



Mark Bouquet



Mark Bouquet, Jr.

Creative Carpet & Flooring HOME ADVISOR™

January
2015

Hi All of Creative Carpet and Flooring Friends,

As I write this letter it is still December, and man, are my wife and I behind in our Christmas shopping! I have to admit that it seems so commercialized now that many of us don't even remember the "reason for the season." I just saw a news report where, for years, a family went all out decorating their house only to be told they can't do it any longer. Their reason: people drove from miles away to see their display and sadly, some of the people allegedly were dropping their garbage on the ground, which upset some neighbors in the area. I understand that this would upset them, but to ban this family's tradition is ridiculous. Because we live in such an open society, it really is disheartening that a couple of people would even dare to ruin it for those of us who want to stick with American traditions. I like to keep these letters upbeat because of all of the strife in the world, so I wonder why, with all of the serious problems in the world, we really need to make this a problem, too? I hate getting on my soapbox, but I care very much about our country and especially its traditions, but more for my kids and, now, grand children's futures.

Okay, I think most of you know where I stand on my faith and right to observe it. But this is the start of a New Year! I'm not one for making New Year's resolutions, but it is a given that we, at Creative Carpet and Flooring, will continue to strive to make us the *only* flooring store you will ever need to go to. This last year of 2014 gave us three new hires onto the CCF team. Steve, one of our flooring consultants who has been in the industry since the late 1990's, is a great guy and is very happy [per him] to be working for us. We've hired another woman named Dawn, thusly bringing the total to 2 "Dawns" at Creative (distinguished as D1 and D2.) Dawn is also an administrative assistant to Tammy. She, too, sent me an email saying how much she enjoys working with us. As an owner, you can't believe how that makes me feel. We've also hired a young man who is handling all of our warehousing operations. His name is Elijah. He has been such a blessing to me, personally, that I can't even express it. When yet another employee comes and tells us that this is the first job they ever had that they actually looked forward to coming to, I feel we are doing something right.

Aside from the positive additions we've made to the team here at Creative, this time, unfortunately, marks the exodus of 2 other employees. My sweetheart daughter in law, Annie, is getting closer to delivering her second child, which I couldn't be happier about. She worked her last day in the beginning of December to be home full-time for the last bit of pregnancy preparing for the baby. Also, Julie, one of our flooring consultants, is moving on to other opportunities due to moving homes and commute constraints. We appreciate all the work and input she's given to the team and all the happy clients she's serviced, and we ALL wish her the best. It's a bummer to see these two go!

And finally, I trust you will have all had a GREAT CHRISTMAS, and I hope you all have a happy New Year! For all of the Christians out there, take a moment to really ponder why we celebrate this great holiday.

From the Creative Family to Yours,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Sincerely,
Mark Bouquet Sr.



**"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...

- A Message from Mark Sr.
- This Month's Mystery Winner
- Did you Know...
- When is a Bargain Not a Bargain?
- About Staying Well
- Mega Trivia Contest!
- Thank You for the Kind Words!
- The 24-Hour Work Day
- Recipe Corner
- Meet our Carpet Cleaning Customers
- Planning for a New Year/New Floor
- Do You Know your Disney Castles?
- Referral Rewards Program
- New Friends & Clients

ATTENTION! Michaela Karim

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 & Flooring
19420 S. LaGrange Road
Mokena, IL 60448

**NOTE: Must be picked up by
01/31/2015**

DID YOU KNOW...

Living in the Midwest... where it dips below freezing in the winter, you understand how quickly snow and salt get tracked into your home or office. Follow these simple floor care tips to protect your floors from snow and salt this winter.

- * The best floor cleaning advice is this: Prevention is easier than restoration. Prevent damage to your floors by keeping snow and salt off of them as much as possible.
- * Use floor mats. Put a bristly floor mat outside the front door and encourage your family members and guests, or staff and customers to wipe their feet before coming inside. This will remove the largest particles of salt and clumps of unmelted snow. Place additional mats inside for guests to dry their feet.
- * Keep old towels or cleaning rags near the door. Wipe up puddles immediately. Standing water can damage your floors.
- * If your office floors become slippery quickly, consider laying down plastic runners. Not only will these keep your floors clear of snow and salt, but they may prevent slip and fall injuries.
- * Increase the frequency of your regular home or office floor cleaning. If you normally clean your floors with a damp mop once a week, you may need to clean them two or three times per week depending on foot traffic.

Creative Carpet & Flooring is one of the most trusted carpet cleaning service providers in Illinois! We will gladly do the carpet cleaning for you. Contact us whenever you need... we're always here for you!

About Staying Well - Flu Season

It's that time of year when the flu virus is most common. Flu season usually begins when cold weather appears. There's no apparent reason why. It's simply a characteristic of the flu & the timing of the seasons. What should you do to prepare for this flu season?



1. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
2. If possible, stay home from work, school & errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
3. Cover your mouth & nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
4. Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap & water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
5. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs & then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.
6. Clean & disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids & eat nutritious food.

Moneywise

When is a Bargain Not a Bargain?



Many items are on sale this month, so if you've had your eye on a major purchase, now might be the time to buy.

But how can you tell if an item that catches your eye in January will turn out to be a "remorse buy" in March?

Here's a quick checklist you can use to increase the odds your decision is a wise one:

- ✓ Is it actually a bargain? 50% off our regular price doesn't mean much if the regular price is sky-high. Shop around.
- ✓ If it is a good price, what about after-sales support? An ultra low price with no warranty is not a better buy than paying a little more to get a rock-solid guarantee.
- ✓ Do you need it? If your kitchen has become a hazard, you certainly need a renovation, but if it's your 41st pair of shoes or your 27th power tool, maybe not.
- ✓ Do you **really** need it? Your computer crashed, your smart phone doesn't work, OK. But if buying the latest device means you can't pay the electric bill, think again.
- ✓ Is there room in your budget? If you don't have a household budget, January is a great time to start!

Mega Trivia Contest!

Congratulations to last month's winner:

**ANN
LEWANDOWSKI**

Stop in at Creative Carpet & Flooring to claim your prize by January 31, 2015!
(Answer to last month's quiz: Olive Branch)

Who else wants to WIN A \$50 GIFT CARD towards dinner at TGI Fridays or Olive Garden?

This month's MegaTrivia question:
On the average, one inch of rain is equivalent to how many inches of snow?

- A) 10 Inches B) 1 inch
C) 5 inches D) a foot

Call us at 708.479.8600 or e-mail answers to contests@creativecarpetinc.com

Thank You For The Kind Words!

"After purchasing 'cheap' carpeting that didn't hold up after 1 year, we decided to replace it. We went to Creative Carpet & Flooring. Immediately, we were shown exactly what we were looking for. We took some color samples home, had the floor space measured. It was a quick process. Everyone in the store was friendly. The installers were great! They showed us that the previous company didn't replace the padding when they installed the carpeting. As a result, there were two different kinds of padding. They reused some of the original padding and partially used the 'newer' padding. We will never make that same mistake again! Creative Carpet & Flooring has our business for floors!" - Carl & Donna of Tinley Park, IL

Meet our Carpet Cleaning Customers:

Call for more info on our expert
carpet cleaning services!

ERIC & MARCIE WALLIN
ROB SHANK
MARY RICE

BOB & CATHY VELCICH
SUE DANAHER

VERNON & LUANN SEILER
URSULA & JOHN PREBSTLE
MIKE GAGALA

LEONARD STRAND
RICH & JOAN HALLSTEIN

MARY ANN ORNELAS
DAVE DOBSON

KATHY & JEFF LEWANDOWSKI
NANCY WHITE



Planning for a New Year/New Floor

The time is fast approaching when New Year's resolutions are uttered with growing frequency, and most of us start thinking about renovations: for ourselves and our homes. If you're considering a new floor in the new year, contact Creative Carpet & Flooring and we'll help you start planning!

The 24-Hour Work Day

In the "work-more economy" (a phrase coined by Workforce.com), employees are expected to do more to the point of being on call on a 24-hour basis. This degree of availability can wreck your sanity if not your life: how do you push back and still keep your job?



Unless work requires you to be on call for emergencies, it's simple: Set some rules, leave work at work and turn off the email. Your boss may send you brilliant ideas at midnight, that doesn't mean you have to respond right away. Make it clear that you will reply in a timely fashion, but that during certain hours you will be away from your desk (or devices.) If you don't value your personal time, nobody else will!

Original 1950's Chex Party Mix

Ready in 45 minutes

The original recipe from a box of Chex Cereal in the 1950's, just in time for the New Year's party!

Ingredients

1 cup butter
4 Tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
2 1/2 teaspoon Seasoned Salt
1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
6 cups Wheat Chex Cereal
4 cups Rice Chex Cereal
3 cup peanuts
3 cup small pretzel rods



Preparation

Preheat oven to 275 degrees F. Melt butter in a shallow pan. Stir in Worcestershire sauce, seasoned salt and garlic salt. Add cereal, nuts and pretzels. Mix until all pieces are coated. Place on a shallow baking pan with sides. Bake for 40 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes.



"Lovely new carpet Doris - and with Scotch-guard too."

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

708-479-8600

Do You Know your Disney Castles?

Disney theme parks around the world are centered on two types of castles:

1. The Sleeping Beauty castle is found at the original Disneyland in Anaheim California and at Hong Kong Disneyland. It is based on Neuschwanstein Castle (shown here) which was built in Bavaria Germany in the late 1800s.



2. The Cinderella castle – brought to life at the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida and Tokyo Disneyland - is inspired by a number of different castles throughout Europe.



Creative
Carpet & Flooring

19420 S LaGrange Road
Mokena, IL 60448

708-479-8600

www.creativecarpetinc.com

HOURS:

MON TUE FRI 10:00am - 6:00pm

TUE THU 10:00am - 8:00pm

SAT 10:00am - 4:00pm

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.



We offer gift cards to our store for any of our expert, professional services including carpet cleaning, flooring and installation!

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, Longhorn Steakhouse, Red Lobster or TGI Friday's.**

😊 **NEW** 😊
FRIENDS & CLIENTS

Meet our new clients...

Debbie & Russ Mars
Allison Tague
Stephanie Wettstein
Marie Amendola
Marlene & Todd Harting
Donald Georgenne Krueger
Sally & Alyce Weishaar
Kathy Kreamsner
Jason & Gina Hellbling
Alex & Kelly Fenske
Darcy Waddell
Marzena & Jeff Surdej

Welcome back to our returning clients...

Kim Gignac
Michelle & Rick Ringold
Victoria Foxworth
Karen Beringer
Sandy Urban
John Mazzorana
William Rewers
Mike & Katy Braband
Steve & Jen Burns
Barb & Dale Augustine
Darlene & Mike Hartnett
Tom & Sue Bergen
Sandi Harnisch
Alina Lorenca
Jay Erick
Frank & Anne Kubicki
Mary Bobich

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

Janelle Tague
Gary Medema
Bob and Kim Padjen
Barbara Surdej
Dave Dobson
Bill Shaheen
Rachel Williams
Shirley Price
Mark Browning
Roberta Plant
Jennifer Szymanek

**THE MORE YOU SPEND...
THE MORE YOU
SAVE!!!**



2015

Happy New Year!

Ansonylon[®]

GREEN by nature • *fashionable* by design[®]

by

Shaw
FLOORS

Beautiful, durable floors for less

Carpet | Area Rugs | Tile & Stone | Hardwood
Laminate | Resilient

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\$19.99 - \$29.99	\$1.00 off
\$30.00 - \$49.99	\$2.00 off
\$50.00 & UP	\$3.00 off

**Over 1000 sq ft?
Take off another \$1.00
off per yard!**

**THE MORE YOU
SPEND, THE MORE
YOU**



SAVE!

Creative
Carpet & Flooring

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19420 S LaGrange Road, Mokena, IL 60448
Tel 708.479.8600 | Fax 708.479.8602
www.creativecarpetinc.com

You are protected by Creative Carpet & Flooring'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!”

Here's how the “No Regrets Guarantee” works: if at any time during the first 30 days after installation you decide you don't like your new flooring that was installed for whatever reason, just let me know. I'll replace the materials free of charge. I offer this guarantee to ALL of my customers purchasing flooring for their personal residences, regardless of size or cost of the material. (With an outrageously good guarantee like this, I can't include the cost of installation or other labor, so you'll have to cover that.)

I offer this amazing guarantee because you're going to have your new floor for a long, long time, and I don't want you to have to live with a choice you'll regret. I want you to be head-over-heels thrilled with your selection. So if you are unhappy with the flooring, I'll replace it one time free of charge with another style of equal or lesser value. (If the new flooring you select costs more, you simply pay the difference.)

If you walked into any other flooring store and asked them for a guarantee like this, they would probably laugh and tell you “no way!” So how can I offer such a powerful guarantee? I couldn't unless I was absolutely confident in the quality of my products and service. I am confident, and you will be, too... I guarantee it!

Guarantee #2 Lifetime Installation Warranty

Buying flooring is not like buying any other piece of interior décor, such as a sofa or a lamp. Why? Because unlike other products, flooring is installed or “manufactured” in your home. This makes the installation critical. At Creative Carpet, I offer a lifetime installation warranty to ALL of my customers purchasing flooring for their personal residences. You NEVER have to worry about something going wrong with the installation. If it does, I'll fix it FREE! And I'll do it quickly. We will even call 1 year after your install to set up your IN HOME INSPECTION to insure your carpet is performing as it should!

Guarantee #3 Installer Professionalism Guarantee

Creative Carpet installers are neat, clean, well-groomed, well-spoken and certified professionals. They have graduated from the Certified Floorcovering Installers Association. They are guests in your home, and they conduct themselves as such. They respect your home by using shoe covers when necessary. You'll receive the highest-quality installation in the business. And after they're finished, they will leave your home as neat and clean as when they arrived! They will even vacuum or sweep!



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