

News Column for use the week of 2/28/2022
Macy Hynek, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent
River Valley Extension District
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4-H Youth Attend Citizenship in Action in Topeka

Fourteen 4-H'ers and three chaperones from the River Valley District attended Kansas 4-H Citizenship in Action, CIA, in Topeka on February 20 and 21. This statewide event is for older youth to learn how the legislative process works and how their local voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in our local community.

Sunday afternoon, 4-H'ers were split into small groups to listen and deliberate two different mock bills that they would later debate. Sunday evening, 4-H'ers attended a formal banquet with Representative Lisa Moser from District 106 as our River Valley District 4-H guest. After the banquet, the 4-H members headed to the Capitol to debate and vote on the mock bills in the House of Representatives and Senate chambers. The evening was finished at the hotel with fun activities for the youth to gather and socialize.

On Monday morning, 4-H'ers attended a buffet breakfast and a presentation from Commissioner Randy Watson, Kansas Commissioner of Education. After, 4-H'ers headed back to the Capitol to meet with legislators, observe committee meetings, legislative sessions, and tour the Capitol and other activities. Snacks were available throughout the morning, followed by a boxed lunch for 4-H youth and legislators. This allowed for more opportunities to mingle and meet.

CIA was a great opportunity for our youth to witness the legislative process in action, participate in mock sessions, promote 4-H to our legislators, and learn the difference one can make with their state government.

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