

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.

Peoples Bank & Trust has selected Jo Ellen Hickenbottom as its Volunteer of the Quarter. Jo Ellen has served her community in volunteering for many different organizations. The COVID-19 virus had Jo Ellen change some of her programs she participated in but she still has managed to assist the community in the changing times.

Jo Ellen volunteers with offering her assistance in Fit-2-Serve's Adopt-a-Senior program. The Adopt-A-Senior program is where young people can be matched with seniors and exchange cards and letters with them. She also volunteers at Standing Stone Community Center, a nonprofit ministry featuring food, clothing and furniture. Prior to COVID-19, Jo Ellen served as the recruitment volunteer for Fit-2-Serve, a half hour hero at Carl Sandburg coordinated through the Home Church. She also has assisted with the coordination of the Generation-2-Generation program at Hilltop Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, Villas of Hollybrook Senior Living, Heritage Woods and Brookstone.

Peoples Bank and Trust is honoring Jo Ellen Hickenbottom with a donation to Fit-2-Serve and have placed her name on a plaque which is displayed in the bank's lobby. Peoples Bank and Trust has honored area volunteers in Charleston for the past eight years and Jo Ellen is the 42nd volunteer recognized by the Charleston Branch of Peoples Bank and Trust.

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.