For Immediate Release:

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Charleston, Illinois: As a community bank, Peoples Bank & Trust recognizes the value of volunteerism in our communities. To recognize, commend and promote volunteerism, Peoples Bank & Trust has established a program to recognize outstanding community volunteers who personally exhibit outstanding volunteerism and promote the improvement of our communities.

The Charleston Parks and Recreation Department has been chosen as Peoples Bank & Trust's Volunteer of the Quarter. Brian Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Charleston, stated that the department was founded in 1959 as the Charleston Playground and Recreation Department. Sometime later they became a department of the City of Charleston and was renamed the Charleston Parks and Recreation Department.

The Charleston Parks and Recreation Department is extremely valuable in the Charleston community providing programs and activities for residents and opportunities to volunteer and give back to Charleston. In 2016 they had 4,687 participants in more than 200 programs. There were more than 400 individuals who volunteered to coach, assistant coach, mentor or participate in the many programs and activities. There are 12 affiliate organizations under the jurisdiction of the Charleston Parks and Recreation Department, and they each have volunteer boards and members who assist with many of the programs and activities. Director Brian Jones gives thanks to the many volunteers who make the Parks and Recreation Department in Charleston such a great organization for so many.

Peoples Bank and Trust is honoring the Charleston Parks and Recreation Department with a contribution and has placed their name on a plaque which is displayed in the bank's lobby. The Charleston Parks and Recreation Department is the twenty-sixth volunteer recognized by Peoples Bank and Trust. Accepting the award for the Parks and Recreation Department were: Brian Jones, Director, C. J. Applegate, Dirk Bennett, Kendra Sager and Hannah Cole.

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