



*(Greensboro News and Record, May 20, 2007)*

## **Downtown leaders get recognition for revitalization efforts**

News and notes from Downtown Greensboro Inc.:

Downtown Greensboro presented its third annual Report to the Community on Sept. 20 at The Empire Room.

Interim president Sherry Adams and board chairman Chester Brown gave an overview of downtown's progress, upcoming projects and what to expect in the upcoming year. The keynote speaker, Troy Russ, principal, and senior urban developer with Orlando-based Gladding Jackson Kercher Anglin, spoke about public and private partnerships for redevelopment of urban environments.

DGI also presented several awards. **They included the 2007 J. Edward Kitchen Downtown Leadership Award to Jimmy Black.** Black played a key role as one of the founders of DGI, serving as board chairman in 1997-98 and spearheading the growth and revitalization of downtown Greensboro with the concept of taking "baby" steps until goals were achieved.

Betty Cone was given the 2007 Downtown Person of the Year Award.

Cone was a leading force in saving the Carolina Theatre, preserving the J. Douglas Gaylon Depot, and establishing the Greensboro Cultural Center. She served on the board from DGI's inception in 1997 and still serves today.

Additional honorable mentions for past and present service to downtown and DGI were presented to:

Dale Hall, Bank of America, Triad Area Market president and past DGI chairman

Daniel Craft, The Insurance Center, president and past DGI chairman

Mary Wells, Rhyne's Corner Cupboard owner and past DGI executive committee member and board member

Bob Isner, Greensboro Contracting, O. Henry Builders and past DGI board member.

The Downtown Volunteer of the Year award was presented to downtown advocate and resident Bonnie McIntosh, who has volunteered for various downtown events and is known as an unofficial ambassador for Center City Park and many downtown venues.

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