

For Immediate Release:

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White Hall, Illinois: As a community bank, Peoples Bank & Trust recognizes the value of volunteerism in our communities. To commend and promote volunteerism, Peoples Bank & Trust has established a program to recognize outstanding community volunteers and organizations that exhibit volunteerism and promote the improvement of our communities. The recipients of these awards are chosen by the employees of the local branch.

Donna Wright and Linda Phillips have been chosen as our Volunteer of the Quarter for the fourth quarter in 2019.

Linda and Donna graduated from North Greene High School and are lifelong residents of White Hall. Linda has worked at John Ridings Store, she ran a daycare, worked at Mobile Chemical in Jacksonville and retired from MeadWestVaCo. Donna has worked for Dollar General in White Hall and City Drug in Carrollton. She and her husband Phil purchased the closed VFW building in 2008, re-opened as Para-Dice in December of that year and continue to run the business.

Linda and Donna were active members of the White Hall VFW for several years. Linda held the office of President and Donna held the office of Treasurer for over 30 years. The White Hall VFW dissolved in 2016 but one program it began “The Tree of Joy” continues. The “Tree of Joy” provides meals and toys to less fortunate families and individuals in the White Hall area. Linda and Donna have co-chaired the “Tree of Joy” program for over 35 years! In 2019 the “Tree of Joy” helped Santa deliver toys to 27 families, food boxes were delivered to 82 families, 20 fruit baskets were delivered to elderly residents and 110 gifts were delivered to the residents of the White Hall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Fundraisers are held throughout the year for the program to help provide the holiday food and gifts. Donations of new toys and money are always appreciated. Linda said it is very satisfying to be a part of this project. She sincerely hopes it will continue for many more years. It is most satisfying to see the joy and smiles from the recipients.

Peoples Bank and Trust will honor the Tree of Joy with a Volunteer of the Quarter \$250.00 award! Please join us in congratulating Donna and Linda on this recognition for their contributions!

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 business and farmers in central Illinois. People First Bancshares, Inc., with the corporate office in Pana, Illinois, is the holding company for Peoples Bank & Trust.