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In this issue read:

Camps, Contests, Workshops

Shooting Sports News

Horse News

Livestock

Calendar



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.

SEPTEMBER 2015 FOCUS

Congratulations to the Bell County 4-H Award Recipients !

Clover Kid Award—Tori Salazar-Canales & Caroline Wood

Rookie Award—Emily Anderson & Kristen Baker

All Star Award—Lexy Ide

Letterman Award—Erin Steglich & Kristen Heisch

Outstanding Community Service—

Billy Wood & Victoria Buckner

Silver Star Award—Lexy Ide

Senior Award—Emma Coffman,

Billy Wood, Merah Winters, Ashley Payne

I Dare You Award—Wesley Ide,

Erin Steglich, Kristen Heisch

Gold Star Award—Ashley Payne,

Nathan Dague, and Merah Winters

Outstanding Leader Award—Richard Lary & Marshall Latham

Friend of 4-H Award—Mary Ann Everett

Congratulations Texas 4-H Recordbook Contestants !

Victoria Buckner—Rabbit

Clara Steglich— Swine

Merah Winters — Goat

Billy Wood— Safety

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

4-H Enrollment

4-H Enrollment started **August 15th**!!! All enrollment is done via 4-H Connect. You can access 4-H Connect by going to our 4-H website at <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/> and clicking on the 4-H Connect icon.

To maintain the level of programming and opportunities in the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, an annual participant fee is implemented for each 4-H member (excluding Clover Kids). The participant fee is \$20 if enrolled from **August 15th to October 31st**, November 1st the participant fee will increase to \$25.

For instructions on how to enroll, please visit:

<http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-enrollment-guidelines/4-h-enrollment-information/>

All volunteers who enroll will be charged \$5.00 each volunteer. This covers your screening for the year. All volunteers will have to enroll each year.

If you have further questions, please contact the County Extension Office at: 254-933-5305

NEW 4-H Age /Grade Requirements

Youth may participate in 4-H from September 1st of grade three through August 31 following the completion of grade twelve, with these age restrictions:

Minimum age - 8 years old as of August 31, 2015 AND in the 3rd grade

Maximum age - 18 as of August 31, 2015

4-H Member Categories

Juniors: Grades 3, 4, and 5

Intermediates: Grades 6, 7, and 8

Seniors: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

4-H Open House

WHEN: September 9, 2015 at Bell County EXPO!

TIME: 5:30—8:00 p.m.

4-H members and children from the public can come to the Open House and learn about all the projects and activities in 4-H. Current 4-H members are welcome to come and learn about new projects offered in the county. There will be Bell County 4-H members stationed at booths and you will have the opportunity to talk to them about their project and all types of activities (i.e. 4-H Camp, Leadership Lab, Congress, etc.).

Those participating in project demonstrations and club booths need to be at the Expo! Center by 5:00 p.m. to set up and be ready by 5:30pm. Please contact Sheryl at siraley@ag.tamu.edu to tell her about what you will be having at your table. She also needs to know how many tables, chairs, and if you need an electrical outlet.

New ideas are welcomed!

Hunter Spectacular

Hunter Spectacular

Saturday, October 3, 2015 at the Bell County EXPO!

Doors open at 6:00 p.m., Fajita dinner served at 6:30 p.m.

We will have lots of fun things for the whole family at the event including a meal, silent auction, live auction, vendors, and even have games. We will also have a drawing for 20 guns, binoculars, hunting equipment, t-shirts for sale and lots of other fun prizes. For the young people, we have games and activities and even a cake walk. A live auction of outdoor items will take place that evening as well as a silent auction with the hunter in mind. **We need our 4-H members to sell tickets to the event.** Your club manager will be asking each of you to participate and we want you to know that we utilize the funds raised for the total Bell County 4-H program....which includes you! We are able to help offset the costs of many events, camps, livestock supplies, workshops, contests, and leadership activities through these funds. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call the Extension Office and visit with Sheryl about the event.

Hunter Spectacular Tickets

Turn in tickets to your Club Managers: September 21-25 (unless earlier date stated by your Club Manager)

Turn in tickets to CEO (**CLUB MANAGERS ONLY**): Monday, September 28—Wednesday, September 30
8—11 a.m. then 1-4 p.m.

Early ticket turn-ins are always welcome! Please adhere to the turn-in instructions that were given to you with your tickets. Please call the CEO to set up your appointment for ticket turn-in **OR** if you need to make other arrangements.

Hunter Spectacular Silent Auction Baskets

If your club is making a basket to donate for the silent auction, please have those tickets turned in by Wednesday, September 30th to the CEO. If your club selected to donate money to the committee to make you a basket, that money is due to the CEO by the 30th as well. Please let Sheryl Raley or Jan Stone know if you have any questions.

Hunter Spectacular Workers

If you would like to help with the Hunter's Spectacular, we are looking for adult and youth volunteers. Please fill out the doodle to volunteer for the event: <http://doodle.com/9vmhk5qkdntcc6x>

We must have at least 1 adult at each booth!

Upcoming Events

Food & Nutrition FCS Competition Information Night

Come to the CEO on Tuesday, September 22nd to learn more about the 4-H Food and Nutrition projects! This info night will cover Food Challenge, Food Show and Nutrition Quizbowl. The event will start at 6:00 p.m.

Hope to see you there!

Ag Product ID Information Night

If you are interested in learning more about the Ag Product ID contest, join us on Thursday, September 10th at the CEO. This will start at 6:30 p.m. We will cover all aspects of the 4-H contest. For questions, contact Heidi Prude at heidi.prude@ag.tamu.edu

Clothing Board Meeting

The next Clothing Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 14th starting at 6:00 p.m. Please join us if you are interested in participating in this board! We will be making Cool-ties and Paracord Bracelets.

4-H FCS Coalition Meeting

On September 29th, there will be a 4-H FCS Coalition meeting at the CEO starting at 6:00 p.m. Please send Jackie items for the agenda. Workgroup committee reports will be given. 2016 plans will be discussed. Watch for an agenda from Jackie in the coming weeks. Invite an interested 4-H friend to join the coalition.

Jackie.mclaughlin@ag.tamu.edu

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

All MAB officers will need to attend the next Membership Advisory Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 27th at the CEO. Meeting will start at 6:30 p.m.

Tigertown Vet Science Project Meeting Dates

Meeting Dates: September 2, October 7, November 11, December 2.

Meetings will take place at the Bell County Communications Center. The Vet Science Program is open to all middle and high school youth in Bell County. It is a program that runs year round and cycle through its lessons. Any youth wanting to participate can join at any time! Contact Stacee Winters @ 254-933-3570 or at num24alw@gmail.com

Upcoming Events



County Council Meeting

September 15, 2015 at the CEO

The Bell County 4-H County Council will meet on **September 15, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at the County Extension Office Meeting Room**. Remember the council delegate and the president of the club are the two representatives from your club who come to the meeting and are voting delegates for the club. All 4-H members are welcome though! It will be a lot of fun, so come and learn about the county 4-H program and vote on exciting new 4-H opportunities.

T-Shirt Contest

We will be selling the left over t-shirts at this year's Hunter Spectacular. So we decided to have a contest for 4-H members to design the new Bell County 4-H T-Shirt! Submit your design to the CEO by Friday, September 25th to enter the contest. The designs will then be displayed at the t-shirt booth at Hunter Spectacular for people to vote on their favorite design. Submission guidelines:

- Draw/print your design on a standard 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper
- Put the page inside a clear page protector to be displayed at the event.

Winner will be announced in the October 4-H Newsletter!

Clover Kids Meeting

Location: TBD

Time 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Be checking your email for the location once its set.

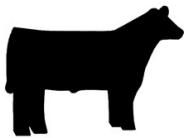
Nature Fest

Central Texas Master Naturalist Chapter will host the Central Texas Nature Fest at Bend of the River Park in Temple on Saturday, October 10th from 11:00am-5:00pm. They want 4-H members to help lead the nature hike! Let Sheryl know if this is something you are interested in doing!

One Day 4-H

One Day 4-H is still tentative but will be **October 10th** date! We hope to have another teen safe driving event and all youth are welcome to come and help with the event!. If you do plan to attend, please make arrangements to buy your One Day T-Shirt by **September 18th!**

Go to: www.barefootathletics.com/cof ENTER CODE: **COF106138**



Livestock Project News



~~ Major Show Lamb and Goat Validation ~~

WHEN: October 20th & October 26th at Bell County EXPO!

TIME: 4:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

COST: State Validation tags should have already been ordered through the CEO, if you have not purchased a tag and need to, you must contact Heidi Prude ASAP!

County tags will be \$5 per animal at validation

We will contact those who ordered Major Show tags to come by the CEO before October 20th to fill out their state validation paperwork. You will appreciate this come validation night!

~~ Major Show Heifer Validation ~~

WHEN: October 21st at Bell County EXPO!

TIME: 4:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

COST: \$12 per head, money can be submitted at validation

You must notify Heidi or Sheryl **BEFORE** September 11th on the number of heifers you plan on validating. 4-H members must come by the CEO **BEFORE** the validation date to fill out paperwork. We must scan and upload **ORIGINAL** heifer registration papers before validation as well. This will make validation run more efficient and quicker. Non-registered heifers, to be shown at Bell County Youth Fair ONLY, will be permitted to county validate those heifers for \$5/head. County only tags will be purchased on-site the night of validation.



~~ Major Show Barrow Tag Orders~~

Order Deadline: Friday, September 18 at the CEO

COST: \$12 per tag,



For those members who plan to validate barrows for the 2016 spring major shows (Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston, Austin) you **MUST ORDER AND PAY FOR YOUR TAGS at the CEO NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2015. YOU MUST HAVE EXACT CHANGE OR MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BELL COUNTY 4-H!** If you have any further questions please contact Heidi at heidi.prude@ag.tamu.edu or 254-933-5305.

~~ Spring 2015 Major Show Sign Up ~~

WHEN: November 2, 2015 and November 9, 2015 at the CEO

TIME: 4-7 PM

Entry forms for all 2016 Spring Major shows (Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston, Austin) will be available for pick-up from Heidi and Sheryl at the extension office beginning October 19, 2015. All completed forms and payment must be turned in to Heidi or Sheryl at the extension office by 7:00 PM on November 9, 2015. Checks or exact change only will be accepted, NO CREDIT CARDS!

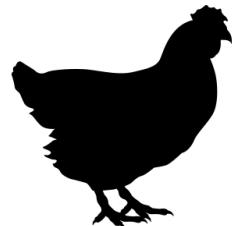
Bell County Youth Fair

- You MUST attend 2 meetings to participate in the BCYF. You MUST sign in on the sign in sheets for it to count.
- 2 meetings will be allowed from **August 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015**. No meetings will be allowed in January to use for the 2 meeting rule.
- All 4-H members MUST be enrolled by **December 1, 2015** to participate in the BCYF. However, the fee will go up after October 31st so do it quickly.
- Entries due to CEO by **December 1, 2015**

All rule books, score sheet,, superintendent contact information, etc, will be posted on the Bell County Youth Fair website <http://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/>

~Poultry Exhibitors~

San Antonio, Houston & Austin Broilers: Due to CEO by October 2, cost \$31.25 per 25 head, must declare which Major Livestock Show the birds are for.



BCYF Roaster: Due to CEO: October 1, \$43.25 per set of 25 birds

Birds will arrive on November 18th, must be picked up between 3:30-5:30 p.m. at CEO

BCYF Broiler: Due to CEO: November 2, \$43.25 per set of 25 birds

Birds will arrive on December 16th, must be picked up between 3:30-5:30 p.m. at CEO



BCYF Commercial Steer Weigh- In

For those who plan on showing Commercial Steers at the Bell County Youth Fair, the weigh-in will be held on Saturday , September 12th. This will take place at the W.C. Evans Ranch in Little River-Academy. For questions, contact the CEO.

Rabbit Workshop

WHEN: September 19, 2015

TIME: TBD

LOCATION: Bell County EXPO!



This will be a great workshop to learn about the 4-H Rabbit Project! Beginners and experienced showman are welcome.

If you have questions about any livestock project or want to get involved in the livestock projects, contact Heidi Prude to get more information. Agents will be conducting project visits soon!

heidi.prude@ag.tamu.edu



Bell County 4-H Exchange Program



Have you ever thought about joining Bell County 4-H Exchange? If so, now is the time to join!

Not sure what 4-H Teen Exchange is? The 4-H Exchange Programs provide an opportunity for teens to visit various regions of the United States. While on an exchange, teens experience various cultures, participate in educational activities, share in leadership opportunities, develop initiative and independence, and gain a deeper insight into one's own values. It is a great opportunity to experience life in another part of the nation. Fundraising and planning create many opportunities for teens to sharpen their leadership, communications, and organizational skills. Exchanges provide fun and effective tools for developing strong life skills such as problem solving and teamwork.

Bell County 4-H Exchange just completed a very fun exchange with Houston County, Minnesota. We stayed with them for a week this summer, learning all about Minnesota history, culture, sightseeing, and developing some great friendships.

If you wish to participate in the Bell County 4-H Exchange Program please plan to attend our next meeting at the **Rogers High School (Carol A. Bonds Building)** on Sunday, September 20th at 1:30 or contact Kathy Ide ckide3@yahoo.com (254)493-2548. Please check out our **Bell County 4-H Exchange Facebook page!!!**



Important Dates

September 2015

- September 4:** Heart O' Texas entries due to CEO
- September 4-6:** Central Texas State Fair, EXPO!
- September 7:** Labor Day, CEO will be closed
- September 9:** 4-H Open House, 5:30-8 pm, EXPO!
- September 10:** Ag Product ID Interest Meeting, 6:30 pm, CEO
- September 12:** BCYF Commercial Steer Weigh In, EXPO!
- September 14:** Clothing Board meeting, 6:00 p.m. at CEO
- September 15:** County Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- September 18:** Major Show Barrow Tag Orders due to CEO
- September 19:** Rabbit Workshop at EXPO!
- September 19:** Clover Kids Meeting
- September 20:** Last day to join Bell County 4-H Exchange
- September 22:** Food & Nutrition/FCS Competition Information Night, 6:00 p.m. at CEO
- September 25:** T-Shirt Design submission due to CEO
- September 21-25:** Turn in Hunter Spectacular Tickets to Club Managers (unless earlier date stated by your Club Manager)
- September 28-30:** Hunter Spectacular Tickets due to CEO (from Club Managers ONLY)
- September 29:** 4-H FCS Coalition Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at CEO
- September 30:** Baskets or \$ for Silent Auction due to CEO

October 2015

- October 1:** BCYF Roaster order due
- October 2:** Major Livestock Broiler orders due to CEO
- October 3:** Hunter Spectacular, 6:00 p.m. at EXPO!
- October 10:** Nature Fest
- October 20:** Lamb & Goat Validation, 4-7 pm, EXPO!
- October 21:** Heifer Validation, 4-7 pm, EXPO!
- October 27:** MAB meeting, 6:30 p.m. at CEO
- October 26:** Lamb & Goat Validation, 4-7 pm, EXPO!
- October 8-17:** Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo



BELL COUNTY
4-H NEWSLETTER

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4-H: Sheryl Raley

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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/>