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## COVID-19 and 4-H Updates

The County Extension Office will be closed to walk-ins at least until August 31. You must have an appointment otherwise.

Group meetings of 10 or FEWER people can be conducted, only if social distancing can be practiced. All other programs must get approval from the appropriate County Extension Agent. If approved, certain paperwork must be completed.

With COVID-19 restrictions being updated frequently within Bell County and also the state, events and meetings are subject to change dates or move to an online platform. Check your emails and the Bell County 4-H Facebook page for the latest updates from our office.

## 4-H Club Meetings

For your August 4-H Club Meetings, for those who want to have an in-person meeting, please plan on conducting your meeting at an outdoor location. Parks are a great place for these. Plan on social distancing, wearing masks and having hand sanitizer available. Family groups can sit together but everyone else needs to social distance.

If your club plans on having an in-person meeting, email Sheryl Long with your meeting plans. She will have to complete a preparedness plan and get it approved in order for your club to meet.

Contact Sheryl Long if you have any questions.

1605 N. Main, Room 102

Belton, TX 76513

Phone: (254)933-5305

Fax: (254)933-5312

E-mail: [bell@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:bell@ag.tamu.edu) Website: <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/>



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# *4-H Members in the Spot Light*

## **Texas 4-H State PRESIDENT**

Congratulations to Luke Read! He was recently elected as the 2020-2021 Texas 4-H President! Luke is the first ever president from Bell County. We are so proud of you!

## **Family and Community Health Quiz Bowl**

Congratulations to our FCH Quiz Bowl team! They won the Virtual National Qualifier Contest qualifying for national contest in Denver in January! This team consists of:

Ashley Candelas

Joseph Candelas

Matthew Hampton

Catarina Salazar-Canales

Way to go!

# *Upcoming Events*

## **Bell County 4-H Awards Banquet**

The annual 4-H Banquet will look differently this year. Sadly, due to COVID-19 and the restrictions set in place by the county and Texas A&M AgriLife, the banquet will now be virtual. The date is set for

**Monday, August 3, 2020.**

We will release the Awards Banquet video at 12:00 pm on Monday, August 3rd. Then we will have a drive thru awards pick up at the CEO from 4:00-6:00 pm that afternoon. Whitney and Sheryl will be handing out awards in the front parking lot of the Extension Office. Stop by, get your awards, and take a picture!

## **4-H Open House**

New this year! The 4-H Open House will be virtual this year due to our current situation. To make this fun and interesting, we will be allowing project groups and clubs create a video or flyer promoting their entity.

Please adhere to the following guidelines:

**Videos:** Maximum of 2 minutes in length

Appropriate topic

Appropriate attire

**Flyer:** Maximum of 1 page

Every video and flyer must be approved by the County Extension Office. Once the video/flyer is approved, it will be posted on the Bell County 4-H Website and Facebook page. Feel free to share it once its public!

Must be emailed to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu by **September 1, 2020.**

Contact Sheryl Long if you have any questions.

# Hunter Spectacular

## VIRTUAL Event Details

- Drawing for 20 Guns and other large ticket items (Academy gift cards, cooler, etc.)
- \$20 tickets
- Winners will be drawn via Facebook Live on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 11:00 am.
- Once a ticket is drawn, it will not be put back into the drawing.
- 4-H members are expected to sell at least **3** tickets per member.
- Bell County 4-H Ambassadors are expected to sell at least **5** tickets.
- Each club needs to recruit at least one \$200 sponsor for this event. Feel free to get more!
- If clubs and/or 4-H families choose not to participate in this event, there is a general Bell County 4-H Sponsorship form for those families to solicit sponsors for the Bell County 4-H program, not Hunter's Spectacular specifically. We ask that if you choose this route, please recruit 2 sponsors at least at the \$200 sponsorship level.
- No t-shirt will be designed and sold this year.
- No cakes for a cakewalk have to be made this year.

## Silent Auction Baskets

We will still have Silent Auction Baskets. Each club is expected to donate either **1** basket valued at \$100 OR donate \$125 for Joann Canales to create your club's basket.

- Deadline for \$125 Donation – September 18, 2020
- Deadline for \$100 Basket – September 25, 2020

**Baskets will be advertised on the Bell County 4-H Facebook page. This is also where members of the community will bid on the baskets.**

## Hunter Spectacular Info for CLUB MANAGERS ONLY

Pick Up Tickets (**club managers only**): July 1, 2020

Turn in tickets to your Club Managers: **BEFORE** September 29 (date set by your Club Manager)

Turn in tickets to CEO (**CLUB MANAGERS ONLY**): Tuesday, September 29—Thursday, October 1  
(**8—11 am then 1-4 pm**)

**AGAIN THIS YEAR ~ Club managers will deposit all money sold by their members into their club account. Managers will then write a check to Bell 4-H for your total amount of tickets sold.**

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.

## 4-H Club Incentives

Each Club that sells 100% of the required minimum for the Club will earn a 10% kickback. The minimum will be established based on enrollment from last year based on each member selling 3 tickets.

# 4-H Enrollment

4-H Enrollment starts **August 15th**! All enrollment is done via the NEW 4HOnline 2.0. You can access 4HOnline 2.0 by going to our 4-H website at <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/> and clicking on the 4HOnline icon. If you had a family profile in the old 4-H Connect System, that log in information will be the same in the new 4HOnline 2.0. The website link will not change either.

**A youth that is 8 years old and going into the 3rd grade must wait until September 1st to enroll for correct fees to be charged.**

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 \$25 if enrolled from **August 15th to October 31st**, November 1st the participant fee will increase to **\$30**.

**Please do not worry if you are still pending at the county level once you have enrolled.** The county office will try to keep up as best as we can by approving them at least once a week. As long as you complete your enrollment, you are in the system and good for enrollment and BCYF requirements. Enrollment dues must be paid by an electronic payment.

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 \$10.00. This covers your screening for the year. All volunteers will have to re-enroll each year. Club Managers must enroll ASAP!

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

## 4-H Age /Grade Requirements

Texas 4-H membership eligibility will be based on SCHOOL GRADE and not age. The eligibility rules and guidelines are:

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

Minimum age - 8 (as of August 31, 2020 and in the 3rd grade)

Maximum age - 18 (as of August 31, 2020)

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 Club Managers & Volunteers*

## **Membership Advisory Board Meeting**

**When:** August 20, 2020

**Where:** TBD

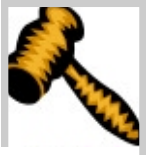
**Time:** 6:00 pm

This meeting is open to all parents and leaders! We will be having our first meeting of the year and it is uncertain at this time whether it will be in person or via zoom.

Contact Sheryl Long if you have any questions.



# *County Council & Ambassadors*



## **County Council Meeting Dates**

Dates and programs have been set for the 2020-2021 Bell County Council meetings. These meetings will take place at the Bell County Extension Office starting at 6:30 pm.

Date	Meeting Program	Community Service Projects
September 16	Club Officer Training	VA Hospital Blanket Donations
November 18	State Ambassador Programs	Toys for Tots
January 13	State 4-H Officers	Nursing Home Donations & Door Decorating
March 31	Honey Bees	Crayon Initiative
May 5	Council Officer Elections	Canned Food Drive

## **County Council/Ambassador Hunter's Spectacular Basket**

Every year, the Bell County Council Officers and the Bell County Ambassadors team up to contribute to a Hunter's Spectacular Silent Auction Basket. This year's themes is "Camo". Please contribute one items to this cause. Items must be turned in to Sheryl's office no later than September 18th!

Contact Sheryl Long if you have any questions.

# Upcoming Events

## Major Show Sheep and Goat Validation Tag Orders:

### Market Lambs, Market Goats, Breeding Sheep, Breeding Goats, Commercial Dams, & Commercial Does

**DEADLINE:** August 28, 2020

**WHERE:** CEO

**COST:** \$20/tag

Exhibitors who plan to validate sheep or goats for 2020 spring major shows (Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston, Austin) must order and pay for their tags no later than 5:00 pm on August 28th. Late orders will incur an additional fee if accepted. Market Lambs and Goats may be family validated, however Breeding Sheep and Goats must only have one exhibitor per animal (**including commercial/wether dams and does**).

This year, there are **two** payment options:

- To order online and pay by credit card, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-major-show-validation-tickets-115098199814>
- To order in person and pay with cash or check, please complete the order form and deliver to the Extension Office with payment, payable to Bell Livestock Coalition. If a return address is present, a receipt will be mailed.

**\*\*Lambs and goats validated for the State Fair of Texas must be **revalidated** for the 2021 Spring Major Shows. State Fair of Texas lamb and goat validation tags will not be accepted at the Major Shows.**

**\*\*\*The **ownership and registration deadline** for breeding sheep and goats is October 1. The animal must be recorded in the association herdbook in the exhibitor's name only by October 1. A color copy of the original registration papers **MUST** be sent to [whitney.grantham@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:whitney.grantham@ag.tamu.edu) **PRIOR** to the physical validation date.**

**Texas Lamb Breeders Association (TLBA)** tag numbers **MUST** be in the lamb's ear and be recorded on the validation form at validation. **NO TLBA tag numbers will be added to the validation forms after physical validation.**

Market lambs must have a TLBA tag to be eligible to compete in the San Angelo Stock Show or receive TLBA recognition at other major shows. Wether dams must have a TLBA tag to be eligible to compete in the San Angelo Wether Dam Show. **Texas Goat Breeders Association (TGBA)** tags must be in the goat's ear and recorded on the validation form at the time of validation. Market goats and wether does are eligible for this program and will have the same TGBA tag.

**Physical validation** for all sheep and goats is **October 20th and 21st** at the Bell County Expo!

If you have any questions please contact Whitney at [Whitney.Grantham@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Whitney.Grantham@ag.tamu.edu) or 254-933-5305.

## Major Show Heifer Barcode Orders

**Due By:** September 10, 2020

**WHERE:** CEO

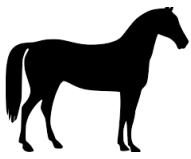
**COST:** \$15 per Heifer

It is time to order **MAJOR SHOW BREEDING HEIFER BARCODES** for the 2021 Spring Major Shows (Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston and Austin).

**\*Registered Heifer Exhibitors\*** Please send a pdf copy of the **ORIGINAL** registration papers to Whitney Grantham **PRIOR** to validation. Your heifers must be properly tattooed **BEFORE** arrival, and you must have the registration papers with you at validation.

**\*\*New for 2020-2021: Rule #3 Form\*\*** If the project leaves the direct care of the exhibitor and is cared for by a third party, a new approval form must be filled out two weeks in advance of the departure. The form is posted on our website in the 4-H Livestock tab under 4-H Projects.

**\*\*Unregistered Heifer Exhibitors\*\*** Please request BCYF forms from Whitney Grantham or Cheri O'Bradén prior to validation and return completed paperwork at validation. County only tags for unregistered heifers will be purchased on-site for \$5.00 the night of validation.



# Livestock Project News



## Fall 2020 Major Show Entry Deadlines and Stalling Requests

### West Texas Fair: Due to the CEO by Friday, August 7th, 2020

The premium book and full schedule can be found at <https://www.taylorcountyexpoctr.com/events/west-texas-fair-rodeo/livestock-shows>.

### State Fair Of Texas: Due to CEO by Wednesday, August 12th, 2020

Information on the [State Fair of Texas](#) and the revised market week schedule can be found at <https://bigtex.com/get-involved/livestock-shows/livestock-exhibitors/>.

### Heart O' Texas Fair and Rodeo: Due to the CEO by Wednesday, September 2nd, 2020

The 2020 Heart O' Texas Livestock Show, presented by Bar None Country Store, will be held September 30 – 18, 2020. Information on the [Heart O' Texas Fair](#) and the revised schedule can be found at <https://www.hotfair.com/events/2020/livestock-show>.

Entry forms for the above shows will be available at the CEO and posted online at <https://agrilife.org/bell4h/projects/4-h-livestock/>. Please submit appropriate paperwork with payment for all entries on or before the respective deadlines. Exact cash or checks can be made payable to the Bell Livestock Coalition. When filling out your entry forms, please use **Bell County 4-H** as your club name. If you have any further questions please contact Whitney at [Whitney.Grantham@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Whitney.Grantham@ag.tamu.edu) or call 254-933-5305.

## 2020 Fall Livestock Validations

### Dates of Ownership

Major Show Breeding Sheep and Goats: **October 1st**

Major Show Market Lambs and Goats: **October 21st**

Major Show Heifers: **October 26th**

Major Show Market Barrows: **November 24th**

### Tag Order Deadlines

Major Show Sheep, Goats, and Heifers: **August 28th**

Major Show Swine: **September 10th**

Tag orders will increase by \$5/tag after the deadline, if tags are available.

### Fall Validation Dates

BCYF/Major Show Sheep and Goats: **October 20th and 21st**

BCYF/Major Show Heifers: **October 26th**

BCYF/Major Show Swine: **November 23rd and 24th**

Projects not on feed and in daily care of the exhibitor or family by the dates listed above will not be validated. If you have any questions, please call Whitney Grantham at (254) 933-5305.



# Important Dates

August 2020

September 2020

**August 3; 4-H Awards Banquet and Drive Thru Awards Pick Up**

**August 7: West Texas Fair Entry Deadline**

**August 12: State Fair of Texas Entry Deadline**

**August 15: 20-21 4-H Enrollment Begins**

**August 20: MAB Meeting**

**August 28: Major Show Sheep & Goat Tag Order Deadline**

**August 28: Major Show Heifer Tag Order Deadline**

**September 1: 4-H members in 3rd grade can enroll**

**September 1: 4-H Open House Submission Deadline**

**September 2: HOT Fair Entry Deadline**

**September 10: Major Show Heifer Barcode Order Deadline**

**September 10: Major Show Swine Tag Order Deadline**

**September 16: County Council Meeting**

**September 18: Council/Ambassadors Turn in Items for HS Basket**

**September 18: Deadline for \$125 HS Silent Auction Donation**

**September 25: Deadline for \$100 HS Basket**

**September 25: Major Show Swine Tag Order Deadline**

**September 29-October 1: Cub Managers turn in HS Tickets to CEO**



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

BELL COUNTY  
4-H NEWSLETTER

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*Shel Long*



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

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