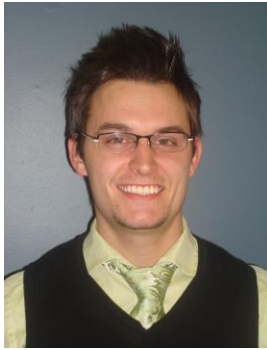


Mark Bouquet



Mark Bouquet Jr.

CREATIVE CARPET, INC.

Home Advisor™

Reliable news for healthy living, saving money, and having fun! January 2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Dear Friends,

Can you believe another year gone?! I hope that you and your families all had a wonderful Christmas. I can tell you that it sure was a hectic end of the year for us here at Creative Carpet. We want to thank all of you for trusting us with your flooring needs and proving that you trust us by referring your friends and families. You are the reason that we have been able to stand through this recession.

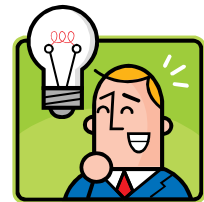
As I sit writing this letter to you, I am wondering if I am going to make any New Year's Resolutions. I generally don't do stuff like that, but surviving this economy in spite of all the odds has taught me that as long as you do what is right, and as long as you do everything with integrity, God will help you through anything! All that to say I believe my New Year's Resolution will be to try not to worry! Any of you who know me, know that is going to be a challenge. I worry about everything. I want everything to go perfect for my customers, my wife, my kids, church, my business etc. I realize that there are things I can control and things I can't. It's my job to leave what I can't control up to God because He is faithful! (Matthew 6:25-34)

Make sure you check out this month's special on the enclosed insert. Don't forget to read both sides. If you are in need of any plumbing service, we have the guy for you. Brian is the owner and operator of Advanced Plumbing serving all of Will County and parts of Cook County. Not only has he been in business for over ten years, but he offers some of the best warranties in his industry. Brian really knows the ins and outs of the plumbing business as he has had a pipe wrench in his hand since he was about ten years old. I twisted his arm to get him to give this outstanding offer exclusively to our clients.☺ Make sure you mention us when you call.

I hope that all of your dreams are realized this year and that you and your families have a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Happy New Year!

Mark Bouquet



TOP 10 THINKING TRAPS EXPOSED – HOW TO FOOLPROOF YOUR MIND

Our minds set up many traps for us. Unless we're aware of them, these traps can seriously hinder our ability to think rationally, leading us to bad reasoning and making stupid decisions. Features of our minds that are meant to help us may,

**"We promise that you'll love your new floors, or we'll replace them FREE! Call today for a complimentary Design Audit®!"
(708) 479-8600**

Inside this Issue...

- Are you this month's Mystery Winner?
- Top 10 Thinking Traps
- January Observances
- About Staying Well
- Thoughts to Live By
- Moneywise: 'Til Debt Do Us Part
- Welcome to our new and returning clients!
- Trivia Contest



Attention Mary Conroy!

You are this month's Mystery Winner!
We have a \$10.00 gift certificate to Starbucks reserved just for you! Come by our store to claim your prize!
Creative Carpet, Inc.
19420 S. LaGrange Road
Mokena, IL 60448
NOTE: Must be picked up by January 31, 2010

Did You Know...

There Is Absolutely, Positively No Need To Put Off Getting Beautiful New Floors!

I offer my clients very convenient financing options on all flooring at Creative Carpet. Here's how it works:

Zero Down—You can have the flooring of your dreams with no money out of pocket!

Zero interest for 12 months—Enjoy your gorgeous new floor right now while making affordable monthly payments. Pay it off in 12 months and pay NO INTEREST at all.

Call me or stop by our showroom right away and we'll get started on your home's brand new look!
708-479-8600

-Mark Bouquet

TRIVIA CONTEST

WHO ELSE WANTS...

to Win Dinner for 2 at TGI Fridays or Olive Garden? Take our Trivia Challenge and you could win too!

Every person who e-mails in the correct answer by the 15th of the month will be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 gift certificate to TGI Fridays or Olive Garden!

This month's *MegaTrivia* question....
How many squares are on a standard Monopoly board?

a) 36 b) 40 c) 44 d) 48

Take your best guess, then e-mail your answer to MarkJr@CreativeCarpetInc.com. Or call Mark Jr. at (708) 479-8600. Remember, your chances of winning are better than you think!

Answer to last months quiz: Kentucky
Congratulations to last month's winner:

Mary Farrell

eventually, get us into trouble. Here is Part Seven of the most harmful of these traps and how to avoid each one of them. Check upcoming newsletters for more . . .

The Illusion of Control Trap: Shooting in the Dark

Have you noticed that the vast majority of lotto players pick their own numbers instead of using the sometimes available 'auto-pick' option (where the point of sales terminal chooses the numbers for you)? We all know that however the numbers are chosen doesn't change the chance of winning, so why the strong preference for picking our own numbers?

Curiously, even in situations we clearly can't control, **we still tend to irrationally believe that we can somehow influence results. We just love to feel in control.**

Of course, it's always easier to illustrate this trap with chance games, but the tendency to overestimate our personal control of events influences every aspect of our daily lives. Unfortunately, contrary to the lottery example above, the outcomes of our decisions are usually complex and interconnected. It's hard to assess to what extent we're responsible for the results we get. While some of the outcomes can be traced back to our own choices, a part of them will surely remain just as well out of our direct control.

What can you do about it?

- **Understand that randomness is part and parcel of life.** Although it may be hard to fathom or even admit it, some things are just random — in the sense that they don't depend on your effort at all. Accept responsibility for the things you can influence, but know that for many others there is not much you can do. Better than assuming or expecting that every event is under your control is to consciously choose how you respond to them.
- **Beware of superstitions.** Consider how much of your decisions are based on things you cannot really explain. Make those unknowns explicit and put them under scrutiny — instead of pretending you can control them.

January Observances:

Jan 2 nd to 9 th	Someday We'll Laugh About This Week
Jan 11 th to 17 th	Cuckoo Dancing Week
Jan 17 th to 23 rd	Hunt for Happiness Week
Jan 20 th to 24 th	No Name Calling Week
Jan 25 th to 29 th	National Take Back Your Time Week
Jan 23 rd to 30 th	National Cowboy Poetry Gathering Week

Welcome back to our returning clients...

MARK AND TERI O'DONNELL
RICHARD AND BARBARA
BACHLEDA
CHRIS AND ADRIANA BOEREMA
NANCY BAYLESS
JIM AND RACHEL VOSS
MARK AND KIM OPALACZ
TERRY AD BARB LEPELLERE

Thanks to those who referred us this month

SUE BETTENHAUSEN
LARRY VISSER
JILL BEEZHOLD
AL ROACHÉ

New Friends And Clients! Meet our new clients...

DOUG NEWMAN
EDWARD AND JOAN BRUSIC
RALPH AND GAYLE HENNING
GREG WALSH
MARY CONROY
PATTY CLOY
JIM AND MEGAN MURPHY
MICHELLE DRYIER
JOAN COLON
PHIL AND NICOLE HOPMAN
FRED PETERS
JIM AND RITA NOLTING
COLLEEN PLUDE
LES AND SANDRA GRANT
PATRICIA CURTIS
WAYNE AND MITZIE BLANCHARD
KAREN RECZEK
VICKI NARDO
JIM VAUGHAN
CHUCK AND JANET BENSON
FRANCES GONZALES
JOLEE ZAAGMAN
MICHELLE VIEREK
SHERMAN AND MARY JO HAYES
ERICA CULLEN
BOB RUCINSKI
JOHN AND CAROL
WINNIE NYHUS

Honorable Mention to three January Daily Observances that deserve to have their own week: have fun thinking up a name!

January 7th I'm Not Going To Take It Anymore Day
January 8th Bubble Bath Day
January 13th Rubber Duckie Day

About Staying Well

After the usual holiday indulgences, we want to go back to taking care of ourselves. Over the next few newsletters, we'll look at the big three nasties: sugar, salt & fat. Here's the lowdown on sugar.

"Usually, the most palatable foods contain some combination of sugar, fat, and salt. All of this demonstrates scientifically what most of us know from experience: When offered a varied selection and large portions of high-sugar, high-fat, high-salt foods, many of us will eat them in excessive amounts."

- *From The End of Overeating by David Kessler*

Humans are attracted to sweets for the same reasons ants are attracted to picnics, and wasps are attracted to jam. If something tastes sweet, it probably contains sugar, and sugar provides energy which gives us the power to keep on going. Food and drink producers know we love our sweets - they make all kinds of products which we're only too happy to buy.

Sugar gives foods and drinks a sweet taste. The trouble is, it's absolutely everywhere, so you probably eat much more than you need. Guidelines vary, in suggesting no more than 40 to 60 grams (8 to 12 teaspoons) per day and though that sounds like a lot, take a look at this list:

- A normal can of soda contains about 35 grams
- A medium bottle of fizzy drink can contain between 50 and 70 grams
- A specialty coffee runs from 20 to 40 grams
- A bowl of high-sugar cereal contains about 12 grams
- A normal chocolate bar contains about 30 grams

There is no recommended daily allowance of sugar. It provides no nutritional value other than energy in the form of calories, which metabolize fast and give you a boost. If you only ate this kind of food, you'd quickly have a problem. Note that this applies to refined and processed sugars only. There's no daily limit on natural sugars, so if you're craving fruit go for it!

THOUGHTS TO LIVE BY:

There are only two ways to live your life.

One is as though nothing is a miracle.

The other is as if everything is.

- Albert Einstein

Look at everything
as though you were seeing it either for the first or last time.
then your time on earth
will be filled with glory.

-Betty Smith, novelist (1896-1972)



MONEYWISE: 'TIL DEBT DO US PART

When Pam and Harry first met, they fell in love without realizing that they had nothing in common when it came to money. "Money can ruin a relationship," says Janet Freedman, a certified financial planner and president of Finance Matters. "It's so critical to be up front, lay out every single dime you owe and work out together how you are going to manage your finances right from the start."

Here are 5 things experts say that Pam and Harry -- and every couple -- need to do to handle their money well.

- 1) Add up the ins and outs. List what comes in per pay check, then list all your expenses dividing them into fixed (mortgage, car payments, loan payments) and discretionary (entertainment, health club memberships). "I don't like to say 'budget,'" says Freedman. "It's like 'diet,' another dirty word. But if you know exactly how much is coming in and how much is going out and where, you won't fall into the trap of living beyond your means." She recommends that couples commit 10 per cent to savings right off the top. "If you try to find the money at the end of the month, it just won't be there. This is not a discretionary thing. It's something everybody should aim for."
- 2) Check your credit rating. With the increase in identity theft, this is something we should all pay attention to. If there are errors (not unusual) on your credit report, you could be denied a loan or miss out on a job or a great apartment. To correct a mistake, contact one of the major credit bureaus and fill out the appropriate form. It's also important for each spouse to establish a credit rating. If the marriage breaks down or one spouse dies, the other may be unable to borrow. Trying to establish credit later in life is difficult, so get it in place before you need it.
- 3) Purchase appropriate insurance. It's important for couples to have both life and disability insurance, and it's much less expensive if you set this up when you're younger.
- 4) Organize your important paperwork. Keep all your legal documents -- signed wills, powers of attorney, marriage license, birth certificates, insurance policies, passports, social insurance cards (don't carry these around, they are the key to your identity), property deeds and so on -- together in one easily accessible spot. A safety-deposit box in both names is best.
- 5) Most important: talk it over. Most couples don't discuss money unless they are arguing. Have a monthly finance meeting, and never lose sight of your joint goals.

WARNING!

Don't visit any flooring dealer until you call us for a **FREE Consumer Awareness Guide!**

You will learn...

- 4 predatory sales tactics
- 7 costly misconceptions about flooring
- 5 questions to ask a dealer before buying

Call Today – (708) 479-8600



This & That...

Top Ten New Year Resolutions

1. Lose Weight and Get in Better Physical Shape
2. Stick to a Budget
3. Debt Reduction
4. Enjoy More Quality Time with Family & Friends
5. Find My Soul Mate
6. Quit Smoking
7. Find a Better Job
8. Learn Something New
9. Volunteer and Help Others
10. Get Organized

Get A Night Out At The Movies For 2 With My Referral Rewards Program

As you probably know, advertising is very expensive. Instead of paying the newspaper or other place to advertise, I'd rather reward you. So I've assembled my **Referral Rewards Program**. Every time you refer someone who becomes a client, I will send you a gift certificate for two passes to the Marcus Theater. And Hey! What's a movie without popcorn? The gift certificate will also cover a big box of hot, buttered popcorn and sodas!

Creative Carpet, Inc.

19420 S. LaGrange Road

Mokena, IL 60448

Phone: (708) 479-8600

www.CreativeCarpetInc.com

HOURS:

Mon Tue Wed 10:00 – 6:00

Tue Thur 10:00 – 8:00

Sat 10:00 – 4:00

Sun Closed



There's No Need To Cry Over Worn, Dated, Embarrassing Floors!

With Creative Carpet's New Year Special You Can Afford New Floors Right Now!

Dear Friend & Client,

Hi, Mark Bouquet here. As many of you know I love our great country, and I'm very patriotic! So I've decided that Creative Carpet is going to do its part to help stimulate the economy AND help you get new floors right now!

Don't Cry....Get a Lifetime Warranty pad FREE!

Bring this letter to Creative Carpet by January 31st and you'll get a Lifetime Warranty pad for FREE. No gimmicks here. Simply deduct \$3.50 off of the "per yard" price for every yard of carpet you purchase. Our New Year's offer applies to all of our regularly priced AND sale priced carpet. This is not a base grade, cheap pad. This is a quality bonded pad with a **LIFETIME WARRANTY!**

5 Reasons You'll Love Creative Carpet

1. You are protected by my "**Zero Regrets Guarantee.**" You'll love your new floors or I'll replace them FREE in the first 30 days!
2. I'll give you a FREE lifetime installation warranty on any floor you buy!
3. I only hire courteous, clean-cut, professional installers who are thoroughly trained.
4. I have a thick book of testimonials from past clients. Have a look through it when you visit!
5. And we'll put a smile back on your face!

Any Friend Of Yours Is A Friend Of Mine!

Who do you know that is looking to purchase new floors? Can I count on you to pass this letter along to them? You will be doing them a tremendous favor by referring them to a professional floor dealer they can trust. AND...don't forget about my Referral Reward Program. If you refer someone who purchases floors from us, I'll send you and a guest out to the movies at Marcus Theater!

Sincerely,

Mark Bouquet

P.S. Take advantage of Creative Carpet's New Year's Special! Get a Lifetime Warranty pad FREE! But this "stimulating" offer expires January 31st!

Thanks for your kind words!

We had a wonderful experience with Creative Carpet. We felt like family from the beginning. The pricing on the product was very competitive, the installation was superb, and the quality of the carpet was great. And Creative Carpet went above and beyond in rushing our order as we anticipated our newborn's arrival. Great people, great company, and nothing but praise for the job they do. Well done Creative Carpet. Keep up the good work!!

**-Jimmy and Megan Murphy
Woodridge, IL**

When we began looking for carpet we had an idea of what we were looking for. We were moving into a new home and needed something that would last. After visiting several stores we came upon Creative Carpet. We instantly were impressed by their professionalism and their attention to helping us make an informed decision. Creative Carpet was more than flexible in working with our limited schedule for installation. We were equally pleased with the quality and professionalism of the work done by the installers. We couldn't be happier with the carpeting. Our friends and family all comment on how great the carpet looks! We are so pleased to have found Creative Carpet and will definitely recommend them to family and friends. It was so refreshing to have a stress-free shopping experience. The customer service was incredible and we couldn't be happier with our carpeting!

-Gina Danehl, New Lenox