



Press Release

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Baker's IGA Wins Grocer Award

(Newcomerstown, OH)—On January 19, 2016, the Ohio Grocers Association presented its prestigious Pinnacle Award to multiple-store operator Baker's IGA. The Pinnacle Award, based on operational excellence and significant contribution to Ohio's food industry, is given annually to both a single-store operator and a multi-store operation.

Baker's roots are traced back to 1918, when Gary Baker's grandfather E.L. "Pop" Baker started a family grocery in Dennison, Ohio. When Gary's father Ed returned from serving in the U.S. Army Air Force in WWII he opened a small store in Freeport, Ohio with the help of his father E.L. Gary worked in this store as a child and eventually opened the Baker's A/G Foods Store in Newcomerstown in 1974 with assistance from his father Ed. Gary married Terrie in 1978 and she began working in the store learning the business from the ground up.

Today, almost 40 years later, Gary and Terrie have grown their family business to include five store locations, including four IGAs in Newcomerstown, Scio, Coshocton, Sugar creek, and the recently remodeled Baker's CashSaver store in Millersburg. The business continues to be a family run operation with Gary as President CEO and Terrie as Vice President and CFO. Thirty year Associate Mark Cutshall is Director of Store Operations. Both Gary and Terrie are active members in their church and community with Gary serving on the executive committee of OGA's board as well as the National Retail Advisory Board for IGA and Terrie serving on the National Grocers Association board as well as being an Ordained Deacon in the United Methodist Church. They have two children Heather (Clay) Utley of Seattle, WA and Sean (Rachael) Baker of Grand Rapids, MI. 4 Grandsons Max, Griffin, Tuck and Ari complete the family. Both Gary and Terrie have received numerous recognitions and awards for their exceptional service and achievements in the industry over the years.

"I am extremely honored to recognize Baker's IGA as our 2016 Pinnacle Award winner," says Kristin Mullins, President/CEO of OGA. "Gary and Terrie Baker, Mark Cutshall and their entire team have a long record of serving their communities and running outstanding grocery operations. They are most deserving of the Ohio Grocers Association's highest honor."

In addition to Tuesday's store presentation, the Baker company will receive a special video recognition at the Ohio Grocers Annual Trade Relations Gala on April 9, 2016, at the North Pointe Hotel and Conference Center.

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