

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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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.

Steve Hoehn has been chosen as our current Volunteer of the Quarter for his many years of service to the Oconee Fire Department. The Oconee Volunteer Fire Department was formed in 1987 with a grant from the Department of Natural Resources. Steve has served as the Fire Chief since the beginning. The OFD was originally part of Pana's Fire Department, but became their own Department in 2011. They began building their new firehouse in 2021 and it was completed in 2023. They currently have 14 members including 1st responders.

Steve is very active in the Oconee community. He has been a member of the Oconee Village Board for over 30 years and is a Past President of the Oconee Lions Club. The fire department regularly hosts Breakfasts, Fish Fry's and an annual Steak Dinner to support themselves and the construction of the new firehouse. They also help with the Independence Day Fireworks show. They will be hosting a Firehouse 5K Fun Run and Walk on Saturday, October 19 to benefit the OFD.

In honor of the Steve's many years volunteer service, Peoples Bank has made a monetary donation to the Friends of the Oconee Fire Department 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, Tower Hill, Charleston, Waverly, Morrisonville, Palmyra, White Hall, Springfield, Arcola, Arthur and Tuscola. 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.