

February 2024 Focus

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Good luck to everyone at the Bell County Youth Fairl



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County Council & Ambassadors



County Council Meeting Dates

Dates and programs have been set for the 2023-2024 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 Project	
March 26	Fire Department	Community Garden Donation
May 9	Council Officer Elections	Non-Perishable Food Drive

County Council Meeting

Date: March 26, 2024

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 over Texas 4-H Ambassador Programs.

Hope to see everyone at the March meeting!

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
 - Lvsol Sprav
 - 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

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Texas 4-H Council-At Large Delegate

Texas 4-H Council—At Large Delegate

The 2024-2025 Texas 4-H Council – At Large Delegate applications are now available online at https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/ambassadors/. Deadline to apply is **March 28, 2024.**

Members of this team are elected by their peers from across the state of Texas, representing the twelve AgriLife Extension districts plus an additional six At-Large Delegates. The Texas 4-H Council members serve as ambassadors for the Texas 4-H program. Members represent the organization statewide while collaborating with Extension faculty to plan, coordinate, and facilitate activities and events.

Candidates elected at the state level for the At-Large position will not be eligible for any position at the district level. Candidates not elected during the state level elections are eligible to run for a district position given they meet district eligibility requirements. At-large positions will have equal state level rights and privileges as all other positions

COMMITMENT DATES:

- July 22-25, 2024 **Texas 4-H Council Workshop** Location Kingsville/Corpus Christi area
- October TBD, 2024 (Dates set by State Fair of Texas) State Fair of Texas Honor Awards -- Fall Planning
 Meeting Dallas, TX
 - November 8-10, 2024 **Spark** Brownwood, TX *TENTATIVE Must have enough committed to attend*
 - January 3-5, 2025 **January Planning Meeting** College Station or Brownwood (TBD)
 - June 1-5, 2025 Texas 4-H Roundup College Station, TX

Monthly Online Conference Calls (dates to be distributed during Workshop)

Other opportunities may/will be offered to members as they are identified throughout the year

District 8 Council Officer Application

The District Council information page has been updated and is attached. All information has been updated on the district website.

To be eligible to run for a District 8 4-H Council Office, 4-H members must meet the following requirements:

Must have attended a prior District 4-H SURGE (Leadership Lab).

Must attend 2024 District 8 4-H SURGE.

Must have completed at least the 9th grade.

Review the D8 4-H Council Standing Rules at http://agrilife.org/d84h/district-4-h-council.

- Applications will close **May 24, 2024**. Absolutely no late applications will be accepted.
- Interviews will be conducted on **May 31**st, in Waco. **Please be advised that we are exploring the option of doing all interviews virtually, to allow a little more flexibility for our students. We will announce which option will be used as we get closer to that date.
 - Applicants must have attended a prior SURGE.
 - Applicants MUST attend this year's SURGE and have plans to attend the 2025 SURGE (dates for this are coming soon!)
 - If a student is planning to run for Chair or 1st Vice Chair, they must also fill out the Texas 4-H Contract (attached).

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4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: May 7, 2024 **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.

2024 Scholarships Available!

State Fair of Texas Scholarship —February 1st

Texas Extension Education Association—February 12th

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

Bell County 4-H Scholarship—March 1st

Bell County Area Go Texan— March 1st

Texas Farm Bureau Scholarship—March 1st

Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Scholarship—March 22

Bell County Youth Fair—April 8th

San Angelo Livestock Show Scholarship— TBD

Capital Farm Credit Scholarship—**TBD**

Lone Star Ag Credit Scholarship—**TBD**

District 8 TAE4-HA Scholarship—TBD

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

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Ag Product Id

Ag Product ID practices are continuing ahead of the BCYF and spring contests. Practices will be at 6:00 pm at the CEO and will be held on the following days:

February: 1st, 22nd, 29th March: 7th, 28th April: 4th

Upcoming contests::

Bell County Youth Fair: February 9, 2024 Rodeo Austin: March 10, 2021

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo: March 13, 2024 Leon County: April 12, 2024 - REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Registration for the BCYF contest is open through February 7th. Registration for the Austin and Houston contests has closed. **If you are interested in the Bell County and Leon County contests, please contact Michael Canales at 254-541-6293 or guajeman1@gmail.com.**

Clover Kids

2023

February 5-7 Bell County Youth Fair: Peewee Showmanship

February 17 Clover Kids Fair

March 16

April 20

May 18

June 15 Summer Camp

July 12 Clover Kids Recordbook Deadline
TBD Clover Kids Cupcake Decorating Workshop

Check out the Clover Kids website for more information on upcoming events:

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

For questions, contact Dawn Brown at <u>bc4hclo-verkids@yahoo.com</u>

Clover Kids Fair

Volunteers are needed to help make the Clover Kids Fair a success for the youth ages 5-7 years old. Volunteers will help with setting up for the event, welcoming the exhibitors, run the carnival activities, interview the exhibitors, assist with the award ceremony and clean-up.

Please email Clover Kids manager Dawn Brown, bc4hcloverkids2yahoo.com, to let her know that you are interested in volunteering for the event. Thank you.

Event Information

Date: Saturday, February 17, 2024 Time: set-up at 10am, event at 1pm

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

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

For questions, contact Dawn Brown at bc4hcloverkids@yahoo.com

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Bell County Photography Contest

The Bell County 4-H Photography Contest is right around the corner so start preparations now! The Bell County entry deadline will be **Friday, February 23rd**. 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 4-H 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 the State contest.

Please make sure and follow the instruction on the 2023 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.

NEW THIS YEAR!

Categories will be broken down per age division as follows: (Descriptions Below)

Junior Age Division 3 Categories

Animals – Domestic/Wildlife Plant/Landscape/Nature People

Intermediate Age Division 6 Categories

Animals – Domestic/Wildlife
Plant/Landscape/Nature
People
Details/Macro
Elements of Design
Catch All

Senior Age Division All 15 Categories

Animals—Domestic Long Exposure

Animal—Wildlife Motion/Action

Catch All People

Details & Macro Plant/Flora

Elements of Design Shadow/Silhouette

Enhanced Theme—"Abandoned "- Photographs capturing

Food the essence of forgotten or neglected places, things, or

Landscape & Nature (non-animal) structures; emphasizing its worn and forsaken nature

Leading Line

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Photography Workshops

FEBRUARY 2024

WORKSHOP - Food Photography: February 10, 2024, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Who: All 4-H age kids 8-18 years old

What: Learn tricks and tips for food photography. This is a hands-on workshop - bring your camera and tri-

pod (if you have one)

Where: Bell County Extension Office, 1605 Main St, Belton

Cost: \$10.00 for cost of supplies and lunch (pay at door)

RSVP: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CA5A729ABF8CF8-44416477-food

AMBASSADOR LEADERS: Coen Hefley

ADULT LEADER: Elizabeth Schlak, 254-718-1332, liz.schlak@gmail.com

MARCH 2024

Photography Trip to Palo Duro Canyon: March 15-18, 2024 (Spring Break)

Who: All 4-H ages and skill levels and their families

What: Shoot Palo Duro Canyon – the "Grand Canyon of Texas"! Learn outdoor and astrophotography while exploring this amazing location.

Where: Palo Duro State Park

Cost: No 4-H fees. Families are responsible for their own expenses.

Note: If planning on attending, it is recommended to reserve your lodging NOW! Campsite with limited tent

capacity has been reserved - first come, first served

RSVP: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CA5A729ABF8CF8-palo

AMBASSADOR LEADERS: Allison Gray and Joeseph LeBlanc

ADULT LEADER: Brandy Gray, 979-557-3751, fireflyphotographynbtx@gmail.com or Liz Schlak, 254-718-

1332, liz.schlak@gmail.com

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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, March 22, 2024**Contest will take place at the Bell County Extension Office on **Tuesday, April 9, 2024**

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

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

4-H Talent Showcase (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 27th,** at the Leon County Gun Club in Oakwood, entry deadline is **April 12, 2024** 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.

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FCH Project News



Consumer Decision Making

Consumer Decision Making (CDM) is a judging contest geared around evaluating products for a given consumer. Practices will be held at the County Extension Office:

February: 1, 22, 29 (all at 7:00 p.m.)

March: 7, 14, 28 (7th at 7:00 p.m., all the rest at 6:00 p.m.)

April: 4, 11 (all at 6:00 p.m.)

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com.

FCH Coalition Meeting

When: Monday, March 25, 2024 Where: Bell CEO Time: 6:00 pm

Bell County Fashion Show Contest & Duds to Dazzle Contests

The Bell County 4-H contests for Fashion Show contest will be Monday, February 26th!

For the Duds to Dazzle contest, the entry deadline will be the Bell County4-H Contest date of February 26th! 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.

<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

Entry forms must be emailed to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu AND Laila.Romero@ag.tamu.edu by Monday, February 12, 2024 by 5:00 pm.

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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/

Save the Date for Spring District Contests

District 8 Horse Judging Contest: April 6th, Hildebrand Equine Complex, College Station To sign up, contact Whitney Ingram at whitney.ingram@ag.tamu.edu.

District 8 Livestock Judging Contest: April 20th, Pearce Pavilion, College Station To sign up, contact Whitney Ingram at whitney.ingram@ag.tamu.edu.

District 8 Meats Judging Contest: April 20th, Rosenthal Meats Lab, College Station To sign up, contact Leslie Brown at lescbrown@yahoo.com.

Deadline of March 15th for ALL CONTESTS!

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.

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Bell County Youth Fair February 3-10, 2024

Other Important Information

The 2024 Fair Book has been 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

Commercial Steer Recordbooks Due

February 2, 2024

5:00 PM

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. 5, 2024

- o 10:00am Judge Market Swine
- o Peewee showmanship is at the conclusion of the market swine showmanship.

TUESDAY, FEB. 6, 2024

- o 1:00pm Judge Breeding Goats / Market Goats.
- o Peewee goat showmanship will be at the conclusion of the market goat showmanship.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7, 2024

- o 1:00pm Judge Breeding Sheep and Market Lambs.
- o Peewee lamb showmanship will be at the conclusion of the market lamb showmanship.

For questions, contact the Bell County Youth Fair Coordinator Cheri O'Braden at cheri.obraden@ag.tamu.edu

BCYF Horse Exhibitor Ride Nights

Speed Events: Thursday, February 1, 2024; 6:00-9:00 p.m. in ELC **Performance Classes:** Friday, February 2, 2024; 3:00-6:00 p.m. in ELC **Stock Horse/Cattle Classes:** Friday, February 2, 2024; 6:00-9:00 p.m. in ELC

Make sure you read and follow the rules for this event! Rules can be found here: https://agrilife.org/bellctvvouthfair/files/2023/09/2024-BCYF-Ride-Night-Rules.pdf

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2024 BCYF SHOW SCHEDULE *Subject to Change*

SATURDAY, FEB. 3, 2024 7:30-8:00 a.m. Check In Western & Stock Horses 8:30 a.m. Horse Show (Halter, Showmanship, Western, Stock) 9:00 a.m. Check in, Appearance Judging & Rehearsal for Fashion Revue 1:00 p.m. Fashion Revue-Public Show in Special Events Room 5:00-7:00 p.m. Swine TACK ONLY move in 6:30 p.m. Clem Mikeska Exhibitor Appreciation Supper & Dance in Assembly Hall
SUNDAY, FEB. 4, 2024 6:00 – 9:00 am
MONDAY, FEB. 5, 2024 10:00 am
TUESDAY, FEB. 6, 2024 6:00 a.m8:45 a.m

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m....Sheep -TACK ONLY move in

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MEDNECDAY FED 7 2024
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7, 2024
6:00 a.m8:45 a.mMove in all Sheep
8:00 a.mJudge Ag. Mechanics followed by Awards
RELEASE ALL AG MECH PROJECTS AFTER AWARDS
8:00 a.m11:00 a.mMove in & Weigh Fryer Rabbits
9:00 a.mAssembly Hall Opens- FCS Exhibits
9:00 a.m9:30 a.mWeigh & tooth Breeding Sheep
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m
12 Noon
REMOVE ALL RABBITS AT END OF THE SHOW
1:00 p.m
Breeding Sheep Showmanship
-10 Min. Break- Judge the Market Lambs
Market Lamb Showmanship. Pee-Wee Showmanship (Peewee rules on pg 3)
REALESE ALL NON-FLOORED LAMBS AT END OF SHOW-MUST BE OUT BY 11:00 pm
6:00 p.mFCS Awards Ceremony Country Store to open immediately after awards
8:00 p.mAssembly Hall Closes
THURCHAY FED 0 2024
THURSDAY, FEB. 8, 2024
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Move in Commercial Broilers
8:30 a.m. –9:30 a.m
9:30 a.m10:30 a.m. Move in Roasters
11:30 p.m Judge Poultry- Roasters, Broilers, Turkeys RELEASE ALL POULTRY AT THE END OF THE SHOW
9:00 a.m
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m
2:00 p.m-4:00 p.m
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m
Heifer Showmanship
6:00 p.m. or 30 mins after Heifer ShowJudge Marker Steer
Market Steer Showmanship
RELEASE ALL NON-FLOORED CATTLE AT END OF SHOW-MUST BE OUT BY 11:00 p.m.
**Auction eligible exhibitors MUST declare Auction Sale status no later than 30 minutes after conclusion of Market Steer
Show**
SHOW .
FRIDAY, FEB. 9, 2024
7:30 a.m8:15 a.m
8:00 a.m8:30 a.mLivestock Judging Check-In—Livestock Exposition Building
8:00 a.m8:30 a.m
8:30 a.m
9:00 a.mLivestock Judging Contest
9:00 a.mVet. Science Skillathon
11:30 a.m 12 Noon
12:00 noonAg Product ID Contest
7:30 p.mPRCA Rodeo
•
SATURDAY, FEB. 10, 2024 (tentative)
9:00 a.m Auction Exhibitors -MANDATORY meeting
11:00 a.mAuction Exhibitors Lunch
11:00 a.mBuyer Luncheon
11:30 a.mCommercial Steer & Heifer Awards Presentation
12.00 noon Promium Austion Sala Awards

12:00 noon......Premium Auction Sale, Awards 7:30 p.m.PRCA Rodeo & Parade of Champions

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Important Dates

February 2024

March 2024

February 1: BCYF Ride Night—Speed Events

February 1: State Fair of Texas Scholarship Deadline

February 1: CDM Practice

February 1: Ag Product Id Practice

February 2: BCYF Ride Night—Performance Classes

February 2: BCYF Ride Night—Stock Horse/Cattle Classes

February 2: BCYF Commercial Steer Recordbooks Due

February 3-10: Bell County Youth Fair

February 10: Photography Workshop

February 12: TEEA Scholarship Deadline

February 12: Bell County 4-H Fashion Show Entry

Deadline

February 15: Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship Deadline

February 17: Clover Kids Fair

February 22: CDM Practice

February 22: Ag Product Id Practice

February 23: Bell County 4-H Photography Contest

Deadline

February 26: Bell County 4-H Fashion Show Contest

February 29: CDM Practice

February 29: Ag Product Id Practice

March 1: Bell County 4-H Scholarship Deadline

March 1: Bell County Area Go Texan Scholarship Deadline

March 1: Texas Farm Bureau Scholarship Deadline

March 7: CDM Practice

March 7: Ag Product Id Practice

March 14: CDM Practice

March 15-18: Photography Workshop

March 15: D8 Livestock Judging, Meat Judging and Horse

Judging Entry deadline

March 22: HOT Fair Scholarship Deadline

March 22: BC 4-H Round Up & Talents Showcase Entry

Deadline

March 25: 4-H/FCH Coalition Meeting

March 26: County Council

March 28: CDM Practice

March 28: Ag Product Id Practice

March 28: Texas 4-H Council-At Large Delegate applicant

deadline

April 2024

April 4: CDM Practice

April 4: Ag Product Id Practice

April 6: District 8 Horse Judging, College Station

April 8: Bell County Youth Fair Scholarship Deadline

April 9: Bell County 4-H Round Up & Talent Showcase

Contest

April 11: CDM Practice

April 20: District 8 Livestock Judging Contest & Meat

Judging Contest, College Station



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/