



U.S. Small Business Administration

SYRACUSE DISTRICT

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Chenango County Business Wins SBA Small Business Excellence Award

SYRACUSE, N.Y. - Local business **Great Brook Solar NRG, LLC** was honored last Friday with an SBA Small Business Excellence Award at the DoubleTree Hotel in East Syracuse. The U.S. Small Business Administration and the New York Business Development Corporation hosted the 14th annual luncheon to recognize the achievements of local small businesses.

NBT Bank, N.A. nominated Great Brook Solar NRG, LLC, owned by David Austin. David Austin established Great Brook Solar NRG to provide alternatives to "conventional" energy sources. The company installs, sells and services solar electric, solar heating, geothermal heat pump and micro-hydro systems, and emergency and hybrid combinations. Recognizing the energy crisis of the 1970's not as a disaster, but as a wakeup call, David realized that there is a certain philosophy and spiritual nature integrated into the use of renewable energies. Great Brook Solar's mission is not only to help people save money and raise their standard of living through use of renewable energy, but to provide a measure of freedom from dependence on centralized energy distribution.

Small businesses are selected for the Excellence Awards based on their company's longevity, innovation, sales growth, increased employment, ability to overcome adversity or community contributions.

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Photo caption:

Great Brook Solar NRG, LLC – From left: James Conroy, NYBDC, Brian Burton, NBT Bank, N.A., David Austin, Great Brook Solar NRG, LLC, and Bernard J. Paprocki, SBA.