CALANDER OF EVENTS

January 2013

1. Holiday, Office Closed
4–6. Teen Retreat, Texas 4-H Conference Center
7. Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Draft Due, email, CEO
7. San Antonio Tour Dates Due, email Micah
7. MAB Officer Meeting, 6:15pm, CEO
8. Rabbit Validation, 5:30–7:30pm, Expo
10. TWEETUP Scholarship and Financial Aid, 7pm, TWITTER
10. Rabbit Clinic, 6.30pm, Expo
10. Dog Certification Forms Due, CEO
11–12. East Region 4-H Lock In, Carrollton
13. Beekeeping Essay Deadline
14. Clothing Board Meeting, 10am, CEO
15. Consumer Project Meeting, 6pm, CEO
18. BCYF Homeschool Eligibility forms due
18. 4-H Day at the Capital Registration Deadline
21, 22, 28, & 29. BCYF Ride Nights
22. Clothing Workshop, 6pm, CEO
22. 4-H Fuddrucker Day
23. Houston/Star Broilers In
24. Photography Advisory Board Meeting, 6pm, CEO
26. Weigh–out commercial steers, 8am
26. Swine Carcass weigh–in, 9–10am, Expo
28. County Council, 6:30pm, CEO
28. Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Due, CEO
29. MAB meeting, 6.30pm, CEO
30. Commercial Steer recordbooks due, 5pm

February 2013

1. Entry deadline for Recipe Rally
2–9. BCYF, Expo
6. 4-H Day at the Capital, Austin
11. District 8 4-H Tshirt Order Due
16. Consumer San Antonio Contest, SALE
18. Holiday, Office Closed
19. Consumer Contest, 5pm, CEO
25. County Council, 6:30pm, CEO
26. Consumer Project Meeting, 6pm, CEO
26. OMK Chili’s Night

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Do not **FORGET** to Order your Bell County 4-H T-Shirt/Hoodie in time for the BCYF!

Show your support for Bell County 4-H and call or come by the CEO to fill out an order form. Hoodies are $20.00 & T-shirts are $10.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Discussion Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>Movie Characters</td>
<td>Mission Possible</td>
<td>4-H Retention and Promotion</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
<td>Western</td>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>BCYF Changes</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td>Superheroes</td>
<td>Parliamentary Procedure</td>
<td>Ways to make 4-H more fun</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
<td>70’s/Tye Dye</td>
<td>Elections</td>
<td>2013 One Day 4-H</td>
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**San Antonio Livestock Show Tour Dates**

Please contact Micah Holcombe by email the days you want to participate in. Let her know by January 7th. Some Scholarships are available for those who participate in the tours.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 Tour Dates – Week 1</th>
<th>2013 Tour Dates – Week 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, February 11, 2013</td>
<td>No Tours on Monday, February 18, 2013</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 12, 2013</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 14, 2013</td>
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<td>Friday, February 15, 2013</td>
<td>No Tours on Friday, February 22, 2013</td>
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Consumer Decision Making

Consumer Decision Making is a great way to learn how to shop better! Make sure and come and learn all about the project and what it has to offer. We will hopefully be discussing the new classes for this year and preparing for the project!

Dates for consumer are as follows: (Dates set already due to full meeting room schedule and availability)

**January 15, Feb. 26:** Consumer Project Meetings, 6pm, CEO
**February 16:** Consumer- San Antonio
**February 19:** County Consumer Contest, 5pm, CEO
**March 3:** District Consumer- Waco

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

All Scholarship information/requirements and applications are available by going to: http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/scholarships/ Please make sure and review this information. Many deadlines are coming up in January and February.

If you are doing a Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship, please see the deadlines below:

- **Now:** Do your FAFSA with old tax information
- **January 7:** 1st Draft of Scholarship due to Micah via email
  (no transcripts or other official documents needed)
- **January 28:** Scholarship with all paperwork due to CEO.

2012 County Camp

County Camp for Bell County 4-H is set for July 8–10, 2013 at Brownwood.
Registration forms will be available soon on the Bell County 4-H website!
Important Dates for Bell County Youth Fair & Major Shows

- **Rabbit Validation** Jan. 8, 2013 5:30–7:30 pm– Expo
- **Houston/Star Broilers In** Jan. 23, 2013 Call in for time
- **Weigh–Out Commercial Steers** Jan. 26, 2013 8am
- **Swine Carcass Weigh–In** Jan. 26, 2013 9:00–10:00am– Expo
- **Commercial Steer Recordbook Due** Jan 30, 2013 BY 5:00 P.M.
- **Bell County Youth Fair** Feb. 2–9, 2013 Expo

BCYF Rabbit Validation

Rabbit Validation will be on Tuesday, **January 8, 2013 from 5:30-7:30pm** at the Expo Center. The fee will be $1.00 per validation and $1.00 per tattoo. If you have any questions please contact Pam Reavis at 254-933-5305.

Rabbit Clinic

The rabbit clinic will be held January 10, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bell County Expo Center.

This clinic will be dedicated to rabbit fryers. We will discuss feeding, weight management, fur quality, health, supplies needed, disqualifications, selection, and check-in procedures for the Bell County Youth Fair. If you are new to showing rabbits or just want more information about how the Bell County Youth Fair Rabbit show works.
Bell County Youth Fair Ride Nights

Sponsored by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service & Bell 4-H Horse Club

The official ride nights are correct in the BCYF rule book. Please notice the following schedule:

January 21st and 28th are Performance nights.
January 22nd and 29th are Speed event nights.

Rules for ride nights are included on page 6 of the Bell County Youth Fair Horse Show (RED) Catalogue, so please be familiar with them. Ride night events are only for the Contestants registered for competition in the Bell County Youth Fair Horse Show. Only their horses that are the primary or alternate horses signed up for the events in 2013. We will be checking for Coggins so have copies of current negative Coggins test results on all the horses you bring. Contestants must register each night and present Coggins paperwork to ride in the arenas.

We do not allow alcohol or smoking at anytime in the barn and no alcohol can be consumed in parking lot. Because this is an equine event, absolutely no dogs will be allowed on the grounds.

- We need every one of you to focus on safety.
- We will have EMS on site at every ride night this year from 6:00 to 10:00.
- Security Staff will be present from 6:00 to 10:00.
- We will again have inside tie up area available along the West side of the C barn arena.
- Since we have many horses that are not familiar with each other and riders that may not be familiar with crowded type conditions, we would like to again have appointed safety monitors for each night. The idea would be that the safety monitor would be stationed in the congested areas and be responsible for helping the youth understand how to make safe decisions. We are looking for volunteers that will be safety monitors. Please report any unsafe conditions to them. If you would like to volunteer e-mail or call Lyle at the CEO.
- The goal is that the ride nights help beginners and newer entrants feel comfortable, help them have fun and give them confidence to compete in future events. At the same time we will strive to provide a safe place for the more experienced riders to get ride time and practice. The ride nights will only be as good as we collectively make them, so your help is needed.

If you would like to volunteer or have any suggestions, please call or send an e-mail. The Office number is (254) 933-5305, and e-mail is l-zoeller@tamu.edu.
On Saturday December 8, 2012, we held our fourth annual Cowboy Christmas Ball featuring Michael Martin Murphey at the Expo Center. This event was sponsored by the Bell County Youth Fair Executive Board, Bell County Youth Fair Scholarship Committee, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and the Bell County Expo Center. All the benefits from this concert event are being used towards the Bell County Youth Fair Scholarship Fund.

A BIG thank you again to all who made this event possible and who came out and enjoyed the performance with us. A link to the photos can be found on the Bell County Youth Fair website: [http://agrilife.org/bellttyouthfair/cowboy-christmas-ball/](http://agrilife.org/bellttyouthfair/cowboy-christmas-ball/)

The Beekeeping Essay Contest is sponsored by the The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. For over 50 years, the American Beekeeping Federation has been serving the needs of the U.S. beekeeper. Any youth interested in participating in the contest must follow the instructions for the Texas selection process. Each State Winner, including the national winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping, or honey. Deadline for all submissions to the State 4-H Office is January 13, 2013. For more information please visit the following website: [http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_entomology/beekeeping](http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_entomology/beekeeping)
Tweet up on 4-H Scholarships and Financial Aid

The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program will host its’ third “Tweet-Up” on Twitter on January 10, 2013 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. This “tweet-up” will use twitter and to join the conversation, just tag each of your post with the hash tag of #TX4HCONVO. Using this hash tag as you post will then let everyone know your questions and thoughts and we can respond back. This will be your last chance before scholarships are due to ask questions and hear from the experts.

2013 4-H Volunteer Conference

The Texas 4-H & Youth Development Program is pleased to announce plans for the 2013 4-H Volunteer Conference! Mark your calendars – and share the date with others – for July 12th – 14th in Plano, Texas. The conference will offer another pre-conference workshop on the afternoon of Friday, July 12th, with the conference officially kicking off that evening. Saturday and Sunday will be filled with a variety of educational workshops. As conference plans are finalized and details are set, more information will be provided on the volunteer conference webpage: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/volunteer_conference.

Recipe Rally

Information on the 2013 4-H Recipe Rally is now posted online. The contest is open to intermediates and seniors, with the top three in each age division invited to participate in the 2013 Texas 4-H Roundup. The theme for the 2013 contest is “Dairy.” Entry deadline is February 1, 2013. More information is available at: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/healthy_lifestyles.
Need to have more family meals together?? Want to help 4-H make some money? Bring your family to Fuddruckers this Spring!
All you have to do is pay for your meal and drop your receipt in the basket labeled “4-H” and 4-H will receive money!!
Fuddruckers locations are:
- Temple in the Mall (Proceeds go to Bell County 4-H)
- Killeen on 190 (Proceeds go to Military 4-H)

Remaining dates for this spring are:

**January 22, February 19, March 19, April 23, May 21, June 11**

Go and eat a great meal with your family and support the 4-H program!

ALL 4-H members, parents, and County Extension Agents are invited to join Texas 4-H at the 4-H Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, February 6, 2013 in Austin, Texas. This event will be a day filled with 4-H being recognized in both the House of Representatives and Senate Chambers. In the afternoon, spend some time with your legislators and let them know about the great things 4-H is doing in your community.

Registration is $20.00 per person and is open on 4-H CONNECT from Monday, December 17, 2012 and will close January 18, 2013.

Registration will include a t-shirt, registration materials, approved tokens of appreciation for members to present to legislators, and insurance for the event. Lunch will be on your own. When you register, be prepared to provide the names of both your House of Representative member and your Senator who will be representing you in the 2013 Legislative Session. A new feature to assist with last minute schedule changes from the legislative offices will be a text messaging system. If you would like to receive these notices, please sign up during your registration.
Snap! Click! Why didn’t my photo turn out the way I planned?

4-H photographers met recently to find out how to improve their photos and to help plan photography events. The County 4-H Photography Advisory Board members reviewed what was taught at the last meeting due to the large number of new attendees. The group learned: Kinds of cameras, the parts of cameras, steadiness techniques such as bracing, lighting, rule of thirds, and focused on landscape photography ideas. Members then learned about the various composition techniques, as well as some more advanced concepts such as symmetry, pattern, silhouettes, and visual rhythms. The group will be going through 4-H Photograph Project Books level 1,2 and 3 and also be exploring more advanced concepts found in 4-H Guide to Digital Photography by Daniel Johnson. Purchasing these resources is not mandatory, but will be helpful to those serious about the photography project. All can be purchased from the 4-H mall at: [www.4hmall.org](http://www.4hmall.org) (for the curriculum) and [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) (for the 4-H Guide to Digital Photography).

The group made patriotic photo greeting cards using photos they took themselves and assembled a gift basket for residents at the Temple Veteran’s Home. The Home Director was VERY appreciative and said those were the most beautiful and meaningful photography she has seen in a long while. Thanks 4-H photographers! You helped bring cheer to our American patriots who selflessly gave so much to defend our wonderful nation!

The next Photography Advisory Board Meeting on January 24th from 6-7:30 p.m. at the CEO. We will talk about photography judging, what to expect at the BCYF and do a mock judging. Bring any photography entries you want input on to help your decision of what to enter. We will also begin coordination for our annual state wide photography workshop in July. In honor of what we learned about animal photography at our December farm event, we will be collecting clean used towels, pet food/dishes, collars, leashes, and pet toys for the local animal shelter as our community service activity. The Photography Advisory Board welcomes anyone who enjoys photography, is willing to learn new techniques, and would like to make the 4-H photography program better!

4-H Photography Advisory Board members made patriotic photography note cards for residents at the Temple Veterans Home

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**ATTENTION PARENTS, LEADERS, and CLUB MANAGERS!**

January 29th is an important meeting for MAB, the Membership Advisory Board. This meeting is for all parents and leaders. We also highly encourage all club managers and assistant club managers to come! We will be discussing the Hunter’s Spectacular.

Please come to the **MAB meeting on January 29th at 6.30pm in the County Extension Office Meeting Room** to help plan the Hunter’s Spectacular 2013!
Bell County 4-H Website

The 4-H website is a great way to keep up with all upcoming 4-H events & to download necessary forms. Please visit our update website:  [http://agrilife.org/bell4h/](http://agrilife.org/bell4h/)

We will no longer be sending the county newsletter by mail, it will be emailed to those members who have provided us with an email address. If your family does not have email you may locate the newsletter on our website. If you need more information on 4-H Events & Forms please contact the CEO.

NEW BCYF RULES

Homeschool Eligibility deadline: January 18, 2013. All Homeschool students must fill out an eligibility form and turn it in by the above deadline. Go to this address for the form:  [http://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/entry-information/](http://agrilife.org/bellctyyouthfair/entry-information/)

Bell County Extension
1605 N. Main, Room 102
Belton, TX 76513
Phone: 254.933.5305
FAX: 254.933.5312
[http://bell-co.tamu.edu](http://bell-co.tamu.edu)

BELL COUNTY
4-H FOCUS

Randall Rakowuty

Michal Holcombe

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating
January 11th–12th, 2013

4-H Lock-In

- Laser Tag
- Ropes Course
- Zip Line
- Rock Climbing
- Inflatables
- Workshops
- & More!

In Carrollton, TX
Group Dynamix

Join us at the 4-H Lock-In!

The lock-in is open to active 4-H members in the East Region who are at least 12 years old OR in the 6th grade at the time of the event.

Don’t Forget!!!
Sign-Up on 4-H Connect by December 28th!
$60 per person

For more information please contact your local county extension office.
District 8 4-H T-Shirts & Hoodies

DISTRICT 8 4-H DESIGN
DARK HEATHER COLOR T-SHIRT
FRONT

DISTRICT 8 Counts
12-2012

2012-2013

DISTRICT 8 TEXAS DESIGN
NAVY COLOR T-SHIRT
FRONT

BACK

2 Designs to choose from!

You can order:
✓ Youth t-shirts!
✓ Adult t-shirts!
✓ Long sleeve!
✓ Hoodies!

Order online today!
http://tinyurl.com/2013D84-HShirtsOrder2

There will be 3 more order & ship dates.

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<th>If you order by:</th>
<th>Shirts Delivered to County Extension Agent on:</th>
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<td>Adult Small - Adult XL</td>
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<td>Scholarship Draft Due, email, CEO</td>
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<td>Beekeeping Essay Deadline</td>
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### February 2013 Calendar

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<td><strong>BCYF, Expo</strong></td>
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