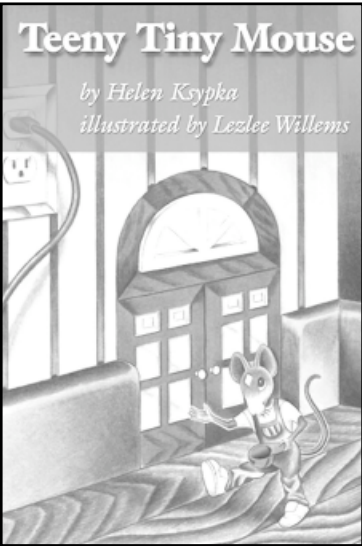


# Goodland graduate illustrates children's book



The cover of the children's book "Teeny Tiny Mouse" shows an illustration by Goodland High School graduate Lezlee Willems.

By Pat Schiefen

*The Goodland Star-News*  
Lezlee Willems, a 1984 Goodland High School graduate, has illustrated a children's book, "Teeny Tiny Mouse" by Helen Ksypka.

Willems lives in Sacramento, Calif., where she does freelance graphic design and illustration.

Her parents, Judy and Darrel Willems, farm west of Goodland with her brother Kent. Her grandparents were Ann and Edmund Ochsner.

"Teeny Tiny Mouse," Willems said, shows kids what opposites are. A giant scoops up Teeny Tiny and they become buddies. The story is told in poetry with an infectious



Willems

rhyme, Willems said.

Willems said it took a year and a half to do the full-color illustrations. She said she spent eight months of communicating with the author and publisher to decide what the characters would look like. They thought it would be faster than her doing sketches for them.

"When I finally did some sketches," she said, "they loved it and I moved forward quickly after that."

Her contract was for a year, she said, but they gave her extra time. She did detailed pencil sketches and e-mailed them for approval.

"Only minimal changes were necessary," Willems said. "Once the pencil sketches were done for all 24 images, I used a light table to transfer the images ... and I did the final drawings using Berol Colored Pencils.

"I think the next book will be easier because now they know my style and feel comfortable with how I approach the character development."

She has already agreed to do another book by the same author called "Clankers in Space." It's about two boys who go into space and make friends with some robots, she said.

"I thoroughly enjoy every moment of the creative process of illustration," Willems said. "It's the process of creation that is so enjoyable for me. What colors will I use and where? What should the character be doing to depict the information given in the text which is given to me? I use my imagination and run it like a movie, then take still frames of the movie to show what is contained in the text of the story."

"My illustration work is so dear to me. Each one is like a child that I

have loved playing with. Illustration is what I love to do, and graphic design is wonderful too, but it has less of my personality in it. Graphic design is a collaborative effort for a specific communication to enhance someone else's business."

She said, her favorite medium for art work is the one that she is using.

"Colored pencil is what I use to do illustration work," said Willems, "because I can control it easier than paint. I've done a lot of jewelry making and love the way the torch feels when I'm soldering. I love sweeping color across a wall when I paint walls, I love layering colors when I paint on canvas. I love the way clay feels when I'm forming shapes or vessels. I love the way wood feels when I'm carving."

"Art is my favorite. I can't pick a favorite form of it."

Willems got a Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design in 1988 from

Fort Hays State University. In 1989, she said, she moved to Sacramento, where she worked in the advertising department for Sacramento Savings Bank. After five years, she started her own business.

The author, Helen Ksypka, is from southern Maine, Willems said. She has been a model, motivational speaker, drama instructor and actress.

The book is available on the Internet as an E-book, she said, and on-screen animated computer book. The advantage is that it is \$3 a download.

Sandy Cummins of Writers Exchange E-Publishing out of Australia said, "Based on the success of sales of the electronic version of 'Teeny Tiny Mouse,' we may choose at some future date to release the book in a printed version."

To buy the book, go to [www.writersexchange.com](http://www.writersexchange.com).

## Miracles in 2 Kings show how God's power helped individuals

Miracles in the book of 2 Kings show God's power in behalf of individuals.

In chapter 2, Elisha succeeded Elijah as prophet. Verses 11-14 describe Elijah's departure — Elisha sees a fiery war chariot come between himself and Elijah and sees Elijah going up in a windstorm.

Elisha receives the promised two parts of Elijah's spirit — taking up Elijah's fallen garment, he uses it to divide the waters and then heals the bad water at Jericho.

Chapter 4 tells about a widow whose oil was multiplied, so she could pay her debts. In Verse 2, Elisha asks her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me; what do you have in the house?" The woman replies, "I have nothing at all in the house but a spouted jar of oil."

Elisha told her to get empty ves-



### sharon corcoran

- use it or lose it

sels and pour oil into all of them from the one jar she had. Verses 6, 7 say, "And it came about that as soon as the vessels were full she went on to say to her son: 'Do bring still another vessel near to me.' But he said to her: 'There is no other vessel.' At that the oil stopped. So she came in and told the man of the true God, and he now said: 'Go, sell the oil and pay off your debts, and you and your sons should live from what is left.'"

Chapter 4 also tells us about a prominent Shunammite woman

who provided meals and a place for Elisha to stay. Elisha tells his attendant Gehazi to ask the woman what he can do for her. The woman doesn't come up with a request, but Gehazi tells Elisha she does not have a son, and her husband has grown old.

Verses 16, 17 say, "Then he said: 'At this appointed time next year you will be embracing a son.' But she said, 'No, my master, O man of the true God! Do not tell lies in connection with your maidservant.' However, the woman became pregnant and gave birth to a son at this appointed time the next year, just as Elisha had spoken to her."

The next few verses tell us the son grew up and worked with his father

in the fields. One day, his head started hurting, and he was taken to his mother and then he died.

The woman got on a she-ass and traveled to where Elisha was. She didn't want to tell his attendant what was wrong, so she told Gehazi everything was well, but Elisha knew she was troubled and asked her what was wrong.

Verse 28 says, "She now said: 'Did I ask for a son through my lord? Did I not say, 'You must not lead me to a false hope?''"

Elisha sent Gehazi to the boy, and he came back and reported that the boy "did not wake up."

Verses 32-37 tell us Elisha went and found the boy dead, prayed to God, laid his hands upon him, put his mouth on the boy's mouth and his eyes on his eyes, and he resurrected the boy.

## Horticulture specialist retires, leaves legacy which includes tips on growing tomatoes

Chuck Marr, Kansas State Research and Extension horticulture specialist, has for many years provided information on gardens and gardening, but he announced this spring that he will be retiring this summer.

He will be missed by staff and gardeners alike, but everyone wishes him well. I have used many items he provided for my columns. He leaves us with a wealth of information, and we will be using his re-



### dana belshe

- ag notebook

search for years to come.

Tomatoes have been one of his top interests over the years, and the following is just one of the many

notes he has provided growers across the state on that subject. Thanks, Chuck.

Tomatoes are usually grown from a started plant or transplant. Proper transplanting techniques are important for success throughout the season.

Use a small, compact plant rather than a tall, overgrown plant. The objective of transplanting is to encourage the plant to establish new roots as rapidly as possible. Tall, overgrown plants do not initiate new roots rapidly.

Setting plant roots deep in the soil (as you usually do with a long stem) inhibits new roots because there is less oxygen deeper in the soil. Roots are very slow to re-form. This delays development and reduces production all season long.

Good plant nutrition is needed for rapid root development. Large plants with a pale color have little fertility in the plant container. This

lack of nutrition further delays plant establishment.

It is a good idea to fertilize plants well with a soluble fertilizer before setting them out, but be careful, because too much fertilizer can burn plant roots.

Here are some tips to improve the productivity of tomato plants throughout the season:

- Choose a short, stocky transplant with a healthy, green color.
- Set the plant just slightly deeper than the container it was growing in.
- Fertilize with a mild, soluble fertilizer solution before setting the plants out, and make sure that they are well watered before and after

transplanting.

- Make sure the soil is warm (greater than 55 Fahrenheit) before setting plants in the ground.
- Do not mulch with straw or other insulating mulches until the plants show signs that they are growing rapidly.
- Provide a plant support or trellis as soon as plants start growing and developing new shoots and leaves.

*Dana Belshe is agricultural agent for Kansas State University Research and Extension and the Sunflower Extension District, covering Sherman and Wallace counties.*

## matters of record

### Accidents

The following accidents were investigated by the Goodland Police Department.

**April 10** — 1:08 p.m., 1700 Main, Clarence W. Wahrman was backing out of a parking space in front of Hank's Café in a 1994 Ford and did not see a 1998 Pontiac driven by Darcy L. Frazier hitting the Pontiac in the right front fender.

**April 11** — 7:08 p.m., 1600 Cattletrail, a 2003 Chevrolet driven by Manuela B. Hernandez was stopped at the stop sign on 16th and Cattletrail, and Jerlynn Autumn Enfield was driving west on 16th in a 2001 Ford and did not see the Chevrolet due to the glare from the sun and ran into the car. Enfield was taken to the Goodland Regional Medical Center emergency room by Hernandez.

**April 19** — 5:15 p.m., 1300 Cherry, a 1991 Oldsmobile owned by Amber Ann Webster was legally parked in a parking stall when a 2001 Chevrolet driven by Marshall Squires III was backing out of the stall immediately to the right of the Oldsmobile, and hit the car while backing.

### Real Estate

The following real estate transactions were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Richard K. Romine and Diana L. Romine to Richard K. Romine and Amanda Audene Romine, a tract of land in S/2 Sec. 29, T6S R38W containing 15 acres.

Sharon K. Borgmann and John Borgmann; Beverly L. Baldwin and Curtis Baldwin; and Donald R. Renner to Alvin Keith Baker and Evelyn P. Baker, Lot 7, Block 2, Eastridge Subdivision of Academy Addition to the City of Goodland.

Linda A. Stuhlmiller, Larimer County, Colo. to First National Bank, Lots 1 and 2, Block 47, Second Addition to the City of Goodland.

Steven J. Stuhlmiller to First National Bank, Lots 1 and 2, Block 47, Second Addition to the City of

Goodland.

Carolyn Cassidente and Ronald Cassidente to Robert D. Frazier and Joann Frazier, trustees under Robert D. Frazier and Joann Frazier Living Trust, an undivided 1/4 interest NW/4 Sec. 22, T7S R37W; an undivided 1/4 interest NE/4 Sec. 13, T8S R38W; and an undivided 1/4 interest SW/4 Sec. 13, T7S R37W including all water rights.

### District Traffic

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:

**April 4** — Patrick T. Quinby, \$90 for defective tail light.

**April 6** — Shawn J. Campbell, \$150 for speeding.

Manuel P. Hernandez Jr., \$144 for speeding.

Arla M. Peter, \$132 for speeding. Jason M. Seungdamrong, \$159 for speeding.

Charles L. Tyrone, \$156 for speeding.

Kevin T. Yuille, \$132 for speeding.

**April 7** — Elisabeth M. Kime, \$126 for improper parking.

Teresa A. Marshall, \$120 for no transfer of ownership of vehicles.

David R. Metzler, \$420 for speeding.

Reginald V. Smith, \$150 for speeding.

**April 9** — Jack D. Omstead, \$120 for speeding.

David A. Powell, \$132 for speeding.

**April 10** — Richard A. Kardatzke, \$144 for speeding.

## The Goodland Star-News

proudly announces the winners from  
2006 Home and Garden Show.

### Winners of a free 3 month subscription

Rosalie Bussen - Sharon Springs, Kan.

Jody Verlinden - Goodland, Kan.

Linda Johnson - Goodland, Kan.

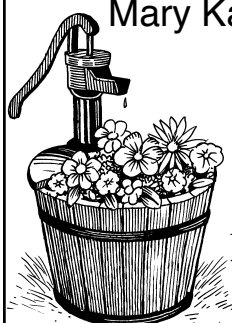
### Winners of a free 6 month subscription

Mike Beckner - Goodland, Kan.

Cecil Scheinder - Goodland, Kan

### Winner of a free 1 year subscription

Mary Karspeck - Goodland, Kan.



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who stopped by our  
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## FARM FOR SALE

**480 ACRE FARM FOR SALE** Located approximately 17 miles North from Goodland, Kansas. Priced to sell at \$389,000. No offers for more or less than this amount will be considered.

### Sherman County:

**SE/4 1-6-39** Dryland

**NE/4 3-6-39** Farmstead with 2050 square foot home plus basement, attached garage, barn shop and grain bin. Pivot Irrigation.

**NW/4 2-6-39** Pivot Irrigation.

The property is being offered for sale to those individuals Farm Service Agency (FSA) considers to be qualified beginning farmers or ranchers, and all prevailing credit claimants in the civil action Pigford vs. Johanns. Qualifying beginning farmers or rancher, who are prevailing credit claimants will be given first priority consideration in the purchase of this property. If more than one beginning farmer or rancher who is prevailing credit claimant submits application, priority within this group will be determined by lottery. Qualified beginning farmers or ranchers must be in need of FSA credit assistance either in for of direct FSA financing, an FSA guaranteed loan or a participation loan. For other requirements and information on how to qualify as a beginning farmer or rancher, you may contact your local FSA office.

If applications are received by beginning farmers or ranchers who are not prevailing claimants, and prevailing claimants who are not begging farmers or ranchers, priority remains with the beginning farmers or ranchers. If more than one beginning farmer/rancher applies, selection of the applicant will be by lottery.

FSA defines a beginning farmer/rancher in part as an individual or entity who:

- ☐ is an eligible applicant for FSA farm ownership loan assistance.
- ☐ has operated a farm or ranch for not more than ten(10) years; for a Direct Farm Loan, has participated in the business operations of a farm/ranch for at least three(3) years.
- ☐ will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- ☐ agrees to participate in FSA's borrower training program.
- ☐ does not own real farm property directly or indirectly, the aggregate of which does not exceed 30% of the average farm acreage of the farms in the county where the property is located.
- ☐ does not have adequate resources to obtain conventional credit at the present time.

For a direct farm ownership loan, the applicant must have operated or ranched for at least three years.

**ADDITIONAL** information on the beginning farmer definition and FSA Farm Ownership loan eligibility criteria is available from FSA.

**FINANCING:** The sale may be financed by FSA, Guaranteed or Direct Farm Ownership funds when funds are available. A lease may be possible if funds are not available at the time of the sale.

**OFFERS MUST BE IN WRITING** on Form RD 1955-45, "Standard Sales Contract-Sale of Real Property by the United States," and be received by May 31,2006. The Government reserves the right to cancel the sale at any time and the right to reject any and all offers.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** contact the Farm Service Agency, Farm Loan Programs Division at the Sherman County FSA office, telephone number (785) 899-3070 ext. 26.

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