



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

Next year, throughout Ohio and the nation, centennial celebrations will be held in honor of the 100th anniversary of the 4-H youth development program. In preparation, the Ohio 4-H office and many county offices around the state have already begun making centennial plans for 2002.

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 it got started and where it is going 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 around for 100 years and they are very excited about sharing it with the public."

King said a special statewide committee has already been formed to begin the planning process for next year's activities. So far more than 30 specific action items have been identified and details such as funding, logistics, and marketing will be worked out over the next several months in preparation for next year's celebration.

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.

Locally, there are plans to hold some special activities being discussed that will tie into the statewide 4-H centennial efforts. According to [agent's full name], the [county name] county OSU Extension

(more)

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 planning process," said **[agent's last name]**, "along with interested persons who are currently involved with the program. This would be an excellent way 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 and how to be involved in the planning process, please contact the **[county name]** county OSU Extension office at **[office phone number]**.

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