

Bill Sarris named Family Business Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernst and Young

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canonsburg, Pennsylvania – June 24, 2014 On Friday June 20, Ernst & Young named Bill Sarris as Entrepreneur of the Year 2014 in the Family Business category for the Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia region. He is now an eligible nominee in the national competition later this year, as a regional finalist, in Palm Springs, California.

The EY Entrepreneur Of The Year® program honors entrepreneurs regionally in June every year. Recognized as one of the most prestigious business award programs in the country, the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year® awards celebrate the country's most innovative business leaders. In 2014, the 1,500 national nominees employed over 700,000 people and contributed to a steady national job growth of 33%. This year's gala to announce the winners for the Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia Region, complete with dinner and a dessert-and-dancing after party, was held at the Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown Hotel on Friday, June 20. Nine winners were selected in nine separate categories, with Bill Sarris being named Entrepreneur of the Year in the Family Business category. "It's a humbling experience to be honored for something you love to do," says Bill Sarris.

The award winners are selected in a number of industry categories by a panel of independent judges including previous winners of the award, leading CEOs and private capital investors and other regional business leaders, who devote significant effort to review and deliberate the merits of each nominee. Awards are given to entrepreneurs who have demonstrated excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation, financial performance, risk and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. "It was a huge honor to be recognized amongst a panel of other nominees who create the products, services and jobs that help our economy and communities grow," says Bill Sarris. All regional honorees are invited to the Strategic Growth Forum in Palm Springs, California in November 2014 where the national winners will be announced.

About Sarris Candies

Founded in 1960, Sarris Candies is a specialty chocolate company based in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. Family-owned and operated, the company employs over 350 full-time workers and spans nearly a football field of space at its primary retail location in Canonsburg. In addition to their chocolate, currently available in hundreds of retail locations throughout and beyond Western Pennsylvania as well as online at www.sarriscandies.com, Sarris Candies has become widely recognized for their successful fundraising programs and corporate gift-giving services.

For more information on Sarris Candies, please visit www.sarriscandies.com.

About EY Entrepreneur of the Year Program

Entrepreneur of the Year candidates include traditional entrepreneurs who are the founders/leaders of high-growth companies. They also are transformational CEOs who may not have started their company but have been essential to its success. Nominees can be CEOs of public or privately held companies, multi-generational family business leaders or divisional CEOs. The nominee's company must be at least three years old. The Entrepreneur of the Year Program honors entrepreneurs regionally in June. All regional honorees are then invited to the Strategic Growth Forum in Palm Springs, California. The gala is the culminating event of the EY Strategic Growth Forum®, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies. The overall national US winner will compete for the World Entrepreneur of the Year title in Monaco in June 2015.

For more information on the EY Strategic Growth Forum®, please visit www.ey.com/us/sgf.