#### GRCA's Annual Dinner Honors Top Businesses, Features Candace Nelson Dinner Winners

The Greater Reading Chamber Alliance (GRCA) recently celebrated the excellence of the Berks County business community at its Annual Dinner held at the Santander Arena. More than 800 people attended the colorful cupcake and sprinkle-themed event, which was punctuated by a discussion with Candace Nelson, TV personality and producer with Netflix, Hulu and Food Network Entrepreneur as well as a NYT & WSJ bestselling author. Freddy Vasquez, Owner of FXV Digital Design, Inc. and Host of the Fred Talk Podcast, served as the moderator.

The evening kicked off with Dan Langdon, retired CEO of East Penn Manufacturing Company, being recognized with the 2023 Albert Boscov Economic development Award. This award highlights a person or company that demonstrates a significant investment in job creation and economic growth for Berks County.

The 50 companies that made the Business Excellence Awards in Category 1 were recognized. UGI Energy Services, LLC; Singer



Equipment Company, Inc.; and Omega Systems, LLC, took the top 3 spots. The honored businesses in Category 1 are for-profit companies, with revenues of at least \$1 million in each of the past three fiscal years.

Smaller businesses were recognized in Category 2 with Pennsylvania Anesthesia Coalition, LLC; American Barber and Beauty Academy; and Catering by John Lowe making the top 3. The recognized companies

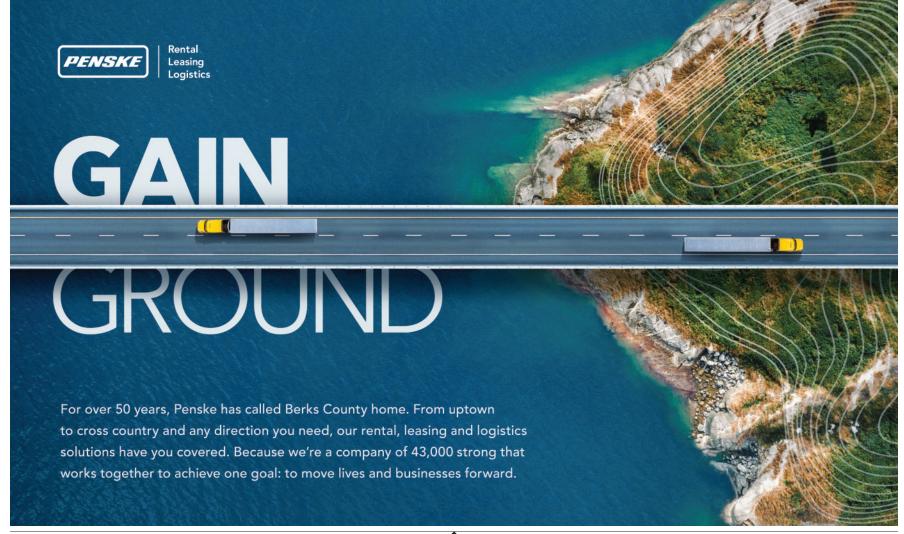


in Category 2 are for-profit businesses, with revenues of at least \$250,000 in each of the past three fiscal years.

"What a great night to celebrate Berks County businesses and their incredible achievements," said Jim Gerlach, President & CEO of GRCA. "We have some of the greatest businesses in the nation right here in our backyard, and we should celebrate not only their economic successes, but their terrif-

ic contributions to our community as well."

In the moderated discussion, Nelson and Vasquez talked about the highs and lows of entrepreneurship and how confidence plays a large role in an entrepreneur's mindset. They also discussed the importance of personal branding and how it can amplify business. Attendees left with actionable tools that can transform their dreams from passion projects to business ventures.





"I am delighted to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the businesses in the Greater Reading region at GRCA's Annual Dinner," said Sara Kuzma Stump, Director of Marketing at Suburban Testing Labs and GRCA's board chairwoman. "Their success is a testament to the strength and resilience of our community, and we are committed to supporting their growth and prosperity."



#### CATEGORY 1 AWARDS

(\$1M+ annual revenue for past three years)

UGI Energy Services, LLC
Singer Equipment Company, Inc.
Omega Systems, LLC
DoubleTree by Hilton Reading
Sealstrip Corporation
Berks Homes

Fromm Electric Supply

**Dolan Construction Inc.** 

**Reading Royals** 

Ethosource, LLC

**Stoney Creek Rentals** 

**Grant Manufacturing and Alloying Inc.** 

**Mail Shark** 

Smith Bukowski, LLC

Translogistics, Inc.

Ronnie C. Folk Paving, Inc.

**RKL LLP** 

New Castle Lawn and Landscape

Herbein + Company, Inc.

**Keller Williams Platinum Realty** 

Wyatt Seating

Champion Personnel, Inc.

**Spotts Insurance Group** 

<u>Fraser Advanced Information Systems</u> Chester Perfetto Agency, Inc. **Solve IT Solutions, LLC** 

East Penn Manufacturing Company Entech Engineering, Inc.

UECU

**Levan Machine & Truck Equipment** 

**D&S Elite Construction, Inc.** 

McCarthy Engineering Associates, Inc.

Muhlenberg Greene Architects, Ltd.

**Diamond Credit Union** 

Irish Creek Enterprises, Inc.

Berkshire Systems Group, Inc.

Unique Pretzel Bakery, Inc.

Kozloff Stoudt Attorneys

ROZIOTI Stoudt Attorneys

**Anewalt's Landscape Contracting** 

**Bogia Engineering Inc.** 

**Body Zone Sports and Wellness Complex** 

**Suburban Testing Labs** 

Weidenhammer

Weaver's Hardware Company

Berks · Fire · Water Restorations, Inc.

**Van Scoy Jewelers** 

**Rothenberger Insurance Services, LLC** 

**Cornerstone Law Firm, LLC** 

Strunk Media Group

Shuman Development Group

#### CATEGORY 2 AWARDS

(\$250K+ annual revenue for past three years)

Pennsylvania Anesthesia Coalition, LLC

American Barber and Beauty Academy

Catering by John Lowe

Junkluggers of Berks, Chester, Lancaster, PA D&S Portable Toilets, LLC ATA Martial Arts – Wyomissing
Moyer-Drabick & Associates, Ltd.
VA Productions, Inc.

**SNAPO Toys, LLC** 

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### CHAMBER ANNUAL PICNIC

#### **TUESDAY, AUG. 22**

RAIN DATE: WEDNESDAY, AUG. 23



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**NEW THIS YEAR:**Berks Biz Cornament

Scan code to purchase tickets or visit tinyurl.com/ GRCAPICNIC23







#### Bally Ribbon Mills Celebrates a Century of Textile Innovation

Bally Ribbon Mills, an industry leader in the design, development, and manufacture of highly specialized engineered woven fabrics, is celebrating their 100th Anniversary. Since BRM's founding in 1923 as a custom textile manufacturer in Bally, PA, the company has earned a reputation for meeting new advanced design challenges. BRM offers ingenuity, technical know-how, extensive weaving capabilities, and rigorous quality assurance systems on projects in the aerospace, defense, medical, safety, automotive, commercial, and industrial industries.

A small representation of BRM's accomplishments over the past century include the production of goods for the war effort in World War II, maintaining a continuous ISO quality program for close to 30 years, and numerous contracts, including with the U.S. Department of Defense, commercial aviation safety systems, and NASA. BRM's work with NASA includes using composite material in the construction of the heat shield used on NASA's Orion spacecraft and structural webbing used in inflatable habitats and flight/astronaut suits. BRM has been praised by NASA for its ability to

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answer every specification and challenge.

"As a family business, Bally Ribbon Mills is extremely proud to be a trusted partner by some of the largest, well-known companies and agencies from around the world," said Mark Harries, Vice President, at Bally Ribbon Mills. "Our success has been based on a long-term vision of growth, built around our high-quality engineered fabrics manufactured in America, our skilled employees, and our

reputation as a trusted advisor to customers. We will continue to stay at the forefront of technology for the industries we serve, just as we have over the past 100 years."

BRM is currently hiring talented individuals as they expand and innovate at their Bally, PA facility. Apply in person at 23 N. 7th St. Bally, PA or call, 610.845.2211 (EOE, M/F/D/V). Visit ballyribbon.com for more information.

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#### **G&T** Industries

G&T Industries is located in Reading, PA. The Reading location is one of three locations making up the foam fabrication business unit for G&T with facilities located in Byron Center, Michigan (also location of Corporate HQ), and Jasper, Indiana. Additionally, G&T has two other business units completing the G&T portfolio of companies; Crane Interiors is a manufacturer for marine upholstery located in Woodbury, Tennessee and World Resource Partners specializing in global sourcing and supply chain located in Byron Center, MI.

The Reading business recently moved to a new location within the Reading area completing construction of a new 100,000 sq ft building which became fully operational in May 2022. We were able to make this significant investment due to our continued success in serving our customers - The majority of our customers have been serviced by G&T in excess of ten consecutive years. These long-term relationships are developed through commitment and highlevel service by G&T by seeking collaborative development and partnering with its customers. Our ability to meet our customers' needs has made G&T a leader in foam fabrication, being a key supplier to the



Plant General Manager Bob Shumoski.

packaging, medical, furniture, transportation, automotive and sports and recreation markets.

People are at the heart of everything we do. Every aspect of our company is entirely reliant on people. Employee culture is key to our success, our employees are committed, dedicated and customer satisfaction oriented. When real people do real business with each other, everyone succeeds. Not all people may be fit to be a proud member of the G&T Team; customer satisfaction is the



core of our business, the core of our success. G&T employees care about each other, G&T employees care about our customers. We take pride in our quality and service, in doing the right thing. We are reliable and dependable. We care about our customers. People make the difference.

A significant differentiator of our G&T business compared to other businesses is G&T is 100 percent owned by the employees. Each employee is an owner of G&T Industries. Our compassion and commitment to each other makes G&T a great

company to work for. Each employee has the power to impact business results daily knowing they will share in the overall success of G&T as an employee-owner. Our individual decisions, our individual successes, our individual commitment, and compassion make us proud to be a member of the G&T Team.

G&T is proud to make people's lives better. G & T Industries is located at 1025 Epler Way, Reading, PA 19605; 610.374.6700. For additional information, please visit: www.gtindustries.com.



#### **G&T INDUSTRIES**

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Bob Shumoski, General Manager 610.374.6700 x2674 shumoskb@gtindustries.com Specializing in foam and rubber fabrication, upholstery, and order fulfillment for the transportation, medical, furniture, military, electronics, HVAC, athletic, packaging and marine industries.



G&T Industries Grand Opening Celebration.





#### Morgan Truck Body National Commercial Debut

Morgan Truck Body and EAVX launched a 60-second national commercial that highlights the technology and innovation that have positioned the companies at the forefront of electrification. To watch the national commercial, visit: www.morgan corp.com/ev-commercial/.

Both organizations also recently participated in filming a segment on Innovation in Transportation for the series Viewpoint, an award-winning national educational program, hosted by actor Dennis Quaid, which airs on public television stations nationwide. The segment will air on 170+ public TV stations throughout the year. To watch the segment go to: www.viewpoint project.com/ptv-segments-morgan-truckbody-llc/



High School Students Earn Credit and **Pay Through Morgan Truck Body Welding Internship Program:** Five area high schools are now sending students to Morgan Truck Body in Morgantown to pursue a hands-on career in manufacturing-and get paid while doing it! High school seniors who attend Morgan Truck Body's hands-on, skilled welding training program get paid while attending classes for two hours daily that count toward high school credit. With up to eight students per program session, students benefit from a small classroom experience during lab instruction, training on welding equipment, and access to a Virtual Reality Welding Simulator. Seniors in high school who are at least 17 years old can attend Morgan Truck Body's paid welding training program in either the fall or spring session.

Participants who are at least 18 years old may be offered employment at the end of the fall session and earn \$23 per hour working part-time until graduation. Students who are offered employment after the spring session can begin full-time work upon graduation at \$23 per hour and be eligible for 80 percent college tuition reimbursement after working full-time for six months.

"Of the 36 students who have graduated from the program so far, 28 have been hired by Morgan Truck Body straight out of high school at highly competitive, family-sustaining wages," said Richard Dixon, who manages the high school training program. "We'd really like to expand the number of high schools that participate so as many local students can benefit as possible." Interested schools can contact Julie Ubele at Morgan Truck Body at Julie.Ubele@morgancorp.com or call 610-286-2314.

Team Member Engagement: In 2023, Morgan Truck Body held 150 engagement events across all sites. Team members enjoyed events like Taco Day, Easter Celebration, Donut Day, Welcome Spring Event, Mother's Day Lunch, and BBQ for Memorial Day, to name a few. Project teams comprising of cross-functional, multi-level team members throughout the company meet monthly to determine events for each month so all employees can plan to engage in a variety of enjoyable activities at their sites throughout the year.









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- How do changes to our operations affect our energy costs?
- · What options are there for us to reduce our carbon footprint with Renewable Energy options?

UGI Energy Services, LLC would like to congratulate the recipients of the GRCA 2023 Business Excellence Awards!



#### **UGI** Energy Services

UGI Energy Services was recently awarded the Greater Reading Chamber Alliance (GRCA) Business Excellence Award. This award is presented to the area's most influential for-profit businesses and honors their contributions to the community. On May 23, 2023, the Greater Reading Chamber Alliance (GRCA) honored several Berks County businesses at their Annual Dinner. The Santander Arena was the stage for the colorful cupcake and sprinkle-themed event. Over 800 people were in attendance, celebrating the all-star businesses that go to work every day in our community.

Along with fifty other companies in the area, UGI Energy Services fell into Category 1 of the Business Excellence Awards. This included for-profit companies, with revenues of at least \$1 million

in each of the past three fiscal years. UGIES is honored to receive such a distinguished award among their stellar

As the only Natural Gas and Electricity Supplier headquartered in Berks County, PA, UGI Energy Services supplies and markets natural gas, liquid fuels, and electricity to 42,000 customer locations across the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern US. A subsidiary of UGI Corporation, UGIES is a supplier, marketer, and midstream services provider backed by over 140 years of natural gas experience, plus their own expanding energy infrastructure.







Van Scoy Jewelers

At Van Scoy Jewelers, we take great pride in being a small independent female-owned jewelry store. As we celebrate our 45th year in operation, we reflect on the challenges we have overcome and the milestones we have achieved. At the heart of our business philosophy lies our

unwavering commitment to providing exceptional customer service and a high-quality product. We recognize that our customers are at the core of our success, and their satisfaction is our goal. Over the



years, we have built strong enduring relationships with our clientele, who trust us to deliver not only exquisite jewelry but also personalized

attention and a memorable shopping experience. Our dedicated professional team ensures that every customer receives the utmost care and attention, ensuring their needs are met with precision and

care. We have a full-service repair shop and have the ability to custom craft a creation of your dreams. Call for an appointment or just stop in.

Receiving the Chamber's Top 50 Business Excellence Award for the third consecutive year fills us with immense pride and gratitude. We are honored to receive this award and be in the company of other successful Berks County businesses.

Van Scoy Jewelers is located at 1121 Penn Avenue Wyomissing, PA 19610. For additional information, please call 610.374.9330 and visit http://vanscoy.com.

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THIS YEAR Furniture Soup will be celebrating 20 years of helping clients design, and then execute the work environments that allow companies to perform more efficiently and creatively. Detailed planning and cost-conscious selections are key when it comes to providing the ideal environment for a successful, growing company.

Brenda and her expert team at Furniture Soup, the sales & project managers, designers, and installers, have been assisting companies with office expansions, relocations and sometimes even liquidations.



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