Former MetroParks CEO inducted in national 4-h hall of fame

*A celebration in his honor will be held Jan. 30.*

**DAYTON, OH (Jan. 20 , 2017) —** Former [Five Rivers MetroParks](http://www.metroparks.org) chief executive officer Marvin Olinsky will be celebrated for his recent induction into the [National 4-H Hall of Fame](http://www.nae4ha.com/hof) on Jan. 30. A private reception will be hosted at [Adventure Central](http://www.metroparks.org/adventure-central/), 2222 James H. McGee Blvd. at 5:15 p.m. Members of the media are invited to attend.

Olinsky’s lifelong commitment to [4-H](http://www.nae4ha.com/) and creation of one of Dayton’s most innovative outdoor education partnerships earned him this top honor.

Olinsky had a vision to connect urban youth with nature in a positive context, with the goal of creating capable and contributing citizens. The result was [Adventure Central](http://www.metroparks.org/adventure-central/), a youth program and partnership with Five Rivers MetroParks, 4-H and the [Ohio State University Extension](http://www.ohio4h.org/) that is still thriving at [Wesleyan MetroPark](http://www.metroparks.org/places-to-go/wesleyan/) in Dayton. Since opening in 2000, Adventure Central has served more than 2,500 youth with 100,000 direct contact hours.

Challenged with dyslexia as a child, Olinsky’s parents wanted to provide him with unique learning opportunities, including 4-H. He credits 4-H with his educational success and passion to engage underserved children.

**ABOUT ADVENTURE CENTRAL**

The result of a partnership among [Five Rivers MetroParks](http://www.metroparks.org), [The Ohio State University Extension](http://extension.osu.edu/) and [4-H Youth Development](http://www.ohio4h.org/), [Adventure Central](http://www.metroparks.org/adventure-central/) has served the youth of West Dayton since 2000. Adventure Central, located at [Wesleyan MetroPark](http://www.metroparks.org/places-to-go/wesleyan/), promotes positive youth development education and leadership skills using an environmental foundation in a welcoming, safe, fun and active setting that utilizes volunteers and community resources. To learn more about Adventure Central, log onto [www.metroparks.org/adventure-central](http://www.metroparks.org/adventure-central) or call 937-278-2601.

**ABOUT FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS**

[Celebrating more than 50 years](http://www.metroparks.org/about/history/) of preserving green space and natural areas, [Five Rivers MetroParks](http://www.metroparks.org) is a nationally renowned [park system](http://www.metroparks.org/interactive-parks-map/) composed of natural area parks, [gardens](http://www.metroparks.org/things-to-do/gardening/), high-quality [river corridors](http://www.metroparks.org/places-to-go/water-trails/), urban parks and a network of [recreation trails.](http://www.metroparks.org/things-to-do/hiking/) Five Rivers MetroParks [protects](http://www.metroparks.org/what-we-do/conservation-leadership/what-we-protect/) the region’s natural heritage and provides [outdoor experiences](http://www.metroparks.org/programs-events-finder/) that inspire a personal connection with nature. [Educational](http://www.metroparks.org/what-we-do/connecting-people-with-nature/programs/) programs and [recreational](http://www.metroparks.org/things-to-do/active-outdoors/) opportunities are offered year-round for all ages. Five Rivers MetroParks is accredited by the [Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies](http://www.nrpa.org/CAPRA/). To learn more [about](http://www.metroparks.org/about/) Five Rivers MetroParks, log onto [www.metroparks.org](http://www.metroparks.org) or call 937-275-PARK (7275).

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