplish my goal of keeping kids active and healthy, I invite you and your student to participate in our school Group Order with Speed Stacks.

### **Group order participants:**

- *Receive special school discounts on their favorite gear.*
- *Take advantage of free shipping on all orders.*
- *Help our school earn free equipment – the more you order, the more we earn for the program.*

Choose your items from the product brochure and order using these easy steps:

1. Go to the Group Order Store online at [www.speedstacks.com/go](http://www.speedstacks.com/go)
2. Find our school in the listing and place your order.

Instructor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Our order is starting: \_\_\_\_\_

Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

*Your order must be placed before the ending date.*

## Thank you for supporting our Physical Education Program!

*Remember that our school earns free Speed Stacks equipment based on your participation!*

