

**Antonius Bros.**  
**Cleaning & Restoration**  
 6674 Pearl Road  
 Parma Hts., OH 44130  
 (440) 845-7474

# CLEAN AMERICA



## Salutes

### Family and Friends

Christmas time always makes me recall the past. As I go thru my Christmas card list, many changes have occurred. I have friends that have moved away or passed on. Yesterday, we learned of another very good friend who succumbed to cancer after a long three year battle. We will miss him. We have added some to the list—



new friends that we have been fortunate to make over the last year and nieces and nephews that are out on their own now. As I write the cards out, and a letter that I send to those I keep in touch with once a year, I recall them and the fun times we shared. I look forward to hearing from all our friends this year.

The grandchildren are looking forward to Santa Claus and the parents use the threat that if they are not good, Santa will not come. Last year, I got a purple ring from little Jack. He was so proud and said “Grandma is really going to like this!” and I did. Every time he came over, he insisted that I wear it, and that was the rule. We had five for an overnight visit this past month. They all insisted on pancakes and sausages that Papa makes for breakfast. Don’t try and change the menu. Maria is our “sausage monster” - she holds the record for the most sausages consumed. Thomas is the “pancake monster” - and tries to break his all time record every time he eats. Maria made a big letter this past year—decorated with pictures—telling about the “Best Pancake and Sausage Maker” - her Papa.

May you have a Blessed Christmas and a very healthy New Year. We thank you for letting us serve you and look forward to the next time we can help you.

- *Lois & Jack*

*As a special holiday treat for you, we have collected favorite recipes from around our office to share with you!*



## December

### Lois’s Mint Frosted Brownies

Make the brownies first and let cool, then comes the frosting!

2 oz (squares) unsweetened chocolate  
 1/3 cup shortening  
 1 cup sugar  
 2 eggs  
 3/4 cup flour  
 1/2 tsp baking powder  
 1/2 tsp salt  
 1/3 cup chopped nuts (optional)

Melt chocolate and shortening together. Pour into small bowl and beat in sugar and eggs. Blend flour, baking powder and salt together. Stir into chocolate mixture. Spread into greased 8x8x2 pan. Bake at 350 for 25-35 minutes (test with toothpick). Cool completely.

Frosting:

1 cup powdered sugar  
 2 tbsp. soft butter  
 1 tbsp. light cream or evaporated milk  
 1/2 tsp peppermint extract  
 Green food coloring (few drops)

Mix and spread on brownies, set till firm. Melt 1 sq chocolate and 1 tbsp. butter. Drizzle over firm frosting. Chill. Bring to room temperature before cutting.

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### Thoughts on Success:

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*Always bear in mind that your own  
resolution to succeed is more im-  
portant than any other.*

**Abraham Lincoln**

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*Defeat is not the worst of failures.  
Not to have tried is the true failure.*

**George E. Woodberry**

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*Formula for success:  
rise early, work hard, strike oil.*

**J. Paul Getty**

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*I honestly think it is better to be a  
failure at something you love than to  
be a success at something you hate.*

**George Burns**

-----  
*Pray that success will not come any  
faster than you are able to endure it.*

**Elbert Hubbard**

**Call us: 440-845-7474!**



**If You Don't Call  
Now, You May Have  
to Wait Until After  
the Holidays for a  
Clean Carpet!**

## A Christmas Wish

Just a few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to attend a presentation at a local junior high called "Rachel's Challenge." My daughter, who is in high school, had a similar presentation during the school day and wanted the two of us to attend the evening presentation. It had really touched her and she wanted to share that with me.

Rachel Scott was the first student to be killed at Columbine. I don't think that there is an adult in the United States that doesn't feel their heart stumble when they hear the word "Columbine." We know, we remember, and we feel. Rachel's diaries were found after her death, and the things she wrote have started a national crusade for kindness. Rachel believed in her heart that the smallest act of kindness had the potential to start a chain that could have a huge impact. In her own words, "I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same. People will never know how far a little kindness can go." Rachel was only 17 years old, yet she sees the world for it's potential.

The Rachel's Challenge program has travelled all over the country, starting active groups in schools in many states. They have started groups in communities and have touched many, many lives.

Take a moment, if you will, and visit their website: [www.RachelsChallenge.org](http://www.RachelsChallenge.org). Read Rachel's essay and look at the "kindness cards" on the site. Even without the presentation, you will be touched.

My Christmas wish is this: I wish for Rachel's words to change the way we treat each other. Kids that hear the program are learning to show kindness and compassion for others. As adults, can we not do the same? Can we, as adults, challenge ourselves to show kindness to our co-workers, friends, family and complete strangers? Shouldn't we be the ones setting the good examples for our kids, instead of them having to show us how we should treat people? Merry Christmas!

### Holiday Recipe: Sheri's Church Windows

A family favorite for years, these easy to make cookies, when sliced, look like stained glass windows. Besides being delicious, they add color to your holiday cookie trays.

1 stick butter  
1 bag semi-sweet morsels  
1 bag colored miniature marshmallows  
1 cup crushed walnuts

Melt butter and morsels in a double boiler. When chocolate is all melted, let cool for 15 minutes. Add marshmallows and stir through, gently. All marshmallows should be covered in chocolate. Lay 3 pieces of foil on the counter, put 1/3 of the nuts on each piece of foil. Put 1/3 of the chocolate and marshmallow mix on each of the pieces of foil. Use the foil to form logs, then close ends and put in the refrigerator to get cold. Leave in the refrigerator and slice before serving.

## Guests on the Way? - Quick Cleaning Tips

Have you ever gotten that phone call? The call when you find out that relatives or friends are in town and wanted to just stop by and visit? You look around the house, and the panic sets in. Wrapping paper, ribbons and bows are scattered around the living room floor. The dog dumped the trash in the den. The kitchen table is covered in Christmas cards that have yet to be signed and mailed. The family room looks like you have far more kids than you really do. Now guests are on the way and will be there soon.

Here are a few quick tips to be a little more prepared for these surprise visits that are so common around the holiday time.

Keep these two things on hand during the season:

- a tin of fancy cookies that are wrapped to stay fresh without being frozen
- anti-bacterial wipes that work on kitchen counters and in bathrooms.

When you get the call, grab every available person in the house to help. Grab an empty laundry basket or two and fly around all rooms throwing everything that doesn't belong into a laundry basket. Have one of the kids follow you with the vacuum cleaner giving the traffic lanes a quick vacuum. Shove the laundry basket in a bedroom and shut the door; you can go through it when your guests are gone. Then, grab the canister of wipes and wipe down the kitchen counter and all surfaces in the bathroom.

Grab a pretty, decorative or holiday plate, open that tin of cookies and arrange them on a plate. Start a pot of coffee.

In less than 15 minutes, the house looks pretty presentable, you will have the welcoming smell of brewing coffee and a plate full of cookies ready to serve. You might even have 2 minutes to put on a fresh shirt! Sit down, relax and enjoy the visit!

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### Laurice's Holiday Jello

Choose any flavor jello for this dessert, but Laurice recommends something red or green to look good on your holiday table.

- 1 large cottage cheese—small curd
- 1 large box of jello mix (any flavor)
- 1 can crushed pineapple (drained)
- 1 tub of cool whip

Simply toss all the ingredients together and mix well. Chill and keep refrigerated until serving.

*A successful man is one  
who makes more money than  
his wife can spend.*

*A successful woman is one  
who can find such a man.*

**Lana Turner**

*A person who won't read has no  
advantage over one who can't read.*

**Mark Twain**

### Customer Comments:

"I have carpets that are old and worn. The skill and care used each time continues to prolong the life of our carpets, and the attention to detail and professionalism that the technician shows has kept me a satisfied and loyal Antonius Bros. customer." *Tami Vajskop, Brecksville*

"Scheduling is convenient. Work done efficiently with care and technicians are courteous." *Jim K., Brooklyn Heights*

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400 TESTIMONIALS! [www.AntoniusBros.com](http://www.AntoniusBros.com)**

### Thank You!

Thanks to YOU the word is spreading! Thanks to all of our wonderful clients and friends who graciously referred us to their friends and neighbors last month!

Our business runs on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you! We couldn't do it without you!

A special thanks to all these fine folks:

**Karen Balla**

**Tomon Funeral Home**

**Todd Sluzewski**

**Joanne Scattolini**

# Antonius Bros.

CLEANING & WATER RESTORATION

6674 PEARL ROAD, PARMA HEIGHTS, OHIO 44130  
440-845-7474 800-829-7014 FAX 440-845-1940

WWW.ANTONIUSBROS.COM

## Your New Issue has Arrived!

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### In This Edition:

- Family and Friends
- Lois's Mint Frosted Brownies
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- Judy's Peanut Butter Squares

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### Judy's Peanut Butter Squares

You don't even have to bake this one! Nice, easy and sure to satisfy your sweet tooth!

- 2 cups chunky peanut butter
- 3/4 cup melted butter
- 3-3/4 cups confectioners sugar
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 tsp vanilla
- 1 pkg (12 oz) semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 4 tbsp. butter

Combine first 5 ingredients and mix until smooth. Press onto ungreased cookie sheet (10x15) with sides, spreading evenly in pan. Melt together chocolate chips and butter. Spread over peanut butter. Chill 2 hours and cut into squares.

*Merry Christmas*

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