



COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT *Connection*

ISSUE 003 • MAY 2023



DON'T FORGET TO TAKE TIME FOR YOU!

We've just come off of a busy spring. Summer is here and is already looking to be a busy one. In all of this hustle and bustle, don't forget to schedule a few days here and there to recharge your batteries. Even if those days are filled with things like running errands, cutting your grass or getting your laundry sitch back under control, stepping away from the office and work is a vital part of your mental health! I would encourage you to not wait! Pull out your calendar right now and see what days are open and go ahead and mark those out-in PEN! I hope that you all have a super summer and don't hesitate to call with anything I can do for you.

Thankful for you!

Megan

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
CONNECTION

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NEWS FROM D8

2023-2024 Calendar



DISTRICT 8 4-H EVENT DATES 2023-2024

As of 05-10-2023



EVENT	REGISTRATION DATES	EVENT DATE	LOCATION	COMMITTEE
Council Advisors				Cassie Ferguson Sidney Atchley Justin Hale Thomas Boyle
Program Development Committee Meeting		September 5, 2023	Hood County Office, Granbury	All Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs will serve on the PDC Committee
<i>NOTE: This will be the PDC membership list for the 2023-2024 4-H Year.</i>				
Holiday Classic		November 4-5, 2023	Bell County Expo Center	<u>Steering Committee</u> Sheryl Long* Shane McLellan* Zach T. Davis
District Ag Product ID	October 9-27, 2023	November 9, 2023	Lakeview Baptist Church, Belton	Chair-Richard Parrish Co-Chair-Micah Holcombe Sheryl Long Warner Seidel Jordan Voges
District Quiz Bowls (FCH, Livestock, Horse)	October 9-27, 2023	November 9, 2023	Lakeview Baptist Church, Belton	Co-Chair-Angie Nors Co-Chair-Thomas Boyle Brittany Allen Mike Berry Chelsea Dorward Josh Evans Robert Ferguson Floyd Ingram
Shooting Sports Coach Training	October 9-27, 2023	November 11-12, 2023	Stephenville Research & Extension Center	
District Leaders for Life Skillathon	October 16-November 3, 2023	November 16, 2023	Online	Chair-Richard Parrish Co-Chair-Becky Coward Jordan Voges
District Food Challenge District Food Show	November 6-December 1, 2023	December 13, 2024	Bell County Expo Center, Belton	Chair-Amy O'Brien-Glenn Co-Chair- Ashley Cox Christie Keay Angie Nors Cecily Nors Amanda DeAx Rachel Equivel Emily Fisher Lorie Stovall Katie Sindac Danee Hicks
Program Development Committee Meeting		January 3, 2024	Hill County Office, Hillsboro	All Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs will serve on the PDC Committee
District Dairy Judging Contest	December 4-15, 2023	January 14, 2024	Fort Worth Stock Show	Chair-Justin Hale Co-Chair-Thomas Boyle Lonnice Jenschke Bruce Boyd
District Horse Judging	March 4-22, 2024	April 6, 2024	Brazos Expo Center, Bryan	Chair-Shelley Franklin Co-Chair-Becky Coward David Groschke Erin Davis Josh Evans
District Photography Contest	March 4-29, 2024	May 4, 2024	Displayed at District Roundup	Chair-Justin Hale Co-Chair- Madeline Makovy Ashley Cox Sheryl Long Gary Pastushok

EVENT	REGISTRATION DATES	EVENT DATE	LOCATION	COMMITTEE
District Fashion Show, Storyboard, Duds to Dazzle	March 4-29, 2024	April 15, 2024	Cleburne Conference Center, Cleburne	Chair-Hannah Hoffman Co-Chair-Emily Fisher Andrea Brooks Ashley Cox Amanda DeAx Bev Hodges Christie Keay Keely McCrady Cecily Nors Lorie Stovall
District Consumer Decision Making	March 11-April 5, 2024	April 15, 2024	Cleburne Conference Center, Cleburne	Chair-Andrea Brooks Co-Chair-Thomas Boyle Brittany Allen Sidney Atchley Danae Hicks Micah Holcombe Hannah Hoffman Mike McBride Keely McCrady
Multi-District Contests (Livestock, Meat, Soil)	March 11-April 5, 2024	April 20, 2024	Brazos Expo Center, Bryan	<u>Livestock</u> Chair-Jared Meurer Co-Chair-Whitey Ingram Mark Arnold Erin Davis Shane McLellan Robert Ferguson Floyd Ingram David Groschke Warner Seidel <u>Meat</u> Chair-Kristen Clark TJ Cummings Madeline Makovy
District Roundup (Ed Pres, Public Speaking, Share-The-Fun)	April 1-19, 2024	May 4, 2024	West High School, West	<u>Public Speaking/Ed Pres</u> Chair-Chelsea Dorward Co-Chair-Shelley Franklin <u>Share-The-Fun</u> Chair-Amy O'Brien-Glenn Co-Chair-Madi Makovy Facilities: McLennan County
District Rifle Match	April 1-12, 2024	April 27, 2024	Leon Co Gun Club, Oakwood	Chair-Andrew Lewis Co-Chair-Cassie Ferguson Thomas Boyle Angie Nors Richard Parrish
4-H Scholarship Interviews				
Program Development Committee Meeting				See above list
Texas 4-H Roundup		June 3-6, 2024	TAMU, College Station	
District Horse Show	May 6-24, 2024	June 18, 19, 2024	Bell County Expo Center	Chair-Zach Davis Co-Chair-Becky Coward All Ag & 4-H Agents
District SURGE (Leadership Lab) & Officer Elections	May 6-24, 2024	The week of June 10th		Council Advisors
District Council Officer Applications	May 6-24, 2024			Interviews to be conducted the Friday before Roundup.
Southeast District County Camp				
District Recordbook Judging		July 11, 2024	Hill County Fair Grounds, Hillsboro Brazos County Expo	All agents are expected to attend.
Texas 4-H Horse Show				
Texas 4-H Recordbook Judging				TBA

*Tentative Dates and/or Locations

**Chairman **Co-Chair

Thank you for a great 2022-2023!

MEET YOUR COWORKERS

WHITNEY INGRAM

1. **What is your official job title?**
 - a. County Extension Agent - Natural Resources, Bell County
2. **How long have you been in Extension?**
 - a. 6.5 years
3. **What is your biggest program?**
 - a. This year, the Professional Grounds Conference had 225 participants. This conference provides CEU opportunities for both structural and agricultural applicators.
4. **What is your most favorite program?**
 - a. Our Bell-Milam Youth Agribusiness Tour is my favorite day of the year! We take a select group of youth leaders on an interactive, career focused tour of local production agriculture in Bell and Milam counties. This program introduces youth to the agriculture that is in their community and more importantly the people who support them in our communities.
5. **Where did you go to college?**
 - a. Blinn College, Texas A&M University, and Tarleton State University
6. **What is your degree(s) in?**
 - a. I have a Bachelor's in Animal Science from Texas A&M University and a Master's in Agriculture and Consumer Resources from Tarleton.
7. **Who makes up your immediate family?**
 - a. My husband and co-worker, Floyd Ingram
8. **What are you most passionate about?**
 - a. I love how our 4-H program incorporates the whole family. I think some of the big issues in our communities stem from a lack of traditional families and family values. Our communities and the programs that we build, aid and support families through project experiences which teach our children invaluable life development skills and the importance of service to others.
9. **Are you an early bird or a night owl?**
 - a. Night Owl
10. **When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?**
 - a. A Journalist, Lawyer, and then a County Agent - my bank accounts tells me that I should have gone with option 2.
11. **What is the most fun part of your job?**
 - a. The most fun part of my job is coaching our Bell County 4-H Livestock Judging team! I especially love the opportunity to travel with the team. We've been all over Texas and Oklahoma on trips to prepare for our District and State contests. This year, we traveled to Colorado in January and will be going to Scotland and Ireland in June.



Bell Co

District 8 4-H
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MEET YOUR COWORKERS

MICAH HOLCOMBE



Milam Co

- 1. What is your official job title?**
 - a. CEA- FCH Milam County
- 2. How long have you been in Extension?**
 - a. 18 years
- 3. What is your biggest program?**
 - a. Consumer Decision Making- 4-H and Walk Across Texas Battle of the Bell Edition- FCH
- 4. What is your most favorite program?**
 - a. Consumer Decision Making- I love teaching the 4-H members life skills and seeing the "light bulb" go off when it clicks. I also love seeing these kids use the reasons skills to learn how to speak in public!
- 5. Where did you go to college?**
 - a. Texas Tech University (both degrees)
- 6. What is your degree(s) in?**
 - a. Bachelors- Family and Consumer Sciences, Masters- Agriculture Education
- 7. Who makes up your immediate family?**
 - a. My Husband- Andy, Luke- 11, Mackenzie and James- 8
- 8. What are you most passionate about?**
 - a. I absolutely love making an impact on youths' lives whether it's in 4-H or in the community. I love to volunteer in my community to help provide opportunities for families!
- 9. Are you an early bird or a night owl?**
 - a. Mostly early bird! My prime time is actually from 10am-2pm
- 10. When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?**
 - a. Tornado chaser (meteorologist)
- 11. What is the most fun part of your job?**
 - a. I love getting to work with all ages of youth! I also love 4-H Day Camp and State Roundup!
- 12.**



District 8 4-H

Making the best better

MEET YOUR COWORKERS

SHANE MCLELLAN

- 1. What is your official job title?**
 - a. County Agent-Ag/Nr
- 2. How long have you been in Extension?**
 - a. 24 years and 7 months
- 3. What is your biggest program?**
 - a. That is a tough question. Master Gardeners require the most time, livestock programs have the biggest attendance, and the row crop programs have the biggest economic impact. The annual stocker cattle program is probably the biggest "stand alone" event.
- 4. What is your most favorite program?**
 - a. I love all of them. I am fortunate to work with great volunteers, sponsors and industry partners.
- 5. Where did you go to college?**
 - a. Bachelors and Master from Tarleton State and Doctorate from A&M/Texas Tech
- 6. What is your degree(s) in?**
 - a. Bachelors in Ag Services and Development, Masters and Doctorate in Ag Education
- 7. Who makes up your immediate family?**
 - a. My wife Mandy, daughter Chloe and son Travis
- 8. What are you most passionate about?**
 - a. Faith, family and friends.
- 9. Are you an early bird or a night owl?**
 - a. Early Bird
- 10. When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?**
 - a. I wanted to be a Veterinarian.
- 11. What is the most fun part of your job?**
 - a. Whether it's a youth program or adult program, no one has a better view of positive change than the agent. From the little kids you see grow up receiving scholarships or even a farmer inviting you to something personal. Those tough moments fade away when you realize that people do appreciate your time, your efforts and that YOU helped them better themselves. I think agents need to act like what they do makes a difference, because it does.



McLennan Co

District 8 4-H
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WHAT IS....

4-H PROJECT INFO

Shooting Sports

If you enjoy the outdoors and hunting, you'll love the shooting sports project! This project covers firearm safety and teaches responsible handling and use. Get ready because this project is hands on. You'll learn about a variety of firearms – including pistols, rifles, shotguns, muzzleloading, and even archery!

Skills Learned:

- Safety
- Firearm Maintenance
- Proper firing techniques
- Parts & Accessories
- Loading

Project Learning Opportunities

- Learn through workshops
- Learn through project meetings
- Learn through industry professionals
- Learn through practice
- Learn through contests

Optional Contest Opportunities

- State 4-H Shooting Sports Games
- Major Stock Shows
- Texas 4-H Indoor Archery Tournament
- Various shoots across the state
(locally hosted competitions)

Disciplines

- Archery
- Hunting & Wildlife
- Pistol
- Muzzleloading
- Rifle
- Shotgun

**CONTACT YOUR COUNTY
EXTENSION AGENT FOR MORE
INFORMATION**



The State Shooting Sports Games are upon us! Now is a great time to learn more about this project and all it has to offer. Combine Shooting Sports with Natural Resources and you have a winning combination to interest your youth!

View the Natural Resources page here: <http://texas4-H.tamu.edu/project-category/natural/>

District 8 4-H

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