

# Germann Selected As 4-H Focus Delegate

Kailey Germann has been selected to represent Clay County during the 2015 Citizenship Washington Focus trip to Washington, DC June 13-21, 2015.

Kailey is one of 41 South Dakota 4-H members who will have the opportunity to visit the US Capitol Building, the White House and

the National 4-H Center. All delegates will have the opportunity to debate national issues with other 4-H members and leaders from 12 other states. Participants will also be able to visit with South Dakota Senators and Representatives. County delegates are chosen based on their personal applica-

tion and outstanding 4-H membership.

Kailey is the daughter of Julie Jensen and Jeff Germann. She is an three-year member of the Young Producers 4-H Club and has been active in the Swine, Goat, Rabbit, Poultry, Cat, Visual Arts and Home Environment project areas

and has also participated in Consumer Decision Making and Horticulture judging schools.

The Citizenship Washington Focus trip is co-sponsored by the Clay County 4-H Leaders Association, Clay County Youth Trust Fund, Inc. and the South Dakota 4-H Foundation.

# Library Program Receives Grant

Beth Knedler and Susan Heggstad of the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library recently received a \$4,851 robotics supply grant to develop a new VEX robotics program at the library for elementary and middle school students in collaboration with the Vermillion Area Robotics Club, SD Code Club, Clay County 4H, and Vermillion Public Schools. These kits will be used for programming during the 2015 Summer Reading Program, and subsequently for Library, 4-H and Jolley School programs.

The NASA South Dakota Space Grant Consortium offers the Daniel Swets Robotics Materials Award in the amount of \$5,000 - \$10,000 in memory of the unprecedented enthusiasm and vision that Dr. Dan Swets of Augustana College brought to the state of South Dakota in the field of robotics. Dr. Swets, founder of the South Dakota Robotics Association, saw the value of robotics in recruiting students into science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) at an early age. He strove to provide those opportunities for students throughout their educational career. Not only does this help young people in science and engineering in general, but it also produces high quality students that NASA is looking toward to help fulfill its mission. Dr. Swets served on the Management Team of the SD Space Grant Consortium (SDSGC) for 15 years. SDSGC provides this annual award to a South Dakota teacher or educator of robotics who will carry on these traditions in memory of Dr. Swets and the three other gentlemen who tragically lost their lives in an airplane crash on December 9, 2011; Mr. Kevin Anderson, Mr. Joshua Lambrecht, and pilot Mr. Brian Blake, while on their way from Sioux Falls to Rapid City, SD to assist with a robotics program.



# Little Scientists Gather At Library

BY SARAH WETZEL  
For the Plain Talk

Little scientists of all ages gathered at the Vermillion Public Library Monday to participate in weekly science experiments based on the classic superhero: Superman.

To Nolan, 6, Superman is a favorite hero who flies just like the balloons and foam airplanes made at the library.

But how? "I don't actually know," Nolan said. "I don't watch Superman. I can't because it's too violent."

Other flying things Nolan likes include rockets and jets.

But how can big, heavy rockets and jets get off the ground without super powers?

"They fly with their jets," Nolan said. "It's something that makes them go fast. I don't really know lots of stuff about jets."

But he will. "I'm going to be an airplane driver and an astronaut," Nolan said.

Nolan has his eyes on traveling as far as the moon but not to Mars.

"Nah, it's too far away maybe," he said.

Nolan, like other kids at the library, created a glider out of a foam plate, straw and rubber band.

"It's a foam airplane," he said. "You cut the hole and then you write your name and then you put the rubber band on and the straw and then you tape it."

Hope, 6, also made a glider. "I'm making it," she said. "It's an airplane. You pull the rubber band and it flies."

Hope reported having a lot of fun, this being her first time participating in experiments of this kind and learning about real airplanes.

"They have a lots of stuff like motors," she said. "I like learning."

Hope's other scientific interests include flowers, her favorite being red roses.

Skylar, 6, also made a glider. "I'm going to write my name on it so I know whose it is," she said. "I'm going to take some tape and tape it to the back. I'm not going to put the rubber band over it, i'm going to put it right here and pull it back and it's going to go flying."

Kids also made airplanes that moved along a string by power of a filled balloon.

"Doing the airplane bal-



SARAH WETZEL/FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Up, up and away went the gliders made by the participants of the superman-themed science experiments at the Vermillion Public Library as part of the Summer Reading Program.

loon was my favorite part because I get to have lots of fun," Hope said.

To Skylar, it was obvious what made the balloon fly across the room: Air.

"We had a string a straw and a balloon and we blew up the balloon and we taped it to the straw and then we let go until the balloon would go to the other side of the string because the air inside of the balloon was going out and so it was pushing the balloon away to the

other side," she said. "It's really crafty and I really like doing stuff that has to do with crafts. I like to draw pictures of animals. Cheetahs are my favorite because they run really fast, 75 miles an hour."

Super-themed science experiments will be held Monday mornings at the library during the Summer Reading Program.

For a schedule of these and other events visit [vermillionpubliclibrary.org](http://vermillionpubliclibrary.org).

# Local Student Graduate From WITCC

SIoux CITY, Iowa – Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC) held its spring commencement ceremonies on May 14, 2015 at the Tyson Event Center in Sioux City. During the ceremony, two individuals were honored for their special contributions to the college.

The main event of the ceremonies was the recognition of Western Iowa Tech Community College graduates who received a total of 1310 degrees, diplomas and certificates.

An asterisk (\*) denotes students graduating with honors. A double asterisk (\*\*) denotes the highest HSED score.

Area Graduates Included:  
Dakota Dunes: \*Caleb K. Berry, Carter J. Matousek  
Elk Point: Robert J. Albertsen Jr., Amber L. Baker, Michael Lee Johnson, \*Jason Kyle Schwartz  
Jefferson: Stephanie A. Barnes, Colton C. Gamet, \*Dustin Ray Wagner  
Vermillion: Samantha M. Benson, Caitlin Britten, \*Natalia Busso, Erin E. Decker, Shelby K. Evenson, \*Marissa Guerdet, Morgan Brianna Hower, \*Cody R. Martin, \*Carlee M. Miller, Jessica J. Puckett  
Wakonda: Robert L. Spangler



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