

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 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.

Dee Kruger of Taylorville has been chosen for our Volunteer of the Quarter for her outstanding work in coordinating the Christian County “Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities” (CEO) Program.

Dee has spearheaded a group of community leaders to start a CEO program for High School Seniors in Christian County. The CEO Program is a year-long course offered to High School seniors designed to utilize partnerships that provide an overview of business development and processes. Our local business community partners with area schools to create project-based experiences for students by providing funding, expertise, meeting space, business tours and one on one mentoring. Student visit area businesses, learn from guest speakers, participate in a class business, write business plans and start and operate their own businesses.

The mission of the CEO program is to give young people tools and encouragement to return to their hometown to: Start businesses, raise families, create jobs and give back to the community.

In honor of Dee’s efforts and many hours of volunteer services, Peoples Bank & Trust made a donation to the CEO Program in her behalf. Her name has been placed on a plaque displayed in the bank's lobby.

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 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.