

Greenwich High School
Wreadin Writin n Wreminiscin

Weekly Wreader

27 April 2005



Not Bad for a Boy from Byram



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The attached is some recent news on Rich's company. As far as my retirement, I am hoping he will take care of me! All joking aside, he has worked extremely hard and done very well for a Boy from Byram.....and we are so proud of his accomplishments.

Richard **TRIPODI**
President and CEO
Roanoke Companies Group Inc



Roanoke Breaks Ground for Substantial Expansion in Aurora

New Facility to Help Local Economic Growth

AURORA, IL – April 14, 2005 – Roanoke Companies Group Inc., one of the country's top providers of flooring accessories (i.e. grout, caulk, adhesives, etc.) to leading retailers including The Home Depot®, Lowe's and Menard's, broke ground today on a new 100,000 square foot manufacturing and distribution facility. The ceremony was officiated by the company's President and CEO, Richard Tripodi, and attendees included Aurora Alderman Leroy Keith.

Roanoke believes the new building will be critical to its continued success in capitalizing on the more than \$200 billion U.S. remodeling market that is estimated to encompass more than a million major home renovations or remodeling this year alone. Construction of the new facility, designed by DL Rawlings, Inc. is expected to take approximately five to six months and the company hopes to be fully utilizing the space by early fall 2005.

“By reacting quickly to new opportunities and developing innovative products, Roanoke has experienced tremendous growth over the past few years and this new facility is a clear sign that we expect that success to continue,” said Richard Tripodi, Roanoke’s president and CEO. “As part of this expansion, we expect to grow our workforce by 15 percent this year.”

Tripodi cited the company’s TrafficMaster® Stainproof Grout, the first and only pre-mixed stainproof grout on the market, and Stand ‘N Seal Grout Sealer, which was a top 10 finalist for The Home Depot’s® 2004 Innovation Award, as specific examples of the company’s innovation.

With over 250 employees nationally, Roanoke’s success is also having additional economic benefit for the area via its strong relationships with other Illinois companies including EXCEL Container of Aurora, its sole supplier of corrugated packaging. Other local partners include Leroy Plastics of Aurora, Midland Products of Tinley Park, UNILABEL of Elk Grove Village, Heart Printing of Arlington Heights, Acorn Metal Service of Chicago Ridge, Service Pallet of Forest View and major corporations with facilities in the greater Chicago area such as BASF Chemicals, Chemcentral Distributors, US Silica and Rohm and Haas.



Roanoke Companies Group, Inc.
Aurora, Illinois

Before and after views of Roanoke Companies Group Aurora Headquarters
Founded in 1992, Roanoke Companies Group, Inc. is based in Aurora, Illinois, with additional manufacturing and distribution in Dalton, Ga. Roanoke owns and sells a number of recognized national brand names including Color Caulk®, Tile Perfect®, CHAPCO®, AIM™ and AMCO™ and licensed brands such as Scotchgard™, TrafficMaster® and Wilsonart® to leading retailers and distributors. Roanoke also is a leading manufacturer and supplier of private label flooring accessories to the OEM flooring industry.

From 62 to 62



David **AVANN**. Phoenix, AZ
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Thanks for all the hard work you do in the GHS newsletter. It's provides a great forum for our thoughts and remembrances. It's the only contact I have with Greenwich. I didn't respond to the questionnaire immediately for several reasons. In high school I never really felt I was college bound, and being an introvert at that age, I made few friends. I thought GHS was a great school, but that I was "just another number". Since I didn't go to any of the activities and I didn't



know anyone well enough, nor get encouragement from the guidance office, I convinced myself that going into the Air Force was the best option I had. I've had a great life but I never felt too connected to GHS until you started publishing the newsletter.

ARE YOU ALREADY RETIRED, IF NOT, WHEN DO YOU PLAN ON RETIRING?

I plan on working for my new employer, Goodrich Aircraft Interior Products, for as long as they'll let me, at least five more years to be vested in their pension.

HOW DID YOU PLAN, OR HOW ARE YOU PLANNING FOR RETIREMENT?

We had no particular plans. I wanted to work for Dictaphone as a technician until I retired. Then came another staff reduction layoff. After 26+ years it was a shock. After many interviews I became aware that age discrimination is real, and hard to prove. I'm so grateful that I found an open-minded employer. I work with people from around the world as an entry-level technician. It seems to be keeping me somewhat youthful, at least until I get home at night. I'm working about 60 hours a week and will be going to Hamburg, Germany this summer with a team to get our A-380 Airbus evacuation slides tested and accepted. What a change of life!

THOUGHTS AND APPROACH ON THE RETIREMENT YEARS?

It will have to be more than just taking naps and criticizing the young people of the world. I hope retirement can be a time of giving back to the community in some way. I'd like to be able to work in my church to show appreciation for the spiritual and social stability we were provided with.

A SECOND HOME OR A MOVE TO A DIFFERENT AREA OF THE COUNTRY?

Our three children and



four grandchildren live in the Phoenix, Arizona area and we've lived here over half our lives. We're here to stay.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO DO THAT YOU PUT OFF UNTIL RETIREMENT?

Finish some of the half-done projects lying around (if I can remember what I was trying to accomplish), get rid of stuff so that my kids won't have to figure why I kept it, and travel Arizona to show my wife some of the sights I saw while on remote service calls over the years. I have a Model A Ford and a motorcycle that will need a lot of exercise and upkeep.

ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO RETIREMENT, OR IS IT SOMETHING THAT SCARES YOU?

I'm a little concerned about finances and health. My oldest son got us together with a financial planner last year and that ought to help a lot.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS WE FACE IN THE RETIREMENT YEARS?

I believe is Social Security is the single biggest problem. Since we paid into it, I think it's only fair we enjoy the proceeds. The politicians have tweaked it so much we may be the last generation to benefit from it.

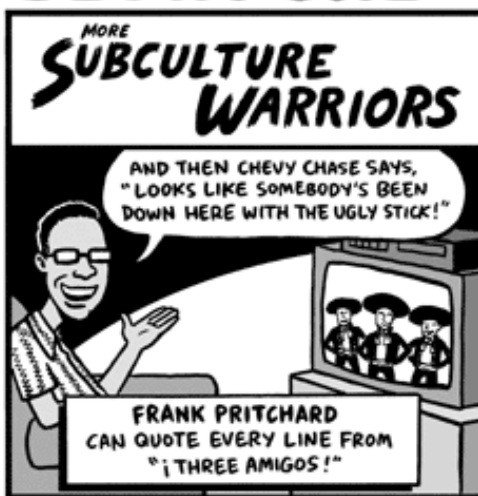
Filosofy
From the Fen



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"Why the name "Slowpoke"?
Slowpokedom is the cartoonist's personal philosophy which involves an active refutation of all aspects of life which induce ulcers. Slowpokes aren't apathetic; they merely don't understand the point of speeding from one red traffic light to the next, buying "Lunchables" instead of making a sandwich, or breaking out the cell phone the exact moment the plane lands. Being a slowpoke is simply much easier

SLOWPOKE



* SEE ALSO THE CARTOONIST

on your constitution than being a non-slowpoke. "From an old Interview with Jen Sorenson cartoonist (of 'Slowpoke') - "I know you've talked about it, it's on your website, but can you talk a little bit about what the title Slowpoke means?"

"It comes from my personal philosophy of avoiding the rat race and not moving unnecessarily quickly. That's not to be confused with laziness or apathy. I guess it's more of a stop-and-smell-the-roses approach to life. I like to take my time and do things right and it seems like it's getting harder and harder to do that in today's world. The pace of life is increasing, and you have to work hard to not get drawn into that."

See the full interview at:

<http://www.youngwaynesville.com/interview/index2.html>

<http://www.people.virginia.edu/~jls6c/aboutslowpoke.html>

Come One - Come All

Sunday

01 May 2005

Starting at

5:00 pm

"Mayday May Day"

"In Honour of our Labours, a Little Time with Friends"

And

A Kick-off for the Spring Season of

Going Sixty into Our Sixties

"The Second Coming"

At

Tom E Toes

Wilton Connecticut

Mayday May Day

This is only a test. Had this been an actual emergency, you would have been directed to the nearest exits and assigned a lifeboat and vest. However, May Day is on the way and those of you who have "Laboured" hard over the past few months since October's "PizzaLadi Saturday Night" it's time for another night out with the "guys". So here we go:

Yes, we are planning another night out for all those who can find the time and the "money"... You must pay for your dinner and drinks... and enjoy an evening out with the ghs1962reunion committee and kick-off the start of our campaign for the Picnic at the Point as part of the 2005 Reunion Weekend of Going Sixty into Our Sixties – The Second Coming. The evening will be at JoAnn's Tom-e-Toes in Wilton. See below for additional Information.



Additional Information

Hours:

Monday 9 am - 4 pm

Tuesday - Thursday 9 am - 9:30 pm

Friday - Saturday 9 am - 10 pm

Sunday 4 pm - 9 pm Dining Room Hours

Lunch:

Monday – Saturday 11:30 am - 3:00 pm

Dinner:

Tuesday – Saturday 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Sunday 4:00 pm – 9:00pm



5 RIVER ROAD
WILTON, CT 06897

Tom E Toes Restaurant, conveniently located in the heart of Wilton Center, has been serving the Wilton community since 1990. The light bright and airy dining room with its wall of 8 ft. French doors offers both lunch and dinner. We are located directly across from the Northeast Cinema (formerly Hoyt's)

DIRECTIONS

FROM I-95 NORTHBOUND

Exit 15 (Rt. 7 ext. N.) to end. Right at light. Left at 2nd light onto Route 7. Follow to light where Rt. 7 & Rt. 33 intersects. Take a left at the light following Rt. 7. At the next light take a left onto Wolfpit Rd. Take a right at the next light. Go straight at the next stop light. Follow until you see signs for 5 River Road, Stop & Shop Center.

FROM I-95 SOUTHBOUND

Exit 15 (Rt. 7 ext. N.) to end. Right at light. Left at 2nd light onto Route 7. Follow to light where Rt. 7 & Rt. 33 intersects. Take a left at the light following Rt. 7. At the next light take a left onto Wolfpit Rd. Take a right at the next light. Go straight at the next stop light. Follow until you see signs for 5 River Road, Stop & Shop Center.

FROM THE MERRITT PARKWAY NORTHBOUND

Exit 39B (Rt. 7 ext. N. - Danbury) to end. Right at light. Left at 2nd light onto Route 7. Follow to light where Rt. 7 & Rt. 33 intersect. Take a left at the light following Rt. 7. At the next light take a left onto Wolfpit Rd. Take a right at the next light. Go straight at the next stop light. Follow until you see signs for 5 River Road, Stop & Shop Center.

FROM THE MERRITT PARKWAY SOUTHBOUND

Exit 41. Left at light onto Rt. 33. Follow straight until Rt. 33 intersects Rt. 7. At light continue straight. At the next light take a left onto Wolfpit Rd. Take a right at the next light. Go straight at the next stop light. Follow until you see signs for 5 River Road, Stop & Shop Center.



TO ORDER CALL - 203-834-0733