

Mark Bouquet



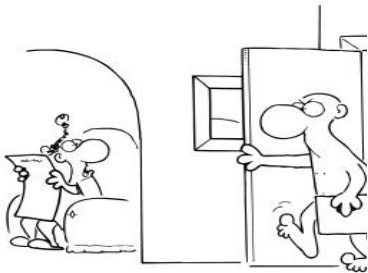
Mark Bouquet Jr.

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[www.bettercartoon.com](http://www.bettercartoon.com)



"Oh, I see you have met with the IR

**PCREATIVE CARPET, INC.**

# Home Advisor™

Reliable news for healthy living, saving money, and having fun! March 2011

Hi Everyone,

What a crazy new year... blizzards, below freezing wind-chills, and snow thunder. I don't know about you, but I am so ready for spring and summer.

Things are going well here at Creative Carpet. My father is still recuperating from his Oct surgery. He had an additional procedure done the beginning of Feb and is continuing with physical therapy. We are still optimistic about his complete healing, and want to thank those who have called, stopped in, or sent him a note of encouragement and well wishes. They are most appreciated.

In keeping with the family, I'd like to introduce you to my wife, Annie. She runs a preschool and daycare center in South Holland, IL. Annie absolutely LOVES children!

We've included an insert in the newsletter telling you a little bit about them. If you, or someone you know, are in need of childcare and want the peace of mind that your children will be nurtured mentally, physically, and spiritually, then give Annie a call. Remember to mention you heard about the daycare through Creative Carpet to receive the registration discount.

Thanks for checking it out!!

Mark Bouquet, Jr.



## Attention George Oliver!

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. La Grange Road  
Mokena, IL 60448

**NOTE: Must be picked up by March 31st, 2011**



# Lucky day!

# Did You Know. . .

Creative Carpet offers sign-language interpreters by appointment for new and existing hearing impaired customers?

If you know anyone who would benefit from this service, please feel free to give them our information.

If they purchase from Creative Carpet, not only have you helped them have a less stressful and more personalized shopping experience, but you will qualify to receive a **\$25 Marcus Theater** gift card.

It's a Win-Win situation!

They can contact us via our website [www.creativecarpetinc.com](http://www.creativecarpetinc.com) or on Facebook to set up their appointment. [www.facebook.com/creativecarpetinc](http://www.facebook.com/creativecarpetinc)

## How Some Sayings Came About

\*In George Washington's days there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back, while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Hence the expression, "Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg".

\*Personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other and a woman began to stare at another woman's face, she was told "Mind your own bee's wax". Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term "crack a smile". In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt; thus the expression "losing face".

\*At local taverns and pubs people drank from pint and quart- size containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in pints and who was drinking in "quarts", hence the term, "minding your P's & Q's".

\*Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in "straight laced", wore a tightly tied lace.



## Moneywise: A Mortgage Primer

Mortgage language can contain pitfalls for the unwary. Here are some definitions to help you hack your way through the jungle of mortgage negotiations.

Principal: the total amount you borrow

Interest: the amount you are charged for borrowing the money - can be floating or fixed  
Payment: what you pay back, includes part principal and part interest. At the beginning, your payment will be a LOT more interest than principal

Payment Frequency: how often you pay: monthly, bi-weekly, weekly. The more frequent your payments, the less interest you pay in the end

Floating (or Variable) Rate: The interest rate charged can vary at the will of the lender

Fixed Rate: The interest rate will not change for the term of the agreement

Amortization: or amortization period

Term: the length of the current agreement.

Although the mortgage can be amortized over 30 years, your term can vary from 6 months to 7 years. At the end of the term, your mortgage conditions may be renegotiated without penalty.

# Mega Trivia Contest!

**Who Else Wants to Win a \$50 gift card towards dinner for two at TGI Fridays or Olive Garden? Take our Trivia Challenge and you could win too!**

*This month's MegaTrivia question....*

**In which state is Harvard University?**

- A) New York; B) New Jersey;  
C) Massachusetts; D) Vermont.

Take your best guess and e-mail your answer to [MarkJr@CreativeCarpetInc.com](mailto:MarkJr@CreativeCarpetInc.com). Or call Mark Jr. at (708) 479-8600. Your chances of winning are better than you think!

**Answer to last month's quiz: Tomato**

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

**Barb Salazar**

**Welcome to our new friends  
& clients.....**

DONNA HAUGH  
ROBERT SCHIPITS  
CATHY BELL  
DANA BOLL  
JIM FLIRIS  
MARK MARZANO  
JOHN & JENNY SYNOL  
JEAN WRONSKI  
CHRIS HULL  
MICHELLE MCCAULEY  
SAM CHELLINO  
PAUL TESTA  
ARLENE KANE  
CINDY MADON  
KRISTIN & DOUG MOSES

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

SHUSHAMA WHITTIER  
DAVID WILSON  
DICK & JOAN LABECK  
DAVID WILSON  
JON & JENNIFER HAAS

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

STEVE & MARY SULIKOWSKI  
MARY BRADLEY  
Geri Judge  
Tim Jackson

**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.

**About Staying Well:  
Exercises for your Eyes?**



Traditional wisdom holds that, short of cataract or laser surgery, your eyes just get worse as you age. But recent research at the University of California, Riverside and Boston University may show that older people can improve their sight.

Test subjects used perceptual training exercises designed to stretch the limits of their visual abilities. "We found that just two days of training in one hour sessions with difficult stimuli resulted in older subjects seeing as well as younger college age subjects," said chief researcher G. John Andersen, professor of psychology at UCR.

You can find the study online:

"Perceptual [learning](http://www.journalofvision.org/content/10/13/4.abstract), aging, and improved visual performance in early stages of visual processing" <http://www.journalofvision.org/content/10/13/4.abstract>



**Work Tips: The Mystery of Cloud Computing**

You hear a lot these days about "Cloud Computing", inspiring visions of flying carpets equipped with laptops...not true, as it turns out! Cloud Computing used to travel under an alias. A few years back, it was known as Web 2.0. And to understand that, let's look at Web 1.0.

In the simpler days of computing, everyone owned a desktop or laptop computer, and they bought software which they installed on that computer. If you wanted to work with someone else – or play games with them for that matter – you both had to have the same software installed on your respective computers. That's Web 1.0.

We have been gradually moving into Web 2.0, so it's not that new. The term was coined back in 1999, in the article "Fragmented Future" by Darcy DiNucci. She pretty much nailed what we're seeing now:

"The Web will be understood, not as screens filled with text and graphics, but as a transport mechanism, the ether through which interactivity happens. It will appear on your computer screen, on your TV set, your car dashboard, your cell phone, hand-held game machines, and maybe even your microwave oven."

Web 2.0 is characterized by interactivity. Users of a particular website can create the content and interact with each other without having to "own" a particular piece of software. Social networking sites are perfect examples, but so are the data-sharing applications businesspeople use to collaborate on documents and spreadsheets.

But Cloud Computing in its truest sense goes beyond Web 2.0. If you were mathematically inclined, you might say Web 2.0 is a subset of the Cloud. In its broadest sense, it refers to the ability of people everywhere to access the same technological services through many types of physical devices. According to the strictest definitions, this involves a large number of people, what they call "massively scalable" in the tech journals.

Bottom line: Cloud Computing describes software and hardware applications which are hosted externally (i.e. not on your computer) and which are accessible on the "internet cloud" through any device you might choose to use. There are many advantages for all of us. If your computer dies an untimely death, your documents and photos still live in the Cloud!

## Food For Thought

If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.

Anne Bradstreet



### Thanks for the kind words!

We were recommended by our son who had carpeting installed in his home. We just wanted our living room done in our apartment in Evergreen Park. Thinking it was really far away, we just took a chance. They told us they could handle it. We said what we wanted, what our bracket was to spend and by golly, they treated us as well as anyone could expect!

I went to other places and had to wait for someone to wait on me. Then, I was showed a few pieces and was told they would just go by the measurements I gave them. I didn't feel comfortable with that.

If you go with someone that makes you comfortable and helps you more, like this store, then you know you are in good hands!

Gene Mikerut – Manhattan, Oct 2010

## Recipe Corner

### Zippy Steak Chili



Servings: 5 Prep: 15 min. Cook: 6 hours

#### Ingredients

- 1 pound beef top sirloin steak, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 2 cans (10 ounces *each*) diced tomatoes and green chilies, do not drain
- 1 can (15-1/2 ounces) chili starter
- Shredded cheddar cheese, chopped onion and sour cream, optional

#### Directions

1. In a large skillet, cook steak and onion in oil over medium heat until meat is no longer pink. Sprinkle with seasonings.
2. In a 5-qt. slow cooker, combine tomatoes and chili starter. Stir in beef mixture. Cover and cook on low for 6-8 hours or until meat is tender. Serve with cheese, onion and sour cream if desired.

1 cup (calculated without optional toppings) equals 275 calories, 11 g fat (3 g saturated fat), 50 mg cholesterol, 1,127 mg sodium, 21 g carbohydrate, 6 g fiber, 22 g protein.

**Diabetic Exchanges:** 3 lean meat, 1 starch, 1 vegetable.

# 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**

### **Creative Carpet, Inc.**

19420 S LaGrange Rd

Mokena, IL 60448

**708-479-8600**

[www.creativecarpetinc.com](http://www.creativecarpetinc.com)

Hours: M-W-F 10a – 6p

Tue & Thurs 10a – 8p

Sat 10a – 4p



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