CREATIVE CARPET & FLOORING'S

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It "Dawned" On Me... a message from Dawn Giganti

Dear Creative Carpet & Flooring Friends and Family,

Can you believe it's already January? It feels like we just blinked, and here we are, welcoming a new year. Now, I know it's that time when everyone talks about resolutions, but honestly, I don't buy into that idea of waiting for January to make a fresh start. Every day is a new chance to try again, turn the page, and reset. We don't need to wait for a "new year" to make changes... God gives us the grace to start over every morning.

But, let me tell you, there's something about that all-too-familiar feeling of running your car on empty, only to coast into the gas station on fumes. It's a terrible feeling, right? And we all do this in life sometimes. We go, go, go until we're running low... until we've neglected the things that fill us up, and then we're caught scrambling, trying to keep moving.

God made seven days in the week, yet I find myself pushing hard every day, even on Sunday. That day of rest, the Sabbath, was designed to remind us that we can't do it all ourselves. We can't always hustle our way through life without resting and trusting God. I often forget that, constantly trying to get the most out of every minute until I find myself running on empty.

"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV)

This verse has been on my heart lately because it reminds me that rest isn't just about taking a break - it's about trusting that God can fill us up, renew our strength, and give us the energy we need to keep going. Maybe it's time to pull over and refuel. God's peace is what sustains us when we're empty and feeling worn out.

I'm reminding myself of this as I go into the new year. It's a fresh start, but also a reminder to rest, to trust, and to let God fill me up again. I'm definitely guilty of running on fumes, and I know I'm not alone in this. Let's remind each other to take that pause when we need it and let God fill us with this peace.

Wishing you all a restful start to this new season... let's not wait until we're completely on empty.

With love and peace,



Dawn Giganti, Marketing & Administration Creative Carpet & Flooring

Month at a Glance:

1st New Year's Day – We will be closed on New Year's Day to celebrate and ring in the new year! Wishing you all a joyful and prosperous 2025!

11th Step in a Puddle and Splash Your Friends Day – Might be a bit of a challenge... unless you're hoping to ice them out, because all the puddles are frozen solid!

14th <u>Dress Up Your Pet Day</u> – Enter our Dress Your Pet Contest by submitting a photo of your fashionable pet for a chance to win a prize! (details inside).

20th Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday – In honor of his birthday, we celebrate his legacy of equality, justice, and service and strive for a more inclusive world.

Employee birthdays this month:

27th <u>Tim Churchill</u> – Happy birthday to Tim, our Distribution Center Associate extraordinaire! We're celebrating Tim and the hard work he shares with Brad and Clay to keep our warehouse running smoothly. Here's to a day full of fun and appreciation for all three!



We promise that you'll love your new floors, or we'll replace them for <u>FREE</u>!*

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

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January 2025

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Welcome Back Valued Friends!

Barb Simons Debra Link Diane Kasper Joyce Terandy Linda Brncick

Marc Lopez Marcia & Steve Hoerich Marilou Gerlich Marilun Smits

Marissa Biegel

Mike Edwards Mimi Mesirow Nancy Bates Pat Hehir Patty Vail

Raelynn Roman Richard Glatz Robert Denecke Sharon Ebu

Princesa Christensen Susan Barnhart & Terry Gilhooly Tom & Sandy Szarek Tracy Vandrunen



Win Big for Your Stylish Pet with Creative Carpet & Flooring!

Is your pet a fashionista waiting for their moment in the spotlight? In celebration of National Dress Up Your Pet Day, you can enter your decked-out pet in our Dress Your Pet Photo Contest. Submit a photo of your stylish companion. Then, get ready to rally votes!

Entry Period: 12:00 pm FRI, Jan. 10th through 11:59 am THR, Jan 23rd Voting Period: 12:00 pm FRI, Jan. 24th through 11:59 am FRI, Jan. 31st

The pet with the most likes by noon Friday, January 31st, wins a FREE CARPET CLEANING* worth \$156! Make your pet a winner and your home sparkle! Visit

DressYourPet.CreativeCarpetInc.com to join the fun!

*Conditions apply. Must be within a 25-mile radius of Creative Carpet & Flooring showrooms. Must be 18 or older. One entry per household. Vote daily.

The Timeless Art of Letter Writing

In a world dominated by instant communication, the charm of a handwritten letter feels like a forgotten treasure. But there's something magical about penning a letter that no text message or email can replicate. It's personal, intentional, and heartfelt—an art we shouldn't let disappear.

Writing a letter takes time, and that's what makes it so special. Choosing your words carefully, letting thoughts flow onto paper, and adding a unique touch—whether it's fancy stationery, doodles, or even a spritz of perfume—turns a letter into something more: a keepsake. Unlike the fleeting nature of digital messages, a letter has a way of lingering, both physically and emotionally.

For the sender, it's a pause from the frantic rush of daily life. Writing becomes a mindful act, like journaling for someone else's soul. For the recipient, it's a gift—a small moment of joy when they find something other than bills or junk mail in their mailbox. There's anticipation, surprise, and warmth in opening a handwritten envelope.

Letters also have a lasting impact. Decades from now, no one will scroll through old emails with the same nostalgia as rediscovering a box of saved letters. They become pieces of history—snapshots of relationships, moments in time, and emotions that deserve to be cherished and preserved, connecting us to our past in a unique way.

So, let's keep this tradition alive. Crab a pen, some paper, and slow down. Write to a friend you've lost touch with, send a thank-you note that means more than a quick "thanks" text, or leave a love letter that will be cherished for years. The art of letter writing connects us in ways the digital world cannot. It's proof that sometimes, the simplest things hold the most value. -

The MVP of Cozy Comfort... HOT TEA

Let's face it—hot tea is the unsung hero of life's little catastrophes. Spill something on your favorite sweater? Sip some tea. Get a cryptic "we need to talk" text? Tea. Lose a fight with your Wi-Fi router? Definitely tea. It's the only beverage that hugs you back while simultaneously making you feel like you belong in an English manor house discussing the weather. And tea doesn't judge. Whether you're a "herbal blend with a touch of honey" purist, a green tea enthusiast, or someone who dunked an Earl Grey bag in a

microwave mug, tea meets you where you are. Even its temperature comes with life lessons. Too hot? Patience, grasshopper. Too cold? You missed your window, but try again—life's like that sometimes. Tea, in its simple warmth, teaches us the art of timing and patience. So next time your day gets too bitter, steep yourself in some positivity. Grab a cup, wrap your hands around it like you're holding the world's tiniest campfire, and whisper a little "thank you" to the leaf that just saved your sanity. Cheers to you, tea. You're hot—and we're here for it, appreciating every sip.

Roll Out the Welcome Mat for Our Newest Friends!

Anando Naqui Andrea Odom Anna Kohut Brittany & Jake Kocenko Cecile Majchrzak Dawn Covert Diane & Terry Kornaus

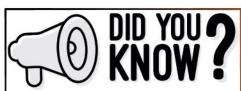
Doug Davis Gail Dizonno Gail Wilson Horst Frambach James Dutcher Janet Voldrich Jeff Hess

Jeffrey & Paula Andrews John Spudic Judith Riordan Jutta Kerstin Karen Bjorklund Kate Daly Ken & Anita Gorski

Ken VanEveru Kevin Ellison Kristin Goodwin Larry Schaffer Lee Ross Mike Milcarek

Patricia Dicianni

Paul & Pam McCaughey Rhonda Petro Stephanie & Jeremu Nicholson Steven Mellendorf Sue Young Thomas Somer Tim Timmons



Share the Love. Earn a Dinner on Us!

Instead of spending money on traditional advertising, we'd rather thank you for spreading the word about Creative Carpet & Flooring! Your referrals are more than just recommendations; they're a testament to the exceptional service we provide. When you refer someone who becomes a client, we'll send you out to dinner as a token of our gratitude. But let's be honest... the real reason you refer your friends, family, or coworkers isn't for the reward. It's because you trust us to deliver exceptional service and treat them with the same care and attention you'd expect, maybe even with a touch of royal treatment.

We value that trust deeply. When you recommend us, we promise to go above and beyond to provide an outstanding experience... so you'll feel proud to have sent them our way. Your trust is the cornerstone of our business, and we are deeply appreciative of it.

Learn more about our Referral Reward Program at: creativecarpetinc.com/referral-rewards/



Thank you for your support!

If January threw a parade would February march? >4 No, but April may!



MEGA Trivia Contest

Win \$100 off our online store Shop.CreativeCarpetInc.com or a \$50 restaurant gift card to















This month's Mega Trivia question: Which of the following chocolate brands was founded in the Chicagoland area?

- (A) Hershey's
- (B) Fannie May
- (C) Godiva
- (D) Ghirardelli

Join the fun at creativecarpetinc.com! Hit the 'MEGA Trivia' tab under 'Specials,' and take your guess on our monthly question between the 1st and the 15th. The drawing will occur on the 16th from all who answered correctly. The winner will be announced in next month's newsletter. Don't forget, entries close on the 15th. Best of luck!

Last month's question:

Where is the Santa Claus Museum & Village located?

Answer: (C) Santa Claus, IN

Santa Claus, Indiana, was originally founded in 1854 and named Santa Fe, but to avoid confusion with another Santa Fe in the state, it was renamed Santa Claus in 1856. The town gained national attention in the early 20th century when local residents began receiving letters addressed to Santa Claus, prompting the post office to start a tradition of replying to them. This led to the creation of the Santa Claus Museum & Village, which showcases the history and holiday spirit of the town, becoming a popular destination for visitors seeking a festive experience year-round.

Congratulations to last month's winner:

CINDY **FORT**

OF DEMOTTE, IN

Claim your prize by visiting your nearest Creative Carpet & Flooring showroom from January 1 - 31, 2025. Thanks for taking part in our contest! Enjoy your prize!

The more you spend... the more you







GIVING THE GIFT

OF WARMTH



Help homeless families get through this winter season by "giving the gift of warmth." We are collecting following:

WINTER COATS - All sizes from infant, baby, toddler, junior, adult & extended sizes are needed. SNOW PANTS, HATS, SCARVES, **GLOVES** & MITTENS would also be useful.

BLANKETS & **SLEEPING BAGS** – The temperature is already dipping into the 30's. We are looking for gently used or new blankets & sleeping bags.

SOCKS - These are the most needed & least donated item.

Please note we can only accept donations of items that are new or gently used, without broken zippers, rips, or tears.

Thank you in advance for helping keep those less fortunate warm this winter!

ILLINOIS

There are an estimated 11.947 people experience homelessness 10 people homeless per 10,000*

Items brought to our Mokena. IL showroom will benefit:



Learn what they are doing in the community Learn what they are doing in the community at at morningstarmission.org, call (815)722-5780 or email info@morningstarmission.org.

INDIANA

There are an estimated 6.017 people experiencing homelessness 9 people homeless per 10,000*

Items brought to our Highland, IN showroom will benefit:



gracebeyondborders.org, call (219)712-5192 or email Marcusm@gracebeyondborders.org. https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/homelessness-statistics/state-of-homelessness/*

MEET OUR CARPET CLEANING CIRCLE.

Al Henninger Bernard & Penny O'Reilly Debra Clements Caryn Belcik Catherine Sobel Cheryl Host Colleen Oliszewicz Dan Firlit Dan Markve Dave & Carrie Stapleton Dave & Gloria Dolak

Debbie Dumakowski Jack Wallenburg Diane Lauzze Ed Benes Elsie Singleton Florencia Stoll Frank Fuda George Rou Glen Laszczewski Iris Lem

Jennifer Blaeser Jennifer Heemstra Jim & Stephanie Kendzior Joe & Nancy Keim Joe Pondelicek John & Mary Fei John Loseman Judith Philip Kathy Smith

Kenneth Oldendorf Kim Glasgow Kyle & Leah Fischer Lore Hill Lori Hermanson Marilyn Lehnerer Marsha Nelson Max & Donna Woods Rebecca Mau Michele Dalton Mimi Rouer

Nancy Tramutola Nick & Ruth Zandstra Nora Aurelio Norma Vilutis Pat Phelan Patrick & Sally Hennessey Paul & Beverly Klosowski Rich Mickolayck

Sue Newman Sylvia Triumph Tami Lejeune Terry Connelly Tom Ehlers



Salvador Navarette CALL FOR MORE INFO ON OUR CARPET CLEANING SERVICES! 888.910.6585 EXT. 100



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How about a night out at one of your favorite restaurants through Creative Carpet's <u>Referral Rewards Program</u>

As you probably know, advertising is very expensive. Instead of paying the newspaper or other place to advertise, we'd rather reward you. Every time you refer someone who becomes a client and purchases, we will send you a \$25 restaurant gift card!



Debra Ellison JoAnne & Roman Wojcik Karen Beringer Karen Pickel Keith Reich Linda Andrews Megan Kazmer Mike Parker Sam Castiglione Scott & Theresa Sobol Steve & Lisa Chikerotis

WARNING

Don't visit any flooring dealer until you call us for a <u>FREE</u> Consumer Awareness Guide!

Awareness Guide!
You will learn...

4 predatory sales tactics

7 costly misconceptions
about flooring

5 questions to ask a dealer
before buying

Visit our website to obtain
your copy!

www.CreativeCarpetInc.com

Share your project photo with your review on our website within 30 days of installation and be entered in our monthly drawing to win a \$25 gift card!

www.creativecarpetinc.com/share-your-review We had our new floor installed last week, and WE LOVE IT! It was installed professionally, respectfully, and with great care! There was no mess to clean up afterward. We have gotten so many compliments on our new floor. Thank you!!! Thank you for making this process easy! We will be back in the future!!!

~ Bonnie Malzone of Tinley Park, IL This month's \$25 Target gift card winner!