

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

POPPED!

Are you looking for popcorn so scrumptious that you can't stop eating? How about confectionary treats that melt in your mouth? If you answered yes to either question, a visit to one of Popped! locations are a must!

Using her four growing boys as taste testers, Gwen Rosenberg developed a passion to perfect her popcorn and chocolates recipes. In 2012, Gwen and her husband, Aaron, became entrepreneurs by opening the original Popped! store in Acorn Alley, Kent. This family-owned confectionary and popcorn business took off and quickly became a must-stop Kent destination. By 2016, they were quickly outgrowing their space in Kent and needed a second location with a large production space that could grow with their needs. That space turned out to be the C.A. Reed building in downtown Ravenna but the 7,500 square foot, 116- year old building needed serious attention because of its age and general neglect.

Under the guidance of the Rosenberg's, Metis Construction was tasked with the construction and rehabilitation of the space. Gwen and Aaron really wanted to retain the original feel and spirit of the historic space and considered the project a labor of love. After Metis updated the electrical and plumbing, the flooring was replaced throughout with a tile pattern to reflect the building's age and era. The tin ceiling was saved and while it was too fragile to restore to the original unpainted condition, it was scrubbed and repainted to maintain its historic charm. Ravenna Popped! opened August of 2019 to brisk sales and local enthusiasm.

Gwen stated, "It's been exciting to see Ravenna commit to become a Heritage Ohio Main Street as Kent had years earlier." She says the future is bright and says, "A candy store on main street is as treasured as apple pie on the Fourth of July and cake at a birthday. This 100-year-old building Judge Reed built has survived it all, and we'll be here making popcorn and candies for many years to come."