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### NOTE: images can be downloaded at <u>vogile.com/conceptphotos</u>

# Special invitation: Lowes Foods invites Summerville/Charleston-area residents and news media to a ribbon cutting on Wednesday, December 6 at 10 a.m.

## Lowes Foods to Open Summerville Store on December 6 at 10 am

Featuring Local Emphasis and Lowes Foods to Go Personal Shopping Service

Summerville, S.C. (November 21, 2017) – Lowes Foods, a family owned Carolinas-based grocer, will celebrate the grand opening of its first Charleston area store in Summerville with a special ceremony on Wednesday, December 6 at 10 a.m. Located on Dorchester Road in the Oakbrook Station, the 50,000 sq. ft. Lowes Foods will employee approximately 150 hosts and will feature a wide range of products in areas of the store called Lowes Foods Originals. The Lowes Foods Fuel Center in front of the new store has already opened.

"We are thrilled to share our new Summerville store with the entire Charleston area community. It represents the latest addition in our journey to completely reimagine the grocery shopping experience and inspire guests," Lowes Foods president Tim Lowe said. "Like all of our stores, the Summerville store is very focused on supporting all things local, including a number of incredible products that we discovered at our recent vendor fair."

"Our commitment to the Summerville community includes offering produce sourced through our partnership with more than 200 local farmers and featuring a wide assortment of unique local products found throughout the store," Lowe added. "These local products also make great gifts. We look forward to sharing holiday cooking demonstrations, sampling and recipes featuring local products at our Summerville store's community table."

Lowes Foods Originals to be featured in the new Summerville store will include:

- **Bread Crumb** brings the bakery experience to life by featuring fresh-baked artisanal breads that are handcrafted, all natural and have no preservatives. Lowes Foods' signature Cobblestone breads are baked using fresh ingredients throughout the day, and the store's Hot Fresh Bread program promises fresh-from-theoven loaves from 4:30pm-7:30pm every day – perfect to pick up for dinner.
- Smokehouse offers daily rotations of wood-smoked meats including beef, pork, chicken and salmon using a variety of woods to infuse flavor. You can pick them up ready to eat or ready to take home and heat.
- **Sammy's** menu includes signature sandwiches that feature ingredients from the Lowes Foods Originals such as SausageWorks, Chicken Kitchen, and Smokehouse. There are also create-your-own sandwiches, pizzas, and paninis that can be heated and ready to eat in just 90 seconds.
- **The Chicken Kitchen** includes a variety of prepared chicken that is fresh and never frozen, locally sourced, and is raised with "no antibiotics ever". When hot chicken comes out of the rotisserie oven, the animated chicken chandelier signals the start of Lowes Foods' special chicken celebration, including a unique version of the Chicken Dance.
- **SausageWorks** is what you'd get if Willy Wonka had made sausage instead of chocolate. SausageWorks features locally made pork, beef and poultry sausages in an unbelievable number of flavors, from the familiar crowd-pleasers to the "are they insane?" combinations.

- **The Beer Den** offers the finest selection of crafts and drafts that is fantastically varied, local and refreshing. There are seasonal offerings of unique beers, special events, tap takeovers, and Growler fills on-site. In addition, Guests can "sip and shop" with a pint of beer or a cup of wine.
- **Pick & Prep** assists shoppers by cutting prep time in the kitchen so they can enjoy a little more quality time at the table. Pick & Prep chefs cut, slice, dice, mince and cube your fruits and vegetables the way you prefer, while you shop. Pick & Prep also offers an array of packaged, grab-&-go fruits and veggies that are cut fresh throughout the day.
- **The Cakery** is a whimsical bakery where being square is incredibly cool. The Cakery features "Scrumptiouslyumptiously" delicious square cakes in all sizes that are assembled before eyes, topped with icing made fresh in-store with real cream and real butter icing made fresh in-store.
- **Spice Bazaar** makes cooking easier by featuring five categories of herbs and spices -- leaves; seeds; flowers and fruit; roots, bulbs and bark in convenient size options. You can also buy special blends for quick dips to entertain or the perfect seasoning for your meal.
- **The Community Table** is a place where shoppers can gather and be inspired to try something new. Constructed of reclaimed wood from local barns, it also serves as the site for events such as recipe sampling, activities for children, and eating tips including as how to eat gluten free.

For the ultimate in locally grown products—and just in time for holiday cooking—the Summerville store will feature a "pick your own herbs" section in the front of the store where store guests can clip a fresh sprig of rosemary or thyme for that recipe that calls for just a pinch. In addition, the new store will feature a wide assortment of organics, prepared foods, bulk foods, and the convenience of the Lowes Foods-To-Go online personal shopping service.

Lowes Foods is continuing construction on a store in Mt. Pleasant at the intersection of Hwy. 41 and Woodpark Drive. For more information and updates about the Charleston-area Lowes Foods, please go to Facebook and "like" facebook.com/lowesfoodslowcountry.

#### **About Lowes Foods**

Founded in 1954, Lowes Foods employs approximately 9,000 people and operates nearly 100 full-service supermarkets in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. Locally owned and operated, Lowes Foods is truly a homegrown company committed to bringing community back to the table, by providing customers with the freshest and most innovative local products from local suppliers. The company maintains a strong focus on exceptional attention to our guests, with services like Lowes Foods-To-Go personal shopping and gas rewards discounts. To learn more, visit lowesfoods.com or follow Lowes Foods on Facebook or Twitter. Lowes Foods, LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Alex Lee, Inc.

#### About Alex Lee, Inc.

Founded in 1931, Alex Lee is a family-owned and operated company that employs approximately 10,000 people. It serves as the parent company of Merchants Distributors, LLC, which provides full-service, wholesale distribution to supermarkets. In addition, Alex Lee is the parent company of Lowes Foods, which includes nearly 100 full-service grocery stores in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, as well as Just Save food stores in North Carolina. Alex Lee, Inc. is based in Hickory, NC.

For more information, please visit <u>alexlee.com</u>.

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