

February 2021 Focus

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BELL COUNTY YOUTH FAIR IS HERE!

FEBRUARY 6 - 13, 2021

BELL COUNTY EXPO CENTER

The BCYF Catalog is available here:

<https://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/fair-catalog/>

GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS

Thank you!

We want to thank everyone who has been involved in planning and preparing for the upcoming Bell County Youth Fair. This event could not happen without the support of our 4-H Club Managers, volunteers and parents. Please remember that this event is designed to benefit the youth in Bell County and to develop our future leaders. Let's not lose focus of our goal and show that 4-H is the best youth organization in the state!



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Bell County Youth Fair

February 6-13, 2021

Important Announcements!

More information can be found on the BCYF Website: <https://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/>
[2021 Fair Book](#) is now posted and available for you to print. [2021 Show Schedule](#) (subject to change) is also available online.

Please feel free to call the fair office if you have any questions.

Eligibility for the Bell County Youth Fair

We need to clarify on how eligibility is checked for the Bell County Youth Fair. **DO NOT** take an eligibility form to the school for them to complete!!!

The Bell County Youth Fair sends a list of all the students entered to compete in the Bell County Youth Fair to each school to check academic eligibility only. The school then replies with only the students that are ineligible to compete. Bell County Youth Fair **will not** furnish a list of excused days for each individual student for the week of February 6-13, 2021. Parents are responsible for notifying your child's school of the exact dates their student(s) will be out.

Cheri O'Braden will be contacting the parent directly if their child is ineligible to compete. **DO NOT** argue with her if you think this is incorrect. You will need to contact your child's school directly if you think there is an issue to resolve.

UPDATES for the Bell County Youth Fair

This year we will have a Premium auction. This means that the exhibitor will retain ownership of their animal. We will still sell each lot by the head to the highest bidder(s). This year the live auction will be held in the Garth Arena (Dome). We will also have an online bidding option available for those that cannot attend in person.

No animals or food items will be present at the auction. The exhibitor will stand on the stage and a photo of them and their project will appear on a digital screen.

You will have an option to floor your animals at the conclusion of each show. If you choose to keep your animal, you must remove it from the barn at the conclusion of each show.

Most importantly, masks must be worn at all times and will only be optional for exhibitors in the show ring. Upon arrival for check in each exhibitor will be required to sign the Bell County Expo Center COVID-19 Health Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release. You may be asked to sign it more than once, please do so without argument. If you or anyone in your household feels ill, please stay home.

In the case that an exhibitor may be in quarantine during the show we will allow an authorized substitute showman with proper forms and documentation and approval from show officials.

We sadly have had to cancel the Exhibitors BBQ and Dance, Hamburger Supper, Pee Wee Showmanships, the Mini Rodeo, and PRCA Rodeo. Also, we will not be allowing club food tables this year.

BCYF Horse Exhibitor Ride Nights

Speed Events: February 1, February 4, 6:00 pm—9:00 pm

Performance Events: February 2, 6:00 –9:00 pm

February 5, 3:00 pm—7:00 pm

Boxing Practice: February 5, 7:00—9:00 pm

2021 BCYF SHOW SCHEDULE

Updated as of Jan. 21, 2021

Subject to Change

Anyone who enters the EXPO must wear a mask and fill out a COVID-19 waiver upon arrival.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2021

7:00 - 8:15 am..... Check In Horses for Performance (Horses only participating Stock horse events may check in at noon)
8:30 am..... Horse Show (Order: Halter, Western, English, Stock)
9:00 am..... Check in: Appearance Judging & Rehearsal for Fashion Revue
1:00 pm..... Fashion Revue Public Show

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

6:00 - 9:00 am..... Move in all Swine
7:00 - 10:00 am..... Move in Commercial Steers
10:00 am..... Breeding Swine cards due
11:00 am..... Market Swine weight cards due
Weigh your own, 10 lb. weigh back
12:00 Noon..... Grade Commercial Steers
12:00 Noon..... Judge Breeding Swine (Order: Light OPB, York, Duroc, Dark OPB, Berk, Hamp, Cross) **REMOVE ALL BREEDING SWINE BY 11:00 PM**
1:00 - 1:30 pm..... Check in Horses for Speed events
1:30 pm..... Speed events begin

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021

8:00 am..... Judge Market Swine (Order: Light OPB, York, Duroc, Dark OPB, Berkshire, Hamp, Cross) **RELEASE ALL NON-FLOORED HOGS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SHOW**
10:00 am..... Commercial Steer Interviews
Release cattle after interviews, but no sooner than 3:00 pm
10:00 am - 5:30 pm..... Family & Consumer Sciences Division: Check in all food categories
5:30 pm..... Assembly Hall closes
6:35 pm..... Judge Family & Consumer Science food categories

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021

6:00 - 9:00 am..... Move in all Breeding & Market Goats
8:00 am - 12 noon..... Breeding Rabbits arrive and check-in
9:00 - 11:00 am..... Weigh & tooth Breeding Goats then Weigh Market Goats
11:00 am - 5:30 pm..... Family & Consumer Sciences: Check in non-food categories
12 noon..... Judge Breeding Goats, followed by Breeding Goat Showmanship
- 10 minute break -
Judge Market Goats, followed by Market Goat Showmanship
RELEASE ALL NON-FLOORED GOATS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SHOW
1:00 pm..... Judge Breeding Rabbits; Rabbit Showmanship will be done during the breeding rabbit show. **RELEASE BREEDING RABBITS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SHOW**
6:30 pm..... Judge Family & Consumer Sciences Non-food categories
6:00—9:00 pm..... **Cattle-tack move in**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

6:00 - 9:00 am..... Move in Breeding & Market Sheep
7:00 am - 1:00 pm..... Move in Heifers & Market Steers
8:00 - 11:00 am..... Move in & weigh Fryer Rabbits
9:00 - 11:00 am..... Weigh & tooth Breeding Sheep then Weigh & classify Market Lambs
12 Noon..... Judge Fryer Rabbits; **RELEASE ALL FRYER RABBITS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SHOW**
12 Noon..... Assembly Hall opens - FCS exhibits
12 noon..... Judge Breeding Sheep, followed by Breeding Sheep Showmanship (Order: Dorper, FW, SD, MW)
- 10 minute break -
Judge Market Lambs, followed by Market Lamb Showmanship (Order: Dorper, FW, FWX, SD, MW)
RELEASE ALL NON-FLOORED LAMBS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SHOW
1:30 - 3:30 pm..... Check Heifer papers
2:30 - 3:30 pm..... Weigh & classify Market Steers
7:00 - 8:00 pm..... Country Store: food division items for sale in the Assembly Hall
8:00 pm..... Assembly Hall closes

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

9:00 am..... Judge Beef Heifers followed by Beef Heifer Showmanship (Order: American, British, Exotic, Unregistered) No heifers are to be released until the conclusion of heifer showmanship.
- 30 minutes after the conclusion of the heifer show -
Judge Market Steers followed by Steer Showmanship (Order: American, British, AOB) **RELEASE ALL HEIFERS AND NON-FLOORED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SHOW**
7:30 - 8:30 am..... Move in Commercial Broilers
8:30 - 9:30 am..... Move in Turkeys
9:30 - 10:30 am..... Move in Roasters
11:30 am..... Judge Poultry (Order: Broilers, Roasters, Turkeys) **RELEASE ALL POULTRY AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SHOW**
9:00 am..... Assembly Hall opens - FCS exhibits
9:00 am - 3:00 pm..... Country Store: food division items for sale in the Assembly Hall
3:00 pm..... Assembly Hall closes
1:00—5:00 pm..... Check in Ag Mech
5:00 - 6:30 pm..... Check out/release all FCS Divisions

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021

7:30 - 8:30 am..... Livestock Registration
8:00 am..... Judge Ag Mech and RELEASE
9:00 am - 12:00 noon..... Livestock Judging Contest
11:30 am - 12 noon..... Ag Product ID Registration
12:00 noon..... Ag Product ID Contest
VIRTUAL..... Vet Science Contest

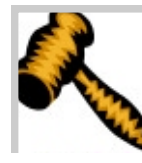
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2021

9:00 am..... Auction Sale Exhibitors Meeting (FCS & Livestock)
10:00..... Auction Sale & Commercial Steer Awards Ceremony

**** Schedule is Subject To Change ****



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
March 31	Honey Bees	Crayon Initiative
May 5	Council Officer Elections	Canned Food Drive

County Council Meeting

WHEN: March 31, 2021

WHERE: TBD **START TIME:** 6:30 pm

The council delegate and the president of each club are the two representatives who will serve as voting delegates on the Bell County 4-H County Council. These two representatives are encouraged to attend all council meetings. All 4-H members are welcome! Council meetings are a lot of fun, so come and learn about the county 4-H program and vote on exciting new 4-H opportunities.

The program for the evening will be the **Honey Bees**.

The Community Service project will be the **Crayon Initiative**. The Crayon Initiative collects donated crayons from restaurants, schools and homes across the country, then melts them down and remanufactures them, reducing waste. Better yet, the recycled crayons are distributed to art programs at children's hospitals across the U.S., brightening the lives of young patients during their stay.

Be checking your email to see if this program will be switched to a virtual program!

Hope to see everyone at the March meeting!

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.

Judging Contests—Friday, February 12th (if not participating in the event)

Family & Consumer Science Judging—Monday, February 8th, time TBD

There may be more opportunities to volunteer but we don't have specifics yet. Be checking your emails!

4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

COVID-19 and 4-H Updates

For 4-H events such as meetings, contest practices, shooting sports practices, etc. you may only meet in person if you meet one of the following criteria:

- Group **INDOOR** events at **50% capacity** of space or less are allowed only if social distancing can be practiced. Events must be approved by supervisor through a preparedness plan.
 - Group **OUTDOOR** events may be held **with a maximum of 30 people**.

You must submit a preparedness plan for approval **PRIOR TO** your event. Face coverings and social distancing are still a requirement if the event is approved. All participants must also complete and sign a COVID-19 Screening Form. We will follow the guidelines set in place from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension.

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: May 25, 2021

Where: CEO

Time: 6:00 pm

This meeting is open to all parents and leaders! We encourage all Club Managers to attend and give their opinions on the Bell County 4-H program. We are shooting for an in-person meeting this time!

Upcoming Events

Clover Kids Meeting Dates for 2020-2021

Time: 2-4pm

Location: To be announced via email

February 20

March 20

April 17

May 15

Clover Kids Fair - June 19, 2021

Clover Kids Recordbooks Due - July 9, 2021

Clover Kids Summer Camp - July 17, 2021

For more information, contact Dawn Brown at bc4hcloverkids@yahoo.com.

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, February 26th**. 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 county contest, will also advance to State. Please make sure and follow the instruction on the 2020 Texas 4-H Photography Contest Rules & Guidelines.

http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/photography_contest_rules_guidelines_2020.pdf

Categories:

Animals—Domestic	Leading Line
Animal—Wildlife	Long Exposure
Catch All	Motion/Action
Details & Macro	People
Elements of Design	Plant/Flora
Enhanced	Shadow/Silhouette
Food	Theme—"Forced Perspective"
Landscape & Nature (non-animal)	

Scholarships

Graduating Seniors

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. Sheryl will be e-mailing applications to family e-mails listed on 4-H Connect for 4-H members listed in Grade 12.

2021 Scholarships Available!

State Fair of Texas Scholarship — **February 1**

Texas 4-H Foundation FINAL Application due ONLINE—**February 15**

Texas Extension Education Association—**February 12** to the Bell CEO, must be accompanied by 4-H Record-book

Houston Livestock Show Exhibitor & Go Texan Scholarship— **February 22**

Bell County 4-H Scholarship—to CEO by **March 5**

Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Scholarship—**March 12**

San Angelo Livestock Show Scholarship— **April 1**

Bell County Youth Fair—**April 12**

Capital Farm Credit Scholarship—**TBD**

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

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





FCH Project News



Bell County Fashion Show Contest & Storyboard & Duds to Dazzle Contests

The Bell County 4-H contests for Fashion Show and Storyboard will take place on **Monday, March 8th**. Entry deadline will be **Monday, February 22nd**.

Start working on your projects now!

You will designate whether or not you want to compete in the Duds to Dazzle contest. Extension Agents will make team assignments after the entry deadline. You **will not** pre-determine your team. Entry forms can be found on the Bell County 4-H website.

Please e-mail the forms to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions ever changing, please be checking your e-mails and the website for contest updates! All events are subject to change.

VIRTUAL PRACTICES FOR CONSUMER DECISION MAKING

When: February 5, 12, and 26, at 7:00 pm

What you need: internet or cell phone data access, clipboard, paper, pencils, & calculator

Contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com to get on the invite list in order to participate and to also receive a study guide link.

4-H FCH Coalition Meeting

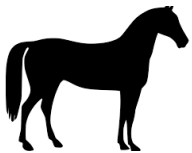
When: February 25, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: Bell CEO

Main agenda item will be planning the Bell County 4-H Fashion Show. Attendance highly recommended.

Contact Jackie McLaughlin if you have any questions.



Livestock Project News



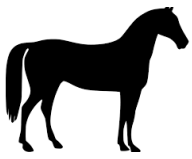
Bell 4-H Horse Club

2/20/21 - Service project-TLRC cleanup

3/6/21 - Meeting and Ride day

3/20/21 - TAMU Form to Function clinic

Please see Bell 4H Horse Club Facebook page for more information and updates.



Livestock Project News



Homeschool Eligibilities for Major Stock Shows

Bell County 4-H members that are homeschooled and entered in any Major Livestock Show (San Antonio, San Angelo, Houston and Austin) must fill out and submit your form to Scarlot Barreras **at least one week prior** to your beginning show or contest date. Please use one form per child, per show.
Let Whitney, Sheryl, or Scarlot know if you have any questions.

Major Stock Show Passes for Livestock Exhibitors

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many stock shows have limited the number of guests allowed on the grounds during the show. Here is a breakdown to help you plan for the upcoming shows.
Additional passes will **NOT** be available for purchase!

San Angelo - Limited to immediate family members and advisors; Exhibitors will receive one complimentary gate pass and all guests must have purchased a grounds pass to enter with the exception of children 2nd grade and under; Parking passes are NOT required in the Coliseum Parking Lot, only in the interior fences
<https://www.sanangelorodeo.com/p/livestock1>

Texas Elite Showcase - Each exhibitor will be issued 3 wristbands upon arrival for the exhibitor and 2 guests; Parking is free <https://www.texaseliteshowcase.com/covid-19-update>

San Antonio - Each exhibitor will be issued 3 wristbands per week that they have entries for the exhibitor and 2 guests; Parking is free (Lots 4, 6, and 7) <https://www.sarodeo.com/p/about/livestock-show>

Houston - Each exhibitor will be issued 2 wristbands per show for the exhibitor and 1 guest; Complimentary parking passes will be distributed 1 per exhibitor per show
<https://www.rodeohouston.com/Get-Involved/Exhibitors-Participants/Livestock-Show>

Austin - More information coming soon
<https://rodeoaustin.com/youth-ag-programs/competitions/livestock-show/>

When passes are mailed to the Extension office, exhibitors will be notified by email as soon as their passes are available for pick up. Please note that in the event that an exhibitor is unable to attend a show, please let Whitney know ASAP. Each show will have different substitution rules regarding illness.
Remember, communication is key to having a successful show season!

Livestock Project Visits

Need help with livestock selection, feeding, daily care, fitting, or showmanship? Whitney Ingram is available to help you prepare for the Bell County Youth Fair and the Major Stock Shows. Call the Bell County Extension Office at (254) 933-5305 or email whitney.grantham@ag.tamu to schedule a project visit at your barn.

Important Dates

February 2021

March 2021

February 1: State Fair Scholarship Deadline
February 1: BCYF Ride Night—SPEED
February 2: BCYF Ride Night—PERFORMANCE
February 4: BCYF Ride Night—SPEED
February 5: BCYF Ride Night—PERFORMANCE
February 5: BCYF Ride Night—Boxing Practice
February 5: BCYF Commercial Steer Recordbook Due
February 5: Virtual CDM Practice
February 12: TEEA Scholarship Due
February 12: Virtual CDM Practice
February 15: Texas 4-H Scholarship Deadline
February 20: Clover Kids Meeting
February 22: HLSR Exhibitor & Go Texan Scholarship
February 22: Bell County 4-H Fashion Show Entry
Deadline
February 25: 4-H FCH Coalition Meeting
February 26: Bell County 4-H Photography Entry
Deadline
February 26: Virtual CDM Practice

March 5: Bell County 4-H Scholarship App Due
March 8: Bell County 4-H Fashion Show Contest
March 12: HOT Fair Scholarship Due
March 20: Clover Kid Meeting
March 31: County Council Meeting

April 2021

April 1: San Angelo Livestock Show Scholarship Due
April 12: BCYF Scholarship Application Due
April 19: District 8 Fashion Show Contest
April 19: District 8 CDM Contest
April 17: Clover Kid Meeting

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

BELL COUNTY
4-H NEWSLETTER

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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/>