

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 29, 2016**

Ashley Nowell | Assistant Director

[ashley@downtownLS.org](mailto:ashley@downtownLS.org) | 816-246-6598

[www.downtownLS.org](http://www.downtownLS.org)

---

# **Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street Honors Volunteers and Businesses at Annual Awards Event**

Volunteers, community members and local business owners were honored during the Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner, June 28 at The Gamber Center in Lee's Summit, Mo.

The following individuals and businesses were recognized for their commitment to the revitalization and preservation of Downtown Lee's Summit.

- The Living Stone, Best Display Window
- @Jolly's, Business of the Year
- Dave Eames, Dale Hartley Service Award
- Don Ploeger, Downtown Champion
- Abundant Life Baptist Church, Golden Broom Award
- Nancy Bruns, Mary Stacy Ambassador of the Year
- Melissa Beall, New Downtown Dynamo
- Mayor Pro Tempore Rob Binney, Outstanding Public Official
- Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street Office, Outstanding Special Project
- Jillian Steller, Rookie of the Year
- The Blarney Brew Off, Top Special Event
- Donna Furr, Volunteer of the Year
- Downtown Community Improvement District Board, President's Award
- Community Branding Initiative, Premier Partner Award

Three seats on the Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street Board of Directors were up for election at the annual meeting. Current investors of the organization voted on a slate of candidates put forward by the organization's nominating committee. The newly elected board members, to serve a three-year term, include:

- Lynn Hinkle, regional bank manager with Great Southern Bank
- Tony Olson, owner of Snax Management/Neighborhood Café
- Nick Swearngin, owner of John’s Barber Shop

The event’s theme was “At the Heart of it All” and Downtown Lee’s Summit Main Street unveiled its new mission and vision:

The mission of Downtown Lee’s Summit Main Street is to promote, enhance, and preserve the heart of our city by cultivating a diverse mix of businesses, cultural and family-friendly events, unique housing options, and inclusive public spaces.

Downtown Lee’s Summit is the past, present, and future heart of our community.

Downtown Lee’s Summit Main Street is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the revitalization and preservation of Downtown Lee’s Summit. For more information, visit [www.downtownls.org](http://www.downtownls.org).

—30—

**MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA** *(not for publication):*

To reach DLSMS Executive Director Donnie Rodgers Jr.: [donnie@downtownls.org](mailto:donnie@downtownls.org).

To reach DLSMS Assistant Director Ashley Nowell.: [ashley@downtownls.org](mailto:ashley@downtownls.org).

To reach DLSMS Events & Promotions Director Julie Cook: [julie@downtownls.org](mailto:julie@downtownls.org).

To reach DLSMS Communications Coordinator Jen Steller: [jen@downtownls.org](mailto:jen@downtownls.org).

Or call 816-246-6598. High-resolution photos and logos available upon request.

**ABOUT DOWNTOWN LEE’S SUMMIT:**

Downtown Lee’s Summit is a multiple state and national award-winner for excellence in downtown revitalization, including the 2010 Great American Main Street Award®, which the National Trust Main Street Center gives to only five communities across the nation every year.

Rich in history, Downtown Lee’s Summit is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Its strong ties to the railroad continue to this day — visitors can hop on a passenger train and arrive at the Amtrak station in Downtown Lee’s Summit for a memorable trip. With more than 40 distinctive retail shops, and many restaurants and bars ranging from upscale to laid-back, Downtown Lee’s Summit is an eclectic and fun place to visit. New residential lofts and adjacent historic neighborhoods also make Downtown Lee’s Summit an exceptional place to call home. A unique combination of preservation of history and place, with progressive attitudes and entrepreneurship, make Downtown Lee’s Summit a great place to live, shop, eat and play.