

## BILL MERCER MEMORIAL 4-H YOUTH AWARD

This award will be given in the name of former 4-H leader and friend Bill Mercer. Bill was a 4-H leader for over 45 years in Gladwin County. He drove many youths to 4-H Exploration Days, went to Washington D.C. with 4-H members, spent a lot of time at Kettunen Center and chaperoned many 4-H Teen Lock-Ins where his fame was playing racquetball. Bill was a member of the State 4-H Council, held many officer roles in the county 4-H program, worked closely with state 4-H program leaders in developing the buzzers for the regional horse bowls.

Bill once wrote that “the most important part (of 4-H), though, is the unique relationship between leaders, kids and everyone who is part of the 4-H family. There is a bond of friendship, caring and cooperation that grows in each club.”

His integrity, his giving of community service, his family interest, and his willingness of giving his time to youth of Gladwin County will not be forgotten with this annual award and recognition. The Gladwin County 4-H Leaders Council would like to continue his belief and work ethic by honoring a 4-H member yearly by recognizing them at the annual Fall Awards Banquet with a certificate and having their names listed on a plaque in Bill’s memory and displayed fair week.

Requirements: Must be a current teen leader with a minimum of 2 yrs of teen leader experience.

Must be an outstanding 4-H member who:

1. Has outstanding leadership abilities
2. Is compassionate, honest, and a mentor
3. Is willing to go the extra mile to help other members
4. Is currently enrolled and active in the Gladwin County 4-H Program.

Nominations: Letter of recommendation must be submitted by a registered Gladwin County 4-H leader, to the MSU Extension Office by the deadline announced. Examples of the requirements should be cited and defined and reflect the past years in 4-H and other accomplishments.

Selection Committee: This committee will be made up of three (3) 4-H Leaders who have not submitted a nomination, selected by the total group of 4-H Leaders, and the Extension 4-H staff person.

Award Presentation: 4-H Fall Awards Banquet

Award: A name-plate will be engraved with the winner’s name and year on it and will be added to the large plaque displayed at the Fairgrounds Still Exhibit Building during fair week.

The 4-Her receiving this honor will be given a certificate with their name and year on it. To be furnished by the 4-H Leaders Association. Members can receive one time only.