

Bell County Staff:

Jackie McLaughlin
County Extension
Agent
Family & Consumer
Sciences

Heidi Prude
County Extension Agent
Natural Resources

Sheryl Raley
County Extension Agent
4-H & Youth
Development

Lyle Zoeller
County Extension Agent
Agriculture

Sheryl Austin
Cooperative Extension—
Family & Consumer
Science

Tonya Elliott
4-H Program Assistant

Congratulations Fort Worth Exhibitors!

Heifers: Stuart Lastovica—Angus Jr. Calf
Champion

Braylee Mackie—Beefmaster Jr Calf Reserve
Champion

Raley Downing—3rd Place

Payton Porubsky—Participant

Morgan Porubsky—Participant

Lambs: DeLaney McLean—Reserve
Champion Finewool, 3rd Place

Steers: Allison Brinkman— Participant

Madison Brinkman— Participant

Maya Denman—7th Place Exotic

Stuart Lastovica— Participant

San Angelo Livestock Show Results

Lambs: DeLaney McLean—Participant

Heifers: Stuart Lastovica— Reserve Grand
Champion Angus, Grand Champion Junior
Showmanship, 3rd Place, 5th Place

Breeding Gilts: Lexi McCall-Participant

Erin Steglich— Participant

Clara Steglich— Participant

Payton Aldrich— Reserve Champion Hampshire
CTBR

Kenzie Goldman— Participant

Christina Estes-Participant

Coral Estes— Participant

Ag Mechanics: Ashley Payne— Reserve
Champion Div., Reserve Champion Ind.
Showman

Clara & Erin Steglich— 1st Place BBQ Pit

Aiden Davis— 1st Place Forged Bench

Barrows: Lexi McCall— 10th Place Cross

Leila Romero-Participant

Grace Rose— Participant

Erin Steglich— Participant



1605 N. Main, Room 102

Belton, TX 76513

Phone: (254)933-5305

Fax: (254)933-5312

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

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. Dept. of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

A member of The Texas A&M University System and its statewide Agriculture Program.

EVENT	REGISTRATION DUE DATE	EVENT DATE	LOCATION
District Consumer Decision Making		Saturday, February 27, 2016	China Spring Elementary School, Waco
District Nutrition Quiz Bowl		Saturday, February 27, 2016	China Spring Elementary School, Waco
Bell County Photography Contest	March 1, 2016		Email to siraley@ag.tamu.edu
District Photography Contest			Display: April 30, 2016 at District Roundup
District Horse Judging	March 28, 2016	Saturday, April 16, 2016	TAMU, College Station
District Range Evaluation Contest District Plant ID Contest District Entomology Contest District Wool Contest District Mohair Contest District Ag Product ID Contest	March 28, 2016	Friday, April 15, 2016	Tarleton State University, Stephenville
Multi-District Contests (Livestock, Meat, Soil)	March 28, 2016	Saturday, April 23, 2016	TAMU, College Station
Bell County Round Up	March 7, 2016	March 31, 2016	Bell County Extension Office
District Roundup		Saturday, April 30, 2016	
4-H Scholarship Interviews			Austin*
District Rifle Contest	April 22, 2016	Saturday, May 14, 2016	Leon County Gun Club
Texas 4-H Roundup		June 6-10, 2016	TAMU, College Station
District Horse Show		June 20-21, 2016	Bell County Expo Center, Belton
Bell County Recordbook Judging	TBD	TBD	TBD
District Leadership Lab & Officer Elections			
District Recordbook Judging		Thursday, July 7, 2016	Bosque County*
Southeast District County Camp			Palestine
Texas 4-H Congress			Austin
Texas 4-H Horse Show			Taylor County Expo Center, Abilene
Texas 4-H Recordbook Judging		Monday, August 1, 2016**	
	**Tentative Dates and/or Locations		

Texas 4-H Congress

A select number of 4-H Delegates will be allotted to each district. So don't be late applying!!! Bell County 4-H will pay for those who are accepted!

Texas 4-H Congress allows 4-H members to experience the law making process first hand by writing, submitting, and then serving as a member of the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Press, or as a Lobbyist. From these roles, the 4-H members determine the fate of each bill submitted.

Lobbyist for Texas 4-H Congress

The Lobbyist group is designed for 4-H members who have attended Texas 4-H Congress in the past. The responsibility of the Lobbyist group is to identify certain bills and then lobby members of the House and Senate to either pass or defeat the bill. Lobbyist should be knowledgeable about Texas 4-H Congress and the schedule that it follows. Lobbyist members should be prepared to and have the ability to approach other 4-H members and persuade House and Senate members for support. The Lobbyist group will hold a "by invitation only" reception for House and Senate Members, along with Congress Leadership. Submit an online application through 4HConnect between February 15 to March 31, 2016.

Press Corp for Texas 4-H Congress

The Texas 4-H Congress Press Corps play an extremely important part in the success of the event. Press Corps members can be either first time or returning 4-H members to 4-H Congress. Individuals applying for Press Corps should have strong skills in writing, word processing, interviewing, photography, and focused on making deadlines. The press corps is responsible for the publishing of a daily newspaper and help maintaining a web page/electronic communication. Submit an online application through 4HConnect from February 15 to March 31, 2016.

Submission of Legislative Bills

Any 4-H member, regardless of age or planning on attending Texas 4-H Congress, may submit a legislative bill for consideration. Participation in the bill writing exercise allows 4-H members the opportunity to become engaged in the legislative process and the 4-H citizenship project. 4-H members attending Texas 4-H Congress will be required to submit at least one bill (this includes Texas 4-H Council, Tech Team, etc) prior to their registration to the event being accepted. To learn more on how to write and submit a bill download the "[Preparing a Legislative Bill for Texas 4-H Congress](#)" as well as work with your County Extension agent or a volunteer. [Online submissions are being accepted between January 1 to May 20, 2016.](#)

Pay close attention to deadlines!

Texas 4-H Congress Calendar

January, 2016 [Bill submission opens](#)— You MUST submit a bill to participate!!!

February 15, 2016, [Lobbyist Application Opens](#)

February 15, 2016, [Press Corps Online Opens](#)

March 31, 2016, Lobbyist Application closes

March 31, 2016, Press Corps Application closes

April 20, 2016, Press Corps and Lobbyist Notification

May 1, 2016, [Online 4HConnect Registration opens](#)

May 20, 2016, Bill submission closes—You MUST submit a bill to participate!!!

May 31, 2016, Online Registration closes

For more information, go to <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/congress/>

Upcoming Events



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. <http://agrillife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/scholarships/>

Bell County 4-H Scholarship—to CEO by March 1, 2016

Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association Scholarship—to TAIA in Lubbock by March 1, 2016

Bell County Youth Fair Scholarship—to CEO by April 8, 2016

District 8 TAE4-HA Scholarship—Milam County by May 15, 2016

Don't hesitate on asking for help or if you have any questions regarding scholarships.

Vet Science Project

Help the Vet Science project collect items for the Texas Humane Heroes in Killeen. They are needing: Canned dog food, canned cat food, bleach, old blankets, and high efficiency laundry detergent. Drop off items at the County Extension Office or contact Kristen Baker at 254-462-2976.



March 2—Abiding Savior Church @ 6 p.m.

April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6 – Bell County Communication Center @ 6 p.m.

August 9-11—Vet Science Summer Camp

Vet Science Planning meeting for 2016-2017 year will take place September 7, 2016 at the Bell County Communication Center @ 6 p.m.

Bell County Youth Fair Meeting

There will be a General Membership Meeting of the Bell County Youth Fair & Livestock Show, Inc., on Monday, March 28, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bell County Expo Center (upstairs room) in Belton.

Suggestions for the 2017 Bell County Youth Fair Show will be taken at this time or anytime before the meeting on 28th. Suggestions need to be signed by "paid" member.

We will also be taking 2016-2017 Membership dues, which are \$10.00 per person: as well as electing Directors for these 2 precincts:

Precinct 1: (Going off is Gerald Rabroker)

Precinct 3—(Going off is JP Brazeal)

Ag Product ID Practice

Be prepared for an Ag Product ID Practice on the following dates:

Monday, February 29th with Heidi Prude starting at 5:30 p.m. at the CEO

Thursday, March 3rd with Jackie McLaughlin starting at 5:30 p.m. at the CEO

Tuesday, March 8th with Heidi Prude starting at 5:30 p.m. at the CEO

This is a contest where you can be practicing at home as well as with us on the scheduled dates!

Bell County Round UP

The Bell County Roundup includes 3 different contests. Public Speaking, Educational Presentations, and Share

The Fun. **County Roundup will be held March 31st at 5:30 p.m. at the County Extension Office.**

Educational Presentations are where you teach the audience about a certain topic/4-H project or it can also be a “how to” methods demonstration.

Public Speaking is speaking to a group without visuals and about some issue or topic.

Entry forms and more information can be found on the Bell County 4-H website under Projects.

Entries will be due March 7th.

Categories for Educational Presentations Include:

Beef, Clothing & Textiles, Companion Animals, Health, Horse, Open, Promote 4-H, Safety & Accident Prevention, Sheep &/or Goat, Computer Technology, Open – Agriculture & Natural Resources, Open – Family & Consumer Sciences

Share The Fun is like a talent show for those who are very talented with music whether that is singing, playing an instrument or dancing, poetry, or skits. The skit is a “Celebrate 4-H” skit, it usually is something very entertaining and fun that has to do with 4-H.

Categories include:

Poetry/Prose, Vocal, Musical/Instrumental, Solo/Band Performance, Choreographed Routine, & Celebrate 4-H

Join us for Volunteer Appreciation Night

We would like to honor and appreciate our volunteers by hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Night. A meal will be provided for you and your family. Please join us on Thursday, April 7th at the Bell County Expo Special Events Room (upstairs).

RSVP to the County Extension Office by Monday, April 4th

District 8 Rifle Contest

Save the date! If you are interested in competing in the District 8 Rifle Contest that will take place on Saturday, May 14, 2016, in Buffalo. Entry deadline is April 22nd on 4-H Connect. This is a 3 position rifle contest and light rifle contest. Contact Sheryl Raley if you have any questions regarding this contest.



County Council & Ambassadors



County Council Meeting

The next County Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 30th at the CEO. This meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. County council delegates from the 4-H Clubs are strongly encouraged to attend all council meetings!

Future Council Meeting Dates: May 9

County Council Community Service Projects

At the County Council Meeting, there is an educational program and community service project for the month. March 30th – the program will be “What to expect at camp” and the community service project will be the collection of soft drink can tabs. Have everyone you know collect the soft drink can tabs, super easy community service!

May 9th—there will be no program at this meeting since we will be conducting officer elections. The community service project will be “I care kits” for active military. More details to come.

FCS Project News

Bell County, District 8 and State Photography Contests

All photography contests have been rescheduled to the same time frame this year! All 4-H Grades can compete in the Bell County and District 8 Photography contests, but only Senior 4-H members can compete at state.

First, a Bell County contest for all grades will be conducted.

Winners from the county contest will advance to the District 8 contest. Winners will be displayed at the District 8 Round Up

Senior 4-H members that win their category at the Bell County contest, will advance to the State contest. Winners will be displayed at Texas 4-H Round Up

Photography entries must be emailed to siraley@ag.tamu.edu, do not bring in a flash drive! Entries are due by email by Monday, March 1, 2016. Please make sure and follow the instruction on the 2016 Texas 4-H Photography Contest Rules & Guidelines.

http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/photography_1516guidelines.pdf

YOU MUST FOLLOW ALL RULES OF THE TEXAS 4-H CONTEST, INCLUDING HOW TO NAME YOUR PHOTOS! This year's theme is “4-H, Ribbons, Awards, and Recognition.” All category descriptions can be found on the Bell County 4-H website or the Texas 4-H website. Let Sheryl know if you have any questions.

Bell EEA Style Show & Luncheon

The 11th Annual Luncheon with Style presents:

“Fashion Stars” with fashions from Cato

This event is the Bell County EEA 4-H Scholarship Fundraiser. Participation is encouraged. The event will take place at the Bell County Expo Center on Saturday, March 19, 2016. The baked potato/salad lunch will start at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are available at the CEO, \$10 per person. Reserved table for 8 people, \$100.

Ticket deadline: Monday, March 14, 2016.

If you have signed up to model your BCYF Fashion Revue garment, then be prepared to attend the Style Show. If any other 4-Her wants to model on March 19th they need to contact Jackie McLaughlin ASAP. Models need to be at the EXPO no later than 10:30am that morning. All those helping and modeling will have lunch provided.

Clothing and Textiles Board presents *Sewing 101*

This two part class will walk you through the sewing process. At the end of the two classes you will have a project completed that can be entered in the Bell County Youth Fair.

RSVP: April 1 with your name and size of ready wear pants.

Cost: will be \$15 for pattern, material and supplies

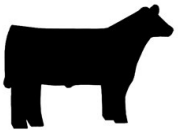
Skill Level: Beginners through Advanced; ages 9 and up

April 11- Class 1 will include reading and selecting a pattern and cutting out the fabric.

April 25- Class 2 will include the sewing of the shorts and tips and tricks for a professional finish.

Clover Kids Meetings

April 16—Temple Public Library, May 21—Location TBD, and June 18—Temple Public Library



Livestock Project News



~Upcoming District 8 4-H Contests~

If you want to participate in any of the following Spring District 8 Contests, you must notify the CEO by

Monday, March 28, 2016:

Horse Judging
District Range Evaluation Contest
District Plant ID Contest
District Entomology Contest
District Wool Contest
District Mohair Contest
District Ag Product ID Contest
Livestock Judging
Meat Judging
Soil

A lot of these contests are TEAM events so it takes planning on our part to align the teams. Make sure you notify us no later than March 28 if you want to participate.



Livestock Project News



Stock Show Passes

All of the Major Livestock Show passes have arrived. They have been separated by exhibitor and may be picked up at the CEO when you have a chance. Heidi will have them out at the expo during youth fair. Just a reminder that our office is open from 8AM-5PM Monday through Friday, we are closed from noon-1PM and on weekends.

State Fair Tag Orders

4-H members who plan to show a lamb, goat or barrow at the State Fair of Texas in 2016 must order validation tags for the number of animals they plan to validate no later than April 11, 2016. Call Heidi at the Extension Office to order your tags. Cost is \$12 per tag.

Horse Validation

IMPORTANT~ It is that time again to validate your horses that will be competing at the District 8 Horse Show and/or State 4-H Horse Show. Validation via 4-H Connect is a requirement for the 4-H Horse Shows. Horses must be **owned** by the 4-H member, their parents, grandparents, legal guardian, or sibling. Horses must be validated by **May 1st**. A horse must be revalidated each year! The validation of multiple horses is encouraged. Validation instructions are posted on agrlife.org/bell4h

Dates

March 1—April 15: Cost is \$10 per horse

April 16—May 1: Cost is \$20 per horse

District 8 Horse Show: June 20-21 at Bell County Expo

Texas Cattle Feeders Association Fed Beef Challenge

The 2016 Junior Fed Beef Challenge is scheduled for Friday, July 29th. The contest will be held on the campus of West Texas AM University in Canyon. This is your opportunity to directly influence the future of the cattle feeding industry! Participants can form a partnership with a maximum of 3 people partnering on a pen of steers.

Contact Heidi Prude for more information on this contest.

Please keep in mind, if you need help with selection, feeding, and management of livestock projects, don't hesitate to call Heidi, Lyle or Sheryl. We are here to help you with your projects!

Important Dates

March 2016

April 2016

March 1: Bell County 4-H Scholarship Due

March 1: TAIA Scholarship Due

March 1: Photography Contest submitted electronically to siraley@ag.tamu.edu

March 1: Ag Product ID Practice

March 2: Vet Science Project Meeting

March 3: Ag Product ID Practice

March 7: Bell County Round & Share the Fun entries due to CEO

March 8: Ag Product ID Practice

March 19: Bell EEA Style Show

March 19: Clover Kids Meeting

March 28: BCYF General Membership Meeting

March 28: Horse Judging, District Range Evaluation Contest, District Plant ID Contest, District Entomology Contest, District Wool Contest, District Mohair Contest, District Ag Product ID Contest, Livestock Judging, Meat Judging, Soil

March 30: County Council Meeting

March 31: Bell County Round Up & Share the Fun

March 31: Texas 4-H Congress, Lobbyist & Press Corps applications closes online

March 1-April 15: Horse Validation, \$10

April 16-May 1: Horse Validation, \$20

April 1: RSVP deadline for Sewing 101

April 4: Volunteer Appreciation RSVP deadline

April 6: Vet Science Project Meeting

April 7: Volunteer Appreciation Nigh, EXPO

April 8: Bell County Youth Fair Scholarship due

April 11: Sewing 101, Class 1

April 11: State Fair Tag order due to CEO

April 15: District 8 Ag Product ID Contest, Stephenville

April 16: District 8 Horse Judging, College Station

April 16: Clover Kids Meeting

April 20: Texas 4-H Congress, Press Corps and Lobbyist Notification

April 22: District 8 Rifle Contest deadline

April 23: District 8 Livestock Judging Contest, College Station

April 25: Sewing 101, Class 2

April 30: District 8 Round Up and Share the Fun, Riesel



BELL COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

Bell County Extension
1605 N. Main Room 102
Belton, TX 76513
Phone: 254-933-5305
Fax: 254-933-5312

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

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

4-H: Sheryl Raley

siraley@ag.tamu.edu



Sheryl Raley

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

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

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