

For Immediate Release:

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Chatham, 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.

The Chatham Fire Department has been chosen as our Volunteers of the Quarter. Our community is very fortunate to have a fire department and EMS personnel as competent and caring as we have. All the members are dedicated to providing the best performance and care to all they serve.

The Chatham Fire Protection District formed in 1928. It covers over 75 square miles and provides services to over 17,500 residents. The Fire Department consists of paid and volunteer members.

Members of the Chatham Fire Department were asked why they joined the Fire Department and they responded in the following way:

**Tom Wilson**-Lieutenant, EMT-Paramedic

Serving Since: September 08, 2008

“I became a volunteer so that I could help the people who live in and visit our Village. On every call that we respond to, I believe we make a positive difference in someone’s life, sometimes a small difference, occasionally a lifesaving difference.”

**Kevin Bell**-Firefighter (former Captain)

Serving Since: December 13, 1993

**David Volkert**-Chaplain, EMT-Basic (former Firefighter)

Serving Since: December 12, 1994

“I like to give back to the community that I live in. I have always done this, regardless of what community that I was living at.”

**Tadd Schroeder**-Firefighter, EMT-Intermediate

Serving Since: June 11, 2007

“I wanted to do something to help the community and I thought it would be fun.”

**Scott Snider**-Photographer (former Firefighter)

Serving Since: October 01, 2005

“To help the community and fellow fire department members during an emergency.”

**William Brockway**-Firefighter

Serving Since: September 10, 2007

“I enjoy volunteering for the community that I live in.”

**Nick Summerson**-Firefighter, EMT-Basic

Serving Since: December 14, 2009

“My dad was a volunteer firefighter for Chatham Fire Department, so I thought that I would also volunteer and help the community.”

**Tricia Summerson**-Firefighter, EMT-Paramedic  
Serving Since: January 12, 2015

**Charles Barber**-Probationary Firefighter  
Serving Since: March 13, 2017

“To help out in the community that I live in and hopefully turn it into a full-time job some day.”

In honor of their volunteer services, Peoples Bank will make a donation to Chatham Fire Department and their 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.