

Mark Bouquet



Mark Bouquet Jr.

**CREATIVE CARPET, INC.**

# *Home Advisor*™

*Reliable news for healthy living, saving money,  
and having fun! June 2009*

***"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***

Dear Friends,

At last! Summer is finally here! It's time to get outside and clean up the yard, dust off the golf clubs or running shoes and get outdoors to enjoy the warmer weather! It is also "grilling season" so remember to be careful with your grill location in proximity to any flammable articles. Vinyl siding on your house IS very flammable and if your grill is too close to the siding it can melt and catch on fire....it happens every year so make sure it doesn't happen to you!

This is also a good time for you to check your fire extinguishers as well. Make sure they are not out of date, have a charge and make sure everyone knows where they are located. You should have one on every floor of your home and also have one in the garage. The 20-30 seconds it takes to run to another part of the house to get the extinguisher could mean the difference between you getting the fire out quickly with little damage and a fully involved - "I just lost everything in my house" - fire....better to be safe than sorry!

If you know of anyone looking to buy new flooring, I welcome your referrals. In fact, I PREFER working with clients who have been referred to us. I like it so much that instead of spending a lot of money on newspaper ads, radio, TV, etc., I would rather reward you! Check out my Referral Reward program on page 4.

Referrals are the lifeblood of my business. The level of trust you place in us to refer those in your sphere of influence means everything to me, and I take that trust very seriously. My team and I work very hard to treat anyone you refer to us like royalty, and make you look like a knight in shining armor for referring us.

Your Friend,

Mark Bouquet

### *About Staying Well*

**Run for your life, or at least walk...**

OK, not everyone can run. But most people can walk pretty fast or do other weight-bearing exercise to strengthen bones, tendons and muscles. Those who do it will probably have a longer, more enjoyable life. Simple things like exercise make a big difference in future health.

Those who are inspired by the runners' story should check with their doctors before starting to exercise and go slow at first. As the old saying goes, you have to walk before you can run.

### *Work Tips*

**Learn by taking responsibility....**

### **Inside this Issue...**

- Are you this month's Mystery Winner?
- About staying well
- Work tips
- Mega Trivia Contest
- Thoughts to live by
- Client of the month
- Now may be the time to purchase a home
- Summer safety tips
- A solid investment
- Welcome to our new and returning clients!

## **Attention Marlina Mun!**

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  
June 30, 2009**

# Did You Know...

## You are protected by Creative Carpet's 100% Iron-Clad Triple Guarantee

We want you to be super-pleased – in fact, absolutely delighted – with your beautiful new flooring and the service we provide. So every floor comes with this 100% iron-clad triple guarantee.

### Guarantee #1 “No Regrets Guarantee!

If at any time during the first 30 days after installation you decide you don't like your new flooring – for whatever reason – just let me know. I'll replace the materials free of charge with another style of equal or lesser value. If you choose something more expensive, you simply pay the difference (With an outrageously good guarantee like this, I can't include the cost of installation, so you'll cover that.)

**Guarantee #2 Lifetime Installation Warranty** You never have to worry about something going wrong with the installation. If it does, I'll fix it for FREE!

**Guarantee #3 Installer Professionalism Guarantee** Our installers are neat, clean, well-spoken, and professional. They are trained and qualified. They respect your home by wearing shoe covers. You'll receive the highest quality installation in the business and when they're finished, they will even vacuum. Your home will be left as neat and clean as when they arrived!

## Mega Trivia Contest!

**Who 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 end of the month will be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 gift certificate to TGI Fridays or Olive Garden!

### This month's Mega Trivia question....

“What was the real first name of  
Lady Bird Johnson?”

**A) Claudia, B) Merle, C) Katherine, D) Mary**

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: Steely Dan  
Congratulations to last month's winner:  
Kim Silkowski**

When you take responsibility for whatever your situation is, you won't waste time blaming the economy, the boss, the government, your parents, your children or your spouse.

In his book, *Mastering the Seven Decisions That Determine Personal Success*, Andy Andrews says that under any circumstances, you should acknowledge that you have a choice about what to do and to take charge of your future.

Andrews gives the example of George Washington's defeat at Fort Duquesne during the French and Indian War. He had never been fired at from behind rocks and trees, so he was defeated by the French and Indians. It left him feeling humiliated, but he learned a valuable lesson. During the American Revolution, his troops defeated the British, partly by firing at them from behind rocks and trees.

## Thoughts To Live By

**Don't let dream slayers keep you from moving ahead....**

There are times in your life when you think you can't do a certain job. Maybe it's because you failed at it once before and decided that you weren't cut out for it. Or maybe you are being held back by other people's opinions. They are the dream slayers. In either case, this could be the time to break away from a limiting belief. Some people go through life hanging on to the belief that they can't do something. Old, limiting beliefs are keeping them chained in place.

## Thinking Of Buying A Home? Now May Be A Great Time!

The good news about today's real estate market is that there are a lot of incredible deals to be had. If you've been considering buying a new house, or becoming a first-time home-buyer, you may want to seriously consider making a move.

**TIP #1:** Always work with a knowledgeable and honest Realtor and mortgage lender. If you don't have an established relationship with a Realtor and mortgage professional DO NOT go hunting through the internet. There are simply too many unethical people out there.

Instead, call your local title companies. Speak with several escrow officers at each location and ask them for a referral. Escrow officers have seen it all...the good, the bad and the ugly, and they can help point you in the right direction.

**TIP #2:** Don't begin house shopping until you have been pre-qualified by a professional, knowledgeable mortgage expert. A good mortgage pro will help you decide what price range is affordable so you can devote your time looking only at houses within your price range. This ensures that you avoid the headache, heartache, and hassle of falling in love with a house, only to discover you can't afford it or can't qualify for the loan.

**Q)** We're thinking of buying a lovely older home, but we are naturally concerned as to whether the home has been maintained well. Are there some standard things to look for?

## **Welcome back to our returning clients...**

JOE FRANCO  
ROSEANN HENNINGER  
JUDY JOHNSON  
BILL AND KATHY CLAUSING  
JOYCE SNYDER  
SCOT AND PATTI VANDENBERG  
KIM VOSS  
LOUETTA VOSS

## **New Friends And Clients!**

### **Meet our new clients...**

JUDY ANGELUS  
SANDE BAKKE  
SANDY BECKER  
JEFF AND ROSE BEEBE  
KRISTY BEECHY  
JIM AND GLORIA BELONAX  
NICK BOEREMA  
JACKI BROWN  
PATRICIA CURTIS  
KRIS DEVRIES  
COLE DEVRIES  
RHONDA FELICE  
SHIRLEY AND MIKE FIJOLEK  
MARGE GARDINER  
DARRIN GRANT  
EDDY GROVE  
BARB KARLOVSKY  
SCOTT KOWALSKI  
EILEEN KULAK  
JERRY KULHANEK  
MICHELLE LYEN  
MIKE AND AMY MIEDEMA  
JIM MOHLER  
JOE MULKA  
KASIA RASZKIEWICZ  
KATHY REED  
SANDY ROVAK  
CARA SCOTT  
BARBARA SPAIN  
JILL THOMAS  
DENISE WATERS  
ERIC WELSH  
CHERYL YAEGER

**A)** When you fall in love with a house, it is so easy to overlook its bad points and the flaws in maintenance, too!

Still, when making a major purchase such as a house, we must be practical. Even if the house looks well maintained, you should give it this 7-point review.

**1) Trees.** Check them out. Dying trees and dead branches are an emergency waiting to happen. The first spring storm that comes around might give you some very serious damage. Look for bent branches, if you had a heavy snow storm in the winter. Look for tree roots peeking through the soil as it can suggest a shallow-rooted plant.

**2) Pavement condition.** To put it simply, cracks happen. Still, you should evaluate the pavement condition and ask yourself if it appears generally solid.

**3) Gutters.** They should be clean.

**4) Air conditioner condenser.** The first thing you think about when you look at a house is no doubt NOT the air conditioner condenser. But it is worth taking a look. The condenser should be free of debris, leaves and dirt.

**5) Deck integrity.** Look for areas of wood rot, chipping or raised fibers on the wood. Observe the overall strength and stability of the deck.

**6) Garage door operation.** Simply: Does the door open and close? That is not something you want to find out after you move in.

**7) Downspouts.** Look to see that rain is directed away from the foundation of the house.

You will know best how each of these points should be weighted. For example, you might expect a newer home to have a pristine driveway. Meanwhile, an older home packed with charm but might have a driveway with a crack or two. You'll have to decide how important each point is.

### **A final thought on buying a home...**

Housing affordability level is highest since 1988! Many more people can afford to buy a home today, more people, in fact, than in about the previous 20 years. It recently set the affordability index at 158.8. That means a household earning the median family income of \$61,058 would have 158.8 percent of the qualifying income to purchase the median-priced existing single-family home (\$174,700) with a 20 percent down payment.

When buying that particular home, after the 20 percent down payment, the monthly cost of a 30-year mortgage at 5 percent interest would be about \$750 per month.

When buying a home for \$100,000 with a 20 percent down payment, the monthly payment on a 30-year mortgage at 5 percent interest would be about \$430 a month.

Many homes in various parts of the country could be purchased for \$75,000. With a 20 percent down payment, the monthly cost on a 30-year mortgage would be only \$322.

There hasn't been a better time to buy a home in many years.

### **Safety Tips**

## **These Summer Insects Can Be Dangerous**

There are good bees all around the country. European honey bees pollinate flowers and crops and are generally beneficial creatures. Gardeners often invite them into their yards by adding nectar-rich plants to their landscapes. But another type of bee could be a killer.

**Africanized honey bees:** When you know these killer bees may be in your area, have an escape route planned in case they attack. Go indoors or to a car. The Florida Department of Agriculture cautions against attempting to remove any bee colony yourself. Call an exterminator.

**Fire ants:** They are also found in the South. If they have been recognized in your area, be careful not to disturb their nesting sites. Wear protective boots where fire ants are suspected. To get rid of them, spread bait products that the ants carry back to their nests.

**Ticks carrying Lyme disease:** These pests are more common in colder areas. If they are suspected in your area, use pesticides and repellents. Spray repellents on your boots and clothing. People who have been in the woods should inspect themselves, their clothing and their pets for ticks.

**West Nile virus-carrying mosquitoes:** Remember the "Five D's" of mosquito avoidance.

\* Dusk until dawn. Limit time spent outdoors from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

\* Drain any standing water where mosquitoes could lay eggs.

\* Dress appropriately. Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts when you're in mosquito country.

\* Doors and barriers. Install screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes from entering.

\* DEET. Apply an insect repellent containing DEET if you will be outdoors for very long.

## ***MONEYWISE....***

### **World's most favored Investment: U.S. Treasuries**

Treasuries are still the world's go-to investment. In most recent months, the inflow of foreign capital has been more than the U.S. trade deficit. In November, it was more than \$15 billion more. While some foreign investors are selling long-term Treasuries, the February Treasuries sale was remarkably successful. It drew such foreign investors as the director of the China Banking Regulatory Commission. Japan is the No. 2 holder of U.S. Treasuries.

For American individuals and organizations, U.S. Treasuries are a highly favored investment.

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# **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**

## **Thanks to Those Who Referred us!**

BILL BEECHY

BOB LANDWEHR

DAVE AND CHERYL SPAKAVSKY

KIM VOSS

SANDY SCHUH

### **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](http://www.CreativeCarpetInc.com)

HOURS:

Mon Tue Wed 10:00 – 6:00

Tue Thur 10:00 – 8:00

Sad 10:00 – 4:00

Sun Closed

**“How To Get A GREAT Deal On  
Flooring For The Holidays  
AND  
Help Someone In Need  
Have A Fantastic Thanksgiving!”**



**Bartholomew Turkey**

On a mission to help  
people in need this Thanksgiving

Dear Friend,

Hi, Bartholomew Turkey here. There are some folks in our town who are facing a Thanksgiving of hunger instead of celebration. And that's really sad.

But my good friend Mark Bouquet, from Creative Carpet, is doing something special this Thanksgiving. He's come up with a way you can get a hum-dinger of a deal on beautiful new flooring for the Holidays **AND AT THE SAME TIME** help folks in need have a good Thanksgiving. For every 5 canned food items you bring to Creative Carpet, you will get a huge discount towards your new floor. Here's how it works:

* Cans of donated food	* Your Flooring Discount	* Minimum purchase
5	\$103	\$997
10	\$211	\$1,997
15	\$327	\$2,997
20	\$451	\$3,997
25	\$583	\$4,997

**All the food will be donated to the Frankfort Township/Mokena Food Pantry!!**

**DEADLINE: Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>!** Although we prefer your food donations in time for Thanksgiving, we will accept the donations and apply the discount with purchases made by the end of the month!

See you at Creative Carpet!

Sincerely,

Bartholomew Turkey

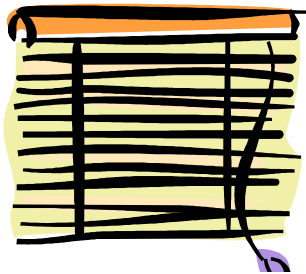
**P.S.** • Won't it feel great to get beautiful new floors in time for the holidays AND help a less fortunate member of our community have a happy Thanksgiving?

**P.P.S.** • There's only one month left for Shaw's Fall Flooring Event. Get a **\$200 coupon** from Shaw for any carpet purchases of 50 yards or more or hard surface purchase of 250 square feet or more. Orders must be placed before November 30<sup>th</sup>. That's \$200 IN ADDITION TO THE CANNED FOOD DONATION SAVINGS!! Don't pass up this great deal!

**OVER PLEASE** →

Mark Bouquet's a great guy! He said he's having me for Thanksgiving!





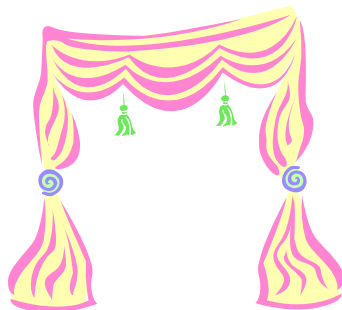
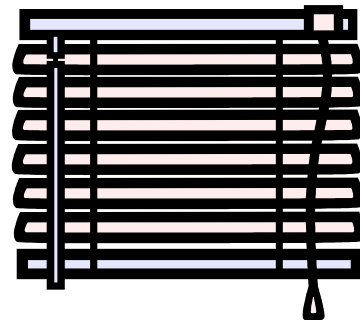
Blinds looking a little old and rugged??

# Need New Window Treatments?

## We Have the Guy For You!!

Hey Friends,

A while ago I introduced you to an old friend of mine and I just wanted to take the time to remind you of him again. He is the owner of a business by the name of "Blinds by Nicolette." His name is Al Roaché, and he has been involved in the home



decorating industry for many years. As a matter of fact, many, many moons ago, he and I worked for the same carpet company. That carpet company also sold window treatments. My forté became flooring, and Al's became window treatments. Al became very skilled at the window treatments and opened his own business. That was about 15 years and some 5,000 clients ago!

I am here to tell my friends and clients that if you are considering window treatments, Al is your guy! He will personally come to your house with samples and tape measure in hand. I seriously consider anyone whom I refer, and I am confident that Al will not disappoint you. Give him a call today!

**If you are in the market for new window treatments, give him a call.  
I promise – you won't be disappointed!**

## Blinds by Nicolette

VISIT SHOWROOM AT:  
3550 W. 85<sup>th</sup> St., Suite B  
Evergreen Park

OR Call (708) 952-0700 or (815) 462-9277  
For Shop at Home Service