

March 2022 Focus

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Congratulations to all of our 4-H members that competed at the Bell County Youth Fair, San Angelo and the San Antonio Livestock Shows!

BCYF Thank you!

We want to thank everyone who was involved in planning and preparing for the Bell County Youth Fair. This event could not happen without the support of our 4-H Club Managers, volunteers and parents.

Bell County Youth Fair

- Auction Exhibitor Main Buyer Thank You Cards are due **March 11th**
- BCYF General Membership Meeting will be at **6:00 pm on Thursday, March 31st** in Champions Club at Expo Center



1605 N. Main, Room 102

Belton, TX 76513

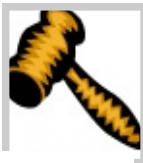
Phone: (254) 933-5305

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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
March 28	State Ambassadors	Women Shelter Donations
May 9	Council Officer Elections	Canned Food Drive

March Community Service Project Women Shelter Donation

Date: March 28, 2022

Location: Bell County Extension Office

Time: 6:30 PM

We will be accepting donations for the local women's shelter. They are in need of the following:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Underwear, & socks | Toiletries | Feminine Hygiene Products |
| Laundry Detergent | Cold Weather Clothing | Reusable Containers |
| | Baby Supplies. | |

4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: May 24, 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.

Hunter's Spectacular Planning Meeting

We will have our next Hunter's Spectacular planning meeting on **Thursday, April 21st** starting at 6:00 pm at the Bell County CEO. Please come help us get the ball rolling on this event!!

For more information, contact Sheryl Long at Sheryl.long@ag.tamu.edu

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!

Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Scholarship—**March 3**

Bell County 4-H – **March 4**

San Angelo Livestock Show – **March 10**

Lone Star Ag Credit – **March 16**

Capital Farm Credit – **April 6**

Bell County Youth Fair - **April 11**

Bell County Area Go Texan – **April 15**

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

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

Outdoor Project News

District 8 Rifle/Light Rifle Contest

If you are interested in competing in the District 8 Rifle Contest that will take place on **Saturday, May 7th**, at the Leon County Gun Club in Oakwood. Entry deadline is **April 15, 2022** on 4-H Connect. Cost is \$10 per member per match.

All details are updated on our website: <https://agrillife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/rifle-contest/>

Contact Sheryl Long if you have any questions regarding this contest.

Texas 4-H Congress

Overview:

Texas 4-H Congress is a four-day mock legislative experience for 4-H members in grades 9th to 12th for the 2021-2022 school year. During this time, 4-H members assume the roles of senators, representatives, lobbyists, press corps, and special interest groups to gain a first-hand understanding of how the legislative process works. Bills that are written and sponsored by 4-H members focus on issues concerning Texas and Texas youth. These bills are assigned to the appropriate committee, debated in committee meetings, and then on the floor of the House or Senate. If a bill is successful in negotiation and the legislative debate in all three stages, it is delivered to the Governor of Texas 4-H Congress for his or her signature or veto. Copies of all the bills that are signed into law during Texas 4-H Congress are provided to the Office of the Governor for review.

Age Eligibility

Official grades for Texas 4-H Congress are 9th grade to 12th grade (at the time of event). This is a prestigious event reserved for older 4-H members. Because of the number of 4-H members allowed to attend, counties should make it a priority to select older 4-H members for the House and Senate that have never attended prior.

Location

Headquarters for Texas 4-H Congress will be at the Sheraton Hotel, 707 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

CHANGE FOR 2022: Any 4-H member may submit a Texas 4-H Congress bill for consideration and debate. Participating in Congress is not a requirement. Writing and submitting a bill provides each 4-H member the opportunity to participate in an exercise in civic engagement.

All participants in Texas 4-H Congress must submit a COMPLETE bill for consideration. "All" includes Texas 4-H Council and Technology Ambassadors. To accomplish the writing and submission of legislative bills, it is recommended that the County Extension Agent, or a volunteer, assist the youth in learning what a quality bill includes, how to write one, and then submitting the bill on-line. Refer to the Texas 4-H publication entitled "Understanding the Texas Legislative Process, A Guide for Participating in Texas 4-H Congress." This publication is located on the Texas 4-H website. 4-H members from the same county, or other counties, are not allowed to submit the same bill for meeting this requirement.

This information can be found at the following page on the Texas 4-H website:

<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/congress/>

Participant Quotas

The District 8 delegate quota will be 20 House/Senate members. E-mail Sheryl Long at Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu if you want to be added to the list!

If a 4-H member is selected to attend Texas 4-H Congress as a Lobbyist or Press Corps member (see additional information below), the state office should notify everyone by March 30. After counties submit the County Nomination Form on April 6, the District Office will make selections for the delegates to participate in Texas 4-H Congress prior to early bird registration closing on 4-H Connect on April 30, 2022. A list of alternate delegates will be kept and they will be notified as soon as an opening comes available.

Upcoming Events

Clover Kids Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

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

In-person practices will continue on the following dates :

March 2nd, 23rd, and 30th

April 6th, and 13th

Practices will be held at the CEO at 6:00 pm.

Upcoming contests:

Houston Livestock Show - March 16th (registration closed)

Leon County - April 15th - registration information coming soon

Good luck to the 5 teams competing at Houston. Please contact Michael Canales at 254-541-6293 or guajemen1@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Wildlife Project

The wildlife project covers species identification (flora and fauna) and facts, habitat evaluation and management, and hunting/fishing techniques, laws, and safety. Classroom meetings consist of learning (themed presentations, videos, etc.) and practice (games and activities), with snacks provided. Field trips are focused on material covered in classroom sessions. The project is open to any 4-H member interested in wildlife, management, conservation, and outdoor recreation. Upcoming classroom sessions will be held on **March 25, April 22, April 29, and May 13** from 5:00-6:00 pm at the CEO.

For more information, email joendecastillo@hotmail.com.

District 8 4-H Youth Ag Tour

Save the date! **July 20-22, 2022**. Meet people in different facets of the ag industry, and learn about ag careers you may have never dreamed of. 3 days, 2 overnight stays, lodging, meals and transportation provided. \$100 per participant. Limited to current high school freshman, sophomores or juniors. More details coming soon!

Texas 4-H Videography Contest

Texas 4-H is excited to announce a brand-new state contest, and thanks to the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, there is some great prize money available for the top 3 entries! Attached you will find the rules for the **2021-2022 Texas 4-H Videography Contest**.

All the details about the contest, who is eligible to compete, the prize money offered, registration deadline, scoring rubric, and much more can be found on the Bell County 4-H website.

Upcoming Events

Texas 4-H Council At Large Application

The 2022-2023 Texas 4-H Council At-Large Application information has now been posted at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/ambassadors/> under Texas 4-H Council. Interested 4-H members will apply on 4HOnline by selecting the “2022-2023 Texas 4-H Council At-Large Application” event.

Deadline is Thursday, March 31st. Hopefully candidates will be notified for the first round of interviews tentatively scheduled for the week of April 25th.

Applications will be accepted for the Texas 4-H Council At-Large Delegate positions and narrowed to a pool of applicants (approximately 12 or so to complete the speech/improvisation question part of the process) by the selection committee. The At-Large Delegate Presentations will take place on Monday, June 6th as part of the LEAD Academy Kickoff event. Elections will be held using an electronic method and results announced Thursday, June 9th at the general assembly.

Bell County Round Up

The Bell County Roundup includes 3 different contests. Educational Presentations, Public Speaking and Share The Fun. You **must** enter the county contest in order to advance to the District 8 Contest.

We WILL have an in-person county contest in 2022. Entries due to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu by **Friday, March 18, 2022.**

Contest will take place at the Bell County Extension Office on **Thursday, April 7, 2022.**

Educational Presentations are where you teach the audience about a certain topic/4-H project or it can also be a “how to” methods demonstration. Only open to individuals or teams of two.

Categories for Educational Presentations include:

Agricultural Technology & Farm Safety, Animal Science, Beef, Health & Wellness, Horse, Open, Open Ag & Natural Resources, Open Family & Community Health, Promote 4-H, Safety & Injury Prevention.

Public Speaking is speaking to a group without visuals and about an issue or topic.

Share The Fun is similar to a talent show for those who are very talented with music whether that is singing, playing an instrument or dancing, poetry, or skits. The skit is a “Celebrate 4-H” skit, it usually is something very entertaining and fun that has to do with 4-H.

New for the 2022 Contest!

1. New Category – Variety Show! This category has replaced the previous category of Dramedy.

Categories include:

Choreographed Routines, Variety Show, Poetry/Prose, Vocal, Celebrate 4-H, Musical/Instrumental, Solo/Band

Entry Forms and more information can be found on the Bell County 4-H website under Projects.

4-H members may participate in multiple events. 4-H members of all age divisions may enter a maximum of one contest from each of the three columns on the website <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/projects/roundup-contest/>

For a description of what could possibly fit under each category go to Bell County 4-H Roundup Website: <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/projects/roundup-contest/>



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!

Bring 2 copies of your paperwork to the Bell County 4-H Contest!

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

District 8 Fashion Show Contest AND CDM Contest

The date of the District 8 4-H **Fashion Show AND CDM** contest will be held on **April 25th** in Cleburne at the Conference Center. Entry deadline is **April 15!**

Things to note:

- Students will be asked to give a presentation, like they do in Food Show, instead of just conducting an interview. Each contestant will start by introducing themselves and model their garment to the judges. Participants will then provide a **5-minute presentation** to the judges. During the presentation the participants need to describe their project activities, outfit selection, construction or buying skills and their knowledge of fiber and fabrics.
 - We are planning for a Fashion Show to take place at the conclusion of judging, prior to awards.
 - Fashion Storyboards are an invitational contest, meaning that no qualification will take place at the District
- All information is posted on the Bell County 4-H website.
Don't forget to have all the correct paperwork filled out!

Consumer Decision Making

Consumer Decision Making practices are scheduled for **March 11, 18, 22, & 29** at 6:00 p.m. at the County Extension Office. If you have questions or would like to know more about Consumer Decision Making, contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com.

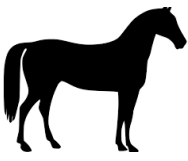
FCH Quiz Bowl Practice

FCH Quiz Bowl practice will be **March 12** at 6:00 p.m. at the 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.

Leaders 4 Life

Leaders 4 Life practice will be **March 19** at 6:00 p.m. at the 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.

The Leaders 4 Life 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 or contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com for pickup.



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.

4-H Horse Club Events

- March 1:** Horse Judging Practice - 6:00 pm at Bell CEO
- March 1:** Horse Quiz Bowl Practice—6:45 pm at Bell CEO
- March 5:** Meeting—9:00 am—TLRC
- March 5:** TLRC Cleanup Service Project—10 am
- March 7:** Drill Team Practice—5:30 pm at 3C Arena
- March 7-18:** District 8 Horse Judging Registration—4H Online
- March 8:** Horse Judging Practice - 6:00 pm at Bell CEO
- March 8:** Horse Quiz Bowl Practice—6:45 pm at Bell CEO
- March 11-13:** Ribbon Worker Fundraiser—7:30 am at Expo Equine Facility
- March 21:** Drill Team Practice—5:30 pm at TLRC Arena

**** New Deadline for 2022** June Validation Tag Orders**

2022-2023 Cattle

State/BCYF Market Steers
State/BCYF Registered Heifers

2022 State Fair of Texas

Market Lambs
Market Goats
Registered/Commercial
Breeding Sheep & Goats
Market Barrows
Registered/Crossbred Gilts

2022 Heart O' Texas Fair

Registered/Crossbred Gilts

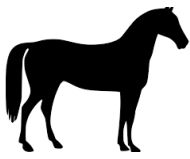
Bell County validations **REQUIRE** all 4-H and FFA members to order and pay for their tags prior to validation to ensure the correct number of tags are ordered. All orders must be handled through the Bell County Extension Office or placed online through the Bell Livestock Coalition Square Site.

Tags are now available for purchase.

State Fair of Texas Sheep and Goat tags must be purchased by March 28th! Cattle and Swine tags will have an April deadline that should be released soon. To **order online** and pay by credit card, visit: <https://bell-livestock-coalition.square.site/>. Contact Whitney Ingram if you have any questions.

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 e-mail whitney.ingram@ag.tamu.edu to schedule a project visit at your barn.



Livestock Project News



Texas 4-H Horse Validation

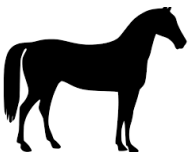
Validation for the 2022 season is now open in 4-H Online.

Horse Validation will be open from March 1 - May 1, 2022.

A few important reminders:

- The family can submit payment in the form of a **credit card ONLY**.
- **From March 1 - April 15, the validation cost for each horse is \$10.00.**
- **From April 16 - May 1, the validation cost for each horse is \$20.00.**
- Each validation must include front view, right side view, and left side view images. **The entire horse should be included in the photo and markings should be clearly visible.**
- **If the horse is registered, a copy of the registration papers must be uploaded.** These papers must list the 4-Her, sibling, parent, stepparent, grandparent or legal guardian as the current owner. If the ownership is in the process of being transferred, please list "pending" in the registration number area. Once the updated registration papers have been received, please email me a copy of the new papers and I will add it to the validation.
- In order to be eligible for breed specific awards, correct registration papers for that breed must be uploaded. If the horse is registered with more than one association, then multiple sets of registration papers can be uploaded.
- Image uploads must be in the form of a .jpg, .gif or .png file. **PDF documents are not an accepted file type.**
- **Families should validate each horse only one time.** Once the horse is validated, any sibling within that family is eligible to show the horse at their district show and/or the State 4-H Horse Show.
- Horses owned in partnership or jointly with any other person not listed above do NOT meet ownership requirements.
- Horses CANNOT be leased, rented, borrowed, or loaned.
- There is no limit to the number of horses that can be validated. You are encouraged to validate all horses that may possibly be shown at district and/or state shows. Only state validated horses can be substituted in the event that a validated horse becomes unusable due to lameness, sickness, etc.
- **Youth validating a futurity horse must be at least 12 years of age (as of Sept. 1, 2021) and at least in the 6th grade.**

The family will receive an automated message from 4-H Online when the County Extension Agent has approved the horse at the county level. **This approval does NOT guarantee eligibility.** After it is approved at the county level, the validation will then be reviewed at the state level. The family will be notified by June 1st if there are any issues with the validation at the state level.



Livestock Project News



Texas 4-H Ambassador Opportunities

I am excited to announce that the program is continuing to expand in 2022 with the inaugural Texas 4-H Poultry Ambassador Short Course! This course will be modeled after the Livestock and Equine Ambassador Short Courses and will be held at Texas A&M University in collaboration with the Poultry Science department this summer. More information can be found on the Bell County 4-H website.

We hope you will consider identifying potential Texas 4-H Livestock, Equine and Poultry Ambassadors in your county and recruit them to the program. Our hope is when they return from one of our short courses, you will find them to be eager to assist you with educational programs. More details regarding the programs can be found at www.texasyouthlivestock.com.

2022 Short Course Offering:

1. Texas 4-H **Equine** Ambassador Short Course, Tarleton State University – June 13-16, 2022
2. Texas 4-H **Poultry** Ambassador Short Course, Texas A&M University – June 15-17, 2022
3. Texas 4-H **Livestock** Ambassador Short Course, Texas A&M University-Kingsville – June 20-23, 2022
4. Texas 4-H **Livestock** Ambassador Short Course, Texas A&M University – July 18-21, 2022
5. Texas 4-H **Livestock** Ambassador Short Course, West Texas A&M/TX Tech University – July 25-28, 2022

Selection Criteria:

- Senior level (grades 9-12) 4-H youth that have exhibited a superior level of ambition regarding his/her livestock/equine/poultry projects
- Students with a profound interest in animal/equine/poultry science, animal production and advocacy
- Students have shown advanced leadership qualities and a willingness to help others
- Top 25% class rank

Application Process:

Applications will be released on the Texas Youth Livestock and Agriculture website (www.texasyouthlivestock.com) on February 15, 2022

2. Student will complete the application and enter the contact information of supervising CEA
3. CEA will be automatically emailed a recommendation survey
4. A selection committee will review the applications and accept up to 25 participants per short course

Applications are due **May 1, 2022**

Important Dates

March 2022

April 2022

March 2: Ag Product Id Practice
March 3: HOT Fair Scholarship deadline
March 4: Bell County 4-H Scholarship deadline
March 4: BC 4-H Fashion Show Entry deadline
March 10: San Angelo Livestock Show Scholarship deadlin
March 11: CDM Practice
March 12: FCH Quiz Bowl Practice
March 16: Lone Star Ag Credit Scholarship deadline
March 18: BC 4-H Round Up & STF Entry deadline
March 18: CDM Practice
March 19: Clover Kid Meeting
March 19: Leaders 4 Life Practice
March 21: BC 4-H Fashion Show
March 22: CDM Practice
March 23: Ag Product Id Practice
March 25: Wildlife Project sessions
March 28: State Fair Sheep & Goat Tag Order deadline
March 28: County Council Meeting
March 29: CDM Practice
March 30: Ag Product Id Practice
March 31: TX 4-H Council At-Large Position deadline

March 1– May 1: TX 4-H Horse Validation

April 1: D8 CDM Entry Deadline
April 2: D8 Horse Judging, College Station
April 6: Capital Farm Credit Scholarship deadline
April 6: Ag Product Id Practice
April 7: Bell County Round Up & STF Contest
April 8: D8 Fashion Show & D2D Entry Deadline
April 11: Bell County Youth Fair Scholarship deadline
April 13: Ag Product Id Practice
April 15: COUNTY HOLIDAY, CEO Closed
April 15: D8 Fashion Show Entry Deadline
April 15: D8 CDM Entry Deadline
April 15: TX 4-H Photography Contest Deadline
April 15: D8 Round Up and STF Entry Deadline
April 15: D8 Rifle/Light Rifle Contest Entry Deadline
April 15: Bell County Area Go Texan Scholarship deadline
April 21: Hunter's Spectacular Meeting
April 22: Wildlife Project sessions
April 23: D8 Livestock Judging Contest
April 23: D8 Meats Judging Contest
April 25: D8 Fashion Show & D2D Contest, Cleburne
April 25: D8 CDM Contest, Cleburne
April 29: Wildlife Project sessions
April 30: D8 Round Up, West

May 2022

May 1: Livestock, Equine, and Poultry Ambassador Application Deadline
May 1: LAST DAY for 4-H Horse Validation
May 7: District 8 Rifle Contest, Leon County
May 9: County Council Meeting
May 13: Wildlife Project sessions
May 21: Clover Kids Meeting

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/>