

The Fort Atkinson Area Chamber of Commerce presents its annual Economic Contribution Award to that individual, business or organization that has contributed to, and promoted the objectives of the Fort Atkinson Area Chamber of Commerce in the areas of job growth and retention, capital investment, facility expansion, community involvement and/or innovation. This award was created in 1973, and is regarded as the Chamber's most prestigious recognition. Past recipients include some of our largest employers who have positively impacted job creation, and individuals who have had a vision of growing their own companies as well as our business community overall.

The selection committee for this award consists of past Chamber presidents who met in mid-January to choose this year's recipient from a list of worthy nominees that had been submitted by our members.

Here are a few facts about our 2017 award winner:

- They were established in 1940 and have four offices in Jefferson County, one of which just underwent a major transformation.
- They had a 98% employee retention rate in 2017.
- Their employees volunteered over 1,000 hours in community service last year.
- They have a bumble bee for a mascot.

Fort Community Credit Union has a long history in our community. Like many of our esteemed institutions, their foundation was built by people who were also integral to the growth of our city. Their success today is a tribute to the careful planning of past boards and officers, as well as the innovative ideas of today's leadership team.

As part of its facility renovation, FCCU made a large investment in technology, focusing on retail-inspired amenities and interactive teller machines. Even kids can get into the action with a special area equipped with iPads, just for them.

Like all our financial organizations, FCCU is a partner with the Chamber in bringing financial literacy to our schools. They participate in the middle school Future Business Leaders of America speaker program, as well as the Reality Fair, which aims to help kids understand just how far a dollar goes in the real world.

They have participated in Project LEAD, sponsored Chamber events, and served on the Chamber's workforce development and golf outing committees. Many Chamber members take part in or benefit from the credit union's Buzz Points program, which rewards people for shopping locally.

To further build community, Fort Community Credit Union employees donate their time to assist with events like the Unity Project, the Holiday Parade and Open House, and the contra dances at the Fort Atkinson Club.

They are strong supporters of the arts, as is evident by the interior of their Main Branch on Madison Avenue, where vibrant murals highlight local attractions and display student artwork purchased to support the Ernie Pope Art Show.

As an additional way to serve and support the local community, FCCU partnered with local contractors for their recent \$3 million renovation, and plans are now underway to begin renovations on their southside branch in 2018.

Please join us in welcoming Fort Community Credit Union President Sue Johnson, Board Chairman Ernest Witzke, and Board Treasurer Ron Vogel who are here to accept the Chamber's 2017 Economic Contribution