

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 outstanding volunteerism and promote the improvement of our communities. The recipients of these awards are chosen by the employees of the local branch.

Paul Fansler was chosen as the Volunteer of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2022. Paul was one of the original organizers of the White Hall Drag-O-Way club, which started in 1959. In the late 1950's drag racing had become a popular pastime with the young people across the country. Official dragster organizations were springing up all over the country. One of those organizations was the White Hall Drag-O-Way club. The first location for the club was the Greene County Fair Grounds. From 1962 through 1964, races were held on a dirt strip at a farm northwest of White Hall. Racing continued in the White Hall area until 1976.

In early 2003, Paul and Neil Fansler along with Paul's son, Jeff started talking seriously about a Reunion of the White Hall Drag-O-Way Club. The first gathering was to be held around the City Park in downtown White Hall, but they soon learned from talking with old friends that this could be a bigger turnout than we thought. They decided to move the event to Lion's Park at the edge of town, where it is still held each year. The event continues to grow each year with over 300 cars showing in 2021. This year's 20th annual Reunion was held on Saturday, Sept 10. Throughout the years, this group has held special raffles and sponsored benefits for many local groups. This hometown organization has brought entertainment, recognition and support to the North Green area for over half a century.

Paul Fansler became a professional announcer in 1972. He began by promoting grudge racing for the purpose of interesting underprivileged children in racing street driven automobiles on a supervised racetrack, rather than on the highways and city streets. He has announced at Alton Drag Way, Nashville Drag Strip, St. Louis International Raceway, Pacific Mo. Raceway, Cahokia Mo. Drag Strip, Mid State Drag Way in Havana, Il, Peoria Drag Way, Bristol Tn. Drag Strip and at North Greene Football games.

In recognition to Paul's work in the community, Peoples Bank is making a donation in his honor to White Hall Drag-O-Way. Please join us in congratulating Paul Fansler and the White Hall Drag O Way Reunion on this well deserved recognition of their contributions to this area.

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 corporate offices in Pana, Illinois, is the holding company for Peoples Bank & Trust.