

Awarded by the Louisville Historical Commission

Pioneer Award

**DEBBIE KRUEGER
2022**



Debbie Krueger was one of the original founders of the Downtown Business Association and helped to create many of the things that make downtown Louisville the prosperous and fun locale we know today. Originally from Boulder County, Debbie owned a downtown business, the Crazy Horse 2 Salon, from 1988 until 2012. In 1993, along with Cheri Ruskus, she started the Downtown Business Association largely in response to the City's proposed improvements to Main Street and its sidewalks. Worried that the construction would interfere with downtown businesses, Debbie became a volunteer liaison between City Hall, the construction contractors, and the downtown business owners. Her energetic actions resulted in a win-win solution for all with no significant delays in the improvement project and very few complaints from the business owners.

That set the stage and the DBA took off from there, playing an active role in keeping the character of downtown while making it a vibrant business spot as well. Debbie played many roles in the DBA, from picking up trash after events to serving as president and bringing new events and ideas to downtown. Like any good leader, she is quick to give credit to the many members of the DBA and others who worked with her along the way. In fact, even now she is encouraging us all to be active neighbors and working to improve our community.