WELCOME SPRING!!

Mother Nature sure seems to be unable to make up her mind lately. Spring is here, but it sure looks a lot like Winter outside. We have been busy in Gladwin County 4-H the past month. The Livestock Buyers’ Banquet was a great night for kids and community members to come together. What a wonderful message from buyers to the group that night! Thanks to all the hard work by the committee to put on the banquet. Thanks especially to Kristie Simrau and Julie Cameron for spearheading the event. The Buyers’ Banquet committee will be accepting applications for a new chair, as Kristie and Julie are stepping down. If you are interested, please contact Jessica at the Extension office.

4-H Palooza was two days of fun for Gladwin County youth. Over 30 youth and ten volunteers and teen helpers participated in the two-day Spring Break Day Camp. We had lots of fun and welcomed new 4-H members to Gladwin County.

Youth members and clubs are busy working on projects and community service. Don’t forget to notify the office of the great things you are doing in your club!

The Location for the Youth PQA training has changed. We will be meeting at the Gladwin County Library, 402 James Robertson Dr, Gladwin @ 6:00 p.m., April 5th

Upcoming Dates:
- April 5th: Youth PQA Training, Gladwin County Library, 6:00 p.m.
- April 7th: Small Animal Association Meeting, 7:00 p.m. MSUE Office
- April 14th: 4-H Horse Leaders’ Association Meeting, 7:00 p.m. MSUE office
- April 18th: Gladwin County Council and Advisory Board Training for Adults, 6:00 p.m. MSUE office
- April 21st: Earth Day Celebration, Gladwin High School, 6:00 p.m.
- April 22nd: Small Animal Registration Forms Due to MSUE office
- Livestock tags and taggers are available for checkout at the MSU Extension Office. Weigh-in is May 14th (All swine must have the Gladwin County 4-H tags, as well as the state required tags from the Gladwin County Fair. Green 4-H tags can be picked up from the Extension office, yellow required tags can be picked up at the Gladwin County Fair office.)
4-H Workshops

April 22-24: 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=177B0A9F8361B7C
Kettunen Center, Tustin

June 3-5: 4-H Companion Animal Spring Camp
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_companion_animal_camp_1
Camp Tuhsmehet, Greenville

Other 4-H Events

April 6: 4-H Night at the Joe (Red Wings)
http://redwings.nhl.com/club/page.htm?id=108326
Joe Louis Arena, Detroit

April 10: 4-Hairy Horse Benefit Show
http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/horse_youth_programs
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

April 16: 4-H Pattern-O-Rama Horse Show
http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/horse_youth_programs
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

State 4-H Goat Expo
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=goatexpo
Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

April 22-23: 2016 Equine Educational Expo
Anthony Hall & MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

April 23: 4-H Day at the West Michigan Whitecaps
Contact Kristi Ayers (bowerskkr@anr.msu.edu)
Fifth Third Ballpark, Grand Rapids

Small Animals Day
http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/small_animals_day_1
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

April 24: Michigan 4-H Day at Comerica Park
http://mlb.com/det/tickets/info/4h?partnerId=1K71G07RU1-Y112
Comerica Park, Detroit

May 12: World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/world_food_prize_michigan_youth_institute
Michigan State University

May 20-21: State 4-H Poultry Show
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_poultry_paloozal
Eaton County Fairgrounds, Charlotte

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events
Making $sense of Money for People of All Ages

On the National Financial Educators Council’s (https://www.finaancialeducatorscouncil.org) website, it observes that: “Money is a fact of everyday life, and learning to manage money well is critical to achieving freedom, independence, and success.” Yet, while financial education and money management are important, it can be difficult to find good resources to discuss saving, spending, sharing and preserving money with our children and youth.

April is Financial Literacy Month (bit.ly/2IcSp9G). Originally the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) (http://www.nefe.org) (pronounced née-fee) began this observance as Financial Literacy for Youth Day. It was an activity of NEFE’s High School Financial Planning Program (http://www.hsfpp.org). When NEFE turned Financial Literacy Day over to the Jump$tart Coalition (http://www.jumpstart.org), that organization expanded the program and its final change was from one day to a month designated to recognize the need for financial literacy for individuals of all ages. With this year’s theme, “Envision a Financially Literate Future,” the Jump$tart Coalition seeks to acknowledge the importance of preparing young people for their future. In 2016, Money Smart Week (http://www.moneysmartweek.org) will be held from April 23 to 30.

Michigan 4-H Youth Development (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/info/4_h) offers many opportunities for young people to learn about personal finance, including fund-raising for their club or a community service project, participating in clubs dedicated to investment, and selling their own entrepreneurial products or their own market animal at the fair. There is a Michigan 4-H Youth Money Management web site (bit.ly/1U7f9KA) filled with:

- News articles. For example, did you know there is a retirement account that young people can set up (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/myra_a_smart_first_step_in_investing_for_teens)?
- Upcoming events. This includes 4-H Exploration Days (bit.ly/IPaxPEi), which will feature six sessions in all (including everything from coin collecting and thinking through buying a first car to how to spend money without risk) and
- A collection of important resources (bit.ly/1RmahlF). Since teaching money skills to people starting at the very early stages of life is important, did you know this web site points to a collection of 53 activities (bit.ly/1TNNOQz) based around children’s literature that has money as a theme?

For more information, you may contact:
- Your local 4-H program coordinator (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county)
- Barbara Duvall, Senior Extension educator, by email at duvall@msu.edu or
- Laurie Rivetto, Extension educator, by email at rivettol@msu.edu