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**FLOORCOVERING**  
— TECHNOLOGIES, INC. —  
IT'S HOW CLEANING IS DONE!

**CLEAN BEAT**

*Best of*

## A LASTING IMPRESSION:

*Client Short Stories . . .*



**"THE BIG STUFFED DOG"** – I was at a client's home in South Tampa working one day and the lady came in the room with the giant stuffed dog. She smiled at me, her eyes were already getting shiny. I could tell the dog had a special place in her heart, and there was more to the story, so I waited patiently for her to continue.

*"My dad was an over-the-road truck driver and he was gone for weeks at a time." She paused, probably remembering those long trips when her dad was away. "One day after a long trip he asked if I would help him unload some things from the cab of the truck."*

I could see the excitement in her eyes as she continued telling the story. *"I was probably six years old and always loved playing in his big truck. When I climbed up into the truck I saw this large stuffed dog strapped in the front passenger seat."*

She took a deep breath and continued. *"It was a constant reminder of my dad when he was gone. I would come home from school and wrap its floppy ears around me, it was like my dad was there, it even smelled like his truck."*

The lady's voice cracked as she finished her story and tears started flowing down her face. *"I can clean that,"* I said quickly, trying to comfort her. She gave me a watery smile and quietly whispered, *"Thank you."*

**"The Biggest Mistake You Can Make Is to Do Nothing Because You Can Only Do a Little"** – I remember the day my friend contacted me through Facebook to clean an area rug for her. I had been following her posts for weeks, a once healthy, energetic young woman was suffering from something her doctors could not diagnose. Her strength and positive attitude, despite her circumstances, was a daily encouragement for me, as I am sure it was for many others. So, I was thrilled when she called me later and asked if I could clean her area rug, especially something that obviously meant so much to her. Her grandmother bought the rug years ago, and as well-made wool rugs often do, they are handed down from generation to generation. She was so sweet as she was telling me about her grandmother, so I said yes without thinking twice, but I was adamant about the cost . . . I would clean her rug for free! She wasn't expecting a free job, I could tell as the conversation paused and her voice became softer, that she was touched by emotion. She said softly, *"I will do something for you to repay the favor."*



A few days later, her husband came by to pick up the rug and dropped off ice cream . . . LOTS of ice cream! He said they were so grateful for what I had done that they wanted to give me something special. I was really surprised - two gallons of ice cream . . . **WOW!** It was very thoughtful of them, and I enjoyed every scoop.

**"Live a Life of Thanksgiving . . ."** – My morning wasn't exactly getting off to a great start - I had a headache that started in the middle of the night, and to top it off, as I was racing out of the house, I noticed that my van tire was almost flat. *"C'mon, really?"* I sighed, grabbing the tire pump out of Becky's car and hoped it was just a slow leak.

I managed to arrive at my networking meeting just moments before it started, complaining to those around me about how my morning had started out. After the meeting, I shared my frustrations with a few more people as I waited for the tire to

inflate, then I headed to my first job in Clearwater. This job turned out to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life!

When I arrived at my cleaning job, it didn't appear that anyone was home. After ringing the bell twice and knocking on the door I finally heard someone coming. The young lady's name was Ashley and she appeared to be in her mid-thirties. She greeted me at the door with a beautiful and infectious smile and welcomed me into her apartment. *"Sorry it took me so long to get to the door,"* she said apologetically, I said, *"Oh, don't worry about it, it's no problem."* She said, *"This is Saffron, my service dog."* Saffron was a friendly golden retriever who just wanted to be petted. Ashley told me that she had lost her legs in a tragic car accident two years ago and that Saffron was there to help her with anything she needed. What was most clear about Ashley was her cheerful outlook and how she still found ways to make the most of her life. She taught me more about happiness and resilience than any seminar or book ever could. I can now better understand Lance Armstrong's words, *"I take nothing for granted anymore, I only have good days and great days."*

After finishing the job, that morning I said goodbye to Ashley and Saffron and headed on my way. As I got back to my van, a sudden flood of emotion hit me as I recalled how I complained to everyone that morning about my life's circumstances . . . a headache and a flat tire.

Ashley called me one day to let me know that she was moving up North to be closer to her family and she thanked me for always doing a great job for her. I often say, *"People that come into your life are either a blessing or a lesson,"* and I believe Ashley is both! I am inspired and grateful for my own life and I now choose to show up each day as the best version of who I am.



**Angel Mendoza, Client Liaison, Administrative Assistant  
Floorcovering Technologies, Inc.**

Lemon is a staple in our homes not just for its nutritional value, but it adds a pop of color or taste to our food and is also a handy housekeeping hack.

Here are some of the cleverest ways to use lemon:

**Remove Unwanted Smells on The Chopping Board & Fridge:**

On the chopping board, just rub half a lemon over it, rinse it with water and it will get rid of smells and bacteria. For your fridge, dab lemon juice on a cotton ball or sponge and leave it in the fridge for several hours to get rid of the bad smells and freshen it. It works with plasticware, too!

**Say Goodbye to Stubborn Stains with a Lemon and Salt Scrub:**

No, we're not talking about guacamole! You can use lemon and salt to scrub away stubborn stains on your countertops, sinks, and even your bathtub. Simply cut a lemon in half, sprinkle some salt on top, and start scrubbing it away. The citric acid in the lemon loosens the dirt and grime, while the salt provides just enough abrasive power to scrub it all away. The result - a clean and shiny surface that smells amazing!

**Having A Clean Office Carpet Doesn't Cost Anything:**

Maintaining a clean and well-maintained carpet is critical for any professional office space. A clean carpet projects a sense of professionalism and attention to detail that supports a positive image of a company. Besides providing an aesthetically pleasing environment, a clean carpet can make employees feel comfortable and confident in their work environment, subsequently leading to increased productivity and job satisfaction. Perception by clients who visit a company's office is significantly influenced by the cleanliness of the space. A dirty and disorganized carpet can quickly create a negative first impression of the company, leading to a loss of potential business. Therefore, investing in regular carpet cleaning services is an integral aspect of managing a professional office space. It not only keeps the environment clean but also reflects positively on the company's ethics and reputation.



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