

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Donna Furr of Lee's Summit Honored with the Volunteer of the Year Award**

The Missouri Main Street Connection hosted the annual Evening of Excellence Awards Thursday, July 28 to honor communities, individuals, businesses and civic organizations that have completed exemplary work in downtown revitalization in Missouri. The event was held at the St. Francis Borgia Parish Jesuit Hall in downtown Washington, Missouri as part of the "Get Plugged in Downtown" state conference. Awards were presented in 16 categories.

Missouri Main Street Connection recognized Donna Furr as the Volunteer of the Year, an award given to only one individual in the state of Missouri each year. Donna was nominated by Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street (DLSMS) to honor her many contributions to downtown.

"From her very first meeting, Donna made an immediate impact," said DLSMS executive director, Donnie Rodgers. "Donna never volunteers for the easy jobs and she is happiest working behind the scenes, which makes this award that much more special. We wanted to call attention to her steadfast service to our community."

Furr is the incoming Chair for the Downtown Days Committee, by far the largest event that DLSMS plans every year. Not only is she instrumental in the success of the Downtown Days Festival, but she also volunteers on a number of other committees including the Emerald Isle Parade.

Furr is a long-time resident of Downtown Lee's Summit. Her friendly face is frequently seen in its businesses and throughout the district as she takes her dogs on their daily walk.

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**MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA** (not for publication):

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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.

#### **ABOUT MISSOURI MAIN STREET CONNECTION:**

Missouri Main Street Connection (MMSMC), launched as a non-profit organization in 2006, is designed to help communities preserve their historic buildings and reinvigorate their downtown districts. Through this work, the communities actively participating in the Missouri Main Street Program have successfully created 526 net new businesses and 2,936 net new jobs.