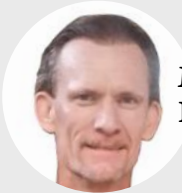


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"Mark" My Words... a message from Dawn Giganti for Mark Bouquet, Sr.

Mark has been a little busy, so I offered to write his letter for this month. I hope you don't mind! He will be back... I promise.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter! Hands down, Easter is my favorite holiday. Spring starts to show itself after a long winter with the grass turning green, flowers beginning to show their colors and the buds on the trees showing leaves. However, spring is never official until I see a robin. My husband and kids can see one, but it doesn't count until I see one for myself! The kids would tell dad if they saw a robin, "Darn it... where's mom? She needs to hurry and see a robin so spring can come!" The best part is my kids are all adults now, and they still ask me if I've seen a robin yet. For the record, spring is official because I have seen my robin. However, mother nature didn't get the memo because I saw the robin before that fun snow we got on Sunday, April 14th!

I've always looked at Easter like everyone looks at New Years... a new beginning. I don't have a "resolution" or any specific intentions. It is just a clean slate where I can start over on the inside. This past year I've been on total sensory overload and have been feeling frustrated and overwhelmed. So, this year, I am working on not overextending myself along with giving myself some quiet time. This season... my word is SIMPLIFY.

I know that life is going to happen and I will slip up. This isn't any reason to give up, I'll just roll with it. In all honesty, everything ultimately God's plan and in His hands. Fretting about things that happen or things I cannot change is pointless. The sooner I can learn to let go, the easier it will be for me to learn to relax and simplify my life.

What are you struggling with right now? Is there anything that is keeping you stuck? Big or little, there's no reason to live life with things holding you back. Enjoy life! Have a wonderful and blessed Memorial holiday weekend. Thank you SO much to those who have given their lives so we could enjoy ours... God Bless You!!!

Warm spring wishes,

Dawn Giganti, Marketing & Administrative Assistant
Creative Carpet & Flooring

MAY 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			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 CLOSED
26	27 CLOSED	28	29	30	31	

Month at a Glance:

3rd Brad Pertchi's Birthday - In honor of your birthday, the warehouse team decided it should be party time. They'll go out to party while you stay & handle the warehouse.

12th Mother's Day - "A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie." ~ Tenneva Jordan

17th Gary Onate's Birthday - Happy birthday to you. We still don't know how old you are. Only you, God and Human resources know your real age.

19th Dana Krizmanic's Birthday - Happy Birthday to one of the reasons it's great to work here!

25th - 27th Memorial Weekend - Remember, freedom is not free... others have paid the ultimate price on our behalf. Never take this for granted. Thank them for their sacrifice & uphold them in prayer!

Joining a School Band

It's that time of year when students are deciding whether or not to join the school band for next year. Here is some information that might be helpful.

From selecting the right instrument to learning to read music, being in band can enhance a student's education. Even children with no musical background can join their school's band. How is this possible? It's because all the basic aspects of playing a musical instrument and reading musical notation are taught at school. No one can predict whether a child will have musical ability, but even those whose parents are not musical have a chance of success. The most critical factors in whether a child will do well are regular practicing and desire.



Selecting an instrument - Selecting the right instrument is an essential part of joining a band class. Band directors will consider the student's preferences, musical aptitude, and physical characteristics before recommending the most appropriate band instruments for each student. The flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion are good choices for beginners.

Band instruments can be purchased from local musical instrument dealers or online. Prices vary widely depending on the level of quality. Beginners should select lower-priced, entry-level instruments. Upgrading to better quality instruments should the students have a gift for music can

always be done later. Those with a keen interest in improving their skills can take private music lessons to supplement the school instruction.

Band can be time-consuming - Students who also wish to participate in sports may experience schedule conflicts if they sign up for band. Both sports and band are time-consuming activities. Before a student registers for band, his or her parents need to consider the child's other needs and activities, including studying and time for fun. Like other music courses, band is an elective. In addition to the time spent in class, students will also be expected to attend rehearsals and performances outside of school hours.

Sheet music is the road map - Learning to read music is an essential part of the band experience. The songs to be played are written in musical notation on paper which is called sheet music. The way the information is put on the page determines what notes will be played, for how long and how loudly.

The composer records his intentions on the sheet music, and the conductor leads the musicians in the proper interpretation of those intentions. Not every conductor sees the music the same way. Recordings of the same music by different conductors will have subtle variations in the way the music is played even though the sheet music used was the same.

While musicians may have their own ideas about how to play the music, when they are in a band, they are expected to follow the directions of the conductor. If all the musicians went their own ways, the audience would hear a mishmash of sound instead of music. However, going rogue on your own is a GOOD thing. When you start to play your own music, that is when the world of music truly opens its doors to you! Go with the flow, practice and, most of all... HAVE FUN!

MEET OUR NEW & RETURNING FRIENDS & CLIENTS...

Andrea Gordon	Dave Rousseau &	James & Patricia	Laura & David	Randy Chapman
Andy & Robin	Janet Nanney	Boguslawski	Ipema	Rick Godfrey
Stephens	David Rozich	Janice & Gerry	Laura & Paul Neve	Rick Laurion
Angela Yaeger	Debbie Lhotka	O'Brien	Lee & Peggy	Rita Rosana
Barbara Berzinis	Debbie Moss	Janice & Richard	Martens	Robyn Darnell
Barbara Castronovo	Desmond Daly	Manthei	Leticia Cadwallader	Russ Leehaug
Bernie Mohan	Diane Bizoukas	Jason Putman	Linda Verrecchia	Ryan Norris
Bill & Alice	Duane Cerrito	Jenna Stoit	Lisa Klemm	Sarah Elgamal
Schomburg	Elizabeth Fetsch	Jennifer Huizinga	Liz Spolnik	Sarah Simons
Bill Regnier	Elsie Zabrauskas	Jim & Rachel Voss	Lorene Evenhouse	Scott Falvey
Bob & Kim Specht	Eric & Nicole Baetz	Jim & Stephanie	Majdi Darwish	Seymour
Brad & Melissa	Faye Montgomery	Kendzior	Mark Lannin	Oberlander
Griffin	Gail & Dennis	Joanne Buchhaas	Marla Sprainis	Sharon & Dave
Brad Levin	Zimmerman	Joe Evans	Marlone Kirksy	Simons
Bradley Andreaatta	Gary & Cheryl	Joe Voss	MaryJoe & Tom	Sharon Oddo
Brian & Joyce	Borgman	John & Charlene	McGee	Shelly Ward
Mulheran	Gerald & Caroline	Hanyzewski	Melissa Steffey	Steven Sweet
Brian Ebers	Bonsonto	John Weidenaar	Micah & Cesia	Tara Sullivan
Brian Pause	Gerry Greczek	Joseph Hurley	Morgan	Tes & Marites
Caroline Barraca	Greg & Marleen	Josh & Amber	Michael Becton	Gonzaga Reardon
Charles & Christine	Kraai	Betley	Michelle Kerfin	Thomas & Laura
Terumoto	Greg Handley	Josh Huddestun	Mike Kowalczyk	Donnelly
Chris & Kerri Heller	Gus Sanchez	Julie & Steve Smit	Nancy Visser	Tim Streit
Christine Kim	Harry & Margaret	Kandi Pigg	Nick & Megan	Tom & Julie Scincini
Cindy Edwards	Press	Karen Vrdolyak	Horras	Tom Westwater
Connie & John	Helen Lekavich	Kathy Short	Nikki Durrant	Trish Farkos
McDonagh	Helen Sluis	Ken Cook	Patti Komara	Tyra Young
Dan & Jen Volek	Howard Weiss	Kimberly Harmon	Peter Lawler	Veronica Oganovich
Dan & Sandy Ellis	Jackie Braun	Kris Monken	Rachel Michelin	
Daniel Carcillo	Jake Hyzny	Kyle & Leah Fischer	Ralph Nemcher	

JEFF

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of New Lenox, IL

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May is "Foster Care Month" - What Does It Mean to Foster a Child?

Webster's II New Riverside Dictionary defines "foster" as: "1. To bring up: nurture. 2. To cultivate and encourage. Giving or receiving parental care though not related through blood or legal ties."

A lot of nurturing, culturing and encouragement goes hand-in-hand with raising a foster child. There's also a lot of paperwork and meetings, but above all, being a foster parent means providing a child with new opportunities that he may not have had otherwise.

Fostering a Child Means:

- * Mentoring the birth family and helping with the family reunification process.
- * Taking a foster child trick-or-treating for the first time.
- * Showing a foster child his first fireworks on a 4th of July.
- * Helping a foster child graduate from high school and set a goal to attend college or a vocational school.
- * Baking a foster child's first birthday cake, even though he's turning eight.
- * Sharing some summer fun with a child who has never run through a sprinkler before.
- * Maintaining connections with a past foster child who is now parenting her own child and doesn't mind you being a grandparent figure.
- * Encouraging a foster child to rise above the issues of his past and move on with life.



How to Become a Foster Parent

- * The rules for fostering a child are set by state law so they can vary, but becoming a foster parent almost always begins with a visit to the appropriate legal division in your state. You'll have to complete an application, but many states make these available online. The application will provide general details about your family and your home, and it may ask why you want to foster a child. You might be given an opportunity to state whether you'd prefer an infant, a toddler or an older child—even a teenager.
- * Submitting an application is usually followed by an orientation class or a series of classes. You'll attend with others who want to become foster parents. It's a group thing, not a one-on-one lecture, and it's not just instruction. You can ask questions to get a feel for the kind of relationship you're about to embark on and to express any concerns you may have.
- * Foster parenting almost invariably involves a home study. A social worker will come to your residence to meet with you and other family members and to make sure that your home is safe and nurturing. Your religion, race, gender, and marital status are not judged and are not considerations, although your age is a factor to some extent—you must usually be over 21 years old. Home studies can involve as many as five or 10 visits.

The Prospect of Letting Go

You might also have to learn about letting go eventually. The underlying goal of foster care is always to reunite the child with his birth parent or parents. Some behavior or incident led to the child being removed from his home, and the state will work toward fixing that problem so the family can be reunified. Sometimes that's just not possible, however, and the child is placed for adoption. Foster parents are often given the first opportunity to adopt, but if you decide against it for some reason, the child will be relocated to a new home.

Craft, C. (2019, April 10). *What Does It Mean to Foster a Child?* Retrieved from Verywell Family: <https://www.verywellfamily.com/what-does-fostering-a-child-mean-27120>

American Barbecue - A Long Tradition

American barbecue is firmly ingrained into our history. The word barbecue instantly makes you think of the United States. However, BBQ is a passionate factor in the southern states more than any other place. Its foundation dates back before the Civil War. Hence, the history of American barbecue is practically the history of America itself.

Even though the history of American barbecue began in the south, there is no single taste prevailing there. The taste, ingredients used, and sometimes the cooking process varies from not only state to state, but even town to town. Let's review it by region by dividing it into the South, East Coast, and Central South sections.



SOUTH - They usually use mutton and beef cooked only in the slow cooking method. This is not at all what the original barbecue used to be made of. The South also has an extensive assortment of BBQ sauces to go with their bar-b-q. These sauces range from a mild sweet tomato sauce to blazing red-hot.

EAST COAST - They hold on to its original beginnings and use pork for its BBQ meat and vinegar sauces. The vinegar sauces have several variations that are rich in tomato or a yellow mustard-based sauce. Traditional favorite side dishes are coleslaw, hushpuppies, bread, stew or hash with rice.

CENTRAL SOUTH - They use pork like the East Coast but cut it differently - instead of being chopped, it is pulled. The meat is slow cooked, shredded by hand and covered with generous amounts of sauce. The pork ribs are greased with sauce or covered with a blend of intense spices before pit cooking. The sauce here is a sweet tomato one with a hint of pepper and molasses. It is generally served with coleslaw, French fries, baked beans, and cornbread. Further in the west, beef is preferred over pork.

The history of American barbecue tells a tale that has modified itself with the times. Even today, it would be beneficial to visit any of the Southern states if you want a bite of the all-original American barbecue.

Given that May is National Barbecue Month, you should go out and celebrate! Just don't forget the wet naps or a change of clothes. Enjoy!

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:

Here's a Hoosier question!
Which of the following celebrities was not born in Indiana?

- (A) Shelley Long
- (B) David Lee Roth
- (C) Oprah Winfrey
- (D) John Mellencamp

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, May 20th, 2019. Good luck!!!

Answer to April's quiz:

B) Good Friday

Congratulations to last month's winner:

Rose Jovanovic
of Orland Park, IL

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Animals That Give the Weather Report

There are other animals out there in the animal kingdom that are believed to be able to predict the weather other than groundhogs! AND, they do it all year long! Some humans look to these animals for signs that the weather might change. Which animals, you ask?

Frogs

If you have ever hung in the vicinity a lake or marsh in the evening, that loud, boisterous sound you are listening to is probably coming from frogs. If you notice that the sound of those frogs begins to get louder and longer, that possibly signifies there is a storm coming.

Birds

It usually means the weather will be good when birds fly high up in the clear sky. It is said that if they start to fly lower to the ground, it is because there is bad weather coming. The dropping pressure in the atmosphere from an oncoming storm makes the birds uncomfortable, so they fly lower. For example, seagulls will return to land if they sense the pressure drop over the water.

Cows

Have you ever seen an antsy and restless cow? If their tail is frantically swatting at flies, that is a telltale sign. Some farmers believe that when cows start to act this way, they are anticipating an oncoming storm. You will also see them laying down in the grass. This is so they can save a spot before it gets wet from the rain.

Bees and Butterflies

Just like birds, bees and butterflies can also sense pressure changes in the atmosphere. If you notice there are no bees or butterflies in the garden, it probably means they have gone to hide from the oncoming rain.

Sheep

Have you ever heard of an old rhyme, "When sheep gather in a huddle, tomorrow we'll have a puddle?" It is not entirely accurate; however, it is thought that the sheep are shielding each other from an impending storm when they start to gather close together. Come rain, wind or snow, they have each other's backs!

Ants

A storm or some rain is probably on its way if you observe the tiny ant hills on sidewalks and driveways getting bigger. The ants are working hard to make their mounds tougher to withstand the rain. They even cover their underground tunnel entrances to be on the safe side!

Elephants

Elephants have more profound hearing than humans. They can hear sounds a great deal lower than we can. Some scientists believe that elephants can hear earthquakes from a great distance away, as well as feel the tremors through their enormous feet. We should probably follow when we see elephants flee to higher and safer grounds!

Turkeys

Turkeys will, of course, just sort of stand there in the rain. We learned to never depend on turkeys.



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

Debra Ellison
Jim & Linda Borgman
Joesph Siwinski

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Kids say the funniest things




One morning I was walking my first grader to school. The Pastor came out of the church, and my son told me, "He is the daddy." I told him, "you mean the father." My son responded, "You can call him that, too." ~ Ann Miller of Tinley Park, IL

What is the funniest thing a child has ever said to YOU? Please email dawn.g@creativecarpetinc.com and share your story we can feature in a future Creative Carpet & Flooring Creative Thinking newsletter!

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