

April 4, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Western Massachusetts Council - Boy Scouts of America
2 South Street, Suite 125
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Attn: Ruthann Eagen
413-594-9196 x7032
Ruthann.Eagen@scouting.org

Pittsfield Cooperative Bank President, Jay Anderson, to Receive Coveted Distinguished Citizen Award

The 2017 Lawrence Strattner Distinguished Citizen Award, sponsored by The Western Massachusetts Council, Boy Scouts of America, will be presented June 1st at The Pittsfield Country Club, to Jay Anderson. This annual award is presented to a recipient chosen for renowned community service and civic participation as evidenced by involvement and leadership given to worthwhile organizations and causes, as well as for the respect and esteem in which they are held by their colleagues.

This annual award is named for Lawrence W. Strattner, Jr, past president of the Berkshire Life Insurance Company and respected community leader. His dedication to the citizens of Berkshire County is legendary. He served on many local boards including the local Boys Scouts Council as President. Previous award recipients include Kathryn Mickle, Pittsfield Police Chief Michael Wynn, the Honorable Rudy Sacco, Andy Mick, Governor Jane Swift, Peter C. Giftos, Conrad Bernier, Ed McCormick, Michael Daly, Ray Murray III, Susan Lombard, David Phelps, Senator Jack and Mrs. Jane Fitzpatrick, Dick Whitehead, C. Jeffrey Cook, Robert Wells, James Mooney, Dan Dillon, Reverend Willard and Mrs. Rosemary Durant, Thomas Aceto, and Lawrence Strattner, Jr.

Jay began his professional career at First Agricultural Bank and has held numerous commercial lending and management positions including Regional President with TD Bank in the Berkshires. Jay has nearly thirty years of financial services experience. In addition to his financial experience, he has guided the Pittsfield Economic Revitalization Corporation (PERC) for the past 14 years and is currently the Board President. He holds leadership positions with Berkshire Housing Corporation, Berkshire Health Systems and Berkshire Place. Jay has also served in a leadership role for the Berkshire Museum, the Central Berkshire Chamber of Commerce and The Cooperative Bank Employee Retirement Association (CBERA). Jay is a native of Pittsfield, is a graduate of Taconic High School and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He attended the New England School of Banking at Williams College and received the prestigious Lordon Scholar Award as the class's top Banking student. He was named one of Berkshire Magazine's Best of 2016 he was honored as a Community Bank Hero from Banker and Tradesman in 2015. He and his wife Karen reside in Lanesborough with their daughter Shea, son Collin and black lab, Bentley.

All funds raised through this event are tax deductible and will directly benefit over 800 young men and women served through the Appalachian Trail District of the Western Massachusetts Council. Support of the event will ensure Scouting, which has been growing over the past several years, will continue to carry out its mission of character development, citizenship training, physical, mental and spiritual growth for young men and woman, the leaders of tomorrow in our community.

Those interested in attending can purchase tickets for this popular event, and those unable to attend, but would like to send their support can contact Gail Wojtkowiak at the Boy Scout Service Center in Pittsfield at 413-594-9196 x7018 or Gail.Wojtkowiak@scouting.org.