

CREATIVE CARPET, INC

HOME ADVISOR™

DECEMBER 2012



Mark Bouquet



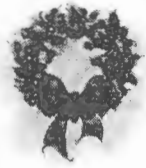
Mark Bouquet, Jr.

"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

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

I hope you all enjoyed your thanksgiving, and I wanted to give a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who donated food for our food drive. People are hurting badly right now, and I know that they are happy to get something as simple as a canned good when they don't even have a job. If you have a job and some extra cans, consider donating to the food pantries at your local church or even the village you live in. They appreciate not having to turn someone away due to food shortages. You bless us when you give to our drive, and we, in turn, bless others because of your generosity. "Thank you" doesn't express how we feel when we go to a church or a village with boxes of food. We have wonderful customers with big hearts, and it makes us better at serving you.

Now, I hope you all have some kind of plan for Christmas. If you don't, again, seek out your local church. There are generally people there to hang out with- and get a nice meal to boot! I wish the best of luck to those of you who are having a tough time finding work, and, as I normally do, I'll keep praying for those who need something sooner rather than later. I remember as a small kid when my dad would get laid-off or the time he worked while he had walking pneumonia! I remember mom having to figure out which bill she could pay so something didn't get turned off. I remember my first few years in business when I had two pairs of pants- one for selling the floors and one for installing the floors! It was stressful on everyone, so I have a remedy for toughing it out through the tough times: be around people that love you. Be around friends and if you can, go to a church and meet some new people. There is a network we are usually too proud to tap into. That's why I am so grateful for your continued support of our business. You aren't just customers to us. You have become a part of the Creative family. If we forget a name, it doesn't mean we don't care, but rather that we are growing because of you, and we try to give back to the communities that support us and even those who don't. Like I said, there's a lot of hurt out there. If we all just do a little bit, I am pretty sure this would be a better place.



God Bless and Have a Wonderful Christmas!
 Mark Sr.



PLEASE NOTE DECEMBER'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

MON. 12/24 AND TUES. 12/25: **CLOSED**

MON. 12/31 AND TUES. 01/01: **CLOSED**

Have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Inside This Issue...

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- A Message from Mark Sr.
- HOLIDAY CLOSING SCHEDULE
- Are You This Month's Mystery Winner?
- About Staying Well: Top 10 Holiday Diet Tips
- Recipe Corner: Easy Oreo Truffles
- Did You Know...
- Mega Trivia Contest!!!
- Welcome New and Returning Clients!
- Moneywise: Saving Money at Christmas
- Project for the Month
- Referral Rewards Program
- Fun Facts: Candy Canes & Christmas Pickles
- Thank You for the Kind Words!

**Attention
 Ovell
 Landers**

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 12/31/2012

About Staying Well

Top 10 Holiday Diet Tips

Even the most disciplined people struggle with temptation during the holiday season. Having a plan in place will help you handle night after night of eating and drinking. Here are 10 recommendations to help you avoid packing on the pounds this holiday season:

1. **Trim back the trimmings.** To shave calories, go easy when adding nuts, cheese, cream sauces, gravy, butter and whipped cream -- additions that don't add much to the meal, but can add plenty to your waistline.
2. **Wear snug clothes and keep one hand busy.** When you wear snug-fitting attire, chances are you'll be too busy holding in your stomach to overeat. While you stand around, hold a drink in your dominant hand so it won't be so easy to grab food.
3. **Chew gum.** When you don't want to eat, pop a piece of sugarless gum into your mouth. This works well when you're cooking!
4. **Be a food snob.** If you don't love it, don't eat it. Scan the buffet for foods you truly treasure and skip the everyday dishes that are available all year long.
5. **No skipping meals.** Always eat normally on the day of a party. Skipping meals to save up calories may cause you to overeat everything in sight once they get there.
6. **Check it out.** When you arrive at the party, grab a water and wait at least 30 minutes before eating. This will give you time to relax, get comfortable in your surroundings and survey your food choices on the buffet.
7. **Add fun and games.** Try taking the focus off food and getting family and friends more active during holiday parties. Try a spirited game of charades!
8. **Alternate alcohol with nonalcoholic beverages.** Alcoholic drinks are loaded with calories -- especially holiday favorites like eggnog.
9. **Skip the appetizers.** If you need a little nibble before the meal, go for the veggies, fruit, salsa or a small handful of nuts.
10. **Limit the variety.** Put only two items on your plate when you go to the food table. Return as many times as you like, but only take two items each time. *-Source: webmd.com*

Recipe Corner

EASY OREO TRUFFLES

Yield: 3 ½ Dozen

Ingredients

- 1 (16 ounce) package OREO Chocolate Sandwich Cookies, divided
- 1 (8 ounce) package Cream Cheese, softened
- 2 (8 ounce) packages Semi-Sweet Baking Chocolate, melted

Directions

- Crush 9 of the cookies to fine crumbs in food processor (or in a bag with a rolling pin); reserve for later use.
- Crush remaining 36 cookies to fine crumbs; place in medium bowl. - Add cream cheese; mix until well blended. Roll cookie mixture into 42 balls, about 1-inch in diameter.
- Dip balls in chocolate; place on wax paper-covered baking sheet.
- Sprinkle with reserved cookie crumbs and festive sprinkles!
- Refrigerate until firm, about 1 hour. Store leftover truffles, covered, in refrigerator.



DID YOU KNOW...

Creative Carpet

Now Offers

CARPET CLEANING SERVICES!

☺ We're just as excited as you are! ☺

Need your carpet freshened up before Christmas party season kicks off? Give us a call today to schedule your carpet cleaning! We're booking up fast, so don't delay!

Creative Carpet specializes in STEAM CLEANING and HOT WATER EXTRACTION

Why use our services?

Our Certified carpet cleaner uses the Gold Seal preferred method of the Carpet & Rug Institute and is the only Green Certified carpet cleaner in Illinois!

Mega Trivia Contest!

Congratulations to last month's winners:

Kathy Lewandowski

Stop in at Creative Carpet to claim your prize!
(Answer to last month's quiz: Sweet Potato)

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

Play our Mega Trivia Contest & you could win, too!

This month's Mega Trivia question:

In the classic movie A Christmas Story, what is the name of the boy who bullies Ralphie?

- A) Steve Forrest
- B) Sam Finger
- C) Scut Farkus
- D) Seth Forger

Call us at 708.479.8600 or e-mail your answer to Contests@creativecarpetinc.com
Your chances of winning are better than you think!

☺ NEW ☺
FRIENDS & CLIENTS

STAN SCHOENBERG
MCCABE & ASSOCIATES
DIANE PRUESKE
TONI DELAURENTIS
THOMAS & MARIE ALECK
BOB & BARB HEIDER
GEORGE RADOMSKI
KATIE BYERLE
NANCY DONAHUE
JEAN PACZESNEY
LEESTMA CLINIC
PAT CESARIO
SHARON WANDERSEE
TAMMY LORD
ALTA SCHUETTER
MICHAEL DIAZ
DONALD CUTTILL
RENEE RODRIGUEZ
EDIE AARDSMA
DAVE VONBORSTEL
MEG MCCABE
DAWN FLOREY
BILL & LISA CAZEAU
BUEDEL FOODS
DICK MOLE
KEITH KLEINA
MARTIN & ANN BARRETT
HARBISON WALKER
PICCIRILLO & OCONNOR INC
JOHN JOYCE
THE CHICAGO CLUB
CARMELITA TORRES
MICHELLE THOMPSON
JOEL VANBRUGGEN
BRET BETOURNEY
CARRIE DRECHNY
ALICE MIKRUT

*It Sure Was
WONDERFUL to
Meet You!
Come Again!*

Moneywise

20 Tips for Saving Money at Christmas

Christmas Cards:

1. Send postcards instead of Christmas cards. They require less postage!
2. Cut your old Christmas cards from last year in half and send the pretty side as a postcard.
3. Christmas cards always go on sale in December, and the longer you wait, the better!
4. Check discount stores for Christmas cards.

Wrapping Paper:

5. Use pretty magazine pages or the comic section of your newspaper to wrap small gifts.
6. Save used wrapping paper. Just roll it back onto the paper tube. This works great for small gifts where the previously folded lines won't show.
7. If you sew, you could use scrap material to wrap gifts.
8. Use tissue paper that you've saved from other gifts throughout the year.
9. Make your own gift tags by cutting a small piece of wrapping paper and folding it in half.
10. Cut up old Christmas cards make wonderful gift tags!

Decorations:

11. The stores have incredible sales every year for decorations. Buy close to the holiday or even better, after the holiday!
12. Save your children's holiday crafts and artwork. After a few years you'll have a houseful of free and beautiful decorations!
13. Pop some popcorn and string it up all over the house! Add cranberries for a pop of color.
14. Decorate your house by bringing the outside in, using pinecones and acorns. Sprinkle with a few drops of pine scented oil if you have it on hand!
15. Invest in a good quality artificial tree after Christmas when they go on clearance sale.
16. Don't try to get all your tree ornaments in one year. A nice collection takes years to gather.

Food:

17. Many grocery stores offer great deals during the holidays, some are even giving away food or cash! Read the paper or free add flyers each week for your local deals.
18. Compare prices. Buy whatever's on sale at one store, and then a few days later go to a different store and get their best deals. It's a great money-saver!
19. Store brands are great when making casseroles and side dishes... no one will even notice!
20. Stock up while everything's on sale. Just an extra can here and there will go a long way.

Source: www.betterbudgeting.com



YOUR PROJECT FOR THIS MONTH: Install a Programmable Thermostat

It's always a bit of a shock when you get that first utility bill in the colder months. If you haven't already taken steps to save energy, an easy project is installing a thermostat that allows you to automatically set the temperature for different times of the day. By having the heat programmed to go on when you get up in the morning, off when you leave for the day and back on when you arrive home, you can keep the temperature of your home constant. This type of project is an easy do-it-yourself project. It only involves a couple of low-voltage wires and some thermostats cost as low as \$25. It can pay for itself in a month or two!

Welcome Back to Our RETURNING CLIENTS:

CHRIS WINSHIP
COSTIN, HAMMEL, & LEAKE
JAN CLARK
TOM LINDSAY
MELISSA MONROE
DAVE & LAURIE MAHAFFAY
KELLY CALZARETTA
JOHN & MICHELLE
RIVERTON CABINET CO.

MARTY YOUNG
ELI & JEANETTE VISSER
DAVE & CARYN DUBOIS
DAWN CHURCHILL
MIKE PANAGIOTAROS
JENNY WENCEL
STEVE KORONKOWSKI
ED MADON
MICHAEL MCDONNELL

☺ **So Nice to See You Again!!!** ☺

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 we assembled our *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, Chili's, Red Lobster or TGIF.

A gigantic **THANK YOU** to all who referred us last month:

CATHERINE FOSTER	MIKE HARRAWOOD
JOE VOSS	PATTY HARVEY
GINA DANEHL	GEORGE DEVRIES
TAMMY CEBULA	DEZ DALY
DAVE MARTINO	MIKE BUCOLIC
ERIN GARDELLA	ANGELA ARNOTT
PATRICIA SHARIK	DONALD CUTTILL

Enjoy your dinner as our thanks for the referral!

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

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.

Fun Facts

Candy Canes



In Europe, it was very popular to decorate your tree with edible items. Cookies and candies were the most popular for children, because they stayed the freshest in open air (without refrigerators back then or preservatives.) The Candy Cane was said to represent the Shepherd's crook at the nativity. The little hook-style made it also easy to hang on the tree. They also represented Christian thankfulness for "daily bread." The shepherds were the first to receive the news that the Christ-child was born, and so the canes represented that honor also.

Christmas Pickles???

Using a pickle as a decoration on the Christmas tree may seem odd at first, but legend shows it is an old German tradition. When decorating the Christmas tree, it is traditional to hang the pickle last, deep amongst the branches. The first child on Christmas Day to find the Christmas pickle receives a special gift! This is a fun tradition to share with your family for years to come... but why don't you pick up a glass pickle ornament instead of heading to the fridge for a kosher dill. ☺



Thank You for the Kind Words!

- "This is the first time I have bought carpeting, and I am impressed. I will recommend Creative Carpet to all of my family and friends. Both men who installed my carpeting did a fabulous job. I could not have asked for a better experience." - Denise
- "The staff was very easy going, great to talk to and ask for opinions. Made buying carpet a very easy and smooth transaction process." -Janelle

Creative Carpet, Inc.

19420 S LaGrange Rd Mokena, IL 60448
708-479-8600

www.creativecarpetinc.com

SHOWROOM HOURS:

Mon., Wed., Fri.: 10am - 6pm

Tues. & Thurs.: 10am - 8pm

Sat.: 10am - 4pm

Hoping Santa will bring you new floors for Christmas?

Whether you've been naughty or nice,
Creative Carpet has a gift for you:



12.25% OFF ALL Carpet & Hard Surfaces!

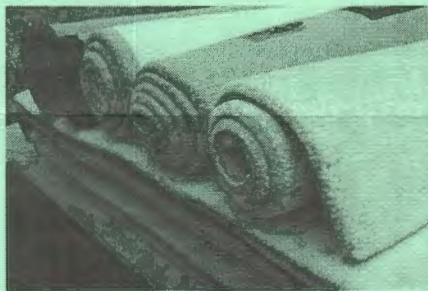
Carpet, Area Rugs, Hardwood, Luxury Vinyl Tile & Laminate... we've
got it ALL, and it's **ALL ON SALE!**

* * * * *

Have a room that could use a quick fix before the upcoming holidays?

HALF-PRICE REMNANTS ***ALL MONTH!***

Stop in our
showroom to
take a look at the
huge variety of
in-stock remnant
carpets we have.



19420 S. LaGrange Rd.
Mokena, IL 60448
708.479.8600
www.creativecarpetinc.com

Showroom Hours:
MWF 10am-6pm ~ T&R 10am-8pm
Sa 10am-4pm ~ Su Closed

**CREATIVE
CARPET INC.**

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Flooring Gallery

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GREEN by nature • fashionable by design[®]

by **Shaw**
FLOORS

Beautiful,
durable floors
for less

Carpet | Area Rugs | Tile
Stone | Hardwood | Laminate
Resilient | shawfloors.com

12 MONTH FINANCING - ZERO DOWN - ZERO INTEREST

Creative Carpet & Flooring's 12 Days of Christmas Giving

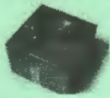
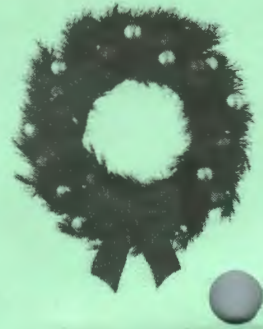


This holiday season we at Creative are excited to give back to our community! We can't wait to help those who help others. ...Will you help us?

Here's where we're at:

In November we accepted NOMINATIONS from our customers for their favorite local charities. We posted the charities' info to our Facebook page (facebook.com/creativecarpetinc) so that everyone could read more about these programs and then VOTE for which charity they'd like to see receive monetary donations through Creative Carpet.

On December 1st we officially announced on our Facebook page which SIX charities won the vote and will be receiving our Christmas donations.



Here's what YOU can do



GIVE! Each of the 12 Days of Giving (**December 3 - 8 & 10 -15**) we at Creative will give \$100 to one of the six charities.

Check out facebook.com/creativecarpetinc to see what these charities are all about, because Creative will also be **ACCEPTING DONATIONS** (all checks made payable to the charity) for these 12 days from anyone, customer or not, who would like to help out this Christmas season.

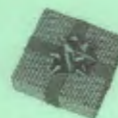
Why give to the charity through Creative Carpet? Because we promise that **WE'LL MATCH YOUR DONATION!** That's right! Not only are we making a daily donation, but we'll **MATCH** your donations (up to \$200/day)!

So, what do you say?

*Let's come together this Christmas season to help others.
The Good Lord has blessed us so much; please help us share
those blessings with those less fortunate or hurting individuals.*

Check out www.facebook.com/creativecarpetinc for more information! We'll keep you posted throughout the holiday season!

Questions? Give us a call at 708.479.8600.



**CREATIVE
CARPET INC.**

19420 S. La Grange Rd. in Mokena, IL