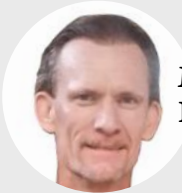


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“Mark” My Words... a message from Dawn Giganti

When the heck did this adulting thing start? We went from being carefree little kids full of joy into frazzled grown-ups full of stress. Those nasty little things called “commitments and responsibilities” that started filling our plates are a part of life. However, WE created the stress because we never learned how to stop and reassess or remove things as our plate began to feel too full. Now here we are, thinking that this is what “adulting” is all about. Talk about being far from the truth!

Stretching ourselves too thin, we're missing out on so much. Slow evening conversations with my kids while snuggling with my husband on the couch. Feeling the sun's rays in the morning while walking my corgi pups. The taste of a hot gooey homemade chocolate chip cookie dipped into a glass of ice-cold milk. Man, the things we miss out on rushing through life!

There is a limited amount of focus and room up in our brains. People a hundred years ago had the same mental capacity as we do now, but their core focuses were different. They had a much smaller pile of things that required their daily thoughts and attention because they didn't have TV, computers, internet, smartphones, Sally's piano lessons, Billy's baseball game, Johnny's marching band competition (need I go on?)

That space in our head is sacred, and we need to protect it and allow in only what's truly important. Not that your kids and commitments are not important – you see, this is where it gets hard. But, none of us were created to function at max capacity like this day after day. Somehow, we need to create a balance. If we don't, we'll continue to be robots without getting a chance to feel and head towards a future burn-out.

God made us for so much more! We have the power to make choices about the way we live our lives. We can choose a life of less by saying no, always striving to be, do, and have more. We're all capable of this no matter if we're five, fifty, or eighty-five! The older we get, the harder this will be if we don't get a grip now. If we manage what happens within our hearts and homes... even if it's just a little... it can make the difference.

Here's the game plan... and no better time to start than this holiday season so we can TRULY enjoy the life that Christ gave to us. This holiday season, plan and decide which parties, plays, and commitments fit your schedule. Then, politely decline the rest. Recruit help setting up the tree, baking cookies, wrapping presents. You know the old saying, “many hands make light work.” Organize your holiday clean-up to make your holiday setup even easier next year. Don't forget to also take care of yourself, too. We do a lot for others over the holidays. But make sure to take a few minutes for yourself by doing whatever relaxes you most. Most of all, don't forget to make time to pray and thank God for all he has done. You will never know what God intended you for if you don't make room for Him.

What are you focusing on and attending to every day that's taking up your brain space? Enter the holiday season prepared and save that sacred space He created in you with calm and joy!

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and God Bless,

Dawn Giganti, Marketing & Administrative Assistant
Creative Carpet & Flooring

December 2019

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 CLOSED	25 CLOSED	26	27	28
29	30	31 CLOSED at 4 pm	1	2	3	4
5	6	Notes				

November 29	January 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 31	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

Month at a Glance:

7th Pearl Harbor Day - In 1941, the attack killed 2,335 Americans & wounded 1,143 more. President Roosevelt described it as a “date which will live in infamy.”

12th Tammy Bouquet's Birthday - Time to level up!

19th Alexis Giganti's Birthday - Happy 22nd birthday to the youngest at Creative Carpet & Flooring!

22nd Winter Solstice - The first day of winter & shortest day of the year. I couldn't think of a better day to be the shortest!

24th & 25th Closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day - We will be closed to celebrate the birth of Jesus with our families. Merry Christmas!

31st Closed at 4pm New Year's Eve - Closing at 6pm to celebrate the end of 2019 & beginning of 2020!

January 1st, 2020 Closed New Year's Day - Have a wonderful and blessed 2020!

How Do You Celebrate Advent?

The holiday season has become so commercial and out of control busy. It's so essential to make this time of year focused on making family memories, quiet reflections and celebrating meaningful traditions. Advent is the primary way to refocus the month of December around Jesus and the miracle of Christmas.

Advent is marked by the twenty-five, or four Sundays, before Christmas. Advent is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming." Advent is merely taking time each day, starting December 1, to prepare for the celebration of Jesus at Christmas.

Here are some ideas for advent...

- 1. Calendar** - There are so many Advent calendars available all over. Trader Joe's has one for only \$1.00 that comes pre-filled with chocolate. Others come already empty for you to fill with anything you'd like. Just make sure you set aside time during Advent for personal reflection and prayer each day. A beneficial way is to use your Advent Calendar in conjunction with one of the suggestions below.
- 2. Jesse Tree** - A Jesse Tree is a decorative tree used during Advent to retell the stories of the Bible leading to Jesus's birth. A Jesse Tree is a great way to build joy and anticipation as you wait for Christmas. A Jesse Tree doesn't have to be super complicated. Just make it fun and easy to keep the focus on where it should be. The best way to create a Jesse Tree with young children is to make ornaments together that correspond with a story from the Bible. You can use a simple 4-foot, pre-lit tree for them to put their ornament on as you read the corresponding story each night.
- 3. A Book a Day** - This can be a fun and free Advent tradition! Check out 25 books from the library and wrap each of them for the 25 days of Advent. Beginning December 1st, unwrap one book and read it. It's fun to get them at the library because then you can try out new books and see which ones you would like to purchase and add to your collection. Just make sure you renew your books so you can have them throughout Advent. Make sure to return the ones you are done with right away for others to enjoy.
- 4. Personal or Family Devotion** - There are some beautiful devotions available for Advent. You can find many free online. A few minutes or an hour, as long as you set aside time during Advent for personal reflection and prayer.
- 5. Nativity Story** - Each evening, before bedtime, read part of the nativity story and bring out one more piece of the Nativity setting. You can find them online by searching "Advent Nativity Calendar and Script." There are several with printouts and more ideas available on Pinterest.

No matter the Advent activity, the purpose is to set aside time each day in December to pause and celebrate Jesus, the miracle of Christmas. How do you celebrate Advent and talk about the meaning of CHRISTmas?



MEET OUR NEW & RETURNING FRIENDS & CLIENTS...

Al & MaryKay Howlett	Donna & Carl Gerlich	Kathy & Dennis Novosel	Pete & Sharon Cermak
Albert & Judy Fontana	Doris Reed	Kathy & Tony Janik	Peter Bates
Amy & Scott Wireman	Ed & Nancy Hayes	Keith Merrill	Rachelle Ochsenor
Amy Wolcott	Ed & Shirley Berling	Ken & Linda Gerdes	Renee Johnson
Autumn Blankenbaker	Eileen Greenawalt	Kim Burd	Richard Bischoff
Barb Boucek	Emmett Gordon	Kim Janiak	Richard Werner
Barbara Roupp	Fran Essary	Kim Meister	Rick & Barb Ariageno
Ben Kamp	Frank & Vicki Karpiesz	Krys Przbysz	Rita Miotti
Bianca & John Bugajski	Frank Margaron	Kurt & Karen Turner	Robert & Charlene Fleck
Bill & Joan Falkenthal	Gail Levy	Lauren Biskup	Ronald & Jackie Smith
Bill Slavlin	George & Sue Tragos	Laurie Panizzo	Ruth Henrichs
Bina Patel	Gerry Paris	Laverne Doorn	Sally Schwandt
Bob & Laura Neubaure	Greg Handley	Leo Kanwischer	Sanette Bruton
Bob Ravas	Holly Ervin	Linda Terborg	Sarah Lyons
Breanne Silver	Holly Krygowski	Lorene Evenhouse	Sharon Opalacz
Bruce Patterson	Israel Muniz	Lori Mennite	Sharon Santor
Charley Smith	Jake Setter	Mable Williamson	Shawn Stemmler
Chris & Adriana Boerema	James Riley	Maria Weisman	Stephanie Siebert
Chris & Carrie Ivicic	Jeanette Segal	Marla Sprainis	Steve & Shelly Marks
Christopher Bender	Jeannine Fiegler	Marvin Vis	Steve Lempere
Dave & Jeanette Dinaso	Jeff Okragly	Mary & Don Flight	Sue & Chuck Christensen
Debbie & Mike Bennett	Jerry & Georgette Blackwell	Maureen Gorszczyk	Sue & Norm Brown
Debbie & Tom Polignone	Jerry & Patricia Klaich	Michael & Debbie Sears	Sue Fennell
Debbie Opyt	Jim & Audrey Hagan	Michael & Donna Tolish	Susan Brunner
Deborah Garrett	Jim Wreczonek	Michael & Megan Druetzler	Tasha Hunter
Debra Beckett	Joan Whitmore	Michael Dedmond	Teri Habel
Diane & Anthony Getto	Joe Doss	Michael McInerney	Terry Jansma
Diane & Kevin Vacey	Joellyn Schmidt	Michelle Cress	Theresa Best
Dominick Ripoli	Joseph Cariola	Mike Shackel	Thomas Teare
Don Ludwig	Joseph Levy	Miki Rebac	Tiffany Robinson
	Joyce Zywica	Mitch & Julie Milich	Tim Sanders
	Julie Brandies	Monica Sajr	Tim Streit
	Julie Cumbee	Nicole Harris	Tony & Colleen Kaim
	Julius & Judith Ballanco	Nicolette Prepura	Tracy Pahios
	Karen & Ed Haugh	Pat Gajc	Wendy Lindemulder
		Pete & Cindy Kearns	

SHIRLEY SCANLON
 of Highland, IN
 You are this month's **MYSTERY WINNER!**
 We have a **\$50 Creative Carpet & Flooring gift card** reserved just for you!
 Stop in your nearest showroom to claim your prize!
 NOTE: Must be picked up before 12/31/2019

Did You Know ?

We will help raise money for your church or non-profit organization!

Creative Carpet & Flooring is a Christian, family owned business. We want to help your church or non-profit organization raise money with our PAY-IT-FORWARD program! How does it work? Your organization will receive a supply of vouchers to distribute to anyone in the market for flooring or inquiring about the Pay It Forward program. Simply give them a voucher with your organization name and information to bring to us at the time of purchase. Once the job is installed, we will complete the voucher and return a copy to you along with a check made out to your organization for 3% to 6% of the sale. It's that simple!

Register online at:
www.creativecarpetinc.com/pay-it-forward/

WARNING! Don't visit any flooring dealer until you call us for a **FREE Consumer Awareness Guide!** You will learn...

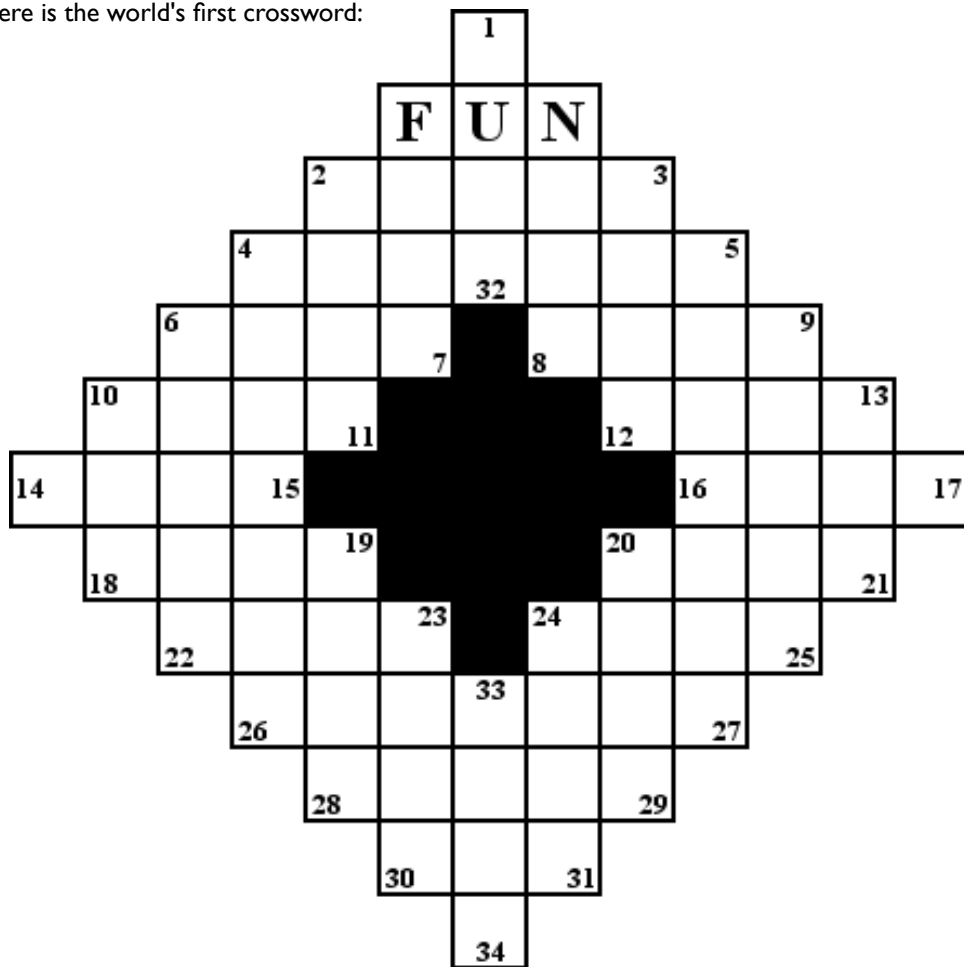
- ✓ 4 predatory sales tactics
- ✓ 7 costly misconceptions about flooring
- ✓ 5 questions to ask a dealer before buying

Visit our website to obtain your copy!

Take a Stab at the World's First Crossword Puzzle

The first known published crossword puzzle was created by a journalist named Arthur Wynne from Liverpool, and he is usually credited as the inventor of the popular word game. December 21, 1913 was the date and it appeared in a Sunday newspaper, the New York World.

Here is the world's first crossword:



- 2-3 What bargain hunters enjoy.
- 4-5 A written acknowledgment.
- 6-7 Such and nothing more.
- 10-11 A bird.
- 14-15 Opposed to less.
- 18-19 What this puzzle is.
- 22-23 An animal of prey.
- 26-27 The close of a day.
- 28-29 To elude.
- 30-31 The plural of is.
- 8-9 To cultivate.
- 12-13 A bar of wood or iron.
- 16-17 What artists learn to do.
- 20-21 Fastened.
- 24-25 Found on the seashore.
- 10-18 The fibre of the gomuti palm.
- 6-22 What we all should be.
- 4-26 A day dream
- 2-11 A talon.
- 19-28 A pigeon.
- F-7 Part of your head.
- 23-30 A river in Russia.
- 1-32 To govern.
- 33-34 An aromatic plant.
- N-8 A fist.
- 24-31 To agree with.
- 3-12 Part of a ship.
- 20-29 One.
- 5-27 Exchanging.
- 9-25 To sink in mud.
- 13-21 A boy.

(Solution on page 4)

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 year did the Colts join the NFL?

- (A) 1993
- (B) 1953
- (C) 1943
- (D) 1963

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

Answer to November's quiz:

C) \$100

Congratulations to last month's winner:

Tasha Peterson
of Chicago, IL

Stop by Creative Carpet & Flooring to claim your prize by December 31, 2019!

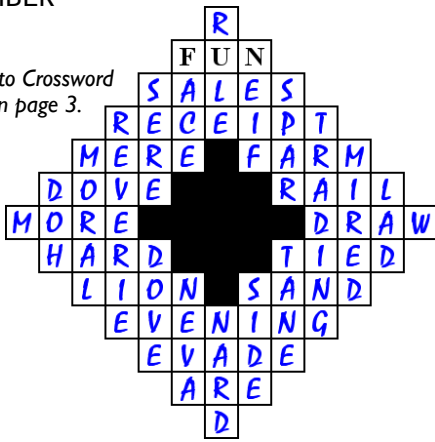
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- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
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| Charlene Kaminski | Marla Sprainis |
| Cindy & Christopher Gimino | Michael & Mary Disanti |
| Ed & Sandy Schuh | Michael & Megan Druetzler |
| Elmer & Sheri Lucas | Michelle Cress |
| Holly Krygowski | Rebecca Raymundo |
| Joe Doss | Rob Arvetis |
| Julie Brandies | Sandee Williams |
| Julius & Judith Ballanco | Steve & Connie Westman |
| Kathie Pultz | Theresa Best |
| Kathy Mlodecki | Tom & Sarah Mittler |
| Kenneth & Carol Oldendorf | |
| Larry Lazzari | |
| Lina Riccelli | |
| Linda Terborg | |
| Lois Fryer | |
| Lorene Evenhouse | |

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Solution to Crossword Puzzle on page 3.



Why do we drop the ball on New Year's Eve?

We all know the iconic New Year's tradition of the ball drop in New York City's Time Square as the clock strikes midnight on New Year's Eve — but how exactly did this fascinating tradition in New Year's history come about? According to the official Times Square Ball website, the ball drop has been a tradition since 1907, with the first New Year's Eve Ball having been a 700-pound sphere made out of iron, wood, and 100 light bulbs. Seven different versions have been designed since then, with the ball having eventually evolved into the newest (and coolest) version that it is today: a brightly patterned orb covered with LED lamps and Waterford Crystal panels that weighs in at nearly 12,000 pounds.



Theo Wargo | Getty Images

Jeon, H. (2019, November 19). *New Year's History Facts 2020 - Importance of New Year's Celebration*. Retrieved from Good Housekeeping: <https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/a29787120/new-years-history/>

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

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gary & Ilene Banach | Nicole & Adam Copack |
| Jean Zapka | Phil & Christie Labriola |
| Jerry & Amanda Reid | Sally & Andrew Formas |
| Joanne & Robert Krencik | Sarah Callis |
| Karla Zandstra | Tom & Leah Huizinga |
| Kathy & James Gallagher | |
| Liz Suppes | |

THANK YOU FOR THE KIND WORDS!

This was the 2nd time we used Creative Carpet & Flooring, and more than highly recommend them. They are ALL extremely KNOWLEDGEABLE & COMPETENT in every aspect of this business, from start to finish. And they are ALL EXTREMELY PLEASANT & LIKEABLE people to deal with, from Sales Staff, (ours was Michelle Cress who was sooo incredibly helpful and patient with us) to their incredibly professional installers. Our project -- We had a sizable 3-room + long hallway + walk-in closet + guest bedroom closet, removal of old + new carpet installation with TONS of furniture. We watched the installers in awe and amazement. They were extremely and exceptionally organized and professional. Days prior, we had all our walls painted & new white molding and doors installed... They moved ALL the furniture & old carpeting out of each room in sequence of their install, and... they worked with clockwork precision. Not a scratch, scuff or mar was made anywhere! They left everything clean and in order. THE CARPETING LOOKS BEAUTIFUL... AND WAS INSTALLED PERFECTLY! Can't say enough great things about Creative Carpet & Flooring! So glad we found them for our last two projects... They beat others we've had prior, in every way!

~Diane U. & Roger M. of Orland Park, IL

Get A Night Out At One Of Your Favorite Restaurants Through Creative Carpet's

Referral Rewards Program

As you probably know, advertising is very expensive. Instead of paying the newspaper or other place to advertise, we'd rather reward you. So I've assembled my **Referral Rewards Program**. Every time you refer someone who becomes a client and purchases, we will send you a **\$25 gift card** to one of the following: Olive Garden, TGI Friday's or Beggars Pizza.



- ✓ At a nativity play, our young granddaughter Charlotte watched the three kings deliver gold, frankincense and myrrh and asked: "Are the Franky Scents like aftershave?"
- ✓ A friend's two little girls were looking at a picture of the Virgin Mary holding Baby Jesus. "That's Mary," said the older girl, "and that's her baby Jesus in her arms." "Where's Jesus's dad then?" asked her little sister. "Oh, he is the one taking the picture," replied her sister.
- ✓ I asked my young grandson what he would like Santa to bring him. He produced a rather long list. When I commented on the length of it, he replied: "It's just in case this is the last year I believe in him."
- ✓ At my grandson's nativity play, the third wise man was hilarious when he marched up to the manger and bellowed: "Frank sent this!"
- ✓ I was at my friend's house when her six-year-old son poked his head around the door and said: "Mom, you know I wanted a bike for Christmas? Well I don't need it now. I just found one behind your wardrobe!"
- ✓ When I went to stay with my daughter for Christmas, I heard my grandson praying at the top of his voice for a new bike. His big sister told him: "God's not deaf, you know!" He replied: "No, but Nan is."
- ✓ At my grandson's school Nativity play, when the innkeeper opened the curtain to show Mary and Joseph in the stable, a little voice in the audience shouted: "Where's the TV, mom?"

Anonymous. (2014, December 16). *The Funny Things Kids Say at Christmas*. Retrieved from TG Escapes: <https://www.tgescapes.co.uk/blog/education-funny-things-kids-say-christmas>

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Mokena IL 60448
(708) 479-8600

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10am - 8pm Tue, Thu
10am - 4pm Sat



2315 45th Street
Highland IN 46322
(219) 595-5561

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.

December to Remember



- 1 - Moving of furniture
- 2 - Take Up of Existing Carpet
- 3 - Carpet Haul Away

ALL 3 FOR FREE
or FREE pad upgrade!

December 1st thru 31st, 2019

Too busy with the holiday hustle and bustle to even THINK about flooring installation? BUY NOW to LOCK IN the 2019 SALE SPECIAL & postpone install until AFTER the holidays!

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

- WINTER COATS – All sizes from infant, baby, toddler, junior, adult and extended sizes are needed. Snow pants, hats, scarves, gloves and mittens would also be useful.
- BLANKETS or SLEEPING BAGS – The temperature is already dipping into the 30’s. We are looking for gently used or new blankets and sleeping bags.
- SOCKS – These are the most needed and 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!

GIVING THE GIFT OF WARMTH



Items brought to our Mokena, IL showroom will benefit



Together We Cope



Together We Cope is a homeless prevention agency in Tinley Park, IL serving 27 communities in 4 townships in Chicago’s south suburbs. Their mission is to bridge the gap for Southland residents in temporary crisis by providing food, shelter, clothing and referrals, empowering them to return to self-sufficiency. More information is available about Together We Cope at togetherwecope.com, calling (708) 633-5040 or emailing tarvetis@togetherwecope.org.

Items brought to our Highland, IN showroom will benefit



Grace Beyond Borders NWI



Grace Beyond Borders in East Chicago, IN was founded by Marcus Martin in 2013 to provide food, clothing and short- or long-term shelter to those in need. Rescuing lives and ending homelessness, their goal is transformation and restoration by offering a hand up... not a handout. More information on Grace Beyond Borders is available at gracebeyondborders.org, by calling (219) 712-5192 or emailing mmmnc53@gmail.com.

Receive a \$25 Creative Carpet & Flooring Gift Card

JUST FOR STOPPING IN & DONATING

A small thanks for helping. Give as a gift or keep for yourself. So many uses...

- ✓ Complement any hard surface floor with a pre-made or custom area rug!
- ✓ How about Carpet cleaning after the winter season is over?
- ✓ Cleaning products (like our Kardean hard surface cleaner or our very own Spot Remover for Carpets & Upholstery).
- ✓ Gift cards never expire!



December 1st thru December 31, 2019 - one gift card per household