

February 2023 Focus

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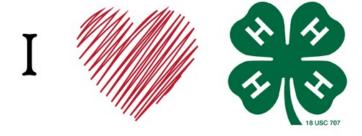
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County Extension Agent Natural Resources

Sheryl Long

County Extension Agent 4-H & Youth Development



Congratulations to our livestock judging team! A big win and dream come true in Denver!

Next stop, International competition!



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County Council & Ambassadors



County Council Meeting Dates

Dates and programs have been set for the 2022- 2023Bell 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 27 | State Ambassadors | Ronald McDonald House Donations |
| May 10 | Council Officer Elections | Canned Food Drive |

County Council Meeting

Date: March 27, 2023 **Where:** Bell CEO **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!

The program for the evening will be an educational session over Texas 4-H Ambassador Programs.

Ronald McDonald House Donations

Help us fill our House's with much-needed items to help make our House feel like a home for our guest families, so they can focus on what's important—caring for their seriously ill child. We accept new, unused and unexpired items and environmentally-friendly products. Goods and supplies needed:

Food Items:

- Individual frozen meals
- Fresh and frozen fruits & vegetables
- Individual packages of chips; snacks, pudding, crackers, cookies, fruit
- Canned & cup soups: Progresso, Campbells Chunky,
 Chili, Beef Stew
 - Granola Bars, Breakfast Bars

Cleaning Supplies

- Liquid laundry detergent & fabric softener
 - Pine Sol / Fabuloso
 - White Vinegar
 - Clorox Wipes
 - Lysol Spray
 - Bleach
 - Dryer Sheets
 - Brooms / Dustpans / Swiffer Sweepers

Kitchen Items:

- Disposable microwavable bowls & plates for soups and cereals
 - Plastic disposable utensils
 - Garbage bags: 13, 33 & 50 Gallons
 - Napkins & Kleenex
- Good food storage containers: microwaveable, disposable, small & large sizes
- New kitchen serving utensils, knives, pots & pans / bakeware

Miscellaneous:

- Batteries (AA, AAA,)
- "Forever" postage stamp

Page 2 4-H Focus

4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: May 11, 2023

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.

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.

2023 Scholarships Available!

State Fair of Texas Scholarship —February 1

Texas Extension Education Association—February 12

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

Houston Livestock Show Area Go Texan—February 15

Houston Livestock Show Exhibitor—February 15

Texas Farm Bureau—March 15

Altrusa International of Temple—March 31

Bell County 4-H Scholarship—March 3

San Angelo Livestock Show Scholarship — March ${\bf 10}$

Lone Star Ag Credit—March 17

Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Scholarship—March 24

Bell County Youth Fair—April 10

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.

Page 3 4-H Focus





Clover Kids

2023

February 6-8—BCYF PeeWee Showmanship
February 8—Clover Kids Fair
February 18
March 18
April 15
May 20
June 17—Summer Camp
July 7—Clover Kids Recordbook Deadline

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

Check out the Clover Kid page for more information on upcoming events!

https://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/clover-kids/

Clover Kids Fair

The Clover Kids Fair is an event for "budding" 4-H members in Kindergarten through 2nd grade. This fair is designed for Clover Kids to show what they can do and is a great opportunity for them to experience how to prepare for future fairs.

Wednesday, February 8, 2023—4pm - 8pm Bell County EXPO Center – Assembly Hall 301 West Loop 121, Belton

More information and entry form is on the Bell County 4-H Clover Kids website.

https://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/clover-kids/

Meat Judging

We will not meet Feb 6, due to BCYF.

2/13 — Practice at the CEO @530pm.

2/18—Competition in San Angelo

2/19 —Competition in San Antonio

2/20 — Practice at the @CEO @530

2/27 — Practice at the @CEO @530

Any questions please contact : Leslie Brown at 254-624-9062

Page 4 4-H Focus





Ag Product Id Practice

Ag Product ID practices are will take place at 6:00 pm at the CEO on the following dates:

February: 23rd March: 2nd, 30th April: 5th, 13th

Upcoming Contests:

Bell County Youth Fair: Friday, February 10, 2023

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 - registration closed

Leon County - Friday, April 14, 2023

Contest resources can be found at: https://agrilife.org/bell4h/projects/ag-product-id/.

If you are interested in participating in the BCYF contest, or if you have any questions about Ag Product ID, please contact Michael Canales at 254-541-6293 or guajeman1@gmail.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 24th**. 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 2022 Texas 4-H Photography Contest Rules & Guidelines AND the District 8 Contest rules. Both will be posted on the Bell County 4-H website once available.

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—"Reflections"

Landscape & Nature (non-animal)

Page 5 4-H Focus





Bell County Round Up and 4-H Talent Showcase

The Bell County Roundup includes 3 different contests. Educational Presentations, Public Speaking and 4-H Talent Showcase (formerly Share The Fun). You **must** enter the county contest in order to advance to the District 8 Contest.

Entries due to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu by **Friday, Friday, March 24, 2023** Contest will take place at the Bell County Extension Office on **Tuesday, April 11, 2023**

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 – Agriculture & Natural Resources, Open – Family & Consumer Health, Promote 4-H, Safety & Injury
Prevention

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

<u>4-H Talent Showcase</u> (formerly 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.

Categories include:

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

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/

District 8 Rifle/Light Rifle Contest

If you are interested in competing in the District 8 Rifle Contest that will take place on **Saturday, April 29th,** at the Leon County Gun Club in Oakwood. Entry deadline is **April 14, 2023** on 4-H Connect. Cost is \$10 per member per match.

All details are updated on the website: https://agrilife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/rifle-contest/

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

Save the Date for Spring District Contests

District 8 Horse Judging Contest: April 1st, College Station,

To sign up, contact Lana Rondeau at lkrondeau02@parker.edu

District 8 Livestock Judging Contest: April 22nd, College Station,

To sign up, contact Whitney Ingram at whitney.ingram@ag.tamu.edu.

District 8 Meats Judging Contest: April 22nd, College Station

To sign up, contact Leslie Brown at lescbrown@yahoo.com

Page 6 4-H Focus





4-H Photography Workshop

When: April 1, 2023 **Where:** Bell CEO **Time:** 9:00 am -12:00 Noon

~BEGINNER GROUP~

Welcome to photographers with any type of camera and any amount of experience.

Topic: Ideas and practice for at-home photography and presentations on basic composition, lighting and

DIY Lightbox.

When: April 1, 2023 **Where:** Bell CEO **Time:** 1:00 –4:00 pm

~EXPERIENCED GROUP~

Photographers with a DSLR or mirrorless camera who understand at least basic composition, lighting and

the exposure triangle.

Topic: Ideas and practice for at-home photography.

RSVP Deadline: Monday, March 27, 2023

RSVP here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pdFV5GL7cvPvCx5WLsclIJ9VCpmd5Nv-pzBfVfTKo00/

edit?usp=sharing

For questions, reach out to Coen Hefley at coehnhefley@gmail.com

Photography Family Photo Shoot

When: March 25, 2023 **Where:** Bell CEO **Time:** First time slot available at 10:00 am

Needing recent family photos? Let our Texas 4-H Photography Ambassadors take your family pictures for FREE! Sign up for your one hour time slot on the google sheet below. You will need to let us know how many people make up your session, number of kids, and any special accommodations.

RSVP Deadline: Monday, March 17, 2023

Sign up here! https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/

d/18YWND2E0c8Jxn5mnuTL8siJREshJ4DGR6VkIP Lr-xY/edit?usp=sharing

Contact Coen Hefley at coehnhefley@gmail.com if you have any questions regarding this event.

Page 7 4-H Focus



FCH Project News



4-H FCH Coalition Meeting

When: February 21, 2023 Where: CEO Time: 6:00 pm

We will be planning the upcoming Bell County 4-H Fashion Show! Bring with you ideas on decorating for this event, possible judges, etc.

Bell County Fashion Show Contest & Duds to Dazzle Contests

The Bell County 4-H contests for Fashion Show contest will take place on **Monday, February 27, 2023** at the Bell County Extension Office. Entry deadline will be **Monday, February 13, 2023**.

| <u> Ir/Int Buying</u> | Ir/Int Construction | Senior Buying | Senior Construction |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Everyday Living | Everyday Living | Business/Interview Attire | Everyday Living |
| Fashion Under \$25 | ReFashion | Fashion Under \$25 | ReFashion |
| Dressy | Dressy | Semi-Formal to Formal | Semi-Formal to Formal |
| Special Interest | Special Interest | Special Interest | Theater/Costume |
| | | | |

For the Duds to Dazzle contest, the entry deadline will be the Bell County4-H Contest date! Extension Agents will make team assignments after the Bell County contest. 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!

The District 8 4-H Contest will take place on **Monday, April 17th** in Cleburne.

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

Consumer Decision Making

A judging contest where you will learn about a variety of products, what to look for in them, and you will evaluate specific items for a given consumer. In this project you will learn money management skills, purchasing skills, decision making skills, and verbal presentation skills.

Practices will be as follows at 6:00 p.m. at the County Extension Office:

February 24

March 3, 17, 24, 31

April 4, 10

District 8 Contest is **April 17** in Cleburne.

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com or 254-624-6507. Please let Barbara know if you will need a virtual practice option.

Page 8 4-H Focus



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/

Horse Judging Practices

Save the date for the following Horse Judging practices. These will take place at the Bell County Extension Office from 6:00—8:00 pm.

Mar 2, 2023 Thursday Mar 30, 2023 Thursday Apr 13, 2023 Thursday May 4, 2023 Thursday Jun 1, 2023 Thursday

If you have any questions, reach out to coach Lana Rondeau at lkrondeau02@parker.edu.

4-H Horse Club Events

February 4 & 5—BCYF Horse Show at Expo

February 7—Drill Team Practice—6:00pm at Temple Longhorn Riding Club

February 14—Drill Team Practice—6:00pm at 3C

February 21—Club Meeting—6:00 pm at TLRC

February 28—Drill Team Practice—6:00pm at 3C

March 7—Drill Team Practice—6:00 pm at TLRC

March 14—Drill Team Practice—6:00pm at 3C

March 21—Club Meeting—6:00 pm at TLRC

March 28—Drill Team Practice—6:00 pm at 3c

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.

Page 9 4-H Focus



Livestock Project News



Summer Livestock Validation Tag Orders and Changes for 2023

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 will be available to order starting March 1st, 2023 and the deadline to order will be April 5th, 2023.

Summer Livestock Validations will be conducted at the end of June for the following species:

2023 State Fair of Texas:

- Market Lambs, Market Goats, Registered Breeding Sheep, Registered Breeding Goats, Wether/Commercial Dams, and Wether/Commercial Does
- Market Barrows and Registered/Crossbred Gilts

2023 Heart O' Texas Fair:

Registered/Crossbred Gilts

All 2023-2024 Shows:

- State/BCYF Market Steers
- State/BCYF Breeding Heifers

New for 2023 Changes for Lamb & Goat Exhibitors

Lambs and goats validated during the 2023 State Fair Validation Period (June) WILL BE ELIGIBLE for 2024 Spring Major Shows. Market animals validated for the 2023 State Fair will carryover for 2024 Spring Major Shows. Once validated, the project MUST stay in the care of the exhibitor that project is validated to; if the exhibitor chooses to sell the project to a new exhibitor, the new exhibitor MUST REVALIDATE the project within the next validation period. Please see the Validation Guidelines for more details.

Reminder: The 3 year Roll-Over program for breeding sheep and goats will still be in effect. For example, any BREEDING animal validated during the State Fair 2021 validation period is eligible to be exhibited by that exhibitor through the State Fair 2024 show season. IF OWNERSHIP CHANGES, THEN THE ANIMAL MUST BE RE-VALIDATED. Please see the Validation Guidelines for more details.

New for 2023 Changes for Heifer Exhibitors

All state validated heifers will be tagged similar to steers. This will bring our heifer validation program in line with breeding sheep, breeding goats, and breeding gilts. Please order tags accordingly.

Both steers and heifers will be charged a \$25 per validation fee. This increase in cost is due to two factors. 1) In an effort to be in compliance with Texas Animal Health Commission, we are switching our previous EID frequency tags to 840 frequency EID tags. This will allow our state validated livestock to move in compliance with TAHC across state lines and be in compliance when issues a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (health papers). This is a move in a positive direction, but does come at an increased cost. 2) Costs and fees have increased across the board, as well as expanding the services of the validation program to additional shows. That said, we must compensate accordingly to continue to provide educators, exhibitors, and their families the continued support, education, and consistency we have established. Please keep in mind the validation fee is not ONLY for the cost of the tag, but the entire validation SYSTEM that includes personnel, travel to livestock shows, a robust online database/maintenance, and our validation compliance team that helps ensure our rules and guidelines are enforced to ensure a fair and level playing field for Texas livestock exhibitors.

Page 10 4-H Focus

Bell County Youth Fair February 3-11, 2023

Important Information

The 2023 Fair Book will be posted soon. Visit the BCYF website at https://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/ for more information on entries, rules, judges, and more.

Bell County Youth Fair - PeeWee Showmanship

Rules:

- 1. PeeWees may only show Lambs, Goats and Swine
- 2. A parent / legal guardian must be ring side the entire time during PeeWee Showmanship.
- 3. Only animals previously entered and exhibited in the BCYF will be used for PeeWee Showmanship.
- 4. Ages 2nd grade and below / younger will be allowed to show in PeeWee Showmanship.
- 5. Only a BCYF exhibitor is to assist PeeWee exhibitors in the ring.

Dates:

MONDAY, FEB. 6, 2023

- o 8:00am Judge Market Swine
- Peewee showmanship is at the conclusion of the market swine showmanship.
 TUESDAY, FEB. 7, 2023
- o 1:00pm Judge Breeding Goats / Market Goats.
- o Peewee goat showmanship will be at the conclusion of the market goat showmanship. WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8, 2023
- o 1:00pm Judge Breeding Sheep and Market Lambs.
- o Peewee lamb showmanship will be at the conclusion of the market lamb showmanship.

BCYF Horse Exhibitor Ride Nights

Speed Events: February 2, 2023 (6-9 pm) **Performance Events:** February 3, 2023 (3-6 pm) **Cattle Practice:** February 3, 2023 (6-9 pm)

Make sure you read and follow the rules for this event! Rules can be found here: https://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/files/2022/10/2023-BCYF-Ride-Night-Rules.pdf



Page 11 4-H Focus

2023 BCYF SHOW SCHEDULE *Subject to Change*

Commercial Steer Record Books, Feb. 3, 2023, 5:00 pm

| FRIDAY, FEB. 3, 2023 5:00 p.m7:00 p.mSwine-TACK ONLY move in |
|--|
| SATURDAY, FEB. 4, 2023 7:00-8:15 a.m |
| SUNDAY, FEB. 5, 2023 7:00 – 10:00 a.m |
| MONDAY, FEB. 6, 2023 8:00 am |
| TUESDAY, FEB. 7, 2023 6:00-9:00 a.m |
| Rabbit Showmanship will be done during the breeding show 1:00 p.m |

Page 12 4-H Focus

| WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8, 2023 6:00 a.m9:00a.m |
|--|
| THURSDAY, FEB. 9, 2023 11:00 a.m |
| RIDAY, FEB. 10, 2023 8:00 a.m |
| SATURDAY, FEB. 11, 2023 (tentative) 9:00 a.m |

Page 13 4-H Focus

Important Dates

February 2023

March 2023

February 1: State Fair of Texas Scholarship Deadline

February 2: Horse Judging Practice

February 2: Ag Product Id Practice

February 2: BCYF Ride Night—Speed

February 3: BCYF Ride Night—Performance & Cattle

February 3: BCYF Commercial Steer Recordbooks Due

February 8: Clover Kid Fair during BCYF

February 13: Meat Judging Practice

February 13: BC 4-H Fashion Show Contest Deadline

February 15: 2023 Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship

Applications Deadline

February 18: Clover Kid Meeting

February 20: Meat Judging Practice

February 21: 4-H FCH Coalition Meeting

February 23: Ag Product Id Practice

February 24: CDM Practice

February 24: Bell County Photography Contest Deadline

February 27: Bell County 4-H Fashion Show Contest

February 27: Meat Judging Practice

March 2: Ag Product Id Practice

March 2: Horse Judging Practice

March 3: CDM Practice

March 3: Bell County 4-H Scholarship Deadline

March 10: San Angelo Scholarship Deadline

March 15: Texas Farm Bureau Scholarship Deadline

March 17: Lone Star Ag Credit Scholarship Deadline

March 17: CDM Practice

March 17: Family Photo Shoot Deadline

March 18: Clover Kid Meeting

March 24: HOT Fair Scholarship Deadline

March 24: CDM Practice

March 24: Bell County 4-H Round Up & 4-H Talent Show-

case Entry Deadline

March 27: County Council Meeting

March 27: Photography Workshop RSVP Deadline

March 30: Ag Product Id Practice

March 30: Horse Judging Practice

March 31: Altrusa International Scholarship Deadline

March 31: CDM Practice



BELL COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

Bell County Extension

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

http://agrilife.org/bell4h/