



Myers & Son to buy The Lumber Yard locations

By BRENT BURKEY Daily Record/Sunday News

It's not the best of times in the building supply business, but Bob Myers III hopes buying two operations from The Wolf Organization can help get his business through and succeed once things get better.

Myers, president of John H. Myers & Son of York County, has agreed to buy the Manchester Township and Hagerstown, Md. locations of Wolfs The Lumber Yard, and retain employees.

The physical locations will close after employees, inventory and other assets are transferred to Myers locations in West Manchester Township and Chambersburg, respectively.

Locally, home sales in October alone were down about 25 percent from the year before, and contractors in residential building have said the current market is one of the worst they have seen.

But even in these tough times, the chance to get an established customer base and employees who know the business well without taking on a large real estate deal is something that doesn't come around often, Myers said.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

The two remaining locations of The Lumber Yard in Downingtown and Whitehall are on the block for buyers yet to be named.

Those sales would mark the end of The Wolf Organization's retail building-supply operation.

The Wolf Organization said it plans to concentrate on its Wolf Distributing Company, which distributes kitchen cabinets, decking materials and other products as a wholesale operation.

Jim Groff, president of Baublitz Advertising, a division of The Wolf Organization, said the wholesale distribution operation has been gaining market share despite the economic slowdown.

But, he said, the pie is obviously much smaller.

With the deal, both companies said they feel in better shape to take on whatever the economy has in store.

Groff said the two locations being sold employ a total of roughly 80 people. Myers said there were 73 total people available for jobs from The Lumber Yard location.

Myers said each of those workers are being offered jobs.

The Wolf Organization is reducing corporate positions by 20, including three retirements, reflecting the decreased business activity, the company said.

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Groff said the company will work in the coming months to integrate the Myers and Wolf staffs.

last week to pursue other public service. Some say he could run for governor.

We've got a lot of work ahead of us, Myers said.

About Myers

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John H. Myers & Son was founded in Dallastown in 1916 by John H. Myers. It is owned today by third-and fourth-generation members of the family.

The original site sold lumber, coal and building materials to contractors, homebuilders and farmers.

Later, it manufactured items from fireplace mantels to pillows.

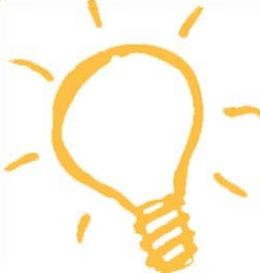
The company expanded to York during the 1960s housing boom and continued to grow. Today, the company operates five lumber yards in south central Pennsylvania.

About Wolf

The Wolf Organization traces its beginnings to 1843 and Adam Wolf, who began with one store selling goods and lumber along the Susquehanna River. The Wolf Organization is comprised of three operating divisions: Baublitz Advertising, Wolf Distributing Company and The Lumber Yard. Locations of the latter of the three are being sold to John H. Myers and Son.

Its former co-owner, Tom Wolf, was secretary of revenue for Pennsylvania before leaving the post

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