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4000 Boy Scouts Expected To Camp In Downtown Salina To Celebrate

Over 4000 boy scouts, cub scouts, and adult leaders will converge at the Salina Bicentennial Center, Oakdale and Kenwood Parks, and the Salina Family YMCA from October 8th to the 10th for a Centennial Campout to celebrate 100 years of Boy Scout history in America. But while there will be tents and backpacks, this won't be like any campout you have ever seen.

The entire weekend will be a celebration of scouting's centennial anniversary featuring a variety of hands-on activities, demonstration areas, and entertainment. Opening ceremonies on Saturday morning kick off with the American and Kansas flags delivered via helicopter by Salina Mayor and Eagle Scout, Aaron Peck and K-State President and Eagle Scout, Dr. Kirk Schulz.

Following the opening, participants will be set loose to enjoy a variety of events that include the world's largest pinewood derby, bands, jugglers, zip line, zoo animals, climbing walls, carnival-style games, native style dancing, a BMX show, shotgun shooting, SCUBA, mountain biking, laser guns, archery, food vendors, rappelling, Scout skills, swimming, and much, much, more! "Our goal is to create an exciting environment where there is more to do in a day than scouts will have time for" said Robert Russell, Chairman of the Centennial Camp committee.

The closing ceremonies program, to which the public can purchase tickets, will feature nationally known musical acts. National recording artist Danny Gokey, a rising country music star who recently performed at the Country Stampede in Manhattan will headline the evening. Also performing will be Jennette McCurdy, a popular teen actress on one of the hottest cable shows for kids who is releasing a new album in October. Tickets for the closing show are available for purchase by the general public through the Bicentennial Center box office for \$25.00.

Centennial camp is being organized by the Coronado Area Council, which operates the Boy Scouts of America in a 32 county region stretching roughly from Manhattan, Kansas west to the Colorado border and from Interstate 70 north to the Nebraska border. Youth participation in scouting within the council has grown by 5% in the last year and the council currently serves over 4,500 youth and 1,000 adult volunteers.

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