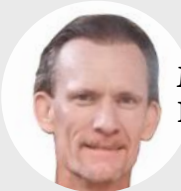


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Creative Thinking



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*Residential only. Within first 30 days after installation. Does not include cost of installation or other labor. Style must be of equal or lesser value.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

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"Mark" My Words... a message from Dawn Giganti

February has been kind of crazy, but I say that to myself every single month. I feel like all I do is put out fires day in and day out. Before I know it, it's the next month. I can't seem to ever get ahead. How do you find the time to accomplish goals, check off items on your bucket list, pursue dreams or even spend time with God? Awesome question, and I know I'm not the only one who has it!

This is the reality for most of us because life gets crazy sometimes. All those "fires" that demand our time and attention mean putting our own goals on the back burner. We say we'll get to them when things simmer down, and there is more time. When has that ever happened? Realistically, there will never be enough time unless we put ourselves and God first and make these things a REAL priority.

I am making time. I've been working on getting up early in the morning every day and dedicate those first few hours of the day to myself and in prayer. It isn't easy, but when the rest of the world is asleep, and there are no other demands on my time, those early morning hours make all the difference. I've noticed that in doing so, I can think more clearly throughout the day, too. And honestly, this is helpful in getting in touch with myself, so I can write these heartfelt letters for the Creative Thinking newsletter!

Of course, getting up early every day comes at a cost. In order to get enough sleep and stay healthy, I must be diligent about going to bed early. I try to be in bed by 10pm. So, I must be diligent to not get engulfed in something I am reading or watching on television. It's not always easy to say NO to those things. But when we say yes to something that isn't necessarily a priority, we are unintentionally saying NO to something that should be.

To find time for ourselves and God, we must make them a priority. Join me by trying to become more intentional about making time instead of waiting for it. Schedule time in your calendar. Try waking up 30 minutes earlier. Skip your favorite television show. Choose to do whatever it takes to get closer to yourself and God. Then, see where you are when March of 2021 comes around.

Prioritize yourself and dream BIG – you deserve it. Have a wonderful month of March!

Dawn J. Giganti

Dawn Giganti, Marketing & Administrative Assistant
Creative Carpet & Flooring

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	Notes				

February 20	April 20
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Month at a Glance:

8th Daylight Savings - "SPRING AHEAD" your clocks at 2:00am. We might lose an hour's sleep, but it is SO worth it!

13th Ear Muff Day - Hopefully we won't be needing these on or after March 19th!

14th National Pi Day - Because today is 3.14, the value of Pi of course!

17th Saint Patrick's Day - What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover? A rash of good luck!

19th First day of SPRING - First day of spring in the Midwest... Let's go sledding! (Oh... I hope not!)

29th National Mom & Pop Business Owners Day - If there's a special Mom & Pop shop you care about, take a moment to write a note to let the owners & employees know how much you appreciate all the effort & care they put into making your experience wonderful.

THANK YOU FOR THE KIND WORDS!

"We couldn't be happier with our experience with Creative Carpet & Flooring in Highland, IN. From the day we first walked into CC&F to look for carpeting thru the date of installation, CC&F customer service was outstanding. Autumn Sibb patiently answered all our questions, explained the differences between various types of carpeting, and ordered samples to be sent to our home. She arrived at our home at the arranged time to measure and prepare an estimate, which we received quickly via email. She also called to go thru the estimate details over the phone. Once an install date was set, she remained in contact with us via email and phone. Our installers, Dave and Noah, arrived on time and were efficient, professional and respectful of our home. They even swept the driveway when they were finished. We had a few special requests during installation (which we made known before install day), and they patiently worked with us to meet those requests. We absolutely love our new carpeting and highly recommend CC&F. I feel that part of the responsibility for a good experience lies with the homeowner. Anything you can do to make the installers' job easier will go a long way toward helping the job go smoothly. If you have special requests, be sure to make them know before installation. Empty rooms as much as possible and box up knick-knacks and any items you don't want to be damaged. If you can, remove doors in areas to be carpeted. And finally, if you have furniture gliders, use them to help move heavy furniture from room to room."

~ Rosemary Sanchez of Saint John, IN

7 Signs of Facebook Addiction**How to Tell If You are Addicted to Facebook**

If you're wondering at what point fixation with social networking explodes into full-blown Facebook addiction, here are seven warning signs that you (or someone you know) may be addicted to Facebook.

- **Spending Excessive Time on Facebook** – Spending excessive time on Facebook is a clear red flag. How much time is excessive? If you spend more than two hours in a row or three hours daily with your nose buried in the Facebook website, you are probably addicted.
- **Compulsive Profile Dressing** – You should be doing your homework or working on that document your boss wants tomorrow or playing with your children, but instead, you compulsively sign on to Facebook so you can change your profile picture for the third time this week. Bam. You're addicted.
- **Status Update Anxiety** – You feel anxious, nervous, or guilty if you don't update your Facebook status at least three or four times a day. Did you know that some people go days without updating their status? Thought not.
- **Bathroom Updates** – You take your phone into the bathroom so you can update your status on the john. You're addicted, and you need to do something about it pronto.
- **Your Pets Joined Facebook** – You created Facebook accounts for your dog or your cat—or both—and, oh yeah, you helped them friend each other.
- **Facebook Tardy** – You miss work deadlines or are late for business meetings because you got lost in the virtual vortex of Facebook. Addicted.
- **Friend Obsession** – You have more than 600 Facebook friends, but you fret over whether you have enough—and you've never actually met even half of those "friends." Chances are you are addicted, but this is not uncommon nowadays. See if you can go through and delete the people you have no clue who they are. If you can't, you're probably addicted.

**What to Do If You Are Addicted**

If two or more of these addiction signs describe your relationship with the social network, you maybe frittering away too much of your real life on your virtual one.

If you decide you want to beat your addiction to Facebook, you could try cold-turkey solutions such as deactivating your Facebook account or deleting your Facebook. Those are two easy fixes, but other less-traumatic options may be better. Explore a few alternate strategies that can help you beat Facebook addiction such as keeping a log of the time you spend on the site or using a Facebook blocker.

Walker, L. (2020, January 8). 7 Signs of Facebook Addiction. Retrieved from Lifewire: <https://www.lifewire.com/signs-of-facebook-addiction-2654371>

MEET OUR NEW & RETURNING FRIENDS & CLIENTS...

AJ Morales
Alan & Jeany Dean
Alex & Andrew
Barnard
Amy Wolcott
Ann & Wayne Snedden
Anthony Christopher
Beth Bauer
Bill & Mary Collias
Bonnie LeVan
Brent Gust
Brian Sullivan
Bryan & Jayne
Hoogerwerf
Carol & Al
Fiorentino
Charles & Kelly
Lara
Chris Pitts
Crystal Teehan
Dan Vegter
Grace Allen
Hilary Pagorek
Jack Odonnell
James & Judy Pyne

Jeff & Erin Sako
Jeff Yurasovich
Jennifer & Bill
Cullen
Jill Beemsterboer
Jim & Pat O'Connor
Joanne Becker
John Marks
Joyce Conti
Judi Hankus
Judy & Dennis Moe
Kaitlyn Sweet
Karen Zylstra
Kathleen Pagorek
Kathy Kachinsky
Kathy Lergner
Kathy Stern
Katie Kolinski
Ken Czulno
Kevin Curtin
Kim Harton
Kristen Palmer
Larry & Marian
Stevens

Laura & John
Zielinski
Linda Olson
Linda Sanders
Lynea Lytle
Marc Radovich
Mark & Kathi
Chenoweth
Mark Engle
Mark Martino
Mary & Mark Schultz
Mary Colbert
Matt & Olivia
Stetins
Mike Sanfratello
Nancy Kohlstedt
Nicole Pacella
Nika Nelson
Patricia & Bill
Scheidt
Patty Avgeris
Paul & Linda
Vanprooyen
Paula Janik
Rachel Kibler

Rain Sobczak
Ray & Diane
Kolodziej
Richard & Lorraine
Schroeder
Sam & Becky
Kooistra
Sanette & Rick
Bruton
Sean Kelly
Sheri Haley
Stacey Bilsland
Steve & Carrie
Nepkin
Steve & Joanne
Boender
Terry & Karen
Severson
Therese Perschke
Tim & Kim Studniarz
Tim Tuzik
Tom & Eileen Roe
William Brady

**JOHN
BADOVINICH**

of Griffith, IN

You are this month's
MYSTERY WINNER!

We have a \$50 Creative
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Stop in your nearest showroom to claim
your prize!

NOTE: Must be picked up before 3/31/2020

Did You Know ?

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WARNING!

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Consumer Awareness
Guide! You will learn...

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- ✓ 7 costly misconceptions about flooring
- ✓ 5 questions to ask a dealer before buying

Visit our website to obtain your copy!

5 Tips for Successful Bird Watching

Surprisingly, bird watching is the number one spectator sport in North America. There are more people who are watching birds than hockey and football combined. Here are some tips and tools to help you join in and see some birds. Hopefully, you'll find one you've never seen before!

#1. Get to Where the Birds Are! Some birdwatchers can just look out their window to observe. The rest of us need to get outdoors! I would highly recommend visiting eBird: <https://ebird.org/> There, you can explore counties, states or provinces, and countries. Check out their dashboard to view for any region around the world. It gives a ton of stats like most recent sightings, first-ever sightings, all-time high counts, best hotspots, and more. You can click on the Illustrated Checklist to see the migration timing alongside a virtual field guide built from eBirders' best photos and recordings. The best part is you can search in your home county or state.

#2. Know What Species to Expect. There are about 900 species of birds in the United States. Recognizing them all is just about impossible! Do a little research before you visit an area. You'll probably find that only a few species inhabit the area you are in. You will be able to identify bird species more quickly if you prepare ahead of time. It also helps to keep a list of successfully viewed species.

#3. Invest in A Quality Pair of Binoculars. If you have inadequate binoculars, the time and money you spend to get to the right place can be totally wasted. You won't be able to get the most out of your viewing with an inexpensive pair of binoculars. Spending the extra money to get today's technology will pay off when wildlife viewing. Things like image stabilization are important when you are trying to watch from a long distance. Other cool features like anti-fogging and low-light viewing make your experience all the better. There are even some binoculars that have built-in digital cameras. This enables you to identify birds after you get home. Spending a little extra money for a great pair of binoculars will ensure a great experience.



#4. Practice. Since birds are visible for only a few seconds, the key to viewing birds is to know how to quickly put your binoculars on target. Practice before your outing by focusing on a bird in a bush or track a bird in flight. Another practice tip is to lower your binoculars to your side, then quickly raise them to find and follow an airplane in the sky. The more you practice, you'll get good at quickly acquiring your target.

#5. Take Someone with You. Life is always better when shared. Not only do you get to spend time out of doors with someone you like, but they might alert you to the rare top sight of the day. Share your birding experiences with your friends and family. Pass the birding excitement to a child.

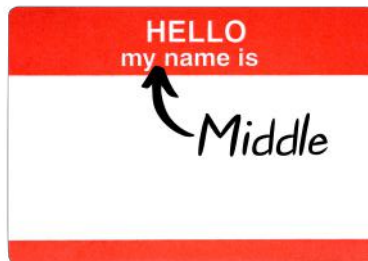
The best part about wildlife viewing is that you, the viewer, control almost every aspect of the experience. The more you are prepared, the more rewarding your time in our backcountry will be. Use this information, and you'll be good to go from the start. Now, enjoy spring and get outdoors!

Why Do We Have Middle Names?

The phrase "middle name" first appeared in an 1835 Harvard University periodical called *Harvardiana*, but the practice dates back much further.

In ancient Rome, having multiple names was an honor usually bestowed upon the most important people—like Gaius Julius Caesar. The fad died out only to pick back up again in Western cultures in the 1700s, when aristocrats started giving their children lavishly long names to indicate their place in society. Similarly, lengthy Spanish and Arabic names adopt paternal or maternal names from previous generations to trace the individual's family tree. (In other cultures, like Chinese, there are traditionally no middle names.)

The three-name structure used today began in the Middle Ages when Europeans were torn between giving their child a saint's name or a common family name. The practice of giving three names eventually resolved the problem with a formula: given name first, baptismal name second, surname third. It branched to America as immigrants arrived: Adopting a trio of labels became a way of aspiring to a higher social class. Nonreligious middle names—often maternal maiden names—gradually became the norm, and by the Civil War, it was customary to name your child whatever you liked. Middle names had started to become more or less official by World War I, when the U.S. enlistment form became the first official government document to include space for them.



Hutchinson, S. (2014, August 26). *Why Do We Have Middle Names?* Retrieved from Mental Floss: <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/58440/why-do-we-have-middle-names>

MEGA Trivia Contest

Who wants to WIN a \$50 Gift Card towards dinner at TGI Friday's, Olive Garden or Beggars Pizza?

Take our Trivia Challenge!

This month's Mega Trivia question:

What nationality was Saint Patrick?

(A) Irish

(B) Italian

(C) Roman

(D) Scottish

To enter, visit our website at www.creativecarpetinc.com, click on "MEGA Trivia" under *Specials* and take your best guess. Your chances of winning are better than you think! Winner will be announced in the following month's newsletter. Entry deadline, March 20th, 2020. Good luck!!!

Answer to February's quiz:
B) Mt Carroll

Congratulations to last month's winner:

Catherine Blackburn
of Joliet, IL

Stop by Creative Carpet & Flooring to claim your prize by March 31, 2020!

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George Offord	Patricia Ricker
Janet Stoller	Ray & Diane
Jennifer Zylstra	Kolodziej
Jim & Pat OConnor	Rich Grossart
Jim Buczek	Terry & Karen
Joyce & Ed	Severson
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Joyce Conti	
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Geary	
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The History of The Most Popular St. Patrick's Day Foods

In March, St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated around the world. In the U.S. that means shamrocks strewn across faces, green beer, and Irish eats. But some of your favorite Irish foods might not be all that Irish after all. Here's a history of a few of those iconic St. Paddy's Day dishes.

Corned Beef and Cabbage – Corned beef and cabbage isn't actually the national dish of Ireland. You wouldn't eat it on St. Patrick's Day in Dublin, nor would you be likely to find it in Cork. It's typically only eaten around the holiday here in the U.S. So how did corned beef and cabbage become synonymous with the Irish?

During the time of the Irish immigration to the U.S., the first generation of Irish-Americans were in search of the comforting tastes of their homeland. On St. Paddy's Day that meant boiled bacon. But the immigrants were too poor to afford the high price of pork and bacon products. Instead, they turned to the cheapest cut of meat available: beef brisket. Given that New York City was a melting pot for immigrants from around the world, rather than boil the beef, the Irish adopted cooking methods from other cultures. Brining was a technique of the Eastern Europeans, which is a way of salt-curing meat. And the corn? Well, "corned" has nothing to do with corn but instead refers to the corn-sized salt crystals used during the brining process (In fact, corned beef is sometimes referred to as "pickled beef," as you are quite literally pickling brisket with this particular brining process.). The corned beef was paired with cabbage, as it was one of the cheapest vegetables available to the Irish immigrants.

Irish Soda Bread – There is no Coke or Pepsi in Irish Soda Bread. The term "soda" comes from bicarbonate of soda — more commonly known as baking soda — which is a leavening agent and one of the main components that gives the bread its distinct flavor. Before ovens were in every kitchen, the bread was baked over an open fire in a round pot or casserole or baked on a iron plate over remaining embers. Thus, the reason why the bread is round and cut into pie pieces. In the U.S., we often find Irish Soda Bread flecked with currants (like scones are), while in Ireland that is not the traditional recipe. Fruits are only added for special occasions, in which case the bread goes by a different name such as tea bread, as it is something to accompany your afternoon tea.

Guinness – While this stout beer was first produced in Ireland, its inspiration came from Great Britain. The tangy, creamy, dark-as-night beer was done in the style of an English porter brew from the late 18th century. Arthur Guinness began making his beer at St. James's Gate in Dublin in 1759, but it wasn't until 1769 that his ales made their way to the public. And when they made their debut, those six and a half barrels were headed for England. It would take 71 more years for the ales to make their way to New York.

Colcannon — boiled potatoes mashed up with cabbage or kale and then mixed with onions and butter (or cream) — can most certainly be traced back to Ireland. According to The Oxford Companion to Food, the word "colcannon" comes from the Gaelic "cal ceannann" meaning white-headed cabbage. "The 'cannon' part of the name might be a derivative of the old Irish 'cainnenn', translated variously as garlic, onion, or leek," states the publication. The recipe first appeared in print in 1775 in the diary of William Bulkely, and in the U.S., a recipe entitled "Cabbage and Potatoes" appeared in the 1847 publication of Mrs. Crowen's American Lady's Cookery Book.

What will you be cooking this St. Patrick's Day?

Tannenbaum, K. (2019, February 27). *Where Does Corned Beef Come From? - History of St. Patrick's Day Food*. Retrieved from Delish: <https://www.delish.com/food/a38939/history-corned-beef-st-patricks-day-foods/>



A gigantic THANK YOU to all who referred us last month...

Frank & Joanne Zanicco	Jim & Susan Marino
Gary & Ilene Banach	Kathleen Pagorek
George & Gerri Hoeksema	Mike & Tessa Quinlan
	Teresa Gilliam
Jake & Mary LaDuke	

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10am - 4pm Sat



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9am - 6pm Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri
10am - 6pm Wed
10am - 4pm Sat

The material contained in this newsletter is for informational purposes only and is based upon sources believed to be reliable and authoritative; however, it has not been independently verified by us. This newsletter should not be construed as offering professional advice.

Community Events

SAT - Mar. 14, 2020 9am-1pm

JOINT CHAMBER LINCOLN-WAY EXPO

Lincoln Community Center Fieldhouse
1801 E Lincoln Hwy, New Lenox IL
Over 80 area businesses, organizations, non-profits & civic groups - everything this area has to offer. A true community event for the family. FREE
Contact Melissa Fedora (708) 479-2468 or chamber@mokena.com for info.

TUE - Mar. 17, 2020 7pm

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

Downtown Crown Point
Main Street, Crown Point IN
Join the fun with corned beef & cabbage dinner at fire station, illuminated parade, celebrate with a drink at local pub.
Contact (219) 662-3290 for info.

SAT - Mar. 21, 2020 6pm

ST. GEORGE TRIVIA NIGHT

St. George Gym
6700 176th St, Tinley Park IL
A fun night of trivia, raffles, spit the pot and lots of fun! Cash prizes!! \$10 pp
Contact Carrie Dolan (708) 288-1584 or ptlstgeorge@gmail.com for info.

SAT - Mar. 28, 2020 8:30am & 10am

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY!

Highland High School
9135 Erie St, Highland IN
Continental breakfast, drawings, raffles, pictures with the Easter Bunny. Lots of costume characters, too! \$6
Contact (219) 923-3666 or info@highlandriffithchamber.com for info.

If you have a community event or fundraiser that you would like us to feature in April 2020's Creative Thinking newsletter, please email marketing@creativecarpetinc.com by March 19, 2020.



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