

It "Dawned" On Me... *a message from Dawn Giganti*

Dear Creative Carpet & Flooring Friends and Family,

There's a running commentary in all of our heads. A voice that never really stops. Do you pay attention to what yours is saying? Mine used to sound a lot like the people who shaped me growing up. Advice about being careful. Reminders to work hard. Messages about doing the right thing. Maybe you know what I'm talking about. Maybe your inner voice still carries echoes of someone who influenced you along the way.

But somewhere down the line, a harsher voice showed up. One that kept telling me I wasn't cutting it. That I was messing things up. That my chances had already passed me by. The tricky part? When you hear something over and over, it starts feeling like fact. Those lies can become the background music of your whole life.

As we head into the holiday season, things tend to get louder. The pressure to have it all together. The comparison to others. The weight of expectations. But something I read recently really hit me: The voice you listen to will determine the kind of future you create. What we feed our minds actually matters. When we make space for thoughts about our value, our place in the world, our potential, things begin to change. The direction of our lives starts reflecting those beliefs.

**"And the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'"**

~ Luke 3:22 (NIV)

I love this verse because it shows us what God's voice actually sounds like. It's not conditional. It's not based on performance or achievement. It's pure affirmation and delight. That's the voice we need to tune into as we move through November and December, the one that speaks love and acceptance over us before we've done anything to earn it.

So as the holidays approach, here's what I want you to hear: You matter. You're loved. You have worth. Whatever's been telling you differently? Stop giving it so much airtime. Start filling that space with what God says is real instead. You belong. You make a difference. You're complete just as you are. When you build your life on that foundation, even the busiest season feels different. Things feel lighter. More open. Full of possibility.

Here's to turning down the wrong voices and tuning into what's true, especially in the months ahead.

God bless,



Dawn Giganti, Marketing & Administration  
Creative Carpet & Flooring

**Month at a Glance:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Daylight Savings Time Ends** - No one knows why this is still a thing! Might as well sleep in, lounge more... or just enjoy pretending you are on time.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Pumpkin Toss Day** - Finally, the time has come to launch that moldy Jack O'Lantern into the great beyond. Aim carefully!

**22<sup>nd</sup> Adoption Day** - Celebrate the love that makes a family... close to home for our owners and their son, both proud adoptive parents..

**27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving and beyond!** - Turkey time! Closed Thursday through the weekend. Get your gobble on and see you next month!

**Employee birthdays this month:**

Birthday shout-outs to Jake Bouquet (Chief Operations Manager, Nov 13th) and Cody Bouquet (Operations, Nov 20th), both another year older... still managing operations, still dodging chaos like pros.



Mark  
Bouquet



Mark  
Bouquet Jr.

We promise that you'll love your new floors, or we'll replace them for **FREE!**\*

\*Residential only. Within the first 30 days after installation. Does not include the cost of installation or other labor. The style must be of equal or lesser value.

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**November 2025**

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T            | F            | S            |
|----|----|----|----|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|    |    |    |    |              |              | 01           |
| 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06           | 07           | 08           |
| 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13           | 14           | 15           |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20           | 21           | 22           |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27<br>CLOSED | 28<br>CLOSED | 29<br>CLOSED |
| 30 |    |    |    |              |              |              |

Amanda ODell  
Brian Berner  
Crystal & Randall Henricks  
Daniel Nolan

**WELCOME  
BACK!**

## Welcome Back Valued Friends!

Debbie Kraulidis  
Jason & Kim Duracka  
Joy Brown  
Kim Syrios

Linda & Rick Rushin  
Linda Vanprooyen  
Mark & Dawn Malley  
Marvin & Jillian Lorde



Philip & Dana Krizmanic  
Sharon Mahlfeldt  
Tony & Carey Bruno

### Why Corn Always Has Even Rows

Ever notice that corn on the cob is basically a mathematical genius? Almost every ear you'll ever meet has an even number of kernel rows! This quirky pattern comes from corn's built-in genetic programming, which basically tells each row of kernels, "Hey, buddy, time to bring a friend!" during the plant's early growth. So every ridge splits into two, doubling up like they're preparing for a dance number. This doubling party keeps going until the cob runs out of real estate. Since there's usually enough room for at least one round of doubling (unless something goes seriously wrong), you end up with an even number of rows every time. It doesn't matter if you started with a few rows or a bunch; the math always works out even. All this happens weeks before the corn is anywhere close to being harvest-ready, so the ear has its personality locked in pretty early. The exact number of rows can vary wildly, though. You might count eight rows, maybe 14, or even 20, depending on whether Mother Nature was feeling generous with water and nutrients, or if any uninvited diseases crashed the party. These same factors determine how many kernels squeeze into each row. Fun fact: according to FoodReference.com, your average ear rocks about 800 kernels spread across 16 rows. That's a lot of butter real estate! Now, can you get an odd number of rows? Sure, but it's like spotting a unicorn. Some inbred corn varieties might develop genetic quirks that mess with normal growth. Crazy weather or pesky insects can also throw a wrench in corn's carefully planned development. But these oddball ears are definitely the exception, not the rule!



### Together We Can Make Thanksgiving Brighter

This Thanksgiving, we're celebrating more than great floors. We're bringing our community together to make this year's food drive the best ever. Even if you don't need new flooring, we would love for you to stop by and donate non-perishable food items. Every can, box, and bag helps families in our area enjoy a brighter holiday. Swing by the store, say hello, and drop off your donations. You'll leave feeling full of gratitude, knowing you helped make someone's Thanksgiving a little warmer and a little tastier. Let's turn our sale into a season of giving and show just how strong our community spirit can be. Bring a donation, share a smile, and be part of something truly special this holiday season.



### Where 'Close, but No Cigar' Actually Came From

Don't let the cigar reference throw you off. This isn't some smoky story without substance. The roots of this popular saying actually wind back to carnival culture in the early 1900s. When you say "close, but no cigar," you're basically telling someone they almost succeeded but didn't quite make it. Picture a dart that lands millimeters from the bullseye, a cake that tastes amazing but needs another minute in the oven, or acing 49 out of 50 questions on your final exam. We hardly ever use this expression in connection with actual tobacco products anymore, but originally? It was completely literal, courtesy of those fast-talking carnival game operators. Wander through a modern carnival midway and you'll see winners walking away with oversized plush toys and flimsy plastic trinkets. But back when traveling carnivals became wildly popular in the late 1800s and early 1900s, the target audience wasn't children. These games were set up for adults, and the barkers tempted them with prizes like bottles of whiskey and cigars. Robert Machray's 1902 book *The Night Side of London* gives us one of the first documented references to these prize setups, mentioning that hitting a score of twenty would earn you a cigar. Throughout the years that followed, it became standard practice for carnival workers to yell something similar to "close, but no cigar" whenever participants couldn't quite reach the winning mark on those notoriously difficult games. The precise wording we use today made its debut in print during 1929, appearing in the Princeton Alumni

Weekly to describe falling just short in a contest. Six years later, the 1935 Western movie *Annie Oakley* included the now-famous line "Close, Colonel, but no cigar!" Though cigars faded from carnival prize booths as the attractions became more kid-friendly, the saying had already worked its way permanently into American slang.



### Roll Out the Welcome Mat for Our Newest Friends!

Amy Watts  
Bill & Denise Bixby  
Brittany Animagi  
Carol Steurer  
Dan Knawa  
Della & Joe Dickey

Donna Callaghan  
Emmy Swanson  
Eric Ibrahim  
Esther Mok  
George Zouzaneas  
Helen Rolla

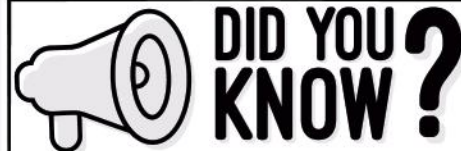
Holly Knutsen  
Janice Ehrlich  
Jennifer Szafasz  
Kate & Brock  
Mangiaracina  
Kathy Giba

Kevin Srednoselac  
Laurie Looft  
Lori Becker  
Luis Aragon  
Lynette Beatty  
Marcia Gabor

Melissa Mrozowski  
Nancy Erikson  
Nicole Wright  
Rachael & Scott Zdanek  
Rick OConnell  
Sandy Ruhlander

Sarah Delarue  
Sheila Murphy  
Stacey Kosloskus  
Suzanne Kokosz  
Tina Jackson  
Victor Paulus

*Hello!*



### **We Have A Gift They'll Feel With Every Step!**

Have a friend or family near,  
Who seems to own each gift so dear?  
This season, give a twist so neat,  
A flooring upgrade beneath their feet.

They'll walk and think of you with glee,  
Each step a gift, a memory.

No pressure here, just thoughtful cheer,  
A present that lasts throughout the year.

Or treat them to a carpet clean,  
So fresh, so soft, a joyful sheen.  
The look, the feel, the scent that sings,  
A little magic underfoot it brings.

Our gift cards never fade away,  
They can be used another day.  
For any service, floor, or style,  
Your loved ones get to choose their smile.

Swing by our showroom, give a ring,  
At (888) 910-6585, do your thing.  
Nothing says "I care" quite like this,  
A gift of floors that feels like bliss.



**Don't visit any flooring dealer  
until you call us for a FREE  
Customer 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!  
[www.CreativeCarpetInc.com](http://www.CreativeCarpetInc.com)**

# Get a Thanksgiving discount on gorgeous, new floors for the holidays.

| Minimum Purchase | Thanksgiving Discount |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| \$1,000          | - \$50                |
| \$2,000          | - \$100               |
| \$3,000          | - \$175               |
| \$4,000          | - \$250               |
| \$5,000          | - \$300               |

**DOUBLE your discount by helping a family in need for our Thanksgiving Food Drive!**

Bring in at least 10 non-perishable items, and we'll **DOUBLE** your discount!

*Food must be brought in BEFORE the installation date to double your discount.*

*Valid November 1 - 30, 2025. One discount per household on new orders of flooring material with installation only. Please be sure to check the expiration dates on all non-perishable items before donating. Not to be combined with other coupons or offers.*

Items brought to Mokena, IL showroom will benefit:



## MorningStar Mission

Morningstar Mission provides shelter, meals, and support to those experiencing homelessness in Will County and surrounding areas.  
<https://morningstarmission.org/>

Items brought to Highland, IN showroom will benefit:



## Grace Beyond Borders

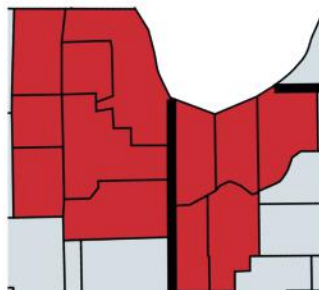
Grace Beyond Borders provides food, shelter, and support to families and individuals in need in Northwest Indiana.  
<https://www.gracebeyondborders.org/>

Please help us feed those in need this Thanksgiving...

### Food Insecurity around us in Illinois & Indiana -

Percentage of population who lack adequate access to food in 2023 by county per Feeding America. [<https://map.feedingamerica.org/>]

| ILLINOIS COUNTIES | FOOD INSECURITY POPULATION | FOOD INSECURITY RATE |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Cook              | 723,870                    | 14.0%                |
| DuPage            | 92,610                     | 10.0%                |
| Grundy            | 5,720                      | 10.8%                |
| Kane              | 57,540                     | 11.1%                |
| Kankakee          | 15,120                     | 14.2%                |
| Kendall           | 11,640                     | 8.6%                 |
| Will              | 69,460                     | 9.9%                 |



| INDIANA COUNTIES | FOOD INSECURITY POPULATION | FOOD INSECURITY RATE |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Jasper           | 4,390                      | 13.2%                |
| La Porte         | 17,260                     | 15.4%                |
| Lake             | 77,640                     | 15.6%                |
| Newton           | 2,230                      | 16.1%                |
| Porter           | 22,880                     | 13.1%                |

# Creative Carpet & Flooring

## FALL FLOORING FEST



**Sep 19 - Nov 3, 2025**

**Up to \$1,000 back or 20% off  
on select styles**



**Sep 25 - Nov 8, 2025**

**\$0.50/sq.ft. rebate on  
Mirage Floors purchase**



**Oct 3 - Nov 17, 2025**

**Save up to \$500 on select  
products**

## Special Financing Available\*

**\*Subject to credit approval.**

**Ask Flooring Consultant for financing details.**

*Pick your deal: Karastan, Mirage Floors, Shaw Flooring Network, or Special Financing. Cannot be combined with each other or the Thanksgiving Discount.*

# MEGA Trivia Contest

Win \$100 off our online store  
[Shop.CreativeCarpetInc.com](http://Shop.CreativeCarpetInc.com) or a  
\$50 restaurant gift card to



## This month's Mega Trivia question:

In what year was the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (now Indiana Dunes National Park) officially established in November?

- (A) 1959
- (B) 1952
- (C) 1966
- (D) 1979

Join the fun at [creativecarpetinc.com](http://creativecarpetinc.com)! Hit the 'MEGA Trivia' tab under 'Specials,' and take your guess on our monthly question between the 1st and the 20th. The drawing will take place on the 21st for all who answered correctly. The winner will be announced in next month's newsletter. Don't forget, entries close on the 20th. Best of luck!

## Last month's question:

What is the official state tree of Illinois that displays beautiful fall colors in October?

(A) White Oak

The White Oak became Illinois' official state tree in 1973 after an impressive democratic process involving 900,000 schoolchildren across the state. Originally, Illinois had simply designated "native oak" as its state tree in 1908, but this wasn't specific enough since many oak species grow in Illinois. The schoolchildren's vote was decisive - White Oak won with 333,964 votes compared to Northern Red Oak's 142,247 votes. These magnificent trees are easily recognized by their rounded, lobed leaves that turn rich brown in October and are native throughout the Midwest, making them a familiar and beloved sight during autumn months.

**Congratulations to last month's winner:**

**LISA  
WISNIEWSKI**

OF HIGHLAND, IN

Claim your prize by visiting your nearest Creative Carpet & Flooring showroom from November 1 - 26, 2025. Thanks for taking part in our contest! Enjoy your prize!

**Have a night out with dinner on us through Creative Carpet's**

## Referral Rewards Program

As you probably know, advertising is costly. Instead of paying the newspaper or other places to advertise, we'd rather reward you. Every time you refer someone who becomes a client and makes a purchase, we will send you a \$25 restaurant gift card to have dinner on us! For details, visit:

[creativecarpetinc.com/referral-rewards](http://creativecarpetinc.com/referral-rewards)

**A Gift for You**

*Creative*  
Carpet & Flooring

## MEET OUR CARPET CLEANING CIRCLE...

Angela Pappas  
Barbara Malm  
Chandra Ware  
Charles Townley  
Dan Firlit  
Daniel Nolan  
Dave & Linda Vegter

Jack Wallenburg  
Janice & Steve Duffy  
Jeffrey & Lois Reidenga  
Jonnelle Sweetner  
Laura Gasper  
Nadine & Michael Lipowski  
Rita Leen

Tammy Lord  
Tom Danielson  
Tom Woolworth  
Valerie Good  
Vincent Stout



**CALL FOR MORE INFO ON OUR CARPET CLEANING SERVICES!  
888.910.6585 EXT. 100**

## Why We Eat What We Eat, When We Eat It

Eating three meals a day might feel normal, but it is actually a pretty new idea. For most of history, humans ate when they could. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner were not part of the plan. People grabbed food when they found it, worked hard when they had to, and the rest of the time was just figuring out how to survive.

Dinner came first, but it did not start in the evening. Back in ancient Rome and medieval Europe, the biggest meal of the day happened around noon. Workers might nibble bread and sip ale in the morning, but the real feast came when the sun was high and energy was running low. Then came the Industrial Revolution. Factories pulled people away from farms, workdays got longer, and candlelight kept evenings bright. Slowly, that main meal moved later in the day, and dinner became the evening gathering where families sit down, share stories, and actually enjoy food together.

Breakfast had to fight its way into daily life. The word literally means "to break the fast," but for centuries, many people did not eat until after morning Mass. When factory life started in the 1600s and 1700s, early mornings required fuel. By the 1800s, breakfast was a habit. Then, in the 1920s and 1930s, cereal, Corn Flakes, and clever advertising convinced everyone it was the most important meal of the day. Suddenly, skipping breakfast seemed almost unthinkable.

Lunch was the last to arrive. In the 1700s, it was barely a meal, more like a small snack called a nuncheon. Moving from farms to factories made something more filling necessary. By the late 1800s, lunch had earned its spot as a proper midday meal, with sandwiches, soups, and salads. By the 1900s, grabbing lunch at work had become completely normal.

Three meals a day were never part of a master plan. They grew naturally with work, religion, and technology. What started as survival evolved into a daily rhythm. Today, breakfast, lunch, and dinner are more than food. They are the beats that shape our day, the reason we sit down with others, and the moments that turn eating into something we actually look forward to.

## The Best Day Ever... THANKSGIVING!

Thanksgiving is when we gather to eat until our pants betray us, watch the Bears and Colts play football (or nap through it), and pretend we're saving room for dessert even though we've already had three rolls. There's a parade with balloons the size of houses, someone's "experimental" green bean casserole, and at least one relative who brings up that embarrassing thing you did in 2009. The dog becomes a vacuum. The kids achieve sugar-fueled chaos. And somehow, despite being painfully full, everyone finds room for pie. It's glorious.



**Happy  
THANKSGIVING**

Thank you to...

Barbara & Kris Bulian

Cathy Majchrzak

Jeff Karnia

Jim Wierman

Sharon Kenney



Deeply  
appreciate  
you.

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**MEGA** Trivia Contest  
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Highland IN 46322  
219.595.5561



MON 10am 6pm  
TUE 10am 8pm  
WED 10am 6pm  
THR 10am 8pm  
FRI 10am 6pm  
SAT 10am 4pm  
SUN closed

Very pleased with our Karndean LVP flooring purchase from Creative Carpet in Highland for our kitchen, living room, and hallway. Autumn has been a pleasure to work with. Her knowledge and patience were truly appreciated. The installer, Edgar, and helper pulled up the kitchen laminate, plus two more layers of vinyl underneath. Hauled all the old flooring away, moved furniture, kept us informed, and cleaned up after installation was completed. Highly recommend this local business.



MON 9am 6pm  
TUE 9am 6pm  
WED 10am 6pm  
THR 9am 6pm  
FRI 9am 6pm  
SAT 10am 4pm  
SUN closed



**SHARE** → Review!

Share a project photo with your review on our site within 30 days of installation for a chance to win a \$25 gift card!

[CreativeCarpetInc.com/share-your-review](http://CreativeCarpetInc.com/share-your-review)

**Brian Johnson of Oak Forest, IL**  
**This month's \$25 Target gift card winner!**

**THANKS  
FOR  
THE REVIEW**



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