

January 2022 Focus

Bell County Staff

Sheryl Austin

Cooperative Extension
Family & Community
Health

Tonya Elliott

4-H Program Assistant

Beverly Hodges

BLT Extension Agent

Whitney Ingram

County Extension Agent
Natural Resources

Sheryl Long

County Extension Agent
4-H & Youth Development

Jackie McLaughlin

County Extension Agent
Family & Community
Health

Lyle Zoeller

County Extension Agent
Agriculture



A message from Jackie McLaughlin~

Greetings to our Bell County 4-H Families,

It is with much thought and consideration that I will be leaving my Family and Community Health County Agent position as of January 31, 2022. I will certainly miss all of you. I think Bell County 4-H is the best in the state and has the most outstanding youth. I challenge you to continue with excellent accomplishments in the future. Thank you to all the project leaders for your timeless support and leadership for our youth. I greatly appreciate all you do. It is with you that our youth continue to excel.

Best wishes, Jackie



1605 N. Main, Room 102

Belton, TX 76513

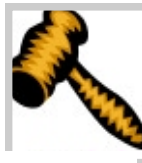
Phone: (254) 933-5305

Fax: (254) 933-5312

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



County Council & Ambassadors



County Council Meeting Dates

These meetings will take place at the Bell County Extension Office starting at **6:30 PM**.

Date	Meeting Program	Community Service Projects
January 10	Fire Department	Stuffed Animal Collection
March 28	State Ambassadors	Women Shelter Donations
May 9	Council Officer Elections	Canned Food Drive

January Community Service Project Stuffed Animal Collection

Date: January 10, 2022

Location: Bell County Extension Office

Time: 6:30 PM

We will be donating NEW toys to the local children’s hospital. Please bring with you to the next County Council meeting your toy donations. Please leave the tags on there as well!

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

4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

Membership Advisory Board FINANCE Meeting

When: January 5, 2022

Where: CEO

Time: 6:00 pm

This will be our annual finance meeting to discuss amendments to the Annual Initial Budget.

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: January 18, 2022

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.

BCYF Container Pick Up

Attention Club Managers! You can start picking up your food containers on **January 3rd** at the CEO for your participants competing in the 2022 BCYF Food Division. Our business hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 am –12:00 & 1:00– 5:00 pm. This is for Club Managers ONLY!

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.

2022 Scholarships Available!

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

Houston Livestock Show Exhibitor & Go Texan Scholarship— **February 1**

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

Texas Extension Education Association—**TBD**

Bell County 4-H Scholarship—**TBD**

San Angelo Livestock Show Scholarship— **TBD**

Bell County Youth Fair—**TBD**

Capital Farm Credit Scholarship—**TBD**

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

Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Scholarship—**TBD**

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

Upcoming Events

BIG Youth Conference

The BIG Youth Conference will host it's 2022 conference on January 11th, 2022. This workshop will be hosted virtually, so you can join from your classroom, home, etc. This year's conference is focused on *Empowering the youth voice in agriculture* and will feature presentations from Dr. Whitt Weems, Director of Organization-Texas Farm Bureau, Wendy Scott, Extension Program Specialist for 4-H Youth Development in District 2, and a discussion panel hosted by our own District 8 4-H Chairman & Texas 4-H Council 2nd Vice President, Brinley Allison. The panel will feature State 4-H Council members & Texas FFA State Officers.

This conference is geared to promote youth leadership in agriculture and is open to any 4-H, FFA, or FCCLA, high school-aged member.

Registration is now open and will be open until December 31st. On the registration form, you have a place to submit questions for our panelists. If you have a burning question about what it's like to be a state officer, now is the time to get it answered!

All details & the registration form can be found on our website: <https://agrillife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/bigyouthworkshop/>

Upcoming Events

Clover Kids Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

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.

Ag Product Id Practice

Registration for the BCYF Ag Product ID contest is open. In-person practices start in January to prepare for the BCYF contest. Practices will be at 6:00 pm at the CEO of the following dates:

Thursday, January 6th

Wednesday, January 12th

Wednesday, January 26th

As we are hosting this contest as a part of the youth fair, we need to have a large group participating. The Ag Product ID contest will be in the afternoon on 2/11/22 to allow for participation in the morning contests.

Registration for the Houston Livestock Show contest to be held in March 2022 will also be opening soon.

Please contact Michael Canales at guajeman1@gmail.com or 254-541-6293 to get your name on the contest list or for more information.

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 25th**. 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 2021 Texas 4-H Photography Contest Rules & Guidelines.

Categories:

Animals—Domestic

Animal—Wildlife

Catch All

Details & Macro

Elements of Design

Enhanced

Food

Landscape & Nature (non-animal)

Leading Line

Long Exposure

Motion/Action

People

Plant/Flora

Shadow/Silhouette

Theme—"My Hometown"



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 21st** at the Bell County Extension Office. Entry deadline will be **Friday, March 4th**.

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. Start working on your projects now!

Entry forms must be emailed to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu **AND** tonya.elliott@ag.tamu.edu.

Entry forms are not yet available but will be soon.

District 8 Fashion Show Contest AND CDM Contest—DATE CHANGE

The date of the District 8 4-H Fashion Show AND CDM contest has changed. These contests will now be held on **April 25th** in Cleburne.

FCH Quiz Bowl

Practice will be **January 22, 5:30 p.m.**, County Extension Office. This practice will be geared to the team advancing to State, but we encourage others to join us to fill out the teams and make it more challenging. Contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com with any questions.

Consumer Decision Making

Practices are scheduled for **January 4, 13, 21, and 25** at 6:00 p.m. at the County Extension Office. If you have questions or would like to know more about what Consumer Decision Making is, contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com.

Food Challenge Practice

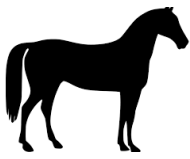
Only for those teams competing at the Houston Livestock Show! Practices will be **January 22 and 29** at the County Extension Office starting at 3:00 p.m. for the junior/intermediate teams and 4:00 for the senior teams.

Leaders 4 Life

Practice will be **January 29, 5:30 p.m.**, County Extension Office. This practice will be geared to the team advancing to State, but we encourage others to join us to fill in vacancies and learn about parliamentary procedures.

Members are continuing to collect gently used books for their Service Learning Project. Please bring any donations by the County Extension Office and leave in the L4L Collection Box outside the CEO door

Contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com with any questions.



Livestock Project News



Texas 4-H Dog Validation

Texas 4-H Dog Show will be held on **July 7-9, 2022** at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Conroe, Texas. To be eligible for this show, dogs must be validated by **January 10, 2022** in 4-H Online. 2022 Texas 4-H Dog Show Rule Book will be posted <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/dog-care-training/> soon. The 2021 Rule Book is currently available. There will be some minor changes in the regular portion of the show. We are working on an NEW Dog Olympics program for members to exhibit their training skills in a different way.

We strongly encourage members to validate their dogs even if they are not sure they will be participating in the Texas 4-H Dog Show. Completing the FREE validation process before **January 10th** will give them until entries are due in May to make a final decision.

As 4-H members complete their validation, here are some things to keep in mind:

For purebred dogs (they do not have to be registered, just look purebred) you will select the correct Group and list the breed.

For mixed breed dogs you will select the Weight Group of the dog and list the dominant breed along with the word "Mix" or list the two breeds if known. (Example: Border Collie Mix or Mastiff/Great Dane.)

Photos of the left and right side of the dog should be a side view of the whole dog. Get on the dog's level so they do not turn into top views. They should also be clear and light enough we can see all markings and color of the dog. The dog should only be wearing a collar. No sweaters, costumes, rain gear or anything that covers the dog's color and markings.

Dogs MUST be validated each year. If you validated a dog last year, the information and photos will be in the system, but you must still review and SUBMIT to validate for the 2021-2022 4-H year. Please update the photos if the dog has changed significantly since last year.

We do encourage you to validate any dogs that you are eligible to show. Situations may change through the year.

If you have any questions, please contact the Bell County Extension Office.

4-H Horse Club Events

January 3- Drill Team Practice—5:30 pm at Temple Longhorn Riding Club

January 10—Horse Judging Contest—7:00 am at Bryan, TX

January 11—Horse Judging & Horse Quiz Bowl Practice—6:00 pm at CEO

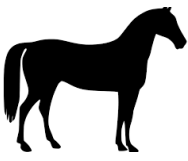
January 14—Horse Quiz Bowl contest—1:00 pm at Huntsville, TX

January 22—Stockhorse Clinic with Kelley Haydon—7:30 am at Bell County Expo, Barn C

January 22—January Club Meeting—6:00 pm at Bell County Expo, Barn C

January 23—Open Ride—9:00 am, Drill Team practice—2:00 pm, Beat the Heat Meeting—5:00 pm ALL at Bell County Expo, Barn C

January 25—Horse Judging & Horse Quiz Bowl Practice—6:00 pm at CEO



Livestock Project News



San Antonio Livestock Show School Tour Guides

School Tours offers a fun and educational program designed for young people to learn about the rodeo, livestock and the important role agriculture plays in the economy. Kindergarten through third grade students are guided around the fairgrounds by local 4-H and FFA high school tour guides where the students get a taste of Texas heritage and witness first-hand the fun and excitement offered at the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo!

Tour Guides assist in educating the students about agriculture and its valued importance, while sharpening their leadership and responsibility skills. Tours last 2 to 2-1/2 hours. Tour guide reservations are taken on a first come-first serve basis.

Email Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu if you want to participate! Deadline is January 7!

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.

Bell County Youth Fair

February 4-12, 2022

Bell County Youth Fair Eligibility

Club Managers, please make sure you have a sign in sheet at each meeting and announce to all members to sign in before, during, and after the meeting.

- 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/>
- You **MUST** attend 2 meetings to participate in the BCYF. Your name MUST be on the sign in sheets for it to count.
- 2 meetings will be allowed from **August 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021** this year. No meetings will be allowed in January to use for the 2 meeting rule.
- 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.

Other Important Information

The 2022 Fair Book is now posted. Visit the BCYF website at <https://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/> for more information on entries, rules, judges, and more.

Make sure you are giving your Club Manager a good phone number and email to reach you. You will miss important information and deadlines if you don't check your emails!

Important Dates

Broiler Pick Up	January 7, 2022	3:30 - 5:30 PM
Rabbits Validation	January 9, 2022	3:00 - 5:00 PM
Weigh Out Commercial Steers	January 29, 2022	8:00 AM
Commercial Steer Recordbooks Due	February 4, 2022	By 5:00 PM

BCYF Home School Eligibility

The Homeschool Eligibility deadline is **January 14, 2022 by 5:00 pm**. All Homeschool students must fill out an eligibility form and turn it in by the deadline.

NO FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE OR ACCEPTED UNTILL AFTER JANUARY 1, 2022.

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

Bell County Youth Fair

February 4-12, 2022

BCYF Horse Exhibitor Ride Nights

Speed Events: January 24, January 31 and February 3, 6:00 pm—9:00 pm

Performance Events: January 25—6:00-9:00 pm, February 1— 3:00-9:00 pm and
February 4, 3:00 pm—7:00 pm

Boxing Practice: February 4, 7:00—9:00 pm

BCYF Photography Upload

READ THE YOUTH FAIR INFORMATION starting on page 107. For those that entered pictures in the Bell County Youth Fair , you may start uploading pictures on **January 3, 2022**. until 5:00 pm on **January 14, 2022**.

The website to upload pictures is <http://agrilife.org/bellctyouthfair>

There is a photography upload tutorial on the Bell County Youth Fair website. Feel free to contact the superintendent if you have any questions.



Important Dates

January 2022

February 2022

January 3: BCYF Container Pick Up– Club Managers ONLY

January 4: CDM Practice

January 5: MAB Finance Meeting

January 6: Ag Product Id Practice

January 7: San Antonio School Tour Deadline

January 7: BCYF Broiler Pick Up

January 9: BCYF Rabbit Validation

January 10: Texas 4-H Dog Validation Deadline

January 10: County Council Meeting

January 11: BIG Youth Conference

January 12: Ag Product Id Practice

January 13: CDM Practice

January 14: BCYF Homeschool Eligibility Deadline

January 14: BCYF Photography Upload deadline

January 15: Clover Kid Meeting

January 18: MAB Meeting

January 21: CDM Practice

January 22: FCH Quiz Bowl Practice

January 22: Food Challenge Practice

January 24: BCYF Horse Ride Night—SPEED

January 25: BCYF Horse Ride Night—PERFORMANCE

January 25: CDM Practice

January 26: Ag Product Id Practice

January 29: Food Challenge Practice

January 29: Leader 4 Life practice

January 29: BCYF Commercial Steer Weigh Out

January 31: BCYF Horse Ride Night—SPEED

February 1: BCYF Horse Ride Night—PERFORMANCE

February 1: State Fair of Texas Scholarship deadline

February 1: Houston Livestock Show Exhibitor Scholarship deadline

February 1: Houston Go Texan Scholarship deadline

February 3: BCYF Horse Ride Night—SPEED

February 4: BCYF Commercial Steer Recordbooks Due

February 4: BCYF Boxing Practice

February 15: Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship deadline

February 19: Clover Kid Meeting

February 25: BC 4-H Photography Contest Deadline

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

BELL COUNTY
4-H NEWSLETTER

Bell County Extension
1605 N. Main Room 102
Belton, TX 76513
Phone: 254-933-5305
Fax: 254-933-5312

Shel 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/>