



**OLD HOUSE finds new place near St. Francis. Troy and Kary Meyer and family have purchased the Willis house near Bird City and it was moved on Thursday.**  
Herald photo by Norma Martinez

## Highway closed to move farm house

On Thursday Dec. 16, Movers Williams Midwest from Hastings, Neb. closed down Highway 36 down from Wheeler to Yost Rd. After months of preparations they were moving a house built in 1919 and occupied by loving families since then. Elmer and Darlyn (Leach) Beeson who both grew up within 3 miles of this house moved

into it in 1947. At that time it was a small four room house. In 1948 the Beeson's added four rooms to it At that point a basement was dug under the house. The house was remodeled several times and they lived in it until they both passed away in 1990 and 1991. Lonnie and Trish (Beeson) Willis moved back to take over the farm in 1992.

They then added another room to it and lived in it until they build a new home in 2009.

Trish grew up in this home until her and Lonnie married. Her parents had a gift of hospitality and their home was always open to guests and friends. There was often missionaries and evangelists staying with them and they all spoke of feeling at home. Lonnie and Trish have tried to carry on with this hospitality since they have lived there.

One of the saddest things of driving in the country of Bird City is seeing the many houses where this same hospitality was carried out in and the houses are just sitting there unoccupied and deteriorating. Trish Willis has that same feeling and could not do this or have it torn down as was considered. They found a family who is presently living in a trailer house while looking for just the right

farm home and were willing to go the expense of moving it. Kary said, "This might sound strange coming from a young couple, but we wanted a home to grow old in."

The new tenants are Troy and Kary Meyer and their 9 year old daughter Audrey and 16 month son Aiden. The house was moved through the country roads up to Wheeler where the only way to go was on the Highway. In the last stretch of lifting up the power lines just before the turn off on Yost Rd. they held up the mail for 15 min.

Trish and Lonnie Willis are thrilled that a young couple with their children will be making their home in the house. Their excitement has been so special to see and they pray they are blessed as they raise their children. They can only hope it becomes as special to them as it has been to them.

## Conference to be held in Wichita

On Jan. 20 and 21, six professional societies that promote the wise use and management of Kansas' natural resources are sponsoring the third Kansas Natural Resources Conference at the Airport Hilton in Wichita. The theme of the plenary session is "Through the Haze--The Role of Fire on the Prairie." Early registration continues through Jan. 3.

"This year's plenary session theme is particularly important," said Jessica Mounts, steering committee chairperson. "The use of fire as a management tool bears both historical and modern significance." Registration information is available on the Internet at [www.kansasnr.org](http://www.kansasnr.org)

"Interested individuals should find that the conference speakers, concurrent sessions, and trade show will provide a variety of information about many natural resource topics, including fire," said Ms. Mounts. "We have also added a job fair for those interested," said Ms. Mounts. Check out the Web site for more information.

According to Harold Blume, poster and paper presentation chairperson, "Professionals and students will be presenting on the conference theme as well as other natural resource-related topics of importance

to Kansas and the region which will make this an educational and informative conference."

The Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition joined the conference this year as a sponsor and developed the plenary session.

Several panelists will give an overview of the Flint Hills Smoke Management Plan with discussion to follow.

"The conference is unique," said Harold Klaege, (e-mail [hklaege@kaws.org](mailto:hklaege@kaws.org)) chair of the Trade-Show Committee, "as it is the only conference where all of these professional natural resource specialists in Kansas get together and discuss natural resource issues. There is no better place for your organization to display your products or services. Professionals attending the conference can learn about your products or services and then in their normal contacts with Kansas landowners and operators suggest your product or services."

Conference brochure, registration form, concurrent session topics, trade-show exhibiting information, committee chairs, and hotel information are available on the Internet at the Web site [www.kansasnr.org](http://www.kansasnr.org) or contact Ms. Mounts at 316-683-8069 or email at [KNRC@kaws.org](mailto:KNRC@kaws.org).

### —Introducing—

Dusty and Jill Gary announce the arrival of Lorelei Jene Gary, born Monday, Nov. 29, 2010, at 6:52 p.m. at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka. Lorelei weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces, and measured 21 inches in length.

Grandparents are Gene Dodd and Rachel Dodd, both of St. Francis, and Dave and Debbie Gary, Topeka. Great-grandparents are Don and Jean Burlew, Topeka, and Rex Gary, Berryton.



Lorelei Gary

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*Come & Go Bridal Shower*  
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Bride of Pvt. Jon "L.J." Hankins  
Wed., Dec. 29  
3-6 p.m.  
at the St. Francis Public Library

**Haigler Country Cafe**  
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**Holiday Hours**  
We will close at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24  
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