NOVEMBER 2026

CREATIVE CARPET & FLOORING'S
# CREATIVE THINKING

EDITION #213

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

Dear Creative Carpet & Flooring Friends and Family,

This month's letter will be a little different. At the beginning of October, our Creative Carpet & Flooring family lost someone very special. Our longtime installer, Edgar, unexpectedly lost his wife, Tabatha. If you've been a customer for a while, you've likely met Edgar or his brother, Yon. They've been installing flooring for Creative Carpet since long before I started here in 2014. In fact, they've probably installed flooring in just about every one of our employees' homes at one time or another, and quite possibly yours, too! They're more than just installers to us. They're family.

Tabatha was also a friend of mine. Just a few days before she passed, we were talking about work, life, and all the everyday things friends talk about. Nothing out of the ordinary. I never in a million years thought it would be one of our last conversations. One minute she was here, and the next she was gone. Just one month earlier, in September, one of my closest friends since childhood, Suzanne, lost her dad, Ralph. Suzanne and I have been friends since we were 7, so I've known Ralph for 47 years. Between losing Ralph and then Tabatha so unexpectedly, I've been thinking a lot about how none of us are guaranteed tomorrow. We all assume there's going to be more time. We'll call that friend next week, visit our parents when things slow down, get together with someone we've been meaning to see, or make amends with someone we've had a falling out with. But what if there isn't a next time?

Life goes by faster and faster the older you get, and I'm sure most of you know exactly what I'm talking about! I can't believe we're already heading into November. Where did this year go? And how much of that time have we wasted on things that really don't matter? I know I've wasted plenty of hours on Facebook or playing games on my phone. Hours I could've spent with family or friends. There are people I haven't seen or talked to in ages, and I keep telling myself I'll get around to it. But why haven't I? What am I waiting for? After losing Tabatha so unexpectedly, that's something I've been asking myself the past few weeks.

So, put the phone down once in a while! Go have lunch with a friend, take your spouse to a movie, visit your parents or grandparents and give them an extra hug. Bake some cookies and take them to a neighbor. Pick up the phone and call someone you haven't talked to in ages. And please, don't hold grudges. Life is too short to waste precious time being angry. If you love someone, tell them. If you miss someone, call them. If you need to apologize, do it. Don't keep putting things off, thinking tomorrow will always come.

***"So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom."*** ~ Psalm 90:12 (ESV)

As we head into November and Thanksgiving, I hope we all take a little extra time to appreciate the people God has placed in our lives. My heart goes out to Edgar's family and everyone who loved Tabatha. Her passing has reminded me just how precious life really is. This Thanksgiving, don't worry so much about the perfect meal or the spotless house. Enjoy the people gathered around your table, make some memories, and be thankful for another day together. Those ordinary moments with the people we love are what we'll remember and cherish the most.

Wishing you and your family a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

Dawn Giganti, Marketing & Administration
Creative Carpet & Flooring




## Month at a Glance:

**1st Daylight Saving Time** - *The good news? We get an extra hour. The bad news? It'll somehow feel dark by lunchtime. Don't forget to turn those clocks back!*

**14th Pumpkin Destruction Day** - *Your jack-o'-lantern had a good run. Today is the perfect excuse to smash, toss, compost, or otherwise give those pumpkins a dramatic sendoff.*

**18th Apple Cider Day** - *Few things taste more like fall than a cold glass or warm mug of apple cider. It's sweet, cozy, and basically November in a cup.*

**26th Thanksgiving** - *We'll be closed November 26, 27, and 28 so our team can enjoy Thanksgiving with their families. We hope your holiday includes plenty of food, laughter, and maybe a nap or two.*

## Employee birthdays this month:

*The Bouquet brothers are both celebrating birthdays this month, with Jake on November 13 and Cody on November 20. We're wishing them both a very happy birthday and, in true brotherly fashion, hoping they can make it through the month without Jake wanting to strangle Cody at least once.*



**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.*

## *Inside this issue...*


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## November 2026

| 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 CLOSED | 27 CLOSED | 28 CLOSED |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

## Sears… Your One-Stop Dynamite Shop



Long before online shopping became part of everyday life, Americans relied on the Sears catalog for just about anything they could imagine. Beyond clothing, furniture, and household essentials, shoppers could purchase everything from live poultry and complete homes to something much more surprising: dynamite!

In 1902, Sears sold dynamite to people who needed to remove tree stumps or break through rock. Even stronger explosives were available for jobs involving especially hard rock or underwater blasting. And the price? Just 13 cents a pound, less than $5 today. Sears also sold the fuses, wires, and blasting equipment needed to set everything off.

Sears didn't require customers to know anything about explosives before ordering dynamite. If someone had never used it before, the company would mail them a booklet explaining what they needed to know.

What's also interesting is where Sears listed it. Instead of giving explosives their own section, the company listed them with sporting goods. That meant customers browsing the catalog would find dynamite only a few pages away from baseball uniforms, hammocks, and other recreational merchandise. It's a pretty unusual combination, especially when you think about what stores are allowed to sell today.

Of course, Sears couldn't keep selling explosives forever. Insurance restrictions eventually ended some of its more questionable merchandise. Over the years, the catalog shifted toward the clothing, furniture, appliances, and other household items that most people remember Sears for today.

The iconic Sears general merchandise catalog finally ended its run in 1993, closing a historic chapter in American retail history.

It's hard to imagine today, but there was a time when ordering dynamite was almost as simple as buying a new pair of shoes!

## Someone Had A Monopoly on Winning

McDonald's brought back its popular Monopoly game this fall, running from October 6 through November 1. But did you know one of the biggest scams in fast-food history involved this very promotion? The game first launched in 1987, and for years, customers collected Monopoly pieces hoping to win cash, cars, and other prizes. What they didn't know was that Jerome Jacobson, a former police officer who worked in security for the company overseeing the promotion, stole valuable winning pieces and gave them to friends, relatives, and others, including people connected to organized crime. By the time the FBI uncovered the scheme, the scheme involved approximately $24 million in prizes. Oddly enough, Jacobson did put one stolen piece to good use. In 1995, he anonymously arranged for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to receive a winning piece worth $1 million. So, if you spent October collecting Monopoly stickers and wondering why you never won anything big, at least you can take comfort in knowing this time the game wasn't run by Uncle Jerry!






## The Clock Is Ticking… Apparently, Congress Isn't

Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 1, 2026, which means it's time to turn our clocks back an hour. Again. We started this nonsense back in 1918 during World War I to conserve energy, and apparently nobody ever figured out how to make it stop. Every year, politicians talk about ending the twice-a-year clock changes. They introduce bills, debate the issue, and promise to do something about it. Then, just like our missing hour in March, the whole idea disappears! So here we are, more than 100 years later, still pretending an extra hour of sleep makes up for the fact that it gets dark before we've even decided what's for dinner. And good luck changing the clock in your car. Mine would probably stay wrong until spring! And whatever happened to getting rid of Daylight Saving Time? Seems like we hear about it every year, but nothing changes. Well, except the clocks!

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Santa Called… NO MORE SOCKS!

Tired of giving the same old boring gifts? This year, give them something they'll actually LOVE walking all over! A Creative Carpet & Flooring gift card is perfect for anyone dreaming of cozy carpet, gorgeous hardwood, or beautiful new floors! No wrong sizes. No gift receipts. No ugly sweaters! Just one FLOOR-TASTIC gift they'll love for years!

**Stop by our showroom or call (888) 910-6585**




Because the BEST gifts aren't always UNDER the tree… sometimes they're UNDER YOUR FEET!

### MEET OUR CARPET CLEANING CIRCLE…

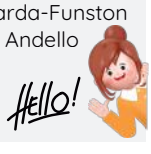
| | |
|---|---|
| Barbara Malm | Linda Rager |
| Bob Rutell | Lisa & Jerry Oberc |
| Bradford | Marion Radjenovic |
| Cal Deboer | Mike Madura |
| Candy Becich | Mimi Royer |
| Cheryl Host | Robert & Charlene Fleck |
| Debra Arkin Jones | Ron & Regina Cutshall |
| Evelyn Sell | Scott Sobol |
| Gwen Benson | Tami Lejeune |
| Jason Bullaro | Thomas Lane |
| Jennifer Heemstra | Tom Teare |
| Joanne Rincker | |
| Jonnelle Sweetner | |



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

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

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Andrew & Stacey DeJong | Deann Williams | Jim & Angela Bergin | Marc & Joanna Cholly | Pam Benain | Sydney Saks |
| Bill Doogan | Don Seasock | Joann Trojak | Marissa & Ethan Rucker | Patricia & Ted Troyer | Tim Dykstra |
| Bill Sparks | Elizabeth Kiss | John & Cynthia Taylor | Mary Cardenas | Paula Saunders | Tina Collins-Outland |
| Bob Winston | Frank & Diane Batinick | John Kot | Melanie Plank | Phyllis & Patrick Casey | Tom Judge |
| Bruce Kijewski | Gary Granata | Josh Engelking | Michael Arp | Robert Polusky | Vasilia Kilibarda-Funston |
| Carol Ryan | Helen Jursenas | Kathleen Greenock | Miguel Moreno | Ronald Farina | Vito & Gean Andello |
| Carol Wittenhagen | James Anhalt | Lauren Graves | Mireille Leal | Russell Hollender | |
| Colleen Jorgensen | Janelle Lindemulder | Luis Cardona | Mitchell Witkowski | Shelia Jones | |
| Dan & Diane Frey | Jeff & Rebecca Orange | Lynnette Jennings | Paige Shanahan | Stana & Momo Stojic | |



# 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, 2026. 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

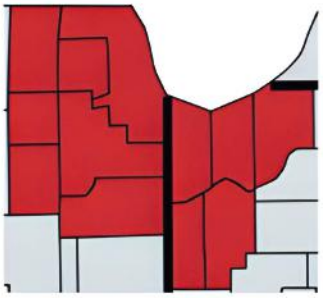
Grace Beyond Borders provides food, shelter, and support to families and individuals in need in Northwest Indiana.
https://www.gracebeyondborders.org/

## 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 2024 by county per Feeding America. [https://map.feedingamerica.org/]

| ILLINOIS COUNTIES | FOOD INSECURITY POPULATION | FOOD INSECURITY RATE |
|---|---|---|
| Cook | 782,530 | 15.1% |
| DuPage | 98,060 | 10.5% |
| Grundy | 5,850 | 11.0% |
| Kane | 65,530 | 12.7% |
| Kankakee | 15,340 | 14.4% |
| Kendall | 12,410 | 9.0% |
| Will | 69,820 | 10.0% |



| INDIANA COUNTIES | FOOD INSECURITY POPULATION | FOOD INSECURITY RATE |
|---|---|---|
| Jasper | 4,910 | 14.8% |
| La Porte | 17,910 | 16.0% |
| Lake | 82,330 | 16.5% |
| Newton | 2,430 | 17.5% |
| Porter | 24,700 | 14.1% |

Preverco

# Naturally Beautiful. Exceptionally Crafted.

Bring timeless warmth and authentic character into your home with Preverco hardwood flooring. Expertly crafted with exceptional attention to detail, Preverco floors offer enduring beauty, distinctive style, and quality you can feel in every plank.





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Highland Showroom
2315 45th Street
Highland, IN 46322

**(888) 910-6585**
creativecarpetinc.com

# MEGA Trivia Contest

**Win $100 off our online store Shop.CreativeCarpetInc.com or a $50 restaurant gift card to**

Bahama Breeze Island Grille · Bonefish Grill · Buffalo Wild Wings · Carrabba's Italian Grill · Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen · Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar · LongHorn Steakhouse · Olive Garden · Outback Steakhouse · Red Lobster · Seasons 52 · Yard House

## This month's Mega Trivia question:

**What unusual prize do top finishers traditionally receive at Highland Indiana's Thanksgiving Day Pumpkin Plod?**

**(A) A frozen turkey**
**(B) A pumpkin pie**
**(C) A bushel of apples**
**(D) A Thanksgiving ham**

Join the fun at 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:**

Which Illinois city is the Pumpkin Capital of the World?

**(C) Morton**

Morton, Illinois, proudly holds the title of the Pumpkin Capital of the World. In 1978, the Governor of Illinois officially proclaimed Morton the Pumpkin Capital because an estimated 85% of the world's canned pumpkin was processed at the town's Libby's pumpkin plant. Today, Morton continues to celebrate its pumpkin heritage with the annual Morton Pumpkin Festival.

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

# MICHAEL SIOREK

OF SCHERERVILLE, IN

*Claim your prize by visiting your nearest Creative Carpet & Flooring showroom from November 1 - 30, 2026. Thanks for taking part in our contest! Enjoy your prize!*

## Welcome Back Valued Friends!

WELCOME BACK!

Andy Mink
Audrey McFadden
Bill & Rosemary Arnold
Bob & Kathy Kushnick
Brennan & Teresa Mcloughlin
Candy & John Piersma
Carolyn Lagattuta
Christopher Bender
Colleen & Mike Cieslak
Danielle Ellis
Diane Poncer
Don (Mac) MacCartney
Emily & Peter Cutka
Jenny & Adam Wilson
John & Terri Tratar
Keith Summers
Kenneth Gunia
Kim & Paul Boundas
Melissa Peralta
Myrna Hackett
Nancy Bates
Nancy Caruso
Nancy Cochran
Pam Schopp-Young
Paul OBrien
Phil & Jeanette Bradley
Ronald Koblick
Samantha Camp
Sheryl Ammirati
Sioban Amezcua
Stefani Tica
Susan Vaughan
Tammy Timpe
Teena Less
Tonya Day
Trudy & Bob Wille

## Can You Dig It? Groovy Slang from the 1960s

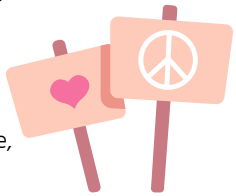
Drag

Last month, we revisited 1980s slang. This month, we're heading back another 20 years to bell-bottoms, tie-dye shirts, peace signs, and flower children! The '60s had their own language. Some expressions are still around, while others might get you a funny look today. How many do you remember?

- **Babe** - Calling someone "babe" was a popular way to show affection. The word has been around for centuries, but it became especially common as a term of endearment during the 20th century.
- **Cat** - A "cool cat" was someone stylish and confident. The expression came from the jazz scene and was still popular in the '60s.
- **Crash** - Need a place to sleep? You could "crash" at a friend's house, usually on their couch or floor. Such a place was often called a "crash pad."
- **Dig** - "Can you dig it?" meant "Do you understand?" You could also "dig" something you liked, whether it was a song, an outfit, or someone's personality.
- **Drag** - A boring party or canceled plans? What a drag! Anything disappointing or unpleasant could earn that description.
- **Far-Out** - Something unusual, impressive, or downright amazing was "far-out." A great concert or wild new fashion could easily qualify.
- **Flower Power** - Flowers turned into symbols of peace during the hippie movement. "Flower Power" represented the belief that peaceful protests and kindness might help change the world.
- **Groovy** - If something was "groovy," it was terrific! Originally tied to jazz music, the word became a favorite way to describe anything cool.
- **Hacked Off** - Someone who was "hacked off" was annoyed or fed up. It had nothing to do with computers back then!
- **Sock It to Me** - Remember Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In? Someone would say "Sock it to me!" and usually end up soaked with water or hit with a pie. The saying also appeared in Aretha Franklin's 1967 hit "Respect."
- **Threads** - Your "threads" were your clothes. Bell-bottoms, fringe vests, and colorful shirts were all part of the look. Getting a compliment on your threads meant you were dressed to impress!

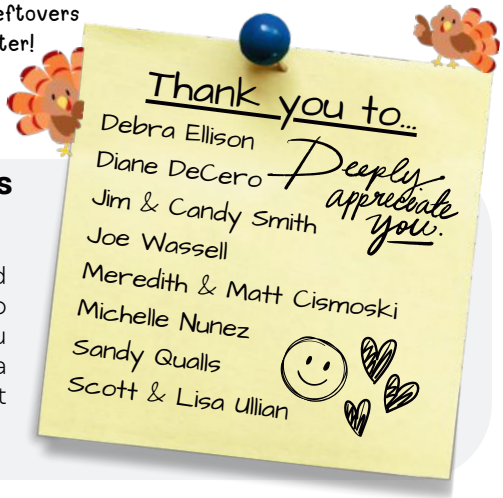
Groovy

Still Feeling Groovy? Some of these expressions never went away. Others bring back memories of a time when peace signs were everywhere, and everything was "far-out." How many did you use back then? Better yet, do you still say any of them? Peace, love, and groovy vibes, man!



## Gobble Till You Wobble

Thanksgiving is November 26th this year. Time to dig out the roasting pan, buy a turkey that's way too big, & wonder how you'll fit everything in the oven. Somebody's going to burn the rolls, the gravy will need fixing at the last minute, & there's never enough room on the table for all the food. Then everyone sits down, eats like they haven't had a meal in a week, & announces they're stuffed. Funny how that never stops anyone from having a 2nd helping of pie. Then by Friday, the refrigerator will be so packed with leftovers you'll have to move the milk just to find the butter! May your gravy be lump-free, your pants have plenty of stretch, & someone else do the dishes! Happy Thanksgiving!




## 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**

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



**WARNING**

**Don't visit any flooring dealer until you read our 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**

2315 45th Street
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219.595.5561



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



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