

GREATER READING CHAMBER ALLIANCE



- 606 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601
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- info@greaterreading.org
- www.greaterreading.org

Our mission is to be Berks County's leading unified resource for building a healthy, competitive business community. Our vision is to assist companies to retain, expand and grow their operations and employment and attract new businesses to Berks County.

GREATER READING CHAMBER ALLIANCE PRAISES REDUCTION OF CORPORATE NET INCOME TAX AND OTHER PRO-BUSINESS TAX CHANGES IN PA BUDGET

Jim Gerlach, President & CEO of the Greater Reading Chamber Alliance (GRCA) issued the following statement praising the passage of the 2022-23 state budget that includes the long-sought reduction of our state Corporate Net Income Tax (CNIT), the allowance for like kind exchanges, paying down the debt in the Unemployment Compensation Security Fund, and other important programs and policies that will directly benefit the Berks County business community.

"GRCA Members have long advocated for a reduction to Pennsylvania's prohibitively high CNIT. This gradual reduction from 9.99 percent to 4.99 percent by 2031 will send a clear signal that PA is truly 'Open for Business.' Thank you to the Berks County legislative leaders who voted for SB 1100 which also included finally aligning the state tax code with federal tax code, allowing for like kind exchanges. This tax change will greatly benefit our small business and agribusiness communities, helping them leverage additional funds to invest in expansion, improvements, and technology upgrades.

"We are very pleased to see \$42 million of American Rescue Plan funds go to paying down outstanding debt in the Workers' Compensation Security Fund which will ensure the Unemployment Compensation Tax levied on businesses will not be increased due to COVID related job loss. This \$45.2 billion budget will see increases in the Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) on top of an \$850 million increase for K-12 school districts with \$225 million earmarked for the 100 neediest school districts. The budget also includes the largest investment ever in agriculture, directing significant funding to combatting the spread of disease, such as avian flu, and invasive species, such as the spotted lanternfly.

"We applaud our legislative leaders for their fiscal conservatism in this year of historic revenue by holding new spending to just 2.9 percent over the 2021-22 budget. This budget will pay down \$2 billion in "structural" debt and increase the Rainy-Day Fund to \$5 billion, while preserving \$3.6 billion of the state's surplus for future budgets."

UPCOMING EVENTS

PENN STREET MARKET 2022

Thursday Aug 4, 2022

Every Thursday June-September
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
638 Penn Street, Reading, PA 19602
<https://www.pennstmarket.org/>
Free to attend! Free for all ages!

Contact Information: Aaron Gantz
agantz@greaterreading.org

CLEAN EATZ RIBBON CUTTING

Saturday Aug 6, 2022

August 6, 2022
11 am to 3 pm
cutting at 12 pm
1665 State Hill Rd
Wyomissing, PA 19610
<https://www.cleaneatz.com/locations/reading-pa>

ANNUAL PICNIC 2022

Tuesday Aug 9, 2022

4:30 PM - 8:30 PM EDT
Rain date: Thursday, Aug. 11
FirstEnergy Stadium
1900 Centre Ave.
Reading, PA 19601
\$45 per person / Member
\$55 per person / Not-Yet Member
\$400 for 10-ticket bundle
\$800 for 20-ticket bundle (includes batter in home run derby)
Contact Information: Rachael Romig
610-898-7775

rromig@greaterreading.org

register: <https://greaterreadingchamber.chamber-master.com/eventregistration/register/11131>

ADVANCED EXCEL - AUGUST 2022

Wednesdays: August 10, 17, 24, 31

8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Shearer Technical
727 Penn Avenue
West Reading, PA 19611
\$300/person - Chamber Members;
\$375/person - Not-Yet Chamber Members
<http://GreaterReading.org>

Contact Information: Mark Dolinski
mdolinski@greaterreading.org

Register: <https://greaterreadingchamber.chamber-master.com/eventregistration/register/11183>

BCAC MEETING: AUGUST 2022

Friday Aug 12, 2022

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM EDT
Meetings are held the 2nd Friday of each month.
Virtual Event
Login Link sent week of meeting.
Free to attend for BCAC Members Interested in attending? Contact Katie Hetherington Cunfer.
Contact Information:
Katie Hetherington Cunfer 610-898-7773
kcunfer@greaterreading.org

INTRO TO EXCEL - AUGUST 2022

Monday Aug 15, 2022

Four weeks on Mondays:
August 15, 22, 29 and Sept. 12
8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Shearer Technical
727 Penn Avenue
West Reading, PA 19611
\$300/person - Chamber Members
\$375/person - Non-Chamber Members
<http://www.greaterreading.org>

Contact Information: Mark Dolinski,
Vice President Training and
Professional Development
mdolinski@greaterreading.org

register: <https://greaterreadingchamber.chamber-master.com/eventregistration/register/11180>

Women2Women- LEAN IN CIRCLE INFORMATION SESSION - 2022

Tuesday Aug 16, 2022

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM EDT
Center for Business Excellence
49 Commerce Drive, Reading, PA 19601

Fees/Admission

Free to attend!
Registration required.

Contact Information: Rachael Romig
610-898-7775
rromig@greaterreading.org

INTERMEDIATE EXCEL - AUGUST 2022

Friday Aug 19, 2022

8:00 AM - 10:30 AM EDT
Four weeks on Fridays:
August 19, 26, Sept. 9, 16
Shearer Technical Computer Consultants
727 Penn Avenue
West Reading, PA 19611

\$300/person - Chamber Members;
\$375/person - Not-Yet Chamber Members
www.GreaterReading.org

Contact Information: Mark Dolinski, Vice
President Training and Professional Development
mdolinski@greaterreading.org
Register: <https://greaterreadingchamber.chamber-master.com/eventregistration/register/11182>

BERKS FBA ALL IN THE FAMILY GATHERING 2022: UNIQUE SNACKS

Wednesday Aug 24, 2022

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM EDT
Unique Snacks (Unique Pretzel Bakery)
215 E Bellevue Ave.
Reading, PA 19605
Complimentary to attend.
Registration is limited and open to family businesses.

Contact Information: Rachael Romig
610-898-7775; rromig@greaterreading.org

ADREAN TURNER
OWNER & CEO
TURNER COACHING & TRAINING
Member since 2016

GRCA
GREATER READING
Chamber Alliance

WE ARE GREATER TOGETHER
tinyurl.com/weareGRCA

ADVOCACY