



For Release
Through Ohio 4-H Agents'
News Columns, Radio/TV Programs, and Newsletters

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National 4-H Centennial To Be Celebrated In 2002

This year, special Centennial celebrations are being held in honor of the 100th anniversary of the 4-H youth development program throughout Ohio and the nation.

According to Jeff King, Assistant Director of 4-H Youth Development at the Ohio State University, the public should expect to hear a lot about what 4-H is currently doing, how the program began and where it is headed in the future.

“Ohio is considered the birthplace of 4-H,” said King. “Our staff and volunteers are quite proud about the fact we’ve been helping kids learn life skills for 100 years and are very excited about sharing it with the public.”

According to King, the special statewide Centennial celebration effort is specifically intended to increase public awareness of the 4-H program, energize current 4-H members and volunteers, and to recruit additional 4-H members and volunteers in all 88 counties in Ohio.

“The Ohio 4-H Centennial will help highlight our mission in 4-H Youth Development,” King said, “to provide positive environments for youth and adults to reach their fullest potential as capable, competent, caring and contributing citizens.”

King said a special statewide committee was formed more than a year ago to facilitate the planning process for this year’s Centennial activities. So far at least 50 specific local and statewide Centennial activities have been planned to be held this year.

(more)

Locally, there are some special activities that will tie into the statewide 4-H centennial efforts. According to [agent's full name], the [county name] county OSU Extension agent, 4-H Youth Development, they are [insert list of local centennial activities that are being discussed using as much space as needed].

"We're hoping to involve past 4-H members and volunteers in the activities along with interested persons who are currently involved with the program," said [agent's last name]. "This is an excellent opportunity for current 4-H youth and volunteers to discover a little more about the program's heritage, [agent's last name] added.

For more information about local 4-H centennial celebration efforts refer to the Ohio 4-H Centennial website at www.ohio4h.org/centennial/Centennial.html or contact the [county name] county OSU Extension office at [office phone number].

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