

Michael



Janine



Buddy-President

FLOOR DECOR

Home Advisor™

Reliable news for healthy living, saving money, and having fun! January 2012

Dear Friends,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. As we enter into yet another new year, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on 2011.

Without a doubt my most memorable moments were the arrivals of my two grandsons Rocco and Nico. It was great to have them both to share their first Christmas together. I look forward to watching them grow and spending time with both of them.

In 2011 we sponsored our first "Thanksgiving For All" food drive. It was a great success and with the help of you our friends we were able to donate over 150 canned food items to the Connecticut Food Bank. For 2012 we look forward to adding additional programs to help our community.

From our family to yours we want to thank everyone for a great 2011 and look forward to a prosperous and healthy New Year for all in 2012.

Your Friends at Floor Decor,
Michael, Janine, and Buddy!

Inside This Issue...

- Scan our QR Code to visit our website.
- Holidays this Month
- About staying well – The Elements of a Healthy Life
- Indy Through the Years
- Work tips – Being Your Own Boss
- Mega Trivia Contest
- Are you this month's Mystery Winner?
- Home Advisor – Ghost Rooms
- Moneywise – Debit Card Fees
- Welcome to our new and returning clients!

Holidays This Month:

Sunday, January 1st
New Years' Day

Monday, January 2nd
Because New Years' Day falls on a Sunday

this year, the statutory holiday is celebrated the following day.

Friday, January 6th
Epiphany – the 12 Days of Christmas end on Epiphany

Monday, January 16th
Martin Luther King Jr. Day honors his birthday, January 15th.

Monday, January 23rd
Chinese New Year – the Year of the Dragon begins.

JANUARY 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Scan with your smart phone
to visit our website.

Did You Know?

Some Connecticut Fast Facts...

- The Hartford Courant is the oldest U.S. newspaper still being published. It was established in 1764.
- Connecticut is home to the first hamburger (1895), Polaroid camera (1934), helicopter (1939), and color television (1948).
- Although West Haven is Connecticut's youngest city, being incorporated in 1972, it is a community that dates back over 360 years, making it one of the oldest settlements in the country.
- PEZ Candy is made in Orange CT.
- Hartford has remained the capital city since 1875.
- The first automobile law was passed by the state of Connecticut. The speed limit was posted at 12 miles per hour.

About Staying Well *The Elements of a Healthy Life*

We're under constant assault from studies and experts telling us what to do or not do to be healthy. But have you ever considered what it means to be healthy? What are the components of a healthy lifestyle? Here are some ideas to get started:

- Good food: however you define a healthy diet - and there are skillions of definitions - nutrition is key.
- Lots of sleep: a no-brainer. We die without sufficient sleep and most people just don't get enough (seven to nine hours).
- Manageable stress: we all have stress in our lives, no way around it, and it drives many of our greatest accomplishments. But finding a way to prevent its damage is crucial. If you find you never have a spare moment, cut some of your activities.
- Emotional sustenance: even the most robotic among us needs some positive feedback from time to time. Mr. Spock had the Enterprise crew, after all.
- Faith: you need faith in something to keep your engines humming. It might be religion, your own future, the Green Bay Packers or perhaps all three!

Sit down and make your own list: what does your healthy lifestyle mean to you?

Mega Trivia Contest!

Who else wants to win a \$50.00 Gift Card that you can use at any Chili's Grill & Bar, Romano's Macaroni Grill, On The Border Mexican Cantina, or Maggiano's Little Italy?

This month's MegaTrivia question....

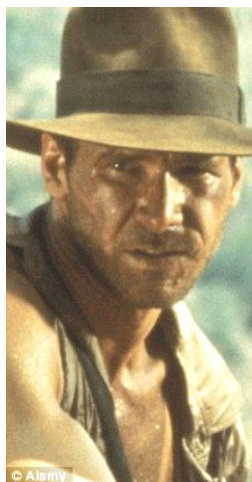
Which of these horse races is the oldest?
**A) Kentucky Derby; B) Belmont Stakes;
C) Queen's Plate; D) Preakness**

To enter in our monthly drawing email your answer to jphoenix@FloorDecorCT.com. Take your best guess...your chances of winning are better than you think!

**Answer to last month's quiz:
Mt. Vesuvius**

Congratulations to last month's winner: Dave Taborelli

Indy through the Years



Director Steven Spielberg has confirmed that the fifth installment of the Indiana Jones series, penned by George Lucas and featuring Harrison Ford, is slated to start filming late in 2012

1981 Raiders of the Lost Ark
1984 Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom
1989 Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade
2008 Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull



Design Tips: Ideas you can use...

Interested in creating a whimsical, faux finish on the floor? Look for an area with very little furniture, such as a porch, sunroom or hallway. First of all, your handiwork will be better appreciated when it's not obscured by furnishings. And secondly, your design—whether a trompe l'oeil area rug, a twining floral border, or some other personal creation—will hold up better minus the dragging chair legs, rolling TV carts, etc. Call Floor Décor to make an appointment with our Faux artist, Susan Reed.

This Month's Mystery Winner

Attention Ann Cohen DePalma!

You are this month's
Mystery Winner!
We have a \$10.00 gift card to
Starbucks reserved just for you!
Come by our store before the end of
the month to claim your prize!

Being Your Own Boss

When businesses stop hiring, entrepreneurs step to the fore. If you've been downsized, have you considered putting your skills to use as a consultant or contractor? Is there something you love doing - like making pumpkin muffins - which you could turn into a money-maker?

In the Great Depression of the 1930's some amazing companies came into being, like Clairol (1931) and Revlon (1932), which were both family start-ups. When the tech boom ended in the early 90's, around one quarter of the downsized executives aged 40 and more launched businesses of their own.

There are a number of wonderful reasons to be your own boss, but also some myths to dispel:

- "I can escape the 9 to 5 grind and work whenever I want."
Well, yes that's true: you'll start before 9 and finish after 5, at least until you get up and running, find enough clients, and attain an improved level of organization. Also, most of your clients will be working 9 to 5.
- "I can get away from all the politics at the office."
You can indeed, only to find new sorts of politics, either with your clients or with your family who won't be used to you working at home.
- "I can be my own boss."
That's the biggest attraction of business-for-self and it's terrific! But you will still be limited by the number of hours in the day, the stack of bills and the whims of your clients.

If you are undaunted by these splashes of cold water and still willing to dive in, there are a number of excellent (Free!) resources to help you get started. Both Canada and the United States are top 10 in the Index of Economic Freedom, and that's something to be proud of!



Confused meditator

Home Advisor
Ghost Rooms: Are They Lurking in
Your House?

Do you have a desire to hide rooms in your home? No, this isn't some weird conspiracy story; it's a valid need in some cases.



Let's say you have a bathroom right off your kitchen, but you don't want it to be obvious. (Plus you can always use extra storage space in a kitchen)

Here's a wonderful way to solve the problem that appeals to the James Bond in all of us.

Some "hidden room" doors are pocket doors, so they slide right into the wall. Nobody will notice your "bathroom door", which doubles as pantry space.

Moneywise: Debit Card Fees

Many of us just don't get it when it comes to debit cards. Perhaps the problem stems from credit cards, which are entirely different. You don't have to pay to use a credit card, that is, there is no usage fee. Fees only arise if you don't get rid of the balance on time each month.

But debit cards are a cash cow for your financial institutions, likely because of this big blind spot on the part of consumers. Take a look at your bank statement (horrors!) and see how many \$20 ATM withdrawals you had, or \$2.50 coffee shop purchases. Do you know how much these are costing in fees? If you don't, find out. You can either talk to your bank about a more cost-effective plan, or limit yourself to a smaller number of larger withdrawals and start paying cash for that latte.

Any Friend of Yours
Is A Friend of Mine!!

Who is the next person you know who is in need of new flooring?
You'll be doing them a really big favor by recommending a flooring professional that they can trust.

Just go to www.FloorDecorCT.com click the Free Movie Pass Icon, fill in up to 10 names. Mail or fax it to us at 203-298-4084. I'll send them a \$100 Floor Décor Gift Certificate and I'll send you your choice of a Free \$50 Movie Pass or a \$50 Gift Card for Dinner for Two!

New Friends
And Clients!

Meet our new clients...

Charles Wallace, Dave & Patty Scott, Tina Oko, Edgewood School, Ann Cohen DePalma, Ellen Alpert, Matt Micros, Anthony & Maria Marnerakis, Lynn Friedman, Rae Robinson, and Renee Shoop.

Welcome back to our returning clients...

Deneen & Gary Pearl, Joan Hughes, Karen Alexander, Kathryn LaBanca Cardio Pulmonary Corp., Technical Gas Products, John & Phyllis Henson, Nadine Toothill, Lois Neville, Stephen Kanscal, Sue Maye, Mindy Printz, and Toni Peri.

A gigantic THANK YOU to all who referred us last month...

Alan Fletcher and Donna Moss.



Information
About Us

FLOOR Décor

Luxury Floors At Affordable Prices

363 Boston Post Road
Orange CT 06477
203-298-4081

www.FloorDecorCT.com