

For Immediate Release:

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Altamont, 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 Effingham County Fair Board and employees have a challenging job each year. They want to provide a fun family time for all and still be able to be fiscally responsible to the county residents. The Board spends many hours preparing for the fair each year. The Effingham County Fair provides tractor pulls, concerts, queen pageants, demo derby, rodeo, carnival, auto and talent shows in the short week in July and August. Of course, we do not want to forget all the 4H members that work hard each year to show case their achievements and hard work.

Year 2022 was off the charts for the fair board and employees due to the heavy rains received the week of the fair. Some events unfortunately were canceled for safety issues but the board made every effort to make sure they still provided a great fair for the county. The board spend early hours, late hours and thankless hours working on everything and wanted to make sure the week was special. It takes countless hours of planning and it was successful. The employees had to go with Plan B many times. Helping attendees and workers that were stuck in the mud was just part of their job this year. Shuttles were set up from the high school and Irwin Seating to help preserve the grounds and the parking lots.

So hats off to the hard working dedicated group who once again provided an awesome fair here in Altamont for the county and many from the surrounding areas.

The members of the Effingham County Fair Board are Phil Hartke, Jennifer Hecht, Teri Shaefer, Dale Laue, Wendell Alwardt, Dennis Finrock, Dean Wetherell, Emilie Wall, Danielle Alwardt, Michelle Loy, Darren Feldkamp, Jon Becker, Rex Homann, Howard Winter, Darrell Gressel, Fred Percival and George Soltwedel. The maintenance director is Dennis Vaughn and he had several on his crew.

Peoples Bank & Trust will be honoring the Effingham County Fair Board with a monetary donation. Their names will also 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.