

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

For Additional Information Contact:

John Gardner, President & CEO
Phone: (888) PBT-1954

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 an outstanding community member for their volunteer efforts of improvement to our community.

Eric Jostes has been chosen as the Peoples Bank & Trust Volunteer of the Quarter for his many years of community service and volunteerism in the Pana community. One of the projects most dear to his heart is Kids to Camp New Hope. Lynn Brownback originally started collecting donations in the 1970's as a Jaycee project to send kids with developmental disabilities to Camp Hope. When the Jaycees disbanded in the 1980's, Brownback continued the annual fundraising until 2013, when he asked the Lions Club for help and Eric and David Dorn Jr. took over the fundraising efforts. In 2014, they established The Kids to CNH Benefit Committee, which Eric has served as the Treasurer since that time. Today, the Committee with the generous support of Christian County businesses, civic organizations and individuals, is able to help send 30 plus individuals each year to Camp New Hope.

Eric is also a former Pana Jaycees member, a member of the Pana Lions Club, the Pana Labor Day Parade Committee and the First United Methodist Church. He has also been a dedicated blood donor since high school.

Eric, a Pana native, and his wife Debby (DeClerck) have three sons and seven grandchildren. They enjoy spending time with their family, attending the grandchildren's numerous sporting events and activities and camping.

In honor of Eric's volunteer services, Peoples Bank has made a monetary donation to Camp New Hope and a plaque with his name will be placed on display at the bank.

Peoples Bank & Trust is an independent Community Bank with thirteen offices located in Pana, Taylorville, Altamont, Arcola, Arthur, Tower Hill, Charleston, Tuscola, Waverly, Morrisonville, Palmyra, White Hall and Springfield. 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.