

# OSU Extension celebrates 100th anniversary

BY MARIAN MCMAHON  
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**LAKE COUNTY** – The Lake County Board of Commissioners recognized the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Nationwide Cooperative Extension Service at the May 8 meeting. The signing of the Smith-Lever Act on May 8, 1914 officially created the Extension services across the country.

“... The Ohio State University Cooperative Extension established a presence in Lake County soon after, in 1917 ...” Board President Dan Troy read from the resolution.

It was noted the Nationwide Cooperative Extension Service is now the world's largest, nonformal educational system.

The main programs presented by NCES are: Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development, Environmental Education, Horticultural Master Gardener, Natural Resources and Sea Grant. They are always being adapted to meet current needs.

“We'd sure love to thank

the commissioners for your support, because we wouldn't be here without you, and we're hopefully doing the job that you want for the county itself,” said Randy Zondag, Extension director and educator, Horticulture/Natural Resources. “We've found out it's one of the best counties we've ever worked in.”

Troy said they see the benefits of OSU Extension in Painesville, especially with the 4-H participation in the Lake County Fair each year. He said the Extension Office has been a great resource and has helped with things like solid waste policy planning and recycling in the county.

“I think it's just a great partnership and for a real small portion of our county budget we're happy to subsidize you, and I'm glad we hear we do better at subsidizing that most other counties do,” Troy said. “We just think it's a great investment for a relatively small amount of our resources.”

Commissioner Bob Aufuldish recounted how, when he was mayor of Wickliffe years ago, Zondag



PHOTO BY MARIAN MCMAHON

Lake County commissioners Bob Aufuldish, Dan Troy and Judy Moran, back row, present a resolution in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Nationwide Cooperative Extension Service to OSU Lake County Extension Director Randy Zondag, Lisa Siciliano-Miller, Extension educator, and Frank R. Lichtkoppler, an Extension specialist at the May 8 commissioners meeting.

came out and advised what trees to plant on the avenues which would not be adversely affected by salt. Aufuldish stated the trees were still doing well many years later.

Zondag said the Extension staff has met many people in the county and developed many relationships over the years.

Commissioner Judy Moran said she wished to thank them for being an “amazing resource.”

Also present for the presentation were Frank R. Lichtkoppler, Extension specialist, Sea Grant and Lisa Siciliano-Miller, Extension educator, Family and Consumer Sciences.