January 2014

January 1: Office Closed, HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
January 3: Clover Kids Meeting, 2-4pm, CEO
January 5: Bell County Consumer Decision Making Contest, 5 PM. CEO
January 5: BCYF FCS Container Pick-up, CEO, (club managers ONLY)
January 5: Start of BCYF photography entry uploading, online
January 6: BCYF Rabbit Validation, 5-8pm, Expo
January 7: County Council Meeting, 6:30pm. CEO
January 7: Scholarship First Draft due to Heidi via e-mail
January 8: Food/Nutrition Quiz Bowl Practice, 6:30-8:30pm, CEO
January 9: Beekeeping Essay Upload Deadline, Online
January 9-11: Teen Retreat. Brownwood

February 2014

February 5: BCYF Ride Night, 6-9 pm, EXPO
February 6: BCYF Ride Night/ horse move-in, 3-9 PM, EXPO
February 7-14: Bell County Youth Fair, EXPO
February 17: Bell County 4-H Robotics Meeting, 6:30-8 pm, CEO
February 21: Clover Kids Meeting, 2-4pm, CEO
February 24: FCS Coalition Meeting, 6-7 pm, CEO

Bell County Youth Fair is almost here!!
February 7-14, 2015

January 12: BCYF Photography Entry Upload DEADLINE, online
January 12: Scholarship Paperwork DUE, CEO
January 16: BCYF Homeschool Eligibility DEADLINE, CEO
January 19: BCYF Ride Night, 6-9, Expo
January 20: BCYF Ride Night, 6-9, Expo
January 20: Bell County 4-H Robotics Meeting, 6:30–8 pm, CEO
January 22: Food/Nutrition Quiz Bowl Practice, 6:30-8:30 pm, CEO
January 24: “Mad Scientist” Workshop, 10-12 , CEO
January 24: Weigh-out Commercial Steers, 8 Am, WC Evans Ranch
January 26: BCYF Ride Night, 6-9, Expo
January 27: BCYF Ride Night, 6-9, Expo
January 28: Houston/STAR Broiler Arrival and Pick-Up
January 30: Commercial Steer Recordbooks Due by 5 pm, CEO
January 31: BCYF Swine Carcass Weigh– In, 8-9AM, Expo

***What is the CEO???: County Extension Office– 1605 N. Main Street, Room 102, Belton, TX 76513***
4-H Enrollment starts **August 15th!!!** All enrollment is done via 4-H Connect this year. You can access 4-H Connect by going to our 4-H website at [http://agrilife.org/bell4h/](http://agrilife.org/bell4h/) and clicking on the 4-H Connect icon.

An annual participant fee is implemented for each 4-H member (Clover Kids excluded). The participant fee is $20 for 4-H members and $5 for adult volunteers if enrolled from **August 15 to October 31st**. November 1st the participant fee will increase to $25.

**Please do not worry if you are still pending at the county level once you have enrolled.** The county office will try to keep up as best as we can by approving them at least once a week. As long as you complete your enrollment, you are in the system and good for enrollment and BCYF requirements.

**IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DISCOVER CARD!!! PLEASE READ BELOW!!!!**

We have ran into many problems with people who have had their bank (Extraco) switch their only card out to Discover. However Discover is not an accepted card on 4-H Connect.

If your family **ONLY** has Discover card, please do the following steps:

1. Finish your enrollment on 4-H Connect until you see payment method. Then go back to your family screen to see if your members are incomplete- **THIS IS A MUST!** If it says inactive the Office will NOT do the enrollment for you!

2. Then you will need to either mail or drop off CASH to our office to pay for your membership. Remember $20 for each youth and $5 for each adult. If you cannot make it during office hours, you can put it in our mailbox outside our office or building and put it in an envelope with your family last name on it AND “4-H Connect Enrollment.”

3. The Extension Office will go in and finish out your Enrollment with the payment. If you are planning on going to shows, as long as you do Steps 1-3 you will be OK to show!!!!

For instructions on how to enroll, please visit: [http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-henrollment-guidelines/4-h-enrollment-information/](http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-henrollment-guidelines/4-h-enrollment-information/)
## County/District Contests:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contest/Event</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>County Deadline</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District Fashion Show &amp; Fashion Storyboard</td>
<td>October 24, 2014, 4:30pm, Temple CAC</td>
<td>October 17, 2015</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 18, 2014 Bell County Expo Center, Belton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Council Officer Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duds to Dazzle</td>
<td>October 16, 2015, 6pm, CEO</td>
<td>October 16, 2015</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 18, 2014 Bell County Expo Center, Belton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Classic</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>November 8-9, 2014 Bell County Expo Center, Belton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Food Challenge</td>
<td>November 1, 2015, 2pm, CEO</td>
<td>October 20, 2014</td>
<td>Wednesday, December 10, 2014 Bell County Expo Center, Belton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Food Show</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag Product Identification Contest</td>
<td>November 24, 2014</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Wednesday, December 10, 2014 Bell County Expo Center, Belton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Consumer Decision Making</td>
<td>January 5, 2015 CEO</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Saturday, March 7, 2015 MCC Emergency Services Education Center, Waco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Nutrition Quiz Bowl</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Saturday, March 7, 2015 MCC Emergency Services Education Center, Waco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Photography Contest</td>
<td>March 3-March 15, 2015</td>
<td>March 2, 2014</td>
<td>Display: Saturday, April 18, 2015 District Roundup, Meridian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Horse Judging</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Saturday, April 11, 2015 TAMU, College Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Roundup</td>
<td>March 28, 2015 First United Methodist Church of Belton</td>
<td>March 9, 2015</td>
<td>Saturday, April 18, 2015 Meridian ISD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-District Contests (Livestock, Meat, Soil)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Saturday, April 25, 2015 TAMU, College Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Leaders 4 Life Skillathon</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Thursday, May 30, 2015 First United Methodist Church of Belton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Rifle Contest</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Saturday, May 2, 2015 Leon County Gun Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Horse Show</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>May 15, 2015</td>
<td>June 15-16, 2015 Bell County Expo Center, Belton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Leadership Lab &amp; Officer Elections</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>May 29, 2015</td>
<td>June 24-26, 2015 Texas 4-H Conference Center, Brownwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Recordbook Judging</td>
<td>June 19, 2015</td>
<td>June 17, 2015</td>
<td>Thursday, July 9, 2015 Gatesville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Bell County Leaders 4 Life continues to collect items for the pantry at Ronald McDonald House in Temple, TX. For the month of January they will be collecting single serving snacks (chips, crackers, pudding, etc.) as well as paper towels. Please bring any items you wish to donate to the CEO and place in the box labeled “Ronald McDonald House” sitting outside the office door. If you have any questions please contact Katherine Wood at kratchinw@gmail.com

The next practice for Food & Nutrition Quiz Bowl will be January 8th & January 22nd from 6:30-8:30 at the CEO. Quiz Bowl contests utilize buzzers to facilitate knowledge of the competition topic. The Food & Nutrition Quiz Bowl competition covers nutrition, regulations, diseases, basic food preparation, and much more. Come out and enhance your knowledge of the food & nutrition project and this competition. Any questions, please email Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com.
EVERT WANT TO BE A MAD SCIENTIST?

Come do Crazy Chemistry with Mr. William “Douey” Doucette!

Explosions, Slime, and even create your own mad science!

SATURDAY JANUARY 24TH,
10 – 12PM
@ THE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

To RSVP please contact the CEO @ 933-5305
For any questions please contact Merah Winters @ 254-931-7175

Tigertown Vet Science crew needs your help!

We are collecting the following items to help support our local animal rescues:

- Large Towels
- Hand Towels
- Pillow Cases
- Blankets
- Metal Food Dishes
- Dog Beds
- T Posts
- Horse Panel Fencing
- Halters & Leads

Donations can be dropped off at the County Extension Office or if you wish to donate a larger item please contact the number given.

Look for the Tigertown Vet Science donation bin.

For any questions please contact Merah Winters @ 254-931-7175
## Bell County 4-H

### Clover Kids

2014-2015 Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTHS &amp; DATES</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>4-H PROJECT RELATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>4-H 101</td>
<td>4-H Basics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>V.I.P.</td>
<td>Character-Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>County Food Challenge</td>
<td>Healthy Lifestyles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Note: Location will change for this event)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 6</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>Clover Shirts</td>
<td>Clothing and Textiles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 3</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>Working 4-Legged Animals</td>
<td>Livestock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>Time to Get Hands On!</td>
<td>Wood Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>Let's Have Fun With Food</td>
<td>Food and Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>Ready, Aim, Fire</td>
<td>Shooting Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>10am-?pm</td>
<td>Clover Kids Fair</td>
<td>All Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Note: Location may change for this event)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 27</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>Clover Kids Summer Camp</td>
<td>All Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>9:30-12pm</td>
<td>Bell County July 4th Parade</td>
<td>Recreation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
<td>Awards and Recognition Banquet (Location EXPO)</td>
<td>All Projects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Location:** County Extension Office  
1605 North Main, Belton

**Youth Volunteers Needed**

Clover Kids are looking for 4-Hers to help them with their meetings and events. This is a great opportunity to earn youth leadership experience. If you would like to help with a meeting or event, please email Dawn Brown at bc4hcloverkids@yahoo.com.
Bell County 4-H Council 2014-2015 Information

**Council Meetings**

Purpose of County Council - The purpose of County Council is for 4-H members from each club to come and share what they are doing in their club and get ideas from other clubs on activities and help plan county wide activities.

**TIME:** 6:30 PM  
**LOCATION:** CEO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTHS &amp; DATES</th>
<th>THEMES (costume contest)</th>
<th>PROGRAMS</th>
<th>DISCUSSION TOPICS (communication between clubs and council)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 23, 2014 Tuesday</td>
<td>Camo - Hunting</td>
<td>Hunting / Shooting Sports Safety</td>
<td>Select County Community Service Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 19, 2014 Wednesday</td>
<td>Hillbilly</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>What do you want to know about how to keep a meeting on track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 7, 2015 Wednesday</td>
<td>Bling</td>
<td>In The Show Ring</td>
<td>What do you want to know about how to get ready for the show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30, 2015 Monday</td>
<td>20’s</td>
<td>4-H Awards and Recordbooks</td>
<td>What do you want to know about 4-H Awards and Recordbooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6, 2015 Wednesday</td>
<td>Green Out</td>
<td>Council Officer Elections</td>
<td>Summer Fair</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Council Community Service Projects**

(See 4-H Newsletter for more information about each project)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTHS &amp; DATES</th>
<th>COMMUNITY SERVICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October ? 2014</td>
<td>One Day 4-H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2014 20</td>
<td>Christmas Day Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 28</td>
<td>Ronald McDonald House Chores and Single Serving Food Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Adopt a Widow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lamb/Goat Showmanship Class

(starting August 17)

Sunday’s from 1pm-4pm

********FREE of Charge********

Learn all types of showmanship skills.

Experience for as many as 5 years with helping kids!

For more information please call:

Lacee Kight at: (254)-247-7911

Texas 4-H Conference Center
2015 Retreats

Teen Retreat
January 9-11, 2015
- Sessions include: Vet Science, Dog Project, STEM, Food Challenge & Fuel Up to Play 360 & Leadership
- 4-H members grades 8-12
- Dancing, Polar Bear Swim & lots of FUN!

To register visit the 4-H Center website: texas4hcenter.tamu.edu
Click on the “Register Now” link. $115 for youth & $80 for adults
Each county is responsible for providing adult chaperones.

Re-Fashion Retreat
January 16-18, 2015
- Industry leaders, 4-H Specialists & County agents lead hands on workshops
- 4-H members grades 3-12
- Re-Fashioning project, skill-a-thon & much more
Texas 4-H is very excited to announce the theme and guidelines for this year's 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest. This year's theme is “Reducing the Usage of Bee-Killing Pesticides in my Community.”

The deadline for this contest is January 9, 2015. These essays will be submitted to the National contest facilitators and are all eligible for cash prizes as follows:

AWARDS:

National Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners:

1st Place: $750.00
2nd Place: $500.00
3rd Place: $250.00

National Contest Sponsored by: The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

Texas Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners:

1st Place: $300.00
2nd Place: $200.00
3rd Place: $100.00

Important Dates for Bell County Youth Fair & Major Shows

- Rabbit Validation: Jan. 6, 2015, 5:00–8:00 pm, Expo Center.
- Houston/Star Broilers In: Jan. 28, 2015, Call in for time.
- Weigh-Out Commercial Steers: Jan. 24, 2015, 8 am.
- Swine Carcass Weigh-In: Jan. 31, 2015, 9:00-10:00 am, Expo Center.
- Commercial Steer Recordbook Due: Jan 30, 2015, By 5:00 PM to CEO.
- Bell County Youth Fair: Feb 7-14, 2015, Expo Center.
- Horse Ride Nights: Performance- Jan. 19th and 26th, 2015;
  Speed- Jan. 20th and 27th, 2015;
ATTENTION:

Carcass Swine Weigh in

Carcass Swine Weigh in will be **January 31st** from 9am-10am at the Bell County Expo (It is a correction from the BCYF Fair Book)

**BCYF REMINDERS:**

ALL Bell County Youth Fair eligibilities for homeschooled youth within the county must be filled out and returned to the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service office by close on January 16, 2015. These forms are available online at agrilife.org/bell4H or you can pick one up at the extension office. If these forms are not completed the child will not be eligible to compete in the Bell County Youth Fair.

Bell County Youth Fair FCS standardized containers will be available for pick up at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension service office beginning January 5, 2015. These are to be picked up by 4-H club managers and FCCLA/FFA advisors than dispersed to participating youth within their respective organizations.

BCYF Photography Classes entries can begin uploading pictures starting January 5th, ending on January 12th, at 11:59am. Go to BCYF Website for link to upload. See Fair catalog, page 102 for more information.

**UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR!**

**4-H Livestock Projects**

Anyone needing assistance in livestock projects please contact Heidi Prude by calling the County Extension Office or through e-mail at heidi.prude@ag.tamu.edu

(254)-933-5305
BELL COUNTY YOUTH FAIR RIDE NIGHTS

Performance Events: January 19th and 26th, 2015 - EXPO Arena
Speed Events: January 20th and 27th, 2015 - EXPO Arena

NEW THIS YEAR!
Performance Events: February 5, 2015 – DOME (6-9 pm)
Speed Events: February 6, 2015 - DOME (3-9 pm)
*Participants may move into stalls on February 6, 2015*

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 2015. 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 Heidi 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 heidi.prude@ag.tamu.edu.
It is that time again for graduating seniors to start applying for college and filling out scholarships! Seniors need to apply for their colleges/universities NOW!!! Acceptance for some schools will come as early as November. It is better on a scholarship to have been accepted already to a school. So apply NOW for school!!!

Scholarships are also starting to come open and ready for applications. Make sure and watch the newsletter and the Bell County 4-H Website for those scholarship application deadlines. It is always being updated with new scholarships and deadlines.

We will not be having a scholarship training this year, however please make sure that you keep updated on the Bell County 4-H Scholarship Website for updates and valuable information to help you!

ATTENTION: THE APPLICATION FOR TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AND THE BIG SCHOLARSHIP ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE BELL COUNTY 4-H WEBSITE!

DON’T MISS THE 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:


January 7, 2015: First draft of Scholarship due to Heidi via email
(no transcripts or other official documents needed)

January 12, 2015: Scholarship with all paperwork due to CEO.
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!

County Contest (required for all those wanting to participate in the District contest):

January 5, 2015, 5pm, CEO

District Contest: March 7th, Waco

SALE: February 21st, San Antonio

COMING SOON:

4-H FCS COALITION MEETING

The next 4-H FCS coalition meeting will be held on February 24 from 6-7 pm at the CEO. For more information please contact Jackie McLaughlin at Jackie.mclaughlin@ag.tamu.edu or stop by the CEO.
Texas 4-H has an app to help you keep up to date on 4-H events in your county, district and across Texas. Best of all it’s FREE!

For iPhones/iPads:
1. Go to the App Store.
2. Search for “4-H News and Events”
3. Select the app “4-H News and Events”
4. Tap on “Install”. Enter your Apple ID if requested
5. Once installed select Texas and your county

For Androids:
1. Go to Play Store.
2. Search for “4-H News and Events”
3. Select the app “4-H News and Events”
4. Tap on “Install”
5. Once installed select Texas and your county

Instagram
Do you have Instagram and take photos of 4-H events? Now, you can tag your 4-H photos in Instagram!

@bellcounty4h
**Save the DATES**

Are you going to be a 4-H Strong Volunteer during the 2014-2015 4-H Year?
If so, join Texas 4-H for three Virtual Volunteer Conferences addressing a variety of 4-H topics including club management, leadership, project trainings, and youth/adult opportunities.

**November 19 & 20**
**April 21 & 22**
**August 4 & 5**

All conference session will be conducted on line.
For more information and to keep up with updates visit:
http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/volunteer_conference

---

**4-H Robotics Group**

**Meeting Dates (3rd Tuesday of the month):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 September</td>
<td>20 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 October</td>
<td>17 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 November</td>
<td>17 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 December</td>
<td>21 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>16 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July – NO MEETING</td>
<td>18 August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Meeting Time/Place:**
6:30 – 8:00 pm @ the CEO

**Dues (paid at the first attended meeting):**
$10.00 per child, or
$25.00 per family

**Purpose:**
To grow in knowledge and understanding through the study of science related to robotics while having fun

**Goals:**
To explore the world of robotics
To examine the basics needed for robotics
To emphasize the fun and potential of robotics
To enhance the knowledge of the basics to the level needed for building a robot
To employ different aspects of science in the study of robots

**Contact Information:**
Marshall Latham – jmlatham@yahoo.com
Wishing you a 

HAPPY AND "FROZEN"

NEW YEAR!!