

September 2021 Focus

Bell County Staff

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Health

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Sheryl Long is out on Maternity Leave. Please direct your questions to Jackie McLaughlin, Whitney Ingram, or Tonya Elliott.

Hunter's Spectacular

SAVE THE DATE!

The Bell County VIRTUAL 4-H fundraiser will be held on **Saturday, October 23, 2021.**

Congratulations to all of the award recipients at this year's Bell County 4-H Banquet!



4-H is for YOU!
4-H is for FUN!

Log on to
www.v2.4honline.com

The new 4-H year begins
September 1st!

All new and former 4-H members must enroll online each year to participate in 4-H!

For more information,
visit our website:
<https://agrilife.org/bell4h/>



1605 N. Main, Room 102
Belton, TX 76513

Phone: (254) 933-5305

Fax: (254) 933-5312

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

4-H Enrollment

Enroll NOW!

4-H Enrollment for the 2021-2022 4-H year began **August 15th!** All enrollment is done via 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. The 4-H program year begins on September 1 and concludes on August 31 the following year. For accountability purposes and the requirement for keeping mailing lists updated, the Texas 4-H Program uses zerobased enrollment. An active enrollment is required in order to register and participate in all 4-H activities and events. Each year on August 15th all membership in Texas 4-H goes to inactive and all youth and adult volunteers must re-enroll.

Youth members are required to pay a \$25.00 participation fee if enrolled by October 31st, and a \$30.00 fee from November 1st to the completion of the 4-H year. Adults are also encouraged to sign up as program volunteers! Adults pay a \$10.00 volunteer applicant fee. Adults and youth will need to enroll on 4HOnline and be active to be considered an official member of Texas 4-H.

Youth may participate in the 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 in addition to being in the 3rd grade) to a maximum age - 18 (as of August 31).

For instructions on how to enroll, please visit:

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

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

Bell County Youth Fair Eligibility

All BCYF exhibitors MUST attend **2** meetings from **August 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021** to participate in the 2022 Bell County Youth Fair. Please make sure that you sign in at every club meeting you attend. Your name must be on the sign in sheets for it to count!

All 4-H members MUST be enrolled by **December 10, 2021** to participate in the BCYF. However, the fee will go up after October 31st so do it quickly.

BCYF has a website in which everything will be posted including the new fair book, entry forms, superintendent's names and phone numbers, score sheets, and other information:

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

Academic Eligibility & Excused Absences for 4-H Competitions and Activities

To participate in any 4-H competitions, contestants must be enrolled in 4-H and academically eligible according to their school. For public/private schooled students, the Extension Office will work with those schools to obtain academic eligibility and request excused absences when appropriate. If a member is participating in a 4-H event/competition, please contact the agent advising that project area at least two week in advance of the event to communicate when the child will be missing school. All home schooled students will need to turn in an academic eligibility form by email at least one week prior to the event. Those forms can be found at <https://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-henrollment-guidelines/eligibility/>.

Hunter's Spectacular

Our Annual Bell County 4-H Fundraiser

The Bell County 4-H Hunter's Spectacular is our annual fundraiser to support the program for the 2021-2022 year. The money raised will directly support the youth that are involved in our 4-H program. This event will be conducted virtually again. By selling tickets and participating in all aspects of fundraising, your club can earn a 10% kickback.

Fundraiser details are listed below and posted on our website at <https://agrilife.org/bell4h/hunters-spectacular/>.

Fundraiser Details

- Drawing for 20 Guns and other large ticket items will be held on October 23rd
- \$20 tickets
- Winners will be drawn on Facebook Live on Saturday, October 23rd starting at TBD.
- 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!

Silent Auction Baskets

Each club is expected to donate either 1 basket valued at \$100 OR donate \$125.

The deadline to turn in the \$125 donation OR 1 basket valued at \$100 is **September 30, 2021!**

Basket pictures will be posted at:

<http://walleeauctioncompany.com/auction-detail/bell-county-4-h/0a7d35fd-549d-4809-bc88-ad3000388356/>

The live auction will begin on October 1st and will end on October 23rd.

Hunter Spectacular Info for CLUB MANAGERS ONLY

Turn in tickets to CEO (**CLUB MANAGERS ONLY**): Tuesday, October 20th through Friday, October 22nd
8:00am—11:00am or 1:00pm—4:00pm

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

We want to continue to incentivize member participation. In that effort, each Club that meets the 3 requirements listed below will earn a 10% kickback.

- 100% ticket sales based on enrollment from last year based on each member selling 3 tickets.
- Recruit at least one \$200 event sponsor
- Donate \$100 Silent Auction Basket or \$125 Silent Auction Donation



County Council & Ambassadors



County Council Meeting Dates

Dates and programs have been set for the 2021-2022 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 14	Club Officer Training	Blue Jeans Collection
November 18	Game Warden	Animal Shelter Collection
January 10	Fire Department	Stuffed Animal Collection
March 28	State Ambassadors	Women Shelter Donations
May 9	Council Officer Elections	Canned Food Drive

County Council Meeting

Date: September 14, 2021

Location: Extension Office **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 a Club Officer Training. It is designed to help presidents, vice-presidents, secretaries, treasurers, reporters, historians, and any other club officers understand their role as an officer, the importance of teamwork, and how they can work to make their club more successful!

Hope to see everyone at the September meeting!

Blue Jean collection drive for “Blue Jeans Go Green.”

The program collects denim (made from cotton) so that it can be recycled back to its natural fiber state and transformed into something new such as insulating material for various applications like building insulation (for Habitat for Humanity), thermal packaging insulation, pet bed inserts and other applications. Any type of denim item – jeans, jackets, shirts, skirts, etc., can be donated. The items can be colored, embellished and/or printed. The denim can also be in any condition – ripped, stained and even scraps.

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 theme is “Fishing”. Please contribute by bringing one item to the Bell County Extension Office no later than **September 18th!**
Contact the CEO if you have any questions.

4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: October 21, 2021

Where: CEO

Time: 6:00 pm

This meeting is open to all parents and leaders!

Volunteer Opportunity! Bell County 4-H Exchange Club

We are looking for an adult volunteer for the next term (2 years). If you like to travel and learn about agriculture, history, different cultures, and meet 4-H families throughout the United States please email ckide3@yahoo.com for more information! Kathy Ide has been volunteering with Bell County 4-H Exchange for 12 years and is ready to retire.

Upcoming Events

Shooting Sports Coach Training

When: November 13-14, 2021

Where: Stephenville

The training is open to any Shooting Sports Volunteer. Registration will be October 11-22, 2021 via 4-H Online.

Clover Kids Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

September 18, October 16, November 20, January 15, February 19, March 19, May 21

Clover Kids Fair: June 18, 2022

Clover Kids Recordbooks Due: July 8, 2022

Clover Kids Summer Camp: July 16, 2022

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

Wildlife Project Meetings

August 28: 2-4 PM at the Extension Office

Classroom meeting: We will work on tree and fish ID as well as wildlife common in the Blackland Prairie and Post Oak ecoregions in a classroom setting.

September 4: 6-9 PM at Fort Parker State Park

Field meeting: We will work on tree and wildlife ID along state park trails and do some sunset fishing. We'll roast hotdogs before heading home. State Park day passes need to be obtained in advance. Fishing licenses are not required. Please email joendecastillo@hotmail.com to RSVP to ensure enough supplies for your participant.

September 25: 2-4 PM at the CEO.

Classroom meeting: We discuss aquatic ecosystem health in advance of our October field meeting focusing on the algae bloom phenomenon at Meridian State Park.

For more information and to get involved, email De Castillo at joendecastillo@hotmail.com.

Ag Product ID Practices

The fall contest season will be here soon. With last year's cancellations we are looking forward to participating at in-person contests this coming year. Several contests have already been scheduled:

Heart of Texas Fair & Rodeo (Waco) – October 9, 2021

State Fair of Texas (Dallas) – October 11, 2021

District 8 (Killeen) – November 5, 2021

Bell County Youth Fair (Belton) – February 11, 2022

Practice dates this month are scheduled for **September 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.**

All practices will be at the Extension Office at **6:00 pm.**

Please contact Michael Canales at guajeman1@gmail.com or 254-541-6293.



FCH Project News



Food Challenge Practice

Dates: September 3, 10, 17, & 24 **Time:** 6:00 PM

Location: First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, Belton

For more information, contact Barbara Wood at 254-624-6507 or woodbtwice@gmail.com.

FCH Quiz Bowl Practice

Dates: September 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 **Time:** 6:00 PM

Location: County Extension Office

For more information, contact Barbara Wood at 254-624-6507 or woodbtwice@gmail.com.

Leaders 4 Life Practice

Dates: September 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 **Times:** 7:00 PM

Location: County Extension Office

For more information, contact Barbara Wood at 254-624-6507 or woodbtwice@gmail.com

In addition, in support of the Bell County Leaders 4 Life Service Learning Focus, they are seeking book donations of all kinds, but especially focusing on children and youth books. If you have any to donate, please drop them off at the Bell County Extension Office or contact one of the L4L members.

Duds to Dazzle/ Sew-N-Sew

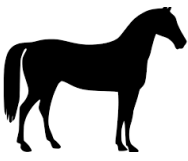
Dates: September 25, October 30, November 20, December 18

Time and Location: 5:00pm—7:00 PM at the Extension Office

If you have a sewing machine, please bring it along with 2 yards of fabric and matching thread.

FCH 4-H Coalition Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 7th **Time and Location:** 6:00 PM at the Extension Office



Livestock Project News



Major Show Broiler Orders

Due by: September 10, 2021

Cost: \$1.50/bird

Order forms for the **2022 Houston, Austin, and San Antonio BROILER** shows are ready! As a county, we would like to get our orders in early! The price will be \$1.50 per bird. Birds must be ordered in increments of 25 with a limit of 75 birds per exhibitor or family.

Please come by the Extension office by **September 10th** to place and pay for your major show broiler order. Whitney will need the full names of all exhibitors in the family including their middle initial.

Major Show Swine Tag Orders

Due By: September 15, 2021

Cost: \$20 per tag

It is time to place **MAJOR SHOW SWINE TAGS** for 2022 Spring Major Shows. Bell County **REQUIRES** all 4-H and FFA members to pre-order and pay for their major show tags prior to validation.

Special Notes for swine exhibitors:

- All Market Barrows, Registered Gilts, and Crossbred Gilts will need to be validated.
- Registration papers must be uploaded for all major shows (Grandstand, The Elite, San Antonio, San Angelo, and Houston). Please send a pdf copy of the registration papers to Whitney Ingram **PRIOR** to validation.
- Any pig (barrow or gilt) entering the holding/sift pen without a state validation tag will be disqualified and sent to the floor truck.

There are two options for exhibitors to submit tag orders:

To order online and pay by credit card, visit: <https://bell-livestock-coalition.square.site/>

To order in person and pay with exact cash or check, an order form will be available at the CEO. Checks can be made payable to the Bell Livestock Coalition.

Please remember, BCYF tags are not pre-ordered. BCYF tags will be purchased at validation for \$5/head.

Major Show Heifer Barcode Orders

Due By: September 15, 2021

Cost: \$15 per Heifer

It is time to order **MAJOR SHOW BREEDING HEIFER BARCODES** for the 2022 Spring Major Shows (Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston and Austin).

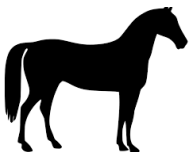
There are two options for exhibitors to submit orders:

To order online and pay by credit card, visit: <https://bell-livestock-coalition.square.site/>

To order in person and pay with exact cash or check, an order form will be available at the CEO. Checks can be made payable to the Bell Livestock Coalition.

Registered Heifer Exhibitors Please send a pdf copy of the **ORIGINAL** registration papers to Whitney Ingram **PRIOR** to validation. Your heifers must be properly tattooed **BEFORE** arrival.

****Unregistered Heifer Exhibitors**** Please request BCYF forms from Cheri.OBraden@ag.tamu.edu 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



Bell County 4-H Livestock Page

Exhibitors and their families can always find the latest Livestock Project information at:

<https://agrilife.org/bell4h/projects/4-h-livestock/>

Fall Validation Dates

BCYF/Major Show Sheep and Goats: October 19th and 26th

BCYF/Major Show Heifers: October 25th

BCYF/Major Show Swine: November 22nd and 29th

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 Ingram at (254) 933-5305.

Save the Date for Local Show Opportunities

Central Texas State Fair: September 3rd - 5th, 2021

On Saturday, we will host our lamb, goat, steer, and heifer jackpot shows, but this year, a swine jackpot show has been added to Sunday! A flyer with more information is posted on our Bell County 4-H Livestock page.

Holiday Classic Clinic and Jackpot Show: November 6th -7th, 2021

This will be the 30th annual Holiday Classic! Remember, this show is completely FREE for exhibitors and their families. There will be high quality educational clinics, great food, and awesome giveaways as always! If you or your business would like to be a sponsor of this event to help keep it FREE for attendees, please let us know!

Livestock Judging Practices

Practice dates this month are scheduled for **September 16, 23, and 30** starting at **6:00 PM**.

Fall contests include:

West Texas Fair (Abilene) – September 13, 2021

Washington County Fair (Brenham) – September 18, 2021

State Fair of Texas (Dallas) – October 4, 2021

Heart O' Texas Fair (Waco) – October 16, 2021

Brazos Valley Fair (Bryan) – October 22, 2021

Please email Whitney Ingram at whitney.ingram@ag.tamu.edu to be added to the email list for all practice information, contest information, and payment deadlines!

Direct Care Policy Reminder for Major Show Exhibitors

Rule #3 of the Texas 4-H and FFA Livestock Program Ethics Policy states that exhibitors and immediate family/guardians are responsible for providing the primary and continuous daily care of livestock projects throughout the validation period. However, there are certain instances when the livestock may be outside of the direct care of the livestock exhibitor, their family, or their supervising County Extension Agent/Agriculture Science Teacher. These instances and the third-party providing care must be approved as noted in Rule #3. This form is to serve as an approval process for state validated livestock projects requesting to be outside of the care of the above listed parties for certain livestock management practices. For more information about Rule #3 or if this form is applicable for your situation, please review the Texas 4-H and FFA Livestock Program Ethics Policy: <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/>.

Important Dates

September 2021

September 1: HOT Fair Livestock & Contest Entry Deadline; Ag Product ID Practice

September 2: FCH Quiz Bowl Practice; Leaders 4 Life Practice

September 3: Food Challenge Practice

September 4: Wildlife Project Meeting

September 3-5: Central Texas State Fair

September 6: Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday

September 7: FCH 4-H Coalition Meeting

September 8: Ag Product ID Practice

September 9: FCH Quiz Bowl Practice; Leaders 4 Life Practice

September 10: Major Show Broiler Orders Due; Food Challenge Practice

September 11: BCYF Commercial Steer Weigh-In

September 14: County Council Meeting

September 15: Major Show Swine tags and Heifer barcode orders due to the CEO; Ag Product ID Practice

September 16: FCH Quiz Bowl Practice; Leaders 4 Life Practice; Livestock Judging Practice

September 18: Clover Kid Meetings

September 17: Food Challenge Practice

September 22: Ag Product ID Practice

September 23: FCH Quiz Bowl Practice; Leaders 4 Life Practice; Livestock Judging Practice

September 24: Food Challenge Practice

September 25: Duds to Dazzle; Wildlife Project Meeting

September 25—October 11: State Fair of Texas (Dallas)

September 29: Ag Product ID

September 30: FCH Quiz Bowl Practice; Leaders 4 Life Practice; HS Silent Auction Basket due to CEO; HS Silent Auction Donation due to CEO; Livestock Judging Practice

October 2021

October 1-17: Heart of Texas Fair & Rodeo (Waco)

October 3-9: National 4-H Week

October 11: Office Closed for Columbus Day Holiday

October 11-12: Shooting Sports Training Registration

October 15: BCYF Roaster Orders due to CEO

October 18: BCYF Online Entries Open

October 19: BCYF/Major Show Sheep & Goat Validation I

October 21: MAB Meeting

October 23: Hunter's Spectacular Live Drawing

October 25: BCYF/Major Show Heifer Validation

October 26: BCYF/Major Show Sheep and Goat Validation II

October 30: Duds to Dazzle

November 2021

November 5: BCYF Broiler Orders due to CEO; District 8 Ag Product ID and Quiz Bowl Contests

November 6-7: Holiday Classic

November 9: Major Show Entries due to CEO

November 20: Duds to Dazzle

November 18: County Council Meeting

November 22: BCYF/Major Show Swine Validation

November 29: BCYF/Major Show Swine Validation



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BELL COUNTY
4-H NEWSLETTER

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

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