

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

Dear Creative Carpet & Flooring Friends and Family,

Last month was my birthday. Every year I tell myself I'm not going to think about getting older...and every year I end up doing it anyway. 😊

Birthdays have a funny way of making me look back over the last year. I start thinking about everything that's happened. The good decisions. The not-so-good ones. Things I wanted to get done but never did. Before long, I'm asking myself, "Where did the year go?"

One thing that kept coming to mind this year was how often I say, "I'll do it later."

Not the big things. The little things... I'll call them later, I'll read a little before bed, I'll spend some extra time praying tomorrow morning, I'll get to that this weekend.

None of those sounds like a big deal, do they? But stack enough "laters" together and pretty soon months have gone by.

"You do not even know what will happen tomorrow." ~James 4:14 (NIV)

I've read that verse many times before, but this year it landed a little differently. It reminded me that we spend a lot of time assuming tomorrow is when we'll finally have more time, more energy, or fewer distractions.

Has that ever actually happened?

It sure hasn't at my house.

There's always another load of laundry. The grass needs cutting. The floor needs to be mopped. The phone rings. Dinner has to be made. Before you know it, it's bedtime, and you're wondering where the day went.

I'm not writing this because I've figured it out. Quite the opposite. I'm writing it because I needed the reminder myself.

If God has been nudging me to spend a little more time with Him, why would I keep putting that off? Five minutes is better than no minutes. One honest prayer is better than waiting for the "perfect quiet time" that never seems to come.

So that's what's been on my mind since my birthday. Maybe August is a good month for all of us to stop waiting on "later." Read the chapter. Make the call. Sit on the porch for a few minutes. Thank God for another day. It doesn't have to be anything big.

Anyway...those are my birthday thoughts. Thanks for letting me share them.

I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer. Before we know it, the kids will be back in school, football will be on TV, and somebody will be putting Christmas decorations in the stores. It happens every year, and somehow it still catches me by surprise.

Have a blessed August.



Dawn Giganti, Marketing & Administration
Creative Carpet & Flooring

Month at a Glance:

6th Wiggle Your Toes Day. - Come wiggle your toes for free in our shag carpet at Creative Carpet & Flooring, no judgment if you take your shoes off before you even say hello.

14th National Kool-Aid Day. - Sorry, Kool-Aid Man, you're still banned from the showroom. Bursting through walls, yelling "OH YEAH!" is not how we do carpet consultations here.

26th National Toilet Paper Day. - A quiet celebration for the unsung hero that's been through more emergencies with you than most of your friends have.

31st National Eat Outside Day. - Grab a table on the patio and enjoy your favorite meal with a side of sunshine and fresh air.

Employee birthdays this month:

This month, we're celebrating Brian Berson (August 8), our Flooring Consultant, who has a knack for matching people with their dream floors, and Ivan Garcia (August 24), our Distribution Center Associate, who keeps our warehouse full of flooring running as smoothly as a freshly installed floor. Happy birthday to both of you!



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Bouquet**



**Mark
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August 2026

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America's Great Currant Panic

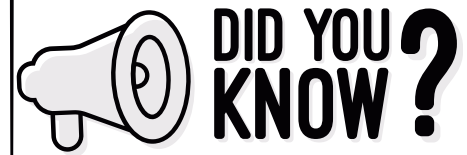


Here's a weird one: growing black currants was illegal in most of the U.S. for most of the last century. The little purple berries were huge with colonial farmers and early presidents, and by 1899, there were 12,000 acres of the stuff growing across the country, turned into pies, jam, and wine. Then someone noticed that the bushes were making pine trees sick with a fungus called white pine blister rust, which kills the trees from the inside out. Since the logging industry was worth close to a billion dollars at the time, Congress didn't mess around. In 1911, they banned currants nationwide and sent crews out to torch existing farms. Fast forward fifty years, and scientists had bred disease-resistant currant bushes that posed almost no threat to nearby pines. So the feds lifted the ban in 1966. States, though, took their sweet time catching up. Connecticut kept fining people until 1988. New York, once the country's top currant grower, didn't budge until 2003. These days, currants are quietly creeping back into orchards in New York, Minnesota, and Connecticut. Not bad for a berry that spent most of the 20th century as public enemy number one.

7 Roles That Almost Went to Someone Else

Hollywood casting is full of near-misses, and some of the biggest ones are hard to picture in hindsight.

- Al Pacino was actually offered Han Solo back in the 70s, but he turned it down because the script just didn't click for him, even after asking a mentor to help him make sense of it. Harrison Ford, who'd only been hired to read lines opposite other auditioning actors, ended up landing the part instead.
- Star Wars almost had a different Leia, too. A 13-year-old Jodie Foster was in the running before Carrie Fisher got the role. Foster actually tested for it, but she was locked into a Disney film at the time and didn't want to bail on that commitment.
- Peter Jackson wanted Sean Connery for Gandalf and dangled a \$30 million payday plus a cut of box-office profits, but Connery passed anyway, admitting the story never fully made sense to him even after reading the book and watching the finished film.
- Breakfast at Tiffany's was written with Marilyn Monroe in mind for the role of Holly Golightly, at the insistence of the author, Truman Capote. Monroe's acting coach talked her out of playing a character with that kind of reputation, so the role went to Audrey Hepburn instead, much to Capote's annoyance.
- The Matrix was originally built around Will Smith, not Keanu Reeves, but Smith skipped it because the Wachowskis' pitch didn't grab him. He went with Wild Wild West instead, a movie that's aged about as well as you'd expect.
- Michelle Pfeiffer said no to Clarice Starling in Silence of the Lambs because the film's darkness unsettled her enough that she couldn't get on board. Jodie Foster took the role and won an Oscar for it.
- And John Travolta gave up Forrest Gump to play Vincent Vega in Pulp Fiction. Tom Hanks took the Gump role and won the Oscar. Travolta was nominated for that same year, but Travolta's career got a serious jolt from Pulp Fiction anyway, so it worked out fine for both of them.



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The Man Who Hiccups for Almost 70 Years

Everyone's had hiccups that overstay their welcome for a few minutes. Charles Osborne had them for 68 years straight. It started in 1922 when he took a bad fall and, according to his doctor, burst a tiny blood vessel in his brain, right in the spot that keeps hiccups in check. Since that day, his diaphragm spasmed 20 to 40 times a minute whenever he was awake. Do the math over six decades, and you get something like 430 million hiccups in one lifetime. Osborne eventually figured out breathing tricks to keep the hiccups from taking over his life, and he even became a minor celebrity for it, appearing on talk shows and in magazines to tell his story. He wasn't really thrilled about his claim to fame, though. In 1978, he told reporters he'd give up everything he owned just to make them stop, and he spent years seeking a cure, at one point offering a \$10,000 reward to anyone who could crack it. Nobody ever did. But in 1990, just as mysteriously as they'd started, the hiccups simply stopped on their own. Osborne passed away less than a year later, but he got to spend his final months in blissful silence.

Roll Out the Welcome Mat for Our Newest Friends!

Aaron Visser	Charlene & Everett	Holly Jarzembowski	Karolina Hanahan	Mark Iacoponi	Scott Balsley
Allison Mulderink	Erwin	Jared & Elizabeth Prince	Kimberly & Jerome Jones	Mason Cunningham	Steve & Lisa
Amanda Shuck	Dave Schwarz	Jason Vickas	Krista Iozzo	Michael & Rachael Link	Chikerotis
Amanda Sink	David McKay	Jean & Michael Solan Jr	Leslie McMahon	Michael Olimene	Steven Gray
Amy Paltis	Dawn Covert	Jennifer Philbin	Linda Putnam	Michelle Vogt	Ted & Heather
Andy & Jacqui	Debbie Matas	Jenny Santucci	Lisa Cushing	Misty & Jim	Schwandt
Koulourides	Debbie Panozzo	Joseph & Elizabeth	Liz Gaffney	Montalbano	Theresa Biel
Ben Barger	Denice Garrett	Bonczalski	Lynn Vanderzee	Niki Duhon	Tim & Karen
Carrie VanDaff	Dennis & Lauren Juran	Joyce Paun	Margaret Denny	Rich Lenart	Einspahr
Cathy Knittle	Duke Taglia	Karen Kaminski		Sandra & Kurtis Kneen	Tyler Lewis



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MEGA Trivia Contest

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This month's Mega Trivia question:

Which Illinois city gave
the world Dairy Queen?

- (A) Peoria
- (B) Joliet
- (C) Aurora
- (D) Chicago

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 Indiana college or university campus
partially inspired the fictional campus in the 2013
Disney/Pixar film "Monsters University"?

(B) Purdue University

The Pixar team visited numerous college campuses across the country while designing Monsters University, and Purdue's quad entryway was among the real-life locations that helped shape the look of the fictional campus. It's a fun bit of Hoosier trivia, and a fitting one given that Mike and Sully spent their college years studying the engineering of scream canisters.

Congratulations to last month's winner:

**JAMIE
DJULABIC**

OF NEW LENOX, IL

Claim your prize by visiting your nearest Creative Carpet & Flooring showroom from August 1 - 31, 2026. Thanks for taking part in our contest! Enjoy your prize!

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Charmine Mercado
Cindy & Christopher Gimino
Colleen Leibfried
Dan Constantine
David & Cathy Lohbauer
Debbie & Chris O'Reilly
Debbie Galminas
Denise Smith
Dennis Carpet & Lawanda Cherry
Gabi Manousopoulos



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Jennifer & Bill Cullen
Jill Zugaj
Joe & Joy Kriss
Joyce Price
Judith Philip
Karen Cann
Katherine Holmberg
Lois Edmiston
Marcia & Steve Hoerich
Natalie & Ron Gravitt
Nick & Dana Durand

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Rita & Michael Sweeney
Scott & Mandi Rehder
Susan & Mike Talarico-Stinnett
Tom & Denise Mitchell
Tracy Pahios
Ty Beardson
Vanessa & John DAndrea
Vic Roti
William Curtis

**WELCOME
BACK!**

Phrases You're Accidentally Saying Twice

We've all done it. Someone says "PIN number," and it doesn't even register as weird, even though PIN already stands for personal identification number. Turns out English is full of these little double-ups.

Take "ATM machine." The M in ATM already means machine, so you're technically saying "automated teller machine machine." The same goes for "LCD display," since the D is already short for display. And when you're proofreading a "PDF format" file, you're describing a portable document format format.

Some of these sneak in from other languages. RSVP comes from French for "respond, please," so tacking "please" onto the end of it is doubling up without realizing it.

Pop culture has its share, too. DC Comics technically stands for Detective Comics, and any sports fan asking about "NFL football" or "MLB baseball" is being just as redundant, since the league is already baked into the acronym. Even AC/DC current is repetitive, though at least the band gets a pass since they were named after electrical currents, not grammar rules.

And don't forget your school days. That "SAT test" you sweated over was really just the Scholastic Aptitude Test, no "test" needed, and scanning a "UPC code" at the store means you just said universal product code code.

None of this is going to ruin your day, but now you'll probably notice it everywhere. You're welcome!



Why Do We Call It a "Restroom" If Nobody's Resting?

Anyone who's fought their way through a bathroom line at a packed stadium knows there's nothing restful about it. So, where did the name even come from? Back in the 1800s, a restroom was exactly what it sounds like: a quiet room where people could sit down and take a breather, no toilet required. The term shows up in writing as early as 1856, describing spaces meant purely for relaxing away from a busy day. Over time, though, these lounge-like rooms started getting toilets attached to them for convenience, and in some places, it actually became a requirement. By the early 1900s, the "place to pee" meaning had basically taken over, and by the 1930s, "restroom" was just another word for lavatory. That's pretty much the only way we use it now. Bathroom followed a similar path. The word dates back to 1670, from a time when toilet rooms often had a tub in them too, so the name stuck around even after the bathtub didn't. And if you're wondering about "lavatory," that one comes from the Latin word for a place

to wash up. So next time you're stuck in a bathroom line, just remember... nobody's actually resting in there, but the name's been stuck for almost 200 years anyway.



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Thank you to...

Cheryl Yaeger
Diane DeCero
Jodi Belcher
Megan Sutter
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We had our floors refinished and carpet redone in a few of our rooms. Customer service was amazing. We worked with Glenn throughout the entire process. We advised what we were looking for, and he showed us all the budget options and offered many suggestions. Communication was wonderful during the entire renovation. We are very pleased and highly recommend this company to anyone in need of new flooring!

Aimee Hamilton of Tinley Park, IL
This month's \$25 Target gift card winner!



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**THANKS
FOR
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