

Dwayne T. James  
County Program Director  
University of Missouri Extension in Saint Louis County  
314-400-7391  
jamesdt@missouri.edu

August 24, 2017

### **Local residents chosen as State Fair Farm Family for Saint Louis County**

Saint Louis, Mo. — Randy and Linda Beckemeier and family of Saint Louis, were among the families honored during the 59<sup>th</sup> annual Missouri Farm Family Day on August 14<sup>th</sup> at the Missouri State Fair.

The Saint Louis County Extension Council and local Farm Bureau selected the Beckemeier family as the Saint Louis County Missouri Farm Family.

Randy, Linda and their two children, live on their family Century Farm in Maryland Heights, MO. They farm in the Missouri River Bottoms near Creve Coeur Lake, as well as near Jonesburg, MO. Randy also works as a Vice President for FCS Financial. Linda also works on her family's other farm, Stuckmeyer Farm Market & Greenhouse in Fenton, MO.

Each year, the fair sets aside a day to recognize farm families from across the state who are active in their communities, involved in agriculture, and/or participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H or FFA.

The annual event is sponsored by five partner agencies: the Missouri Farm Bureau, the Missouri Department of Agriculture, the Missouri State Fair and Commissioners, the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and University of Missouri Extension.

Of 114 Missouri counties, 112 represented this year, with two counties still dealing with the aftermath of the recent flooding in southern Missouri.

The event showcases the impact Missouri Farm Families have on the economy and heritage of the state. "These families are involved in agriculture activities in their communities, and are active participants in local outreach and extension," said Missouri State Fair Director Mark Wolfe. "As the showcase for Missouri agriculture, the Missouri State Fair is most certainly the appropriate place to celebrate these families."

###

A photo of the Beckemeier family is below.



**In the photo with the family are (left to right):**

**Ted Sheppard** – Missouri State Fair Commissioner

**Jack Magruder** - Missouri State Fair Commissioner

**Miss Natalie Ayers**- 2017 Missouri State Fair Queen

**Todd Hays**, Missouri Farm Bureau Board of Director's Vice President

**Christine Chinn**- Director, Missouri Department of Agriculture

**Rob Kallenbach**- Assistant Dean MU CAFNR

**Blake Naughton**- Associate Vice Chancellor for MU Extension and Engagement.

