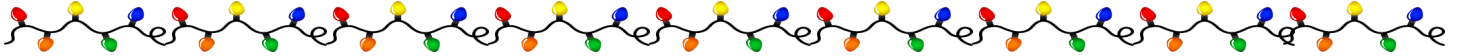




Bell County 4-H News

December 2011



Calendar of Events

December

December 4: Bell 4-H Horse Club Ride Day, 3-6pm, Expo
December 8: D8 4-H Food Show, Expo
December 9: Leaders 4 Life Meeting, 7pm, CEO
December 10: Cowboy Christmas Ball, 7pm, Expo
December 19-21: FCS Container Pickup, 8am-5pm, CEO

December 21: BCYF Broiler Pickup, 3:30-5:30pm, CEO
December 21: San Antonio Broiler Pickup, 3:30-5:30pm, CEO
December 23 & 26: CEO Closed
December 29: Clothing Workshop, 6pm, CEO

January

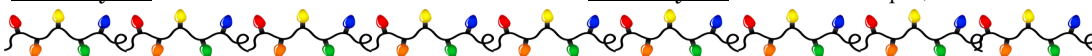
January 2: CEO Closed
January 3, 11, 23, 30: Consumer, 6pm, CEO
January 3 & 12: Rabbit Clinic, 6:30pm, Expo
January 6-8: Texas Teen Retreat, Brownwood, TX
January 10: Dog Certification Forms due to CEO
January 10: Rabbit Validation, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Expo
January 16: CEO Closed
January 16: Food Tour to Austin, 9am, meet at CEO
January 17: Consumer Contest, 5:30pm, CEO

January 23 & 30: Ride Nights-Speed, Expo
January 24 & 31: Ride Nights-Performance, Expo
January 24: County Council Meeting, 6:30pm, CEO
January 28: Swine Carcass Weigh-In, 9-10am, Expo
January 28: Weigh-Out Commercial Steers, 8am, Evans Ranch
January 31: MAB Meeting, 7pm, CEO

February

February 4-11: Bell County Youth Fair, Expo
February 17-18: San Antonio Consumer Contest, SA
February 20: CEO Closed

February 25: Salsa Workshop, 9-11am, CEO
February 27: Clothing Workshop, 5-7pm, CEO
February 28: Consumer 6-8pm, CEO



Bell County Youth Fair Entries

Bell County Youth Fair Catalogs are available through your Club Manager. The catalog is also on the Bell County website at:

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

It is your responsibility to get your entry forms and fees to your club manager by the deadline that they set for your 4-H club.

No single entries will be accepted through the Extension Office. NO EXCEPTIONS



REMINDER TO ALL HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS:

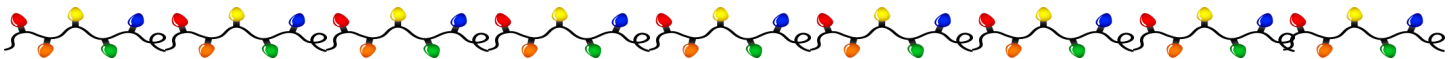
YOU MUST FILL OUT AN ELIGIBILITY FORM TO PARTICIPATE- THIS FORM IS ON THE WEBSITE AND MUST BE TURNED IN BY FEBRUARY 1, 2012

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Bell County Youth Fair FCS CONTAINERS

BCYF food containers are those standardized containers used by 4-H members to put their food items in when they come to the fair. Club managers may pick up these containers for their clubs **starting December 19th at the Extension Office from 8am-5pm.** All club managers should pick up containers for their club no later than December 21st. As club managers, you will want to designate a time for members of your club to pick up the containers from you. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 254-933-5305. **Please note: Club managers or designated leaders are the only ones able to pick up containers. Individual families are not permitted to pick up their containers.**

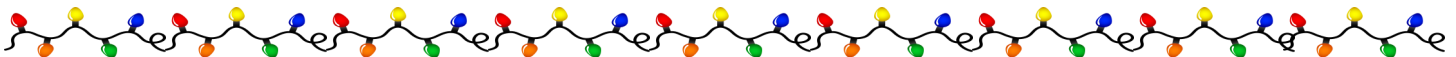


County Council Themes and Programs

<u>MONTH/DATE</u>	<u>THEME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
December	***** NO MEETING *****	
January 24	"China"	Fashion Presentation
February 21	"France"	Fair Dress-Up
March 20	"Ireland"	Texas Congress
April 24	"United States"	Officer Elections
May, June, July	***** NO MEETING *****	

The Bell County 4H County Council will not be having a meeting in December. ***HOLIDAY BLESSINGS TO ALL.*** The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 24 , 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the County Extension Office Meeting Room.** The council is continuing it's trip around the world. Next stop ***China.*** Dress for a Chinese New Year Celebration. All 4H members and leaders are welcome to join in the adventure. Remember that each club needs to be represented by two delegates (the president and a council delegate), they are the voting delegates for the club. There are games, contests and special programs for each meeting. Also, learn about what other clubs are doing and about the upcoming county 4H programs. There are opportunities at each destination.

Come Join in the Fun!!



Save the date!

February 27, 2012 ~ 5:00-7:00 ~Plastic Canvas Crafts ~

Taught by Clothing and Textiles Board

Consumer Decision Making

Consumer Decision Making is a great way to learn how to shop better! The Consumer project's first meeting will be held November 7, at 6pm, at the Extension Office Meeting Room! Make sure and come and learn all about the project and what it has to offer. We will hopefully be discussing the new classes for this year and preparing for the project!

Dates for consumer are as follows: (Dates set already due to full meeting room schedule and availability)

January:

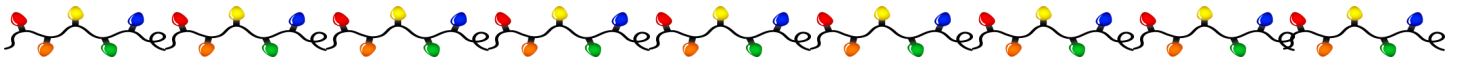
Consumer Project Meeting, 6pm, CEO: **January 3, January 11, January 23 & January 30:**

Consumer County Contest, 6pm, CEO: **January 17**

February:

Consumer Project Meeting, 2-4pm, CEO: **February 28**

San Antonio Consumer Contest- **February 17-18**



Last Month to Collect OPERATION A BIT OF HOME!

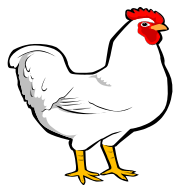
Help bring a little bit of home to American soldiers serving in Afghanistan! Soldiers deployed overseas often work 14-17 hour days, 7 days a week. In the short "down time" they have, they enjoy watching movies at Morale, Welfare, & Recreation (MWR) facilities. Bell County 4-H is joining **OPERATION A BIT OF HOME** in **collecting new or gently used DVDs** for the MWR facility in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

OPERATION A BIT OF HOME is a legitimate program which has been recognized by the federal government. You can learn more about this program at <http://www.operationabitofhome.com>. Many agencies have teamed up to help, including the Boy Scouts of America and even other state 4-H offices.

How can you help? **Simply drop your new or used DVDs in the donation box located at the CEO!** No children's movies, please. Donations will be collected regularly with the last pick up of DVD donations on **December 20, 2011**. Your donations will be very appreciated by our military heroes!

This is a great record book service opportunity and this is also a state-wide community service! Please contact Emma or Christian Coffman at familycoffman@aol.com if you have any questions.

Bell County Youth Fair Broilers



Please note that Fair Broilers will arrive on **Wednesday, December 21, 2011** and need to be picked up **between 3:30-5:30pm** at the Extension Office. If you have any questions please contact Pam Reavis at 254-933-5305.



BCYF Rabbit Validation

Rabbit Validation will be on Tuesday, **January 10th, 2012** from **5:30-7:30pm** at the Expo Center. The fee will be \$1.00 per rabbit. If you have any questions please contact Pam Reavis at 254-933-5305.



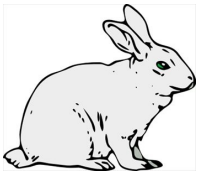
Important Dates for Bell County Youth Fair & Major Shows

BCYF Entries for Clubs	Nov-Dec Club Meeting	See your Club Manager
BCYF FCS Container Pickup	Dec. 19-21, 2011	8am-5pm-CEO
San Antonio Broilers	Dec. 21, 2011	Call in for time
County Broiler Pickup	Dec. 21, 2011	3:30 – 5:30 pm
Rabbit Validation	Jan. 10, 2012	5:30- 7:30 pm- Expo
Houston/Star Broilers In	Jan. 27, 2012	Call in for time
Weigh-Out Commercial Steers	Jan. 28, 2012	8am- Evans Ranch
Swine Carcass Weigh-In	Jan. 28, 2012	9:00-10:00am- Expo
Commercial Steer Recordbook Due	Feb. 3, 2012	BY 5:00 P.M.
Bell County Youth Fair	Feb. 4-11, 2012	Expo

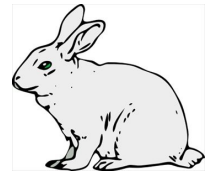
Horse Ride Nights:

Performance- Jan. 24th & 31st, 2011

Speed- Jan. 23rd & 30th, 2011

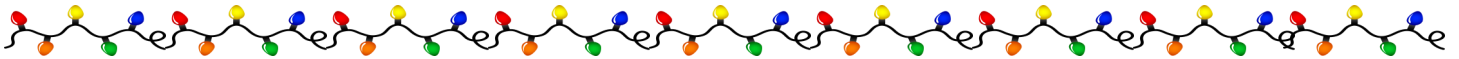


Rabbit Clinic



Bell County 4-H will host 2 rabbit clinics in January. That's right, 2 rabbit clinics! **The first will be held January 3 at 6:30 pm at the Bell County Expo Center Special Events room** (upstairs). This clinic will focus only on Breeding Rabbits. We will discuss breeds, common disqualifications, care and health, showmanship, and rules specific to the Bell County Youth Fair Breeding Rabbit Show. **The second rabbit clinic will be held January 12, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bell County Expo Center** (upstairs). This clinic will be dedicated to fryer rabbits or meat pens. We will discuss feeding, weight management, fur quality, health, supplies needed, disqualifications, selection, and check-in procedures for the Bell County Youth Fair.

If you are new to showing rabbits or just want more information about how the Bell County Youth Fair Rabbit show works, don't miss these 2 great workshops.



Hot and Spicy Salsa Event

Come one come all to the newest Food and Nutrition workshop. At this fun filled event we will be learning how to make several different types of salsa with several different ingredients. We will also be having a salsa contest! If you would like to compete you will need to bring your own quart jar full of **HOMEMADE** salsa. We will have a judge go around to taste and judge the salsas as well as have a kids choice award where you can vote for your favorite salsa. While we are waiting for the judging to be complete, we have a little surprise that all ages will enjoy. **The Hot and Spicy Salsa Event will be at the County Extension Office at 9:00-11:00 am on the 25th of Feb.**

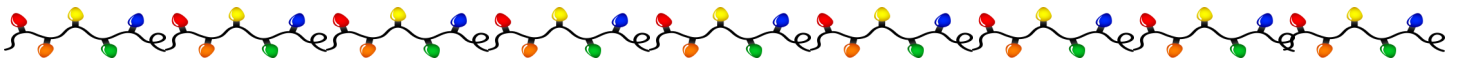
The cost to come to this workshop will be \$10 but you can enter the salsa contest for \$5 per salsa entry and this includes your workshop fee! All registrations and fees will be due to the CEO by Feb. 13th. Salsa categories include mild, hot, and fruit salsa. Prizes will be given to the best salsa in each category, one over all, and kid's choice.



Registration forms can be found on the 4-H website by going to:

<http://agrillife.org/bell4h/projects/food-and-nutrition-project/hot-and-spicy-salsa-event/>

Hope to see you there!



Food Tour



The Bell County 4-H Healthy Lifestyles Board is inviting all 4-H members to attend **a food tour on January 16, 2012**. We will be going to Austin to Whole Foods, Central Market, and various other Healthy Lifestyles places. If you are interested in going, please **RSVP by January 6th to the CEO**. No cost has been set just yet but it should be under \$15 per person. This will include lunch. Anyone interested in driving as a parent must be screened first (if you are already a 4-H volunteer you should be good). If you are interested in driving, please RSVP that as well. We will leave the CEO at 9am and return by 5pm. Minimum of 10 must sign up to make the tour.

Need to have more family meals together?? Want to help 4-H make some money? Bring your family to Fuddruckers in December!

All you have to do is pay for your meal and drop your receipt in the basket labeled "4-H" and 4-H will receive money!!

Fuddruckers locations are:

- Temple in the Mall (Proceeds go to Bell County 4-H)
- Killeen on 190 (Proceeds go to Military 4-H)



December 20- Go and eat a great meal with your family and support the 4-H program!



2012 Texas Teen Retreat

The Texas 4-H Conference Center is pleased to announce plans for the first event of 2012 -- The Texas Teen Retreat to be held **January 6-8, 2012** at the Texas 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood, TX! This retreat will be an excellent opportunity for **senior 4-H members ages 13-19** to learn numerous basic personal skills and leadership techniques. ! Cost for this retreat is Youth-\$105.00, Adult Chaperones \$70.00. If you are interested in participating in this retreat please register on the TX 4-H Center website. All youth **must** be accompanied by the same gender chaperone. No transportation is provided.



*ATTENTION PARENTS, LEADERS,
and CLUB MANAGERS!*

January 31st is an important meeting for MAB, the Membership Advisory Board. This meeting is for all parents and leaders. We also highly encourage all club managers and assistant club managers to come! We will be discussing the Hunter's Spectacular.

Please come to the **MAB meeting on January 31st at 7pm in the County Extension Office Meeting Room to help plan the Hunter's Spectacular!**

Bell County Youth Fair Ride Nights

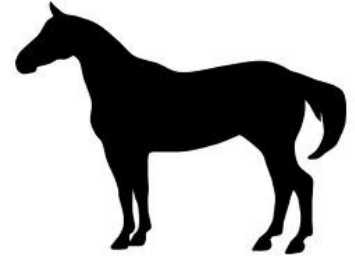
Sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension Service & Bell 4-H Horse Club

The official ride nights are correct in the BCYF rule book. Please notice the following schedule:

January 24th and 31st are Performance nights.

January 23rd and 30th are Speed event nights.

Speed horses only on Speed nights, Performance horses only on Performance nights.



Rules for ride nights are included on page 6 of the Bell County Youth Fair Horse Show (BLUE) Catalogue, so please be familiar with them. Ride night events are only for the Contestants registered for competition in the Bell County Youth Fair Horse Show. Only their horses that are the primary or alternate horses signed up for the events in 2012. We will be checking for Coggins so have copies of current negative Coggins test results on all the horses you bring. Contestants must register each night and present Coggins paperwork to ride in the arenas.

We do not allow alcohol or smoking at anytime in the barn and no alcohol can be consumed in parking lot. Because this is an equine event, absolutely no dogs will be allowed on the grounds.

- We need every one of you to focus on safety.
- We will have EMS on site at every ride night this year from 6:00 to 10:00.
- Security Staff will be present from 6:00 to 10:00.
- We will again have inside tie up area available along the West side of the C barn arena.
- Since we have many horses that are not familiar with each other and riders that may not be familiar with crowded type conditions, we would like to again have appointed safety monitors for each night. The idea would be that the safety monitor would be stationed in the congested areas and be responsible for helping the youth understand how to make safe decisions. We are looking for volunteers that will be safety monitors. Please report any unsafe conditions to them. If you would like to volunteer e-mail or call Micah at the CEO.
- The goal is that the ride nights help beginners and newer entrants feel comfortable, help them have fun and give them confidence to compete in future events. At the same time we will strive to provide a safe place for the more experienced riders to get ride time and practice. The ride nights will only be as good as we collectively make them, so your help is needed.

If you would like to volunteer or have any suggestions, please call or send an e-mail. The Office number is (254) 933-5305, and e-mail is mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu.

Beginners Sewing Class

Join us on **December 29 at 1:00** for a fun **beginning sewing class**. The Clothing & Textiles Board members will teach you how to make a little stuffed teddy bear. This class is for beginners ages 5 and up. Please bring your sewing kit (scissors, thread, needles, pins, etc). Also bring 1/2 yard of cotton fabric and matching thread. Quilting fabric works nicely for it. We will provide the stuffing.

SCHOLARSHIP & FINANCIAL AID TRAINING!
 Please Join Texas A&M Collegiate 4-H for a
4-H Scholarship Training!

Who? Any current 4-H member and their parents who is interested in learning and improving their scholarship applications.

What? Exclusive lessons and Q&A sessions from 4-H faculty member Dr. Toby Lepley and special presentations from former 4-H members.
 Lunch and refreshments will also be provided.

When? Saturday, December 10th, 2011 (10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.)

Cost? \$20 a person Must be received by December 7th.
 (Registration includes: lunch, refreshments & educational materials)

Where? TBA- in College Station, Texas



Name	Youth/ Adult	Age (youth)	Fee	County	Contact Email
	Y A				
	Y A				
	Y A				
	Y A				
	Y A				
Total:					

**Deadline: MUST be received by the State 4-H Office
 BEFORE December 7th, 2011**
 Please make checks payable to TAMU Collegiate 4-H
 Send to: Texas 4-H Office c/o Amy Dromgoole
 4180 State Highway 6, College Station, Texas 77845



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE

**BELL ★ COUNTY
COWBOY
CHRISTMAS™ BALL**

**FEATURING MICHAEL MARTIN MURPHEY
WITH SPECIAL GUEST LONE PRAIRIE**



**SATURDAY
12.10.11 6PM**



**BELL COUNTY
EXPO CENTER**

**ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR THE BELL
COUNTY YOUTH FAIR SCHOLARSHIP FUND**



Congratulations To Our 2011 Hunter's Spectacular Winners

WINNERS

Kacee Green
 Alan Barkis
 Corey Richardson
 Tracy Eckles
 Mark Hintermeister
 Lisa Pope
 Jeff Atchison
 Rory Heisch
 Wallace Biskup, Jr
 Kathy Lewis
 Leon Jacobs
 Shane Elms
 Kaitlin Whittemore
 AC Ray
 CB McDonald
 Ricky Atchison
 Jeff Atchison
 Harold Cospers
 Sherry Tyroch
 Frank Board
 Zacch Smith
 Eddie Watts
 Rick Hill
 EJ Vansickle
 Justin Brenek
 Creston Wolff

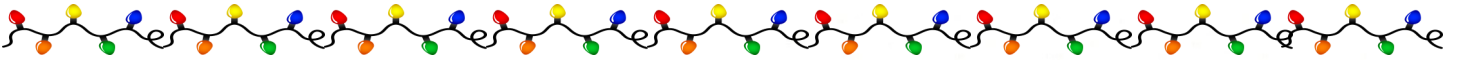
 Corey Richardson
 Vickie Denman

PRIZES

Remington 870 Express	12 ga
Ruger 10-22 RB	22LR
Marlin	308
Savage	243 Win
Mossberg 500WF	12 ga
Crickett 253	22LR
Weatherby Vanguard	270 WSM
Remington 770SPT	7MM Mag
Maverick	20 ga
Marlin XL7c	270
Remington- CARD GUN	20 ga
Savage	.223 Rem
Mossberg 835 WF	12ga
Crickett 270 SS	22LR
Marlin	30-30
Weatherby Vanguard	257 WBY Mag
Savage	22-250 Win
Ruger 10-22 RPF	22LR
Weatherby Vanguard	7mm08
Browning A Bolt	300 Win Mag
Remington 700 XCR	30-06
Nikon Binoculars	
Tripod/ Bow Case	
Range Finder	
30 ga Deer Feeder	
European Mount or \$125 toward deer processing	
55 gal Wildlife Feeder	
Grand Prize- Safe	

**WE APPRECIATE
YOUR SUPPORT!!**



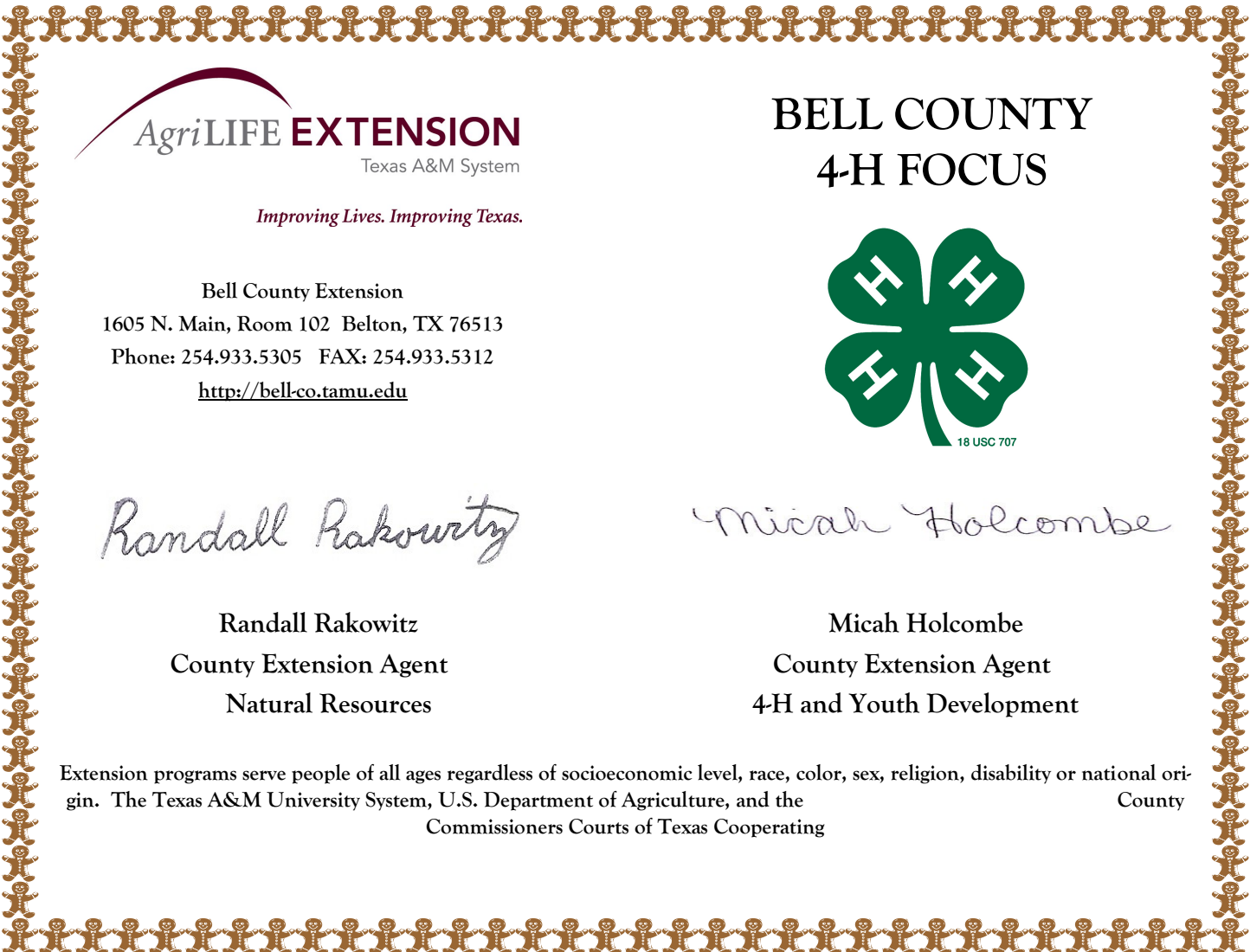


Hurry, Hurry & Order your Bell County 4-H T-Shirt/Hoodie in time for the BCYF!



Show your support for Bell County 4-H and call or come by the CEO to fill out an order form.

Hoodies are \$20.00 & T-shirts are \$10.00



Improving Lives. Improving Texas.

Bell County Extension
1605 N. Main, Room 102 Belton, TX 76513
Phone: 254.933.5305 FAX: 254.933.5312
<http://bell-co.tamu.edu>

Randall Rakowitz

Randall Rakowitz
County Extension Agent
Natural Resources

**BELL COUNTY
4-H FOCUS**



Micah Holcombe

Micah Holcombe
County Extension Agent
4-H and Youth Development

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating



December 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 Horse Club Ride Day, 3-6pm, Expo	5	6	7	8 D8 4-H Food Show, Expo	9 Leaders 4 Life Meeting, 7pm, CEO	10 Cowboy Christmas Ball, 7pm, CEO
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 BCYF Broiler Pick-up, 3:30-5:30pm, CEO San Antonio Broiler Pick-up, 3:30-5:30pm, CEO	22	23 CEO CLOSED	24
FCS Container Pick-up, 8am-5pm, CEO 						
25 	26 CEO CLOSED	27	28	29 Clothing Workshop, 6pm, CEO	30	31