

Tenured 4-H Volunteers Honored at State Fair

Written by George Browning
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James Day and Shirley Batt were recognized on Saturday, August 10 at the Indiana State Fair as tenured 4-H volunteers from Washington County. Jim was recognized for 55 years and Shirley for 25 years. Unable to attend the Tenured 4-H Volunteer program, but also recognized was Rita Deaton for 35 years.

Each year, the Indiana 4-H Foundation and State 4-H Program at Purdue recognize the outstanding contributions of adult 4-H volunteers who help make the 4-H youth development program a success.

According to Dr. Renee McKee, State 4-H Program Leader, "The hard work and dedication of 4-H volunteers significantly contribute to the success of the 4-H Youth Development Program in Indiana. Although we feel certain that viewing the accomplishments of the young people with whom they have worked is rewarding to volunteers, we are also committed to recognizing them on this special day at the Indiana State Fair.

In 2013, 373 individuals were recognized as tenured 4-H volunteers, representing a total of 9,730 years of service to the Indiana 4-H Program. Tenured volunteers are first recognized once they have completed 20 years of service and are subsequently recognized every five years. Each tenured volunteer received a gift with the 4-H emblem and their years of service. The volunteers were also invited to a meal following the recognition program.

Primary sponsors of the tenured volunteer program and recognition were Beck's Hybrids, Reynold's Farm Equipment, Farm Bureau Insurance Companies, Indiana 4-H Foundation, and Purdue University Extension Service.

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