

Atchison business celebrated, awarded, Saturday

(KAIR)--A celebration of the Atchison business community was held Saturday evening, as community and business leaders gathered at the Atchison Event Center, the site of the 2025 Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner.

As tradition holds, the dinner, overseen by recently installed Executive Director Jill Thorne, was accompanied by an awards ceremony, recognizing the best of the best in Atchison business.

Honored first was the Chamber's Volunteer of the Year, with that award presented to Cindy Baker of Taylor Insurance.

The Spirit of Atchison Award, given to those businesses that step up, and step forward, for community spirit, was presented to Atchison Dental Associates.

The Entrepreneur of the Year Award was earned by Kim Bottorff, owner of Crystal Co LLC, for, in the words of the Chamber, "turning a hobby into a successful niche business."

Also presented Saturday evening was the Legacy Alive Award, presented to those who keep the legacy of a long-running Atchison business alive. The honor was given to Tim Bell and Jeff Bell, of Carrigan Lumber.

An Atchison golf club was the recipient of the night's final, but top honor, the Business of the Year Award.

Citing such challenges as "an aging facility and a dwindling customer base" that was, through a choice to "keep fighting" turned into "an incredible comeback," including a customer base increase of 200%, the Chamber awarded the Business of the Year honor to the Atchison Golf Club at Bellevue. P

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