






LEE HARTMAN & SONS INC.
Audio/Video Specialists Since 1936
 3236 Cove Road, NW Roanoke, VA 24017 540-366-3493 • www.leehartman.com

Saturday, May 08, 2010

Search in site...

-  **Make NewsRoanokeYour Home Page**
-  **Add NewsRoanoke to Your Favorites**
-  **The Roanoke Star-Sentinel Archives**

[The Roanoke Star-Sentinel](#)
[NewsRoanoke.com](#)



- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Perspective](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Photos](#)
- [Arts & Culture](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Videos](#)

Parenting Guru John Rosemond Delights Audiences



Posted by [stephen](#) on May 6th, 2010 and filed under [News](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#). You can leave a response or trackback to this entry



John Rosemond

If “parenting guru” John Rosemond were a politician, he would likely be slotted in the “Maverick” category; he is a psychologist by trade who may be in the business of putting his fellow psychologists out of business. Rosemond, whose syndicated “Parenting” column appears in over 200 papers nationwide, (including the Roanoke Times on Mondays) was in Roanoke last week to give two talks at the behest of Roanoke dentist Dr. Paul Henny, who recently attended one of Rosemond’s parenting workshops.

At the conferences, Henny was struck by the “relevance and timeliness” of Rosemond’s premises, which run counter to current popular culture—a culture which ostensibly would convince parents that “the child belongs on a pedestal—and their job is to please the child instead of the other way around.” Henny adds that Rosemond “gives me reassurance that my intuition on how to raise my three children is correct – and to not listen to what our culture is saying.”

At the first session, Henny introduced Rosemond by saying he had “tasked John with impacting the future of our families and communities – really the future of our children” by bringing his message to the Roanoke Valley. The first session focused on some of the history of parenting in the US, and provided many anecdotal examples of how this unfolded, while the second focused more specifically on how parents should discipline and set boundaries with their children.

At 62 and the grandfather of five, Rosemond calls himself “a man on a mission” which he dubs the “retro parenting revolution in America.” He points out that the decade of the 60s “left a completely different America; everything was changed about everything.” Before that time, everyone was basically in agreement as to how to raise children, and it was second nature—“something our great grandmothers just instinctively did.”

Since that time, Rosemond believes the psychology profession “has created more problems than it has solved, heavily contributing to the destruction of American culture”—hence his “maverick” status.

He points out that the crux of the problem is that parents are no longer providing leadership in raising their kids, and culturally, where there was once consensus, there is now confusion. By way of example, Rosemond points out that there are untold numbers of books published on how to raise children, each espousing something different.

True to his penchant for the comical, he observed that if all parenting books (assumed to be 1” thick) were stacked together, the column of books would be twice as tall as the tallest building in the world; he refers to this imaginary stack as “The Tower of Parent Babble.”

Rosemond also had a little fun denigrating all the “stuff” parents employ today, things like time-outs, star charts, and other means of bribery to attempt to change children’s behavior, which he says “in fact is not how you discipline a child.”

He also decries the habit today’s parents have of providing lengthy explanations as to why a child cannot do what he/she wants. “Stop giving explanations; explanations invite push-back.”

Mothers and fathers alike grabbed pen and paper when he added, “if you MUST provide explanations, I have approved only six,” which he added, can be used interchangeably—a testament to the fact that he believes that kids are not interested in explanations anyway; they only want to get their way. To prove this point to your child, he suggests putting the list on separate scraps of paper and keeping them in a handy fish bowl – choosing one whenever the need arises. The child will likely give up his battle once he realizes the futility of arguing.

The jarringly simple list of six: (Think: Letterman’s Top Ten List)

1. You’re not old enough
2. There’s not enough time
3. There’s not enough money
4. We don’t believe in that
5. It could hurt you
6. We don’t like those kids

He also observed that today in America, “we are not raising children; we are raising ‘modifiers.’” Rather than referring to them as a child, parents will often refer to their offspring as: “adopted, ADHD, OCD, bipolar, sensory integration disorder, gifted, and so on.” He urged that “we need to wake up in America to what has happened to us.”

Rosemond at times could have been channeling C.S. Lewis; he also has that slightly ruffled professorial air about him, yet he comes across as intellectually sharp as he espouses the spiritual underpinnings of his premises. “When God gave us children, He did not play a practical joke on us. The truth is written on your heart—the seed of intuition and common sense.” He adds that “child-rearing is not difficult if you have the right point of view.”

Perhaps a recent daily tidbit posted on Rosemond’s website (May 2) sums up the irony of our child-focused culture:

“The more parents try to make their children happy, the more they prevent their children from learning how to make, and keep, themselves happy.”

Dr. Rosemond is planning to conduct parent workshops in Roanoke in the near future. Contact Dr.Henny at paul@paulhennydds.com for details. For more information on John Rosemond, visit Rosemond.com

*By Cheryl Hodges
cheryl@newsroanoke.com*

Rating: 0.0/10 (0 votes cast)

Rating: 0 (from 0 votes)

[ShareThis](#)

Leave a Reply

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website



Notify me of followup comments via e-mail

RICK WOODSON
HONDA

3311 Peters Creek Rd
540-366-0888
800-633-1210

Recently Commented

- [“The Ring of Old Silver Lightly Dropped”](#)
- [Harrington Family Receives Continuing Support](#)
- [Former First Lady Anne Holton to Speak at Foster Care Benefit](#)
- [A Mountain of Butts and One “What If”](#)
- [Celebrating Parkway Memories](#)
- [Katherine Devine Opens Art Center](#)
- [Presenting Environmental DUH vs. FACT](#)
- [Dr. Charles Fuller Believes It’s All In God’s Time](#)
- [Transplant Remembrance Ceremony](#)
- [Roanoke Regional Airport Ignores Environmental Debacle](#)

Archives by Tag

[Baseball](#) [Basketball](#) [Bill Cleaveland](#) [Bob Goodlatte](#) [Bob McDonnell](#) [Boys Basketball](#) [Brian Gottstein](#) [Carilion Clinic](#) [Cave Spring](#) [Cave Spring High School](#) [Faith Christian School](#) [Fred First](#) [Graduation](#) [H. Bruce Rinker Ph.D.](#) [Happy Chef](#) [Hayden Hollingsworth](#) [Hidden Valley High School](#) [High School Basketball](#) [High School](#) [Football](#) [Hollins University](#) [John Robinson](#) [Jon Kaufman](#) [Keith McCurdy](#) [Lucky Garvin](#) [Mary Jo Shannon](#) [North Cross School](#) [Northside High School](#) [Our Take](#) [Patrick Henry high School](#) [Preacher's Corner](#) [Roanoke Catholic](#) [Roanoke City Council](#) [Roanoke City Schools](#) [Roanoke College](#) [Roanoke County](#) [Roanoke Rescue Mission](#) [RSO](#) [Softball](#) [Stephanie Koehler](#) [Swimming](#) [The Happy Chef](#) [Virginia Tech](#) [Volleyball](#) [William Byrd High School](#) [William Fleming High School](#)

Recent Entries

- [Hidden Valley Girls Tennis Team Looks Set To Make Run At Group AA Title](#)
- [Democrats Sweep Again](#)
- [Harrington Family Receives Continuing Support](#)
- [Decision on Mill Mountain Expected](#)
- [Parenting Guru John Rosemond Delights Audiences](#)
- [Cave Spring Hidden Valley Sports Showdown!](#)
- [Newest Greenway Segment Offers Country Vistas](#)
- [Cave Spring Athletes Ink Plans To Play At College Level](#)
- [Roanoke City School Board Appointments and Future School Restructuring](#)
- [Tech Basketball Practice Facility Named For Hahn-Hurst Family](#)

[Share](#)



OPTIONS

- [Subscribe](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Advertise With Us](#)
- [Pick up a Copy](#)
- [Star Cam](#)
- [Rail Cam](#)
- [Traffic Cams](#)
- [Puzzles](#)
- [About Us](#)





The advertisement features a vertical banner with a white background and several colorful circles in shades of red, green, and yellow. The word "Kids" is written in a white, cursive font inside a red circle at the top. Below it, the word "eat" is written in a white, cursive font inside a green circle. At the bottom of the banner, the word "Free" is written in a white, cursive font inside a large green circle.

Come join us at the Roanoker
on Thursday nights where
Kids Eat Free
4:30 - 9:00 p.m.
• Age 10 and under
from Children's Menu
• Limited to 2 Children's meals
with purchase of one Adult Entree

THE Roanoker
RESTAURANT

Roanoke's Local, Family Friendly Restaurant
for 53 Years
844-7746 • 1-881 at Wabaja & Colonial Ave.



A photograph of two young boys, one on the left and one on the right, both wearing orange shirts. They are both holding and eating red apples. The boy on the left is looking towards the camera, while the boy on the right is looking down at his apple.

Local Guides

Animal Information

Photo Gallery



[Regional Fire EMS Graduates 22](#)



[Dr. Charles Fuller Believes It's All In God's Time](#)



[Elswick Gives Update on Major County Projects](#)



[Tax Day Tea Party Fills Elmwood Park](#)



[Explosion of Color and Care Found at Local Yarn Shop](#)



[Roanoke Poised for Marathon](#)

[News](#)

[Perspective](#)

[Sports](#)

[Photos](#)

[Arts & Culture](#)

[Business](#)

[Education](#)

[Videos](#)

Main Office Phone: 540-400-0990

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8338 Roanoke VA 24014

[Subscribe](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Advertise With Us](#)

[Pick up a Copy](#)

[Star Cam](#)

[Rail Cam](#)

-
-
-

[Traffic Cams](#)

[Puzzles](#)

[About Us](#)

[Log in](#) / [WpAdvanced NewsPaper](#) by [Gabfire Themes](#)