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Thank you to our
2024 Hunter's

**Spectacular Diamond
Level Sponsor!**

American Legion Post No. 133



TSC Clover Campaign

New Dates:

November 29th – December 15th

To embrace the holiday spirit, the Paper Clover campaign will move from October to November and December this year, officially launching on Black Friday!

Running from November 29th to December 15th, we are thrilled that TSC is hosting this event during the season of giving. TSC is also selling 4-H Christmas ornaments that will benefit 4-H!



1605 N. Main, Room 102

Belton, TX 76513

Phone: (254) 933-5305

Fax: (254) 933-5312

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



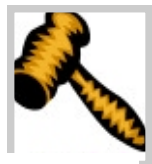
Academic Eligibility & Excused Absences for 4-H Competitions and Activities

Academic eligibility is requested for extracurricular activities by the County Extension Agent and is approved or declined by the member's school. In addition to following this UIL rule, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program has adopted a school change policy to stay consistent across educational systems. If a youth has a change in school status from public to private or home school, the member must adhere to a three (3) school-week waiting period before he/she is eligible for participating in extracurricular activities.

All 4-H members must be officially enrolled (in an "active" status on 4-H Online) to be considered an official 4-H member. No excused absences can be requested for any youth who is not enrolled in the official 4-H enrollment system (4-H Online). If a member is participating in a 4-H event/competition, please contact the agent advising that project area at least two weeks in advance of the event to communicate when the child will be missing school. Those forms can be found at <https://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-henrollment-guidelines/eligibility/>.



County Council & Ambassadors



County Council Meeting Dates

Dates and programs have been set for 2024-2025 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
November 13	Bell County Youth Fair	Children's Hospital Toy Drive
January 16	Photography	Hope Pregnancy Center Donations
March 27	Safe Place	Safe Place Donations
May 8	Council Officer Elections	Non-Perishable Food Drive

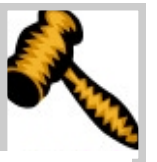
Children's Hospital Toy Drive

McLane's Children's Hospital accepts **NEW** toys, games, books, stuffed animals, cloth toys, quilts, blankets, etc only. Used items will not be accepted. Donations must be safe for patient use with limited breakable parts.

- **Infants & Toddlers:** Cleanable puzzles, light-up toys, shape sorters and stacking toys, shatter-proof crib mirrors, textured balls and toys, v-tech brand toys * (specifically, musical rhymes book), WubbaNubs/ pacifiers
- **Pre-School & School Age:** Action figures, baby dolls (preferably all plastic and multicultural), barbies, Disney toys, Little People brand toys, Hot Wheels and trucks, Lego sets (all sizes), Little Tikes brand toys, Magna-Tiles, musical toys, plastic animals and dinosaurs, plastic play food, play tool sets, Playskool brand toys, pretend medical kits, trains and accessories
- **Teenagers:** Diaries and journals, earbuds and portable speakers, handheld games, Legos for 12 years or older, make-up and nail polish kits, personal hygiene items
- **Games:** Board Games, card games * (specifically, UNO), standard card decks
- **Arts & Crafts:** Canvases, coloring books, colored pencils, crayons, Crayola model magic, foam art, glue sticks/bottles, individual art activity kits, jewelry art supplies, kinetic sand, markers, Play-Doh and Play-Doh toys, slime kits, velvet posters, wood & ceramic items to be painted/crafts, teen-specific arts and crafts, adult coloring books, color by sticker books, sketchbooks



County Council & Ambassadors



Chisolm Trail Christmas Ball

This event will take place on **Saturday, December 7th**, at the Cadence Bank Center. You will wear your official green jacket with black bottoms and COMFORTABLE shoes! You will assist with the live and silent auctions, serve dessert at the dessert bar, and escort attendees to their seat. You will receive more emails from Sheryl Long about this event!

Council/Ambassador Christmas Party

The County Council Officer and Ambassador Christmas party is scheduled for **Friday, December 20th** at the CEO. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, Please bring a \$10.00 and under unisex gift. NO CHINESE CHRISTMAS GAG GIFTS. Time is from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

Membership Advisory Board FINANCE Meeting

When: November 12, 2024 **Where:** CEO **Time:** 5:15 pm

The finance meeting will wrap up Hunter's Spectacular dollars and establish a budget for the 2024-2025 4-H year.

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: November 12, 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.

Club Manager Connection

We will once again host a series of workshops designed specifically for our outstanding club managers! These workshops are designed to provide you an opportunity to learn more about the in's and out's of being a club manager, but also allow you time to connect with others in the same role from across our district. These connection events will be held on the dates below. Each program will start at 7:00 and end around 8:15pm. They will all be held via Microsoft Teams.

November 19th—Working with your officer team and your agent

Check out the Club Manager Connection Newsletter here: [LINK](#)

Shooting Sports Coach's Trainings

Archery City—November 16-17—Archery, Rifle, Shotgun, Pistol
Brownwood—March 8-9—Archery, Rifle, Shotgun, Pistol

- Registration will be conducted through 4-H Online.
- Cost varies depending on the location. Registration will cover meals, snacks, and course materials.
- Only one discipline certification is obtainable per participant per training.

Participants MUST have completed and passed the Background Check PRIOR to registering for the event, so if they have not completed this, they should do so IMMEDIATELY! NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

Visit the website to view more details (including lodging information):

<https://agriflife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/shooting-sports-coaches-training/>

Upcoming Events

District 8 Scholarship Workshop

Save the date! District 8 4-H Specialist, Megan Shaffer, will be hosting one more online scholarship trainings: On December 12th. More information to come! Be checking your email and the Bell County Facebook and website!

Clover Kids

2024 November 16		July 11	Deadline to turn in Clover Kid Record Book to County Extension Office
2025 January 18		TBA	Clover Kids Cupcake Decorating Workshop
January 31	BCYF: Peewee Showmanship		
February 15	Clover Kids Fair		Check out the Clover Kids website for more information on upcoming events: https://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/clover-kids/
March 15			
May 17			
May 30	Deadline to RSVP for Clover Kids Summer Camp		For questions, contact Dawn Brown at bc4hcloverkids@yahoo.com
June 21	Summer Camp		

Bell County 4-H Exchange Fundraiser

The Bell County 4-H Exchange Club is hosting their 11th annual freezer full of meat drawing. Tickets are \$5.

What you win:

7 cu. ft chest freezer

Pork: 10 lbs of pork chops, 10 lbs country style ribs, 10 pounds bacon, 20 lbs sausage, 20 lbs breakfast sausage

Beef: 6 ribeye steaks, 2 briskets, 10 sirloin steaks, 50 pounds ground beef

Drawing will be held Friday, February 7th. Need not be present to win.

For tickets, contact bellcounty4hexchange@gmail.com



FCH Project News



Food Challenge Practices

Food Challenge involves teams of 3-4 students that receive a list of ingredients and have 40 minutes to create a dish. The teams then present their dish to judges and are scored on preparation, serving size, food safety concerns, and nutritional value. Students qualify at the county and district level to compete at the state contest. Practices will be held at 2:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in downtown Belton as follows:

November: 3, 10, 17, 24

December: 1

District 8 contest: December 5

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com or text 254-624-6507.

Leaders 4 Life

Leaders 4 Life is a competition that allows 4-H youth to demonstrate their knowledge of Parliamentary Procedure through a mock meeting. For questions, contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com or 254-624-6507. Practices will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the County Extension Office as follows:

November: 12

District Contest is November 19

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com or text 254-624-6507.

Ag Product ID

Good luck to all participating in the District contest on November 7th.

No practices will be held in November. Practices will resume in January ahead of the Bell County Youth Fair contest. The BCYF contest will be on Friday, February 7, 2025. More information on the BCYF is forthcoming. Other spring contest are:

Houston Livestock Show - March 19, 2025

Milam County - TBD

Rodeo Austin - March 24, 2025

Leon County - TBD

The registration deadline for the HLSR and Rodeo Austin contests will be here soon.

Please contact Michael Canales at 254-541-6293 or guajeman1@gmail.com if anyone is interested in participating in the spring contests or for more information.



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/>

Major Show Entry Forms Deadline

The Bell County 4-H Major Show Entry Deadline is **November 6th!** We will be open from 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM on November 6th to accept entry forms. All required paperwork must be filled out completely and turned in with original signatures before the deadline. Emailed forms will not be accepted. Entries without payment will not be accepted. Exact cash or checks can be made payable to the Bell Livestock Coalition. If you would like to pay by credit card, a 3% fee will be added to cover service charges. As entry forms are released from the shows, a PDF version will be posted at <https://agrilife.org/bell4h/projects/4-h-livestock/>. You may fill and print the PDF versions at home. Also, paper copies of the entry forms will also be available at the Bell County Extension Office. To ensure that all entries from Bell County 4-H are processed and checked thoroughly,

No entries will be accepted after the November 6th deadline!

2025 Major Show Swine Validation

Physical validation will be held at the **Bell County EXPO** on the dates listed below:

November 18th and November 25th from 4:00 - 7:00 pm

- All Market Barrows, Registered Breeding Gilts, and Crossbred/Commercial Breeding Gilts will use the same RFID validation tag.
- Registered Gilt papers must be owned on or before November 30, 2024 and they must also be registered (litter registration, bottom left hand corner) on or before November 30, 2024 . There are **NO EXCEPTIONS** on this! Please send a PDF copy of the **ORIGINAL** registration papers for the registered gilts you plan to validate to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu **PRIOR** to validation.

**** A parent of the exhibitor must be present during major show validation.** If there is a conflict, please notify Sheryl Long in advance so additional paperwork can be filled out prior to validation.**

BCYF/Major Show Turkey Orders

Turkey orders will arrive at the Bell County Extension Office on Wednesday, November 13th at approximately 3:30 PM. All orders must be picked up by 5:00 PM. Please contact Sheryl Long if you have any questions.

Bell County Youth Fair

February 1-8, 2025

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, 2024 to December 31, 2024** 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, 2024** to participate in the BCYF.

Other Important Information

The 2025 Fair Book will be posted soon. 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 Orders Due	November 1, 2024	5:00 PM
Turkey Pick Up (Tentatively)	November 13, 2024	
Commercial Heifer Palpate & Judge	November 16, 2024	
Validate Swine	November 18 & 25, 2024	4:00 - 7:00 PM
Online Entry Deadline	December 1, 2024	5:00 PM
Pick Up Roasters	December 6, 2024	3:30 - 5:30 PM
Chisholm Trail Christmas Ball	December 7, 2024	
Commercial Heifer Sale	December 13, 2024	Milam County Auction
Photography Upload	January 1—, 2025	
Pick Up Broilers	January 3, 2025	3:30 - 5:30 PM
Rabbits Validation	January 5, 2025	3:00 - 5:00 PM
Weigh Out Commercial Steers	January 27, 2025	8:00 AM
Commercial Steer Recordbooks Due	February 2, 2025	5:00 PM

BCYF Entries

Entries will open on **October 15, 2024 at 8:00 AM**. All exhibitors must submit their entries online by **December 1st, 2024 at 5:00 PM**. For more information and to access the entry link, please visit the BCYF website <https://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/>.

Bell County Youth Fair

February 1-8, 2025

BCYF Poultry Orders

Broiler Orders are due **November 1, 2024**

Order forms are posted on the BCYF website <https://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/>. Forms and payment are due to the Bell County Extension Office by 5:00 PM on the respective due dates.

Save the Date: BCYF Validation Dates

County only tags for sheep, goats, and swine will be purchased on-site for \$5.00 the night of validation.

BCYF/Major Show Swine Validation: **November 18 and 25**

Important Dates

November 2024

November 1: 4-H Enrollment Increases to \$30
November 1: BCYF Broiler Order Due
November 2-3: Holiday Classic
November 3: Food Challenge Practice
November 6: Major Show Entry Deadline
November 7: D8 Quiz Bowl & Ag Product Id Contest
November 10: Food Challenge Practice
November 11: **County Holiday, CEO CLOSED**
November 12: MAB Finance Meeting
November 12: MAB Meeting
November 12: Leader 4 Life Practice
November 13: Major Show & BCYF Turkey Pick Up
November 13: County Council Meeting
November 16: BCYF Commercial Heifer Judging
November 16: Clover Kid Meeting
November 17: Food Challenge Practice
November 18: BCYF & Major Show Swine Validation
November 19: Club Manager Connection
November 19: D8 Leaders 4 Life Contest
November 24: Food Challenge Practice
November 25: BCYF & Major Show Swine Validation
November 28 & 29: **County Holiday, CEO CLOSED**

December 2024

December 1: BCYF Entry Deadline
December 1: Food Challenge Practice
December 6: BCYF Roaster Pick Up
December 7: BCYF Chisholm Trail Christmas Ball
December 12: D8 Scholarship Workshop
December 13: BCYF Commercial Heifer Sale
December 20: County Council/Ambassador Christmas Party
December 24 & 25: **County Holiday, CEO CLOSED**

January 2025

January 3 : BCYF Broiler Pick Up
January 5: BCYF Rabbit Validation
January 16: County Council Meeting
January 18: Clover Kid Meeting
January 27: BCYF Commercial Steer Weigh Out

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

BELL COUNTY
4-H NEWSLETTER

Bell County Extension
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Belton, TX 76513
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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/>