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CLEAN BEAT

Lasting IMPRESSION

"Building Lasting Connections: How Moments of Care and Compassion Define Our Purpose"

There's a quote by Andy Stanley that has become my life's guiding principle: *"Do for one what you wish you could do for everyone."* This simple yet profound idea has shaped not only how I approach my work but also how I live my life. Many of you have asked, *"How do you have so many stories?"* My answer is always the same: *"We purposely create them."*

Years ago, I realized that the joy of clean carpets, while important, is fleeting. The momentary *"shock and awe"* of a spotless home quickly fades once the hoses are rolled up and life resumes its pace. But what remains, what truly matters, are the connections we forge along the way.

We don't just clean carpets; we create moments of connection. Whether it's setting up a family Christmas tree together, sharing a simple breakfast with a widowed client who, for a brief moment, can reflect on days gone by, or sitting in a hospital waiting room with a precious friend, assuring her that I'll stay as long as needed—I'm there. These are not just stories; they're the heart of what we do.

I believe this life is just a *"Dress Rehearsal"* for something bigger. It's in these moments of connection that we touch something eternal. The relationships we build, the time we invest in others—these are not mere by-products of our work; they are the essence of it.

In the hustle and bustle of everyday life, it's easy to overlook the power of a kind word, a listening ear, or a helping hand. But these small gestures are what weave the fabric of our shared humanity. We have learned that what may seem like a simple task to us—cleaning a carpet, sharing a cup of coffee, offering a moment of comfort—can be a lifeline for someone else. It's in these small, intentional acts of care that we discover the true meaning of service.

We've had the privilege of being there during your milestones, your joys, and your sorrows. We've seen how a freshly cleaned room can bring a smile to a child's face, how a little extra effort can ease the burden of a single parent, and how showing up—really showing up—can make all the difference in the world to someone who feels alone.

These connections are what drive us every day. We are not just in the business of cleaning; we are in the business of caring, of building relationships that last long after the carpets are clean, and the equipment is packed away. Because at the end of the day, it's not the clean carpets that people remember; it's the care, the kindness, the love that we pour into every interaction.

So, to each of you, thank you for allowing us to be a part of your lives in these meaningful ways. We don't take it for granted, and we are honored to be more than just a service provider. We are part of your story, and you are part of ours. Together, we create a tapestry of memories—woven with threads of trust, compassion, and mutual respect.

As we continue this journey, our commitment stays the same: to do for one what we wish we could do for everyone, with all the heart, soul, and intention we can muster. Because in the end, it's these connections that truly make life beautiful.

The Great Recliner Cleaning Fiasco

Once upon a time, in the land of church potlucks and Sunday bests, a friend of ours—let's call him “Captain Wayne”—asked me about sprucing up his beloved recliner. Now, Captain Wayne wasn't looking to hire me for the job—oh no, he fancied himself a bit of a DIY expert. He was even bold enough to ask if he could borrow my cleaning equipment. Being the ever-helpful soul that I am, I reluctantly handed over my prized portable extractor and the upholstery tool, with one simple instruction: “*Call me if you have any questions.*”

Fast forward to the next day. Captain Wayne rolls up to my place, looking like he just conquered *Mount Recliner*. Naturally, I asked, “*So, how did it go?*”



He shrugged and said, “*I guess it turned out okay, but it's still kinda wet.*”

“*Kinda wet? A day later?*” I raised an eyebrow. “*Did you follow all my instructions?*”

Captain Wayne then launched into an explanation, and somewhere in the middle of his story, he casually dropped a bombshell. “*And then I grabbed the garden hose...*”

“*Wait, what? A garden hose?*” I interrupted, my brain doing somersaults.

“*Yeah,*” he replied as if this were the most logical thing in the world. “*The cleaning tool wasn't putting out enough water, so I thought I'd give it a good soaking with the garden hose.*”

I just stared at him, trying not to burst out laughing. “*Well, that explains why it's still wet,*” I said, desperately holding back a grin. There is a quote by Abraham Maslow that says, “*If the only tool you*

have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail.” Here's the kicker: Captain Wayne isn't just any guy—he's a fireman. I guess it's true, when you spend your days dousing flames, you start to think that the answer to every problem is more water. (*True Story*)

The Great Daily Expedition: Columbus Day and Our Morning Search Parties



Ah, Columbus Day. A day when we remember the daring voyage of Christopher Columbus, who set sail in 1492 and stumbled upon the vast shores of what we now call North America. Sure, navigating the uncharted waters of the Atlantic and “*discovering*” a whole new continent is impressive, but let's be honest—if Chris were here today, he might tip his hat to a much more challenging and perilous quest: finding Becky's cell phone, car keys, and school ID before 7:00 A.M.

Every morning in our household, we embark on a discovery ritual that makes Columbus's journey seem like a leisurely cruise. The alarm goes off, and the daily expedition begins. Armed with nothing but our wits and a glass of Orange Juice, we brave the treacherous terrain of couch cushions, laundry baskets, and jacket pockets in search of the elusive artifacts that keep modern life functioning.

First on the list is Becky's cell phone, the San Salvador of our mornings.

Like Columbus scanning the horizon for land, we find ourselves searching every possible nook and cranny. Did it slip between the couch cushions? Fall into the abyss of the laundry pile? Or perhaps it's already at school, having somehow teleported there during the night? Every morning, we discover that finding a coastline is child's play compared to finding a device that was in someone's hand just minutes ago.

Next, we turn our attention to the car keys—an object that, despite its size, has a remarkable ability to vanish into thin air. Like a seasoned explorer, Becky retraces her steps: kitchen counter, bedroom nightstand, the mysterious “other” purse. Sometimes, they're found near the garage door on the hutch (where they belong), and on rare occasions, they're discovered in places as perplexing as the refrigerator. It's a treasure hunt with no map, only the vague memory of where they might have last been seen.

Finally, we come to the school ID, the Holy Grail of our morning routine. As Columbus sought gold and glory, we seek this small but crucial piece of plastic that grants access to the educational kingdom. It hides in the depths of purses, in the cargo crate full of curriculum books and student papers, or even in the laundry (again). The joy of finally finding it is akin to planting a flag on newfound land—it's proof that, against all odds, we've conquered the morning once again.

So, on this Columbus Day, while we acknowledge the historic significance of Columbus's voyage, let's also raise a mug of coffee to our daily discovery missions. Sure, Chris found the Eastern shore of North America, but did he ever experience the panic of thinking he left his phone in the car, only to realize it was in his pocket the whole time? We may not cross oceans, but we do brave the daily whirlwind of modern life, and that deserves some recognition.

Bleach Alternatives for a Sparkling Safer Home

There are several safe alternatives to using Clorox (chlorine bleach) as a cleaner, depending on the type of cleaning you need to do. Here are some effective and eco-friendly options:

1. Vinegar

- Vinegar is a great all-purpose cleaner. It's effective for disinfecting surfaces, cutting through grease, and removing odors.
- Mix equal parts water and white vinegar in a spray bottle. You can also add a few drops of essential oils for a pleasant scent.

2. Hydrogen Peroxide

- Hydrogen peroxide is a powerful disinfectant and can be used to clean surfaces, whiten clothes, and sanitize cutting boards.
- Use a 3% hydrogen peroxide solution directly on surfaces. Let it sit for a few minutes before wiping clean.

3. Baking Soda

- Baking soda is excellent for scrubbing surfaces, deodorizing, and removing stains.
- Sprinkle baking soda on surfaces, then scrub with a damp sponge. For tougher stains, mix baking soda with a bit of water or vinegar to form a paste.

4. Lemon Juice

- Lemon juice has natural antibacterial and antiseptic properties. It's great for cutting through grease and leaving a fresh scent.
- Mix lemon juice with water and use it as a spray cleaner. It can also be combined with baking soda for tougher stains.

5. Tea Tree Oil

- Tea tree oil is a natural disinfectant with antifungal and antibacterial properties.
- Add a few drops of tea tree oil to water or vinegar-based cleaning solutions for an extra disinfecting boost.

These alternatives are not only safer for your health but also better for the environment.



Prioritizing What's Really Important

Imagine you're Nehemiah, standing on the wall of Jerusalem with a trowel in one hand and a sword in the other (*or maybe a Sig P320 9mm*). Your enemies are hollering from below, trying to lure you into a pointless debate or a detour that will derail your mission. But you, like the stone-cold project manager you are, respond with a line that could double as a superhero catchphrase: ***"I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?"***(Neh. 6:3)

Nehemiah wasn't just laying bricks; he was laying down a life lesson in focus and determination. Whether you're building a wall, launching a business, raising a family, or simply trying to get through your to-do list without getting sidetracked by cat videos, the message is the same: Keep your eyes on the prize, and don't let the noise from below pull you away from your purpose.



But let's be real—life isn't all about head-down, full-speed-ahead focus. Flexibility is key, and sometimes a well-placed pivot can be the difference between success and stagnation. Just make sure that when you do bend, you're bending toward your goal, not away from it.

In our modern world, where multitasking is worn like a badge of honor and distractions come packaged as notifications, the challenge is to stay centered on what really matters. So, channel your inner *Nehemiah*. When the distractions start calling, remember you've got a wall to build, a project to finish, a dream to chase. Stay committed to your great work and let the noise fade into the background. After all, Rome wasn't built in a day—but it sure wasn't built by people who kept getting off the ladder to chat either.

Some things are scary

**Hiring a carpet cleaner
shouldn't be one of them
Call Us (727) 397-6397**

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