



INDIANA FFA ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Indiana FFA recognizes Outstanding Service Award Recipients

Long time FFA supporters named for exceptional service to Indiana FFA.

West Lafayette, IN (June 21, 2023) – Indiana FFA recognized two people for their dedication in service and monetary support to Indiana FFA Foundation at the 94th Indiana FFA State Convention on Wednesday. Jeff and Sondra Lehman were recognized as this year's Outstanding Service Award Recipients.

Mr. and Mrs. Lehman, of Berne, IN, have given over \$30,000 to the Indiana FFA Foundation, in just 16 years. Jeff and Sondra both graduated from South Adams High School and eventually took over as President of the family business, Lehman Feed Mill. Running a 1.5 million bushel grain elevator that purchases corn, soybeans, wheat, and oats year-round, is no easy task. But they have always made time for the things they cared about most, and one of those things was involving their sons in the local FFA chapter. All three of their boys, Adam, Nathan, and Patrick, had extensive success within FFA, each serving as Chapter Officers within the Adams Central FFA Chapter. As their sons were given higher leadership positions, they truly stepped up as parent supporters in any way possible. Jeff served on the Adams Central FFA Advisory board for many years, strengthening the Agriculture Education Program and FFA Chapter by making recommendations for program improvement and providing assistance wherever it's needed. Both Jeff and Sondra have also served as judges for countless leadership contests throughout the years, for the district and state level. They have sponsored numerous events, scholarships, products, and awards for local FFA chapters and for the State Association. When their son Nathan was elected as State Sentinel from (2004-2005), their involvement grew extensively. The Jeff Lehman family is now the sole sponsor of the prestigious State Star scholarship awards. The winners in each category, Star Farmer, Star Placement, Star Agribusiness, and Agriscience will receive a scholarship for \$250 from the family. Jeff and Sondra are extremely passionate about the next generation of agriculturalists, especially the ones they call their grandkids. With a son and daughter in law, both as Past State Officers, it is no surprise their seven grandkids are setting their sights on a future FFA career. Jeff and Sondra are also very active in serving their community in a multitude of ways. As members of the First Mennonite Church in Berne, Jeff and Sondra served as chair of the Mennonite Central Committee Meat Canner for 25 years. They served 1 of the 34 locations across US & Canada, putting together well over 100,000 cans of meat to be sent all over the world. Providing important nutrients to communities that need it most, is the highest priority of the event. All of the meat cans are taken to specific locations across North America where meat is hard to locate and purchase. The Lehman's are also huge supporters of their local 4 H programs, serving on countless committees and boards for Adams County. During the county fair, you will often find Jeff around the announcer's booth during livestock shows or offering a hand to any student who needs it. Sondra can be found helping her grandkids prepare their livestock for show day or ringside giving each and every student a pep talk as they walk in the ring. Both Jeff and Sondra are both highly respected and admired by many. Their dedication and service to Indiana FFA, their community, and the future of agriculture is what makes Jeff and Sondra Lehman extremely deserving of the Indiana FFA Foundation Outstanding Service award.



The Indiana FFA Outstanding Service was established in 1993 to recognize individuals who have provided exceptional service and monetary support to the Indiana FFA Foundation. Such support that has gone well beyond regular volunteerism and demonstrates extraordinary commitment to the Indiana FFA Foundation.

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FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.