

For Immediate Release:

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Taylorville, Illinois: As a community bank, Peoples Bank & Trust recognizes the value of volunteerism in our communities. To recognize, commend and promote the volunteerism, Peoples Bank & Trust has established a program to recognize outstanding community members for their volunteer efforts of improvement to our community.

Dean Ray has been chosen as our current Volunteer of the Quarter. Dean is a long time member of the Taylorville Kiwanis Club. He has served as Past President, Membership Chairman, co-chairman of the Kiwanis Park Board and Chairman of the cooking committee. He is a lifetime member of the Taylorville Veterans of Foreign Wars. Dean also does a lot of volunteer work with the local American Legion Post 73. He is presently the Sergeant of Arms. Dean is a member of their cooking brigade and serves on the Honor Guard that marches in the parades and does the veterans burials.

The organization that Dean has chosen to give his award to is the American Legion Salvage Dawgs. This group does a fundraiser once a year that collects all types of metal from people's yards, basements and anywhere they can find it. Their main purpose is to raise funds for Veterans that are what you would call "down on their luck". It could be someone that is driving through town and needs gas money, something to feed their family or some kind of repair on their car. They have had people that needed a place to stay for a night, or to pay their water bill until they get on their feet. There is a definite need and a thousand reasons veterans need a little help now and then. That is what they try to do.

In honor of Dean's volunteer services to the community, Peoples Bank has made a donation to American Legion Salvage Dawgs and his name will be placed on a plaque to be displayed at the bank.

Peoples Bank & Trust is an independent Community Bank with ten offices located in Pana, Taylorville, Altamont, Tower Hill, Charleston, Springfield, Morrisonville, Palmyra, Waverly and White Hall. Peoples is a full service bank offering outstanding customer service to consumers, small business, and farmers in Central Illinois. People First Bancshares, Inc., with corporate offices in Pana, Illinois, is the holding company for Peoples Bank & Trust.