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BLT Assistant

Merry Christmas!!

**Thank you to all of the
4-H'ers, parents, leaders,
and volunteers for another
successful year!**

**Never forget that your work
has all been part of an effort
“to make the best better”**



CONGRATULATIONS to

**Sheryl on her marriage and her
new journey in life as
Sheryl Long!**

WILDFIRE RELIEF

**Tennessee 4-H is asking mem-
bers, staff and supporters to join
the relief efforts for Sevier Coun-
ty by donating gift cards from
major grocery and shopping re-
tailers to support families and
youth impacted by the recent
wildfires in the Smokey Mou-
tains! All gift cards donated will
be provided top 4-H members,
their families, and other clien-
tele oif UT Extension—Sevier
County**

Gift Cards can be mailed to:

Alan Bruhin

UT Extension—Sevier County

752 Old Knoxville Highway

Sevierville, TN 37862



**Thank you to the Oenaville 4-H
Club for the donation of the
fleece blankets to the
Ronald McDonald House!**

1605 N. Main, Room 102

Belton, TX 76513

Phone: (254)933-5305

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E-mail: bell@ag.tamu.edu Website: <http://agriflife.org/bell4h/>



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County Council & Ambassadors



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County Council Meeting

The next County Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 24th at the CEO. This meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. The program will cover Animal Science and the community service project will be Valentines for Vets. All council delegates from the 4-H Clubs are strongly encouraged to attend all council meetings! Future

Council Meeting Dates: **March 28, May 8**

Council/Ambassador Christmas Party

The County Council Officer and Ambassador Christmas party is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20th at the CEO. This will be a Chinese gift exchange with the limit of \$10 per gift. Time is from 1:00 –3:00 p.m.

Chisolm Trail Christmas Ball

The Chisolm Trail Christmas Ball (formerly known as the Cowboy Christmas Ball) will be held on Saturday, December 10th at the Bell County Expo Center. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, contact Pam Reavis.

We will need 4-H Ambassadors to work this event! You need to arrive by 6:00 p.m. Once you are done with your duties, you may stay and enjoy the evening. Green jackets and black bottoms are required!

4-H Club Managers

BCYF Food Container Pick Up

Attention Club Managers! You can start picking up food containers on January 3rd at the CEO for your participants competing in the 2017 BCYF Food Division. Our business hours are Monday-Friday 8 am –12:00 & 1:00-5:00 p.m. This is for Club Managers ONLY!

Membership Advisory Board Finance Meeting

If you are interested in serving on the Membership Advisory Board Finance Committee, then please come to the CEO on Thursday, January 5th. We will be reviewing the finances starting at 6:00 p.m. We strongly encourage a representative from each club attend this meeting!

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

All MAB officers will need to attend the next Membership Advisory Board Meeting on Thursday, January 12th at the CEO. Meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. We encourage any 4-H Adult Volunteer to attend.



Upcoming Events



Vet Science Meeting Schedule

December 7th @ 6:30PM @ 702 House in BELTON (Christmas Party/Lesson)

January 11th @ 6:30PM @ Temple Public Library Board Room 3rd floor (Skillathon Practice/Lesson)

NO February meeting due to BCYF

March 1st @ 6:30PM @ Belton Small Animal Clinic

(Texas 4-H Round Up Vet Science Skillathon application due/tour/activity)

APRIL – TBA – open house at Texas A&M Veterinary college

MAY 10th @ 6:30PM @ Temple Public Library Board Room 3rd floor (End of year party/Lesson)

JUNE 8th @ Texas A&M Vet Science Skillathon @ Texas 4-H Round Up

CONTACT Stacey Winters or Richard Lary for more information.

San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo School Tour Guide Opportunity

The San Antonio Livestock Exposition is looking for enthusiastic, responsible students in grades 9—12 to participate in this leadership opportunity. Tours guides are given the opportunity to educate school children about agriculture and its importance to our daily lives.

Tour dates are assigned on a first come, first serve basis.

Contact Sheryl Raley no later than December 16, 2016 if you want to participate.

Leaders 4 Life Contest

The next meeting for Leaders 4 Life will be December 18th at 2:00 p.m. Part of their agenda will be to have a white elephant gift exchange (\$10.00 limit) and of course food. Location is still to be determined. Call Jan Stone at 254-654-2549 for more information about participating in this fun event.

Ag Product ID Practice

Ag Product ID practices will resume in January. Practice location and times will be announced in the January 4-H newsletter. Please contact Michael Canales at 541-6293 if you have any questions regarding this contest.

Graduating Seniors

Scholarship applications are becoming available. Make sure and watch the newsletter and the Bell County 4-H Website for scholarship application deadlines. The website is always being updated with new scholarships and deadlines. Sheryl will be e-mailing applications to family e-mails listed on 4-H Connect for 4-H members listed in Grade 12. Don't hesitate on asking for help or if you have any questions regarding scholarships.

Rough drafts of the Texas 4-H Scholarship Application are due to Sheryl by **January 20, 2017**.



FCS Project News



Food and Nutrition Quiz Bowl

Food and Nutrition Quiz Bowl is a quiz game that tests teams of 3-4 on their knowledge of food, nutrition, diseases, regulations, etc. Up against the clock, they buzz in to answer a question. Teams advance in a tournament-system bracket to win the competition. Practices will be held at the First Baptist Church 702 House in Belton, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

- December 5,12,30
- January 2, 9, 20, 23, 30
- February 13, 20, 27

Consumer Decision Making

Learn how to compare prices, test for quality and make purchases based on facts and research. This project improves your money management skills, smart purchasing skills, and decision-making skills. Practices will be held at the First Baptist Church 702 House in Belton, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on the following days:

- December 5,12,30
- January 2, 9, 20, 23, 30
- February 13, 20, 27

Flan Workshop

When: Saturday, December 3, 2016 **Where:** Ronald McDonald House @ 10:00 a.m.

Flan is a custard desert with a sweet caramel top layer. Come out and learn how to make flan on December 3rd at 10:00 a.m. at the Ronald McDonald House in Temple. Cost to attend this workshop is a variety pack of individual cereal packages per attendee to be left for the Ronald McDonald House pantry.

4-H FCS Coalition Meeting

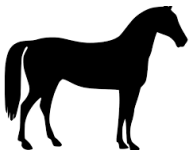
The next 4-H FCS Coalition meeting will take place at the CEO on Thursday, January 12th starting at 5:30 p.m. This meeting will be limited to 1 hour long due to the MAB meeting starting at 6:30 p.m.

~District 8 Food Show/Food Challenge Contest~

For those families competing in the District 8 Food Challenge and Food Show on Wednesday, December 7th, at the Bell County Expo, you should have received information on arrival and check in times for that day. Good luck to all Bell County 4-H members competing!

Bell County Fashion Show & Trashion Show & Storyboard & Duds for Dazzle

March 7, 2017 will be the Bell County contest for all 4-H fashion contests. The location has yet to be determined. Start working on your projects now!



Livestock Project News



~Poultry Exhibitors~

BCYF Roaster: Birds will arrive to the CEO on **December 6th**, 3:30—5:30 p.m.



BCYF Broiler: Birds will arrive on **December 27th**, 3:30—5:30 p.m.
Questions: Call Pam Reavis, 254-933-5309 or email pcreavis@ag.tamu.edu

San Antonio, Houston & Austin Broilers: Pick up will be sometime in January. Look for more information from Whitney Grantham.

Bell County Livestock Judging Team

For those with an interest in learning more about livestock, we will hold a Bell County 4-H Livestock Judging Team organizational meeting on Thursday, December 19th, at 6:00 pm in the Extension Office. This meeting is designed to plan practice dates and travel arrangements to upcoming contests as well as giving new members insight on the opportunities that can be provided by becoming a part of the team! **If you have interest in Livestock Judging, please make plans to attend or call Whitney at Extension Office.**

Texas 4-H Dog Validation

4-H Dog projects must be validated in January to be eligible to enter the Texas 4-H Dog Show. The 2017 Texas 4-H Dog Show will be held at the Bell County Expo Center on July 7-9, 2017. Dog validation is conducted on 4-H Connect and is free of charge. We encourage you to validate any dog that you might want to show in July.



2017 Rabbit Validation

When: Sunday, January 8, 2017

Where: Bell County Expo Center

Cost: \$1.00 per rabbit

Project Visits

As we approach the Bell County Youth Fair and Major Stock Show season, Whitney Grantham will be available to come take a look at your projects. **Please call the Extension Office to schedule a visit.**

Bell County Youth Fair

Bell County Youth Fair

Below are the new changes regarding BCYF. Please make sure you have a sign in sheet at each meeting and announce to all members to sign in before, during, and after the meeting.

The BCYF has a website in which everything will be posted including the new fair book, entry forms, superintendent's names and phone numbers, score sheets, and other information:

<http://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/>

- All 4-H members **MUST** be enrolled by **December 1, 2016** to participate in the BCYF.
- You **MUST** attend 2 meetings to participate in the BCYF. You MUST sign in for it to count.
- 2 meetings will be allowed from **August 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016** this year. No meetings will be allowed in January to use for the 2 meeting rule.

BCYF Photography Upload Workshop

WHEN: Thursday, December 15th

WHERE: CEO

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

BCYF Entries are due by December 1st

Theme: For 2017 the theme is "Reflections".

The goal of this workshop is to explain and answer any questions any 4-H, FFA or FCCLA member has about uploading their photos or if they have questions about the entry categories. Any question is welcome.

BCYF Horse Exhibitor Ride Nights

Speed Events: January 23, January 30, February 2—6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Performance Events: January 24, January 31, February 3—6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.



Carcass Swine Weight In

Carcass Swine Weigh in for the Bell County Youth Fair will be January 29, 2017 from 1:00—2:00 p.m. at the Bell County Expo Center. Swine must weigh a minimum of 220 pounds and a maximum of 290 pounds at the time of weigh in.

BCYF Home School Eligibility

The Homeschool Eligibility deadline is January 15, 2016. All Homeschool students must fill out an eligibility form and turn it in by the deadline.

NO FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE OR ACCEPTED TILL AFTER JANUARY 1, 2017.

Go to <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-henrollment-guidelines/eligibility> to fill out your form.

Important Dates

December 2016

January 2017

December 1: BCYF Enrollment deadline
December 3: Flan Workshop
December 5: CDM & NQB Practice
December 6: County Roasters delivered to CEO
December 7: District Food Show/ Food Challenge
December 7: Vet Science Meeting
December 10: 2016 Chisholm Trail Christmas Ball
December 12: CDM & NQB Practice
December 13: 4-H Ride Night
December 15: BCYF Photography Upload Workshop
December 19: Livestock Judging Meeting
December 20: County Council/Ambassador Christmas Party
December 23 & 26: County Holiday, CLOSED
December 27: County Broilers delivered to CEO
December 30: CDM & NQB Practice
December 31: BCYF 2 Meeting requirement deadline

January 2: County Holiday, CLOSED
January 2: CDM & NQB Practice
January 3: Start of BCYF Food Container Pick Up
January 5: MAB Finance Meeting
January 8: Rabbit Validation
January 9: CDM & NQB Practice
January 11: Vet Science Meeting
January 12: FCS Coalition Meeting
January 12: MAB Meeting
January 20: Rough Draft for Texas 4-H Scholarship
January 20: CDM & NQB Practice
January 23: BCYF Ride Night—Speed
January 23: CDM & NQB Practice
January 24: BCYF 4-H Ride Night—Performance
January 24: County Council Meeting
January 28: BCYF Commercial Steer Weigh Out
January 29: BCYF Carcass Swine Weigh In
January 30: BCYF Ride Night—Speed
January 30: CDM & NQB Practice
January 31: BCYF Ride Night—Performance



Merry
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY
New Year



BELL COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

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<http://agrillife.org/bell4h/>

<http://bell-co.tamu.edu>

4-H: Sheryl Long

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Sheryl Long

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Everything will be posted on the Bell County 4-H website

<http://agrillife.org/bell4h/>