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August Community Hero

Jim Beeson has been named Fostoria's Community Hero for August 2009.

Jim instructs the autistic swim program at the Geary Family YMCA.

He was nominated by Bonnie Hanson, senior program director at the YMCA.

"Jim has been volunteering his time to make this program affordable for the families as well as his way to pay back our community," Hanson wrote in her nomination form for Beeson.

"He has been a God-send to so many families and we are privileged to have him volunteering at the Geary Family YMCA," she added.

Beeson began volunteering 40 years ago while a high school student, and has taught swimming, lifeguarding and other courses throughout the state. He currently works as an aquatics instructor in Toledo, and has recently been able to serve special needs children in his teaching.

"The classes at the Fostoria YMCA are a small way for me to give back to my hometown," Beeson said.

Along with volunteering, Beeson enjoys listening to music, doing yardwork, and relaxing at home.

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