

Yours Truly

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 6, 2020 Ashley Nowell | Assistant Director ashley@downtownLS.org | 816-246-6598 www.downtownLS.org

Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street Celebrates State Award Winners

Missouri Main Street Connection Inc. presented downtown revitalization awards on July 30, 2020, during the annual Evening of Excellence Virtual Ceremony on Facebook Live.

The virtual ceremony honored communities, individuals, businesses, and organizations from across the state that have completed exemplary revitalization work. Competitive nominations were submitted for projects, activities, and individuals in 15 different categories that covered aspects of design, economic vitality, organization, promotion, and other efforts in downtown revitalization.

Nick Parker received Missouri Main Street Connection's Volunteer of the Year award during the ceremony. Nick has been a valuable and trusted volunteer for Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street since 2012. Nick is a member of the organization's Downtown Days Committee, Emerald Isle Parade Committee, Organization Committee, Economic Enhancement Committee, and serves on the Board of Directors. Nick's leadership on each of these committees has been important for Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street, especially when navigating events and projects during the COVID-19 Pandemic. His dedication to Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street and support of downtown businesses showcases why he was chosen as the state's Volunteer of the Year.

John and Kim Carlson received the award for Best Façade Rehabilitation over \$10,000 for their work to restore 22 SW Third St. Purchased by the Carlsons in 2019, the 1886 building formerly housed the Do Drop Inn from 1961-2019. In the 1970s, metal screening was added to the second floor and the original first floor façade was bricked to create a modern look. The Carlsons removed the 1970s facade to find the original window casings and corner entry of the building. They restored the exterior of the building to look very much like it did when it was first constructed in 1886. 22 SW Third St is one of the oldest buildings in Downtown Lee's Summit and is an important gateway into the downtown district.

Arcade Alley was recognized as a semi-finalist for Most Innovative Project for Repurposing Vacant Space. Owners Pat Maloney and Alex Ruiz renovated the former Lee's Summit Dry

Cleaners building from the ground up to bring a new concept in dining and entertainment to downtown Lee's Summit. Arcade Alley is a restaurant, bar and interactive vintage gaming venue that specializes in craft beer, frozen cocktails, and upscale small plates.

Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street is proud to recognize our semi-finalist and award winners. Volunteers and projects like these are what make Downtown Lee's Summit a special place.

— END —

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA (not for publication):

To reach DLSMS Executive Director Donnie Rodgers, Jr.: <u>donnie@downtownls.org</u>. To reach DLSMS Assistant Director Ashley Nowell: <u>ashley@downtownls.org</u>. To reach DLSMS Events & Promotions Director Julie Cook: <u>julie@downtownls.org</u>. To reach DLSMS Creative Content and Design Coordinator Rachael Fitch: <u>rachael@downtownls.org</u> Or call 816-246-6598. High-resolution photos and logos available upon request. <u>https://downtownls.smugmug.com/</u>

ABOUT DOWNTOWN LEE'S SUMMIT MAIN STREET, INC:

Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street, Inc. is a nationally-recognized and accredited 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the revitalization of Downtown Lee's Summit. Founded in 1989, DLSMS implements the National Trust Main Street Center Four-Point Approach[®] to commercial district revitalization. DLSMS is a multiple state and national award-winner for excellence in downtown revitalization, including the 2010 Great American Main Street Award[®], which is the highest honor given by the National Trust Main Street Center. In 2019, Downtown Lee's Summit was named America's Great Neighborhood by the American Planning Association.