

For Immediate Release:

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Pana, 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.

Yolanda Nation has been chosen as our current Volunteer of the Quarter for her many years of service to the Silver Spurs 4-H Club in Shelby County.

The Silver Spurs 4-H Club was started in 1982 by Colonel Leslie Robertson and his wife, Annabelle. It originally started out with a focus for kids who had horses and wanted to use them for a 4-H project. The club now has anywhere from 25-30 members each year and while it still has horse kids, it also has youth that take a wide variety of general projects, goats, rabbits and chickens.

Yolanda was an eight year Silver Spurs 4-H Club member and was in Shelby County 4-H a total of ten years. While in 4-H, Yolanda held many club offices and was active with Shelby County 4-H Federation. Federation is the county group that oversees the planning of most all the county activities. When Yolanda aged out of 4-H, she was asked by Mr. & Mrs. Robertston to take over as the main leader for the Silver Spurs 4-H Club. She is now starting her twenty-fifth year as a leader. Theresa Boehm and John Nation are also leaders for the club. Yolanda has also been the Shelby County 4-H & Jr. Fair Horse Superintendent for twenty three years. Yolanda volunteers at local horse shows taking entries, announcing or doing whatever is needed.

The Silver Spurs 4-H Club is a very active club in the community. Each year the club participates in Shelby County 4-H week activities and several 4-H members and their families help at the annual 4-H BBQ. The club also focuses on community service activities. Over the past few years, the club has shopped for the Tower Hill Lions Club Angel Tree providing presents to those children who may not otherwise receive anything. For the past five years, club members have met with Pat Titus of Arcola and made Cards for Soldiers. Hand-made cards are created by the 4-H'ers and the cards are sent overseas to the troops. Troops fill out the cards and return them to their loved ones. 4-H members have also made crafts and delivered them to area nursing homes to decorate resident's rooms. Club members assembled a float for the Quad County Home Health and Hospice for this year's Pana Labor Day Parade.

People ask "Why join 4-H." Kids learn so much that will help them in their adult life; leadership skills, public speaking skills, and responsibility to name just a few. Any youth between the ages of 8-18 can join 4-H, select from over 100 projects and then get busy learning about that project. Yolanda continues to be a leader after all these years because it's about the kids; seeing them grow and succeed with their 4-H projects, gain confidence to speak in front of groups, and become great leaders and mentors to younger members. Past Silver Spurs members now have kids in the 4-H club learning and experiencing what their parents did at one time.

Yolanda is married to John Nation and lives in rural Assumption. They have a daughter, Delaney, who is starting her fifth year in the Silver Spurs H-H Club.

In honor of Yolanda's services to the community, Peoples Bank has made a donation to the Silver Spurs 4-H Club and her 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.