



Improving Lives. Improving Texas.

BELL COUNTY 4-H



FAMILY HANDBOOK

2012-2013

Updated 8-23-12

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.

A member of the Texas A&M University System and its statewide Agriculture Programs.

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COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

County Judge.....Jon H. Burrows
Commissioner, Precinct 1.....Richard Cortese
Commissioner, Precinct 2.....Tim Brown
Commissioner, Precinct 3.....Eddy Lange

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2012 - 2013 BELL COUNTY 4-H CLUBS

Club	Club Manager(s)	Meeting Date and Time	Meeting Place
4-H Shooting Sports	Jerry Provorse, Jr.– h. 254-547-7074 c. 254-220-5356 saltytx@msn.com jer-ry.provorse@us.army.mil Vivian Provorse- vivi-an.provorse@killeenisd.org	General meeting- 1st Thursday 6:30 p.m. Shotgun - 3rd Sunday, 2:00 p.m. Rifle/Piston – 2nd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.	General– CEO- Belton Shot- Ft. Hood Skeet Range Rifle/Pistol- Tem- ple Gun Club
4-His Glo- ry	Jan Stone– 254-742-0453 rollingstonemom@gmail.com Nicole Dague -254-657-2876 ntdague@yahoo.com	3rd Friday, 3:30-5:30p.m.	CEO - Belton
Academy 4 -H Club	Caroline D. Parks—h. 254-773-9177 c. 512-924-6621 Ann Brenek	2 nd Sunday, 3:30 p.m.	Academy Elementary Cafeteria
Barking Buddies 4-H Club	Lisa Littman- h. 254-527-4679 c. 317-840-4843 Li- sa_littman@yahoo.com	General meeting - 2nd Thursday Dog Training - 4th Thursday	General - CEO-Belton Dog Training - TBA
Bell 4-H Horse Club	Shawn Campbell- 254-718-4334 shawnjetcpa@yahoo.com Jeanette Abbe- 254-718-4938 A8Ranch@yahoo.com	2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m.	CEO - Belton
Bell Co. 4-H Exchange	Kathy Ide 254-493-2548 ckide3@yahoo.com	3rd Sunday, 6 pm	CEO - Belton
CTCS 4-H Club	Dawn Brown- 254-231-8252 ctcs4hclub@ymail.com Jan Hallmark- 512-657-3790 jan- yhallmark@yahoo.com	Sunday, 2:30 pm; call or email for dates	CTCS Lunch Room
Holland 4-H Club	Jan Ramthun 254-654-2954 holland4h@gmail.com janramthun@holland.isd.tenet.edu Gary Ramthun 254-654-2957 garyramthun@gmail.com	5:00 p.m. Aug 19, Sept 9; Oct 21; Nov 18; Dec 2; Jan 6, Mar 3; Apr 7; May 5	Holland Elementary Commons
Killeen 4-H Club	Tom Parker – h. 254-213-3682 c. 254-317-0557 thomas.parker08@gmail.com Penny Parker- c. 254-317-0616 pennyparker48@gmail.com	2 nd Monday, 6:30 p.m.	203 S Roy Reynolds, Harker Heights
LBMS 4-H Club	Margaret Randolph- 512-576-2783 margaret.randolph@bisd.net Sheila Potts- 254-215-2900 sheila.alexander@bisd.net	3rd Wednesday, 4 p.m.	Lake Belton Middle School; Room 106

2012 - 2013 BELL COUNTY 4-H CLUBS

Club	Club Manager(s)	Meeting Date and Time	Meeting Place
Maxdale 4-H Club	Pamela & Mike Knapp – h. 254-628-9890 c. 254-290-4710 Pamela.Knapp@killeenisd.org Mike.Knapp@killeenisd.org	2 nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.	Maxdale Cowboy Church
Oenaville 4-H Club	Tricia Mackie- h. 254-584-1300 c. 254-721-2983 ranchag@vvm.com Cari Sultemeier- 254-654-5434 cari.sultemeier@troyisd.org	1 st Monday, 6:30 p.m.	Oenaville Community Center
Rogers 4-H Club	Kim Dorskocil – 254-760-8476 kmdorskocil@hotmail.com Vicki Denman– 254-217-0897 dmvldenman@embarqmail.com	3 rd Sunday, 2:30 p.m.	Rogers High School Commons
Salado 4-H Club	Email: sala- do4hclub@yahoo.com	TBD	TBD
Stampede Creek 4-H Club	Curtis & Jammie Payne- 254-295-6646 pljammie@yahoo.com Tammy Terrell– 254-223-3967 tdterrell7@gmail.com	1st Tuesday, 5:30-7:30 p.m.	CEO - Belton
Tigertown 4-H Club	Nita Culp –254-535-5276 nitaoculp@yahoo.com Barbara Wood- 254-624-6507 woodb2@clearwire.net	3 rd Monday, 7 p.m.	CEO - Belton
Trimmier 4-H Club	Sue Butler- 254-289-4604 suebutler1260@yahoo.com Brandy Hilliard- c. 254-291-0695 brandyh@hot.rr.com	1st Monday, 7 pm	Big Hoss BBQ, Trimmier Rd.
Troy 4-H Club	Tom Ecker- 254-541-4422 thomas.ecker@tisd.org Jaynie Ecker 254-421-3921 jaynie.ecker@tisd.org	Tuesday call for dates and times	Troy Community Center or Troy United Methodist Church
Un-Included Club	Garfield Hawk h. 254-773-6410 c. 254-598-8030 unincludedclub@yahoo.com	Mondays; 6pm	Wilson Park Recreation Center, Temple, Texas

4-H HELP DESK

There are many times when 4-H youth or adults need assistance in accomplishing a particular feat or objective. Whether one needs help completing an on-line form or selecting swine for the season's shows, the following people are willing to assist you. Please do not expect them to do everything for you, but feel free to use their knowledge and experience to enlighten you on a subject or project.

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>WHO TO CONTACT</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
4-H Connect	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
Stock Show Registration(s)	Randall Rakowitz	254-933-5305	TRRakoitz@ag.tamu.edu
Local/County/State/National Events	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
Volunteer Background Checks	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
Scholarships	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
Contests– FCS, Shooting Sports, Photography and Leadership	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
Contests– AG	Randall Rakowitz	254-933-5305	TRRakowitz@ag.tamu.edu
Contests– Horse	Lyle Zoeller	254-933-5305	l-zoeller@tamu.edu
Camps/Retreats	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
Bell County Youth Fair	Pam Reavis	254-933-5305	pcreavis@ag.tamu.edu
Recordbooks	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
4-H Website, Facebook, Twitter	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
Club Management	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>WHO TO CONTACT</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
Swine	Randall Rakowitz	254-933-5305	TRRakowitz@ag.tamu.edu
Goats	Randall Rakowitz	254-933-5305	TRRakowitz@ag.tamu.edu
Rabbits	Randall Rakowitz	254-933-5305	TRRakowitz@ag.tamu.edu
Horse	Lyle Zoeller	254-933-5305	l-zoeller@tamu.edu
Shooting Sports	Jerry Provorse	254-220-5356	saltytx@msn.com
		254-547-7074	bell4hshootingssports@yahoo.com
	Curtis Payne	254-295-2421	C2payne@Yahoo.com
Nutrition/Healthy Lifestyles	Jan Stone/Brittany Stone	254-742-0453	rollingstonemom@gmail.com
	Kyler Tormey-Teen	254-780-7515	sheryl.tormey@bisd.net
Clothing	Jammie Payne	254-295-6646	pljammie@yahoo.com
	Katelyn Heisch-Teen	254-933-0203	tashaheisch@gmail.com
Leadership (Leaders4Life)	Jan Stone	254-742-0453	rollingstonemom@gmail.com
Consumer	Debbie Fasolino	254-939-7345	yeddie01@hotmail.com
	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
County Council	Dawn Brown	254-231-8252	CTCS4HClub@ymail.com
Ambassadors	Micah Holcombe	254-933-5305	mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
Dog	Lisa Littman	254-527-4679	barkingbuddies4h@yahoo.com
Photography	Harold Carter	254-913-1913	hmcarter5@earthlink.net
Exchange Program	Randall Rakowitz	254-933-5305	TRRakowitz@ag.tamu.edu

4-H MOTTO, PLEDGE, PRAYER, & CREED

IN SUPPORT OF THE 4-H CLUB MOTTO

MOTTO

To Make The Best Better.

PLEDGE

The four “H’s” are explained in the pledge:

I pledge:

*My **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
My **HEART** to greater loyalty,
My **HANDS** to larger service and
My **HEALTH** to better living for
My club, my community, my country and my world.*

4-H PRAYER

“Help me, Oh Lord, to live so that the world may be a little better because Thou didst make me.
Amen

4-H CREED

I believe in 4-H for the opportunity it will give me to become a useful citizen.
I believe in the training of my **HEAD** for the power it will give me to think, to plan and to reason
I believe in the training of my **HEART** for the nobleness it will give me to become kind, sympathetic and true.
I believe in the training of my **HANDS** for the dignity it will give me to become useful, helpful and skillful.
I believe in the training of my **HEALTH** for the strength it will give me to enjoy life, resist disease and make for efficiency.
I believe in my country, my state and my community and my responsibility for their development.
In all these things, I believe and I am willing to dedicate my service to their fulfillment.



4-H “4 1 1”

WELCOME TO BELL COUNTY 4-H. As a 4-H family, you probably have a lot of questions about 4-H. We hope that this handbook will answer many of those questions.

WHAT IS 4-H? 4-H is a youth development program which is part of Texas AgriLife Extension Service, a division of the Texas A&M University System. 4-H’s partners include the United States Department of Agriculture and local county governments.

WHAT DO YOU DO IN 4-H? The 4-H method is “*learn by doing.*” Members complete learning experiences called 4-H projects. A project is a subject or area of interest that the 4-H member wants to learn more about. There are more than 40 areas that are supported by project materials, but a member may also choose from other areas. Youth participate through local 4-H clubs. Clubs participate in community service projects, tour interesting places and learn interesting things. 4-H’ers learn leadership skills by planning club activities and by being officers in their clubs. Older 4-H members act as teen leaders, assisting adult volunteers with projects and activities for younger members. 4-H members also attend camps, contests and conferences at the county, district, state and national levels

WHAT DOES A 4-H CLUB DO? When you join 4-H, you pick a 4-H club. It elects its own officers and conducts its own business. The club group usually has a president, vice president(s), secretary, treasurer, reporter and may have a historian or parliamentarian. The club has a business meeting on a regular basis with an annual plan for their programs. At this meeting, the group discusses business and makes plans for activities. In addition, each meeting usually includes some kind of special educational program. The special program can be demonstrations by members, talks by members, parents or resource person(s), or anything else that interests the group. In this member guide is a listing of Bell County 4-H clubs, their club managers and assistants, meeting dates, times and places. Refer to this list for a club located near you or for one of the project clubs that might interest you.

THE 4-H CLOVER The international emblem of 4-H is a green four-leaf clover with white “H’s” in each petal of the clover. The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature’s most common color and represents life, springtime and youth. White symbolizes purity.

4-H NEWSLETTER With over 1900 4-H’ers, the Bell County 4-H News (newsletter) is the number one communication between all 4-H’ers and parents and the County Extension Office. It is the responsibility of the 4-H’er to read the newsletter, which is sent out the first of each month. The newsletter contains important information about upcoming events, 4-H news, and deadlines. The Bell County 4-H News is also available on our website (<http://agrilife.org/bell4h/>) Newsletters are emailed to all members with the current email on file on 4-H Connect.

WHO'S WHO IN 4-H

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT: County Extension Agents have the responsibility for oversight of the 4-H and Youth Development Program in their assigned counties. This includes the following responsibilities:

- Charter county 4-H membership/organizations (i.e. 4-H Council, volunteer/parent groups, committees, etc.) annually. Chartering includes the permission to use the 4-H name and emblem.
- Provide opportunities for all youth who have reached the appropriate age to be participants and/or members in the 4-H and Youth Development Program.
- Plan and coordinate the county 4-H program.
- Staff the 4-H clubs/units utilizing volunteers with the assistance of the volunteer/parent leadership and youth leadership.
- Assist the volunteer/parent leadership and youth leadership in providing in-service education and resources for all 4-H volunteers in the county.
- Explain 4-H policies and procedures.
- Ensure that a quality 4-H educational program is conducted in the county.
- Inform 4-H volunteers and members about opportunities at county, district, state, national and international levels.
- Expect to conduct themselves as good role models for youth both in public and private.

4-H VOLUNTEER: 4-H is a non-formal educational program delivered by volunteers who are trained and supervised by County Extension Agents. A 4-H Volunteer Leader is a person who is responsible for a group, activity, or event, and the members and/or other volunteers involved. There are two major roles adults may assume in 4-H: 1) Direct volunteers, or 2) Indirect volunteers.

It is the responsibility of the 4-H volunteer to carry out the assigned position responsibilities that they have accepted. 4-H volunteers are expected to conduct themselves as good examples for youth in both public and private life. This includes appropriate dress code, correct use of language, and moral conduct in accordance with the generally recognized standards of our society. It should be understood by the volunteers that they are expected to participate in learning, training, and teaching opportunities provided for them. All volunteers must be screened through the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program.

BELL COUNTY 4-H MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD: a board that governs the policies and guidelines of the Bell County 4-H Program. Membership is composed of 4-H Club Managers, Assistant Club Managers, Project Leaders, and 4-H parents from each 4-H Club in the County. The voting body will consist of three designated voting members per 4-H club. All County Extension Agents will serve as ex officio members and advisors to the board.

WHO'S WHO IN 4-H

(CONTINUED)

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD: A committee of 4-H members, representation from other youth organizations, volunteer leaders and other community leaders. This committee is responsible for reviewing the overall youth situation in the county and making recommendations and developing plans for addressing youth issues through educational programming efforts.

VOLUNTEER LEADER ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS (VLAT): Membership is open to all adult volunteers who work with 4-H. The Association promotes training, markets 4-H and supports statewide efforts to advance youth development through the 4-H program. Meetings are open to all 4-H volunteer leaders.

COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL: A group of 4-H members who represent the community clubs, school clubs, or special interest projects on a county basis. County 4-H Council assists with developing and coordinating county projects and events.

CLUB MANAGER: A 4-H club manager provides guidance in the general art of leadership and management to a 4-H club unit. A 4-H club manager involves 4-H officers, parents, leaders, and members in promoting the goals of 4-H and serves as the contact person between the club and the County Extension Office.

CLOVER KID: 4-H Clover Kids are youth in grades K-2. As an affiliated group, youth enrolled as 4-H Clover Kids have activities and programs suitable for their age group. To advance their learning and competitive skills, Clover Kids are able to participate in activities, recognition programs, and competitive events only to receive a "*Participation*" award. Clover Kids are **not eligible** to serve as club and county officers.

CLUB OFFICER: The 4-H club officers are elected by the club each year and have the responsibility of planning, implementing, and evaluating all club meetings and activities. Working with club managers, they form an executive committee to give overall guidance to the club.

BELL COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADORS: Senior age 4-H members who serve in leadership roles to promote 4-H to other youth, community leaders, and volunteers. Individuals are selected by committee, through an application process based on their past 4-H experiences and leadership roles. Applications are due to the County Extension office by September.

COUNCIL DELEGATE: A youth elected as a representative for their club on the county level during County Council meetings. Each club is allotted two spots for Council delegates.

WHO'S WHO IN 4-H

(CONTINUED)

PROJECT LEADER: The 4-H project leader provides structured learning experiences and personal guidance and counseling in project-related opportunities for the 4-H members enrolled in the project group.

ACTIVITY LEADER: Activity leaders work closely with the club managers. They are responsible for one or more activity areas in the 4-H club. This will be a non-project area. Some examples of activity leaders are: new member/family coordinator, method demonstration leader, recordbook leader, judging leader, field trip coordinator, committee advisor, and community service leader.

JUNIOR LEADER: Junior leaders, ages 13-19, assist leaders by taking responsibility for specific tasks as requested by the leader.

TEEN LEADER: A young person between the ages of 16 to 19 who accepts the full leadership responsibility for a project group, 4-H club, or a special short-term interest group.

PARENTS: Parents provide support and guidance to members and see that members attend meetings/activities and complete responsibilities. Parents should attend as many activities as possible and assist with one or more 4-H events.



4-H PROJECTS

The project is the heart of the 4-H program. A wide choice of projects is available for members. A member or a group can also select an area of interest that is not officially listed as a 4-H project and conduct a project in that area of interest. Projects available in

Aquatic Science	*Beef	Biological Sciences
Bicycle	*Community Service	*County Government
*Clothing and Textiles	Dairy Cattle	*Consumer Life Skills
Computer Science	Entomology	Energy
*Dog Care and Training	Field and Stream	*Family Life
Texan Building Character	Housing	Forestry
*Food and Nutrition	Meat Science	*Horticulture
*Goats	*Public Speaking	*Leadership
*Horse	*Recreation	*Poultry
Investigating Water	*Shooting Sports	Range Science
*Photography	*Swine	*Sheep
*Rabbits	Wildlife	*Sport Fishing
*Safety	Small Engines	Wood Science
	Science, Engineering & Technology	*Veterinary Science

***These Activities and/or Contests are offered in Bell County.**

Through a chosen project, members learn to use their resources, keep records, track profit and loss, assume responsibility and acquire knowledge and skills necessary for every day living. Projects should be fun and challenge the youth to help develop skills, offer an opportunity to assume responsibility or explore interests and careers. Projects also offer a chance to do things with friends and develop leadership as they share their knowledge learned with others.

Not all 4-H projects have county-wide activities or contests. Some 4-H projects are self-initiated, in which the 4-H'er gains learning experiences on his/her own or with his/her family. More information about each project and activity is available in the Texas 4-H Clover Book. These are available in the County Extension Office or on the Bell County 4-H Website under 4-H Enrollment/Guidelines and Texas 4-H Rules and Guidelines.

STEPS TO SHOWING A 4-H LIVESTOCK PROJECT

1. Must be enrolled in 4-H.
2. Purchase your animal and work with a County Extension Agent to help you find an animal.
3. Validate your animal (Contact your County Extension Agent, Bell County Youth Fair Secretary or check your Bell County Newsletter for dates).
4. Obtain Quality Counts Certification Online before November 1st.
5. Enter the shows you would like to participate in.
 - Bell County Youth Fair Entries are completed at your local 4-H club meeting.
 - All major show entries are completed at the Extension Office the first week of November.



4-H CONTESTS

4-H holds many contests to give members a chance to display their skills and measure their knowledge. Participation in contests is optional but strongly encouraged. Winners of most county contests advance to district and state contests. Only seniors can advance to state level competition at State Roundup in College Station. State winners may be selected for regional and national competitions. Information about upcoming events are located in the 4-H newsletter and emailed to each 4-H family, events are also published weekly in the local newspapers.

FOOD & NUTRITION

- **FOOD CHALLENGE:** The Food Challenge is a unique opportunity to participate in an innovative food and nutrition competition. The 4-H Food Challenge, similar to the popular television show Iron Chef, brings fun, learning, application of knowledge and skills, and group competition together at one event. At your table, they will have all the ingredients and a recipe with just the amounts on the table and no directions! You are to come up with a dish with what ingredients you have on the table and only use the bucket of supplies. Then groups will present their dish to the judges. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.

- **4-H FOOD SHOW: SENIOR(14-16)** A chance for senior members of the Foods and Nutrition project to demonstrate their culinary skills and knowledge and participants compete in these categories: Main Dish; Fruits and Vegetables; Breads and Cereals; Nutritious Snacks.
- **NUTRITION QUIZ BOWL:** Youth enrolled in the 4-H Food and Nutrition Project may participate in the Food and Nutrition Quiz Bowl contest where they can showcase core concepts of nutrition, food preparation, and food safety knowledge learned in the food and nutrition project. This contest conducted in a “game show/college bowl” format allows up to four members to participate on a team.
- **HEALTHY LIFESTYLES:** This contest combines the consumer contest & knowledge in food & nutrition, health & safety to teach youth these skills. The 4-H members learn about different topics and then judge classes to pick best choice for the person in the story. Intermediates and Seniors work as a team to give a presentation of their choice. The contest takes place at TX 4-H Roundup and is nonqualifying.

4-H COUNTY ROUNDUP: During Roundup, members continue the knowledge they have gained in their projects and their skill in public speaking and showing others their talents. Presentations are an integral part of the 4-H program. They are an effective tool for teaching young people how to organize their thoughts and present their ideas and themselves. There are two contests available at 4-H Roundup:

- **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS (METHOD DEMONSTRATION OR ILLUSTRATED TALKS):** a 5-12 minute speech where members demonstrate how to make or do something related to their project area. The emphasis is on “showing” how to do or make something. An illustrated talk is speech during which members talk about a project using slides, charts or photographs. The emphasis is on “telling” how to do something. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.
- **SHARE THE FUN:** The 4-H talent show provides a chance to develop talent, leadership and confidence, as well as wholesome recreation. 4-H members compete as club groups or individuals in a variety of categories such as: Choreographed Routine; Vocal; Musical; Poetry/Prose and Celebrate 4-H. 4-H’ers can also participate as stage hands, props design, and crew. etc. A fun activity for both the performers, coaches and audience. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES:

- **4-H FASHION SHOW:** Fashion Show offers a contest for youth to gain valuable consumer skills in the Clothing Buying Division or demonstrate sewing skills in Clothing Construction and Textile Division. Youth learn poise and gain confidence modeling and

- **FASHION SHOW STAGE DESIGN:** Youth can get involved in Fashion Show Stage Design coming up with a theme and developing props for a fashion show event. This contest is only for senior level members at the state level.
- **FASHION STORYBOARD CONTEST:** The purpose of the contest is to provide and opportunity for the individual to apply, synthesize and evaluate his/her knowledge of fabrics and the arts and principles of design. It also provides the individual an opportunity to develop his/her knowledge of the career responsibilities of a designer and a fashion illustrator, enhance his/her personal presentation, and his/her verbal and nonverbal communication skills, resulting in a successful presentation board.

CONSUMER DECISION MAKING: Athletic shoes, backpacks, emergency radios, gift cards, gold jewelry, insect repellent, pedometers, printing digital photos, sunscreen, are a few of the items 4-H Consumer Decision Makers have studied to be able to compare the relative qualities and prices of each to determine which offers the best value for the money. Each year the items change, but this judging contest teaches members how to be smart consumers and spend their money wisely. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.

4-H RECORDBOOKS: Recordbooks become a record of what a member has learned and accomplished in his/her 4-H projects. Members submit their completed recordbooks to the County Extension Office, where they are judged by outside volunteers against other members in the same category and age group. Recordbooks are an excellent way to teach youth how to keep records and allow them to record progress toward achieving their goals. Recordbooks are required to be turned in order to compete for 4-H awards.

4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST: Members may submit photographs in various categories to be judged at the county level. Senior age (14-19) winners from each category will go on to compete at the state level in the spring contest. Junior, Intermediate, and Senior winners will advance to compete at the district level in the fall contest. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.

DEADLINES

It is important that 4-H'ers and parents pay
close attention to entry deadlines.

The Bell County Extension Office operates under a
zero tolerance policy for deadlines.

No late entries will be accepted for ANY reason.

All deadlines are announced in the Bell County 4-H News.

4-H DEFINITION OF TERMS

TEXAS AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE: is an educational agency, an outreach arm of the Texas A&M University System that extends research-based knowledge to enhance the well-being of Texans.

RECORDBOOKS: 4-H member records prepared in a specific format. Books are judged on the county and district levels with the opportunity for senior record books (ages 14 to 19) to advance to the state level.

4-H COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT: An activity conducted by a 4-H member or club for the benefit of the community. Examples include neighborhoods clean-up, voter registration, food drive. etc.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS: Planned presentations by one or more 4-H members that teach information related to a project or activity.

JUDGING TEAMS: A group of 3 to 4 members who evaluate classes in the areas of consumer decision making, livestock, horse, plants, range, wool, mohair, meats, entomology, soils, and dairy.

LEADERSHIP LAB: This district-wide leadership camp is held at the Texas 4-H Center, in Brownwood, in June. The camp is for 4-H'er ages 13 and older. Participants gain leadership skills that they are able to bring back to their county and share with others. At this camp, district council officers are also elected.

COUNTY 4-H AWARDS BANQUET: A banquet held to recognize 4-H'ers for their achievements in the 4-H program, from 4-H record books to Gold Star. Adult awards, such as Outstanding Leader and Friend of 4-H, are also presented at the banquet. The county 4-H awards banquet is for all 4-H families in Bell County.

4-H NEWSLETTER: A newsletter is sent to 4-H families and leaders. It is a good source of 4-H information on upcoming events, activities, and contests. The newsletter is for members and their families to remain updated.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK: Held the first full week in October. This week provides 4-H'ers and leaders the opportunity to increase public awareness and understanding of 4-H in the community.

4-H EXCHANGE: This program is open to 4-H'ers 13 and older. The Exchange group hosts 4-H'ers from another state, showing them around the great state of Texas and teaching them about our local 4-H program. The next year, that state plays host to us, as we travel to see them and learn about their 4-H program.

TEXAS 4-H CONFERENCE CENTER OPPORTUNITIES

TEXAS 4-H CONFERENCE CENTER: Located on Lake Brownwood, the 4-H Center provides facilities and conference services for educational use by 4-H youth, volunteers, Extension personnel and others. The website for the Texas 4-H Center is: <http://texas4h-ctr.tamu.edu>.

4-H CAMPS: Offers hands-on learning experiences in leadership project skills and recreation and are offered at various times during the year. The Texas 4-H Conference Center Summer Camp is a 3-day field trip in July, to the Texas 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood, Texas that offers learning experiences in project areas, canoeing, archery, shooting sports, creative crafts, challenge course work, recreations, and team building group activities. In addition, summer day camps or other overnight camp programs may be conducted as part of the county 4-H program.

TEXAS 4-H TEEN LEADER RETREAT: This educational program focuses on the development of intensive leadership skills and targets 4-H members age 13 and over. Young people explore their own leadership styles and potential and develop plans to implement at the local, county and district levels. This workshop is held in January.

TEXAS 4-H CENTER SUMMER STAFF OPPORTUNITIES: Texas 4-H is known for the quality of youth leadership that comes from the program. These youths are valuable resources at the local, county, district and state levels, The Texas 4-H Center employs a summer staff to plan, implement and evaluate programming for summer activities. Summer staff applicants are not required to have been 4-H members, but they must have successfully completed one year of college.

Applications and information for these positions are mailed to county offices by January. Interviews are conducted in February and March. All summer staff are required to participate in a two-week intensive training session in May. Positions available are Program Assistants, Counselors, Lifeguards, Aquatics Supervisor and Summer Staff Supervisor.

PRIME TIME: Prime Time helps youth ages 9 to 13 learn interpersonal skills and develop lifetime friendships. Programming focuses on educational and recreational experiences, with emphasis on helping young people understand the opportunities that are available in the future. Information will be mailed to counties by January and applications will be accepted but not processed until April 15. Sessions are scheduled in July.

SPECTRA: Special Training in Spectacular Tradition (SpecTra) is the focus of this program targeting youth ages 14 to 18. A four-fold objective is addressed: project enhancement; leadership development; self-image enrichment; and career exploration. Participants have 20 hours of intensive instruction in one of nine program areas. Other recreational activities are

STATE 4-H OPPORTUNITIES

TEXAS 4-H ROUNDUP: For members 11 and older (Intermediates and Seniors). Round-up provides developmental experiences, which build on knowledge, skills and attitudes gained through local 4-H activities. Most contests are only open for seniors age levels and 4-H'ers must qualify at a district 4-H contest. Contests for Intermediates are invitational contests and does not require qualification at district level. State contests are held in June at Texas A&M University in College Station.

TEXAS 4-H CONGRESS: This mock legislative educational event is held in Austin in even-numbered years. During the week-long program, Senior 4-H youth experience the legislative process first hand. By role-playing senators, representatives, lobbyists and press corps members, youth are exposed to the full political scene. Activities range from debating bills in the actual Texas Legislature chambers to socializing with advocates and opponents at evening receptions. Youth return to their communities with a better understanding of how our state government works. Information is sent to County Extension Offices in the fall preceding the event year. Congress happens on even years.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TEAMS: Under the guidance of the Texas 4-H Project Advisory committee, the Texas 4-H Project Development Teams lead designated project areas. Members are youth and adults volunteers, County Extension Agents, subject matter specialists and industry representatives from across the state with interest or expertise in that project area. Focus groups also work under the guidance of the committee. They provide opinions and help edit project curricula and project plans. The teams play a significant role in the development of new activities, curricula, project training materials, and workshops.

Applications for Project Teams are available throughout the year. Applications are available at the County Extension Office. Project Development Teams may include: clothing and textiles, shooting sports, sport fishing, horse, dog, rabbit, food and nutrition, sheep and goats, consumer education and finances, beef, family and consumer sciences, swine, entomology, and water.

NATIONAL 4-H OPPORTUNITIES

NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS: This educational program for senior 4-H members is designed to teach participants the citizen's political approach to community action for youth. In addition, youth delegates participate in programs that focus on citizenship, leadership and communication. Youth between the ages of 14 and 18 on August 31 of the year attending are eligible to apply for Congress. Also, delegates must be participating in youth development programs in which Extension is a partner (4-H clubs, special interest groups, school curriculum enrichment, and ENP-Y). Information and application forms are sent to each county office in March. Applications are due in May and finalists are interviewed in late May or early June. Opportunities for senior 4-H'ers to interact with members from across the nation in learning experiences. Texas' National 4-H Congress Web Site is: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/natcongress>

NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE: This week-long event held at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland, involves youth, volunteers and staff in determining 4-H program directions at all levels. Participants are involved in an array of operations committees, consulting groups, pre/post conference commitments and obligations. Participants are representatives of their county, district and state constituency and are expected to add to discussion in an effort to gain in put from all levels of involvement. For more information on this opportunity contact Kyle Merten at (979) 845-1212. Information is also available from the Bell County Extension Office



TEXAS RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM - “FOR THE RECORD”

Following is an overview of the system and information about completing a 4-H Member Achievement Plan and 4-H Recordbook. 4-H Recordbooks are due in June and are required in order to compete for awards. 4-H Recordbook Training is in the fall and each Spring.

CATEGORIES: A 4-H member who has participated in any project may also submit a record book for judging. The exception is senior members who have placed 1st at the state level in one of the awards program categories in any previous year. First place state winners in each of the categories will be awarded a scholarship toward a trip to Washington, D.C., during the Thanksgiving weekend.

Please refer to the “Record Improvement Guide” publication for guidelines to preparing a recordbook or go to the Bell County 4-H website for more details about recordbooks:

<http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/recordbooks/>

Aquatic Science	Beef
Citizenship & Civic Education	Clothing & Textiles
Communication and Expressive Arts Open	Conservation of Natural Resources
Consumer and Family Science Open	Consumer Education
Dairy	Energy Management
Entomology	Environmental Science Open
Family Life	Food & Nutrition
Forestry	Gardening & Horticulture
Goat	Health
Healthy Lifestyles Open Category	Horse
Housing & Home Environment	Leadership
Personal Development/ Leadership Open	Photography
Plant & Soil Science	Plants & Animals Open
Poultry	Public Speaking
Rabbit	Range Management
Recreation	Safety
Science & Technology	Sheep
Shooting Sports	Sport fishing
Swine	Veterinary Science
Wildlife & Fisheries	

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND 4-H ELIGIBILITY ISSUES

Starting September 1, 2011, all 4-H youth, including youth in public, private, and/or **home school**, must adhere to the following guidelines regarding extracurricular activities and academic eligibility: Complete a “Declaration of Eligibility Form” – If you are in public or private school, your form will be sent automatically to your school. If you are home schooled, you will be required to come to the office to pick one up and fill it out.

OR

Name of 4-H member must appear on a list of eligible students to participate in a specific extracurricular activity signed by the school principal or designee. – This list is usually used during the youth fair instead of filling out a form for each student. Extracurricular activities through 4-H that require a “Declaration of Eligibility Form” or List of Eligible names:

- All 4-H Competitive Events (this does include photography, Bell County Youth Fair, Participation in ANY 4-H event or activity that would require them to be absent from school. Consistent with the UIL rules, the Texas 4-H Program has adopted a three school week waiting period upon change in status of school enrollment (from public to private or private to home or home to public or home to private) before the 4-H member is eligible for extracurricular activity. As a result of the 81st Legislation, no significant changes were made in TEA or UIL rules and procedures.

The 76th Legislature passed House Bill 3573 with 3 major changes in regard to school eligibility and extracurricular activities:

- Authorizes the Commissioner of Education (instead of State Board of Education) to adopt for extracurricular activities and to approve or disapprove UIL rules and procedures.
- Suspension period of “no pass, no play” changed to 3 SCHOOL weeks.
- Authorizes local boards of trustees to adopt policies that establish the number of times that students may be absent to participate in extracurricular activities. It also requires that the policies allow at least ten absences for extracurricular participation but does not cap the maximum number of days that may be missed for extracurricular participation.

DAEP PLACEMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Section 37.006 includes a list of types of conduct for which a district is required to place a student in a DAEP (Disciplinary Alternative Education Program). Subsection (g) of that section provides that “[t]he terms of a placement under this section must prohibit the student from attending or participating in a school-sponsored or school-related activity.” (Emphasis added). In addition to the required placements under Section 37.006, a district may include other bases for a DAEP placement in its student code of conduct under Section 37.0001(a) (1). Also, a principal may make a DAEP placement under Section 37.002(c) in response to a classroom removal under that section.

The application of Section 37.006(g) is expressly limited to placements “under” that section. Section 37.006(g) does not apply to a placement made pursuant to Sections 37.001(a) (1) or 37.002(c) if the conduct is not included in Section 37.006. A district may adopt its own policy governing the terms of such a placement with respect to participation in school-sponsored or school-related activities. A district must be careful to apply Section 37.006(g) to any placement made for conduct that is included in Section 37.006 even if the conduct is separately identified in the district’s code of conduct or resulted in a removal under Section 37.002 6/20/2001

For more information on the “No Pass, No Play” policies, contact your local school or the Bell County Extension Office.

If clothes do not comply with the rules, the 4-H'er will be asked to change immediately to be able to participate.

4-H PARENTS – PARTNERS ON THE TEAM

Good youth development programs do not just happen. It takes a combined effort of parents and volunteers along with the guidance of Extension youth development professionals to establish a good 4-H program.

In 4-H we have a team ... a 4-H team which contributes to the ultimate development of youth. On this team are the parents who become partners of the team. If a 4-H team is to be successful, then the parents must become “regular players,” not “bench warmers.” 4-H work would be totally impossible without the active support of interested parents. In clubs where parental support is good, individual club members receive more personal attention and guidance from leaders and parents. Closer family unity comes from planning, sharing and working together. When a family works as a team, the strength, talents, and skills of each family member can be developed and appreciated.

What can parents do to support and/or help the 4-H program?

- Learn what 4-H is all about (purposes, objectives. etc.).
- Exhibit a genuine interest and enthusiasm in 4-H and in your child.
- Encourage participation in 4-H activities. Participation stimulates interest and enthusiasm.
- Assist your child in selecting a project the like, a project that they have the ability to accomplish, and one for which you can help furnish facilities, financing, needed materials and guidance.
- Provide encouragement and help in their project work with record keeping, demonstrations, judging and completion of attempted work and leadership responsibilities.
- Provide transportation for members to local club meetings and to county events and activities.
- Attend at least half of the club meetings each year with your child.
- Get informed about “what’s going on” and continue to stay informed.
- Provide a meeting place for a project group. Assist leaders and club by providing refreshments or other help.
- Volunteer to be a project leader. All adults have abilities that would greatly assist the 4-H program.
- Serve on a committee to help plan and conduct special club activities and events.
- Participate in the Bell County 4-H Management Advisory Board and serve on special project committees with youth to plan our county program events and activities.

Participation in the 4-H program can give the parent a feeling of contributing to their community, a feeling of being helpful to young people, and a feeling of value and worth. There is some credibility to the saying that 4-H develops both youth and adults. 4-H is a family activity. There is something for everyone. 4-H can provide an extended family, a network of positive adult and older teen role models to help provide a positive environment in which their child can grow and develop.

VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND CHECKS

Each 4-H parent/volunteer/leader is required to complete an online Texas 4-H Volunteer Registration and undergo a criminal background check. The purpose of the volunteer background checks is to ensure the safety of all 4-H youth. If a background check does not come back with a positive result, that particular adult will be forbidden or limited on his/her involvement with 4-H youth. For more information on or questions regarding this system, please contact the Bell County Extension Office.

2011-2012 SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TEXAS AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE AND BELL COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM

All scholarship information/requirements and applications are available by going to:
<http://agrilife.org/bell4h>

Scholarship	Deadline	Due To:
Backland Income Growers (BIG) Scholarship	December	BIG Committee (CEA signature needed)
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ (HLSR) Area Go Texan Scholarship Application	January	HLSR
Texas 4-H Scholarships - Baccalaureate Technical -Courageous Heart -Collegiate	January January February	1st Draft- 4-H Ext. Agent 2nd Draft- 4-H Ext. Agent County Ext. Office
TEEA 4-H Scholarship	February	County Extension Office
State Fair of Texas Scholarship	March	State Fair of Texas
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ Hildebrand Scholarship Application	February	HLSR
USDA/1890 National Scholars Program	TBA	USDA/1890 Program
Bell County 4-H Scholarship	March	County Extension Office
Bell County Youth Fair Scholarship	April	County Extension Office
Heart of Texas Fair & Rodeo Scholarship	March	Hot of Texas Office
District 8 4-H Scholarship	April	County Extension Office

BELL COUNTY 4-H

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

NEW!!!! THIS IS NEW AND UPDATED!!!!

NOTICE: All 4-H members applying for awards (Gold, Silver or Bronze Star; Rookie, Honor Roll, All-Star Letterman; Danforth or Outstanding Community Service, must submit the appropriate paperwork and applications on **May 3, 2013!!!** Award Interviews will be on **May 22-23, 2013** at the Bell County Extension Office. Recordbooks for county competition will be due **June 17, 2013**. Awards age based on age as of August 31, 2012

JUNIOR AWARDS

BRONZE STAR

To recognize outstanding achievements by 4-H members who are in the third grade to age 10 years old. The member must have been in 4-H for at least one year. A 4-H member may receive the award only once. The Bronze Star Award will be presented to the most deserving young people without regard to sex. The 4-H member must complete an application and submit an awards program recordbook. All candidates will be required to provide an interview as part of the selection process. Members receiving this award will receive a plaque. The number of awards will be determined by the awards committee, with the number of awards given to the most deserving individuals.

INTERMEDIATE AWARDS

SILVER STAR

To recognize outstanding achievements by 4-H members 11 to 13 years of age. Any 4-H member may receive the award only once. The Silver Star Award will be presented to the most deserving young people without regard to sex. The member must have completed at least two years in 4-H including the current year. The 4-H member must complete an application and submit an awards program recordbook. All candidates will be required to provide an interview as part of the selection process. The 4-H members receiving the award will get a plaque. The number of Silver Stars to be awarded will be determined by the awards committee, with the number of awards given to the most deserving individuals.

OTHER AWARDS

Members may only receive Rookie, Honor Roll, All Star and Letterman awards once in their 4-H career.

ROOKIE AWARD:

To recognize outstanding first year 4-H members. Applicants may be of any age but must be enrolled for the first time in the 4-H program (starting, dropping out and then re-entering the program does not count). The 4-H member must meet the requirements of and turn in a Rookie Application. Rookie Award winners will receive a certificate and recognition pin presented at the County 4-H Awards Banquet.

HONOR ROLL AWARD:

To recognize 4-H members ages third grade to ten years of age. 4-H members may receive this award only one time. A 4-H Honor Roll Award checklist must be turned in. All requirements of the Honor Roll Award Checklist may be completed in one year or within the time that a member is a Junior. Honor Roll Award winners will receive a certificate and recognition pin presented at the county awards 4-H banquet.

ALL STAR AWARD:

When 4-H members become 11 years old, he/she may begin work on the All Star Award. Requirements may be completed in one year or may be accumulated over the years as an Intermediate. All 4-H members age 11, 12 and 13 are eligible to receive this award one time. A 4-H All Star Award Application must be turned in. All Star Award winners will receive a certificate and recognition pin presented at the county 4-H awards banquet.

LETTERMAN AWARD:

4-H members age 14 and over are eligible for this award. Requirements may be completed in one year or over a period of several years. Members may count requirements completed after age 14. Members may receive this award only one time. A 4-H Letterman Award Application must be turned in. Letterman Award winners will receive a duffle bag presented at the county 4-H awards banquet.

PROJECT PINS:

To recognize 4-H members for completion of project work and 4-H participation. 4-H members must complete an awards program recordbook during the current year. Must meet program objectives of project area and record book must be signed by the current club manager.

SENIOR AWARD:

Graduating high school seniors for 2013, who are members of 4-H, may apply to receive a Senior Award, to be presented at the Bell County 4-H Awards Banquet. Seniors must have been active and meet the requirements listed on the application. Applications are due **May 3, 2013**.

ADULT LEADER AWARDS

OUTSTANDING LEADER AWARDS:

Bell County 4-H volunteer leaders and Bell County 4-H County Council will solicit nominations and vote to select two individuals to be recognized at the Annual 4-H Banquet for “Distinguished Service.” One will be chosen by the MAB and one chosen by 4-H members. 4-H volunteer leaders who are chosen for this award include outstanding club managers, leaders, project leaders, workshop leaders and volunteer leaders who go above and beyond their leader capabilities.

OUTSTANDING LEADER AWARD

The Outstanding Leader Award chosen from the 4-H member requires an essay no longer than 1 page. **The ESSAYS ARE DUE May 3rd!** The essay should include the following:

Name of Person Making Nomination

Leader Nominated

Date

Why do you think this leader is an outstanding leader?

What does this leader do that is outstanding? Examples: Teaches others new projects, takes 4-Her’s on tours, leads club, etc.

How has this leader helped you?

How has this leader helped others?

FRIEND OF 4-H AWARD:

This award goes to an individual or business that has greatly supported the Bell County 4-H program. The recipient is selected by the Membership Advisory Board and the award is presented at the County 4-H Awards Banquet. Recipients chosen for this award are individuals or businesses that have greatly supported the Bell County 4-H program or who are outstanding volunteers who do not have 4-H members participating in the 4-H program in the current year.

ALL AWARD APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE BELL COUNTY
EXTENSION WEBSITE:

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

Click on 4-H Activities and then 4-H Awards & Recognition.

BELL COUNTY 4-H CALENDAR

2012-2013

August:

- Enrollment Begins
- 4-H Banquet
- Chef Day Camp
- Ambassador and County Council Training
- State Recordbook Training

September:

- 1st club meetings start
- Club Officer Workshop
- County Council
- County Photography Contest
- Bell County 4-H Open House
- Central Texas State Fair

October:

- National 4-H Week
- MAB/Adult Leaders Meeting
- Club Charters Due
- District Horse Judging Contest
- County Food Show/Food Challenge
- District Gold Star Banquet
- Hunters Spectacular 4-H Fundraising Event
- Lamb and Goat Validation
- County Council
- Deadline for Online Enrollment
- Recordbook Training

November:

- Consumer Decision Making Project Begins
- Major Livestock Show Sign up (Everyone who plans to show at major shows must attend)
- Scholarship Training
- Junior Leadership Retreat
- County Council
- Swine Validation
- Holiday Classic Clinic & Livestock-FREE!

December:

- Bell County Youth Fair Entries Due to Club Managers
- District Food Show/Food Challenge

January:

- Teen Retreat
- County Council
- MAB/Adult Leaders Meeting
- Consumer Decision Making County Contest
- Horse Ride Nights for BCYF

Counties included in District 8: Bell, Bosque, Comanche, Coryell, Eastland, Erath, Ellis, Falls, Freestone, Hamilton, Hill, Hood, Johnson, Leon, Limestone, McLennan, Milam, Navarro, Robertson, Somervell, Robertson and Williamson.

BELL COUNTY 4-H CALENDAR

2012-2013

February:

- Texas 4-H Scholarship Deadline
- San Antonio Consumer Contest
- Bell County Youth Fair
- County Council
- County Photography Contest for Seniors Only
- District Plant ID Contest
- San Antonio Livestock Show
- San Angelo Livestock Show

March:

- County Roundup
- County Council
- District Consumer Contest
- Bell County 4-H Scholarship/Senior Plaque Deadline
- County Fashion Show
- District Nutrition Quiz Bowl Contest
- Houston Livestock Show
- Star of Texas

April:

- District Roundup/Leaders 4- Life Contest
- District Fashion Show
- County Recordbook Training (Part 2)
- District Horse Judging Contest
- District Livestock Judging Contest
- Volunteer Appreciation Night
- District Entomology Contest
- District Shooting Sports
- District Range Evaluation Contest
- County Council

May:

- Bell County 4-H Award Applications Deadline
- Award Interviews
- MAB/Adult Leaders/Club Manager Training Meeting
- Recordbook Drafts Due
- Clover Kid Fair
- Scholarship Interviews

June:

- Texas 4-H Roundup/Scholarship/Assembly Interviews and Assembly
- District Horse Show
- Statewide Photography Workshop
- S.H.O.T.
- District Leadership Lab/District Council Officer Elections
- County Recordbook Recordbooks Due/ Contest

July:

- District Recordbook Judging
- County Camp
- SpecTra Senior Camp
- Texas 4-H Horse Show
- July 4th Parade Float
- TX 4-H Congress

4-H MISSION: Prepare youth to meet the challenges of childhood, adolescence and adulthood through a coordinated long term, progressive series of educational experiences that enhance life skills and develop social, emotional physical and cognitive competencies.