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Our District 8 4-H family has had some tragedies during the month of December. We are saddened by the loss of 4-H members in Coryell and Johnson counties. Our Bell County Council Officers and Ambassadors have decided to collect monetary donations to contribute to the memorials and/or scholarship funds of our fellow 4-H members. If you would like to contribute, please mail donations to the Bell County Extension Office. We will divide all donations between Coryell and Johnson counties.

Congratulations to the Senior Food Challenge Team that will advance to the State Contest this summer!

Congratulations to our District 8 Food Show & Food Challenge participants !



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4-H Club Managers

BCYF Food Container Pick Up

Attention Club Managers! You can start picking up food containers on **January 2nd** at the CEO for your participants competing in the 2018 BCYF Food Division. Our business hours are Monday-Friday 8 am –12:00 & 1:00-5:00 p.m. This is for Club Managers ONLY!

Membership Advisory Board Finance Meeting

If you are interested in serving on the Membership Advisory Board Finance Committee, then please come to the CEO on **Monday, January 8th**. We will be reviewing the finances starting at 6:00 p.m. We strongly encourage a representative from each club attend this meeting!

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

All MAB officers will need to attend the next Membership Advisory Board Meeting on **Tuesday, January 16th** at the CEO. Meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. We encourage any 4-H Adult Volunteer to attend.



County Council & Ambassadors



County Council Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, January 9th **WHERE:** County Extension Office (CEO)

START TIME: 6:30 p.m.

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.

The community service project will be the collection of stuffed animals for the children's hospital. Bring an **UNUSED** stuffed animal as a donation. Any size welcomed.

The program for the evening is What Not to Wear. We will cover appropriate attire for 4-H members for different events.

4-H Ambassadors at the Bell County Youth Fair

Make sure you check your emails and respond to Sheryl/Whitney on which BCYF events you can assist with.

Buyer's Luncheon or Auction—Saturday, February 10th (must not be an auction qualifier)

Livestock Judging Contest—Friday, February 9th (if not participating in the event)

Family & Consumer Science Judging—Monday, February 5th



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.

FINAL application is due in the CEO no later than **Monday, January 22nd!** Don't hesitate on asking for help or if you have any questions regarding scholarships.

Texas 4-H Foundation—1st Draft to Sheryl Long - **January 12, 2018**

Texas 4-H Foundation FINAL application due to Sheryl Long—**January 22, 2018**

Texas Extension Education Association—**February 15, 2018** to the Bell CEO, must be accompanied by 4-H Recordbook

State Fair of Texas—**February 23, 2018**

Bell County 4-H Scholarship—to CEO by **March 2, 2018**

District 8 TAE4-HA Scholarship—**TBD**

Bell County Youth Fair—to CEO by **April 13, 2018**

Don't hesitate to ask for help if you have any questions regarding scholarships.

Ag Product ID Practices

Ag Product ID practices will be starting up again for the spring contests. The practices will be held at 6:00 pm at the First Baptist Church 702 House on the following dates:

January 22nd

January 29th

February 5th

February 12th

February 26th

March 5th

March 12th

Upcoming contests:

Houston Livestock Show: **March 14, 2018**

District 8 in Stephenville: **April 20, 2018**

New members are welcomed to participate at any time.

Please contact Michael Canales at 541-6293 or email at: mcanales1@aol.com for more information.

Clover Kids Meeting Schedule

January 20th, February 17th, March 17th, April 21st, May 19th

2-4 p.m. @Temple Public Library McLane Room

Contact Dawn Brown at bc4hcloverkids@yahoo.com for more information.



FCS Project News



Nutrition Quiz Bowl Practices

Nutrition Quiz Bowl is a quiz game that tests teams of 3-4 on their knowledge of food and nutrition, diseases, laws/regulations, etc.. Up against the clock, the 4-Hers buzz in to answer a question and earn or lose points accordingly. Competitions are held in a tournament-system bracket. Practices will take place:

January: 2, 12, 23, 30

6:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church 702 House in Belton

Contact Barbara Wood for more information.

Consumer Decision Making Practices

Consumer Decision Making is a project where you will learn how to compare prices, look for quality, and make purchases based on facts and research. This improves your money management skills, smart purchasing skills, and decision-making skills. Practices will take place:

January: 2, 12, 23, 30

5:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church 702 House in Belton

Contact Barbara Wood for more information.

4-H FCS Coalition Meeting

The next 4-H FCS Coalition meeting will take place at the CEO on **Tuesday, February 27th** starting at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be limited to 1 hour!

Bell County CDM & Nutrition Quiz Bowl Entry Forms

The entry deadline to enter teams for the District 8 Consumer Decision Making contest and the District 8 Nutrition Quizbowl contest will be **Thursday, February 1, 2018**. The entry forms can be found on the Bell County 4-H website. Please email those completed forms to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu.

Bell County Fashion Show Contest

& Trashion Show & Storyboard & Duds to Dazzle Contest

The date and location for the Bell County contest for all 4-H fashion competitions (Fashion Show, Trashion Show, Storyboard & Duds to Dazzle) has yet to be determined. We are hoping for a day in early March. **Start working on your projects now!** Entry deadline will be **Friday, February 23rd**. Entry forms can be found on the Bell County 4-H website. Please email the forms to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu.

Photography Project

Bell County Photography Contest

The Bell County Photography Contest is right around the corner so start preparations now! The Bell County entry deadline will be **Friday, March 2nd**. Entries must be EMAILED to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu. The winner of each category in each of the age divisions in the Bell County Contest will advance to the District 8 Contest. Senior aged 4-H members that win their category in the Bell County contest, will also advance to the State 4-H contest.

Please make sure and follow the instruction on the 2018 Texas 4-H Photography Contest Rules & Guidelines.
[https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/17-18 Texas4H Photo Rules.pdf](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/17-18%20Texas4H%20Photo%20Rules.pdf)

Categories:

Animals—Domestic

Animal—Wildlife

Catch All

Details & Macro

Dominant Color

Elements of Design

Enhanced

Food

Landscape & Nature (non-animal)

Motion/Action

People

Plant/Flora

Sports

Theme—"Backyard"

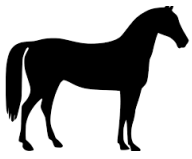
Travel & Place



4-H Photography Project

- **March (Spring Break), Date TBD-** Still Life & Dominant Color @ CEO
- **Sunday, June 10th**—Texas 4-H Photography Community Service—NWTF Women in the Outdoors Event
In Davilla, TX

Contact Elizabeth Coffman at familycoffman@aol.com if you have any questions.



Livestock Project News



Homeschool Eligibilities for Major Stock Shows

Bell County 4-H members that are homeschooled and entered in any Major Livestock Show (Fort Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo, Houston and Austin) must fill out and submit your form to Scarlot Barreras as least one week prior to your beginning show date. One form per child per show.

Let Sheryl or Scarlot know if you have any questions.

~Poultry Exhibitors~

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

Texas 4-H Dog Validation

4-H Dog projects must be validated by **January 10, 2018** to be eligible to enter the Texas 4-H Dog Show. Dog validation is conducted on 4-H Connect and is free of charge. We encourage you to validate any dog that you might want to show in July. Instructions can be found on the Bell County 4-H website.

The 2017 Texas 4-H Dog Show will be held at the Bell County Expo Center on July 13-15, 2018.

Livestock Judging

Livestock Judging practices will resume in January. If you are interested in participating, contact Whitney Grantham at whitney.grantham@ag.tamu.edu.

Our first Livestock Judging contest of 2018 will be the **Bell County Youth Fair on Friday, February 9th**. If you would like to participate in this contest, email Whitney at whitney.grantham@ag.tamu.edu so that she can sign you up to compete. A \$10 entry fee will be collected the day of the contest. **Please meet us in the livestock barn at 7:00am for registration.**

Project Visits

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

BCYF Events

BCYF Home School Eligibility

The Homeschool Eligibility deadline is **January 12, 2018**. All Homeschool students must fill out an eligibility form and turn it in by the deadline.

NO FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE OR ACCEPTED TILL AFTER JANUARY 1, 2018.

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

IMPORTANT BCYF Photography Dates

- All photos must be taken after March 1, 2017
- Photos will be submitted online at <http://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair> beginning January 3, 2018 to no later than 5 p.m. on January 16, 2018.
- **READ** the photography section in the catalog!

BCYF Rabbit Validation

When: Sunday, January 7, 2018

Where: Bell County Expo Center

Time: 3:00—5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$1 per rabbit

Contact Pam Reavis if you have any questions.

Commercial Steer Weigh Out

Commercial Steer Weigh Out will take place at Evans Ranch on **January 27, 2018** starting at 8 a.m.

Recordbooks will be due by **February 1st** to the County Extension Office by 5:00 p.m.

Carcass Swine Weigh In

Carcass Swine Weigh in for the Bell County Youth Fair will be January 28, 2018 from 1:00—2:00 p.m. at the Bell County Expo Center. Swine must weigh a minimum of 220 pounds and a maximum of 290 pounds at the time of weigh in.

BCYF Horse Exhibitor Ride Nights

Speed Events: January 22, January 29, February 1—6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Performance Events: January 23, January 30, 6:00 –9:00 p.m. & February 2—3:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Ride night events are only for the contestants registered for competition in the Bell County Youth Fair Horse Show and only the contestant horses that are the primary or alternate horses signed up for the events in 2018. 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.

BCYF Schedule

2018 BELL CO. YOUTH FAIR SHOW SCHEDULE Subject to Change!

Weigh In Comm. Steers	Sept. 9, 2017	8:00 am
Validate Lambs	Oct. 17 & 23, 2017	4 pm - 7 pm
Validate Meat Goats	Oct. 17 & 23, 2017	4 pm - 7 pm
Validate Heifers	Oct. 16, 2017	4 pm - 7 pm
Validate Swine	Nov. 27 & 28, 2017	4 pm - 7 pm
Entry Deadline (AG & FCS)	Dec. 6, 2017	8 am - 5 pm
Rabbits Validation	Jan. 7, 2018	3 pm - 5 pm
Weigh Out Comm. Steers	Jan. 27, 2018	8:00 am
Swine Carcass Contest Weigh-In	Jan. 28, 2018	1 pm - 2 pm
Comm. Steer Record Books Due	Feb. 1, 2018	By 5:00 pm

Horse Exhibitor Ride Nights:

Speed Events: Jan. 22 & 29 - Feb. 1, 2018 - (6:00 - 9:00 pm)
Performance Events: Jan. 23 & 30, 2018 (6-9pm), Feb. 2 (3 - 9 pm)

SATURDAY, FEB. 3, 2018

7:00-8:15 a.m. Check in Horses
8:30 a.m. Horse Show (Halter, Western, English)
8:00-9:00 a.m. Check in for Showmanship at Fair Office
9:00 a.m. Check in, Appearance Judging & Rehearsal for Fashion Revue
7:00 - 9:00 a.m. Move in Commercial Steers
10:00 a.m. Grade Commercial Steers
1:00-5:00 p.m. Move in all Heifers
4:00-5:30 p.m. Check Heifer Papers
5:30 p.m. Fashion Revue—Public Show—Special Events Room
6:30p.m. Clem Mikeška Exhibitor Appreciation Supper and Dance.

SUNDAY, FEB. 4, 2018

8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Move in all Swine. Must check in with Superintendents to get pen assignments on arrival.
8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Move in all Market Lambs and Breeding Sheep. They must be in place by 12:00 noon
1:00 -1:30 p.m. Check in horses
1:30 p.m. Timed Events Start
12:00-1:30 p.m. Weigh and Classify Market Lambs
2:00 p.m. All Breeding Swine Cards due into fair office
2:00-3:00 p.m. Pickup Swine Showmanship exhibitor numbers from Livestock Office.
3:00 p.m. Weigh and Classify Hogs - In this order (Yorks, Durocs, Crosses, Black OPB, Hamps, & White OPB)

MONDAY, FEB. 5, 2018

8:00 a.m. Beef Heifer Show. No heifers are to be released until the conclusion of the heifer showmanship classes.
10:00 a.m. Commercial Steers Interviews, release all Comm. Steers after interviews but, no sooner than 3:00 p.m.
11:00 a.m. or 30 minutes after conclusion of Heifer show
Judge Breeding Sheep and release, followed by a ten minute break and then judge the Market Lambs. After conclusion of show release all non-placing/non-floored lambs until 11:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 6, 2018. Pee wee lamb showmanship will be at the conclusion of the market lamb showmanship. (See rules on page 5).
1:00-5:30 p.m. Check in Family & Consumer Sciences Division
5:00 p.m. or (30 minutes after conclusion of Lamb show.) Judge Breeding Swine. Remove all breeding swine within one hour after the show.
5:30 p.m. Hamburger Supper
6:00-9:00 p.m. Mkt. Steer exhibitor stall set-up & move in tack
6:15 p.m. FCS Judges Orientation—Special Events Rm
6:45 p.m. Judge Family & Consumer Science

TUESDAY, FEB. 6, 2018

8:00 am Judge Market Swine. Release all non-placing/non-floored hogs from the barn until 10:00 p.m.
Swine Carcass award presentation will be prior to the market show grand champion selection. Pee wee showmanship at the conclusion of the mkt. swine showmanship. (See rules on page 5).
8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Assembly Hall Closed
8:00 a.m. Judge Family & Consumer Sciences Divisions
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Breeding Rabbits arrive and check-in.
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Move in all Breeding & Market Goats. They must be in place by 12:00 noon.
12:00 noon-5:00 p.m. Move in Market Steers.
1:00 p.m. Judge Breeding Rabbits. Immediately following the show, release all Breeders. Rabbit Showmanship will be done during the breeding rabbit show.
12:00-1:30 p.m. Weigh Meat Goats & weigh and tooth Breeding Goats.
4:00-8:00 p.m. Check-in and weigh Fryer Rabbits.

4:00 - 9:00 p.m. Farm Shop check in
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Market Steers Weigh In & Classify

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7, 2018

8:00 a.m. Judge Breeding Goats followed by a ten-minute break and then judge the Meat Goats. After conclusion of show release all non-placing/non-floored meat goats until 11:00 p.m. (Pee wee goat showmanship will be at the Conclusion of the market goat showmanship) (See rules on page 5).
8:00 a.m. Judge Fryer Rabbits, after conclusion of the show remove all non-placing Fryer Rabbit pens.
9:00 a.m. Assembly Hall Opens- FCS Exhibits
9:30 a.m. Mini Rodeo in the Dome
6:00 p.m. FCS Winners Circle, Presentation of Photography Awards, the "Polly-Esther" Clothing Awards, and the Outstanding Jr & Sr Highpoint FCS Awards Assembly Hall. Grand & Reserve Grand Champion Food exhibitors who qualify for the Auction Sale, MUST take photographs with official show photographer.
7:00-8:00 p.m. Country Store—Food Division items for sale in the Assembly Hall immediately following the FCS winners circle presentation.
8:00 p.m. Assembly Hall Closes - FCS Exhibits

THURSDAY, FEB. 8, 2018

7:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon. Release remaining non-placing/non-floored hogs.
8:00 a.m. Judge Farm Shop. After conclusion of show release all Farm Shop items until 11:00 p.m.
8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Move in Commercial Broilers
9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Move in Turkeys
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Move in Roasters
12:30 p.m. Judge Poultry in this order (Broilers, Roasters, and Turkeys.)
9:00 a.m. Assembly Hall Opens - FCS Exhibits
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Country Store—Food Division items for sale in the Assembly Hall.
3:00 p.m. Assembly Hall Closes
5:00 p.m. Commercial Steer Announcements & Awards Presentation.
5:00-6:30 p.m. Check out/Release all Family & Consumer Sciences Divisions
6:00 p.m. Judge Market Steers, Release all non-placing/non-floored steers from the barn until 11:00 p.m. Following conclusion of steer show, all exhibitors of steers which are confirmed in the Auction Sale, MUST take a photo at the official show backdrop, with the steer that will sell.
One hour after judging. Farm Shop Awards Presentation in of Farm Shop the Farm Shop area. After conclusion release all Farm Shop items until 11:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. or 30 minutes— Sale slot designated after the conclusion of the Grand Drive of the Market Steers.

FRIDAY, FEB. 9, 2018

7:00-10:00 a.m. Release remaining Farm Shop Projects
7:00-8:30 a.m. Livestock Judging Registration
7:30-8:30 a.m. Vet Science Skillathon Registration
9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. Livestock Judging Contest & Rabbit Judging Contest
9:00 a.m. Vet Science Skillathon Contest
12:00 noon-6:00 p.m. Release animals not in Auction or on Floor Price or in the Livestock judging contest.
12:00 noon-7:00 pm. Auction Exhibitor photos required, with ALL livestock projects that are confirmed in the Auction Sale, at official show backdrop.
4:00 p.m. All swine sale exhibitors/parents must help move mkt. swine to sale pens.
7:30 p.m. PRCA Rodeo - Parade of Champions

SATURDAY, FEB. 10, 2018

8:00 a.m. Livestock exhibitor's mandatory pre-auction meeting.
9:00 a.m. FCS exhibitor's mandatory pre-auction meeting.
9:00 a.m. Buyers Brunch
10:00 am Awards, BCYF Plaza of Honor Dedication ceremony & Auction Sale
11:00 a.m. Auction Exhibitor BBQ, (free for Auction Exhibitors) Family members welcome for a fee.
30 minutes after the conclusion of the Auction Sale, release all remaining animals and exhibits.
7:30 p.m. PRCA Rodeo
8:00 p.m. All exhibits must be removed from barn.
ANY ANIMAL REMOVED FROM BARN WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR AUCTION SALE OR FLOOR PRICE.

ALL ANIMALS NOT REMOVED FROM THE BARN BY 7:00 P.M., FEB. 10, 2018 WILL BECOME PROPERTY OF BELL COUNTY YOUTH FAIR AND LIVESTOCK SHOW.

PEEWEE SHOWMANSHIP RULES:

1. Parent/legal guardian must be ring side the entire time during pee wee showmanship.
2. Only animals entered and exhibited in the BCYF will be used for pee wee showmanship.
3. Ages - 2nd grade and below/younger will be allowed to show in pee wee showmanship.
4. Only a BCYF exhibitor is to assist pee wee exhibitors in the ring.

Important Dates

January 2018

January 1: County Holiday, Office CLOSED
January 2: BCYF Food Container Pick Up
January 2: CDM & NQB Practice
January 7: BCYF Rabbit Validation
January 8: MAB Finance Meeting
January 9: County Council Meeting
January 10: Texas 4-H Dog Validation Deadline
January 12: Texas 4-H Scholarship Rough Draft
deadline to Sheryl
January 12: BCYF Home School Eligibility Due
January 12: CDM & NQB Practice
January 15: County Holiday, Office CLOSED
January 16: MAB Meeting
January 16: BCYF Photography Upload Deadline
January 20: Clover Kids Meeting
January 22: FINAL Texas 4-H Scholarship
Application deadline to Sheryl
January 22: BCYF Ride Night—Speed
January 22: Ag Product ID Practice
January 23: BCYF Ride Night—Performance
January 23: CDM & NQB Practice
January 27: BCYF Commercial Steer Weigh Out
January 28: BCYF Carcass Swine Weigh In
January 29: BCYF Ride Night—Speed
January 29: Ag Product ID Practice
January 30: BCYF Ride Night—Performance
January 30: CDM & NQB Practice

February 2018

February 1: D8 CDM & NQB Entry Deadline
February 1: BCYF Ride Night—Speed
February 1: BCYF Commercial Steer Recordbooks
due to CEO
February 2: BCYF Ride Night—Performance
February 3-10: BELL COUNTY YOUTH FAIR
February 5: Ag Product ID Practice
February 12: Ag Product ID Practice
February 19: County Holiday, Office CLOSED
February 23: Bell County Fashion Show Deadline
February 26: Ag Product ID Practice
February 27: 4-H FCS Coalition Meeting

March 2018

March 2: Bell County Photography Contest Entry
Deadline
March 2: Bell County 4-H Scholarship due to CEO
March 3: D8 CDM & NQB Contest, Waco
March 5: Ag Product ID Practice
March 12: Ag Product ID Practice



BELL COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

Bell County Extension
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<http://agrilife.org/bell4h/>

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4-H: Sheryl Long

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheryl Long".

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/>